



**Lane Cove  
Council**

# Minutes Extraordinary Meeting of Council 12 February 2025, 7:00 PM

All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent meeting and may be amended by resolution at that meeting.

**Extraordinary Meeting of Council 12 February 2025  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Southwood (Mayor), Councillor Bennison, Councillor Bryla, Councillor Flood, Councillor Greenwell, Councillor Kennedy, Councillor Little, Councillor Roenfeldt and Councillor Taylor.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Director - Corporate Services and Strategy and Minute Taker.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Nil

**APOLOGIES**

Nil

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor gave an acknowledgement of Country.

**MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION OR PRAYER**

The Mayor gave notice of a minute of silence for reflection or prayer.

**WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor advised those present that the Meeting was being webcast.

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Pursuant to section 10A(4), the public were invited to make representations to the council meeting before any part of the meeting is closed, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed to consider:

**MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 1**

**SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - SENIOR STAFF MATTER**

*It is recommended that the Council close so much of the meeting to the public as provided for under Section 10A(2) (a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, on the grounds that the matter will involve the discussion of personnel matters concerning a particular individual; it further being considered that discussion of the matter in open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to public interest by reason of the foregoing.*

No members of the public made representations.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**1** **RESOLVED** on the motion moved by Councillor Roenfeldt and seconded by Councillor Taylor that Council move into Closed Committee of the Whole.

For the Motion were Councillors Southwood, Bennison, Bryla, Flood, Greenwell, Kennedy, Little, Roenfeldt and Taylor (Total 9).  
Against the Motion was Nil (Total 0).

Closed Committee of the Whole commenced at 07:04 pm. The public and media left the chamber.

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**RESUMPTION**

Open Council resumed at 07:52 pm. The public and media were invited into the chamber.

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

The Mayor read the recommendations of the Item/s considered in Closed Committee of the Whole prior to Council's consideration:

**MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 1**

**SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - SENIOR STAFF MATTER**

**2** **RESOLVED** on the motion moved by Councillor Flood and seconded by Councillor Kennedy that

1. Council notes the confidential correspondence from Mr Craig Wrightson (General Manager) to Cr Merri Southwood (Mayor) dated 6 February 2025 and accepts his resignation as General Manager of Lane Cove Council with effect from 4 April 2025.
2. Council extends its sincere thanks to Mr Wrightson for his leadership and numerous achievements during his 21 years of service with Lane Cove Council, including 12.5 years as General Manager.

Some of the notable highlights include:

- delivering the award winning The Canopy
  - rejuvenating St Leonards, including the new Library, Wadanggari Park (built over the railway line at St Leonards) and Friedlander Place
  - Lane Cove being voted the most Liveable place in Australia in the 2021 Australian Liveability Census (and second place in the 2023 Census)
  - delivering infrastructure to keep pace with population growth, including new cultural facilities, improved parks and recreation facilities including Blackman Park Sporting Complex, Mindarie Park, early childhood education centres and car parks
  - upgrades to the Lane Cove Aquatic Centre including, expanded Gym, new 50m outdoor pool and 900 seat grandstand
  - integrating Sustainability principles into aspects of council's activities, which was recently recognised with Council winning the Local Government New South Wales Excellence in the Environment Award
  - focusing on improving the 'look and feel' of Lane Cove by actively supporting the expansion of music, cultural and neighbourhood events which has seen thousands of events enjoyed by the community, including the popular concerts at The Canopy and Food and Wine Fair.
3. Council expresses its confidence in the expertise and commitment of the Council Executive Leadership Team and Council staff to the delivery of the range of services enjoyed by the Lane Cove community and to the ongoing implementation of the exciting initiatives approved or under consideration by Council
  4. pursuant to sections 336 and 351 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council appoints Mr Steven Kludass, Director Corporate Services and Strategy, to be the Council's Acting General Manager when Mr Wrightson is on leave and to remain as the Council's Acting General Manager until the Council appoints a new General Manager or until further decision of the Council to appoint a different Acting General

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Manager, whichever occurs first. Provided that if Mr Kludass is on leave prior to Council appointing a new General Manager or appointing a different Acting General Manager, the Mayor, following consultation with the Deputy Mayor, may temporarily appoint another of Council's directors as Interim General Manager for the period of such leave.

5. Council engage LGNSW Management Solutions to recruit a new General Manager for Lane Cove Council
6. in furtherance of the above, and consistent with page 7 of the Office of Local Government Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers 2022 ('Guidelines'), the Council delegates to the Mayor the task of ensuring:
  - the selection panel is established,
  - the General Manager's position description is current and evaluated in terms of salary to reflect the responsibilities of the position,
  - the proposed salary range reflects the responsibilities and duties of the position,
  - the position is advertised according to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993,
  - information packages are prepared, and
  - applicants selected for interview are notified.
7. the selection panel (referred to above) prepare a selection panel report addressing the matters referred to on page 8 of the Guidelines, which is to be presented to a future meeting of the Council for consideration.

For the Motion were Councillors Southwood, Bennison, Bryla, Flood, Greenwell, Kennedy, Little, Roenfeldt and Taylor (Total 9).  
Against the Motion was Nil (Total 0).

The meeting closed at 07:58 pm

Confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 20 February 2025, at which meeting the signature herein is subscribed.

**MAYOR**

\*\*\*\*\* END OF MINUTES \*\*\*\*\*