



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2016,
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2016

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ATTENDANCE

Crs W Devlin, W Attwood, T Barnes, W Bethel & T Gallagher

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr Michael Kitzelmann, Chief Executive Officer
Mr David Munro, Director of Corporate and Community Services
Mrs Jodi Kernan, Payroll/HR Assistant

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.00am and welcomed all 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.

APOLOGIES AND CONDOLENCES

That Council send a condolence card to Sam Barnes and Family.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting – Wednesday 16 November 2016

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 16 November 2016 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1899
5/0

Special Meeting – Wednesday 7 December 2016

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 7 December 2016 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1900
5/0

Business arising from Minutes – Wednesday 17th November 2016

Cr Barnes – feedback regarding the correspondence sent to the Georgetown Turf Club.

Cr Devlin – feedback regarding GEO Park and recruitment for Director of Engineering Services.

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Discussions regarding reports from Director of Corporate and Community Services, Engineering Services, Childcare Centre and Terrestrial Centre.

Action Taken List from previous meetings.

6. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES OPEN REPORTS

GMCCS1.

Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

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 resolve to adopt the monthly Financial Report which incorporates the monthly statutory financial statements (Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position & Statement of Cashflows) pursuant to and in accordance with Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for the period ending 30 November 2016.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1901
5/0

GMCCS2.

Federal Government - Building Better Regional Fund

- Stream (a) – Infrastructure Project Stream
- Stream (b) – Community Investment Stream

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Fiona Nash MP announced the Building Better Regions Fund as at 24th November 2016.

The \$297.7 million program supports the Australian Government’s commitment to create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future.

There are two streams of funding available under the program:

The Infrastructure Projects Stream

- *will support projects which involve the construction of new infrastructure, or the upgrade or extension of existing infrastructure that provide economic and social benefit to regional and remote areas.*
- *has a minimum grant amount is \$20,000, the maximum grant amount is \$10 million. Projects must be completed by 31 December 2019.*

Applications close on 28 February 2017

The Community Investments Stream

- *will fund community building activities including, but not limited to, new or expanded local events, strategic regional plans, and leadership and capability building activities. These projects will deliver economic and social benefits to regional and remote communities.*
- *has a minimum grant amount of \$5,000, the maximum grant amount is \$10 million. Projects must be completed within 12 months of executing the grant agreement with the Commonwealth.*

Applications close on 31 March 2017.

Funding rounds will open for applications on 18 January 2017.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Notes & receives the Officers report and furthermore that Council submit an application under the Building Better Regions Fund for the following project titles “Gilbert River Substation and Copperfield River Gorge Dam Pipeline Kidston to Einasleigh” under Stream (A).

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1092
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Notes & receives the Officers report and furthermore that Council submit an application under the Building Better Regions Fund for the following project titles “A strategic plan focusing on the Agricultural Development with Etheridge Shire” under Stream (B).

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1093
5/0

Cr Bethel declared an interest in GMCCS3 and left the room at 9.45am

Application to Lease Unallocated State Land (Lot 197 on OL150)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines who has received an application from the current lessee to renew the existing Occupational License (18/197) and second upgrade the Occupational License to Term Lease.

The Department is seeking Councils views and or requirements regarding this application.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to offer no objections for the renewal of the Occupational License (18/197) described as Lot 197 on OL150 and furthermore that Council has no objections for the Occupational License (18/97) to be upgraded to a Term Lease for grazing purposes and the property remaining consistent with the rural zoning as described within Council's Planning Scheme.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1904
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Michael Kitzelmann, Chief Executive Officer left the meeting at 9.50am and returned at 9.52am

Cr Bethel returned to the meeting at 9.52am

GMCCS5.

Little Gems Childcare Centre

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past 6 weeks Council has had several meetings with the Principal of the Georgetown State School regarding the commencement of an accredited Kindergarten Program being established by the Georgetown State School.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Note and receive the officers report.

GMCCS6.

Request for Consideration of the Rates Write Off for Mining Lease

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council levied its Rates and Charges for the 2016-2017 Financial Year on 12 August 2016. The discount closing date was 12 September 2016.

Council received a Department of Natural Resources and Mines monthly report requesting that the Mining Leases Assessment No: 00405-06782-000, (ML6782) be cancelled. This would also require the outstanding interest to be written off.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolves to allow the write off the General Rates, Interest and Fire Levy for Assessment No: 00405-06782-000, ML6782, and furthermore, that Council take action to recover the outstanding debt through a debt recover agency.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1905
5/0

GMCCS7.

Procurement of additional Motor Vehicle (NDRRA Use)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the July General Meeting, Council approved via (Resolution No.2016/GM1760) to amend the existing Organisational Structure to accommodate two (2) new full time term employees to administer and project manager the 2015 NDRRA works.

Part of the meeting report presented to Council in July confirmed that wages and salaries was an eligible and claimable expense against the 2015 NDRRA claim and in addition Queensland Reconstruction Authority also clarified that vehicle expenses is also an eligible expense subject to section 7.6.1 of the Queensland Disaster Relief & Recovery Guidelines.

This report seeks the confirmation from Council in relation to the procurement of a vehicle specific to 2015 NDRRA for use by the Project Manager.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to purchase a 4wd utility in accordance with Councils purchasing policy and furthermore that Council amends its 2016/2017 Budget to allow for the capital cost associated with the procurement of the said vehicle subject to receiving the approval from Queensland Reconstruction Authority.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1906
5/0

GMCCS8.

Unauthorised Airstrip over Dedicated Road

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines informing Council that an "unauthorised airstrip" has been constructed over a dedicated road area in the Shire.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to inform the owner(s) of their breach in accordance with S.75 of the Local Government Act 2009 and furthermore advise them that as a direct result a portion of the road known as Howlong Station will be closed where it intersects the formed airstrip.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1907
5/0

GMCCS9.

Internal Audit Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section S.211-(C) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, requires that as soon as practicable after a meeting of the committee, give the local government a written report about the matters reviewed at the meeting and the committee’s recommendations about the matters.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to note and receive the officer’s report and furthermore that Council resolve to accept the recommendations made by the Audit and Risk Management Committee:

- 1. The Audit and Risk Management Committee request the Chief Executive Officer to continue to develop the operational risk register.*
- 2. That the Audit & Risk Management Committee endorse the Etheridge Shire Council Governance Framework Manual and furthermore that the Audit & Risk Management Committee acknowledges the level of compliance that is being achieved by Council and Staff.*
- 3. That the Audit and Risk Management Committee notes and receives the Officers Report. Furthermore, endorses Etheridge Shire Council’s 2016/2018 Safety Management Plan for continual Improvement.*
- 4. That the Audit and Risk Management Committee notes and receives the Environmental and Quality Management report.*
- 5. That the Audit & Risk Management Committee endorse the actions taken by staff to rectify the issues contained within the IT Security & Governance Audit and furthermore that the Audit & Risk Management Committee support the “Draft” – Information Technology Security Policy.*
- 6. That the Audit & Risk Management Committee notes and receives the internal audit report for the High Level Assessment of Internal Controls Report and furthermore that the Audit and Risk Management Committee endorses the actions taken by Management regarding areas of Key Internal Controls – Deficiencies.*
- 7. That the Audit & Risk Management Committee endorses the internal audit plan and defers the Human Resources and Payroll audit’s until 2018 and moves the inventory management and stores audit forward to 2017.*

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1908
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for morning tea at 10.20am

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.40am

GMCCS10.

WE ARE HERE Documentary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Visit Australian Small Towns Network Inc have proposed to include Etheridge in their upcoming WE ARE HERE documentary and produce tourism footage for duplication.

RESOLUTION:

*That Council:
Notes and receives the officer's report and furthermore that Council requests the Chief Executive Officer liaise with the Australian Horizons Foundation to assist in gaining external funding for this project.*

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1909
5/0

GMCCS11.

FNQROC Strategic Operational Options

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Council (FNQROC) formed in the 1980's and obtained its first employee in 2001. Since this time the number, type and scope of projects have significantly increased.

Currently FNQROC has 14 technical committees and a total of 5 full time positions. Because of this long-term growth, FNQROC has become a trusted brand to tackle regional operational issues or opportunities for Councils. This growth and trust can also be a burden in terms of the number of projects we are being asked to champion both from member Councils and external parties such as LGAQ and State agencies.

FNQROC need to ensure the projects undertaken within FNQROC are strategic and support Councils into the future.

FNQROC have just completed their first Strategic Directions Plan (2012-2017) and it is now an appropriate time to look forward and re-establish the Strategic Operational Priorities of our member Councils within the confines of their current resources.

The FNQROC Coordinators have spoken one on one with staff and or workshopped these questions with their technical committees. The ideas that have come forward are exciting and push boundaries.

This discussion paper lists:

- a. Those things FNQROC believe should continue as 'business as usual'*
- b. Opportunities which related directly to current technical committees, and*
- c. Opportunities which currently do not have a 'home' within a technical committee.*

The Regional Roads and Transport Group has not been included in this discussion paper as it is self-funding and is a requirement for Councils to access the \$5.7M in Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme funds.

The attached discussion paper is a collection of initiatives put forward for the FNQROC Boards consideration and prioritisation. This matter was discussed at the last FNQROC meeting dated 12th December 2016, with focussed discussion to occur at the February meeting to set the FNQROC's operational direction over the next 5 years.

FNQROC's member Councils have until the 3 February 2017 to provide a response back to FNQROC. This information is important to ensure we continue to deliver services/support where it is needed; this will ensure we keep providing a high return on investment for you.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to provide feedback to FNQROC prior to the 3 February 2017, furthermore that Council consider its priorities and provide these to the Chief Executive Officer for submission at the January General Meeting.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1910
5/0

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders at 11.15am

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1911
5/0

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

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

- *2017 Australia Day Nominations.*

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1912
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Michael Kitzelmann, David Munro and Jodi Kernan left the meeting at 11.30am

Michael Kitzelmann, David Munro and Jodi Kernan returned to the meeting at 12.20pm

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council resumes standing orders at 12.20pm

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1913
5/0

6. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES CLOSED REPORTS

GMCCS8.

2017 Australia Day Award Nominations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Etheridge Shire Council has prepared nominations packs for the annual Australia Day Awards.

Council invited the community to be involved by nominating individuals and/or groups who have made a significant contribution to their community, and the Etheridge region, in 2016. Nominations closed as at Friday 2nd December 2016.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to award the 2017 Australia Day Awards to the following applicants:

- 1. Australia Day Citizen of the Year –*
- 2. Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year –*
- 3. Australia Day Organisation of the Year Award –*
- 4. Australia Day Senior Sports Medallion –*
- 5. Australia Day Junior Sports Medallion –*
- 6. Mayoral Award -*

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Devlin

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1914
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolved to enter into contract negotiations with the Chief Executive Officer.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1915
5/0

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher

- Depth Markers on waterways throughout the shire
- Narrow bridge signage

Cr Barnes

- Newcastle Range Lookout

Cr Bethel

- Urban Planning

RESOLUTION:

That Council investigate the purchase of a compactor loader, to be included as a budget item for 2017/2018.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1916
5/0

RESOLUTION:

That Council utilise the 2017 Economic Development Forum in February to address specific topics to include land tenure, cultural heritage workshops, weed and pest management symposium.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1917
5/0

Cr Attwood

- Gorge Creek Weir

RESOLUTION:

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer directs the Engineering Department to review the access to Gorge Creek.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1918
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for lunch at 12.50pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.30pm

Cr Devlin

- Ambulance for Mt Surprise Community
- LED street light trial in conjunction with Ergon Energy
- Forsayth – Georgetown Road
- Charleston Dam

RESOLUTION:

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer engage a suitably qualified engineer for the redesign of the Charleston Dam wall and associated fish way.

MOVED: Cr Devlin

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2016/GM1919
5/0

- Visit to Tasmanian Irrigation Scheme, Gilbert River Irrigation Scheme

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 2.35pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday January 18th 2017.

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MAYOR

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