



GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**HELD AT THE GLADSTONE ENTERTAINMENT CONVENTION CENTRE,
56 GOONDOON STREET, GLADSTONE**

On 3 November 2020

Commencing at 9.00am

**Leisa Dowling
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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Elected Members

Councillor - Mayor M J Burnett
Councillor G G Churchill
Councillor K Goodluck
Councillor R A Hansen
Councillor C Cameron
Councillor D V O'Grady
Councillor D Branthwaite
Councillor C A Trevor
Councillor N Muszkat

Officers

Mrs L Dowling (Chief Executive Officer)
Mrs T Whalley (Manager Governance - Acting)
Mrs D Clarke (Executive Assistant)

G/0.3.2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

G/0.3.3. MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE

Nil.

G/0.3.4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

PRESCRIBED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Trevor

Councillor Chris Trevor advised that he had a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in relation to Item G/3.7 311-20 TONDOON GARDENS ELECTRICAL UPGRADE as his son Joel Gennings is the Operations Manager of Monodelphous Electrical and Instrumentation Pty Ltd who is one of the tenderers for Tender 311-20.

Cr Trevor left the room for Item G/3.7 and did not participate in the decision.

DECLARABLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Trevor

Councillor Chris Trevor advised that he had a Declarable Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item G/3.6 108-20 LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS as his legal practice Chris Trevor and Associates, of which he is the sole owner, has bought motor vehicles from both Reef City Motors Pty Ltd and Gladstone Nissan over the years.

Cr Trevor advised that notwithstanding the Declarable Conflict of Interest he proposed to stay in the room and vote on the matter subject to the will of Council as he did not believe that his conflict would lead him to make a decision that would be contrary to the public interest.

G/20/4346 Council Resolution:

Moved Hansen
Seconded Branthwaite

That Cr Trevor does not have a conflict of interested in Agenda Item G/3.6 108-20 LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS as all councillors have purchased cars from local dealerships over the years.

CARRIED

In favour of the motion: Cr Goodluck, Cr Branthwaite, Cr O'Grady, Cr Cameron, Cr Muszkat, Cr Hansen, Cr Churchill, Mayor Burnett

Against the motion: Nil.

Not eligible: Cr Trevor

Cr Hansen

Councillor Rick Hansen advised that he had a Declarable Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item G/4.1 DEPUTATION - GLADSTONE AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC as his wife Lyndal Hansen is a Co-CEO of Not For Profit House, engaged by Gladstone Amateur Basketball Association Inc in relation to the preparation of the proposed development in particular the presentation to be presented at the meeting. Cr Hansen is also a life member and patron of Gladstone Amateur Basketball Association Inc.

Cr Hansen elected to leave the room for Item G/4.1 and did not participate in the decision.

Cr O'Grady

Councillor Desley O'Grady advised that she had a Declarable Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item G/3.1 REQUEST TO WAIVE ADOPTED INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES FOR STAGE 1 FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR A MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE OF PREMISES FOR A NATURE-BASED TOURISM (15 SITES) (STAGED) AT 2143 ROUND HILL ROAD, ROUND HILL QLD 4677 as her brother John Mergard is the resided owner of 2715 Roundhill Road, Agnes Water which is adjacent to the property that is the subject of the report.

Cr O'Grady elected to leave the room for Item G/3.1 and did not participate in the decision.

Cr Churchill enquired as to whether a Councillor that had declared a conflict of interest was required to declare a conflict of interest in relation to the same matter at a future meeting. Manager Governance advised that s150ET(4) of the Local Government Act 2009 provides that a decision about a councillor's conflict of interest applies in relation to the councillor for participating in the decision and all subsequent decisions about the matter. Manager Governance further advised that there is no express provision in the Local Government Act 2009 with regards to a Councillor's need to repeatedly declare a conflict of interest.

G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES

For those watching on our live stream Council held a special meeting yesterday so to those who missed it, it was also live streamed with the Mayor's Statement on Current Issues. I will reiterate the Mayoral Statement today.

I would like to start by congratulating Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk on her resounding victory on Saturday night, the Premier has returned with the majority Government and that also means our current member for Gladstone has also been returned. Glenn Butcher returned in the seat for Gladstone, Stephen Bennett returned in the seat for Burnett and Colin Boyce returned for the seat in Callide. Congratulations to our three State Members in the Gladstone Region on their successful election victories to represent our region and they have done a fantastic job.

Congratulations to our neighbour's in Rockhampton with Barry O'Rourke, Brittany Lauga in Keppel and Lachlan Millar in Gregory, they all have had very successful campaigns. Bundaberg at the moment is too close to call and no doubt the Electoral Commission will keep the State up to date on what's going on. To the Premier and our three State Members congratulations on your victory again, Council look forward to working with you over the next four years being that it is the first 4 year fixed term for Queensland Government.

I had to opportunity to ride the Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail and it was fantastic and thank you Cr Desley O'Grady for leading the way, there is still some work to go to get the first leg open through the Barimoon tunnels. Council has received a grant through the Honourable Mark Bailey MP to develop a concept plan and complete some more work on that. Fantastic to see that project coming along. Hats off to Cr O'Grady you have done a fantastic job in progressing that project.

G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 20 OCTOBER 2020

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 20 October 2020.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 20 October 2020 be confirmed.

G/20/4347 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill
Seconded Cr Hansen

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 20 October 2020 be confirmed with an amendment to the minutes for Item G/0.3.4. Declaration of Interests on page 6 of the minutes to read:

“Councillor Glenn Churchill advised that he had a Declarable Conflict of Interest in matters relating to the planning and future development of the PCYC within Memorial Park...”

CARRIED

G/3. OFFICERS' REPORTS

G/3.1. REQUEST TO WAIVE ADOPTED INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES FOR STAGE 1 FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR A MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE OF PREMISES FOR A NATURE-BASED TOURISM (15 SITES) (STAGED) AT 2143 ROUND HILL ROAD, ROUND HILL QLD 4677

Councillor O'Grady (declared Conflict of Interest) left the room during the consideration and voting of Item G/3.1. (refer G/0.3.4 Disclosure of Interest section of the minutes – page 7)

File Ref: DA/8/2019 and FM7.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to allow Council to consider a request to waive a reduced Infrastructure Charge to Stage One of a Nature-Based Tourism approval located at 2143 Round Hill Road, Round Hill QLD 4677 (Ref: DA/8/2019).

Officer's Recommendation:

That the request to waive the reduced Stage One Infrastructure Charge for Development Application 8/2019 located at 2143 Round Hill Road, Round Hill QLD 4677, be refused.

G/20/4350 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Trevor
Seconded Cr Churchill

That Council approve applicant's request to waive the reduced Stage One Infrastructure Charge for Development Application 8/2019 located at 2143 Round Hill Road, Round Hill QLD 4677.

MOTION LOST

In favour of the motion: Cr Trevor, Cr Churchill

Against the motion: Cr Goodluck, Cr Branthwaite, Cr Cameron, Cr Muszkat, Cr Hansen, Mayor Burnett

Not eligible: Cr O'Grady

G/20/4351 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Muszkat
Seconded Cr Cameron

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

In favour of the motion: Cr Goodluck, Cr Branthwaite, Cr Cameron, Cr Muszkat, Cr Hansen, Mayor Burnett

Against the motion: Cr Churchill, Cr Trevor

Not eligible: Cr O'Grady

A Division was called on the motion.

G/3.2. LEASE - 2 RAFTING GROUND ROAD, AGNES WATER - KERMEN INVESTMENTS PTY LTD

File Ref: CP8.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider leasing a building located at 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water to Kermen Investments Pty Ltd.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:-

1. Resolves that s236(1)(c)(iii) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* applies to the proposed lease of the building at 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water to Kermen Investments Pty Ltd.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to enter into a Lease that commences 1 July 2019 and expires on 30 June 2021 with Kermen Investments Pty Ltd at 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water.

G/20/4352 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill
Seconded Cr O'Grady

That the report be deferred to the Council meeting on 1 December 2020 so that officers can obtain more information to allow Councillors to make an informed decision.

MOTION LOST

G/20/4353 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Goodluck
Seconded Cr Trevor

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

Refer to Relevant Report in Addendum 1.

G/3.3. GLADSTONE MENS SHED - REQUEST FOR LEASE - 22 MOURA CRESCENT, BARNEY POINT

File Ref: CP8.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider leasing land located at 22 Moura Crescent, Barney Point (Lot 2 SP 268261) to Gladstone Men's Shed Association Inc.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:-

1. Resolves that s236(1)(b)(ii) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* applies to the proposed lease of Lot 2 SP 268261 (22 Moura Crescent, Barney Point) to Gladstone Men's Shed Association Inc.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to enter into a Lease with Gladstone Men's Shed Association Inc on the basis that:
 - (a) Lots 1 to 2 on SP 268261 (18 & 22 Moura Crescent, Barney Point) are amalgamated into one (1) lot;
 - (b) Gladstone Men's Shed Association Inc be responsible for the documentation and fees associated with amalgamating the two (2) lots; and
 - (c) The expiry date for the Lease will be 31 October 2044 (consistent with the current lease over 18 Moura Crescent, Barney Point).

G/20/4354 Council Resolution:

Moved Mayor Burnett
Seconded Cr Branthwaite

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/3.4. PROPOSED INCREASE TO FINANCIAL DELEGATION FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

File Ref: CM28.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to allow Council to consider an increase in the Chief Executive Officer's financial delegation.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council delegates financial responsibility for the administration and application of Council's adopted budget to the Chief Executive Officer to formally approve up to \$999,999,999 for operating and capital expenditure within the adopted budget or by resolution.

G/20/4355 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Goodluck
Seconded Cr Churchill

That the Chief Executive Officer's financial delegation remain at \$500,000 and that Council remain as the decision maker for operational and capital expenditure over \$500,000.

CARRIED

A Division was called on the motion:

In favour of the motion: Mayor Burnett, Cr Churchill, Cr Goodluck, Cr O'Grady, Cr Cameron

Against the motion: Cr Hansen, Cr Trevor, Cr Muszkat, Cr Branthwaite

Abstained from voting: Nil

G/3.5. 298-20 ODOUR CONTROL A01 SEWERAGE PUMP STATION

File Ref: PE1.1

Purpose:

This report seeks resolution from Council to enter into a contract with Bioaction Pty Ltd for A01 Sewerage Pump Station Odour Control.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation and accept the offer from Bioaction Pty Ltd for tender 298-20 A01 Sewerage Pump Station Odour Control; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract with Bioaction Pty Ltd for tender 298-20 A01 Sewerage Pump Station Odour Control.

G/20/4356 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Cameron
Seconded Cr Branthwaite

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/3.6. 108-20 LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS

File Ref: PE1.1

Purpose:

This report seeks resolution from Council to enter into a contract with Reef City Motors Pty Ltd for the supply and delivery of one-hundred and six (106) light commercial vehicles, as part of the 2019/2020 Fleet Replacement Program.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation and accept the offer from Reef City Motors Pty Ltd for tender 108-20 Light Commercial Vehicle Replacements; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract with Reef City Motors Pty Ltd for tender 108-20 Light Commercial Vehicle Replacements.

G/20/4357 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Branthwaite
Seconded Cr Goodluck

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

In favour of the motion: Cr Goodluck, Cr Branthwaite, Cr Trevor, Cr O'Grady, Cr Cameron, Cr Muszkat, Cr Hansen, Cr Churchill, Mayor Burnett

Against the motion: Nil.

Ineligible: Nil.

G/3.7. 311-20 TONDOON GARDENS ELECTRICAL UPGRADE

Councillor Trevor (Prescribed Conflict of Interest) left the room during the consideration and voting of Item G/3.7. (refer G/0.3.4 Disclosure of Interest section of the minutes – page 6)

File Ref: PE1.1

Purpose:

This report seeks resolution from Council to enter into a contract with Cutuli Electrical Pty Ltd for the electrical and lighting upgrade at Tondoon Botanic Gardens.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation and accept the offer from Cutuli Electrical Pty Ltd for tender 311-20 Electrical and Lighting Upgrade Tondoon Botanic Gardens; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract with Cutuli Electrical Pty Ltd for tender 311-20 Electrical and Lighting Upgrade Tondoon Botanic Gardens.

G/20/4358 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill
Seconded Cr O'Grady

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

In favour of the motion: Mayor Burnett, Cr Goodluck, Cr Branthwaite, Cr O'Grady, Cr Cameron, Cr Muszkat, Cr Hansen, Cr Churchill

Against the motion: Nil.

Ineligible: Cr Trevor

G/4. DEPUTATIONS

G/4.1. DEPUTATION - GLADSTONE AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC

**Councillor Hansen (declared Conflict of Interest)
left the room during the consideration of Item G/4.1.
(refer G/0.3.4 Disclosure of Interest section of the minutes – page 6)**

File Ref: CM7.6

Purpose:

The following deputation will be held on 3 November 2020:

Gladstone Amateur Basketball Association Inc to present a proposal for the development of a four-court indoor centre at Memorial Park.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the deputation from Gladstone Amateur Basketball Association Inc be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.

G/20/4348 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Goodluck
Seconded Cr Trevor

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

For the motion: Mayor Burnett, Cr Goodluck, Cr Branthwaite, Cr Trevor, Cr O'Grady, Cr Cameron, Cr Muszkat, Cr Churchill

Against the motion: Nil

Not eligible: Cr Hansen

G/4.2. DEPUTATION - ZENDEV PTY LTD

File Ref: CM7.6

Purpose:

The following deputation will be held on 3 November 2020:

Zendev Pty Ltd to present a proposal to partner with Council to design and eventually develop the Boyne Tannum Aquatic Recreation Centre (BTARC).

Officer's Recommendation:

That the deputation from ZenDev Pty Ltd be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.

G/20/4349 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill
Seconded Cr O'Grady

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

Nil

G/6. URGENT BUSINESS

The following urgent business was received:-

G/6.1. EFFLUENT SANO DUMP SITE

Cr Churchill provided a verbal report requesting that urgent action be taken to install an effluent Sano Dump Site in the Gladstone City Area.

G/20/4359 Council Resolution

That Council identifies a suitable location within the Gladstone City area and installs a Sani Dump Station for Recreational Vehicles by 15 December 2020.

Moved Cr Churchill
Seconded Cr Branthwaite

CARRIED

G/6.2. ATTENDANCE AT SPECIAL RECOVERY CONFERENCE

File Ref: CM6.1

Purpose:

Approval is sought for Mayor Burnett to attend the Australian Local Government Association's Special Recovery Conference in Wagga Wagga on 16 – 17 November 2020.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council authorises Mayor Burnett to attend the Australian Local Government Association's Special Recovery Conference in Wagga Wagga on 16 and 17 November 2020.

G/20/4360 Council Resolution

Moved Cr Trevor
Seconded Cr O'Grady

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

Refer to Relevant Report in Addendum 2.

G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

There being no further business the Mayor formally closed the meeting.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1.43 pm

ATTACHMENTS

Addendum 1



02 November 2020

The Chief Executive Officer, Mayor and Councillors
Gladstone Regional Council
PO Box 29
Gladstone QLD 4680

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Agenda G/2.2 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water – Kermen Investments General Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 03 November (General Manager Strategic Asset Performance) File CP8.2

IMPACT Community Services (IMPACT) Limited currently leases one of the two premises at 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water to provide Health Services to the Discovery Coast region. We note this agenda item is seeking to transfer the lease of the second building to another party.

IMPACT is a "for purpose" community organisation with the vision to work with individuals to enable them to realise and reach their full potential and the mission to build a caring and inclusive community through opportunities which empower people, increase individual choice, improve resilience and increase social and economic participation.

Through the Rural Health Contract, funded by the Department of Health, Primary Health Network (PHN) IMPACT has successfully managed the Rural Health Contract since 2016 ensuring the health needs of the Community are more accessible without the logistic challenges of travelling to nearby cities. The services delivered within our health services bolsters the health needs of the community for improved health services and improved life opportunities.

IMPACT is committed to enhancing health services in the Discovery Coast region and is currently investigating alternative health care models, identifying the health care needs of the community and considering the infrastructure requirements to deliver such services as the rooms/floor space of current premises will be inadequate and we will require additional space.

Since 2019 IMPACT has been working closely with Queensland Health and the Primary Health Network (PHN) and feel confident about our future plans for the health service. We have previously expressed our interest to Council in relation to securing a lease/tenancy over the vacant premises at 2 Rafting Ground Road and would like to formalise our arrangements as early as practicable. The second premises would allow for the expansion of our service delivery options and also enable us to adhere to regulatory requirements relative to COVID-19.

I would like to request a meeting with Gladstone Regional Council before any decision is made regarding the future leasing of premises at 2 Rafting Ground Road (the premises adjacent to the IMPACT Community Health Service which has remained unoccupied now for some time).

For information in support of this request please see Annexure A, B and C attached.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to an opportunity to meet and discuss further.

Yours Sincerely



Tanya O'Shea
Managing Director

Let's do it together

Re: Agenda G/2.2 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water – Kermen Investments General Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 03 November (General Manager Strategic Asset Performance) File CP8.2

Annexure A – IMPACT Community Services Open Letter to Gladstone Regional Council

The following background is provided for Council's information.

The Department of Health and Ageing funded the Bundaberg Division of General Practice in 2000 to undertake a health needs assessment in the Miriam Vale Shire. As a result of this assessment the community worked with the Miriam Vale Shire Council to develop a health strategy for the region.

In June 2001, Miriam Vale Shire Council was successful in obtaining Commonwealth funding (\$1.9million over three years), under the Regional Health Service Program (RPHS) to provide primary health care services in the Discovery Coast region. At that time, it was one of nine Local Governments to manage a regional health service out of 124 services funded under the program.

The premises at 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water were purchased with Department of Transport and Regional Services Funding (\$165,000) along with funds from Miriam Vale Shire Council and the Regional Health Service for the express purpose of delivering the Rural Primary Health Service Program, known as Discovery Coast Community Health Service. The premises were officially opened in May 2002.

The premise comprises 2 buildings with the larger building being leased by the Regional Health Services Program to operate health services and the second building being leased over the years to other health services providers.

Miriam Vale Shire Council auspiced the RPHS funded Discovery Coast Community Health Service until the amalgamation of Councils in 2008 when it was then auspiced by Gladstone Regional Council. In 2016 the Program and lease of the premises was transferred to IMPACT Community Services and is now known as IMPACT Community Health Service – Discovery Coast. The service delivers community nursing and a range of allied health services. Currently IMPACT Community Health Service has Shorecare General Practice and Discovery Physio co-located in the building and also house ten other visiting providers.

During Covid-19 the three co-located business have physically separated in the building to support the businesses capacity to remain open if one were to have a positive Covid case. Management of room bookings for staff and visiting services during Covid has meant delays in service delivery as the building is at capacity under Covid physical distancing requirements.

The Discovery Coast sits within the Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service (WBHHS) District and has no Qld Health Infrastructure. The WBHHS provides limited services locally including physio, psychology, community mental health, and women's health delivered from the IMPACT Community Health Service building. In 2019 the WBHHS identified the IMPACT Community Health Service as the nearest health service facility for the purposes of Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme payments for residents of the region.

The second building on the property has been leased to various health service providers over the past 18 years. Agnes Water Dental have leased the building for some years from Council, but the building has not been occupied nor the business operating for at least the past 12months. The Agnes Water Dental business was sold earlier this year to Discovery Coast Dental and Medical which operates at 3 Captain Cook Drive Agnes Water. IMPACT Community Services is unaware of the type of services that will be delivered under this new lease.

A recent issue has emerged in relation to the buildings sharing potable water. IMPACT Community Health Service has previously purchased all of the water when it runs out. The electricity supply to the pump is from the second building. The current tenant has arranged for the electricity to be turned off, which has left the Health Service with no water supply. Whilst this has been rectified in a short-term solution by Council the situation adds to the complexity of having two separate tenants.

Re: Agenda G/2.2 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water – Kermen Investments General Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 03 November (General Manager Strategic Asset Performance) File CP8.2

Annexure B

<https://www.lgfocus.com.au/editions/2002-12/shire-discovers-path-to-better-health-services%3Cbr%3Emiriam-vale-a-prime-example-of-what-can-be-achieved-when-local-government-works-in-partnership-with-the-commonwealth.php>

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**Shire discovers path to better health services
Miriam Vale a prime example of what can be achieved when Local Government works in partnership with the Commonwealth**

Miriam Vale a prime example of what can be achieved when Local Government works in partnership with the Commonwealth

Residents of Discovery Coast have lived up to the region's name and found an innovative way to improve health care in their community. Thanks to the efforts of the Miriam Vale Shire Council in applying to the Commonwealth for funding under its Regional Health Services Program (RHSP), residents now have access to a comprehensive range of health care services. Miriam Vale Shire Council secured nearly \$2 million over three years under the program. It is one of nine Local Governments to manage a regional health service, out of the 124 services funded under the program.

The Discovery Coast Health Service had humble beginnings and illustrates the possibilities that can take shape when Local Government bodies are open to supporting their community beyond the usual 3R's. From a community with access to only a visiting child health nurse, women's health nurse, community aged care services and locum general practitioners, the Miriam Vale Shire now boasts a much wider range of services. Commonwealth Regional Health Services funds have enabled access to a local community nurse, visiting occupational therapist, dietitian, social worker, psychologist, mental health workers, alcohol and other drugs services, physiotherapist and massage therapist, as well as increased hours for the child health nurse.

The presence of the Discovery Coast Health Service has also enabled it to become a hub for the delivery of other local or visiting services, such as two permanent general practitioners, optometrist, diabetic educator, chiropractor, continence adviser and exercise and fitness coach.

Two years ago Miriam Vale Shire, a region between Gladstone and Bundaberg which includes the communities of Miriam Vale and Agnes Water, was identified as lacking in health services, transport, communication, education, employment opportunities and social services in comparison with many other rural communities in Queensland. The area was undergoing rapid growth but remained comparatively isolated from larger provincial towns. Agnes Water, for example, is a one and a half hour drive from one of the larger provincial towns, and the road includes unsealed stretches. The community realised it needed access to a broader range of primary health services locally, so an enthusiastic community working party got to work.

The community sought assistance from the Commonwealth Government through its Regional Health Services Program. Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, the program aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people in rural Australia by enhancing access to a broad range of health care services. Senator Kay Patterson, the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing, is pleased to see how the Regional Health Services Program is improving access to health services in rural areas. The program is an important part of the Commonwealth Government's focus on rural health, which aims to improve the range of health care services and strengthen the health workforce in rural communities across Australia. Since 1996, around \$2 billion has been spent on targeted rural health and aged care initiatives nationally.

The Discovery Coast Health Service is a prime example of how collaboration between the community and Commonwealth, State/Territory and Local Governments can improve health services in rural areas. In 2000, the Department of Health and Ageing funded the Bundaberg Division of General Practice to conduct a health needs assessment in the Shire. The community supported this planning work and became actively involved in information exchange. But this was just the beginning. To be in a position to submit a funding proposal under the Regional Health Services Program, the identification and costing of a local health response to the priority needs was required. Once again, key people in the community put in the hours to bring this to fruition.

The local Council then stepped up to the plate by making a commitment to act as the auspice for the Discovery Coast Health Service.

"A fledgling health service needs an organisation with the capacity for management that will support its infrastructure," said Kay Chapman, Manager Community Services for the Miriam Vale Shire Council. "Local Government is in a prime position to offer this auspice and indeed is often the only local organisation with the capacity to do so."

The Commonwealth Regional Health Services Program provides scope for a range of auspice organisations to be engaged. In Queensland, Miriam Vale Shire Council is one of two Shire Councils acting as a fund holder. Following the successful submission, the Discovery Coast Health Service was funded from June 2001.

Kay Chapman said that this was in no small part achieved through the support and efforts of the Miriam Vale Shire Council and its commitment to working with the people of the Shire. There were many challenges to the establishment of the Discovery Coast Health Service. The writing of the submission was a community based project that required collating all the necessary documentation and reaching agreement on the priorities to be addressed.

Locating the premises for the health service also proved to be a challenge. Several attempts to secure capital funding during 2001 were tried – all unsuccessfully. This was compounded by the limited range of sites immediately available, as is often the case in small rural communities.

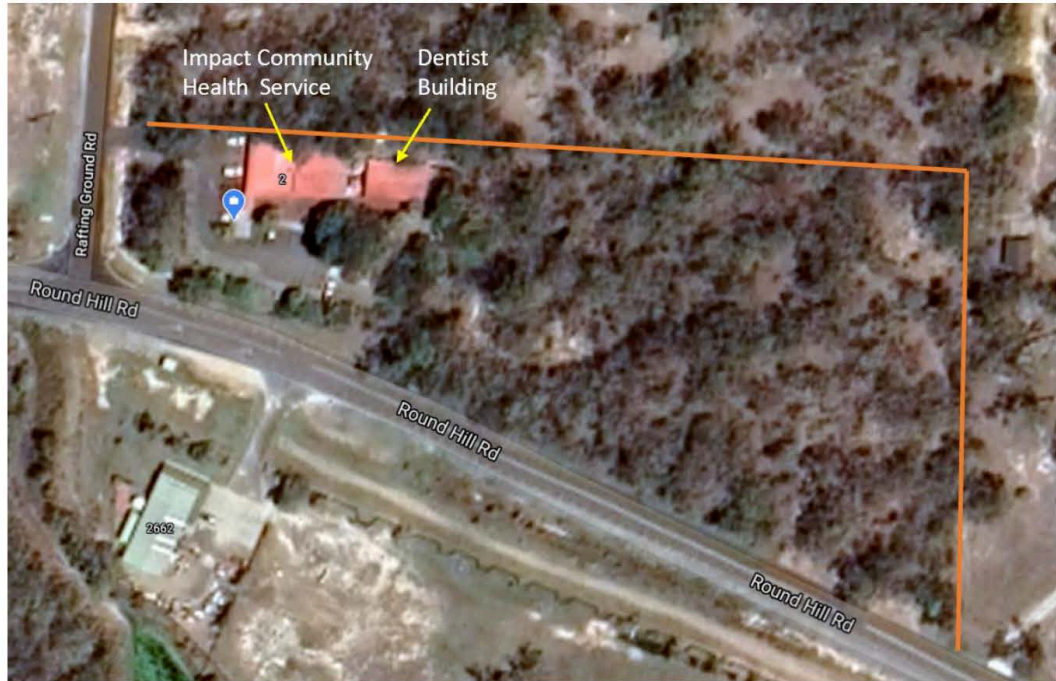
Towards the end of 2002, however, the health service was successful in its application from the Department of Transport and Regional Services for \$165,000 to be used to contribute to the purchase of leased premises. The success of this application was partly due to the fact that funds had already been committed through the Shire Council as well as the Regional Health Service. Attracting health professionals has been an ongoing struggle. Some of the lateral approaches the service has taken include flexibility in negotiating a variety of service agreement types, paying travel costs at the session rate and the use of a massage therapist working in conjunction with the physiotherapist to extend treatment options.

Taking on management of the health service has also been a catalyst for a structural overhaul within the Miriam Vale Shire Council. The restructured Council and the fact that it is actively involved in community health is a great example of the powerful partnerships that can be forged between governments, resulting in benefits to the community.

The partnership between the Local Government as auspice and the Federal Government as funder has resulted in a functional and accessible health service for Miriam Vale Shire. For further information freecall 1800 020 787, email ruralhealth@health.gov.au or visit the website at www.ruralhealth.gov.au

Re: Agenda G/2.2 2 Rafting Ground Road, Agnes Water – Kermen Investments General Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 03 November (General Manager Strategic Asset Performance) File CP8.2

Annexure C



Addendum 2

G/6.1 ATTENDANCE AT THE ALGA SPECIAL RECOVERY CONFERENCE

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Council Meeting Date: 3 November 2020

File Ref: CM6.1

Purpose:

Approval is sought for Mayor Burnett to attend the Australian Local Government Association's Special Recovery Conference in Wagga Wagga on 16 – 17 November 2020.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council authorises Mayor Burnett to attend the Australian Local Government Association's Special Recovery Conference in Wagga Wagga on 16 and 17 November 2020.

Background:

Mayor Burnett is a member of the Board of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). ALGA is holding its board meeting on 13 November 2020 in Wagga Wagga.

The Special Local Roads and Transport Congress is held annually. This year the Congress has been expanded to encompass natural disaster impacts, recover and resilience and COVID-19 and is being referred to as the Special Recovery Conference. The conference will be held in Wagga Wagga on the 16 –17 November 2020.

The Special Recovery Conference will focus on the issues such as drought, the Black Summer Bushfires and the COVID-19 Pandemic. The conference will allow in-depth discussions to explore solutions to the current challenges faced by Local Government.

Key speakers include the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Transport and a range of subject matter experts relating to natural disasters, resilience and transport.

ALGA has put in place a comprehensive COVID-19 plan and risk assessment framework including social distancing, wearing of masks, control over entry and exit and arrangements relating to meals.

Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis:

Attendance at the Special Recovery Conference will provide an opportunity to engage with other Local Governments across Australia in relation to how they have dealt with natural disasters and the associated recovery.

Communication and Consultation:

Mayor, Chief Executive Officer and Manager Governance

Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:

Council's Councillor Expenses Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Policy provides that Council will meet or reimburse expenses incurred in relation to the attendance of conferences that have been approved by resolution of the Council.

Further, 6.1.2 of Council's Meetings Procedure Policy provides that a leave of absence is automatically granted to a councillor where council passes a formal resolution for a councillor to attend a conference.

Financial and Resource Implications:

The Local Government Association of Queensland Ltd (LGAQ) have confirmed that they will reimburse Council for the costs for Mayor Burnett's attendance at the Special Recovery Conference including airfares, accommodation, registration and vehicle kilometres. LGAQ will also be covering the costs of the Mayor's attendance at the ALGA Board Meeting.

Summary:

Nil.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

20 November 2020

Attachments:

Nil.

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Manager Governance