

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Diamantina Shire Council held at the Diamantina
Shire Council Administration Centre, Bedourie on Monday, September 21, 2009
commencing at 9.07am**

1. Attendance

Cr Robbie Dare (Mayor)	Cr Barry Gaffney (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Joyce Crombie	Cr Geoff Schrader
Cr Garth Tully	Mr Scott Mason (CEO)
Ms Lisa White (PA to CEO)	

2. Apologies

Nil.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Min 2009.8.1

Moved by Cr Gaffney and Seconded by Cr Crombie.

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Diamantina Shire Council held August 17, 2009 be confirmed.

Carried 5/0

4. Notices of Motion

Nil.

5. Motion to receive all reports

Min 2009.8.2

Moved by Cr Crombie and Seconded by Cr Schrader.

That all reports be received.

Carried 5/0

6. Reports

6.1 Operational Plan Report

Nil submitted due to technical difficulties with the reporting database/software.

6.2 Chief Executive Officer's Report

1. November, 2009 Ordinary Meeting Date

Councillors discussed availability and agreed to leave the November meeting date as scheduled - November 16, 2009.

2. October, 2009 Ordinary Meeting Date

Min 2009.8.3

Moved by Cr Crombie and Seconded by Cr Tully.

That Diamantina Shire Council re-schedule its October, 2009 Ordinary Meeting from October 19 to October 14, 2009.

Carried 5/0



3. Director of Works Residence – Bedourie

Min 2009.8.4

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Cr Schrader.

That Diamantina Shire Council advise Mr Kevin Barr that at this stage it is not interested in selling its house located at 9 Marrawilla Street, Bedourie. Rather, it is Council's preference to expand its housing stock prior to selling quality housing.

Carried 5/0

INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

4. Staff Matters

5. Council Teleconference to provide advice to the Chief Executive Officer

6. Media Matters

7. Outback Regional Road Group Bureau Service Teleconference

8. Central Western Queensland Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) Teleconference – September 7, 2009

9. Launch of the Central West Regional Plan

10. Central West Regional Coordination Committee Meeting

11. Central West Regional Plan Implementation Meeting

DECISION REQUIRED FROM COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

12. Correspondence from Mr Kevin Barr received August 26, 2009 – Request for payment of hours not worked due to Return to Work Plan

Min 2009.8.5

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Cr Tully.

That Diamantina Shire Council endorse the actions of its Chief Executive Officer in permitting employee, Mr Kevin Barr, access to sick leave beyond that which the employee has an accrued entitlement provided the deficit does not exceed 72.5 hours. Further, that should the employee leave the employment of Council prior to the entitlement balance being returned to zero, that Council affect the necessary transaction to the employees severance pay to ensure Council bears no liability.

Carried 5/0

13. Correspondence from the Office of Senator The Hon Stephen Conroy received July 20, 2009 – Postcode for Bedourie

Min 2009.8.6

Moved by Cr Gaffney and Seconded by Cr Tully.

That Diamantina Shire Council petition The Honourable The Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives for an Australia Post post code for the Township of Bedourie on the grounds of identification and individuality. Further, that the Mayor be the principal petitioner. Further again, that the Hon Stephen Conroy be advised of this decision.

Carried 5/0



14. 2010 Meeting Dates

Min 2009.8.7

Moved by Cr Crombie and Seconded by Cr Tully.

That Diamantina Shire Council hold its Ordinary Meetings on the following dates during 2010.

January 13	February 15	March 15	April 19
May 17	June 21	July 19	August 16
September 20	October 18	November 15	December 17

Carried 5/0

15. 2009 December Ordinary Meeting

Min 2009.8.8

Moved by Cr Schrader and Seconded by Cr Crombie.

That Diamantina Shire Council change the date of its December Ordinary Meeting from December 21 to December 18, 2009.

Carried 5/0

16. Proposed Land Area – Bedourie Caravan Park

Min 2009.8.9

Moved by Cr Crombie and Seconded by Cr Gaffney.

That Diamantina Shire Council approve in principle the area of land identified for Bedourie Caravan Park as per drawing number 4859-2 PR prepared by Hoffman Surveyors. Further, that Council seek to have this area of land excised from the Bedourie Town Common.

Carried 5/0

17. Reseal Works

Min 2009.8.10

Moved by Cr Tully and Seconded by Cr Crombie.

That Diamantina Shire Council endorse the actions of its Chief Executive Officer for accepting the tender submitted by PE and GC Harris Road Contractors for the supply and delivery of 2,400m³ of 10mm (nominal size) pre-coated cover aggregate for the cost of \$316,717.50 for seven programmed projects.

Min 2009.8.11

Moved by Cr Gaffney and Seconded by Cr Schrader.

That Diamantina Shire Council endorse the actions of its Chief Executive Officer for accepting the tender submitted by Road Surfaces Group Pty Ltd to cart, supply, heat and spray 318,000 litres of bitumen products for the cost of \$435,578 for five programmed projects.

Carried 5/0



18. Flying to Longreach

Min 2009.8.12

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Cr Gaffney.

That Diamantina Shire Council endorse the actions of its Chief Executive Officer in securing an air charter service to fly the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer from Bedourie to Longreach return in order that Council could be represented at one function and three meetings in Longreach on September 10, 2009.

Carried 5/0

6.2 Chief Executive Officer's Report – Part II

This report was not part of the published agenda. The CEO confirmed at this time a Deputation scheduled for 12.45pm addressing Item 20 – Birdsville Geothermal Plant – Organic Rankin Cycle Plant Upgrade.

19. Staff matters (Cont)

20. Birdsville Geothermal Plant – Organic Rankin Cycle Plant Upgrade

A strategy discussion took place and it was agreed that the following initiatives be considered for use of water associated with the upgrade of the Geothermal energy generation plant at Birdsville:

- Thermal baths complex
- Tree plantation
- Security of supply for the Birdsville Billabong – Sequestration

21. CONFIDENTIAL – Intermittent Plant Hire Tenders

Min 2009.8.13

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Cr Crombie.

That Council close its meeting in accordance with section 463(1)(e) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Carried 5/0

Attendance

Cr Schrader declared an interest in this matter and elected to leave the room. The meeting was closed upon his departure at 10.18am.

Min 2009.8.14

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Cr Crombie.

That Council reopen its meeting to the public.

Carried 4/0

Attendance

Upon invitation, Cr Schrader returned to the meeting at 10.34am. Council adjourned for morning tea at 10.34am and resumed the meeting at 10.50am.



22. Request for Support – Indigenous Cardiac Outreach Program

Min 2009.8.15

Moved by Cr Crombie and Seconded by Cr Tully.

That Diamantina Shire Council supports the establishment of mobile stress testing at the Bedourie Clinic by the Indigenous Cardiac Outreach Program on the basis that testing is only carried out in the presence of the appropriate health professionals. Further, that North and West Queensland Primary Health Care, the service provider for Diamantina Health Service, be requested to utilise monies raised within the communities of Birdsville and Bedourie to assist with the purchase of a Vital Signs Monitor to compliment this equipment.

Carried 5/0

23. Birdsville Aviation Lease

The CEO to ensure terminology reflects "non exclusive rights for fuel". Birdsville Aviation Fuel Pty Ltd have fuel rights only to the whole area. Diamantina Shire has the rights for additional/alternate activities within that area.

Min 2009.8.16

Moved by Cr Tully and Seconded by Cr Schrader.

That Diamantina Shire Council extend the licence agreement between itself and Birdsville Aviation Fuel Pty Ltd on the following basis.

- **That the agreement will expire on May 9, 2014.**
- **That the licence fee payable for the first year of the option be \$2,000.**

Carried 5/0

Attendance

11.21am - Mr Les Kent (Director of Works) attended the meeting for the purpose of presenting his report.

11.21am - Ms Lisa White left the meeting and returned at the same time.

6.4 Director of Works Report

4. RPC Nappabillie: 44/80/13
5. Re Seal Works: 44/81A/708, 44/93C/716, 223/81A/709, 223/93D/709, 810/170
6. Black Spot Projects: 223/80A/1 & 2
7. Bedourie Tennis Courts
8. Training
9. Birdsville to South Australian Border
10. Birdsville to Windorah
11. Birdsville to Bedourie
12. Bedourie to Boulia
13. Bedourie to Windorah



14. Carcoory to Stoney Crossing
15. Birdsville to Simpson Desert Access
16. Sandrinham to Ethabuka
17. Diamantina Lakes to Davenport
18. Bedourie Town
19. Bedourie Aerodrome
20. Birdsville Town
21. Birdsville Aerodrome
22. Workshop
23. Sub Contractors
24. PLANT COMPARISONS (Grader Comparison, Mixer Comparison)
25. Target Expenditure December 2009

OTHER MATTERS

These matters were not part of the published agenda.

26. Contractors – Mr Kent advised that a new process is in place whereby he will be requesting from Contractors quotes for work to be completed prior to job commencing including itemised invoices.
27. Major Plant Hire – Mr Kent advised he is reviewing how best to get value for money with equipment including monthly invoicing to also show current compliances with insurance and work cover.

Attendance

12.27pm - The CEO telephoned Mr Bourne to enter the room.
12.28pm - Mr Bourne entered the room.

6.5 Engineers Report

- 1.0 Council advice requested in relation to prioritizing future Discretionary TIDS applications.

Council reviewed recommendations and prioritised as follows.

Application Priority	Project	Scope of Works	Budget
1	Birdsville Bitumen Footpath – Around Oval, 3.0m wide	Footpath from Wirrari Centre around oval	400m @ \$200K/km = \$80K
6	Bedourie Bitumen Footpath – Phase 2 Eyre Ck – Sandhill, 3.0m wide	Footpath from Eyre Creek bridge to Sandhill	1200m @ \$200K/km = \$240K
2	Birdsville Subdivision – Phase 1, concrete footpath, 1.2m wide. Project 1.	Footpath both sides of Jardine St from existing to Artesian St	620m @ \$200/m = \$124K
3	Birdsville Subdivision – Phase 1, concrete footpath, 1.2m wide. Project 2.	Footpath both sides of Bilby St from Jardine to Mickerie St	200m @ \$200/m = \$40K
4	Birdsville Subdivision – Phase 1, concrete footpath, 1.2m wide. Project 3.	Footpath both sides of Mineritchie St from Jardine St	240m @ \$200/m = \$48K
5	Birdsville Subdivision – Phase 1, concrete	Footpath both sides of	180m @ \$200/m =

footpath, 1.2m wide. Project 4.	Artesian St from Jardine St	\$36K
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Attendance

12.44pm - Mr Kent and Mr Bourne left the meeting.

Deputation No. 1 – 12.45pm - Teleconference regarding Birdsville Geothermal Plant

Introductions took place with the CEO introducing all Councillors, Ms Lisa White and himself, followed by introductions from other parties, Ms Arnae Burton of Office of Clean Energy, Mr Greg Nielsen (Assistant Director, Office of Clean Energy), and Chris Smith (Principal Engineer Generation, Ergon Energy).

The CEO advised that as a result of the Department of Energy and Resource Management's (DERM) reluctance to grant an increase to water licence unless Council can come up with some use for the extra water, Council has considered the following options for discussion.

- Carbon sequestration – Council to establish a tree plantation in Birdsville.
- Thermal baths – Council to utilise the establishment of thermal baths in Birdsville.

The CEO noted that the establishment of a tree plantation in Birdsville is secondary to the establishment of thermal baths in Birdsville.

Ms Arnae noted a possible level of concern with the tree plantation arising out of DERM that being the high sodium levels in water which may be a constraint with the tree plantation. The CEO referred to the water bottling feasibility study – both Bedourie and Birdsville being suitable for water bottling.

The CEO questioned whether any leverage can come from securing the source of supply for the Billabong – massive amount of birdlife supporting recreational boating activities, funding for pontoon, eco tourism, etc.

Mr Nielsen to take from discussion three way solution:

1. future viability of billabong;
2. tourism iconic with thermal baths; and
3. tree plantation,

and report back to the CEO and Mr Smith to discuss way forward.

Attendance

1.03pm – Ms Lisa White left meeting and returned at 1.04pm

1.07pm – Teleconference concluded

1.08pm – Meeting closed for lunch

2.11pm – Meeting re opened and Council joined by Mr Bourne and Mr Les Kent.

Engineers Report (Cont)

2. Council advice requested in relation to Outback Regional Road Group TIDS projects to be nominated. Possible nominations are to 'top up' project currently in the RIP to counter increased construction costs.

Agreed to 'top up' the following project currently in the RIP:

- 44/93C/17, No3 Realignment, RIP budget \$400k, Construction Estimate \$600k, scheduled for early 2010.

Agreed to prioritise the alternative nominations for 'new' ORRG TIDS projects not in the RIP as follows:

- (1) Betoota Re-alignment (6.5km @ \$150K/km) budget \$1m.



- (2) Install additional rest stop at Cuttaburra (similar to the unit to be installed at the No. 3 bore).
- (3) Install additional rest stop at Monkira (similar to the unit to be installed at the No. 3 bore).

3. Council advice requested in relation to the revised terminal layouts

Attendance

2.31pm – Mr Mason left the room for approximately 30 seconds to collect a ruler for Cr Dare.

Drawings to be amended to extend lounge area and Councillors to review amended drawings before tender.

INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

2.0 Visits to Shire/Conferences

3.0 Main Roads Expenditure

3.1 RMPC Contract

4.0 Main Roads MWPC Works

4.1 Reseals 44/81A/708, 44/93C/716 (2008/2009), Reseals 223/81A/709, 223/93D/709 (2009/2010)

4.2 Nappabillie 44/80A/13

4.3 No 3 Realignment 44/93C/17

4.4 No 3 Rest Stop 44/93C/18

4.5 Devils Grid 44/81A/17, 19 & 21

4.6 Cuttaburra Floodway's 44/81A/22

5.0 Birdsville Subdivision

6.0 Flood Damage Estimates

7.0 Bedourie Residential Subdivision

8.0 Natural Disaster Mitigation Program Submissions

9.0 Roads to Recovery

10.0 TIDS

11.0 Works Programme 2 year Look-Ahead

12.0 Betoota Realignment

13.0 Black Spot Funding

Cr Dare requested for north side of sunshine flat (bend over the stoney ridge) to be included in black spots.

14.0 Bedourie Cooling Fund

15.0 Bedourie & Birdsville Aerodrome Terminal Layouts & Development Plan

16.0 Birdsville Aerodrome Crack Sealing

17.0 Birdsville Pedestrian Footpath

18.0 Linemarking

Attendance

3.11pm Mr Kent, Mr Bourne and Ms White left room. Ms White returned with Mr Ted Burling at 3.12pm.

Deputation No. 2 – 3.12pm Mr Ted Burling

Attendance

3.22pm – Ms White left room to arrange for material received from Mr Bruce Keown to be printed.
3.28pm – Ms entered room with copying and phone number for Mr Bruce Keown and left in the same minute to continue photocopying.
3.29pm – Ms White entered the meeting with copying and left the meeting at 3.37pm and returned at 3.43pm.

Min 2009.8.17

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Cr Gaffney.

That Diamantina Shire Council endorse Cr Dare and Cr Crombie to attend the Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference to be held at Alice Springs from November 9 – 11, 2009.

Carried 5/0

Attendance

3.49pm – Ms White exited the room and returned again at 3.52pm.

At 3.55pm the CEO telephoned Mr Bruce Keown (tel: 5538 7658).

A discussion took place between Councillors, the CEO, Mr Keown and Mr Burling regarding an economical approach to establish 4 or 5 residences in Bedourie and Birdsville (8 total).

- Land – Council confirmed it has relevant land available for residences
- Budget – Council advised it has earmarked funds for current financial year to spend on housing. NO specific budget.
- Roof pitches – Councillors obtained confirmation that the roof can be higher
- Images of finished product – Mr Keown to provide Council via the CEO with photos of a finished product.
- The CEO to develop configurations and summary of assumptions for consideration by Council.
- Mr Bruce Keown to come back to Council through the CEO with costings and full scope once summary has been received from Council.

Teleconference ended at 4.45pm.

Attendance

4.52pm – Mr Burling left the meeting.
4.52pm – Meeting stopped for short coffee break.
5.08pm – Meeting resumed.

21. CONFIDENTIAL – Intermittent Plant Hire Tenders (Cont)

Min 2009.8.18

Moved by Cr Gaffney and Seconded by Cr Crombie.

That Council close its meeting in accordance with section 463(1)(e) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Carried 5/0

Attendance

5.08pm – Cr Schrader left the meeting

Min 2009.8.19

Moved by Cr Dare and Seconded by Gaffney.

That Diamantina Shire Council decide not to accept any tender available to it received in response to Council's advertisement for the supply of intermittent plant appearing in the North West Star on May 15, 2009 and May 22, 2009 and the Longreach Leader on May 22, 2009.

Carried 4/0

Min 2009.8.20

Moved by Cr Crombie and Seconded by Cr Tully.

That Diamantina Shire Council invite tenders for the supply of intermittent plant for the 2010 calendar year utilising improvement procurement processes. Further, that tenders be considered at Council's January 2010 Ordinary Meeting.

Carried 4/0

Min 2009.8.21

Moved by Cr Tully and Seconded by Cr Gaffney.

That Council reopen its meeting to the public.

Carried 4/0

Attendance

5.22pm – Upon invitation Cr Schrader joined meeting.

The CEO briefed Cr Schrader on the two decisions made by Council, based on legal advice.

Attendance

5.25pm The CEO left meeting and returned with Mr Henry Wallace, Deputy CEO.

6.3 Deputy Chief Executive Officer Report - Late

This report was not part of the published agenda.

INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

1. August 2009 Financial Report

Reports:

A. Revenue and Expenditure as at August 31, 2009

B. Balance Sheet as at August 31, 2009

C. Trust Report as at August 31, 2009

D. Credit Card Report as at September 10, 2009

- The CEO advised one additional credit card to be ordered for the office.

E. Our Cash Position as at August 31, 2009

F. Our Debt as at August 31, 2009



G. Plant Profitability Report as at August 24, 2009

- Scraper – The Deputy CEO to follow-up on hire expenditure.

Attendance

5.53pm – The Deputy CEO left the meeting.

6.6 TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The CEO provided an update to Councillors as Mr Brian Mooney, Tourism and Development Manager is absent.

1. INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

Visitor Statistics

Birdsville Caravan Park

Cr Dare queried whether any contact had been made in relation to Birdsville Caravan Park. The CEO advised it had agreed to defer discussions until October meeting.

2. Birdsville Races
3. Drug and Alcohol Management Plan (DAMP)
4. Tourism Opportunity Plan (TOP)
5. Funding Managers Report
6. Community Services Report

7. Councillors Ideas and Recommendations

Wirrarri Information Centre opening

Official opening to be organised for early 2010.

Central West Regional Plan

Refer Agenda papers (page 43)

Central West Regional Coordination Committee Meeting

Refer Agenda papers (pages 43 & 45)

The CEO to provide a copy of the presentation to Councillors once it arrives.

Attendance

The CEO left meeting and returned.

Outback Regional Road Group Bureau Service Teleconference

Refer Agenda papers (page 32)

The Mayor provided an overview to Councillors on the content of Local Government Association of Queensland's Annual conference held in Brisbane from August 24 - 27, 2009.

RoadTek Celebration

Cr Dare noted a possible celebration following seal date – November 3 or 4, 2009.

Financial Management Training

Cr Dare advised he and Cr Crombie to attend training in Longreach on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 and will be present in Windorah on Thursday, September 24, 2009 to meet with Hon Rachel Nolan, Minister for Transport.

Attendance

6.40pm – The CEO left the meeting and returned at 6.41pm.

Cr Dare requested for the CEO to provide financial figures by Wednesday, September 23, 2009 on sealing plans for the Bedourie to Boulia road.

Welcome to Mt Isa brochure

Cr Tully requested the writing under the image relating to Lake Machattie be removed. The CEO to follow up and address.

Parks & Gardens team

Cr Tully requested that the Parks & Gardens team be thanked for the clean-up work around race track. Loam to be mixed in to running surface of track.

Sound system and Race Track - Bedourie

Sound system not functioning correctly – to be adjusted.

Eyre Creek

Cr Tully – water to be trickled into Eyre Creek to support bird life/promote tourism.

Cr Dare – drain to be installed on southern side of Eyre Creek upstream from Bridge at Bedourie to reduce flow of water across roadway and to divert overland flood water into creek system.

Deputy CEO report

Cr Tully requested that the Deputy CEO be thanked for working on AR&FS during his annual leave.

Ron O'Sullivan

Cr Gaffney requested that the CEO to write a letter to Ron O'Sullivan regarding lighting of Birdsville ANZAC Park and to accept his generous offer donating a cannon ball gun for display in the Park.

Tourism Manager – thank you

Cr Gaffney requested that the Tourism Manager be thanked for his efforts with the race meet in Birdsville, particularly around managing the food vendors.

Hon Anthony Albanese

Cr Dare requested that a letter be sent to Hon Anthony Albanese to thank him for opening the Visitor Information Centre.

There being no further business the meeting closed.

Minutes confirmed this Fourteenth day of October, 2009.



Cr Robbie Dare
MAYOR