



MINUTES
of the
GENERAL MEETING

CHAIRPERSON: Cr A.J. Perrett (Deputy Mayor)

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

**On Wednesday 11 November 2009
At 9:00 am**

Gympie Regional Council **GENERAL**

Mayor R.J. Dyne (Chairman)
Crs A.J. Perrett, G.L. Engeman, R.A. Gâté, L.J. Friske,
D.R. Neilson, I.T. Petersen, J. Watt and J.A. Walker

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The meeting commenced at 9:00 am.

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

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS

Planning & Development Committee Meeting

P12/11/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman - Material Personal Interest

P19/11/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman - Material Personal Interest

P19/11/09 – Cr A.J. Perrett - Conflict of Interest

P15/11/09 – Cr G.L. Engeman - Conflict of Interest

General Meeting

G21/11/09 - Cr J. Watt – Material Personal Interest due to family association

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Reverend Iain Watt from the Uniting Church offered a Prayer for the advancement of the Region and the true welfare of its people.

One minute's silence observed for recently deceased Gympie Region residents.

Cr J Watt left the meeting at 9:06 am.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G15/09/09 – That Cr R.J. Dyne be granted Leave of Absence from all Council Meetings from the 28 October to the 13 November 2009.

G01/11/09 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Cr L.J. Friske be granted Leave of Absence from today's meetings due to his attendance at the National Roads Conference being held in Mackay.

Carried

Cr J. Watt returned to the meeting at 9:07 am.

SECTION 2: APOLOGIES

Nil

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

G02/11/09 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

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

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

Nil

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G03/11/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

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

Carried

G04/11/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

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

Carried

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

Cr Donna Neilson presented the following report:-

Landing of helicopters for the purpose of medical transfers will be improved following the approval of a trustee lease to Queensland Health. A concrete helipad landing site with emergency floodlighting and windsock will be constructed at Archery Park to replace the unsatisfactory existing site near the Gympie Hospital.

A safety fence will be erected along the frontage to the Bruce Highway and part of Cross Street, and additions made to the amenities block for use of helicopter crew members as an office area. The 10 year lease will include conditions relating to emergency landing procedures.

The committee resolved to offer a new lease over land at Tin Can Bay Road to the Tin Can Bay Model Flying Club Inc for a period of 10 years. The land is part of a reserve over which there are a number of other leases already in place.

Admission fees to the Gympie Woodworks Museum were set at \$10 for adults, \$5 for pensioners and children and \$20 for a family pass. The meeting considered that these fees represented good value to patrons.

A letter from the Director-General of DERM was received, advising that a valuation of unimproved land values in Gympie Regional Council area to be effective from 30 June 2010 would not be undertaken. A fee for the ongoing maintenance of the valuation roll is payable whether or not a valuation is carried out.

A report from the Training Co-ordinator showed that the focus for September was on Safe Working at Heights training. This qualification is required to be renewed every two years with a two day refresher course or a three day course for those who do not currently hold a ticket.

Letters of thanks were received from Goomeri State School for sponsorship of their Awards evening; Gympie and District Indoor Bowls Assn for assistance towards their Bowls Carnival and Mary Valley Show Society for assistance with their Art Festival. The Gympie and District Eisteddfod Association Inc also submitted a letter thanking Council for previously allowing the use of a room in the Town Hall.

G05/11/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the report be received.

Carried

**SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF WORKS & SERVICES
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

G06/11/09 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2009 as presented be received, with the exception of W13/11/09 which is to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G07/11/09 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2009 (as amended), be adopted.

Carried

Recommendation W13/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2009

G08/11/09 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Recommendation W13/11/09 of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2009 be deleted and the matter referred to the General Manager Design Services to table a further report at the next Works & Services Committee Meeting on the suitability of offering a six (6) hr parking restriction on Rainbow Beach Road outside the Hardware Store/Library.

Carried

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

Nil

SECTION 9: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
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G09/11/09 **Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen** **Seconded: Cr J. Watt**

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009 as presented, be received with the exception of P12/11/09, P19/11/09 and P15/11/09 which will be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G10/11/09 **Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen** **Seconded: Cr J. Watt**

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

Carried

Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Material Personal Interest in items P12/11/09 and P19/11/09 due to perceived business interests and left the meeting at 9:14 am.

Recommendation P12/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009
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G11/11/09 **Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen** **Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté**

That Recommendation P12/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr A. J. Perrett declared a Conflict of Interest in the next item due to perceived business interests and abstained from voting.

Recommendation P19/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009

G12/11/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Recommendation P19/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr G.L. Engeman returned to the meeting at 9:16 am

Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in the next item due to perceived business interests and abstained from voting.

Recommendation P15/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009

G13/11/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Recommendation P15/11/09 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009 be received and adopted.

Carried

SECTION 10: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Cr Ian Petersen presented the following Report:-

STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS

The Committee is recommending that Council acknowledge receipt of notification of amendments to the Protected Area Estates involving State land at Woondum. As this is another in a series of large tracts of land being transferred to National Park, concerns were raised about the ability of the State Government effectively to manage fire and pest incursions in such large areas of land with limited staff. It is therefore recommended that Council request the Department of Environment and Resource Management to provide details of their fire and pest management plans.

Following receipt of the recommendations of the Heritage Advisory Committee, it is recommended that Council write to the Queensland Heritage Council thanking

them for their visit and to Mrs Elaine Brown thanking her for her presentation at the dinner. It is further recommended that Council write to Mr Roger Todd formally inviting him to become a member of the Heritage Advisory Committee.

In relation to works approved to be done at the No 1 Scottish Mine site, the Committee is recommending that Council advise the Gympie and District Historical society of the importance of ensuring that all archaeological material at the site is preserved. The Committee is also recommending that Council request the CEO to prepare an appropriate contract to be entered into in relation to the works to be undertaken.

A comprehensive report from the Sport Recreation and Parks Coordinating Committee was tabled. It is recommended that Council write to Central Regional Manager of Sport and Recreation Services requesting that long serving member of the GRC SRPCC be available to continue attending despite GRC being transferred from the Central Region to the Sunshine Coast Region.

The Committee is recommending that Council note the Housing Analysis Review prepared by the Department of Communities.

APPLICATIONS FOR MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE

An application for Material Change of Use in relation to proposed crane hire premises at Langton Road is recommended for approval subject to standard conditions, as is an application to formalise an existing general industry use in Victoria Road, and 25 additional rooms at the former Golden Gate Motel site.

RECONFIGURING A LOT APPLICATIONS

A development application to create one (1) additional lot at Currambine Avenue is recommended for refusal due to potential flooding constraints.

The Committee is recommending that Council approve an application for a 16 additional lot subdivision at Nicholls Road, and an application for 126 additional lots at Sorensen Road, subject to standard conditions.

Three separate applications, each to excise one small lot in a rural zoned area are recommended for refusal on several grounds including increased bushfire risk.

NEW APPLICATIONS

Two new impact assessable Material Change of Use applications, four new code assessable applications, and four new code assessable reconfiguring applications were noted.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED

Nine (9) applications were approved under delegated authority.

GENERAL MATTERS

The Committee is recommending that Council authorise the Director of Planning and Development to respond to the Draft Terms of Reference for the proposed Carlo Point Marina.

G14/11/09 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the report be received.

Carried

SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS

11/1	News Release from LGAQ
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Re: LGAQ
 From: Cr Paul Bell, AM, President Executive
 File:
 Date: 7 October 2009

Monday, 26th October 2009

Analysis Shows State Suffers in Federal Funding Shift

Queensland had not received a greater share of federal funding since the Rudd Government took office, despite the prime minister's and treasurer's status as Queenslanders, an independent analysis has shown.

"We realise the government has been blown off-course by the global financial crisis in its early days, but Queenslanders had expectations of a catch-up after decades of missing out," Local Government Association of Queensland president, Cr Paul Bell, who commissioned the study, said today.

"This is bound to be a real issue in voters' minds, come the next federal election," Cr Bell said.

"The analysis, by Morton Consulting, showed that, in 2006/07, Queensland received 20 per cent of available funding. For 2009/10, it is 19.8 per cent," he said. "New South Wales's share is 30.6 per cent and Victoria's 22.6 per cent.

"It's clear the allocation process, which is based on the numbers of councils in the states, is flawed. We are suffering because last year's amalgamations reduced our council numbers by more than half.

"One bright spot in the analysis is the boost to our share of National Roads Network funding from 24.5 per cent of funds allocated from 2004/05 to 2008/09 to the 31.2 per cent allocated from the Nation Building Fund for the 2008/2014

period - an increase of 27.15 per cent. No other state received a significant increase in funding share.

"The LGAQ, on behalf of Queensland councils, will undertake the same analysis after the next federal budget. As honest brokers, we will always join with our councils to fight to ensure our communities get a fair share of federal expenditures," Cr Bell said.

G15/11/09 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the information be received.

Carried

SECTION 12: MEETING DATES

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

TUESDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2009

Works & Services Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2009

Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am

WEDNESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2009

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

WEDNESDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2009

General 9am

G16/11/09 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

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

Carried

Leave of Absence

G17/11/09 **Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman** **Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker**

That Cr I.T. Petersen be granted Leave of Absence for all meetings on 25 November 2009 due to prior commitments.

Carried

LATE ITEM

Late Item 1 Adoption of Financial Statements

Re: Adoption of Financial Statements
From: Director of Financial Services – Yvonne Oliver
File:
Date: 10 November 2009

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

A draft copy of Council's Financial Statements was submitted to Council's General meeting on 14 October 2009.

Advice has now been received from Council's auditors that their audit work to date has been satisfactory and they have provided clearance of the final set of Financial Statements for the period ending 21 June 2009.

The auditor's advice noted that there had been no matters identified to date that would result in a modified audit report.

The attached set of Financial Statements is the final copy.

Refer "Late Attachment 1".

G18/11/09 **Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson** **Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté**

That the report be noted and the Financial Statements for 2008/09, as presented, be received.

Carried

SECTION 13: GENERAL BUSINESS**MRAEL Group Training Awards**

Cr G.L. Engeman attended the recent Awards Evening in Maryborough. Gympie Regional Council Trainee Ben Parker was given recognition as a Nominee and Shannon Connors, a trainee from the ANZ Bank received the Cooloola Region Trainee Award.

Agritourism Meeting

Cr J. Watt advised that as Council representative, she attended the recent inaugural meeting of the Mary Valley Agritourism Project, which covers the Mary River Catchment Area. The upcoming Field Days were advertised and promoted. Cr Watt distributed brochures to provide examples of projects being conducted in other areas and were discussed at the meeting. Cr Watt advised that activity within the group will increase as result of Field Days. The ongoing meetings will be held bi-monthly and represent a combined association of the Dept of Primary Industries and Southern Cross University.

Senator Mark Furner's Visit to Regional Local and Community Infrastructure Program Projects

Cr A.J. Perrett reported that Senator Furner visited Gympie on 10 November 2009 to inspect several Projects under the Federal RLCIP funding. The Senator was impressed with the Projects undertaken in the Region.

BMRG Forum "Beyond the Matchbox" – Maryborough

Cr J.A. Walker advised that she attended the recent forum "Beyond the Matchbox" at which various experts advised how to best use fire and how to reduce fire risk. Cr Walker said that it was well attended, informative and worth the trip to Maryborough.

SECTION 14: “IN COMMITTEE”**COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE**

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

1. Staffing Levels – Plumbing and Construction, Water and Sewerage Division
2. Staff Levels – Maintenance

G19/11/09 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

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

1. Staffing Levels – Plumbing and Construction, Water and Sewerage Division
2. Staffing Levels – Maintenance

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

Carried

Cr J. Watt declared a Material Personal Interest in item 14.1 due to family association and left the meeting at 9:44 am for “In-Committee” discussions and returned to the meeting for further “In-Committee” discussions at 9:50 am.

COUNCIL OUT OF COMMITTEE

G20/11/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That proceedings be resumed in Open Council.

Carried

Cr J. Watt declared a Material Personal Interest in item 14.1 due to family association and left the meeting at 10:12 am.

14/1	Staffing Levels – Plumbing and Construction, Water and Sewerage Division
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Re: Staffing Levels – Plumbing and Construction, Water and Sewerage Division:
From: Chief Executive Officer – Mr Ken Mason
File:
Date: 5 November 2009

G21/11/09 Moved:Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the four (4) full-fixed term employees in the Water and Sewerage Division be appointed to permanent positions.

Carried

Cr J. Watt returned to meeting at 10:13 am

14/2	Staffing Levels – Maintenance
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G22/11/09 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded:Cr R.A. Gâté

That the fixed term property maintenance officer be appointed to a permanent position.

Carried

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:17 am

Confirmed this TWENTY-FIFTH day of NOVEMBER 2009

CHAIRMAN
Cr A.J. Perrett