



AGENDA

Meeting: **Community Consultation Meeting**

Date: **Wednesday 7th March 2018**

Location: **Forsayth CWA 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. ROAD UPDATES
 - *GEORGETOWN TO FORSAYTH ROAD*
 - *HANN HIGHWAY*
 - *GREGORY DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
 - *GULF DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
 - *DAMAGE TO ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE FROM RECENT RAIN*
8. AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD RECIPIENTS
9. GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY



MINUTES: Community Consultation Meeting Minutes
DATE: 7 March 2018
COMMENCING 9:00am
LOCATION: Forsayth CWA Hall

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9:05am.

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
- Chief Executive Officer Norm Garsden
- Deputy Mayor Tony Gallagher
- Cr Warren Bethel
- Cr Troy Barnes
- Cr Will Attwood
- Mr Angus Robinson
- Miss Anna Christensen, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer

Community Members: Total of 11 people attended from the Community

CHARLESTON DAM

The Mayor updated attendees on the Charleston Dam project and in particular the recent tender that was advertised for the construction. The Mayor discussed the tenders received and the requirement for Council to go back to the market as the original tenderers prices were too high. Council is working with Engineers and consultants to make amendments to the tender in order to bring the price of to construct the dam down.

- Q. Is construction foreseeable this year?
- A. Yes, we are hoping for this.
- Q. How big is the Dam?
- A. 12.3 GL.
- Q. Will the wall be in the same place as previously discussed and have tests been conducted for the wall?
- A. Partly complete, the core samples were taken last year.

GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME

The Mayor gave an update on the movements of the Gilbert River project and specifically mentioned how positive the project is looking. The Mayor discussed that Council is waiting on the Maturing Infrastructure Pipeline Project submission results and the upcoming meetings with Ministers regarding the project.

GEOTOURISM

Mayor Devlin informed attendees that the television advertisements have begun to be played on Imparja. The Mayor discussed the hope for graziers to diversify into tourism.

Angus Robinson addressed attendees regarding tourism and the changes that need to be made to increase tourists to the area. Angus discussed international visitors to Australia and the market available to bring these visitors into more regional areas. The opportunity for graziers to diversify was discussed and the Terry family's success at Cobbold Gorge was used as an example. The idea of Geovillages was discussed with attendees and the need for visitors to come and stay overnight to support the economy was elaborated on.

ROAD UPDATES

Forsyth to Georgetown Road

The Mayor discussed the 1km stretch of bitumen being done on the Forsyth-Georgetown Road and the hope for further funds to do another small stretch.

Hann Highway

The Mayor informed attendees that there will be 20km left in the Etheridge Shire and 11km in the Flinders Shire by 2020. Each Council will work separately on remaining works once it gets to this point.

Gregory Developmental Road

The Mayor discussed a submission that Engineer Jeff Bunt done for passing opportunities between Einasleigh and The Lynd. The Mayor also informed attendees that an NDRRA Event has been activated from the recent weather event.

Gulf Developmental Road

The Mayor informed attendees that the he will be lobbying to get double lane on the GDR at upcoming meetings in Brisbane. He also mentioned Cr Barnes efforts in lobbying to get the camera installed at the Gilbert River Bridge. The camera is now live to Engineers and TMR and will be to the public in the future.

Deputy Mayor Tony Gallagher informed attendees that the Director of Engineering Services Jeff Bunt resigned. The Mayor thanked Jeff for his hard work over the past 12 months.

Tracey Priestley mentioned a large rock has fallen onto their access road that may be a danger to traffic at night. She asked if it could either be moved or a witch's hat or guide post installed to alert traffic.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

The Mayor congratulated the Australia Day Award Recipients acknowledging their work and contributions to the community.

GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY

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

HB: Have the community consultation minutes been placed on the website?

AC: Yes, they were placed on a couple of days ago by Bekky.

TL: What is happening with the Einasleigh Irrigation? Will that still be a project?

WD: We hope to do it off the back of the Gilbert project. The issues with Einasleigh surround land as parts of the area are stock route.

Q. There is an issue with drainage on a street, if I could show someone after the meeting.

WD: No worries. We can pass the issue on to Engineering.

The Mayor discussed the park with attendees and all who attended were in agreeance it is a big improvement. The issue of drainage is still an issue, attendees mentioned particularly around the caravan park.

TL: Will Council be working out a plan to have a building certifier employed? Since Peter Gregory has left it is quiet an expensive process to get a certifier from away to come and inspect projects.

WD: We have been having conversations with FNQROC to work out an approach as other small Councils are having the same issue. It may be that a Council employee become qualified to inspect, it may be a sharing arrangement of using another Councils certifier to come up. There is no resolution at the moment but we are working on this.

IC: Thank you to Council for the work done in the township so far. Can the shade sail be repaired? I sent an email to info@etheridge.qld.gov.au three weeks ago but have had no response.

NG: No worries.

The Mayor discussed the Multipurpose Centre with attendees and gathered there thoughts on the project.

CONCLUSION

The Mayor closed the meeting at 10:40am.