



Etheridge Shire Council

CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS
ON WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2022,
COMMENCING AT 8.30AM



ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 2022

COMMENCING AT 8.30AM

ATTENDANCE

Cr. Barry Hughes, Laurell Royes, Cameron Barns, Joe Haase and Tony Gallagher

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. David Fletcher, Director of Engineering Services
Mr. Andrew McKenzie, Director of Corporate Services
Miss Logan Bethel, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer

GALLERY

The Chair declared the meeting open at 8.44am 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."

PRAYER

"We ask that today you give us wisdom to make good decisions to benefit our communities. Help us see what will benefit our shire and give us hearts to serve others. Amen".

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Royes declared a conflict of interest for items 2 & 4 in the Open Session Agenda and item 1 in the Closed Session Agenda regarding the removal of QR Einasleigh Railway Shed, In-Kind Assistance for Easter at Einasleigh and Cobbold Gorge Road Supply & Delivery of Type 2 Sub Type 2.1 Gravel – VP288093. Cr Royes will leave the meeting during the discussions of these matters and will not vote.

Cr Haase declared a conflict of interest for items 5 and 7 on the Open Session Agenda regarding to Georgetown Student Hostel Fees and Mount Surprise State School's request for financial assistance. Cr Haase will leave the meeting during discussions on this matter and will not vote.

Cr Gallagher declared a conflict of interest for item 1 in the Closed Session Agenda regarding Cobbold Gorge Road Supply & Delivery of Type 2 Sub Type 2.1 Gravel – VP288093. Cr Gallagher will leave the meeting during discussions regarding this matter and will not vote.

Cr Hughes declared a conflict of interest for item 5 on the Open Session Agenda regarding to Georgetown Student Hostel Fee's. Cr Hughes will leave the meeting for discussions on this matter and will not vote.

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS

Council would like to congratulate Tim Bethel and his partner Tess Cox on the birth of their baby girl Addi-Lou Bethel.

Council would like to congratulate Ashton and Jack Fitzpatrick on the birth of their baby girl Collins Fitzpatrick.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 16th February 2022

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 16 February 2022 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.01
5/0

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Cr Royes- 21.11.13- Railway Shed Einasleigh, requested an update.

Cr Gallagher- 21.05.12- Location of pavers, requested another update.

21.12.14- Opening of Charleston Dam & Unearth Etheridge. Requested an update on the progress of an official opening day.

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes left the meeting at 8.56am and returned at 8.58am.

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. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.02 DCS
5/0

1

Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2021 to 28 February 2022

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 Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, resolve to adopt the monthly Financial Report the period ending 28th February 2022, as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.03 DCS
5/0

2

Budget Review

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under s104 of *the Local Government Act 2009*, Council must have an annual budget as part of its suite of financial planning documents. Council's budget was adopted 28th July 2021, and complied with the requirements of s169 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

A review of Council's budget has been completed. It is proposed that Council amend its budget to address issues that have emerged since its adoption. Section 170(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* allows Council to amend its budget any time before the end of the financial year.

RESOLUTION

That in accordance with s170(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council amend its budget (attached).

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.04 DCS
5/0

3

Biosecurity Planning Advisory Committee Meeting held 3rd March 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the formation of the ESC Biosecurity Planning Advisory Committee at Council's February 2022 meeting, the Committee held their initial meeting on the 3rd March 2022.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive and comment upon the draft NWQROC Biosecurity Plan, and identify the pests present within the Shire's catchments.

A copy of the Committee's meeting minutes is attached for Council's reception.

RESOLUTION

That in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference, Council receive the Biosecurity Planning Advisory Committee meeting minutes held 3rd March 2022, and note the contents therein.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.05 DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes declared a prescribed interest for item 4 and left the meeting at 9.43am

4

Removal of Einasleigh QR Shed

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Further to Council's past consideration of this matter, the Einasleigh Progress Association have requested the building be moved to the Fire Station Yard for use as a museum / tourist attraction for display of local history.

RESOLUTION

That Council agree to the Einasleigh Progress Association's request for the QR Shed to be relocated to the Einasleigh Fire Station yard on the proviso that the Progress Association accept responsibility for the shed's ongoing maintenance and upkeep.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.06 DCS
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes returned to the meeting at 9.46am.

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase & Cr Hughes declared a prescribed interest for item 5 and left the meeting at 9.47am

CHAIR OF THE MEETING

Cr Royes was declared chair of the meeting in Mayor Hughes absence.

5

Georgetown Student Hostel Fees

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Georgetown State Council asking for a reduction in the casual boarding rate at the Georgetown Student Hostel. The request relates to a need for a staff member to place a child with the Hostel on a regular, but infrequent basis (roughly 1 night per fortnight).

RESOLUTION

That Council: -

1. Retain the Casual Rate for the Georgetown Student Hostel;
2. Grant a fee concession of \$37.50 per night subject to a frequency of stay averaging no more than 2 nights per fortnight, recognising the special circumstances attaching to this request, to be retrospectively applied to any fees paid to date; and
3. Pursuant to s257(1)(b) of the Local Government Act delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to decide requests for discount / concession to the scheduled Hostel Fees & Charges, as they arise.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.07 DCS
2/1

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10.03am

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase & Cr Hughes returned to the meeting at 10.03am.

During adjournment for morning tea, a Certificate was presented to Gemma Bethel for the completion of her Certificate III in Business Administration & Abbey Taylor was presented her Diploma in Local Government Administration. Both were congratulated on their achievements in obtaining their qualifications.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.30am

ATTENDANCE

Brett Fulloon from Shepherds Services entered the meeting during adjournment for morning tea.

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED REPORTS

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 10.30am under section 254J (1) and (3) which states that *negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government, for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.* To discuss Register of Preferred Suppliers for Wet & Dry Hire of Plant and Equipment.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.08
5/0

COMING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION

That Council come out of closed session at 11.21am.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.10
5/0

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

2

EC DFRA Tenders Zone 1 and Zone 4/5

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A tender was place on Council website for the open market for the DFRA works for Zone 1 (Tender Number ESC 2022 001) and Zone 4/5 (Tender Number ESC 2022 002).

Three (3) submissions were received for Zone 1 and two (2) submissions were received for Zone 4/5, with another submission for each zone being submitted that did not conform.

RESOLUTION

1. That Council resolves to accept for Tender number ESC 2022 001 (Zone 1) the offer from Keltone Constructions for \$5,546,127.48 (ex GST)
2. That Council resolves to accept for tender number ESC 2022 002 (Zone 4/5) the offer from Gulf Civil for \$10,857,923.16 (ex GST).

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.09 DES
5/0

ATTENDANCE

*Brett Fulloon from Shepherds Services left the meeting at 11.23am.
David Fletched left the meeting at 11.23am and returned at 11.25am.*

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase declared a declarable conflict of interest for item 7 and left the meeting at 11.24am, taking no further involvement in this matter.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

7

Request for Financial Assistance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a request for financial assistance from the Mt Surprise State School seeking \$555 to hire a bus to bring the school children to Georgetown to participate in the Gulf Kids Day on 16th March 2022.

RESOLUTION

That in accordance with Council's Policy, Council agree to provide \$555 to the Mt Surprise State School, towards the cost of hiring a bus to allow school children to attend the Gulf Kids Day in Georgetown on the 16th March 2022

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.11 DCS
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase returned to the meeting at 11.26am.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS

1

Financial Assistance- Mount Surprise Sport & Recreation Club

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Correspondence has been received from Mount Surprise Sport & Recreation Club in relation to financial assistance from Council to contribute to the construction of a 100,000lt water tank.

They have specifically asked for financial assistance with the following:

- That council assist in paying for materials for the construction of the 100,000lt water tank to the amount quoted of \$13,554.35 from Northern Rural Services.

The request will be assessed as per the "Grants & Donations to Community Organisations Policy".

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Acknowledges the works on the Mount Surprise Sport & Recreation Grounds and advise that council will contribute a \$10,000 grant towards the construction of a water tank on the grounds, subject to the completion of the same and evidence that the sub-contractor has been paid.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.12 CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes declared a declarable conflict of interest and left the meeting at 11.33am, taking no further involvement in the meeting.

2

In-Kind Assistance- Easter at Einasleigh

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Correspondence has been received from the Einasleigh Rodeo Association requesting sponsorship for their Easter at Einasleigh Rodeo and Races event. The committee has advised that council have donated their garbage truck and skip bins in the past and are requesting the use of these items again. The request will be assessed as per the "Grants & Donations to Community Organisations Policy".

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Will give in-kind support to the Einasleigh Rodeo Associations, Easter at Einasleigh event in the form of waste collection.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.13 CEO
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes returned to the meeting at 11.42am.

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.14 DES
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ADDENDUM REPORTS

3

Kennedy Developmental CN – 16827 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.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the tender provided by Koppen Construction Pty Ltd for the supply and Delivery of Full Bitumen Service to the value of \$ 279,471.53 Incl GST

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.16 CEO
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council contact Queensland Health and seek advice in regards to the potential risk of Japanese encephalitis within our communities.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.17 CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Miss Logan Bethel left the meeting at 11.59am and returned at 12.01pm.

Cr Barns left the meeting at 12.31pm and returned at 12.37pm.

Mr David Fletcher left the meeting at 12.36pm and returned at 12.36pm

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for lunch at 12.37pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.07pm.

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED REPORTS

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 1.09pm to discuss rating concessions under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that

- (1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.
- (2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.
- (3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss Wet & Dry Hire of Plant and Equipment and;
- (c) the local government's budget;

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.18
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes declared a prescribed conflict of interest and left the meeting at 1.23pm.
Cr Gallagher declared a prescribed conflict of interest and left the meeting at 1.24pm.

COMING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION

That Council come out of closed session at 1.25pm.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.21
3/0

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

1

Cobbold Gorge Road Supply & Delivery of Type 2 Sub Type 2.1 Gravel – VP288093

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tenders were assessed and ranked by price and past performance.

Bolwarra Enterprises have provided the best price for these works whilst there have been some issues raised with past performance this will be monitored through quality checks throughout the project.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the tender provided by Bolwarra Enterprises Pty Ltd for the Supply and Delivery of Type 2 Sub Type 2.1 Gravel to the value of \$1,016,749.80.00 Incl GST

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.19 DES
3/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes and Cr Gallagher returned to the meeting at 1.27pm.

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

8

Financial Audit 2020/21

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Queensland Audit Office engaged BDO to undertake Council's financial audit for the 2020/21 financial year. BDO completed their audit on 29th November 2021. Council responded to BDO / QAO's draft audit report late 2021, allowing BDO & QAO to complete their final audit report, which was received on 24th February 2022.

In accordance with s213 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Mayor must present the QAO Report to Council's next meeting. On behalf of the Mayor, the report is now presented for Council's consideration.

RESOLUTION

That in accordance with s213 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council receive the Queensland Audit Office's Final Management Report on the conduct of Council's 2020/21 financial year audit, and note the contents therein.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.20 DCS
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

6

Town Planning Land Use Survey- Georgetown

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In December 2021, Council commissioned its consulting town planner, Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, to conduct a land use survey of Georgetown to assess compliance with Council's Town Planning Scheme provisions. Mrs Taylor conducted the land use survey on 31st January 2022, and submitted her report to Council on 21st February 2022.

RESOLUTION

That Council defer the matter to the next General Meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.22 DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Mrs Elizabeth Taylor entered the meeting at 1.30pm via telephone conference and left at 1.57pm.

Cr Royes left the meeting at 1.56pm and returned at 1.58pm.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Charleville event, it was proposed that all 22 WQAC local governments consider financial contributions of \$5,000 to the Premiers Flood Appeal. A letter was received on the 14th of March asking for a response on the matter by the 18th March.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to donate \$5,000 to the Premiers Flood Appeal as per request from the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.23 CEO
5/0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council received correspondence from Ms Tracie Priestley on the 3rd February 2022 expressing interest in purchasing a vacant lot on Sixth Street, Forsyth.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to under section 104 (3) of the Local Government Act 2012, advertise lot 3 MPH2253 located Sixth Street Forsayth for sale by public tender.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.24 CEO
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for afternoon tea at 3.01pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 3.09pm

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council received correspondence from Natasha and Allyn Zabel of Percyvale Station on the 2nd February. The letter was wrote to express their concern for a bend on the main road in front of Percyvale and have requested that council consider putting in an alternate route.

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledge the letter from Percyvale Station and others with regards to the Percyvale access road and the Engineering department put forward a Budget Proposal to rectify same at the next Budget meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.25 CEO
5/0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council have been in discussions with Mead Perry Group and requested a quotation to quantify Councils Emissions Profile. The amount quoted is for the Consultancy Fee totaling an amount of \$11,000 (including GST).

RESOLUTION

That Council use the services of Mead Perry Group to quantify Councils Emissions Profile.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.26 CEO
5/0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council have been in contact with Matthew Blythe from Millstream Productions in regards to producing a promotional clip for the Etheridge Shire for advertising and promotional tourism purposes. Examples of Matthews work have been made available for viewing.

RESOLUTION

That Council enlist the services of a qualified person to produce a promotional video and creative briefs for the Etheridge Shire.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.27 CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Mr David Fletcher left the meeting at 3.40pm and returned at 3.44pm.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher

- Tall Tree's and snappy branch's in Georgetown Children's playground, sent a work request but no reply.
- Burr's in Heritage Park especially to outdoor gym.
- Swimming Pool Emergency Exit.

Cr Barns

- Request a brief on the National Bridges Program, and if ESC can or has qualified for application.
- Update on Travellers Tavern Crossover
- Polycom and sealed dust surfaces, status of present repairs.

Cr Haase

- Tourism survey, participation strategy.
- Council housing, should we have a policy on how council houses are managed?

Cr Royes

Nil

Cr Hughes

Nil

GOING INTO CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 4.11pm under section 254J (1) and (3) which states that *negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government, for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.* To discuss industrial matters affecting employees.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.28
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Miss Logan Bethel left the meeting at 4.12pm and returned at 5.03pm.

COMING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION

That Council come out of closed session at 5.01pm

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.30
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council instruct management to further expand the drug and alcohol testing in line with Council's policy.

MOVED: Cr.

SECONDED: Cr.

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.03.29
5/0

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 5.04pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday the 20th April 2022.

B. G. Hughes
MAYOR

21 / 4 / 2022
DATE