



AGENDA

Meeting: Community Consultation Meeting

Date: Wednesday 4 October 2017

Location: Possum Ray Memorial Hall, Einasleigh

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. CORPORATE PLAN REVIEW
10. ISSUES WITH TELSTRA AND COMMUNICATIONS
11. BUSHFIREFIRE PREPAREDNESS
12. GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY



MINUTES: Community Consultation Meeting Minutes
DATE: 4 October 2017
COMMENCING 9:00am
LOCATION: Possum Ray Memorial Hall Einasleigh

The Deputy Mayor opened the meeting at 9:35am.

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

Deputy Mayor Tony Gallagher
Cr Troy Barnes
Cr Warren Bethel
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

Mayor Warren Devlin
Cr Will Attwood
Terry Ann Cranwell

CHARLESTON DAM

The Deputy Mayor and CEO 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 and Teddy Loudon was the successful tenderer. Clearing will begin in the next week. Applications for the Charleston Dam Project Manager position closed and no suitable applicants applied. Council is now seeking assistance from recruitment agencies. 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 and over the wet season.

WB: I think there is a safety concern for the granite rocks that will lay just below the water surface. This will probably need to be looked at.

TB: Can we put a map of the inundation area in the Inform?

GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME

The Deputy Mayor gave an update on the movements of the Gilbert River project and specifically on the meetings the Mayor, CEO and Rolfe had with traditional land owners. The Deputy 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. Norm Garsden added that there will be interagency meetings as Council has not received anything in writing regarding water allocations.

GEOTOURISM

The Deputy Mayor updated attendees on the Geotourism concept for the Etheridge Shire and Norm added that Angus has produced a discussion paper that has been forwarded to tourism groups for feedback. An advisory committee meeting is scheduled for the end of October.

W4Q – FUNDS PROGRAM/PROJECT

The Deputy Mayor and CEO discussed the Work for Queensland grant and its progress.

- Works are slowly progressing on Caeshfor Park;
- A pathway will be constructed in Einasleigh from where the train stops to the Gorge entry;
- There will be no viewing platform;
- We received a request to have the playground at Mt Surprise fully fenced.

IC: Is there a 2nd round of funding?

NG: Yes, we have submitted an application to build a gymnasium in Georgetown. We are liaising with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines to purchase the land.

ROAD UPDATES

Forsyth to Georgetown Road

The seal on the last section begins on Friday.

Hann Highway

There will be work on the Hann happening throughout 2018 and 2019 on the Hann. A 6km section will be done next year near Hospital Creek.

Gregory Development Road

We are trying to get a couple of passing lanes done between Einasleigh and the Oasis.

Gulf Development Road

The Deputy 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 Deputy 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. Norm discussed some possible ideas to be included in the plan with attendees.

ISSUES WITH TELSTRA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Norm Garsden discussed a meeting being held with Telstra on the 13th of October to discuss issues with communications in the Shire. The main points to discuss at the meeting are;

- No mobile service in Einasleigh
- Getting a tower installed on the Hann Highway when road works begin
- The possibility of Telstra setting up an internet hub in Einasleigh
- Issues with phone service in Mt Surprise township.

BUSH FIRE PREPAREDNESS

The Deputy Mayor and CEO discussed residents being prepared for the fire season, particularly with the large fuel load in the Shire.

WB: The overgrown allotments in Einasleigh are a problem as snakes are quiet bad as well as being a fire hazard.

GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

RG: The only issues I had that have already been discussed is communications in Einasleigh and the road from Einasleigh to the Oasis.

IC: Can Council possibly put a small amount of concrete in front of the fire shed as there is a large lip to drive the vehicle up into the shed.

WB: Aged care is an ongoing issue. There is a lady who owns a house in Einasleigh that is qualified to work in the aged care sector. It would be good to employ her to visit old people and help with their everyday chores.

NG: There may be an application for an extension of a mining lease in Einasleigh which would mean an extension into the town and Gorge. There will be objections to this application if it is submitted. It is currently only at an enquiry stage.

CONCLUSION

The Deputy Mayor closed the meeting at 10:55am.