



MINUTES
of the
GENERAL MEETING

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

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

**on Wednesday 22 June 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 9:01 am.

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

Also in attendance were Acting Director of Corporate Services (Mr B. Hayes), and Minutes Clerk (Mrs S Lowe).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS

W32/06/11 - Cr G.L. Engeman - Conflict of Interest

CS11/06/11 – All Councillors - potential Conflict of Interest

P22/06/11 - Cr J. Watt - Material Personal Interest

P28/06/11 - Cr I.T. Petersen - Material Personal Interest

SECTION 1: OPEN WITH PRAYER

Pastor Scott Lucas from the Cooloola 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.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G18/06/11 - *That Cr D.R. Neilson be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings on the 22 June 2011 to attend the NGA Conference in Canberra.*

G21/06/11 **Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté**

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That Mayor Ron Dyne be Granted Leave of Absence from all Council meeting on the 22 June to attend the NGA Conference in Canberra.

Carried

SECTION 2: APOLOGIES

Nil

SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

G22/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr L.J. Friske

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council General Meeting held on 8 June 2011 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

SECTION 4: PETITIONS

Nil

SECTION 5: ADOPTION OF WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
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G23/06/11 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 7 June 2011 as presented, be received with the exception of Minutes W32/06/11 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G24/06/11 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 7 June 2011 as amended, be adopted.

Carried

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

Cr G.L. Engeman declared a Conflict of Interest in Recommendation W32/06/11 due to the project previously being a Rotary Project and him being the then President of the Rotary Club however the project is now a Council project.

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

G25/06/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Cr G.L. Engeman does not have a Conflict of Interest in Minute W32/06/11 due to the project previously being a Rotary Project and him being the then President of the Rotary Club however the project is now a Council project, and remain in the meeting while the matter is being discussed and voted on.

Carried

Cr G.L. Engeman abstained from voting.

Cr G.L. Engeman remained in the meeting.

Recommendation W32/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on the 7 June 2011.

G26/06/11 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Recommendation W32/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Works & Services Committee Meeting held on 7 June 2011 be received and adopted.

Carried 6/1

Cr G.L. Engeman abstained from voting.

SECTION 6: REPORT BY THE WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
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Cr Larry Friske presented the following Report:-

At the Works & Services Committee Meeting this month Council considered a number of issues.

- ❖ Council staff were congratulated by a ratepayer for the excellent work carried out on Glen Echo Road following the devastating floods in the

area. Fern Hill Camping and Fishing Park is now operating and a must see for visitors and residents of our area now that the roads are trafficable.

- ❖ Council will be holding discussions with Sunshine Coast Regional Council in the near future to discuss funding from the State Government for \$3M for the replacement of the Pickering Bridge over the Mary River. The bridge is on the boundary with Sunshine Coast Regional Council.
- ❖ Council will be corresponding with the Department of Transport and Main Roads in an endeavour to obtain appropriate work for Council's workforce when work commences on the Noonan Range upgrade job on Wolvi Road.
- ❖ Widgee Crossing Road at the river (Gympie side) has been closed to the public due to safety concerns and will remain closed until such time Council determines safety is no longer an issue.
- ❖ An application from Hyne & Son Pty Ltd to the Department of Transport & Main Roads for a B-double combination vehicle route from the Bruce Highway to Imbil has been considered by Council with a recommendation being forwarded to the Department to refuse the application. Council considers the roads of the proposed route to be unsuitable for multi combination vehicles.
- ❖ The Lake Alford All Abilities Playground is now being utilised by the public with the official opening taking place on Sunday 3 July. It is a pleasure to see this first class facility open and being used.
- ❖ Congratulations are extended to the Parks Manager Mr Ed French and his parks team for the excellent presentation of the new All Abilities playground at the Lake Alford Recreation Area. Many thanks are also extended to all the businesses, Contractors, Clubs and personal donors who supported the Park in any way. The Park is an asset and will be a drawcard to the Gympie region.
- ❖ Council's Land Protection staff have been continuing their endeavours to spray class 2 pest weeds on roadsides. This includes giant rat's tail grass, parthenium and mother of millions throughout the region. Local properties are also being inspected for these pest weeds and landholders advised accordingly. Landowners are urged to contact Council's Land Protection Manager to discuss any concerns they may have regarding pest weeds on their property.

G27/06/11 Moved: Cr L.J. Friske

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 7: ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G28/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté**Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman**

That the Recommendations of the Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting held on 8 June 2011 as presented, be received with the exception of CS11/06/11 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G29/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté**Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker**

That the Recommendations of the Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting held on 8 June 2011 as amended, be adopted.

Carried

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

All Councillors declared a potential Conflict of Interest in Minute CS11/06/11 due to having previous affiliations with a Gympie tourism board.

As a majority of Councillors declared a Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest in the matter of Gympie Cooloola Tourism, all Councillors remained in the meeting while the matter was discussed and voted on.

Recommendation CS11/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting held on the 8 June 2011.
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G30/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté**Seconded: Cr I.T. Petersen**

That Recommendation CS11/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting held on 8 June 2011 be received and adopted.

Carried

SECTION 8: REPORT BY THE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
--

Cr Tony Perrett presented the following Report:-

The Health and Environmental Services report for the month of May was accepted by the Committee noting the installation of CCTV surveillance cameras at the recently completed Lake Alford All Abilities Playground. This new equipment will assist in discouraging vandalism at this site. The Committee also noted the ongoing off season works to the Region's swimming pools including the installation of a new pool filtration system at the Kandanga Pool, the abrasive blasting and repainting of the Tin Can Bay Pool and the upgrade and replacement of the sand filter medium at the Gympie Memorial Pool.

Following the discovery of *Aedes aegypti* (the Dengue Mosquito) in Goomeri earlier this year, a house-to-house survey was jointly carried out between Queensland Health and Council's Environmental Health Officers during March and April to determine whether the Dengue Mosquito had spread to the township areas of Gympie, Tin Can Bay, Rainbow Beach, Imbil, Kandanga, Amamoor and Traveston. A total of 127 premises were inspected across these townships with no *Aedes aegypti* found. While this is good news, Council Environmental Health Officers have advised that there is still a risk of residents contracting Ross River and Bamah Forest virus from mosquitoes breeding in domestic containers. Both of these viruses are spread by the *Aedes notoscriptus* mosquito.

The Gympie State Emergency Service (SES) has written to Council formally requesting use of the Southside Community Volunteer Centre as a permanent training area for Emergency Service cadets and volunteers. The Committee recommends that Council offer a five (5) year Management Agreement to the Gympie SES.

The Committee is recommending that Council waive the hire fees for the Cooloola Nature Organisation for the use of Lions Park and Tebbut Memorial Park at Tin Can Bay to hold the annual "Cooloola Festival of Birds" on the 8th & 9th October 2011. The Park bond will still be paid as per the Organisation's offer.

The Community Facilities and Services report for the month of May was received noting the ongoing work in Councils libraries and halls. The Committee recommends that Council write to the Regional Arts and Development Fund (RADF) Committee volunteers thanking them for their curation of the twenty (20) year retrospective exhibition held on Thursday, 5th May 2011.

The Economic Development and Public Relations Officers report was received by the Committee noting the forthcoming Cycle Queensland - Elite Masters Individual Time Trial and Criterium Championships to be held in Gympie on the 3 & 4 September 2011. The event is anticipated to bring 275 competitors and officials to the Region, injecting additional finances into Gympie businesses and organisations.

G31/06/11 Moved: Cr A.J. Perrett

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That the Report be received.

Carried

SECTION 9: ADOPTION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

G32/06/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2011 as presented, be received with the exception of Minute P22/06/11 & P28/06/11 to be withdrawn and dealt with later in this meeting.

Carried

G33/06/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2011 as amended, be adopted.

Carried

Cr J. Watt declared a Material Personal Interest in the following item due to being the applicant and left the meeting at 9.20 am.

Recommendation P22/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on the 15 June 2011.

G34/06/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr G.L. Engeman

That Recommendation P22/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2011 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr J. Watt returned to the meeting at 9.21 am.

Cr I.T. Petersen declared a Material Personal Interest in Minute P28/06/11 due to being a Director of the Company and left the meeting at 9.21 am.

Recommendation P28/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on the 15 June 2011.

G35/06/11 Moved: Cr J. Watt

Seconded: Cr R.A. Gâté

That Recommendation P28/06/11 of the Recommendations of the Planning & Development Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2011 be received and adopted.

Carried

Cr I.T. Petersen returned to the meeting at 9.22 am.

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 endorse the action list for the Sustainable Living Guide for which funding has been allocated from Burnett Mary Regional Group. The guide is a software package which can be embedded into Council's website.

An invitation has been received for Council to join the Coastal Councils Adaptation Taskforce. The Committee is recommending that Council decline the invitation at this time and review the matter in the future.

MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE APPLICATIONS

A Material Change of Use Application for a third dwelling on a rural property at Goomong is recommended for approval. The property comprises several separate titles which could all accommodate residences as of right, but this application is to site the third dwelling on one of the titles. The dwelling will be used to accommodate interstate buyers visiting the property to purchase stud cattle.

An application to amend an existing Material Change of Use approval at Tin Can Bay is also recommended for approval subject to several conditions.

RECONFIGURING A LOT APPLICATIONS

The Committee is recommending approval for an application to create one new lot at Scrubby Creek being portion of a property separated from the main lot by a roadway.

NEW APPLICATIONS

Two new impact assessable and four new code assessable Material Change of Use applications along with one new impact assessable and two new code assessable Reconfiguration Applications were noted for the period. Two Operational Works applications were also received.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED

Staff approved eighteen development applications under delegated authority.

BUILDING SUMMARY AND REPORT

The building figure for new dwellings was only marginally lower for the month of May by comparison with May 2010.

GENERAL MATTERS

The Committee is recommending that Council acknowledge receipt of the Ministerial Designation of land at Stanley Street for a proposed Neighbourhood Centre but requesting removal of access from Stanley Street and Dent Lane and some footpath works.

G36/06/11 Moved: Cr I.T. Petersen

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Report be received.

Carried

Director of Community Services Mr Michael Grant entered the Meeting at 9.25 am.

SECTION 11: OTHER MATTERS

11/1	Operational Plan for 2011-2012
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Re: **G37/06/11** Operational Plan for 2011-2012
From: Acting Director Corporate Services - Brian Hayes
File:
Date: 15 June 2011
Reference:

Report :- (Acting Director Corporate Services - Brian Hayes)

Council is required to adopt an annual Operational Plan prior to adopting its Budget.

A copy of a draft Operational Plan 2011/2012 has been provided to Councillors with the Agenda for this meeting. Under S123 of the Local Government (Finance, Plans and Reporting) Regulation 2010, Council is now required to state how the local government will manage operational risks as part of the Operational Plan.

'Managing Risks' links have been added throughout the various sub-programs within the Operational Plan tracking back to Council's Risk Management Plan in order to meet this new legislative requirement.

REFER ATTACHMENT 1

G37/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That the Operational Plan for 2011-2012, as presented, be adopted with the amendment on page 43 of Community Support to Youth & Community Development.

Carried

Director of Community Services Mr Michael Grant left the meeting at 9.26 am.

11/2	Gympie Regional Council Revenue Policy 2011/2012
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Re: **G38/06/11** Gympie Regional Council Revenue Policy 2011/2012
From: Director of Financial Services – Yvonne Oliver
File: 5/1/07/0003
Date: 15 June 2011
Reference: N/A

Executive Summary: Council's Revenue Policy is presented to adopt the principles used by Council for the setting of Rates and Levies for the 2011/2012 financial year.

Previous Council considerations: N/A

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

**GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL
REVENUE POLICY
2011/2012**

The foregoing Statement is presented for adoption by the Gympie Regional Council at its General Meeting held on 22 June 2011.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this revenue policy is to set out the principles used by Council in the 2011/2012 Budget for:

- The making of rates & charges
- The levying of rates and charges
- The recovery of rates & charges
- Concessions for rates & charges

1. Making of rates & charges

General Rates – (LGA 2009 s92(2), LG(FPR)R 2010 s14)

Gympie Regional Council has a system of differential general rates. Council has identified areas and land uses that are provided with similar levels of services. Council may also consider differential general rates based on valuation bands. The differential rate on each of these areas and land uses may be determined at a level to achieve the rating incidences to meet the costs of the services provided after taking into consideration the application of any minimum general rate.

Minimum General Rate (LG(FPR)R 2010 s11)

Council may consider a minimum rate in all categories that takes into account the cost of providing common services that are provided to every ratepayer as well as general administration costs.

Separate Charges (LGA 2009 s92(5), LG(FPR)R 2010 s37)

Council has identified two needs within the Region that require specific revenue requirements. These are:

- Waste Management Levy - for the purpose of draining, closing and capping existing refuse tip sites, establishing refuse transfer stations, purchase of land for development of central refuse tip site and other waste management strategies.
- Roads Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal Levy – for the purpose of a contribution to the funding of maintenance and depreciation costs of Council's Roads Infrastructure network.

User pays

Council may consider the user pays principle where it can easily identify the cost associated with supplying a particular service. In particular Council may use this principle for water supply, sewerage, refuse collection and various fees for services rendered by Council.

Full cost pricing

Council has nominated the following activities for full cost pricing: Water & Sewerage, Refuse Management, Recoverable Works and Building Services. These activities will be reviewed annually. Projected revenue generated from these activities may be set to achieve full cost pricing principles.

Environment

Council has a goal to implement its local conservation and environmental strategy and to assist in achieving this objective Council may consider a levy to fund a program of environmental works.

Infrastructure Charges (LG(FPR)R 2010 s134(2)(c))

Social infrastructure costs attributable to new development will not be recovered through charges on the development.

Physical infrastructure costs attributable to new developments will be recovered through the Infrastructure Charge set by separate Council Policy.

Cost of internal physical infrastructure will be fully funded by the development. Costs of trunk infrastructure required to service the development will be approximately 70% (weighted average across the region) funded by charges on the development.

2. Levying of Rates

Half Yearly Notices

Council will levy rates and charges on a half-yearly basis. Notices will be issued in August / September and February / March of the financial year and will allow a discount period of not less than 30 days if discount is applicable.

Supplementary Notices – (LG(FPR)R 2010 Div 2)

Where the use made of a particular parcel of land varies (eg reconfiguration, vacant land has a building constructed thereon), rates and charges will be amended and a supplementary rate notice issued. For full details of utility charge adjustments refer to Revenue Statement Section 2.6.

Methods of payment

Council will make available the following methods of payments for the payment of rates:

- Cash, cheque and money order payments at the Town Hall, Gympie and the Kilkivan branch office, and any Australia Post office
- BPAY
- BPOINT IVR
- EFTPOS facility at the Town Hall, Gympie and the Kilkivan branch office.
- Direct Debit
- Internet

Discount – (LG(FPR)R 2010 s64)

Discount for prompt payments may be considered and will be indicated on the rate notice if current rates and charges owing (excluding State Fire Levy, Rural Fire Brigade Levy, Environment Levy, any property charge relating to the provision of temporary services or the carrying out of Council works on or in connection with the property, legal costs incurred by Council in rate collection, interest charges on overdue rates, Infrastructure Improvement Charge and Special Rates) are paid within the nominated period.

Interest on Arrears – (LG(FPR)R 2010 s67)

Interest at a rate as determined by Council from year to year (currently 11%) will compound on all amounts outstanding (including those assessments where an instalment or deferred payment plan has been negotiated) 45 days after the issue of initial notice and calculated on daily rests.

Payment of Rates by Instalments – (LG(FPR)R 2010 s63)

Council has an adopted policy for payment of rates by instalment. For eligibility criteria and conditions refer to Rates Policy 1. A premium will be charged on the outstanding balance 45 days after the issue of the initial

notice and calculated on daily rests. This policy will be reviewed by Council from time to time.

3. Recovery of Rates and charges

Rates and charges are payable within the period as stated on the rate notice. Should a ratepayer fail to pay within the stipulated period or not enter into an approved arrangement to pay Council may institute the following staged procedure.

- Step 1 - A reminder notice will be served on the ratepayer requesting payment within 14 days.
- Step 2 – A letter from Council’s designated Debt Collection agent advising legal action may be instituted if not paid within 7 days.
- Step 3 – A telephone call from Council’s debt collection agency seeking immediate payment or agreement.
- Step 4 – A pre summons letter from debt collection agency advising legal proceedings are imminent.
- Step 5 - Issue of summons.
- Step 6 – Sale of property if not paid in accordance with the period stated in (LG(FPR)R 2010 s74).

4. Concessions for Rates & Charges

Pensioners – (LG(FPR)R 2010 s54(1)(a))

Council may grant a remission on rates & charges in an amount determined during its budget deliberations. The eligibility criteria and conditions are set out in Council’s revenue statement.

Discount when special circumstances prevent prompt payment – (LG(FPR)R 2010 s64(9))

Council requires that in order for a discount on rates to be applicable full payment must be received by Council or its agent by close of business on the due date stipulated on the notice. In the event of a claim made pursuant to Section 64(9) of the Regulations it is to be in writing and shall be referred to Council for consideration.

Deferment of General Rates – Pensioners and Self-funded Retirees (LG(FPR)R 2010 s59)

Council may consider deferment of general rates payable by pensioner/s or self funded retiree/s. Refer to Council’s revenue statement for full details of eligibility criteria and conditions. Application for deferment should be lodged on Council’s approved application form.

Averaging and / or Capping (Limitation of Increase) of General Rate (LG(FPR)R 2010 s8(2)(b) & s50)

Council may consider the averaging of valuations and or rate rise capping if and when Council considers increased land valuations in a defined area unduly influences rate rises compared to services provided by Council.

Concessional Rate for declared nature reserves (LG(FPR)R 2010

s54(1)(e))

Council may consider a concessional general rate where individual landholdings have been gazetted as “Nature Refuge” under the Nature Conservation Act by the Environment Protection Agency and where such land does not have a primary production concessional valuation for rating purposes.

Remittance of Water Consumption Charges due to undetected leak, plumbing failure, actions outside the control of the ratepayer or faulty meter (Water Act 2000)

Council may consider the remission of water charges where it has been clearly established that there has been loss of water from an undetected leak, plumbing failure, actions outside the control of the ratepayer or where the meter has been tested and found inaccurate. In the case of an undetected leak, plumbing failure or actions outside the control of the ratepayer Council may consider remitting a percentage as determined by Council from time to time for the calculated over consumption. For a faulty meter, consumption will be estimated from prior use or where past use data is not available an estimate based on similar operations and conditions as determined by the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate.

5. Reserves (LG(FPR)R 2010 s134(2)(d))

All reserves must be approved by Council. Reserves are considered annually in the budget process, and are reviewed periodically at the time of budget reviews. Reserves are controlled through the Capital Funding Statement Analysis undertaken during the budgeting process.

The application of reserve funds to any purpose other than that originally intended must be approved by Council resolution. The exception is constrained funds held in the Constrained Works Reserve, which must be applied exclusively to the specific purpose of the contribution.

As at the date of adoption of the 2011-12 budget Council has the following reserves:

(a) General Purpose Reserve \$1,583,676

This reserve was created to provide funds to meet unexpected operational costs.

(b) Constrained Works Reserve \$8,129,401

This reserve was created to accumulate all grants, subsidies and contributions received and constrained for the purpose of specific capital expenditure. As expenditure is incurred on the specified capital assets the equivalent funds are

transferred to the capital account. The closing balance reported at period end represents funds not yet expended and must be retained until expended in the manner specified by the contributor.

(c) Grants, Subsidies and Contributions Reimbursed Reserve \$3,527,624

This reserve was created to accumulate all grants, subsidies and monetary contributions received and which Council has identified as being a reimbursement of capital funds expended in a prior period.

(d) Capital Projects Reserve \$13,073,010

This reserve was created to provide funds for the purpose of contributing to the future replacement of Council's assets.

(e) Capital Projects – Waste Management Reserve \$1,178,918

This reserve was created to provide funds for the purpose of contributing to the future replacement of Council's waste management assets.

(f) Special Projects Reserve \$1,592,638

This reserve was created to provide funds for the purpose of contingent capital works projects that will arise from time to time.

(g) Future Capital Sustainability Reserve \$12,665,053

This reserve was created to provide funds for the replacement/renewal of assets as and when required, and comprises funded unspent depreciation.

Strategic Implications:

Corporate Plan:	Outcome 4.1 Council is maintaining responsible financial management.
Operational Plan:	1.3 (ii) Financial Accounting Rating - Ensure that rates and utility charges are levied in accordance with the adopted budget and provide timely and accurate issue of assessments.
Budget Implications:	Adoption of Revenue Policy ensures timely collection of revenue
Budget Reference:	N/A
Legal/Statutory:	Local Government (Finance, Plans & Reporting) Regulation 2010
Risks:	Nil, providing adoption prior to commencement of financial year.

Consultation:

Principal Finance Officer, Revenue

Checklist:

- ☒ Financial Services Directorate
- ☐ Corporate Services Directorate
- ☐ Community Services Directorate
- ☐ Engineering Services Directorate
- ☐ Planning & Development Directorate
- ☐ Office of the Chief Executive Officer

Director of Financial Services, Mrs Yvonne Oliver entered the meeting at 9.27 am.

G38/06/11 Moved: Cr G.L. Engeman Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Gympie Regional Council Revenue Policy for 2011/2012 as presented, be adopted.

Carried

Director of Financial Services, Mrs Yvonne Oliver left the meeting at 9.30 am.

SECTION 12: GENERAL BUSINESS
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Australian Women's Leadership Symposium

Cr R.A. Gâté presented the following Report:-

The fifth annual Australian Women's Leadership Symposium was held at the beginning of June in Brisbane. Over two days we heard from various women in leadership roles including Jennifer Cullen, Bronwyn Sheehan (Founder and Executive Director, The Pyjama Foundation), Grace Grace State Labor MP for Brisbane Central, Nicole Hollows CEO Macarthur Coal and Layne Beachley Seven-time ASP Women's World Champion Surfer. There were attendees from a wide range of fields including Councils, Air Traffic Controllers, Information services, University, Rail, Queensland Police, construction, Liquor and Gaming Regulations and Smart Service (as examples). We were reminded what qualities are required to be a good, strong leader and that self belief and a thick skin will take you a long way.

World café discussion sessions were held on various topics on the second day and unbeknownst to each Gympie Councillor, we each ended up as presenters on our different groups, having been selected by

our peers. Each group embraced collective experiences and perspectives in order to develop meaningful strategies. Attending the symposium was a well worth while exercise which will help assist in our decision making processes and we thank the Council for giving us the opportunity to attend.

Keynote Presentation from:-

Jennifer Cullen of Synapse, better known to the locals as 'JC'

Synapse is a Brisbane company that deals with people who have suffered permanent brain injuries and are confined to their homes.

Jennifer is a 'youngin' (a younger aboriginal) and talked about her relationship with her elders in the Brisbane area with the different tribes of that area.

Jennifer spoke about the floods in Brisbane and how her elders, the aboriginal people, told her to keep an eye on the animals, when they start moving then it's time to move to higher grounds. She thought this a bit strange, but as the waters rose she noticed the possums and the rats and mice moving, so she called her teams to start moving their people out. She also said that it's very important in times of disaster to stay visible, to communicate, to control your behavior because people are looking at you for support and also to keep a perspective on what's happening around you.

You need to let people know that it's ok to cry as there are some very intense moments in a time of disaster. It is also vital that you look after yourself first and foremost. We, ourselves are part of the 'team' and as such we have to make sure that we are ok too. If we need to make sure our family is ok and in a safe place then we have to take some time out to do so.

Jennifer reminded us that, *"Character is not made in a crisis, it is only exhibited"*

We need to stay in contact with our team at all times, even if only by phone or email, but contact non the less.

Synapse has their own disaster funding put aside so that they could access that bucket of money without having to wait for State or Federal Money. They were able to hand out money quickly to their people and get their people back to normal more quickly as soon as possible.

In a company you need to identify the 'informal leaders', the people who are the ones going for help and managing things without being directed to.

Jennifer told us to remember to that people with disabilities can still contribute so much to society.

G39/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That the Report be received.

Carried

Leave of Absence

G40/06/11 Moved: Cr J.A. Walker

Seconded: Cr J. Watt

That Cr R.A. Gâté be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings on the 29 June 2011.

Carried

Leave of Absence

G41/06/11 Moved: Cr R.A. Gâté

Seconded: Cr J.A. Walker

That Cr J. Watt be granted Leave of Absence from all Council meetings on the 5 July 2011.

Carried

SECTION 13: IN COMMITTEE

SECTION 14: ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Item 11/1 – Operational Plan for 2011-2012

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.36 am.

Confirmed this THIRTEENTH day of JULY 2011

Cr R.J. Dyne
CHAIRMAN