



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 24th APRIL 2024
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 24TH APRIL 2024
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Barry Hughes
Cr. Ian Carroll
Cr. Laurell Royes
Cr. Seven Ryan
Cr. Ian Tincknell

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Raju Ranjit, Director of Engineering Services
Mrs. Renee Bester, Executive Assistant

OPEN GALLERY

Ms Tammy McLeod, Gulf Civil

The Chief Executive Officer declared the meeting open at 9.01am 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

Condolences:

Council wish to extend their condolences to the families of Marge Warnick & Barry Keough.

Congratulations:

Council wish to congratulate the recipients of the 2024 Australia Day Awards.

Apologies:

Nil

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

1. General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 13th March 2024

Corrections:

Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 13th March 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.01
5/0

2. Statutory Post Election Meeting Minutes – Thursday 28th March 2024

Corrections:
Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Statutory Post Election Meeting held at Georgetown on Thursday 28th March 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.02
5/0

3. Special Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 3rd April 2024

Corrections:
Nil

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 3rd April 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.03
5/0

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES

Cr Royes

#24.02.09 – Confirmation of details within correspondence sent. CEO to follow up.
#23.11.25 – Perimeter fence around Lynd Medical Centre

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Corporate Services

1. Director of Corporate Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.04
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker entered the meeting at 9.24am.

2. Financial performance for the period 1st July 2023 to 31st March 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Third quarter End of Month report for March 2024, 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 to Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, resolve to adopt the monthly financial report for the period ending 31st March 2024, as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.05
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker left the meeting at 10.18am.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10.19am.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.43am.

3. *Third quarter 2023/24 Operational Plan Progress Report*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with s174(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, tabled for Council's reception is the Chief Executive Officer's third quarter (1st January – 31st March 2024) progress report on implementing Council's 2023/24 Operational Plan.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the third quarterly progress report on Council's progress toward implementing its 2023 / 24 Operational Plan.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.06
5/0

4. *Update of RADF Terms of Reference*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Upon completion of the 2024 Local Government Elections, Cr Ian Tincknell was appointed as Chair of the RADF Advisory Committee at the Statutory Post Election Meeting held 28th March 2024. The Chair, along with current committee members have advised of changes required to the Terms of Reference for the RADF Advisory Committee. Council have reviewed the Terms of Reference and made the appropriate changes.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to adopt the reviewed RADF Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.07
5/0

5. *Review of Councillor Remuneration Policy*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council are currently undertaking a Policy Review to ensure of their governance compliance. As part of this review, Council have developed and/or reviewed policies and suggested appropriate changes. A review of the Councillor Policy: ESC – C056 Councillor Remuneration Policy is required to provide guidance on the payment of Councillors to ensure Councillors are paid in accordance with the Local Government Remuneration Commission.

RESOLUTION

That Council note the completion of the review of the ESC – C056 Councillor Remuneration Policy, and re-adopt the reviewed version.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.08
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Raju Ranjit entered the meeting at 11.27am.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Engineering Services

6. Director of Engineering Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.09
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Ken Timms left the meeting at 11.54am and returned to the meeting at 11.57am.

7. Strategic Plan to Upgrade Floodways (betterment)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Etheridge Shire Council has approximately 1085 floodways and get damaged significantly by heavy rain fall every year. This leads to closed roads for safety reasons and impacts to all road users in their day-to-day life.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves that prior to accepting the strategic plan to upgrade the existing floodway as presented, that the matter be deferred to a future workshop.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.10
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Lunch at 12.22pm.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 12.59pm.

8. 10 year AC water Main Pipes Replacement Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Etheridge Shire Council has approximately 20759 m of water mains. Out of which 6923 m of Asbestos Concrete (AC) pipes installed in around 1980s.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the 10 year AC pipe replacement program.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.11
5/0

9. Review of ESC-C031 – Gates and Grids Policy 2014 (Reviewed 2021)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this policy is to ensure uniform standards are applied to applications for gates and grids on Council managed roads within our region without causing adverse impact on road users.

RESOLUTION

That Council note completion of the review and re-adopted the ESC - 031 – Gates and Grids Policy 2014 (Reviewed 2021).

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

LOST
RESOLUTION #LOST
0/5

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to defer the above matter (review and re-adoption of the ESC - C031 – Gates and Grids Policy) to a future meeting of Council.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.12
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF ADDENDUM SESSION REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer

10. Chief Executive Officers' Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.13
5/0

11. Offer for issue of a Deed of Grant over part of Lot 4 on Crown Plan CD35

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council received an offer for issue of a Deed of Grant over part of Lot 4 on Crown Plan CD35 from the Department of Resources on 2nd April 2024. This land is currently leased by Council for the operation of the Lynd Medical Centre. The Department of Resources requires a response by 1st May or the offer lapses.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

- Respond to Department of Resources by 1st May 2024 accepting the Offer of Issue of Deed for part of Lot 4 on Crown plan CD35
- Pay the prescribed purchase amount of \$17550.34

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.14
5/0

12. Sun Smart Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council are currently undertaking a Policy Review to ensure of their governance compliance. As part of this review, Council have developed and/or reviewed policies and suggested appropriate changes. Furthermore, Queensland Government and Cancer Council Queensland are partnering with local government leadership for Sun Safety.

Council have developed a Sun Smart Policy as best practice to inform and provide guidance to employees and associated persons (contractors etc.) of appropriate standards and responsibilities.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to adopt the Sun Smart Policy as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.15
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Tammy McLeod left the meeting at 2.21pm.

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 2.22pm to discuss (g) 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 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. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.16
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker entered the meeting at 2.26pm.

Raju Ranjit left the meeting at 2.37pm.

Renee Bester left the meeting at 2.50pm and returned at 3.27pm.

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 3.28pm.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.17
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

13. Operations on L28-30 on SP217469

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is currently undergoing communications with Town Planner, Liz Taylor and the owner of Lot 28-30 on SP217469 regarding the operations taking place on the parcel and outstanding conditions.

RESOLUTION

Council received the update on operations at L28-30 on SP217469.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.18
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Raju Ranjit entered the meeting at 3.31pm.

Director of Corporate Services

14. Write-off Accounts Receivables Debtors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has undertaken a review of the outstanding debts greater than 90 days and has identified several debtors that are in arrears and are potentially doubtful debts totaling \$7,325.46.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to write off debtors outstanding balances including part paid invoices 12049,12083, and 11641.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.19
5/0

Director of Engineering Services

15. Kennedy Development Road Pavement Rehabilitation Project

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to inform Council that Council invited two pre-approved contractors to submit their prices for the Kennedy Development Road Pavement rehabilitation project

The quotations were assessed based on the experience, previous performance, and prices.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the quote (Unit rates EX.GST) provided by Robinson Civil Construction (RCG) for the KDR Pavement rehabilitation project subject to the accommodation and meals not exceeding \$18,000. The quoted unit rates are:

1. Wirtgen W240 or W2400 2.4 m width x 300 mm depth
Daily Hire (Day Rate) =\$ 3600 per day
Mobilisation to and from site = 210 per hour

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- Operator Establishment and travel = 80 per hour
- 2. Streamster Spreader Truck- 16 m3 or 20 m3
Day hire = \$ 1600 per day
Mobilisation to and from site = 1600 per day
Operator Establishment and travel = 80 per hour
- 3. ISO Containers and Compressor
Day hire = \$ 1250 per day
Mobilisation to and from site = 12621 (Lump Sum)
- 4. Gb Cement Delivered to site = \$ 450 per tonne

The Estimated cost for the pavement stabilisation works that will be carried out by RCG is \$ 277,019 (Ex.GST)

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.04.20
4/1**

VOTE

Cr. Ryan voted against the above agenda item.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ATTENDANCE

Cr Barry Hughes left the meeting at 5.23pm and returned at 5.25pm.

Cr Ryan	Amendment to Local Law - Community & Environment Management Local Law & Subordinate Local Law to reflect the declaration of: Rubbervine, Neem Tree, Grader Grass
Cr Ryan	Building acquisition and approval enquiry - Shepherd Services Shopfront, St George St, Georgetown
Cr Ryan	Snap Send Solve - Motion to purchase and implement the entire tech suite to remove the adhoc system of job allocation, lack of accountability and lack of job / action follow up
Cr Ryan	Speed notification signage - Forsayth-Einasleigh entrance (at Einasleigh) / Lynd-Einasleigh entrance (at Einasleigh)
Cr Ryan	Forsayth Town Maintenance
Cr Ryan	Dust pad - Lynd-Einasleigh entrance (eastern side of Big Joe bridge)
Cr Ryan	Finish of the Big Joe bridge (final seal) Einasleigh
Cr Ryan	Disaster coordination centre - away from St George St, Georgetown
Cr Ryan	Explanation / Location of Gravel Superpits and remaining licensed 5000T pits
Cr Ryan	Trees as part of the future beautification of St George St (Georgetown)
Cr Ryan	Changes to the application of the purchasing policy at a local level - ie request for quotes on nominal purchases such as bolts / handyman consumables
Cr Ryan	Consultation on renaming of Agate Ck Rd/ North Head Rd to Cobbold Gorge Road (I acknowledge I have a perceived conflict of interest in this issue) Moving forward I believe that I can manage this perceived conflict enough to raise the discussion as I do not foresee any movement to rescind the decision. Seeking background approval / discussion information on how the decision came about.
Cr Tincknell	This council requests the CEO to prepare reports as listed below and to be completed and delivered at the next council meeting dated 15/05/24. 1. Explain selection process for wet and dry hire. 2. Give break down on wet and dry hire equipment engaged for 2024. 3. Give overview on initial costings and final costs of bitumen seal job from Forsayth air strip to Long Gully. 4. Give overview on bitumen seal job Forsayth to Einasleigh Road on expenditure to date and completed works. 5. Damage to council equipment from flood at Sandy ck and council depot 2024. 6. Dirt rill on Kidston dam road. Date tipped out, distance of rill, funding source.
Cr Carroll	Etheridge Shire Council's concerns surrounding pending closure of Forsayth Police Station.

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Cr Carroll	DES mentioned that the open drain which runs through Laurie Baron's place in Forsayth was in progress. The open drain commences at the top of Fourth St around Helen Pezzotti's residence and runs down the road before it enters into fifth st and then into Laurie's property. The cleaning of the entire drain especially near the school fence is needing to be done to facilitate a good flow of water during the wet season and prevent it from being dammed by debris and silt.
Cr Carroll	Forsayth ground maintenance has long been an issue with Water Supervisor usually being the only person completing maintenance once his duties with water treatment have been completed. I am keen to have the relevant officer consider tasking the Georgetown grounds maintenance crew to Forsayth on a regular (fortnightly) basis or, as you hinted, the employment of a dedicated grounds person. Forsayth has long suffered through a lack of ground maintenance and has seen NO opportunity for improvements in this space. The Charleston cemetery was recently in-part mowed by a resident to facilitate a visit to a family member's grave.
Cr Royes	A4 Map (location) of proposed gravel super pits.
Cr Royes	Public concern over the release of contaminated water into the Copperfield River. (Confirmation of Environmental Compliance)
Cr Royes	ALL Council Tenders to be advertised to local community (Inform, Enews letter, Facebook, Website) as opposed to invite only process.
Cr Royes	Oak Park Homestead (Dust suppression reseal) 4 years overdue! (Recent council works causing further issue) Urgent plan to action the previously committed works
Cr Royes	Closure Of Gulf Development Road 7th May - 4th June 2024 Urgent advocacy/ action to ensure Shire businesses, individuals and families are not adversely affected by TMR works
Cr Royes	Request written acknowledgement to the concerns raised over the Flat Creek Road (Mr P Henry) Expressing Councils' commitment to repair any damage to its previous state.
Cr Royes	Tourism Pavillion Issues (Location, seating, significant errors in information)
Cr Royes	Concerns over bulk fuel storage on public land Forsayth (Cobbold Gorge Road/adjacent to Landfill)
Cr Royes	Request a "Works Program" schedule (as requested previously) Only way councillors can accurately inform residents of Councils' intentions (when, where, what will be done) in their area!
Cr Royes	Request Workshop Agenda Items (Proposed Motions) a. Discussion/investigate the planting of suitable shade trees in St Gorge Street b. Electronic Community Notice Boards in each Township c. Urgent MOU with Qld Health - A meeting involving all councillors and all relevant stakeholders d. Stocktake of all Health service buildings (to ensure the repairs can be included in operation budget planning) e. Strategic Re-evaluation of Town Maintenance Service Levels and expectations f. Re-appointment of a Common Ranger (Einasleigh) g. Review of all commercial rental arrangements/agreements (BEFORE EXSISTING AGREEMENTS ARE ROLLED OVER) h. Investigate Councils' Strategy to ensure adequate drainage structures/planning are considered on ALL shire roads (as it is not included in flood damage works) i. Implementation of a procedure to ensure LOCAL knowledge is at least "consulted" when proposing/carryout roadworks etc across the Shire. (Graziers/road users etc) j. Definitive Project Proposal (Budget Allocation) to ensure the development of the "Mt Surprise Bike Park"
Cr Royes	A written reply to Mr & Mrs Zabels letter concerning drainage on their road. (Councils intended solution and approximate timeline for work).

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed 5.43pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 15th May 2024.

Cr. Barry Hughes
MAYOR