

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL



Ordinary Meeting

Thursday 15 September 2022

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting
held on Thursday 15 September 2022 at the Yaraka Town Hall, Yaraka**

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1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgement of Country

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:27am

"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, and we acknowledge elders past, present and future."

2 Prayer

Pastor Steve Cavill, Outback Aerial Mission, opened the meeting with a prayer.

A minute's silence was held for Queen Elizabeth II passing.

PRESENT

Councillors

Mayor

Cr AC Rayner

Deputy Mayor

Cr LJ Nunn

Cr DJ Bignell

Cr AJ Emslie

Cr TM Hatch

Cr TJ Martin

Cr TFB Smith

Officers

Chief Executive Officer

Mr Dirk Dowling

Acting Director of Corporate Services

Mrs Kimberley Dillon

Director of Community and Cultural Services

Ms Lisa Young

Director of Infrastructure Services

Mr Roger Naidoo

Chief Financial Officer

Mr David Wilson

Human Resources and Workplace Health and
Safety Manager

Ms Grace Jones

Executive Officer, Economic Development and
Public Affairs

Mr Simon Kuttner

Executive Officer, Tourism

Ms Tanya Johnson

Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer,
Mayor and Councillors

Ms Calie McLachlan

Public Gallery

Apologies

Nil

3 Consideration of Leave of Absence

Nil

4 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors and Senior Council Officers

4.1 Declaration of Prescribed Conflicts of Interest on any Item of Business

Pursuant to section 150EG, 150EH, 150EI, 150EJ, 150EK, 150EL and 150EM of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a prescribed conflict of interest in a matter must notify Council of the potential benefit or loss, and if applicable, provide the name of the related person and their relationship with them. They may not participate in a decision relating to the matter and must leave the meeting.

No declarations were made during this point of the meeting.

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4.2 Declaration of a Declarable Conflict of Interest on any Item of Business

Pursuant to section 150EN, 150EO, 150EP, 150EQ, 150ER, 150ES and 150ET of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a declarable conflict of interest in a matter must notify Council of the nature of the interest, if applicable, name of the related person, the relationship to them, and the nature of the interest, and/or the value and date of any gift received.

The Councillor may voluntarily leave the meeting and not participate in a decision relating to the matter or;

Other Councillors may vote on this matter and decide if;

- (a) the Councillor must leave the meeting and not participate in a decision relating to the matter;
or
- (b) the Councillor may remain in the meeting and participate in a decision relating to the matter.

No declarations were made during this point of the meeting.

5 Confirmation of Minute

5.1 Council - Thursday 18 August 2022

(Res-2022-09-231)

Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Smith

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 18 August 2022, be confirmed.

CARRIED 7/0

6 Mayoral Report

The Mayor provided a verbal report on matters addressed by him since the last meeting.

Attended the opening of a new training room at the State Emergency Services (SES) building was undertaken with support from Cr Tracy Hatch, Cr Dale Bignell and Mr Simon Kuttner. SES staff gave demonstrations on chain saw operations and were well supported by SES staff from Blackall and Isisford.

Over the last month a number of fund raising rallies have visited Longreach and stayed for one or more nights helping inject funds into the local economy. These included the Variety Bash, Long Drive for Drought, Black Dog Ride, Poker Run and The Postie Bikes. The Mayor met and spoke to all the groups except the Postie Bikes.

Council was represented at the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) in Birdsville by the Mayor, who chaired the meeting. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) was also in attendance.

Met with Glenn Price Chief Executive Officer of Connecting Communities Australia who completed a painting project at the old Isisford Hospital.

Completed a Masterclass session in Disaster Management along with other Longreach Regional Council staff.

Organised an Exotic Disease information and awareness session for key local agency and primary producers. The Queensland Chief Veterinary Officer attended via zoom and gave an update on the major diseases posing a risk to Queensland Agriculture.

Served as a panel member for Queensland Police Services (QPS) on the appointment of Officer in Charge Longreach.

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The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) hosted a virtual meeting with Mayors from across Queensland to discuss Domestic Violence matters.

Attended a Qantas zoom meeting on the Centenary celebrations of the first Qantas mail run from Charleville to Longreach and Cloncurry which is scheduled for Wednesday 2 November 2022.

Chaired the Local Disaster Management Group meeting which involved planning for the forecast above average wet season. In the same week, also attended the District Disaster Management Group meeting which looks at regional disaster planning and preparation.

Had discussions with interested private and consortium groups interested in acquiring all or parts of the Longreach Pastoral College.

Gave interviews to ABC, 4LG and the Longreach Leader on key Council matters over the last month.

7 Councillor Requests

Nil

8 Notices of Motion

Nil

9 Petitions

Nil

10 Deputations

Nil

11 Reception and Consideration of Chief Executive Officer's Report

Consideration was given to the Chief Executive Officer's Report

11.1 Standing Matters: Councillor Information Correspondence

From the Chief Executive Officer, tabling a list of significant and relevant correspondence for Councillors and public information.

(Res-2022-09-232)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Emslie

That Council receive the Councillor Information Correspondence Report as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Bignell thanked the CEO on behalf of the Isisford Community for following up on the Dinosaur Project at the Outer Barcoo Interpretation Centre. Cr Bignell noted it has been a long process and the community had been requesting updates. The CEO stated he would continue to progress this project.

11.2 Standing Matters: Calendar of Events

Calendar of Events, Upcoming Meetings and Conferences for Councillors

(Res-2022-09-233)

Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Nunn

That Council receive the Calendar of Events for information.

CARRIED 7/0

The CEO highlighted the Police Remembrance day as an important event he would be attending.

The Mayor requested that community events are included in the council report moving forward.

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Cr Nunn noted that the Local Government Association of Queensland would be holding an Elected Member Updated (EMU) on Tuesday 20 September 2022 commencing at 9:00am. Councillors and the Executive Leadership Team have been invited to attend.

11.3 Amendments to Standing Orders Policy

Consideration of minor amendments to the Standing Orders for Council Meeting Policy No. 3.2 to include new section and reports.

(Res-2022-09-234)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Smith

That Council adopts the updated Standing Orders of Council Meetings Policy No. 3.2 as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Emslie requested that policies brought to future Council Meetings have changes in the document highlighted.

11.4 Actions from previous Council Meetings

Outstanding actions from previous Council Meetings as at 31 August 2022.

(Res-2022-09-235)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Nunn

That Council receives and notes outstanding actions from previous Council Meetings as at 31 August 2022.

CARRIED 7/0

11.5 Workplace Health & Safety Update Report - August 2022

This report provides a summary of Council's health and safety performance as at 31 August 2022, highlighting issues, risk and opportunities impacting the on employee health and safety in the workplace.

(Res-2022-09-236)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Martin

That Council accept the Workplace Health & Safety Update Report for period ending 31 August 2022, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Nunn made comment that it was great to hear Council was investing in safety culture training for staff and thanked the Human Resources and Workplace Health and Safety Manager, Ms Grace Jones for the detailed safety report. Mayor Rayner endorsed Cr Nunn's comments.

11.6 Information Report - Governance

This report provides an update on a range of activities that have occurred during the month of August for the Governance Department.

(Res-2022-09-237)

Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Bignell

That Council receive the Governance information report as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Smith queried what commission percentage is received for tour bookings and the response was generally 10% from Tourism providers. Cr Smith also requested camping fee totals be reported on a monthly basis.

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Cr Martin welcomed the Executive Officer of Tourism (EOT), Ms Tanya Johnson to Council and asked why Council does not charge a commission to the Longreach School of Distance Education. Cr Martin also questioned if Council would consider raising the commission percentage year on year.

Cr Martin requested that the EOT provide a list of tourism memberships, events and campaigns that are planned for the next twelve months. Cr Martin also questioned what marketing Council is currently engaged in and a breakdown on our involvement with each organisation.

Cr Martin asked if Queensland Rail is considering to promote the 2 for 1 tickets next season.

Cr Nunn welcomed the EOT and congratulated her on trialling the opening of the Longreach Powerhouse Museum on a Saturday as it is a valuable tourism asset. Cr Nunn also complimented the Director of Community and Cultural Services(DCCS), Mrs Lisa Young and the EOT on the Garden at the Longreach Powerhouse Museum.

Cr Rayner left the Meeting at 10:10 AM.

Cr Rayner returned to the Meeting at 10:11 AM.

The EOT provided Councillors with an update on the Dinosaur replica for the Outer Barcoo Interpretation Centre. The replica was completed in 2019 by the University of Queensland, however cannot be released until Professor Salisbury publishes his research. The final placement of the Dinosaur is stage three after the Isisford Bulldog Fish and Isisfordia Duncani Cretaceous Crocodilian.

The University of Queensland have asked for several extensions citing various reasons for the delay. Catherine Sweeney has stepped in to assist Professor Salisbury in the completion of this project and has drafted a letter stating that the Longreach Regional Council have asked for an extension. This is not the case, the wording is not exactly correct. The University of Queensland have requested the extension requiring Council to sign off on this.

Professor Salisbury will coordinate the final installation of the Dinosaur and was hoping for this to coincide with a launch of the completed project in April 2023.

Cr Smith questioned why Council was unable to receive the replica model until the research has been completed, and what budget had been allocated in total for this project. The EOT confirmed it was approximately \$50,000 to date.

The CEO stated that as part of the process the research must be published prior to Council receiving the replica.

Cr Martin requested that mud-map signage be updated to include new points of interest, as previously requested by Cr Bignell. The EOT said this would be looked at in the future and provided an update on the signage at Oma Waterhole and Barcoo camping areas.

Cr Bignell stated that there had been discussions on where the mud-map would be located, with the suggestion of relocating it to the new BBQ area in Whitman's Memorial Park as opposed to the Outer Barcoo Interpretation Centre. It was recommended it be moved so that it would be more accessible to the public.

Cr Nunn asked for an update on the Liveability Project from the Executive Officer, Economic Development and Public Affairs (EOEDPA), Mr Simon Kuttner. The EOEDPA noted a brief was being prepared for the CEO to progress the project.

Cr Smith requested an update on the GroWQ organisation. Mayor Rayner noted GroWQ would hold an AGM shortly but have been deregistered from the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC). The CEO said he had suggested GroWQ coordinate with solicitors moving forward. Cr Smith also queried

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what funds the organisation had. The CEO said the organisation had approximately \$20,000 remaining, but some of that could be grant funds.

Cr Hatch made mention of the new domain names being released for purchase without a dot-com suffix. The EOEDPA said LGAQ had raised the importance of having this registered as soon as possible. The EOEDPA noted an email would be sent out to stakeholders that may also be effected by this.

The Mayor provided an update on the award Council received for the Covid Care Packs provided by Council with Get Ready funding. A suggestion was made to write a letter to a previous employee, Ms Donna Rowlands, who was the lead in this project.

The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea 10:21am.

The meeting returned at 11:05am with all present prior to the adjournment in attendance.

12 Reception and Consideration of Director Corporate Services Report

Consideration was given to the Director Corporate Services Report

12.1 Monthly Financial Statements

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 31 August 2022:

(Res-2022-09-238)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Emslie

That the monthly financial statements for the period ending 31 August 2022, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

The Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Mr David Wilson explained the difference in employee costs from the last Financial Year being that there was an accounting adjustment allocating wages to services and projects in the prior year that reduced the August 2021 year-to-date amount.

Cr Nunn asked for further information on the 2% staff wage increase. The CFO explained this was agreed by the CEO to provide the increase to employees while the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement is being negotiated.

The Mayor asked for clarification in relation to page 86 Longreach Wild Dog Scheme payment where it states Council has paid out its Longreach Wild Dog Exclusion Fence Scheme payments. The CFO clarified that Council has fully repaid the LWDEFS loan # 2 and made a partial repayment of the LWDEFS loan #1 with the excess funds. The Mayor noted that the way page 86 reads may be misleading to the public.

12.2 Debt Recovery Policy

Consideration of the adoption of the Debt Recovery Policy No. 1.12, which was due for its annual review.

(Res-2022-09-239)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell

That Council adopts the Debt Recovery Policy No 1.12, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

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12.3 Information Report - Corporate Services

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of August 2022 for the Corporate Services Department.

(Res-2022-09-240)

Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Martin

That Council receive the Corporate Services information report as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Bignell queried why there was no audit trail on the three purchase orders exceeding the 10% threshold. The Acting Director of Corporate Services (ADCS), Mrs Kimberley Dillon requested to get more information from the Senior Procurement Officer. The DCCS advised this would normally be a purchase order raised for a lower cost item as it is hard to estimate without a quote.

The top 25 suppliers was discussed and the CEO noted that Council is obliged to publish this list and also made note that it has always been available on the Longreach Regional Council website.

Cr Bignell asked why the Barcaldine Regional Council was on the list. The Director of Infrastructure (DIS), Mr Roger Naidoo confirmed that Barcaldine Regional Council was on the top 25 Suppliers list, as the Council is currently the Treasurer for both the RAPAD Water and Sewer Alliance and the Outback Regional Roads and Transport Group.

13 Reception and Consideration of Director Community and Cultural Services Report

Consideration was given to the Director Community and Cultural Services Report

13.1 Community Donations - September 2022

Consideration of the Community Donations applications received in September in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

(Res-2022-09-241)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Hatch

That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.07;

<i>Organisation/ Name</i>	<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Grant Requested</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>	<i>Conditions of approval/Payment</i>
<i>Longreach Archival and Historical Research Group</i>	<i>Poppy Trail</i>	<i>Financial \$4,500.00</i>	<i>Financial \$4,500.00</i>	<i>Nil</i>
		<i>In-Kind \$500.00</i>	<i>In-Kind \$500.00</i>	
		<i>Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Total \$5,000.00</i>	
		<i>TOTAL \$5,000.00</i>	<i>TOTAL \$5,000.00</i>	

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Hatch requested this initiative be considered as a budget request item for Ilfracombe, Isisford and Yaraka in the 2022-2023 budget deliberations. Cr Martin, Cr Bignell and Cr Emslie offered to volunteer to assist in the delivery of this project. The DCCS thanked the Councillors for their support.

13.2 Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Advisory Committee Meeting and Recommendations

Consideration of the minutes and recommendations of the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Committee meeting held on 10 August 2022.

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(Res-2022-09-242)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Martin

That:

a) That the Minutes of the Regional Arts Development Fund Committee held on Wednesday 10 August 2022, be received;

b)RADF Committee approved the 22/23 budget;

c) The RADF Committee approved the 22/23 Council programs, these being:

- Twinkle in the Moon*
- Wolfgang's Magical Musical Circus*
- Dirty Flame Flash Club*

d) That pursuant to section 265 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council approves the application by Topology for 'Longreach Stories' project to the value of \$5,000.00;

e) That pursuant to section 265 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council approves the application by the Isisford Sate School P and C for Recorded Dance Lessons to the value of \$3,040.00;

f) That Council endorses the opening of RADF Funding Round Two, which was approved and opened on Thursday 11 August 2022. Due to the successful increase of RADF funds for the 22/23 FY the Committee wanted to open round two to ensure applicants have sufficient time to complete applications and receive funds for their project;

g) That RADF Round Two opening to be advertised on community Facebook pages, Longreach Leader and the Mayor's column on 4LG. Closure date for RADF Funding Round Two will be on Friday 23 September 2022, this being in time for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 27 October 2022.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Hatch asked how Council has been approved for additional funding from previous years, and what Council will be looking to do with the additional funding. The DCCS explained that the additional \$40,000 could go back into the pools or be used for a Council specific arts project.

Cr Nunn clarified that Council contribution has increased and wanted to ensure we started promotion on Council specific projects. The DCCS mentioned a presentation will be made to Councillors at the October Strategic Round Table Meeting.

13.3 Consideration - Local Law

Consideration of introducing a Subordinate Local Law for the management of the minimum presentation and hygiene standards of Short Term Accommodation.

(Res-2022-09-243)

Moved Cr Smith seconded Cr Bignell

That Council directs the CEO to prepare amendments to Council's existing Local Law framework to bring to Council for consideration as soon as practicable.

CARRIED 7/0

The Councillors discussed the proposed local law in detail with a discussion held on understanding if Council has exhausted all avenues before going down this avenue.

Cr Smith stated there is an issue in the community and Council has an obligation to businesses and the community to try to assist and enforce this where possible.

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13.4 Exemption Certificate for a Class 10a Shed at 159 Wren Street, Longreach

Consideration of an application for an Exemption Certificate for a 144m² shed as the effects of the development are minor or inconsequential.

(Res-2022-09-244)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Hatch

That pursuant to Section 46 of the Planning Act 2016, Longreach Regional Council grants an Exemption Certificate for proposed building work assessable against the Planning Scheme for a 144m² Class 10 Shed at 159 Wren Street, Longreach, formally described as Lot 110 on L3579.

CARRIED 7/0

13.5 Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 159 Wren Street, Longreach

Consideration of a Referral Agency Assessment Application for an alternative siting assessment lodged with Council on 15 August 2022, for a shed to be constructed on land located at 159 Wren Street, Longreach and described as Lot 110 on L3579.

Amendment:

Moved: Cr Martin Seconded: Cr Bignell

That the motion be amended to approve a 3m setback

CARRIED 7/0

The amended Motion becomes the substantive motion

(Res-2022-09-245)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell

That pursuant to section 32 and 33 of the Building Act 1975, Planning Act 2016 and schedule 9, table 3 of the Planning Regulations 2017, the shed at 159 Wren Street, Longreach and formally described as Lot 110 on L3579, be approved to be constructed with a 3m setback from the Finch Lane road boundary, as per the attached site plan and the recommendation from Council's Building Certifier.

CARRIED 7/0

13.6 Review of Council Facilities (Liquor) Policy

Consideration of a review of the Council Facilities (Liquor) Policy No 07.01.

(Res-2022-09-246)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Nunn

That Council endorse the Council Facilities (Liquor) Policy No 07-01, as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

13.7 Information Report - Community & Cultural Services

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of August for the Community & Cultural Services Department.

(Res-2022-09-247)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Martin

That Council receive the Community & Cultural Services information report as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

The DCCS provided an update on the Cemetery Plinths replacement works and noted there may be up to two months wait.

The Mayor asked if staff could investigate a garden competition for the region and present back to Council.

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14 Reception and Consideration of Director Infrastructure Services Report

Consideration was given to the Director Infrastructure Services Report

14.1 Grid Replacement Program Update

This report provides an update on the Grid Replacement Program from the time Council undertook the management of grids and gates in 2017.

(Res-2022-09-248)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Nunn

That Council receive the Grid Replacement Program Update as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Smith requested the Grid Replacement Program Update be included as a report in the next Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee meeting. The DIS noted it would be included.

14.2 Information Report - Infrastructure Services

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of August for the Infrastructure Department.

(Res-2022-09-249)

Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Emslie

That Council receive the Infrastructure information report as presented.

CARRIED 7/0

Cr Rayner left the Meeting at 12:25 PM.

Cr Rayner returned to the Meeting at 12:27 PM.

15 Late Items

15.1 Longreach Showgrounds - Irrigation Centreline Replacement

Consideration of replacing the Irrigation Centre-line within the Longreach Showgrounds Oval.

(Res-2022-09-250)

Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Smith

That Council:

- 1. authorise Council officers to engage relevant contractor to proceed with the works outlined in the report; and*
- 2. provide in principle approval of \$36,000 and the amount be included for the Longreach Showgrounds Irrigation Centre-line replacement in the October Quarterly budget review.*

CARRIED 7/0

16. Mayoral Minute

Yaraka Sports & Progress Association Meeting Saturday 10 September 2022

Councillors discussed the items that were raised at the Yaraka Sports and Progress Association Meeting, with the items and outcomes listed below;

Kiama Park Sports Ground

Dam By-wash- The DIS to investigate what is required for this project. The CEO has taken this on notice.

Race Track- The CEO noted it would be inspected today.

Kitchen/ Bar pavilion- The CEO would inspect today and will update the Yaraka Sports & Progress Association of these findings.

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Yaraka Hall

Floor covering in IT room- It was noted a contractor has been engaged to complete this project.

Yaraka Pool Fence

Yaraka Pool Fence- This item was put up in the 22-23 budget but did not get approved. Council to reinspect today.

Emmet- Blackall Road and Isisford Blackall Road

This item was noted.

Moved Cr Rayner

17. Closed Matters

Nil for this meeting

18. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:48pm

Minutes Certificate

These minutes are unconfirmed.

Cr AC Rayner
Mayor

Dirk Dowling
Chief Executive Officer