

SOUTHERN  
MIDLANDS  
COUNCIL



# Annual General Meeting

## **MINUTES**

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Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
5.03 p.m.

Municipal Offices  
85 Main Street, Kempton

**MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**OF THE SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL**  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Municipal Office,  
85 Main Street, Kempton at 5.03 p.m.

**1. OPENING/WELCOME**

Mayor Anthony Bisdee OAM opened the Southern Midlands Council Annual General Meeting and welcomed those present.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Clr R Campbell, Mr John Jones (Kempton)

**3. ATTENDANCE**

**Councillors:** Mayor AE Bisdee OAM, Deputy Mayor A Green, Clr A Bantick, Clr E Batt, Clr D Fish, Clr D Marshall

**Officers:** Tim Kirkwood (General Manager), Andrew Benson (Deputy General Manager), David Cundall (Manager, Development & Environment Services), Jack Lyall (Manager, Works & Technical Services), Elisa Lang (Executive Assistant)

**Residents:** Rowena McDougall (Baden), Margaret Headlam (Tunbridge), Craig Williams (Rekuna), Nan Bray (Oatlands), Terry Loftus (Southern Midlands Regional News)

**4. MEETING PROCEDURES**

*Refer Attachment 1.*

**5. 2016/2017 ANNUAL REPORT & 2016/2017 GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT**

**5.1 Mayor's Report**

Mayor A E Bisdee OAM presented the 2016/2017 Annual Report, incorporating the 2016/2017 General Purpose Financial Report.

**DECISION**

*Moved by Clr E Batt, seconded by Deputy Mayor A Green*

THAT the Annual Report for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 incorporating the 2016/2017 General Purpose Financial Report be received.

**CARRIED**

Note:

The following minor amendments are to be made to the 2016/17 Annual Report:

- Page 80 - Attendance at Council and Council Committee Meetings Statement - Facilities and Recreation Committee – non-members of the Committee (i.e. Mayor / Deputy Mayor / Cllr B Campbell and Cllr D Marshall) to be shown as N/A.
- Inclusion of a statement relating to advertising the availability of the Annual Report (section 72 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993).

## **6. STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2023**

### **6.1 Invitation to provide comment on Council's Strategic Plan**

Members of the public are encouraged to provide comment on the 2014-2023 Strategic Plan at any time.

### **6.2 Questions/Discussion on Strategic Plan**

The General Manager advised that a major review of the Strategic Plan will occur in the first half of 2018. This review will include extensive community consultation and the opportunity to provide comment on the Strategic Plan is welcome at any time.

## **7. DISCUSSION ITEMS ON NOTICE**

Nil.

## **8. DISCUSSION ITEMS WITHOUT NOTICE**

### **NAN BRAY (OATLANDS)**

Acknowledged and thanked Council for assistance provided to the Oatlands Community Association. It was noted that the comments were from an individual perspective and not as Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Southern Midlands Regional News.

**Question 1** – Question regarding advertisement of the Annual General Meeting and was it only advertised in the Mercury newspaper? Believes that the AGM should be more widely advertised for members of the community.

*It was advised that the AGM was advertised in The Mercury and on Council's website.*

**Question 2** - Question regarding the Financial Statement(s) included in the Annual Report (page 79) and the commentary that 50% of the 2017/18 Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant was received in advance.

*It was advised that the Australian Government advanced approximately half of the 2017/18 grant entitlement at the end of June 2017. Council is required to include the income in the period that it is received (as opposed to the period to which it relates). This obviously impacts on the financial outcome for the relevant periods.*

**Question 3** - Question regarding the Strategic Plan and the future of the Callington Mill precinct. It was confirmed that Council has had discussions with Mr Ibrahim who has

expressed an interest in sub-leasing the site. It was questioned whether Council considered a tender or expression of interest process for management / operation of the precinct?

*The General Manager advised that an Expression of Interest process was widely advertised when the Mill first opened which did not receive an overwhelming response. After considerable consideration, Council has elected to maintain a lease arrangement and enter into a sub-lease arrangement with Mr Ibrahim. Discussions are also occurring with the State Government (owners of the site).*

### **ROWENA McDOUGALL (BADEN)**

**Question 1** – Question regarding Callington Mill precinct and whether Council have conducted due diligence in regard to the proposed sub-lessee? Believes than an expression of interest should have been advertised given that the tourism landscape in Tasmania has changed significantly since the last EOI process was advertised.

*It was confirmed that Council has undertaken a due diligence process.*

**Question 2** – Request that the section on Donations within the Annual Report be amended to reflect that MILE Inc. was the recipient of the operational grant / subsidy in 2016/17 as opposed to the f the Oatlands Community Association Inc.

*It was advised that this would be amended within the 2016/17 Annual Report.*

**Question 3** – In April 2016 Ms McDougall advised that she attended a Council meeting at Bagdad and spoke during public question time regarding public access to the Oatlands Court House and Gaolers Residence to have it open to the public as per the interpretation plan. When is the key card system going to be operational?

*The General Manager advised that the key card system is very close to being finalised. There is some minor works remaining to be completed by the contractor and Council officers are currently working through the operational arrangements which are to be implemented. This includes confirming the places where access cards will be available.*

### **CRAIG WILLIAMS (REKUNA)**

**Question 1** – Statement that it is good to see the work done recently by Council staff in cleaning out drains etc. in the area.

**Question 2** – Question regarding maintenance grading of gravel roads. When roads are re- graded can Council employees remove the larger materials that may surface from the road pavement? Grices Road was cited as a recent example.

**Question 3** - Statement that when a development application is considered by Council, Councillors need to ensure that they have fully read the detail and considered the implications as there are people and families that are impacted by such applications.

**Question 4** – Question regarding when the Mayors apology regarding traffic offences will appear in the Council Newsletter?

*The Mayor advised that this is a private matter and he is not prepared to answer.*

## **TERRY LOFTUS (SOUTHERN MIDLANDS REGIONAL NEWS)**

Questions regarding the appointment and re-appointment of the General Manager and a statement that it is best practice for the performance of the General Manager to be reviewed annually against agreed performance criteria.

**Question 1** – Does the Southern Midlands Council have an established review process and what are the Key Performance Indicators that the Council assesses the General Managers performance?

**Question 2** – Does Southern Midlands Council involve all elected members and employees in their General Manager review process?

**Question 3** – Does the Southern Midlands Council believe that they are fully open, transparent and accountable while fully complying with Local Government legislation regarding the General Managers review?

**Question 4** – Can the Southern Midlands Council provide details of the last time they report their General Managers review in agendas or minutes as required under the Local Government regulations, particularly regulation 15?

*It was advised that the above questions are taken on notice.*

## **9. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 5.44 p.m.

## MEETING PROCEDURES

1. The **Annual General Meeting** is in essence a Council meeting and will be **conducted in accordance with normal Council procedures** for the conduct of meetings; with the exception of course it is intended to make it as easy as possible for members of the public to have input so that maximum benefits is gained.
2. The **Mayor** is **Chairman** of the meeting.
3. The first part of the meeting comprises a presentation of an overview of:
  - (i) **the Annual Report**
  - (ii) **Financial Statement, and**
  - (iii) **the Strategic Plan**
4. At the **conclusion** of each of these presentations electors may ask questions.
5. **Questions and comments should be concise** to allow as many people as possible to have their input.
6. **No one is to be interrupted** whilst they are speaking.
7. You will be asked, as a matter of courtesy and for the minutes, to **identify yourself** before speaking.
8. **All discussion** will be addressed **through the chair**.
9. **No person may:**
  - (i) **make any personal reflection** on any Councillors, Council employee or member of the public;
  - (ii) **disrupt the meeting**; or
  - (iii) in the opinion of the Chairman, **use any offensive expression**.
10. If you intend to move a motion the following procedures apply: -
  - (i) All motions must be **moved and seconded** before debate is permitted.
  - (ii) In speaking to a motion, individuals may **speak only once** and for **no longer than 5 minutes**.
  - (iii) Voting is **by a show of hands**.
  - (iv) **Only electors of the Southern Midlands municipal area are entitled to vote**.
  - (v) A motion is passed by **half plus one of the electors present** voting in favour of it.
11. Any **resolution passed** at the Annual General Meeting **will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of Council**.