



# AGENDA

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**Meeting:** **Community Consultation Meeting**

**Date:** **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017**

**Location:** **Oak Park Race Track**

**Commencing:** **10:30am**

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING
2. WELCOME TO COUNTRY
3. APPOLOGIES
4. CHARLESTON DAM
5. GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME
6. W4Q PROJECTS
7. PEST MANAGEMENT
8. GEOPARK PROJECT
9. ROAD UPDATES
  - *GEORGETOWN TO FORSAYTH ROAD*
  - *HANN HIGHWAY*
  - *GREGORY DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
  - *GULF DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
  - *ASSOCIATED CONSULTATION*
10. GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY



## MINUTES: Community Consultation Meeting Minutes

DATE: 3 May 2017

COMMENCING: 10:30am

LOCATION: Oak Park Race Track

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The Mayor opened the meeting at 10:30am.

### WELCOME TO COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the Ewamian People - the traditional custodians of this land where we meet for the Community Consultation meeting. We pay our respects to the Ewamian People, especially the Elders, past and present and acknowledge their traditional customs and laws and recognize their continuing connection to this Country.

We look forward to a long and continuing relationship with the Ewamian People and value any opportunities in strengthening relationships and partnerships through collaboration by respecting their Country.

### ATTENDANCE

Mayor Warren Devlin  
Deputy Mayor Tony Gallagher  
Cr Will Attwood  
Cr Troy Barnes  
Chief Executive Officer Norm Garsden  
Director of Corporate and Community Services David Munro  
Director of Engineering Services Jeff Bunt  
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer Anna Christensen

*Community Members: Total of 10 people attended from the Community.*

### APOLOGIES

Cr Warren Bethel

### ROAD UPDATES

The Mayor updated attendees on the following roads and the progress of funding for works on the roads;

#### **Forsayth to Georgetown Road**

Work has begun on the Georgetown to Forsayth Road. The target is for 7km of bitumen but 5km will definitely be completed. R2R and TIDS funding is being utilised to undertake the works.

## **Hann Highway**

The Mayor informed attendees that he would be heading to Hughenden along with Norm and Jeff to attend a meeting with Flinders Shire Council and TMR to determine details on the road works and funding.

LL: Commented that is good that the neighbouring Councils are working together to get the work done. The question was also raised as to how much bitumen was going to be put down.

WD: There will be 30km over the next three years.

## **GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME**

The Mayor updated attendees on the progress of the Gilbert River Irrigation Project. The project is still moving along and Council has advertised to employ someone on a full time basis to assist in putting the project together and liaising with stakeholders. Council has also engaged assistance from professionals with knowledge on very similar schemes.

## **CHARLESTON DAM**

The Mayor updated attendees on the progress of the Charleston Dam Project. The Mayor informed all that there has been some slowing in the progression of the project as Council had to design a fish ladder to be installed due to legal requirements. Council is awaiting the final design on the fish ladder and once received and approved by Council it will be lodged to the Department. Council has also engaged consultants who were able to modify the designs to make the Dam larger and it will come in cheaper.

## **W4Q**

The Mayor updated attendees on the Work 4 Queensland Grant that Council received for One million and Seventy Thousand Dollars. This grant has been aimed at creating jobs for people locally. Council together compiled projects for successful applicants to complete through conversations at community meetings over the past few months and ideas that Council had. The following is what Council hopes to achieve with the Grant money;

### **Forsayth:**

- Levelling of the ground at the Forsayth Show Grounds
- Fixing drainage around the town
- Beautification of the park
- A shelter and tables and chair installed at the cemetery

### **Mt Surprise:**

- Fencing of the town common
- Continuing on the playground project
- Installation of speed cameras near the School
- Fixing drainage problems

### **Georgetown:**

- Beautification of all entrances into town
- Tidying of the River Walk

### **Einasleigh:**

- Installation of a viewing platform over the Copperfield Gorge with a walkway down to the Gorge
- Seating and tables etc. along the top of the gorge

### **Gilbert River:**

- Building of a Fire Shed

### **The Lynd:**

- Building of a Fire Shed.

## UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK PROJECT

The Mayor explained the Geopark project to attendees and addressed issues from the community on the project.

The Mayor explained the following benefits, rules and costs involved with the Project;

- A committee will be established to run the Geopark, committee members cannot benefit from the project at all financially
- The Geopark is a way to bring in tourists on a broader scale (international)
- The park will promote the mineral and mining heritage in the region already established (Undara, Terrestrial, Cobbold Gorge) and also give landholders the opportunity, if they wish, to invite tourists in
- There is no requirement to be a part of the project
- There will be an initial cost of \$10'000 to become an accredited Geopark and each year afterwards will only be \$1000.

Issues that were raised by community members and addressed are as follows;

Q. Will the Shire be overrun with more National Parks?

WD: No. National Parks will not have any part of this, no more new National Parks will eventuate in connection to the Geopark.

Q. Will graziers be forced to become a part of this and open up their properties to tourists?

WD: No. There will simply be the opportunity to open up land and places of interest on stations if property owners would like. There is absolutely no requirement for station owners to have tourists come in to their property if they do not wish.

TB: It will be business as usual for the graziers and landholders if they do not want to invite tourists in.

Community members commented that there may need to be better signage with upgraded mapping as tourists get lost easily and can end up on other person's property by accident.

## GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY

The Mayor invited community persons to share any issues or concerns they have. The following issues were raised;

The station roads in the area are causing delays in moving cattle in road trains from properties. It is the time of year for station owners to be moving cattle and it is taking up to several hours to drive 60km for trucks.

WD: We will do everything we can to fix this problem. Unfortunately at the moment crews are spreading themselves thin trying to keep up with maintenance grades.

The issue of the repeater channel at Oak Park not operating was raised.

DM: It may need to be relinked.

The issue of station roads being 'unnamed' was raised. It causes large issues when trying to communicate addresses on forms for large companies based in the city as the addresses are not being recognised on stations.

**Norm Garsden and Jeff Bunt introduced themselves to the community at Oak Park and they each gave a brief history on their backgrounds.**

## CONCLUSION

**The Mayor closed the meeting at 1:10pm.**