



# AGENDA

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**Meeting:** Community Consultation Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday 6 September 2017

**Location:** Forsayth QCWA 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. GENEX / INFIGEN – POWERLINK (RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONE)
8. W4Q – FUNDS PROGRAM/PROJECT
9. ROAD UPDATES
  - GEORGETOWN TO FORSAYTH ROAD
  - HANN HIGHWAY
  - GREGORY DEVELOPMENT ROAD
  - GULF DEVELOPMENT ROAD
10. CORPORATE PLAN REVIEW
11. ASTRONOMICAL - FORSAYTH SHOWGROUNDS from 6:30pm – Friday 8 Sept.
12. RAILWAY TRAVELLING DISPLAY - Queensland Museum Network, presenting a thought provoking mix of personal stories, imagery and objects that explores the role of railways at home and on the front line in the war to end all wars, the First World War 5 Sept – 1 Oct.
13. GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY



**MINUTES:** Community Consultation Meeting Minutes  
**DATE:** 6 September 2017  
**COMMENCING** 9:00am  
**LOCATION:** Forsayth QCWA Hall

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**The Mayor opened the meeting at 9:10am.**

### **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  
Cr Warren Bethel  
Director Corporate and Community Services, David Munro  
Chief Executive Officer Norm Garsden  
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer Anna Christensen

*Community Members: Total of 11 people attended from the Community*

### **APOLOGIES**

Laurie Baron

### **CHARLESTON DAM**

The Mayor updated attendees of the meeting on the progression of the Charleston Dam Project including that the tender for the clearing of the inundation area has now closed. The tender for the by wash and fish ladder construction will be advertised soon with a hope for a start on works of this before the end of the year. The construction of the dam wall is hoped to start next year.

Q. Will Council be asking the community for ideas on naming of the Dam? There was talk of the dam being named in honour of Noeline Ikin.

Mayor: The intention of Council was to keep the name as 'Charleston Dam' and then name a garden area after Noeline at the Dam.

WB: I believe her story would be told through the recreation area.

TB: I have spoken with Trevor on this matter and he has spoken on behalf of the family and said that if anything was to be named in Noeline's honour it be a rose garden.

### **GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME**

The Mayor gave an update on the movements of the Gilbert River project and specifically on the meeting held with landowners. The Mayor also discussed Rolfe Ellem visiting landowners to have one on one discussion on their thoughts surrounding the project and furthermore the Maturing Infrastructure Pipeline Project application Council will be submitting.

### **GEOTOURISM**

The Mayor updated attendees on the Geotourism concept for the Etheridge Shire and discussed its purpose to be a branding tool for the region in order to lift the Shire's image to increase tourism.

Q. What is the difference between the Geopark and Geotourism?

A. There is no big difference. A Geopark would have meant a certificate of accreditation. Geotourism is a branding technique with no accreditation and no affiliation with UMESCO.

Q. Will there be a camping area run here or at Charleston Dam by Council?

A. There may be but there certainly will be an opportunity for someone to do this.

### **GENEX/ INFIGEN - POWERLINK**

The Mayor updated attendees on the teleconference held with Powerlink and specifically on the possibility/concept of the renewable energy sector creating a renewable hub or zone that would loop from Townsville to Hughenden and back around to Cairns or alternatively one link being created to the high voltage line at Greenvale.

### **W4Q – FUNDS PROGRAM/PROJECT**

The Mayor discussed the Work for Queensland grant and its progress and invited David Munro to update on this.

DM: - The Riverwalk is almost complete, only some fencing left to do;

- The Gilbert River Community Fire Shed is almost erected, a kitchenette will be installed after it is complete;
- The walking track is moving along in Forsayth;
- After the completion of the pathway in Forsayth the pathway in Einasleigh will be constructed;
- Speed cameras in Mt Surprise are to be installed;
- The shed for The Lynd has arrived, just finalising some land issues before this is installed.

The Mayor also discussed the second round of funding and the application was submitted to build a Gymnasium in Georgetown.

Q. Is there an opportunity to complete the job in Forsayth, completing the pathway.

DM: Any variations to the application have to be submitted to State Government, we have not received a response on the current application yet.

Q. Can we get any outdoor fitness equipment installed with any future funding?

DM: If you write a letter asking for a running or walking track then we can look into a Sport and Recreation grant to do this.

## ROAD UPDATES

### **Forsyth to Georgetown Road**

The Mayor updated attendees on the progress of the Forsyth to Georgetown road. The next stretch of bitumen has been ordered and there is a hope that we will go under budget and be able to provide an extra 1-2km of bitumen.

### **Hann Highway**

The Mayor discussed the Hann Highway funding and the meeting attended in Hughenden discussing works to begin next year near Hospital Creek. There will be work on the Hann happening throughout 2018 and 2019 on the Hann.

### **Gregory Development Road**

The Mayor discussed the funding received to conduct maintenance to the Gregory Development Road as well as contributions from GENEX to conduct maintenance. The need for a passing opportunity if Council receives further funding was also discussed.

### **Gulf Development Road**

The Mayor informed attendees that there will be no western roads upgrade money and furthermore that discussions will probably need to begin to start lobbying for more funding in the future to continue to upgrade the GDR.

## CORPORATE PLAN

The Mayor discussed the renewal of the Corporate Plan and the purpose of the plan to attendees being that it guides all decisions that Council makes.

\*The need for aged care facilities and programs was discussed by all in attendance\*

## GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

WB: Could signage be installed informing travellers of the bitumen stretches once completed between Georgetown and Forsyth and the distances of each stretch of dirt and how far to each stretch of bitumen.

WD: We have to decide whether, for future funding, we do a passing opportunity on the Einasleigh to The Lynd road or continue with bitumen on the Georgetown to Forsyth road.

HB: The Einasleigh to The Lynd road is not safe as there is no passing opportunity at all.

WD: By beginning work on that road it begins to signal a need for bitumen and funding and begins the lobbying to better the road.

TG: What is happening with the unallocated state land or the town common? Can community members who don't have much land get the opportunity to run a few head of cattle?

WD: We need cattle on this land to bring the fuel load down. In the future it could be that people pay agistment and work the common the same as at Einasleigh. We definitely need to reduce the fire risk.

JP: Can we get a playground like Mt Surprise's installed at the park?

WD: Write a letter in and we will consider it with future funding.

**CONCLUSION**

**The Mayor closed the meeting at 10:45am.**