



**Longreach
Regional Council**
Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

Council news

Ilfracombe | Isisford | Longreach | Yaraka

FEBRUARY 2024 - EDITION 14



Who are we – our region

Our region consists of Ilfracombe, Isisford, Longreach and Yaraka (IILY) and covers an area of 40,638 square kilometres.

Our region has a population of 3,721 people and is home to a variety of tourist attractions.

Brett's Briefing

– with Brett Walsh

Hello and welcome to another edition of IILY.

With caretaker period ongoing until the election results are declared, it falls to me to update you on some of our work in February for Council and the community.

I'd like to congratulate all the participants in our Longreach Youth Leadership Retreat. The retreat was designed to nurture leadership skills, foster community spirit, and provide our youth with the tools they need to become the community leaders of tomorrow. Congratulations to everyone who took part and I look forward to the innovative ideas that will emerge, in partnership with our new Youth Council, from this empowering experience.

I had the opportunity to meet some candidates for the upcoming local government elections at the official ballot paper draw in February. The Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) returning officer was diligent in conducting a fair and equitable draw. There are thirteen candidates for six councillor positions, and many of them attended in person. The Longreach Regional Council election will be conducted by full postal ballot – there will be no polling stations on election day. Once you receive your postal ballot you are free to submit it prior to polling day.

Recognising the vital role of small businesses in our local economy, we were delighted to host the Small Business Commissioner, Dominique Lamb, during February. The office of the commissioner provides support and resources to local entrepreneurs and business owners. It offers guidance on navigating challenges, accessing assistance programs, and seizing growth opportunities. I strongly encourage our local business community to engage with this initiative and explore the ways in which the Small Business Commissioner can help your enterprise thrive.

It's great to see some of our projects progressing, such as the new picnic shelter at Beersheba Place and early work on the Ilfracombe Multi-Purpose Court. In addition, we're getting ready to commence a new round of water mains replacements in Longreach later this month. As usual, impacted residents will be notified by letterbox drop, and disruptions will be kept to a minimum. These mains replacements will cap off a significant investment in our underground water infrastructure over several years – leaving us well ahead of the infrastructure cliff faced by many of our counterparts in local government.

If you would like more information about anything we're doing around the region, please get in touch with us directly. Our customer service team will gladly field any enquiry you make, and connect you to the right person. Call us, or email us, check our website, follow our socials, or read this newsletter. You can contact Council directly anytime on (07) 4658 4111 (24hrs), or via email to council@longreach.qld.gov.au.





INTERNATIONAL Women's Day



**Friday 8th March
2024**

QANTAS Park
(next to the visitor information center)
between 9am and 1pm



**Stop by and grab a cuppa and have a chat
in honor of the incredible women in our
community!**



**Strong Women
may we know them,
may we be them,
may we raise them.**

#inspireinclusion





Minutes in a Minute

February 2024 Council Meeting

Council met for its Ordinary Meeting at the Council Chambers in Ilfracombe on 15 February. Among other matters, the meeting:

- ♦ Received a discussion paper from the Australian Local Government Association related to the annual National General Assembly to take place later this year;
- ♦ Received an invitation to the Australian Council of Local Government, coordinated by the Commonwealth Government;
- ♦ Received and adopted recommendations from the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee related to the environmental management of Queensland National Parks; and,
- ♦ Considered multiple sponsorship applications.

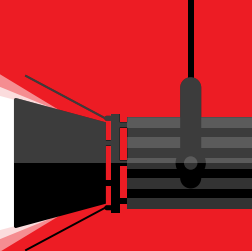
SPONSORSHIP

Organisation	Project Activity	Grant Approved
Somerset Storyfest Ltd	Storyfest Out West 4-6 September 2024	In-Kind \$7,419.00
		Total: \$7,419.00
Opera Queensland	Festival of Outback Opera 14-20 May 2024	Financial \$1,200.00
		In-Kind \$2,987.70
		Total: \$4,187.70

Our Council meetings are always open to the public, and you can find the full agenda and minutes online at: longreach.qld.gov.au/meetings-agendas-minutes.

SPOTLIGHT

on Ilfracombe



What to do and see in Ilfracombe

Visit the **Lynn Cameron Machinery Mile** which hosts a range of equipment from standing engines to earthmoving machinery.

Stop for a look at the **Wellshot Centre** which tells the story of one of Australia's greatest sheep stations, Wellshot Station.

Visit the **Jackson Collection**, a lifetime collection of two brothers, Hilton and Ike Jackson. Hilton's bottles are reputed to be one of the largest and best collections in Australia and contain over 30,000 bottles. Ike's valuable collection comprises over 120 firearms from wars to battles fought throughout the world.

Go for a short drive and check out the **12 Mile Stone Pitching & Hotel**, a reservoir created by selecting and laying thousands of flagstones so that, in an area prone to savage droughts, the leak-proof reservoir was developed.

Relax in the **Artesian Spa** located in the centre of town at the Ilfracombe Memorial Park. If you need a place for a meal or would like to stay in Ilfracombe to explore more, the Wellshot Hotel and the Ilfracombe caravan park are the place to be.

If you'd like to satisfy your shopping needs during the week you can get boutique clothing at the Ilfracombe Post office and on the weekend you can search through **Ilfracombe Antiques & Collectables** for treasure or upgrade your yard with some plants from the **Ilfracombe Nursery** because we all know you can never have enough of them.

If you want to find out more visit experiencelongreach.com.au.

Come and meet Donna

Donna is Council's newest Customer Service Team member based at the Ilfracombe Council Office. The office is open from Monday – Friday between 9am – 2pm.

Whether you need to pay your rates, register your dog or put in a customer service request, be sure to visit Donna. She'll also help you with all your visitor information needs and point you in the right direction.



Heritage Project

Council is embarking on an exciting heritage project in Ilfracombe which aims to look at how we can enhance visitor attractions in Ilfracombe such as Langenbaker House, Romani Hall, the Wellshot Centre, Oakhampton Cottage, the gun and glass display, Hilton collection etc.

Working with the Cultural Heritage team at GBA, we'll be looking at compiling all of the existing information (and there is a lot) we have on the heritage assets based in Ilfracombe to complete an inventory of what we have and to do further significance assessments of the collections.

This work will inform Council's future activities such as on-going maintenance programs, and creating curated collections which will lead to the development of new tourism opportunities and experiences that showcase the rich history of Ilfracombe. Discussions with the Ilfracombe Historical Society are on-going and we will engage with other local stakeholders as required.

Ilfracombe Post Office

This project involves moving the services currently being delivered from Ilfracombe Post Office into the existing Council buildings, and will include an enhanced tourist Information space, the community library and refreshed Council Chambers and offices.

The integration of AustPost and Council services will provide more room and an enhanced experience for the community and tourists alike. The team is working on a concept plan and investigating the building's condition and location of services. Once a project plan is finalised and all costs and activities are known, a budget will be sought through the normal council processes.

Ilfracombe Multi-purpose court

The progress at the multi-purpose court continues with the foundations now completed.

Recent rain has provided us with a test of the water diversion which has proudly served its purpose well and kept water away from the foundation.

The next milestone, concreting of the court, will commence at the end of February. The project is supported by the federal Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

23/24

Projects in Focus

♦ Beersheba

Beersheba Place now provides a shelter with a picnic table and water drinking fountain for people and dogs. The upgraded facility will serve as the meeting place for the increasingly popular Old Thomson River Road parkrun which occurs every Saturday at 7am. The project is supported by the federal Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.



♦ New Grid

The Minor Works Team has installed a new grid on the Darr Yanburra Road in Longreach as part of your yearly grid renewal program.



Water Service – Water Mains Cleaning Longreach

Longreach Regional Council has appointed ClearFlow Australia to conduct essential cleaning of the water mains in all towns within the Longreach Regional Council area.

The work in Ilfracombe and Isisford was completed last year and Longreach will be on the agenda next. The work is proposed to take place in March 2024 and will affect the whole town of Longreach in stages. Customers will experience short interruptions to their water supply while cleaning work is carried out close to their premises.

Customers may also notice water being flushed into the stormwater drains. We will inform the community once the dates have been finalised through Facebook and letter drop.

Ordinary Meeting April – Date Change:

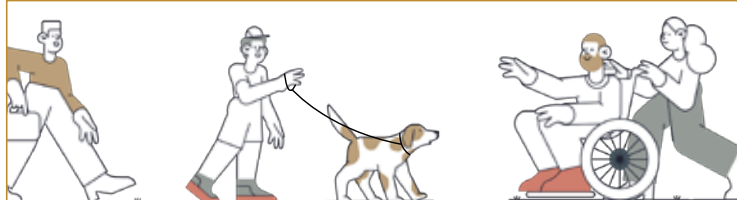
Council wishes to advise that the Ordinary meeting scheduled for Thursday 18 April 2024 has been moved to Thursday 11 April 2024.

The meeting will commence at 09.00am in the Longreach Council Chambers, 96 Eagle St, Longreach QLD 4730. You can find previous meetings and links to meeting schedules, agendas and minutes by visiting longreach.qld.gov.au/meetings-agendas-minutes.

Did you know?

All our ordinary meetings are open to the public and we encourage and invite the community to come along, listen to the wide variety of issues that Councillors discuss and debate and witness democracy in action.

COMMUNITY



Creating better places to walk in Longreach

Complete the survey to provide valuable insights to help improve the footpath network in Longreach.



The Longreach Regional Council is developing a Walking Network Plan. The Plan will inform Council's future priority works program by identifying where good walking infrastructure is needed including pathways, crossing locations, shade, lighting, seating and water bubblers.

We want to know:

- **Where** do you want to walk?
- **What's** stopping you from walking?
- **Where** are improvements needed?
- **What** can make walking a safer, more convenient, and comfortable experience?

Further information on walking network planning is available on Council's website.



Funded by the Department of Transport and Main Roads under the Walking Local Government Grants



EASTER AT EDKINS

fun for the whole family

Saturday 23 March
Edkins Park
8 – 11pm



Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.



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