

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMY COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
MUSWELLBROOK SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE SEMINAR ROOMS, MUSWELLBROOK
LIBRARY, 136 BRIDGE STREET, MUSWELLBROOK ON WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY
2025 COMMENCING AT 5:35 PM.**

PRESENT: Cr D. Douglas (Chair), Cr A. Barry, Cr J. Drayton, Cr D. Marshall and Cr M. Morris.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr D. Hartley, Cr R. Mahajan, Cr R. Scholes, Cr S. Ward, Mr D. Finnigan (General Manager), Ms S. Richards (Director - Community & Economy), Ms K. Manwarring (Manager - Community Services), Mr K. Hill (Manager - Events & Tourism), Mr I. Skaines (Grants & Community Engagement Advisor) (VC), Mr M. Lysaught (Director- Infrastructure & Property), Ms M. Sandell-Hay (Governance Officer) and Ms P. Heusler (Administration Officer).

1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by Cr D. Hartley.

2 Apologies

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr M. Morris and Cr J. Drayton that:

The apology for inability to attend the meeting submitted by Cr L. Dunn be ACCEPTED.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr M. Morris and Cr A. Barry that:

The Minutes of the Community and Economy Advisory Committee Meeting held on **11 March, 2025**, a copy of which has been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

4 Disclosure of Any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Nil

5 Business Arising

Nil



6 Business

6.1 Welcome Experience Update

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris that:
The information contained in this report be noted.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

6.2 STEM Program Update

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr M. Morris and Cr A. Barry that:
The information contained in this report be noted.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

6.3 MELT Quarterly Report

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr M. Morris and Cr A. Barry that:

1. The Committee accepts the Melt quarterly report for January to March 2025.
2. The Committee accepts the Melt Annual report for 2024.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil



6.4 Gallery Rebrand

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris that:

The Community and Economy Committee:

1. Endorses the official rebranding of Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre as Muswellbrook Regional Gallery.
2. Supports the implementation of the updated brand across all external signage, digital platforms, communications, and formal documentation.
3. Notes that the revised brand reinstates a historically significant identity and addresses issues of clarity, branding consistency, and sector alignment.
4. Approves the rollout of a communications strategy to inform the community and stakeholders of the gallery offer to improve visitation.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

6.5 Denman Outdoor Pool

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris that:

The Committee notes the information contained in the report.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

6.6 Post Event Report - Easter Family Fun Day 2025

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr A. Barry and Cr J. Drayton that:

The information contained in this report be noted.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil



6.7 Post Event Update - Gather In the Glow 2025

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris that:

The information contained in this report be noted.

In Favour: Cr D. Douglas, Cr A. Barry, Cr D. Marshall, Cr J. Drayton and Cr M. Morris

Against: Nil

7 Closed Committee

Nil

8 Date of Next Meeting

8 July, 2025

9 Closure

The meeting closed at 6:17 PM.

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Mr D. Finnigan (General Manager)

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Cr D. Douglas (Chair)