



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 9th September 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 9:03 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, Cr J. Watt and Cr J.A. Walker.

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

Cr L.J. Friske was not present at the commencement of the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS

Corporate Governance & Finance Committee
F11/08/09 - Cr G.L. Engeman, Cr R.J. Dyne, and Cr R.A. Gâté – Conflict of Interest

Planning & Development Committee
P17/09/09 - Cr G.L. Engeman and Cr A.J. Perrett – Conflict of Interest
P18/09/09 - Cr G.L. Engeman – Material Personal Interest

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Pastor Iain McGill from the Gympie Wesleyan 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

Nil

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

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

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council General Meeting held on 26 August 2009 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

Nil

Cr L.J. Friske entered the meeting at 9.08am.

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Cr G.L. Engeman, Cr R.J. Dyne, and Cr R.A. Gâté declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute F11/08/09 due to being a member of the Rural Fire Brigade and remained in the meeting.

G02/09/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 26 August 2009 as presented, be received.

Carried

G03/09/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 26 August 2009, be adopted.

Carried

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

Cr G.L. Engeman presented the following Report:-

The meeting of the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee held on Wednesday 26 August 2009 dealt with a number of matters. These included the request for leases over property at Lower Wonga and Everson Road. Council also considered the matter of financial assistance in regards to the maintenance of a Council building at Kandanga.

Fees charged by the Queensland Transport for registration checks on vehicles with overdue parking fees have been increased and Council resolved to increase its fee to the offender to recover this cost.

The Director of Finance advised Council that the rates for the first half year for 2009/10 have issued and that the due date to receive discount is 24/09/09. Further comment was made regarding the timing of the issue of rate notices insofar as the issue of the first half year rates in 2008/09 was approximately 3 weeks later than desirable due to the amalgamation process. This year, the issue date is approximately 2 weeks earlier than in previous years. Ideally the timing of the issue of rate notices should be 6 months apart. Council will endeavour to achieve this timing for the issue of notices in the future.

Council has also resolved to fund half the cost of returning Captain Gilbert Harry's medals to Gympie and these are now on permanent display at the Mary Street RSL and will forever be a reminder of the bravery of our residents in past conflicts.

Council was also pleased to receive a letter from the Premier of Queensland advising that her government will be honouring its grant and subsidy commitments to the Gympie Sewerage Plant upgrade.

G04/09/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G05/09/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 1 September 2009 as presented, be received.

Carried

G06/09/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 1 September 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.

- The Brisbane Sporting Car Club has advised that the 2009 Qld Rally Championship – “Cooloola Classic Rally” will be staged in the Gympie region on Saturday 31 October 2009. The rally will have an official start from Lake Alford. Competitive stages will be held in State Forests in the Glastonbury, Brooyar, Mary’s Creek and Widgee areas with the event finish located at the Glastonbury Hall and Sports Ground on Saturday night. Council has offered its support of the Rally and approved the use of all roads applied for with the exception of Fisherman’s Pocket Road.
- The Department of Main Roads has advised that the Bruce Highway overpass to Normanby Bridge may not be opened until near to Christmas this year due to the severity of the damage caused to the overpass and the work required to rectify same. Council will be keeping in contact with the Department to point out the safety factors and other issues involved with the closure of the Normanby Bridge overpass.
- Following a further request to Council for a pedestrian crossing over Tin Can Bay Road in close proximity to the IGA Shopping Centre, Council has contacted the Department of Transport and Main Roads requesting same. DMR advised that pedestrians had adequate opportunity to cross the road between gaps in the traffic and also on the lit pedestrian refuge already provided some 170m south-west of the proposed site. Council has resolved to undertake the design of a pedestrian refuge and kerb extensions for local consultation later this year.
- Grading and Maintenance on Council roads – due to the very dry conditions which were being experienced throughout the Region, Council’s road maintenance works have been hampered as grading in extreme dry conditions only exacerbates the dust problems already being encountered by residents. Now that we have received some rain and the weather is more favourable, Council will continue with its maintenance program on roads.
- Council’s syndicate baiting program on declared animals will occur in the Eastern Division of the Region between 5 and 16 October this year. Any concerns relative to this matter should be directed to Council’s Works Department – telephone 5481 0899.

- Waste Projects – work is progressing on the Cooloola Cove and Bonnick Road Transfer stations.
- Council has supported the extension along Janke Road of the S810 School Bus Route following a request for same from the S810 Bus Conveyance Committee.
- A new liner for the storage lagoon at the Rainbow Beach Sewage Treatment Plant has been ordered with staff ready to start construction of the lagoon once the liner is received.

G07/09/09 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 9: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute P17/09/09 and Material Personal Interest in Minute P18/09/09 due to perceived business interests.

Cr J.A. Walker declared a Material Personal Interest in Minute P17/09/09 due to being the property owner of application (2008-0745).

Cr A.J. Perrett declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute P17/09/09 due to being a Member of the Board of St Patrick's College and remained in the meeting.

G08/09/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2009 as presented, be received with the exception of P17/09/09 & P18/09/09 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

Cr Julie Walker and Cr G.L. Engeman left the meeting at 9.16am.

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

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2009, be adopted.

Carried

Recommendation P17/09/09 & P18/09/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on the 2 September 2009

G10/09/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Recommendation P17/09/09 & P18/09/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2009 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr G.L. Engeman and Cr J.A. Walker returned to the meeting at 9.17am.

SECTION 10: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

NIL

SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS**11/1** Application for a Range complex section of Corella Forestry

Re: **G11/09/09** Application for a Range complex section of Corella Forestry
From: Ron Owen, President – Cooloola Range Complex Association Inc. PO Box 346, Gympie Qld 4570.
File: 1/2/5/3
Date: 18 August 2009 Doc ID: 1066517

“Please find enclosed a response to the Application for a Range complex in a section of the Corella Forestry. The application was made in 2004, representations were made to the then Deputy Premier Terry Mackenroth, which was eventually followed with a deputation to Minister Boyle. This was followed by a silence and a lack of communication on the part of the State Government. Recently due to the efforts of our Local member David Gibson he obtained this answer to our comprehensive submission.

Please find enclosed Minutes of Deputation and our response to Minister Boyle’s letter in 2006 since that point, we have had two impromptu visits from her representatives, both promising to reply to our points, followed by silence. The recommendation of private property was covered with minister Boyle and she did admit that our shire was owned over 50% by the Crown it was highest percentage in the State which made private land impossible to obtain. Since that time the State has purchased the Mary Valley.

Could you please ask the State Government at your earliest convenience in what you consider to be the appropriate departments that as the government has decided to ignore the advice from its paid staff:- Note

- 1. That CRCA had a letter giving “Agreement in Principle” from a Mr Freely Director of National Parks and Wildlife.*
- 2. The site was recommended in the Comino Report which was undertaken by DNR and that Mr Comino was a government employee charges with carrying out that particular task prior to the year 2000 and that the proposal had received support from Council and the Local Members of Parliament.*

And the long suffering law abiding sporting shooters have been assured, even, in some instances, guaranteed, by successive Queensland Labour Governments that proper and appropriate reparations will be furnished by government offsetting the various gun by-backs and season closures that there governments has already implemented.

This is a legitimate, tightly legislated sport which due to government interference has had to suffer compulsory membership of clubs, and

compulsory attendance to clubs just to be able to keep their own lawfully owned property.

That on the introduction of this rigorous legislation, promises were made to the Legislative Assembly that more money and effort would be spent on assisting shooting ranges and clubs. Both from the Beatty Government in 2003 and the Goss Government in the 1990s. Since that time even with the governments onerous restrictions, the safe sport of shooting has been increasing, membership to these Clubs has doubled and there has been a country wide expansion of new membership. The Weapons Licensing Branch that used to operate with 5 employees prior to 1997 due to the massive creation of meaningless bureaucracy registering the ownership of longarms has increased to 150 people in new larger premises that are currently having to work two shifts a day to keep up with the applications.

This government has set the compulsory use of shooting ranges, it has made its guarantees. The shooting club and citizenry of Gympie District has taken the government at its word and put countless hours of research and planning on the advice of public service staff and has been prepared to raise the money for the facility itself. Now, ten years later the government changes its mind, the words mean nothing the climate has changed. Is this a mistake? Or was it a lie from the beginning? Or can the government assist the people in there lawful pursuits of sport in not for profit organisations.”

Re: Proposal for Multi-club Shooting Complex
From: David Gibson MP, Member for Gympie, PO Box 1277, Gympie Qld 4570. addressed to Alan Dray, Cooloola Range Complex Association Inc.
File: 1/2/5/3
Date: 2 July 2009

“Please find enclosed a copy of correspondence I recently received from the Minister for Climate Change and sustainability in response to the letter I wrote to the Acting Director-General of the Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries regarding your proposal for a multi-club shooting complex to be located on vacant State land at Curra.

Unfortunately, as you will note in the Minister’s response, State Land asset Management Officers have undertaken the necessary investigations in response to your request and have advised that there are no areas of unallocated State land suitable for a multi-club shooting complex in the Curra area.

The Minister also advises that tenure types, such as private freehold, are considered more suitable for this type activity.

Please see the Minister’s letter for further information.”

Re: Proposal for Multi-club Shooting Complex.

From: Kate Jones MP, Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, PO Box 15155, City East Qld 4002. addressed to David Gibson MP, Member for Gympie.
File: 1/2/5/3
Date: 25 June 2009

“I refer to your letter of 12 January 2009 to Mr Rob Setter, Acting Director-General of the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, making representation on behalf of the Cooloola Range Complex Association concerning a proposal for a multi-club shooting complex to be located on vacant State land at Curra. As I have now been appointed Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, I am pleased to respond to your correspondence.

A copy of your letter was forwarded to this office from Forestry Plantations Queensland as it believes the enquiry may relate to lands managed by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM).

State Land Asset Management officers at the DERM Gympie office investigated the availability of unallocated State land (USL) in the Curra area. The preliminary investigations have revealed there are no areas of USL suitable for a multi-club shooting complex in the Curra area.

There is a possibility the land suggested may be State Forest or Forest Reserve, and in the event the land of interest is identified as Forest Reserve, State Forest (or a protected area), DERM would not support the establishment of a range facility as this is inconsistent with the management purpose of these areas.

Tenure types, such as private freehold, are considered more suitable for this type of activity.

The Association is encouraged to contact Debbie Cross, DERM’s Senior Land Officer, Land and Vegetation Services, South East Region in Gympie on telephone 5480 5342 to discuss this matter further.

I hope this information is of assistance when replying to the Association.”

G11/09/09

Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the information be received.

Carried

SECTION 12: MEETING DATES

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

TUESDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2009	Works & Services Committee Meeting 9am
WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2009	Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am
WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2009	General 9am Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting
WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2009	Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am
WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2009	General 9am Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting.

G12/09/09 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

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

Carried

SECTION 13: GENERAL BUSINESS**Tin Can Bay Quilting Club Open Day**

Cr Jan Watt reported that as RADF Chair, she opened the Tin Can Bay Quilting Club Open Day. It was very well attended and organised, showcasing beautiful work from members of Quilting Groups.

G13/09/09 Moved: Cr J. Watt Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That a letter of congratulations be sent to the Tin Can Bay Quilters Club on such a successful event.

Carried

Leave of Absence – Cr J.A. Walker

G14/09/09 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That Cr J.A. Walker be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings from the 16 September 2009.

Carried

Leave of Absence – Mayor Ron Dyne

G15/09/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Cr R.J. Dyne be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings from the 29 October to the 13 November 2009.

Carried

113th LGAQ Conference 2009

Cr Donna Neilson presented the following Report:-

There was a positive atmosphere at the LGAQ conference held in Brisbane at the end of August. While some councils were still struggling in the aftermath of

amalgamations and the withdrawal of State Government subsidies, there was generally a 'let's get on with the job' attitude.

The president invited me to be on a panel to review the structure and role of the LGAQ on the day prior to the conference. This was a really enjoyable session and I look forward to the outcome.

The conference was officially opened by her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO who delivered a well researched and well received message.

The keynote address was given by Cr Shelley Carroll from Toronto City Council, Canada who stressed the need for councils to express their simple, clear vision repeatedly.

Economist Dr Chris Caton predicted that interest rates will rise by 2 to 3% during 2010/11 and unemployment will be less than that experienced overseas. Australia is the only country where exports and retail trade have increased.

ALGA President Cr Geoff Lake listed that body's achievements as - \$25m from the Federal Government for the Local Government reform fund, an extension of R2R2 funding to 2014, the removal of "legacy" (pre-existing) waste from the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme and the establishment of a Local Government Centre of Excellence.

Mayor Philippa Barriball from Thames-Coromandel District Council, New Zealand gave some tips for community engagement when preparing long term community plans. She spoke of the importance of engaging with young people and giving credit to kids for their ideas. In order to encourage people to think 50 years into the future, the team had an old caravan with old photos and dressed in '60s clothes to show how things change in 50 years.

I attended a workshop with Tim Fynes-Clinton from King & Co in relation to the integrity provisions under the new Local Government Act. Because of the significant changes, I suggest we have further discussions on the implications.

I thank Council for allowing me to attend the conference where I was presented with a badge and certificate for 15 years' service to Local Government.

G16/09/09

Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That the Report be received.

Carried

G17/09/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Council congratulate Cr D.R. Neilson on the achievement of 15 years service to Local Government and the Gympie Regional Community.

Carried

<p>“Garapine” Work Placement Program Graduation</p>

Cr Rae Gâté reported that she attended the recent Graduation of the Garapine Work Placement Program. Program was managed by AIMNET and funded by DEEDI under the Skilling Queenslanders for Work Initiative. The Program involved the design and establishment of the Garapine Mountain Bike Trail which was trialled and demonstrated by members of the Gravity Mountain Bike Club. Successful outcomes of the Program were the establishment of the Trail and a number of participants gaining employment.

Cr I.T. Petersen left the meeting at 9.33am and returned to the meeting at 9.34am.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.34am.

Confirmed this TWENTY THIRD day of SEPTEMBER 2009

CHAIRMAN
Cr R.J. Dyne