



**MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 DECEMBER 2024**

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF
SOUTHERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON 18 DECEMBER 2024
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SOUTHERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL,
61 MARSH STREET, STANTHORPE AT 9:00AM**

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. PRAYERS & CONDOLENCES

Ben Boland from Churches of Christ offered a prayer for the meeting and Council acknowledged condolences.

3. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Present: Crs Hamilton (Chair), Bartley, Deane, Harslett, McDonald, Pidgeon, Richters, Wantling and Windle

Officers: Steve Johnston (Acting Chief Executive Officer), Nick Wellwood (Director Infrastructure Services), Angela O'Mara (Acting Director Planning and Environmental Services), Gurbindar Singh (Chief Financial Officer), Belinda Armstrong (Manager Corporate Services), Graham Sweetlove (Manager Water), James Varaghese (Manager Works), Jon Charles (Manager Sustainability and Strategy), Sandy Hunter (Sustainability and Environment Officer) and Marion Seymour (Minute Secretary)

4. READING AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 November 2024

Resolution

Moved Cr C Pidgeon

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20 November 2024 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

4.2 Special Council Meeting - 27 November 2024

Resolution

Moved Cr S Deane

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27 November 2024 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

5. ACTIONS FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS

5.1 Actions from Ordinary Council Meetings November 2024

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr S Windle

THAT Council receive the report and note the contents.

Carried Unanimously

6. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Item No	Item Precip	Nature of Conflict
12.1	Organisational Development Reports: Corporate and Organisational Services Monthly Status Report	Cr McDonald declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as she is a farmer in the region and have had numerous complaints about being a farmer and settling cattle at Warwick Saleyards. Although Cr McDonald has a declarable conflict of interest, she does not believe a reasonable person could have a perception of bias because of her conflict. Therefore, Cr McDonald will choose to remain in the meeting, however, she will respect the decision of the meeting on whether she can remain and participate in the decision. Following a resolution from Council, Cr McDonald participated in the discussion and voting on this matter.
12.1	Organisational Development Reports: Corporate and Organisational Services Monthly Status Report	Cr Pidgeon declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as she is a primary producer that uses the Warwick Saleyards. Although Cr Pidgeon has a declarable conflict of interest, she does not believe a reasonable person could have a perception of bias because of her conflict. Therefore, Cr Pidgeon will choose to remain in the meeting, however, she will respect the decision of the meeting on whether she can remain and participate in the decision. Following a resolution from Council, Cr Pidgeon participated in the discussion and voting on this matter.
12.1	Organisational Development Reports: Corporate and Organisational Services Monthly Status Report	Cr Bartley declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as the firm her husband works for is mentioned in the report. As a result of Cr Windle's conflict, he will leave the meeting room while there is any discussion involving the Warwick Saleyards.
12.1	Organisational Development Reports: YMCA Monthly Report	Cr Windle declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as he is a user of the Warwick Saleyards and derives income from the sale of cattle. As a result of Cr Windle's conflict, she will leave the meeting room while there is any discussion involving that report.
13.5	Sale and Specialised Suppliers 2024-2025	Cr McDonald declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as she is a friend of the CEO of one of the firms listed. As a result of Cr

		McDonald's conflict, she will leave the meeting room for discussion and voting on the matter.
17.4	Access and Fencing: Ironbark Road, Sugarloaf	Cr Deane declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as this item involves her father. As a result of Cr Deane's conflict, she will leave the meeting room for discussion and voting on the matter.
17.4	Access and Fencing: Ironbark Road, Sugarloaf	Cr McDonald declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>) as she had received an Ombudsman's report regarding a gazetted road and operational works issue similar to this matter. As a result of Cr McDonald's conflict, she will leave the meeting room for discussion and voting on the matter.

6.1 Conflict of Interest: Cr Pidgeon: Agenda Item 12.1

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr S Deane

THAT Council, following the declarable conflict of interest declaration by Cr Pidgeon for Agenda Item 12.1, determines that it is in the public interest that she participates and votes on the matter as her declarable conflict is not of sufficient significance that it will lead her to making a decision on the matter that is contrary to the public interest and would not prevent her from performing her Councillor responsibilities and serving the public interest of the region by remaining in the room for the discussion and vote on the matter.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, J Richters, R Wantling and S Windle (6)

Against: Nil (0)

Noting Cr Bartley and Cr McDonald did not participate in the vote due to a previously declared Conflict of Interest.

6.2 Conflict of Interest: Cr McDonald: Agenda Item 12.1

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT Council, following the declarable conflict of interest declaration by Cr McDonald for Agenda Item 12.1, determines that it is in the public interest that she participates and votes on the matter as her declarable conflict is not of sufficient significance that it will lead her to making a decision on the matter that is contrary to the public interest and would not prevent her from performing her Councillor responsibilities and serving the public interest of the region by remaining in the room for the discussion and vote on the matter.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, J Richters, R Wantling and S Windle (6)

Against: Nil (0)

Noting Cr Bartley and Cr Pidgeon did not participate in the vote due to a previously declared Conflict of Interest.

7. MAYORAL MINUTE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 21 OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY PL-CS036 MAYOR HAMILTON MOVED THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURAL MOTION:

7.1 PROCEDURAL MOTION: AMENDMENT OF AGENDA TO INCLUDE LATE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLUTION

MOVED MAYOR M HAMILTON

THAT COUNCIL AMEND THE AGENDA FOR TODAY'S ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING TO INCLUDE LATE AGENDA ITEMS 14.8 AND 17.7, AND AMEND AGENDA ITEM 13.10 TO 17.8 FOR DISCUSSION AS A CONFIDENTIAL ITEM.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

8.1 Notice of Motion - Albion Street Banners

Resolution

Moved Cr R Bartley

Seconded Cr R Wantling

THAT Council undertake consultation with relevant community organisations and Department of Transport and Main Roads prior to deciding on the removal of the Albion Street Banners, and that any safety issues with those banners be addressed as soon as possible.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs R Bartley, M Harslett, C McDonald, J Richters and R Wantling (5)

Against: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, C Pidgeon and S Windle (4)

8.2 Notice of Motion - Medicare Bulk Billing Incentives

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council request the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report on potential measures to incentivise new or existing medical practices within the local government area to offer fully bulk-billed general practitioner (GP) services to all residents. The report should consider incentives such as rates concessions or waivers for fees and charges, or any other appropriate measures to encourage the provision of these essential services to the broader community.

Lost

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, C Pidgeon, J Richters and S Windle (4)

Against: Crs R Bartley, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C McDonald and R Wantling (5)

8.3 Notice of Motion - Future Use of Camp Leslie Dam

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT the Mayor write to the new State Government to re-open negotiations for consideration of the future use of Camp Leslie Dam, and invite the new State Government to engage with Council to determine what future options there are for continued public ownership of Camp Leslie Dam.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C McDonald, C Pidgeon, J Richters and S Windle (7)

Against: Crs R Bartley and R Wantling (2)

9. READING AND CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

10. RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil

11. PORTFOLIO REPORTS

11.1 Portfolio Report - Cr McDonald: Resilient Communities

Resolution

Moved Cr C McDonald

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT Council's Resilient Communities Portfolio Report be received.

Carried Unanimously

Cr McDonald declared a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 12.1, and following a resolution from Council participated in discussion and voting on the item.

Cr Pidgeon declared a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 12.1, and following a resolution from Council participated in discussion and voting on the item.

Cr Bartley declared a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 12.1, and left the meeting at 9:48am during discussion on the Warwick Saleyards.

09:49 am Cr R Bartley rejoined the meeting.

12. EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS

12.1 Organisation Information Reports

Resolution

Moved Cr S Deane

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT Council note the contents of the Organisation Information Reports.

Carried Unanimously

12.2 Acting Chief Executive Officer - Status Report

Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT Council receive and note the Acting Chief Executive Officer's Status Report.

Carried Unanimously

13. CUSTOMER AND ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES REPORTS

13.1 Financial Services - Financial Report as at 30 November 2024

Resolution

Moved Cr R Wantling

Seconded Cr R Bartley

THAT Council receive and note the Financial Performance Report as at 30 November 2024.

Carried Unanimously

13.2 Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer

Resolution

Moved Cr C Pidgeon

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT Council resolve, pursuant to section 257(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2009, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer all of the powers of the local government conferred under the Acts and Subordinate Legislation listed in Attachment 1 of this Report.

Carried Unanimously

13.3 Review of Policies

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council adopt the reviewed and amended policies as presented:

1. PL-IS104 Fleet Replacement Lifecycle Policy
2. PL-EX004 Media Relations Policy (External)
3. PL-CS059 Community Engagement Policy (including minor change to Section 4.5)
4. PL-IS105 Asset Management Policy
5. PR-CS085 Access to Showers WIRAC & SFC Procedure
6. PL-131 Rural Water Connection Policy
7. PL-130 Water Infrastructure Policy
8. PL-132 Sewerage Infrastructure Policy
9. PL-IS092 Infrastructure and Public Place Naming Policy
10. PR-ES48 Infrastructure and Public Place Naming Procedure
11. PL-FS010 Procurement Policy
12. PL-IS110 Use of Roads Policy
13. PL-IS111 Provision of Transport Network Policy

Carried Unanimously

In accordance with Section 21 of Council Meetings Policy PL-CS036 Mayor Hamilton moved the following Procedural Motion:

18.1 Meeting Adjournment

Resolution

Moved Mayor M Hamilton

THAT the meeting adjourn for morning tea.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10:37am and reconvened at 10:58am at which time there were present Crs Hamilton, Bartley, Deane, Harslett, McDonald, Pidgeon, Richters, Wantling and Windle

13.4 Works for Queensland Funding Program 2024-27 (Amendment)

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr S Windle

THAT Council submit the following amended list of projects to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning for assessment and approval from Council's \$4,580,000 allocation under the 2024-27 Works for Queensland program:

1. Warwick Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Distribution Centre - \$175,000
2. Safe City Project – CCTV renewal program - \$300,000
3. Palmerin Street Leslie Park Footpath - \$100,000
4. Allora Community Precinct – Redevelopment and enhancement - \$600,000
5. Leslie Park, Warwick irrigation system replacement - \$100,000
6. Energy Audit Initiatives – Energy efficiency upgrades - \$130,000

7. Warwick Saleyards – Redevelopment Stage 3 and 4 - \$795,000
8. WIRAC Project – Priority works from Condition Assessment Report - \$2,000,000
9. Waste Options Master Plan - \$200,000
10. Infill Development with Warwick and Stanthorpe – \$80,000
11. Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan - \$100,000

Carried Unanimously

Cr McDonald declared a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 13.5, and left the meeting at 11:02am.

13.5 Sole and Specialised Suppliers 2024-2025

Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT Council:

1. Resolves in accordance with section 235(a) and 235(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* that it is satisfied that the nominated suppliers listed in **Attachment 1** are Sole or Specialised Suppliers and that they be added to, or renewed under, the Sole Supplier Register. The Register will be reviewed prior to end of financial year for the forth coming financial year.
2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to enter into contracts, negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to approved Sole/ Specialised Suppliers subject to Council's normal procurement policies and practices.

Carried Unanimously

11:03am Cr McDonald rejoined the meeting.

13.6 2025 Citizen of the Year Awards Assessment Panel

Resolution

Moved Cr C Pidgeon

Seconded Cr C McDonald

THAT Council appoint:

1. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor Cr Windle, Cr Deane and Cr Richters; and
2. The four (4) community members;

to form the Citizen of the Year Awards Panel.

Carried Unanimously

13.7 Warwick Town Hall - Condition Assessment Report

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr S Deane

THAT Council:

1. Note the findings from the Olivotto Consulting Structural Condition Report (“the Report”) for the Warwick Town Hall, Ref. No. 24420, dated 23 October 2024 (attached); and
2. Note that Council officers have commenced to address the urgent safety related matters to ensure the building presents no immediate risk to the community and users; and
3. Note that in response to the Report, Council officers will commence to develop a comprehensive conservation management plan that will take a considered and staged approach to effectively manage and address the issues identified by the Report, with a further report to be brought back to a future Council meeting for consideration.
4. Note the Chief Executive Officer’s advice that the move of the Warwick Visitor Information Centre into the former Wattle Doo space be deferred, and the Warwick Visitor Information Centre Volunteers be advised.

Carried Unanimously

13.8 Southern Downs Youth Council 2024 Year in Review

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr S Windle

THAT Council note the Southern Down Youth Council 2024 summary of recommendations made throughout the year and those associated actions completed against each.

Carried Unanimously

13.9 Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Acquisition by BOM

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr S Deane

THAT Council:

1. Under the *Local Government Regulation 2012, s. 236 Exceptions for valuable non-current asset contracts* dispose of a valuable non-current asset (more particularly described as the Flood Warning Infrastructure Network assets) by exception other than by tender or auction to a government agency, being the Bureau of Meteorology (“BoM”); and
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the transfer of the Flood Warning Infrastructure Network assets across to BoM.

Carried Unanimously

14. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES REPORTS

14.1 Water Infringement Notices

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council approve infringement notices to be issued for:

1. Non-authorised use of water intended for firefighting purposes.
2. Connecting to or disconnecting from the service provider's infrastructure without approval.
3. Interfering with service provider's infrastructure.
4. Taking water without approval.

Carried Unanimously

14.2 Stanthorpe Commercial Users Water Standpipe

Resolution

Moved Cr R Wantling

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT Council:

1. Approve the project, New Stanthorpe Commercial Users Water Standpipe.
2. Approve an additional budget of \$180,000 for the Water Capital Works program to be incorporated into the Quarter 2 Budget Review.
3. Note the new Caravan/RV and Residents standpipe location and cost will be presented in February for adoption.

Carried Unanimously

14.3 Boundary Change for Stanthorpe Water Treatment Plant

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr R Wantling

THAT Council approve the realignment and amalgamation of lots associated with Mt Marlay and the Stanthorpe Water Treatment Plant

Carried Unanimously

14.4 Various Active Transport Project Applications

Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT Council endorse the following funding applications being submitted:

1. Rosehill Road (Wood St to Victoria St) Shared Pathway construction \$1,500,000
 - a. Active Transport Fund \$750,000
 - b. SDRC to commit \$750,000
 - c. An application at a later date for Cycle Network Local Government Grants \$750,000 could replace SDRC contribution
2. Rosehill Road (Victoria St to John Dee) Shared Pathway design \$100,000
 - a. Cycle Network Local Government Grants \$50,000
 - b. SDRC to fund \$50,000
3. Wood Street Footpath construction \$467,000
 - a. Active Transport Fund \$233,500
 - b. SDRC to commit \$233,500
 - c. An application submitted for Walking Local Government Grants \$233,500 could replace SDRC contribution (outcome expected in February 2025)
4. Guy Street Footpath construction \$120,000
 - a. Active Transport Fund \$60,000
 - b. SDRC to commit \$60,000
 - c. A Walking Local Government Grants \$60,000 could replace SDRC contribution (outcome expected in February 2025)
5. Folkestone Street Footpath construction \$184,272
 - a. Active Transport Fund \$92,136
 - b. SDRC to commit \$92,136
 - c. A Walking Local Government Grants \$92,136 could replace SDRC contribution (outcome expected in February 2025)
6. Allora Walking Network Plan development \$40,000
 - a. Walking Network Plan \$20,000
 - b. SDRC to fund \$20,000
7. Killarney Walking Network Plan development \$40,000
 - a. Walking Network Plan \$20,000
 - b. SDRC to fund \$20,000

Carried Unanimously

14.5 Traffic Calming Proposal - Mary Street, Warwick

Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council:

1. Conduct the plan to provide traffic calming in Mary Street;
2. Implement the preferred traffic calming preferences for a trial period of six months, with a review to be conducted at the conclusion of the trial period; and
3. Receive a further report for a decision to implement a permanent solution after the trial period.

Carried Unanimously

14.6 Cox Bridge Replacement

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr R Bartley

THAT Council

1. Makes application for funding of \$4,095,360 for the replacement of Cox Bridge, Victoria Street, Warwick under the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program (SLRIP); and
2. Approves a contribution of \$1,023,840 from the Australian Government's Roads to Recovery current five-year Funding Program 2024-29 or other alternate funding source available to Council at the time.

Carried Unanimously

14.7 Naming of Roads - Public Consultation

Resolution

Moved Cr R Bartley

Seconded Cr S Windle

THAT Council undertakes a public consultation process with the broader community, seeking public feedback on the proposed names for the Unnamed Roads connected to:

1. Lot 3 Plan RP 182877 1502 Old Stanthorpe Road Wildash;
2. Lot 901 Plan ML2305 59 Wienholt Street Maryvale.

Carried Unanimously

14.8 Naming Unnamed Road on Lot 100 SP 249599 Homestead Road Rosenthal Heights Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr R Bartley

THAT Council name Unnamed Road B in Sovereign Downs Stage 2, Lot 100 SP 249599 Homestead Road Rosenthal Heights 4370 "Mulcahy".

Carried Unanimously

15. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

15.1 Planning Protocols Policy

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council adopt the Planning Protocols Policy as presented.

Carried Unanimously

15.2 Allora Mountain Offsets for T2W pipeline

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council approve in-principle the setting aside of 21 hectares of the Allora Mountain reserve for Seqwater for the purpose to offset the clearing loss of koala habitat within the Toowoomba to Warwick raw water pipeline route, on the condition consultation is undertaken and endorsement received from the traditional owners of the land.

Carried Unanimously

16. REPORTS OF DEPUTATION OR CONFERENCE & REPORTS FROM DELEGATES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL TO OTHER BODIES

Nil

17. CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ITEMS

In accordance with the provisions of Section 254J(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a local government may resolve to close a meeting to the public and move 'into Committee' to discuss confidential items, such that its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting.

Recommendation

THAT the meeting be closed to the public and move into committee to discuss the following items, which are considered confidential in accordance with Section 254J(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following, as indicated:

17.1 Recruitment of Chief Executive Officer

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(a) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to the appointment, discipline or dismissal of the chief executive officer.

17.2 Request for Capital Assistance Loan

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to the local government's budget.

17.3 Minutes of the ICT Steering Committee Meeting 25 November 2024

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

17.4 Access and Fencing: Ironbark Road, Sugarloaf

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

17.5 Draft Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP)

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

17.6 Proposed Infrastructure Agreement between EWA Developments Pty Ltd and Southern Downs Regional Council for 65 Old Stanthorpe Road, Morgan Park

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

17.7 Water Loss - PID 61390

Reason for Confidentiality

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(h.) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or

someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

17.8 Show Societies and Committee Funding (formerly Agenda Item 13.10)

This item is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Meeting In Camera

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr S Windle

THAT the meeting move into closed session.

Carried Unanimously

The Meeting moved into closed session at 11:52am.

12:30 pm Cr S Deane left the meeting during discussion on Agenda Item 17.4.

12:36 pm Cr C McDonald left the meeting during discussion on Agenda Item 17.4.

12:40 pm Cr S Deane rejoined the meeting.

12:40 pm Cr C McDonald rejoined the meeting.

Meeting Out Of Camera

Resolved

THAT the meeting resume in open session at 12:58pm.

Cr McDonald declared a declarable conflict of interest in this matter (as defined in Section 150EQ(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 2009) as she had received an Ombudsman's report regarding a gazetted road and operational works issue similar to this matter. As a result of Cr McDonald's conflict, she will leave the meeting room for discussion and voting on the matter.

17.1 Recruitment of Chief Executive Officer

Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr S Deane

THAT Council:

1. Appoint Rachel Brophy as Chief Executive Officer of Southern Downs Regional Council, effective from the agreed date.
2. Delegate authority to the Mayor to finalise the terms of the Employment Contract.

Carried

The Mayor accepted a call for a Division on the motion from the floor and the following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C McDonald, C Pidgeon, J Richters and S Windle (7)

Against: Crs R Bartley and R Wantling (2)

Accordingly the Mayor declared the motion carried.

17.2 Request for Capital Assistance Loan

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr C Pidgeon

THAT Council do not approve the capital assistance loan of \$50,000 requested by the Southern Downs Steam Railway.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs R Bartley, S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C McDonald, C Pidgeon, R Wantling and S Windle (8)

Against: Cr J Richters (1)

17.3 Minutes of the ICT Steering Committee Meeting 25 November 2024

Resolution

Moved Cr M Harslett

Seconded Cr J Richters

THAT Council receive and note the minutes of the ICT Steering Committee Meeting held on 25 November 2024.

Carried Unanimously

Cr Deane declared a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 17.4, and left the meeting at 1:06pm.

Cr McDonald declared a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 17.4, and left the meeting at 1:06pm.

17.4 Access and Fencing: Ironbark Road, Sugarloaf

Resolution

Moved Cr R Bartley

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT:

1. Council advise the Applicant it is unable to consider a request for access to a residence that does not have frontage to a Council controlled road reserve and is not within Council's local government area.
2. An application to fence the road reserve will not be considered without first obtaining a permit to occupy from the Queensland Department of Resources.
3. Council advise the applicant that support in principle for the fence is not provided.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs R Bartley, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C Pidgeon, R Wantling and S Windle (6)

Against: Cr J Richters (1)

01:08 pm Cr S Deane rejoined the meeting.
01:08 pm Cr C McDonald rejoined the meeting.

17.5 Draft Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP)

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the draft Local Government Infrastructure Plan;
2. Accept the First compliance check report prepared by IIP Pty Ltd; and
3. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer any actions required to continue the development of a new Local Government Infrastructure Plan, including sending the draft Local Government Infrastructure Plan for State Interest Review.

Carried Unanimously

17.6 Proposed Infrastructure Agreement between EWA Developments Pty Ltd and Southern Downs Regional Council for 65 Old Stanthorpe Road, Morgan Park

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr M Harslett

THAT Council's position remain unchanged, and that the following points are reconfirmed:

- A. To assist this process in occurring, the following is proposed:
 1. Council will prepare the IA.
 2. The costs of preparing the IA will be recovered from the Developer.
 3. The Developer is the registered owner/s of the lots to which the Negotiated Decision Notice is applied or specific consent is provided by the registered owner/s.
 4. All and any reasonable information as required is supplied by the Developer to enable the IA to be completed.
 5. The IA does not cover costs as excluded in this correspondence.
- B. Council will not be contributing to the following items:
 1. Fees associated with the IA including legal fees
 2. Feasibility costs
 3. Cost planning fees
 4. Design fees and pre-construction services
 5. Costs incurred prior to taking land ownership i.e. conveyancing fees, stamp duty etc
 6. Development operational costs
 7. Project management fees
 8. Development management fees, including costs incurred by the Developer for their time to undertake the required works.
 9. Market escalation after the IA date.

Noting that the approved development represents 9.8% of the land area benefitted by the new pump station and connecting mains, and that the development will be contributing accordingly.

Carried Unanimously

17.7 Water Loss - PID 61390

Resolution

Moved Cr S Windle

Seconded Cr S Deane

THAT Council under section 120(1)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* consider rebating 50% of the potential leak charge amount for the period August 2023 till the date of repair, subject to the owners engaging a licenced plumber who should be able to inspect all water infrastructure (owner's side) and provide written confirmation that all leaks have been repaired in a satisfactory manner. The repairs should be completed within 90 days from the date of notice provided by Council with failure resulting in Council installing a restrictor on the water meter to throttle back the flow rate to reduce the amount of water loss. The anticipated potential leak amount rebated at 50% till 12 December is \$8,922.21.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C McDonald, C Pidgeon, J Richters, R Wantling and S Windle (8)

Against: Cr R Bartley (1)

17.8 Show Societies and Committee Funding (formerly Agenda Item 13.10)

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr C McDonald

THAT Council share the \$30,000 budget allocation equally across the four (4) recognised local Show Societies as follows:

1. \$7,500 funding to Stanthorpe Agricultural Society & Show Committee for the 2025 Stanthorpe Show;
2. \$7,500 to the Warwick Show & Rodeo Society Inc. for the 2025 Warwick Show;
3. \$7,500 to the Allora Show Society Inc. for the 2025 Allora Show; and
4. \$7,500 to the Killarney Show & Rodeo Society Inc. for the 2025 Killarney Show;

with the funding to be used and acquitted by the Societies for the 2025 agricultural shows held across the Southern Downs.

Carried

The following votes were recorded:

For: Crs S Deane, M Hamilton, M Harslett, C McDonald, C Pidgeon, J Richters, R Wantling and S Windle (8)

Against: Cr R Bartley (1)

18.2 Vote of Thanks for Acting Chief Executive Officer

Resolution

Moved Cr J Richters

Seconded Cr S Windle

THAT Council move a vote of thanks to the Acting Chief Executive Officer for his contributions during his time at Council and wish him all the best for his future endeavours.

Carried Unanimously

18. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1:18pm.