# **CITY OF NEWCASTLE**

# Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

#### PRESENT

The Lord Mayor (Councillor N Nelmes), Councillors J Church, D Clausen, C Duncan, J Dunn, B Luke *(retired 7.08pm)*, J Mackenzie, A Robinson *(retired 9.30pm)*, A Rufo, E White and P Winney-Baartz.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

J Bath (Chief Executive Officer), D Clarke (Director Governance and Chief Financial Officer), K Hyland (Interim Director Strategy and Engagement), F Leatham (Director People and Culture), J Rigby (Acting Director Infrastructure and Property), A Jones (Director City Wide Services), H Sexton (Acting Manager Legal), M Bisson (Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment), S Moore (Manager Finance), L Duffy (Manager Parks and Recreation) S Gately (Manager Libraries and Learning), K Sullivan (Councillor Services/Minutes), A Knowles (Councillor Services/Meeting Support), L Stanhope (Councillor Services/Meeting Support) and D Barlass (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.

# ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO VISUAL MEANS

# **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Dunn, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council:

- 1. Notes the current Public Health Orders applicable to all of NSW;
- 2. Notes tonight's Ordinary Council meeting is livestreamed on Council's website providing for access to members of the public;
- 3. Notes the unprecedented public health risks facing the community and in the interests of public health and safety, permits all Councillors to attend the Ordinary Council meeting of 26 October 2021 by audio visual means.
- 4. Notes that at the advertised start time of 6.00pm, the Ordinary Council meeting of 26 October 2021 was quorate and that the opening of the meeting was delayed to 7.00pm due to technical issues.

Carried

This is page 1 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

Councillor Luke considered it inappropriate for the meeting to take place due to the delay and retired from the meeting at 7.08pm following an explanation from the Chief Executive Officer that the delay was not a breach of the Code of Meeting Practice.

# APOLOGIES

Nil.

# DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

# Councillor Church

Councillor Church declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 103 - Recommendation for City of Newcastle to be Planning Proposal Authority for 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher Gateway stating this was consistent with previous declarations due to his employment in the property industry and would leave the Chamber for discussion on the item.

# Councillor Clausen

Councillor Clausen declared a non-significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 95 - NSW Land and Housing Corporation Memorandum of Understanding stating that Minister Pavey who was required to sign the document had responsibility for his employer and while not an executive decision making role would remain in the Chamber for discussion on the item.

# Councillor Clausen

Councillor Clausen declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 100 - Endorsement of Planning Proposal and Development Control Plan for Community Infrastructure Incentives at Wickham stating that he had a friend who lived in the Wickham area and would remain in the Chamber for discussion on the item.

# **Councillor Dunn**

Councillor Dunn declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 100 -Endorsement of Planning Proposal and Development Control Plan for Community Infrastructure Incentives at Wickham stating that clients owned property in the vicinity of the plan and would leave the Chamber for discussion on the item.

# Councillor White

Councillor White declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Notice of Motion Item 36 - Siev-X Memorial Plaque stating employment conditions and would leave the Chamber for discussion on the item.

# Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes

The Lord Mayor declared a non-pecuniary significant interest in Item 103 -Recommendation for City of Newcastle to be Planning Proposal Authority for 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher Gateway stating that she was contacted by email by a family member many years ago on the subject matter and would remove herself from the Chamber for discussion on the item.

This is page 2 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

# **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

# MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC VOICE COMMITTEE 21 SEPTEMBER 2021

# **MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 28 SEPTEMBER 2021**

### MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

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

Carried

# LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

ITEM-25 LMM 26/10/21 - SUPPORTING ALFRESCO DINING IN NEWCASTLE

#### MOTION

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes

That City of Newcastle:

- 1 Notes that the NSW Government has announced a new policy, and grant funding, to support local businesses to expand their footprint to new outdoor spaces through the Alfresco Outdoor Dining initiative, aimed at supporting local businesses with the recovery from the economic effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic;
- 2 Enacts the appropriate measures through our Regulatory, Planning and Assessment Team to allow local businesses to take advantage of the Alfresco Outdoor Dining initiative;
- 3 Expedites the public consultation notification process, from 14 days to 7 days (in line with other local Councils), if required, to ensure that small businesses can take advantage of the scheme in a timely manner;
- 4 Notifies local businesses about our support for the Alfresco Outdoor Dining initiative, providing information about how we can assist in the recovery from the pandemic, including facilitating the implementation of expanded alfresco outdoor dining policy.

Carried unanimously

This is page 3 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

# ITEM-26 LMM 26/10/21 - BASKETBALL COURTS AT NATIONAL PARK

#### MOTION

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes

That City of Newcastle:

- 1. Notes that a key principle of the current 2012 National Park Plan of Management (PoM) is to provide sporting, recreation, and leisure facilities to meet the current and future needs of the community and that the former tennis courts site is categorised as 'sportsground' under the current PoM, with the objective of sportsground land being to 'encourage, promote and facilitate organised and informal sporting activities and games';
- 2. Endorses the provision of 4 new basketball courts, currently under construction, following the success of the construction of 2 basketball courts in September 2020, noting that a Review of Environmental Factors has stated that <u>the project aligns with the intention of the National Park Plan of Management 2012</u>, and that a management action of the PoM states that *If management of the tennis courts is no longer viable/economic during the life of this Plan, Council may investigate and implement alternative uses';*
- Acknowledges that since the adoption of the 2012 PoM, the conversion of the former Life Without Barriers site has provided an additional <u>9750m2 of green</u> <u>space not previously accessible to the public</u>, which has been rehabilitated for passive recreation;
- 4. Notes that the provision of the four new basketball courts returns this space to the public, aligns with the 2012 PoM, while providing an additional 1250m2 of green space surrounding the new courts, and significantly updating public amenity including the provision of new shelters, seating, a drinking water station and brand-new playing surfaces;
- 5. Commends our Parks and Recreation Team for revitalising this desolate, blackasphalted eyesore and unused section of National Park and returning it back to the community, for local people and families to enjoy; and
- 6. Notes that the exhibition of an updated National Park Plan of Management will occur in 2022.

# **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Church

Move dissent against the Lord Mayor's ruling.

Defeated

This is page 4 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

The motion moved by the Lord Mayor was put to the meeting.

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

Carried

# **REPORTS BY COUNCIL OFFICERS**

### ITEM-99 CCL 26/10/21 - SPECIAL FLOOD CONSIDERATIONS CLAUSE -NEWCASTLE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2012

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

- 1 Confirms to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) that it wishes to have the 'special flood considerations' clause (**Attachment A**) inserted into the NLEP 2012.
- *For the Motion:* Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Church, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, Robinson, Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.
- Against the Motion: Nil.

Carried

# ITEM-102 CCL 26/10/21 - ADOPTION OF SECTION 7.11 AND SECTION 7.12 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION PLANS

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the Section 7.11 Development Contributions Plan (**Attachment A**) and Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan (**Attachment B**).
- 2 Adopts a delayed commencement date of the Section 7.11 Development Contributions Plan and Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan so they come into force on 1 January 2022.
- 3 Repeals the current Section 7.12 Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan 2019 (update 2020) with unspent funds to be spent for the purpose for which they were collected.

This is page 5 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

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

Against the Motion: Nil.

Carried

# ITEM-105 CCL 26/10/21 - TABLING OF REGISTER OF DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST - ANNUAL REPORT

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

That Council:

1 Note the tabling of the Register of Disclosures of Interest (Register) (for the financial year 2020/2021) by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Carried

# ITEM-106 CCL 26/10/21 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT ALCOHOL REGULATED AREAS

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

1 Place the proposed amendments to Alcohol Free Zones (AFZ) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APA), collectively termed Alcohol Regulated Areas (ARA) at **Attachment A**, on public exhibition for 30 days.

Carried unanimously

ITEM-107 CCL 26/10/21 - TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONES

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Rufo, seconded by Cr Dunn

That Council:

1 Approves the temporary suspension of the AFZs in the eastern car park at Queens Wharf Hotel, Wharf Road Newcastle, from 6am to midnight on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 December 2021 for the purpose of the event, QWH Presents Playback, subject to the organiser, Queens Wharf Hotel, meeting all necessary requirements of the Newcastle Police Local Area Command (LAC) and City of Newcastle (CN).

This is page 6 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

2 Approves the temporary suspension of the AFZs in Car Parks 1 & 2 Nobbys Beach, Wharf Road and Pasha Way Newcastle East, from 6am to midnight on Saturday 18 December 2021 for the purpose of the event, Lunar Electric 2021 subject to the organiser, Intensive Events Pty Ltd, meeting all necessary requirements of the LAC and CN.

Carried

# ITEM-108 CCL 26/10/21 - EXECUTIVE MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Dunn

That Council:

1 Receives the Executive Monthly Performance Report for September 2021 at **Attachment A**.

Carried

# ITEM-94 CCL 26/10/21 - SUSPENSION OF COUNCILLOR KATH ELLIOTT

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

- 1 Note the Office of Local Government has reprimanded Councillor Kath Elliott and suspended her from civic office for a period of six weeks, commencing 18 October 2021 and ending 29 November 2021.
- *<u>For the Motion</u>:* Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, White and Winney-Baartz.

**<u>Against the Motion</u>**: Councillors Church, Robinson and Rufo.

Carried

# ITEM-95 CCL 26/10/21 - NSW LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION -MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

# MOTION

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

That Council:

- 1 Endorses the Memorandum of Understanding with the NSW Land and Housing Corporation as provided in **Attachment A**.
- 2 Delegates authority to the Lord Mayor to sign the document on its behalf.

3 Notes that a separate and binding funding agreement will be developed by the parties, which will be submitted for Council endorsement.

Councillor Clausen stated that paragraph 15 of the Officer's report referenced the intention for the Chair of the Liveable Cities Advisory Committee to represent City of Newcastle on the governance committee. He proposed that the committee be expanded to include the Chair of the Affordable Living Working Party.

The Lord Mayor accepted Councillor Clausen's addition to the motion.

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

Carried unanimously

ITEM-96 CCL 26/10/21 - QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - SEPTEMBER 2021

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

1 Receives the September Quarterly Budget Review Statement (**Attachment A**) and adopts the revised budget as detailed therein.

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

# ITEM-97 CCL 26/10/21 - ADOPTION OF THE HOUSING POLICY

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Winney-Baartz, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

1 Adopts the Housing Policy at **Attachment A**.

Carried unanimously

# ITEM-98 CCL 26/10/21 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

That Council:

1 Place the draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025 (DIAP) provided at Attachment A on public exhibition for 28 days.

Carried unanimously

# ITEM-100 CCL 26/10/21 - ENDORSEMENT OF PLANNING PROPOSAL AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVES AT WICKHAM

Councillor Dunn left the meeting for discussion on the item.

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council:

- 1 Endorse the Planning Proposal (PP) **(Attachment A)** to amend the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012 (NLEP 2012) to implement actions of the Wickham Masterplan 2021 Update (WMP 2021).
- 2 Forwards the Planning Proposal to the Minister for Planning, Industry and Environment for 'Gateway Determination' pursuant to Section 3.34 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).
- 3 Endorses draft Section 6.03.06 Community Infrastructure Incentives in Wickham, of the Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 (NDCP 2012) for public exhibition (**Attachment B**).
- 4 Publicly exhibits the Planning Proposal, subject to Gateway Determination, for a minimum of 28 days together with the following:
  - i) Section 6.03.06 Community Infrastructure Incentives in Wickham of the draft NDCP 2012.
  - ii) The draft Incentive Gross Floor Area (GFA) Rate for Wickham, within the Schedule of Fees and Charges, of the Newcastle Operational Plan 2021/22 (Attachment C).
- 5 Receives a report on submissions following public exhibition and considers any amendments made in response to submissions and make a final determination on the Planning Proposal and draft Section 6.03.06 of the NDCP 2012.

This is page 9 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

# PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr White

The matter lay on the table until the accompanying NDCP 2012 amendments can be bought back to Council simultaneously with changes to the NLEP 2012.

For the Procedural Motion:	Lord Mayo	r, Cr N	elmes a	and C	ouncillors
	Church, Clausen, Duncan, Mackenzie,				
	Robinson, Baartz.	Rufo,	White	and	Winney-

Against the Procedural Motion: Nil.

Carried

Councillor Dunn returned to the meeting at the conclusion of the item.

# ITEM-101 CCL 26/10/21 - REQUEST FOR INTERIM HERITAGE ORDER -ST COLUMBAN'S CHURCH MAYFIELD

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

- 1 Requests the Heritage Council of NSW place an Interim Heritage Order over St Columban's Church, Mayfield (refer site map at **Attachment A**).
- *For the Motion:* Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, White and Winney-Baartz.
- *<u>Against the Motion</u>:* Councillors Church, Robinson and Rufo.

Carried

# ITEM-103 CCL 26/10/21 - RECOMMENDATION FOR CITY OF NEWCASTLE TO BE PLANNING PROPOSAL AUTHORITY FOR 505 MINMI ROAD, FLETCHER GATEWAY

The Lord Mayor and Councillor Church left the meeting for discussion on the item.

The Deputy Lord Mayor took the Chair.

In moving the motion, the Deputy Lord Mayor stated he was moving an alternate motion.

This is page 10 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

# PART A

That Council:

- 1. Resolves to be the Planning Proposal Authority (PPA) for the Planning Proposal for 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher and advise the Hunter and Central Coast Regional Planning Panel (Panel) accordingly.
- 2. As the PPA, prepares the Planning Proposal under section 3.33 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), and consistent with the Panel's determination, noting the Panel's requirement for the applicant to provide substantial additional information.
- 3. Requests the Gateway determination include a condition authorising Council to be the Local Plan Making Authority.

# <u>PART B</u>

That Council:

Review and addresses the inaccuracies identified in the Planning Proposal Document by the Green Corridor Coalition, in its two-part submission to the Hunter and Central Coast Regional Planning Panel (received by the Council on 25 May 2021, attached) and further submission received by all Councillors today (26 October 2021, attached).

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

Against the Motion: Councillor Robinson.

# Carried

The Lord Mayor and Councillor Church returned to the meeting at the conclusion of the item and the Lord Mayor resumed the Chair.

Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 9.30pm.

At 9.34pm, the following procedural motion was moved.

# PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

The meeting be extended to conclude all business on the agenda.

Carried

This is page 11 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

# ITEM-104 CCL 26/10/21 - ADOPTION OF THE 2020/21 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Dunn

#### That Council

- 1 Receives and adopts CN's Financial Statements and accompanying notes, in respect of the year ended 30 June 2021, together with the Auditor's Report (Attachment A).
- *For the Motion:* Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Mackenzie, White and Winney-Baartz.
- Against the Motion: Councillors Church and Rufo.

Carried

ITEM-109 CCL 26/10/21 - TENDER REPORT - BIENNIAL CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE HEAVY PATCHING -2022/001T

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

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

That Council:

- 1 Accept the following tenders for heavy patching (flexible pavement) for Contract No. 2022/001T:
  - i) ANA Industries Pty Ltd,
  - ii) Ian Rich Asphalt Pty Ltd,
  - iii) Mr Diggit Pty Ltd, and
  - iv) QC Asphalts P/L.
- 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-110 CCL 26/10/21 - TENDER REPORT - NEWCASTLE OCEAN BATHS UPGRADE STAGE 1 - 2021/877T

### MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

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

That Council:

- 1 Accept the tender of Daracon Pty Ltd in the amount of \$12,456,681 (excluding GST) for the Newcastle Ocean Baths Upgrade Stage 1 for Contract No. 2021/877T.
- 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-34 NOM 26/10/21 - DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN REVIEW

#### MOTION

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Clausen

That City of Newcastle:

- 1. Notes the scheduled review of CN's Development Control Plan (DCP) is currently in progress.
- 2. As part of the review, ensures consideration is given to the following issues:
  - a. Car stackers Notes increasing use of car stacker technology in developments in the city. As part of the DCP review, investigate current best practice regarding car stackers and considers appropriate implementation in CN's DCP.
  - b. Sustainability of buildings Notes that the City is an Australian leader in sustainability and environmental issues. Council has resolved on numerous occasions to seek opportunities to improve the efficiency of built infrastructure, including receiving presentations from the Property Council. As part of the DCP review, consider and undertake consultation on best practice building sustainability measures including renewable energy generation (and reasonable access rights for rooftop solar PV generation), green walls and green roofs, best practice water efficiency in addition to BASIX, and opportunities to incorporate Sustainability Performance Statement, Green Star rating report and/or an Energy Commitment Agreement under the National Australian Built Environmental Rating Scheme (NABERS) in commercial development.

This is page 13 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

- c. Access Notes an issue inconsistent with our Access and Inclusion aims in that legacy issues relevant to lack of accessibility do not currently require addressing during change of use. Explore best practice on ensuring opportunities to improve accessibility are considered when a property undergoes a change of use and consider how CN may improve the City's position on this issue.
- d. Service stations incorporates best practice for the location of new service stations in the DCP or future revisions to the LEP, to ensure they are located on main roads only, not to be located in local or neighbourhood centres or off local roads.

Carried

# ITEM-35 NOM 26/10/21 - CHARTER OF COMMITMENT HONESTY

# MOTION

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council

- 1 Notes that the Commonwealth and NSW Government offer a Parliamentary Budget Office to all members to ensure that election commitments are properly costed;
- 2 Notes that unlike Parliamentary systems, all councillors (regardless of party affiliation) have equal access to Council budget documents and access to Council's Chief Financial Officer, Manager Finance and senior staff;
- 3 Notes that in 2012 the City's finances were described by a previous General Manager as heading towards insolvency;
- 4 Notes that responsible decisions by the current Council have led to the City of Newcastle's finances has been designated by the Office of Local Government as 'Financially Fit for the Future';
- 5 Notes that the City's finances are audited annually by the NSW Auditor General. The most recent audit opinions have confirmed a clean bill of health;
- 6 Establishes a City of Newcastle Charter of Budget Honesty for all candidates contesting the 2021 Local Government Election; and
- 7 Calls on all candidates contesting the 2021 Local Government Election to ensure any election commitment are properly costed, budgeted, or any new expenditure is offset by savings or additional revenue.

Carried unanimously

This is page 14 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held via audio visual platform Zoom on Tuesday, 26 October 2021 at 7.04pm.

# ITEM-36 NOM 26/10/21 - SIEV-X MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Councillor White left the meeting for discussion on the item.

### MOTION

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Clausen

That the City of Newcastle

- 1 Note with the sadness the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SIEV-X tragedy, when the SIEV-X sank on its way to Australia, resulting in the drowning of 146 children, 142 women and 65 men, on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2001.
- 2 Note the historical leadership of Newcastle Council on refugee and multicultural issues, including as the second city in Australia to declare itself a "refugee welcome zone" in 2004. Further, that Council note the recommitment to that declaration on 28 May 2015.
- 3 Install a commemorative plaque in remembrance of the SIEV-X at an appropriate foreshore location.
- 4 The matter be referred to the Community and Culture Committee and Public Art Reference Group to review and provide recommendations on implementation.

Carried unanimously

Councillor White returned to the meeting at the conclusion of the item.

# CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chief Executive Officer reported the resolutions of partial confidential reports (refer as previously stated).

# The meeting concluded at 10.46pm.