



**GLADSTONE**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CIVIC CENTRE  
101 GOONDOON STREET, GLADSTONE**

**On Tuesday 7 September 2021**

**Commencing at 9.00am**

**Mark Holmes**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, Acting**

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**Elected Members**

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

**Officers**

Mr M Holmes (Chief Executive Officer, Acting)  
Mrs R Millett (Executive Secretary)  
Mr M Francis (General Manager Strategic Asset Performance)  
Mr T Mienie (General Manager People, Culture and Safety)  
Mr R Huth (General Manager Customer Experience)  
Mr R Mulvey (General Manager Operations, Acting)  
Mr L Griffiths (Manager Engagement and Partnerships)

### **G/0.3.2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil.

### **G/0.3.3. MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE**

Councillor Chris Cameron mentioned the passing of Neville Gregory and passed on condolences to the Gregory family. Neville was a master jeweller and had a business called Neville Gregory Jewellers. Neville passed away after a short illness and is survived by wife, Patricia, daughters Karen and Jacqueline and son Mark. Cr Cameron reflected on his time with Neville Gregory noting that he was one of nature's gentlemen, lived a good life and may he rest in peace.

### **G/0.3.4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Nil.

## **G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES**

Firstly I would like to take the opportunity to thank the government for their \$10 million investment into the next stage of the inland rail project. This is a nation building project and we have always been advocating that it should connect to the Port of Gladstone through Central Queensland. I wrote to the Senate inquiry on the 18 December 2019, presented to the Senate inquiry on the 6 February 2020 and with my fellow Mayors, Regional Development Australia and John Abbott from Central Queensland University, presented again to the Senate inquiry on the 18 June 2021. We have been able to convince the Senators that they should connect this project to the Port of Gladstone, so much so, they have included a recommendation, recommendation 8, that a thorough investigation into the connecting of the project to the Port of Gladstone be undertaken. I am pleased to say that the Federal Government announced a \$10 million commitment to do the thorough investigation, which we all know will prove that connecting to the Port of Gladstone through Central Queensland makes economic sense. We have the most expandable port in the southern hemisphere, we have a community that is supportive of this project and it is going to be a great nation building project, not just for the capital cities, but for regional Queensland as well.

On Friday 27 August 2021, I attended the Symphony Under the Stars with a number of councillors and a packed Gladstone Marina Stage. It was fantastic to have that event back in Gladstone and I thank the team at ConocoPhillips APLNG for supporting that and bringing that back to the Gladstone region.

The following day was the Gladstone Multicultural Festival at the Tondoon Botanic Gardens and the team of volunteers did an amazing job again. Helena, Karen, Gassan, Chris and their team of volunteers, hats off to you, you've done an amazing job.

This afternoon, is the Gladstone Connects "Boots on the Ground" Do you import products to the Gladstone Region; could you make products locally; and connecting leaders and manufacturers locally to shorten the supply chain for our local market. That's happening this afternoon from 1pm, please contact the Central Queensland University if you would like to attend.

Thursday is Are You Ok Day and I know councillors are attending a number of events around the region and here at council we have a number of functions and events happening to acknowledge Are You Ok Day. Something that is reasonably new in Australia and we've all no doubt lost a friend or family member to suicide and this is about making sure all our friends and family are ok. Asking the question 'are you ok?' as more often than not people are not ok and they don't let you know and then its too late and you're wondering why. So make sure you ask a mate, ask a family member, 'are you ok?'

On Saturday, finally Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail opening. Congratulations Councillor O'Grady and the entire team. They are opening the section from Barrimoon Siding near Kalpowar to Buliyan, which is a 32km rail trail. It also includes a 10km ride, walk, run or even horseback from the Barrimoon Siding to Golembil through those amazing 6 tunnels.

At the same time on the weekend is the Boyne Valley showcase, no better time to be in the Boyne Valley than this weekend. You've got the Boyne Valley Showcase on Friday 10 September, Saturday 11 September and Sunday 12 September and the opening on the Inland Rail Trail on Saturday.

And Under the Trees is on Saturday 18 September at Boyne Island, another amazing event run by a band of volunteers and I encourage you to get your tickets for Under the Trees as well.

**G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 17 AUGUST 2021**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Council Meeting Date:** 7 September 2021

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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**Purpose:**

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 17 August 2021.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 17 August 2021 be confirmed.

**GM/21/4583 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Churchill  
Seconded Cr Hansen

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **G/3. DEPUTATIONS**

### **G/3.1. STRONGER PLACES STRONGER PEOPLE GLADSTONE**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Council Meeting Date:** 7 September 2021

**File Ref:** CM7.6

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**Purpose:**

To provide an update briefing on Stronger Places, Stronger People (SPSP) initiative in the Gladstone Region.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That the deputation from Stronger Places, Stronger People be received.

**GM/21/4584 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Muszkat

Seconded Cr Branthwaite

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### **G/4.1. 223-21 WASTE WATER OPERATIONS - ALDOGA AND ALF LARSEN**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Operations

**Council Meeting Date:** 7 September 2021

**File Ref:** PE1.1

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#### **Purpose:**

This report seeks resolution from Council to enter into a contract with Remondis Aqua Australia Pty Ltd for wastewater operation and maintenance services for Alf Larson/Lions Park Wastewater Treatment Plant and Aldoga Water Recycling Water Treatment Plant.

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation and accept the offer from Remondis Aqua Australia Pty Ltd for tender 223-21 Wastewater Operation and Maintenance Services for Alf Larson/Lions Park Wastewater Treatment Plant and Aldoga Water Recycling Water Treatment Plant;
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a 2-year contract with the option to extend for a further three 2-year periods, with Remondis Aqua Australia Pty Ltd for tender 223-21 Wastewater Operation and Maintenance Services for Alf Larson/Lions Park Wastewater Treatment Plant and Aldoga Water Recycling Water Treatment Plant.

#### **GM/21/4585 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Hansen  
Seconded Cr O'Grady

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**



## **G/4.2. REVIEW OF COUNCILLOR ACCEPTABLE REQUEST GUIDELINES POLICY**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Council Meeting Date:** 7 September 2021

**File Ref:** CM28.2

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### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a proposed revised Councillor Acceptable Request Guidelines Policy.

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council:

1. Repeal P-2018-32 - Councillor Acceptable Requests Guidelines Policy; and
2. Adopt P-2021-20 - Councillor Acceptable Request Guidelines Policy.

### **GM/21/4586 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Churchill

Seconded Cr Goodluck

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

### **G/4.3. REPEAL OF ANTI-HARASSMENT AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICIES**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Council Meeting Date:** 7 September 2021

**File Ref:** CM28.2

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**Purpose:**

Council is committed to providing a workplace that is free from stigma, discrimination and any form of intimidation, violence, harassment (sexual or other) or bullying of any kind as outlined in its People & Culture Policy. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to repeal the outdated Anti-Discrimination Policy and Anti-Harassment Policy as these policies are not current and are superfluous to current policy requirements.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council, in consideration of current legislation and existing policies:

1. Repeal P-2013-32 - Anti-Harassment Policy;
2. Repeal P-2014-1 - Anti-Discrimination Policy.

**GM/21/4587 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Churchill  
Seconded Cr Trevor

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Councillor Desley O'Grady mentioned that the opening of the Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail (BBIRT) Kalpowar to Buliyan section is on Saturday 11 September 2021 at 11:00am. Cr O'Grady noted that the accommodation in the area is booked out already which demonstrates the economic benefit of the rail trail. Cr O'Grady acknowledged and thanked the volunteers, members, non-members and community for their effort over the last 3 months that has gone into this section of the rail trail advising that over 1,000 volunteer hours have been completed to finish this section of the rail trail. Cr O'Grady read an excerpt from an email (refer addendum 1) received from Craig England, Department of Main Roads and Transport "I can confirm that there is no impediments to TMR granting you an operational access licence for the section between Kalpowar and Buliyan". Cr O'Grady noted that the TV show "Weekender" will be at the opening and thanked Gladstone Area Promotion and Development Ltd (GAPDL) for coordinating the TV show. Cr O'Grady encouraged the community to come along and experience the Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail opening.

Councillor Kahn Goodluck mentioned the Under the Trees music festival on Boyne Island on Saturday 18 September 2021. Cr Goodluck noted that tickets are selling fast and encouraged the community to obtain their tickets to avoid missing out. Cr Goodluck advised that there was an addition to the festival this year with Under the Trees Eve which is a twilight art gala with tickets also available this year. Cr Goodluck advised that bus services would be operating throughout the Boyne Island and Tannum Sands with a Gladstone service yet to be confirmed. Cr Goodluck noted that tickets will not be available at the gate and must be purchased prior to the event.

Councillor Glenn Churchill mentioned a forum he attended regarding the single use plastic items ban and thanked the Queensland Government and local member Glenn Butcher for organising the forum. Cr Churchill noted it was well attended. Cr Churchill tabled a brochure "Get ready for the single-use plastic items ban" received at the forum (refer addendum 2) and encouraged Councillors and the community to understand the requirements and consider what it means for local government and recycling and waste management operations.

Councillor Natalia Muszkat mentioned the Ride 4 Lives Family Fun Day which is being held at the Gladstone Tondoon Botanical Gardens on Saturday 11 September 2021 from 10:00am - 2:00pm to raise awareness about suicide prevention. Cr Muszkat noted that Ride 4 Lives Australia is a local organisation and that they have arranged a number of activities in the region in recognition of the impact of suicide in our community. Cr Muszkat mentioned the Rainbow in the Gardens event on Sunday 12 September 2021 for the LGBTQIA+ community, friends, families and allies. Cr Muszkat encouraged the community to head out to the gardens and check out the events. Cr Muszkat mentioned that it is Child Safety week this week with a number of activities around the region as well.

Councillor Rick Hansen advised that Celebrating Disability Action Week commences on 9 September 2021 to 15 September 2021 with an event called SpringAbility at the sensory park at Lions Park at 1:00pm. Cr Hansen encouraged the community to head to Lions Park on Thursday and find out what the providers have to offer.

Councillor Chris Trevor congratulated Cr O'Grady for her compassion and commitment to the BBIRT and reflected on his personal connections to the rail trail. Cr Trevor mentioned media reports in relation to Peter Corones stepping down as chair of the Gladstone Ports Corporation. Cr Trevor thanked Mr Corones for his wonderful contribution to the community. Cr Trevor reflected on his personal experience with Mr Corones and noted that he is a valued and trusted friend. Cr Trevor acknowledged Mr Corones as a great mentor and a passionate advocate for the community. Cr Trevor congratulated Dr Anthony Lynham on his appointment to chair. Cr Trevor thanked Mr Corones on behalf of the Gladstone community, the Mayor, Councillors and past Councillors for his dedication, passion and unswerving loyalty to the Gladstone community over many many years.

**G/6. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

**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 10:40am**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby confirm that I have read the minutes and they are a true and correct record of the proceedings of the meeting. I certify that these 16 pages form the official copy of Gladstone Regional Council General Meeting Minutes of the 7 September 2021.

.....  
Mayor Matt Burnett

..... / ..... / .....  
Date

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Addendum 1**

**Brooke Saunders**

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**From:** Desley O'Grady  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 14 September 2021 9:08 AM  
**To:** Rachael Millett  
**Cc:** Brooke Saunders

Hi [REDACTED],

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I can confirm that there is no impediments to TMR granting you an operational Access Licence for the sections between Kalpowar (northern side of Gladstone Monto Road) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Craig England  
Manager (Rail Corridor Management)  
Development Projects and Rail Corridor Management | Department of Transport and Main Roads

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Opinions contained in this email do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Department of Transport and Main Roads, or endorsed organisations utilising the same infrastructure.

Hi Rachael/Brooke, FYI

Regards,

**Desley O'Grady**  
Councillor



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Email [desleyogrady@gladstone.qld.gov.au](mailto:desleyogrady@gladstone.qld.gov.au) | Website: [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au)

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## Addendum 2



# Get ready for the single-use plastic items ban

starting on 1 September 2021

Half of all plastic produced in the world is designed to be used only once—and then thrown away. This is a huge contributor to the 300 million tonnes of plastic waste created every year, almost equivalent to the weight of the entire human population.

The Queensland Government is taking action to fight plastic waste and pollution, starting with a ban on some single-use plastic items.

### Single-use plastic items included in the ban:

- straws: regular straws, flexible straws, straws with a scoop, cocktail straws and bubble tea straws
- stirrers: hot or cold drink stirrers, swizzle sticks and hot or cold food stirrers
- plates and bowls including single-use expanded polystyrene plates
- cutlery: knives, forks, spoons, teaspoons, sample tasting spoons, soup spoons, chopsticks, splayds and sporks
- expanded polystyrene takeaway food containers and cups.



Queensland  
Government

## WHAT ALTERNATIVES CAN I USE?

### STRAWS\*\*

#### AVOID

Remove straws from any area that is accessible to the public. Have straws by request only, you can communicate this with signage.



#### REUSE

Use reusable bamboo, glass, stainless steel or silicone straws. There is also an option to sell for fundraisers.



#### COMPOSTABLE

Provide upon request sustainably sourced paper, wheat/pasta straws. Avoid oxo-biodegradable straws, these are banned. Note: Single-use alternatives containing compostable plastics must meet Australian Standards\*.

### CUTLERY

#### AVOID

Ask people if they actually need cutlery. Provide and minimise to only what is needed (e.g. rather than wooden teaspoons, can you use paddle-pop sticks?).



#### REUSE

Utilise any reusables that may be on hand, or have a collection of reusable cutlery that can be returned.



#### COMPOSTABLE

Provide upon request sustainably sourced wooden or bamboo cutlery. Note: Single-use alternatives containing compostable plastics must meet Australian Standards\*.

### BOWLS & PLATES

#### AVOID

Ask if plates and bowls are required (e.g. for a sausage sizzle, paper napkins can replace plates).



#### REUSE

Utilise any reusable plates that may be on hand (e.g. at venues that have a wash up option), or provide your own.



#### COMPOSTABLE

Provide sustainability sourced compostable plates and bowls such as bagasse (sugarcane), bamboo or paper. Note: Single-use alternatives containing compostable plastics must meet Australian Standards\*.

### EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE

#### AVOID

If food is consumed on site, you may be able to eliminate the need for food containers. Do not provide cups for self-serve water stations, encourage BYO.



#### REUSE

Provide reusable options where possible, and encourage BYO cups through social media and community networks.



#### COMPOSTABLE

Use sustainably sourced unlined or bioplastic lined paper/board, bagasse (sugarcane), bamboo cups and containers. Note that alternatives that are plates or bowls must also comply with the ban.

### Additional Notes

\* Single-use alternatives which contain compostable bioplastics must meet one of the following Australian Composting Standards: Home - AS 5810-2010 and Industrial AS4736-2006

\*\* Straws that are already attached to poppers or other similar products are exempt from the ban

### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ALTERNATIVES



For further information on the ban, please refer to the Qld Department of Environment and Science website. [www.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.des.qld.gov.au)

Advice provided by:

