



# CONFIRMED MINUTES

---

GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD  
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN  
ON TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2016,  
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT GEORGETOWN**

**ON TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2016**

**COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr Michael Kitzelman, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr David Munro, Director of Corporate and Community Services  
Mrs Tanya Robinson, Executive Assistant  
Mr Terry Whitaker, Works Manager  
Miss Rebekah Hill, Business Administration Trainee  
Mr Rohana Samarasekera, Director of Engineering

**GALLERY**

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:02am and welcomed all in attendance.  
Tony Gallagher and Terry Cranwell were in attendance.  
Mr Rohana Samarasekera, Director of Engineering arrived at 9:06am.

**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.*

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting – Wednesday 27 January 2016**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 27 January 2016 be confirmed.*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1623**  
**5/0**

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

**GMCCS1.**

Monthly Financial Report as at 31 January 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 January 2016.*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1624**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS2.**

Capital Works Budget 2015/2016

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*As part of the 2015/16 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 Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1625**  
**5/0**

**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 Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1626**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS4.**

Renewal of Term Lease 210168 described as Lot 23 on GB87 (Reserve for Camping & Water)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has received correspondence from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines regarding the renewal of Term Lease 210168 described as Lot 23 on GB87 and is seeking Councils comments in regard to this renewal.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Resolve to offer no objections for the Department of Natural Resources & Mines to renew the Term Lease 210168 described as Lot 23 on GB87 subject to the use remaining for grazing purposes and that the activities conducted on the property remain consistent with the rural zoning as described within Council's Planning Scheme and furthermore that Council advise the Department that the Reserve for Camping & Water is still required for its gazetted purpose.*

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1627**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Eric Tan from The Traveller's Tavern attended the meeting at 9:26am.

**GMCCS5.**

Etheridge Shire Council – Restoration of Essential Public Assets (Capitalise or Expense)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this policy is to provide Council with general guidance on how to account for the Restoration of Essential Public Assets (REPA) on eligible public assets after a declared disaster event from an accounting perspective.

Maintenance expenditure can range from a few thousand dollars to repair road signage or clear table drains, too many thousands of dollars to restore the pavement (either gravel or sealed) to the road surface. In most cases, work undertaken is readily identified as maintenance and treated as an expense. However, at times the nature or intent of the work (or parts of the work) extends beyond restoring the asset to its original condition, capacity or function. In these cases, Council must decide whether the expenditure is most appropriately classified as "maintenance", or as a "capital outlay" that increases the value of the asset on which the expenditure is incurred.

Treating expenditure as maintenance (i.e. as an expense) affects the cost of Council's operating budget. Capital expenditure, on the other hand, has an impact on the value of Council's non-current assets and, subsequently, depreciation and community equity. Accounting for expenditure on assets in an appropriate and consistent manner will provide a more accurate indication of Council's output costs and of the value of its assets.

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

**Resolve to adopt Etheridge Shire Council's Restoration of Essential Public Assets (Capitalise or Expense) Policy.**

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1628**  
**5/0**

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council suspends standing orders at 9:35am.*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1629**  
**5/0**

**DEPUTATION**

Eric Tan attended the meeting at 9:26am to present a deputation updating on the progress of the Peace Monument project.

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council resumes standing orders at 9:50am*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1630**  
**5/0**

**RESOLUTION:**

**That the Mayor communicate Etheridge Shire Council's gratitude for the dedication and efforts to construct a Peace Monument within Etheridge Shire boundaries and furthermore a formal letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr Eric Tan and Soka Gakkai International Australia.**

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1631**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Eric Tan left the meeting at 9:59am.

**GMCCS6.**

Community Drought Support Package 2015|2016

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has been awarded a Grant in December 2015 from the Department of Communities, Child Safety & Disability Services which relates to events and or activities around Community Resilience.*

*A component of the Grant funding is for financial hardship which requires Council to develop a procedure / policy regarding the administering of this component of the Grant.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Resolve to adopt the “Community Drought Support Flexible Financial Hardship Policy” which is in accordance with the terms and conditions contained within the Community Drought Support Agreement and furthermore that council requests the Chief Executive Officer to conduct an expression of interest process requesting community groups to submit potential Drought Relief Activities for funding consideration with applications for the expression of interest process closing on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1632**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Rohana Samarasekera left the meeting at 10:09am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10:12am.

**RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 10:41am.

**GMCCS7.**

Etheridge Shire Football Steering Committee

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Based on community feedback from last year’s Community Event - Football in the Shire, Council resolved at the January 2016 General Meeting to re-establish the steering committee to commence the pre-planning of another Community Football event for the Shire in 2016.*

*The Steering Committee has had its first meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Notes and receives the Officers report*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1633**  
**5/0**

**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 2016, 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 2016 by the Engineering Section.*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1634**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Rohana Samarasekera left the meeting at 11:40am and returned at 11:57am.

**GMCCS8.**

NDRRA – Approval for Reimbursement of Day Labour Costs

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Since 2013, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority issued correspondence to all Local Government Authorities that the reimbursement of Council's Day Labour costs was not claimable as part of approved Reconstruction Works from an approved and declared disaster event which was being funded via the Commonwealth & State Governments.*

*Etheridge Shire along with a number of other Councils has provided suitable data to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority to mount a case to incorporate Day Labour Costs as a claimable expense through NDRRA funds.*

*Council has received correspondence from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority dated 5 January 2016, that Councils can now claim Day Labour costs for disaster events in 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years, however subject to agreed conditions for 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years, which means for events that occur in these financial years, Council will not be able to claim the full cost of its plant and equipment only consumables (i.e Fuel, Oil, Tyres).*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Note and receive the Officers report*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1635**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS9.**

Request for funds from the Einasleigh Infrastructure Reserve

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has received a request from the Einasleigh Race Club Inc. seeking funds from the Einasleigh Town Improvement Reserve to install a fence around the licensed area at the Race Track Bar due to Liquor Licensing requirements.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Resolves to transfer \$5,000.00 from the Einasleigh Town Improvement Reserve to assist the Einasleigh Race Club Inc with the purchase of materials to allow for the installation of a fence around the Einasleigh Race Club Bar Area.*

**MOVED:** Cr Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1636**  
**5/0**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Cr Attwood declared a conflict of interest in GMCCS11 and left the meeting at 11:58am. Cr Attwood handed the chair to Cr Tincknell.

Cr Attwood returned to the meeting and resumed chair at 12:04pm.

**GMCCS11.**

Declaring a Prescribed Project under the State Development & Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (SDPWO Act)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Council has received correspondence on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 from the Minister for State Development & Minister for Natural Resources & Mines that the Minister’s Office is in receipt of a request to declare a development within the Etheridge Shire as a “Prescribed Project” under the State Development & Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (SDPWO Act).**

*The objective of designating a project as a prescribed project is to allow the project to benefit from the provisions in Part 5A of the SDPWO Act, which Includes providing for a scheme to ensure timely decision-making for the project.*

*The Minister has invited written submissions or comments on the proposal to declare the project a prescribed project within 10 business days from the date of the Minister’s letter.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

**Resolve to offer no objections for the project to be declared as a prescribed project under the State Development & Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (SDPWO Act) subject to Etheridge Shire Council remaining as a referral agency to the project to ensure that Councils infrastructure that is subject to the project can be properly conditioned.**

**MOVED:** Cr Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1637**  
**4/0**



**ATTENDANCE**

Cr Bethel left the meeting at 12:03pm and returned at 12:06pm.

**GMCCS12.**

Update Pest Management Committee

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Pest Management Committee met on the 11 February 2016 to discuss further arrangements and Pest Management activities.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Notes and receives the report and endorses the following recommendations made by the Pest Management Committee;*

- That the pest management incentive program continues and that any money from the 15/16 scalp program be carried over to the aerial baiting program in the 16/17 financial year,
- In order to remain compliant under the bio security act 2014, the Etheridge Shire Council continues to fund the Pest Management Program and associated activities,
- That the Pest Management Committee and coordination of pest management activities continue and furthermore the memberships of the committee be reviewed to ensure that it continues to meet community and legislative expectations,
- That the Pest Management committee develop a program of works for the removal of neem trees in residential areas and furthermore that rural properties include the removal of neem trees along waterways.

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Arnett

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1638**  
**5/0**

**CLOSURE OF MEETING**

**MOTION:**

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

- *Etheridge Shire University / Tertiary Scholarship*

**MOVED:** Cr Arnett

**SECONDED:** Cr Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1639**  
**5/0**

**RESUMPTION OF MEETING**

**MOTION:**

*That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 12:14pm.*

**MOVED:** Cr Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1640**  
**5/0**

**8. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES CLOSED REPORTS**

**GMCCS10.**

Etheridge Shire University / Tertiary Scholarship

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*On an annual basis, Council will provide a \$5,000 Scholarship for the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016.*

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council:*

*Resolve to award the 2016 Etheridge Shire Council University / Tertiary Scholarship to both Sydney Ryan and James Butler.*

**MOVED:** Cr Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1641**  
**5/0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourn for lunch at 12:15pm

**RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 12:59pm

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Bethel**

- Etheridge Economic Development Forum
- Forsayth signage

**ATTENDANCE**

Rohana Samarasekera left the meeting at 1:11pm and returned at 1:18pm  
Terry Whitaker left the meeting at 1:22pm and returned at 1:24pm  
Rohana Samarasekera left the meeting at 1:30pm and returned at 1:43pm

**Cr Royes**

- Figures for ETAG will be available for the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- Designs for new signage in rest areas. Peter Gregory developing signage for entry and exit to each town in the shire
- Queensland Health
- Rural Fire Brigade at the Oasis

**Cr Tincknell**

- Material change of use on Lot 28
- Pest management
- The contract for the Etheridge Learning Facility has been signed for year seven and eight

**Cr Arnett**

- Website update

**Cr Attwood**

- Northern Gulf Resource Management Group & Gulf Cattleman's Association
- Australia day at Einasleigh – Cameron Barnes sang the Australian Anthem well

**RESOLUTION:**

That council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer for the approval of applications under the economic development grant fund subject to consultation with elected representatives on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1642**  
**5/0**

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 1:55pm.

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

.....  
MAYOR

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