



# Etheridge Shire Council

## CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2021,

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN**  
**ON WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2021**  
**COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

*Cr Haase attended the meeting via teleconference*

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. Alan Clark, Director of Engineering Services  
Mr. Andrew McKenzie, Director of Corporate Services  
Miss Abbey Taylor, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9:00am 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."***

**CHAIRING THE MEETING**

**RESOLUTION**

That the Mayor be granted a leave of absence to attend delegations in Brisbane on behalf of Etheridge Shire Council.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.1**  
**3/0**

**RESOLUTION**

That Deputy Mayor, Cr Royes chairs the meeting in the absence of Mayor Hughes.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.2**  
**3/0**

**TELECONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 254K (*Participating in meetings by audio link or audio visual link*) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 states that:

- (1) *A local government may allow a person to take part in a meeting of the local government by audio link or audio visual link.*
- (2) *A committee of a local government may allow a person to take part in a meeting of the committee by audio link or audio visual link.*
- (3) *A councillor or committee member who takes part in a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) is taken to be present at the meeting if the councillor or member was simultaneously in audio contact with each other person at the meeting.*

RESOLUTION

That Cr Haase be allowed to attend the meeting via teleconference.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.3**  
**3/0**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Royes declared a prescribed conflict of interest for item number CEO 1 Attendance at the Vital Leaders Leading Ladies Network Evening as she was invited. Cr Royes declared that she will leave the room for the discussion on that matter and not vote.

**APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS**

Council would like to send its deepest condolences to the family of Beryl Reynolds.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 18 August 2021**

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 18 August 2021 be confirmed.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.4**  
**4/0**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

N/A

**CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS**

**DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

**Briefing Report**

RESOLUTION

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

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.5.DCS**  
**4/0**

**1**

**Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 July 2021**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a Financial Report of its accounts to the Local Government at least monthly.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Pursuant to and in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, resolve to adopt the monthly Financial Report the period ending 31 July 2021, as presented.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.6.DCS**  
**4/0**

**2**

**Nomination of Active Game Day Projects**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Department of Sport and Recreation are calling for applications under the Active Game Day Project grant program. \$9.726M will be allocated under the program, funding suitable projects between \$50-150,000. The aim of the program is ensure clubs and eligible organisations maintain a quality field of play for their members. The program is specifically targeting playing field lighting (project type 1) and development / upgrade of playing surfaces / spaces, including irrigation (project type 2). Applications must be submitted by 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

RESOLUTION

That at the next councillor workshop, Council identify a possible project to be the subject of an application to the Active Game Day Projects funding program.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.7.DCS**  
**4/0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10:03am

**RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 10:30am.

**DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES**

**Briefing Report**

RESOLUTION

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

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher.**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns.**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.8.DES**  
**4/0**

**1**

**Kennedy Developmental CN – 16826 Supply and Deliver Full Bitumen Sealing Service**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A tender was place with Local Buy for Supply and Delivery of Full Bitumen Service to the Kennedy Developmental Road.

Tenders were assessed and ranked by price and meeting the criteria in the tender assessment sheet attached.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the tender provided by Stabilised Pavements Australia for the supply and Delivery of Full Bitumen Service to the value of \$407,361.10 Incl GST

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.9.DES**  
**4/0**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**Briefing Report**

RESOLUTION

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

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.10.CEO**  
**4/0**

1

**Attendance at the Vital Leaders Leading Ladies Network Evening**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr Royes left the meeting at 11:03am*

*In the absence of Cr Royes, Cr Gallagher assumes the chair of the meeting.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There will be a Leading Ladies Network Evening for the Women Leading in Local Government Program that Cr Royes has been participating in, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October in Mackay, coinciding with the LGAQ Annual conference, as a celebration for the participants.

RESOLUTION

That Cr Royes attend the Leading Ladies Network Evening for the Women Leading in Local Government Program on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October in Mackay, coinciding with the LGAQ Annual conference.

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.11.CEO**  
**3/0**

2

**Request for Maintenance on the Gilbert River Cemetery**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Correspondence has been received from Kylie Treen on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August in relation to the maintenance of the Gilbert River Cemetery. More specifically Ms Treen has requested that Council

- a) Erect a sign advising that the Gilbert River Cemetery is there
- b) Complete the clean-up of the cemetery
- c) Build a wall where families can erect a plaque to acknowledge those that came before them

RESOLUTION

That Council defer the matter of Request for Maintenance on the Gilbert River Cemetery to the next General Meeting of Council due to further information being tabled at the meeting.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.12.DES**  
**4/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Mr. Andrew McKenzie left the meeting at 11:10am and returned at 11:11am*  
*Cr Royes returned to the meeting at 11:11am*

3

**Application for Surrender and Re-Issue of Permit to Occupy over land described as Lot A on AP2165-2021/002617**

*Cr Gallagher declared a declarable conflict of interest as the applicant is a relative of his.*

RESOLUTION

The Cr Gallagher leaves the room for the discussion and consideration of the matter Application for Surrender and Re-Issue of Permit to Occupy over land described as Lot A on AP2165- 2021/002617.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.13**  
**3/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Mr Ian Carroll entered the meeting at 11:23am*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Resources requesting Council's views or requirements including any local non-indigenous cultural heritage values that the department should consider and/or that may affect the future use of the land, in relation to the land described as Lot A on AP2165, with the proposed use being grazing.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Advise the Department of Resources that they have no objections to Lot A on AP2165 being used for grazing purposes

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.14.CEO**  
**3/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr Gallagher returned to the meeting at 11:26am*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Gallagher**

- Update on Town Common Policy

RESOLUTION

That Council develop a Policy for the use of the 4 Town Commons.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.15.DCS**  
**4/0**

**CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 15 SEPTEMBER 2021**

- Update on Multi Sports Centre
- Update on recent Contractors Meeting
- Cement causeway at Struggles No1 Creek
- Discussion on 1080 in the future for the Shire
- Georgetown Airstrip + I would like it to be noted that council should push for the upgrade of the Georgetown Airstrip through government grants and funding in the near future. In turn I believe this upgrade could lead to the following points;
  - o Would create more jobs in the construction sector
  - o The upgrade has the potential for overseas tourists to fly in and explore our wonderful shire.
  - o With the potential increase in overseas tourists, it could enable a business to then possibly provide a bus tour of the shire servicing all our tourist destinations including the station stays and historic sites.
  - o It would assist in boosting the economy of the shire through accommodation and more businesses operating within the shire.
  - o It then could be feasible to lease out the Terrestrial Centre to third party.
  - o It could lead to local helicopters business building hangers and encouraging servicing mechanics to work out of Georgetown.
  - o It would allow better health services to be offered by RFDS which in turns provides will increase residents of the shires well-being and safety.
  - o It could lead to opening air space which will encourage light aircraft pilot training occur locally here in the shire.
- Georgetown River Walk - There have been several complaints from tourists this season re access
- Flood Depth Markers on major causeways and bridges throughout the shire:
  - o Junction Creek
  - o Mc Millan
  - o Etheridge
  - o Branch
  - o Delaney
  - o Bundock

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Council adjourn for lunch at 12:32pm*

**RESUMPTION**

*Council resumed the meeting at 1:00pm.*

**Cr Barns**

- Did council test domestic water supplies around Einasleigh in the last 10 years, and are those test results available?
- Update on the performance and improvement to the work request system
- Update on the proposed pumping of the Kidston pit water into the Copperfield River \*Was there an Existing Road and Bridge condition report for the Copperfield crossing and road section at Kidston?
- Open discussion invited for Committee creation catering for community funding and projects
- Update on the Einasleigh shortcut/Gregory Dev Rd from GDR to Einasleigh maintenance schedule
- Update Mt Surprise Bike Park
- Road condition due to flood damage works
- Council/Community communication

**ATTENDANCE**

*Mr Ian Carroll left the meeting at 1:02pm and returned at 1:07pm*



**Cr Haase**

- Has any roadworthy and safety testing been getting done for council and contractor equipment?
- Should we consider billboards for the TerrEstrial on the way in to town from each direction and around shire?
- Should we have a hashtag for the shire?
- Are we going to have a High priority defects (fly in) crew for roads like discussed in Operational plan workshop?
- Have we done any drug testing as well as Alcohol?
- Landfill at Forsayth issues.
- Historian to preserve history
- Mosquitos educational material? Beginning process was discussed at last GM

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr Haase left the meeting at 2:04pm*  
*Mr Ian Carroll left the meeting at 2:05pm*

**Cr Royes**

- CONGRATULATIONS - To the organisers, volunteers and wider community that contributed to the Georgetown 150 + 1 weekend.

**RESOLUTION**

That Council congratulate the organisers, volunteers and wider community that contributed to making the Georgetown 150 + 1 a great weekend.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.16**  
**3/0**

- Active Gameday Projects (Capital grants program) - Einasleigh Tennis court surface/lighting
- Update/Consequences/Outcome .....dumping of large quantity of building material at Einasleigh Dump, allegedly from The Genex Solar Project (If so, in breach of Development Approval Clause)
- Employee/Contractor Code of Conduct, is it formally acknowledged (induction) and how is it utilised as a performance measure (reported) on a daily/shift basis

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Council adjourn for afternoon tea at 2:15pm*

**RESUMPTION**

*Council resumed the meeting at 2:26pm.*

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr Haase returned to the meeting at 2:26pm*

**CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED REPORTS**

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 2:26pm under section 254J (1) and (3) which states that *councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss (b) industrial matters affecting employees.*  
To discuss staff matters.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.17**  
**4/0**

RESOLUTION

That Council come out of closed session at 3:47pm.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.18**  
**3/0**

RESOLUTION

That administration reinforce the importance of compliance of the "Code of Conduct" throughout the organisation.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #21.9.19.DCS**  
**3/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr Haase left the meeting at 2:45pm*

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Chair declared the Meeting closed at 3:48pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

*B. C. Hughes*  
MAYOR

*29.10.2021*  
DATE