



CONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD
ST GEORGE STREET, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY 2015,
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT GEORGETOWN

ON WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY 2015

COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

ATTENDANCE

Crs W Attwood, T Arnett, W Bethel, P Royes, I Tincknell

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr David Munro, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Mr Rohana Samarasekera, Director of Engineering Services
Mrs Tanya Robinson, Executive Assistant
Mr Terry Whitaker, Works Manager

GALLERY

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.05 and welcomed all in attendance.

CONDOLENCES

Council offers their condolences to the Fenwick family on the passing of Patricia Fenwick

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

General Meeting – Wednesday 17 December 2014

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 19 December 2014 be confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1225
5/0

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

That in accordance with Section 275(1)(e & f) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the meeting be closed to the public to discuss the following matters;

- Legal Matter – Rates 2014/15
- EOI – ESC2014-004 “Design & Project Management of the Charleston Dam”

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO. 2015/GM1226
5/0

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

MOTION:

That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 9.14am

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO. 2015/GM1227
5/0

6. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES CLOSED REPORTS

GMCCS13.

Legal Matter – Rates 2014/15

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council requested management on the 17 September 2014 to seek independent legal advice regarding the allegation against Council regarding its Differential Rating Groups and once Council had received this opinion from its legal counsel that the matter be brought back to Council for further deliberations regarding this allegation. Council received its Legal Advice / Opinion from Council's legal representatives dated 5 November 2014 to allow Council to deliberate further regarding this matter.

From the advice obtained from Council's legal counsel, Council issued a notice of non-payment with the intent that if payment was not received within 30 days then Council may commence proceedings in the District Court to recover the unpaid rates as a debt.

Council has received a reply from the entity on the 18 December 2014 which was received at Council on the 5th January 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Delegate authority to the Acting Chief Executive Officer to commence legal proceedings within the District Court to recover the unpaid rates and furthermore that Council engage King & Co to act as Council's legal representative in the District Court and furthermore that Council arrange a Rating workshop to discuss setting Mining Rates to avoid any future challenges against Council.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1228
5/0

GMCCS14.

EOI – ESC2014-004 “Design & Project Management of the Charleston Dam”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the Design & Project Management of the Charleston Dam, with the Expressions of Interest being advertised as at 10th October 2014 and closing as at 31st October 2014.

Council received a total of nine (9) Expressions of Interest from a range of competent engineering firms within Australia.

An evaluation team was established to undertake the assessment(s) of the “respondents” Quality Criteria responses and secondly to provide a recommendation to Council for the establishment of a shortlist of candidates which will then address Council with a final presentation prior to Council

making its final decision on which firm will be engaged to undertake the Design and Project Management of the Charleston Dam.

Council invited five (5) firms from the original Expression of Interest to provide a final presentation which was undertaken on the 7th January 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to award the contract for ESC2014-004 for the “Design & Project Management” of the Charleston Dam to Cardno (CDM Smith) and furthermore that Council delegate authority to the Acting Chief Executive Officer to arrange for the preparation of the contract and furthermore that Council resolve to transfer sufficient funds from its Capital Reserves to cover the cost for the Design Phase for the Charleston Dam.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1229
5/0

6. CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES OPEN REPORTS

GMCCS1.

Monthly Financial report as at 31 December 2014

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:

Adopt the monthly Financial Report pursuant to and in accordance with Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for the period ending 31 December 2014.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1230
5/0

GMCCS2.

Capital Works Budget 2014/2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the 2014/15 Budget, Council has approved a number of Capital Works Projects. The attached report provides a summary of the Capital Works Program through a financial perspective.

Council receives a detailed commentary on how we are delivering on our Capital and Operating budgets each quarter through the Operational Plan review.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1231
5/0

GMCCS3.

Operational Plan Review for the Quarter ending December 2014

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 2014 quarter in accordance with Section 174 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1232
5/0

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOTION:

That Council suspends standing orders at 9.30am.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1233
5/0

DEPUTATION

Mark Samblebe from Aeramix attended the meeting at 9.30am to present an update on the Water Treatment Plant. Mark advised the Water Treatment Plant is progressing well and is on schedule. Some pipe fittings were held up but are now in stock and will be on the job by Saturday.

Mark will start commissioning the back wash early next week. The backwash tank didn't eventuate but Council has organised backwash ponds. Electrical connections are now being connected.

Aeramix is aiming for commissioning to be on 31 January 2015.

Training will commence on 27 January 2015 to show Council operators how to do the lab work testing and operate the new Water Treatment Plant.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOTION:

That in accordance with Section 275(1) (h) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the meeting be closed to the public;

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1234
5/0

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

MOTION:

That Council re-open the meeting to the public at 10.48am

MOVED: Cr Bethel

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1235
5/0

GMCCS4.

Our Organisational – Update on Employment Numbers (FTE)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

People are the key to Etheridge Shire Council's future. The survival, growth and success of Etheridge Shire Council are directly linked to the quality of the staff as individuals and as collaborative colleagues.

This report provides Council with an update on "Full Time Equivalents" (FTE) numbers and also provides trends and statistics on Council's Human Resource Department.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1236
5/0

GMCCS5.

Community Consultation Dates for 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has agreed to continue to travel as a collective group to each of the townships and other community areas on a monthly basis to provide general updates on what is happening within the Shire plus to seek feedback from the community on how Council can better deliver upon its services and to hear any concerns from our community.

Community Consultation days are open to the general public and will be held within different locations on the first Wednesday of each month or unless re-scheduled to an alternative date within the month due to other commitments.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to adopt the following dates for Council's Community Consultation Days for 2015;

Date	Town / Location	Venue	Time
4th February 2015	Einasleigh	Poosum Ray Memorial Hall – Einasleigh	9.30am
4th March 2015	Georgetown	Georgetown Community Hall	9.00am
1st April 2015	Forsayth	CWA Hall – Forsayth	9.30am
6th May 2015	Mt Surprise	Mt Surprise Hall	9.30am
3rd June 2015	Oak Park	Oak Park Race Course	9.30am
1st July 2015	Lynd Junction	Oasis Service Centre	9.30am
5th August 2015	Einasleigh	Poosum Ray Memorial Hall – Einasleigh	9.30am

2 nd September 2015	Georgetown	Georgetown Community Hall	9.00am
7 th October 2015	Oak Park	Oak Park Race Course	9.30am
4 th November 2015	Forsyth	CWA Hall – Forsyth	9.30am
2 nd December 2015	Mt Surprise	Mt Surprise Hall	9.30am

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1237
5/0

GMCCS6.

Regional Development Fund (RADF)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Etheridge Shire Council's RADF program is currently between rounds; however an unforeseen opportunity to develop the arts and culture in Etheridge Shire has presented itself.

"Squaring The Wheel" is on a regional 12 week tour and will be passing through Georgetown 23 May 2015. This performance is a one-man show which combines circus, clown, strange mechanisms and contraptions, puppetry, magic and music into an unusual, theatre extravaganza. Included in the package is a 20 minute interactive introduction into contraptions and the physics behind them.

This application has been assessed by the RADF Committee and has been determined to comply with the appropriate assessment criteria as detailed through Arts Queensland and the RADF Program.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Endorse the actions taken by the Etheridge Shire Council RADF Committee in the assessment and approval of RADF funding for: "Squaring the Wheel" \$ 1,750.00

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1238
5/0

GMCCS7.

Application for Conversion from Rolling Term Lease PH 18/249 over Lot 249 on Plan 818009 to Freehold

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines seeking Councils views and or requirements regarding an application to convert from Rolling Lease to Freehold.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to offer no objections for the conversion of the existing "Rolling Term Lease" (18/249) described as Lot 249 on Plan CP818009 to Freehold Tenure subject to the use remaining for grazing and pastoral purposes.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1239
5/0

GMCCS8.

Calling for Expressions of Interest from the Community for the Naming of the Bridge over the Copperfield River located at Oak Park

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Betterment Project for the Oak Park Bridge over the Copperfield River has been completed. The issue of naming the bridge was raised at the Oak Park Community Consultation Meeting in November 2014, with Council being receptive to this concept for not only naming the Bridge, but also placing an information board with the history behind the name located near the Bridge.

Therefore, Council will be calling for Expressions of Interest from the Community for the naming of the Bridge over the Copperfield River located at Oak Park.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to call for “Expressions of Interest” from the community for the naming of the bridge over the Copperfield River located at Oak Park with Expressions of Interest closing on Friday 13th March 2015.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1240
5/0

GMCCS9.

Elected Member Update (EMU)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Annual Elected Member Update (EMU) program for 2015 will be held at the Carpentaria Shire Council on Thursday 5 March 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve the attendance of Cr Attwood, Cr Bethel, the Chief Executive Officer and Director of Corporate and Community Services to attend the Annual Elected Member Update (EMU) program in Normanton on the 5th March 2015.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1241
5/0

GMCCS10.

Development Application from Bolwarra Enterprises Pty Ltd

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is in the process of assessing a development application for sand extraction from a section of the Etheridge River approximately one kilometre north of the Georgetown Bridge on the Gulf Development Road. Under the definitions within the Etheridge Shire Planning Scheme this application is Impact Assessable and as such adjoining property owners must be advised of the proposal and given the opportunity to provide comment or object to the proposal.

Council was formerly advised of the development application and public notification on 9 January 2015. Being an adjoining land owner Council’s consideration and comment is sought in respect of the application and proposed activity.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Accepts the officers' report and furthermore resolves to support the development application by way of offering no objection to the application.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1242
5/0

GMCCS11.

2016 Quadrennial Local Government Elections

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On the 27th August 2014, Parliament passed the Local Government Legislation Amendment Act 2014 which amended the Local Government Electoral Act 2011 to enable local governments to make local decisions about how their elections will be conducted.

As part of the preparations for the 2016 quadrennial local government elections, Council is invited to review its current electoral arrangements plus review who will be the returning officer, the CEO of the local government authority or the Electoral Commission.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to advise the Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery & Resilience that Etheridge Shire Council will remain as undivided with a total number of elected members of five and that the quadrennial elections will be conducted via a postal ballot due to the size of the Shire and due to the number of registered voters and furthermore that Council advise the Queensland Electoral Commission that the quadrennial local government elections returning officer will not be the Chief Executive Officer but an official officer from the Electoral Commission.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1243
5/0

GMCCS12.

Draft Amendments to the Gulf Water Resource Plan & Resource Operations Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Minister for Natural Resources & Mines and the Chief Executive Officer for the Department of Natural Resources & Mines have released a draft amendment to the Water Resource (Gulf) Plan 2007 and a draft amendment to the Gulf Resource Operations Plan 2010 on the 17 December 2014 for public consultation.

The timeframe for lodging submissions regarding the draft amendments closes on Tuesday 10th February 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1244
5/0

ATTENDANCE

Mareea Lochel attended the meeting at 11.42am and left at 11.54am.

GMCCS15.

Etheridge Economic Development Forum

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To stimulate economic development in the region, Council is teaming up with SEGRA (Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia) to host an Economic Development Forum for businesses and industries in Etheridge Shire. It is envisioned that from the discussions and workshops at the forum an economic strategic plan for the region will be developed.

The forum will assist the community in identifying the issues that need to be addressed and the techniques and skills to successfully achieve stainable economic growth and development.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolves to lay the matter on the table and furthermore that Council hold a workshop on Monday 26th January 2015 at 1pm to discuss the Economic Development forum, and if required to be further reviewed at the February Community Consultation Meeting.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Tincknell

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1245
5/0

GMCCS16.

Application for Conversion of Perpetual Lease (GHPL 0/214999) over Lot 36 on CP900291 to Freehold

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received correspondence from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines seeking Councils views and or requirements regarding an application to convert from a Perpetual Lease to Freehold.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Resolve to offer no objections for the conversion of the existing "Perpetual Lease 0/214999" described as Lot 36 on CP900291 to Freehold Tenure subject to the use remaining for grazing and pastoral purposes.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1248
5/0

GMCCS17.

Supreme Court Verdict – Flat Creek Road

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Supreme Court verdict between ERO Georgetown Gold Operations Pty Ltd, versus The Minister for Natural Resources & Mines and Mr. Thomas Henry was delivered on Friday 16th January 2015.

The Supreme Court Judge has ruled in favour of the Minister for Natural Resources & Mines as per the renewal conditions contained within the Mining lease.

Therefore, ERO Georgetown Gold Operations has twenty (20) days to act in accordance with the Mining Lease Conditions commencing from the 16th January 2015, however they have the opportunity to lodge an appeal against the verdict within twenty-eight (28) days from the 16th January 2015.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers report and furthermore that Council advise the Department for Natural Resources & Mines of the standard conditions for the re-establishment of Council's road that was damaged during the said mining activities which will include any culverts and floodways that form part of the road.

MOVED: Cr Arnett

SECONDED: Cr Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1249
5/0

GMCCS18.

Update – Georgetown Water Treatment Plant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aeramix have been engaged to undertake process assessments, process and concept design, and construction of a water treatment plant to overcome elevated levels of Manganese (Mn) in the Raw water supply.

The initial project concept was to utilise excess process equipment from a Water Treatment Plant construction in Richmond QLD and the process assessments were designed to accommodate that.

The systems at Richmond were de-mounted skid based units which were to be reassembled for use in Georgetown for temporary installation and operation in a manual mode. Project budget costings for delivery of a temporary system were provided by Aeramix and accepted by Etheridge Shire Council in October 2014 and broken into four main components being;

- 1. Process assessment and design,*
- 2. Detailed design (excluding design drawings and drafting) and construction,*
- 3. Commissioning and documentation, and;*
- 4. Variations*

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Notes and receives the Officers Report.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1250
5/0

Cr Tincknell would like to express his disappointment in the overall process and planning which has seen the milestones moved from the original discussions.

GMCCS19.

Application for Liquor Licence

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is in receipt of a letter from the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation – Department of Justice and Attorney General requesting comment on an application from Lot 1 on MPH22955 for a Liquor Licence being a licence type for “Commercial Other – Subsidiary On Premises - Provision of Accommodation.”

“Should this licence be granted it would enable the holder thereof to sell liquor to a resident or a guest of a resident for consumption on the premises at any time and up to nine litres for consumption off the premises to residents only.”

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Accepts the officers’ report and furthermore resolves to support the application from Lot 1 on MPH22955 for a Liquor Licence being a type for “Commercial Other – Subsidiary On Premises - Provision of Accommodation.”

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1251
5/0

8. CONSIDERATION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES OPEN REPORTS

GMES1.

Monthly Engineering Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an up-to-date review of the performance of Engineering Services for the month of December 2014, bench marked against Council’s Corporate and Operational Plan.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

Receives and notes the report from the Director Engineering Services in respect of the work performed and services offered for the month of December 2014 by the Engineering Section.

MOVED: Cr Royes

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1246
5/0

GMES2.

Dust Seals

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the October 2014 General Council Meeting it was resolved to permit the Director of Engineering time to investigate criteria relevant to providing ‘dust seals’ adjacent to homesteads and also to address the type and estimated cost of seals best suited for dust suppression.

In the course of investigating a criterion for the provision of dust suppression at a location, it was noted that many councils throughout Queensland and New South Wales have in fact instigated a

policy (more an Administrative Direction) regarding laying dust suppression seals on roads adjacent to homesteads. This work in general is carried out by the relevant Council with the costs borne by the Applicant i.e. similar to ESC's private works order procedure.

Criteria that is relevant to making an informed decision regarding laying a 'dust suppression' seal on a road include volume of traffic and type of vehicle, vegetation surrounding the homestead, distance of the homestead from the road, prevailing winds and quality of existing road.

The type of "seal" treatment process to be used is weighted against cost, extent of usage of the road and period of durability.

RESOLUTION

***That Council:
Resolves to:***

Adopt the Etheridge Shire Council's "Dust Reduction on Council Rural Roads Policy".

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Bethel

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1247
5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourn for lunch at 12.45pm

RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1.15pm

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Arnett

- Kennedy Development Road and Main Roads

Cr Bethel

- Goal Posts to be installed
- The new Georgetown Police Officer to be invited to the March General Meeting

Cr Royes

- Guide posts on the Einasleigh River at Lyndhurst to be moved in closer to the edges and a depth gauge to be installed in the middle of the crossing
- QLD Health discussions

Cr Tincknell

- Dams
- Back-up Generator for the Main Office and Hall - 125KVA would be required and cost approximately \$40,000.

RESOLUTION:

That Council gives authority to the Acting Chief Executive Officer to investigate the purchase and installation of a backup generator for the Council Office and Shire Hall.

MOVED: Cr Tincknell

SECONDED: Cr Arnett

CARRIED
RESOLUTION NO.2015/GM1252
5/0

Cr Attwood

- GSD discussions.

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 2.05pm.

These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on the Wednesday 18 February 2015.

.....
MAYOR

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