



# CONFIRMED MINUTES

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GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD  
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2017,  
COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT GEORGETOWN**

**ON WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2017**

**COMMENCING AT 8.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr David Munro, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Mrs Emma Bethel, Finance Administration Officer

**GALLERY**

Mr Ian Carroll, Mr Laurie Baron

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 8.00am 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.*

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting – Wednesday 15 February 2017**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 15 February 2017 be confirmed.*

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1970**  
**5/0**

**Special Meeting – Monday 20 February 2017**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That the Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Georgetown on Monday 20 February 2017 be confirmed.*

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Attwood

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1971**  
**4/0**

Cr Bethel sustained from voting on the Special Meeting Minutes dated 20 February 2017, as Cr Bethel was not in attendance at this Special Meeting due to declaring a Conflict of Interest.

**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 28 February 2017.*

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1972**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS2.**

Recruitment of Chief Executive Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has completed the process for the recruitment of a Chief Executive Officer with the issuing and acceptance of a contract of employment. In accordance with the Local Government Act 2009, Council is required to pass a resolution appointing the Chief Executive Officer.*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Resolve to appoint Mr Norman Garsden to the position of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Chapter 6, Part 5, Section 194 of the Local Government Act 2009 effective from Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017.*

**MOVED:** Cr Devlin

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1973**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS3.**

Works for Queensland (W4Q) Program 2016/17

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Deputy Premier has recently announced that \$1,070,000 under the W4Q Program has been made available for the Etheridge Shire Council (the council). Council has submitted 9 projects which covers all townships and two additional communities within the Etheridge Shire. These projects as submitted have been approved by the Department.*

*A key objective of this \$200 million W4Q Program is to support councils outside of South East Queensland to undertake job-creating projects*

*This W4Q Program, administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (the department), may be used for maintenance and minor works to improve the condition, quality or lifespan of an asset or for maintaining a community asset. The funds may also be spent on enhancing the scope of projects already committed to by the council.*

*Funded projects must be delivered by 30 November 2017. There is no obligation for councils to make a co-contribution under the W4Q Program.*

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council:

*Resolve to write to the Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning thanking the Minister and the current State Government for the Working for Queensland funding initiative and furthermore that Etheridge Shire Council encourage the State Government to continue with this funding program into the future until regional unemployment trends back down to the State and National Level.*

**MOVED:** Cr Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr Attwood

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1974**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS4.**

Etheridge Shire Council – Client Audit Strategy FYE 2017

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*QAO public sector auditing examines whether public monies are used appropriately, in compliance with relevant legislation, and whether public sector entities have systems in place, which enable them to assess whether their objectives are being achieved economically, efficiently and effectively.*

*QAO audits add value to the public sector through reporting to Parliament on the matters identified through their audits and through recommendations that improve business operations.*

*The 2016-17 client strategy outlines the planned audit approach for the Etheridge Shire Council for the financial year ending 2017.*

*The plan has been developed from the Auditors understanding of Council's business, information systems, internal controls, and managements monitoring of controls and risk.*

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council:

*Resolve to endorse the 2016/17 External Audit Plan as presented by the Queensland Audit Office.*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1975**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS5.**

2017 National General Assembly of Local Government – Call for Motions

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Australian Local Government Association is calling for motions with the theme ‘Building Tomorrows Communities’ to be submitted for the 2017 National General Assembly of Local Government which will be held in Canberra from 18-21 June 2017. Motions need to be submitted by no later than the 21 April 2017.*

*Should Council submit any motions for consideration approval is required for a representative to attend the Assembly to put forward motions on the day.*

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council:

*Notes and receives the Officers Report.*

**MOVED:** Cr Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1976**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS6.**

Building Our Regions Program – Round 3

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Building our Regions: Regional Infrastructure Fund (known as Building our Regions) is a targeted infrastructure program that will provide \$375 million for local government projects.*

*The primary purpose of Building our Regions is to provide funding for critical infrastructure in regional areas of the state, while also supporting jobs, fostering economic development and improving the liveability of regional communities.*

*Building our Regions also forms a key element of the Queensland Government’s overarching economic strategy – Working Queensland – which is designed to boost the confidence of business to create jobs, increase the productivity of our labour force through skills development, foster emerging and innovative industries and support investment in productive infrastructure.*

*Council has submitted three (3) EOI applications under Round 3 of the Building our Regions fund, with all three (3) EOI applications being endorsed by the Government to move into the next stage being the application stage. The documentation that is required to submit the application(s) will be available from the Department’s website on the 13<sup>th</sup> March with all applications having to be submitted prior to the 7 April 2017.*

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council:

*Resolve to support the “Detailed Application” titled “Georgetown Multipurpose Gymnasium Project” under Round 3 of the Building our Regions Fund and furthermore that Council is committed to the delivery of this project and has endorsed the budget for this project and furthermore that Council will cover the ongoing discretionary and whole of life costs for this piece of infrastructure.*

That Council:

*Resolve to support the “Detailed Application” titled “Charleston Dam Recreational Project” under Round 3 of the Building our Regions Fund and furthermore that Council is committed to the delivery of this project and has endorsed the budget for this project and furthermore that Council will cover the ongoing discretionary and whole of life costs for this piece of infrastructure.*

That Council:

*Resolve to support the “Detailed Application” titled “Charleston Dam Solar Pump Station” under Round 3 of the Building our Regions Fund and furthermore that Council is committed to the delivery of this project and has endorsed the budget for this project and furthermore that Council will cover the ongoing discretionary and whole of life costs for this piece of infrastructure.*

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1977**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS7.**

Mt Surprise Community Infrastructure Fund

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has received a written request from the community of Mt Surprise seeking Councils support to install a VAST System at the Mt Surprise Hall along with a Television & CD player with payment of the said infrastructure being from the Mt Surprise Community Infrastructure Fund.*

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council:

*Resolve to approve the request to acquire the VAST system, Television and DVD Player, and furthermore that the funds to cover the cost be transferred from the Mt Surprise Town Infrastructure Reserve.*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Bethel

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1978**  
**5/0**

*David Munro left the meeting at 9.10 am and returned at 9.11am.*

**GMCCS8.**

North Queensland Local Government Association Conference (NQLGA)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Annual Conference of the North Queensland Local Government Association will be held in Atherton from 26 to 28 July 2017. The Conference Programme is being developed by Tablelands Regional Council, and will be available approximately mid to late May 2016. The Tablelands Regional Council is also seeking feedback from member Councils in developing the conference topics.*

*The association will be calling for agenda items (motions) to be submitted in due course.*

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council:

*Resolve the attendance of Cr Devlin, Cr Gallagher, Cr Barnes, Cr Bethel and Cr Attwood to attend the North Queensland Local Government Association (NQLGA) Conference in Atherton from the 26 to 28 July 2017 and furthermore that Council submits the following motions for inclusion within the annual general meeting.*

- 1. National Parks*
- 2. Invasive Weeds & Pests*

**MOVED:** Cr Bethel

**SECONDED:** Cr Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1979**  
**5/0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourn for morning tea at 9:20am

**RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 10:00am.

**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.

**Business Arising from Information Bulletin**

**Cr Barnes**

- Georgetown Racecourse

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council request the Acting Chief Executive Officer to take no further action in relation to Resolution No. 2016/GM1889 (Review of Organisational Structure) dated 16 November 2016 and furthermore the Organisational Structure will be reviewed as part of the 2017/2018 Budget Process.

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Attwood

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1980**  
**5/0**

**Cr Attwood**

- Gorge Creek Weir Update
- Cr Attwood noted that the incorrect station was noted on Page. 26 Kutchera Station should be Dulthura Station

**Cr Devlin**

- Discussion regarding correspondence from Senator James McGrath requesting that the Council name the Charleston Dam after the late Noeline Ikin. Council to acknowledge receipt of the letter and advise that further consideration will be made in due course in recognition of her contributions.
- Cr Devlin updated Council on the Charleston Dam project.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Gallagher**

- Cr Gallagher tables a request he had received from Mr Robert McFarlane regarding the access road (Creek Street) located at the back of his allotment which adjoins Haldane Street. The matter was discussed and it was generally agreed that Cr Gallagher would advise Mr McFarlane correspondence should be sent to Council outlining his proposal.
- Hostel Fees for Casual Accommodation

**RESOLUTION:**

That the Acting Chief Executive Officer review the fees and charges for the Student Hostel Casual Rates as part of the 2017/18 budget review.

**MOVED:** Cr Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1981**  
**5/0**

**Cr Barnes**

- Cr Barnes raised the issue of off-street parking in St George Street, Georgetown.

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council resolve that as part of 2017/18 budget, consideration be given to widening a section of Haldane Street.

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1982**  
**5/0**

**Cr Bethel**

- Requested that the allotment where Greens Motors was located to be cleaned up.
- Requested that the Council should form a working group to have the old machinery restored, to preserve the history.
- Requested that Council give consideration in the 2017/18 Budget to erect an old historical shed to accommodate the machinery.
- O'Briens creek causeway damages have been reported.

**Cr Attwood**

- Advised Council that he would be attending a Social Welfare Symposium later in the month.
- Usage of the Old Georgetown Landfill



**RESOLUTION:**

That Council request the Acting Chief Executive Officer to provide a report back to Council regarding the conditions of use of the old Georgetown landfill allotment to allow an area to be utilised for Nature Watching.

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1983**  
**5/0**

**RESOLUTION:**

That Cr Attwood requests a leave of absence for the next General Meeting on 19 April 2017.

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1984**  
**5/0**

**Cr Devlin**

- Cr Devlin presented a letter requesting that Council nominate Noeline Ikin posthumously for the 2017 Outstanding Alumni Awards. Council generally agreed that correspondence should be forwarded to Northern Gulf in support of this application.
- Discussion regarding the Gilbert River Project
- Streetscaping for Etheridge Townships
- Peace Monument/Arts Festival proposal

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council request the Acting Chief Executive Officer to provide a report back to Council for the April General Meeting on Streetscaping for the four Etheridge Townships.

**MOVED:** Cr Devlin

**SECONDED:** Cr Attwood

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1985**  
**5/0**

*Members of the Gallery left the meeting at 12.01pm*

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council suspends standing orders at 12.02pm*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1986**  
**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;*

- *Access to Lot 994 on SP258857 (Gulf Development Road - Georgetown) (1) (h)*
- *Governance Review (Contracts - Code of Conduct) (1) (h).*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1987**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Emma Bethel left the meeting at 12.03pm and returned at 12.27pm

Cr Bethel left the closed session at 12.20pm and declared a Conflict of Interest in item GMCCS10.  
Cr Bethel returned to the meeting at 12.30pm.

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**MOTION:**

*That Council resumes standing orders at 12.31pm.*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1988**  
**5/0**

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

**GMCCS9.**

Access to Lot 994 on SP258857 (Gulf Development Road - Georgetown)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council has an issue in accessing Lot 994 on SP258857 due to an issue arising from a revised survey plan to re-configure one allotment into two allotments along the Gulf Development Road.*

*Council has previously discussed this matter at a Special Meeting dated 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016, and had resolved to undertake negotiations with the adjoining land owner to have the access issue resolved to Lot 994.*

**RESOLUTION:**

*That Council:*

*Resolve to commence the process to resume a portion of Lot 1 on SP217473 for the purpose of allowing public access to Lot 22 on CP 588386, Lot10 of GB79 & Lot 994 SP258857 in accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act 2009 and the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

**MOVED:** Cr Attwood

**SECONDED:** Cr Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1989**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS10.**

Governance Review (Contracts - Code of Conduct)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Etheridge Shire Council has developed a Corporate Governance Framework to ensure compliance with legislation and best practice democratic local government. The Framework is not a policy or statement of intent, but rather a document which outlines council's governance policies and practices.*

*It provides readers with an overview of the governance program that has been put in place in order to assist elected members, management and employees in meeting their governance responsibilities. Council is committed to high standards of corporate governance and accountability and seeks continuous improvement in this regard.*

*Council has requested a review of a section that pertains to "contracts".*

**RESOLUTION:**

*That Council:*

*Resolves to include a definition of the Code of Conduct in regards to the Preferred Suppliers Contract and furthermore that the Contracts on the Preferred Suppliers list are bound with the Code of Conducts furthermore the Director Engineering Services in conjunction with the Works Manager will undertake quarterly performance reviews on the Preferred Supplier Contractors pertaining to the Wet Hire of Plant and Machinery.*

**MOVED:** Cr Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr Attwood

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2017/GM1990**  
**4/0**

Cr Bethel sustained from voting on this item GMCCS10 due to a declared Conflict of Interest.

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 12.45pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

.....  
MAYOR

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