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PRESENT Clr J Jones (in the Chair), Clrs L Oldham, A Pull, and J Weaver.

Also present were Clr Rawson, Clr Batten, Deputy General Manager Infrastructure, Department Leader Infrastructure, Tourism Culture and Events Coordinator, Department Leader Governance and Corporate Performance, Senior Executive Assistant – Office of the General Manager.

Clr Jones noted that, due to a number of absences, the members of the Community, Economy and Culture and the Infrastructure (Transport) committees would be combined.

ITEM - 1 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RECOMMENDATION (Oldham/Weaver)

THAT the apologies tendered on behalf of Clrs Beatty and O’Ryan be accepted and the necessary leave of absence be granted.

CEC 24/16 Carried

ITEM - 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RECOMMENDATION (Weaver/Oldham)

THAT it be noted there were nil declarations of interest.

CEC 24/17 Carried

ITEM - 3 DECLARATIONS OF POLITICAL DONATION

RECOMMENDATION (Weaver/Oldham)

THAT it be noted there were nil declaration for political donations.

CEC 24/18 Carried

ITEM - 4 CHANGES TO EVENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Proceedings in Brief

The Tourism Culture and Events Coordinator advised that the presentation proposed for the June Councillor Workshop has now been deferred to the July Councillor Workshop.

Clr Batten requested, as part of the July Councillor Workshop, details of events sponsored by council’s sponsorship program and CAP grants over the past several years be provided to councillors to enable an informed discussion to take place.

RECOMMENDATION (Oldham/Weaver)

THAT the Community, Economy and Culture Committee endorse to Council the adoption of the proposed changes to the event support programs.

CEC 24/19 Carried

ITEM - 5 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMY UPDATE

Proceedings in Brief

Molong Main Street Activation Project Update

The Tourism Culture and Events Coordinator advised that 'Thank You' cards will be distributed to the main street businesses.

Shop Cabonne Campaign

Cirs Oldham and Weaver both commented on how positive the Shop Cabonne campaign has been. The Tourism Culture and Events Coordinator noted there has been really good feedback and engagement online using Shop Cabonne Campaign.

Discussions were held regarding the delineation between Cabonne Tourism, Central West Tourism and Orange360.

Play Our Way Program

Clr Pull queried if the Play Our Way Program is 50/50 grant funding. The Deputy General Manager Infrastructure advised the program is 100% funded.

Tourism and Events Update

The Tourism Culture and Events Coordinator commented that there has been a significant increase in visitor numbers from Canowindra Balloon Challenge Week, noting that visitors are not staying as many days but are spending more.

Destination and Visitor Economy Conference

Clr Batten commented on attendance at the annual Destination and Visitor Economy Conference in Wagga Wagga from 28-30 May 2024 noting that Eugowra won a bronze medal in the Top Tiny Tourism Town of the Year (population under 1,500 residents) category. Clr Batten wished to further comment that receiving the bronze medal was not a reflection of the quality of the submission, noting the submission standard was equivalent to that of the gold and silver winners, and staff did a fantastic job of marketing Eugowra.

Clr Oldham commented that the '*Sculptures by the Sea*' was a standout at the conference and also the importance for councils to have a public arts policy.

Clr Batten commented on the presentation on the value of agritourism and the importance of agritourism to regional NSW and Australia overall.

Clr Jones wished to thank all staff involved, and Geagle Productions, in the development of the Top Tiny Tourism Town of the Year submission for Eugowra.

RECOMMENDATION (Oldham/Pull)

THAT the information be noted.

CEC 24/20 Carried

ITEM - 6 COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

Proceedings in Brief

Clrs Weaver and Oldham commended the Community Services Update report and noted the positive things happening in the community services area.

RECOMMENDATION (Weaver/Oldham)

THAT the information be noted.

CEC 24/21 Carried

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Clr Jones wished to acknowledge Mrs Rhonda Watt who received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division of the King's Birthday 2024 Honours List for service to the community of Cumnock.

Clr Weaver noted the email received relating to the Hon. Jeremy Buckingham, MLC request for the Age of Fishes Museum state fossil the '*mandageria fairfaxi*' to be recognised as a state emblem and included on the NSW Flag.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.39pm.