



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD

ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 2019,

COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 2019

COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

ATTENDANCE

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

* Cr Barnes attended the meeting via a teleconference, pursuant to section 276 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and Council resolution No. 2017/GM2193.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr David Munro, Chief Executive Officer
Miss Sydney Ryan, Administration Officer

GALLERY

Mr. Graham Steele attended the Gallery at 8:00 am
Mr. Joe Haase attended the Gallery at 8:00 am
Mr. Ian Carroll attended the Gallery at 8:22 am

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 8:00 am and welcomed all in attendance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 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 passes on its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of the late Mr. Joe Pezzotti.

DECLARATIONS

Councillors discussed making declarations prior to each agenda item and agreed that this will be the best way forward.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 20 February 2019

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 20 February, 2019 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2572
5/0

Special General Meeting Minutes – Thursday 28 February 2019

RESOLUTION:

That the minutes from the Special General Meeting held at Georgetown on Thursday 28 February, 2019 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2573
4/0

Cr Attwood did not vote on this matter as Cr Attwood was granted a leave of absence for the Special General Meeting dated 28th February 2019.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Cr Gallagher

- Suggested the possibility of extending an invitation to the graziers of the Shire and also have a representative from the Cattle Industry speak at the upcoming NT Farmers Roadshow hosted in Georgetown.

Cr Attwood

- Requested an update on the relocation of the Telstra Small Cell Mobile Unit from the Hann Highway to the Einasleigh Township.

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Discussions regarding reports from the Chief Executive Officer, Engineering Services, Childcare Centre and the Terrestrial Centre and the Action Taken List from previous General Meetings.

Business arising from the Information Bulletin

Cr Bethel –

- Requested an update from the Chief Executive Officer regarding the installation of a recycling unit in the Shire.

Cr Attwood –

- Requested an update on the procurement and installation of a camera for the Gilbert River.
- Discussed the Local Government Reform and suggested that copies be displayed and available in the Council Office for members of the public.
- Made note of the level of detail within the latest NWQROC Minutes.

Mayor Devlin –

- Discussed the possibility of having a secondary Council employee with a Pest Management License to undertake Fogging activities.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders 8:30 am

MOVED: Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2574
5/0

DEPUTATIONS

8:30am

Mr Ian Carroll – Infrastructure Fund Grant on behalf of the Forsayth All Sports Association

Mr Carroll spoke on behalf of the Forsayth All Sports Association in relation to their proposed upgrade to their facilities located within the Sports Reserve at Forsayth.

They are planning to upgrade the kitchen and install a cold room and are seeking assistance from Council through the Town Infrastructure Fund to provide the monetary support required to undertake this project. The Association has lodged an application with Council regarding this project.

Mr Carroll also stated that the Association is applying for various Grants to assist in upgrading their Toilet Facilities.

Mr Carroll also advised of the some of the planned activities for the upcoming Forsayth Turnout / Etheridge Show in August.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS

GMCCS1

Industrial Precinct (West Georgetown)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the May 2018 General Meeting under Resolution No. 2018/GM2341, Council requested the Chief Executive Officer to obtain quotes to engage the relevant consultant to assist Council with preparing a concept plan for industrial land on the Gulf Development Road west of Georgetown.

A concept plan / master plan for an Industrial Precinct west of Georgetown was completed to support the Gilbert River Irrigation Project, the Cattle Industry, and also the Tourism Industry.

At the February 2019 General Meeting, Council requested the Chief Executive Officer to re-present the concept plan / master plan for this proposed Industrial Area for further discussion.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to make an application to the Department of Natural Resources Mines & Energy to purchase Area A and Area B as defined within the concept plan and furthermore that Council consider provisioning funds within the 2019/20 Budget for this land acquisition and furthermore that Council identifies this area of land within Councils new Planning Scheme & Planning Scheme Maps.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2575
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision to purchase additional land for either Residential and or Industrial is one of Councils Corporate Plan Strategies to progress industrial subdivisions throughout the shire as land become available and demand increases. The application to the Department supports Councils Corporate Plan Objective No.3.

GMCCS2

Economic Development Fund Application

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Savannah Way Limited has submitted an application to Council's Economic Development Fund requesting \$10,000 to revise and reprint the Lava Tubes, Gems and Gorges Trail map and distribute it to appropriate outlets. This application was brought to Council at the February General Meeting at which a resolution was passed to defer the decision and obtain further information on effective marketing strategies being used by local tourism operators. This report presents the correspondence from operators as per request.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the officer's report and furthermore approves Savannah Way Limited's application to the Economic Development Fund to the value of \$10,000 for a reprint of 'The Lava Tubes, Gems and Gorges Trail map,' subject to revisions to the publication being made in consultation with Council officers.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2576
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

- This activity directly addresses Corporate Plan Objective 3.2.1 through the continued development of shire promotional tools and indirectly addresses Objective 3.3.2. In the past three years, Council has not sent a representative to attend any promotional events for tourism in the Shire, which is a key performance measure. Through supporting the reprints of the Lava Tubes, Gems and Gorges Trail map, ESC has equipped the Shire's tourism operators, Savannah Way Limited, the TerrEstrial staff and other Visitor Information Centres with a quality tourist information tool to distribute both locally and at promotional events such as the Caravanning and Camping Shows.
- In addition, the strength of this tool is that it is inclusive in nature, showcasing to tourists the diverse range of attractions, activities and experiences to be had in the Etheridge Shire rather than just focusing on one or two.
- The application meets the Economic Development Fund Guidelines.
- The funding request does not exceed the available balance remaining in the Fund.

GMCCS3

Lease over Lot(s) 705,706,707,708 & 713 on G1884

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has been in discussions with NQ Radio to provide an AM Radio service to the Shire via KIK AM. Councils neighboring Shires of Croydon & Carpentaria already have the services installed by NQ Radio to transmit KIK AM.

Council has just recently finalised the purchase of the land and associated infrastructure from Air Services Australia, which now provides a platform for NQ Radio to install their transmitters and other relevant infrastructure to enable the transmitting of their radio services for the Shire residents and the yearly tourism market.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to enter into a Pepper Corn Lease Agreement for a term of 10 years with NQ Radio over Lot(s) 705,706,707,708 & 713 on G1884 with both parties paying their own legal expenses in relation to this Lease Agreement.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2577
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

The installation of an additional Radio Station will provide benefits to the residents and also provide an additional vehicle for local business and community event organisers to advertise their products and events to a wider audience. It will also provide Council with a platform to advertise the Shire.

GMCCS4

Financial Performance (Actual v Budget)

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 2019.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2578
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 states that the Chief Executive Officer must present a Financial Report of its accounts to the Local Government and furthermore that the financial statements must be presented if the local government holds its ordinary meetings monthly or less frequently to each meeting and the Financial Report presented to a meeting must be for the period of the financial year up to a day as near as practicable to the end of the previous month.

GMCCS5

Land Valuations 1st July 2019 – Effect on Differential Rating Categories

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Etheridge Shire Council has been revalued to take effect from 1 July 2019. The valuation changes have not been consistent within and between land use types. Council must calculate the rates for land by using the rateable value of the land.

Council can however use the values of land averaged over a number of financial years only if Council decides by resolution to do so.

- (a) 2 year averaged value of the land;*
- (b) 3 year averaged value of the land*

RESOLUTION

That Council:
Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2579
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

S.74 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 states that a Local Government must calculate the rates for land by using the rateable value of the land, and in addition Council can however use the values of land averaged over a number of financial years only if Council decides by resolution to do so. In addition if the value of the land averaged over a number of financial years is more than the value of land for the financial year, the rates must be calculated using the value of the land for the financial year.

GMCCS6

Write Off – Accounts Receivables (Debtors)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has undertaken a monthly review of the outstanding debts greater than 90 days and has identified several debtors that are potential doubtful debts totalling \$2,223.95. Council has complied with its Debt Recovery Procedures in trying to recover the amounts owed.

RESOLUTION

That Council:
Resolve to write off debtor invoices 20004, 9254, 20065 & 9259 for the combined sum of \$2,223.95.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2580
5/0

GMCCS7

Community Consultation Meetings 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past years Council has conducted monthly Community Consultation meetings throughout the Shire.

This provides Council with an opportunity to inform the community of what is happening and occurring from a Council perspective (projects, meetings etc...) and in addition the Consultation Meetings is a vehicle for Council to hear any concerns or issues directly from the community.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the officers report and furthermore that Council request the Chief Executive Officer to liaise with the various community groups in Georgetown and the Lynd Junction area to determine alternative times which are more suitable and appropriate to the community regarding Councils Consultation Meetings.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2581
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

Community engagement is good practice. It presents a way for Council to connect and stay connected with communities in order to further develop relationships and inform decision-making processes. Communities have an expectation of being engaged now.

ATTENDANCE

Mr. Joe Haase left the meeting at 8:58 am

Cr Bethel left the meeting at 9:14 am

Cr Bethel returned to the meeting at 9:17 am

Miss Sydney Ryan, Administration Officer, left the meeting at 9:30 am

Miss Sydney Ryan, Administration Officer, returned to the meeting at 9:32 am

ADJOURNMENT

Council Adjourn for morning tea at 9:38 am

RESUMPTION

Council resume the meeting at 9:57 am

GMCCS8

ML3374 – LANDHOLDER COMPENSATION AGREEMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Kempton Minerals Pty Ltd (the Miner) has applied for the renewal of Mining Lease 3374. The Mining Lease covers, amongst other areas, part of Percyvale Road.

The Miner is required to enter into a Landholder Compensation Agreement with all Landholders prior to the Mining Lease being renewed. A draft Landholders Agreement has been negotiated and agreed in principle.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolves to authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to execute the Landholder Compensation Agreement with Kempton Minerals Pty Ltd.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2582
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

The Agreement ensures that no mining activities will occur within Council's road without Council being notified and providing consent including conditions to be complied with. The Agreement creates a contractual obligation to pay for any damage caused to the road by any mining activities.

GMCCS9

Granting of ML:100030

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Natural Resources Mines & Energy have approved a new Mining Lease (ML:100030) for a term of 20 years subject to conditions as at 7th February 2019.

This new Mining Lease does not transverse over any of Councils infrastructure however, the hauling of the Ore and the transportation of associated mining infrastructure will have an impact on Councils road network, especially the Agate Creek Road.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to inform the Mining Operator of Councils concerns regarding the potential impact to Councils road network during its operational phase and furthermore that Council informs the Mining Operator that no work can be carried out to the road by the Mining Operator in accordance with S.75 of the Local Government Act 2009 and furthermore that the Mining Operator enter into a Road Use Deed Agreement during the term of their Mining Activity. And furthermore that Council requests a detailed Traffic Management Report for assessment

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2583
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

The hauling of the Ore and the transportation of associated mining infrastructure will have an impact on Councils road network, especially the Agate Creek Road.

GMCCS12

ML30235; ML30236; ML30237 - Road Safety and Maintenance Agreement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Solar Quartz Technologies Limited have applied for 3 Mining Leases. The Mining Leases are situated on O'Brien Creek Road near Mt Surprise. Council lodged an objection to the grant of the Mining Leases based on road safety concerns. The Parties have negotiated a Road Safety and Maintenance Agreement for the purposes of resolving the objection.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to enter into the Road Safety and Maintenance Agreement with Solar Quartz Technologies Limited.

MOVED: Cr Barnes

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2584
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

The O'Brien Creek Road is a Council controlled road which is part of the road network in Mt Surprise. Council has a responsibility to ensure the road is safe.

The Agreement provides a basis for the Miner to pay for and implement a road safety audit and to recover costs for road maintenance arising from use of the road for Mining Activities.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders 10:29 am to move into General Business

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gallagher

- Queensland Health is seeking Councils approval to utilise the Lynd Junction Community Building to undertake their clinic services.
- Requested why Council has not undertaken any Road Maintenance or improvements on the Vanlee Road over the past 2-3 years.
- Requested that Council should investigate the procurement of a transportable advertising sign to promote events within the Shire.

Cr Barnes

- Requested that the Works Manager make contact with the land owners along the Strathmore Road to discuss the most effective location for the 60km speed reduction signage.

Cr Bethel

- Requested that Council host and organise a 50 year Hostel Reunion within the 2019 calendar year and that all previous Councillors, CEO's Staff and past students be issued with an invitation.
- Requested that the story of Robin Butler be collated for the honouring at the Georgetown ANZAC Service.
- Requested that the Chief Executive Officer provide a summary to the Community on how NDRRA funds are claimed, approved and spent within the next Inform.

Cr Devlin

- Discussed the Einasleigh Car Parking and Copperfield Gorge Walkway improvements regarding the feedback received from the Einasleigh Community. Council undertook consultation and wider discussions in regards to Councils vision to enhance all of our public areas throughout the Shire.
- Discussed the opportunities to have a permanent staff member in the Township of Einasleigh
- Read a letter from Senator Ian McDonald seeking Councils view and feedback to an alternative inland route to service the Darling Downs area to Cairns. Council will provide a response to the Senators request and also Council will include information pertaining to the Gulf Developmental Road, and Hann Highway.
- Discussed a letter from Savannah Way Limited seeking a representative from Etheridge Shire Council to attend the Caravanning and Camping Expo in Sydney. TTNQ will provide financial assistance to Council
- Read a letter from Bram Collins regarding the relocation of tourism signage at the Lynd Junction to a more suitable location at the Oasis Service Station. Also included was the suggestion of a signage audit to ensure tourism signs are up to date and coincide with the Unearthed Etheridge theme branding.

Queensland Health Site Change

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to request the Chief Executive Officer to undertake further discussions with Queensland Health regarding their requirements and expectations for utilising the Lynd Junction Community Building and furthermore that the Chief Executive Officer provide a report to Council at the April General Meeting regarding the outcomes of the discussions with Queensland Health and furthermore that the Chief Executive Officer provide information regarding the installation of a transportable type building for the use of Queensland Health.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2585
5/0

Mobile Signage Display

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to request the Chief Executive Officer to investigate quotes for a mobile signage display and provide a report back to Council.

MOVED: Cr Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr Attwood

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2586
5/0

Hostel Reunion

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

Resolve to request the Chief Executive Officer to commence organising a Hostel Reunion Function which includes past employees, past students and past Councillors associated with the Hostel within the 2019 calendar year and furthermore that a report be presented back to Council for final sign-off pertaining to the Budget expenditure.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2587
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Mr. Graham Steel left the meeting at 11:19 am

Mr. Ian Carrol left the meeting at 11:19 am

Cr Bethel left the meeting at 11.25am

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders 11:35 am

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

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

- Tender ESC2017-013 - Charleston Dam Construction Contracts
- Rating Concession – Assessment No.00200-0

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2588
4/0

Cr Bethel was not in attendance during this Motion

ATTENDANCE

Ms Sydney Ryan (Administration Officer) left the meeting at 11.35am

Mr Tony Potter (Strategic & Planning Infrastructure Engineer) entered the meeting at 11.36am

Cr Bethel returned to the meeting at 11.37am

ATTENDANCE

Mr David Munro (Chief Executive Officer) left the meeting at 12.10pm

Mr David Munro (Chief Executive Officer) returned to the meeting at 12.15pm

Mr Tony Potter (Strategic & Planning Infrastructure Engineer) left the meeting at 12.40pm

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

MOTION:

That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 1.05pm

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2589
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED REPORTS

GMCCS10

Tender ESC2017-013 - Charleston Dam Construction Contracts

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is now in a position following extensive discussion with the preferred (and lowest) tenderers for all three elements of the main Charleston Dam project, A-Dam Wall & Spillways, B-Fishway, C-Pipelines, to award contracts under Tender ESC2017-013 for design and/or construction.

To maximise the construction window, discussions are continuing with the preferred contractor for Element A to facilitate early entry to undertake preparatory excavation and stockpiling.

There will be some variations to pricing based on as yet incomplete design. Discussions have also taken place with the Pipeline contractor to understand their methodology and pricing, and interface with the dam wall contractor.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to note and receive the Officer's report and furthermore undertake the following:

- 1. Award Tender ESC2017-013A to LDI Constructions (Qld) Pty Ltd ACN 605616984 for Construction of an earth & rock dam, spillways and ancillary works subject to the following:
 - a. The contract price is subject to revision based on a completed design, documented drawings and schedules of quantities prepared by GHD and approved by Council. The Contract Price Schedule will include provisional items for quantities not yet evident until exposed during construction.*
 - b. LDI Constructions be authorised to commence early works subject to adequate scope definition approved by Council and agreement on a schedule of rates.*
 - c. Contract form, terms and conditions to be negotiated to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.**
- 2. Award Tender ESC2017-013B to FNQ Stonework ACN 613266023 for Construction of "Formed natural rock Fishway ladders, cut/formed rock resting pools and improved shape waterways" subject to the following:
 - a. Coordinate with the design consultant GHD and the dam wall contractor to match the fish ladder structure to the designed eastern spillway levels*
 - b. Commencement of work on site to be agreed with the Council subject to and in agreement with the other works contractors.*
 - c. Contract form, terms and conditions to be negotiated to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.**
- 3. Award Tender ESC2017-013C, to Trazibat ACN 003720394 for Design and Construction of "Water Supply Pipelines inclusive of all intake works, pumps, valves, fittings etc required to deliver water from new dam storage to respective reservoirs at Georgetown & Forsyth" subject to the following:
 - a. Coordinate with the design consultant GHD and the dam wall contractor on design and installation of inlet pipework structure and connection to the pump house.*
 - b. Commencement of work on site to be agreed with the Council subject to and in agreement with the other works contractors.*
 - c. Contract form, terms and conditions to be negotiated to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.**

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Barnes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2590
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

The preferred tenderers have demonstrated Value for Money, have met the requirements as outlined in the scope of works and can undertake the works within the timeframe to meet the requirements under the National Stronger Regional Fund Grant terms and conditions.

GMCCS11

Rating Concession – Assessment No.00200-0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a written request from the owner of Lot 1 on GB108 seeking a concession from Council regarding their water Consumption Charge.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to advise the owner of Lot 1 on GB108 (Assessment No.00200-0) that in accordance with Section 120 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council is powerless in being able to grant a concession to their Rates & Charges.

MOVED: Cr Attwood

SECONDED: Cr Gallagher

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2019/GM2591
5/0

REASONS FOR DECISION

Section 120 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 clearly defines and outlines what powers the Local Government has in relation to granting concessions to Rates & Charges

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 1:20pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday 17th April 2019.

.....
MAYOR

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