



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2015,
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2015

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ATTENDANCE

Crs W Attwood, T Arnett, W Bethel, P Royes, I Tincknell

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr Michael Kitzelmann, Chief Executive Officer
Mr David Munro, Director of Corporate and Community Services
Mr Rohana Samarasekera, Director of Engineering Services
Mr Terry Whitaker, Works Manager
Mrs Tanya Robinson, Executive Assistant

GALLERY

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.30 and welcomed all in attendance

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the past, present and future traditional owners of this land on which we are meeting, the Ewamian people. It is a privilege to be standing on Ewamian country.

CONDOLENCES

Council offers their condolences to the Davis family on the passing of John Campbell Davis.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting – Wednesday 21 January 2015

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 21 January 2015 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1255
5/0

Business arising from minutes – Wednesday 21 January 2015

RESOLUTION:

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to continue discussions with the new owners of ERO Mining Pty Ltd, Mr Terry Fitzgerald (ERO local representative) in relation to the Flat Creek Road matter.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1257
5/0

Special Meeting – Wednesday 4 February 2015

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held at Einasleigh on Wednesday 4 February 2015 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1256
5/0

8. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES OPEN REPORTS

GMCCS1.

Monthly Financial report as at 31 January 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is a statutory requirement under Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that the Chief Executive Officer must present a “Financial Report” of its accounts to the Local Government at least monthly.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the monthly Financial Report pursuant to and in accordance with Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for the period ending 31 January 2015.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1258
5/0

GMCCS2.

Capital Works Budget 2014/2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the 2014/15 Budget, Council has approved a number of Capital Works Projects. The attached report provides a summary of the Capital Works Program through a financial perspective.

Council receives a detailed commentary on how we are delivering on our Capital and Operating budgets each quarter through the Operational Plan review.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1259
5/0

GMCCS3.

Etheridge Shire Council – Advertising Expenditure Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Regulation 2012 states that each Local Government must have in place a policy about the local government’s spending on advertising (an advertising expenditure policy).

Council has an existing policy on advertising expenditure which is compliant with the Local Government Regulation 2012. It is always good governance to review existing policies to ensure that the policy is deliverable and easy to implement plus to investigate any changes that may need to be made to the existing policy.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the “Advertising Expenditure Policy” in accordance with Section 197 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1260
5/0

GMCCS4.

Etheridge Shire Council – Entertainment & Hospitality Expenditure Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Regulation 2012 states that each local government must have in place a policy about the local government’s spending on entertainment and hospitality expenditure. Council has an existing policy on entertainment and hospitality expenditure which is compliant under the Local Government Regulation 2012.

It is always good governance to review existing policies to ensure that the policy is deliverable and easy to implement plus allows management to investigate any changes that may need to be made to the existing policy.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the “Entertainment and Hospitality Expenditure Policy” in accordance with Section 196 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1261
5/0

GMCCS5.

Etheridge Shire Council – Grants & Donations to Community Organisations Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Regulation 2012 states that each local government must have in place a policy about the local government’s spending on grants and donations to community organisations.

Council has an existing policy on grants and donations to community organisations which is compliant with the Local Government Regulation 2012. It is always good governance to review

existing policies to ensure that the policy is deliverable and easy to implement plus to investigate any changes that may need to be made to the existing policy.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the “Grants & Donations to Community Organisations Policy” in accordance with Section 195 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1262
5/0

GMCCS6.

Etheridge Shire Council – Acquisition of Goods & Services and the Carrying out of the Procurement Principles Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Regulation 2012 states that each local government must have in place a policy about procurement (a procurement policy). Council has an existing procurement policy which is with the Local Government Regulation 2012.

In addition, it is a requirement under the Regulation that Council reviews its Purchasing Policy at least every 12 months. Council reviewed an amended this policy in May 2014.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the “Acquisition of Goods & Services and the Carrying out of the Procurement Principles Policy” in accordance with Section 198 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1263
5/0

GMCCS7.

Dealing with a complaint involving the public official (Crime & Corruption Act 2001, S48A)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 48A of the Crime and Corruption Act 2001 commenced on 1 July 2014. Under section 48A of the Crime and Corruption Act 2001 (CC Act), a public official/CEO must have a policy about how their unit of public administration (UPA) will deal with a complaint that involves, or may involve, corrupt conduct by the public official/CEO, so that transparency and integrity are maintained.

The CCC has developed information to assist agencies with the creation of their own policy.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to adopt “Etheridge Shire Council’s – Complaints about the Public Official – S.48A of the Crime & Corruption Act 2001”

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1264
5/0

GMCCS8.

Our Organisational – Update on Employment Numbers (FTE)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

People are the key to Etheridge Shire Council's future. The survival, growth and success of Etheridge Shire Council are directly linked to the quality of the staff as individuals and as collaborative colleagues.

This report provides Council with an update on "Full Time Equivalents" (FTE) numbers and also provides trends and statistics on Council's Human Resource Department.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1265
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10.33am

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.51am

GMCCS9.

Request to access funds from the Oak Park Community Infrastructure Reserve

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a request from the Chairman of the Oak Park Community seeking the support of Council to utilize a portion of their accumulated "Community Infrastructure Reserve" to assist in purchasing a tractor the Oak Park Community Club.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to transfer \$26,000.00 from the "Oak Park Community Improvement Reserve" to assist the Oak Park Community purchase a Kubota F3690 Out Front Mower.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1266
5/0

GMCCS10.

Charleston Dam Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has been investigating the option of constructing a Dam located on the Delaney River north of the Forsyth Township for the purpose of water security, recreation use and economic development.

The attached report provides a brief summary of the activities that have transpired over the past month.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1268
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to request the Ewamian people to conduct their Cultural Heritage survey on or before the 15th March 2015.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1267
5/0

GMCCS11.

Dual Membership – FNQROC & NWROC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Previously Etheridge Shire Council was an “affiliate” member of the FNQROC until the organisation changed its membership requirements. Council has an opportunity to re-establish its membership with this Organisation of Councils.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Resolve to become a full paying member of the FNQROC as at 01 July 2015 for a membership fee of \$19,244 and that a budget allocation be provisioned within the 2015/16 Budget and furthermore that Council reviews its membership annually to determine the ongoing benefits of being a member with this Organisation of Councils and furthermore that Council continue with its membership with the NWQROC.

MOVED: Cr

SECONDED: Cr

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM
/0
Motion lapsed

GMCCS13.

Internal Audit Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to the recent changes implemented by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal to reclassify all Local Governments who were deemed as Special Councils and Category 1 & 2 Councils to Category 3 Councils, has meant that Etheridge Shire Council is obligated to establish an “Internal Audit Committee” in accordance with Section(s) 209, 210 & 211 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. *Adopt the Audit Committee Policy in accordance with Section 105 of the Local Government Act 2009;*
2. *Council establish an Audit Committee in accordance with Section 105 of the Local Government Act 2009 and Section 210 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, consisting of three members;*
3. *Council nominate Cr Attwood (Mayor), Cr Arnett and the Director of Corporate Services (Carpentaria Shire Council) as members of the Audit Committee;*
4. *Council nominate Cr Attwood as Chairperson of the Audit Committee;*
5. *Council endorses that the CEO, DCCS, DES and the Internal Auditor as permanent observers of the Audit Committee;*

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1269
5/0

GMCCS14.

Update Pest Management Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council established a Pest Management Committee to co-ordinate the management and eradication of declared pests within the Etheridge Shire Council boundaries. This Committee was specifically established to facilitate the application for and the dispersal of funds under the Federal Governments Drought Assistance Grant for the eradication of Wild Dogs. The Pest Management Committee administers the ESC Wild Dog Bounty and the co-ordination of pest management activities across the Shire. On the 22nd September Council was advised that the Federal Government Grant had been awarded to ESC and that \$65,000 was available for wild dog eradication, these funds have been awarded as detailed in the below table:

<i>Sub-Project</i>	<i>Total amount (inc GST)</i>
<i>SP1 – Contract Wild Dog Trappers</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>SP2 – Best Practice Baiting</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>SP4 – Strategic Aerial Baiting</i>	<i>\$40,000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$65,000</i>

The ESC Wild Dog Bounty Program is ongoing with \$11,040 of the allocated budget being exhausted leaving a balance of \$8,960 of the original \$20,000 budget. Reporting and discussions with Southern Gulf Catchments, the auspicing body for the Drought Assistance Funding, have indicated that ESC has achieved the highest participation and success rate for all participating Councils.

The Pest Management Committee met on the 11th February 2015 to commence planning for the conduct of activities associated with the approved grant. The following motions were moved and passed:

1. *That Council commits to carry over any unused funds from the drought assistance pest management funding (subject to approval of the Federal Governments Program Manager) for the conduct of a Shire wide aerial baiting program.*
2. *That this committee recommends to Council that \$20,000 be allocated in the 15/16 financial year to continue the wild dog bounty program and further request that any remaining funds from the 14/15 financial year wild dog bounty program be carried over to the 15/16 financial year for use in the strategic aerial baiting program at the discretion of the pest management committee.*

3. *Cr Tincknell moved that the CEO write to all properties requesting feedback on the best timing for a coordinated ground based baiting program (March – April) and for the best timing for a coordinated strategic aerial baiting program (October – December) and further that feedback be requested to assist in ascertaining the success of the 2014 aerial baiting program.*

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Supports the recommendations of the Pest Management Committee.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1270
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Chairman of the Pest Management Committees report.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1271
5/0

ATTENDANCE

David Munro left the meeting at 11.54am and returned at 11.55am

GMCCS15.

Economic Development, Longreach 25 March 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval is required for Cr Warren Bethel, and Mareea Lochel (Community Liaison/Project Officer) to attend the “Economic Development – Nurturing Your Local Community” short course to be held in Longreach on the 25 March 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Approve the attendance of the Cr Warren Bethel, and Mareea Lochel (Community Liaison/Project Officer) to attend the “Economic Development – Nurturing Your Local Community” short course to be held in Longreach on the 25 March 2015

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1272
5/0

GMCCS16.

Pathways to Sustainable Tourism, Rockhampton 27 May 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval is required for Cr Pauline Royes, and Mareea Lochel (Community Liaison/Project Officer) to attend the Pathway to Sustainable Tourism short course to be held in Rockhampton on the 27th May 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Approve the attendance of the Cr Pauline Royes, and Mareea Lochel (Community Liaison/Project Officer) to attend the Pathway to Sustainable Tourism short course conference to be held in Rockhampton on the 27th May 2015

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1273
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Bethel left the meeting at 12.07pm and returned at 12.08pm
Michael Kitzelmann left the meeting at 12.09pm and returned at 12.12pm
Terry Whittaker left the meeting at 12.22pm and returned at 12.26pm
Cr Bethel left the meeting at 12.36pm and returned 12.37pm

9. CONSIDERATION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES OPEN REPORTS

GMES1.

Monthly Engineering Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a review of the performance of Engineering Services for the month of January 2015, bench marked against Council's Corporate and Operational Plan.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Receives and notes the report from the Director Engineering Services in respect of the work performed and services offered for the month of January 2015 by the Engineering Section.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1275
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Requests the Chief Executive Officer to present a report on the Water Treatment Plant at the next General Meeting or if works are completed prior to the Georgetown Community Consultation Meeting held on the 6th March 2015 that the report be presented on that day.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1274
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for lunch at 12.56pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.45pm
Rohana Samarasekera was not in attendance

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

That in accordance with Section 275(1) (e & g) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the meeting be closed to the public to discuss the following matters;

- *Etheridge Shire University / Tertiary Scholarship*
- *Sale of Residential Dwelling – Forsayth (Lot 2 on SP217467)*

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO. 2015/GM1276
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Rohana Samarasekera returned to the meeting at 1.48pm

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

MOTION:

That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 2.04pm

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO. 2015/GM1277
5/0

8. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES CLOSED REPORTS

GMCCS12.

Etheridge Shire University / Tertiary Scholarship

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On an annual basis, Council will provide a \$5,000 Scholarship for the 1st year of the successful applicant's full-time studies towards a Bachelor degree or an approved Diploma Course in Planning & Environmental Health, Civil Engineering, Nursing, Early Childcare or Accounting (or another approved course).

Council is targeting these particular courses as employees in these fields are in short supply throughout Local Government in Queensland, and it is hoped that Council's Scholarship will assist in retaining qualified professionals in these fields, particularly in regional areas.

To be eligible for a Scholarship, the student needs to maintain their residency in the Etheridge Shire through their parents/guardian. The student therefore may be attending boarding school outside the Shire when they apply for a Scholarship.

Nominations closed as at Wednesday 14 January 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Resolve to award the 2015 Etheridge Shire Council University / Tertiary Scholarship to Benjamin Curley.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1278
5/0

GMCCS17.

Sale of Residential Dwelling – Forsayth (Lot 2 on SP217467)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2009, Council passed a resolution to relocate several houses into the Shire for the intention of re-sale. Three (3) houses were relocated to Georgetown (now sold) and one (1) house to Forsayth (un-sold). On the 24 September 2011, Council went to Public Auction to sell not only the residential dwellings but also vacant residential and industrial land. The dwelling at Forsayth did not sell at the Auction and has been on the open market since the date of Auction.

The property has been listed with several real estate agencies within the Tablelands area to broaden the market, but to date no referrals have been received.

Council has received a written offer as at 11th February 2015 for Council's consideration.

RECSOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to accept the offer for the 3 Bedroom low set Dwelling situated at Lot 2 Forsayth-Einasleigh Road described as Lot 2 on SP217467 and furthermore that Council prepare the necessary REIQ Contracts for Sale to enable settlement within the standard 28 days.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1279
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to advertise residential blocks for sale in the Georgetown Estate by placing signs at each block.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1280
5/0

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Arnett

- Copperfield Dam discussions
- Emulsion sprayer and tank
- Jardine Memorial Plaque to be placed at the Tallaroo turn off
- Visit to Tony Potter to voice ESC concerns

Cr Bethel

RESOLUTION:

That Council allocates the 15/16 and 16/17 R2R funding for paving the Forsayth to Georgetown road.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1281
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to liaise with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to seek matching funding for the Georgetown / Forsayth road.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1282
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Councils requests the Chief Executive Officer to write to residents who regularly use the Forsayth/Georgetown Road (Cobbold Gorge, Gilberton region, Forsayth etc) advising them of Councils desire to establish an action group to lobby for the completion of this road. This is to be included as an agenda item at the Forsayth Community Consultation Meeting.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1283
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Rohana Samarasekera left the meeting at 2.24pm and returned at 2.30pm.
Terry Whittaker left the meeting at 2.41pm and returned 2.42pm

Cr Royes

- Calendar of events
- Request for Council to build a cross loading yard at the Lynd to load and unload cattle
- ETAG meeting 4 March 2015
- Gulf Savannah Tourism Futures Conference 27 March 2015
- Gulf Futures Conference in Cairns

Cr Tincknell

- Cr Tincknell suggests that all Councillors and Council Executives participate in a tour of the Terrestrial Centre on Wednesday 4 March following the Georgetown Community Consultation Meeting

Cr Attwood

- The Remuneration Tribunal has determined that Etheridge Shire Councilors will be remunerated as per category 3 Councils from the 1st July 2015.
- Terrestrial Centre's rock collection
- Queensland Health nurse update

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 3.10pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 18 March 2015.

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MAYOR

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