



GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CIVIC CENTRE
101 GOONDOON STREET, GLADSTONE**

On Tuesday 24 October 2023

Commencing at 9.00am

**Leisa Dowling
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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Elected Members

Councillor - Mayor M J Burnett
Councillor G G Churchill
Councillor K Goodluck
Councillor R A Hansen
Councillor C A Trevor
Councillor N Muszkat
Councillor C Cameron
Councillor D Branthwaite

Officers

Mrs L Dowling (Chief Executive Officer)
Mrs R Millett (Executive Secretary)
Mrs S Penrose (Manager Governance and Risk, Acting)
Mrs T Whalley (General Manager Finance Governance and Risk, Acting)
Ms C Quinn (General Manager People and Strategy)
Ms K Lee (General Manager Community and Lifestyle)
Mr M Holmes (General Manager Assets and Environment, Acting)
Mr R Huth (General Manager Customer Experience)
Ms J Rossow (Financial Controller)
Ms L Cattermole (Community Investment Officer)
Ms A Moore (Manager Environment and Conservation)
Ms K Fowler (Environmental Advisor)
Ms F Barker (Manager Arts and Entertainment, Acting)

G/0.3.2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor Desley O'Grady was an apology as she was attending the Parks and Leisure Australia National Conference (resolution GM/23/5050).

G/0.3.3. MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE

Nil

G/0.3.4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cr Hansen

Councillor Rick Hansen advised that he has a prescribed conflict of interest in Agenda Item G/3.1. NOT FOR PROFIT HOUSE as his wife, Lyndal Hansen, is CEO of Not For Profit (NFP) House who is presenting a deputation.

Cr Hansen advised that he will leave the room for the consideration of Agenda Item G/3.1.

Cr Muszkat

Councillor Natalia Muszkat advised that she has a prescribed conflict of interest in Agenda Item G/4.4. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - ELEVATOR FUND APPLICATIONS as she is a director and chair of the board of Strong Communities Ltd who will directly benefit from an application for funding that will be considered as part of Item G/4.4.

Cr Muszkat advised the she will leave the room for the consideration of Agenda Item G/4.4.

G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES

On 3 October 2023 we saw the official opening of the Gladstone Bowls Club renovations with significant funding from the Gladstone Foundation, also through the Member for Gladstone, Glenn Butcher, who organised some funding, and Federal Government funding as well. Great to see that project open and thank you to Councillor Kahn Goodluck for attending on Council's behalf.

On 4 October 2023 the Queensland Information Centre Association (QICA) conference was held in Agnes Water. It was a fantastic function for the Gladstone Region to host that. Thank you to Councillor Rick Hansen for attending on Council's behalf. And Councillor Desley O'Grady attended the Bushland Boardwalk opening at the Travellers Rest Seventeen Seventy on 6 October 2023. Another great asset for our local tourism in the Gladstone Region. Fantastic to see that conference happening and the opening a couple of days later. Good news for our Agnes Water and Seventeen Seventy community.

Cr Hansen advised that the team at the Agnes Water Visitor Information Centre organised the conference and that it was well presented and everyone enjoy themselves. It was a great conference.

On 10 October 2023 was the Central Region Fire Fighters Remembrance Day, and thank you to Councillor Chris Trevor for attending on Council's behalf.

Our Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) conference was hosted in the Gladstone Region last week. All accommodation, every hotel, motel, and any type of accommodation was booked out, with over 800 attendees for that conference.

I would like to give a shout out to our team at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre (GECC) and everyone involved in organising the conference. The staff who manned the Gladstone booth, the welcome bags we presented to all of our delegates and everyone involved in such a great conference, including the team at LGAQ. I have received messages from Mayor's, Deputy Mayor's and CEO's since, saying how great the conference was and stating that it was probably the best conference they've ever been to, and I have to agree. And of course, Friends of the Theatre for their volunteering and their efforts there as well. So many people made so much effort to make this a very successful conference.

I have to also mention the Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) for their involvement in making the massive big shed on Les Jones Drive available for the gala dinner. Our GECC is a great venue, but we needed another venue and they've set that up for what will be its first and only event because it will now be used by GPC for containerisation. Fantastic to see that old shed put to good use.

While the Premier was in town enjoying the LGAQ Conference, I joined the Premier and our State Member for the official sod turning for the Fitzroy to Gladstone pipeline. \$1b project which will help existing industries and secure new industries for our Gladstone region, particularly in the hydrogen sector. Huge project that has been in the pipeline for a very long time. Cr Trevor was the Federal member at the time that the land was gazetted. Very long time coming, but great to see that project underway now.

Then the next day with the Deputy Premier, I joined again with our State Member, for the sod turning for the Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG) project. Another great project for the Gladstone region. Fantastic to see that happening in our light industrial estate over behind Hanson Road. That is a key part of our hydrogen ecosystem here in the Gladstone Region and it is great to see that project moving ahead as well.

On Saturday 21 October 2023 we launched the 48th Rio Tinto and QAL Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards. And they are open now for another couple of months and I encourage everyone to get down and enjoy this exhibition. Some locals did win some of the prizes as well, which is fantastic.

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Finally on the issues that have happened over the last few weeks, there were the bushfires in Deepwater. We saw two families lose their homes and other properties were effected. We have a Response Hub setup again today at the Baffle Creek Community Centre from 10:00am until 2:00pm. Approximately 30 - 40 families visited the Response Hub on the weekend with support of the Salvation Army, Uniting Care, Aussie Helpers, the Department of Communities, who have been awesome during this event, they have really been great in supporting us and the local community.

Our thanks to the firies, the SES, all the volunteers and the community groups that got involved including the Discovery Coast Rotary Club, who were cooking up a storm every day and every night to make sure our firies and volunteers were fed. And the local community in Baffle Creek, Agnes Water and Deepwater getting out and about and supporting the community. We have partnered with GIVIT and I encourage everyone to log onto givit.org.au, search the Deepwater Bushfires and support where you can. If it's industry listening, a business listening or even individuals, whatever you can give to support the families who lost their properties it would be much appreciated.

Upcoming in the Gladstone Region we have the Seniors Lunch at Builyan tomorrow, which is part of Seniors month. This Saturday, 28 October 2023, is the Turkey Beach 50th Birthday Bash kicking off at 2:00pm with music, markets and a cake cutting to celebrate their 50th birthday. I'm sure that will be a huge event.

Saturday 4 November we have the Lake Awoonga Adventure Race. I've signed up for the adventure race and I've been going to the gym and realised I'm not ready for the endurance race, but we will see how we go, I have another week or so to get ready.

Sunday 5 November 2023 is the celebration of 50 years of Koolyangarra Kindergarten. We just saw Meteors Hockey Club just celebrate 50 years on the weekend and coming up celebrating Koolyangarra.

Nominations for the Australia Day Awards close on Friday 17 November 2023 and Youth Council applications close on Monday 4 December 2023. Our Gladstone Regional Council website has more details on those.

G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 3 OCTOBER 2023

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Prepared By: Executive Secretary

Council Meeting Date: 24 October 2023

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 3 October 2023.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 3 October 2023 be confirmed.

GM/23/5099 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Hansen

Seconded Cr Churchill

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/3. DEPUTATIONS

G/3.1. NOT FOR PROFIT HOUSE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Prepared By: Executive Secretary

Council Meeting Date: 3 October 2023

File Ref: CM7.6

Cr Hansen (prescribed Conflict of Interest)
left the room for Agenda Item G/3.1. and did not participate in the decision.
(refer G/0.3.1. Disclosure of Interest section of the minutes - page 4)

Purpose:

To provide an update on Not For Profit House's progress regarding their strategic plan.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the deputation from Not For Profit House be received.

GM/23/5100 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Goodluck

Seconded Cr Churchill

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

G/4.1. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Management Accounting Specialist

Council Meeting Date: 24 October 2023

File Ref: FM15.1

Purpose:

This report seeks Council adoption of the Monthly Financial Statements for the year 2023-24 to date, for the period ended 30 September 2023

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Statements attached to the officer's report for the 2023-24 year to date, for the period ended 30 September 2023 as required under section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

GM/23/5101 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill

Seconded Cr Branthwaite

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26am and reconvened at 10:44am.

G/4.2. NAMING OF COUNCIL ASSET INFRASTRUCTURE - DES AND BETTY MERGARD

Responsible Officer: General Manager Customer Experience

Prepared By: Manager Customer Solutions

Council Meeting Date: 3 October 2023

File Ref: CR13.1

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to allow Council to consider a request to add preferred name 'Des and Betty Mergard' or alternative names of 'Mergard Family' or 'Mergard' to the Approved Place Name Register.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council approve the application to add 'Des and Betty Mergard' to the Approved Place Name Register for the naming of an infrastructure asset other than a road within the Gladstone Region.

GM/23/5102 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Muszkat
Seconded Cr Cameron

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4.3. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACTS REGISTER

Responsible Officer: General Manager Assets and Environment

Prepared By: Manager Environment and Conservation

Council Meeting Date: 24 October 2023

File Ref: EM17.6

Purpose:

The purpose of the report is the proposal to repeal the adopted Environmental Aspects and Impacts Register, from November 2015 and note the updated version.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council repeal the Environmental Aspects and Impacts Register adopted on 03 November 2015 (resolution number G/15/2632) noting a review has been undertaken and the register will be replaced by an updated version.

GM/23/5103 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Branthwaite
Seconded Cr Hansen

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4.4. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - ELEVATOR FUND APPLICATIONS**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Community and Lifestyle**Prepared By:** Community Investment Officer**Council Meeting Date:** 25 October 2023**File Ref:** GS3.1

Cr Muszkat (prescribed Conflict of Interest)
left the room for Agenda Item G/4.4. and did not participate in the decision.
 (refer G/0.3.1. Disclosure of Interest section of the minutes - page 4)

Purpose:

To consider the recommendation of the Community Investment Panel on applications received under the Elevator fund.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Adopt the Community Investment Panel's recommendation of funding for the applications received under the categories of funding as detailed in the table below:

Application ID	Applicant	Project	Recommended Amount
ELVTR002-R1-23/24	Startup Gladstone Inc	Startup Gladstone Ready to Rise	\$16,500
ELVTR003-R1-23/24	Integreat Queensland Inc	Creating a Moving Feast 2024	\$22,000
ELVTR004-R1-23/24	Outback Mind Foundation	Emotional Literacy Education for Men	\$30,000
ELVTR005-R1-23/24	Strong Communities Ltd	Connecting Calliope Families	\$30,000
Total Funding Recommended			\$98,500

and

2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise and execute funding agreements with the successful applicants detailing relevant entitlements and conditions.

GM/23/5104 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Goodluck

Seconded Cr Branthwaite

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4.5. REGIONAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUND ROUND 2 2022/2023**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Community and Lifestyle**Prepared By:** Manager Arts and Entertainment**Council Meeting Date:** 24 October 2023**File Ref:** CC7.16**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the Regional Arts Development Fund Committee's recommendations for projects submitted to round two, 2022/2023

Officer's Recommendation:

That:

1. Council accepts the recommendations of its RADF Committee and approve funding to 5 of the 6 applications received for round 2, 2022-23 as detailed in the table below:

Applicant / Organisation	Project Title	Recommended Amount
Melissa Peacock A Country Arts Practice	Creative recovery methodologies for late diagnosed neurodivergent individuals in Central Queensland	\$6,635.00
George Parkyn FND Artworks	FND Artworks Summer of 23 Collection Exhibition	\$0.00
Travis Horsfall	Electric Toast	\$3,850.00
Eloise Bowen Adagio School of Dance Pty Ltd	Cinderella	\$9,950.00
Zeta Ware	Murray Ware's Photography Collection of Gladstone Industry and Growth	\$11,400.00
Byron Mulligan Heart of Agnes Community Association	Agnes Time Capsule Project	\$11,193.20
Total Funding Recommended		\$43,028.20

GM/23/5105 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Hansen
Seconded Cr Trevor

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Glenn Churchill mentioned that the 48th Rio Tinto and QAL Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards evening was held recently and noted that Mayor Burnett undertook the official opening of the exhibition. Cr Churchill noted that there were between 250 - 270 pieces of art submitted. Cr Churchill highlighted that this year was the 48th year, with considerations regarding the 49th year underway and then the major milestone of 50 years in 2025. Cr Churchill thanked everyone for being actively involved in the awards, not only to Rio Tinto and QAL, but all of the sponsors, guest judge, volunteers and Council employees across the organisation that make this event so successful. Cr Churchill congratulated all of the artists who participated in the awards, noting that there were a number of artists who were awarded prizes. Cr Churchill highlighted that a recording of the awards evening was uploaded to the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum (GRAGM) Facebook page and that some of the artwork is available for purchase. Cr Churchill advised that although the official judging has been completed, voting is open for the QAL People's Choice Award which closes on Saturday 20 January 2024, with the winner to be announced on Saturday 27 January 2024. Cr Churchill noted that it was a great evening, wonderful attributes from all the artists and now to prepare for what the future might be for the 49th year and the significant milestone of the 50 year celebration.

Councillor Darryl Branthwaite provided the following statement:

"I wish to inform the Gladstone Region that I won't be seeking re-election for Council in March next year. There are many reasons why I have come to this big decision and they involve the recent passing of my dad, Jenny's mum, and my friend Geoff Burton, along with health concerns we have with my lovely bride Jenny, who's future health is in question.

Jenny has been an amazing support, best mate, sounding ear and best wife anyone could ever ask of. Where I am today is because of the support she has provided for me and each time I get recognised for an award or whatever, I get up saying in my head "thank Jenny....thank Jenny" and I don't end up doing that. Well today I'm change that. She's my rock!

Like everyone, we have dreams and desires for travel when we get time or have the money and one of mine is to do a lap.

Over the past three decades or more, we have been very involved in the community, helping shape it and try and make it a better place through the creation of the Boyne Tannum HookUp, BTABC, BAM, or the 25 years Liz Cunningham and myself hosted the Benaraby School Fair, 20 years of being on the Benaraby Riverston Rural Fire Brigade, 25 years writing the fishing page in the Observer, on committees like Boyne Tannum Swim Club, serving as president at one stage, Red Shield appeals, 20 something years of GAPDL board director, and then taking over the CEO role from Councillor Glenn Churchill at GAPDL with cruise ships and other amazing things happening across the region over the 4 years while in the seat.

Economic Development was firmly in my focus, however and working with the likes of Garry Scanlan (Economic Development Lead) and many others around the region, was a thrill, with the biggest being speaking at the Developing Northern Australia Alliance conference recently in Darwin. The Gladstone Brand is well known across Australia and in Darwin, and it was standing room only when the Daz and Gaz show was presented.

Seeing our Mayor Matt Burnett at work in Canberra endeavouring to strike the best deal for our region along with local government across Australia is something to behold. Working with the group around this table and across the organisation has been amazing for me too. While we don't agree on things all the time, debate certainly brings out issues and points, which you'd never dream of, and after a while we mostly agree or settle on something which is good for our residents or the region as a collective.

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Attending a couple of waste forums in Brisbane opened my eyes to what not only others were doing but how much this Council is ahead in so many sectors.

The committees like the Gladstone Healthy Harbour partnership is another group who employ scientific resources to ensure that our harbour is being looked after and I'm proud to be involved with that.

If there is anyone out there in the region thinking about putting their hand up, I strongly encourage you to do so. If you are wondering and have some questions, please let me know. It's a very good position to be in, influencing the way in which our region is managed, along with it's future.

Finally, than you to everyone in this room and I'm looking forward to continuing to do my very best until the election in March, and then, well, brace yourself South Australia because I'm heading that way."

G/6. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

There being no further business the Mayor formally closed the meeting.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11:10am