



Etheridge Shire Council

CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
GEORGETOWN
ON FRIDAY 21 MAY 2021,
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 21 MAY 2021

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON FRIDAY 21 MAY 2021
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ATTENDANCE

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

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 Mayor 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."

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED REPORTS

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 9:03am under section 254J (1) and (3) which states that a *local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government;* To discuss legal ramifications surrounding a contract with regard to the Charleston Dam.

And that the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Corporate and Community Services and the Director of Engineering Services stay in the room for the discussion.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.1
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Miss Abbey Taylor left the meeting at 9:04am

RESOLUTION

That Council come out of closed session at 10:18am

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.2
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Miss Abbey returned to the meeting at 10:18am

1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received five Notices of Dispute (**Notices**) from the Liquidators of LDI Constructions (QLD) Pty Ltd, the head contractor for the Charleston Dam construction contract (**Contract**), in relation to claims under the contract. The Liquidators have proposed mediation to discuss and negotiate in relation to the Notices and claims.

Council has received comprehensive written advice from its solicitors Preston Law. A copy of the advice is provided with this report.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Notes the report;
2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer under Section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009, to finalise any and all matters in relation to the Contract, in accordance with the advice from Preston Law.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.3.CEO
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10:19am

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10:39am.

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS

Apologies have been received from Ian Carroll and Simon Terry as they will not be able to attend the meeting.

Apologies have been received from David Kempton from Regional Development Australia Tropical North as he will not be able to attend the meeting.

Condolences to the family of Mawn Young, former Georgetown resident.

Congratulations to Kirk Matene and Jacinta Dodds on the arrival of their baby girl on the 19th of May.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Discussion with Adam Delaney and Penny Johnson from Australian Horizons Foundation

RESOLUTION

That Council suspends standing orders at 10:42am for:

- Discussion with Adam Delaney and Penny Johnson from Australian Horizons Foundation in relation to their current research project which entails a health services review and medical needs analysis in the Etheridge Shire.

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 21 MAY 2021

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.4
5/0

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION

That Council resumes standing orders at 11:15am

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.5
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 21 April 2021

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 21 April 2021 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.6.CEO
5/0

Corrections:

N/A

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Cr Barns

- Enquired about the status of the report for the mosquito fogging machine

Cr Haase

- GM2994 – when is the grant result due for the streetscaping
- GM2970 – progress of receiving more information on the RV friendly towns

Cr Royes

- GM3053 – checked progress
- Drug and Alcohol Revised Policy

Cr Gallagher

- Resolution for Forsayth Water Levels – mark completed
- GM2849 – Georgetown's 150 years celebration pavers
- GM2943 – requested progress
- GM2972 – Landfill in Forsayth, a decision needs to be made – make it a priority

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS

DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Director of Corporate and Community Services' Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.7.DCCS
5/0

1

Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2020 to 20 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 30 April 2021.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.8.DCCS
5/0

2

Lease – Forsyth Rural Fire Service

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A letter of request has been received from the Public Safety Business Agency (PSBA) on behalf of the Queensland Fire and Emergency to enter into a lease renewal arrangement for a further twenty (20) years.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

“Resolve to enter into a Lease renewal with Public Safety Business Agency (PSBA) on behalf of the Queensland Fire and Emergency for a term of 20 years at a peppercorn rental commencing from 1 July 2021”.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.9.DCCS
5/0

3

Procurement Policy Review – Support for Local Purchasing

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.

Council at its January 2021 General Meeting resolved to:

'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'.

RESOLUTION

That Council:
Adopt the "Reviewed Procurement Policy" in accordance with Section 198 of the Local Government Regulation 2012- as presented with an appendix that addresses support for local purchasing. Subject to amendments to the appendices as discussed in the meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.10.DCCS
5/0

4

Reconfiguring a Lot – (Amalgamation: 4 lots into 2 lots) 7 & 9 Collins Street and 18A & 18B Crampton Street, Georgetown

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2021, an Application for Reconfiguration (RAL) – (Amalgamation 4 lots into 2 lots) was lodged with Council. The Application is Code Assessable against the Planning Scheme.

The Application is reported to Council and recommended for approval, subject to conditions.

RESOLUTION

That Council:
In accordance with the Planning Act 2016 as amended, the applicant be notified that the application for a Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot – (Amalgamation: 4 Lots into 2 Lots), on a site located at 7 & 9 Collins Street and 18A & 18B Crampton Street, Georgetown, being Lots 19, 20, 21 & 22 MPH40897, is approved subject to the conditions detailed.

ASSESSMENT MANAGER CONDITIONS (COUNCIL)

1. The development shall be undertaken substantially in accordance with the submitted draft Survey Plan of Reconfiguration, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
2. Any future building work on the lots shall be carried out generally in accordance with any relevant Council requirements and state legislation, and must include the provision and connection of a suitable effluent disposal system to service the development prior to occupation, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
3. If unactioned, this development approval lapses four (4) years after the day that the development approval takes effect, unless extended under the Planning Act 2016.

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 21 MAY 2021

4. Each lot is to be independently connected to the reticulated water service, electricity and telecommunications infrastructure and all separate connections must be in place, prior to Council endorsing the final plan of survey for lodgement and registration with the State government, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
5. Vehicular access to new lot 20 is required to be sited in a safe location and constructed at the time the lot is developed, to a standard satisfactory to the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
6. Should any of the Council's assets be damaged during the construction of any new infrastructure or associated works the cost of the reinstatement of all such assets shall be met by the applicant/proponent, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
7. Council endorsement of the Plan of Survey relies on a site inspection confirming compliance with Conditions 1, 4 & 6 outlined above, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.05.11.DCCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Les Morgan returned to the meeting at 1:04pm

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for lunch at 1:11pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1:37pm.

5

Georgetown 150+1 Years Celebration

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2020 marked 150 years since Georgetown was founded and celebrations were planned to occur last year but were postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. This report entails plans for the Georgetown 150+1 Year Celebration to be held on the 20th – 22nd August 2021, the program approved by community members and the developments so far.

RESOLUTION

That Council: notes and receives the officer's report and furthermore

- a) approves the current event plans,
- b) to include the budget and resource considerations to a maximum of \$30,000 in the 2021/22 Budget and,
- c) As part of the 150+1 celebrations for Georgetown council will be selling commemorative brick pavers to be part of a pathway
- d) that the committee be encouraged to seek corporate sponsorship for the event

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.12.DCCS
4/1

Cr Royes voted against the matter

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Director of Engineering Services Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.13.DES
5/0

1

Roads Management Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It has been Council's practice in the past to manage the maintenance of its road network on a reactive basis. This practice generally leads to displeasure in the community due to many works being done at the instigation of complaints.

Accordingly, this reports seeks to set down a framework of how Council will manage its road network into the future with a particular emphasis on being proactive, through fixing defects before they are noticed by the general public and scheduling major works through proactive identification, planning and scheduling.

Overtime, this shift in emphasis to being more proactive should generally reduce user complaints and enhance confidence in the community that Council is acting in their best interests. This should also have the added benefits of reducing life cycle costs and generally providing a better road network overall.

RECOMMENDATION

That the "Roads Management Policy" as provided be adopted.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

LOST
RESOLUTION #21.05.14
0/5

RESOLUTION

That the roads management policy go to a Councillor workshop for further consideration

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.15.DES
5/0

2

Rural Addressing

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The current rural addressing was identified as inadequate to meet the current need of the community, with particular emphasis on emergency services being able to locate those in need in a timely manner.

Accordingly, Shepherd Services were engaged to undertake a review of the current Rural Addressing information and processes in accordance with current rural numbering legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse Attachment A "Etheridge Shire Council Rural Numbering Assessment Report – April 2021",
2. Forward letters to the owners of the following property's to ascertain if they have an occupied residential building at their property and thus require a Rural Addressing Post.
 - Midhills Mustering Location
 - Anglesey
 - Big Reef
 - Cheviott Hills
 - Gregory Range
 - Jardines
 - Mt Sullivan Homestead
 - Mt Surprise Rodeo Grounds
 - Shrimp Creek
 - Durham / Southerland Holding
3. Endorse the Director Engineering Services seeking Expressions of Interest for the purchase and installation of the Rural Addressing Numbering Posts.
4. Provide preliminary advice to property owners/occupiers that the Rural Addressing installation is about to commence, after a contract has been awarded for installation.
5. Advise property owners/occupiers that rural numbering post have been installed, upon completion.
6. Council update Council address records with the new numbers and road name.
7. That a budget of \$35,000 be allocated to this project.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

LOST
RESOLUTION #21.05.16.DES
0/5

RESOLUTION

That the Rural Addressing matter be taken to a Councillor workshop for further consideration.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.17.DES
5/0

3

Local Community Roads and Infrastructure Grant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks to inform Councillors of the progress of the Local Community Roads and Infrastructure" program, the delays that were experienced and the measures being undertaken to complete the program.

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 21 MAY 2021

RESOLUTION

That the report on the Local Community Roads and Infrastructure" program information be received.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.18.DES
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for afternoon tea at 3:37pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 3:42pm.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Chief Executive Officer's Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.19.CEO
5/0

1

Adoption of the Etheridge Shire Local Disaster Management Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Disaster Management Act 2003, Division 3, Subdivision 1 states:

57 (1) A local government must prepare a plan (a local disaster management plan) for disaster management in the local government's area.

59 (1) A local government may review, or renew, its local disaster management plan when the local government considers it appropriate. (2) However, the local government must review the effectiveness of the plan at least once a year.

The reviewed Local Disaster Management Plan from 2017 has now been renewed and is ready for adoption by Council.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the revised Etheridge Shire Council Local Disaster Management Plan as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.20.CEO
5/0

Suggestion Box Items

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Listed below are 3 items that have been lodged in Council Suggestion Box.

1. It would be great to see Council offer more apprenticeships and traineeships to a) encourage young people to stay in the shire, b) build more skills in the local community and in Council's workforce so that more people reside in our towns. Fields such as horticulture, plumbing, electrical and mechanical.
2. Upgrade the public toilets in Mt surprise (across road from police station). It would be ideal to see professional touristy looking bathrooms; no holes in the walls, tiled, freshly painted, taps with the right water pressure and with a slow release pushdown so that water runs for 15 secs and you can actually wash your hands with soap.
3. The Charleston Dam seems like it's not safe for water sports; skiing, wakeboarding, tubing etc. because of the sticks and trees at the water surface. Council should consider safety signage similar to what's in Tinnaroo Dam, that indicate the water depth at which water sports may be safe – or recommend no water sports, just fishing.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to receive the 3 suggestions listed in the agenda and undertake to do the following

1. Council acknowledges the suggestion to offer more apprenticeships and traineeships. Further can state that Council currently puts 1 trainee every year in an administrative or day care role and further puts on 2 trainees for the Kennedy Development Road Project. That aside, when Council has enough tradesmen, it will endeavour to put on apprentices.
2. Council acknowledges the suggestion and has already had preliminary discussion with Transport and Main Roads Department to upgrade the public toilets in Mt Surprise to cater for the travelling public. This should happen in the next 2 months. Further if the proposed works are going to be delayed, Council will undertake remedial maintenance work on same.
3. Council acknowledges the suggestion and can advise that the works at the Charleston Dam are not complete and appropriate signing will be erected, to bring the associated risks to the public's attention.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.21.CEO
5/0

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher

- Follow up on cemetery records
- Recommendation for black spot funding
- Overgrown allotments whether they are vacant or otherwise. Going on for too long
- Roadworks around Rodeo and Campdraft arena

Cr Barns

- Update on the Kidston Shortcut
- If there needs to be a Policy change for access of Private Property crossovers in towns
- Direction from council on cul de sac issue at end of First street
- Update on the extension to phone coverage in Einasleigh
- Dingo scalps and who could handle or sign to receive them should the RLO not be present
- Can an RLO sign off on their own close family members wild dog scalps

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 21 MAY 2021

Cr Haase

- Mt Surprise community area issues - the bbq in the park still doesn't work, also the taps at the public toilets still no pressure, also the town hall has bad lighting and a few of the lights that are there don't work, there is also no lighting at all to the toilets at rear... tough to have evening events.
- Blocks of land we have recently sold haven't settled. Frustration by some of a 7 month wait.
- Robbie Katter letter regarding new legislation around animal welfare could affect our shire. Should we advocate also?
- Riverwalk slashing for tourist season?

Cr Royes

- Proposal to celebrate seniors week and seek a grant accordingly (Ergon/ State Govt)
- Terrestrial Progress - just a quick update
- Work 4 Qld Projects - Detailed update
- Einasleigh town maintenance: Water, Common boundary fence, drains.
- Correspondence from Mr C Mosch
- Correspondence from Mr T Dixon

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To date Council is tentatively programming for in excess of \$20M of QRA Funding for the effects of cyclone Imogen. As such, Council will have 2 years to deliver same from 30 June 2021. It is recommended that due to quantum of work, that Council have an independent provider deliver such works.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Seek quotes via Local Buy to engage suitable service provider to deliver 2021 Flood Damage Program.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #21.05.22.CEO
5/0

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 6:25pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday the 16th June 2021.

B. G. Hughes
.....
MAYOR

17/6/2021
.....
DATE