



*Etheridge*

Shire Council

# CONFIRMED MINUTES

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GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2021,  
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN**

**ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2021**

**COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

Crs, Laurell Royes, Joe Haase, Cameron Barns, and  
Tony Gallagher

Mayor Barry Hughes sends his apologies for not being able to attend the January General Meeting as he is attending a deputation with the Prime Minister at Cloncurry.

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM**  
**4/0**

**RESOLUTION:**

**That the Deputy Mayor chairs the meeting.**

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM**  
**3/0**

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. Les Morgan, Director of Engineering Services  
Mr. Ian Kuhn, Director of Corporate and Community Services  
Miss. Abbey Taylor, Executive Assistant

The Laurell Royes declared the meeting open at 9:03am and welcomed all in attendance.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY**

***We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the history, cultural practice and traditions, of their people."***

**APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS**

That Council passes on its deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Len Ryan.

Apologies have been received from the Georgetown State School P&C Committee, they will not be able to make it in for the deputation.



**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 18 November 2020**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 16 December 2020 be confirmed.*

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3074**  
**4/0**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Cr Haase – General business wording is to be changed to “management consider options of daycare commencing work.”

Cr Gallagher – Kidston Racecourse Reserve lease – raised the issue of a lease out.

**CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS**

**GMCCS1.**

**Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – Aged Care**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*At its meeting of 19 June 2019, Council resolved:*

**That Council:**

*“Resolve to establish an advisory committee in accordance with Section 264 (1)(b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for the purpose of Aged & Disability Accommodation and furthermore that Cr Attwood be appointed as the Chair of the advisory committee and Cr Loudon and Cr Gallagher be nominated as Council’s representatives on this advisory committee and furthermore that the Chief Executive Officer write a letter to the Gulf Cattlemen’s Association informing them of the establishment of this advisory committee”.*

*The inaugural meeting was held on 3 July 2019 at the Georgetown Council Chambers.*

*From this inaugural meeting monthly meetings were held up to February 2020. There wasn’t any advisory committee meetings held during March and April this year. A meeting with the new Council and its members was held on 21 May 2020.*

*Meetings are now held on the third Thursday of each month commencing at 9.00AM.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

*Endorse the minutes from the Advisory Committee Meeting (Aged & Disability Care) held on 17 December 2020.*

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3075**  
**4/0**

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Request management investigate options of acquiring land on the southern end of the township of Georgetown for the purposes of establishing an aged care facility.*

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3076**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS2.**

**Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*It is a statutory requirement under Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 that the Chief Executive Officer must present a Financial Report of its accounts to the Local Government at least monthly.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to adopt the monthly Financial Report which incorporates the monthly statutory financial statements (Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position & Statement of Cashflows) pursuant to and in accordance with Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for the period ending 31 December 2020.*

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3077**  
**4/0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Council adjourn for morning tea at 10:21am*

**RESUMPTION**

*Council resumed the meeting at 10:39am.*

**GMCCS3.**

**Operational Plan Review for the Quarter ending December 2020**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*In accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012, the Chief Executive Officer is required to present a report on Council's progress towards implementing the annual "Operational Plan".*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Adopt the Operational Plan review for the December 2020/21 quarter in accordance with Section 174 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3078**  
**4/0**



**ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Murray Cooper entered the meeting at 10:45am and left at 10:45am

**GMCCS5.**

**Etheridge Shire Council - Acquisition of Goods & Services and the Carrying out of the Procurement Principles' Policy**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Local Government Regulation 2012 states that each local government must have in place a policy about procurement (a procurement policy). Council has an existing procurement policy which is with the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

*In addition, it is a requirement under the Regulation that Council reviews its Procurement Policy at least every 12 months.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Adopt the "Acquisition of Goods & Services and the Carrying out of the Procurement Principles Policy" as presented to the Council Meeting in accordance with Section 198 of the Local Government Regulation 2012. Further that a new policy including a stronger emphasis on local purchasing be presented to the next Council Budget Meeting.*

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3079**  
**4/0**

**CLOSURE OF MEETING**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That in accordance with Section 275(1) e & h of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the meeting be closed to the public to discuss the following matters at 11:27am;*

- Rates Request
- Etheridge Shire Council – University Scholarship Program 2021
- Etheridge Shire Council – Career Development Program 2021

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3080**  
**4/0**

*Mr. Ian Kuhn declared a conflict of interest on the item Etheridge Shire Council – Career Development Program 2021 and informed the Chair that he would leave the meeting for the discussion of this item.*

**COMING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council comes out of closed session at 11:43pm*

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3081**  
**4/0**

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED REPORTS

**GMCCS4.**

**Rates Request**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*In accordance with section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 Council: -*

- 1. must levy general rates on all rateable land within the local government area; and*
- 2. may levy separate rates and charges. special rates and charges and utility charges to assist in funding the operation and maintenance of Council services and facilities.*

*Where possible, Council will endeavor to base all rates and charges on a full cost recovery basis.*

*Council will exercise its rate recovery powers in order to reduce the overall rate burden on ratepayers. It will be guided by the principles of:*

- transparency by making clear the obligations of ratepayers and the processes used by Council in assisting them meet their financial obligations*
- making the processes used to recover outstanding rates and charges clear, simple to administer and cost effective*
- equity by having regard to providing the same treatment for ratepayers with similar circumstances*
- flexibility by responding where necessary to changes in the local economy.*

Council has received a request for waiver of various rates charges:

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Does not agree to waive the accumulated penalty interest and the discount on Assessment Nos 00335-50000-000, 00202-00000-000, 00461-30000-000, 00244-00000-000 and 00505-95100-000 in the amounts of \$9447.84, \$495.24, \$366.76, \$5303.72 and \$578.48 respectively.*

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3082**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS6.**

**Etheridge Shire Council – University Scholarship Program 2021**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*In the 2013/14 financial year Council introduced a University / Tertiary Scholarship program for the Etheridge Shire. Within the 2019/20 Budget Council has continued to sponsor and support this Scholarship Program with, Council providing a \$5,000 Scholarship for the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the successful applicant's full-time studies.*

*To be eligible for a Scholarship, the student needs to maintain their residency in the Etheridge Shire through their parents/guardian. The student therefore may be attending boarding school outside the Shire when they apply for a Scholarship.*

*Nominations closed as at Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.*



**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to award the 2021 Etheridge Shire Council University / Tertiary Scholarship to Celine Dixon*

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3083**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS7.**

**Etheridge Shire Council – Career Development Program 2021**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*At the September 2020 General Meeting Council introduced a Career Development Program for the Etheridge Shire. Within the 2019/20 Budget Council has continued to sponsor and support a Scholarship Program which is also intended to incorporate (4) four rounds of applications for career development.*

*To be eligible for Career Development, the student needs to maintain their residency in the Etheridge Shire.*

*Nominations closed as at Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to award the first round of the 2021 Etheridge Shire Council Career Development Program to Tamsin Alderton*

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3084**  
**4/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Mr. Ian Kuhn left the meeting at 11:32am and returned at 11:44am*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Council adjourn for lunch at 12:43pm*

**RESUMPTION**

*Council resumed the meeting at 1:32pm.*

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

North Head Road – TIDS Grant.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the FNQROC meeting to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021, the Technical Committee will give consideration to the 2021/22 to 2024/25 works program.

North Head Road from the end of the first seal at 3.0km to the beginning of the second seal at 7.75km has been included in the draft program for funding in 21/22 and 22/23.

The proposed project involves the sealing of 4.75km of unsealed road, the upgrading of 8 causeways to box culverts to and improvements to horizontal and vertical curves.

These funding amounts are \$1,334,545 in 21/22 and \$1,127,955 in 22/23 or a total of \$2,462,500 in grant funding over the next 2 financial years. This will have to be matched by Council to bring the full expenditure to \$4,925,000.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That council resolve to adopt in principle the project to upgrade and seal 4.75km of North Head Road, between 3km and 7.75km from Forsayth Road, pending approval at the FNQROC Technical Committee meeting to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**RESOLUTION**

That Council defer this matter for further information.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3085**  
**3/1**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Mr. Les Morgan left the meeting at 3:18 and returned at 3:21pm*

*Cr Barns left at 3:21pm and returned at 3:22pm*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Gallagher**

- Raised Disaster Management on recent rain event – Cyclone Imogen
- Raised the Georgetown Hospital on events and morgue and clinic

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council**

**As a matter of urgency advocate for improved medical services in the town of Georgetown in the light of recent events.**

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3086**  
**4/0**

- Forsayth Common on unallocated state land or Town Common fencing



**RESOLUTION**

That Council  
Council formulate property management plans for all their commons as part of the Biosecurity Plan.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3087**  
**4/0**

- Industrial land
- Shed and Donga type dwellings in town
- Mosquito fogging machine
- Community consultation meetings
- 150 year centenary meeting

**RESOLUTION**

That Council hold a 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations on the weekend of the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021 - CEO to locate minutes of previous meetings.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3088**  
**4/0**

- Remembering a sporting legend born in Georgetown

**RESOLUTION**

That management investigate ways of acknowledging sports persons that represented the region at a state or national level.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3089**  
**4/0**

**Cr Barns**

- Raised the issue of the Robinhood/ Percyvale/Gilberton gazetted access road.

**RESOLUTION**

That management report back to a Council Meeting on the tenure of the unformed road between Robinhood and Gilberton.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3090**  
**4/0**

- Requested an update of the Charleston Dam
- Inquired about the status of the Federal Funding Applications for the roads and causeways identified last year
- Brought up the issue of the Gregory Developmental Road at the causeway and road surfaces at The Einasleigh river crossing at Carpentaria
- Mentioned Charlies Crossing on the Gilberton road - has its causeway surface compromised
- Emphasised the Copperfield River causeway at Kidston has a washed away section on the eastern side of the river on the approaches.
- Informed Council that the road into the Bedrock Village in Mt Surprise needs resealing

**RESOLUTION**

That the Director of Engineering Services presents a report to Council at the February Meeting in relation to the Road to Bedrock Village in Mt Surprise.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3091**  
**4/0**

- Informed Council of the poor condition of a street in Mt Surprise (Mt Surprise Road) also that drainage being blocked and water sitting stagnant- leading to mosquito hazard

**Cr Haase**

- Raised the concerns about access road to the river near cemetery
- Identified the lack of signage for single lane bitumen roads

**RESOLUTION**

That Council advocate with Transport and Main Roads for a pre-tourism awareness campaign on road use on narrow lane bitumen.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2021/GM3092**  
**4/0**

**Cr Royes**

- Raised the correspondence from Mrs Lyn French, regarding the Gilberton Road, in particular Granite Creek crossing
- Stressed the lack of road damage/flood signage across the shire

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 5:18pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

*B. G. Hughes*  
.....  
MAYOR

*18.2.21*  
.....  
DATE