



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 19th JUNE 2024
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 19TH JUNE 2024
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Raju Ranjit, Director of Engineering Services
Miss. Gemma Bethel, Administration Officer

OPEN GALLERY

ATTENDANCE

Cr Ryan entered the meeting via Teams at 9.10am

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.14am and welcomed all in attendance.

DEPUTATION

A deputation was requested by Mt Surprise Progress Association and accepted by Council.

ATTENDANCE

Shannon Zohl (Mt Surprise Progress Association) entered the meeting at 10.10am and left the meeting at 10.50am.

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 Ryan

- Declared interest in agenda item #13 Request for Special Holidays - Etheridge Shire Show
- Declared prescribed interest in agenda item #14 Tender for Sealing for KDR Projects – ESC2024-016Q

Cr Carroll

- Declared interest in agenda item #13 Request for Special Holidays - Etheridge Shire Show
- Declared prescribed interest in agenda item #14 Tender for Sealing for KDR Projects – ESC2024-016Q

Cr Royes

- Declared interest in agenda item #10 Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 10 – Successful Application

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS

Condolences:

Council wishes to extend their condolences to the families of Gene Cox, Rod Devlin, Kerry Watson, and Rex Henry.

Congratulations:

Council wish to congratulate Dan & Kassie Sheahan on the birth of their daughter Charlie.

Council wish to congratulate Joe & Bekky Haase on the birth of their daughter Phoebe.

Apologies:

Nil

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

1. General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 15th May 2024

Corrections:

Nil

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 15th May 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.01
5/0**

2. Special Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 12th June 2024

Corrections:

Nil

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 12th June 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

**CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.02
5/0**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES

Cr Royes

#24.04.10 – Strategic Plan Query

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. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.03
5/0

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Eleventh month End of Month report for May 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 May 2024, as presented.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.04
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker entered the meeting at 9.43am

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker left the meeting at 10.10am

RESOLUTION

That Council suspend all standing orders at 10.11am for deputation presentation from Shannon Zohl (Mt Surprise Progress Association).

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.05
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10.28am

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.51am.

RESOLUTION

That Council resume all standing orders at 10.52am.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.06
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker entered the meeting at 10.52am

3. 2023/24 Budget Review

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under s104 of the Local Government Act 2009, Council must have an annual budget as part of its suite of financial planning documents. Council's budget was adopted on 26 July 2023 and complied with the requirements of s169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

A review of Council's budget has been completed for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 April 2024. It is proposed that Council amend its budget to address issues that have emerged since its adoption. Section 170(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 allows Council to amend its budget any time before the end of the financial year.

RESOLUTION

That in accordance with s170 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council amend its 2023/24 budget as per the attached list of proposed amendments.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.07
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Laurie Hawker left the meeting at 11.02am

4. Standing Orders and Meeting Procedures Policy - Adopt

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to formalise Post-Election Meeting resolution by considering to adopt the Standing Orders and Meeting Procedures Policy, reflecting the updated "Best practice example standing orders for local government and standing committee meetings" as published by the Queensland Government and updated as at March 2024, following legislative amendments to the *Local Government Act 2009*.

RESOLUTION

That Council defer the matter to the next meeting on 17th July 2024.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.08
5/0

5. Councillor Remuneration 2024/2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal review the rate of pay applicable to Councillors in each category of Council. Having decided on a maximum amount of remuneration for each category before 1 December each year, the Tribunal must prepare a remuneration schedule and a report within 14 days. A copy of the schedule and report must be provided to the Minister, and the schedule must be published in the Queensland Government Gazette.

Councils must pay the maximum amount of remuneration to councillors unless, by resolution within 90 days of the gazettal of a new schedule, they decide on another amount which cannot exceed the maximum decided by the Tribunal.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Resolve to accept the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal Schedule of Rates for Councillor's remuneration effective from 1st July 2024 in accordance with Section 247 of the Local Government Act 2009 and furthermore that Council resolve to identify, that the Ordinary General Meetings and Budget (workshop) Meetings are those "identified" meetings where the

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presence of all councillors is expected to attend to receive the meeting fee component of the remuneration level set out in the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal's remuneration schedule below.

	Salary 1 July 23 to June 24	Salary July 24 to June 25	Difference
Mayor	\$114,801	\$119,393	\$4,592
Deputy Mayor	\$66,231	\$68,880	\$2,649
Councillors	(see Note 2) \$57,401	(see Note 2) \$59,695	\$2,294

2. For councillors in Category 1 councils, a base payment of \$39,796.67 is payable for the 12 months commencing 1 July 2024. A meeting fee of \$1,658.00 per calendar month (or fortnightly equivalent) is payable for attendance at, and participation in, scheduled meetings of council subject to certification by the mayor and/or chief executive officer of the council. Mayors and deputy mayors in category 1 councils are to receive the full annual remuneration level shown.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.09
5/0

6. Councillor Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 250(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 states that a Local Government, must adopt by resolution an expenses reimbursement policy.

The Councillor's reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities policy is a policy providing for the following –

- a) Payment of reasonable expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by councillors for discharging their duties and responsibilities as councillors;
- b) Provision of facilities to councillors for that purpose

This policy ensures accountability and transparency in the reimbursement of expenses incurred by councillors and ensures that councillors are provided with reasonable facilities to assist them in carrying out their civic duties.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to adopt the "Councillor Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy" in accordance with and pursuant to Section 250(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.10
5/0

7. Councillor Investigation Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to consider adopting the Councillor Investigation Policy, reflecting the updated "Queensland Government's model Example Local Government Investigation Policy – March 2024", following legislative amendments to the Local Government Act 2009 in November 2023.

RESOLUTION

That Council adopt the 'Councillor Investigation' Policy (ESC – S017).

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED

8. Code of Conduct for Councillors Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to consider repealing the Code of Conduct for Councillors Policy (C041) as it is not legislatively, or operatively, required.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Repeal the Etheridge Shire Council - Code of Conduct for Councillors Policy (C041); and
2. Acknowledge the Queensland Government's 'Code of Conduct for Councillors in Queensland' that sets out the standards of behaviour for councillors in performing their functions as councillors

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.12
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Raju Ranjit entered the meeting at 11.34am

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. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.13
4/1

VOTE

Cr. Ian Tincknell wishes to have his vote recorded against the above motion.

ATTENDANCE

Gemma Bethel left the meeting at 12.05pm and returned at 12.10pm.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Royes has a declared interest with the following agenda item, however after discussion Council decided Cr Royes is able to stay in the room and vote.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.14
4/0

10. Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 10 – Successful Application

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the "Remote airstrip upgrade Program Round 10 successful application. Council is required to accept the grant agreement by 9th June 2024 on the Portal.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

1. Note and accept the grant of \$450,000 from the Australian Government (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts to upgrade fencing in Mount Surprise and Einasleigh Airports and,
2. That Council allocate of \$450,000 from own source to match the funding.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.15
5/0

11. Provision of 80km/h and 60km/h Speed Signage

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is about the installation of 80 km/h, 60 km/h and 50 km/h signs on the Forsayth – Einasleigh Road.

RESOLUTION

That Council note and accept the proposal to implement the following speed signs at following speed zone length on the Forsayth – Einasleigh Road:

Forsayth Town (Entering to Forsayth)

- 80 Km/h at Ch. 3100 m
- 60 Km/m at Ch. 1900 m
- 50 Km/h at Ch. 1000 m

Einasleigh Town (Entering to Einasleigh)

- 80 Km/m at Ch. 64500 m
- 60 Km/h at Ch. 65700 m

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.16
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Lunch at 12.40pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.16pm

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Ryan and Cr Carroll both have a prescribed interest with the following agenda item and left the meeting at 1.25pm

ATTENDANCE

Cr Carroll left the meeting at 1.25pm

Cr Ryan left the meeting at 1.25pm

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

12. Tender for Sealing for KDR Projects – ESC2024-016Q

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 1.23pm 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. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #19.06.17
3/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 1.31pm.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #19.06.18
3/0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the consideration of tenders received for sealing for KDR project for 2023/2024 financial year.

RESOLUTION

That Council accept the tender of Fulton Hogan to seal and re seal of the following projects to the value of \$370,970 (ex GST)

S. No.	Description of Works	Fulton Hogan
A	New seals	
1	Design & sealing work between chainage 7.95km to 13.47km	\$357,343
2	Establishment & disestablishment	\$13,627
	GRAND TOTAL	\$370,970

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #19.06.19
3/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Carroll returned to the meeting at 1.32pm

Cr Ryan returned to the meeting at 1.33pm

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer

13. Chief Executive Officers' Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.20
5/0

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Carroll and Cr Ryan both have a declared interest with the following agenda item, however after discussion Council decided both Cr Carroll and Cr Ryan are able to stay in the room and vote.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.21
3/0

14. Request for Special Holidays - Etheridge Shire Show Holiday

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Industrial Relations seeking Council's nomination(s) for the Shire's Agricultural Show and / or Special Holidays for 2025. Online publishing of special holiday dates occurs only after all applications from Councils have been received and approved by the Minister and published in the Queensland Government Gazette. Closing date to nominate your special holiday for 2025 is 12 July 2024. The Special Holiday in previous years is held on the Friday prior to the Forsayth Turnout held the first weekend of August each year. Forsayth All Sports Club Inc. have confirmed their event will be held on 1st – 3rd August 2025.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to respond to the Office of Industrial Relations by 12th July 2024 to advise of Etheridge Shire Councils request for Friday, 1st August 2025 to be the Etheridge Shire Show Day.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.06.22
5/0

15. Works 4 QLD

RESOLUTION

Council enter a submission to Works 4 QLD for assistance in the construction for Multi-Purpose Community Facilities.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #19.06.23
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Raju Ranjit left the meeting at 2.32pm and returned at 2.34pm

ATTENDANCE

Cr Carroll left the meeting at 2.42pm and returned at 2.43pm

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Tincknell	River Walk fence
Cr Tincknell	Question to Ewamian/free holding land/Katter's office
Cr Tincknell	AFM
Cr Tincknell	Working further without hours
Cr Carroll	Update on community consultation prior to budget and W4Q workshops
Cr Carroll	Forsayth town maintenance. Confirmation of full-time employee?
Cr Carroll	Overgrown council lots, Sixth st Forsayth
Cr Carroll	CEO and Corporate Services Officer selection
Cr Carroll	First st Forsayth bitumen damage.

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Cr Carroll	Etheridge River flood mitigation, removal of riverine vegetation
Cr Carroll	Damaged bitumen on access road to Charleston Dam.
Cr Carroll	Big Reef dam fence in poor state of repair.
Cr Carroll	Confirmation of current Etheridge Earth Check status and progression towards bronze level
Cr Ryan	White flood damage markers - requirement to collect following works completion? Does Council supply this?
Cr Ryan	Review & actual spend to date on Road Signage - ie road works
Cr Ryan	Incorrect emails being sent about completed Snap Send Solve - Charleston Dam road access
Cr Ryan	Street Name allocation & legal access - Eighth Street, Forsayth Lot 160 on MPH41012 ongoing issue from 2020
Cr Ryan	Strategic Proposal to change structure of Water responsibilities - Incorporate a Ranger for the Charleston Dam and include Water Treatment Plant/s, and other water infrastructure existing or planned - direct report to DES.

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 5.04pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 17th July 2024.

Cr. Barry Hughes
MAYOR