



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Quilpie Shire Council
Held in the Quilpie Shire Council Boardroom on
Tuesday 10th January 2012
Commencing at 8.52am

**Present**

Cr PD Edwards (Mayor), Cr DP Murray (Deputy Mayor), Cr JC Hewson, Cr RJ Nowland,

Dave Burges (Chief Executive Officer)
 Monica James (Community Services Manager)
 Ann-Maree Bonsey (Executive Assistant)

1.0 Apologies

Resolution No: (01-01-12)

Moved by Cr Murray
Seconded by Cr Hewson

That the apology received from Cr C Paulsen is received and leave of absence is granted for this meeting.

CARRIED

2.0 Receiving / Confirmation of Ordinary Minutes

Resolution No: (02-01-12)

Moved by Cr Nowland
Seconded by Cr Murray

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 13th December 2011 are taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

Delegated Officer: Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Business arising from Previous Meeting**Ergon Energy**

Council accepted the amended offer of \$150,000 from Ergon Energy for the Chipu Street Subdivision.

Outback Gondwana Foundation

Council committed \$150,000 to the Outback Gondwana Foundation, subject to a successful application to Regional Development Australia. Council's commitment is toward water, road and power infrastructure.

Eromanga Pool

The Community Services Manager advised Council that there had been no response received in relation to the Expression of Interest advertised for suitably qualified persons to open the Eromanga Swimming Pool six hours per week.

Craft shop

Expression of Interest for the lease of the New Craft Shop on Brolga Street Close on 30th January 2012.

3.0 Mayoral notes

Meetings Attended:

14 th December	Teleconference - Transport & Main Roads regarding Adavale Blackall Rd
15 th December	Meeting with Minister Hon Paul Lucas (Minister for Local Government and Special Minister of State), Mr Michael Kinnane (Associate Director-General), Mr Joshua O'Keefe (Policy Advisor) and Crs M. O'Brien (Mayor-Murweh Shire), J. Shepherd (Mayor – Paroo Shire), J. Ferguson (Mayor – Bulloo Shire)

Items discussed in Cunnamulla at the Meeting with Hon Paul Lucas, Minister for Local Government and Special Minister of State included:

Fluoridation Of Town Water Supplies

Fluoridation affects the Paroo and Murweh Shires. The issue was also discussed at the South West Queensland Local Government Association Meeting as it affects Maranoa and Balonne Councils also. Quilpie and Bulloo Shires do not need to fluoridate.

State Land

Discussion took place regarding unallocated State Land eg. Yowah. All Shires are experiencing similar problems and require land for town expansion. There are issues with the length of time the process is taking with DERM. Jim Reeves, Director General will be present at the meeting along with Minister Nolan. Detailed submissions, including relevant correspondence and difficulties being experienced during the process, need to be forwarded to the Minister by mid January.

Stock Routes

Cr O'Brien (Murweh Shire)discussed Category A Stock Routes, in particular down to Cunnamulla. General discussion also took place regarding Category A and B routes. The Minister explained that he would further research this matter. There was a feeling that Category B routes may be omitted.

Community Plan

Paroo Shire sought an extension to their Community Plan as they have only commenced the project. A letter was submitted to the Minister.

Police

Cr Ferguson (Bulloo Shire) discussed the difficulties being experienced in filling the position at the Hungerford police station.

Childcare

Discussion took place regarding child care services for remote western shires. It was stated that a program will be released – Unique Solutions. Further information will be sought in regard to this program.

Dentists

Cr Ferguson (Bulloo Shire) raised the issue of lack of dentists available in the region. Thargomindah usually have 2 services a year and the school children have not had dental care for several years. There has only been 1 dental service this year to Thargomindah.

Health

Cr O'Brien (Murweh Shire) commented that Local Health Boards would be good. Community members on the ground are far more aware of the issues and what is required for local health needs. Discussion went on with comments reminding the Minister that "one size should not fit all" in Government services.

Allowances need to be considered for remote shires and smaller communities.

Tax Zone

Cr Ferguson (Bulloo Shire) presented the Minister with a copy of the Professor Manning report regarding Tax Zones.

Coal and Coal Seam Gas Industry

There was general concern that Local Government's are not being contacted to discuss potential issues in relation to coal and coal seam gas exploration and leases. The Minister is to investigate further.

Rail

Issues regarding rail services:

- Lack of livestock trains
- Capacity constrained with coal and the Toowoomba range
- Coal companies guarantee their tonnage and pay for it whether they use it or not
- 1 train equals 18 B Double trucks
- Passenger rail is heavily subsidised.

Great Artesian Basin

Concerns regarding the possible affect of Coal Seam Gas on the Great Artesian Basin were also raised and discussed. Mineral Resources are worth \$49b per year to Queensland. Agriculture is worth \$9b per year – people have to eat.

Languages in Schools

Cr O'Brien (Murweh Shire) spoke regarding the need to have Vietnamese language taught in the School. Further investigation will occur.

4.0 Works Reports

4.1 Works Manager Status Report

Received

- Roadwork's
- Engineering updates, George Bourne and Associates
- Shire Flood Damage
- Plant issues
- Supervisor Meeting
- Deport meeting
- Staff issues
- Outstanding issues

4.2 Plant Report Received and Noted

- Cr Murray queried the trade-in of a Komatsu Grader
 - Cr Edwards commented on the mileage recorded (100,000) for Unit 29
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4.3 Plumber's Report Received and Noted

5.0 Tenders & Quotations

5.1 Supply and Delivery of 5 Shindaiwa Brushcutters

Q15 11-12

Resolution No: (03-01-2012)

Moved by Cr Hewson
Seconded by Cr Murray

That Council accepts the quote from Downs Mower Centre for the purchase of five (5) Brush-cutters for a price of \$4,775.00 GST Inc.

CARRIED

Delegated Officer: Works Manager

6.0 Executive Office Reports

6.1 Chief Executive Officer's Status Report

Land

Resolution No: (04-01-2012)

Council resolved not to accept the offer received from Michael Khalifa – Quilpie Pharmacy for the purchase of Lot 18 on Plan SP11485. Council to investigate rental housing options for M. Khalifa until further blocks of land are available for purchase.

RESOLVED

Delegated Officer: Chief Executive Officer

6.2 Workplace Health and Safety Officers Report

Contractors

The Workplace, Health and Safety Officer advised Council that a meeting will be held with Contractors regarding WHS issues and the GPS tracking system.

6.3 Rural Lands Officers Report

Cr Edwards enquired regarding regrowth of mesquite on North Comongin.

Common Muster

Resolution No: (05-01-12)

Council resolved to conduct Common musters for Quilpie three times per year, season permitting and following approval from a Council Meeting.

RESOLVED

Delegated Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Tebin Fence

Council requested that the Chief Executive Officer pursues the issue of the condition of Tebin Fence with Greg Field, Department of Environment & Resource Management and report to Council at the February meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.26am and resumed at 10.50am.

6.4 Building and Environment Planning Officer's Report

New 4 Bedroom House Chipu Street

The Chief Executive Officer showed council plans for the new 4 Bedroom council house to be built over 2 blocks. Council talked about amalgamating these blocks sometime in the future.

Council agreed to proceed with the project as per plans presented in the Agenda.

7.0 Corporate Services Reports**7.1 Deputy Chief Executive Officer's Report**

NIL

8.0 Community Services Reports**8.1 Manager of Community Services Report**

Australia Day Event

The Community Service Manager advised council there were not a lot of nominations received for the Australia Day Awards. Bulloo Shire has agreed to lend Quilpie Shire a jumping castle, bungee run and obstacle course for the Australia Day celebrations being held at Bulloo Park. Quilpie Senior Rugby League Club will be operating the bar.

Craft Shop

The Community Services Manager spoke with Mrs M. Collins regarding the naming of the new craft shop. Mrs Collins requested that the name be changed to LR & KE McManus Craft Shop.

Christmas lights Competition

Judges for the 2011 Quilpie Shire Council Christmas lights competition commented regarding their disappointment in the low participation rate in towns.

Student Bursary Program 2012

The Community Services Manager advised Council that only one person had shown interest in the Student Bursary Program. Council will consider expanding the program to include staff wanting to complete tertiary training, as interest in this type of study was evident in the recent staff survey.

8.2 Sport & Recreation Co-Ordinator's Report **Received**

Cr Edwards enquired where the proposed boxing / fitness centre would be located at the Bulloo park facility.

Cr Hewson enquired regarding the Sport & Rec Flood funding received by the Quilpie Club Inc. The Community Services Manager advised Council that the Quilpie Club Inc. received \$20,000 for the verandah, which has not yet been acquitted.

8.3 Tourism Officer's Report **Received**

8.4 Library Officer's Report **Received**

8.5 Swimming Pool Manager's Report **Received**

The Chief Executive Officer advised that council should consider keeping the swimming pool open over the Christmas Day period in future, however acknowledged the difficulties in finding adequate persons to run the pool over Christmas period whilst the lessees have a break.

8.6 Health Promotion Officer's Report **Received**

9.0 Financial Reports

9.1 Cash Management Report

9.2 Financial Management Report

9.3 Mayor's Credit Card

9.4 CEO's Credit Card

9.5 Aged Debtors Report

9.6 Aged Creditors Report

9.7 Cheque Payment List

9.8 Capital Progress Report

9.9 Statement of Revenue and Expenditure

Register of Cheques Issued for the periods ending 31 December 2011Resolution No: (06-01-12)**Moved by Cr Hewson
Seconded by Cr Murray**

That the reports of the Administration and Finance sections of Council are received and the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure as presented is received and adopted; that payment of accounts totalling \$1,533,257.68 as listed are confirmed and;

That the expenditure of Corporate Credit Cards for the month of December 2011 as presented is accepted.

CARRIED

12.0	Reception and Consideration of Correspondence (including listed correspondence)	Nil
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13.0	Consideration and Reception of Notices of Motion	Nil
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14.0 General Business

14.1 Cr Nowland reported that Quilpie Boundary Sign had been washed away in flood.

NOTED**Delegated Officer: Works Manager**

14.2 The Mayor tabled a thank you card received from the family of the late Bill Groves.

RECEIVED

14.3 The Mayor tabled correspondence received 22/12/12 by Ross Hodson re: audit 10/11 completed. The only issue raised was the high staff leave balances. Audit fees for 2010/11 were \$37,500.00 in addition to reimbursement of costs totalling \$9540.05.

RECEIVED

14.4 Mr Bill Pegler met with the Mayor regarding Digital Television in Eromanga. Only 6-8 houses are eligible for the Household Assistance Scheme or Satellite Subsidy Scheme as the remainder are commercial businesses. It was suggested that Council reconsiders providing retransmission of digital television in Eromanga or subsidises the business houses/commercial businesses. The Chief Executive Officer to investigate the matter further.

NOTED**Delegated Officer: Chief Executive Officer**

14.5 Mr Bill Pegler also discussed the issue of rubbish collection in Eromanga with the Mayor and reported that the Refuse Pit is a mess. The Chief Executive Officer will investigate the matter for further consideration at the February Meeting.

NOTED

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned for Lunch at 1.00pm and resumed at 2.20pm.

Attendance

Rusty Ferguson (Wild Dog Trapper) and Viv Byrnes (Rural Land Officer) entered the meeting at 2.20pm.

Wild Dog Trapper Report

The Wild Dog Trapper reported that he has been from Gunadorah to Moondilla and there are a lot of dog tracks. Due to the high number of tracks, baits were laid. GPS points were recorded for record / reporting purposes. This will assist in planning the next aerial baiting program. Cr Murray will contact property owners to gain permission for the Wild Dog Trapper to enter their properties to track dogs (Adavale – Binny Pegler, Vin Richardson, Steve Sheppard) All properties on Ambathalla Road to the Barrier Fence.

Attendance

Rusty Ferguson (Wild Dog Trapper) and Viv Byrnes (Rural Land Officer) left the meeting at 3.00pm.

15.0 Fixing Dates for next Ordinary Meeting**Next Meeting**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 14th February 2012 in the Quilpie Shire Council Boardroom, commencing at 8.30am.

Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 3.02pm.
