



General Council Meeting

Meeting of the Central Highlands Regional Council held in the **Council Chambers, 65 Egerton Street, Emerald** on

Tuesday, 9 October 2018
Commenced at 2.30pm

COUNCIL MINUTES

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2018

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MINUTES – GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 2.30PM TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2018 IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, EMERALD OFFICE

PRESENT

Councillors

Councillor (Crs) K. Hayes (Mayor), G. Godwin-Smith (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors (Crs) P. Bell AM, C. Brimblecombe, M. Daniels, A. McIndoe, G. Nixon, C. Rolfe and G. Sypher

Officers

Chief Executive Officer S. Mason, General Manager Communities D. Fletcher, General Manager Corporate Services J. Bradshaw, General Manager Customer and Commercial Services M. Webster, Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Utilities J. Hoolihan, General Manager Central Highlands Development Corporation S. Hobbs, Coordinator Communications A. Ferris, Minute Secretary B. Pusey

APOLOGIES

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Nixon “That a leave of absence be granted for Cr Megan Daniels for the General Meetings scheduled for October 23, November 13 and 27, 2018 pursuant to section 162 (1)(e) of the Local Government Act 2009.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 001

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Administration Assistant N. Kerr attended the meeting at 2.35pm

Administration Assistant N. Kerr left the meeting at 2.36pm

Opening Prayer

Pastor Roderick McLennan from the Emerald Presbyterian Church delivered the opening prayer.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

General Council Meeting: 25 September 2018

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr Daniels “That the minutes of the previous General Council Meeting held on 25 September 2018 be confirmed subject to the minutes be amended to read ‘Cr McIndoe did not vote on the matter’ relating to the conflict of interest for the McIndoe Park Amenities Building Tender report in Closed Session.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 002

Carried (9-0)

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Nil

Outstanding Meeting Actions

Nil

Review of Upcoming Agenda Items

Nil

Material Personal Interest, Conflict Of Interest, Personal Gifts And Benefits

Cr Bell – (Due to his position as Chairman of the Emerald Neighbourhood Centre) declared a perceived conflict of interest for the late agenda item, Communities Standing Committee Minutes on 9 October 2018.

Petitions (If Any)

Nil

COMMUNITIES

Smart Cities Week Conference - 29 - 31 October 2018

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the upcoming Smart Cities Week, hosted by Smart Cities Council Australia and New Zealand, which is held in Sydney between 29 – 31 October 2018. As per previous Smart Cities Conferences that have been held in 2018, having had Councillor representation, this report aims to recommend attendance at this event by relevant Councillor/s as representatives of Central Highlands Regional Council (CHRC).

Resolution:

Cr Nixon moved and seconded by Cr Daniels “That Central Highlands Regional Council authorise Councillors McIndoe and Sypher to attend the Smart Cities Week, hosted by Smart Cities Council Australia and New Zealand, which is to be held in Sydney from 29 – 31 October 2018.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 003

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Manager Community Development S. Poulter, Coordinator Community Engagement B. Frawley and Community Development Officer A. Burton attended the meeting at 2.51pm

Community Reference Group - Regional Project Funding

Executive summary:

In the 2018-19 financial year budget, council has allocated \$160,000 to support place-based Community Reference Groups (CRGs) in realising their community projects. This report presents the Community Development Unit's (CDU) recommendation to fund seven of the 29 projects submitted, and roll the remaining balance into a new Community Grants “Community improvement” category.

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Daniels “That Central Highlands Regional Council:

1. Endorse the seven nominated Community Reference Group projects to receive funding from the \$160,000 allocated, to be expended in the 2018-19 financial year.
2. Endorse the establishment of a new “Community Improvement” category in council’s Community Grants Program, for the purpose of dispersing the remaining funds subject to the approval of category criteria by full Council.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 004

Carried (8-1)

Attendance

Manager Community Development S. Poulter, Coordinator Community Engagement B. Frawley and Community Development Officer A. Burton left the meeting at 3.05pm
Manager Planning and Environment K. Byrne, Coordinator Development & Planning J. Kirkwood and Senior Planner R. Tait attended the meeting at 3.06pm
Administration Assistant N. Kerr attended the meeting at 3.07pm
Administration Assistant N. Kerr left the meeting at 3.09pm

Development Application Update for September 2018

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide the monthly update on development activities currently before Council for assessment and decision within the planning team. This report is intended to inform Councillor's regarding decisions made during the past month as well as give an overview of the current applications lodged with Council. Should the need arise, time can be scheduled to discuss specific applications offline with the Manager of Planning and Environment, and the Assessment Manager.

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe "That Central Highlands Regional Council receive this report."

2018 / 10 / 09 / 005

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Manager Planning and Environment K. Byrne, Coordinator Development and Planning J. Kirkwood and Senior Planner R. Tait left the meeting at 3.28pm

CORPORATE SERVICES

Report of Audit Committee Meeting - 28 September 2018

Executive summary:

The Audit Committee is established as required under s. 105 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and met as scheduled on Friday 28 September 2018.

Resolution:

Cr Rolfe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith "That Central Highlands Regional Council receive the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 28 September 2018 and adopt the:

1. The conclusions and recommendations from the External Auditor's 2018 Closing Report and receive the Financial Statements of the Central Highlands Regional Council, for the year ended 30 June 2018;
2. The conclusions and recommendations from the Internal Audit report on Contracted Services – Vendor Performance Management be referred to management for implementation."

2018 / 10 / 09 / 006

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Tourism Development Officer P. Thompson attended the meeting at 3.35pm

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Tourism Community Engagement Plan

Executive summary:

The Tourism Community Engagement Plan will progress the development of the Central Highlands Tourism Strategy with guidance from proposed Tourism Advisory Panel (TAP), Tourism Action Group (TAG) & Tourism Alliance Network (TAN) groups.

Resolution:

Cr Daniels moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That Central Highlands Regional Council nominate two Councillors Sypher and Nixon as representatives on the Tourism Advisory Panel to further the tourism agenda for the Central Highlands region.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 007

Carried (8-1)

Attendance

Coordinator Communications A. Ferris left the meeting at 4.00pm
Tourism Development Officer P. Thompson left the meeting at 4.02pm
Councillor M. Daniels left the meeting at 4.03pm
Councillor M. Daniels returned to the meeting at 4.04pm

Farm to Fine Dining Update

Executive summary:

The culmination of three years of learning, improvement, and relationship building, the 2018 Farm to Fine Dining event has matured to an anticipated, signature event which successfully demonstrates the investment value of the people, produce and region of the Central Highlands to key external influencers.

Resolution:

Cr Rolfe moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That Central Highlands Regional Council receive the Information Report.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 008

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

General Manager Customer and Commercial Services M. Webster left the meeting at 4.14pm
General Manager Customer and Commercial Services M. Webster returned to the meeting at 4.17pm
Agribusiness Development Coordinator L. Alexander attended the meeting at 4.20pm
Councillor G. Nixon left the meeting at 4.25pm
Councillor G. Nixon returned to the meeting at 4.29pm

Central Highlands Accelerate Agribusiness (CHAA) Update

Executive summary:

It is two years since the appointment of the CHDC Agribusiness Development Coordinator and one year since the last Agribusiness presentation to CHRC Councillors. A summary of some key activities undertaken to date is provided in the report.

Resolution:

Cr McIndoe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That Central Highlands Regional Council receive the Information Report.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 009

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Agribusiness Development Coordinator L. Alexander and General Manager Central Highlands Development Corporation S. Hobbs left the meeting at 4.34pm

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Council Meeting Dates 2019

Executive summary:

To allow planning for meetings and adherence with statutory requirements of the Local Government Regulations, this report provides a suggested schedule for meeting dates and community consultations for 2019 for the following:

- General Council Meetings;
- Standing Committee Meetings; and
- Strategic and Briefing Forums;

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That Central Highlands Regional Council:

1. Adopt the Standing Committee and General Council Meeting dates for 2019 as follows:

January	Tuesday 22 January 2019
February	Tuesday 5 February 2019 Tuesday 19 February 2019 (to be held in Capella)
March	Tuesday 12 March 2019 Tuesday 26 March 2019
April	Tuesday 16 April 2019 Tuesday 30 April 2019
May	Tuesday 14 May 2019 Tuesday 28 May 2019 (to be held in Blackwater)
June	Tuesday 11 June 2019 Tuesday 25 June 2019
July	Tuesday 9 July 2019 Tuesday 23 July 2019
August	Tuesday 13 August 2019 Tuesday 27 August 2019
September	Tuesday 10 September 2019 Tuesday 24 September 2019

October	Tuesday 8 October 2019 Tuesday 22 October 2019 (to be held in Springsure)
November	Tuesday 12 November 2019 Tuesday 26 November 2019
December	Tuesday 10 December 2019
January	Tuesday 21 January 2020

2. Conduct a community engagement event following Council Meetings held at regional offices throughout the year.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 010

Carried (9-0)

LATE AGENDA ITEMS

Minutes of Meeting – Finance and Infrastructure Standing Committee Meeting 9 October 2018, Communities Standing Committee Meeting: 9 October 2018 and Leadership and Governance Standing Committee Meeting: 9 October 2018

Cr Bell declared that he has a conflict of interest in the matter from the Community Grants Program – Round 2 report (as defined by section 175D of the *Local Government Act 2009*) as follows: -

- (a) That he is on the board of the Emerald & District Social Development Association Inc (EDSDA) who are one of the 27 funding applications that were received.

Cr Bell indicated he will be dealing with the declared conflict of interest by leaving the meeting while this matter is discussed and voted on.

Resolution:

Cr Godwin-Smith moved and seconded by Cr McIndoe “That the minutes of the Finance and Infrastructure Standing Committee Meeting held on 9 October 2018 be confirmed.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 011

Carried (9-0)

Resolution:

Cr Rolfe moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That the minutes of the Leadership and Governance Standing Committee Meeting held on 9 October 2018 be confirmed.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 012

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Councillor Bell left the meeting at 4.52pm

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That the minutes of the Communities Standing Committee Meeting held on 9 October 2018 be confirmed.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 013

Carried (8-0)

Attendance

Councillor Bell returned to the meeting at 4.54pm

General Manager Central Highlands Development Corporation S. Hobbs returned to the meeting at 5.04pm

Councillor Sypher left the meeting at 5.09pm

Councillor Sypher returned to the meeting at 5.11pm

2018 Stronger Communities Program

Executive summary:

Round 4 of the Australian Federal Government Stronger Communities Programme has been released and five projects have been identified for consideration within the grant programme and the purpose of this report is for Council to confirm the projects and allocated the requisite 50% financial contribution.

Resolution:

Cr McIndoe moved and seconded by Cr Daniels “That Central Highlands Regional Council approve the proposed five projects, which include;

- Maraboon Power and Ski Club
- Orion Community Inc.
- Blackwater Art Society
- Bauhinia Historical Association
- Dingo Hall

And further, that Central Highlands Regional Council allocate the total of \$30,000 towards the projects, equalling the required 50% contribution to the Stronger Communities Programme subject to finalisation of the projects.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 014

Carried (9-0)

Queensland Drought Program Submission

Executive summary:

Mr Lachlan Millar MP, Member for Gregory and Shadow Minister for Fire, Emergency Services and Volunteers has requested that Central Highlands Regional Council make a submission to the Queensland Government Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Drought Program Review, a Palaszczuk Government initiative to review drought programs and assistance in Queensland for future droughts.

This Report seeks input from Council in order that a submission can be developed and completed by the closing date of October 19, 2018.

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That Central Highlands Regional Council make a submission to the Government Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Drought Program Review based on the following points:

1. Consideration of ‘drought’ as a disability factor for the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission methodology for distribution of the Financial Assistance Grants
2. Understanding the cumulative drought impact (both successive and across sectors) and having government policy reflect supports which may be ratcheted up in severely impacted geographic areas for producers, businesses, local authorities and service providers, including State Government
3. Support for urban water provision, both reactive (carting water) and preventative (capital investment for improving security of supply)

4. Education and capacity building for rural enterprise business management, both operational decision making, financial and strategic planning
5. Encouraging land holders to seek individual drought declarations
6. Funding disbursements for isolated children to accommodate placement in Schools (including boarding Schools) to be increased in real terms to meet escalating costs of textbooks and School fees
7. Others, to be advised by Councillors to the Chief Executive Officer by close of business 10 October 2018

This motion was not put

Attendance

Councillor Sypher left to the meeting at 5.28pm

Resolution:

Cr Nixon moved and seconded by Cr Rolfe “That Central Highlands Regional Council donate \$5,000 to the Western Queensland Drought Appeal.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 015

Carried (8-0)

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That Central Highlands Regional Council make a submission to the Government Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Drought Program Review based on the following points:

1. Consideration of ‘drought’ as a disability factor for the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission methodology for distribution of the Financial Assistance Grants
2. Understanding the cumulative drought impact (both successive and across sectors) and having government policy reflect supports which may be ratcheted up in severely impacted geographic areas for producers, businesses, local authorities and service providers, including State Government
3. Support for urban water provision, both reactive (carting water) and preventative (capital investment for improving security of supply)
4. Education and capacity building for rural enterprise business management, both operational decision making, financial and strategic planning
5. Encouraging land holders to seek individual drought declarations
6. Funding disbursements for isolated children to accommodate placement in Schools (including boarding Schools) to be increased in real terms to meet escalating costs of textbooks and School fees
7. Others, to be advised by Councillors to the Chief Executive Officer by close of business 10 October 2018”

The motion was put and was carried 8-0

2018 / 10 / 09 / 016

Carried (8-0)

Attendance

Manager Asset Management M. Gatt and Asset Accountant A. Dias attended the meeting at 5.32pm
Councillor A. McIndoe left the meeting at 5.45pm

2018-19 Capital Works Delivery Update

Executive summary:

The report provides an early and high-level analysis of the delivery of the capital works program for 2018/19 and identifies a number of risks that will need further consideration and analysis to ensure that the planned delivery of the entire program can be achieved.

Resolution:

Cr Godwin-Smith moved and seconded by Cr Rolfe “That Central Highlands Regional Council receive the update report on Capital Works Program delivery for the 2018/19 year as at the 30 September 2018.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 017

Carried (7-0)

Attendance

Manager Asset Management M. Gatt and Asset Accountant A. Dias left the meeting at 6.00pm

GENERAL BUSINESS

(Verbal matters raised by Councillors either as a question, acknowledgement and or additional follow-up by officers)

2018 National Architecture Awards

Resolution:

Cr Godwin-Smith moved and seconded by Cr Rolfe “That Central Highlands Regional Council approve Councillor Nixon to attend the 2018 National Architecture Awards to be held 1 November 2018 at Melbourne.”

2018 / 10 / 09 / 018

Carried (7-0)

Cr Nixon

- Thanked Manager Community Recreation and Facilities J. Bryant and Coordinator Parks and Recreation A. Price for their attendance at the Workcamp Conference that was held in Springsure on 27 September 2018
- Write and thank the Department of Justice and Attorney General for the Springsure Workcamp Initiative
- Identify some more significant projects for Workcamp participants to deliver on behalf of Council in the Communities which the Springsure Workcamp services

Cr Godwin-Smith

- Commented on the improvements to the telecommunications in the Bauhinia area and suggested the possibility of identifying an alternative location under the current Black Spot Funding round.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 6.08pm

CONFIRMED

MAYOR

DATE