



# UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN  
ON 21 JANUARY 2026  
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

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**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY 2026**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr. Ken Timms, Interim Chief Executive Officer  
Mrs Kim Williams, Acting Executive Assistant

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:00am and welcomed all in attendance.

***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".

***ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE***

**Attendance:**

Nil

**Apologies:**

Nil

**Leave of Absence:**

Renee Bester – Director, Corporate Services  
Raju Ranjit – Director, Engineering Services

***CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS***

**Condolences:**

Kevin Hoolihan

**Congratulations:**

The Chair acknowledged the resignation of Kim Williams EA to the CEO and thanked her for the hard work over her time in the position.

Nathan Tansey and Emily Parry on arrival of Bobby Malcolm Charles.

***DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST***

**Cr. Hughes**

**Closed Agenda**

1. Item No: 13.1  
Subject: Material Change of Use – Extension to Service Station - Georgetown  
Prescribed Conflict of Interest in the matter due to family and business connections.

**Cr. Ryan**

**Closed Agenda**

1. Item No: 13.1  
Subject: Material Change of Use – Extension to Service Station - Georgetown  
Prescribed Conflict of Interest in the matter due to dependent child member employed by applicant.

**Cr. Royes**

**Open Agenda**

1. Item No: 12.1  
Subject: Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 11 (RAU) 11)  
Declarable COI due to related party operating a contract fencing business.

<b>6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b>
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**General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 16 December 2025.**

**AMENDMENTS**

**Cr. Royes**

Item 2

Item 12.1 Subject: DES Briefing Report:

REMOTE AIRSTRIP UPGRADE PROGRAM ROUND 11 (RAUP 11)

Request for quotation (RFQ) for boundary surveys for Forsayth & Georgetown Airstrip.

**Declarable Conflict of Interest** in the matter as related party runs a contract fencing business.

**RESOLUTION**

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 be confirmed (as amended).

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Tincknell

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.01**  
**5/0**

<b>7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES</b>
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Cr. Tincknell – GB – Butchers Paddock update by Mayor.

Cr. Ryan – Nil

Cr. Carroll – Nil

Cr. Royes –

- Town Maintenance contract, contaminated gravel pit – are all staff aware not to use it? Does a memo need to be sent to staff for awareness? CEO to follow up with DES.
- Resolution #SP24.05.06 – Alternate DRFA arrangements.

<b>8. MAYORAL UPDATE</b>
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**RESOLUTION**

That Council receives the Mayoral Update as presented.

**MOVED:** Cr. Ryan

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.02**  
**5/0**

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
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Ken Timms left the room at 9.33am.

Ken Timms returned to the room at 9.34am.

<b>9. NOTICE OF MOTION</b>
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**NIL**

## **10. CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS**

### **10.1 Chief Executive Officers Briefing Report**

#### RESOLUTION

That Council receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer Briefing Report.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for morning tea at 10.03am.

#### RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 10.22am.

**MOVED:** Cr. Hughes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.03**  
**5/0**

### **10.2 Second Quarter Annual Operational Plan 2025/26**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Consideration of the Second Quarter Annual Operational Plan 2025/26 for the period ended 31 December, 2025.

#### RESOLUTION

That pursuant to section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council receive the second quarter written assessment of Council's progress towards implementing the Annual Operational Plan 2025/26.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.04**  
**5/0**

## **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS**

### **11.1 Director of Corporate Services Briefing Report**

NIL REPORT DUE TO ANNUAL LEAVE COMMITMENTS

### **11.2 Financial Performance as at 31 December 2026**

#### 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 31 December 2025 pursuant to, and in accordance with section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

**MOVED:** Cr. Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.05**  
**4/1**

#### VOTE

Against: Cr. Ryan

## **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS**

### **12.1 Director Engineering Services - Briefing Report December 2025**

#### RESOLUTION

That Council receives and notes the Director of Engineering Services Briefing Report for the month of December 2025.

**Cr. Royes**

#### Open Agenda

1. Item No: 12.1  
Subject: Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 11 (RAU) 11)  
Declarable COI due to related party operating a contract fencing business.

Councillors collectively agreed that Cr. Royes stay in the room to discuss the survey of the Air Strip as fencing was not part of the conversation.

**MOVED:** Cr. Hughes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.06**  
**5/0**

#### ATTENDANCE

Cr. Tincknell left the room at 11.54am.  
Cr. Tincknell rejoined the meeting at 11.56am

Mayor Hughes declared a prescribed conflict of interest in relation to Item 13.1. The Chair was handed to Cr. Royes, Deputy Mayor and Mayor Hughes left the meeting room at 12:01pm.

Cr. Ryan declared a declarable interest on item 13.1 and chose to leave the room at 12.02pm.

## **CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS**

#### RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 12.03pm, pursuant to section 254J (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to discuss the following items:

- Material Change of Use – Extension to Service Station – Georgetown

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.07**  
**3/0**

#### RESOLUTION

Council resolves to come out of closed session at 12.24pm.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.08**  
**3/0**

### **13.1 Material Change of Use – Extension to Service Station - Georgetown**

#### RESOLUTION

That the Council resolve:

To lay this matter on the table until the appointed Council Town Planner (Patrick Clifton) and applicant discuss the planning application further.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.09**  
**3/0**

#### ATTENDANCE

Cr. Hughes and Cr. Ryan returned to the room at 12.29pm.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned for lunch at 12.30pm.

#### RESUMPTION

Meeting resumed at 12.56pm.

#### RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 12.56pm, pursuant to section 254J (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to discuss the following items:

- Plant Replacement - MR Truck Tender

**MOVED:** Cr. Tincknell

**SECONDED:** Cr. Carroll

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.10**  
**5/0**

#### ATTENDANCE

Kim Williams left the room at 1.03pm.

Kim Williams returned to the room at 1.04pm.

Ken Timms left the room at 1.23pm.

Ken Timms returned to the room at 1.25pm.

Cameron Barnes (Workshop Supervisor) entered the room at 1.34pm

Cr. Ryan left the room at 1.55pm.

Cr. Ryan returned to the room at 1.58pm.

Cameron Barnes (Workshop Supervisor) left the room at 2.00pm.

#### RESOLUTION

Council resolves to come out of closed session at 2.08pm.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Ryan

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.11**  
**5/0**

### **13.2 Plant Replacement - MR Truck Tender**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Plant replacement program is integral part of Council providing a good service to the community, stakeholders like TMR and the traveling public.

**RESOLUTION**

That Council:

1. Approve the purchase of five Isuzu NQR 88-190 Crew Cabs trucks from Isuzu Trucks Ireland Cairns for the sum of \$899,330.91 Incl GST;
2. Approve the five remaining trucks are to be auctioned or are let as EOI's.

**MOVED:** Cr. Hughes**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes**LOST**  
**0/5****RESOLUTION**

That Council:

require new quotations for plant replacement which should include but not be limited to the following:

1. Current pricing as at 2026.
2. Availability for delivery by June 2026.
3. Requirement for new purchase to be emission compliant (vs current models available).
4. Update on resale prices of current vehicles proposed for sale.

**MOVED:** Cr. Carroll**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #26.01.12**  
**5/0****ATTENDANCE**

Ken Timms left the room at 2.17pm.

Ken Timms returned at 2.18pm.

Cr. Tincknell left the room at 2.23pm.

Cr. Tincknell returned at 2.25pm.

Cr. Royes left the room at 3.45pm.

Cr. Royes returned to the room at 3.47pm.

Ken Timms and Kim Williams left the room at 3.52pm for Councillors to discuss the upcoming CEO Recruitment Workshop on February 6<sup>th</sup> and returned at 4.03pm.

Cr. Royes left the room at 4.04pm.

Cr. Royes returned to the room at 4.05pm.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>Cr.</b>	<b>Item</b>
Cr. Royes	Disaster Declaration - possible "Independent Property Declarations"
Cr. Royes	Georgetown town fence - urgent action (strategy/design/construct) to ensure town area is stockproof
Cr. Royes	Email re: Damage to Helicopter
Cr. Royes	Review QRA Flood Damage delivery - specifically smaller tenders for delivery & Council internal management structure.
Cr. Carroll	Wet and Dry Hire Policy and its return to council
Cr. Carroll	Town Maintenance Contracts
Cr. Carroll	Australia Day nominees' advertisement
Cr. Tincknell	Councillor Workshop – February 6
Cr. Ryan	Copperfield EAP - incorrect (raised several times previously by Cr Royes)
Cr. Ryan	Queenslander Creek Culverts - when are repairs/ betterment being carried out?
Cr. Ryan	Loss of road surfaces throughout the narrows on Cobbold Gorge Road - newly approved flood damage works washed away

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Cr. Ryan	Georgetown Town Maintenance - including cemetery maintenance, office block on St George St
Cr. Ryan	SMS messaging about road closures - have we advertised the opt in?
Cr. Ryan	Opening the Forsayth Transfer station - more hours
Cr. Ryan	General awareness of community flood damage reporting to support disaster declarations
Cr. Ryan	Damage to property and town boundary fencing
Cr. Royes	Gulf Regional Water Assessment Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting #4 - Significant Strategic Planning proposing major developments within the Etheridge Shire (For example Australia's first underground dam ....in the Gilbert possibly & a potential water harvesting site at Rockfields. Fails to recognise/ mention the existence of the very costly DBC (for the Gilbert River Dam/Irrigation Project) or recognise the major investment proposed along the lower Gilbert catchment by several current landowners.

<b><i>CONCLUSION</i></b>
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There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4.24pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

Cr. Barry Hughes  
MAYOR