

# **Longreach Regional Council**



## **Ordinary Meeting**

**Thursday 15 February 2024**

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 15 February 2024 at the Ilfracombe Council Chambers**

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**Present**

**Councillors**

Mayor  
Deputy Mayor

Cr AC Rayner  
Cr LJ Nunn  
Cr DJ Bignell  
Cr AJ Emslie  
Cr TM Hatch  
Cr D Paterson

**Officers**

Chief Executive Officer  
Chief Financial Officer  
Director of Works  
Manager of Human Resources, Safety and Wellness  
Manager of Governance and Economy  
Engagement and Communications Coordinator  
Business Support Officer (Finance)

Brett Walsh  
David Wilson  
Andre Pretorius  
Grace Cronin-Jones  
Simon Kuttner  
Sandra Warren  
Sharon Calligaro

**Apologies**

Director of Communities

Karyn Stillwell

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

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:00am

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

**2 Prayer**

Pastor Donna Muston, Uniting Church, opened the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting paid its respects and observed a minutes silence for the passing of community members: William (Bill) Stevens, James (Jimmy) Mill, and Terence (Terry) Marsden – who is acknowledged as a former Council employee.

**3 Consideration of Leave of Absence**

*(Res-2024-02-001)*

*Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Hatch*

*That Council accepts an apology from Cr TFB Smith and grants a leave of absence.*

CARRIED  
6/0

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**4 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors**

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**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.

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

**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.

*Cr Hatch declared a declarable conflict of interest in Item 16.1, Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series on the basis that her business may be asked to support the event. Cr Hatch advised that she would leave the meeting for discussion of this matter and not participate in the decision relating to it.*

**5 Confirmation of Minutes**

Consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2024

*(Res-2024-02-002)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn*

*That Council confirms the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2024.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**6 Mayoral Report**

Consideration of the Mayor's report for February.

*(Res-2024-02-003)*

*Moved Cr Paterson seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council receives the Mayoral Report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

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**7 Councillor Requests**

Nil

**8 Notices of Motion**

Nil

**9 Petitions**

Nil

**10 Deputations**

Nil

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

Consideration was given to the Chief Executive Officer's Report

**11.1 Councillor Information Correspondence**

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

*(Res-2024-02-004)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the Councillor Information Correspondence Report, as presented.*

CARRIED

6/0

**11.2 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 2024 National General Assembly, Australian Council of Local Government**

Consideration of an invitation to submit motions to ALGA's 2024 National General Assembly, and an invitation to attend the Australian Council of Local Government.

*(Res-2024-02-005)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council:*

- 1. Receives the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly 2024 discussion paper; and,*
- 2. Approves for the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and Councillor/s to attend the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly and associated meetings scheduled for 2-4 July 2024, and the Australian Council of Local Government on 5 July 2024.*

CARRIED

6/0

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**11.3 Workplace Health and Safety Report – January 2024**

This report provides a summary of Council’s health and safety performance as at 31 January 2024, highlighting issues, risks and opportunities impacting on employee health and safety in the workplace.

*(Res-2024-02-006)*

*Moved Cr Paterson seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the Workplace Health and Safety Update for January 2024, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**11.4 Information Report - Planning & Development**

This report provides an update on Development Services that has occurred during the month of January 2024.

*(Res-2024-02-007)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council receives the Planning and Development information report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10:31am.

The meeting resumed at 10:59am with all present prior to the adjournment in attendance.

**11.5 Information Report - Governance**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Governance Directorate.

*(Res-2024-02-008)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Paterson*

*That Council receives the Governance information report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**12 Reception and Consideration of the Chief Financial Officer’s Report**

Consideration was given to the Chief Financial Officer’s Report

**12.1 Monthly Financial Statements**

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 31 January 2024.

*(Res-2024-02-009)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the monthly financial statements for the period ending 31 January 2024, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

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**12.2 Information Report - Finance**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of January 2024 for the Finance Directorate.

(Res-2024-02-010)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Paterson

That Council receives the Finance information report, as presented.

CARRIED  
6/0

**13 Reception and Consideration of the Director of Communities' Report**

Consideration was given to the Director of Communities' Report

**13.1 Sponsorship - Somerset Storyfest Ltd**

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

(Res-2024-02-011)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Nunn

That Council approves the allocation of funds from the **2023/2024 Sponsorship budget** 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>
Somerset Storyfest Ltd	Storyfest Out West	4-6 September 2024	<b>In-Kind \$7,419.00</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,419.00</b>

CARRIED  
6/0

**13.2 Sponsorship - Opera Queensland**

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

(Res-2024-02-012)

Moved Cr Paterson seconded Cr Hatch

That Council approves the allocation of funds from the **2023/2024 Sponsorship budget** 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>
Opera Queensland	Festival of Outback Opera	14-20 May 2024	<b>Financial \$1,200.00 In-Kind \$2,987.70</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,187.70</b>

CARRIED  
6/0

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**13.3 Information Report - Communities**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of January for the Community Services Department.

*(Res-2024-02-013)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the Community Services information report, as presented.*

*CARRIED  
6/0*

**14 Reception and Consideration of the Director of Works Report**

Consideration was given to the Director of Works Report

**14.1 Information Report - Works**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of January 2024 for the Works Directorate.

*(Res-2024-02-014)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council receives the Works Information Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED  
6/0*

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**15      Late Items**

**15.1      Special Meeting - Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee  
Recommendations - 09 February 2024**

Consideration of the recommendations of the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee (LPMAC) Special Meeting held on 9 February 2024.

*(Res-2024-02-015)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Paterson*

*That Council receives the recommendation from the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee, and agrees to invite the relevant Queensland Government Ministers to a meeting to discuss the following specific concerns relating to the management of State-owned National Parks:*

- Feral animal control – the opportunity for strategic and tactical control, including trapping and baiting of wild dogs and pigs;*
- Existing water facilities – maintain existing arrangements, and work with adjoining landholders to ensure continuation of water supply and access to existing bores;*
- Fire management – maintain access roads within the parks for fire breaks and strategic burning;*
- Fence maintenance – maintain fencing through negotiation with the neighbouring landholders, in accordance with Department of Environment and Science – Good Neighbour Policy – Stock Management and Fencing section;*
- Exclusion fence maintenance – recognition of existing exclusion fencing and consideration of further exclusion fencing in negotiation with adjoining landholders;*
- Permanent on-site management – engagement of on-site staff to manage and protect the land;*
- Good neighbour policy – compliance with the principles of the Department of Environment and Science – Good Neighbour Policy;*
- Biosecurity obligations – collaboration with and acknowledgement of regional biosecurity strategies; and,*
- Grazing industry viability – a commitment for the management of State-owned lands, that will ensure protection and viability of the grazing industry within the Longreach Regional Council region.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**Attendance:** Councillor Hatch left the Meeting at 12:17pm.

**16      Closed Matters**

*(Res-2024-02-016)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn*

*That pursuant to section 254J(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 the meeting be closed to discuss the following matter, which is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, as it contains information relating to negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the Council for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the council.*

CARRIED  
5/0

*Councillors Rayner, Nunn, Bignell, Emslie, and Paterson voted for the motion*



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The meeting closed at 12.17pm.

(Res-2024-02-017)

Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell

That Council moves out of closed session.

CARRIED

5/0

Councillors Rayner, Nunn, Bignell, Emslie, and Paterson voted for the motion

The meeting re-opened at 12.27pm.

**16.1 Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series**

This report considers a request from Golf Australia (GA) that Council commit to investing in the 2025 Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series, comprising of a direct financial contribution and additional costs for equipment hire. GA are requesting that discussions are kept confidential at this point, as well as the financial information that is provided to support their application.

**Recommendation:**

That Council commits to the allocation of funds from the 2025 Sponsorship budget 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 Recommended</b>
Golf Australia	Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series	11-14 July 2025	Financial contribution of \$22,000 Equipment Hire \$3,000
		TOTAL	\$25,000

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**Attendance:** Councillor Hatch returned to the Meeting at 12:28 pm.

**17 Closure of Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:39pm

**Minutes Certificate**

These minutes are unconfirmed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cr A Rayner  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer