



# CONFIRMED MINUTES

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GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD  
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016,  
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT GEORGETOWN**

**ON WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016**

**COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr David Munro, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Mrs Tanya Robinson, Executive Assistant  
Mr Terry Whitaker, Works Manager  
Miss Rebekah Hill, Business Administration Trainee

**GALLERY**

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.29am and welcomed all in attendance. Cr Bethel was not in attendance.

**WELCOME TO COUNTRY**

*We respectfully acknowledge the Ewamian People - the traditional custodians of this land where we meet for the General Meeting. We pay our respects to the Ewamian People, especially the Elders, past and present and acknowledge their traditional customs and lores and recognize their continuing connection to this Country.*

*We look forward to a long and continuing relationship with the Ewamian People and value any opportunities in strengthening relationships and partnerships through collaboration by respecting their Country.*

**CONDOLENCES**

Council offers their condolences to the Butler family on the passing of Kerry Butler

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council suspends standing orders at 9.31am*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1606**  
**4/0**

**DEPUTATION**

Ted Loudon attended the meeting at 9.32am to undertake a deputation with Council regarding access to his allotment along the Gulf Development Road.

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council resumes standing orders at 9.39am.*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1607**  
**4/0**

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting – Wednesday 16 December 2015**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 16 December 2015 be confirmed.*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1608**  
**4/0**

**9. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES OPEN REPORTS**

**GMCCS1.**

Monthly Financial Report as at 31 December 2016

**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 December 2015 and furthermore that Council resolve to write off the outstanding debtor for \$396.13.*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1609**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS2.**

Etheridge Shire Council – Amended 2015/2016 Budget

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council considers that its Budget is a fundamental instrument of accountability and an essential strategic document to ensure that the objectives under Council's Corporate Plan are implemented over the five (5) years. The 2015/2016 Budget has been developed within Councils overall planning framework. Council suit of strategic management plans include a 10 year long term Financial Plan, which is supported by a 10 year Asset Management Plan with both of these documents being aligned to achieve the objectives outlined within the Corporate Plan.*

*It is good financial stewardship to review the Annual Budget in depth at regular intervals to ensure that what Revenue was forecasted is still likely to be achieved and that the Operating and Capital expenditure is in line with original costs estimates and also to make any adjustments and or amendments to either the Revenue and Expenditure streams.*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Adopt Etheridge Shire Council's amended 2015/2016 Budget in accordance with Section 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, which reveals total revenue from ordinary activities amounting to \$9,794,190, total expenses from ordinary activities (including depreciation) amounting to \$13,240,580 and capital funding operations amounting to \$24,026,310.*

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1610**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS3.**

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 Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1611**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS4.**

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.*

**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 Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1612**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS5.**

Arrangements for the caretaker period during the 2016 Local Government Quadrennial Elections

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

***The caretaker provisions of the Local Government Act 2009 and City of Brisbane Act 2010 are outlined in Part 5 of Chapter 3 (in both Acts).***

***The caretaker period for a local government is the period leading up to the local government elections that starts on the day when public notice of the holding of the election is given. The caretaker period ends at the conclusion of the election. The Electoral Commission of Queensland will advise when the caretaker period commences and when it will conclude for each local government.***

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Notes and receives the officer’s report.***

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1613**  
**4/0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10.40am.

**RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 10.56am.

**GMCCS6.**

Special Holiday 2016 – (Holidays Act 1983)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

***Each year Council is advised by the Minister responsible for the administration of the Holidays Act 1983, that he is empowered to appoint, upon request by the Chief Executive Officer of the Local Government for the district concerned, a special holiday within a district, whether it be a day, or the forenoon or afternoon of a day. Holidays of this nature are usually appointed in respect of an annual agricultural, horticultural or industrial show or other event which would be of significance to a particular district.***

***Council has been advised as at 7 December 2015 that the Special Day for the Shire as appointed under the Holidays Act 1983 will be gazetted as a Bank Holiday for the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016 which has been aligned to the Forsayth Turnout, which is now known as the Etheridge Show.***

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Notes and receives the officers report and furthermore that Council notify the Etheridge Community through the Inform Newsletter regarding this Bank Holiday and in addition notify the various Government Departments who have a presence in the Shire that Council encourages the various Director Generals to issue a Directive under the Public Service Act 2008 to allow their employees a leave day for this Special Holiday gazetted as Bank Holiday for the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016.***

**MOVED:** Cr Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1614**  
**4/0**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Mayor Attwood declared a conflict of interest in GMCCS8 and left the meeting at 11.05am, Mayor Attwood handed the chair to Deputy Mayor, Ian Tincknell.

**ATTENDANCE**

Peter Gregory attended the meeting at 11.06am and left at 12.33pm

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr Bethel attended the meeting at 11.17am.

Mayor Attwood returned to the meeting and resumed chair at 11.39am.

**GMCCS8.**

Development Application for:- MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE – CODE ASSESSMENT FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE (RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY – SOLAR FARM) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON LAND DESCRIBED AS OT 2 ON SP142700 VIA GILBERTON ROAD, KIDSTON PARISH OF PUTABURRA / NEPOWE, COUNTY OF PERCY

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

***Council has received a Development Application for:***

***Material Change of Use – Code Assessable for Community Infrastructure (Renewable Energy Facility – Solar Farm) and Associated Infrastructure On land described as Lot 2 on SP142700 via Gilberton Road, Kidston Parish of Putaburra / Nepowe, County of Percy.***

***Specifically the aim of the application is to permit the establishment of a solar farm on the decommissioned tailings storage facility on the old Kidston Gold Mine at Kidston. The Kidston Solar Farm will be constructed in two (2) phases with an ultimate power generating capacity through supporting transmission infrastructure of 150MWdc***

***The typical physical characteristics of the development will see Solar PV (Photovoltaic) modules, installed in regular arrays with an aggregate nominal capacity of approximately 65 MWdc (Phase 1 with Phase 2 nominal capacity approximately 100MWdc). Each solar module would be fixed to a metal mounting structure. The mounting structure will be either all angled and facing the same direction or a single axis tracker following the movement of the sun. The aggregate height of the solar panels and supporting frames will be less than 3 meters.***

***Each bank of solar panels will be connected via central inverters, step up transformers and switchgear in containers (power conversion unit or PCU) within each array block which convert DC (Direct Current) electricity generated by the solar PV modules to alternating current (AC) for connection to the national electricity grid.***

***A new 132 kV transmission line approximately 600 m long will be constructed to connect the Project to Ergon Energy's existing Kidston Substation.***

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***In accordance with the Integrated Planning Act 1997 as amended and the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 Council resolve to approve a Development Application for:***

***Application for Development Permit for Material Change of Use – Code Assessment for Community Infrastructure (Renewable Energy Facility – Solar Farm) and Associated Infrastructure;***

***On land described as***

***Lot 2 on SP142700 via Gilberton Road, Kidston***

***Parish of Putaburra/Nepowe, County of Percy***

**Subject to conditions as setout below and included in Draft Decision Notice (Attachment 2):**

**General:**

- 1) The development shall be undertaken substantially in accordance with the approved drawings and/or documents and in accordance with the specifications, facts and circumstances as set out in the application submitted to Council.**
- 2) The conditions of the Development Permit must be affected prior to Commencement of Use, except where specified otherwise in these conditions of approval.**
- 3) The developer shall be responsible for securing a permanent and ongoing water supply for the development.**
- 4) The Applicant shall liaise with and comply with any requirements that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) may require in relation to this development. The Applicant shall provide council copies of any agreements and/or conditions which CASA determine necessary for this development.**

**Time and Effect:**

- 5) The Development Approval shall lapse four (4) years after the date the Development Approval takes effect in accordance with the provisions of Section 341 of the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 and Section 3.5.21 of the Integrated Planning Act 1997.**

**Roads – External (Gilberton Road and Kidston Road):**

- 6) A two (2) lane bitumen seal shall be installed on the Gilberton Road from the end of the existing bitumen at Oaks Rush Outback Resort to the intersection of the Kidston Township Road. The new bitumen seal will continue from here on the Kidston Township Road to the Kidston Township with the construction of the sealed section to be completed within 4 years.**
- 7) All road design details shall be submitted to the Etheridge Shire Council for final approval.**
- 8) Any road improvement works shall be subject to a 12 month defects liability period.**
- 9) The Applicant and the Etheridge Shire Council shall enter into a maintenance agreement whereby the trafficable condition of any council road assets affected by this development shall be maintained at an agreed trafficable condition i.e. a geometric standard that permits the safe travel of type 2 road train vehicles. This agreement shall ensure the condition of any council road infrastructure including grids, culverts and concrete causeways (creek crossings) during the effective life of the development.**
- 10) The Applicant shall as soon as practicable and prior to any works commencing provide a Transport Management Plan to the Etheridge Shire Council. The Transport Management Plan shall include but not be limited to information relating to overall use of both state and council controlled road networks. Specific information which shall be addressed in the Transport Management Plan shall include:
  - i. installation of appropriate signage on the Kidston / Gilberton Road informing all traffic of changed conditions with regard to traffic numbers and size of vehicles especially during the construction phase of the project.****

- ii. *installation of appropriate signage on the Kidston / Gilberton Road to discourage entry onto the subject lands by the general public.*
- iii. *installation of advisory road signage at their cost on Kidston / Gilberton Road notifying tourists and general public of the existence and location of any interpretive & viewing facility.*

**Roads – Internal: (Access roads on private property):**

- 11) *The Applicant shall ensure where practicable access and movement within the site/s shall be sited during the period of construction and for the life of the project. The design shall minimize cut and fill, road drainage and soil erosion and interference with natural drainage lines. Care should also be taken to minimise impacts on visual and landscape values and environmentally sensitive areas with final design to the satisfaction of Council's delegated officer.*

**Services:**

- 12) *The Applicant shall be responsible for the cost of necessary alterations to existing public utility mains, services or installations required by works in relation to the proposed development or any works required by condition(s) of this approval.*

**Bushfire Management:**

- 13) *The Applicant shall ensure the solar farm infrastructure will be designed and constructed to ensure that it is not susceptible to damage from bushfire.*

- 14) *A Bushfire Management Plan will be prepared in accordance with Appendix 8 of State Planning Policy 1/03 - Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide to the satisfaction of Council's delegated officer.*

- 15) *The approved use shall comply with the requirements of the Bushfire Management Plan at all times.*

- 16) *The Applicant shall ensure that the development can be accessed by the Rural Fire Service in the event of bushfire, to the satisfaction of that organisation.*

**Decommissioning of Site:**

- 16) *The Applicant shall, no later than 2 months after the solar farm activities have permanently ceased to operate, notify the Council in writing of the cessation of the use. Within a further 12 months of this date, the operator, or in the absence of an operator, the owner of the land on which the relevant solar farm activity is/are located, shall undertake the following to the satisfaction of Council within two years of cessation of the use:*

- i. *remove all above ground non-operational equipment and structures generally associated with the previous solar farm activities*
- ii. *rehabilitate all access tracks and other areas affected by the project closure or decommissioning, if not otherwise useful to the on-going management of the land. Save that, the access road/s that are within remnant vegetation will be removed and rehabilitated to the satisfaction of Council's delegated officer.*
- iii. *submit a post-decommissioning re-vegetation plan to Council for approval. That plan will include a timetable of works. The Applicant and or land owner will implement the approved plan within the specified timeframe.*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1615**  
**4/0**



**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council suspends standing orders at 11.40am.*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1616**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Will Attwood and David Munro left the meeting at 11.55am and returned at 12.28pm.

Cr Arnett left the meeting at 12.33pm.

**DEPUTATION**

Owen Dalton, Simon Maher, and Matthew Boulton of RPS and Matthew Boschen from UDP attended the meeting at 11.00am to undertake a deputation with Council regarding Councils Urban Plan Project for the townships within the shire.

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council resumes standing orders at 1.10pm*

**MOVED:** Cr Bethel

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1617**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS7.**

Request for a Designated Public Place – (Einasleigh Racecourse Reserve)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has received correspondence from the Einasleigh Race Club requesting that Council change the area commonly known as the camping area within the Racecourse Reserve to an area where it becomes a designated public place to enable the consumption of alcohol under Section 173C of the Liquor Act 1992.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Notes and receives the officers report and furthermore that council write back to the Einasleigh Race club informing them that there are certain legislative powers that the trustees can utilise to declare the racecourse reserve as a designated public area.*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1618**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS9.**

Amendment to the ordinary meetings of Council for 2016

**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 in a newspaper circulating generally in the Local Government area in accordance with Section(s) 277 (1) & (2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

*In addition, Council must immediately notify of any change to the days and times of its ordinary meetings which is in accordance with Section 277(4) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to change the February Ordinary Meeting of Council in accordance with Section 277(4) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 from Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016 as the original day set by Council conflicts with the Etheridge Shire Economic Development Forum.*

Month	Date	Venue	Time
January	Wednesday 27 January 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
<del>February</del>	<del>Wednesday 17 February 2016</del>	<del>Georgetown</del>	<del>9.00am</del>
February	Wednesday 16 February 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
March	Wednesday 16 March 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
April	Wednesday 20 April 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
May	Wednesday 18 May 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
June	Wednesday 15 June 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
July	Wednesday 20 July 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
August	Wednesday 17 August 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
September	Wednesday 21 September 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
October	Wednesday 19 October 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
November	Wednesday 16 November 2016	Georgetown	9.00am
December	Wednesday 14 December 2016	Georgetown	9.00am

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1620**  
**4/0**

**GMCCS10.**

Etheridge Shire Council – Long Term Financial Forecast (Charleston Dam)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has been forging ahead with the design and development of a Dam located on the Delaney River 6km north of the Forsayth Township for the purpose of water security, recreation use and economic development.*

*Council was advised in December 2015 that our grant application under Round 2 of the Federal Government's National Stronger Regions Fund was not successful. Council has resolved at the December 2015 General Meeting to lodge another application for the Charleston Dam under Round 3 of the National Stronger Regions Fund with Round 3 applications closing on the 31 March 2016. In addition, Council has requested management to investigate the option of borrowing funds from Queensland Treasury for the construction of the Dam, which first needs the approval of the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning.*

*Council has lodged an application to the Department for their consideration and approval to cover the construction costs of the Charleston Dam. The lodgment of the loan application does not constitute or obligate Council to availing of the loan funds if approved, this is just another option available to Council to secure funds for a capital project.*

*This report provides Council with a detailed assessment of Council's loan application and also an updated version of Council's Long Term Financial Forecast.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Notes and receives the officers report***

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1621**  
**4/0**

**10. 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 December 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 December 2015 by the Engineering Section.***

***That Council:***

***Accept the list of items to be disposed of in the "Bid Card" Tender; and furthermore that an assessment panel consisting of the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Engineering and Director of Corporate and Community Services be formed with a report to be tabled to Council from the assessment panel for Council approval of the sale items.***

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1619**  
**4/0**

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Bethel**

- Shade sails at the kids playgrounds in Forsyth and Einasleigh have been taken down for repairs. They will be re-installed in the next three weeks.
- Suitable sites for gravel pits.

**RESOLUTION:**

**That council investigates suitable land at the Gilbert River area for an Emergency Services Facility located on the Strathmore Rd reserve in close proximity to the Cemetery Reserve and access road to the Mango Plantation.**

**MOVED:** Cr Bethel

**SECONDED:** Cr Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1624**  
**4/0**

**Cr Royes**

- Request from ETAG for an itemised account of the tourism budget.
- Etheridge Shire Mobile Application with local information and tourist attractions.

**RESOLUTION:**

That council investigates the development of a tourism and information application for the Etheridge Shire.

**MOVED:** Cr Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1623**  
**4/0**

**Cr Tincknell**

- Road to Dell's Hole.
- Possible seals between Einasleigh and the Oasis, and Georgetown to Forsyth roads.
- 5 students started at the Etheridge Learning Facility this morning; 3 grade sevens and 2 grade eights.
- Etheridge holding another Football Match in 2016.

**RESOLUTION:**

That council reforms the existing football committee and starts negotiations regarding a Football Match in 2016.

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1622**  
**4/0**

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 3.15pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Tuesday 16 February 2016.

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MAYOR

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