



*Etheridge Shire Council*

# UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

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GENERAL MEETING OF

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2022

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN**

**ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 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  
Mr. David Fletcher, Director Engineering Services  
Mrs Renee Bester, Executive Assistant

**APOLOGIES**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.13am 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. Hughes – prescribed interest in Agenda Item 2 (Request for Community Assistance – Grants to Community Organisations)  
Cr. Royes – declarable interest in Agenda Item 2 (Request for Community Assistance – Grants to Community Organisations)  
Cr. Haase – declarable interest in Agenda Item 2 & 3 (Request for Community Assistance – Sponsorships)  
Cr. Gallagher – declarable interest in Agenda Item 2 (Request for Community Assistance – Grants to Community Organisations)

**APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS**

Nil

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

**Corrections:**

Nil

**RESOLUTION:**

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 be confirmed.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION #22.12.01**

**5/0**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Cr. Barns – #22.08.14 queried rural addressing and timeframe of implementation  
Cr. Barns – #22.11.22 confirmed the proceeding of the purchase of the Topaz collection  
Cr. Haase – #22.11.07 queried the status of Georgetown  
Cr. Haase – #22.11.21 Status of the postal bank progress  
Cr. Gallagher – #22.09.17 Hostel drainage and progress with R&R Constructions

**CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS**

**DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

**Briefing Report**

RESOLUTION

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

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.02DCS**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr. Haase left the meeting at 9.30am and returned at 9.32am.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10.00am.*

**RESUMPTION**

*Council resumed the meeting at 10.33am.*

**1**

**Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 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 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022, as presented.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.03DCS**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr. Hughes has a prescribed interest for the next agenda item and has left the room without taking any further part in the conversation. Cr. Hughes left the meeting at 10.47am.*

*Cr. Haase has a declarable interest for the next agenda item and has left the room without taking any further part in the conversation. Cr. Haase left the room at 10.47am.*

RESOLUTION

Resolved at 10.48am to appoint Cr. Barns be the Chair of meeting.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.04DCS**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr. Royes has a declarable interest for the next agenda item and has left the room without taking any further part in the conversation. Cr. Royes left the room at 10.49am.*

*Cr. Gallagher has declared an interest for the next agenda item and has left the room without taking any further part in the conversation. Cr. Gallagher left the room at 10.49am.*

**2**

**Request for Community Assistance – Grants to Community Organisations**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council called applications under its three (3) Community Assistance Policies, with the application period closing Monday 4 October. A number of late applications have been received. Applications under Council's Grants to Community Organisations have been received from the following organisations: -

- Etheridge Cares Inc.
- Georgetown Rodeo Assoc. Inc.
- Einasleigh Sports Club
- Georgetown State School P&C Association

RESOLUTION

That Council: -

1. Provide grant assistance to the organisations listed on the attached schedule subject to the following conditions: -

- Council's grant funding must be used for the approved project, that is the project the subject of the application.
- Council's contribution is capped at the amount provided. Any cost over runs will be the responsibility of the applicant.
- Council's grant will be paid upon completion of the approved project.
- The applicant must complete the approved project within 12 months from the award of the grant.
- The applicant must provide a grant acquittal on the approved form.
- Surplus grants funds from the approved project shall be reimbursed to Council calculated on a proportional basis accordingly to the percentage of Council's grant to the total project cost (for example: if Council's contribution is 80% of the project cost, Council is reimbursed 80% of the surplus funds).
- The applicant provides acknowledgement of Council's assistance in all promotional material and give Council due recognition and credit for its support.

2. Amend the Grants to Community Organisations Policy by inserting the following evaluation criteria: If the organisation has applied for other grants / assistance from other funding sources for the event or project, and if so, to whom, the amount sought and whether the application was successful.

**MOVED: Cr.**

**SECONDED: Cr.**

**LAPSED DUE TO NO QUORUM**  
**RESOLUTION #CEO**

*The Chair acknowledges that due to insufficient Council members being present, a decision is unable to be made on this agenda item. The decision will be deferred to the CEO to make a decision.*

**RESUMPTION**

*Cr. Hughes resumes the Chair of the meeting at 11.00am.*

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr. Haase has a declarable interest for the next agenda item and has left the room without taking any further part in the conversation. Cr. Haase left the room at 11.02am.*

**3**

**Request for Community Assistance - Sponsorships**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council called applications under its three (3) Community Assistance Policies, with the application period closing Monday 4 October. A number of late applications have been received. Applications under Council's Sponsorship Policy have been received from the following organisations: -

- Mt Surprise State School
- Mt Surprise P&C Association

RESOLUTION

That Council provide grant assistance to the organisations listed on the attached schedule subject to the following conditions: -

- Council's grant funding must be used for the approved project, that is the project the subject of the application.
- Council's contribution is capped at the amount provided. Any cost over runs will be the responsibility of the applicant.
- Council's grant will be paid upon completion of the approved project.
- The applicant must complete the approved project within 12 months from the award of the grant.
- The applicant must provide a grant acquittal on the approved form.
- Surplus grants funds from the approved project shall be reimbursed to Council calculated on a proportional basis accordingly to the percentage of Council's grant to the total project cost (for example: if Council's contribution is 80% of the project cost, Council is reimbursed 80% of the surplus funds).
- The applicant must provide acknowledgement of Council's assistance in all promotional material and give Council due recognition and credit for its support.

**MOVED: Cr. Hughes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.05DCS**  
**4/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Cr. Haase returned to the room at 11.07am.*

**4**

**Georgetown Student Hostel Management Contract**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tenders for the management of the Georgetown Student Hostel were invited, closing 29th October 2022. By close of the advertising period, not one tender had been received. The role was subsequently advertised on on-line job boards, attracting a number of interested parties to apply. Two serious contenders were subsequently interviewed on Friday 25th November, with the interview panel unanimously recommending the appointment of the preferred candidate.

RESOLUTION

That pursuant to section 226 of the Local Government Regulation 2022, Council accept the tender submission lodged by Mr S and Mrs J Hall for the Management of the Georgetown Student Hostel commencing 1st January 2023, and delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to conclude contract negotiations.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION #22.12.06DCS**  
**5/0**

**5**

**Membership – Gulf Savannah NRM**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has re-joined membership of Gulf Savannah Natural Resource Management (GSNRM). Under GSNRM's constitution, members are entitled to nominate a representative. The representative is entitled to cast a vote on behalf of member organisation.

RESOLUTION

That Council appoint Cr. Barry Hughes as its representative to Gulf Savannah Natural Resource Management.

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.07DCS**  
**5/0**

**6**

**NQ Sports Foundation (NQSF) Advisory Forum Delegate**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has been invited to nominate a delegate to be included in the NQ Sports Foundation Advisory Forum.

RESOLUTION

That Council nominate Cr. Joe Haase as Etheridge Shire Council's delegate to the NQ Sports Foundation Advisory Forum.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.08DCS**  
**5/0**

**7**

**Town Common Policy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council adopted its Town Common Policy on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2022. The Policy introduced a number of changes to the rules for agisting cattle on town commons. Since its introduction, Council has received a number of submissions in respect of the changes which culminated in a meeting with Einasleigh Town Common agistees on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.

In light of feedback received at the meeting, Council may wish to amend its Policy.

RESOLUTION

That Council amend the Town Common Policy by: -

1. changing the eligibility criteria to agist on town commons to "Only permanent, adult town residents of the respective town (as defined in the respective town's town common management plan) ..."
2. implementing the concept of a single, mixed herd.
3. Deleting the word "stud stock" from condition 25, third dot point.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #LOST**  
**0/5**

RESOLUTION

That the report for the Town Common Policy be deferred to the General Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**MOVED: Cr. Hughes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.09DCS**  
**5/0**

**CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS**

**DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 11.18am to discuss the requests for grant of discount and waiver of interest 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 the grant of discount and waiver of interest.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.10DCS**  
**5/0**

**COMING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

RESOLUTION

That Council come out of closed session at 11.27pm.

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.11DCS**  
**5/0**

**1**

**Request for grant of discount on Rate Levy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the following property owners advising that they failed to receive their rates notice and have subsequently missed discount. They are now seeking Council's discretion in granting discount and waiving interest accrued.

- Assessment 00481-80000-000, property located at Kidston Road, Einasleigh
- Assessment 00480-00000-000, property located at Unnamed Road, Einasleigh

RESOLUTION

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That pursuant to section 130(10) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council determine to not grant discount on the following assessments:

- Rate assessment 00481-80000-000, located at Kidston Road, Einasleigh

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.12DCS**  
**5/0**

RESOLUTION

That pursuant to section 130(10) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council determine to grant discount on the following assessments on compassionate grounds:

- Rate assessment 00480-00000-000, located at Unnamed Road, Einasleigh.

**MOVED: Cr. Barns**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #LOST**  
**2/5**

RESOLUTION

That pursuant to section 130(10) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council determine to not grant discount on the following assessments:

- Rate assessment 00480-00000-000, located at Kidston Road, Einasleigh

**MOVED: Cr. Hughes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.13DCS**  
**4/5**

**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. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.14DES**  
**5/0**

RESOLUTION

Due to the recent neglect to observe road closure signs on Council road improvements that Council consider installing video surveillance to manage same.

**MOVED: Cr. Haase**

**SECONDED: Cr. Royes**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.15DES**  
**3/2**

*Cr. Gallagher requested that his vote be recorded against the motion.*

**1**

**Gulf Developmental Road Supply and Deliver Hydro Mulching Service**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Quotes were assessed on supply time frames and price. Erizon was the successful tenderer for this service.



RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the quote provided by Erizon for the supply and delivery of hydro mulching service to the value of \$ 213,708.00 Excl GST.

**MOVED: Cr. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.16DES**  
**5/0**

**2**

**Gravel Screening Plant Flood Damage Works**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Quotes were assessed on supply time frames, establishment cost and price.

Terry Developments Pty Ltd was the successful quote for this service due to being in the local area and being able to be called upon when needed without establishment cost to supply this specialized equipment.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the quote provided by Terry Developments Pty Ltd for the supply of screening plant and associated equipment to the value of \$582,087.00 Excl GST

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.17DES**  
**5/0**

**3**

**2022 DFRA Collection**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the declaration of the February 2022 rain event, a quote was sort from Shepherd Services for the collection and submission to QRA of asset damage.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the quoted unit rates provided by Shepherd Services for the collection and submission of the 2022 DFRA event.

**MOVED: Cr. Hughes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Barns**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.18DES**  
**5/0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Council adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12.28pm.*

**RESUMPTION**

*Council resumed the meeting at 1.05pm.*

**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. Royes**

**SECONDED: Cr. Haase**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #22.12.19CEO**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

*David Fletcher left the meeting at 3.34pm and returned at 3.36pm.*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Gallagher**

- NA

**Cr Barns**

- NA

**Cr Haase**

- NA

**Cr Royes**

- Mt Surprise Old Wash Down Bay – Can it be a fill point for Rural Fire?
- Fire mitigation for public rest areas

**Cr Hughes**

- NA

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 3.59pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

.....  
MAYOR

...../...../.....  
DATE