



MINUTES
of the
GENERAL MEETING

CHAIRMAN: Cr R Dyne (Mayor)

**Held in the Boardroom
Town Hall
2 Caledonian Hill
Gympie Qld 4570**

**On Wednesday 9 February 2011
At 9.00 am**

Gympie Regional Council **GENERAL**

*Mayor RJ Dyne (Chairman),
Crs AJ Perrett, GL Engeman, RA Gâté, LJ Friske,
DR Neilson, IT Petersen, J Watt and JA Walker*

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The meeting commenced at 9:02 am.

PRESENT: Mayor Cr R.J. Dyne (Chairman), 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 C. Manson), and Minutes Clerk (Mrs S Lowe).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS

Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting

F15/01/11 - Cr I.T. Petersen - Material Personal Interest

F18/01/11 - Cr J.A. Walker - Conflict of Interest

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Pastor Dean Cumerford from Gympie Community 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

***G15/01/11** - That Cr A.J. Perrett be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings from the 2 February to the 15 February 2011.*

SECTION 2: APOLOGIES

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

G01/02/11 **Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté**

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council General Meeting held on 25 January 2011 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

Nil

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G02/02/11 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 January 2011 as presented, be received with the exception of Minute F15/01/11, F17/01/11 & F18/01/11 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G03/02/11 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 January 2011 as amended, be adopted.

Carried

Cr I.T. Petersen declared a Material Personal Interest in Minute F15/01/11 as he is a Director of the Cooloola Waters Retirement Resort and left the meeting at 9.08 am.

Recommendation F15/01/11 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on the 25 January 2011.

G04/02/11 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That Recommendation F15/01/11 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 January 2011 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr I.T. Petersen returned to the meeting at 9.09 am.

In accordance with Section 173 of the Local Government Act 2009:-

Cr J.A. Walker declared a Conflict of Interest in Minute F17/01/11 & F18/01/11 due to being a financial member of the QCWA.

The chairman requested a vote to determine if this was a "Conflict of Interest".

Cr J.A. Walker left the meeting at 9.10 am.

G05/02/11 Moved: Cr J. Watt

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Cr J.A. Walker does have a Conflict of Interest in Minute F17/01/11 & F18/01/11 due to being a financial member of the QCWA and elected to leave the meeting while the matter is being discussed and voted on.

Carried

<p>Recommendation F17/01/11 & F18/01/11 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on the 25 January 2011.</p>
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G06/02/11 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That Recommendation F17/01/11 & F18/01/11 of the Recommendations of the Corporate Governance & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25 January 2011 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr J.A. Walker returned to the meeting at 9.12 am.

<p>SECTION 6: REPORT BY THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</p>
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Cr Donna Neilson presented the following Report:-

Coast residents should receive satisfactory digital television reception following Council's approval to install three antennae in the area. Prior to the analogue signal switch-off later this year, BTS Networks Pty Ltd will install one antenna on the water tower at Tin Can Bay, one at the

water reservoir at Endeavour Drive, Cooloola Cove and one at Carlo Road, Rainbow Beach.

Five blocks of land within the Goomeri Industrial Estate on Hayden Drive will be offered for sale by tender. The lots will be offered on the basis that 50% of the purchase price be paid up front, with the balance payable in 12 months once the site is fully developed. The water main will be extended to provide reticulated water to all of the properties.

Council will provide \$100 to sponsor a page in a QCWA publication to celebrate its 90th Anniversary. The book is being published as a pictorial record of 90 years of service to local communities across Queensland. A number of active branches still exist in the Gympie region.

Following the theft of items from a grader parked in Kinbombi Road, staff will investigate the fitting of secondary locking systems on machinery which is parked externally. Loss of property is an ongoing concern to Councillors and it is hoped that this initiative will reduce the incidence of theft.

Training in the last month has focused on high risk Confined Space activities and preparation for the implementation of Council's Fitness for Work Policy and Procedure.

The Queensland Local Government Grants Commission has congratulated Gympie Regional Council for supplying well recorded and up to date road and bridge data. This follows a thorough audit of the data by the Commission for the purpose of allocating Financial Assistance Grants.

Council has resolved to support the campaign for Constitutional Recognition of Local Government to ensure greater benefit from Federal Government funding. Council will contribute approximately \$9,000 in this financial year to the LGAQ towards this campaign.

G07/02/11

Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Report be received.

Carried

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

G08/02/11 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 1 February 2011 as presented, be received.

Carried

G09/02/11 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 1 February 2011, be adopted.

Carried

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

Nil

**SECTION 9: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

G10/02/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 2 February 2011 as presented, be received.

Carried

G11/02/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 2 February 2011, be adopted.

Carried

SECTION 10: REPORT BY THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
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Cr Ian Petersen presented the following Report:-

STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS

Recommendations coming out of a report from the Sport Recreation and Parks Coordinating Committee include the proposal that Council advise Gympie AFL of the need to formalise any arrangements relating to additional agreed uses of the grounds and invite them to meet with Corporate Services and Parks and Gardens. The Committee is also recommending that Council reallocate \$10,000 within the Planning budget to enable collaboration with DMRT to review Council's Pedestrian and Cycle Strategy 2003. Additionally, it is recommended that a suggestion from a community member to develop a cricket pitch at Mulligan's Flat be considered within the Mary Valley Renewal Report.

In an effort to expedite negotiations for the establishment of a major regional shooting complex at Curra State Forest, the Committee is recommending that Council refer the matter to Corporate Services for urgent action.

MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE APPLICATIONS

A Material Change of Use Application for a display yard at Rowe St Gympie is recommended for approval, as is an application for a medical facility at Queen St. This development is contiguous at the rear boundary with an existing medical facility in Channon St. A Material Change of Use Application for general industry – transport depot and mechanical workshop at Victory Heights is recommended for approval with conditions designed to address concerns raised in a submission. As an Environmentally Relevant Activity, the development will also be required to meet strict environmental management conditions.

RECONFIGURING A LOT APPLICATIONS

An application to create 3 additional lots in Belvedere Road is recommended for preliminary approval with Council Officers to meet with the applicants to discuss the various options available to them which will be influenced by the finalisation of the Wide Bay Burnett Statutory Regional Plan.

NEW APPLICATIONS

In a very quiet fortnight the only applications received were one code assessable Material Change of Use application and four code assessable Reconfiguration Applications.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED

Staff approved seventeen development applications under delegated authority. This is quite a remarkable effort given that the department operated for much of the period on half staff levels due to the flooding.

GENERAL MATTERS

Manager of Building and Plumbing Services, Mr Ross Bishop briefed the Committee on the new swimming pool laws which will be another big cost burden on Council and our constituents. Whilst the importance of safety and especially child safety is acknowledged, there is some doubt as to whether this extra bureaucratic burden will result in any reduction of pool drownings.

The Committee also received a briefing from the Craven Ovenden Group outlining progress on Council's new consolidated Planning Scheme. There are grounds for confidence that the new draft scheme will be introduced in this first term of Council.

G12/02/11

Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS

11/1	Letter of Thanks
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Re: **G13/02/11** Letter of Thanks
 From: Gympie Ambulance Service – Officer in Charge
 File:
 Date: 15 January 2011
 Reference:

“On behalf of the Queensland Ambulance Service, please accept my thanks for the efforts and assistance you and your staff provided during the recent floods. The coordinated effort between council and emergency service stakeholders was excellent, and a reflection on the exemplary way you led the LDMG through some challenging days.

Council staff were superb in their efforts, often getting minimal amounts of sleep between shifts at the Disaster Coordination Centre. The people of the Gympie region have benefited from such a professional approach taken during the last week.

Please pass on my best wishes to all concerned."

G13/02/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the information be received.

Carried

11/2	Gympie Region Economic Development Strategy, Vision and Implementation Plan
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Re: **G14/02/11** Gympie Region Economic Development Strategy, Vision and Implementation Plan
From: Economic Development/Public Relations Officer – Mrs L Wilbraham
File:
Date: 02 February 2011
Reference:

Executive Summary:

Gympie Regional Council has worked closely with the Queensland Government Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation, Chambers of Commerce, regional business operators and industry sector representatives to undertake the preparation of an Economic Development Strategy for the Gympie Region.

Funding was provided through the State Government to undertake this project. Consultants Street Ryan were approved by the Project Steering committee to undertake the project.

Following a comprehensive consultation process with Councillors and key Council staff, business and industry organisations, Chambers of Commerce and Business organisations, the Consultant has delivered the required documentation under the Project Terms of Reference.

Previous Council considerations:

Nil

Corporate Plan:

2. A Sustainable Economy

Continuing to develop a strong and diverse economy that is growing steadily

Operational Plan:

1.1 (vi) Economic Development**Aims -**

To foster continuing economic growth in the Region.

To maximise Gympie as the major commercial and industrial centre for the economic Region.

Budget Implications: Pending the successful delivery of Project Milestones, funding has been provided by the Queensland Government Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation to undertake the project.

Budget Reference: 2110901.6005

Legal/Statutory: Nil

Risks:

a) The likelihood of risks in relation to these activities is low as all relevant corporate and operational areas are considered in the development and implementation of the projects and activities. Feedback and information will be sought from all areas of council including the Mayor and Councillors.

Consultation:

CEO

Corporate Services Directorate

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

Checklist:

☐ Financial Services Directorate

☒ Corporate Services Directorate

☒ Community Services Directorate

☐ Engineering Services Directorate

☐ Planning & Development Directorate

☒ Office of the Chief Executive Officer

Economic Development / Public Relations Officer Mrs Lynne Wilbraham entered the meeting at 9.25 am.

G14/02/11

Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Draft Gympie Region Economic Development Strategy, Vision and Implementation Plan and supporting information be referred to the next General Meeting.

Carried

Economic Development / Public Relations Officer Mrs Lynne Wilbraham left the meeting at 9.40 am.

11/3	Aquatic Centre, Gympie – Funding for Feasibility Study
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Re: **G15/02/11** Aquatic Centre, Gympie – Funding for Feasibility Study
From: Director of Community Services – Mr M. Grant
File: 2-3-10-0004
Date: 3 February 2011
Reference:

Re: MINUTE F28/01/11 F29/01/11 Aquatic Centre, Gympie – Funding for Feasibility Study
From: Director of Community Services – Mr M Grant
File: 2-3-10-0004
Date: 10 January 2011
Reference: F25/08/10, P06/10/10, G24/11/10, CS16/12/10

Executive Summary

As discussed previously Council is required to carry out a feasibility study to obtain funding for the proposed Gympie Aquatic Centre project.

Previous Council considerations

Minute F25/08/10 refers:-

RECOMMEND THAT THE MATTER BE REFERRED TO THE SPORT & RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL.

Minute P06/10/10 states in part:-

RECOMMEND THAT COUNCIL REFERS THE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE GYMPIE AQUATIC CENTRE TO THE 2011/2012 DRAFT BUDGET MEETING.

Minute G24/11/10 refers:-

THAT THE PETITION BE RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO A FUTURE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING.

Minute CS16/12/10 refers: -

RECOMMEND THAT THE MATTER OF \$30 000.00 FUNDING FOR THE AQUATIC CENTRE FEASIBILITY STUDY BE REFERRED TO THE NEXT CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING.

FURTHER THAT COUNCIL AUTHORISE THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ADVISE THE PRIMARY PETITIONER AND AUTHORS OF FURTHER SUBMISSIONS ACCORDINGLY.

Report: (Director of Community Services – Mr M Grant)

This matter has been considered by Council and as per Council minute CS16/12/10 the matter of funding for the feasibility study has been referred to this meeting for further consideration.

Council's current budget has not made provisions for this study and discussions with Council's Director of Finance indicate that the following options are available to Council:

1. Utilise funding set aside for special projects in the current budget (\$40,000). This option is pending the nine (9) monthly budget review and therefore funds would not be available until after the nine (9) monthly budget review.
2. Council makes provisions for a new allocation of funds in this current budget for (\$30,000) to complete the feasibility study and that the Community Services Directorate proceed this matter as soon as possible.

Strategic Implications

Corporate Plan: 1.5

Operational Plan: 3.3

Budget: Additional funding will be required in the current 2010/2011 budget.

Risks: The Gympie Memorial Pool facility is an aging complex and numerous maintenance/repairs are carried out each year to ready the complex for the new swim season.

Consultation

Director of Financial Services

Checklist

Financial Services Directorate
Community Services Directorate

F28/01/11 - Recommend that matter be referred to the Nine Monthly Budget Review process for further consideration.

Lost

F29/01/11 - Recommend that the matter lay on the table for further consideration at the next General Meeting.

Carried

Report: (Acting Chief Executive Officer – Craig Manson)

The CG&F has referred this matter for further consideration at the General Meeting.

G15/02/11

Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the matter be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a further report to Council.

Carried

LATE ITEMS

Acting Director of Corporate Services Mr Brian Hayes entered the meeting at 9.49 am.

Late Item 1 Local Government Electoral Bill 2011

Re: Local Government Electoral Bill 2011
From: Mayor Ron Dyne
Date: 8 February 2011

Report: (Mayor – Cr Ron Dyne)

Councillors will recall that the Law, Justice and Safety Committee tabled its report on the review of the local government electoral system in November 2010. The Committee's Report will be considered in the development of the Local Government Electoral Bill 2011 which will commence in the second half of 2011.

One of the recommendations of the Committee is that local government areas with a population of 30,000 or more must introduce a divisional structure within its Council. A further recommendation

allows for Councils with a population of 30,000 or more to appeal to remove Council divisions where they can demonstrate that, following public consultation, the introduction of divisions is not in the best interests of that particular community. This Council's current population exceeds 30,000.

Councillors will be aware that the above is merely a recommendation to the Government and may not come to fruition. As noted above the new Local Government Electoral Act is not expected to commence until the second half of the year.

Should Council wish to make alterations to its current electoral arrangements, advice to the Minister detailing any proposed changes is required by March 1, 2011.

The matter of public consultation at this time remains a consideration.

G16/02/11

Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That the Chief Executive Officer implement a community engagement process in relation to Council's Local Government Electoral arrangements.

Further that the Minister for Local Government be advised accordingly.

Carried

Acting Director of Corporate Services Mr Brian Hayes left the meeting at 9.58 am.

Late Item 2 Meeting Dates

The meeting dates for the month of March 2011 have been set as follows:

MARCH**TUESDAY, 1 March 2011****Works & Services Committee Meeting
9am****WEDNESDAY, 2 March 2011****Planning & Development Committee
Meeting 9am****WEDNESDAY, 9 March 2011****General 9am
Community & Economic
Development Committee Meeting to
Commence at the Conclusion of the
Preceding General Meeting****WEDNESDAY, 16 March 2011****Planning & Development Committee
Meeting 9am****WEDNESDAY, 23 March 2011****General 9am
Corporate Governance & Finance
Committee Meeting to Commence at
the Conclusion of the Preceding
General Meeting.****G17/02/11 Moved: Cr D.R. Neilson****Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté**

That the meeting dates for the month of March 2011 be adopted.

Carried

SECTION 12: GENERAL BUSINESS

Leave of Absence

G18/02/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté**Seconded: Cr J. Watt**

**That Cr G.L. Engeman be granted leave of absence from all
Council meetings on the 1 & 2 March 2011.**

**Further that Cr J.A. Walker be grant leave of absence from all
Council meetings on the 9 & 16 March 2011.**

Carried

SECTION 13: IN COMMITTEE

Nil

SECTION 14: ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Gympie Region Economic Development Strategy, Vision and Implementation Plan Summary – Refer Item 11/2

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.06 am.

Confirmed this TWENTY-THIRD day of FEBRUARY 2011.

CHAIRMAN
Cr R.J. Dyne