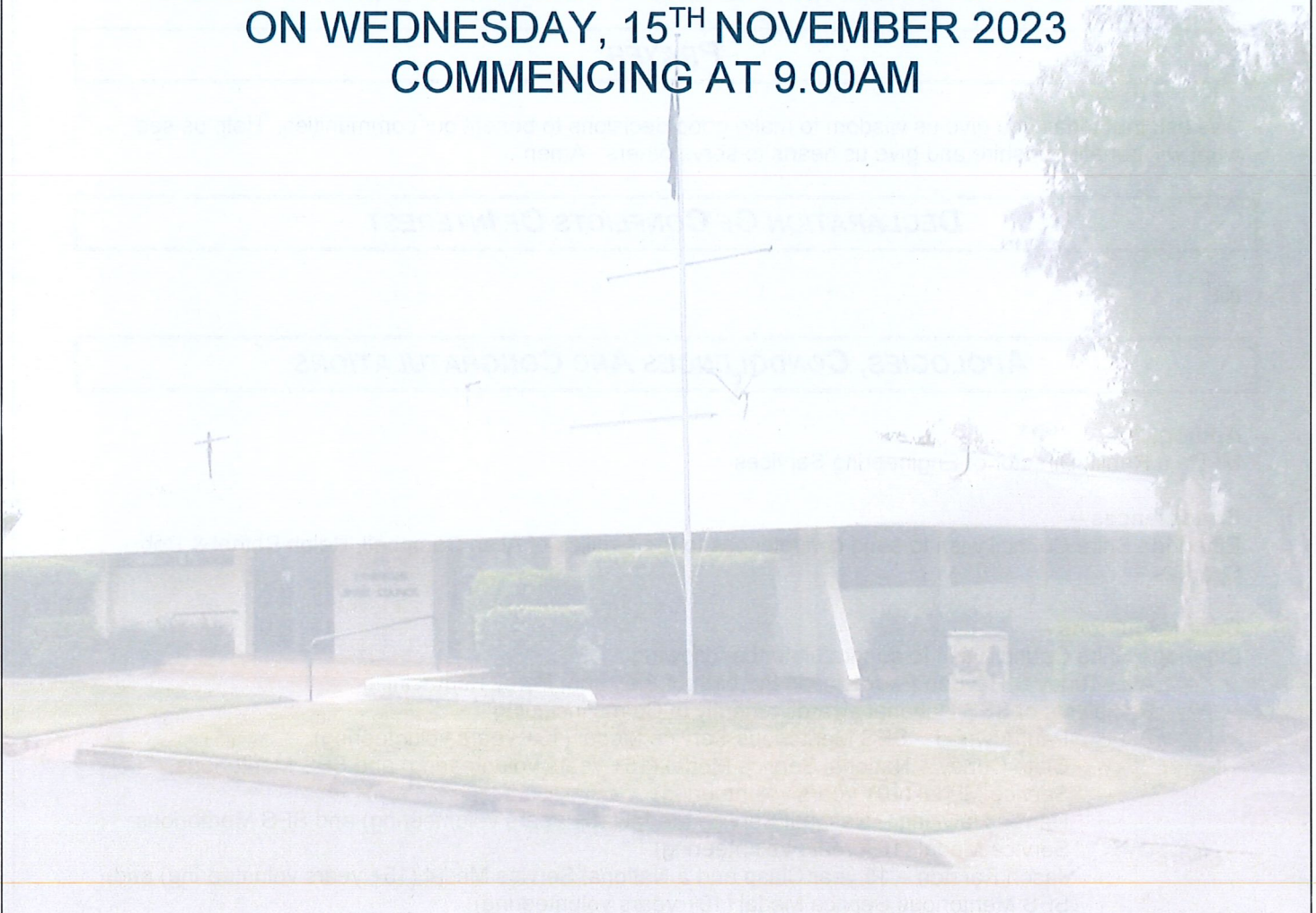


Etheridge Shire Council

CONFIRMED MINUTES

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



**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 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
Mrs. Renee Bester, Executive Assistant

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.01 am 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

Apologies –

Mr Raju Ranjit, Director of Engineering Services

Condolences –

Etheridge Shire Council wish to send condolences to the families of Allan Campbell, Ralph Bethel & Bob Sparkes.

Congratulations –

Etheridge Shire Council wish to congratulate the following:

- Alex Turley & Hayden Pedracini on the birth of their son, Percy Pedracini.
- Recipients of SES National awards recently in Cairns including
 - o Paul Atwood – SES Meritorious Service Medal (10+ years volunteering)
 - o Clea Curley – National Service Medal (15+ years volunteering) and SES Meritorious Service Medal (10+ years volunteering)
 - o Darren Hawking – National Service Medal (15+ years volunteering) and SES Meritorious Service Medal (10+ years volunteering)
 - o Jason Karsten – 15 year Clasp and a National Service Medal (15+ years volunteering) and SES Meritorious Service Medal (10+ years volunteering)

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 11th October 2023

Corrections:

- Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 11th October 2023 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.01
5/0

Special General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 23rd October 2023

Corrections:

- Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Special General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 23rd October 2023 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.02
5/0

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES

Cr Haase

#23.08.12 – Mt Surprise, update on status of notifications to residents.

#23.05.04 & 23.05.05 – Aged Care buildings – are the quotes/tenders still current. DCS advised a revised price was sought for application. A further revised price will be sought before signing of contract. Tenderer remains Oly Homes

#22.01.09 – Transfer Station, Forsyth – Update on progress including funding

Cr Royes

#23.08.13 – Snap Send Solve – MagiQ training deferred to February

#23.07.21 – Land negotiation – CEO has been in contact but has no update

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. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.03DCS
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 9.52am to discuss (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would likely to prejudice the interests of the local government 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 sale of land.

MOVED: Cr. Barnes

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.04
5/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 10.04am.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.05
5/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to continue with their process of Land Use compliance.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.06DCS
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM REPORTS

Director of Corporate & Community Services

2. Financial Performance (Actual vs. Budget) for the period 1 July 2022 to 31st October 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 31st October 2023, as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.07DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Barns left the meeting at 10.28am and returned at 10.31am.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10.46am.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 11.11am.

ATTENDANCE

Jack Parry entered the meeting at 11.12am.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director Of Engineering Services

3. Proposed location of long-distance coach bus stop in Mt Surprise

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Trans Link Infrastructure has approached Council regarding the possibility to have a long-distance coach bus stop in Mount Surprise. Following the Conversation, the site has been investigated and prepared a proposed site to construct a bus stop (Ref. – Site map and view)

RESOLUTION

That Council agrees to apply an application of 50/50 funding partnership between TMR and Council to build a bus shelter and associated works in line with Councils budget.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barns

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.08DES
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

Director Of Engineering Services

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 11.20am to discuss (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would likely to prejudice the interests of the local government 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 sale of land.

MOVED: Cr. Barnes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.09
5/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 12.28pm.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.10
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Jack Parry left the meeting at 12.29pm.

4. Register of Preferred Suppliers for Wet Hire of Plant & Equipment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tenders were invited for the Register of Preferred Suppliers for Wet Hire of Plant and Equipment from January 2024 and expiring on December 2025 (24 Calendar months). This will allow tenders to run for the construction season and not align with the financial year as has been the case which had caused issues with rate changes mid construction season thus having to shift tenderers around due to rate increases especially on TMR contract works.

At the close of tenders on Wednesday 29th September 2023, forty eight (48) submissions were received.

Assessment of the Tenders has been within the guidelines of the Council Procurement Policy and Legislation, namely: Local Government Act Qld 2009 Section 104 (3) in respect of sound contracting principles with a register of preferred suppliers to be maintained by Council in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012 sections 233.

The Assessment panel consisted of Infrastructure Services Operations Manager Allan Parry, Works Supervisors Dan Alexanderson, Josh Sinapius, Wade Jenkins, Regan Kendall, Greg Masters and Dave Atu. The assessment took a total of 9hrs to complete this equates to 63 staff hours to complete an in depth assessment of all submissions.

Council were compliant with its obligations under the Local Government Act and Regulation; specifically that the tender process was designed to ensure the tenders were assessed in accordance with Section 104 (3) of the Local Government Act

1. Value for Money; and

2. Open and effective communication; and
3. The development of competitive local business and industry; and
4. Environmental protection; and
5. Ethical behavior and fair dealing.

Tenders were assessed on the following criteria:

1. Local Content 10%
2. Price 35%
3. Plant Specifications, Condition and Operator Performance 35%
4. Work Place Health and Safety Compliance 20%

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept Preferred Supplier Registers as presented for the Wet Hire of Plant and Equipment established from the tenders received for ESC2023-003.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.11DES
5/0

5. Drainage Works – First Street, Forsayth & Einasleigh

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NCH Constructions have worked with Etheridge Shire Council for several years and have provided a good service during this time.

Tenders were assessed and ranked by price and meeting the criteria in the tender and being able to meet Councils deadline of completing all these works by December 22nd 2023.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the tender provided by NCH Construction for the construction of both Forsayth First Street and Einasleigh Drainage Works to the value of \$430,409.50 Excl GST

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.12DES
3/2

VOTE

Cr Royes record their vote against this motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Lunch at 12.36pm.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.02pm.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Corporate Services

6. Aged Care Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 15th NOVEMBER 2023

The Aged Care Advisory Committee met on the 12th October 2023. A copy of the Meeting Minutes is presented for Council's information.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the minutes of the Aged Care Advisory Committee meeting held 12th October 2023 and note the contents therein.

MOVED: Cr. Barns

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.13DCS
5/0

7. *Walking Network Plans – Offer of Grant Funding*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Late 2022, Council resubmitted its applications for funding under the DTMR Walking Local Government Grant Program (Round 2) to fund the development of Walking Network Plans for Mt Surprise, Forsayth and Einasleigh. This follows the successful completion of a Walking Network Plan for Georgetown, funded under round one of the grant program.

In recent communication from the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Council has been notified that its applications under Round 2 have been successful.

RESOLUTION

That Council formally accept the Department of Transport & Main Roads' offer of funding to develop Walking Network Plans for Mt Surprise, Einasleigh and Forsayth, and allocate its co-contribution (\$90,000) during its next budget review.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.14DCS
5/0

8. *Biosecurity Planning Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A meeting of the Etheridge Shire Biosecurity Planning Advisory Committee was called for 9am on the 1st November 2023. Unfortunately, a quorum could not be formed, so the meeting continued as an information sharing forum. The minutes of the meeting are tabled for Council's information.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the minutes of the Biosecurity Planning Advisory Committee meeting held 1st November 2023.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.15DCS
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Andrew McKenzie left the meeting at 1.22pm.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Engineering Services

9. Director of Engineering Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.16DES
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer

10. Public Notice of General Meetings for 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At least once in each year, Council must publish a notice of the days and times when its ordinary meetings will be held and furthermore Council must publish this notice on the local government's website, and in other ways the local government considers appropriate in accordance with Section 254B of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopts the following meeting dates as presented for 2024 pursuant to and in accordance with Section 254B of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and furthermore Council will publish the notice of meeting dates on Council's website, in the inform newsletter and on display in the Council office.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
January	Wednesday, 24 th January 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
February	Wednesday, 21 st February 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
March	Wednesday, 13 th March 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
April	Wednesday, 17 th April 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
May	Wednesday, 15 th May 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
June	Wednesday, 19 th June 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
July	Wednesday, 17 th July 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
August	Wednesday, 21 st August 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
September	Wednesday, 18 th September 2024	Georgetown	9:00am
October	Wednesday, 9 th October 2023	Georgetown	9:00am
November	Wednesday, 20 th November 2023	Georgetown	9:00am

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 15th NOVEMBER 2023

December	Wednesday, 11 th December 2023	Georgetown	9:00am
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MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.17CEO
5/0

11. Naming of roads within Etheridge Shire

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council resolved to complete a community survey seeking feedback for the renaming of the following roads at the August General Meeting (Resolution #23.08.21):

- Georgetown Forsayth Road be renamed John Smith Way
- Cemetery Road/Charleston Dam Road, Forsayth be renamed Noelene Ikin Way

The survey was conducted from 23rd August 2023 to 22nd September 2023 from which 75 responses were received. Results from the survey are shown below:

	Should the Georgetown-Forsayth Road be formally named 'John Smith Way'?	Should the Forsayth Cemetery/Charleston Dam Road be formally named 'Noelene Ikin Way'?
YES	15%	23%
NO	84%	76%

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to acknowledge the feedback received and furthermore, that Council decide to go no further with this proposal.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.18CEO
5/0

12. Amendments to the model meeting procedures (MMP) and best practice standing orders

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2009* prescribes that all Councils must adopt the model meeting procedures (MMP) or incorporate them into existing standing orders for meeting procedures. Council has been advised by the Department that the MMP and Best Practice – Standing Orders were amended in June 2023. Amendments are of minor nature, designed to ensure better consistency with the LGA.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to adopt the following documents:

- Amended Model Meeting Procedures – June 2023
- Best Practice Standing Orders – June 2023

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.19CEO
5/0

13. Chief Executive Officer Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Chief Executive Officers Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.20CEO
5/0

RESOLUTION

Due to broader community safety concerns, Council is prepared to undertake a maintenance grade of the road between Cobbold Gorge turn off through to the Agate Creek Mine turn off and the cost will be borne by Savannah Goldfields. Furthermore, that the CEO of Savannah Goldfields be requested to have a meeting with Etheridge Shire Council in Georgetown.

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Haase

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.21CEO
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes left the meeting at 2.43pm and returned to the meeting at 2.48pm

Cr Barns left the meeting at 2.45pm and returned to the meeting at 2.46pm

Cr Hughes left the meeting at 2.47pm and returned to the meeting at 2.50pm

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher - Old unused Tennis Court. Could we call for an expression of interest for its pulling down and removal as it is an eyesore?

Cr Gallagher - Request for two man gates eastern Etheridge River side of Georgetown Cemetery. Very noticeable at last funeral everyone had to park at end entrance of Cemetery and had to walk 100 or more metres and some with disability walkers

Cr Gallagher - Request for water to be put on Georgetown Cemetery. People like to keep headstones clean. Could also then water the avenue of trees.

Cr Gallagher - Remarks from some residents that Council workplaces such as hostel and private residences owned by Council and rented to workers front entrances are a bit shabby. It doesn't take much to turn on sprinkler and have a few plants.

Cr Haase - Follow up from Perryvale road visit, can we get a report about possible options

Cr Haase – Letter from Lydia Wilde regarding request to have land put to tender

Cr Royes - Kidston Playground - report on ownership and maintenance arrangements of the facility

Cr Royes - Discuss the issue of Council crews inadvertently filling cattle grids. Ensuring the grids are washed out on these occasions (good etiquette/policy)

Cr Royes - Discuss the issue of Charleston Dam access (locked gates)

- Is the dam 100% fenced to a stockproof standard?

- Turn-style gate access to enable pedestrian access to alternate parts of the dam other than recreation area (dog walking)

Cr Royes - Gravel stockpiles - consideration of public access to gates/ ramps/ roads etc

- The Lynd Roadhouse Truckpad Ramp is still impeded by left over gravel

- Can this be rectified?

- Gravel for flood damage, similar issues

Cr Royes - Include a grant register in monthly finance report

Cr Royes - Include all current budget allocations for comparability within finance report, particularly capital projects.

Cr Royes - Council etiquette/policy regarding communication with property owners when entering homestead complexes and or property. Community and Council expectations.

Cr Royes - Investigate the application for a formal “water allocation” or similar formal arrangements to ensure a natural flow is maintained in the Copperfield River to ensure the Einasleigh Community has reliable access to water.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to consider water connection to the Georgetown Cemetery.

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.22DES
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes left the meeting at 3.57pm due to a conflict of interest with a general business item relating to correspondence received from Lydia Wilde.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

- Receive the correspondence received by Lydia Wilde on 10th November 2023
- Respond advising that putting it on the market is not a preferred option at this time and if it was to proceed to tender, Council will advertise as per Council’s tender process.

MOVED: Cr. Haase

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.23CEO
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Haase left the meeting at 4.06pm and returned at 4.09pm.
Cr Royes returned to the meeting at 4.07pm.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to seek costings for the erection of a Columbarium Wall at Kidston Cemetery.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.24CEO
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to urgently seek costings for the erection of perimeter fence and remedial work at the Lynd Medical Centre.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #23.11.25CEO
5/0

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4.47pm.

B. Gallagher 8.11.24
MAYOR DATE