

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2025, COMMENCING
AT 6.30PM**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor D Watton (in the Chair) and Councillors Dixon, Harrington, Hill, Jurd, King, Lea, Madden, Mason, Palmowski, Pascoe and Hawkins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Interim General Manager (Director Planning and Environment)
Acting Director Planning and Environment (Development Services Manager)
Director Corporate and Community Services
Director Works and Infrastructure
Acting Development Services Manager (Development Engineering Coordinator)
Economic Development & Tourism Manager
Economic Development Officer
Communications & Engagement Manager
Help Desk Support Officer
Council Services Team Leader

The Prayer was presented by Pastor Rachael Main

The Mayor on behalf of Council extended his condolences to the family of former Mayor and Councillor Alison Davey who passed away recently. Alison was a past Councillor of Cessnock Council for 29 years, including one term as Mayor from 2008 to 2012.

A moments silence was held as a mark of respect.

APOLOGY:

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Hawkins
Seconded: Councillor Palmowski

312

RESOLVED that the apology tendered on behalf of Councillor Dunne, for unavoidable absence, be accepted.

FOR

AGAINST

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hill
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Madden
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton
Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES:

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Pascoe
 Seconded: Councillor Madden

313

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 19 November 2025, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST NO. DI12/2025

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

RECOMMENDATION

That Councillors now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

RM1/2025 - PE31/2025 - DA 8/2025/536/1 - Proposed Telecommunications Tower Facility (Mobile Telephone Infrastructure) – Councillor Jurd declared a Pecuniary Interest for the reason that she is forced to leave the Chamber due to a conflict of interest that affects her family massively, where it will cause her loss of value and force her to move.

MM15/2025 - Minutes of the Council Initiated Awards Committee held 19 November 2025 - Councillor Lea declared a Non Pecuniary Interest – Less Than Significant Conflict for the reason that he has a personal relationship with an award recipient. Councillor Lea chose to remain in the Chamber and participate in discussion and voting as the conflict has not influenced him in carrying out his public duty because he is not part of the Awards Committee who made the decision.

MM15/2025 - Minutes of the Council Initiated Awards Committee held 19 November 2025 - Councillor Hawkins declared a Non Pecuniary Interest – Less Than Significant Conflict for the reason that he has a relationship with one of the award nominees. Councillor Hawkins chose to remain in the Chamber and participate in discussion and voting as the conflict has not influenced him in carrying out his public duty because this relationship does not affect his decision making on this matter.

PETITIONS

Nil

ADDRESS BY INVITED SPEAKERS

The following person has been invited to address the meeting of Council:

Speakers	For / Against	Report	Page No.	Duration
Amanda Deer on behalf of residents	For	WI15/2025 - Petition - Provision of Public Amenities at Crawfordville Park, Millfield.	86	3 mins

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI15/2025

SUBJECT: *PETITION - PROVISION OF PUBLIC AMENITIES AT CRAWFORDVILLE PARK, MILLFIELD.*

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor Harrington
314
RESOLVED

1. That Council notes the petition calling for accessible public toilets at Crawfordville Park, Millfield.
2. That the outcome of the cleaning services review be considered prior to any additional public amenities being serviced by Council.
3. That the Interim General Manager notify the petition organiser of the outcome of Council's decision.

FOR

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hill
Councillor Jurd
Councillor Lea
Councillor Madden
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton
Total (11)

AGAINST

Councillor King

Total (1)

CARRIED

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ALL REPORTS BY ENGLOBO OR INDIVIDUALLY WITH NOMINATED EXCEPTIONS

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea **Seconded:** Councillor Jurd
315

RESOLVED

that having read and considered the reports in the agenda related to items

OFFICERS REPORTS

‡ CC86/2025	Annual Code of Conduct Complaints Report	60
‡ CC88/2025	Disclosures of Interests in Written Returns	65
‡ CC89/2025	Investment Report - November 2025	68

Council adopt the recommendations as printed in the business papers for those items.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEAL WITH MATTERS IN CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

NOTICE OF INTENTION NO. NI3/2025

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEAL WITH MATTERS IN
CONFIDENTIAL SESSION -
REPORT WI185/2025 - PROCUREMENT CONCESSION UNDER
SECTION 55(3)(I) WOLLOMBI ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor Pascoe
316
RESOLVED

That Council considers in Confidential Session the following matters in accordance with Sections 10A (2) (c) (di) of the *Local Government Act 1993*:

Report WI185/2025 – Procurement Concession under Section 55(3)(I) Wollombi Road Upgrade Project as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYORAL MINUTES

MAYORAL MINUTES NO. MM15/2025

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL INITIATED AWARDS COMMITTEE HELD
19 NOVEMBER 2025**

Councillor Lea declared a Non Pecuniary Interest – Less Than Significant Conflict for the reason that he has a personal relationship with an award recipient. Councillor Lea remained in the Chamber and took part in discussion and voting.

Councillor Hawkins declared a Non Pecuniary Interest – Less Than Significant Conflict for the reason that he has a relationship with one of the award nominees. Councillor Hawkins remained in the Chamber and participated in discussion and voting.

MOTION Moved: Councillor Watton
317
RESOLVED

That Council endorse the recommendations of the Council Initiated Awards Committee for Cessnock City Council Australia Day Awards

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS OF URGENCY

MOTIONS OF URGENCY NO. MOU12/2025

SUBJECT: MOTIONS OF URGENCY

Nil

RESCISSION MOTIONS

RESCISSION MOTIONS NO. RM1/2025

SUBJECT: PE31/2025 - DA 8/2025/536/1 - PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER FACILITY (MOBILE TELEPHONE INFRASTRUCTURE)

Councillor Jurd declared a Pecuniary Interest for the reason that she is forced to leave the Chamber due to a conflict of interest that affects her family massively, where it will cause her loss of value and force her to move.

Councillor Jurd left the meeting, the time being 6.55pm

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Mason **Seconded:** Councillor King

That resolution to Report No. PE31/2025 (Motion 284) from Ordinary Council Meeting on 19 November 2025 be rescinded:-

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Hill
Councillor Harrington	Councillor Lea
Councillor King	Councillor Madden
Councillor Mason	Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Watton	Councillor Pascoe
	Councillor Hawkins
Total (5)	Total (6)

The Rescission Motion was **PUT** and **LOST**.

Councillor Jurd returned to the meeting, the time being 7.03pm

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT

GENERAL MANAGER'S UNIT NO. GMU6/2025

**SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
INDEPENDENT MEMBER**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hill **Seconded:** Councillor Harrington
318
RESOLVED

1. That Council endorses Steve Embry as an Independent Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2029 in accordance with section 5.3 of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter.
2. That Council thanks William Middleton, retiring Independent Member for his knowledge, expertise and dedicated service to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT NO. PE34/2025

**SUBJECT: VISITOR ECONOMY GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM
2025/2026 APPLICATIONS**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea **Seconded:** Councillor Hill
319
RESOLVED

That Council endorses the following funding applications under the 2025/2026 Visitor Economy Grants and Sponsorship Program:

Grants:

- **Hunter Valley Wine Country Content Development - \$20,000**
- **Wollombi Valley Sculpture Festival - \$8,700**
- **Theatre in the Vines - \$9,560**

Sponsorships:

- **Natmeet XVI - \$5,000**

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Harrington	Councillor Dixon
Councillor Hill	Councillor Jurd
Councillor Lea	Councillor King
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (9)	Total (3)

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC84/2025

**SUBJECT: *AUTHORISATION FOR SALE OF SURPLUS COUNCIL LAND - PART
LOT 378 DP 1002112***

MOTION ***Moved:*** Councillor Hill ***Seconded:*** Councillor Lea

- 1. That Council authorise sale of part Lot 378 DP 1002112 subject to the purchaser bearing all costs associated with the transfer of the land including but not limited to the survey, registration, valuation, legal costs and registration of covenant.**
- 2. That Council grant authority to the General Manager or delegated officer to negotiate the sale with reference to a current market valuation and execute all relevant documentation to affect the transaction.**
- 3. That Council note the net proceeds of the sale are to be credited to the Property Investment Fund and allocated in accordance with the Property Investment & Development Policy.**

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved: Councillor Jurd
Seconded: Councillor King

320

RESOLVED

That the report be deferred pending further advice regarding the removal of the shed.

FOR

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Madden
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton
Total (11)

AGAINST

Councillor Hill

Total (1)**CARRIED**

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC85/2025

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND SCHEDULING OF JANUARY 2026 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Pascoe **Seconded:** Councillor Madden
321
RESOLVED

That Council amends the schedule of Ordinary Meetings of Council for 2026 to include an Ordinary Council meeting on 14 January 2026.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Jurd
Councillor Harrington	Councillor King
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (10)	Total (2)

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC86/2025

SUBJECT: ANNUAL CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS REPORT

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Lea

Seconded: Councillor Jurd

322

RESOLVED

That Council notes the Annual Code of Conduct Complaints Report for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC87/2025

SUBJECT: WARD BOUNDARIES - VARIATION IN ENROLMENTS - UPDATE

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hill **Seconded:** Councillor Harrington
323

RESOLVED

1. That Council acknowledges that a ward elector enrolment variation of greater than 10% currently exists with the variation as at 30 October 2025 being 12.52%.
2. That Council notes the current variation and monitors until 2027 at which time Council will commence the process to alter the ward boundaries for effect at the 2028 Council election.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC88/2025

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS IN WRITTEN RETURNS

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Lea

Seconded: Councillor Jurd

324

RESOLVED

That Council notes the tabling of the disclosures of interests written returns for the period 1 August 2025 to 31 October 2025 in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct.

FOR

AGAINST

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hill
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Madden
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton

Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC89/2025

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT REPORT - NOVEMBER 2025

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea **Seconded:** Councillor Jurd
325
RESOLVED

That Council receives the Investment Report for November 2025 and notes that:

- **Investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy, which is in accordance with the Ministerial Investment Order.**
- **Council's month end cash and investments balance was \$82,311,452.**

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC90/2025

SUBJECT: RESOLUTIONS TRACKING REPORT

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor Harrington
326

RESOLVED

That Council receives the report and notes the information in the Resolutions Tracking Report.

FOR	AGAINST
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Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	

Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI14/2025

SUBJECT: UNSEALED ROADS AND COSTS

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea **Seconded:** Councillor Dixon
327
RESOLVED

1. That Council notes the report on the unsealed roads network review.
2. That Council notes the estimated annual cost required to maintain all unsealed roads.
3. That Council notes the grant opportunities available that may help maintain and/or upgrade our unsealed road network.
4. That Council endorse a revised Unsealed Roads Maintenance Program that reflects current service levels.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI16/2025

SUBJECT: QUOTATION - Q2026-08 DOYLE STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Harrington **Seconded:** Councillor Hawkins
328

RESOLVED

1. That Council accepts the quotation submitted by Coffs Harbour City Council t/a Coastal Works Pty Ltd for Doyle Street Bridge Replacement (Q2026-08) in the lump sum amount of \$2,756,636 (including GST).
2. That Council notes this procurement is being undertaken as a direct engagement under Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993 for Coastal Works (Coffs Harbour City Council) to deliver the Construction-Only component of Doyle Street Bridge Replacement.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI17/2025

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY & ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hawkins **Seconded:** Councillor Lea
329

RESOLVED

That Council adopt the Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plans.

FOR

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hill
Councillor Lea
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton

Total (9)

AGAINST

Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Madden

Total (3)

CARRIED

BUSINESS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN18/2025

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF ALL NON-LEGISLATED NET ZERO EXPENDITURE TO SUPPORT FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor King **Seconded:** Councillor Jurd

- 1. That Council suspend all future expenditure, programs, projects and activities related to achieving net zero emissions that are not required under any State or Federal legislation. Any future net zero expenditure outside of State or Federal legislation is to be presented to Council for determination, with a cost-benefit analysis, before adoption.**
- 2. That Council redirect any future savings realised toward stabilising Council's financial position and supporting core service delivery.**

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved:	Councillor Lea
Seconded:	Councillor Palmowski

That the motion be PUT.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Lea	Councillor Dixon
Councillor Madden	Councillor Harrington
Councillor Palmowski	Councillor Hill
	Councillor Jurd
	Councillor King
	Councillor Mason
	Councillor Pascoe
	Councillor Hawkins
	Councillor Watton
Total (3)	Total (9)

The Motion was ***PUT*** and ***LOST***.

Councillor Pascoe left the meeting, the time being 8.11pm

Councillor Pascoe returned to the meeting, the time being 8.13pm

PROCEDURAL MOTION **Moved:**
Seconded:

Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Madden

That the report be deferred for a briefing.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Lea	Councillor Dixon
Councillor Madden	Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hawkins	Councillor Hill
Councillor Watton	Councillor Jurd
	Councillor King
	Councillor Mason
	Councillor Palmowski
	Councillor Pascoe
Total (4)	Total (8)

The Procedural Motion was **PUT** and **LOST**.

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor King **Seconded:** Councillor Jurd
330
RESOLVED

1. That Council suspend all future expenditure, programs, projects and activities related to achieving net zero emissions that are not required under any State or Federal legislation. Any future net zero expenditure outside of State or Federal legislation is to be presented to Council for determination, with a cost-benefit analysis, before adoption.
2. That Council redirect any future savings realised toward stabilising Council's financial position and supporting core service delivery.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Hill
Councillor Harrington	Councillor Lea
Councillor Jurd	Councillor Madden
Councillor King	Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Mason	Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Watton	Councillor Hawkins
Total (6)	Total (6)

The Mayor used his casting vote and the Motion was **CARRIED**.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Jurd left the meeting, the time being 8.30pm

Councillor Jurd returned to the meeting, the time being 8.31pm

Councillor Madden

Black Hill Quarry Report

On Friday 28 November the Black Hill Quarry Community Liaison Group met. The meeting was held in Kurri Kurri as per the normal meeting practice. There was a subsequent site visit associated with this meeting which I was unable to attend on this occasion.

Just briefly, some of the agenda items included discussed at the meeting:

- The current quarry will be operational until June 2026.
- There will be no plan for rehabilitation on the quarry floor due to the due to the potential waste facility.
- Most of the material extracted from the quarry is for John Holland for the M1 extension on the southern side of the river.
- There are currently 6 to 7 thousand tons stockpiled on site.
- The 23/24 tonnage report was updated and the 24/25 tonnage figures are incorrect and there are some issues with the five year average as well.
- There were some discussions from the committee on the Section 94 contributions, reported by a member that in all the years that there has only been two years when funds were expended. There is currently \$442K available in the account to expend on road improvements. Senior council representatives to investigate what projects are in the plan.
- The Bloomfield group are acquiring the land from Yancoal in this area and will take responsibility for the ongoing rehabilitation of the area acquired. The Donaldson mine conservation area has also been acquired, and Bloomfield will take responsibility for management of it.
- I asked the question of when the last Resource Regulator inspection was conducted at the quarry, were there any findings, and can a report be accessed by the committee. There were no findings and no report provided by the regulator at this time.

Mayor Summary – 20 November to 10 December 2025

DATE	ACTIVITIES
20 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kurri Kurri Retired Mineworkers Association – Christmas Lunch• Media – Plan B Competition – CCC & Liquor Accord
21 November	SRV Session Wollombi – Introduction of Professor Drew
22 November	SRV Session ECBC
22 November	SRV Session Kurri Kurri
23 November	SRV Session Branxton
24 November	LGNSW Annual Conference
25 November	LGNSW Annual Conference
26 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media – CCC Food and Toy Appeal• Alison Davey Funeral
27 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cessnock Walks Kawuma Event• Heartbeat of the Community Program• Media – CCC Food and Toy Appeal
2 December	HVWTA and Visitor Services member Christmas celebration
3 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kurri Kurri High School Annual Awards Ceremony• Agenda Review & LTFP Discussion (staff & councillors)
4 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hunter JO Board Meeting• Clontarf Awards Night – Presentation of Award
5 December	CCC Carols in the Park
9 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kurri Kurri Public School Presentation Day• CCC Food and Toy Appeal Distribution
10 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cessnock East Public School Presentation Day• Ordinary Meeting

8.33pm

Confidential reports (closed session)

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor Mason
331

RESOLVED that the meeting move into closed session in order to consider confidential items.

Councillor Hawkins left the meeting, the time being 8.33pm

FOR	AGAINST
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Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Watton	

Total (11)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Hawkins returned to the meeting, the time being 8.35pm

8.58pm

Open Session

The meeting moved back into open session and the Mayor reported on the outcome.

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI18/2025

SUBJECT: CONFIDENTIAL - PROCUREMENT CONCESSION UNDER SECTION 55(3)(I) WOLLOMBI ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) (di) of the Local Government Act, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Pascoe **Seconded:** Councillor Hill
332

RESOLVED

1. That Council determines that there are uncertainties as to whether the required works being the subject of the contract for Stage 1 of the Wollombi Road Upgrade Project will be completed under the current contract.
2. That Council determines that, if the required works being the subject of the Stage 1 Wollombi Road Upgrade Project cannot be completed because the Stage 1 Contract is brought to an early end by agreement or otherwise then, pursuant to section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council enter into negotiations with any person (whether or not the person was a tenderer) with a view to entering a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender as a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders due to the extensive procurement process that was undertaken to identify competitive tenderers.
3. That Council delegate authority to the General Manager to undertake negotiations and enter into contracts in relation to the subject matter, in accordance with the approved budget for the project.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Jurd
Councillor Harrington	Councillor King
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Madden	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (10)	Total (2)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting Was Declared Closed at 8.59pm

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED at the meeting held on 14 January 2026

.....**CHAIRPERSON**

.....**GENERAL MANAGER**