



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

Thursday 7th December 2017 at 6.00pm
Council Chambers
George Town

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 7th December 2017 in the Council Chambers, George Town commencing at 6.00 pm.

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993, I hereby certify that the advice, information and recommendations contained within this Agenda have been given by a person who has the qualifications and / or experience necessary to give such advice, information and recommendations or such advice was obtained and taken into account in providing the general advice contained within the Agenda.



Justine Brooks-Bedelph
GENERAL MANAGER

1st December 2017

Local Government Act 1993, Division 3 – Annual General Meeting

72B. Annual General Meeting

1. A council must hold an Annual General Meeting on a date that –
 - a. Is not later than 15 December in each year; and
 - b. Is not before 14 days after the date of the first publication of a notice under subsection (2).
2. A council must publish a notice on at least 2 separate occasions in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area or other prescribed newspaper specifying the date, time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
3. If a quorum of the council is not present at an Annual General Meeting –
 - (a) the Annual General Meeting is to be reconvened and held within 14 days; and
 - (b) a notice is to be published in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area specifying the date, time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
4. Only electors in the municipal area are entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting.
5. A motion at an Annual General Meeting is passed by a majority of votes taken by a show of hands or by any other means of ascertaining the vote the council determines.
6. A motion passed at an Annual General Meeting is to be considered at the next meeting of the council.
7. The general manager is to keep minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

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AUDIO RECORDING OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The public is advised that the 2017 Annual General Meeting will be recorded on digital media to assist in the preparation of minutes, and to clarify any dispute or query relating to the minutes that may be raised.

The recording does not replace the written minutes and a transcript of the recording will not be prepared.

In accordance with the requirements of Council's Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy No. 40, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

1. Attendance

2. Apologies

3. Staff in Attendance

4. Meeting Procedures

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Council serves much the same purpose as an Annual General Meeting of the public sector, where the Board of Directors (Elected Members) gives an account of their stewardship over the affairs of the municipality for the financial year in review.

Annual meetings also provide an opportunity for residents (the shareholders) to question Council's performance for the year in review.

The Annual General Meeting is in essence a Council Meeting and will therefore be generally conducted in accordance with the procedures outlined below and the usual Council procedures for the conduct of its meetings.

- Attendees are asked to complete the Attendance Register.
- Only submissions, questions or motions relating to the Annual Report will be accepted.
- A person shall only speak on a matter or a motion once, with the mover of a motion having a brief right of reply not exceeding a period of 2 minutes.
- A motion must be seconded and passed by a majority of votes taken by a show of hands.
- Only electors in the George Town municipal area are entitled to vote at an AGM.
- A motion passed at the AGM will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.
- Minutes of the AGM will be kept by the General Manager to accurately record the content of the meeting, attendances and apologies, any matter discussed, any motions moved and any questions asked and the answers provided by (whom).
- Questions which cannot be answered will be taken on notice and responded to in writing.
- The Chairperson's ruling is to be final.

5. Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the George Town Council held on the 8th December 2016 were confirmed at the ordinary Council meeting held on the 21st December 2016, Minute No. 324/16.

6. Mayor's Message – 2016/2017 Annual Report

As I consider the year in review, I am prompted to look back at my thoughts in last year's annual report. I began 2016/17 with "optimism and enthusiasm" for the opportunities that lay ahead.

It is disappointing then that 2016/17 failed to realise that potential during the year and rather we saw a somewhat uncertain and tumultuous year.

Towards the end of the year we saw the resignation of General Manager John Martin and his departure highlighted that persistent governance and workplace culture challenges were continuing to disrupt the planned delivery of efficient services to the community, and with it the realisation that without proactive measures the Council was potentially facing a future crisis.

Raoul Harper was appointed into the role of Acting General Manager following Mr Martin's departure and quickly acted to identify areas of the organisation requiring attention, in particular the need for a whole of organisation review and restructure with a view to creating financial efficiency, improved accountability and enhanced service delivery.

The uncertainty of that time with regard to ongoing arrangements for a General Manager prompted an approach to the West Tamar Council, initially to ascertain the possibility of sharing a General Manager - that initial approach grew into a wider conversation around the feasibility of a merger between the two Councils to create a single Tamar Valley Council.

Both Councils subsequently resolved to undertake a prefeasibility study to examine the merger idea. It is anticipated that the report will be completed in the 2017/18 year utilising up to date information following completion of George Town's organisational review.

It is my expectation that upon receipt of the report, our community will be invited to share their views on its findings.

Overall, whilst not achieving all that we set out to do during the year, the challenges have been an opportunity for learning and growth and I believe have hardened our resolve to achieve more in the forward year.

I take the opportunity to thank staff and fellow Councillors for their efforts in what has been a difficult year. I extend my best wishes to John Martin for his future endeavours. My particular thanks must go to Raoul Harper for assisting at incredibly short notice and providing frank and fearless advice in his time here.

6. Mayor's Message (Cont.)

The future of a vibrant, proud and prosperous George Town municipality remains alive. With consistency, positive communication, long term strategic planning and critical decision making by elected members and working cooperatively with staff and our community I am certain 2017/18 will deliver those outcomes not yet realised from the past year and much more.

Bridget Archer
Mayor

7. General Manager's Message

My message for the 2016/2017 Annual Report is interesting in that I was not the General Manager during that time, with that position being held by Mr John Martin until May 2017.

I was however the Manager of Development Services and while working with Mr Martin I observed him drive a new level of focus on economic development throughout the municipal area, planting the seeds for exciting new projects which often take time, vast amounts of energy and perseverance to come to fruition.

Having a background in Town Planning I understand only too well the importance of strategic planning as an organisational management tool that is used to set priorities, focus energy and resources, strengthen operations, ensure that employees and other stakeholders are working toward common goals, establish agreement around intended outcomes/results, and assess and adjust the organisation's direction in response to a changing environment.

Effective strategic planning outlines not only where an organisation is going, and the actions needed to make progress, but also how it will know if it is successful.

The majority of strategic projects Mr Martin listed as being goals for Council to develop, produce or work collaboratively with community and business partners in the 2016/2017 financial year were either achieved or are now at a stage that I will be able to finalise during 2017/2018.

These projects included:

- Strategic Priorities Projects Document 2016
- Bell Bay Industrial Development Precinct Plan
- Hillwood Structure Plan
- George Town Coastal Management Plan (With Community, Tamar NRM and Parks)
- George Town Sports Complex Development Master Plan
- Review of George Town's Existing Sports and Recreation Buildings 2016
- Waste Transfer Station Project
- Council Owned Land Review
- York Cove Concept Development Plan
- Windmill Point Recreation Area
- Regent Square Playground
- Regent Square Landscape Master Plan
- Long Term Financial Plan Review
- Asset Management Plans
- Northern Councils Resource Sharing capabilities review

Some highlights for me personally were the completion and endorsement of the Hillwood Structure Plan which identifies the importance of agricultural uses within the settlement but also provides for appropriate expansion of residential and commercial uses that support the needs of a growing community while ensuring a development pattern that is respectful of the scenic, natural and landscape values.

7. General Manager's Message (Cont.)

Working with Tamar NRM, Parks and Wildlife and the dedicated community members who form the George Town Coastal Management Group on the revision of the George Town Coastal Management Plan was another project that I found extremely satisfying to be involved in. The GTCMP sets out a process to address natural resource management issues in the coastal and riverine areas such as erosion, invasive species, degradation of native vegetation and man-made coastal landforms. It is also an excellent example of what can be achieved when likeminded groups work together toward the common good.

A couple of ground based projects that were completed from within my portfolio include:

- Council's first Off-Leash Dog Park was developed and is located at the George Town Sports Complex in Marguerite Street. The Bark Park, as it is affectionately known by staff and locals, has been a welcomed and well used addition to Council's community facilities. Council has a number of exciting activities planned for the park over the coming year which include the installation of more play equipment, offering obedience classes, dog grooming lessons and social inclusion focussed community events.
- Upgrades to Council's Dog pound: Dogs who previously found themselves 'guests' of the Council did not have an area where they could be let out for exercise and fresh air but can now have a run while the pound is cleaned. Our Ranger is also much happier now that he has an all-weather covered area to work under when it is raining.

Council's Community Development Department was kept busy with a variety of cultural events and festivals held during the 2016/2017 including:

- National Science Week Expo
- Seniors Variety Concert
- Annual Christmas Parade and Carols
- Jazz in the Park and Family Outdoor Cinema
- Volunteer of the Year Award

These and other events are reported within the Annual Report. Council's events program continues to grow offering a variety of activities for all to enjoy.

Council's Infrastructure and Engineering Department undertook a broad range of capital works activities many of which are also reported in the Annual Report and include:

- Road resealing
- Gravel road re-sheeting
- Replacement of kerb and footpaths within George town
- Upgrade to York Cove footpath
- Key stormwater projects
- Refurbishment of pontoons and boat ramps
- Road safety initiatives
- Upgrade of public facilities and open spaces

Congratulations must also go to Council's staff who were involved in the reinvigoration of Council's website. We now have a modern, accessible and user friendly site which is regularly updated to keep our community informed.

While I have mentioned some of our achievements I also recognise there are many not mentioned, all of which have made a valuable contribution to our organisation and communities.

7. General Manager's Message (Cont.)

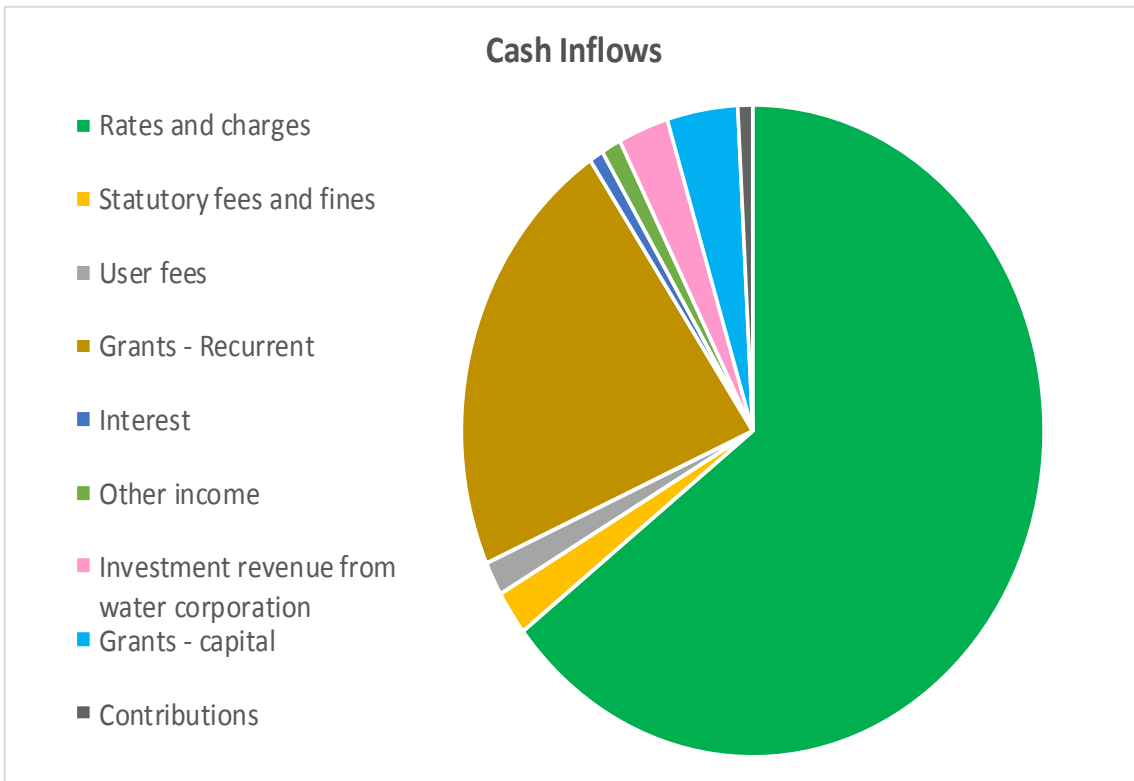
The Community Spirit which is so evident throughout the George Town municipal area really is something to be proud of and this must also be recognised. The community becomes unified not only to celebrate success but to also battle adversity. It has been my observation that the residents of this municipality are the first to offer a helping hand when one of their own is in need.

Looking forward, there are a number of challenges ahead but also many exciting opportunities for Council. Having set an unprecedented budget in June that predicted a 1.2 million underlying deficit, elected members and council management identified that it was necessary for the organisation to make some difficult and decisive decisions about what is needed to ensure the economic stability of the Council.

In closing, I thank Elected Members and Council staff for their dedication, efforts, patience and enthusiasm in recent months and I look forward to reporting on all the positive outcomes and achievements in the 2017/2018 Annual Report.

Justine Brooks-Bedelph
General Manager

8. Financial Report – Acting Team Leader Corporate and Finance

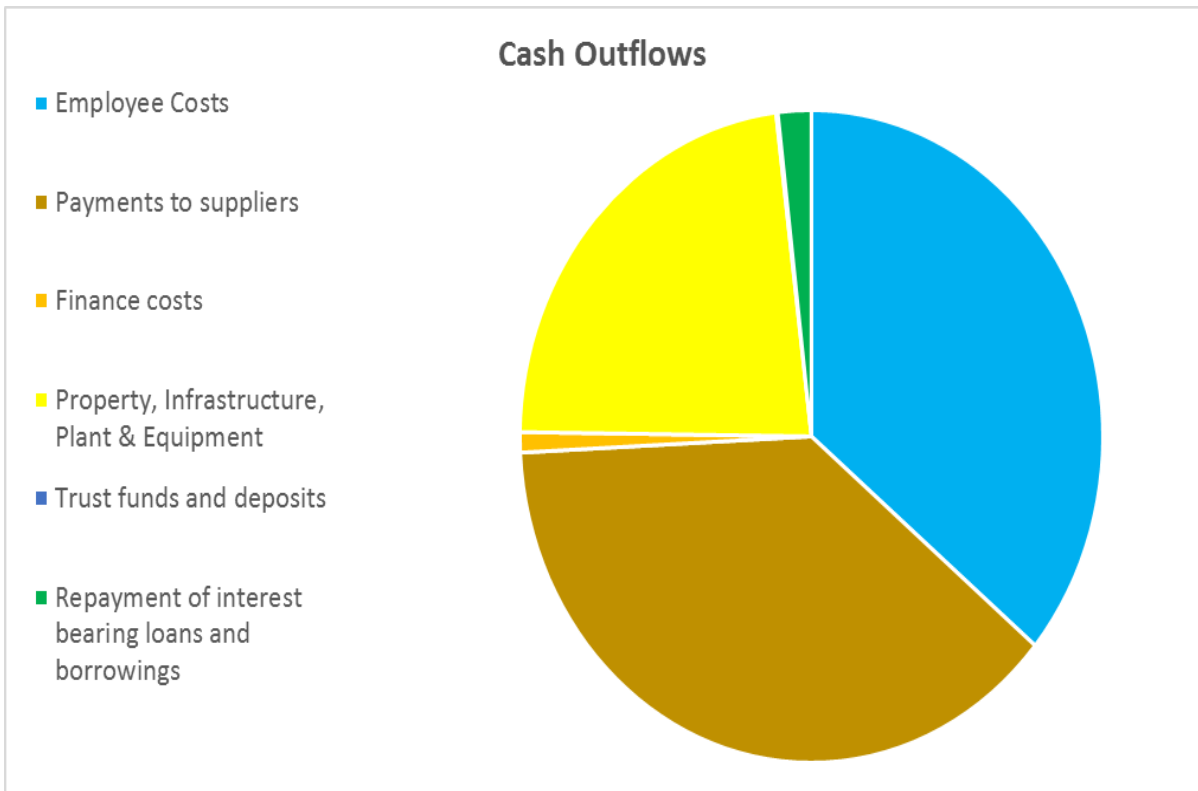


Cash Inflows

Cash Inflows

Rates and charges	\$	7,817,806	64.47%
Statutory fees and fines	\$	267,002	2.20%
User fees	\$	204,016	1.68%
Grants - Recurrent	\$	2,695,848	22.23%
Interest	\$	94,005	0.78%
Other income	\$	133,444	1.10%
Investment revenue from water corporation	\$	339,000	2.80%
Grants - capital	\$	475,829	3.92%
Contributions	\$	99,772	0.82%
	\$	12,126,722	100.00%

8. Financial Report – Acting Team Leader Corporate and Finance (Cont.)



Cash Outflows

Employee Costs	\$ 4,211,522	36.08%
Payments to suppliers	\$ 4,451,738	38.13%
Finance costs	\$ 116,745	1.00%
Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	\$ 2,666,995	22.85%
Trust funds and deposits	\$ 12,434	0.11%
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	\$ 214,825	1.84%
	\$ 11,674,259	100.00%

9. 2016/2017 Annual Report

The 2016/2017 Annual Report as presented was adopted by Council at its meeting held on the 15th November 2017 (Minute No. 301/17).

10. Submissions to the 2016/2017 Annual Report

Nil.

11. Questions to the 2016/2017 Annual Report

12. Motions on the 2016/2017 Annual Report

13. Meeting Closure

There being no further business, the meeting closed at pm

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Cr Bridget Archer
Mayor