

MAYORAL REPORT

Council Meeting	22 October 2024
Author:	Mayor
File #:	SC217
Approval:	Mayor

How quickly the time has elapsed since our last “regular” Council Meeting. I would like to acknowledge the effort that was put into celebrating my 20 years in Local Government. It was a lovely surprise to be recognised in my home town with my family present and my fellow Councillors and the wonderful staff we have here at Murrumbidgee Council. I would also like to publicly recognise former Councillor Gavin Gilbert’s contribution to Council and thank him for his commitment over many years.

Local Government elections have been and gone - with very little alteration to the Murrumbidgee Council elected body. And so it is business as usual. Council warmly welcomes Hayley Heath to our Council table - Hayley joined us at our Extraordinary Meeting held on 3 October 2024. At this meeting the formalities of being inducted for this Council’s four year term were undertaken. Councillors undertook there prescribed Affirmation/Oath.

The Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor was facilitated:

Mayor- Councillor Ruth McRae
Deputy Mayor- Councillor Robert Black

We thank our fellow Councillors for entrusting us with these leadership positions. It is a privilege and an honour to do so. There are significant changes occurring at many of our neighbouring Councils. We will endeavour to create and build new relationships as we move forward. In regional and rural councils, collaboration is vital - it allows us access and support as we strive to service our communities as best we can.

Our communities have been very busy socially in the last couple of months with football finals, school holiday programs, including skate workshops and roller discos, The Pig Day Out, Darlington Point Spring Fair and the Jerilderie Gold Cup Race Day.

Council is busy ensuring that our swimming pools are ready for opening - all going to plan this will be 2 November 2024.

There is much activity happening across our Council footprint. The residential subdivision in Young Street Darlington Point continues to progress. Our timeline for completion is December, all going well. The car park works at the Darlington Point Cemetery have commenced. The Shared Spaces Legacy Build Project at the rear of the Jerilderie Hall connecting it to Luke Park is nearing completion - the associated landscaping and painting will follow immediately. The netball change rooms at Monash Park are almost complete, with an official opening

programmed for 23 November. The street furniture for Brolga Place has been ordered and we are looking forward to its installation in the very near future.

At present there is community consultation being undertaken regarding the Billabong Creek Flood Plain Management Plan - if this directly impacts you please visit the website at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au for further information and commentary. You also have an ability to book a 1 on 1 appointment in Jerilderie on 22 October.

For our communities information there is a current update of renewable energy projects, including the Transgrid Project, in Council's Monthly Business Paper. It is our intention to also place this on Council's website in the near future.

Council is starting to roll out User Group Meetings for our sporting precincts. It will involve all sporting and community groups that use these facilities. The first meeting will be in Jerilderie on 23 October, with other meetings to follow in Coleambally and Darlington Point.

Below are a list of meetings I have attended recently:

27 August

Argoon Wind Farm Delegates Meeting

28 August

Community information Session - Section 355 Committees Jerilderie

29 August

MDA Region 9 Meeting in Griffith

4 September

SDLAM Acceleration Program NSW Government Briefing in Deniliquin

6 September

RAMJO EO Performance Appraisal in Corowa

10 September

Jerilderie Independent Living Limited Meeting in Jerilderie

19 September

Meeting with Cotton Australia Executive and local contacts in Darlington Point

24 September

CICL/Council /Community Meetings - Regional Drought Plan Consultation Coleambally

25 September

MLHDS Meeting Jill Ludford, General Manager, HSM Fran Langham and myself in Jerilderie

27 September

Oaklands Medical Centre Official Opening in Oaklands

30 September

RFS Murrumbidgee Captains Meeting - Mid Murray Zone – Jerilderie

1 October

Murrumbidgee Council Local Heritage Grant Assessment Panel - Darlington Point

3 October

Extraordinary Meeting of Council in Darlington Point

9 October

YSAG SDLAM Meeting 24 in Morundah

17 October

Jerilderie CWA AGM, Guest Speaker and High Tea in Jerilderie

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. K. McRae". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Ruth McRae, OAM
MAYOR