

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 16 MAY 2023, COMMENCING AT 6.30PM

An audio recording of the proceedings of this meeting is publicly available on Council's website.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Attendance

Crs B Monaghan (Mayor), B Baker, R Crowe, J Funnell, K Keatley, T Lord, L McGlynn, R Moore

General Manager (G Baker), Acting Director Corporate & Community Services (L Bryant), Director Technical Services (R Graham) and Executive Assistant (J Sharpe)

Apologies

Cr M Clark

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor/ Officer	Item	Nature of Interest	Reason	How Managed
Mr G. Baker	7.7 – Tender – Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Swimming Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Swimming Pool	Pecuniary	Personal	Written Disclosure

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting held on 18 April 2023

01052023 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 April 2023 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

Baker/Moore

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

MAYORAL MINUTE

Damaging Increase in Emergency Services Levy Costs

PROPOSED that Council writes to the:

1. Treasurer, the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister for Local Government and the local State Member:
 - a. Expressing Council's strong opposition to the NSW Government's last minute decision to impose an enormous Emergency Services Levy (ESL) cost increase on councils for 2023/24 by scrapping the ESL subsidy for councils and at a time after Council has publicly advertised its Operational Plan and annual budget to the community;
 - b. Noting that as a consequence of the unannounced 73% increase in the State Emergency Service budget and an 18% increase in the Fire and Rescue NSW budget, Council's 3.7% rate increase to provide essential community services and infrastructure has been significantly eroded.
 - c. Advising that the Government's decision may lead to a reduction in important local services and/or the cancellation of necessary infrastructure projects;
 - d. Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to:
 - i. restore the ESL subsidy in 2023/24
 - ii. urgently introduce legislation to decouple the ESL from the rate peg to enable councils to recover the full cost
 - iii. develop a fairer, more transparent and financially sustainable method of funding critically important emergency services in consultation with local government.
2. Chair of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) advising that Council's forced emergency services contribution is manifestly disproportionate to the 2023/24 rate cap, which has resulted in additional financial stress.
3. President of LGNSW seeking the Association's ongoing advocacy to bring about a relief in the burden of Councils' emergency services contribution.

Monaghan/Lord

AMENDMENT that an addition to the recommendation read: "d) iv) that council requests this levy be a separate line item on the rates notice and the charges be passed through to the ratepayers"

Lord/McGlynn

On being put to the vote the amendment became the motion and was carried

02052023 RESOLVED that Council writes to the:

1. Treasurer, the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister for Local Government and the local State Member:
 - a. Expressing Council's strong opposition to the NSW Government's last minute decision to impose an enormous Emergency Services Levy (ESL) cost increase on councils for 2023/24 by scrapping the ESL subsidy for councils and at a time after Council has publicly advertised its Operational Plan and annual budget to the community;
 - b. Noting that as a consequence of the unannounced 73% increase in the State Emergency Service budget and an 18% increase in the Fire and Rescue NSW budget, Council's 3.7% rate increase to provide essential community services and infrastructure has been significantly eroded.
 - c. Advising that the Government's decision may lead to a reduction in important local services and/or the cancellation of necessary infrastructure projects;
 - d. Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to:
 - i. restore the ESL subsidy in 2023/24
 - ii. urgently introduce legislation to decouple the ESL from the rate peg to enable councils to recover the full cost
 - iii. develop a fairer, more transparent and financially sustainable method of funding critically important emergency services in consultation with local government.
 - iv. that council requests this levy be a separate line item on the rates notice and the charges be passed through to the ratepayers
2. Chair of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) advising that Council's forced emergency services contribution is manifestly disproportionate to the 2023/24 rate cap, which has resulted in additional financial stress.
3. President of LGNSW seeking the Association's ongoing advocacy to bring about a relief in the burden of Councils' emergency services contribution.

Lord/McGlynn

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions: May 2023

03052023 RESOLVED that Council receive and note the Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions: May 2023.

Lord/Funnell

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

Finance and Investment Report for April 2023

04052023 RESOLVED:

1. That Council receive and note the information contained within the Finance and Investment Report for the month of April 2023
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 April to 30 April 2023, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$4,594,949.11

Baker/Moore

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

Budget Review – March 2023 Quarter

05052023

RESOLVED:

1. That the Officers Report be received and noted.
- 2 That the Council endorses the Statement acknowledging the financial position is considered satisfactory

Moore/Keatley

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

CONFIRMED

Adoption of the IP&R Documentation and 2023-2024 Revenue Policy

06052023 **RESOLVED** that Bland Shire Council adopts:

- The revised Operational Plan (including Budget) for the 2023/2024 Financial Year in accordance with s405 of the Local Government Act 1993;
- The Revenue Policy (including Schedule of Fees and Charges) for the 2023/2024 Financial Year); and
- The Statement of Rating Structure and their respective short names as contained in the Operational Plan 2023/24 and make the Ordinary Rate and charges, including sewer charges, domestic and trade waste management charges, pursuant to s.494 and s.496 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Waste Management Levy pursuant to s.501 of the Local Government Act 1993 detailed in the tables below;

2023/24 Rates Structure			
Category / Sub-Category	Base Amount	Ad Valorem	% Yield from Base Amount
Residential			
Ordinary Rate	\$95	0.003638	29.02%
West Wyalong/Wyalong	\$173	0.005634	22.32%
Barmedman	\$95	0.004230	38.67%
Ungarie	\$95	0.009021	36.56%
Business			
Ordinary Rate	\$173	0.006422	26.43%
West Wyalong/Wyalong	\$201	0.014735	11.15%
Barmedman	\$95	0.004873	33.89%
Ungarie	\$95	0.015417	24.53%
Farmland			
Ordinary Rate	\$95	0.001612	2.92%
Mining			
Mining	\$201	0.002546	14.39%
Gold Mining	\$201	0.021602	0.02%

2023/24 Sewer Charges	
	Access Charge
Connected	\$1,018
Vacant Land	\$245

2023/24 Domestic Waste Management Charges			
	240L	120L	Vacant
Domestic Service This applies to all land which is occupied and or built upon.	\$488	\$386	\$42
Additional Garbage Charge – per bin	\$488	\$386	

2023/24 Trade Waste Management Charges		
	240L	120L
Trade Waste Service This applies to land categorised as Business Land and which is provided by Council with a trade waste removal service.	\$524	\$421
Additional Garbage Charge – per bin	\$524	\$421

023/24 Waste Management Levy	
	Annual Charge
Annual Waste Management Levy This waste management charge is applied to all properties funding waste disposal services for the Bland Shire	\$42

Keatley/Funnell
CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 9 March 2023

07052023 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Bland Shire Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, held on 9 March 2023, be received and noted.

Keatley/Moore
CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

Endorsement of the Barmedman Community Committee, a Section 355 Committee of Council

08052023 RESOLVED that Council:

- Receive and note the minutes of the Barmedman Community Committee, held on Wednesday 5 April 2023.
- Endorse the Barmedman Community Committee members in accordance with the Acting Director Corporate and Community Services report for a probationary period of three (3) months.

Keatley/Baker
CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

Tender – Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Swimming Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Swimming Pool

09052023 RESOLVED that the matter be held over for consideration in the Confidential section.

Lord/Moore
CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

10052023 RESOLVED that the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- 7.8 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update
- 7.9 Children Services April Update
- 7.10 Technical Services Report
- 7.11 Development Services Activity Report – April 2023

Funnell/Keatley
CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

11052023 RESOLVED that Council receive and note the Committee meeting minutes as presented.

Funnell/Crowe
CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

12052023 RESOLVED that Council close the Ordinary meeting of Council to discuss the following matters:

1. Property Purchase Lots 2 DP710250 and Lot 1134 DP753135 - Shamrock Street

Local Government Act 1993 (Section 10A (2))

The matters and information are the following:

c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

2. Tender – Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Swimming Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Swimming Pool

Local Government Act 1993 (Section 10A (2))

The matters and information are the following:

dii) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Moore/Lord

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

The meeting then closed at 7.10pm.

Property Purchase Lot 2 DP710250 and 1134 DP753135 – Shamrock Street

13052023 RESOLVED that Council:

1. Approve the sale of Lot 2 DP 7510250 and Lot 1134 DP 753135 West Wyalong NSW to Mid West Fabrication for the agreed price of \$70,000 Including GST.

2. Authorise the Mayor and the General Manager to affix Council's seal, sign and execute the Sale Contract for Lot 2 DP 7510250 and Lot 1134 DP 753135 West Wyalong NSW

Lord/McGlynn

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

At this stage, 7.13pm, the General Manager left the meeting.

Tender – Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Swimming Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Swimming Pool

14052023 RESOLVED that Council award Contract No 8/2023 for the Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Pool, to L & R Group to the value of \$569,431.50 (Exc GST) for a three (3) year period with a two (2) year option.

McGlynn/Keatley

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn, Monaghan and Moore voting for)

At this stage, 7.20pm the General Manager returned to the meeting.

15052023 RESOLVED that Council move out of closed Council and into open Council.

Moore/Crowe

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Baker, Clark, Crowe, Funnell, Keatley, Lord, McGlynn and Moore voting for)

The meeting then resumed at 7.34pm

At the reopening of the meeting to the public the Chair announced the outcome of resolution numbers 13052023 and 14052023.

There being no further business the meeting then closed at 7.37pm.

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Chairperson
Mayor Brian Monaghan

CONFIRMED