

Unconfirmed Minutes Council Meeting

Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 6:00 pm

Council Chambers (and by video conferencing)
East Gippsland Shire Council Corporate Centre
273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875

Councillors

Tom Crook (Mayor), Jane Greacen OAM (Deputy Mayor), Arthur Allen, Sonia Buckley (Online), Trevor Stow, Mendy Urie, Kirsten Van Diggele and John White (Online)

Attachments referenced in these minutes can be located in the meeting agenda on <u>East Gippsland Shire Council's website</u>.

Vision

East Gippsland is an inclusive and innovative community that values our natural environment, puts community at the centre of Council decision-making, and creates the conditions in which communities can thrive.

Our Strategic Objectives

- 1. An inclusive and caring community that respects and celebrates diversity.
- 2. Planning and infrastructure that enriches the environment, lifestyle, and character of our communities.
- 3. A natural environment that is managed and enhanced.
- 4. A thriving and diverse economy that attracts investment and generates inclusive local employment.
- 5. A transparent organisation that listens and delivers effective, engaging and responsive services.

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1 Procedural

1.1 Recognition of Traditional Custodians

Mayor, Cr Tom Crook welcomed all to the Council meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners.

East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges the Gunaikurnai, Monero and the Bidawel people as the Traditional Custodians of this land that encompasses East Gippsland Shire, and their enduring relationship with country. The Traditional Custodians have cared and nurtured East Gippsland for tens of thousands of years.

Council value their living culture and practices and their right to self-determination. Council pays respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in East Gippsland, their Elders, past, present, and future.

1.2 Apologies

Cr Mark Reeves

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Cr Sonia Buckley declared a conflict of interest in item 5.1.1 *Planning Permit Application* 5.2022.498.1 - 105 *Mathiesons Road, Eagle Point*, as a general material interest due to a friendship of owners at a neighbouring property.

Cr Mendy Urie declared a conflict of interest in item 5.1.1 *Planning Permit Application* 5.2022.498.1 - 105 *Mathiesons Road, Eagle Point*, as a material interest due to owning a property within close proximity of the planning application.

Sarah Johnston General Manager Business Excellence declared a conflict of interest in items 5.2.2 CON2024 1661 Construction of Bairnsdale Recycling Centre Shed and 5.3.3 CON2024 1638 Bairnsdale Recycling Centre Civil Works, as a general interest due to a family relationship with one of the tenderers.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Motion

That the minutes of the Council meeting held Tuesday 27 February 2024 be confirmed.

Moved: Cr Mendy Urie Seconded: Cr Trevor Stow

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

Cr Trevor Stow, Cr Mendy Urie, Cr Kirsten Van Diggele and Cr John White

1.5 Next Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 9 April 2024 at the Corporate Centre, 273 Main Street Bairnsdale commencing at 6.00 pm.

1.6 Requests for Leave of Absence

Nil

1.7 Open Forum

1.7.1 Petitions

1.7.1.1 Urgent Upgrade to Chilas Road, Wy Yung

Authorised by General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report;
- 2. receives the petition lodged by Ms Ceildidh Eadie requesting "We, the residents, and farming families of Chilas Road in Wy Yung, wish to petition East Gippsland Shire for an urgent upgrade to our road";
- 3. refers the petition to Acting General Manager Assets and Environment for consideration and response; and
- 4. notes that the Chief Executive Officer will arrange for Council Officers to write to the head petitioner advising them of these actions.

Moved: Cr Arthur Allen Seconded: Cr Sonia Buckley

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

1.7.2 Questions of Council

1.7.2.1 Waste Enforcement Costs

Mr Dean Hurlston on behalf of Council Watch submitted the following questions which were read out by Fiona Weigall Acting Chief Executive Officer:

Question 1: "What amount of waste enforcement costs in the current financial year 2023/24 has the Council included in its waste levies charged to residents? (if any)

Question 2: What amount of revenue has council included in the current financial year 2023/24 from waste enforcement actions?"

Wayne Richards Acting General Manager Assets and Environment took these questions on notice. A copy of the response is attached to the minutes and has been sent directly to Mr Hurlston.

1.7.2.2 Bike/Walking Trail, Eastwood Road, Bairnsdale

Mr Chris Wispleare submitted the following question which was read out by Fiona Weigall Acting Chief Executive Officer:

"Could the bike/walking trail linking Eastwood Road near Club Eastwood to Eastwood near Flinns Road please be fixed? It's a useful, enjoyable trail to walk or ride. However, parts of it are routinely submerged by any sort of rainfall and remain impassable for weeks on end. If a couple of short stretches were elevated - even with wooden planks - the trail would be usable year-round."

Wayne Richards Acting General Manager Assets and Environment provided a response which is summarised below:

Council agrees it has been a challenging year for maintaining trails with multiple rain and storm events. While maintenance and repairs will occur, Capital upgrades of this trail are not currently scheduled. However, a condition inspection will be conducted and options to resolve any significant drainage issues will be reviewed, based on this inspection.

Conflict of Interest

Cr Sonia Buckley and Cr Mendy Urie having declared a conflict of interest related to Planning Permit Application 5.2022.498.1 - 105 Mathiesons Road, Eagle Point, left the meeting at 6.12 pm and were absent during public question time that related to this matter.

1.7.2.3 Planning Permit Application 5.2022.498.1 - 105 Mathiesons Road, Eagle Point

Mr Thomas Courtney submitted the following questions which were read out by Fiona Weigall Acting Chief Executive Officer:

- Question 1: "What plans does Council have to supervise, control and enforce breaches as and when they occur"
- Question 2: "In relation to traffic into and along Mathiesons Road, which does not meet Council's own standards for a Rural Access Road, who commissioned and paid for the private traffic study and why is there limited or no reference to the traffic impact on resident's vehicles and the amenity of the area?".

Stuart McConnell General Manager Place and Community provided a response which is summarised below:

Question 1 Response: Council will investigate any alleged breaches of the Planning Scheme and act as appropriate to obtain compliance with planning requirements.

Question 2 Response: The Traffic Impact Assessment was commissioned by the applicant as is normal practice and undertaken by Quantum Traffic. The assessment concluded that the road has sufficient capacity to accommodate the traffic and that there is a low likelihood of vehicle conflict with existing residential traffic.

1.7.2.4 Planning Permit Application 5.2022.498.1 - 105 Mathiesons Road, Eagle Point

Ms Megan Jackson submitted the following questions which were read out by Fiona Weigall Acting Chief Executive Officer:

- Question 1: "What do the Planners mean when they state that the applicants will use their best endeavours to move people from the property at closing time?".
- Question 2: "Given the impact on the amenity of the area, how does Council plan to supervise the activities, many of which will be outside normal Council working hours?"

Stuart McConnell General Manager Place and Community provided a response which is summarised below:

Question 1 Response: The applicant has committed to this in their Business Management Plan. The Business Management Plan is referenced in the proposed conditions of approval and is therefore enforceable. If there are problems that arise from delays in people leaving the site, action can be taken to rectify this.

Question 2 Response: Council cannot constantly supervise all use of land under Planning Permits across the Shire. Council often relies on the involvement of the public in reporting any breaches and can undertake investigation and appropriate enforcement action to rectify those breaches.

Attendance

Cr Sonia Buckley and Cr Mendy Urie returned to the meeting at 6.19 pm.

1.7.3 Public Submissions

1.7.3.1 Chevrolet Club of Victoria

Mr Michael Klein addressed Council on the Chevrolet Club of Victoria's event, 46th National Chevrolet Festival 2024, which is scheduled to be held in Lakes Entrance form 4 to 7 October 2024. Council committed to have the General Manager Place and Community follow up any support that Council may be able to provide directly with the event organisers.

1.8 Items for Noting

Nil

2 Notices of Motion

Nil

3 Deferred Business

Nil

4 Councillor and Delegate Reports

4.1 Cr Arthur Allen

14/03/24 - I had the pleasure of attending the re-opening of the Mallacoota Gun Club. The Club are extremely proud of their newly built shed and equipment replacing what was lost in the fires some four years ago. The MC Andrew and Treasurer Dave both expressed their gratitude to the Shire but particularly both mentioned the great assistance that Council's Property Officer had provided. Well done to Mallacoota Gun Club and I trust your "phoenix" trophy shoot was an absolute success.

4.2 Cr Mendy Urie

The Paynesville Classic Boat Rally on 1, 2 and 3 March 2024 was a truly wonderful community event and a hearty congratulations must go to all the organisers. I attended the "End of An Era" exhibition and book launch with Cr Allen attending to the official duties on Friday at the Community Centre and again on Saturday to see some of the many boats, enjoy the Men's choir and explore the many fascinating exhibits on the foreshore on a perfect-weather-day.

2024 International Women's Day (IWD): I attended three separate events over the week. The Lakes Entrance Surf Lifesaving Club hosted a Pink Brunch at the Surf Club which featured a panel of three local successful women sharing views and answering questions, a delightful lunch and lovely flowers to take away. Thanks to Julie Chester and the great team of young women at the Club. On Wednesday 6 March 2024, I was in Melbourne for an Australian Local Government Women's Association IWD lunch at the Lyceum Club, where a panel of three exceptional women reported on year three of a four-year research project called "Breaking Barriers: A Study of women's participation and representation in Local Government (LG). The findings have particular relevance this year, being an election year for LG in Victoria.

I was proud that Council was a major sponsor for the EmpowerHer East Gippsland event at the Forge theatre on Friday 8 March 2024, which I attended along with an auditorium almost full of other women (and a few men). It was a wonderful, lively, funny and inspiring evening. Thanks to my companions Cr Greacen and the Acting Chief Executive Office, for their company.

On 7 March 2024, I joined with the Mayor, Cr White and Executive Officer's to help celebrate Lindenow South Primary School achievements in the development of a beautiful new culturally significant logo now adorning their new school shirts. We also celebrated the completion of a new footpath which connects the school with the rec reserve, a wonderful asset for the school and local community.

Bairnsdale 2050 (B2050) is a really important current project for Council with community consultation phase being launched on 18 March 2024. Your Say East Gippsland provides a good description of the project and outlines the various ways for people to get involved and contribute ideas.

The second meeting of the Community Panel was held on 12 March.

On 14 March 2024, I attended an on-line Municipal Association Of Victoria Active Leadership for Active Transport event, which was relevant to the B2050 project. Active transport (walking and cycling) is seen to be critical for people-friendly spaces, fitness and enjoyment of our towns and cities.

Along with two evening Planning Consultation Meetings on 4 and 13 March 2024, this has been a busy three-week period, since our last Council meeting.

5 Officer Reports

5.1 Place and Community

Conflict of Interest

Cr Sonia Buckley and Cr Mendy Urie having declared a conflict of interest related to item 5.1.1, left the meeting at 6.27 pm and was absent during the discussion that related to this item.

5.1.1 Planning Permit Application 5.2022.498.1 - 105 Mathiesons Road,

Eagle Point

Authorised by General Manager Place and Community

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report; and
- 2. being the Responsible Authority and having considered all the relevant planning matters, determines that planning application 5.2022.498.1 at 105 Mathiesons Road, Eagle Point for Use of accommodation, function and events centre, car parking dispensation and liquor licence is consistent with the requirements and objectives of the East Gippsland Planning Scheme and therefore resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit in accordance with the conditions at Attachment 1.

Moved: Cr Arthur Allen

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM and Cr Trevor Stow

Against: Cr Kirsten Van Diggele and Cr John White

Attendance

Cr Sonia Buckley and Cr Mendy Urie returned to the meeting at 6:43 pm.

5.2 Assets and Environment

5.2.1 East Gippsland Shire Road Safety Strategy

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report; and
- 2. adopts the Draft East Gippsland Road Safety Strategy 2024 2029 as provided as Attachment 1 to this report.

Moved: Cr Mendy Urie Seconded: Cr Trevor Stow

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

Conflict of Interest

Sarah Johnston General Manager Business Excellence, having declared a conflict of interest related to items 5.2.2 and 5.2.3, left the meeting at 6.56 pm and was absent during discussions on these items.

5.2.2 CON2024 1661 Construction of Bairnsdale Recycling Centre Shed

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Confidentiality Notice

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act* 2020 a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act* 2020, the information contained in **Confidential Attachment 1** to this report is confidential because it contains private commercial information, which if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage by disclosing financial information to competitors.

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;
- 2. accepts the tender submitted by Whelcon Pty Ltd ATF Whelan Family Trust for CON2024 1661 Construction of Bairnsdale Recycling Centre Shed for the contract amount of \$844,153.00 exclusive of GST;
- 3. authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise the terms and to sign the contract in the form proposed; and
- 4. resolves that Confidential Attachment 1 to this report and all discussions relating to that attachment remain confidential.

Moved: Cr Trevor Stow Seconded: Cr John White

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

Authorised by

General Manager Assets and Environment

Confidentiality Notice

Under section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the Local Government Act 2020, the information contained in the **Confidential Attachment 1** to this report is confidential because it contains private commercial information, which if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage by disclosing financial information to competitors.

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;
- 2. accepts the tender submitted by Riley Earthmoving Proprietary Limited for CON2024 1638 Construction of Bairnsdale Recycling Centre Civil Works for the contract amount of \$380,342.12 exclusive of GST;
- 3. authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise the terms and to sign the contract in the form proposed; and
- 4. resolves that Confidential Attachment 1 to this report and all discussions relating to that attachment remain confidential.

Moved: Cr John White

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

Attendance

Sarah Johnston General Manager Business Excellence returned to the meeting at 7.13 pm.

5.2.4 CON2024 1621 Maintenance and Repair Services for Mobile Plant

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Confidentiality Notice

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act* 2020 a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act* 2020, the information contained in **Confidential Attachment 1** to this report is confidential because it contains private commercial information, which if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage by disclosing financial information to competitors.

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;
- 2. accepts the tender submitted by MWT Holdings Pty Ltd ATF BOSS Discretionary Trust, trading as East Vic Hydraulics for Contract No CON2024 1621 Maintenance and Repair Services for Mobile Plant, for the Schedule of Rates as provided at Confidential Attachment 1, for a three-year term of contract with one extension option of twenty-four months to be made available solely at Council's or Council's delegates' discretion;
- 3. authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise the terms and to sign the contract in the form proposed;
- 4. delegates the power to the Chief Executive Officer to exercise the one extension option of twenty-four months, inclusive of annual CPI adjustment on the basis that the contractor has met all contractual requirements; and
- 5. resolves that Confidential Attachment 1 to this report and all discussions relating to that attachment remain confidential.

Moved: Cr Mendy Urie

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

General Manager Assets and Environment

Confidentiality Notice

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act* 2020 a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act* 2020, the information contained in **Confidential Attachment 1** to this report are confidential because they contain private commercial information, which if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage by disclosing financial information to competitors.

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;
- 2. accepts the schedule of rates submitted by;
 - a. Cranes Asphalting & Bitumen Sealing Pty Ltd;
 - b. Fowlers Asphalting Pty. Limited;
 - c. Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd;
 - d. Hiway Stabilizers Australia Pty. Ltd;
 - e. Orbost Civil & Civic Pty Ltd; and
 - f. R & M Contracting (Gippsland) Pty Ltd,

for Contract CON2024 1535 Sealed Roads Major Rehabilitation Capital Works for a three (3) year term as provided in Confidential Attachment 1;

- 3. authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise the terms and to sign the contract in the form proposed;
- 4. delegates the power to the Chief Executive Officer to exercise up to two (2) additional extension options of up to twenty-four (24) months; and
- 5. resolves that Confidential Attachment 1 to this report and all discussions relating to this attachment remain confidential.

Moved: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

Seconded: Cr Arthur Allen

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

5.3 Business Excellence

5.3.1 S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Authorised by General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;
- 2. in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Neha Sharma be appointed as an Authorised Officer, as set out in the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation provided at Attachment 1, for the purposes of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the regulations made under that Act;
- 3. authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer to execute the Instrument provided at Attachment 1; and
- 4. notes that the Instrument will come into force immediately following resolution of Council and will remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it, or until the Officer ceases to be employed by East Gippsland Shire Council.

Moved: Cr Arthur Allen Seconded: Cr Mendy Urie

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

5.3.2 Municipal Association of Victoria Sub Delegate Nomination -

Councillor Representation Register

Authorised by General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report; and
- 2. appoints Councillor John White as the substitute Municipal Association of Victoria representative.

Moved: Cr Sonia Buckley Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

5.3.3 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2024 State Council Meeting

Motions

Authorised by General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report; and

2. approves the submission of the six proposed motions, as provided at Attachments 1 to 6, to the Municipal Association of Victoria for consideration to be included in the agenda for the State Council Meeting to be held on 17 May 2024.

Moved: Cr Mendy Urie

Seconded: Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

5.3.4 Australian Local Government Association National General

Assembly 2024 - Notices of Motion

Authorised by General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report; and
- 2. approves the submission of the proposed motions, as provided at Attachment 1 and 2, to the Australian Local Government Association for consideration to be included in the agenda for the 2024 National General Assembly.

Moved: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

Seconded: Cr John White

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

6 Urgent Business

Nil

Motion

That Council resolves to move into confidential business pursuant to section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020.

Moved: Cr Arthur Allen

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For: Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Sonia Buckley, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM,

Cr Trevor Stow, Cr Mendy Urie, Cr Kirsten Van Diggele and Cr John White

The meeting was closed to the public at 7.35 pm.

7 Confidential Business

7.1 Economic Development Advisory Committee - Member Appointment

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act* 2020 a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act* 2020, the information contained in this report is confidential because it contains personal information that would, if released, result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about personal affairs.

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 7.40 pm.

8 Close of Meeting

Mayor Cr Tom Crook declared the Council Meeting closed at 7.41 pm.

Contact: Telephone No: Email: Wayne Richards (03) 5153 9500

feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au

25 March 2024

Corporate Centre

273 Main Street (PO Box 1618) Bairnsdale Victoria 3875

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Facsimile: (03) 5153 9576 Email: feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au

ABN 81 957 967 765

Mr Dean Hurlston

President - Council Watch Inc.

By Email: dean@councilwatch.com.au

Dear Mr Hurlston

Questions of Council - 19 March 2024

Thank you for your questions to the 19 March 2024 Council Meeting. I am responding to your questions as these matters fall within my area of responsibility.

In response to question 1, What amount of waste enforcement costs in the current financial year 2023/24 has the Council included in its waste levies charged to residents (if any)?

There are no waste enforcement costs included within the East Gippsland Shire Council general waste levy charge.

In response to question 2. What amount of revenue has Council included in the current financial year 2023/24 from waste enforcement actions?

No fines have been issued for illegal dumping during the current financial year. Council policy directs Community Laws Officers to first investigate instances of illegal dumping, seek compliance and education prior to the issue of any fines.

I can also advise that the clean-up of illegal dumping is predominantly completed by Council's in house teams, and any costs associated are funded from general revenue.

Should you require further information regarding waste fees and charges, please contact Nathan Misiurka, Manager Sustainability and Waste Minimisation on 5153 9500 or via feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

This letter has been approved by

WAYNE RICHARDS
Acting General Manager Assets and Environment

