



Meander Valley Council
Working Together

MINUTES

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 25 July 2023

Time 3.00pm

Location Council Chambers
26 Lyall Street
Westbury, Tasmania

Phone (03) 6393 5300

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Meeting Open - Attendance & Apologies

Meeting opened at 3:00 pm.

Chairperson Mayor Wayne Johnston

Councillors present Deputy Mayor Stephanie Cameron
Councillor Lochie Dornauf
Councillor Ben Dudman
Councillor Kevin House
Councillor Anne-Marie Loader
Councillor Rodney Synfield
Councillor John Temple

Apologies Councillor Michael Kelly

Officers present	Jonathan Harmey	Acting General Manager
	Wezley Frankcombe	Manager Governance & Performance (Minute-Taker)
	Dino De Paoli	Director Infrastructure Services
	Matthew Millwood	Director Works
	Krista Palfreyman	Director Development & Regulatory Services

Acknowledgment of Country

The Chairperson acknowledged the Pallitore and Panninher past peoples and the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we gather for the Council Meeting, paid respects to elders past and present and extended those respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples present.

Confirmation of Minutes

Motion Receive and confirm minutes of the last Ordinary Council Meeting held 11 July 2023.

Moved Councillor Lochie Dornauf

Seconded Councillor Ben Dudman

Votes for Mayor Wayne Johnston
Deputy Mayor Stephanie Cameron
Councillor Lochie Dornauf
Councillor Ben Dudman
Councillor Kevin House
Councillor Anne-Marie Loader
Councillor Rodney Synfield
Councillor John Temple

Votes against Nil

Abstained Nil

To abstain from voting at a Council Meeting is to vote in the negative: *Local Government (Meeting Procedure) Regulations 2015: s28.*

Motion carried by simple majority

Minute reference: 190/2023

Declarations of Interest

Nil.

Minute reference: 191/2023

Community Representations

Nil requests received.

Community representations are an opportunity for community members or groups to request up to three minutes to address Council on a topic of particular interest.

Requests received at least fourteen days prior to a Council Meeting will be considered by the Chairperson. For further information, contact the Office of the General Manager on (03) 6393 5317 or email ogm@mvc.tas.gov.au.

Minute reference: 192/2023

Public Question Time

This Month's Public Questions With Notice

Nil received.

Minute reference: 193/2023

This Month's Public Questions Without Notice

Nil received.

Minute reference: 194/2023

Councillor Question Time

This Month's Councillor Questions With Notice

Nil received.

Minute reference: 195/2023

This Month's Councillor Questions Without Notice

Question 1: Councillor Temple

Has there been any further updates regarding the Northern Regional Prison Project since our last meeting?

Jonathan Harmey, Acting General Manager advised that we have not received any correspondence relating to the State Government's proposed prison project in the past two weeks.

Minute reference: 196/2023

Governance

Future of Local Government Review - Meander Valley Council Submission

Report Author Jonathan Harmey

Acting General Manager

Motion That Council approves the following position on the State Government's Future of Local Government Review and provides the position as a submission to the State Government's Local Government Board:

1. Meander Valley Council works hard to achieve a sustainable business model and responsible decision making that ensures appropriate services are available in our community now and for future generations.
2. We are calling on the State Government to complete their current Local Government reform agenda with no forced alterations to Tasmanian council boundary areas unless a Council agrees to accept changes to their current boundary areas.
3. The Meander Valley community does not support forced amalgamation of the current council areas.
4. We have received insufficient evidence to justify the significant changes to the current council boundaries proposed by the State Government's Local Government Board.
5. The Meander Valley community is concerned about the likely negative economic impact on smaller townships if forced amalgamations of Tasmanian councils is undertaken by the State Government.
6. We request information to be provided that clearly demonstrates how economies of scale will deliver real cost savings to the Meander Valley Council property owners as a result of amalgamation of Tasmanian councils by the State Government.
7. We support greater use of agreed key performance indicators to be used as a guide of performance for

Tasmanian councils, which will demonstrate whether, like Meander Valley, councils are delivering sustainable services to their community.

8. We support councils that wish to progress voluntary amalgamations to do so with the support of their communities and the State Government. Our community does not support voluntary amalgamation of the Meander Valley Council area with any other Tasmanian councils.
9. We support the investigation of greater use of shared services for Tasmanian councils, including investigation of future legislated shared services, for services that Tasmanian councils currently deliver and can be better delivered on a regional or statewide basis. This would be with the support and approval of Tasmanian councils. Examples of potential shared services include Information Technology, procurement tendering and assessment, policy development.
10. We do not support any of the four Tamar Valley proposed amalgamation scenarios.
11. We do not support any of the four Central & Midlands proposed amalgamation scenarios.
12. We do not support the Meander Valley community being required to pay for any new council areas created by the State Government.
13. We will continue to work with all other Tasmanian councils to improve the local government sector.
14. We believe that Local Government is well placed to continue our active role in planning for our community.

Moved Councillor Ben Dudman

Seconded Councillor Anne-Marie Loader

Votes for Mayor Wayne Johnston
Deputy Mayor Stephanie Cameron
Councillor Lochie Dornauf
Councillor Ben Dudman
Councillor Kevin House

Councillor Anne-Marie Loader
Councillor Rodney Synfield
Councillor John Temple

Votes against Nil

Abstained Nil

To abstain from voting at a Council Meeting is to vote in the negative: *Local Government (Meeting Procedure) Regulations 2015: s28.*

Motion carried by simple majority

Minute reference: 197/2023

Motion to Close Meeting

Motion Close the meeting to the public for discussion of matters in the list of agenda items below.

See Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015: s15(1).

Moved Councillor Ben Dudman

Seconded Councillor Kevin House

Votes for Mayor Wayne Johnston
Deputy Mayor Stephanie Cameron
Councillor Lochie Dornauf
Councillor Ben Dudman
Councillor Kevin House
Councillor Anne-Marie Loader
Councillor Rodney Synfield
Councillor John Temple

Votes against Nil

Motion carried by absolute majority

Minute reference: 198/2023

Closed Session Agenda

Confirmation of Closed Minutes

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015: s34(2)*.

Minute reference: 199/2023

Leave of Absence Applications

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015: s15(2)(h)*.

Minute reference: 200/2023

Release of Public Information

Minute reference: 201/2023

Meeting End

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Mayor Wayne Johnston
Chairperson