



# **Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council**

## **Special Council Budget Meeting | Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday 16 May 2024  
**Time:** 9.00am  
**Venue:** Cyclone Recovery Coordination Centre, and MS Teams



## **1. Opening of Meeting**

### **1.1 Welcome | Opening of Meeting**

Declaration of opening of meeting by Mayor Alister Gibson at 9.15am

### **1.2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners**

The Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Owners past present and emerging

## **2. Attendance, Leave of Absence and Apologies**

### **2.1 Attendance**

#### **Councillors:**

Councillor Alister Gibson, Mayor

Councillor Claudia Doughboy, Deputy Mayor

Councillor Robert Bloomfield

Councillor Lucas Creek (online) joined the meeting at 9.54am.

#### **WWASC Staff Representatives**

Chief Executive Officer, Kiley Hanslow

Manager, Works and Building Services, Perry Gould

Financial Accountant, Khushwant Kumar

Cyclone Disaster Recovery Coordination Officer, Tania Edwards

### **2.2 Leave of Absence | Apologies**

Manager, Corporate and Commercial, Micah Nkiwane

Councillor Nikita Tayley

### **2.3 Visitors | Presenters**

None

## **3. Items for Consideration**

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<b>Report to:</b>	CEO, Mayor and Councillors
<b>Subject:</b>	Budget: Determining Priorities and Strategic Focus
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Status:</b>	Discussion/Decision

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Presentation and discussion to determine the strategic financial priorities for WWASC for the coming financial year.

Discuss the strategic priorities of Council, to determine the priorities that Council would like to achieve this financial year, to create a targeted approach to funding.

CEO reviewed and discussed the Summary of Capital Works and Projects Summary with Councillors.



### Art Centre

- The Art Centre was destroyed during the flooding from Tropical Cyclone Jasper in Dec 2023, funding will be delayed until a decision regarding the future of has been made.

### Fuel Depot:

- Discussed the potential to relocate the fuel station.
- Although the Fuel Depot went under water, it is still located in what is the most ideal location, taking into consideration the fact that a fuel depot 'contaminates' the ground.
- Council filled the fuel tanks before the cyclone which reduced the amount of water in the fuel (water sinks lower than the fuel).
- Cost to reinstate the fuel station in its current location is an estimated \$100,000.
- To build a service station in new location would be millions of dollars, a very significant cost and it is unlikely Council would be funded for a new fuel station build.
- This is the first time the service station has 'gone under' flood waters.
- Very small profit margin on operating the fuel station.
- Decontamination of the land for use for other council purposes would cost at least AUD \$2million and could never be used for residential housing.

### Stage 1 Subdivision;

- The Subdivision Project was never funded properly and would have caused significant financial loss for Council.
- This Subdivision Project has been handed back to the Department of Housing to complete.

**Decision:** Council would like to source funding to develop their vacant Ayton Block: to build residential property that could be rented out as accommodation for Services, Government Agencies and Business Stakeholders when they visit Community. This would enable those agency representatives to be able to stay close to Community, saving on travel time and increasing the amount of time they can spend on actual activities in Community.

### JV funded Project

- Funding changes with the RJED Federal program will decrease the funding available.
- My Pathway is the key driver of this partnership.
- Would like to put a portion of this funding into beatification of Wujal Wujal.

### Guest Accommodation carpark and fencing

- Agreement in place with TCHHS for the use of this area.

### Cemetery car park and footpaths

- Funding to the value of \$920,000 has been approved.
- Any work conducted with this funding needs to be done in alignment with Cemetery Precinct Plan.
- Cemetery extension will require Community Consultation.
- Councillors and Council Officials will need to be in alignment prior to going to discuss the cemetery alignment and car parks with the community.

**Decision:** Councillors and relevant Council Officers will dedicate a full day to evaluating the options for extending the boundary of the cemetery, for extension, footpaths and car parking. A full day meeting has been scheduled on 10 June 2024.

Attendance: Councillor Lucas Creek joined the meeting at 9.54am.



### **WTP and WWTP SCADA Upgrade**

- In the past Council has paid for projects that have been poorly managed and not completed.
- To avoid this, a Project Manager is being engaged through Government funding to oversee and monitor the project to ensure all is in place before any payments are made.

**Decision: Request funding for upgrade of Ayton Bore to reduce the ongoing maintenance costs and improve the water quality for residents.**

- Council has two water storage tanks to service the Wujal Wujal community. If water is held more than seven days, the chlorination becomes ineffective.
- To avoid issues, Council have changed the way we store and test the water to ensure we maintain potable water status.
- The entire water treatment plant is being upgraded, going out to tender shortly.

### **Church**

- Councillors keen to see the repair of the Church and to see it used more often.
- A vibrant church will help create a vibrant community.

**Decision: Mayor and CEO to discuss options with the Lutheran Church pastors and to determine their commitment to the future of the building.**

### **CCTV**

- Strong case to introduce CCTV, given the history of theft of and damage to Council Assets.
- Consideration to protect the privacy of the residents.
- Location to be strategically determined to align with privacy and best benefits.

**Decision: Council to discuss CCTV placement options and costs with Fourier and Scott Quail from First Nations Digital Strategy . Council will request them to come on site to discuss. Once Council is informed of potential solutions, they will consult with the community to determine final outcome.**

### **Splash Park**

- Being covered by QRA Cat D funding

### **Solar Panels**

- Will proceed once funding is sourced.

Attendance: meeting adjourned at 10.42am

Attendance: meeting rejoined at 10.50pm

### **Strategic Vision: Was do Councillors want to see progressed in the coming financial year**

Councillors shared three things they would like for themselves if they had nothing holding them back.

Councillors then did the same thing for Wujal Wujal, they included the following:

- Community Bus – 1 day per week to take community members to do their shopping in Cooktown.
- Daycare Centre
- School holiday program activities.
- Fishing platform pontoon with a restaurant and bar.
- Improve connections with Boarding Schools for Wujal children to undertake school- based apprenticeships and traineeships, leading on to work experience in their area of training when children come home for school holiday periods.
- New Place of Refuge – to include rooms for hire and sports court that can be used for different sports.
- Butcher shop in town.



- New shopping centre complex in town: news agency, clothing shops. Create employment options for youth to work during school holidays.
- More sports in Community.
- Boxing ring: discipline, personal control, mental and physical health.
- Councillors can be role models for the community.
- Bakery in town.
- Twilight market/ Weekend market.
- Smoko van for work morning teas and lunches.
- Small business machinery operations in Wujal.

**Decision:** Council to arrange a meeting with Many Rivers to advise on how to initiate and startup businesses.

#### **4. Next Ordinary Council Meeting Date**

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is set for **Tuesday 28 May 2024**.

#### **5. Meeting Closure**

Meeting closed at 12.00pm.

Approval of minutes

  
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Mayor



Date

