
NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 9 NOVEMBER 2022
MAYORAL MINUTE

1. MAYORAL DIARY

October 2022

1 October	Narromine Dolly Festival
5 October	Announcement of Grant for Trangie Memorial Hall with Local Member Meeting with Potential Developers
6 October	Presentation about Narromine – in Sydney
9 October	Inspecting River Flood Gauges Meeting with Potential Developers
11 October	Meeting with Senator for NSW Meeting with Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party Meeting with Shadow Minister for the Environment and Heritage
12 October	Meeting with Minister for Environment and Heritage Meeting with IGA Representative, Trangie Pre-Briefing Meeting Ordinary Council Meeting
27 October	Country Mayors Association Executive Meeting Phone Meeting with NSW Premier and Local Member

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

2. DEPUTY MAYORAL DIARY

October 2022

12 October	Pre-Briefing Meeting Ordinary Council Meeting
17 October	Draft Macquarie-Castlereagh Regional Water Strategy Webinar Meeting with General Manager
18 October	Meeting with Essential Energy
23-25 October	Local Government NSW Annual Conference
26 October	NSW Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy NSW Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy briefing for Councillors
29 October	Breakfast Meeting with Local Member and Minister for Women, Regional Health and Mental Health

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

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3. APPROVAL FOR MAYORAL TRAVEL

The Mayoral Diary outlines that, in October, I attended a series of meetings on two separate occasions in Sydney. The timing and notice given for these meetings did not allow them to be reported to Councillors prior to attending and as such I now seek the Councillors specific approval retrospectively.

The first meeting, held 6 October 2022, was a residential investor/new resident meeting organised by the proponents of the new Waterford Estate to enable those seeking to invest or relocate to Narromine the opportunity to ask questions regarding the amenities and employment availability in our region. During the short presentation that I provided, I was able to give an overview of the services that our towns offered, the retail mix, education choice and outline the various employment sectors. This was well received, and I believe a number of those that attended will be considering more fully the local opportunities.

The cost to Council of my attendance was approximately \$900.

On 11 October 2022, I had the opportunity to meet with the current Minister for Environment and Heritage, The Hon. James Griffin MP as well as the Senator for NSW, Deborah O'Neil. During both meetings I was able to discuss the need for reform of Biodiversity legislation and also outline the growth that the regions are experiencing and the need for more sympathetic planning policies and assistance to provide housing.

While in Sydney I also took the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Shooters and Fishers party and shadow spokesperson for Environment and Heritage.

The cost to Council of my attendance in Sydney for these meetings was \$910.16.

While every opportunity is made to catch up with these important representatives if they are travelling to our region or at meetings that I am planning to attend it does happen from time to time where specific travel is required. The benefits of these meetings will be apparent in the future, particularly in regard to Biodiversity policy reform.

I am more than happy to take specific questions in regard to these meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

That the travel undertaken by the Mayor for meetings in Sydney on the 6 October 2022 and 11 October 2022 be acknowledged and endorsed and that the expenditure be made from the Councillors travel budget.

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4. CANBERRA VISIT

On Wednesday 28 September 2022, Council hosted a visit from the Philippines Ambassador, Her Excellency Ma. Hellen De La Vega to further relations between Council and her country. The Philippines have been identified as the country or place origin most likely to be able to provide a significant percentage of the staffing needs of our Shire as we move ahead with development.

We are all aware of some of the developments that have proposals to move ahead in the Shire and the likelihood is a requirement for many hundreds of workers being necessary.

As a follow up to the visit to Narromine in September, a meeting has been arranged for Monday 7 November 2022 in Canberra with the Ambassador, Senator Deborah O'Neill, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs the Hon Andrew Giles MP and myself, along with Brad Cam the Mid-Western Shire General Manager and the Chairman Regional Development Australia - Orana. We are looking for a favourable outcome to an initiative of the Ambassadors, who is a very strong and supportive advocate for this initiative.

The cost to Council of my attendance in Canberra for these meetings will be approximately \$700 - \$900 (travel included).

RECOMMENDATION

That the travel undertaken by the Mayor for meeting in Canberra on the 7 November 2022 be acknowledged and endorsed and that the expenditure be made from the Councillors travel budget.

Cr Craig Davies
Mayor