

CITY OF NEWCASTLE

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Level 1, City Administration Centre, 12 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle West on Tuesday 27 April 2021 at 6.08pm.

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor (Councillor N Nelmes), Councillors M Byrne, J Church, D Clausen, C Duncan, J Dunn, K Elliott, B Luke, J Mackenzie, A Robinson (*left the meeting during confidential session*), A Rufo, E White (*retired 8.22pm*) and P Winney-Baartz.

IN ATTENDANCE

J Bath (Chief Executive Officer), D Clarke (Director Governance), B Smith (Director Strategy and Engagement), F Leatham (Director People and Culture), K Liddell (Director Infrastructure and Property), A Jones (Director City Wide Services), E Kolatchew (Manager Legal), S Moore (Manager Finance), M Bisson (Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment), J Rigby (Manager Assets and Projects), M Murray (Chief of Staff), E Dowswell (Senior Media Advisor), K Sullivan (Councillor Services/Minutes), A Knowles (Councillor Services/Meeting Support) and G Axelsson (Information Technology Support).

MESSAGE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Lord Mayor read the message of acknowledgement to the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

PRAYER

The Lord Mayor read a prayer and a period of silence was observed in memory of those who served and died so that Council might meet in peace.

REQUEST TO ATTEND BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

MOTION

Moved by Cr Luke, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

The requests submitted by Councillors Dunn, Robinson and White to attend by audio visual link be received and leave granted.

Carried

APOLOGIES

Nil.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MINUTES - PUBLIC VOICE COMMITTEE 16 MARCH 2021

MINUTES - BRIEFING COMMITTEE 16 MARCH 2021

MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 23 MARCH 2021

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

The draft minutes as circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

**Carried
unanimously**

LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

**ITEM-10 LMM 27/04/21 - BOB PALMER OVAL TUXFORD PARK,
SHORTLAND**

MOTION

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes

That City of Newcastle:

- 1 Notes that on 12 December 2020, Mr Robert 'Bob' Palmer was tragically killed in his beloved suburb of Shortland leading to expressions of grief from the local community;
- 2 Notes that the Shortland Devils Rugby League Football Club Committee, Club Members, the local Shortland community, and Bob's family have requested that Tuxford Oval Number 1 at Tuxford Park be renamed the Bob Palmer Oval, to honor Bob's lifelong commitment to the Shortland Community, and to the Shortland Devils RLFC;
- 3 Recognises Mr Palmer's incredible contribution to Shortland, the Shortland Devils RLFC and to Rugby League, and re-names Tuxford Oval Number 1 as the Bob Palmer Oval; and
- 4 Works with the Shortland Devils RLFC, Mr Palmer's family and the community to officially dedicate the Bob Palmer Oval, through the installation of a memorial to Mr Palmer and appropriate naming signage at Tuxford Park, Shortland.

**Carried
unanimously**

PROCEEDINGS IN BRIEF

Councillor Clausen gave notice of a late item of business.

ITEM-11

**LMM 27/04/21 - HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS IN
NEWCASTLE**

MOTION

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes

That City of Newcastle:

- 1 Recognises that dedicated, long-term social and affordable housing and advocates have declared that Newcastle is on the brink of a humanitarian crisis, with the end of JobSeeker and JobKeeper, the rent-rise moratorium coming to an end and a sharp increase in the value of property creating a 'perfect storm' for the rise of homelessness;
- 2 Acknowledges the current housing crisis, and commits to continuing to do all that we can from local government to address housing affordability across Newcastle, noting that the supply of new social and affordable housing stock is the responsibility of the State Government, with the support of the Federal Government;
- 3 Notes that City of Newcastle continues to advocate to the State and Federal Government to provide adequate funding to address housing affordability in Newcastle, including:
 - a) The development of the 'Newcastle Local Housing Strategy' (LHS) 2020 (**Attachment A**), which sets a framework for the provision of housing across the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA), which includes the development of an Affordable Housing Contributions Scheme to facilitate the provision of affordable housing in new developments, and is currently the only available direct mechanism that the City of Newcastle can utilise to increase the availability of affordable housing;
 - b) Providing submissions to the NSW Government on the following reforms:
 - Introduction of a NSW Housing Strategy (**Attachment B**);
 - New Housing Diversity State Environmental Planning Policy (**Attachment C**); and
 - 'Continuing the Productivity Conversation' Green Paper by the NSW Productivity Commission (**Attachment D**).
 - c) Providing Budget Submissions to the State and Federal Treasurers advocating for additional funding for affordable housing initiatives as a part of every State and Federal Budget cycle, during this term of Council; and
 - d) The City of Newcastle COVID-19 Taskforce unanimously endorsed to advocate for affordable housing initiatives to State and Federal Governments as a part of their economic stimulus programs aimed to assist in the economic recovery from the COVID-19 global pandemic.

- 4 Recognises the concept of a 15% Affordable Housing Mandate on privately developed land, whereby 15% of new dwellings or floor space on privately developed land is mandated as Affordable Housing in new housing developments and considers this rate as a part of the development of the Affordable Housing Contributions Scheme.
- 5 Notes that key housing and social services advocacy groups such as, the NSW Council of Social Service (NCOSS), Homelessness NSW, the Tenants Union of NSW, National Shelter, the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute and the Community Housing Industry Association support the provision of a 15% affordable housing mandate, at a minimum, for private development;
- 6 Recognises that industry experts point to the ACT Government's 20% affordable housing mandate, and the South Australian Government's 15% affordable housing mandate on many new private developments, including a 5% social housing mandate, as key examples of government housing affordability policies;
- 7 Supports the Governance Directorate, through Regulatory, Planning and Assessment, to expedite the development of the City of Newcastle Affordable Housing Contributions Scheme, and endorses the provision of adequate resourcing to do so;
- 8 Notes, with ongoing concern, the Federal Government's decision to phase out funding for the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS), with no new funding mechanisms identified to ensure the ongoing provision of leases 20% below market rate in affordable housing units, with no new funding mechanism identified that would facilitate the retention of existing stock beyond the 10-year obligation;
- 9 Continues to advocate to the NSW and Federal Government's to provide additional funding to address the affordable housing crisis across Newcastle, and writes to the NSW and Federal Treasurers, providing copies of our submissions and advocacy to date as well as a copy of the Newcastle Local Housing Strategy.

For the Motion:

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Elliott, Mackenzie, Robinson, Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion:

Councillors Church and Luke.

Carried

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Byrne

Council alter the order of business to deal with the following reports forthwith:

- Item 31 – Code of Meeting Practice – Procedures for Councillors Attending Council and Committee of Council Meetings Remotely
- Late item of business – City of Newcastle's Summerhill Operating Licence
- Confidential Item 3 – Tender Report – East End Stage 1 – Hunter Street Mall Refurbishment – Contract 2020/380T
- Confidential Item 4 – Confidential Code of Conduct Matter

Carried

REPORTS BY COUNCIL OFFICERS

ITEM-31 CCL 27/04/21 - CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE - PROCEDURES FOR COUNCILLORS ATTENDING COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS REMOTELY

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

- 1 Adopt the Procedures for Councillors Attending Council and Committee of Council Meetings Remotely (Procedures) at **Attachment A**; and
- 2 Terminate the Practice Note: Code of Meeting Practice (April 2020).

**Carried
unanimously**

LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

ITEM-39 LATE ITEM OF BUSINESS - CITY OF NEWCASTLE'S SUMMERHILL OPERATING LICENCE

The Lord Mayor advised that she had been informed by Councillor Clausen of a late item of business and the business proposed was of great urgency on the grounds that the matter of *City of Newcastle's Summerhill Operating Licence*, was required to go before Council prior to the next scheduled Council meeting.

Councillor Clausen was asked to outline the reasons for Council to consider the late item of business:

- The matter was of sufficient urgency to consider and could not be delayed to a future Council meeting as failure to transact the business may result in Council being unable to operate its Summerhill Waste Management facility and cause a public health crisis in the City of Newcastle.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

The matter of the City of Newcastle's Summerhill Operating Licence be heard as a late item of business in accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice and as outlined by Councillor Clausen.

Carried

The Lord Mayor ruled the matter of City of Newcastle's Summerhill Operating Licence to be of great urgency on the grounds that it required a decision by Council before the next scheduled Council meeting.

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

1. Notes media reports of the prosecution of Councillor Robinson's company, ARSK Civil Pty Ltd, for illegally dumping 52 tonnes of demolition waste.
2. Notes that these are not the first reports of illegal dumping and prosecution for environmental offences by companies associated with Councillor Robinson.
3. Notes that City of Newcastle's operations of the Summerhill Waste Management Facility rely on an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) issued by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under the *Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act).
4. Notes that under S79 and 83 of the POEO Act, the EPA may suspend or revoke Council's EPL if: "*a director of the body corporate is or has been the director of another body corporate that has contravened any of the environmental protection legislation or other legislation*".
5. Notes that the actions of Councillor Robinson's companies potentially threaten City of Newcastle's Summerhill EPL, and therefore its ability to operate the Summerhill Waste Management Facility, as the EPL could be suspended or revoked under the fit and proper criteria of the POEO Act.
6. Notes the disastrous impact of any suspension or revocation of the City's ability to collect domestic waste, the associated public health crisis it would cause, and the financial impacts on the City's budget.
7. Condemns illegal dumping and the fact that the City has been placed in this position in the strongest possible terms.
8. Refers these matters for investigation under Council's Code of Conduct, and requests that the CEO, Director Governance and Director of City Wide Services take necessary action to protect City of Newcastle's EPL from suspension/revocation due to the actions of entities associated with Councillor Robinson.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Luke

Council vote on the motion seriatim.

Carried

PART 1

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

1. Notes media reports of the prosecution of Councillor Robinson's company, ARSK Civil Pty Ltd, for illegally dumping 52 tonnes of demolition waste.

Carried

PART 2

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

2. Notes that these are not the first reports of illegal dumping and prosecution for environmental offences by companies associated with Councillor Robinson.

Carried

PART 3

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

3. Notes that City of Newcastle's operations of the Summerhill Waste Management Facility rely on an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) issued by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under the *Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act).

Carried

PART 4

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

4. Notes that under S79 and 83 of the POEO Act, the EPA may suspend or revoke Council's EPL if: *"a director of the body corporate is or has been the director of another body corporate that has contravened any of the environmental protection legislation or other legislation"*.

Carried

PART 5

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

5. Notes that the actions of Councillor Robinson's companies potentially threaten City of Newcastle's Summerhill EPL, and therefore its ability to operate the Summerhill Waste Management Facility, as the EPL could be suspended or revoked under the fit and proper criteria of the POEO Act.

For the Motion:

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, White and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion:

Councillors Church, Elliott, Luke, Mackenzie, Robinson and Rufo.

Carried

PART 6

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

6. Notes the disastrous impact of any suspension or revocation of the City's ability to collect domestic waste, the associated public health crisis it would cause, and the financial impacts on the City's budget.

Carried

PART 7

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

7. Condemns illegal dumping and the fact that the City has been placed in this position in the strongest possible terms.

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, White and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion: Councillors Church, Elliott, Luke, Robinson and Rufo.

Carried

PART 8

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

8. Refers these matters for investigation and requests that the CEO, Director Governance and Director of City Wide Services take necessary action to protect City of Newcastle's EPL from suspension/revocation due to the actions of entities associated with Councillor Robinson.

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, White and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion: Councillors Church, Elliott, Luke, Robinson and Rufo.

Carried

Councillor Robinson did not vote on parts 1 - 8 and as such was recorded as having voted in the negative.

All staff other than the Chief Executive Officer, Director Governance, Manager Legal, Councillor Services and IT Meetings Support left the meeting for Item 4 - Confidential Code of Conduct Matter.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

Council move into confidential session for the reasons outlined in the business papers.

Carried

Council moved into confidential session at 7.29pm.

Councillor Robinson left the meeting for discussion on Item 4 - Confidential Code of Conduct matter and did not return to the meeting.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Winney-Baartz, seconded by Cr Byrne

Council move into open session.

Carried

Council moved out of confidential session at 8.21pm and the Chief Executive Officer reported the outcomes of confidential session.

Councillor White retired from the meeting at 8.22pm.

ITEM-3 **CON 27/04/21 - TENDER REPORT - EAST END STAGE 1 - HUNTER STREET MALL REFURBISHMENT - CONTRACT 2020/380T**

MOTION

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

- 1 Accept the tender of Statewide Civil Pty Ltd. in the amount of \$4,399,002.50 (excluding GST) for East End Stage 1 – Hunter Street Mall Refurbishment for Contract No. 2020/380T.
- 2 This confidential report relating to the matters specified in s10A(2)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1993* be treated as confidential and remain confidential until the Chief Executive Officer determines otherwise.

**Carried
unanimously**

ITEM-4

CON 27/04/21 - CONFIDENTIAL CODE OF CONDUCT MATTER

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Byrne

That Council:

- 1 notes that an investigation was undertaken into a Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Robinson. The investigation was undertaken by a Conduct Reviewer, independent of City of Newcastle (CN), in accordance with the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW;
- 2 receives the Final Investigation Report of the Conduct Reviewer in relation to the complaint at **Attachment A**;
- 3 notes that Councillor Robinson was consulted by the Conduct Reviewer throughout the investigation and that prior to imposing a sanction, Councillor Robinson was provided with a formal opportunity to make a written or oral submission to Council;
- 4 accepts the finding of the Conduct Reviewer in relation to the complaint that on 25 February 2020, Councillor Allan Robinson breached clauses 3.1 (a) and (e), and 3.7 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, by conducting himself in an inappropriate and intimidatory manner towards another Councillor without their consent;
- 5 in accordance with section 440G of the Local Government Act 1993 (Act) and based on the findings and recommendation of the Conduct Reviewer, formally censures Councillor Robinson for breaching clauses 3.1 (a) and (e), and 3.7 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, on the grounds that Councillor Robinson engaged in the following forms of conduct:
 - (i) Conducted himself in a manner likely to bring CN into disrepute; and
 - (ii) Conducted himself in a manner which comprised intimidation; and
 - (iii) Conducted himself in a manner which amounted to harassment of another person;
- 6 accepts the Conduct Reviewer's further recommendation that, due to the repeated and serious nature of Councillor Robinson's conduct, Council refers to the matter to the Office of Local Government for further action under the misconduct provisions of the Act; and
- 7 treats this confidential report and attachment relating to the matters specified in section 10A(2)(i) of the Act as confidential.

For the Motion:

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, White and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion:

Councillors Church, Elliott, Rufo and Luke.

Carried

REPORTS BY COUNCIL OFFICERS

ITEM-35 CCL 27/04/21 - PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE - CROWN STREET LANEWAY, STOCKTON

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

- 1 Endorse the closure of the section of Crown Street laneway road reserve, Stockton, adjacent to Lot 5 Section B DP 6865.
- 2 Approve the sale of the 30.17m² parcel of land (**Attachment A**) to the adjoining owner of Lot 5 Section B DP 6865 for \$38,400 (plus GST).
- 3 Grant authority to the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate to execute all relevant documentation to effect the transactions.
- 4 Endorse the sale revenue be transferred to City of Newcastle's (CN) 'Works Program: Specific Projects' internally restricted reserves.

Carried

ITEM-36 CCL 27/04/21 - EXECUTIVE MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

- 1 Receives the Executive Monthly Performance Report for March 2021.

For the Motion:

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Luke, Mackenzie, Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion:

Councillor Church.

Carried

Councillor Elliott was absent from the Chamber when the vote was taken on Item 36.

ITEM-32 CCL 27/04/21 - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

MOTION

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

- 1 Receives and acknowledges City of Newcastle's actions outlined at **Attachment A** in response to domestic violence, coercive control and violence against women and children.
- 2 Continues to support domestic violence support groups Got Your Back Sista and Nova for Women and Children as City of Newcastle's nominated corporate charities for a further 3 years until 2024.

**Carried
unanimously**

ITEM-33 CCL 27/04/21 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF DRAFT COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVE POLICY

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

That Council:

- 1 Places the draft Community Infrastructure Incentives Policy (**Attachment A**) on public exhibition for 28 days.
- 2 Receive a report on submissions following the public exhibition.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Cr Luke

- 3 City of Newcastle engage with the community, Liveable Cities Advisory Committee, Department Planning Industry and Environment, Property Council, Urban Development Institute of Australia, Independent Commission Against Corruption and other stakeholders as part of the recommended public exhibition process.

The mover and seconder of the motion accepted Councillor Luke's amendment to the motion.

The motion moved by Councillor Mackenzie and seconded by Councillor Clausen, as amended, was put to the meeting.

**Carried
unanimously**

ITEM-34 **CCL 27/04/21 - ADOPTION OF THE COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP POLICY**

MOTION

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

- 1 Adopt the Community Grants Policy at **Attachment A** and Sponsorship Policy at **Attachment B**.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Cr Church, seconded by Cr Elliott

The policy be amended to state that *the Policy authorises the Director to approve grants and or sponsorship up to a value of \$10,000 with all others to come before elected Councillors.*

Defeated

The motion moved by Councillor Duncan and seconded by Councillor Mackenzie was put to the meeting.

**Carried
unanimously**

ITEM-37 **CCL 27/04/21 - TENDER REPORT - STAGE 3A WALLSEND LOCAL CENTRE - INTERSECTION OF KOKERA AND COWPER STREETS - CONTRACT 2021/362T**

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Byrne

That the recommendation at **Attachment A** be adopted.

That Council:

- 1 Accept the tender of Statewide Civil Pty Ltd in the amount of \$3,909,733.74 (excluding GST) for construction of Stage 3A of Wallsend Local Centre for Contract No. 2021/362T.
- 2 The confidential attachments relating to the matters specified in s10A(2)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1993* be treated as confidential and remain confidential until the Chief Executive Officer determines otherwise.

**Carried
unanimously**

ITEM-38

CCL 27/04/21 - TENDER REPORT - SUMMERHILL WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTRE - PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - CONTRACT 2021/293T

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

That the recommendation at **Attachment A** be adopted.

That Council:

- 1 Accept the tender of AECOM Australia Pty Ltd for Environmental Services at Summerhill Waste Management Centre, for Contract No. 2021/293T.
- 2 The confidential attachments relating to the matters specified in s10A(2)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1993* be treated as confidential and remain confidential until the Chief Executive Officer determines otherwise.

**Carried
unanimously**

NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEM-9

NOM 27/04/21 - WASTE REDUCTION AND GREEN CAFFEEN PROGRAM

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Byrne

That City of Newcastle

- Notes the commitment of the City of Newcastle to ensuring that all Council-managed enterprises, activities and events on Council land eliminate the use of disposable and single-use plastic items;
- Notes the City of Newcastle's diverse portfolio of waste reduction programs and campaigns, including partnerships with a range of stakeholders to raise community awareness of this issue; and
- Join the Hunter Joint Organisation's partnership with Green Caffein to reduce the litter and waste stream associated with disposable coffee cups.

Carried

ITEM-10

NOM 27/04/21 - MODERNISING SHARK BITE RISK MITIGATION

In moving the motion, Councillor Mackenzie moved Part 3 of the recommendation in the Director's Report as outlined in the business papers.

MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Byrne

That City of Newcastle

- 1 Supports a modernisation of shark bite risk mitigation including the removal of shark nets in favour of increased drone surveillance, SMART drumlines, and trials of additional non-lethal measures.
- 2 Endorses the response to the NSW Shark Management Strategy attached to this report.
- 3 Notes that shark mitigation is the responsibility of the NSW State Government.

For the Motion:

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Church, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Elliott, Mackenzie, Rufo and Winney-Baartz.

Against the Motion:

Councillor Luke.

Carried

ITEM-11 NOM 27/04/21 - CITY OF NEWCASTLE VACCINE HUBS

MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Byrne

That Council:

- 1 Notes Australia's slow progress in vaccinating the population against COVID-19;
- 2 Notes calls from public health experts for vaccine hubs to be established to expedite vaccination and deliver herd immunity;
- 3 Notes the negative public health and economic consequences of a prolonged vaccination rollout;
- 4 Notes the long history of Council supporting community vaccination programs, including at CN venues such as City Hall;
- 5 Offers to make available CN venues to support the expedited delivery of community vaccination in Newcastle; and
- 6 Write to the NSW Ministry of Health and advise of Council's decision.

**Carried
unanimously**

The meeting concluded at 9.42pm.