



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 11th March 2009
At 9.00 am**

Gympie Regional Council **GENERAL**

*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.*

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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 R.A. Gâté, Cr D.R. Neilson, and Cr J. Watt.

Also in attendance were Chief Executive Officer (Mr K.A. Mason), and Minutes Clerk (Mrs L Birt).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS

F26/02/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman – Conflict of Interest

W17/03/09 - Cr A.J. Perrett - Conflict of Interest

P15/03/09 & P16/03/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman – Conflict of Interest.

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Rev Peter Van Donge from Baptist 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.

Leave of Absence

G13/02/09 - That Cr Julie Walker be granted Leave of absence from all Council Meetings for the duration of her rehabilitation.

SECTION 2: APOLOGIES

Nil

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

G01/03/09 **Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté** **Seconded: Cr J. Watt**

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council General Meeting held on 25 February 2009 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

4/1 Petition – Skate Park in Goomeri

Re: **G02/03/09** Petition – Skate Park in Goomeri
From: Aaron Dench and 110 other signatories.
File: 4/6/6/1
Date: 3 March 2009 Doc ID 1021590

“The teenagers of Goomeri have started this petition to pass to the Gympie Regional Council for a skate park in Goomeri. This will give them some where to ride their skateboards/bikes/rollerblades in safety. We would like a skate park along the lines of the Kilkivan skate park.”

G02/03/09 Moved: Cr A Perrett Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson

That the petition be received and referred to a future Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting and a Sport & Recreation Meeting for consideration.

Carried

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute F26/02/09 as he is the President of the Gympie and District Show Society.

G03/03/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 February 2009 as presented, be received with the exception of Minute F34/02/09 which is to be deleted and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G04/03/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 February 2009 (as amended), be adopted.

Carried

<p>Recommendation F34/02/09 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 February 2009</p>
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G05/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That Recommendation F34/03/09 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance Committee Meeting be placed on the table for debate.

Recommend that Council delays the project to install a new lift at the Town Hall.

Discussion ensued.

AMENDMENT

G06/03/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded:

That Recommendation F34/03/09 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance Committee Meeting as follows lay on the table until Council is aware of the results of the RLCIP Application:-

Recommend that Council delays the project to install a new lift at the Town Hall.

The motion LAPSED for want of a Seconder.

The Original Motion (G05/03/09) was then PUT and LOST.

A DIVISION was called with the following results:

FOR: Cr L.J. Friske, Cr J. Watt, Cr D.R. Neilson, Cr I.T. Petersen.

AGAINST: Cr G.L. Engeman, Cr R.A. Gâté, Cr A Perrett, Cr R.J. Dyne.

The Motion was LOST on the casting vote of the Mayor.

G07/03/09 Moved: Cr A Perrett Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That Council proceed with the installation of a new lift at the Town Hall.

Carried

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

Cr Neilson presented the following Report:-

“The meeting received a report from the Economic Focus workgroup which had examined sources of revenue and expenditure and opportunities to reduce costs. The general consensus of that meeting was that in preparing the 2009/10 budget, Council should be mindful of the ratepayers’ ability to pay in constrained economic times.

In support of this, a resolution requesting Directors to reassess their programs with a view to modifying projects to be further discussed at the nine monthly budget review, was carried.

The committee resolved to offer two Low Power Open Narrowcasting Licences held by the former Kilkivan Shire Council for sale. The FM88 licences apply to the Kilkivan and Goomeri townships, but have not been utilised. Because of the limitations of the licences, they will be disposed of in accordance with the Local Government Act.

Council will call for tenders for agistment rights over a reserve at Mooloo. The reserve is not currently being utilised and any agreement will be for a period of three years.

In order to comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act, Council has authorised the sale of Lots 28 and 29 in Hayden Drive, Goomeri. The lots, in the Goomeri Industrial Estate, will be offered for tender once the survey plan has been registered.

Council will sponsor the Prime Cattle section of the Goomeri Show to the value of \$500. The show will be held over the weekend of 28 – 29 March.”

G08/03/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Cr A.J. Perrett declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute W17/03/09 due to him being a member of the Kilkivan Show Committee.

G09/03/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

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

Carried

G10/03/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

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

Carried

SECTION 8: REPORT BY THE WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Cr Larry Friske presented the following Report:-

“At the Works & Services Committee Meeting this month Council considered a wide range of issues.

- *Council wrote to the Department of Main Roads requesting that the 80kph speed zone on the Bruce Highway near the Two Mile State School be extended to a location north of the Fraser Road intersection. This intersection is the access for the new Information Centre to be located at the old Forestry Complex and for trucks travelling to the Gympie Saleyards. Main Roads have informed Council that they do not deem the extension of the 80kph section is warranted.*
- *Dickabram Bridge Maintenance – the Department of Main Roads has advised that maintenance work on the Dickabram Bridge has been extended until Tuesday 31 March 2009 and motorists are advised to proceed with care when travelling in this area.*
- *Discussions are currently being held with Sunshine Coast Health officers about utilising Archery Park in Gympie as the helipad for the landing of*

emergency service helicopters. Council has agreed in principle to the temporary use of Archery Park for this purpose, pending a formal agreement.

- *A rabbit control information day was held at Woolooga Saleyards on Wednesday February 25th. Another similar day will be organised for Gympie in the near future. Residents who are encountering an infestation of rabbits and require assistance to eradicate this pest are encouraged to attend the next information day and to contact Council's Pest Management Officers to formulate a control program for their area.*
- *Council considered a Draft Giant Rats Tail Grass Control Policy which will replace the different policies of the three previous Councils. Council officers will be undertaking consultation with stakeholder groups in the near future. Giant rats tail grass is the greatest noxious weed threat to this region and Council will be pursuing all affordable measures to contain its spread.*
- *Council recently wrote to the Department of Main Roads regarding the time frame for the upgrading of the Burnett/Wide Bay Highways intersection at Goomeri. A response from Main Roads has advised that there are currently no funds allocated to upgrade this intersection.*
- *Council wishes to advise that we are currently carrying out work on Tin Can Bay Road on behalf of the Department of Main Roads. Works include widening sections of Tin Can Bay Road between Bobrei Court and Kangaroo Court and between south of Snapper Creek and Bayside Road. Council has also commenced upgrading the Tin Can Bay/Rainbow Beach Road intersection to provide dedicated left and right turn lanes. This will improve safety at this intersection.*
- *Council has added to its 2008/09 Capital Works as follows:-
Hoopers Road widening and intersection works,
Neerdie Road sealing along Shire boundary road and widening from Gunalda end;
Munna Miva Road extend seal from Miva end.
Extend widening along Old Veteran Road
Extend widening along Witham Road
Widen Regan Road
Further widening of Rocks Road
Further widening of Jimbour Rod
Widening Ballard Road*
- *Rainbow Beach Surf Life Saving Club have requested speed signs be installed on the bathing reserve and car park. Council will install shared area signage across the whole carpark and beach access area being 10kph max speed. A 'no standing' sign will be installed along the BBQ area to beach access.*

- *Council has awarded two contracts for construction of the Kilkivan Water treatment plant – one for the building and one for a shed.*
- *Three representatives from Queensland Transport and Department of Main Roads addressed Council about various issues including the Bruce Highway speed limit.”*

G11/03/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 9: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
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Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute P15/03/09 & P16/03/09 due to perceived business interests.

G12/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 March 2009 as presented, be received, with the exception of Recommendation P05/03/09 which is to be deleted and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G13/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 March 2009 (as amended), be adopted.

Carried

Recommendation P05/03/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 March 2009.

G14/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That Council adopts the Interim Environment and Natural Resource Levy Community Grants Policy as presented in the Attachment to the report (as amended), and advertises the Policy for public comment pursuant to adoption of the 2009/2010 budget.

Attachment

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE LEVY
COMMUNITY GROUP GRANT POLICY

1. Application of environment and natural resource levy

Council has adopted an Environmental Policy. Consistent with that policy and in accordance with section 971 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Gympie Regional Council levies a charge on all ratable properties within its jurisdiction – the Environment and Natural Resource Levy.

2. Levy amount

The levy amount is determined by Council in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

3. Partnerships

In addition to funding its own environment and natural resource works and activities, Council is committed to work in close partnership with the Gympie Region's community to protect and enhance the regions' natural resources and sustainability. It recognizes there are considerable benefits to Council through harnessing the extra resources, commitment and passion of community members to help meet its environmental and natural resource targets.

4. Grants program

Thirty-five percent of the monies raised through the Environment and Natural Resource Levy will be set aside for distribution to eligible community groups and projects through a grants program.

5. Policy aim

The aim of the grants program policy is to ensure that activities of community groups funded by the levy:

- (i) align with identified environmental and natural resource priorities including key threatening processes;
- (ii) maximise external funding opportunities and volunteerism;
- (iii) integrate with Council's work program;
- (iv) are well planned in advance; and

- (v) are responsibly and safely managed in accordance with standard financial and Workplace Health and Safety requirements.

6. Grant eligibility

To be eligible to receive a grant you must:

- (i) be an incorporated not-for-profit community group (or, for the purposes of this interim policy – actively seeking incorporation) with an environmental or natural resource management as a stated goal; and
- (ii) have demonstrated ability, or well-defined capacity, to deliver on-ground and community education outcomes in a timely, safe, responsible manner in genuine partnership with Council; and
- (iii) be eligible to attract, and actively seek external natural resource management grants that will enhance Council's investment in environmental and natural resource management; and
- (iv) have access to a group of committed volunteers or engaged landholders; and
- (v) adhere to an endorsed operational or business plan (or for the purposes of this interim policy – prior to the expiry of this financial year undertake to adopt an operational or business plan).

7. Project eligibility

Proposed works and activities must demonstrate:

- (i) quantifiable, positive environmental or natural resource outcomes directly relevant to, and of benefit within, the Gympie Regional Council boundaries, and
- (ii) compliance with:-
 - (a) Council's overarching Environmental Policy, and
 - (b) a locally relevant and widely accepted environmental management or natural resource management plan of:
 1. Council; or
 2. a local or regional natural resource body; or
 3. the State Government; or
 4. the Commonwealth Government.

Works and activities that are carried out to improve Council owned or controlled land will be regarded highly.

Projects that have been planned in consultation with Council's Works and Planning staff will also receive favorable consideration.

Ineligible projects or activities include:

- (i) projects, activities and events that are run for commercial purposes;
- (ii) purchase of capital infrastructure e.g. buildings, vehicles; and
- (iii) annual maintenance or repair of existing machinery or other capital infrastructure.

8. Applications

Grant applications will be advertised annually in March. Grants may be allocated for up to three consecutive years without the need for annual reapplication. Successful applicants will be advised following the adoption of Council's annual budget and a list published on Council's website.

9. Application assessment

Applications will be assessed by the Manager Strategic Planning, Manager Parks and Gardens, Lands Protection Manager and the Environmental Planning Officer.

Prior performance as evidenced by reports submitted to Council will be an influencing factor.

10. Agreed outcomes

Receipt of a grant over \$1000.00 from Council will be subject to a formal funding agreement stating agreed milestones, outcomes and timeframes.

11. Project Reporting

Successful community group applicants will report to Council's Director of Planning and Development half yearly regarding the agreed milestones and outcomes of their project.

12. Performance assessment

An assessment of the success and achievement of agreed outcomes will be carried out on receipt of reporting proformas. This assessment will be utilized in determining future environment levy applications.

13. Reporting

Council will report annually on the outcomes achieved through approved grants:

- (i) in the Annual Report; and
- (ii) on its website.

Carried

REFER RECISION MOTION G30/03/09 & G31/03/09

<p>SECTION 10: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</p>

Cr Ian Petersen presented the following Report:-

“The Committee considered a response from the Environmental Protection Agency advising that there was little likelihood of an approval for a separate world heritage listing of the Cooloola area and it would most likely be added to the Fraser Island listing.

This is a matter of considerable concern, as such a listing, with the conditions that apply to Fraser Island could have a dramatic impact on Council infrastructure. There could also be serious ramifications on the traditional manner of public use in areas such as Inskip Point and Teewah Beach.

The Committee is recommending that Council advise the EPA that if the Cooloola area cannot achieve a separate listing, then Council withdraws its support for the proposal.

A detailed report from the Manager of Strategic Planning outlined details of a new draft Environment Levy Policy. The new policy will give greater certainty to applicants and will also require a more rigorous accountability and acquittal process. The Committee is recommending that Council adopt the Interim Draft Environment and Natural Resource Levy Community Grants Policy.

An application for a one lot subdivision at Mooloo is recommended for refusal on several grounds, and a subdivision at Curra is recommended for approval in part pending further representations on the balance area.

The Committee is recommending that Council approve applications for 4 units at Shayduk Close, a Multi Purpose Centre at St Patrick's College, a Material Change of Use for Commercial premises at Stanley St and Excelsior Road, and a one lot subdivision at Fisher Road.

Two new impact assessable MCUs were received bringing the total current to 46, Two new code assessable brought the total to 72. Nine new reconfiguring a lot applications took that total to 137 and one new operational works increased that total to 39.

With 3 other sundry building works applications, the grand total of live applications was 297, of which 14 were finalised at this meeting.

In the past 4 weeks, the Department has received 164 new applications. This weekly average of 41 is on a par with numbers during the peak of the boom in 2007. I believe it is again appropriate to acknowledge the enormous workload and the dedication of all staff in coping with these case loads. Certainly, there are delays and some frustration in processing applications, but the situation would be much worse were it not for the commitment being demonstrated by our staff.

The Committee is recommending that Council authorise the Director of Planning to arrange a Planning and Development Industry Information night as soon as possible. This event will be an opportunity to explain the intricacies of the Integrated Planning Act and the Planning Scheme and to receive feedback from the development industry which may enable us to fine tune our methods and provide optimum service standards."

G15/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS

11/1 Mary Valley Heritage Railway

Re: **G16/03/09** Mary Valley Heritage Railway
From: Jim Walker, MVHR Secretary, PO Box 385, Gympie Qld 4570
File: 3/2/9/2
Date: 27 February 2009 Doc ID 1020913

“Re – Surplus level crossing flashing light sets, Kingaroy Branch, Queensland Railways.

I write on behalf of the Mary valley Heritage Railway, an Incorporated Community organisation, operators of The Valley Rattler heritage rail tourist attraction at Gympie.

The Valley Rattler is a signature tourism attraction operating heritage steam train services between Gympie and Imbil. We currently carry 32,000 passengers per year, attracting regional revenue of \$1.6 to \$1.8M per annum, and create employment (internal and external) for 20 to 25 wages staff. We also employ 90 volunteers, and provide a venue for return-to-work and other local training initiatives.

The Rattler maintains 40 kilometres of track, which includes 6 level crossings not protected by flashing lights.

Safety at level crossings is a prime concern for MVHR, leading in the past to unsuccessful requests to Queensland Rail for access to redundant flashing lights sets.

In the light of recent announcements from the federal government re funding for boom gates for QR and other railways, we see the probability of a large number of flashing light sets being replaced, and hence a significant proportion becoming surplus to QR requirements.

In the event of being able to source flashing lights from QR, we would look to the Stimulus funding for installation, and again be requesting Council support for approaches to the relevant decisions makers.

For enquiries please contact Ted Mitchell or Jim Walker on 5482 2750.

Many thanks for your assistance.”

G16/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That Council write to Queensland Rail supporting the MVHR request for disposal stock generated by refurbishment to level crossings throughout the State and in particular surplus stock as a result of closing the Theebine to Kingaroy line.

Carried

Cr Petersen left the meeting at 9.53am.

11/2	Expenses Reimbursement Policy
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Re: **G17/03/09** Expenses Reimbursement Policy
 From: Peta Jamieson, Executive Director, Service Delivery Division,
 Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation, PO Box
 15031, City East Qld 4002.
 File: 1/3/6/5
 Date: 24 February 2009

“Thank you for your letter of 12 February 2009 enclosing Council’s draft Expenses Reimbursement Policy for approval, pursuant to section 250AR of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act). The Director-General has delegated the authority to approve Expenses Reimbursement Policies to me.

I advise that I have approved Council’s Expenses Reimbursement Policy.

In terms of the next step in the process, Council should now undertake the following:

- *adopt the approved Expenses Reimbursement Policy by Council resolution (under section 250AS of the Act);*
- *authorise the payment of reasonable expenses incurred, and the provision of facilities to its councillors according to the Expenses Reimbursement Policy endorsed by Council resolution (under section 236B of the Act); and*
- *issue a public notice regarding Council’s approval of the Expenses Reimbursement Policy (under section 250AT of the Act).*

Please note that under section 250AU of the Act, Council meetings where resolutions are made relating to an Expenses Reimbursement Policy, are to be open meetings.

Minor amendments, such as spelling or grammatical errors, may be made to the Policy by Council, under section 250AS(2) of the Act, should this be considered necessary.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Mrs Lisa Paronetto of the Department on telephone number 3006 2461 or via email at lisa.paronetto@dlgsr.qld.gov.au

Report: (Corporate Administration Manager – Mr John Nancarrow)

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

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

A Draft Policy was considered by Council at its General Meeting held on 11 February 2009, and agreed by minute G12/02/09 that the document be forwarded to the Department of Local Government, Sport & Recreation for approval.

The Executive Director has now advised that the Policy has been approved unaltered.

Section 250AT of the Local Government Act prescribes that as soon as practicable after a local government adopts its expenses reimbursement policy, the local government must give public notice of the policy and the public notice must be published in a newspaper circulating generally in the local government area.

The adopted policy will be advertised in the Gympie Times and South Burnett Times as well as uploaded to Council's Intranet and Website.

ATTACHMENT 2 REFERS

G17/03/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That:-

- a. The current Councillor Expenses Reimbursement be repealed; and**
- b. Council adopt the Councillor Expenses Reimbursement Policy as approved by the Executive Director, Department of Local Government, Sport & Recreation on 19 February 2009; and**
- c. A Public Notice be placed in the relevant newspapers in accordance with the provision of S250AT of the Local Government Act 1993.**

Carried

Cr Petersen returned to the meeting at 9.55am.

11/3	Elected Member (Update) Training 2009
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Re: **G18/03/09** Elected Member (Update) Training 2009
 From: LGAQ – Kathy Kelly
 File:
 Date: 25 February 2009 Doc ID 1021316

“We attach for your attention the "date saver" for our one-day program and invite Queensland Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Elected Members, Chief Executive Officers and Senior Managers to attend our annual program. A brochure with further information on content, registration details and presenters will be personally emailed to you in early March 2009.

LGAQ has organised for the program to be delivered within 20 regional centres, OR we can present the course within your own Council.

If you require any further information at this stage, please email training@lgaq.asn.au <<mailto:training@lgaq.asn.au>> or phone Kate Ceccato on 3000 2233. We look forward to welcoming you to our program!”

Bribie Island	Cooktown	Logan
Monday, 30 March 2009	Tuesday, 7 April 2009	Monday, 30 March 2009
Mount Isa	Rockhampton	Toowoomba
Tuesday, 7 April 2009	Wednesday, 15 April 2009	Tuesday, 7 April 2009
Kingaroy	Cairns	Brisbane
Thursday, 16 April 2009	Wednesday, 29 April 2009	Wednesday, 29 April 2009
Normanton	Longreach	Thursday Island
Thursday, 30 April 2009	Wednesday, 6 May 2009	Friday, 1 May 2009
Roma	Thargomindah	Charleville
Wednesday, 6 May 2009	Monday, 11 May 2009	Thursday, 7 May 2009
Emerald	Townsville	Bundaberg
Tuesday, 12 May 2009	Wednesday, 20 May 2009	Wednesday, 20 May 2009
Gladstone		Mackay
Thursday, 21 May 2009		Thursday, 21 May 2009

G18/03/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr I.T. Petersen

That Council not participate in any workshops for the Elected Member (Update) Training 2009.

Carried

11/4	Review of Council and Committee Meeting structures and schedules
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Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

Review of Council and Committee meeting structures and schedules.

It has been 12 months since the implementation of the current meeting system of the Gympie Regional Council and it is prudent to review the efficiency and effectiveness of the system.

11/4a	General Meetings
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Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

Prior to amalgamation General Meetings were held weekly (Cooloola) 3 weekly (Kilkivan) monthly (Tiaro). It has been the aim of management to refer business associated with the Charter of the committees direct to those committees and only refer business of a statutory requirement or significant strategic regional nature direct to General Meetings. Whilst there has been some initial criticism of the limited business being conducted at Council's General Meeting I believe this is primarily due to the change from the ex-Cooloola situation and lack of understanding of the committee system. Once a full understanding and knowledge of the committee system is obtained the criticism is unfounded. The level of late item submissions has also been limited.

G19/03/09 **Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson** **Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté**

That Council maintain the fortnightly cycle of the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month for General Council Meetings.

Carried

11/4b	Committee Meetings – Planning & Development Committee Meetings
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Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

The Planning & Development Committee has met on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. There has been significant increase in the delegation levels to Council officers which has allowed applications to be processed and approved without being submitted to the Committee for approval. The Committee has been kept informed by way of a summarised report. This has allowed for a more efficient processing of applications and a less cumbersome committee agenda with Councillors concentrating on significant and sensitive development proposals. This will also allow Councillors to concentrate on the strategic planning direction

of the region which will intensify in the next 1-2 years due to the new town plan for the region. The level of late agenda items has also decreased significantly under the present system.

G20/03/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council maintain the fortnightly cycle of 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month for Planning & Development Committee meetings.

Carried

11/4c	Works & Services Committee Meetings
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Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

The Works & Services Committee has met on the 1st Tuesday of the month. The initial intent for meeting on Tuesdays was to allow for inspections as and when required at the conclusion of the agenda business. There has been a suggestion that for uniformity that the meetings be moved to the 1st Wednesday with the Planning & Development Committee. Should this occur the level of business transacted on one day is a concern. I don't believe meetings that extend 6-7 hours in duration are conducive to thoughtful decision making. The level of late agenda items has not been significant under the present system.

G21/03/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council maintain the monthly cycle of the 1st Tuesday of the month for Works & Services Committee meetings.

Carried

11/4d	Community & Economic Development Committee Meetings
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Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

The Community & Economic Development Committee has met on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the conclusion of the preceding general meeting of Council. The combination of the community, tourism, promotion and economic development portfolios has been a good mix and this committee's business will strengthen with the transfer of economic development function to Council's operations. The level of late agenda items has not been significant under the present system.

G22/03/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson

That Council maintain the monthly cycle of the 2nd Wednesday of the month for Community & Economic Development Committee meetings.

Carried

11/4e	Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meetings
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Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

The Corporate Governance & Finance Committee has met on 4th Wednesday of the month following the preceding general meeting of Council. The scheduling of the meeting for later in the month enables the completion of financial reports up to the end of the preceding month. The level of late agenda items has not been significant under the present system.

G23/03/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council maintain the monthly cycle of the 4th Wednesday of the month for Corporate Governance & Finance Committee meetings.

Carried

11/5	Invitation to Partner Qld Music Festival in the Central Qld Song Trials workshop
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Re: **G24/03/09** Invitation to Partner Qld Music Festival in the Central Qld Song Trails workshop
 From: Mr S Buchanan, Director, Marketing & Development, Qld Music Festival, Level 3, 27 Peel Street, South Brisbane Q 4101
 File: 2/3/02/0001 – Doc ID: 1014860
 Date: 6 February 2009

MINUTE F17/02/09 Invitation to Partner Qld Music Festival in the Central Qld Song Trails workshop
 From: Mr S Buchanan, Director, Marketing & Development, Qld Music Festival, Level 3, 27 Peel Street, South Brisbane Q 4101
 File: 2/3/02/0001 - Doc.ID: 1014860
 Date: 6 February 2009

“Thank you for your hospitality during our recent visit to Gympie. Erica Hart and I both enjoyed meeting with you.

We are delighted to offer Gympie Regional Council the opportunity to partner with Queensland Music Festival as a Local Government Partner for the Central Queensland Song Trails workshop in Gympie. The region is well-known for its many talented songwriters and we are looking forward to engaging with them through this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further detail on the proposed package. I would be happy to discuss any aspect of the proposal if there is anything else we can do to ensure the best fit possible for Gympie Regional Council.

Thank you very much for your interest in the Queensland Music Festival 2009. I very much look forward to hearing from you."

ATTACHEMENT 1 REFERS

Report: (Director of Financial Services - Mrs Y.J. Oliver)

F17/02/09 - Recommend that this matter be held over and referred to the next General Meeting for Council's consideration.

Carried

An invitation has been received from the Queensland Music Festival 2009, to partner on the Central Queensland Song Trails workshop series in the Gympie Regional Council region. The workshop program is to take place on Friday 31 July 2009.

QMF states that this workshop will be developed in close partnership with Gympie Regional Council and will provide an excellent opportunity for the wealth of talented songwriters in the Gympie region to engage with high profile professionals, establish valuable industry networks and further develop their craft.

QMF invites the Gympie Regional Council to enter into a joint partnership, valued at **\$9,000.00 plus GST cash contribution**, with an additional amount of **"in kind" support** to be negotiated.

QMF envisages that as a Local Government partner, Gympie Regional Council will play an integral and essential role in providing a unique cultural experience to the region. In return the Gympie Regional Council will be promoted in local and state wide marketing activities as making a significant contribution to community and the arts.

This collaboration will:

- Profile Gympie as a thriving Queensland community with a unique identity;
- Showcase the commitment of the Gympie Regional Council to the cultural development of the region;
- Provide opportunities for the Gympie region's many talented songwriters to further develop their craft and make valuable professional contacts;

- Develop a cultural program for the Gympie Regional Council that is relevant to the community.

QMF advises that its partnership contribution is:

- An artistic program which actively and positively promotes the Gympie Regional Council commitment to the area;
- All generic marketing and promotional elements; Marketing Support through a high profile and innovative marketing and publicity program managed by QMF with the objective of profiling the Gympie Regional Council to Queensland, Australia and beyond;
- All artistic elements; a committed team of international, national and local artists, producers and technical staff to make this an exciting and meaningful experience for the Gympie Regional Council and its staff;
- All management of the festival, relevant staging and technical elements.

As this invitation has only recently been received, there is no provision for this request in the current Budget.

G24/03/09 Moved: Cr J. Watt

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council advise the writer that it will not be participating in the Qld Music Festival in the Central Qld Song Trails workshop, due to budget constraints.

Carried

11/6	Memorial for Peter Brady
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Re: **G25/03/09** Memorial for Peter Brady
 From: Mavis Ramsey, 670 Glastonbury Creek Road, Via Gympie Qld 4570
 File: 2/3/5/2
 Date: 25 February 2009 Doc ID 1020465

I wish to ask Council's approval to erect a memorial to one of Rainbow Beach's favourite sons my brother, Peter Shane Brady who was murdered 30/06/08 at Rainbow Beach.

I and my family would like to put a bench seat where pete would sit and look too the ocean between the two picnic shelters opposite the caravan park.

I can assure you it would be made of galvanised steele frame approximately 2.6 mtrs in length with hardwood bolted on for seat and back and placed on a concrete slab.

We would like to have a memorial to Peter on the first anniversary June 2009. This will mean so much to many relations and friends especially those who could not attend his service in Rainbow last year.

Report: (Director of Engineering – Mr R. Fredman)

There would be no issues with this proposal.

G25/03/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson

That Council advise the writer that Council fully supports the proposal.

Carried

11/7 Tender No 2008/09 T17 Supply of Reinforced Concrete Pipes for Bonnick Road Landfill

Re: **G26/03/09** Tender No: 2008/09 T17 Supply of Reinforced Concrete Pipes for Bonnick Road Landfill

From: General Manager Works – Western Division – G.G. Curry

File:

Date: 05 March 2009

Report: (General Manager Works – Western Division – G.G. Curry)

Tenders for the supply of reinforced concrete pipes were advertised in the Courier Mail on 23 October 2008 and closed on 31 January 2009.

Three tenders were received

	1500mm dia	2100mm dia	2400mm dia
Rocla Pty Ltd	\$338279.16	\$308980.86	\$847868.28
Humes	\$337173.84	\$332269.44	\$845690.58
RCP Qld Pty Ltd	\$388589.52	\$341304.15	no offer

The tender of Rocla is Free on Ground for the 1500mm pipes and free on truck for the larger sizes. The Humes and RCP (Qld) tenders are free on truck for all pipes.

This tender was previously advertised as tender No. 2008/09 – 07 which was not awarded as Council wished to submit an application under the Regional & Local Community Infrastructure Program – Strategic Projects 2008 – 09. Advice from this funding program was to have been received in February 2009. No advice had been received at the time of writing.

G26/03/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the tender of Rocla Pty Ltd for the supply of some 366m of 2100mm dia reinforced concrete pipes for the sum of \$308,980.86 (GST inc) be accepted.

Further that the unsuccessful tenderers be advised accordingly.

Carried

SECTION 12: MEETING DATES

The meeting dates for the month of April 2009 have been set as follows:

WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2009

Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am

TUESDAY, 7 APRIL 2009

Works & Services Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 8 APRIL 2009

**General 9am
Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting**

WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2009

Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 22 APRIL 2009

**General 9am
Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting.**

G27/03/09 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr A Perrett

That the meeting dates for the month of April 2009 be adopted.

Carried

SECTION 13: GENERAL BUSINESS**Letter of Support**

Cr Watt tabled the following letter from Dr Maura Harvey, Cooroy Doctors Surgery, 8 Emerald Street, Cooroy requesting a letter of support from Council.

Letter addressed to Cr Watt

“Greetings Jan,

I trust that this letter finds you well and happy, all be it busy, in election mode.

Health Workforce Queensland has recommended I seek your support, so I do!

I am in the process of applying for PADWS (ie Preliminary Assessment of District of Workforce Shortage) from DoHA (Commonwealth Department of Health & Aging) for Imbil, Cooroy & Pomona. Apparently a letter from the local State MP of support for the PADWS application, which confirms the medical workforce shortage situation, with specific information such as population growth in the area, particular community needs etc, is of great assistance in achieving a favourable PADWS application outcome (see attached pages)

Despite continual and widespread advertising and all other relevant recruitment strategies, we have been unsuccessful at maintaining previous levels of doctor FTSs (full time equivalents) due to inability to replace natural attrition ie. retirement, illness, moved out of region etc, let alone increase medical service supply to match population increases in our towns/rural catchment areas. The situation has deteriorated further in recent weeks, since A (Australian Medical Centres) clinics have closed because subsequently we have had an inundation of new patients requiring ongoing care.

As you know there are no emergency departments in the towns where we work, so our clinics provide the emergency care, including unbooked chest pains, lacerations, fractures, bleeding in pregnancy, respiratory distress etc. We also do house visits, all our own on call work, and have hostel and nursing home residents that we regularly attend.

We are hoping that DoHA will grant us PADWS for the three towns so that we can recruit appropriate overseas trained doctors to help meet the clinical caseload need. I envisage that 2 FTE doctors working across the 3 locations would be a great help. As things currently stand, I am at enormous risk of losing doctors due to burn-out, and the sickness rate amongst doctors is increasing, directly proportional to the extra workloads they have endured.

I understand that Eumundi is PADWS yet we have many many patients seen at our Cooroy and Pomona surgeries from Eumundi and other Maroochy areas. I understand that Gympie is PADWS as well, yet the Gympie general practices have closed books and our Imbil Clinic is inundated by patients from Gympie and its feeder areas as well.

It seems only reasonable to me that the Mary Valley, which has fewer doctors per population than Gympie, and is now forced to care for an increasing percentage of Gympie patients, should also be granted PADWS, just like Gympie and Eumundi have. Exactly the same logic applies to Pomona and Cooroy serving the areas that drain from PADWS declared locations such as Noosaville and Eumundi, the former of which has a far higher ratio of doctors to residents than the hinterland yet has managed to achieve PADWS.

As you are aware, public transport in the hinterland area of the Sunshine Coast, including Pomona and Cooroy, and in the Imbil Valley including communities that Imbil clinic services are patchy or absent. In essence there are just a few buses each day out of Pomona and Cooroy, same with train and no returns until late in the evening. The Mary Valley towns of Imbil, Brooloo, Kandanga, Tuchevoi etc have no public transport whatsoever. Thus it is not easy for people to get elsewhere for medical services.

The proposed Traveston Dam and Bruce Highway realignments have caused such social upheaval in the communities where we work that the mental health case load has soared exponentially in the last two years.

These are some of the reasons why we think a favourable assessment of our PADWS is appropriate. We would very much appreciate a letter of support for our applications for PADSS for Pomona, Cooroy & Imbil.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

With many thanks, in anticipation of your supportive correspondence.

Dr Maura Harvey - maura@medicworx.com"

G28/03/09

Moved: Cr J. Watt

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council write a letter of support for Dr Maura Harvey for PADWS for provision of medical support in the Imbil, Pomona and Cooroy areas.

Carried

Community Support Sub-Committee

G29/03/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That while Cr Walker is incapacitated, Cr R.A. Gâté be appointed Council's representative/Chairman and Cr L.J. Friske (proxy member) on the Community Support Sub-Committee.

Carried

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.10am.

Confirmed this TWENTY-FIFTH day of MARCH 2009

Cr R Dyne
CHAIRMAN