



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 14th May 2008
At 9.00 am**

Gympie Regional Council **GENERAL MINUTES**

*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.*

APPOINTMENTS etc.

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The meeting commenced at 9.03am.

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

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

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Pastor Noel McDonough from the Gympie Community Church offered a Prayer for the advancement of the Shire and the true welfare of its people.

One Minutes silence was observed for family and friends of deceased residents of the Shire.

Cr J. Watt entered the meeting at 9.07 am.

SECTION 2: APOLOGIES

Nil

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

G01/05/08 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council General Meeting held on 23rd April 2008 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

4/1	Gympie Regional Council Gallery Car Parking
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Cr J. Watt tabled the following petition.

Re: Gympie Regional Council Gallery Car Parking
 From: Margery Hamer, 30 Allando Place, Tamaree (MS 177),
 Gympie Qld 4570 and 102 other signatories

“This month, the Gympie Regional Gallery celebrated its 10th birthday. Thanks to Joolie Gibbs and the many willing helpers, the special 10th birthday celebration Bizzart Day, was a great success. It was wonderful to see the Gallery crowded with happy children painting, making play-dough flowers, having their faces painted and creating art to adorn the walls of Gallery 3. The children’s eyes were wide with delight, rather than square from sitting in front of a television or computer screen.

However, one thing spoils all the joy and laughter. The difficulty of finding a park near the Gallery has become a daily issue. On Tuesdays, approximately 20-24 Friends of the Gallery attend an art class, far outnumbering the available car parks. Many of these people have to park many streets away, hauling their heavy paints, boards and other equipment to the Gallery with difficulty. The Gallery is always buzzing with activity, different groups meet everyday, all of whom struggle with the same problem.

Streets are always full, as business owners will not allow their employees to park nearby, thus leaving the precious few car spaces for customers/visitors.

The Council owns a block of land at the rear of the gallery, and was considering making this a car park, but due to lack of funds, the idea was set aside. Surely it is time that this block of land be turned into a car park for the Gallery visitors.

How many people avoid visiting the Gallery due to the lack of parking space?”

G02/05/08

Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the petition be received and referred to Engineering Directorate to report to the draft budget meeting.

Carried

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G03/05/08 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2008 as presented, be received.

Carried

G04/05/08 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2008, be adopted.

Carried

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

Cr D.R. Neilson presented the following Report:-

“The first meeting of the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee of Gympie Regional Council was held on 23 April 2008. The charter adopted at that meeting provides for the committee to be responsible for a wide range of council functions including budget and financial management, training and human resources.

The meeting noted that the new council currently has 462 staff, of which 70 are employed at the Kilkivan branch. The Workplace Health and Safety officer reported that the WH&S Management system has been updated to take into account the amalgamation and current legislation. Monitoring of the system will be crucial to ensure that council can maintain its current level in the self-insurers’ scheme.

As a result of high demand for hangar leases at Gympie Airport, tenders were called from interested parties for five available sites. This is the first time that this course of action has been taken and the amounts tendered were substantially higher than the lease rental currently being charged on existing hangar sites. One of the sites will be used for commercial purposes, while the remaining four will be for recreational purposes. All leases are for 20 years.

The committee resolved to seek an extension of time to further consider the acquisition of the Central pre-school building from the Department of Education, Training and the Arts, and an inspection of the building was undertaken. As this extension was not forthcoming, the matter has been referred to today's general meeting for consideration.

The matter of the sale of a house and land in Bridge Street, Kilkivan, owned by the former Kilkivan Shire, was offered to real estate agents in Kilkivan and Goomeri for a period of six weeks. Tenders had previously been called, but those received were well below the valuation."

G05/05/08 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS RECOMMENDATIONS
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G06/05/08 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Financial Assistance Grants Meeting held on 30 April 2008 as presented, be received and adopted.

Further that it be noted that the following Councillors declared Conflicts of Interests in the following matters:-

Councillor G.L Engeman declared a conflict of interest in the application from the Gympie District Show Society due to his being the President of the Gympie District Show Society and chose to remain in the meeting because his position would not influence his decision.

Councillor D.R. Neilson declared a conflict of interest in the application from the Mary Valley Heritage Railway due to her being a Committee Member appointed by the Federal Government to the Mary Valley Heritage Railway Committee and chose to remain in the meeting because her position would not influence her decision.

Councillor J.A. Walker and J. Watt declared conflicts of interest in the application from the Mary Valley Show Society (Mary Valley Show Advertising and Promotions) due to their being members of the Mary Valley Show Society and chose to remain in

the meeting because their positions would not influence their decisions.

Councillor J.A. Walker and J. Watt declared conflicts of interest in the application from the Mary Valley Show Society (2009 Mary Valley Art Festival) due to their being members of the Mary Valley Show Society and chose to remain in the meeting because their positions would not influence their decisions.

Councillor J.A. Walker declared a conflict of interest in the application from the Gympie & District Hockey Association Inc due to her being the Vice President of the Gympie & District Hockey Association and chose to remain in the meeting because her position would not influence her decision.

Carried

SECTION 8: ADOPTION OF WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
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G07/05/08 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 6 May 2008 as presented, be received.

Carried

G08/05/08 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 6 May 2008 (as amended), be adopted.

Carried

SECTION 9: REPORT BY THE WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Nil

SECTION 10: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G09/05/08 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 7 May 2008 as presented, with the exception of recommendation P21/05/08 which is to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G10/05/08 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr A.J. Perrett

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 7 May 2008, be adopted.

Carried

Cr G.L. Engeman and Cr J. Watt declared a material personal interest in the following item and left the meeting at 9.16 am.

Recommendation P21/05/08 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 7 May 2008

G11/05/08 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Recommendation P21/05/08 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 7 May 2008 be received and adopted.

Carried

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

SECTION 11: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
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Cr Petersen presented the following Report:-

“Following receipt of a report by Adam Pekol Consulting, commissioned by the former Cooloola Shire Council, the Committee is recommending a significant increase in urban road contributions from \$234 per lot to \$3,320 in the Gympie area. \$3,200 at the Cooloola Coast and \$1510 in Imbil. While acknowledging the fact that this constitutes a substantial increase, it should be pointed out that the new charges are very much at the lower end of the range when compared with several other Local Government areas. The proposed new charges represent a balance between excessive charges which inhibit development and contribute to housing affordability problems against a need to ensure that ratepayers are not subsidising development through the general fund.

The Committee is recommending that Council formulate a Commercial / Retail Strategy for the whole of the GRC area as part of a planning scheme review process.

To provide input from the Works Committee, Cr J.A.Walker is to be added to the Sport, Recreation and Parks Coordinating Committee.

A material Change of Use application over land at Litschner Road has been approved allowing a change to rural residential with an opportunity for subdivision. However, due to concerns about vegetation protection, koala habitat concerns and bushfire risk mitigation, the committee is recommending that the proposed plan be not accepted. To address the above concerns, it is suggested that a reduction in lot sizes for some lots would be considered, thus allowing an increase in buffer areas.

An application for an amendment to a 52 lot subdivision at Old Maryborough Road is recommended for approval. The Committee is also recommending approval for a 34 lot subdivision at Lillis Road as well as several other smaller applications, whilst an application for four townhouses at Suncrest Court is recommended for refusal on various grounds such as inappropriate zone, increased traffic, negative impact on amenity etc.

The Committee is recommending that Council arrange a meeting of the Traveston Crossing Dam Committee to hear presentations from QWI, Dept Infrastructure and Planning, Community Futures Taskforce, Save the Mary River Group, and Council’s Director of Engineering, to inform and update all councillors on the issues and status of the proposal.

Greg Martoo, addressed the Committee on behalf of a client who is proposing an affordable housing development at Bath Terrace and a major industrial park at Kybong.

The Committee also heard from Queensland Rail and their consultants (Buckley Van Town Planners and the CPR Group) in relation to their application to operate an extractive industry at the Meadvale Quarry

An in depth report by the Manager of the Strategic Planning Unit and a detailed action plan demonstrated that, like the Development Assessment Team, they are also burdened with a huge case load. The Department is currently looking at staffing and organisational changes to reduce the serious backlog that is currently causing unacceptable delays."

G12/05/08 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 12: REPORT BY THE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
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Cr Perrett presented the following Report:-

"The first business for the meeting of the Committee was to recommend the adoption of a draft charter.

Mr Wolff presented a comprehensive report for Health and Environmental Services across the region. Particular attention was paid to the vandalism of public toilet facilities and the costs incurred to repair. It was recommended that the Mayor make a statement to the media regarding the vandalism in the Memorial Lane public toilets.

Waste management facilities are progressing satisfactorily and the committee is recommending that the acquisition of the Central Landfill site at Toolara be progressed and finalized. Council is to seek a deputation with the Premier and Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries.

Community Services and Facilities report by Mr Grant advised the Committee that the Regional integration is progressing efficiently for Youth Development, Community Development and Library Services.

Cooloola Regional Development Bureau Manager Mr Arnold advised that a business plan is being developed for the Region, including website redevelopment."

G13/05/08 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 13: OTHER MATTERS

13/1	EMQ Disaster Summit, Townsville
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Cr Perrett presented the following Report:-

“Emergency Management Queensland conducted a Natural Disaster Summit in Townsville on the 22nd April 2008. The primary purpose of the Summit was to gather 130 delegates in a forum, where emergency planning could be discussed.

The Honourable Neil Roberts MP, Minister for Emergency Services, officially opened the Summit and announced that, as of July 2008, a State Disaster Unit will be established to service Queensland 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

A number of very informative speakers addressed the Summit on a broad range of topics. Neil Polglase, Director of Corporate Services - Murweh Shire Council (Charleville) spoke regarding their recent flooding experience in Charleville. He spoke of many issues including

- ***Misinformation by the media with inaccurate statements and stories e.g. file footage from prior disaster events etc***
- *Knowledge/experience of the Local disaster system is imperative prior to an event*
- *Disaster Management Plan must establish disaster evacuation procedures*
- *Communication response times*
- *Local Government capabilities*

Superintendent Rowan Bond – Queensland Police Service, provided a District Perspective on the Mackay floods (Early – Mid February 2008).

- *680 mm of torrential rain fell in 10 hours, creating severe local flooding*
- *Power loss in CBD for 4 hrs*
- *Both landline and mobile telephone services were completely out*
- *Failure of power and phone in Local Police Station. Backup generator failed.*

Peter Maguire – Mayor Central Highlands Regional Council, spoke of the recent ‘Emerald Experience’. 650 mm of rain fell over 5 days throughout the entire catchment. This equates to 12 months rain in 5 days. The Fairbairn dam filled

from 30% capacity prior to the event to 170% capacity during the rain period. Mayor Maguire stated that “had the dam not been there, Emerald would have washed away”. He spoke of the need to adopt the following

- *establish a Community Recovery Centre*
- *establish a Recovery Action Plan*
- *create short term goals including social recovery, environmental recovery, economic recovery & infrastructure recovery*

The Summit also heard from numerous other speakers including; Dr Peter Mullins & Trevor Leverington – Disaster preparedness, Mr Frank Pagano – Executive Director EMQ, Dr Jim Davidson & Peter Baddiley – Bureau of Meteorology, Alison Cottrell & David King – Centre of Disaster Studies James Cook University.

The Summit then broke into three working groups to discuss the following topics;

- *How to impart the ‘level of risk’ to community members during the event of a Natural Disaster*
- *Coordinating Recovery Services*
- *How to reach ‘at risk’ groups*

Following the conclusion of these discussions, Mr Bruce Grady summarised the day’s discussions. He emphasized the need for all communities to have their Disaster Management Plans reviewed and updated regularly.”

G14/05/08

Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Report be received.

Carried

13/2

Local Government Symposium 2008

Cr Walker presented the following Report:-

“Cr. Paul Bell, president of the LGAQ, welcomed the delegates. Cr. Bell gave us a comprehensive speech on the direction the LGAQ were taking and OWNED BY, GOVERNED BY, WORKING FOR, COUNCILS. A few of the conference stats., 52 presenters, 179 Trade Exhibits, 312 Councillors. LGAQ are pushing for Local Government to be recognised at a legitimate 3rd tier of Government and as such Councillors would therefore be politicians. He also talked to us about the new Local Government Act and the benefits it would have for us as councils.

Mr Bill Dunn, Executive of Telstra spoke to us about what is happening with telecommunications. He informed us that Telstra employ 7.300 permanent staff

with an annual wage cost of over \$400m. Telstra put \$840m back into the local communities and invest \$450m on average on infrastructure per year. They now have over 38,000klms of optical fibre and are planning to build one base station per week in 2009. With the changeover from CDMA they have made a promise to the community that if there is a drama with the change that they will personally visit the affected resident. Their toll free number to report difficulties on is 1800 888 888.

After a few words from Mr Tom Fynes Clinton of King and Co we were introduced to Mr Richard Watson the writer of the book called, "Future Files", Richard was a very interesting speaker on what he perceives is the future for councils and communities. He said that the future won't look radically different, but we will have a total lack of privacy, people will have an extreme lack of patience, people will become increasingly more urban, there will be a high level of inactivity and anxiety and globalisation will become more evident with increased connectivity and immigration.

New 'communities' will be formed with common interests being the focal point, what we might call "virtual communities". People will be searching for new experiences and more meaning in life and want to be more connected. With the advent of the GPS system comes the new uses associated with this technology, eg, putting it into shoes to keep a tab on your children.

China is set to be the world leader in technology, but still the label might read 'made in China' but not invented in China. China is fast approaching 14B population and the thought of China buying more overseas interests is something to keep in mind.

We are set for some major weather pattern changes, especially in Queensland. We have to keep up to date with our disaster management programs so that we are always prepared for the worst.

Society is running out of skilled workers and as a result we are having to 'import skills' from overseas countries.

These days we are a culture of less people living in larger houses with media rooms, game rooms, dining rooms, etc. etc.

A few issues that will impact on our lives in the future are, population growth, the cost of the aging, fertility rates, generation 'Y', the increasing rate of 'single' homes and fragmentation of the family unit.

Transport is a big issue in the future with increased remote monitoring, pay as you go highways (eg. Pay for which lane you choose to use) green taxes, increased bicycle use (bicycle vending machines are already in use in France) and car sharing.

The other biggies are, public transport, healthcare, home hospitals, me medicines (prescriptions on the net), a shift to retail delivery, medical tourism (eg, going to

Thailand for a facelift), an increasing amount of people living to 100, a change in education as we know it, etc.

I would encourage everybody to get a copy of the book 'Future Files' as I am sure it will open our eyes as to what is going to happen in the future and we need to be prepared.

Water Reform was a workshop that I really wanted to attend but was somewhat let down by as it was mostly information that I heard before. A few stats that were shared with us, 17 councils are involved in the Water Reform process with 11 mayors representing the "SEQ" shires with a population of 2.9 million. There are 14 separate working groups Federally on the COAG Agreement.

Disaster Management was yet another workshop which that I attended, the topic talked about was, Partnerships and Alliance groups being formed to help with the cost of preparing a Disaster Management Program for our individual areas. There will be 5 workshops held around the state and these will help address the issues that face the newly formed councils to prepare the Disaster Management programs.

We all attended various workshops and I especially enjoyed the presenters talking about 'culture' (how we do things around here) and how to deal with changes to our culture. One analogy was that 'we have to treat our staff the same as we would treat people out in the community. We should not have 'values' unless we enact them. A book that John and Gabrielle recommended would be good value to us is "The Toolbox for Change".

Our bus trip was exciting too, I chose to take a look at how the tunnels are going under the river. We got to see a model of the TBM and also several videos of how the whole project was coming along. I was amazed that the rock from so far down under is a light lavender colour (I bought some home with me) the spoil will be used for the new northern roads to the airport. We also got to take a look at the new bridge across the river to the Queensland University, which is only used by public transport, pedestrian and bike use. This particular bridge has in excess of 14k people everyday cross it, and it is totally self sustainable supplying it's own power from solar panels on the roof of the bus shelter and fed into the grid buy day and then used during the night for lights.

I was interested to hear what Craig Matheson was there to speak about and was quite surprised to listen to Craig speaking to us about our 'town plans', I think it would be a good idea to see if he could come up and address our council one day as his chat was so important. Craig spoke to us about the changes happening to the IPA scheme. Craig has a way of speaking so that the whole concept was easy to understand.

I really did get a lot out of the conference and will put most of what I've learnt into practice I'm sure.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the symposium."

G15/05/08 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the Report be received.

Carried

13/3	Proposed Acquisition of Central Pre-School Building, Gympie
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Re: **G16/05/08** Proposed Acquisition of Central Pre-School Building, Gympie
 File: FG94/16-B
 Date: 7th May 2008

Report to Corporate Governance and Finance Committee Meeting – 23rd April 2008

(Corporate Administration Manager – John Nancarrow)

Cooloola Shire Council has been considering acquisition of the Gympie Central Pre-School building for some time. Minute No. G74/10/07 resolved:

'..that a Working Group consisting of:

- *Two representatives from Cooloola Shire Council being the Mayor (Cr M.J. Venardos O.A.M) and Administration and Finance Committee Chairman (Cr I.T. Peterson);*
- *Two representatives from the Cooloola Family and Community Development Committee; and*
- *Three representatives from the six groups (Uniting Church, Gympie Community Place, Play and Learn Limited Hours Child Care, Plan and Learn Playgroup, Murri Mums Playgroup, Playgroup Toy Library) who have expressed an interest in jointly acquiring the premises to be established to further the acquisition of the Gympie Central Pre-School property (Lot 15 G147170 Parish Gympie) at O'Connell Street, Gympie.'*

Extract from Council Report to the General Meeting – 16th October 2007

'..It is noted that the Department of Natural Resources and Water have offered their advice indicating that the property described as Lot 15 on Plan No. G147170 (where the Gympie Central Pre-School is

positioned) will be sold with a Statutory Covenant that the purpose of use remain as Early Childhood (or Childcare) purposes. The Working group ascertained that the organisations represented had the capacity to meet the covenant requirements. The property is freehold as at late December 2007.

Advice has been received indicating that the advertisement for the sale of the property by tender has been postponed until after our recent local government election, which would allow Gympie Regional Council to consider the matter. They also advised that there would be no government funding available to subsidise the purchase of the property and that it would be sold at market value.

A purchase price has now been received from the Department of Public Works for \$225,000 excl GST, market value.

It is now raised with Council to consider whether it wishes to proceed with acquisition. Council has been requested to respond by 13th May 2008.

Council should be aware that no Budget allocation exists for the purchase of this building.

Should Council wish to proceed, further consideration needs to be given to budgetary timing, future operational and capital costs tied to the building and how those should be treated.

Council Resolution at the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee Meeting – 23rd April 2008
(F10/04/08)

‘..Recommend that Council seek an extension of time to 30 June 2008 for response to the offer of purchase of land and building at Lot 15 G147170 Parish of Gympie at O’Connell Street.

Further, that the matter be referred to the next Corporate Governance & Finance Committee meeting to be held on 28 May 2008 for further consideration..’

Report:

(Corporate Administration Manager – Mr John Nancarrow)

This matter was discussed and considered at the Corporate Governance and Finance meeting on the 23rd April 2008 (detailed above). An inspection of the building was undertaken

The Department of Public Works was requested to provide an extension of time for Council to consider this matter. Departmental officers have

verbally advised that they are not prepared to grant a further extension of time to Council and require the matter to be finalised in this financial year.

The matter now needs to be considered by Council to provide a decision to the Department of Public Works **urgently** as the deadline was set for the **13th May 2008**.

G16/05/08 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That Council acquire the land and building at Lot 15 G147170 situated in O'Connell Street Gympie for the quoted price of \$225,000 ex GST with settlement in July 2008.

Carried

13/4	Police Force Division Three Tiaro
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Re: **G17/05/08** Police Force Division Three Tiaro
 From: Martin Poole, 8 David Drive, Curra Qld 4570
 File: AG07/01034
 Date: 3 April 2008 Doc ID 892860

"Dear Ron,

- 1. The present situation regards police force division three Tiaro now cooloola. We have campaigned since 2001 to have the area brought under (Gympie police area*
- 2. I am not saying there is not a small element of gympie police that is not perfect but that is for the future. A lot are await of it.*

The present situation is Tiaro police control the area under Maryborough jurisdiction. Maryborough in the past has recommended that division three and especially Curra go into Gympie police area.

Tiaro is basically an unmanned police station most of the time. And police officers are constantly changing. And we have had some very good police officers And some atrocities.

Gympie is basically a twenty four hour police station. I have been in there at 1.30 in the morning on the way to picked up a father and child who had been the victims of a drug axe assault. Stated my views. Left to pick up the father and son.

Stopped on the way back as I wanted satisfaction. Spent a half hour there. Gone back to Curra. An hour later phone Gympie police. Got on two onw of the police officers I had spoken two. Said I have had enough of this its gone on for a week.

He came out with-That's what I have been trying to tell you- this is about drugs-Ban them from your block- Get out of the situation. The issue was not about

drugs- But the axeman was drug affected. And another girl and family had nearly become Victims.

The fact is you can contact (Gympie police any-time of the day and night and resolve any issue's. And speak your mind.

They also have communications officers who are very good and who you at first make contact with.

Tiaro police is basically an answering machine who takes your number. Police officers say they do try and return the calls. A huge percentage are not for various reasons. It may be a bit on both sides. Police very busy. Your not in.

The situation goes ring Gympie. (Gympie says ring Tiaro. Tiaro answering machine says ring Maryborough. Maryborough not home.

A fiend said this afternoon. They had a women fly into their place yelling he is going to kill me. They rang Gympie police. Who said ring Tiara. Tiaro police answering machine said ring Maryborough. Maryborough police came. Luckily They where in.

The local paper has fought. Its all very well for the labour party to say that we are all safe stuff you. Now your police minister just refuses to do anything. The fact is as a lot say to me she does not want to do it. I relize she probably has not got the intellectual capacity to understand much. But you have.

So as amalgamations it will have to be forced on her.

Maryborough police have always agreed it is absolute stupidly the way it is. Tiaro police are just hopeless and rarely do agreed. Well a lot of the hundreds who have been through there in the past 12 years. Well it seems like it.

Anna you try living in a high criminal area high mental problem high drug area. with no contactable police.

The stupid women will probably come forward with we will put a second answering machine on.

Now I will draw you another mud map to go with the twenty or so that has all rearly been sent.

Combined with this. The system goes like this. You ring Tiaro police who are never contactable... They a have message machine which they never answer.

You ring Maryborough Police who are uncontactable. You then ring Gympie police who say ring Tiaro police.

It rips the guts out of you and the people. So how are we going to get through to this stupid non-caring police minister. Party leader Anna Bligh. I cannot remember your second names spelling. That the system should be changed."

G17/05/08 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That as this is an operational matter, it be referred to the Queensland Commissioner of Police for investigation and review of the operational boundaries.

Carried

SECTION 14: MEETING DATES

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

TUESDAY, 3 JUNE 2008	Works & Services Committee Meeting 9am
WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE 2008	Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am
WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2008	General 9am Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting
WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE 2008	Planning & Development Committee Meeting 9am
WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE 2008	General 9am Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting to Commence at the Conclusion of the Preceding General Meeting.

G18/05/08 Moved: Cr J. Watt Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the meeting dates for the month of June be adopted.

Carried

SECTION 15: GENERAL BUSINESS**Local Government Symposium**

Cr D.R. Neilson presented the following report:-

“Thank you for allowing me to attend the Local Government Symposium in Brisbane from 16 – 18 April with the three new councillors.

There was an air of enthusiasm and renewed energy amongst delegates. While some of the friendly familiar faces were missing, there were a number of new faces, including two 21 year olds.

In opening the conference, LGAQ President Paul bell predicted that councils would need an extra \$77million to fund the amalgamation process until the end of the transition period in March 2011.

The keynote address by futurist Richard Watson was thought-provoking and entertaining. He told of a security feature in Japan where school students’ blazers contained a microchip, which produced an audible signal at the students’ home when they walked through the school gate. In China, some training showed are fitted with a GPS, which can then be “googled” when they can’t be located. Richard predicted that education will become more vocationally focussed and outcome driven, with more women entering the workforce.

I was privileged to present a panel session for new councillors with Cr Peter Maguire, Mayor of Central Highlands and Ray Burton, then acting CEI of Moreton Bay Regional Council. The message from Mayor Maguire was to make regular media statements and “tell it like it is” and to avoid burning out. Ray stressed that a good council/CEO relationship was based on trust, communication and teamwork and that Council should steer the boat, while the CEO rows.

The road safety workshop gave an opportunity to raise awareness among our group of the facilities at Roadcraft in Gympie.

The financial planning workshop run by QTC advised that its assessment was based on a council’s ability to meet its financial commitments, to manage unforeseen financial shocks such as floods, and to manage its core business. The former Cooloola Shire featured in the presentation as the only council to receive a very strong rating prior to amalgamation.

Mr John Curran stressed the need to PLAN and FORECAST expenditure, to maintain asset management plans, and the necessity of having three months of cash operating costs. Other challenges include funding depreciation, the level of

the LG Construction cost index at 5.2% and an expected 54% increase in population in Wide Bay Burnett over 20 years.

One of the lessons from this session was that a zero debt policy is not sustainable or appropriate as it results in current ratepayers carrying the burden of the cost of infrastructure to be used by future generations.

We also had the opportunity to attend a breakfast seminar with Gabrielle Walsh and Tony Goode from LGAQ, where enterprise bargaining issues were discussed.

Dyan Currie, President of the Planning Institute of Aust, mad the following points during the Planning Panel session:-

Discretion in planning decisions is not a matter of personal whim;

Avoid policy on the run and

Back your planning scheme and your officers.

Some of the presentations are available on the LGAQ website, and I commend these t councillors.

May I again express my appreciation to Council for the opportunity to attend the symposium.”

G19/05/08

Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the report be received.

Carried

Leave of Absence

G20/05/08

Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Cr L.J. Friske be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings to be held on Wednesday 28th May 2008 to attend a Sale Yards conference.

That Cr G.L. Engeman be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings to be held from 18 – 22 May 2008 to attend the Weeds conference and from Communities and Economic Development meeting on 14 May 2008 due to prior commitments.

Carried

Representation on Wide Bay Burnett Water Supply Strategy Group
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G21/05/08 Moved: Cr R.J. Dyne

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Cr L.J. Friske be appointed as representative on the Wide Bay Burnett Water Supply Strategy group.

Carried

Dust Problems on Local Roads

G22/05/08 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman

Seconded: Cr D.R. Neilson

That due to the number of phone calls being received regarding severe dust problems on Meredith, Butler, Lagoon Pocket and Anderleigh Roads, that these concerns be referred to the next Works & Services Committee meeting.

Carried

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:39 am

Confirmed this TWENTY-EIGHTH day of MAY 2008.

CHAIRMAN