



**GLADSTONE**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**HELD AT THE BUILYAN COMMUNITY HALL  
11 PINE STREET, BUILYAN**

**On Tuesday 18 March 2025**

**Commencing at 10.00am**

**Leisa Dowling**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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**Elected Members**

Councillor - Mayor M Burnett  
Councillor G Churchill  
Councillor K Davis  
Councillor M Wagner  
Councillor M Holzheimer  
Councillor N Muszkat  
Councillor S McClintock  
Councillor L Patrick  
Councillor C Cameron

**Officers**

L Dowling (Chief Executive Officer)  
R Millett (Executive Secretary)  
T Whalley (Manager Governance and Risk)  
M Holmes (General Manager Finance Governance and Risk)  
C Quinn (General Manager People and Strategy)  
K Lee (General Manager Community and Lifestyle)  
M Francis (General Manager Assets and Environment)  
R Huth (General Manager Customer Experience)  
B Janson (Manager Community Partnerships)

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

Nil

**G/0.3.3. MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE**

Councillor Glenn Churchill provided the following message of condolence:

It is with a heavy heart that I advise that we recently lost one of our Region's most dedicated community members, Paul 'Thommo' Eyre-Thompson.

Thommo was a valuable Volunteer in Policing (VIP) for well over 25 years. He left an indelible mark on the community before sadly passing away last Sunday (9 March 2025). His commitment to volunteering, in particular, at the Tannum Sands Police Station made him a familiar and cherished figure in the community.

He actively participated in initiatives such as letterbox drops for the school-watch program before school holidays, 'lock it or lose it' campaigns in local shopping centres, and numerous community events, all aimed at educating the community about the importance and the significance of crime prevention.

Thommo also dedicated countless hours a year, to the Queensland Police Service (QPS), Bindaree Lodge Aged Care, St Francis School, and local Cricket and Hockey communities. Never one to stand still, Thommo's unwavering eagerness to contribute and enthusiasm made a significant impact on those around him. This volunteer dedication was recognised when he was proudly awarded the Gladstone Regional Council Community Australia Day Volunteer of the Year Award in 2022, a true testament to his hard work, commitment and making a difference to his community and Region.

His absence will be profoundly felt at the Tannum Sands Police Station and in the patrol groups in our Region. Thommo's legacy of service and community spirit will continue to be an inspiration to all of us. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with his family during this incredibly difficult time, and he will forever hold a special place in our hearts.

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

##### **Cr Patrick**

Councillor Leanne Patrick declared a declarable conflict of interest in Agenda Item G/4.3. GLADSTONE AIRPORT CORPORATION - TENURE OF DIRECTORS as Adrienne Ward is an acquaintance of hers and recently attended Cr Patrick's birthday party. Cr Patrick advised that Adrienne was also a party to a business transaction with her husband's company, McDonald's.

Cr Patrick advised that she would leave the meeting room for the consideration of Agenda Item G/4.3.

Cr Patrick declared a declarable conflict of interest in Agenda Item G/4.2. THE SHELTER COLLECTIVE - SUPPORT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT, as her husband's business, McDonald's Kirkwood, is making a less than \$150 donation to the Shelter Collective Community Volunteer Day and Cr Patrick is also volunteering at that event.

Cr Patrick advised that although she has a declarable conflict of interest, she believes she would reasonably be perceived to be impartial because the donation is minor and neither herself or her husband stand to gain or suffer a loss from Council's decision today. Cr Patrick further advised that she believes that she can make an unbiased decision in the public interest and requested that Council allow her to participate in the decision.

##### **GM/25/5408 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Churchill  
Seconded Cr Wagner

That notwithstanding Cr Patrick's declarable conflict of interest, it is in the public interest for Cr Patrick to remain in the room for Agenda Item G/4.2. and participate in the decision without restriction.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

##### **Cr Muszkat**

Councillor Natalia Muszkat declared a declarable conflict of interest in Agenda Item G/4.1. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - OUT OF ROUND - IMPACT EVENT APPLICATION as she has been approached and requested by the applicants to assist in organising the program for the event.

Cr Muszkat advised that although she has a declarable conflict of interest, she believes that she can be impartial and make an unbiased decision in the public interest and requested that Council allow her to participate in the decision.

##### **GM/25/5409 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr McClintock  
Seconded Cr Holzheimer

That notwithstanding Cr Muszkat's declarable conflict of interest, it is in the public interest for Cr Muszkat to remain in the room for Agenda Item G/4.1. and participate in the decision without restriction.

**CARRIED**

## G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES

I'd like to welcome the Prime Minister to the Gladstone Region today as he was at Boyne Smelters making another announcement to support our aluminium and alumina industry, which is very welcome for Gladstone. Rio Tinto's largest asset base anywhere in the world is in Gladstone and any support for the alumina or aluminium industry is very welcome in our region. That announcement is happening this morning and I'll allow the Prime Minister to make those details known later today, but this is on top of the \$2 billion announcement that the Federal Government has made for the aluminium and the alumina industry around the country, and with Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL), Rio Tinto and Boyne Smelter, we are definitely going to be the beneficiaries of these announcements. I certainly hope that the Opposition match them so regardless of the outcome of the upcoming Federal Election, the Gladstone Region will win.

Mamma Mia, the community musical was just on stage at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre (GECC). Well done to the organisers and volunteers who put that fantastic event together including some of our own Council staff, who were heavily involved. It was a fantastic community musical and shout out to everyone involved.

Recently we had an announcement of \$2.5 million for the Gladstone Airport including just over \$1 million for our patient transfer facility, which is absolutely fantastic news. Anyone who's had to be at the airport for a patient transfer will know all too well what it is like waiting from the other side of the fence for the ambulance to turn up and then to watch your family member or friend drive through and onto the plane, sometimes in the rain and in all kinds of weather. This new transfer facility will be a welcomed addition to the Gladstone Airport. \$1 million won't build the facility, but the airport received just over \$2.5 million for upgrades, and hopefully with some industry support and maybe with some State Government support, the facility can be built and be a much needed and welcomed addition to the Gladstone Airport.

Some upcoming events, on Saturday 29 March 2025 is the Community Open Day and CQ Hydrogen Community Information Session from 11am to 3pm. And a reminder that there are always lots of other events happening in our region.

I'd like to welcome back Councillor Chris Cameron to the boardroom. It's very good to have you back at the table. We've said our farewells and thank you's to Councillor Kahn Goodluck at the last meeting and it's great to see the Electoral Commission of Queensland acting promptly and having you here as soon as they possibly could.

## **G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 4 MARCH 2025**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Prepared By:** Executive Secretary

**Council Meeting Date:** 18 March 2025

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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**Purpose:**

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 4 March 2025.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 4 March 2025 be confirmed.

**GM/25/5410 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Patrick  
Seconded Cr Holzheimer

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**G/3. DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

UNCONFIRMED

**G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**G/4.1. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - OUT OF ROUND - IMPACT EVENT APPLICATION**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Community and Lifestyle

**Prepared By:** Manager Community Partnerships

**Council Meeting Date:** 18 March 2025

**File Ref:** GS3.1

**Purpose:**

To consider the recommendation of the Community Investment Panel on applications received under the Impact Event fund.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council:

1. Adopt the Community Investment Panel’s recommendations of funding for the applications received under the categories of funding as detailed in the tables below:

Application ID	Applicant	Project	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
IMPACT-OOR-1-24/25	Of One Mind Limited	WOW - Women of the World Festival Gladstone 2025	\$12,382 cash \$12,618 in kind	\$12,382 cash \$12,618 in kind
<b>Total Funding Recommended</b>			<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

and

2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise and execute funding agreements with the successful applicants detailing relevant entitlements and conditions.

**GM/25/5411 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Holzheimer

Seconded Cr Davis

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**



## G/4.2. THE SHELTER COLLECTIVE - SUPPORT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager People and Strategy

**Prepared By:** Strategic Project Specialist

**Council Meeting Date:** 18 March 2025

**File Ref:** ED4.1, CM31.08

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### **Purpose:**

For Council to consider a request to support the Shelter Collective's ARC21 community housing project, South Gladstone with a contribution to disposal costs for construction and demolition waste, and green waste.

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

That Council contribute to the Shelter Collective's waste disposal costs, to the value of \$6,436 for construction and demolition waste and green waste associated with Stage 1 of the ARC21 community housing project at South Gladstone.

### **GM/25/5412 Council Resolution:**

Moved Mayor Burnett  
Seconded Cr Muszkat

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

### **G/4.3. GLADSTONE AIRPORT CORPORATION - TENURE OF DIRECTORS**

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

**Prepared By: Manager Governance and Risk**

**Council Meeting Date: 18 March 2025**

**File Ref: FM19.1**

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**Cr Patrick (declarable conflict of interest)**  
**left the room for Agenda Item G/4.3. and did not participate in the decision.**  
(refer G/0.3.1. Disclosure of Interest section of the minutes - page 4)

**Purpose:**

To consider the composition of the Gladstone Airport Corporation Board of Directors.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That:

1. Council appoint Adrienne Ward, Chairman for an additional term expiring 30 June 2027.
2. Council appoint Rick Hansen as a director for an additional term expiring 30 June 2027.
3. Council appoint Anthony Groen-Int-woud as a director for an additional term expiring 30 June 2028.
4. Council appoint Kieran Donovan as a director for an additional term expiring 30 June 2028.
5. Council appoint Dana Field as a director for an additional term expiring 30 October 2027.
6. Council appoint Tina Zawila as a director for an additional term expiring 30 September 2026.
7. Council proceeds with the recruitment of one new director with the appointment to commence 1 October 2026 for an initial period of three years.

**GM/25/5413 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Wagner  
Seconded Cr Davis

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

#### **G/4.4. REVIEW OF PROCUREMENT POLICY**

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

**Prepared By:** Governance Business Partner

**Council Meeting Date:** 18 March 2025

**File Ref:** CM28.2

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**Purpose:**

To consider the annual review of the Procurement Policy.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council adopt the Procurement Policy provided as Attachment 1 to the Officer's Report.

**GM/25/5414 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Muszkat

Seconded Cr Holzheimer

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**G/4.5. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 28 FEB 2025**

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

**Prepared By:** Management Accounting Specialist

**Council Meeting Date:** 18 March 2025

**File Ref:** FM15.1

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**Purpose:**

This report seeks Council adoption of the Monthly Financial Statements for the year 2024-25 to date, for the period ended 28 February 2025.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Statements attached to the officer's report for the 2024-25 year to date, for the period ended 28 February 2025 as required under Section 204 Local Government Regulation 2012.

**GM/25/5415 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Wagner  
Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

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

Councillor Natalia Muszkat acknowledged all the events that took place in the region around International Women's Day. Cr Muszkat thanked those organisations that continue to provide great events around International Women's Day which *'remind us where we were; where we are and where we want to go'*.

Councillor Leanne Patrick mentioned that she attended the sing-a-long for the Mamma Mia community musical on Sunday and thanked the community for dressing up, singing along and really getting into the spirit of the musical. Cr Patrick acknowledged the great feedback that she has been receiving regarding the musical and thanked everyone who was involved in the great community event, including Council's crew and events team.

## **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 11.25am.**