



Ordinary Meeting of Council

MINUTES

Friday 8 May 2020

Quilpie Shire Council Boardroom
50 Brolga Street, Quilpie Qld 4480





ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Friday 8 May 2020

Quilpie Shire Council Boardroom

MINUTES

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 10.00am.

2 PRESENT

Cr Stuart Mackenzie (Mayor)

Cr Jenny Hewson (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Roger Volz

Cr Bruce Paulsen

Cr Lyn Barnes

Mr Dave Burges (Chief Executive Officer)

In attendance: Mrs Nina Burges (Minutes Secretary)

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONDOLENCES

Council noted the recent passing of Mr Stuart Nicol and expressed their condolences to his family.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Division 5A of the Local Government Act 2009 (the Act) requires Councillors to declare a Material Personal Interest or a Conflict of Interest should either apply regarding a matter that is before a Council meeting (refer Sections 175C and 175E of the Act). The Declaration should be made at the commencement of the meeting and prior to the matter being considered and voted upon by Council.

6 RECEIVING AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 (05/20) – Post-Election Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council held Friday 17 April 2020

Minutes of the Post-Election Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council held in the Council Boardroom, 50 Brolga Street Quilpie on Friday, 17 April 2020.

Resolution No: (01-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Lyn Barnes

Seconded by: Cr Bruce Paulsen

That the minutes of the Post-election Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council held on Friday, 17 April 2020 are taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

5/0

6.2 (05/20) – Ordinary Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council held Friday 17 April 2020

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council held in the Council Boardroom, 50 Brolga Street Quilpie on Friday, 17 April 2020.

Resolution No: (02-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Roger Volz

Seconded by: Cr Jenny Hewson

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council held on Friday, 17 April 2020 are taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

5/0

7 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 (04/20) – Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract

The current Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract with "All About Aquatics" expires on 31 July 2020. In accordance with the Management Contract an extension of the Contract may be negotiated for a further three years.

This matter was considered as a separate report – refer item 15.4.

8 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

The Mayor and Councillors provided brief updates on activities they have undertaken since the April Ordinary Meeting of Council. All Councillors attended two (2) workshops as well as elected member training conducted via teleconference by the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs. All Councillors travelled to Eromanga for a site inspection of the Eromanga Natural History Museum construction.

Cr Stuart Mackenzie held discussions with IOR and Bridgeport representatives in relation to the drop in the oil price. The Mayor also participated in a teleconference with the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs, two (2) briefings by the Queensland Premier and a South West Regional Economic Development (SWRED) Tourism Committee meeting.

Cr Mackenzie attend meetings in Quilpie and Eromanga to liaise with business owners impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Cr Hewson also attended the Quilpie business group meeting and a meeting of the pest management committee. Cr Hewson expressed her thanks to Janet Foley, Michelle Donohue and Roger Volz for their efforts with the Anzac Day ceremony and the presentation of the cemetery.

In addition to the activities attended by all Councillors, Cr Roger Volz has had various discussions with community members regarding a range of matters.

Cr Bruce Paulsen has been speaking with Paroo Shire Council representatives regarding the positions they have on staff similar to a Sports Development / Youth Officer he would like to see introduced in Quilpie.

Cr Lyn Barnes undertook a range of activities relating to the business development portfolio. During the month Cr Barnes engaged in one on one consultation with eight Quilpie town businesses severely impacted by Covid19 pandemic shutdown, engaged in telephone discussions with two town businesses and one Toompine business regarding the Covid19 shutdown and travelled to Adavale to meet with three businesses regarding the Covid19 pandemic as well as meeting community members. Cr Barnes reported a number of operational issues during the Adavale visit to the Chief Executive Officer.

Cr Barnes travelled to Eromanga with the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer to meet three local businesses about Covid19 restrictions. They discussed the detrimental effect of the withdrawal of oil company business in Eromanga, inspected progress on ENHM Stage 2 Phase 1 and attended consultation with EDCA representative Corey Richards regarding the Eromanga Master Plan.

Cr Barnes made contact with Annemi Kruger from the office of David Littleproud, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management regarding contact details for Queensland LNP Senators in order to lobby for their support of Stage 2 Phase 2 of ENHM and contacted Senator Gerard Rennick on the same matter.

Cr Barnes held further discussions with a community member regarding the delay in aerial baiting, had an interview with the Western Times/Western Star, Roma regarding Quilpie Shire Council's support of business during the Covid19 shutdown, held discussions with both Craig Allison (SWRED) and Courier Mail journalist Des Houghton regarding the Draft Lake Eyre Basin Management plan.

10 STATUS REPORTS

10.1 (05/20) – Engineering Services Status Reports

Noted.

10.2 (05/20) – Corporate and Community Services Status Reports

Noted.

10.3 (05/20) – Financial Services Status Reports

Noted.

10.4 (05/20) – Governance Status Reports

Noted.

11 ENGINEERING SERVICES

No reports

12 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

No reports

14 GOVERNANCE

14.1 (05/20) Term Lease Water Agreement - Toompine

By email dated 21 April 2020, Avril Livingstone of Wiljoy Property Pty Ltd is requesting Council enter into a water agreement to satisfy the terms of their lease with the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

Resolution No: (03-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Jenny Hewson

Seconded by: Cr Lyn Barnes

That Council receive the report and enter into a water agreement with Wiljoy Property Pty Ltd for the purpose of supplying water to Lot 10 SP301986 in accordance with the draft water agreement presented in item 14.1 of the accompanying agenda.

5/0

14.2 (05/20) Request for Assistance – Quilpie State College

By letter dated 20 April 2020, The A/Principal of the Quilpie State College is requesting assistance from Council in relation to extending the concrete footpath in Boonkai Street to the covered sports area currently under construction.

Resolution No: (04-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Bruce Paulsen

Seconded by: Cr Lyn Barnes

That Council receive the report and consider the request as part of their footpath upgrade strategy and as part of the 2020/21 budget deliberations.

5/0

14.3 (05/20) – 2020 DRFA Project Management

The Minister for Fire and Emergency Services has approved an activation of the jointly funded Commonwealth/State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) for South West Queensland Flooding, 20 – 26 February 2020 event. The following relief measures have been approved for Quilpie Shire Council:

- Counter Disaster Operations; and
- Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA).

Emergent works have been completed for this event and Proterra Group have been appointed to coordinate the road damage assessment and data collection for the event including preparing the relevant submissions to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

Resolution No: (05-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Bruce Paulsen

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council appoint Proterra Group as project manager for the 2020 Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Restoration of Essential Public Assets works program.

5/0

14.4 (05/20) – Review of Various Policies

Council undertakes regular reviews of various policies. A workshop was held on Friday 24 April to discuss various policies.

Resolution No: (06-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Jenny Hewson

Seconded by: Cr Lyn Barnes

That Council review the following policies and note that no changes are necessary:

F.01 Audit Committee Policy;

F.02 Internal Audit Policy;

G.03 Administrative Action Complaints Policy;

G.06 Councillor Recognition of Service Policy;

G.09 Entertainment and Hospitality Policy; and

G.10 Advertising Spending Policy.

That Council review the following policies and adopt the amended policy as documented at the workshop held on Friday 24 April 2020:

G.05 Councillor Expenses Reimbursement Policy; and

G.08 Acceptable Requests Guidelines Policy.

5/0

14.5 (05/20) – Standing Orders and Meeting Procedures for Council Meetings

In November 2018 Council rescinded their policy in relation to Standing Orders (*G.07 Standing Orders Policy*) as the content of the policy was very prescriptive. When rescinding policy *G.07 Standing Orders*, Council adopted *G.22 Council Meeting Procedures* in lieu of the model prepared by the Department.

With the many previous and proposed legislative changes in relation to Material Personal Interests, Conflicts of Interest and Councillor conduct, it is considered prudent to rely on the model documents prepared by the Department.

Resolution No: (07-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Lyn Barnes

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council rescind policy G.22 Council Meeting Procedures; and

That Council adopt the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multi-cultural Affairs model meeting procedures.

5/0

14.6 (05/20) – Councillor Code of Conduct

Council developed a Code of Conduct and adopted policy G.04 Councillor Code of Conduct Policy on 23 November 2018.

The Department of Local Government, Racing and Multi-cultural Affairs developed a model Councillor Code of Conduct. This document was reissued in April 2020 to reflect various legislative changes.

In light of the on-going local government reforms it is considered prudent for Council to rely on the model documents developed by the Department.

Resolution No: (08-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Bruce Paulsen

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council rescind policy G.04 Councillor Code of Conduct Policy; and

That Council adopt the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multi-cultural Affairs model Code of Conduct for Councillors in Queensland.

5/0

14.7 (05/20) – Eromanga Streetscape – Entry to Eromanga

Council and some members of the Eromanga community have long held concerns over the unattractive entrances to Eromanga, particularly from the east. This issue was raised in the draft Eromanga Masterplan prepared by CUSP landscape Architecture and Urban Design.

Resolution No: (09-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Roger Volz

Seconded by: Cr Lyn Barnes

That as part of the Eromanga Master Plan, Council write to the owner of Lot 10 GO844025 requesting them to remove all materials from Lot 15 CP905386 (Eromanga Town Common).

5/0

15 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Resolution No: (10-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Roger Volz

Seconded by: Cr Jenny Hewson

That Council enters into closed session under s275 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 at 11.55am to discuss the following matters:

- Rating concessions;
- Contracts proposed to be made by Council; and
- Starting or defending legal proceedings.

5/0

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.43pm and resumed at 1.02pm.

Resolution No: (11-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Lyn Barnes

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council moves out of closed session and resumes the Ordinary Meeting at 2.00pm.

5/0

15.1 (05/20) – Alternative Electricity Retailer

David Wilkens, National Sales Manager, Australian Water Machines presented to Council at their meeting of 21 February 2020 on the subject of Council having an alternate electricity retailer and possibly being a retailer themselves to other residents / businesses within the Shire.

Subsequent to the presentation at the February 2020 meeting of Council, David Wilkens has now completed a report into Council's currently electricity retailer costs and has put forward a proposal to go to an alternate retailer.

Resolution No: (12-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Bruce Paulsen

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council receive the report and not proceed to transfer to an alternate electricity retailer at this point in time.

5/0

15.2 (05/20) – Request for Rates Assistance

By visit to Council's Customer Service Centre, the owner of property assessments 00460-00000-000 and 00274-00000-000 has requested a reduction in their rates or some form of concession, citing a number of reasons.

Resolution No: (13-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Lyn Barnes

Seconded by: Cr Jenny Hewson

That Council defer a decision on the request for a concession for rates for the owner of property assessments 00460-00000-000 and 00274-00000-000, pending further consideration.

5/0

15.3 (05/20) – Rates Recovery Action and Allowance of Discount

The rates for the assessment 00042-20000-000 are outstanding from the rates period 01 January 2020 to 30 June 2020. The \$16.05 is the 'discount' component.

The owner has requested the discount be reconsidered for assessment 0042-20000-000 and any interest that has accrued since 01 April 2020. They advised that due to the Covid-19 pandemic they overlooked paying the rates which were due 31 March 2020.

Resolution No: (14-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Roger Volz

Seconded by: Cr Bruce Paulsen

That Council not write off interest accrued from the day after rates were due (01 April 2020) and that Council not allow discount of \$16.05 on assessment 0042-20000-000.

5/0

15.4 (05/20) – Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract

The current Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract with All About Aquatics expires on 31 July 2020. In accordance with the Management Contract - Conditions of Agreement *Item 4*, an extension of the Contract may be negotiated for a further three years.

At the April Ordinary Meeting of Council, it was requested that *All About Aquatics* submitted a formal proposal for the renewal of the management rights of the Quilpie Swimming Pool to the May Meeting for consideration.

Resolution No: (15-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Lyn Barnes

Seconded by: Cr Jenny Hewson

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to further renegotiate the Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract with current lessee Alina Graham, All About Aquatics for a further period of 3 years and present a final proposed contract for Council consideration.

3/2

15.5 (05/20) – Outstanding Debtors

At the April 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council, it was noted that there are currently some outstanding debtor balances where no payments have been made for some time. A summary of the outstanding debtor amounts was presented to Council for consideration.

Resolution No: (16-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Roger Volz

Seconded by: Cr Lyn Barnes

That Council 'write off' three (3) debtor outstanding balances for a total value of \$6,203.18.

5/0

16 LATE CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil.

17 LATE ITEMS

17.1 (05/20) – Financial Services Report for Month Ending 30 April 2020

The Finance report for the period ending 30 April 2020 was presented to Council for consideration.

Resolution No: (17-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Jenny Hewson

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council receives the Finance Report for the period ending 30 April 2020.

5/0

17.2 (05/20) – Election of LGAQ Policy Executive District Representative

By email of 06 May 2020, LGAQ have advised that at the close of nominations at 5.00pm Friday 1 May 2020, two nominations were received for the one position on the Policy Executive for District No 5 (South West).

Nominations received are Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister, Balonne Shire Council and Cr Cameron O'Neil, Maranoa Regional Council

Resolution No: (18-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Roger Volz

Seconded by: Cr Lyn Barnes

That Council ratify its vote for the LGAQ District No 5 (South West) representative for the LGAQ Policy Executive.

5/0

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillors were provided the opportunity to raise any matters for further consideration. Matters raised included:

- Use of the Adavale Sport and Recreation yards;
- The Communities Combatting Drought Exclusion Fence Program;
- The extent of Parthenium in the north of the shire adjacent to the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council boundary;
- Possible locations for a Bureau of Meteorology radar west of Eromanga;
- The condition of the Mount Margaret Road at the end of the bitumen;
- The condition of Wallyah Road;
- Local procurement;
- The shop front subsidy program; and
- The need for property owners to be able to access reliable internet / mobile phone solutions especially to utilise farm technology applications and from a safety perspective.

ATTENDANCE

Cr Stuart Mackenzie retired from the meeting at 3.52pm and Cr Jenny Hewson assumed the role of Chair.

18.1 (05/20) – Eromanga Natural History Museum

The Outback Gondwana Foundation has made application under the Building Better Regions Fund to progress a further stage of the Eromanga Natural History Museum.

Resolution No: (19-05-20)

Moved by: Cr Lyn Barnes

Seconded by: Cr Roger Volz

That Council write to the Prime Minister of Australia, the Deputy Prime Minister and all Queensland Senators emphasising the importance of further developing the Eromanga Natural History Museum to the local economy.

4/0


19 MEETING DATES

The next Ordinary Meeting of Quilpie Shire Council will take place on Friday 12 June 2020 in the Quilpie Shire Council Boardroom commencing at 9.30am. A special meeting of Council will be held on Friday 15 May commencing at 8.00am to consider flood damage works quotations.

There being no further business the Deputy Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4.15pm.

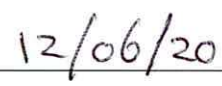
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true record of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting held on the Friday, 8 May 2020.

Submitted to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Friday, 12 June 2020.



Cr Stuart Mackenzie

Mayor of Quilpie Shire Council



Date