



AGENDA

Meeting: Community Consultation Meeting

Date: Tuesday 6th June 2017

Location: Mt Surprise Community Hall

Commencing: 9:00am

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING
2. WELCOME TO COUNTRY
3. APOLOGIES
4. CHARLESTON DAM
5. GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME
6. W4Q PROJECTS
7. GEOPARK PROJECT
8. ROAD UPDATES
 - *GEORGETOWN TO FORSAYTH ROAD*
 - *HANN HIGHWAY*
 - *GREGORY DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
 - *GULF DEVELOPMENT ROAD*
9. *FIRE PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE*
10. GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY



MINUTES: Community Consultation Meeting Minutes

DATE: 6 June 2017

COMMENCING: 9:00am

LOCATION: Mt Surprise Community Hall

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9:00am.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the Ewamian People - the traditional custodians of this land where we meet for the Community Consultation meeting. We pay our respects to the Ewamian People, especially the Elders, past and present and acknowledge their traditional customs and laws 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.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Warren Devlin
Deputy Mayor Tony Gallagher
Cr Will Attwood
Cr Troy Barnes
Chief Executive Officer Norm Garsden
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer Anna Christensen

Community Members: Total of 4 people attended from the Community.

APOLOGIES

Cr Warren Bethel

CHARLESTON DAM

The Mayor updated attendees on the progress of the Charleston Dam Project. The Mayor informed attendees that consultants have designed a fish ladder and this is awaiting approval. Once approval of the fish ladder is received the development application will go to the State Government for approval and then back to Council for final approval.

GILBERT RIVER IRRIGATION SCHEME

The Mayor updated attendees on the progress of the Gilbert River Irrigation Project. The project is still moving along and Council has employed Rolfe Ellem who will work alongside a consultant with experience on developing irrigations schemes. Rolfe is due to start in a couple of weeks

W4Q

The Mayor updated attendees on the Work 4 Queensland Grant that Council received for One million and Seventy Thousand Dollars. This grant has been aimed at creating jobs for people locally. Council together compiled projects for successful applicants to complete through conversations at community meetings over the past few months and the ideas of Council. The following is what Council hopes to achieve with the Grant money;

Mt Surprise:

- Fencing of the town common
- Continuing on the playground project
- Installation of speed cameras near the School
- Fixing drainage problems

Forsayth:

- Levelling of the ground at the Forsayth Show Grounds
- Fixing drainage around the town
- Beautification of the park
- A shelter and tables and chair installed at the cemetery

Georgetown:

- Beautification of all entrances into town
- Tidying of the River Walk

Einasleigh:

- Installation of a viewing platform over the Copperfield Gorge with a walkway down to the Gorge
- Seating and tables etc. along the top of the gorge

Gilbert River:

- Building of a Community Fire Shed

The Lynd:

- Building of a Community Fire Shed.

GEO PARK

The Mayor spoke to attendees about the Geopark and particularly the intention of the project being to increase tourist numbers and give local land owners the opportunity to open their gates for tourism if they wish to. The Mayor noted that the park would be governed by rules set by a steering committee made up of locals. Members of the steering committee would not be allowed to get any financial gain from the GeoPark. It would be a celebration of the shire's environment, culture and history.

ROAD UPDATES

The Mayor updated attendees on the following roads and the progress of funding for works on the roads;

Forsayth to Georgetown Road

Work has begun on the Georgetown to Forsayth Road. The road is being funded through TIDS and R2R money. The whole cost of the job is approximately 4 million dollars. Council hopes to do 7km of bitumen.

Hann Highway

Etheridge Shire Council has Nine million dollars currently for the Hann Highway and has received a verbal advice of \$20 million.

Gulf Development Road

The Western Road upgrade is currently on hold, the Mayor is in conversation with the DG regarding this.

Gregory Development Road

With the GENEX project having started Council is hoping that there will be opportunities for passing opportunities to be developed. The Minister for Main Roads has hinted at this happening.

FIRE PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE

The Chief Executive Officer discussed the need for a plan to be put in place for fire prevention, management and response. Norm invited community members to comment on this issue.

CF: Parks and wildlife are proactive in burning. I think the local rural brigades may need to get onto this issue and be proactive. Council support of this could be a big help. Graziers in this area seem to be proactive in this.

LB: Some residents have junk laying everywhere which makes it hard to burn.

CF: Who is responsible for doing fire breaks?

WA: Council has money in the budget allocated but ultimately it is up to the rural fire brigade, they can write to Council to access this money.

ACTION ITEM

Norm to liaise with residents with excessive 'junk' on properties.

GENERAL ISSUES FROM THE COMMUNITY

RT: The O'Brien's creek road has really deteriorated and needs work done.

WA: How is the clinic going?

KT: Yes it is going well. Only one problem, the hot water smells terrible when it gets turned on.

ACTION ITEM

Norm to organise a flush of the hot water system and an investigation into the odour.

CONCLUSION

The Mayor closed the meeting at 10:40am.