



# UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

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GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD  
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN  
ON MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2020,  
COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT GEORGETOWN**

**ON MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2020**

**COMMENCING AT 8.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

Crs W Devlin, W Bethel, W Attwood, T Gallagher, & E Loudon.

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr. David Munro, Chief Executive Officer  
Miss. Melanie Hensel, Executive Assistant  
Mr. Michael Brookes, Works Manager  
Mr. Jake Bethel, Workshop Supervisor

**GALLERY**

Graham Steele  
Ian Carroll

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 8:08 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.*

**DECLARATIONS**

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

**APOLOGIES AND CONDOLENCES**

That Council passes on its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of John Seely.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 22 January 2020**

**RESOLUTION:**

*That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 22 January 2020 be confirmed.*

**MOVED: Cr. Attwood**

**SECONDED: Cr. Loudon**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2823**  
**5/0**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

There was no Business arising from the General Meeting Minutes dated 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020

**INFORMATION BULLETIN**

**Business arising from the Information Bulletin**

**Cr Devlin**

- Discussed the funding that has been allocated to the Gulf Development Road by the Department of Transport & Main Roads with the support of the Federal Governments Roads of Strategic Importance Funding (ROSI). Council with the support of Engineering Staff will need to produce a list of priorities for the upgrade of the Gulf Development Road and submit the priority list to the Department of Transport & Main Roads.

**CONSIDERATION OF OPEN REPORTS**

**GMES1.**

TIDs Program (2019/20 – 2023/24)

**IDENTIFICATION OF POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR MATERIAL PERSONAL INTERESTS RELATED TO THIS ITEM:**

**Declarations:**

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Bethel declared that he may have a conflict of interest (as defined the Local Government Act 2009, section 175D) in Item GMES1 as Cr Bethel owns a property along the Strathmore Road which he is currently developing. Cr Bethel determined that this personal interest is of sufficient significance that it will lead him to making a decision on the matter that is contrary to the public interest and advised that he will best perform his responsibility of serving the overall public interest of the whole of the Council's area by not participating in the discussion and voting on this matter. However, he acknowledged that the remaining councillors must now determine, pursuant to section 175E(4) of the Local Government Act 2009: -

(a) Whether he has a real conflict of interest in this matter or a perceived conflict of interest in this matter; and

(b) If so, whether: -

i. he must leave the meeting while this matter is discussed or voted on; or

ii. he may participate in the meeting in relation to the matter, including by voting on the matter:

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Resolve pursuant to section 175E(4) of the Local Government Act 2009, that Cr Bethel has a perceived conflict of interest in Item titled "TIDs Program (2019/20 – 2023/24)" and furthermore that Cr Bethel may not participate in the meeting in relation to the matter, including voting on the matter.***

**MOVED: Cr. Attwood**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2824**  
**4/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr Bethel dealt with this declared conflict of interest by leaving the meeting at 8.31am while this matter was discussed and voted on.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

***The Roads and Transport Alliance is a cooperative governance arrangement between the Department of Transport and Main Roads, the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and local governments to invest in and regionally manage the Queensland transport network.***

*The Roads and Transport Alliance is underpinned by the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS). Established under the Transport Infrastructure Act (2004) in the mid-1990s, TIDS enables the department to provide funding for local government road and transport-related initiatives which support state government objectives.*

*Each Regional Road Transport Group (RRTG) receives an annual allocation of TIDS funds determined by the Roads and Transport Alliance Board. RRTGs are required to allocate their TIDS funding to the highest priority road and transport projects in their region, and to match TIDS funding 50:50 (at a minimum).*

*Council has been allocated funds from RRTG of \$616,732 for the 2019/20 financial which needs to be spent and acquitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020.*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Resolve to note and receive the officer's report and furthermore that Council resolve to commence the 2019/20 TIDs / R2R Project (Strathmore Road – Chainage 8.2 – 4.8) as a high priority project within the 2019/20 Capital Works Program and commence works as 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020.*

MOVED: Cr. Loudon

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2825**  
**4/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr Bethel returned to the meeting after voting at 8:50am

**GMES2.**

Purchase of Prime Mover

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*A request for the purchase of a second hand prime mover was issued via "Local Buy" on the 30 January 2020 and closed on 7 February 2020. Eleven (11) submissions were received in response to this request.*

*An evaluation has been carried out by the assessment panel and a recommendation is now presented to Council for consideration.*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Resolve with respect to the request for purchase of a second hand prime mover;*

- a) Purchase a 2015 Mack Trident 70t GCM Prime Mover from Mack Trucks Australia of Portsmith, Queensland which is to include a Bulbar and Hydraulics.*

MOVED: Cr. Bethel

SECONDED: Cr. Loudon

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2826**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Jake Bethel (Workshop Supervisor) and Michael Brookes (Works Manager) left the meeting at 9:04am.

**GMCCS1.**

**Purchase of Agate Collection (Private)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council discussed the opportunity to purchase a “private” agate collection which has over 1200 agates within the collection at the last Ordinary General Meeting in January 2020.*

*Council requested that the Chief Executive Officer undertake an independent appraisal of the collection prior to Council committing to a formal decision.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to advise the owner that Council respectfully declines the offer to purchase the private agate collection at this stage and furthermore that Council would reconsider its position in the 2020/2021 budget if the collection is still available.*

**MOVED: Cr. Bethel**

**SECONDED: Cr. Loudon**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2827**  
**3/2**

- Cr Attwood had concerns regarding buying private collections that it has a risk of setting precedents in the future. If council wishes to source product it is the prerogative of council.*
- Cr Gallagher believed that Council should purchase the collection as it is good value for money and could be displayed in the Terrestrial Center.*

**GMCCS2.**

**150year Celebrations (Georgetown)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Township of Georgetown turns 150 years old during the 2020 calendar. Council has requested that a 150 year Committee be established from Council and Community Groups to organise and provide suggestions on how the Community can celebrate this milestone.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to note and receive the officer’s report and furthermore endorse the date of 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020, as well as endorse the attached minutes of the 150 year Organising Committee.*

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Attwood**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2828**  
**5/0**

**ATTENDANCE**

Drew Finlay joined the gallery at 9:34am.

**GMCCS3.**

**Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020**

**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 2020.*

MOVED Cr. Attwood

SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2829**  
**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.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourn for morning tea at 9:45am.

**RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 10.14am.

**GMCCS4.**

**Etheridge Shire Council – Amended Budget 2019|20**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Council considers that its Budget is a fundamental instrument of accountability and an essential strategic document to ensure that the objectives under Council's Corporate Plan are implemented over the five (5) years. The 2019/2020 Budget has been developed within Councils overall planning framework.*

*It is good financial stewardship to review the Annual Budget in depth at regular intervals to ensure that what Revenue was forecasted is still likely to be achieved and that the Operating and Capital expenditure is in line with original costs estimates and also to make any amendments to either the Revenue and Expenditure streams.*

*In addition, Council may, by resolution, amend the budget for a financial year at any time before the end of the financial year, however if the Budget does not comply with S.169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 when it is amended, the amendment of the budget is of no effect.*

**Summary**

*Over the past seven (7) months Council's Budget has been subject to additions to Capital Expenditure, and also subject to the reduction in Grant funded project. Therefore, it is timely to undertake a review of the 2019/20 Budget to make the necessary amendments to reflect a more accurate account of Revenue and Expenditure Streams.*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Acknowledges that the 2019/2020 Amended Budget reveals total revenue from ordinary activities amounting to \$29,334,925, total expenses from ordinary activities (including depreciation) amounting to \$32,680,686 and capital funding operations amounting to \$20,135,877 and furthermore that Council Resolve pursuant to section 170(3) of the Local Government Act 2009 and sections 169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, to amend Council's Budget for the 2019/2020 financial year, incorporating:*

- i. The statements of financial position;*
- ii. The statements of cash flow;*
- iii. The statements of income and expenditure;*
- iv. The statements of changes in equity;*

*as tabled be approved.*

**MOVED: Cr. Attwood**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2830**  
**5/0**

**REASONS FOR DECISION**

It is good financial stewardship to review the Annual Budget in depth at regular intervals to ensure that what Revenue was forecasted is still likely to be achieved and that the Operating and Capital expenditure is in line with original costs estimates and also to make any amendments to either the Revenue and Expenditure streams.

**GMCCS5.**

**Operational Plan Review for the Quarter ending December 2019**

**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 2019/20 quarter in accordance with Section 174 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.*

**MOVED: Cr. Loudon**

**SECONDED: Cr. Bethel**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2831**  
**5/0**

**REASONS FOR DECISION**

Section 174 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 states that The chief executive officer must present a written assessment of the local government's progress towards implementing the annual operational plan at meetings of the local government held at regular intervals of not more than 3 months.

**GMCCS6.**

Renewal of Term Lease 0/219621 described as Lot 1 on SP146606

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Department is currently investigating the renewal of Term Lease 0/219621 described as Lot 1 on SP146606. The proposed use of the land is for communication purposes.*

*The application for renewal of the lease will be assessed in terms of Section 159 of the Land Act 1994, after considering the views of all interested parties and an inspection of the land.*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Resolve to offer no objections for the renewal of Lease 0/219621 described as Lot 1 on SP146606 subject to the Lease remaining for communication purposes which is a consistent Land Use within Councils Planning Scheme.*

MOVED: Cr. Bethel

SECONDED: Cr. Loudon

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2832**  
**5/0**

**GMCCS7.**

Assessment of further dealing with Term Lease 217007 described as Lot 1 on VR4

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The Department of Natural Resources, Mines & Energy has written to Council seeking Councils views and or requirements regarding the Departments ongoing assessment of Term Lease 217007 described as Lot 1 on VR4*

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

*Resolve to offer no objections for the renewal of Term Lease 217007 described as Lot 1 on VR4 subject to:*

- *the use remaining for Residential Purposes as the applicant has established dwellings on the said allotment for their own occupancy which is a consistent use within a rural zone within Councils Planning Scheme;*
- *Council has no objections if the applicant wishes to freehold the said allotment;*
- *The applicant would be subject to a Development Application for any minor tourism activities on the said parcel*
- *That the applicant makes the appropriate arrangements to have the Shire Access Road to the said property properly surveyed and registered as a road reserve.*

MOVED: Cr. Gallagher

SECONDED: Cr. Attwood

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2833**  
**5/0**



**GMCCS8.**

**Request for Rate Relief**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Each financial year Council levies its Rates & Charges in accordance with section 92 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 77 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council may, for a financial year, make and levy: a general rate or differential general rate; and*

- a) minimum general rate; and*
- b) separate rate/charge; and*
- c) special rate/charge; and*
- d) utility charge,*

*To fund the operation and maintenance of Council services and facilities.*

*In accordance with section 130 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council will allow a 15% discount on all General Rates and Utility Charges, if payment is made within 30 clear days from the date of issue of the notice.*

*If Council is satisfied that a person liable to pay a rate has been prevented, by circumstances beyond the person's control, from paying the rate in time to benefit from a discount under section 130 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, then Council under section 130(10) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, may still allow the discount following written application by the ratepayer.*

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to approve the discount amount of \$595.76 and furthermore that Council waive the accrued penalty interest from the close of the discount period end date in accordance with S.130(10) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for Assessment No. 00493-00000-000*

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Bethel**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2834**  
**5/0**

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Gallagher**

- Requested Council support for the naming of the Georgetown Swimming Pool in honour of Mr. George Dickenson due to his contributions to the community of Georgetown.
- Queried the date of the Forsyth Turnout and Shire Show Holiday, which may have been placed in error.
- Raised the issue of sediment and growth in the Etheridge River which may lead to flooding.

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

*Resolve to name the Georgetown Pool in honor of Mr. George Dickenson an aptly title the Swimming Complex "The George Dickenson Memorial Pool" with the unveiling to coincide with the 150 year Georgetown anniversary celebrations, and furthermore delegate to the Chief Executive Officer to obtain the necessary signage including an interpretative sign.*

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Bethel**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2835**  
**5/0**

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Resolve for the Chief Executive Officer to make an amendment application to the Minister for the Etheridge Shire Council's 2020 show holiday to realign the date to coincide with the Etheridge Show being held from the 31<sup>st</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2020.***

**MOVED: Cr. Gallagher**

**SECONDED: Cr. Attwood**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2836**  
**5/0**

**Cr Loudon**

- Enquired about the upgrade to the entry into Dells Hole Road for road-train access.

**Cr Bethel**

- Requested to add a notice in the Inform to advise graziers of Council Policy regarding Council assistance in grids.

**Cr Devlin**

- Discussed the signage for the Einasleigh River Bridge.
- Discussed a possible partnership with neighbouring shires to become a Local Tourism Organisation (LTO) for the Gulf.

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Resolve for the Chief Executive Officer to organise the dedication plaque for the Einasleigh River Bridge.***

**MOVED: Cr. Devlin**

**SECONDED: Cr. Bethel**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2837**  
**5/0**

**RESOLUTION**

**That Council:**

***Resolve for the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Burke, Carpentaria, and Croydon Shire Chief Executive Officers seeking a partnership arrangement in regards to forming a Local Tourism Organisation (LTO) (between the four Councils) for the Gulf within the Tropical Tourism North Queensland region.***

**MOVED: Cr. Devlin**

**SECONDED: Cr. Gallagher**

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION NO.2020/GM2838**  
**5/0**

**CONCLUSION**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed 11:54am.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

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MAYOR

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