

Southern Highlands Ministers Association

Dear Mayor Jesse Fitzpatrick

29/01/2025

From The Southern Highlands Ministers Association

Subject: Request for the Return of Prayer as Part of the Opening of Council Meetings

This letter of request is on behalf of the local ministers and churches in our community, along with many residents, to respectfully request the reinstatement of prayer as part of the opening of our Shire council meetings.

For many years, prayer was a meaningful tradition at the start of council meetings. It has been a valuable moment for our leaders to seek wisdom and strength as they address the important issues facing our community.

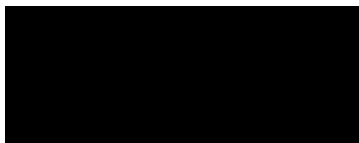
As local faith leaders, we believe that beginning each council meeting with a prayer provides a sense of purpose, encourages moral responsibility, and fosters a spirit of cooperation.

We kindly request that prayer be restored as part of the official opening of each council meeting, as it serves to inspire our leaders and the citizens they represent. We would be happy to work with you and the council to ensure that this practice is carried out in a respectful and thoughtful manner.

We truly believe that the return of prayer at the opening of council meetings will contribute positively to the work of our local government and to the overall well-being of our community.

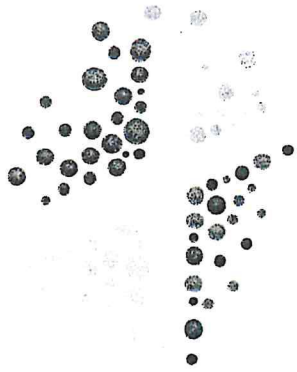
Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. We are available to meet in person should you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Pastors Nick & Jackie Losurdo

C3 Destiny Church Bowral



BOWRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

13 Merrigang Street (PO Box 742)
Bowral NSW 2576
<http://www.bowralbaptistchurch.net>

Church Phone: (02) 4861 5510
Pastor: Peter Thomas (Interim)
ABN: 31 904 827 037

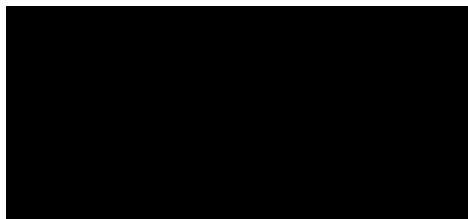
To Wingecarribee Shire Council

We would like to respectfully request that the Council begin each series of council sessions with a Christian prayer as has been done for many years and as an appropriate expression of the large proportion of the population who identify as Christians (approx. 40% according to ABS).

We would affirm the prayers that have been submitted by the informal minister's association.

Thank you for your consideration of this request,

Regards



Peter Thomas

(Interim Pastor)



*Southern Highlands Foursquare Church
82 Mittagong Street, Welby NSW 2575
PO Box 10, Mittagong, NSW 2575
Phone number 02 48713290*

To Wingecarribee Shire Council

We would like to recommend the Council reinstate Christian prayer at the commencement of WSC sessions.

We approve either of the prayers that have been submitted.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely,

Carlos Lindo
Pastor, Southern Highlands Foursquare Church



**Capernwray
Australia**

Bible School and Conference Centre
ABN 21 056 021 820

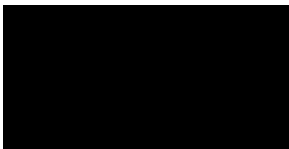
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Callum Thomas
Principal Capernwray Australia



17 January 2025

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Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Kind regards,



Darren Hessenberger
Senior Pastor