



UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND JANUARY 2025
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND JANUARY 2025**

ATTENDANCE

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

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr. Mark Watt, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Raju Ranjit, Director of Engineering Services
Mrs. Renee Bester, Director of Corporate Services
Miss. Gemma Bethel, Executive Assistant

OPEN GALLERY

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:00am 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

Nil

APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS

Condolences:

Council wishes to extend their condolences to the family of Cr Kevin Davies and the Mareeba Shire Council.

Congratulations:

Nil

Apologies:

Nil

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 18th December 2024.

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 18th December 2024 be confirmed as amended.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.01
5/0

BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES

Cr Royes

24.12.02 – Butchers Paddock Lease
24.12.18 – Legal Advice
24.12.19 – Governance Advice
24.11.20 – TIDS Project Status Report
23.11.25 – Lynd Medical Centre Fence

Cr Ryan

24.08.07 – Drug and Alcohol Policy

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for morning tea at 10:03am

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10:28am

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

1. Chief Executive Officers Briefing Report

Mark Watt presented a verbal update to Council on activities over the last month including:

1. QRA Presentation
2. Insurance claim relating to Mosquito Creek
3. Gravel Pit – Robin Hood Road
4. QRA Costs – Einasleigh Fires
5. Executive Assistance to CEO – temporary role

ATTENDANCE

Clinton Mervis and Dave Watkins from Shepherd Services joined the meeting at 10:59am.
Raju Ranjit entered the meeting at 11:00am.

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 11:05am, pursuant to section 254J (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to discuss the following items:

1. Zone 5 Flood Damage
2. Construction of Concrete Road, Driveways, and Stormwater Drainage at the Green St, Georgetown Staff Housing Facility

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.02
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Gemma Bethel left the meeting at 11:37am and returned at 11:40am.
Clinton Mervis and Dave Watkins from Shepherd Services left the meeting at 12:03pm.

RESOLUTION

Council resolves to come out of closed session at 12:10pm.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.03
5/0

RESOLUTION

That Council resolve to consider tenders ESC2024-041 and ESC2024-042 that lay on the table from the December 2024 General Meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.04
3/2

VOTE

Cr Ryan and Cr Royes requested that their votes be recorded against the above motion.

2. Flood Damaged Roads Restoration Zone 5

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the tender of the flood damaged restoration zone 5 (north and south).

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Accepts the schedule of rates tender submitted by Halloran & Sons Earthmoving Pty Ltd for Contract 2024-041 Flood Damaged Roads Restoration Zone 5 North for \$1,901,982.09 ex GST in accordance with the contract provisions and the schedule of rates. Accepts the schedule of rates tender submitted by Halloran & Sons Earthmoving Pty Ltd for Contract 2024-042 Flood Damaged Roads Restoration Zone 5 South for \$843,563.81 ex GST in accordance with the contract provisions and the schedule of rates.
2. Signs and seals the contracts in the form proposed; and
3. Resolves that this report, its attachments and all discussions in relation to this matter remain confidential, but the resolution be made public immediately.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Hughes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.05
3/2

VOTE

Cr Ryan and Cr Royes requested that their votes be recorded against the above motion.

3. Construction of Concrete Road, Driveways, and Stormwater Drainage at the Green Street, Georgetown Staff Housing Facility

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the tender of the Construction of Concrete Road, Driveways, and Stormwater Drainage at the Green St, Georgetown Staff Housing Facility.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Accepts the tender submitted by CBD Pty Ltd for Contract 2024 -047 Construction of Concrete Road, Driveways, and Stormwater Drainage at the Green St, Georgetown Staff Housing Facility for \$348,200.46 exl GST in accordance with the contract provisions and the schedule of rates.
2. Signs and seals the contracts in the form proposed; and
3. Resolves that this report, its attachments and all discussions in relation to this matter remain confidential, but the resolution be made public immediately.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.06
3/2

VOTE

Cr Ryan and Cr Royes requested that their votes be recorded against the above motion.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Corporate Services

4. Director of Corporate Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.07
5/0

5. Financial Performance as at 31st December 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 December 2024 pursuant to section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

MOVED: Cr. Carroll

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.08
5/0

6. Draft Strategy for Culture & the Arts 2025-2030

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a draft of the proposed 5-Year Strategy for Culture and the Arts, which outlines a forward-thinking framework to enhance the shires cultural landscape. This strategy focuses on fostering creativity, supporting local artists, and promoting inclusive access to arts and cultural experiences. Key priorities include strengthening Council's capacity, capability and resources; elevating the profile and importance of the arts and cultural development within Council and the community; and diversifying our arts and cultural programming and building new audiences. The strategy aims to ensure sustainability, cultural diversity, and long-term growth, positioning the arts as a central element of community life. Community feedback was sought via survey and community consultation sessions, and further comment on the draft final document will be vital for refining and finalising the plan for adoption.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the draft Strategy for Culture & the Arts 2025 – 2030 and publish for public feedback (30 days) before finalising the final document for adoption.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.09
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for lunch at 1:10pm

ATTENDANCE

Renee Bester left the meeting at 1:10pm.

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1:46pm.

7. Quarterly 2024/25 Operational Plan Review – Second Quarter

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, tabled for Council's reception is the second quarter (1st October – 31st December 2024) progress report on implementing Council's 2024-2025 Operational Plan.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the second quarterly progress report on Council's progress toward implementing its 2024/2025 Operational Plan.

MOVED: Cr. Royes

SECONDED: Cr. Ryan

PROCEDURAL MOTION

That Council resolve to let the matter lay on the table until the February 2025 General Meeting.

MOVED: Cr. Ryan

SECONDED: Cr. Carroll

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.10
5/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Engineering Services

8. Director of Engineering Services Briefing Report

RESOLUTION

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

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.11
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Mark Watt left the meeting at 2:44pm and returned at 2:45pm

9. Independent Living Facility Project Status

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the status of the Independent Living Facility project.

RESOLUTION

1. That Council note and receive the status of the Independent Living Facility project.
2. That Council approves an additional budget of \$422,065.00 to complete the project fully, and a budget variation be included as part of the next quarterly budget review.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #25.01.12
5/0

<i>GENERAL BUSINESS</i>

Cr Royes	Proposal to include DRFA (Monthly Flood Damage Report) in Open Session Agenda
Cr Royes	Finalisation of MOU Cairns Hinterland Health
Cr Royes	D&D Terry Insurance Claim
Cr Royes	Old Robin Hood Gravel Pit/ Road Reserve
Cr Royes	Payments to Local Sub-Contractors (Overdue/Delayed) (Flood Damage)
Cr Carroll	Percyvale Road
Cr Carroll	Cartage of gravel from Forsayth stockpile.
Cr Carroll	Gravel rule on Cobbold Gorge Road
Cr Tincknell	Letters pertaining to legal matters received by Council

<i>CONCLUSION</i>

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 5:54pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 19th February 2025.

Cr. Barry Hughes
MAYOR