



Confirmed Minutes Burke Shire Council Ordinary General Meeting Wednesday 17 November 2010 9.30am Council Chamber

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01. Opening of Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting open at 09.45am.

02. Present

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

Teleconference – Cr Annie Clarke, Mayor

In Attendance
Gary Letts, Chief Executive Officer
Billie Henderson, Minutes Clerk

03. Prayer

CEO Gary Letts led Council in Prayer.

05. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

05.01 General Meeting Wednesday 20 October 2010

FILE: BCS/G/CM/M

Moved: Cr Olive
Seconded: Cr Camp

That the Minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 20 October 2010 as presented be confirmed by Council.

Carried 01.101117

07. Mayoral Minute and Report

28.10.10 Spoke to Gary re delegations

1. RDA visit – thanks to Ernie and Gary appears to have been successful
2. Learn to swim addresses: LGAQ Partnership with Usim Pty Ltd completely free offering of a Learn to Swim resource which allows parents and teachers to learn techniques from QLD's largest swim school organisation Aquatic Achievers and Lifesaving Queensland
3. Minutes and corrections including Landcare meeting
4. Delegations in Mount Isa
5. Road trips with DES Dennis Kerr out to Doomadgee west and the scope of works, using locals as sub contractors where possible, suggested an audit of machinery on each place for preferred tender list or council information

Spoke to Ernie

1. RDA – Port development, Townsville issue i.e. focus on urban dev. V region, wild rivers
2. For Council's consideration – should we have a business case for the development of a motel/resort partially used for staff accommodation but earning an income with other users to help fund the development, with a view to council on-selling as we did with the caravan park?
3. timely get together's with Gary and the Councillors for some chats – how would we like to do this?

Brendan McNamara rang on his way to a meeting regarding stock routes and how would Burke like to manage this. I advised him of Council's position on having them inactive for the moment; and therefore Council would not be charging the landholders through whose properties they run, as a revenue raising exercise. State road reserves are being considered as a revenue raising exercise as well, with the State taking 35% of the revenue and Councils receiving the other 65% to pay for their maintenance. Council's view is that this is not relevant for the Burke Shire Council area as the stock routes are inactive.

Thanks to Gary for going to the housing forum in Mount Isa as I was unable to travel for medical reasons. Gary called in on Sunday 1/11/10 to give me an update on the housing forum as well as the delegations to Community Cabinet. I am pleased that Gary is getting exposure to the functioning of the delegations and becoming known to our neighboring Shires. Gary will also be attending the North Qld Local Govt meeting in Port Douglas

I have taken a quote from Paul Woodhouse's comments re the announcement of RSDP funding of \$35m for the region and I think they are fair comment.

"2/11/10 No doubt everyone would have seen the announcement from the Premier's Department re; the RSDP funding for the NWRRG by now. While at \$35.8m it is considerably more than the nothing we previously had, it is a fair few million short of our identified and prioritised target. The funding for the Hann Highway is significant and very welcome as is the rest especially the \$8.5m for the Gregory to Burketown section.

I was however especially disappointed in the lack of acknowledgement of the work of all member councils in the development of the RSDP Submission, as well as the lack of any recognition of the work or benefit of the Roads Alliance itself. The work of all councils, the Technical Committee under Matt Fanning, Gerard Read, your engineering staff and CEO's are to be congratulated for the efforts that went into the compilation and presentation of the RSDP Submission. While it is the Queensland Government's money, I was surprised at the lack of recognition of all of your work and the Alliance itself."

The energy meeting in Townsville was informative and by and large had excellent speakers, most of whom were not relevant to our situation in Burke shire. Our local member Bob Katter spoke honestly about the lack of vision for regional Australia, and I think that Council needs to focus on planning as a matter of urgency if we are to succeed pushing our barrow for progress in the Shire. Our new CEO should be given the capacity to allow him to deal with the level of needs of the Shire. I have numerous business cards and contacts who are interested in assessing the energy needs. Council's position as a whole needs to discuss the issue of wild rivers legislation. Mr Abbott of the LNP has invited Council to discuss this and any other matters relevant to the Shire as soon as is convenient.

07.01 Wild Rivers Legislation

General discussion held on Wild Rivers legislation and the discussions with opposition leader Tony Abbott and Bob Katter.

FILE: BCS/G/LWR

Moved: Cr Camp
Seconded: Cr Olive

That Council authorise the CEO to compose a media release in relation to Wild Rivers Legislation and invite all independents, Tony Abbott, Federal Minister, MITEZ, Southern Gulf and Bob Katter to have a forum in Burke Shire.

Carried 02.101117

07.02 Partnership Opportunities with Energy Operators

FILE: BCS/ENERGY/PARTNERSHIPS

Moved: Cr Camp
Seconded: Cr Forshaw

Approach valid and guaranteed energy operators to investigate partnership opportunities with proven alternative energy providers for Burke Shire Council with the view to presenting this to GSD. Take this idea to Mornington Island with resolution to be passed and report to next meeting.

Carried 03.101117

07.03 Lifesaving Program

FILE: BCS/COMMS/SP

Moved: Cr Camp
Seconded: Cr Forshaw

Council pursue and develop a lifesaving programme and learn to swim programmes incorporating a first aid course in resuscitation.

Carried 04.101117

07.04 Availability of Plant equipment in Burke Shire

FILE: BCS/PES/C/LS

Moved: Cr Olive
Seconded: Cr Camp

That DES perform an audit on available plant equipment in Burke Shire. Write to all local companies/properties to ascertain what is available so a comprehensive list of plant and equipment for hire is compiled for local hire opportunities.

Carried 05.101117

07.05 Burketown Port

FILE: BCS/TT/BRWP/P

Note - Mayor discussed opportunity to explore options of a port out of the Gulf and suggested Council make a general item for each council meeting. Cr Olive spoke about dredging in river and there have been some research reports for pipelines across mudflats to Sweers Island etc.

07.06 Gregory River Landcare Group

Council received the Gregory Land Care minutes.

FILE: BCS/G/MEMBER

Moved: Cr Camp
Seconded: Cr Murray

That Council become a member of Gregory River Landcare Group. Council representatives be Cr Forshaw and CEO; Gary Letts.

Carried 06.101117

08. Councillor Reports

Cr Ernie Camp – report

In the last month I have attended the following on behalf of Council –

1. Community Cabinet Meeting Mt Isa

Attended by CEO; Gary Letts, Cr Tonya Murray and myself. Venue was unsuitable – awful acoustics which meant speakers were muffled; therefore unable to discern content and respond with comments and queries. Acoustics also impeded delegations – so much noise from all groups discussing simultaneously.

Attended delegation with GSD

- spoke to the Energy discussion paper.
- spoke about need to offer energy infrastructure that allowed communities to expand in population and business (ie allow growth)
-

Attended following delegations with BSC

- Wild Rivers
- brief discussion with relevant departments re issues
- on the one hand they want to protect the rivers yet the Wild Rivers legislation has been of no benefit to Council as it seeks to control and protect the Gregory River from campers

Emergency Services

- Discussed bulk storage facility to assist in maintaining suitable levels of foodstuffs in the community during Wet season

Policing Issues

- Desire to have a permanent police presence at Gregory but understand that budgetary constraints make this unlikely at this stage therefore we would accept upgrading of Burketown Station to 4 officers during peak periods.

- Spoke about high quality staff and how important it is to retain in communities – need to have an appropriate level of professional/personal infrastructure in place/maintained to do so. Therefore need to focus on upgrading Burketown infrastructure and amenities as a matter of priority.
- Spoke about need for improved communications/increased contactability – community security

2. RDA Workshop and Dinner - Burketown:

Attended workshop with CEO; Gary Letts and DES; Dennis Kerr to go through plan to date. Other Councillors could not make it in due to weather. Thanks to Gary and Dennis for attending.

Items discussed:

1. Size of area covered – could be a drawback – being that a lot of these areas historically have been working as competitive instead of collaborative. Need to acknowledge so we can move forward and overcome this
2. Our priorities – infrastructure – roads, power, communications – phone and internet
3. What is Missing from the Plan that could enhance our Region?
 - a. A port/access in the gulf – needs to be viable and vibrant
 - b. Possible extension of railway line through to Tennant Creek. Strengthen region and increase viability of existing corridors (Tvl-Isa, Tnt Ck-Drwn).

Better access to growing Asian markets – room for both above concepts

4. Grid Connection – opportunities for encouragement of green energy production to feed back into grid
5. Short Term Priorities – cut red tape would be an immediate enormous help, increase zone rebates, development of Tax free Economic Development Zones for Small – Medium Businesses
6. Some projects need to happen simultaneously otherwise individually won't be successful – may be a hindrance and maximum benefit may not be received. Need to identify these projects. For eg – broadband could – if strong local business not developed simultaneously (need reasonable road access prior to this to allow business development)) people will shop over internet and move away from local shopping.

3. GSD/DERM Tour

1. Attendees Peter Gilbey/Richard Priman (DERM), Rob McAllister (GSD) and myself
2. Prior to my joining tour group went to look at opportunities in Etheridge
3. Visited Wernadinga – ponded pasture, Escott – hay farming for own use, Gregory Farm – commercial hay production, Lorraine – hay, eilage and feedlot
4. Showed how water access can allow farmers to utilize pasture to assist with weaning, preparation for turnoff and stock supplementation.
5. Saw full scope of production possibilities. DERM reps impressed and interested in what they saw. Also surprised. They were looking at finishing opportunities however all visits showed opportunities for weaning of late drop calves which reduced mortality of calf/mother and

increased female return to fertility (up to 15-20%). If all landholders had this opportunity it could have a big impact

6. Impediments to generalized increase in water availability are legislative Without changes/amendments (ie political will) despite obvious benefits little change will occur
7. As DERM reps are public servants they could report on findings and make recommendations – need political will to enable action.
8. My thanks to all those managers who allowed the group to inspect and ask questions and who gave freely of time and knowledge. It is much appreciated.

Cr Bill Olive - verbal report

Gary Letts, CEO and Dennis Kerr, DES visited Cr Bill Olive to observe road conditions from Burketown over to Hells Gate area. There is some drainage going to be formed to try and keep roads open as long as possible.

Cr. Bill Olive advised rangers are currently burning rubber vine from Eight Mile to Albert River. Burning of rubber vine area will extend further in their planning.

Cr Tonya Murray - verbal report

Attended community meeting with Cr. Ernie Camp. Meeting was very interesting.

Attended NQLGA conference in Port Douglas with Gary Letts, CEO. Friday was the most interesting day and very relevant to Burke Shire but many attendees from remote area had to depart early for travelling. Cr Tonya Murray gave feedback to conference organisers that it would be better at future meetings when setting agendas to consider the travelling times required for remote community delegates so they do not miss meetings relevant to them.

Donald Coventry from Southern Gulf Catchments spoke to Cr Tonya Murray about taking up the position of Indigenous Cultural Advisor for the Lower Gulf area. Cr. Tonya Murray wishes to discuss this with some others involved before making a decision. Mayor Annie Clarke encouraged Tonya to take up position.

10. Chief Executive Officers Reports

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Murray

That

The Chief Executive Officer's Standing Business Papers for Information as presented in Report 10.01.01 to 10.01.09 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 10.02.06 of the Business Papers be received for consideration.

Carried 07.101117

10.03 Emergency Services

FILE: BCS/EM/LDMG

LDMG to have a pre-season meeting.

Note - CEO to liaise with EMQ and set up.

10.04 Allied Health and Aged Care Services

FILE: BCS/CS/ACS

Allied health services and aged care respite services are severely lacking in this region and especially in Burketown. Simon Crean; Minister for the Arts; Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government is interested in pursuing a partnership role in regional areas, looking forward to see this develop.

Level of service was discussed and there are opportunities for future funding releases to address the short falls.

10.05 Food handling supervisors course for community groups

FILE: BCS/LE/LICENCE/FOOD

Cr Forshaw advised that community groups have to be licensed for a food-handling (CWA, VMR etc).

Attendance

Mayor Annie Clarke left the meeting by teleconference at 11.30am.

10.02.02 Purchase Community Housing

Council has the opportunity to purchase three Burketown community houses and three Burketown community units from the Department of Communities.

FILE: BCS/CP/HOUSING/CHP

Moved Cr Forshaw
 Seconded Cr Olive

That Council purchases all six properties being at Lot 40 Burke Street, Lot 84 and 85 Musgrave Street, and the three single bedroom units on Lot 171 Musgrave Street Burketown at the prices stated below. Council write to the Department of Communities asking them to reinvest the monies received from the sale into more housing in Burke Shire.

Lot 84 Musgrave Street	House	\$ 77,900.00
Lot 85 Musgrave Street	House	\$ 86,100.00
Lot 171 Musgrave Street	Three Units	\$154,496.16
Lot 40 Burke Street	House	\$ 73,800.00
	Total	\$392,296.16

Carried 08.101117

Declaration: Conflict of Interest

Cr Camp and Cr Forshaw declared a conflict of interest, as they have family members who are committee members of the RADF.

As a result, two out of the four councillors present declared a conflict of interest; the Local Government Act permits council to make a majority decision.

10.02.03 RADF request for extra funds

Following the meeting with Kylie Camp (Chair RADF Committee) and the CEO, Council considered the variation in the proposal.

FILE: BCS/CS/A/RADF

Moved Cr Murray
Seconded Cr Olive
Cr Camp and Cr Forshaw voted for the motion

That Council accepts the proposed sculpture as presented by the RADF chair and;
Council will pay the full amount of the sculptures which will then be reimbursed from the RADF budgeted funding from this year's allocation and in 2011/2012.

Carried 09.101117

10.01.05 Gulf Barramundi Restocking Association 2009/10 and 2010/11 Council Contribution

Each year Council contributes \$5000.00 to the Gulf Barramundi Restocking Association.

FILE: BCS/CS/FRF/FRF

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Olive

Donation to be made as per previous years.

Carried 10.101117

10.02.04 Burke Shire Local Government Draft Pest Management Plan 2011-2015

Burke Shires current Pest Management Plan adopted in 2007 expires in 2010.

The 2007-2010 plan has been reviewed resulting in the development of a draft revised plan for consideration.

FILE: BCS/ENVIRONM/POLICY

Moved Cr Olive
Seconded Cr Murray

That Council approves the Draft Burke Shire Council Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2011-2015 to be presented as a draft for community consultation.

Carried 11.101117

10.02.05 Proposed Council Meeting date for 2011

Presenting a listing of proposed dates for the Council meetings in 2011.

FILE: BCS/G/CM

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Murray

That the dates for the Council meetings for 2011 be adopted as follows with a start time of 0900 (with councillors arriving at 0830)

February	Wednesday 16
March	Wednesday 16
April	Wednesday 20
May	Wednesday 18
June	Wednesday 15
July	Wednesday 20
August	Wednesday 17
September	Wednesday 21
October	Wednesday 19
November	Wednesday 16
December	Wednesday 21

Carried 12.101117

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned for a break from 12.35pm to 12.40pm.
Upon resumption, all were present at the time of adjournment.

Attendance

Finance Manager; Debbie Glyde entered the meeting at 12.40pm.

10.02.06 Burke Shire Council Annual Report 2009/10

Annual report to be adopted for 2009/2010

FILE: BCS/CM/REPORT/ANNUAL REPORT

Moved Cr Murray
Seconded Cr Camp

That the Burke Shire Council Annual report to be adopted for 2009/2010.

Carried 13.101117

11. Finance Manager Reports

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Forshaw

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 Reports 11.02.01 to 11.02.04 of the Business Papers be received for consideration.

Carried 14.101117

11.02.01 Recreational Leave Policy

As no formal Leave Policy has been adopted by Council the following policy has been formulated to address this. It was also noted in the management response last financial year.

FILE: BCS/CM/P/PR/BCS

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Olive

That Council adopts the Burke Shire Council Recreational Leave Policy.

Carried 15.101117

11.02.02 Housing Policy

As no formal Housing Policy has been adopted by Council the following policy has been formulated to address Council housing.

FILE: BCS/CM/P/PR/BCS

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Olive

That Council adopts the Burke Shire Council Housing Policy with additions that replacement items where possible should be environmentally friendly (i.e.: solar hot water system/ air conditioners/ appliances)

Amendment: Allocation of housing point three to General Public – aged or frail to be amended to aged/frail or youth.

Carried 16.101117

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned for lunch from 1.00pm to 2.05pm.
Upon resumption, all were present at the time of adjournment.

11.02.03 Audited Financial Report

Councils are required to adopt the audited Financial Statements and Annual Report each year.

FILE: BCS/CM/REPORT/ANNUAL

Moved Cr Forshaw
Seconded Cr Murray

That Council adopts the audited Financial Statements for 2009-10; and

The final audit results from WHK-TCM Smith Audit Partnership for the year ended 30 June 2010 be noted.

Carried 17.101117

14 Closed session reports

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Forshaw

That Council move into closed session to discuss confidential items as stated in the Local Government (Operations) Regulation 2010 in Chapter 5 Administration, Part 2 Local government meetings and committees, under Sections 72 (1) (a) and (f). Council moved into closed session at 2.25pm.

Carried 18.101117

Move into Open Session

Council moved into open session at 2.45pm.

Moved Cr Camp
Seconded Cr Murray

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

Carried 19.101117

14.01 Community Cabinet Meeting

FILE: BCS/GR/M/CC

For Councils information.

14.02 Gregory Water Treatment Plant

FILE: BCS/WS/GW/WTP

For Councils information.

14.05 Consideration of rate classification

Letter received in regards to no notification of rate increase.

FILE: BCS/RV/RC

Moved: Cr Forshaw
Second: Cr Camp

CEO to write to ratepayer thanking for payment of the rates and apologise for lack of pre-notification to the rate change.

Advise that there was a full external review of the whole of Burke Shire's rating applications, and adjustments were made to reflect the review. Advise that there will be no reduction made to the rates.

Carried 20.101117

14.04 Application for Renewal of Preferential Pastoral Holding

FILE: PF/390-10000-000

Moved: Cr Murray
Second: Cr Olive

That the CEO writes a letter supporting the renewal of Preferential Pastoral Holding Lot 5 on crown plan BK39 stating that Council has no objections.

Carried 21.101117

14.06 Waanyi - Native Title Determination Update

FILE: BCS/NT/QUD 6002

For Councils information.

14.03 Extraction from Gravel Pits and Pipeline

FILE: BCS/ROAD/E/Q

Moved: Cr Camp
Seconded: Cr Olive

That Council endorses the extraction of gravel from the following pits – Walford, Eight-Mile, Hells Gate, Ridge Pit and Guldara.

Carried 22.101117

Attendance

Finance Manager; Debbie Glyde left the meeting at 3.00pm.
Director of Engineering; Dennis Kerr entered the meeting at 3.00pm.

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 12.01.04 of the Business Papers be received by Council and noted.

The Director Engineering Services Business Papers for Council Consideration and Decision as presented in Report 12.02.01 of the Business Papers be received for consideration.

Carried 23.101117

12.01 Visit from Department of Transport and Main Roads

FILE: BCS/ROAD/MR/M

Proposed visit in early December 2010.

12.02 Generators in Gregory

FILE: BCS/PES/PLANT/425

Future updating of generators at Gregory Depot and House.

12.02.01 Cyclone Wet Season Cleanup November 2010

As Council has indicated previously Cyclone awareness is the responsibility of everybody in the community when it comes to securing objects that can become airborne or missiles during high wind.

FILE: BCS/EMERGM/PCC

Moved Cr Olive
Seconded Cr Forshaw

That Council consider integration of the pre cyclone season cleanup with a general towns cleanup and endorse a further notice being distributed to those landholders or tenants that have accumulated old vehicles and other debris on Council property or vacant land advising that the vehicles and or debris can be removed with the proposed cleanup.

Carried 24.101117

Attendance

Dennis Kerr left the meeting at 3.55pm.

15 New business of an urgent nature admitted by Council

15.01 Burke and Wills Society research party coming to Burke Shire

Celebrating 150 years and 89 days ago.

FILE: BCS/G/MEMBER

Moved: Cr Forshaw
Second: Cr Camp

That Burke Shire Council becomes a member of the Burke and Wills Society and looks into funding options for commemorating this event.

Carried 25.101117

16. Closure of Meeting

The Chair declared the Meeting closed at 4.07pm.

I hereby certify that these pages numbered 1 to 15 - constitute the confirmed minutes of the Council Meeting of Burke Shire Council held on Wednesday 17 November 2010.

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MAYOR