



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 14th August 2024
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH AUGUST 2024
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Barry Hughes
Cr. Ian Carroll
Cr. Laurell Royes
Cr. Seven Ryan
Cr. Ian Tincknell

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Raju Ranjit, Director of Engineering Services
Mrs. Renee Bester, Director of Corporate Services
Miss. Gemma Bethel, Administration Officer

OPEN GALLERY

ATTENDANCE

Nardeen Hayden joined the gallery at 9:05am

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:06am and welcomed all in attendance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

“We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the history, cultural practice, and traditions, of their people.”

PRAYER

“We ask that today you give us wisdom to make good decisions to benefit our communities. Help us see what will benefit our shire and give us hearts to serve others. Amen”.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Royes

- Prescribed interest in agenda item #11 - Quotation for Gravel Supply for Etheridge Shire Council for DRFA Works for Zone 3 & 2.

Cr Tincknell

- Prescribed interest in agenda item #14 – RADF Funding Agreement.

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS

Condolences:

Council wishes to extend their condolences to the family of Robert Burton.

Congratulations:

Council wishes to congratulate Will & Faith Parry of Mistletoe on the birth of their daughter, Elaine.

Council wishes to congratulate Cameron Barns & Mel Sacueza on their marriage.

Council wishes to congratulate Renee Bester on her recent appointment as Director of Corporate Services.

Apologies:

Nil

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

1. General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 17th July 2024

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 17th July 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.01
5/0

2. Special Budget Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 24th July 2024

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 24th July 2024 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.02
5/0

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES

Nil

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Corporate Services

1. Director of Corporate Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Director of Corporate Services' Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.03
5/0

2. Financial Performance as at 31st July 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, a monthly finance report is required to be presented to Council stating the progress made in relation to the budget for the period of the financial year as near as practicable to the end of the month before the meeting held.

RESOLUTION

That Council receives the financial statements for the period ended 31st July 2024 pursuant, and in accordance with, the Local Government Regulation 2012 (s204).

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED

3. Advertising Expenditure Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to adopt the updated draft Advertising Expenditure Policy as outlined within section 197 of the Local Government Regulations 2012. This policy review was due February 2021 is part of Council's current Policy Review project to ensure Council is satisfying its legislative requirements.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Adopt the updated Advertising Expenditure Policy (S007).

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.05
5/0

4. Review of Relocation Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council are currently undertaking a Policy Review to ensure of their governance compliance. As part of this review, Council have developed and/or reviewed policies and suggested appropriate changes. A review of the Councillor Policy: ESC – HR033 Relocation Policy

RESOLUTION

That Council note the completion of the review of the ESC – HR033 Relocation Policy, and re-adopt the reviewed version.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.06
5/0

5. Review of Drug & Alcohol Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is currently undertaking a Policy Review to ensure of their governance compliance. As part of this review, Council have developed and/or reviewed policies and suggested appropriate changes. A review of the ESC – A012 Drug & Alcohol Policy is attached.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to defer the matter of the Drug and Alcohol Policy (A012) to a future meeting/workshop.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.07
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10:07am

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10:28am

6. Dealing with a Complaint About the Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to adopt the updated draft ESC – S014 – Dealing with a Complaint about a Chief Executive Officer Policy as outlined within section 48A of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*. This policy review was completed as part of Council's current Policy Review project to ensure Council is satisfying its legislative requirements.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

- Adopt the updated and renamed 'Dealing with a complaint about a Chief Executive Officer' Policy (S014).

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.08
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Raju Ranjit entered the meeting at 10:30am

7. Media Communications Policy and Social Media Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to adopt the updated draft Media Communications Policy and draft Social Media Policy.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Adopt the updated 'Media Communications Policy' (C008)
2. Adopt the 'Social Media' Policy (C028).

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.09
5/0

8. Queensland Feral Pig Initiative – Round 8

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Funding of \$1 million is currently available through Round 8(b) of the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative (QFPI). The round of funding is available for a range of eligible applicants (including local governments) for projects including innovation and diversification of feral pig control tools and techniques. The funding covers projects of up to three years. Expression of Interest applications are due by 5pm on 13th September 2024.

RESOLUTION

The Council resolve to:

- Seek the Biosecurity Advisory Committees support regarding an application under the QFPI Round 8b
- Approve in principle an application submission to the QFPI Round 8b

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.10
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Engineering Services

9. Director of Engineering Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Director of Engineering Services' Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.11
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Gemma Bethel left the meeting at 10:56am and returned at 10:59am

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer

10. LGAQ Annual Conference

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Local Government Association of Queensland that the 2024 LGAQ Annual Conference is scheduled for 21st – 23rd October 2024 in Brisbane. The 2024 Annual Conference will include the Annual General meeting where our sector's future policy priorities will be debated.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to send the following representative to attend the 2024 LGAQ Annual Conference in Brisbane from the 21st – 23rd October 2024:

- Mayor Barry Hughes
- Deputy Mayor Laurell Royes
- Cr Ian Carroll
- Cr Seven Ryan
- CEO Ken Timms PSM (or equivalent)

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.12
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes left the meeting at 11:30am due to a prescribed interest.
Nardeen Hayden left the meeting at 11:30am.

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 11:31am to discuss (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that:

- (1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.
- (2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.

(3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss the sale of land.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.13
4/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 11:48am

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.14
4/0

11. Quotation for Gravel Supply for Etheridge Shire Council for DRFA Works for Zone 3 and Zone 2

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the consideration of quotations received for the supply of gravel for Etheridge Shire Council for DRFA works in Zone 3 & Zone 2.

RESOLUTION

That Council accept the tender of Bolwarra Enterprises Crushing & Screening to supply and delivery of 100,000 tonnes for Zone 3 and 8000 tonnes for Zone 2 to the value of \$ 5,957,035 (Ex. GST).

MOVED: Cr. Hughes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.15
3/1

Vote - Cr Ryan requested that her vote be recorded against the above motion.

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

ATTENDANCE

Cr Royes returned to the meeting at 11:51am

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 11:52am to discuss (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that:

- (1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.
- (2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.
- (3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss the sale of land.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.16
5/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 12:34pm

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED

12. Mt Surprise and Einasleigh Town Maintenance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the consideration of options to carry out maintenance works in Mount Surprise and Einasleigh.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to tender out the Town Maintenance Contracts for Mt Surprise and/or Einasleigh providing the tender document includes but is not limited to, a works program and comprehensive reporting tool.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.18
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Lunch at 12:42pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1:21pm

ATTENDANCE

Rebekah Haase entered the gallery at 1:21pm
Nardeen Hayden entered the gallery at 1:21pm

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM

Director of Corporate Services

ATTENDANCE

Cr Tincknell left the meeting at 1:22pm due to a prescribed interest.

13. RADF Funding Agreement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council sanctioned a RADF Committee to assist in the distribution of funds for community led activities and assist in its ability to fulfil Council's Corporate Plan initiatives and other statutory requirements. The RADF Advisory Committee provides recommendations to Council and is chaired by Cr. Ian Tincknell. Council recently received the recommendations from RADF, however in further consultation with Arts Queensland regarding the use of funds from the 2021-2024 funding agreement more consideration from Council is required.

RESOLUTION

That Council suspend standing orders at 2:01pm to receive deputation from RADF members, Rebekah Haase and Nardeen Hayden.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.19
4/0

RESOLUTION

That Council resume standing orders at 2:10pm.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.20
4/0

RESOLUTION

Upon advice from the RADF Committee the remaining funds from the 2023-24 financial year will be allocated to a Council led initiative, Katie Whitehead Jones artist workshop throughout the Shire.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.21
4/0

ATTENDANCE

Cr Tincknell returned to the meeting at 2:15pm.

Rebekah Haase left the gallery at 2:15pm.

Nardeen Hayden left the gallery at 2:15pm

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 2:16pm to discuss (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that:

- (1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.
- (2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.
- (3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss the sale of land.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.22
5/0

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 2:54pm

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.23
5/0

14. November 2023 DFRA Delivery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the consideration of unit rates provided by contractors for Nov 2023 DFRA delivery.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the quoted unit rates provided by Shepherd Services for the delivery of the Nov 2023 severe flash flooding and Tropical Cyclone Kirrily event under Local Buy Project Management Services LB279.

Further that prior to commencement of the delivery of this project that Council requests Shepherd Services outline how it intends to fulfil its obligations under this contract.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.24
4/1

Vote - Cr Ryan requested that her vote be recorded against the above motion.

15. Biosecurity Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Upon completion of the 2024 Local Government Elections, Cr. Seven Ryan was appointed as Chair of the Biosecurity Advisory Committee at the Statutory Post Election meeting held 28th March 2024. The Chair, along with current committee member have advised of changes required to the Terms of Reference for the Biosecurity Advisory Committee. Council have reviewed the Terms of Reference and made the appropriate changes.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

Defer the review of the Biosecurity Advisory Committees terms of reference to the September meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.25
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM

Director of Engineering

16. Sealing Work on Cobbold Gorge Road

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the request regarding the sealing of 800m from the boundary grid towards the office building and 7km from the boundary Grid to the intersection of Cobbold Gorge Road and Agate Creek Road (Ch. 37.80 km to Ch 44.80Km)

RESOLUTION

Upon further information supplied by Simon Terry (Cobbold Gorge), Council advise it may consider a signed private works application to carry out the reconstruction and sealing work on 800m section between Cobbold Gorge Village office building & the boundary grid.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.26
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION ADDENDUM

Chief Executive Officer

17. Chief Executive Officer Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives Chief Executive Officer's Briefing Report.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.27
5/0

18. 2025-29 Corporate Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the consideration of Mead Perry to complete the 2025-29 Etheridge Shire Council Corporate Plan.

RESOLUTION

That Council engage Mead Perry to undertake the development of Council's 2025-29 Corporate Plan.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.28
5/0

19. Organisational Structure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the updated Organisational Structure in accordance with section 196 of the *Local Government Act 2009*. This update is for the performance of the local governments responsibilities in accordance with the adopted 2024-2025 budget.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

- Adopt the Organisational Structure as presented in accordance with section 196 of the Local Government Act.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.29
5/0

20. Term Lease 0/222075 Described as Lot 8 on SP189943

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Resources on 8th July 2024 regarding Term Lease 0/222075 described as Lot 8 on Survey Plan 189943 (Reserve for Township Purposes). This term lease is due for renewal on 3rd July 2025 and the Department of Resources are requesting Councils (appointed trustees of the reserve) views on the matter as part of the renewal process by no later than 19th August 2024. This land was leased for the operation of a commercial business within Georgetown, and that ownership has now ceased.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

- Advise the Department of Resources that Council's preference is to not renew this trustee lease at the expiry of the Term Lease to allow for continuation of tenure and further advise of Council's reasons for objection by no later than 19th August 2024

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.30
4/1

21. Use of Council Controlled Areas

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council have assessed the requirement to have an appropriate procedure that aligns with Council's Local Laws and relevant statutory requirements. Council have consulted other Local Government bodies and sought legal advice in preparing an application process to satisfy the requirements. The application

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(including an applicable fee) will include required documentation to be provided to enable Council to consider the application.

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

- Amend its 2024-2025 Schedule of Fees & Charges to include an Application Fee of \$250.00 for Commercial Activities on Council Land.
- Adopt the proposed Application Form for Commercial Use of Council Controlled Areas.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #24.08.31
5/0

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ryan	Update on Ewamian ILUA progress
Cr Ryan	Update on Gravel Pits
Cr Ryan	Motion for audible recordings of future Council Meetings.
Cr Ryan	New Road surface undermined / blowouts - Forsayth-Einasleigh Road
Cr Ryan	Grid at Property Boundary - Sirron - Forsayth-Einasleigh Road
Cr Ryan	Removal of existing and upgrade of station signs throughout the shire
Cr Ryan	Removal of Green Station Sign from Strathmore Road.
Cr Ryan	Status update of Councillors unanimous directive to CEO to refer compensation request from David & Dot Terry to Council's insurers
Cr Royes	Community Assistance Policy Failure - repeated failure to provide granted in kind assistance as per the policy, significantly with no notice or reason days before events commence and despite council sanctioned budget allocations each year.
Cr Royes	Station Signage - Local Emergency Volunteers and Residents request the re-erection of Historic Station Name Signage
Cr Royes	Equine Precinct - Councils' "position" clearly communicated
Cr Royes	Township Fencing - Strategic Discussion regarding current fence location/maintenance to achieve community expectation in township areas (Safety for people and property)
Cr Royes	Waste/Recycling Strategy - Annual Whitegoods/Furniture/Industrial Township Curb-side Collection (Get Ready Funding)
Cr Royes	Road Drainage - Strategic discussion to ensure road drainage is considered/carried out within the flood damage process on every road.
Cr Royes	Gravel Supply - strategic discussion regarding the use of crushing plants to optimise gravel quality/quantity

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to:

- Record all future Council meetings audibly.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

LOST
RESOLUTION #24.08.32
2/3

Vote – Cr Royes wishes to record her vote against the above motion.

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.15pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 18th September 2024.

Cr. Barry Hughes
MAYOR