



GOVERNANCE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

14 February 2019

MINUTES

Cr Jeff Baines	Chairman
Cr John Kremastos	Mayor
Cr Glenn Raleigh	Division 1
Cr Rick Taylor	Division 2
Cr Wayne Kimberley	Division 3
Cr Mark Nolan	Division 4
Cr Ben Heath	Division 6

Please find attached, Minutes for the Governance & Environment Committee Meeting held in the Innisfail Council Chambers - Level 2, Shire Hall - 70 Rankin Street, Innisfail commencing at 10:43am.

James Gott
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MINUTES

9:00am	Welcome & Apologies
	Declaration of Material Personal Interest of Conflicts of Interest (including perceptions of Conflicts of Interest)
12.15pm – 1.00pm	Lunch

1.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	1
2.	DELEGATIONS / SUB-DELEGATIONS AUTHORISATIONS	2
2.1	Delegations Council to Chief Executive Officer	2
3.	GENERAL BUSINESS	3
3.1	LMAC Update	3
3.2	Financial Assistance Grants	3
3.3	CCRC Division Review.....	5
3.4	Upcoming LAWMAC meeting.....	5

PRESENT:

Crs J Baines (Chairman), W Kimberley (Deputy Mayor), G Raleigh, M Nolan and B Heath, Mr J Gott (Chief Executive Officer), Mr R Higgins (Acting Executive Manager), Mr D Goodman (Director Infrastructure Services), Mr A Sadler (Director Delivery Services), Mr M Boldy (Director Planning & Regional Development), Mr G Singh (Chief Financial Officer), Ms L Bradley (Manager Finance), Mr D Horton (Manager Planning Services), Mr T Sanders (Manager Asset Maintenance), Mr D Bradford (Acting Manager Customer Service & Libraries), Ms V Kerr (Governance Officer), Ms K Vick (Coordinator Rates), Mr B Jones (Senior Planner/Strategic Planner), Mr P McCullagh (Acting Manager Marketing & Media), Ms L Trott (Acting Media & Communications Officer), Mrs J Sands (Minutes Clerk) and Ms D Daniels (Acting Executive Assistant)

Cr J Baines welcomed everyone and opened the Governance & Environment Committee Meeting at 10:43am.

APOLOGIES:

Crs J Kremastos (Mayor), R Taylor

COUNCILLORS & STAFF

Material Personal Interests

Conflicts of Interest (including perceptions of COI)

Those present were invited to use this opportunity to make public any Material Personal Interests and/or Conflicts of Interest (real or perceived) in respect of the Items in the Agenda.

Councillors should use this opportunity to disclose and/or comment on other Councillors and/or Staff interests in accordance with the Act and Regulations.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil.

2. DELEGATIONS / SUB-DELEGATIONS AUTHORISATIONS

2.1 DELEGATIONS COUNCIL TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive Summary:

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, Section 257, Council is required to update delegations from Council to the Chief Executive Officer when amendments have been made to a particular Act or powers under an existing Act are required for operational purposes.

Recommendation:

“Pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council resolves to—

- 1. Delegate the exercise of all powers contained in the**
 - (a) *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008***
 - (b) *Heavy Vehicle National Law (Queensland)***
 - (c) *Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation***
 - (d) *Industrial Relations Regulation 2018***
 - (e) *Integrity Act 2009***
 - (f) *Land Title Act 1994***
 - (g) *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011***
 - (h) *Water Act 2000***
 - (i) *Work Health and Safety Act 2011***
 - (j) *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011*****to the Chief Executive Officer.**
- 2. Repeal all prior delegations to the Chief Executive Officer made under the:-**
 - (a) *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008***
 - (b) *Heavy Vehicle National Law (Queensland)***
 - (c) *Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation***
 - (d) *Industrial Relations Regulation 2018***
 - (e) *Integrity Act 2009***
 - (f) *Land Title Act 1994***
 - (g) *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011***
 - (h) *Water Act 2000***
 - (i) *Work Health and Safety Act 2011***
 - (j) *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011***
- 3. These powers must be exercised subject to any limitations as stated in the Instrument of Delegation 'Limitations and Conditions to the Exercise of Power in Schedule 1.'**

Moved Cr B Heath

Seconded Cr M Nolan

Resolution Number GE0037

"That the Recommendation be adopted."

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

10:46am Mr M Boldy left the meeting

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 LMAC UPDATE

Cr W Kimberley requested from Cr J Baines an update on the recent Local Marine Authority Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13 February 2019. Cr Baines advised that it was well attended. The LMAC Meeting is coordinated by GBRMPA and is not affiliated with Council. Cr Kimberley had been approached by the Kurrimine Beach community with concerns relating to the reef walks being compromised due to recent activity of vehicles accessing the beach. Cr Baines advised that GBRMPA, Council, QPWS and QPS have little control over vehicle access to the beach. Education is required to better inform the community on the safety risks and maintain the integrity of the natural environment. Cr Kimberley extended an invitation to Cr Baines to attend the next meeting of the Kurrimine Beach Progress Association.

3.2 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Cr J Baines invited Mr Ross Higgins, Acting Executive Manager to present the following General Business Item in relation to the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) campaign to have the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) to Councils restored to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

Prepared By: Ross Higgins, Acting Executive Manager
Subject: Financial Assistance Grant

The Mayor has asked that this report be presented to this Committee Meeting to support the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) campaign to have the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) to Councils restored to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

This is an issue that Council has actively been involved with and both of the above associations are working closely together to make the increase of the FAGS a central focus in their 2019 Federal Election advocacy campaign.

On the 5 February 2019, Mark Jamieson, President of the Local Government Association wrote to the Mayor seeking support of the campaign by way of Council considering and endorsing a formal motion to ask the Federal Government to restore the Financial Assistance Grant to at least 1%.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Financial Assistance Grants have, in years gone by, been as much as 2% of Commonwealth taxation revenue however the percentage recently is as low as .55%. A lift of FAGS to 1% would boost GDP by more than \$1.4 billion, according to LGAQ studies, and would create 1000's of jobs across the country.

“Councils raise just 3% of the total taxation take in Australia, with the Commonwealth’s share running at around 84%. Yet those same councils are responsible for maintaining 33 % of the nation’s public infrastructure” (LGAQ Council Leader – Dec/Jan 2018/2019)

Many councils treat the FAGS in different ways as it is partially untied funds (a portion has to be spent on local roads). Local infrastructure, job creation, social challenges and public amenity can be best addressed when targeted to the unique needs of individual communities. The restoration of FAGS to at least 1% will better enable council to address these needs.

POSSIBLE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications would only be positive for Council and the region and the following table shows the actual allocation to Cassowary Coast Regional Council in 2017/2018 and what the revised amount would be if increased to 1%.

Allocation	Actual (17/18)	Revised	Increase
General Purpose	\$ 2.5m	\$ 4.5m	\$ 2.0m
Local Roads	\$ 1.0m	\$ 1.8m	\$ 0.8m
Total	\$ 3.5m	\$ 6.3m	\$ 2.8m

POSSIBLE BENEFITS TO THE REGION'S ECONOMY

- \$2.8 million extra will have a flow on effect of over \$11 million to the local economy and region
- Stimulation of local economy through construction: Increased local employment and supply
- Increased expenditure on local roads
- Increased employment within our region - estimated 30 additional positions across Council
- Improved local road network, resulting in improved road safety
- Increased tourism and agricultural opportunities
- Increased essential infrastructure spending to address water security issues (overcome boil water alerts)
- Focus upon the diversification of the economy of the region.

Recommendation:

“That Council supports the restoration of the value of the Financial Assistance Grants and asks the Commonwealth Government to restore these grants to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.”

Moved Cr G Raleigh

Seconded Cr M Nolan

Resolution Number GE0038

"That the Recommendation be adopted."

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

10:54am Mr D Horton left the meeting

3.3 CCRC DIVISION REVIEW

Cr W Kimberley queried the process for the CCRC Divisional Review. It has been raised by community members that the 'Have Your Say' pamphlets have not been easily obtained and that there is limited understanding, within the community, of the purpose of the survey. James Gott, CEO spoke of legislative requirements and added that the Mayor had clearly articulated his position such that Council should be guided by the community's views. Cr W Kimberley requested that Council Officers attend various community meetings to explain process and legislative requirements relating to this issue.

Cr W Kimberley requested clarification as per the Local Government Act, for the media and the community about the perceived misinformation relating to Divisions. Mr J Gott, CEO gave an overview of the legislation and advised that the community's view is considered by professional and statistical interrogation before a report will be made. The Minister's decision is ultimately the final decision. Mr R Higgins also added that the Change Commission can make a decision as it see fit. Cr W Kimberley requested that the CEO might discuss with Mr R Higgins the possibility that he might attend any upcoming Chambers of Commerce Meetings and the like. Cr M Nolan requested final clarification from the CEO that following the phone poll and physical poll Council would take everything into consideration and the most statistically correct decision would be submitted to the Minister for consideration. Mr J Gott confirmed the process.

10:58am	Mrs D Vitali (Executive Assistant) and Mr M Boldy entered the meeting
10:58am	Mrs D Vitali left the meeting
11:01am	Mr D Horton entered the meeting
11:04am	Mr D Horton left the meeting
11:08am	Mr D Horton entered the meeting

3.4 UPCOMING LAWMAC MEETING

Cr G Raleigh advised that he will be attending the Local Area Waste Management Advisory Committee (LAWMAC) meeting to be held in Cairns next week. Cr Raleigh advised that he would include for discussion an update on the Container Refund Scheme. He would also raise a query around why certain plastics are not accepted and also the strategic placement of collection points to mitigate bottle necks at the current collection points.

11:23am There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD THIS 14TH DAY OF MARCH 2019

Cr J Baines, Chairman