



# AGENDA

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

**Date:** **Wednesday 2 August 2017**

**Location:** **Georgetown Shire Hall**

**Commencing:** **9:00am**

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING
2. WELCOME TO COUNTRY
3. APOLOGIES
4. CHARLESTON DAM
5. GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME
6. GEOTOURISM
7. W4Q – FUNDS PROGRAM/PROJECT
8. ROAD UPDATES
  - *GEORGETOWN TO FORSAYTH ROAD*
  - *HANN HIGHWAY*
  - *GREGORY DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
  - *GULF DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
9. PUBLIC/BANK HOLIDAYS FOR THE 2018 CALENDAR YEAR
10. CORPORATE PLAN REVIEW
11. GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY



**MINUTES:** Community Consultation Meeting Minutes  
**DATE:** 2 August 2017  
**COMMENCING** 9:00am  
**LOCATION:** Georgetown Community Hall

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**The Mayor opened the meeting at 9:03am.**

### **WELCOME TO COUNTRY**

We respectfully acknowledge the Ewamian People - the traditional custodians of this land where we meet for the Etheridge Learning Facility Management Committee 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  
Chief Executive Officer Norm Garsden  
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer Anna Christensen

*Community Members: Total of 2 people attended from the Community*

### **APOLOGIES**

Cr Troy Barnes  
Cr Warren Bethel  
Jeff Bunt  
David Munro

### **CHARLESTON DAM**

The Mayor updated attendees of the meeting on the progression of the Charleston Dam Project including that sign off is not far off. A tender has been advertised for the clearing of the inundation area and the hope is to have the fish ladder and by wash done this year.

### **GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME**

The Mayor gave an update on the movements of the Gilbert River project and specifically on the meetings occurring over the next couple of days to develop a business model for the project with Rolfe Ellem, Gareth Jones, Greg Stanford and Greg Mason. The hope for the project is to gain more

government commitment by the end of the year. The two water storages will be at Green Hills and Strathmore.

## GEOTOURISM

The Mayor updated attendees on the Geotourism concept for the Etheridge Shire and the first meeting held of the Geotourism Advisory Committee. The concept for branding being discussed is 'Unearthed Etheridge' which was the Etheridge Tourism Action Groups original idea. Council has also reached out to the ETAG committee to assist in reinvigorating the group.

## W4Q – FUNDS PROGRAM/PROJECT

The Mayor discussed the Work for Queensland grant with attendees and specifically on the second round of funding. The idea for the second round of funding is to build a gymnasium in Georgetown with indoor sporting facilities including bowls.

## ROAD UPDATES

### **Forsyth to Georgetown Road**

The Mayor updated attendees on the progress of the Forsyth to Georgetown road. Bitumen will be getting laid in the next shift with primer already laid getting ready for this.

### **Hann Highway**

The Mayor briefly discussed the Hann Highway funding and his hopes for Etheridge to get the original amount suggested of \$20 million in funding. He also mentioned the SOD turning event held on the Hann Highway.

### **Gulf Development Road**

The Mayor informed attendees that there will be no western roads upgrade money for some time to spend on this road as the focus will be on the Hann Highway for some time.

## SHOW HOLIDAY FOR 2018

The Mayor asked for feedback from attendees on the concept of only having one show holiday for the 2018 calendar year and rather than having it with the Cairns show it be moved to be with the Forsyth Turnout or alternatively the Georgetown Rodeo.

TG: I have been speaking with people regarding this and they would rather have 2 holidays, can we have a holiday for each of these events and the Rodeo has a field day on the Friday of the Rodeo.

WD: It costs Council and businesses to pay staff on each holiday so it would be better to have one.

RM: I think the Turnout would be better.

RZ: If we have one for Forsyth what does Georgetown get? They don't get a holiday for any of their events.

WD: The main thing with the Turnout is they really need to have something on the Friday if that is the show holiday. I will speak with the committee after the event this weekend and see if they are happy to have the holiday on the Friday and run an event on the Friday.

## CORPORATE PLAN

The Mayor discussed the renewal of the Corporate Plan and the idea of Council going away for a retreat to discuss the renewal of this. The Corporate Plan is combines all Councils ideas for the future of the Shire.

## GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY

The Mayor invited community members to discuss any issues, concerns or ideas that they may have.

RM: Again I want to bring up the lack of aged care and hospital facilities.

WD: We need to increase the population to be eligible for better access to these things and this will be done through building tourism and irrigation.

RM: What can be done for Aged Care?

WD: We did calculate costs some time ago but the community didn't want it, they thought the money was better spent elsewhere due to the high costs.

WA: NDIS came to visit us and they had discussed some great ideas for providing services to homes.

TG: I think it would be good to have someone employed to visit elderly people and help them with everyday jobs.

WA: We have tried this but the same argument is always given, we do not have the critical mass.

RM: Who is the Pest Management officer?

NG: Karen Butler does the administration side and Trevor Blacklock carries out the baiting program.

RM: Noxious weeds are getting closer to entering the Shire. What is happening with the wash down bay facility?

WA: It was just put in the wrong place.

## CONCLUSION

**The Mayor closed the meeting at 10:20am.**