



MINUTES
of the
GENERAL MEETING

CHAIRPERSON: Cr R Dyne (Mayor)

**To be held in the Boardroom
Old Bank Building,
46 Nash Street,
Gympie Qld 4570**

**On Wednesday 8th April 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 9:00 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 (Miss S Bull).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS

Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting – 25 March 2009

F14/03/09 - Cr G.L Engeman - Conflict of Interest

F28/03/09 - Cr. D.R. Neilson - Material Personal Interest

F28/03/09 - Cr I.T. Petersen - Material Personal Interest

F28/03/09 - Cr J Watt - Conflict of Interest

Planning & Development Committee Meeting – 1 April 2009

P11/04/09, P12/04/09 & P16/04/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman – Conflict of Interest.

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Pastor George Miller from the Victory 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

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

G01/04/09 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

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

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

4/1 Petition – Hansen Road - Dagun

Re: G02/04/09 Petition – Hansen Road - Dagun
From: Narelle Harvey, 158 Hansen Road, DAGUN Qld 4570 and 20 other signatories.
Date: 8 April 2009

Mayor Ron Dyne tabled the following petition:-

“We the undersigned, residents / landholders of Hansen Road, request the Gympie Regional Council to upgrade the conditions of the gravel section of Hansen Road Dagun. Currently this section of Hansen Road is poorly maintained and unsafe for all users, motorists, bike riders and pedestrians.”

G02/04/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Petition be received and referred to a future Works and Services Committee Meeting.

Carried

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
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Cr G.L Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute F14/03/09 as he is President of the Gympie District Show Society.

Cr J Watt declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute F28/03/09 as she is a member of the Mary Valley Show Society.

G03/04/09 **Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson** **Seconded: Cr I.T. Petersen**

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 March 2009 as presented, be received with the exception of F28/03/09 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G04/04/09 **Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson** **Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté**

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

Carried

Cr. D.R. Neilson declared a Material Personal Interest in Minute F28/03/09 as she is a Director on the Board of the Friendly Society Assn and left the meeting at 9.08am.

Cr I.T. Petersen declared a Material Personal Interest in Minute F28/03/09 in the next matter as he is a Director on the Board of the Friendly Society Assn and left the meeting at 9.08am.

Recommendation F28/03/09 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on the 25 March 2009
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G05/04/09 **Moved: Cr L.J. Friske** **Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett**

That Recommendation F28/03/09 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 March 2009 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr D.R. Neilson and Cr I.T. Petersen returned to the meeting at 9.09am.

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

Cr Donna Neilson presented the following Report:-

“The meeting was advised that one of the cameras on the closed circuit tv system covering Memorial Park was removed during February. However, the alleged offender was photographed in action and has been charged accordingly. The security system was installed to combat vandalism in the Central Business District in Gympie.

Following an enquiry from a person wishing to purchase council owned land at Cinnabar, the committee resolved not to sell the land. The Cinnabar Soldiers Settlement has no constructed roads, water supply or other infrastructure and it was deemed to be more appropriate to consolidate the lots into one rural parcel.

The General Manager of AIEMnet will be invited to address council in relation to projects and training programmes undertaken in the Gympie region. This will enable council to assess the offer to continue membership of the organisation.

Following reconsideration of the Environment and Natural Resource Levy Community Grants Policy, it was resolved to provide minimum funding of \$110,000 from the levy to external eligible parties. Grants may now be allocated for up to three years, which will give applicants some certainty when planning future projects. An assessment of the success of agreed outcomes will be carried out and utilised in determining future applications.”

G06/04/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
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Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute P11/04/09 & P12/04/09 due to perceived business interests and Minute P16/04/09 due to his involvement with the school.

G07/04/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 1 April 2009 as presented, be received.

Carried

G08/04/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 1 April 2009, be adopted.

Carried

SECTION 8: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Cr Ian Petersen presented the following Report:-

“A much needed facility for South Side residents will become a reality with the Committee recommending approval of a material change of use application to accommodate a medical centre on Exhibition Rd. The facility will house medical and pharmacy services.

The Committee also dealt with representations in relation to approvals for a mechanical workshop at the South Side Industrial Estate and a multi residential development at Monkland.

A subdivision at Roselea Avenue is recommended to be held over pending an amended layout, while a subdivision at Pie Creek is recommended for approval, as is an application for a wrecking and scrap yard at Flood Road.

The Committee is recommending that Council delegate authority to the Director of Planning to approve extensions to an education facility at Old Maryborough Road subject to conditions and upon receipt of a response from the Department of Main Roads as a referral agency.

Four new code assessable applications were received along with three subdivisions, and 2 operational works. Eight applications were approved under staff delegated authority.

The Committee is recommending that Council approve seed funding of \$20,000 for the Regional Arts Development Fund to enable an application to Arts Queensland for \$30,000.

The Manager of Strategic Planning reported on a Local Heritage Register Information Night held on the 10th March which was quite well attended by a wide cross section of the community with wide ranging views on the process now legislated by the State Government under the Integrated Planning Act. The Committee is recommending that Council advise property owners with queries that Council is about to embark on a Planning Scheme Review and will consider issues raised on the night and during the statutory consultation period.

The Committee is recommending that Council advise the Cooloola Cove Residents and Friends that the BMX track is to remain at its current location and that upgrading of Centenary of Federation Park will be considered at the forthcoming budget deliberations.”

G09/04/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 9: OTHER MATTERS

9/1 2009 National General Assembly of Local Government – Call for Motions

Re: **G10/04/09** 2009 National General Assembly of Local Government – Call for Motions
 From: Geoff Lake, President, Aust Local Government Association, 8 Geils Court, Deakin ACT 2600
 File:
 Date: 11 March 2009

“I write to confirm that the 2009 National General Assembly of Local Government (the Assembly) will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra between 21 and 24 June.

The Assembly is the major event on the annual local government events calendar and typically attracts more than 700 mayors, councillors and senior officers from councils across Australia. The Australian Government has also confirmed that the

next meeting of Mayors and Shire Presidents as part of its Australian Council of Local Government will be held to coincide with the Assembly.

The Australian Government is increasingly looking to local government to play a role as a partner in tackling the major issues facing the nation and the Assembly is the opportunity to make sure that your Council's views are represented. The Assembly is also a great opportunity to hear from senior politicians and interesting key note speakers and is an unparalleled networking opportunity within the local government sector.

This theme for this year's Assembly is Rising to the Challenge – Infrastructure, Financing, Climate Change.

In response to feedback received at previous Assemblies, ALGA has revised the process for motions to ensure that policy debates relate to the current national priorities for local government. This year we are calling for motions under the three major themes of the Assembly:-

- *Infrastructure;*
- *Climate change; and*
- *Local Government financing.*

ALGA is now calling for 'Notices of Motions' to be submitted by Councils. To assist Councils in developing motions that fall under these themes, ALGA has put together a discussion paper for each theme. These discussion papers can be found on the NGA website.

Motions can be submitted via the electronic form located at www.nga.alga.asn.au. Motions should be received by ALGA no later than Friday 24 April 2009. Any administrative inquiries can be directed to Clare Hogan, ALGA's Director of National Events on 02 6122 9436 or clare.hogan@alga.asn.au.

I urge you to take the opportunity to make sure the views of your Council and your community are represented at the 2009 Assembly."

G10/04/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the matter of funding for upgrading the Bruce Highway be considered for inclusion of a motion at the ALGA conference.

Further that the R2R funding be considered as part of a future stimulus package.

Further that Mayor Ron Dyne, Cr Ian Petersen and Chief Executive Officer be registered to attend the Australian Local Government Association Conference in Canberra between 21 to 24 June 2009.

Carried

9/2

Outback Calling 2010

Re: **G11/04/09** Outback Calling 2010
From: Bruce Campbell AM MBE, Chairman Outback Calling Ltd, 21 Broula St, Stafford Heights Qld 4053.
File: 2/3/3/1
Date: 19 March 2009

“The process that began with Year of the outback is to become a continuing nationwide campaign, commencing with Outback Calling 2010.

In 2009 the foundations for the campaign are being laid. Outback Calling 2010 will see the campaign advancing across Australia with a continuing program of events and projects – many created and launched by individuals, communities and organisations.

During Year of the Outback 2002 the National Calendar of Events listing exceeded 3,000. Travelers went Bush in record numbers, community revitalisation stories abounded and these inspiring, positive stories received widespread media coverage. At year’s end it was estimated that Outback 2002 influenced the generation of benefits exceeding \$300 million.

The infinite capacities of individuals and local communities to initiate what were often referred to as ‘modern miracles’ and come together under the unifying Outback banner was the key to the ‘Year’s’ outstanding success. They will continue to be the central point of focus for the Outback Calling Campaign.

Outback calling 2010, 2014, 2018 etc will each serve as specific target years for major projects and provide the catalyst for developing medium and long term goals and major projects – formulated with the bush / for the Bush. The interim years – 2011 and onwards – will see the Outback Calling Campaign continuing and intensifying, at all times keeping its principal goals in sight...

- *To heighten recognition of the real values of rural Australia, its people, its industries;*
- *To provide a stronger national voice for the ‘Bush’;*
- *To be a driver of marketing to attract residents and tourists to the ‘Bush’;*
- *To foster career opportunities for young Australians in the ‘Bush’ etc.*

The keystone to the entire Outback calling Campaign is the Website, www.outbackcalling.com – the ‘Portal to the Outback’. It already houses what is being grown to be Australia’s most extensive Calendar of Events (currently in excess of 1,500); our monthly electronic newsletter, ‘Outback online’ – current readership exceeding 14,000 and growing daily; and now the newly introduced

National Rural Services Providers Directory – developed in direct response to feedback received from extensive consultation Australia wide.

Invitation to all Local Governments to be involved

A warm invitation is extended to your local government to promote your region and town/s by becoming part of the National Rural Services Providers Directory, a resource being grown to be a key reference point for the ‘Bush’, and in doing so becoming an integral part and sharing directly in the benefits flowing from Outback Calling 2010 and the continuing Outback Calling Campaign.

For easy registration visit our website – www.outbackcalling.com – and click the National Rural Services Providers Directory link, or contact Lois Allan: E lois@outbackcalling.com. T: 07 4613 0417

It is hoped that all Australian Local Governments will agree to invest in, and become part of, the National Rural Services Providers Directory and in turn the ‘Portal of the Outback’. If so, this rapidly expanding website will become a continent covering encyclopaedia of information reaching all parts of Australia and the world, thereby ensuring that the Outback Calling Campaign will continue to build on the foundations laid by the Year of the Outback process, with rural regions taking their rightful place in the minds of all Australians and travellers going ‘Bush’ and exploring its wonders in ever increasing numbers.”

Report: (Director of Corporate Services – Mr C Manson)

The above letter is reasonably detailed. Outback calling is a not-for-profit organisation which was born from the “Year of the Outback” in 2002.

The “Major Supporter” is the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. The ‘Print Media Sponsor’ is Rural Press Limited and the ‘Official Supporter’ is Ray White Rural.

The letter asks Council to register with the organisation. This creates an account, which then allows the addition of a business and / or events listing to the Outback Calling website.

A listing on the website is then based on various categories:

- ‘Basic Listing’ - \$150 (include GST) per annum
 - these listings appear in regular text below the higher listing categories. The profile of the organisation is limited to 50 words and provides a link to a website.
- ‘Standard Listing’ - \$300 (include GST) per annum
 - listing appears above the ‘Basic Listings’ and includes a logo, 4 photographs additional text, ability to post online specials, a direct online enquiry form and some ‘other information’.

‘Priority Enhanced Listing’ - \$500 (include GST) per annum
 - appears above the ‘Standard Listing’ and is enhanced visually.

Benefits of listing online are said to include:

- affiliation with a not-for-profit entity with a proven record of working with and for the Outback / Bush;
- A highly effective method of reaching a target audience;
- An opportunity to develop a brand image; etc

At this stage in the life of the ‘National Rural Providers Directory’ commercial organisations appear to have more to gain from a listing.

G11/04/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the information be received.

Further that the information be referred to the Cooloola Regional Development Bureau for consideration.

Carried

9/3	Keep Australia Beautiful - Queensland
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Re: **G12/04/09** Keep Australia Beautiful - Queensland
 From: Carole Miller OAM, PO Box 3260, South Brisbane Qld 4101.
 File:
 Date: 31 March 2009

“I received your letter indicating Council could not join our Council this year but do hope it will consider membership next year. However, that is not what I am writing about – I am writing to express our disappointment that no towns or community groups in Gympie Regional Council have yet entered our iconic Tidy Towns. Some communities have been entering for over 20 years so I wanted to ensure that you and Council staff were aware that we have drastically changed the entry process and made it as simple as can be.

All that has to be done this year, is to notify us that a town or community wishes to enter; there is no entry booklet, no other paperwork required; and we have extended the closing date for entries to Friday, 3 April. From this year, we now rely solely on our expert judges, who visit each entrant and of course compile their assessments and reports, and fancy time-consuming entry booklets are not a factor. Thus the only time required for the entrant is to escort the judge around on his or her visit.

Since writing to every Mayor re membership of the Council just a few weeks ago I'm delighted to report that eighteen (18) have so far joined. As all our programs impact on local government I'm thrilled to have their membership and their advice on how best to improve all our programs and awards, including our newest – the Premier's Healthy Queensland Awards with all its wonderful prizes. This year for instance our Ergon Energy Tidy Town State Awards have been streamlined and are going to be very special indeed here in Brisbane with great entertainment and I hope we'll see you there.

If there are any questions you or Council have, please do not hesitate to ring me."

G12/04/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the information be received.

Carried

9/4	National Sea Change Taskforce
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Re: **G13/04/09** National Sea Change Taskforce
 From: Alan Stokes, Executive Director, National Sea Change Taskforce, 6 Powell Street, Neutral Bay NSW 2089.
 File: 1/2/2/17
 Date: 30 March 2009 Doc ID: 1026470

"On behalf of the National Sea Change Taskforce I would like to invite the Gympie Regional Council to become a member of the National Sea Change Taskforce.

For the information of your Council I have provided a brief outline of the role of the Taskforce in this letter and have attached a media release issued following the appointment of the Steering Committee for the Australian Council of Local Government on 5 February 2009.

I have also enclosed for your information a copy of the report of the Australian Coastal Councils' conference organised by the Taskforce and held in Mandurah, Western Australia this month.

The taskforce has consistently advocated the need for additional resources to help coastal councils and their communities cope with the demands of rapid population growth. We believe this advocacy was a major contributing factor to the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program announced by the Rudd Government.

The National Sea Change Taskforce was established in 2004 to support the interests of coastal councils and their communities. Since being established it has placed the key issues facing coastal councils, including population growth and the significant shortfall in infrastructure for their communities, on the national political agenda. We have also commissioned groundbreaking research, which is influencing the development of coastal policy at state and Federal government level.

Australia's coastal councils are currently attempting to deal with a complex and difficult range of issues. They are simultaneously attempting to deal with rapid population growth, high levels of tourism and a lack of resources to meet demand for local infrastructure and services. They are also facing the challenge of how to address the needs of aging populations and how to prepare for the impact of climate change while minimising the associated exposure to legal liability.

It is for these reasons we believe it is critical for Australia's coastal LGAs to act collectively to meet the needs of our communities.

In the period leading up to the last Federal Election, the Taskforce conducted a vigorous advocacy campaign which led to the development of the 'Caring for Our Coasts', which was announced by the ALP prior to the election. This plan commits the Rudd Government to 'provide national leadership and work with local communities to address the challenges of coastal growth and climate change'. The Plan stated that Labor will work with the National Sea Change Taskforce and other stakeholders in developing broad, national principals for coastal management, consistent with its commitment to sustainable development.

Minister for Infrastructure, Anthony Albanese MP, has since that time advised the Taskforce that: 'I am aware that the Sea Change phenomenon has resulted in rapid population growth for coastal communities and created difficulties in the provision of local government infrastructure. To address this issue the Australian Government will be implementing a number of initiatives and has committed to involve and consult with local government in this process'. One of those initiatives has been the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program.

I invite you to consider the benefits of becoming a member of the Taskforce and joining our national effort to deal with the challenges facing our coastal communities. Annual subscription fees are based on the resident population of member councils.

Further information is available on our website: www.seachangetaskforce.org.au. I will be happy to provide any additional information you may require. Please contact me by telephone on either 02 9904 0311 or 02 9908 2401 or email me at: info@seachangetaskforce.org.au."

G13/04/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen**Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson**

That Council Staff report to a future General meeting in relation to the National Sea Change Taskforce.

Carried

9/5

Regional & Local Community Infrastructure Program

Re: **G14/04/09** Regional & Local Community Infrastructure Program
 From: Mr Ken Mason – Chief Executive Officer
 File:
 Date: 2 April 2009

Report: (Chief Executive Officer – Ken Mason)

Council has received verbal approval of the following projects for the \$945,000.00 grant

RLCIP Funds

Nelson Reserve Amenities	\$150,000
Nelson Reserve —Skate Park Safety upgrade	\$20,000
Senior Citizens Exercise Park	\$30,000
Gympie Regional Gallery Heritage Restoration Project - Verandah	\$48,000
Upgrade Gympie Town Hall - Lift	\$90,000
Bill Bishop Building Roof	\$60,000
Footpaths	\$75,000
Calton Gardens Restoration & Rotunda	\$30,000
Enhancement of Main Streets - Entry statements for Tin Can Bay & Rainbow Beach	\$30,000
One Mile Ovals — Irrigation improvements — central automation control, Irrigation mains, levelling/ drainage improvements, cricket field alignment Jim Geiger Oval,	\$60,000
Community Volunteer Centre - Southside SES Building	\$110,000
Chatsworth Hall - Kitchen	\$30,000
Woolooga Hall	\$8,000

Gunalda Playground Safety Fencing	\$10,000
Tin Can Bay Infant Swimming Pool	\$35,000
Tin Can Bay - Fitness equipment/safety surfacing/path Wes Mitchell Park	\$29,000
Rainbow Beach -concrete path in Phil Rogers connecting shelters, toilets, disabled parking and path at Surf Lifesavers/village centre	\$22,000
Mullins Creek Heritage Site — vehicle exclusion bollards	\$18,000
Amamoor Playground — install safety fencing, rationalise existing play space, new equipment	\$20,000
Tin Can Bay — Norman Point Beautification project	\$40,000
Upgrade Imbil Memorial Park - Public Seating, Shade & Sprinkler system	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$945,000

Due to these projects being funded through RLCIP the following reappropriation of Council funds allows for the following projects to be progressed

Woolooga —Public toilet improvements	\$40,000
Tansey Polo field —funds towards toilets with prefab units installed	\$58,000
Goomeri Toilet	\$50,000
Kandanga - Public Seating and shade at local pool	\$5,000

G14/04/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council adopt the above program of works.

Further that the Council Staff be thanked for their efforts.

Carried

SECTION 10: MEETING DATES

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

TUESDAY, 5 MAY 2009

Works & Services Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY 2009

Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2009

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

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2009

Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 27 MAY 2009

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

G15/04/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

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

Carried

SECTION 11: GENERAL BUSINESS

10th Queensland Weeds Symposium

G16/04/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That Cr G.L. Engeman be registered to attend the 10th Queensland Weeds Symposium to be held at the Capricorn Resort, Yeppoon from 26-29 July 2009.

Carried

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.47am.

Confirmed this TWENTY SECOND day of APRIL 2008

Mayor R.J. Dyne
CHAIRMAN