



Etheridge Shire Council

CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD GEORGETOWN SPORTS CENTRE
ON WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2022
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT SPORTS CENTRE

ON WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2022

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services
Miss Logan Bethel, Executive Assistant
Mrs Renee Bester, Rates Officer

APOLOGIES

Mr. David Fletcher, Director of Engineering Services

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.02am 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 Haase declared a prescribed interest for an item within the Open Agenda Item 6 and Open Addendum Item 2 pertaining to the RADF Funding being that Cr Haase spouse is a member and recipient of RADF Funding. Cr Haase will leave the room during discussions on this matter and will not vote.

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS

Council would like to send their condolences to the family and friends of Robert Morallee of Einasleigh on his recent passing.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 14th September

Corrections:

Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 14th September 2022 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Cr Hughes- Gilbert River Cemetery, include this into next months Road Run.

Cr Gallagher- #22.09.11- Peace Park Monument, requested an update.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.02DCS
5/0

1

Appointment of Member to Audit Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Earlier this year, Council resolved to reinstate its Audit Committee, appointing Mayor Cr Barry Hughes (Chair), Deputy Mayor Cr Laurell Royes, and representatives from the following organisations as observers: -

- Queensland Audit Office (QAO),
- QAO's appointed external auditors - BDO,
- Council's Internal Auditors - Pacifica; and
- Council's Management / Finance staff.

Pursuant to section 210 of the Local Government Regulation, the Audit Committee must have at least one additional member, who is external to the organisation and possesses "significant experience and skills in financial matters".

To fill the vacant Member's position, Council approached Cairns Regional Council, Mareeba Shire Council and Tablelands Regional Council to see if they would allow a senior, experienced Finance Officer / Manager to sit on our Audit Committee. Council received two nominations. Both nominations (fulfill the statutory criteria) have been assessed by Crs Hughes and Royes, with the preferred nominee being recommended to Council for appointment to the Audit Committee.

RESOLUTION

That pursuant to s210 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council appoint Mr Jason Ritchie, Finance Manager, Cairns Regional Council as a Member of Council's Audit Committee.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.03DCS
5/0

2

QTC Financial Sustainability Training

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

QTC advise that through a partnership with DSDILGP and UQ, they will be holding regional training courses throughout Queensland to enhance sustainable financial management capability within the local government sector.

ESC is eligible to send up to 5 representatives to the courses.

RESOLUTION

That Council: -

1. Pursuant to Council's Councillor Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy, deem the joint QTC / DSDILGP / UQ Financial Sustainability Training courses as Professional Development essential for councillors' roles for which Council shall cover the costs of attendance; and

Authorise Cr Barns to attend the Financial Management in Practice and Service Planning for Elected Members, and should opportunity allow, Business Cases in Practice and Asset Management sessions, with Council meeting the cost of attendance.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #LOST
0/5

ATTENDANCE

Mr Robert French, Mr Willi Mosch, Mr Damien Pederson, Mr Lionel Wallace, Mr Jack Green and Mrs Shannon Slyney, students and teachers from Georgetown State School entered the meeting at 9.32am.

Mr Renee Bester left the meeting at 9.49am and returned at 10.05am.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION

That Council suspend standing orders at 9.33am as students from Georgetown State School join Council for Morning Tea and undertake discussions with Councillors.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.04
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10.08am.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.30am.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION

That Council resume standing orders at 10.30am.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.05
5/0

3

Radio Channels in the Region

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report follows a review of Council's broadcasted radio services within the Etheridge Region.

RESOLUTION

That Council: -

1. Receive this report and note its contents;
2. Authorise the CEO (or delegate) to pursue grant funding to augment radio services across the Shire's communities; and
3. Allow Coastal Broadcasters Pty Ltd 12 months to conclude the installation of a radio service in Georgetown. Should the installation not be completed within this time, Council withdraw its offer to lease the subject site.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.06DCS
5/0

4

Sale for Rate Arrears

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council commenced sale proceedings for arrears of rates against 9 properties in February 2022 that culminated in a public auction on Friday 30th September 2022 for the sale of 2 properties in Georgetown. At the closure of the auction, only one bid was taken by the auctioneer on each property. Having failed to meet the reserve price, the properties were passed in. Subsequent negotiations with the highest (only) bidder failed to secure a sale. As a result, Council has several options open to deal with the subject land.

RESOLUTION

That pursuant to s149 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council resolve to initiate the acquisition of assessments 254/20000 (17 Crampton Road) and 265/17000 (22 Collins Street) for unpaid rates and charges, having failed to secure a sale of the properties under Division 3, Part 12, Chapter 4 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.07DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Mr Robert French, Mr Willi Mosch, Mr Damien Pederson, Mr Lionel Wallace, Mr Jack Green and Mrs Shannon Slyney, students and teachers from Georgetown State School left the meeting at 10.47am.

5

Sundry Debt Recovery Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Etheridge Shire Council is committed to the collection of overdue sundry debts in a fair, equitable and timely manner, but with due consideration to financial hardship faced by customers.
The purpose of this policy is to set out Council's principles in regard to the management of debt, and to provide consistent and ethical recovery of outstanding Sundry Debtors of Etheridge Shire Council in accordance with the parameters and requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

This policy applies to all Sundry Debts receivable Etheridge Shire Council who have outstanding rates and charges on any rateable property including any special rates and charges.

RESOLUTION

That Council adopt the proposed Sundry Debt Recovery Policy to minimise debt and ensure the collection of overdue sundry debt is timely, effective and equitable.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.08DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase declared a prescribed interest for the next item on the Agenda regarding RADF Funding and left the room at 10.52am.

6

Peace Park Event Request for Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) funding be used to fund a Resin Workshop in Georgetown

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RADF Committee is requesting Council to approve to fund a resin workshop to be held in Georgetown on Sunday 9 October from RADF reserved funds.

RESOLUTION

That Council endorse RADF Committee's decision to partly fund a resin workshop in Georgetown for \$1,000.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.09DCS
4/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM REPORTS

2

Endorsement of RADF Advisory decision regarding Community Applications for RADF funding

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RADF community applications closed 14 September. Three applications were received and were adjudicated by the RADF Committee at their meeting on Friday 7 October. Results are as follows:

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RADF Applications

Results	Organisation	Contact Name	Event	Artist	Date	Location	Total Costs	Other Funds	Funding Request
Unsuccessful - \$0	Colleen Taylor	Colleen Taylor	Local Historical Book	Colleen Taylor	25/9 to 31/3/23	Einasleigh	\$ 13,915.00	\$ -	\$ 13,915.00
Successful - \$5,925	Mt Surprise School	Brooke Chudleigh	Musical Workshop	Josh Arnold	Jan 23 to July 23	Mt Surprise	\$ 6,985.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,925.00
Successful - \$4,000	Rebekah Haase	Rebekah Haase	Further education	Rebekah Haase	28/11 to 30/6/23	Goergetown	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 4,000.00

RESOLUTION

That Council endorse RADF Advisory Committee decisions on the following applications and a letter be sent to the applicants advising the outcomes of, and conditions attaching to, their application.

- 1) Colleen Taylor – Historical Book on Einasleigh – Unsuccessful (requested \$13,915)
- 2) Rebekah Haase – Rural Artist Development – Successful - \$4,000 (requested \$4,000)
- 3) Mount Surprise School – Mount Surprise Music Video – Successful - \$5,925 (requested \$5,925)

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.10DCS
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase returned to the meeting at 11.15am.

1

Financial Report (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 September 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 30th September 2022, as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.11DCS
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM REPORTS

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

1

Expressions of Interest for the Sale of 2011 Gravely Zero Turn Mower

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Georgetown Horse & Pony Club and Georgetown Rodeo Association submitted the only expression of interest for the Gravely Zero Turn Mower.

With the Georgetown Horse & Pony Club and Georgetown Rodeo Association being a local community organisation this mower will enhance maintenance of the Rodeo and Camping Ground.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following Expression of Interest from Georgetown Horse & Pony Club and Georgetown Rodeo Association for the sum of \$3000.00.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.12DES
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.13DES
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Barns left the meeting at 11.55am and returned at 11.56am.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1

Proposed Revaluation Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council have received correspondence from the State Valuation Service regarding a proposed inclusion in the revaluation program effective 30 June 2023.

The Land Valuation Act 2010 requires that the Valuer-General undertakes an annual valuation of ratable land, but they may decide not to do so in a local government area after considering:

- a market survey report for the local government area that reviews the sales of land and the probable impact of those sales on the value of land since the last annual valuation
- the results of consultation with the local government for the area and appropriate local and industry groups.

Based on the preliminary assessment, the State Valuation Service plans to recommend that the Etheridge Shire area is **not** included in the next revaluation program that will commence in late 2022 and take effect from 30 June 2023.

A written response is due by Friday 14th October 2022 agreeing or opposing to the above recommendation.

RESOLUTION

That Council advise the department of resources that it agrees with the valuer recommendations that a revaluation not be undertaken of assessments within the Etheridge Shire.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.14CEO
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM REPORTS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #22.10.15CEO
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12.21pm.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.41pm

ATTENDANCE

Cr Hughes left the meeting at 2.24pm and returned at 2.25pm.

Cr Barns left the meeting at 3.05pm and returned at 3.11pm.

Mrs Renee Bester left the meeting at 3.54pm and returned at 3.56pm.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher

- Enquired if Council have any cat traps for public use as some residents have a feral cat problem
- Raised the idea of a possible careers day for Shire School Children

Cr Barns

- Raised concern about Garths Corner, first Creek on Kidston road- No signage on creek crossing.
- Spoke about utilising the services of FNQROC for the enhancement of Biosecurity Action Plan QLD
- Requested that the Oil Drums waste point Forsayth Dump needs servicing
- Requested action on prohibiting of Cattle in Mt Surprise township
- Enquired about plans for The bike park Mount Surprise
- Enquired about Grants for Oral History Etheridge Shire.

Cr Haase

- Requested action on Open Gates on town fence Mount Surprise.
- Requested progress report on Sound proofing/audio system for Shire Hall.
- Seeking information on Firefighting grants for shelter over slip on units

Cr Royes

- Requested Action on Cattle entering Mount Surprise township

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- Requested a report on "What is on in Etheridge" POSTER /CALENDAR for public places/facebook campaign
- Requested action to Repair to Mt surprise public toilets.
- Provided an update of the recently attended NWQROC meeting in Cloncurry

Cr Hughes

Nil

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 4.08pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday 16th November 2022.

B. C. Hughes
.....
MAYOR

18/11/2022
.....
DATE