



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2018,
COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2018

COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr Norm Garsden, Chief Executive Officer
Mr David Munro, Director of Corporate and Community Services
Mr Jeff Bunt, Director of Engineering Services

GALLERY

Mr Ian Carroll (QPS – Forsayth) attended the gallery at 9.16am
Mr Scott Middleton, Gulf Catchments Biosecurity and Agribusiness
Innovation attended the gallery at 9.25am

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 8.00am and welcomed all in attendance.

Cr Bethel was not in attendance at the commencement of the General Meeting at 8.00am

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.

DECLARATIONS

- Mayor declared a perceived conflict of interest with General Meeting Item GMES1 - *Register for preferred supplier for diesel fuel to the depot and the mobile tanker*, because of commercial arrangements between one of the tenderers and his business (Ampol Roadhouse).

APOLOGIES AND CONDOLENCES

That Council passes on its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of the late Mr. Harrison Randall.

That Council passes on its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of the late Mr. Dennis Salam of Forsayth.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting – Monday 15 January 2018

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Monday 15 January 2018 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2247
4/0

Business arising from Minutes – Monday 15 January 2018

Nil

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Discussions regarding reports from Corporate Services, Engineering Services, Childcare and Terrestrial Centre and Action Taken List from previous meetings.

Business arising from the Information Bulletin

Nil

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council amend the order of the agenda to discuss item GMCCS10.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2248
4/0

Cr Bethel entered the meeting at 8.16am

GMCCS10.

Standing Orders

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council regularly refers to 'Standing Orders' throughout its meetings, however, it appears that the Standing Orders were repealed in September 2010, when Local Law No. 5 (Meetings) 1995 was repealed.

That attached draft document has been prepared for Council consideration to document the rules and standard processes to be observed at Council meetings, however, it is noted that standing orders may be suspended at any time by resolution.

RESOLUTION

That Council adopt the attached draft Standing Orders (as amended at this meeting) to document the rules for the conduct of Council meetings.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2249
5/0

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders to discuss item GMES1

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2250
5/0

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

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

- *GMES1 - Register for preferred supplier for diesel fuel to the depot and the mobile tanker*

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2251
5/0

The Mayor declared a perceived conflict of interest with General Meeting Item GMES1 - Register for preferred supplier for diesel fuel to the depot and the mobile tanker, because of commercial arrangements between one of the tenderers and his business (Ampol Roadhouse) and left the meeting at 8.20am

The Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair of the Meeting

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

MOTION:

That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 8.23am.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2252
4/0

8. CONSIDERATION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES CLOSED REPORTS

GMES1.

Register for preferred supplier for diesel fuel to the depot and the mobile tanker

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tenders were invited to supply and deliver fuel to an above ground bulk storage facility at council works depot located in Georgetown, and deliver fuel to a mobile storage facility to be located on the Kennedy Development Road, 78kms south of the Oasis Roadhouse. The supply of diesel fuel would be from March 2018 to March 2019 (12 Calendar months).

The tender evaluation process has been completed and the details of each tender are provided in this report.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves, to accept the following tender for supply of diesel fuel to an above ground bulk storage facility at council works depot located in Georgetown, and deliver fuel to a mobile storage facility to be located on the Kennedy Development Road, 78kms south of the Oasis Roadhouse:

Fuel price will be based on the Terminal Gate Price (TGP) set for seven days as per tender specification:

Tender	Depot Tank	Mobile Tank
Marano's Enterprises	TGP - \$0.03 incl GST	TGP - \$0.03 incl GST

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2253
4/0

The Mayor declared a perceived conflict of interest in Item GMES1 and did not vote on this matter nor was the Mayor in attendance during the voting of this Resolution.

The Mayor returned to the meeting at 8.25am and resumed the Chair from the Deputy Mayor.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders to discuss item GMES2, GMCCS7.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2254
4/0

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

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

GMES2 - Supply and Delivery of Used Low Loader
GMCCS7 - Charleston Dam

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2255
5/0

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

MOTION:

That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 9.05am.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2256
5/0

GMES2.

Supply and Delivery of Used Low Loader

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2017/18 budget provides for the procurement of a used Low Loader. In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy, Quotations for this item of plant were invited in and closed in January 2018. The Quotation evaluation process has been completed and the details of each quote are provided in this report.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following quote for supply of a used low loader, as specified in the quotation documentation.

<i>Plant #</i>	<i>Item for Trade</i>	<i>Recommended Tender</i>	<i>Purchase Price</i>
<i>used</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Pengelly Truck & Trailer</i>	<i>\$ 62,727.27</i>

- Price is GST exclusive.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2257
5/0

10. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES CLOSED REPORTS

GMCCS7.

Charleston Dam

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

The attached report provides a brief update as to what has transpired over the past month.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Lay this matter on the table and furthermore that Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to continue the negotiations with the landowner.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2258
5/0

Mr. Jeff Bunt (Director of Engineering Services) left the meeting at 9.30am

Mr. Norman Garsden (Chief Executive Officer) left the meeting at 9.58am

Mr. Norman Garsden (Chief Executive Officer) returned to the meeting at 9.59am

DEPUTATION – SCOTT MIDDLETON (Gulf Catchments Biosecurity and Agribusiness Innovation)

Council received a deputation from Mr. Scott Middleton regarding the development of Councils new Biosecurity Management Plan.

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* sets out a legal framework for the management of invasive plants and animals across the state of Queensland. The act includes key (functions, tools and powers) roles and responsibilities shared among stakeholders.

- (s23), All persons who deals with invasive biosecurity matter or a carrier, or carries out an activity that poses or likely to pose a biosecurity risk to a biosecurity consideration, has a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the risk of adverse impacts to that biosecurity consideration, in compliance with the act. (*reasonably ought to know and take reasonable and practical actions to address biosecurity risk, of biosecurity event to biosecurity consideration*)
- (*Prevent entry, prevent establishment, prevent spread and minimise impacts of established populations*)
- (s48), Local government are responsible for ensuring invasive biosecurity matter is managed within its local government area, in compliance with the act.
- (s53) Local government must have a biosecurity plan in place for the management of invasive biosecurity matter within its local government area.
- Invasive Biosecurity matter includes those listed in Schedule 1 Prohibited Matter (parts 3 & 4) & Schedule 2 Restricted Matter (part 2), categories 1-7.

Council was provided with an overview as to how to progress the development of the plan and how Council will involve the community in its development.

A copy of the presentation has been attached to the Minutes of the General Meeting dated 21st February 2018

Council adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.15am
Council resumed the meeting at 10.35am

Mr. Scott Middleton was not in attendance at the resumption of the meeting at 10.35am.

Mr. Rodney Tansey (Town Water Operator) was in attendance at the resumption of the meeting at 10.35am.
Miss Caitlin Tansey (Trainee Administration Officer) was in attendance at the resumption of the meeting at 10.35am.

AWARD CEREMONY – 20 YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH ETEHRIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

Prior to resuming Standing Orders, the Mayor & Councillors made a presentation to recognise 20 years of service and contribution to the Etheridge Shire Council to Mr Rodney Tansey.

Mr. Rodney Tansey (Town Water Operator) left the meeting at 10.45am.
Miss Caitlin Tansey (Trainee Administration Officer) left the meeting at 10.45am.

6. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES OPEN REPORTS

GMCCS1.

Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

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 31 January 2018.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2259
5/0

GMCCS2.

Operational Plan Review for the Quarter ending December 2018

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012, the Chief Executive Officer is required to present a report on Council's progress towards implementing the annual "Operational Plan".

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Adopt the Operational Plan review for the December 2017/18 quarter in accordance with Section 174 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2260
5/0

GMCCS3.

Application to Purchase Balance of Township Reserves (Lots 1-11 & 38-40 on SP252513 and Lot 14 on SP129833)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council lodged an application to purchase parcels of Reserve Land located in the Township of Mt Surprise described as Lots 1-11 & 38-40 on SP252513 and Lot 14 on SP129833 from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines. Council's application was acknowledged by the Department on the 9th June 2016.

Council received a Natural Justice Letter from the Department on the 18 January 2018 regarding Councils application to purchase the reserve land within the Mt Surprise Township, with the Departments letter stating that they are required under the Land Act 1994 to undertake investigations into a range of matters including environmental, social and economic factors as well as Native Title, cultural heritage, local planning schemes and the future needs of the community, this is to ensure that State land is allocated to the most appropriate use and tenure to derive the greatest benefits to meet the current and future needs of the people of Queensland.

The Department wishes to advise written response from Council in relation to the Department's Natural Justice Letter dated 18 January 2018 is required to be lodged by close of business on 28 February 2018.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to provide a written response to the Department of Natural Resources & Mines in relation to Councils current application to purchase the balance of the Mt Surprise Township, with Council emphasizing the following key points:

- (1) That Council is interested in Lot(s) 2,3,4,5 & 6 and that the Department provides an individual price for the said allotments.*

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2261
5/0

GMCCS4.

St George Street (Georgetown) Masterplan (Street Scaping & Car Parking)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has been investigating options to provide formal designated “On-Street” Parking along St George Street, plus enhance the visual amenity by incorporating Street Scaping.

Council received a “first draft” & “second draft” concept plan at the April & June General Meetings as a starting point to provide feedback and further direction regarding this initiative.

This report to Council has taken into consideration the feedback and direction to date regarding the On-Street Parking and Street Scaping for St George Street, Georgetown.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Lay this matter on the table and furthermore that Council seeks feedback from the community through deputations with the Commercial Business Operators within Georgetown and the Georgetown Progress Association prior to finalising the St George Street Master Plan.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2262
5/0

GMCCS5.

Request for Consideration of the Rates Emergency Fire Management Levy Statutory Declarations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are still several enquiries from Mining Lease and Mining Claim holders regarding the Emergency Management Levy.

The legislation for the levy is as below:

Under Part 10 Section 112 Determinations and notifications of contributions of the Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990

- (1) In respect of each financial year, a local government as at the first day of the financial year:
 - (a) must determine the prescribed properties within its area; and*
 - (b) must determine the annual contributions payable in respect of prescribed properties by reference to the categories prescribed under a regulation made under section 108.**

This means Council can determine, from 01 July that the statutory declaration can apply for the whether it be mining or not mining (vacant land).

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolves not to allow statutory declarations and the reversal of the Emergency Management Levy after the official issuing of the rate levy. Furthermore; that Council removes the notice requirement issued in April and May (prior to the end of the Financial Year). Council places a notice in the Inform requesting Statutory Declarations from Mining Lease and Mining Claims holders to be lodged by 30 June if their circumstances have changed from the previous year and they have stopped or recommenced mining.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

AMENDMENT

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolves not to allow statutory declarations and the reversal of the Emergency Management Levy after the official issuing of the rate levy and furthermore that Council removes the notice requirement issued in April and May (prior to the end of the Financial year) and furthermore that Council places a notice in the Inform requesting advice from Mining Lease and Mining Claims holders if there has been a change in operating status to be lodged by 30 June

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2263
5/0

GMCCS6.

Request for assistance “Easter at Einasleigh”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the organising committee seeking Councils assistance in the form of plant & equipment for their upcoming event in Easter.

An eligible local community organisation may request assistance from Council in the form of machinery such as a Water Truck, Grader etc., subject to availability and subject to operator availability. This form of assistance has a monetary cost to Council, and this needs to be recognised and acknowledge by the community group and or organisation throughout the event.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to authorise the use of a pump unit and provide the Jumping Castles to the Association for the duration of the Event and furthermore that any damages to the said equipment to be repaired by the Association (the hirer).

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2264
5/0

GMCCS8.

Proposed Retro-Subdivision of the Kidston Township (Lot 66 on SP258871)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from Ausnorth Consultants seeking Councils views and support to recreate the old Kidston Township by establishing and re-engineering several of the formal town allotments and excluding these allotments from the existing rural property allotment described as Lot 66 on SP258871, for the sole intention of re-sale.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to inform the applicant that Council cannot provide a letter of support for this proposal until the applicant lodges a properly made Development Application for a Material Change of Use and Reconfiguration of allotments in accordance with Councils Planning Scheme (as amended)

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2265
5/0

7. CONSIDERATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OPEN REPORTS

GMCCS9.

Regional Associations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Etheridge Shire Council is currently a member of the Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC) and Far North Queensland Regional Roads and Transport Group (FNQRRTG). Prior to June 2017, Council was also a member of the North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (NWQROC), but withdrew its membership, requesting that Council's be given the opportunity to attend the meetings as an observer.

NWQROC has recently written to invite Etheridge Shire Council to re-join the NWQROC, advising that the Board has commenced an extensive renewal of the organisation and adopted a number of wide ranging reform resolutions. The objective of these reforms is to enable the NWQROC to take on a leadership role in the development of North West Queensland through effective advocacy and representation based on collaboration and cooperation amongst member councils.

A Special General Meeting will be held in Richmond on Tuesday 13 February 2018 and will be followed by the Ordinary General Meeting which will continue the reform process focusing, amongst other things, on the recruitment of an Executive Officer. The meeting will also commence the development of the association's strategic plan.

As FNQROC has scheduled its meeting for Monday 12 February 2018 and the Far North District Disaster Management Group (FNDDMG) its meeting of 13 February 2018, it is unlikely that the Mayor and CEO will be able to attend the NWQROC meeting.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to accept the Offer to be an observer at the next NWQROC meeting and NWQRRG.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2266
5/0

Cr Tony Gallagher left the meeting at 12.30pm
Cr Tony Gallagher returned to the meeting 12.32pm

GMCCS11.

Geotourism Workshop

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A one-day workshop has been planned on Geotourism and Geoparks on Monday 14 May at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), Kensington, Perth, from 9am – 3pm. The workshop we will be having speakers on Geotourism and Geoparks from the UK, China, Iran and Australia. Speakers from WA will also discuss Geotourism and Geopark development in Western Australia. The Workshop is being arranged by the Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco-Tourism (FACET).

RESOLUTION

That Council nominate the Mayor (Cr Devlin) to attend the Geotourism and Geoparks Workshop in Perth on 14 May 2018.

MOVED: Cr

SECONDED: Cr

RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM
0/0

Motion lapsed due to no support for the motion

GMCCS12.

Biosecurity Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Weed management has been raised by Councillors at Council meetings over the past few months. The Biosecurity Act 2014 sets out a legal framework for the management of invasive plants and animals across the state of Queensland. The Act includes key (functions, tools and powers) roles and responsibilities shared among stakeholders.

Under the Act, all persons who deal with Invasive Biosecurity Matter, or carries out an activity that poses or likely to pose a biosecurity risk to a biosecurity consideration, has a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the risk of adverse impacts to that biosecurity consideration (s23).

Local Government is responsible for ensuring invasive biosecurity matter is managed within its local government area, in compliance with the Act (s48). Invasive Biosecurity Matter includes those listed in Schedule 1 Prohibited Matter (parts 3 & 4) and Schedule 2 Restricted Matter (part 2), categories 1-7.

Local Government must have a biosecurity plan in place for the management of Invasive Biosecurity Matter within its Local Government Area (s53).

The purpose of the Biosecurity Plan is to establish a local consultation and planning framework which facilitates a cooperative approach among all stakeholder sectors within the Local Government Area (land managers, industry, the community and all levels of government), for the effective management Invasive Biosecurity Matter within the Etheridge Shire, in compliance with the Act. The proposed Biosecurity Plan 2018 will establish agreed stakeholder roles and responsibilities to address Invasive Biosecurity Matter Obligations, including agreed pest thresholds and “reasonable and practical” actions which are consistent with stakeholder capacity, available resources and obligations (level of risk, impact and liability) under the Act and linking frameworks.

A Consultation Plan is attached for Council information and feedback.

RESOLUTION

That Council endorse the development of the Biosecurity Plan and proposed Consultation Plan, noting that the Plan should be available by 21 June 2018 for Council final approval and adoption.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2267
5/0

Rebekah Haase (Economic & Community Development Officer) attended the meeting at 12.37pm

GMCCS13.

Local Laws

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws were adopted by Council on 15 January 2014 and remained un-amended. The Local Laws provide a legal and procedural framework for managing Animal Management; Community and Environmental Management; and Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads.

Recently Council identified a need to review the requirements of Local Law 4 (e.g. extending the opening hours of the Pool). The process to amend Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws is not established by Law, but up to Council to determine. A proposed process is also attached.

RESOLUTION

That Council

- *Adopt: the Law making process to make or amend a Local Law and Subordinate Local Law (Attachment 1); and*
- *Hold a special meeting on 7 March 2018, immediately following the Community Consultation Meeting to consider the formal proposal to amend the Subordinate Local Law.*

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2268
5/0

GMCCS14.

2018 Civic Leaders Summit and Financial Sustainability Summit

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The LGAQ have organised two high-level, but practical summits at the Gold Coast in May 2018.

The Financial Sustainability Summit will explore real-life examples of how local governments have overcome challenges in their regions, secured international investment and achieved business success. . This year, it will be held at Benowa (Gold Coast) 8-9 May 2018. The event is targeted at Mayors and CEOs.

The Civic Leaders Summit is held every 2 years. This year, it will be held at Benowa (Gold Coast) 10-11 May 2018. The event is targeted at Mayors, Deputy Mayors and CEOs (with a maximum of 3 delegates from each Council). The Summit has three themes:

- *Resilience;*
- *Compliance; and*
- *Execution.*

RESOLUTION

That Council nominate the Mayor (Cr Devlin) and Chief Executive Officer (Norman Garsden) to attend the Financial Sustainability and Civic Leaders Summit on the Gold Coast from 8 – 11 May 2018.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2269
5/0

GMCCS15.

Proposed Memorandum of Understanding – Queensland Fire and Emergency Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services wish to formalise an undocumented understanding and commercial use arrangements for the utilisation of Council Assets (Water Trucks, etc.) during wildfire operations.

The draft MOU will be discussed at the upcoming Fire Management Group meeting, scheduled for 26 February 2018. It is noted that for the next 2 years, much of Council's plant will be deployed on the Hann Highway upgrade and there may be significant costs and delays in deploying any requested plant, personnel and equipment to the location of the emergency. Clarification has been sought whether:

- ***Council would be asked to deploy plant, personnel and equipment outside of the Council area; and***
- ***The costs upon deployment on private freehold or leasehold property would be recoverable.***

Council's direction is sought on its willingness to formalize and execution of the draft MOA (attached).

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Confirm its willingness to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services for the utilisation of Council Assets (Water Trucks etc.) during wildfire operations.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2270
5/0

GMCCS16.

Developing Northern Australia Conference – Alice Springs 18th & 19th June

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Developing Northern Australia Conference will be held at the Alice Springs Convention Centre on June 18 & 19 2018. Etheridge Shire Council attended the conference in 2016 and 2017 which resulted in boosting Etheridge's profile as a development focused local government area and proved to be a valuable networking and learning experience for all attendees. Council currently has the opportunity to obtain the early bird registration and accommodation prices for the 2018 Conference.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Approve the Chief Executive Officer to secure the early bird registration pricing for Etheridge Shire Council representatives to attend the 2018 Developing Northern Australia Conference and furthermore endorse the Chief Executive Officer to submit an abstract for a 30 minute oral presentation on the Gilbert River Irrigation Project in the "Food & Agribusiness – Advancing Agribusiness" category.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2271
5/0

GMCCS17.

One Road TV Episode Proposal

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Upcoming television series, 'ONE ROAD Great Australian Road Trips' is currently accepting proposals to feature particular drives itineraries as part of profiling Australia's greatest road trips. Gulf Savannah Development has facilitated conversations with the Councils along the Savannah Way to lobby for an episode to be dedicated to the Far North Queensland section of the drive.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the officer's report and furthermore approves the budget and resource considerations to secure Etheridge Shire's position in an episode of ONE ROAD.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2272
5/0

GMCCS18.

Gilbert River Irrigation Project

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

No further correspondence has been received from the Queensland Government regarding the MIPP. This is perhaps not surprising given the political manoeuvrings around the Adani and Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure (LFRIP) (Rookwood Weir) projects.

An email updating the stakeholder group was sent in the 3rd week of February.

NT Farmers and Etheridge Shire have composed a draft invitation letter to Federal Senator Matt Canavan and State Minister Anthony Lynham to attend the Georgetown NT Farmers Food Futures

Roadshow (Attachment 1). This will be a joint invitation from NT Farmers, Etheridge Shire Council and The Office of Northern Australia. That event is anticipated to occur in the first week of June however the dates cannot be confirmed until we receive confirmation from Ministers about attendance. Etheridge Shire Council has been invited to attend an earlier Roadshow in Kununurra on March 27, 2018 (pdf Attachment). The Mayor has been asked to participate in a panel representing Queensland composed of himself, Gareth Jones (QDAF) and Ron Greentree. That panel will update the participants, and field questions, on what is happening in North Queensland and the activities on the Gilbert River in particular.

Work continues on the draft Initial Advice Statement (IAS) to the Coordinator General. This document is a little more complex than anticipated and sections will be difficult to complete without more concrete information. Early discussions have occurred between Council and Marsden Jacobs and Associates regarding an economic impact study that will satisfy the requirements of Government around an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Impact Assessment Report (IAR).

Property visits were conducted on Forest Home and Strathmore stations with QDAF staff to look at the possibilities around sesame seed production on the Gilbert River. QDAF is conducting a small, formal trial of 4 sesame varieties on Forest Home in conjunction with an Israeli seed breeding company, Equinom.

A draft abstract has been written for a presentation to the Developing Northern Australia Conference to be held in Alice Springs on June 18-19, 2018. Participation has not been confirmed.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

- *Continue to support the project until the outcome of the MIPP submission is determined; and*
- *Approve participation in the Kununurra NT Farmers Food Futures Roadshow.*

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2273
5/0

Council adjourned for lunch at 1.20pm

Council resumed the meeting at 1.55pm

Rebekah Haase (Economic & Community Development Officer) was not in attendance at the resumption of the meeting at 1.55pm

GMCCS19.

Proposed Boundary Review – Etheridge and - Other Shire Councils

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 18 of the Local Government Act 2009 provides that only the Minister may propose a change to a local government boundary to the Change Commission. The Change Commission is responsible for assessing whether the local government boundary change proposed by the Minister is in the public interest, after considering:

- *whether the proposed local government change is consistent with a Local Government Act;*
- *the views of the Minister about the proposed local government change; and*
- *any other matters prescribed under a regulation.*

The success of any proposal will increase where the Councils and landowners support the proposal.

The inclusion of the whole of properties into the local government area which provides their services matches the liability to pay rates to the capacity to maintain local roads and links representation to taxation, two basics principles of government.

RESOLUTION

That Council proposes that FNQROC be requested to take the lead role in coordinating a review of external Shire boundaries in the FNQROC area and make a submission to the Minister, seeking that the matter be referred to the Change Commission.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2274
5/0

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher

- Town Streets around Georgetown need some minor repairs (reseals, signage)
- Enquired if the W4Q staircase situated at Normanton Street was completed and also requested that caps be placed on the fence posts adjoining the staircase. Cr Gallagher was advised that fence post caps had been ordered and that the staircase is completed albeit the installation of a gate at the top of the staircase.

Cr Barnes

- Notified Council that there is a water leak at the Hospital and had been leaking for several weeks.
- Requested for Council to write or approach the Bushman's Ball Committee to have the Georgetown Cow Sign located at Greens Park removed and repainted at the cost of the Committee.
- Requesting a report for the next General Meeting on various sites around the Shire which could be used for Low Cost Camping Sites.

Cr Barnes raised the matter of rotating the position of the Deputy Mayor and provided Council with a report on the matter. Cr Barnes read out the report at the General Meeting and furthermore Cr Barnes requested that his report be included within the Minutes of the General Meeting dated 21st February 2018. The report is as follows:

POSITION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

In accordance with standing orders passed during the business of today's meeting, I pose a question without notice to Cr Gallagher:

Will Cr Gallagher stand by the commitment made during the inaugural Special Meeting in 2016 to share the duties of Deputy Mayor amongst the four (4) elected Councillors or any of those interested in the role?

BACKGROUND

At the inaugural special meeting of this elected local government in March 2016, it was discussed and decided that Cr Gallagher would assume the role of Deputy Mayor and the position would be rotated on an annual basis or as otherwise seen fit to allow interested Councillors the opportunity to gain skills in the role of Deputy Mayor. In February 2017, I raised my intention to rotate the role with the Mayor on several occasions and attempted mediated negotiation to afford all elected members the opportunity to act as Deputy Mayor. This was beaten down by the Mayor at the time.

In January 2018 I again raised this issue for discussion to facilitate the equitable sharing of the role amongst interested Councillors to which the Mayor declined stating that the community wanted "Uncle Tony" as a Deputy. I drew the Mayors attention to the fact that the office of Deputy is chosen by Council and that there are four (4) other Councillors democratically elected who deserve an opportunity to be part of the leadership team if desired. I also referenced other Local Government Organisations who rotate the position of Deputy over the elected term including Croydon Shire. The practice is very common in tier 1 Councils. It just makes sense: 4 years and 4 Councillors.

By virtue of the Local Government Act, I hereby give notice and request the Chief Executive Officer draft a resolution to declare the office of the Deputy Mayor vacant. I have received feedback from constituents that there is a perceived alliance between the Mayor and incumbent Deputy that is unhealthy for the community elected direction of Council. I further believe that the attempts to negotiate a fair and democratic rotation of

duties has been roadblocked to date by the Mayor. Upon consultation with the LGAQ, CEO and research into legislation, I have no other available option other than to resolve the office of Deputy Mayor be vacated. This is by no means a personal attack, nor indication of factions within Council. I simply believe the rights of the democratically elected members, and concerns of the electorate base must be considered and addressed. Council is not about an alliance of thoughts or wishes - it must be individual opinions working towards a common goal which is the betterment of the community. Leadership is about encouraging and developing skills and wishes of your subordinate – Not blocking them to ensure personal survival.

REQUIREMENT / RESOLUTION

In accordance with standing orders, I request this address be tabled and adopted in full into the minutes of this General Meeting. I further ask the Chief Executive Officer draft, consult and include my proposed resolution as soon as possible for inclusion in the General Meeting for March in compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Act.

RESOLUTION:

That the tabled submission by Cr Barnes be incorporated into the official record of the General Meeting dated 21st February 2018

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2275
3/2

Note: Cr Devlin and Cr Gallagher disputed the claim that any commitment was made to rotating the Deputy Mayor position at the Post Election Meeting in April 2016 and parts of Cr Barnes statement are misleading.

RESOLUTION:

That Cr Gallagher be afforded a right of written reply addressing the submission tabled by Cr Barnes to the next General Meeting dated 21st March 2018.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2276
5/0

Cr Bethel

- Nil

Cr Attwood

- Nil

Cr Devlin

- Council needs to start thinking of submitting additional Local Road(s) of Regional Significance (LRRS) within the Shire.

RESOLUTION:

That Council

Resolve to add the following Shire Road as a Local Road of Regional Significance (LRRS)

- 1. Strathmore Road***

And furthermore that Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to make a submission to the FNQRRG to have the above Shire Road included as a Local Road of Regional Significance (LRRS)

MOVED: Cr Devlin

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2018/GM2277
4/0

CONFIRMED MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING, 21 FEBRUARY 2018

*Cr Bethel did not vote on this motion due to a perceived conflict of interest, because he and family members own land on Strathmore Road.
Cr Bethel left the meeting at 3.03pm and did not participate in the voting.
Cr Bethel returned to the meeting at 3.05pm*

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 the Wednesday 21st March 2018.

.....
MAYOR

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