



**MINUTES**  
**of**  
**ORDINARY MEETING**

*Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

*10.00 am*

*Council Offices, Doomadgee*

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## Item 1 - Declaration of Opening

The Mayor declared the Meeting open at 10.13 am.

## Item 2 - Condolences

A Minutes silence was held for departed Community Members:

## Item 3 - Record of Attendance and Leave of Absence

### **Elected Members**

Mayor Myron Johnny

Cr. Antoinette Diamond

Cr. Elijah Douglas – late attendance – 10.37 am

Cr. Athol Walden

Cr. Carlene Logan

### **Staff**

Troy Fraser – Chief Executive Officer

Marilou McKay – for presentation of Director of Corporate Services Report (By ZOOM Meeting)

Troy Fraser – presentation of Engineering Report

Craig Oxlade – Director Economic & Community Development (for presentation of his report)

Pam Danaher – Minute Taker (Remote)

### **Apologies**

## Item 4 - Obligations of Councillors

### **4.1 PRESCRIBED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to Chapter 5B, Part 2 Section 150EG, Chapter 5B, Part 2 Section 150EH and Chapter 5B, Part 2 Section 150EI -

no declarations of prescribed conflicts of interest were raised.

### **4.2 DECLARABLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to Chapter 5B, Part 3 Section 150EN -

no declarations of declarable conflicts of interest were made during this Meeting.

### **4.3 COUNCILLORS TO REVIEW EXISTING REGISTER OF INTERESTS AND RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE**

Councillors reviewed their Registers of Interest and Related Parties Disclosures.

## Item 5 – Confirmation of Minutes

### 5.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

**Resolution No 1 – 12/23** That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Cr. Carlene Logan  
Seconded: Cr. Athol Walden  
Carried

## Item 6 – Business Arising from Minutes Previous Meeting

### 6.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

CEO referred to the issues which were raised in the previous meeting regarding the use of Steve Christopher in the Engineering Role. Steve is acting in that role and at present CEO will leave him there and see what happens in the New Year.

If Council cannot fill the positions with workers from our workforce Christopher Contracting will be using workers to fill short term positions. Council has approached My Pathway to see who else has been trained through the JV.

Councillors stated that everyone knows that Council workers are not turning up for work – can't be bothered. Staff refusing to drive trucks to Gregory.

Need constant workers working around town with town beautification, pot holes, cleaning out of drains and fixing health issues. It will cost to fix all the problems and as Council does not have a rate base need to find revenue through other means. A lot of jobs have been taken from QBuild and Council using those funds to try and fix some of the roads.

Concerns about BDS charges – not getting permission from car owner before doing the work. Council will follow up with BDS and speak to them. They need to be giving receipts for people that pay in cash – plus invoices.

*Cr. Elijah Douglas arrived at the Meeting at 10.37 am*

HR not letting people know if unsuccessful for positions applied for. CEO advised that a letter/phone call should follow any unsuccessful applications.

Went out of order into CEO's Report whilst waiting for Item 7 – Visitors Presentation to be available on TEAMS.

## Item 8 - Reports

### 8.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

#### 8.1.1 OUTSIDE MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

CEO was on holidays and sick leave so no meetings to report on.

#### For Council's Information.

CEO advised that the first Local Disaster Management Meeting was held yesterday (13<sup>th</sup> December). 85% of stock in the shop, 16 weeks of meat and heaps of bread and other essential items. The Roadhouse has 25,000 litres opal and 20,000 litres diesel with more due next week. Ergon is fine, Hospital is OK. Council has 10,000 litres in the tank and have ordered another 20,000.

#### 8.1.2 MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE FOR A PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY LOCATED AT 512 CANTLE STREET, DOOMADGEE

This work will now be carried out after the wet season.

**Resolution No 2 - 12/23** That Council as the Local Government Authority resolves to approve (subject to conditions) the Development Application lodged with Council for Material Change of the Use of the Telecommunications Facility at 512 Cantle Street, Doomadgee being Lot 73 on SP 270333.

Moved: Cr. Athol Walden  
Seconded: Cr. Elijah Douglas  
Carried

#### 8.1.3 COUNCIL CHRISTMAS SHUT DOWN

Council will be closed over the Christmas period until re-opened on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2024. CEO – Troy Fraser and Engineer Steve Christopher will be here over the Christmas period. Post Office will be open shorter hours and emergency staff will be available for the water treatment plant and the garbage collections.

#### For Council's Information.

#### 8.1.4 ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023

As the Annual Report goes from July 2022 to end of June 2023 reports had to be provided by the previous Mayor.

**Resolution No 3 - 12/23** That Council adopt the Annual Report 2022 – 2023 attached to the Chief Executive Officers report for December 2023.

Moved: Cr. Athol Walden  
Seconded: Cr. Elijah Douglas  
Carried

### **8.1.5 OFFICE OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS – COUNCIL GAZETTED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2024**

Need to get the locals involved with holidays so that they will attend and bring their families along to functions that have been organised. If nothing is organised the locals are going crook.

**Resolution No 4 - 12/23** That Council note the gazetted notification for holidays for Doomadgee for 2024 being MABO Day 3<sup>rd</sup> June, NAIDO Day 12<sup>th</sup> July and Doomadgee Day – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and that the notification be forwarded to all Doomadgee stakeholders advising of the holidays.

Moved: Cr. Carlene Logan  
Seconded: Cr. Athol Walden  
Carried

### **8.1.6 OVERALL DESIGN OF THE PROPOSED ARTS, VISITORS INFORMATION CENTRE, BUSINESS HUB, COMMUNITY HALL, LIBRARY, CARAVAN PARK AND OTHER MUCH NEEDED FACILITIES FOR DOOMADGEE**

Proposed map was put on the screen and discussed. Suggestion that the town will need speed humps to stop people travelling too fast. The parking is not in the right space. Need to erect a barrier as privacy for the houses. Community to check if there are any medication trees that should not be removed.

**Resolution No 5 - 12/23** That Council agree in principle with the proposal that has been put together by Miridian Urban Pty Ltd employees in hand with Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council Staff and Community members, for the development of Doomadgee proposed Arts, Visitors Information Centre, Business Hub, Community Hall, Library, Indigenous Knowledge Centre and Caravan Park and endorse the CEO to progress the matter.

Moved: Cr. Athol Walden  
Seconded: Cr. Elijah Douglas  
Carried

**Left the CEO's Report to go to Item 7 – Visitors Presentation.**

## Item 7 - Visitors and Presentations

### 7.1 SIMON MADDRELL – DIRECTOR, FUTURE BUS – EXPLAINING LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR COUNCIL TO PRODUCE ZERO-EMISSION ELECTRICITY AND ZERO-EMISSION FUEL FOR TRANSPORT

*DECD - Craig Oxlade was in attendance at 11.32 am for the Visitors presentation.*

Simon advised that the Federal Government is trying to get everyone off diesel. All diesel is carted around the whole of the Country.

Energex and Ergon – Hughenden and Mt Isa can produce their own energy. Simon would like Doomadgee to make application to the Federal Government for devices to produce its own energy. A six meter container with solar panels would be split and stored for after the sun sets and the wet seasons. The hydrogen would then be able to be used for vehicles, power for the hospital etc.

CEO advised that Ergon was looking at putting in Solar panels. Simon suggested that Council apply for it as a Council so that any money raised can be put back into the Community.

DECD asked how Council could pull water (desalination) from the coast. Tankers would also cart water from Normanton to Mt Isa and the Gulf to Doomadgee but would not be able to cart diesel. All roads would need to be upgraded.

Need 21,000 of clear water to operate the electrolyser every 24 hours. If 450 litres were carted – desalinated and stored in poly tanks that would last for about 7 days. There would be no fuel costs – producing own energy and becoming self sufficient.

*Cr. Antoinette Diamond left the Meeting at 11.38 am*

DECD asked if his company was looking to set up or looking at Council doing the set up. Simon said that there were 537 Shires and Councils in Australia. Asking Councils to build a facility to install – delivered at no cost to Council producing 500 kws every hour. Just asking Council to purchase the energy. Australian Renewal Energy will provide the money for the set up, the solar panels etc.

Poles and Wires are owned by Ergon.

Electricity in Doomadgee is very expensive to all residents. To the end consumer what would the cost be to them?

Ground mounted solar will cost 8c a litre. Council will buy the energy to use it. There will be a great cost advantage over the next 20 years once diesel cars etc are retired - 50 cents for every \$ for zero emissions.

*Cr. Antoinette Diamond returned to the Meeting at 11.40 am*

CEO advised that he was still a little confused and wanted to know if there were any further documents that Council could look at. They needed to carry out further homework.

Simon advised that there was an eight page document that he would send through to the CEO. Will be able to answer any questions but to remember that the Federal Government will be paying for it. Communities will go back to producing their energy in their own locations.

CEO asked if there was a closing date. Simon suggested that the only thing to do was to beat Ergon applying for the funding and setting it up.

**The presentation finished at 11.48 am.**

***DECD left the meeting at 11.52 am.***

Councillors held discussions on the matter of producing electricity and fuel and agreed that Council would need to explore the hydrogen thing. Council is all for making things cheaper for the residents. Need to find out exactly what is involved with the middle bit and making sure that Council will save money.

**Finished the Visitors Presentation and returned to the CEO's Report to go to Item 8.1.7**



### **8.1.7 PROPOSED COUNCIL MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2024**

Discussions on the dates set for the Council Meetings for January to December 2024.

**Resolution No 6 - 12/23** That Council set the Ordinary Council Meetings for the months of January thru to November 2024 as the third Thursday of the month (with the exception of the April Council Meeting - due to a Mayoral Induction to be held at Parliament House on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April) and the December Meeting to be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to allow for completion of Council business prior to the Christmas Holiday break. The dates of the Meetings may be changed for the Meetings May to December 2024 following the Council Elections to be held in March 2024. Once approved by Council to be displayed on Council's website.

Moved: Cr. Elijah Douglas  
Seconded: Cr. Carlene Logan  
Carried

**Resolution No 7 - 12/23** That Council receive and take note of the Chief Executive Officers report for December 2023.

Moved: Mayor Myron Johnny  
Seconded: Cr. Athol Walden  
Carried

## 8.2 DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

**THERE WAS NO FINANCIAL REPORT DUE TO THE CYCLONE IN CAIRNS AND NO POWER TO THE CAIRNS OFFICE. THE FINANCIAL REPORT IS BEING ADJOURNED UNTIL THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD IN JANARY 2024.**

**Resolution No 8 - 12/23** That Council adjourn the Financial Report to the end of November 2024 which was to be presented to the December Council meeting due to Cyclone conditions in Cairns and the loss of power. The financial report will be updated in the January 2024 Council Meeting to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Moved: Mayor Myron Johnny

Seconded: Cr. Elijah Douglas

Carried

### **8.3 DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING REPORT**

#### **8.3.1 INDIGENOUS COUNCILS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (ICCIIP)**

Department of Local Government Racing and Multicultural Affairs update

Working on water security. The Department visited the Water Treatment Plant and looked at everything. Want to be able to get through the year without any upgrades as it will cost in excess of \$2 million. As we have aging infrastructure need to decide if 2 x 2 megalitre tanks will be sufficient for the next 20 years or should be 4 megalitre tanks.

**For Council's Information.**

#### **8.3.2 \$105M COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENT PROGRAM 2021 - 2023 DOOMADGEE PORTION - \$6,962,951 SOCIAL HOUSES AND SUBDIVISION AT MARRADGEE ROAD, DOOMADGEE**

**For Council's Information.**

#### **8.3.3 QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY (NDRRA)**

QRA has offered to patch up the roads. CEO is working with both State and Commonwealth to ensure Outstations will be going onto the Council Roads network. To keep Outstation roads maintained it is envisaged will require a further \$2 million to do all the roads in the Shire.

Enquiry about money to fix up houses on the outstations. CEO advised that it was higher up in Housing and needed to be looked into. Need to work out how to sustain those houses as they have never been looked after by Housing. If able to get money to do up the houses maybe they could be used for "On Country" for the kids. As the Premier has gone from the position now it will most probably take a long time to sort out – all historical information probably lost - so will just plug along slowly.

**For Council's Information.**

#### **8.3.4 FUTURE WATER SECURITY AND SEWERAGE TREATMENT**

**For Council's Information.**

#### **8.3.5 COMMUNITY HOUSING FENCING PROJECT**

**For Council's Information.**

#### **8.3.6 TRAINING**

Training package has been organised for next year. If the workers do any training they will sign to say that they are available to carry out any work for which the training was provided. Everyone goes to HR for training now so HR is able to tie the people down to jobs.

**For Council's Information.**

#### **8.3.7 WORKS CREWS**

**For Council's Information.**

### **8.3.8 RIVERSIDE SHARED CYCLEWAY**

**For Council's Information.**

### **8.3.9 CEMETERY PROJECTS**

Will finish off the project after the Wet Season.

**For Council's Information.**

### **8.3.10 SOLAR LIGHTS**

Will continue with the project.

**For Council's Information.**

*Mayor Myron Johnny left the Meeting at 12.23 pm*

### **8.3.11 STREET SIGNS**

Need to revitalize the signs "Welcome to Doomadgee".

**For Council's Information.**

### **8.3.12 OTHER**

Nil

**For Council's Information.**

**Resolution No 9 - 12/23** That Council receive and take note of the Engineering Report for December 2023.

Moved: Cr. Elijah Douglas  
Seconded: Cr. Athol Walden  
Carried

**Lunch Break - 12.24 pm**

A luncheon break was called at 12.24 pm.

*Mayor Myron Johnny returned to the Meeting at 12.25 pm*

Council Meeting resumed at 2.38 pm.

## **8.4 DIRECTOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

### **8.4.1 MEETINGS NETWORKING AND TRAINING ATTENDED**

For Council's information.

### **8.4.2 GRANTS AND FUNDING INFORMATION**

For Council's information.

### **8.4.3 YOUTH ENGAGEMENT HUB AND SPORT AND RECREATION**

For Council's information.

### **8.4.4 RADIO**

For Council's information.

### **8.4.5 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENT & BIO SECURITY**

For Council's information.

### **8.4.6 CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Cross Cultural Awareness Workshops are going fantastic. There have been no negative feedback. Celebrated 12 months in November since starting.

For Council's information.

### **8.4.7 COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Christmas presents for the kids were purchased in Cairns. The Community Xmas Party was celebrated last night (13<sup>th</sup> December) and was a great success. The Xmas party came in under budget by \$80.00.

For Council's information.

### **8.4.7 OTHER**

Facebook seems to be working overall. DECD will follow up with IT about doing a survey and seeing what the Community think.

For Council's information.

**Resolution No 10 - 12/23** That Council receive and take note of the Director Economic & Community Development Report for December 2023.

Moved: Cr. Carlene Logan  
Seconded: Cr. Antoinette Diamond  
Carried

## **8.5 COUNCILLORS VERBAL REPORTS**

**NIL**

## **Item 9 - Correspondence**

- 9.1 LETTER FROM THE HON STEVEN MILES MP, DEPUTY PREMIER, MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PLANNING**
- 9.2 MEDIA STATEMENT FROM ROBBIE KATTER MP – PREMIER ANNASTACIA PALASZCRUK'S DECISION TO RESIGN**

**Resolution No 11 - 12/23** That Council receive and take note of the Correspondence presented for the December 2023 Council Meeting.

Moved: Cr. Elijah Douglas  
Seconded: Cr. Athol Walden  
Carried



## **Item 10 - General Business**

**NIL**

## **ITEM 11 - LATE ITEMS**

Any matters of Late Items will be provided with the Minutes of the Council Meeting.

**NIL**

## Item 12 - Confidential Session

**Resolution No 12 - 12/23** That the Council close the meeting at 2.17 pm under section 254J Local Government Regulations 2012:

- 12.1.1 Confidential – Not for Public Release – Staffing Matters 3(b)
- 12.1.2 Confidential – Not for Public Release – Housing Matters 3(f)

Moved:  
Seconded:  
Carried

**12.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

**12.1.1 STAFFING MATTERS**

CEO contract.

**12.1.2 HOUSING MATTERS**

Cultural matters.

**12.2 DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

**NIL**

**12.3 DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

**NIL**

**12.4 DIRECTOR ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

**NIL**

**Resolution No 13 - 12/23** That the meeting be re-opened to the public at 3.10 pm.

Moved: Cr.  
Seconded: Cr.  
Carried

### **Item 13 - Next Meeting**

Next Meeting will be Thursday 18th January 2024.

### **ITEM 14 - Meeting Closed**

Meeting closed at 3.15 pm.

**Myron Johnny**  
**Mayor**  
**Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council**