



**MINUTES**  
*of the*  
**GENERAL MEETING**

**CHAIRPERSON: Cr R Dyne (Mayor)**

**Held in the Boardroom  
Old Bank Building,  
46 Nash Street,  
Gympie Qld 4570**

**On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009  
At 9.00 am**

Gympie Regional Council **GENERAL**

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*Mayor R.J. Dyne (Chairman),  
Crs. A.J. Perrett, G.L. Engeman, R.A. Gâté, LJ Friske,  
DR Neilson, IT Petersen, J Watt and J.A. Walker.*

**APPOINTMENTS etc.****CONTENTS:**

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<b>SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SECTION 2: APOLOGIES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SECTION 4: PETITIONS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE &amp; FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION 6: REPORT BY THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE &amp; FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF WORKS &amp; SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>SECTION 8: REPORT BY THE WORKS &amp; SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>SECTION 9: ADOPTION OF PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>7</b>
RECOMMENDATION P12/02/09 OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 4 FEBRUARY 2009 .....	8
<b>SECTION 10: REPORT BY THE PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
11/1 COUNCILLORS EXPENSES REIMBURSEMENT POLICY .....	8
11/2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE – CR WALKER.....	10
<b>SECTION 12: MEETING DATES .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>SECTION 13: GENERAL BUSINESS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
LATE ITEM 1 GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL PLANNING SCHEME STUDY 2009.....	11
NOTICE OF MOTION.....	12
FUND RAISING – VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE APPEAL /QUEENSLAND FLOOD APPEAL .....	13
DISASTER AWARENESS .....	13
GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL SIGNAGE .....	13
<b>SECTION 14: IN COMMITTEE MATTERS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
14/1 EB NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE.....	15

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The meeting commenced at 9:02 am.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Cr R.J. Dyne (Chairman), Cr A.J. Perrett, Cr G.L. Engeman, Cr I.T. Petersen, Cr L.J. Friske, Cr J. Watt, Cr R.A. Gâté and Cr D.R. Neilson.

Also in attendance were Acting Chief Executive Officer (Mr C. Manson), and Minutes Clerk (Miss S Bull).

Cr R.A. Gâté was not present at the commencement of the meeting.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS**

Planning & Development Committee Meeting – 4 February 2009  
P03/02/09 – Cr I.T. Petersen and Cr D.R. Neilson – Conflict of Interest  
P12/02/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman – Material Personal Interest

## **SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER**

Pastor Gary McClintock from Wesley & Methodist Church offered a Prayer for the advancement of the Region and the true welfare of its people.

One Minute's silence was observed for family and friends of deceased residents of the Region.

## **SECTION 2: APOLOGIES**

G01/02/09 Moved: Cr J. Watt

Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That the apology from Cr J.A. Walker be accepted.

**Carried**

## **SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING**

G02/02/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council General Meeting held on 28 January 2009 be taken as read and confirmed.

**Carried**

## **SECTION 4: PETITIONS**

NIL

## **SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**G03/02/09      Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson                      Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett**

**That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2009 as presented, be received.**

**Carried**

**G04/02/09      Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson                      Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman**

**That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2009, be adopted.**

**Carried**

## **SECTION 6: REPORT BY THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Cr Donna Neilson presented the following report:

Following a request from the Glastonbury SES for premises on the Southside, Council has identified a suitable block of land on Johnstone Road. On behalf of the SES, Council will apply to the Dept of Natural Resources and Water for a 20 year term lease over the land, for the purpose of establishing an SES shed.

Council will also apply to DNRW for a term lease for the relocation of the Tin Can Bay SES to part of the Reserve at the corner of Snapper Creek and Gympie Roads, Tin Can Bay, beside the Qld Fire and Rescue Service.

The committee recommended that Council accept the offer of a licence and subsequent lease of the Woodworks Museum at Fraser Road, Gympie from the State Government at no cost. This follows ongoing negotiations regarding the proposed tenure, management and items requiring attention.

It should be made perfectly clear that the sum of \$150,000 was provided for in the 2008/9 budget.

A building audit of Council's public halls has recently been completed. Many of the halls require works to ensure compliance with fire safety regulations. Funds will be provided to complete these works and three-monthly inspections will be carried out on all halls.

In response to requests from Gympie Sporting Clays Inc and Cooloola Archers, the clubs will be advised that Council is currently reviewing the issue of a shooting range complex.

**G05/02/09      Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson                      Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman**

**That the Report be received.**

**Carried**

<b>SECTION 7:    ADOPTION OF WORKS &amp; SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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**G06/02/09      Moved: Cr R.J. Dyne                      Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson**

**That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 3 February 2009 as presented, be received.**

**Carried**

**G07/02/09      Moved: Cr R.J. Dyne                      Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske**

**That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 3 February 2009, be adopted.**

**Carried**

## **SECTION 8: REPORT BY THE WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Cr Ron Dyne presented the following report:-

The Works and Services Committee Meeting of the 3 February 2009 was significant because of the apologies of a number of Councillors. This report is identified in sub-heading categories.

### **Engineering Services:**

An invitation to the District Director of Main Roads Department will be issued to discuss the relocation of signage to Tin Can Bay. An invitation to representatives of the Cooloola Partnerships Against Domestic Violence will be issued to discuss proposed signage on the City outskirts.

### **Design Services:**

Discussion held on the reduction of speed limits on an area of Old Goomboorian Road was referred for consideration of a speed review and consideration by the Traffic Advisory Committee. A decision was made on identifying a number of Council roads for black spot funding. Continued widening of Old Maryborough Road was approved with funding from Rural Roads Contributions.

### **Works Eastern:**

Numerous roads were identified as having had maintenance completed. Tractor slashing of Council roads was continuing with the recent wet weather assisting with growing conditions. Bridge works were carried out on Blue Creek, Kandanga Creek, and Barambah Creek bridges. Several school car parks were upgraded.

### **Works Western:**

A gates and grids policy was endorsed. Several roads had maintenance completed. Ongoing testing on the Bonnick Road landfill is continuing to determine if the clay base is adequate. Work has commenced on widening of Abel Road.

### **Land Protection:**

Weed control on various Council roads is ongoing. Inspection for groundsel is completed for this round. Work has commenced on development of a Control for Giant Rats Tail Grass. Portable feral pig traps are being constructed in conjunction with Gympie TAFE College for loan to landholders who wish to trap feral pigs on their property.

### **Parks:**

Continuing capital works is occurring on Fairway and AJ Mitchell Parks. Discussions are ongoing with Qld Transport in relation to the Cod Street Tin Can Bay shelter replacement. Council is also liaising with Tin Can Bay Chamber of Commerce. On going work is occurring on a variety of parks in the Council area.

**Water & Sewerage:**

The project to construct three new sewerage treatment plants in the coastal area is 90% complete. The CCTV inspection program is ongoing. Work has commenced on pressure reduction of Tin Can Bay water reticulation system. The construction of a new reservoir for Kilkivan township is progressing. Tenders have been called for the construction of the water treatment plant and the shed to house the equipment.

**G08/02/09      Moved: Cr R.J. Dyne                      Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman**

**That the report be received.**

**Carried**

<p><b>SECTION 9:    ADOPTION OF PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS</b></p>
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**G09/02/09      Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen                      Seconded: Cr J. Watt**

**That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 February 2009 as presented, be received with the exception of P09/02/09 & P12/02/09 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.**

**Carried**

**G10/02/09      Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen                      Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett**

**That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 February 2009 as amended, be adopted.**

**Carried**

Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Material Personal Interest in the next item due to business contacts and left the meeting at 9.13am.

**Recommendation P12/02/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on the 4 February 2009**

**G11/02/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson**

**That Recommendation P12/02/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 February 2009 be received and adopted.**

**Further that Recommendation P09/02/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on the 4 February be withdrawn at the request of the applicant.**

**Carried**

Cr G.L. Engeman returned to the meeting at 9.14am.

**SECTION 10: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

NIL

**SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS**

**11/1 Councillors Expenses Reimbursement Policy**

**Re: G12/02/09 Councillors Expenses Reimbursement Policy**  
**From: Director of Corporate Services – Mr Craig Manson**  
**File: 103/1**  
**Date: 4 February 2009**

**Report: (Corporate Administration Manager – Mr John Nancarrow)**

The Director-General of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation has advised Council that current Expenses Reimbursement Policy Guidelines have been revised and been replaced with a set of 4 principles, namely -



- 1 Use of public moneys in the public interest by responsible budgeting and accounting;
- 2 Fair and reasonable allocation of Council resources (allowance, facilities and other benefits) to enable all Councillors to conduct the duties of their office;
- 3 Transparent decision-making by public disclosure of policy and resolutions; and
- 4 Accountability for expenditure and use of facilities through full justification and acquittal.

These principles will allow each Council to develop its own Expenses Reimbursement Policy in accordance with its own circumstances.

Council's Expenses Reimbursement Policy has now been revised to reflect the 4 principles. Changes have also been made to the private use of Council vehicles by the Mayor and Councillors and meal allowances.

The matters relating to vehicles are a result of the information provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation. A definition section has been included to clarify aspects included in the original policy.

A copy of the revised document is being prepared for the meeting.

The amended Policy is for information and discussion by Councillors, prior to it being forwarded to the Director-General, Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation for approval.

Once approved by the Director General, Council will be in a position to formally adopt the policy.

Cr I.T. Petersen left the meeting at 9.16am and returned at 9.18am.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

**G12/02/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman**

**That the Draft Policy as amended, "*Councillor Expenses Reimbursement Policy*" be forwarded to the Director-General for approval.**

**Carried**

11/2	Leave of Absence – Cr Walker
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Re: **G13/02/09** Leave of Absence – Cr Walker  
 From: Chief Executive Officer – Mr Ken Mason  
 File:  
 Date: 5 February 2009

**G13/02/09** Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett                      Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson

**That Cr Julie Walker be granted Leave of absence from all Council Meetings for the duration of her rehabilitation.**

**Carried**

**G14/02/09** Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett                      Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

**That Cr D.R. Neilson be appointed as Council's proxy on the Mary Valley Heritage Rail (MVHR) Committee while Cr Walker is incapacitated.**

**Carried**

<b>SECTION 12: MEETING DATES</b>
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The meeting dates for the month of March 2009 have been set as follows:

<b>TUESDAY, 3 MARCH 2009</b>	<b>Works &amp; Services Committee Meeting 9am</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY, 4 MARCH 2009</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Development Committee Meeting 9am</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2009</b>	<b>General 9am Community &amp; Economic Development Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY, 18 MARCH 2009</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Development Committee Meeting 9am</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH 2009</b>	<b>General 9am Corporate Governance &amp; Finance Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting.</b>

G15/02/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

**That the meeting dates for the month of March 2009 be adopted.**

**Carried**

## **SECTION 13: GENERAL BUSINESS**

Late Item 1 Gympie Regional Council Planning Scheme Study 2009

Re: **G16/02/09** Gympie Regional Council Planning Scheme Study 2009  
 From: Selection Panel – Mayor, Cr Watt, Cr Petersen, Director of Planning and Development, Manager Strategic Planning  
 File: 6/6/10/0010  
 Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2009

**Report: (Manager Strategic Planning – K.A. Rolfe)**

### **1.0 Brief**

The consultancy brief for the planning study was advertised on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2008 with submissions closing at midday on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

### **2.0 Submissions**

Sixteen submissions were lodged with Council on or before the closing time as follows:

Humphreys Reynolds Perkins	249,000
PSA Consulting	246,250
Lloyd Consulting	154,515
AEC Group	195,696
KBR	180,000
SGS Economics & Planning	212,000
Maunsell	197,500
OPUS	155,000
Goodwin Midson	199,400
Hassell	200,000
Wolter Consulting	195,860
ARUP	195,500
BECA	207,206
GHD	200,000
Conics	185,000
Urbis	248,000

### 3.0 Selection Criteria

Previous demonstrated experience in the preparation of planning scheme studies and in each field of expertise covered within the brief	25%
Level of experience of personnel involved in this project	25%
Value for money	25%
The organisation / team's ability to undertake the project within a reasonable timeframe	25%

### 4.0 Selection Panel Recommendation

All members rated GHD in the top two of teams having the most favourable proposal. Only one other proposal was scored in the top two by two members.

GHD is the favoured proponent.

**G16/02/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen                      Seconded: Cr J. Watt**

**That Council appoints the GHD consultancy team to undertake the Gympie Regional Council Planning Scheme Study 2009 at the submitted price of \$200,000, and authorises the Director of Planning and Development to further negotiate with the team regarding agreed outputs, fees, terms and conditions.**

**Carried**

Notice of Motion
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Cr Petersen advised that at the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting on the 25 February, he will move:

*“That Council delay the project to install a new lift at the Town Hall.*

*Further that Council request Head of Departments to reassess their programs and identify any projects that can be deleted, modified or delayed for further discussion at the nine monthly budget review.”*

### Fund Raising – Victorian Bushfire Appeal /Queensland Flood Appeal

The Mayor advised that Council has approached both Queensland and Victorian State Governments to arrange for the Council to be able to accept donations which will be tax deductible.

Further discussion ensued concerning Council itself making a donation. General consensus was that residents should be given the opportunity to make personal donations rather than Council using ratepayer funds.

Councillors believe the amount raised from personal donations would surpass a donation a Council the size of this Council could offer.

Council encouraged residents to dig deep to support both funds to help those in need.

### Disaster Awareness

Cr Perrett raised his concern that in light of the current disasters residents should be aware of related risks and remain vigilant.

Cr Petersen advised that the Fire Hazard Reduction Group will be meeting on 26 February. A priority that will be raised at the meeting is the need for suitable fuel reduction strategies to be in place and implemented throughout the Region.

### Gympie Regional Council Signage

Cr Watt advised that the signage at the entrance to Goomeri township still refers to Kilkivan Shire Council. Council will continue its existing practice of updating signs throughout the Region over time taking into account budgetary constraints.

## **SECTION 14: IN COMMITTEE MATTERS**

### **COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE**

The Mayor advised the meeting that Council was going “Into Committee” to discuss

1. EB Negotiations Update

**G17/02/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen**

**Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske**

**That pursuant to the provisions of Section 463 of the Local Government Act, Council resolves to close the meeting to the public and move “into committee” to consider the following matter:-**

**1. EB Negotiations Update**

**Further, that in relation to the provisions of Section 250 of the Act, Council resolves that following the closing of the meeting to the public and the moving ‘into committee’ that all matters and all documents (whether in hard copy, electronic, optical, visual or magnetic form) discussed, raised, tabled and/or considered whilst the meeting is closed and ‘in committee’, are confidential to the Council and the Council wishes to keep them confidential.**

**Carried**

Cr R.A. Gâté entered the meeting at 9.55am.

### **COUNCIL OUT OF COMMITTEE**

**G18/02/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett**

**Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman**

**That proceedings be resumed in Open Council.**

**Carried**

14/1	EB Negotiations Update
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Re: **G19/02/09** EB Negotiations Update  
From: Acting Chief Executive Officer – Mr Craig Manson

**G19/02/09** Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett                      Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson

**That the information be noted.**

**Carried**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.58am.

Confirmed this TWENTY FIFTH day of FEBRUARY 2009

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CHAIRMAN  
Mayor R.J. Dyne