

# PAROO SHIRE COUNCIL



Established 1879

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

17 April 2009

### OPENING OF MEETING

In accordance with section 8(i) of Local Law No 21 (Meetings and Business of the Council), the Chief Executive Officer declared the meeting open at 10.30am and subsequently adjourned proceedings until 11.30am whilst councillors attended the funeral of the late Harold Athorn (RSL President).

The Mayor re-opened the meeting at 11.50am.

### ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

#### Councillors:

Mayor	Cr Joanna Sheppard
Deputy Mayor	Cr Karen Ticehurst
	Cr Don Dunsdon
	Cr David Land

#### Officers:

Chief Executive Officer	Mark Watt
Director Governance	Neil Mitchell
Minutes Secretary	Rita McIntyre

### APOLOGIES

#### [Res.M09/040](#)

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded Cr Land that an apology be received from Cr Meurant.*

*CARRIED*

### MOTION OF SYMPATHY

#### [Res.M09/041](#)

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Land that a Motion of Sympathy be passed for Ian McDonald, Toni Ramsay (McKellar), Veronica Baxter, Kenneth Sidebottom and Harold Athorn.*

*CARRIED*

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**  
**General Meeting Minutes 20 March 2009****Res.M09/042**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Dunsdon that the Minutes of the General Meeting held on Friday 20 March 2009 are taken as a true and correct record of that meeting of Council.*

*CARRIED*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES****Lennard Ditton – Yowah Free Camping Area**

Consideration of further action regarding Council's previous decision to investigate potential legal action against Mr Lennard Ditton who is occupying the Yowah Free Camping Area without authority.

**Res.M09/043**

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded Cr Land that Frank Jongkind, Solicitor be directed to prepare a notice to Lennard Ditton requiring him to vacate the Yowah Free Camping area within 14 days.*

*CARRIED*

**CORRESPONDENCE****Application for Conversion of Term Lease to Freehold – A & L Travers**

File/Ref: 9/25/1:138525

## Description:

Letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Water seeking Council's views or requirements on an application by Alan & Louise Travers to convert a term lease to freehold over land located at Humeburn Road and described as L6/HU24 Parish Taroura.

**Res.M09/044**

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded Cr Dunsdon that the Department of Natural Resources and Water be advised Council has no objection to an application by Alan & Louise Travers to convert a term lease to freehold over land located at Humeburn Road and described as L6/HU24 Parish Taroura.*

*CARRIED*

**Application for Conversion of GHPL to Freehold – A & L Travers**

File/Ref: 9/25/1:138526

## Description:

Letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Water seeking Council's views or requirements on an application by Alan & Louise Travers to convert a GHPL to freehold over land located at Mt Alfred Road and described as L4/HU5 Parish Paroo.

**Res.M09/0445**

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Land that the Department of Natural Resources and Water be advised Council has no objection to an application by Alan & Louise Travers to convert a GHPL to freehold over land located at Mt Alfred Road and described as L4/HU5 Parish Paroo.*

*CARRIED*

**Application for Conversion of PPH Lease – A & L Travers**

File/Ref: 9/25/1:138528

## Description:

Letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Water seeking Council's views or requirements on an application by Alan & Louise Travers to convert a PPH Lease over land located at Humeburn Road and described as L5127/PH965 Parish Taroura.

**Res.M09/046**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Ticehurst that the Department of Natural Resources and Water be advised Council has no objection to an application by Alan & Louise Travers to convert a PPH Lease over land located at Humeburn Road and described as L5127/PH965 Parish Taroura.*

CARRIED

**Application for Renewal of SL15/43286 – Simon Beel**

File/Ref: 9/25/1:138555

## Description:

Letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Water seeking Council's views or requirements on an application by Simon Beel to renew Special Lease 15/43286 on land located at Cunnamulla-Bollon Road and described as L2/C5320 Parish Munquin.

**Res.M09/047**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Dunsdon that the Department of Natural Resources and Water be advised Council has no objection to an application by Simon Beel to renew Special Lease 15/43286 on land located at Cunnamulla-Bollon Road and described as L2/C5320 Parish Munquin.*

CARRIED

**Application for Renewal of SL15/51889 – Joanne Tuite**

File/Ref: 9/25/1:138474

## Description:

Letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Water seeking Council's views or requirements on an application by Joanne Tuite to renew Special Lease 15/51889 on land located at Cunnamulla-Thargomindah Road and described as L9/WN810828 Parish Eulo.

**Res.M09/048**

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Ticehurst that the Department of Natural Resources and Water be advised Council has no objection to an application by Joanne Tuite to renew Special Lease 15/51889 land located at Cunnamulla-Thargomindah Road, and described as L9/WN810828 Parish Eulo.*

CARRIED

**Churches of Christ Care Request for Support – Yapunyah Lodge**

File/Ref: 15/9:138404

## Description:

Letter from Kim Teudt, Western Regional Manager, Churches of Christ Care (CoCCare) seeking assistance to reimburse for the equivalent amount of 8 Registered Nurse (RN)

hours per week to cover the increasing costs derived from regulatory requirements and a higher level of care.

**Res.M09/049**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Dunsdon that Kim Teudt, Western Regional Manager, Churches of Christ Care, be advised that Council is prepared to meet the cost of eight (8) Registered Nurse hours per week for the 2009/10 financial year with a review for the next financial period, no oncosts and that Council agrees in principle to meet the cost of a kitchen upgrade, and will attempt to obtain funding for this project.*

CARRIED

**OFFICERS REPORTS****Chief Executive Officer**

Consideration of the Chief Executive Officers Report.

Adjournment: The Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.30pm returning at 12.56pm.

**Yowah Land Tenure – Town Reserve**

Consideration of a recent meeting with Jack Barnes, Mining Registrar and Ross Barton, Deputy Mining Registrar, Department of Mines and Energy (Quilpie Office) regarding mining leases in the Yowah area. Certain land tenure issues were brought to Council's attention.

**Res.M09/050**

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded Cr Dunsdon*

- 1. That the Chief Executive Officer be directed to write to the Department of Natural Resources and Water to ascertain the tenure of the land around the town area at Yowah, with a view to obtaining Town Reserve status with Paroo Shire Council as Trustee; and*
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer be directed to produce a proposal to define the water, sewerage and garbage collection areas within Yowah township for further consideration by Council, including a proposal to define the Yowah Extended Area.*

CARRIED

**Pest & Stock Route Management Committee**

Consideration of the need to hold a meeting of the Pest & Stock Route Management Committee. There is a need to hold a meeting for various matters to be discussed to Council is requested to review the members of the committee.

**Res.M09/051**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Dunsdon that the existing membership of the Pest & Stock Route Management Committee be sent a letter requesting their interest in continuing with the Committee and call for new members within the Paroo Review if required, with a proposed meeting being held on Friday 22 May 2009.*

CARRIED

**Roads to Recovery Allocation**

Consideration of advice from the Federal Government regarding an allocation of R2R grants for the next five years. Paroo Shire Council's allocation is \$3,310,323. Council's previous allocation over a four year period was \$2,555,204 so the increase per year

represents 3.6%. Once formal documentation is received, Council will need to commence an assessment and determination of how this money will be allocated across the shire. I suggest this may be done as part of an Information Session, to further develop the 10-year road strategy.

#### **Res.M09/052**

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded C Dunsdon that the previous resolution of the 27 February 2009 (Res.M09/019) be amended to read as follows:*

*“that the RTR2 funding of \$149,000 from Jobs Gate Road is approved for allocation to the airport road to fund bitumen widening to 7 metres and installation of culverts”*

*CARRIED*

### **Native Title Negotiations**

Consideration of advice received from Deanna Cartledge, Local Government Association of Queensland Inc. advising that Queensland South Native Title Services (QSNTS) have requested to commence native title negotiations. This follows key events such as recent local government boundary reform and a realignment of Native Title Claimant groups who now form part of QSNTS.

QSNTS has now obtained instructions from 4 claim groups that affect at least part of the Paroo Shire to commence negotiations towards an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA). The claimant Groups apparently had meetings with local government last year.

#### **Res.M09/053**

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Land that*

- 1. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be appointed as Council’s representatives for future native title negotiations; and*
- 2. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be authorised to attend Native Title negotiations in Quilpie on 18/19 May 2009 [Budjiti & Mardigan People] and Charleville on 16 June 2009 [Kooma People].*

*CARRIED*

### **Director of Governance**

Consideration of the Director of Governance Report

### **Write off Stale Debts**

Consideration of the need to write-off stale debts for child care centre fees that remain unpaid. Several measures have been made to contact the bearers of outstanding debt.

#### **Res.M09/054**

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded Cr Land that Council write off the following debts:*

<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Address Line</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Kathalyn</i>	<i>Hopkins</i>	<i>40 Garden Street</i>	<i>\$191.60</i>
<i>Tarnya</i>	<i>Blanch</i>	<i>Mowellan Stn</i>	<i>\$183.00</i>
<i>Clair-Lee</i>	<i>Martin</i>	<i>25 Florence Street</i>	<i>\$ 23.92</i>
<i>Leanne</i>	<i>McKellar</i>	<i>44 King Street</i>	<i>\$407.44</i>
<i>Renaë</i>	<i>McKellar</i>	<i>61 Broad Street</i>	<i>\$ 63.26</i>

<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Address Line</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Corinne</i>	<i>Mitchell</i>	<i>9 King Street</i>	<i>\$333.10</i>
<i>Merissa</i>	<i>Murphy</i>	<i>13 Florence Street</i>	<i>\$ 18.92</i>
<i>Merissa</i>	<i>Murphy</i>	<i>13 Florence Street</i>	<i>\$124.00</i>
<i>Rebecca</i>	<i>Brice</i>	<i>51 Emma Street</i>	<i>\$608.75</i>
<i>Leesa</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>24 Garden Street</i>	<i>\$211.49</i>
<i>Regina</i>	<i>Hussey</i>	<i>8 Dainsford Place</i>	<i>\$282.27</i>
<i>Regina</i>	<i>Hussey</i>	<i>8 Dainsford Place</i>	<i>\$319.25</i>
			<b><i>\$2,767.00</i></b>

CARRIED

Attendance: Mark Watt left the meeting at 1.28pm returning at 1.30pm.

Attendance: Mark Watt left the meeting at 2.00pm returning at 2.01pm.

#### **Quarterly Review - period ending 31 March 2009**

Consideration of a quarterly budget review for the period ending 31 March 2009. It was noted that the review consists of a quarterly budget review and a further review of Corporate and Operational Plans is still required.

#### **Res.M09/055**

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Ticehurst that in accordance with section 512 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council adopt the half yearly financial review, period ended 31 March 2009 with a further review of Corporate and Operations Plans to be conducted at the May meeting.*

CARRIED

Attendance: Cr Land left the meeting at 2.11pm returning at 2.12pm.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS & LATE ITEMS**

##### **Sale of Council House**

Consideration of the option to sell a further Council House given a decision to sell three houses was made for the current financial year and only two have been sold. The residence being located at 11 Bedford Street, Cunnamulla on land described as L2/RP101002 Parish Cunnamulla.

#### **Res.M09/056**

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Ticehurst that Council offer for public tender a house located at 11 Bedford Street, Cunnamulla on land described as L2/RP101002, Parish Cunnamulla, with a valuation to be obtained for marketing purposes.*

CARRIED

Cr Land recorded his vote against the motion.

**Closed Meeting****Res.M09/057**

*Moved Cr Dunsdon seconded Cr Ticehurst that the meeting be closed at 2.26pm in accordance with Section 463 (1) (b) and (h) to discuss staff issues*

*CARRIED*

Attendance: Neil Mitchell and Rita McIntyre left the room at 2.26pm and did not return.

**Meeting Re- opened****Res.M09/058**

*Moved Cr Ticehurst seconded Cr Land that the meeting be re opened at 3.05pm.*

*CARRIED*

**Water and Sewerage Supervisor**

The Chief Executive Officer reported on recent staff appointments with other positions still being advertised. It was reported that following discussions with the Shire Engineer, a need exists for additional staff in water and sewerage.

**Res.M09/059**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Dunsdon that authorisation be given to the new position of Water and Sewerage Supervisor, Level 4 to 5 and that a recruitment process be commenced immediately.*

*CARRIED*

**QUESTIONS**

Cr Dunsdon – Councillor Dunsdon enquired about the use of local suppliers and the existence of a local preference. The Chief Executive Officer advised that Council's Purchasing Policy has a local preference of 15%.

Cr Ticehurst - Councillor Ticehurst enquired about Country Week and whether Council will be participating.

Cr Sheppard – Councillor Sheppard enquired about the option of undertaking a land promotion, following discussion with Dennis Cousins, involving \$1.00 blocks of land to attract new residents to the shire where people apply to buy blocks with conditions. Further, there was a request to paint the second ablution block at the Caravan Park.

**Res.M09/060**

*Moved Cr Land seconded Cr Dunsdon that the Chief Executive Officer investigates the option of conducting a land promotional initiative in Cunnamulla.*

*CARRIED*

**CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 3.30pm

**MINUTES CERTIFICATE**

Confirmation

.....  
Cr J Sheppard  
Mayor

.....  
Mark Watt  
Chief Executive officer