



*Confirmed Minutes
Burke Shire Council Ordinary General Meeting
Wednesday 19 May 2010
9.30am Council Chamber*

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01. Opening of Meeting

The Chair declared the Meeting open at 9.30am

02. Present

Cr Ernie Camp - Acting Mayor, Chair
Cr Tracy Forshaw – Acting Deputy Mayor
Cr Bill Olive
Cr Tonya Murray

Leanne Mash - Chief Executive Officer
Jenny Williams - Executive Assistant

Cr Annie Clarke – on approved leave

03. Prayer

Cr Olive led Council in Prayer.

05. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

General Meeting 23 April 2010

FILE: COU/11

Moved: Cr Forshaw
Seconded: Cr Murray

That the Minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 23 April 2010 as presented be confirmed by Council.

Carried 01.100519

06. Condolences

Council noted the passing of Hilton Charlie and expressed their condolences to the Family.

07. Acting Mayoral Minute and Report

I have attended the following:

- A) Anzac Day – Burketown 25/04
- B) Civic Leader's Summit – Twin Waters Resort, Sunshine Coast 28-30 April – along with Le and Annie
- C) Gregory Downs Races – May Day weekend
- D) Meeting with Sen Russell Trood – Lib Senator for Qld – 4 May – along with Bill, Le and Dennis
- E) Northern Outback Development Forum – Normanton 5 May – along with Dennis, Bill, Tracy
- F) RRG Meeting – Normanton 5 May – attended with Dennis
- G) NQLGA Bi-annual Conference- Normanton 6-7 May – delegate along with Acting Deputy Tracy and observers Bill and Dennis
- H) Regionalisation Forum – Mt Isa 14 May

A summary of these follows:

A) Anzac Day

Both the dawn service and the 11 am service were very well attended with numbers up on last year particularly at the dawn service. The national anthems of both Australia and New Zealand were played to reflect the true spirit of Anzac which seemed to be well received. A contingent of soldiers representing 51st battalion FNQ Regiment formed an honour guard around the cenotaph. Special thanks to them for making the journey to help us honour our service men and women.

The march contained children representing the 3 schools in our shire and Scouts. This, as well as the great response to the competitions run for Anzac Day, showed how keen the young children are to be involved in Anzac Day which is wonderful to see. Thanks to Cheryl for organising the day's programme.

B) Civic Leader's Summit

It was an interesting experience. While there were valuable lessons inside the content and interesting things to be learnt the full potential of the forum was not fully realised. More could have been gained if the forum was conducted in a more structured, formal manner to reflect that this was a gathering of civic leaders.

C) May Day Weekend

Whilst numbers were down due to a very packed schedule across NQ it was a great day and it was fantastic to see so many beautifully dressed ladies and men in ties. On behalf of Council I awarded the trophy to the winning connections of Race 3.

D) Meeting with Senator Russell Trood (Lib)

Met with the Senator in Burketown, accompanied him on tour of town and then travelled by plane with him to Karumba, via a short detour as he wished to look at some of the area impacted by flooding and identify some areas affected by Wild Rivers, for the pre Northern Outback Development forum function that evening. Discussed Wild Rivers, flooding, shire development, need for infrastructure esp sealing road Greg-Bkt-Doom, need for power, reliable telecommunications, postal service,

E) Northern Outback Development Forum

Initiated by John Wharton (Mayor, Richmond Shire) in response to the release and content of Northern Land and Water Taskforce Report. Attended by Betty Kiernan (State Local Member), Bob Katter (Federal Member), Sen Trood, Sen Ian McDonald, local government reps, relevant local/regional stakeholders.

Some very interesting speakers on core issues for the region:

MINING

Andrew Daniels (Ccy Mayor), Paul Woodhouse (McK Mayor), Duane Rush (Chemco Project Manager), Greg Dale (Manager Mica Creek Power Stn – Mt Isa) – most spoke of the need for infrastructure esp power to meet emerging needs, need to keep some income generated in the region it is generated from, not all mining needs to be or is capable of being on the larger scale (eg Century) to be viable, need to have relevant gov. depts in the region.

AGRICULTURE

Adam Hill (CEO Live Export Association), Alister McClymont (Producer) – spoke of need for infrastructure and maintenance of Karumba Port post Century, negative impact of restrictive legislation eg Wild Rivers, need to allow water harvesting and storage during the wet season to allow for drought proofing, farming – able to grow out stock to finished product to sell – value adding locally – live export has a great future need to have infrastructure developed and maintained in order to allow producers to meet the growing demand, gov need to recognise and support development of NQ as a food bowl for the nation and potential export in the future. Thought from some of the speakers that local processing plant would be complimentary to rather than competitive with Live Export.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Fred Pascoe (Chair Bynoe CACS, Director on Delta Downs Board, Mayor Carpentaria Shire), invited also were Noel Pearson and Murrandoo Yanner but neither were in attendance due to other commitments– spoke about constraints in running an Aboriginal business eg unable to use land as mortgage, working with others to form co operative agreements for the betterment of the community.

TRUCKING INDUSTRY

Mick Pattel (Livestock transporter, Chair of National Road Freighters Organisation) – spoke on the escalating costs of registration (over \$ 13 000 for a triple road train), gov legislation/taxes is crippling ability of operators to do the job or find staff. (heavy fines for simple errors eg spelling mistakes, untidy writing in log books)

FISHING INDUSTRY

Gary Ward (Gulf fisherman, Gulf of Carpentaria Commercial Fisherman's Association) – proposed marine parks – little consultation if any, time frame too short, need to buyback some licences reduce number of commercial operators, we import approx 70% of our fish/seafood.

NORTHERN LAND AND WATER TASKFORCE REPORT

Noeline Gross (CEO NGRMG (Northern Gulf equivalent of SGC)) – lack of meaningful data, need to install more data collection points/river height readers to ascertain true river flows/water availability, need to have more alliances with like groups (NRM)

TOURISM INDUSTRY

Bram Collins (Savannah Guide – Undarra) – very passionate – very good speaker, security of land tenure, need to have people camping in facilities not free camping, improve roads (Safety standards for travellers), seasonal due to wet, utilize short term workers – travellers, backpackers etc (Work About Australia)

MAJOR MOTIONS CARRIED FROM THE FORUM FLOOR

“From this forum it is ensured that the Dept of Environment and Resource Management releases the Gulf Resources Operation Plan as a matter of urgency”

M: B McNamara Mayor Flinders SC

2nd: B Olive Burke Shire Council

“ This forum requests with urgency that the matter of storage of off-stream water in the region is further reviewed and developed”

M: Rodger Jefferis, Cattle producer

2nd: A Daniels, Mayor Cloncurry SC

“ From this forum it is recommended that the Government forms a remote area panel to review all policy as it is formed to ensure it isn't perverse to the local region”

M: Noeline Ikin (nee Gross) CEO NGRMG, Georgetown

2nd: Duane Rush, copperChem Ltd

E) RRG MEETING

Attended with Director of Engineering Services.

F) NQLGA BI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

It was worthwhile attending and I must commend Carpentaria on its efforts as it was a very well run and friendly event at which they managed very successfully to promote their shire. We could certainly benefit from taking on board some of their proactive initiatives eg positive banners advertising their community. The dinner was also used as an opportunity to showcase their community and was a very enjoyable evening full of genuine country hospitality. A wide variety of motions were put ranging from procedural to government policy to the calling for a separate North Queensland State (which interestingly has also been called for at the recent WQ LGA conference).

Formal minutes have not been produced yet but the motions were regarding the following points:

1. Lobby DERM to expediate approvals and funding resources to halt the progress of erosion on NQ beaches
2. Lobby DERM to review and amend Land Act re separate sale of additional leasehold area
3. Lobby DERM to be proactive in the control of feral wildlife and support the harvest of native wildlife
4. Lobby State gov to amend legislation/policy to allow local gov to access gravel within NP to fix LG roads contained therein
5. Lobby state and Fed gov to not declare any further World Heritage Listed Sites or Marine Parks on CYP and in GofC without meaningful public discussion with all stakeholders.
6. Make representations to relevant depts regarding shortening of response/feedback times to LG applications/queries
7. Support LGAQ in its efforts to have the Racing and Other Amendments Act 2010 amended to protect LG assets from proposed new control body
8. Make representations to the Valuer General that relevant LG have input into the valuation process when valuations are being undertaken in that shire/council area (BSC motion)

9. LGAQ support a motion to have a referendum on a separate NQ state at the next election – in a line from Rockhampton to Boulia

10. That ballot papers be destroyed

11. That presented LAWMAC reported be accepted

All were carried, one with amendments. Next conference is in Port Douglas 3/4/5 Nov

Thanks to Crs Forshaw, Olive and Director of Engineering Services for their participation and support throughout the conference. It was a great team effort.

G) REGIONALISATION FORUM

In attendance were Betty Kiernan, Anna Bligh and Neil Roberts (Min for Police and Emergency Services) along with mayors and other civic leaders. The local member introduced me to the Premier and I had a quick discussion with her. Both in this discussion and from the podium as part of official proceedings she acknowledged the Shire and the recent flooding event and offered for us to bring to her attention any matters that may assist us to recover.

Given the limited time – 1 hour – each attendee only had a couple of minutes for each question so you could not give the full response you wished to however in total, as each person had the same basic points, all major issues were raised and key points were got across.

Key points were:-

Infrastructure – roads, power, housing

Attract families. We are a great family friendly region – so we should sell ourselves as such. So we need to put in place systems that support families – health care, education – and have quality professionals fill these positions.

We need the infrastructure to attract people/business. People/business will not come in numbers without the infrastructure. So if population is the driver for infrastructure development it will not happen. We need to develop first – it's the horse and cart theory.

Free up the water, free up the land and let us develop and grow – reduce red tape and have regional departments who can give direct assistance

Increase zonal tax rebate. Revamp boundaries for rebates.

An interesting point - Premier did state that government were looking at introducing a new First Home Buyer's Grant that recognises regional Qld by offering higher grants to those who choose to buy/build in these areas.

Had a quick talk with Neil Roberts re the flooding event in Burke Shire and the terrific support offered by EMQ.

It has been a very busy month and I would like to thank Councillors, their families and Council staff for all their help, assistance and support throughout this busy period. I would also like to make particular thanks to Council's Executive Assistant who has had to arrange travel/accommodation options for us all and often deal with unforeseen incidents that require plan changes.

08. Councillor Reports

Verbal Reports were provided at the Meeting

10. Chief Executive Officers Reports

Moved Cr Olive
Seconded Cr Forshaw

That

The Chief Executive Officer's Standing Business Papers for Information as presented in Report 10.01.01 to 10.01.02 of the Business Papers be received by Council and noted; and

The Chief Executive Officer's Business Papers for Council Consideration and Decision as presented in Reports 10.02.01 to 10.02.05 of the Business Papers be received for consideration.

Carried 02.100519

10.02.01 Upcoming Meetings

A summary of meeting and conference opportunities. It was decided that no Councillors would attend the National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, or the Disaster Mangement Conference in Home Hill.

FILE: COU/05

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Olive

That the Councillors Clarke, Councillor Murray, Chief Executive Officer and Finance Manager attend the professional development workshop - Enhancing Careers for Women in Government - held in Mount Isa on Wednesday 2 June 2010.

And

That all Councillors that are available attend the Native Title Consent Determinations Hearing QUD84/04 and AUD/66/05 Gangalidda and Garawa People v State of Queensland in Burketown on Wednesday 23 June.

Carried 03.100519

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned for Morning Tea from 11.10am to 11.20am.

Declaration Conflict of Interest

Cr Tracy Forshaw declared a conflict of interest as her daughter is a member of the RADF committee.
Cr Ernie Camp declared a conflict of interest as his wife is a member of the RADF committee.

10.02.02 Burke Shire RADF Report

On May 5 2010 a RADF committee meeting was held to establish the committee, to discuss proposed activities and other business.

FILE: RAD/16

Moved Cr Olive
Seconded Cr Murray

Council endorse the change of membership to the RADF Committee and thank outgoing members and welcome new members.

Further that Council endorse the proposed Mosaic Workshop and use of remaining 2009-10 funds for this purpose.

Carried 04.100519

10.02.03 Professional Development

As part of the CEO remuneration package there is a professional development component. Under this arrangement the CEO would like to attend the Fourth Annual Women's Leadership Symposium in Brisbane on 24th and 25th August.

FILE: STA/11.79

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Murray

Council endorse the CEO's attendance at the Fourth Annual Women's Leadership Symposium in Brisbane.

Carried 05.100519

Declaration Conflict of Interest

Cr Tracy Forshaw declared a conflict of Interest as she is a member of the Gregory Downs District Sporting Association.

10.02.04 Donation – Request for Change

At the March 2010 Ordinary Meeting Council resolved to fund Gregory Downs District Sporting Association with in-kind support up to \$2,500 for various works. Circumstances have now changed and the Gregory District Sporting Association are requesting that Council's support be in cash instead of in-kind.

FILE: DON/01

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Murray

Council endorse the change from in-kind support to cash donation for the Gregory District Sporting Association.

Carried 06.100519

Attendance

Leanne Mash; Chief Executive Officer left the meeting at 11.56am.

11. Finance Services Reports

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Olive

The Finance Services Officer's Standing Business Papers for Information as presented in Report 11.01.01 to 11.01.02 of the Business Papers be received by Council and noted; and

The Finance Services Officer's Business Papers for Council Consideration and Decision as presented in Report 11.02.01 of the Business Papers be received for consideration.

Carried 07.100519

Attendance

Leanne Mash; Chief Executive Officer and Debbie Glyde; Finance Manger entered the meeting at 11.57am.

11.02.01 Rates Write Off

Rates levy and Interest write off as part of the 2009-10 annual rates levy.

FILE: RAT/01

Moved Cr Murray
Seconded Cr Olive

That Council endorse the interest write- off as presented that have been approved by the CEO under delegation DEL-BSC-008.

Carried 08.100519

Attendance

Debbie Glyde, Finance Manager left the meeting at 12.12pm.

Adjournment

Acting Mayor; Cr Ernie Camp adjourned the meeting for lunch from 12.30pm to 1.25pm.
Upon resumption all were present at the time of adjournment.

Dennis Kerr; Director of Engineering Services entered the meeting at 1.25pm.

12. Director Engineering Services Reports

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Forshaw

The Director Engineering Services Standing Business Papers for Information as presented in Reports 12.01.01 to 12.01.02 of the Business Papers be received by Council and noted.

Carried 09.100519

Attendance

Dennis Kerr; Director of Engineering Services left the meeting at 1.43pm.

14 Closed session reports

Moved Cr Murray
Seconded Cr Forshaw

That Council move into closed session to discuss Confidential Items under *Sections 463(a), (b) and (h) of the Local Government Act 1993*.

Carried 10.100519

Attendance

Ms Jenny Williams, Executive Assistant, left the meeting at 1.44pm.

Move into Open Session

Moved Cr Olive
Seconded Cr Murray

That the Meeting resume in Open Session to consider recommendations arising out of the Closed Session.

Carried 11.100519

Attendance

Ms Jenny Williams, Minutes Clerk, entered the meeting at 2.41pm.

15 New business of an urgent nature admitted by Council

16. Closure of Meeting

The Chair declared the Meeting closed at 2.59pm.

I hereby certify that these pages numbered 1 to 11 - constitute the confirmed minutes of the Meeting of Burke Shire Council held on Wednesday 19 May 2010.

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ACTING MAYOR