

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 02 NOVEMBER 2016**  
**EINASLEIGH TOWN HALL**

Mayor Devlin opened the meeting at 9:35am.

**ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Warren Devlin	Skye Flanagan
Cr Troy Barnes	Ray Giddings
Mark Leonard	Cr Tony Gallagher
Cr Will Attwood	Terry Anne Cranwell
Rebekah Hill	Alan Start
Camilla French	Wendi Furber
Annette Bathurst	Michael Kitzelmann

*Community Members: Total of 7 people attended from the Mount Surprise Community*

**APOLOGIES**

Cr Warren Bethel	Phillip Cranwell
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**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY, EWAMIAN PEOPLE**

We respectfully acknowledge the Ewamian People - the traditional custodians of this land where we meet for the Community Consultation Meeting in Forsayth. 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.

**CHARLESTON DAM / RESERVOIR**

The Federal Government has announced that council has been successful in being awarded a grant under the National Stronger Regions Fund for the construction of Charleston Dam. Final design and consideration of environmental requirements (fish ladder) are being worked through. Council are waiting on the contract for the grant. Once this has been received and signed works will commence with an expected start date March 2017 and expected project completion Oct 2017. This will increase the liveability for residents in the area and maybe even attract new families. The recreation facilities will be good once the dam is complete and everything is up and running.

The Georgetown Water Reservoir has been awarded funding under the State Government's Building Our Regions Grant. It is approximately a \$500,000 project. Council is currently evaluating tenders with works expected to commence early in the new year.

Council has been invited to submit an application to upgrade Forsayth's water filtration system.

**KENNEDY HIGHWAY, HANN HIGHWAY, GDR (WRUP)**

The Gulf Development Road has finished under budget. On the Hann Highway we will be sealing 3kms between the Lynd and Mt Garnet for which we will have \$3.2million which is the final stage of the Kennedy Highway.

In regards to the Forsayth-Georgetown Road, we are hoping to have machinery on the road this month. We will be sealing about 8/9km and are currently working with TMR. The plans have already been completed. Before Christmas we will be clearing out the table drains and roughing it out.

**Q.** Will the upgrade on the Georgetown-Forsayth Rd affect maintenance on the Forsayth-Einasleigh Rd?

No. Another project to be aware of is that Council is looking into putting some bitumen down on the Einasleigh-Lynd Rd to provide some safe passing opportunities.

### **WIND FARM AND HYDRO PROJECT**

In regards to the wind farm, council hasn't had any contact with Infigen in the last couple of months. We understand the project is currently stalled because access to infrastructure is limited along with access to ARENA grants.

### **IRRIGATION PROJECTS**

The Gilbert River Project landholders have asked council to take the lead on coordinating the vehicle to move forward. State and Federal Government are very supportive. So far council has engaged a consultant agency.

A negative is that the local road to Strathmore needs to be a local road of regional significance or a large road for us to apply for funding to go on a large road. It could be worth council looking to the John Anderson Roads for Recovery money going to Strathmore as well.

The residents of Einasleigh request that council doesn't forget the Einasleigh River crossing in their roads agenda.

### **GEOTOURISM**

Geotourism is a regional development initiative that celebrates man's interaction with the landscape. It makes the most of significant geological, cultural and biodiverse features of an area for the purpose of encouraging tourism and local development in a sustainable way. There are 120 UNESCO Global Geoparks currently in the world however there are none in Australia. Etheridge is aspiring to be the first successful geopark in Australia.

**Q.** Will the cultural heritage information include the likes of the Jardine brothers?

Yes.

### **CHANGES TO CONTRACTING PRACTICES**

Council has simplified the contracting tender applications to be delivered through LG Tender Box online. This is a positive step as the decisions are made by the team in Brisbane which keeps Council at an arm's length from the process. This will be an open process with the contract winners posted on the council website. Recently in the wet hire, electronic tender box evaluation process council received 44 tenders (160 pieces of plant).

### **SUGGESTION BOX**

Council will get a suggestion box done up for Einasleigh.

*Suggestions from the box at the Georgetown Council Depot:*

- Install industrial strength vacuum cleaner at the Depot Workshop. This may encourage employees to keep the cab of their vehicles clean of dust, etc.
- It is disappointing to see the Gregg Bethel Memorial Oval so dry, the oval is a special place for many people in town and it should be made a priority to be kept green all year round! I think you will find many people would be in agreeance with this.
- Have a fenced dog park
- Fix the ceiling at the Depot before it falls on someone's head
- Bigger wash down area at the Depot

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Council has acquired some jumping castles that will be available for hire by community groups, businesses and residents. The jumping castles we now have includes a 5.5m high Slide, 7m long Human Foosball, and two jumping castles – one smaller with a slide on the side and one with activities inside.

**Q.** What will the cost be?

Council will be deciding this shortly. We are thinking it will be free for a registered community event and around about \$100/weekend for residents.

Council will do up a list of what equipment is available for hire by community groups and residents and put it in the Inform each month.

## GENERAL BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

### Clinic Shaded Picnic Area

Terry & Phillip Cranwell have steel posts and sails to out the front of the front of the clinic. The Einasleigh Progress and Fire Brigade Associations will buy the tables. The Einasleigh residents are STILL waiting on council to dig the holes for the steel posts.

### Clinic Access

Terry is the first responder and doesn't know the code to the clinic keypad which limits her access. Discussion was held concerning Clinic access protocols. The sifer code is only for use by Qld Health and RFDS staff. There are three keys kept at Einasleigh with Alan Start, Skye Flanagan and Mark and Jennifer Leonard which Terry can access should the need arise.

### Airfield Emergency Facilities

There was discussion around access for the ambulance to the shed at the Einasleigh Airfield. The town contractor advised he has the materials and will be installing the gate beside the shed at the Airfield soon.

**Q.** Can some shade walls be installed on the shed?

Council is currently looking into having this actioned.

**Q.** The solar light at the shed is very dim and doesn't last through the night.

Suggestion was made for a sensor to be installed or a pull cord so the light can be turned on just as needed.

### Graveyard

**Q.** Do Terry & Phillip need Council's permission to put a headstone on Phillip's uncle's grave? No.

### Fire Brigade

The Einasleigh Fire Brigade has secured a new ISUZU Fire Truck. It's fuel and the funds for servicing will be provided under a fringe benefits arrangement.

### Museum

The residents of Einasleigh would like to see the old shed from the railway set up in town as a Museum.

### Etheridge Learning Facility

A resident mother in Einasleigh would like for the Facility to remain open as she's hoping to send her son there for the 2017 & 2018 school years.

### Library Services

The residents of Einasleigh would like for a free book delivery service from the Terrestrial to Einasleigh return to be arranged as it's too expensive to post books backwards and forwards. Access to books, especially for families with children is a high priority for the community.

Once a month, the boys who do the routine dam inspection could bring books out with them and the families could swap their borrowings over.

## CONCLUSION

Mayor Devlin closed the meeting at 11:30am.