



Etheridge Shire Council

CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 15TH MARCH 2023
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH 2023
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services
Miss Gemma Bethel, Acting Executive Assistant

APOLOGIES

Nil

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.06am 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

Nil

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS

Council would like to send condolences to the family of Joe Rolfe on his passing – past Extension Officer for the Etheridge region.

Council would like to send condolences to the family of Georgia Le Blowitz on her passing.

Council would like to send empathy to those affected by the recent flooding in the Burke Shire and surrounds.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 15th February 2023

Corrections:

Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 15th February 2023 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

**CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.01CEO
5/0**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES

Cr. Royes

- Resolution #23.02.07 Mosquito control program (fogging) – Timing of trial period is dependent on Norman River levels.
- Resolution #22.08.14 Council commence activities to complete Rural Addressing as a matter of urgency - Purchase order has been lodged.

Cr. Barnes

- Resolution #22.11.24 Tourism proposal submitted by Finnigans Rest – Applicant consulted and advised approval can be granted under ESC Local Law - subject to conditions.
- Resolution #23.02.06 Independent living facility/Staff housing project – Project Manager instructed to commence Town Planning & building approval applications, initiate procurement process. Finance Team working up loan application & supporting information. Discussions continuing with Grant Writing team to identify funding sources and prepare applications. Work has commenced on a Housing Investment Fund Application.
- Resolution #22.04.08 Georgetown/Mt Surprise land use survey – Council is communicating with Mrs Taylor regarding the matter.
- Resolution #22.01.09 Transfer station – Trinity Engineering have been consulted to draft up concept plans for consultation.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director Corporate Services

1. Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.02DCS
5/0

2. Financial Performance (Actual vs. Budget) for the period 1 July 2022 to 28 February 2023

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 2023, as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.03DCS
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10:21am.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10:42am

3. *The Hon Bob Katter – Request for 2023/24 Commonwealth Budget Submissions*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

By way of letter dated 21st February 2023, The Hon. Bob Katter, Member for Kennedy is inviting local Councils in the Kennedy Electorate to nominate Council's top three (3) funding priorities for consideration in the development of the 2023/24 Commonwealth Budget.

RESOLUTION

That Council nominate the following funding priorities for the Etheridge Shire Council: -

1. Increase in Commonwealth allocations to the Financial Assistance Grants;
2. Increase in Commonwealth funding for Road Infrastructure throughout the Etheridge Shire, in particular, the Gulf Development Road and Kennedy Development Road;
3. Co-funding for the identification and implementation of the Etheridge Agriculture Precinct.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.04DCS
5/0

4. *QAO Management Letter on the Conduct of Council 2021/22 Audit*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the conclusion of each annual financial reporting cycle, Queensland Audit Office writes to Councils' Mayors to provide a report on the conduct of their audit of the local authority's annual general purpose financial statements. Mayor, Cr Hughes received QAO's report on Thursday 9th March 2023. In accordance with s213 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the report is tabled for Council's receipt.

RESOLUTION

That in accordance with s211 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council receive the Queensland Audit Office Report dated 9th March 2023 and refer the report to Council's Audit Committee for further review.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.05DCS
5/0

5. *North West Queensland Regional Biosecurity Plan*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On the 3rd December 2022, Southern Gulf NRM released the North West Regional Biosecurity Plan to members of NWQROC for formal adoption.

RESOLUTION

That Council adopt the North West Regional Biosecurity Plan developed by Southern Gulf NRM for and on behalf of NWQROC.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.06DCS
5/0

6. Endorsement of RADF Advisory Decisions Regarding Community Applications for RADF Funding

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RADF community applications closed 23 February. Four applications were received and were adjudicated accordingly by the RADF Committee at their meeting on Tuesday 28 February 2023. Results are as follows:

Successful	Shannon Zohl	Shannon Zohl	Silver Smithing	Chelsea Smith Little Paerlers	21/4/23 to 24/4/23	Mt Surprise	\$5,568.00	\$5,000.00
Successful	Renee Bester	Renee Bester	Silver Smithing	Isabelle Wykes Eleuramarkings	1/6/23 to 1/12/23	Georgetown	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Successful	Einasleigh Sports Club	Kelly Bethel	Live Music	Mothers Second Choice	14/7 to 16/7	Einasleigh	\$5,000.00	\$4,000.00
Successful	BushEd Aus	Lyn French	Live Music	Brad Butcher	30/06/2023	Einasleigh	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00

RESOLUTION

That Council adopt the RADF Advisory Committee’s recommendation to approve funding for the following applications: -

- 1) Shannon Zohl – Silver smithing – Successful - \$5,000
- 2) Renee Bester – Silver smithing – Successful - \$1,500
- 3) Einasleigh Sports Club - Live Music – Successful - \$4,000
- 4) BushEd – Live Music – Successful - \$8,000 (allocated from 23/24 funding)

MOVED: Cr. Barnes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.07DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Andrew McKenzie left the meeting at 11:26am and returned at 11:35am.

7. Endorsement of RADF Advisory Decisions Regarding New Committee Member

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The RADF Advisory Committee would like to invite another member of the Community to join the RADF Advisory Committee. Currently there is a Chair and four members. The Terms of Reference state that the Committee will be comprised of a Chair and 5 Committee Members.

RESOLUTION

Council endorses the Secretary to contact the following people to be invited in the order of preference, to join the RADF Committee –

- 1). Jennay Delacour – Mt Surprise
- 2). Lyn French – Einasleigh
- 3). Irene Dempsey - Forsayth

MOVED: Cr. Barnes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.08DCS
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ADDENDUM SESSION REPORTS

Director Of Engineering Services

8. Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.09DES
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Lunch at 12:33pm.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1:11pm.

9. TMR Pit Endorsement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In late 2022, TMR approached Council enquiring whether Council was interested in taking over some of their pits.

RESOLUTION

Council resolves to let the matter lay on the table until the next Council meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.10DES
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Shelia Peake from Griffith University joined the meeting at 1:21pm and left at 2:40pm

Gemma Bethel left the meeting at 1:22pm and returned 1:24pm

Andrew McKenzie left the meeting at 1:26pm and returned at 1:28pm

Ken Timms left the meeting at 2:23pm and returned at 2:25pm

Cr Barnes left the meeting at 2:44pm and returned 2:45pm.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ADDENDUM SESSION REPORTS

10. 2023 DFRA Delivery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the damage sustained on Council's Road network during the January 2023 rain event, Council applied for disaster declaration from QRA which was forth coming. From this, Shepherd Services, being pre-approved through local buy (LB 279) were engaged to carry out the collection, assessment and submission of all the damage across council's public assets. The next stage of the project is the delivery of the DFRA

program which under the terms of the funding, Council has to June 2025 to complete this project. For this, Council has its own staff, preferred suppliers, external contractors to provide the delivery of these works. To provide the site set out, compliance and reporting functions, Shepherds Services have provided this service to Council to a very high level for the 2021 Cyclone Imogen event. The reasons for staying with Shepherds Services are as follows:

- Already set up in the region
- Have very good knowledge of the region and understanding of the challenges in carrying out works.
- Have built very good working relationships with Council staff, and the processes how we do our work.
- Have the flexibility to provide staff on varying work rosters to cover Council's 9 on 5 off roster or a 6 on 1 off roster that may be used by external contractors.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the quoted unit rates provided by Shepherd Services for the delivery of the 2023 DFRA event under Local Buy Project Management Services LB279.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.11DES
5/0

11. Supply & Delivery Three 8x4 Tipper Trucks and One Prime Mover Truck

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2022/2023 budget provides for the procurement of Three 8 x 4 Tipper Trucks and One Prime Mover Truck. In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy, Tenders for these items of plant were invited in December 2022 and closed January 2023. Tenders for this plant were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements Trucks (Cab Chassis) – NPN04.13. The tender evaluation process was completed, and the detail of each Tender is provided in this report.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following Tender from RGM Maintenance for the purchase of three 8 x 4 tippers one with a water tank fitted and One Prime Mover.

<i>Items for Trade</i>	<i>Recommended Tender</i>	<i>Purchase Price GST Excl</i>
Three 8 x4 Tippers and One Prime Mover	RGM Maintenance Fuso Trucks	\$1,007,412.34

That Council resolves to accept the purchase of a new poly tank when a suitable capacity and option is found to the value of \$70,000.00.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.12DES
5/0

12. Supply & Delivery of Two Zero Turn Mowers

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2022/2023 budget provides for the procurement of two ride on mowers. In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy, Tenders for this item of plant were invited in December 2022 and closed January 2023. Tenders for this plant were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements Tractors, Mowers, General Powered Equipment LB282. The tender evaluation process was completed, the detail of each Tender is provided in this report.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following Tender from Cole Motor Group for the purchase of two Ferris Zero Turn Mowers

<i>Items for Trade</i>	<i>Recommended Tender</i>	<i>Purchase Price GST Excl</i>
<i>3136 John Deere Zero Turn Mower</i>	<i>Ferris IS 6200 72 Inch Zero Turn Mower</i>	<i>\$61,993.82</i>
<i>NII</i>	<i>Ferris 400S 48 Inch Zero Turn Mower</i>	<i>\$15,091.91</i>
	Total Excl GST	\$77,085.73

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.13DES
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ADDENDUM SESSION REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer

13. Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.14CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase left the meeting at 3:03pm and returned at 3:05pm

14. Purchase of Land

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Department of Resources (DOR) have made an Agreement to offer part of road reserve (namely Lot A & B on TSV19080) for to Council.

RESOLUTION

That Council accepts the terms and conditions of the Deed of Grant over Lot A & B on TSV19080 as set out in Correspondence on 15 February 2023 from the Department Resources, file reference 2019/001598.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.15CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Gemma Bethel left the meeting at 3:32pm and returned at 3:34pm
Andrew McKenzie left the meeting at 3:45pm and returned at 3:47pm

15. Queensland Housing Strategy 2021-2025 – Local Housing Action Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NWQROC with WQAC and Sate Government undertook the task to develop a housing action plan for the WQAC area. Along with a presentation in the agenda is a report relevant to the Etheridge Shire.

RESOLUTION

That Council receives the report. Noting that the report is representative of the township of Georgetown only.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.03.16CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Gemma Bethel left the meeting at 3:54pm and returned at 3:55pm

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr. Gallagher

- Visited the Gilbert River Cemetery on Saturday 11/3/23. The cemetery is a disgrace, and I would like to have a workshop on improving the appearance and upkeep of all cemeteries we control.

Cr. Barnes

- Request information re the Safety Officer position in council.
- Maintenance manager position for Forsayth.
- QR Building Relocation in Einasleigh.
- Update on the opening grades for Gilberton and Oak Park roads.
- Invite discussion on The Lynd Medical Centre.

Cr. Royes

- Maintenance of all community public parks, rest areas etc in time for Easter influx of holiday makers. (Our first chance to make a good impression)
- Charleston Dam Recreation Area- Maintenance/ completion/ signage/ defects (water) ready for Easter visitor influx.
- Improving standards of preparation for local events (Is ultimately a good or bad representation of councils' operations & management).

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4:21pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2023.

.....B. G. Hughes.....21 / 4 / 23.....
MAYOR DATE

