



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Unconfirmed Minutes of
the Annual General Meeting of Council
held on Thursday 15th November 2018
in the Council Chambers, George Town
Commencing at 6.00pm

Harry Galea
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Page No.

1.	ATTENDANCE	3
2.	APOLOGIES.....	3
3.	STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	3
4.	MEETING PROCEDURES.....	3
5.	MINUTES OF 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	4
6.	MAYOR'S MESSAGE – 2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORT	4
7.	ACTING GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE	6
8.	FINANCIAL REPORT –TEAM LEADER CORPORATE AND FINANCE.....	8
9.	2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORT	10
10.	SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORT	10
11.	QUESTIONS TO THE 2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORT	10
12.	MOTIONS ON THE 2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORT	10
13.	MEETING CLOSURE.....	10

AUDIO RECORDING OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The public is advised that the 2018 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

Cr Bridget Archer, Mayor (Chairperson)
Cr Tim Harris (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Chris Barraclough
Cr Heather Barwick
Cr Winston Mason
Cr Andrew Michieletto

D. Griffiths, P. Webb, D. Burt, P. Cox, P. Parkes, J. Reilly, L. Wootton, M. Chilcott

2. Apologies

Cr Justine Brooks
Cr Greg Dawson
Cr Greg Kieser

3. Staff in Attendance

Acting General Manager
Team Leader Corporate & Finance
Team Leader Community & Development Services
Team Leader Works & Infrastructure
Governance Support Officer

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 will 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 2017 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the George Town Council held on the 7th December 2017 were confirmed at the ordinary Council meeting held on the 20th December 2017 (minute no. 321/17).

6. Mayor's Message – 2017/2018 Annual Report

I'm very pleased to present the 2017/18 Annual Report of the George Town Council.

Last year in this message after a difficult year I outlined some of the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead and looked forward with optimism to a bright future.

It is very pleasing to report that the year in review was a very productive one for the Council.

Newly appointed General Manager Justine Brooks-Bedelph seized the unenviable challenge Council had set to review Council operations and implement the organisational restructure program - successfully achieving operational savings of almost \$1million and in streamlining Council systems and processes.

This work was demanding and difficult and at times painful for both staff and elected members, but was essential to ensure ongoing financial sustainability, and improve workplace culture and efficiency.

Ms Brooks-Bedelph is to be congratulated for her dedication and perseverance to the task and I extend my personal thanks to her for her enthusiasm, support and sheer hard work.

Also in this period we saw delivery of the KPMG prefeasibility report into the potential of a George Town-West Tamar merger. Ultimately George Town Council determined not to proceed with this particular process largely on the basis that it was felt the report itself did not accurately represent the Council position. Council extends its thanks to the West Tamar and the state government for their cooperation through the process.

It has also been a very productive year in terms of achieving progress on some long term projects. Work has commenced and is progressing well on the upgrade of Soldier Settlement Rd and is soon to begin on Industry Road both of these road upgrades are strategically important to the economic development of our municipal area, enhancing access for tourists and locals alike and creating connections to rural and coastal areas.

6. Mayor's Message – 2017/2018 Annual Report (Cont.)

The Glen Road and Dalrymple Road also remain high priorities for Council and we continue to actively pursue funding opportunities to continue upgrading those roads as soon as possible as well.

The long awaited recreation and play space at Windmill Point has been substantially delivered, with a bespoke ship playground constructed intended to represent the HMS Buffalo - a nod to our heritage and history. It is complemented by barbecue facilities and will soon have some swings and toilet facilities.

Much work has been done on design and consultation for Regent Square destination playground as well, this project has achieved a budget allocation in the 18/19 year and when complete will create a play and recreation precinct in the centre of town to draw families and community together.

Rural and coastal villages have seen the delivery of some accessible toilet facilities as well.

For some time there has been some interest in George Town exploring the possibility of mountain bike infrastructure in our area, this idea has progressed significantly in this year with the achievement of a \$50000 state government grant to conduct concept and feasibility studies for the project. Early signs look very promising for a mountain bike trail network and Council will continue working through the logistics of the proposal with all the stakeholders.

Council continues to work closely with NTDC and the Bell Bay Industrial group to support our existing industries and to encourage new development and investment and there have been some pleasing progress made with interest from some new developers. There has also been a steady increase in development applications and investment interest across residential and commercial sectors and a growing interest in George Town as a lifestyle destination. This year has also seen approval granted for several renewable energy projects for George Town, wind and solar both new industries in our area.

Overall it has been a very worthwhile and important year at George Town Council and I believe a year that has created a strong foundation for our future. I am more enthusiastic and energised than ever before about our future and am confident that the hard work done this year will deliver long lasting results.

My sincere thanks as already mentioned to Justine Brooks-Bedelph. My gratitude to our incredibly hard working, positive and resilient staff for their courage and perseverance. Also thank you to the elected members, who made the hard decisions and pulled together.

Bridget Archer
MAYOR

7. Acting General Manager's Message

As Acting General Manager, I have pleasure in presenting the 2017/2018 Annual Report. Looking back on the year and the report of the previous General Manager, Mrs Justine Brooks-Bedelph, this year has proved to be an extremely busy and productive year for George Town Council.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the efforts, contribution and achievements of Mrs Justine Brooks-Bedelph who with the support of elected members and staff, has driven a positive change to George Town Council and progressing to financial sustainability with a 2017/2018 deficit of \$101,350 compared to \$1,112,862 in 2016/2017. Justine has recently resigned from the position of General Manager to take up a senior role in the Aged Care sector and I wish her well in her new role.

Over the past twelve months the Council has also reviewed its Long Term Financial Management to establish a prudent and sound financial framework over the next 10 years to ensure the Council's strategic goals are achieved. The long term financial plan is not intended to be static, but rather it is intended to be reviewed annually as part of the annual planning and budget process so as to incorporate any future changes in council policy, new initiatives or strategic direction.

The Council continues to pursue shared resources and services with neighbouring northern councils and actively supports local economic development by working with the Bell Bay Manufacturing Precinct as well as contributing to the employment of Bell Bay Manufacturing Precinct Project Officer. Council also continues a positive relationship with Northern Tasmanian Development, the George Town Chamber of Commerce and other key stakeholders.

A more accountable level of detail is contained within this year's Annual Report with the Council implementing a new reporting framework against the actions of its Annual Plan. This program assists the General Manager and Team Leaders in tracking the progress and achievements of their individual departments as well as enabling the General Manager to measure the performance of the organisation as a whole.

A number of organisational changes have occurred over the past twelve months however the Council continues to offer expected services to its communities, and continues to be active in promoting the area by participating in tourism initiatives and community events. It is a group effort.

The Council has also appointed a Youth Officer to ensure that the youth of this municipality feel connected within the community and more importantly engaged in the future of the area.

A number of capital works projects were also commenced and/or completed in the reporting period which included:

- The construction of public amenities to provide equitable access at Weymouth, Lulworth, Hillwood, Bellingham and the George Town Football Clubrooms;
- The replacement of multiple kerbs and footpaths;
- Regent Square stormwater upgrade to eliminate flooding;
- The installation of firefighting tanks at Hillwood;
- The reconstruction of Duke Avenue;
- Safety works carried out on Weymouth Bridge with line marking and new signage to name a few; and
- Upgrade of Soldiers Settlement Road, Leam Road and Hillwood Road

7. Acting General Manager's Message (Cont.)

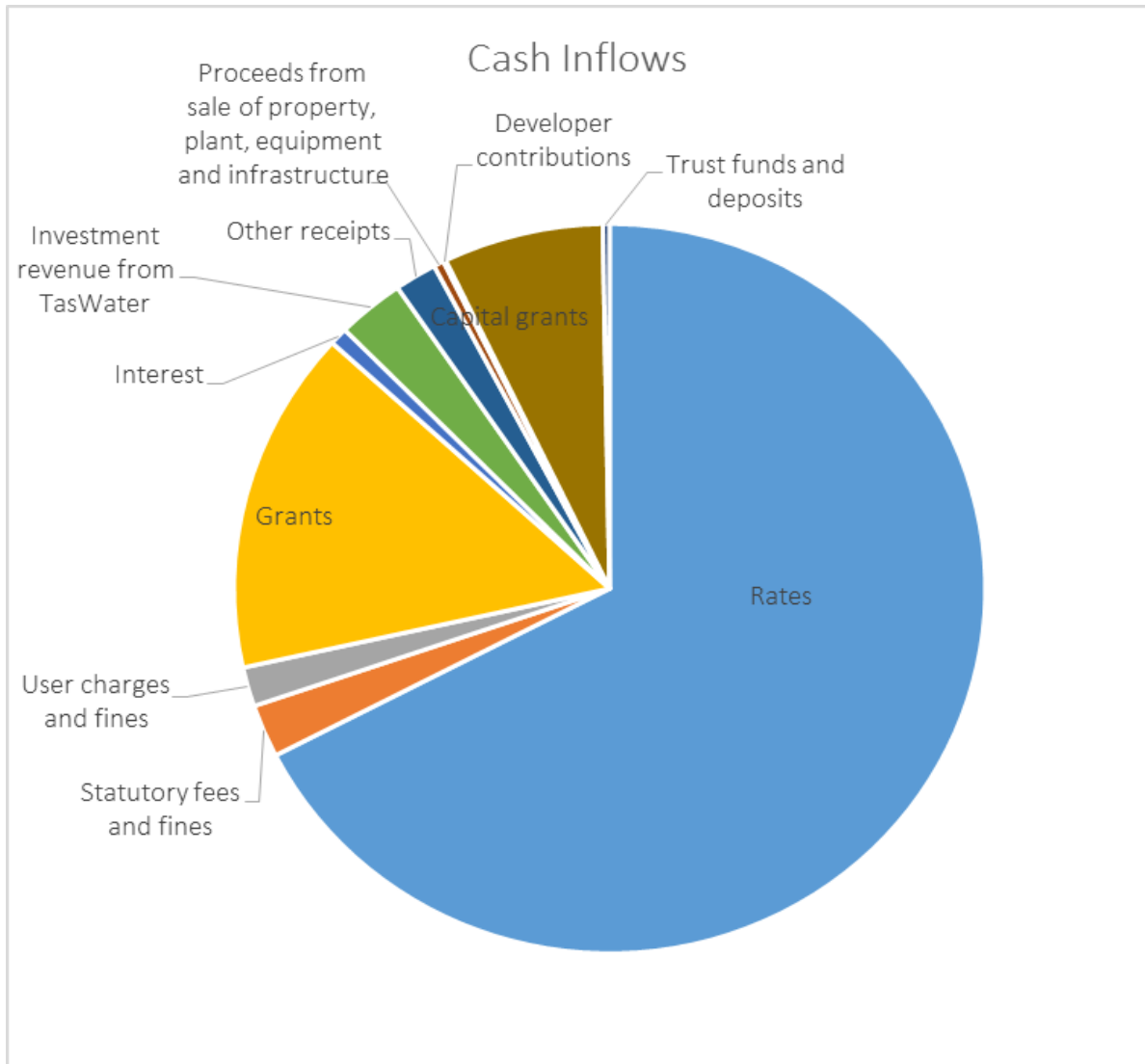
The George Town community should rightly feel a sense of excitement as we progress into the future. The new General Manager and the new Council, beginning their 4 year term, can be confident of the direction toward financial sustainability and a level of service provision that matches the expectation of our community. The George Town Council have a dedicated team of staff who have ownership and invest significantly into their local community.

The success of George Town Council lies in the community, the businesses, the elected members and the staff in striving to achieve our 2026 Community vision:

In 2026, the George Town municipal area will be a proud community where people from all ages participate in our active recreational and community life and where we treasure the immense beauty of our natural environment and rich heritage. We will embrace our industries to drive our prosperity and growth.

Harry Galea
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

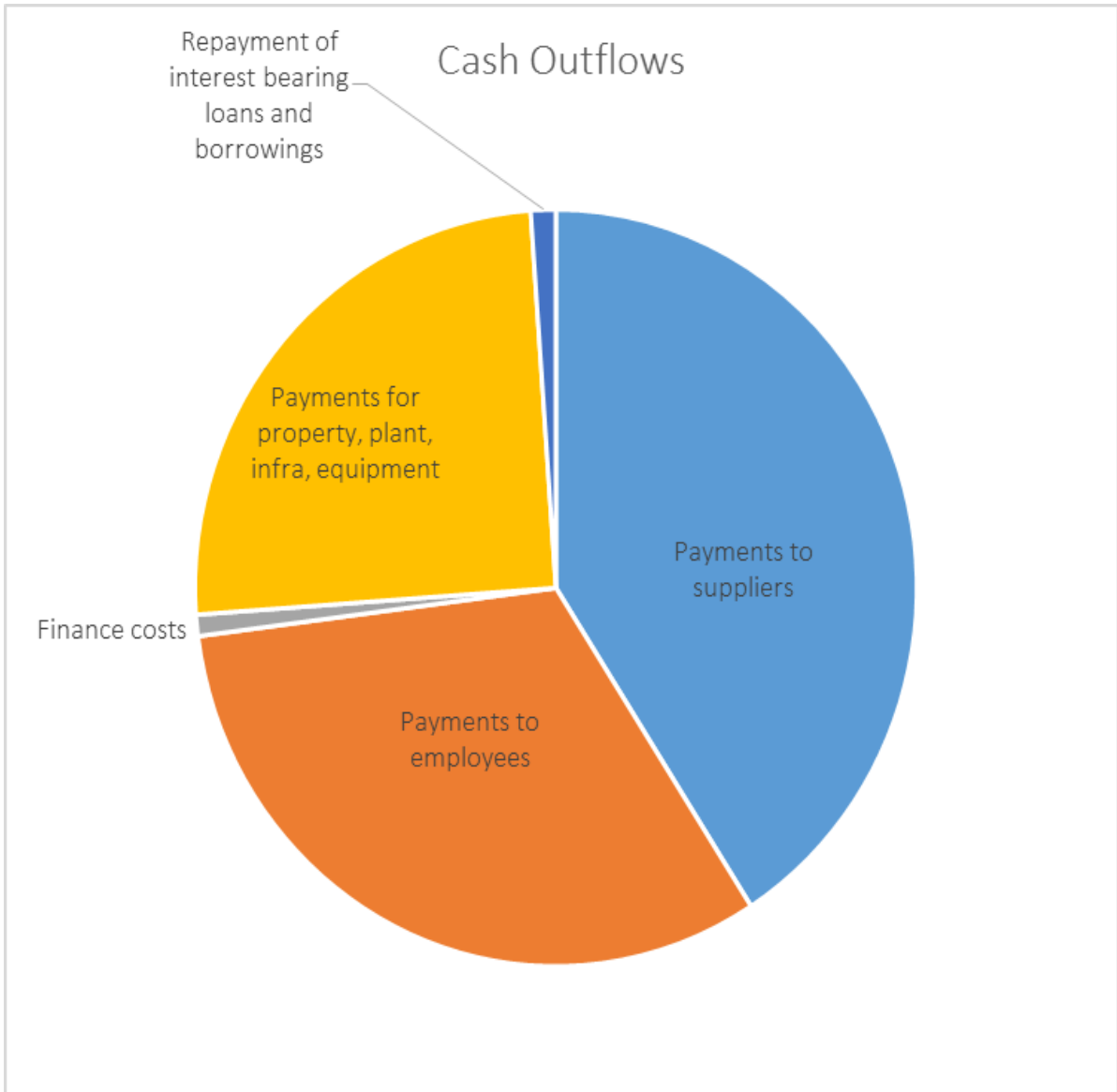
8. Financial Report –Team Leader Corporate and Finance



Cash In Flows

Rates	\$	7,888,697	67.4%
Statutory fees and fines	\$	273,825	2.3%
User charges and fines	\$	203,866	1.7%
Grants - Recurrent	\$	1,783,339	15.2%
Interest	\$	91,342	0.8%
Investment revenue from TasWater	\$	339,000	2.9%
Other receipts	\$	212,756	1.8%
Proceeds from sale of property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	\$	50,950	0.4%
Developer contributions	\$	13,263	0.1%
Capital grants	\$	806,436	6.9%
Trust funds and deposits	\$	33,917	0.3%
	\$	11,697,391	

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



Cash Outflows		
Payments to suppliers	-\$ 4,994,888.00	40.9%
Employee Costs	-\$ 3,912,458.00	32.0%
Finance costs	-\$ 111,563.00	0.9%
Payments for property, plant, infrastructure, equipment	-\$ 3,052,986.00	25.0%
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	-\$ 136,787.00	1.1%
	-\$ 12,208,682.00	

9. 2017/2018 Annual Report

The 2017/2018 Annual Report as presented was adopted by Council at its meeting held on the 17th October 2018 (Minute No.: 161/18).

10. Submissions to the 2017/2018 Annual Report

Nil.

11. Questions to the 2017/2018 Annual Report

Nil.

12. Motions on the 2017/2018 Annual Report

Nil.

13. Meeting Closure

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6:05 pm.

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Bridget Archer
Mayor