

# **LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL**



## **Ordinary Meeting**

**Thursday 18 August 2022**

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**



**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

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**Index**

<b>1</b>	<b>Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgement of Country .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Prayer .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Consideration of Leave of Absence .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Confirmation of Minutes .....</b>	<b>4</b>
	5.1 Council - Thursday 21 July 2022.....	4
<b>6</b>	<b>Mayoral Report.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Councillor Requests .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Notices of Motion .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Petitions.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Deputations.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Reception and Consideration of Chief Executive Officer’s Report.....</b>	<b>6</b>
	11.1 Standing Matters: Councillor Information Correspondence.....	6
	11.2 Standing Matters: Calendar of Events .....	6
	11.3 Workplace Health & Safety Update Report - July 2022 .....	7
	11.4 Report from Mayor and Chief Executive Officer on the Bush Council Conference held 26, 27, 28 July 2022.....	7
	11.5 Annual Operational Plan 2021-2022 - Review for Period Ending 30 June 2022.....	8
	11.6 SES Controller - Honorarium Payment Consideration.....	8
	11.7 Shared Disaster Management Coordinator Position Update .....	8
<b>12</b>	<b>Reception and Consideration of Director Corporate Services Report.....</b>	<b>9</b>
	12.1 Monthly Financial Statements .....	9
	12.2 Stores Write Off Arising from Stocktake 2021/22 FY .....	9
<b>13</b>	<b>Reception and Consideration of Director Community and Cultural Services Report.....</b>	<b>9</b>
	13.1 Community Donations - August 2022 .....	9
	13.2 Sponsorship - August 2022.....	11
	13.3 Application for Public Memorial or Monument - Noel McDarra.....	11
<b>14</b>	<b>Reception and Consideration of Director Infrastructure Services Report.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Late Items .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Closed Matters.....</b>	<b>12</b>
	Nil for this meeting .....	12
<b>17</b>	<b>Closure of Meeting.....</b>	<b>12</b>
	<b>Minutes Certificate.....</b>	<b>12</b>

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

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**1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgement of Country**

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 8:59am

*"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, and we acknowledge elders past, present and future."*

**2 Prayer**

Lieutenant John Jackson, Salvation Army, opened the meeting with a prayer.

*Council paid their respects and acknowledged the passing of community members Valma Dawn Wilson, Leo Vincent Pola, Randell Rex Morrison and Brian Blair.*

**PRESENT**

**Councillors**

Mayor	Cr AC Rayner
Deputy Mayor	Cr LJ Nunn
	Cr DJ Bignell
	Cr AJ Emslie
	Cr TM Hatch
	Cr TJ Martin
	Cr TFB Smith

**Officers**

Chief Executive Officer	Mr Dirk Dowling
Acting Director of Corporate Services	Mrs Kimberley Dillon
Director of Infrastructure Services	Mr Roger Naidoo
Chief Financial Officer	Mr David Wilson
Human Resources and Workplace Health and Safety Manager	Ms Grace Jones
Executive Officer Economic Development and Public Affairs	Mr Simon Kuttner
Community Development Coordinator	Ms Abby Lewis
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer, Mayor and Councillors	Ms Calie McLachlan

**Public Gallery**

**Apologies**

Director of Community and Cultural Services	Ms Lisa Young
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**3 Consideration of Leave of Absence**

Nil

**4 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors and Senior Council Officers**

**4.1 Declaration of Prescribed Conflicts of Interest on any Item of Business**

Pursuant to section 150EG, 150EH, 150EI, 150EJ, 150EK, 150EL and 150EM of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a prescribed conflict of interest in a matter must notify Council of the potential benefit or loss, and if applicable, provide the name of the related person and their relationship with them. They may not participate in a decision relating to the matter and must leave the meeting.

**Item 13.1** Councillor AJ Emslie advised he has an interest in item 13.1 Community Donations – August 2022. The Nature of the Prescribed conflict of interest in agenda item 13.1 is that Councillor AJ Emslie is a

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

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current member of the Longreach Jockey Club, which is an organisation requesting a donation. Cr Emslie advised he would leave the meeting for this item.

**Item 13.1** Human Resources and Workplace Health and Safety Manager Ms Grace Jones advised she has an interest in item 13.1 Community Donations – August 2022. The Nature of the Prescribed conflict of interest in agenda item 13.1 is that Ms Grace Jones is the Club Captain of the Ilfracombe Golf Club and a member of the committee. There is an application being considered from the Ilfracombe Golf Club to support the 2022 Club open . Ms Jones advised she would leave the meeting for this item.

**4.2 Declaration of a Declarable Conflict of Interest on any Item of Business**

Pursuant to section 150EN, 150EO, 150EP, 150EQ, 150ER, 150ES and 150ET of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a declarable conflict of interest in a matter must notify Council of the nature of the interest, if applicable, name of the related person, the relationship to them, and the nature of the interest, and/or the value and date of any gift received.

The Councillor may voluntarily leave the meeting and not participate in a decision relating to the matter or;

Other Councillors may vote on this matter and decide if;

- (a) the Councillor must leave the meeting and not participate in a decision relating to the matter; or
- (b) the Councillor may remain in the meeting and participate in a decision relating to the matter.

*No declarations were made during this point of the meeting.*

**5 Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Council - Thursday 21 July 2022**

*(Res-2022-08-218)*

*Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Nunn*

*That the Minutes of the Council held on Thursday 21 July 2022, be confirmed, as presented and amended.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

On opening this item for consideration, the Mayor advised he was proposing a minor amendment to the minutes of the General Meeting held on Thursday 21 July 2022 about Item 11.5 Queensland Electric Super Highway – Yurika EV Charging Station Licence Agreement. The Mayor sought the following by way of amendment:

**Item 11.5 Queensland Electric Super Highway- Yurika EV Charging Station Licence Agreement**

Consideration of a Licence Agreement with Yurika Pty Ltd to deliver the Queensland Electric Super Highway program in Longreach on behalf of the Queensland Government.

*Moved Cr Smith seconded Cr Nunn*

*That Council authorise the CEO to execute the Yurika EV Charging Station Licence Agreement, as presented.*

Amendment:

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Bignell*

*That the motion be amended to allow Council to insist on the removal of relevant infrastructure at the end of the Lease Term/s, should this be required by Council*

*The amendment was put and was CARRIED*

The amended motion becomes the substantive motion

*(Res-2022-07-197)*

Recommendation amended as follows:

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

---

*That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to further negotiate and then execute a Yurika EV Charging Station Licencing Agreement, that includes an ability for Council to insist on removal of the relevant infrastructure at the end of the lease term/s, should this be required by Council.*

CARRIED 7/0

(Res-2022-07-198) – No decision attached to this resolution and recorded in the resolution register as blank.

**6      Mayoral Report**

The Mayor provided a verbal report on matters addressed by him since the last meeting.

The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer attended the Bush Councils meeting in Barcaldine. The Mayor spoke on the topic of attraction, retention and economic development and what roles Council have in assisting each of these areas.

The Mayor met with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) staff to discuss budget business and financial performance for the Longreach Regional Council.

The Mayor Chaired the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) meeting.

The Mayor met with the Chief Executive Officer of Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) in Brisbane to discuss Longreach Regional Council priorities and those matters where advocacy support is requested, such as raising of the downstream weirs in the Thomson river to increase water security.

Meetings were held with Biosecurity managers to progress Exotic Disease training and awareness days for Local Government staff and the Agricultural sector.

The Mayor participated in an Executive meeting of the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils (WQAC) .

The Mayor attended a meeting regarding the creation of a Country University Centre in Longreach. These conversations are ongoing.

The Mayor participated in the last meeting of the Lake Eyre Basin Strategic Advisory Group to draft the Terms of Reference for community consultation, on resource activities in Lake Eyre Basin (LEB).

The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer visited the State Emergency Service (SES) complex in Longreach with volunteers and discussed an open day and increasing volunteer numbers.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Leonie Nunn attended the Rotary change-over dinner on behalf of Council.

Deputy Mayor also attended the Centenary Celebrations of the Country Women's Association (CWA).

Cr Nunn acknowledged CWA and Rotary on the work they do in both Longreach and surrounding Regions. Cr Nunn stated how important these organisations are for the Community and that they appreciated her attendance.

The Mayor attended the Mt Isa Rodeo to help build the Road to Rodeo partnership (self funded).

The Mayor attended the Queensland Hotel Association Dinner. The Chief Executive Officer, Bernie Hogan, suggested Council apply for an upcoming Community Gambling Fund Grant.

The Mayor acknowledged the Councillors' work in attending community events.

**7      Councillor Requests**

**8      Notices of Motion**

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

**9 Petitions**

**10 Deputations**

**11 Reception and Consideration of Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Consideration was given to the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

**11.1 Standing Matters: Councillor Information Correspondence**

From the Chief Executive Officer, tabling a list of significant and relevant correspondence for Councillors and public information.

*(Res-2022-08-219)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Hatch*

*That Council receive the Councillor Information Correspondence Report as presented.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

Mayor Rayner indicated he was strongly in favour of making this information public.

**11.2 Standing Matters: Calendar of Events**

Calendar of Events, Upcoming Meetings and Conferences for Councillors

Date	Event	Location	Participants
<b>July 2022</b>			
26-28 Tues-Thurs	Bush Councils Convention	Barcaldine	Mayor and Chief Executive Officer
<b>August 2022</b>			
1-3 Mon - Wed	Meetings with State Government and LGAQ	Brisbane	Mayor
3 Wed	Western Queensland Association of Councils	Virtual	Mayor
4 Thur	Queensland Dog Offensive Group (QDOG)	Virtual 9.30am-1.00pm	Mayor
4 Thur	LGAQ presentation by Paul Cranch and Simon Booth: advocacy	Fairmont Rooms, Longreach 11.30am-1.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
4 Thur	Councillors and officers Strategic Roundtable	Fairmont Rooms, Longreach 1.00pm-5.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
5 Fri	Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD)	Virtual 9.00am-11.00am	Mayor and Chief Executive Officer
5 Fri	DAF meeting with Mayors & LGAQ re FMD	Virtual 12.30pm-1.30pm	Mayor and Chief Executive Officer
16 Tues	Councillor Briefing	Fairmount Rooms, Longreach Civic Centre. 8am – 5.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
18 Thur	Council Meeting	Ilfracombe Council Office 9:00am – 5:00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team and members of the public
23-24 Wed-Thur	Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) – several meetings	Birdsville Full day meetings Tues & Wed	Mayor and Chief Executive Officer
30 Tues	Masterclass: Coordinating Teams in a Disaster	Longreach Civic Centre. 9.00am-3.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team as available to attend
31 Wed	Exotic Disease Training	Longreach Civic Centre 9:30am – 1:00pm	Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

<b>September 2022</b>			
1 Thur	Councillors Field Tour	Bexley Station, Longreach Pound, Longreach Cemetery	Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive Officer
2 Fri	A Long Drive for Drought	ASHOF, Longreach	Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive Officer
6 Tues	LDMG Annual Meeting	Fairmont Rooms, Longreach 2.00pm - 4.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team as required based on their LDMG roles
8 Thu	Councillor/Director Strategic Round Table	Fairmont Rooms, Longreach Civic Centre. 1.00pm -5.00pm	All Councillors, Executive Leadership Team and Officers
13 Tues	Council Briefing	Fairmount Rooms, Longreach Civic Centre. 8am – 5.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
15 Thur	Council Meeting	Town Hall, Yaraka 9:00am- 5:00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team and members of the public
<b>October 2022</b>			
5 Wed	Councillors and officers Strategic Roundtable	Yet to be confirmed	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
7 October	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	Council Chambers, Longreach 9:00am	Mayor, Audit and Risk Committee Members, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer
25 Tues	Council Briefing	Fairmount Rooms, Longreach Civic Centre. 8am – 5.00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
27 Thur	Council Meeting	Council Chambers, Longreach 9:00am- 5:00pm	Mayors, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team and members of the public

*(Res-2022-08-220)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receive the Calendar of Events for information as presented and amended.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

Cr Bignell identified that because the July Yaraka Council Meeting was cancelled, it would be beneficial to relocate a future Council Meeting to Yaraka. Council agreed that the September Council meeting would now be held in the Yaraka Town Hall.

**11.3 Workplace Health & Safety Update Report - July 2022**

This report provides a summary of Council's health and safety performance as at 31 July 2022, highlighting issues, risk and opportunities impacting the on employee health and safety in the workplace.

*(Res-2022-08-221)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn*

*That Council accept the Workplace Health & Safety Update Report for period ending 31 July 2022, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

Cr Bignell congratulated the Human Resources and Workplace Health and Safety Manager, Ms Grace Jones, and her team on the improvement in safety in recent months.

Cr Nunn also congratulated Ms Jones on keeping safety as a significant priority for the Longreach Regional Council.

**11.4 Report from Mayor and Chief Executive Officer on the Bush Council Conference held 26, 27, 28 July 2022**



**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

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Both the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer of Longreach Regional Council attended the event. The Mayor attended each day after driving to the event from Longreach (accommodation full in Barcaldine). Members of Queensland Treasury Corporation travelled with the Mayor each day, as the accommodation issue affected them also.

The Mayor and CEO continued to conduct Council business throughout the Convention at various times, as issues arose and as matters required attention.

*(Res-2022-08-222)*

*Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Hatch*

*That Council receive the Report on the 2022 LGAQ Bush Councils Convention (Dirt, dust and determination) for information.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

Mayor Rayner complimented the new Chief Executive Officer, Dirk Dowling on his proactive representation of the Longreach Regional Council at the Bush Council Conference.

**11.5 Annual Operational Plan 2021-2022 - Review for Period Ending 30 June 2022**

Consideration of a review of the Annual Operational Plan 2020-2021. Pursuant to the provisions of section 174 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Chief Executive Officer must present a written assessment of the local government's progress towards implementing the Annual Operational Plan at a meeting at regular intervals of not more than three (3) months.

*(Res-2022-08-223)*

*Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Smith*

*That pursuant to section 174(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council adopts the satisfactory evaluation of the Annual Operational Plan 2021-2022, for the period ended 30 June 2022.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

**11.6 SES Controller - Honorarium Payment Consideration**

Consideration to provide the Local SES Controller for Longreach Unit with an honorarium payment for their volunteer services for financial year 2022/2023.

*(Res-2022-08-224)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council endorse an honorarium payment of \$5,000 for financial year 2022/23 for the Local SES Controller of the Longreach Unit.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

Recruitment and training of State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers was discussed particularly around the need for more community members to get involved. Mayor Rayner stated that the current SES Local Controller- Diesel Stenholm was very active in recruiting new staff and an open day has been scheduled to entice community members to join.

**11.7 Shared Disaster Management Coordinator Position Update**

This report is to provide an update on the regional Disaster Management Coordinator position which is currently shared with four other Councils in the Central West being Barcaldine Regional Council, Winton Shire Council, Barcoo Shire Council and Blackall-Tambo Regional Council.

*(Res-2022-08-225)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council:*

- 1. Notes the achievements of the Disaster Management Coordinator since the role was first established*

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

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*in 2019; and*

2. *Directs the Chief Executive Officer to continue to explore options for funding this role through resource sharing arrangements at a regional level, including exploring options for external funding to assist with retaining the position for the 2023/24 financial year (and beyond).*

*CARRIED 7/0*

The Mayor raised current Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) forecasting for the region in December/ January and the importance of having officers trained to backfill positions during leave and in an event. With the Mayor expected to be away for the December/ January period a report was requested to be tabled at the next Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) Meeting.

## **12 Reception and Consideration of Director Corporate Services Report**

Consideration was given to the Director Corporate Services Report.

### **12.1 Monthly Financial Statements**

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 31 July 2022:

*(Res-2022-08-226)*

*Moved Cr Martin seconded Cr Emslie*

*That the monthly financial statements for the period ending 31 July 2022, be adopted, as presented.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

Councils staff vacancies were discussed. Chief Executive Officer, Dirk Dowling, noted this as a priority.

The meeting also discussed Rates and the Longreach Saleyards.

Adjournment: Council adjourned the meeting at 10:20am to lay a wreath, in honour of Vietnam Veterans day at the Ilfracombe Memorial Park and resumed at 10:51am with all present.

### **12.2 Stores Write Off Arising from Stocktake 2021/22 FY**

Consideration of the Stores write-off of the quantities and values of the store inventory items identified as part of the 2021/22 end of year stocktake.

*(Res-2022-08-227)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Smith*

*That Council approves the write-off of the quantities and values of those store inventory items identified as requiring adjustment, with a net total write-off of \$19,672 following the completion of the stocktake in June 2022.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

## **13 Reception and Consideration of Director Community and Cultural Services Report**

Consideration was given to the Director Community and Cultural Services Report.

Councillor Emslie left the Meeting at 10:59 AM and was not present during the discussion of and voting on Item 13.1.

Grace Jones left the Meeting at 10:59AM and was not present during the discussion of and voting on Item 13.1.

### **13.1 Community Donations - August 2022**

Consideration of the Community Donations applications received in August in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

*(Res-2022-08-228)*

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Hatch*

*That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.07;*

<b>Organisation/ Name</b>	<b>Event/Activity</b>	<b>Grant Requested</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>	<b>Conditions of approval/Payment</b>
<i>Longreach Flyers Ball</i>	<i>2022 Flyers Ball</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00 Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00 Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Ilfracombe Golf Club</i>	<i>2022 Ilfracombe Golf Open</i>	<i>Financial \$1,440.00 Total \$1,440.00</i>	<i>Financial \$1,440.00 Total \$1,440.00</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Ilfracombe Sport and Recreational Centre</i>	<i>Ilfracombe Community Gym</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00 Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00 Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Longreach Jockey Club</i>	<i>2022 Longreach Cup</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00 Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00 Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Yaraka Sports and Recreational Club</i>	<i>2022 Melbourne Cup Luncheon</i>	<i>Financial \$1,600.00 In-Kind \$184.10 Total \$1,784.10</i>	<i>Financial \$1,600.00 In-Kind \$184.10 Total \$1,784.10</i>	<i>Nil</i>
		<b><i>TOTAL \$18,224.10</i></b>	<b><i>TOTAL \$18,224.10</i></b>	

*CARRIED 6/0*

Councillor Emslie returned to the Meeting at 11:04 AM.

Grace Jones returned to the Meeting at 11:04AM.

The meeting discussed the Community Donations Policy with a suggestion being made to undertake a review of the current policy in the near future. The proposed review would aim to assist with addressing concerns raised by Council regarding the adequate distribution of funds throughout the year, and the ability to support first time applicants under the program. The Sponsorship Policy was also requested to be reviewed at the same time.

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Council Office, Ilfracombe**

**13.2 Sponsorship - August 2022**

Consideration for Sponsorship application received for the month of August 2022, in accordance with Council's Sponsorship Policy No. 11.07.

*(Res-2022-08-229)*

*Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Smith*

*That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Sponsorship Program as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Event/Project Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>	<b>Conditions of Approval/Payment</b>
Central West Division QCWA	Winton to Longreach Centenary Endurance Ride	29-30 July 2023	<b>Financial \$6,500.00</b>  <b>In-Kind</b> <b>3 x gazebos \$105.00</b> <b>3 days Showgrounds Hire \$3,182.70</b>  <b>Total \$9,787.70</b>	NIL
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,787.70</b>	

*CARRIED 7/0*

Council clarified with officers that the water truck referred to in item 13.2 was to provide clean water for the horses taking part in the Winton to Longreach Centenary Endurance Ride event.

**13.3 Application for Public Memorial or Monument - Noel McDarra**

Consideration of an application received from Suzie McDarra to install a plaque in Iningai Park, Longreach.

*(Res-2022-08-230)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council resolves to write to Ms Suzie McDarra advising her that:*

- (a) the application made in accordance with Council's Public Monuments and Memorials Policy, for a plaque to be placed on an existing rock located in Iningai Park, Longreach is supported, in accordance with the Public Monuments and Memorials Policy.*

*CARRIED 7/0*

**14 Reception and Consideration of Director Infrastructure Services Report**

The Grid Replacement Program, was discussed and Mayor Rayner identified that there was a need for a Grid Report to be included in future Infrastructure reporting.

Further discussions were held on the Ilfracombe Dump, Wash- down Bay, Depot and Footpaths. Mayor Rayner raised concerns around the non operational Wash- down Bay and the timeframe for when this will be fixed, taking into account the current spread of weeds and Cactus infestation across the region.

Cr Martin thanked the Director of Infrastructure, Roger Naidoo, and team for the quick response after the recent wet weather events. Cr Martin also acknowledged the work of Councils Parks and Gardens team on keeping the towns in great condition.

Mayor Rayner also recorded a vote of appreciation for the Community Development Coordinator, Abby Lewis, for the quality of her work since commencing in the role.

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 18 August 2022 at the Ilfracombe Recreation Centre, Ilfracombe**

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**15      Late Items**

**16.      Closed Matters**

Nil for this meeting

**17      Closure of Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 11:55am

**Minutes Certificate**

These minutes are unconfirmed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cr AC Rayner  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dirk Dowling  
Chief Executive Officer