



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Thursday 11th November 2021 @ 6.00pm
Council Chambers, 16-18 Anne Street
George Town

George Town Council
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 11TH NOVEMBER 2021
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Council was held on Thursday 11th November 2021 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.



Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

11th November, 2021

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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 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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Acknowledgement of Country

The George Town Council pays its respect to the traditional and original owners of the land in which we meet, their elders past, present and emerging and we pay respect to those that have passed before us and to acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal people who are the custodians of this land.

AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is advised that it is **Council Policy** to record the proceedings of meetings of Council on digital media to assist in the preparation of minutes, and to clarify any queries relating to the Minutes that are raised during a subsequent meeting under the section "Confirmation of Minutes".

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

All meetings of the Council shall be digitally recorded as provided for by Regulation 33 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 except for the proceedings of meetings or parts of meetings closed to the public in accordance with Regulation 15(2).

In accordance with the requirements of Council's GTC-1 Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

In accordance with the COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020, Part 4, Section 18, and as given notice by the Premier of Tasmania, Peter Gutwein, under the same act and published in the Tasmanian Government Gazette No. 21 963, 3 April 2020, this meeting is being held face to face with limitation on public attendance to maintain social distancing.

Council will be allowing a maximum of 10 persons into the Annual General Meeting. You must pre-register to attend this meeting of Council.

Written submissions from electors in response to the Annual Report are to be received by 2.00 pm on Thursday 11th November 2021 and will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting.

All documents presented, and recordings (audio) of this meeting are made available to the public in accordance with the above act and notice, and the standard applicable provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, and Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

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1. ATTENDANCE

Mayor Greg Kieser (Chair)
Deputy Mayor Tim Harris
Cr Chris Barraclough
Cr Heather Barwick
Cr Justine Brooks
Cr Greg Dawson
Cr Winston Mason
Cr Andrew Michieletto
Cr Peter Parkes
Mr Jack Reilly
Mr Anthony Barrett
Mr David Griffiths

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager, Mr Shane Power
Manager Corporate Services & Finance, Mrs Cheryl Hyde
Manager Development Services & Environment, Mr Rex Cassidy
Manager Liveable & Connected Communities, Ms Meagan Bennett
Manager People, Performance & Governance, Ms Kristen Desmond
Executive Support & Governance Officer, Ms Louise Dickenson

The Chair thanked Cr Justine Brooks for her contribution to Council and Committees over the years.

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.

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- Only submissions, questions or motions relating to the Annual Report will be accepted in writing.
- 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.

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171/21 5. MINUTES OF 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DECISION

Moved: Cr Michieletto
Seconded: Cr Mason

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 12th November 2020 of the George Town Council as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings (attached).

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Harris, Cr Barraclough, Cr Brooks, Cr Barwick, Cr Mason,
Cr Parkes, Cr Michieletto, Mr Griffith, Mr Barrett, Mr Reilly

Against: Cr Dawson

Cr Dawson abstained from voting.

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6. MAYOR'S MESSAGE – 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

I am pleased to present the 2020/2021 Annual Report, representing the first year's progress toward achieving the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

Much has been achieved despite the challenges of COVID-19. I'm particularly proud of the role in which Council has played in assisting business and community in recovering from the economic and social impacts of the pandemic. Council facilitated a Community Care and Recovery Grants Program that provided financial support to community groups, clubs and associations to assist with meeting new public health requirements like sanitisation and social distancing; and event activities that would help with resocialisation. A significant allocation was made to local businesses in partnership with Bell Bay Aluminium, to invest in capital, IT and marketing to stimulate business activity.

I'm so excited that our major projects in the Mountain Bike Trail Network and Regent Square Re-development commenced. These projects will provide a number of free activities for our community to enjoy and will also attract visitors from across Tasmania and beyond who will invest their dollars in our local businesses.

It was also pleasing that the community could enjoy many events notwithstanding COVID-19 restrictions. We enjoyed the second New Year's Eve Extravaganza (the Australia Day Event of the Year Award Winners) co-ordinated by George Town Neighbourhood House and hosted by The Crazy Duck. A great display of fireworks and range of activities for kids and adults including live entertainment. It made for a great night. Australia Day celebrations at the pool were well attended, as was the seniors' concert, with both events provided free from charge to all the patrons.

I thoroughly enjoy the vast community events that are held throughout the municipality, as I do presenting to community groups including the George Town Ladies Centre, Probus

and the various Progress Associations. The Roadshow presentations continue to prove to be a successful and well received form of consultation by all our townships and villages.

Council resolved to undertake the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan, demonstrating Council's commitment to acknowledging our dark history, but also celebrating the culture of the longest surviving culture on earth. We have a long way to go, however we are committed to building on recent endeavours such as our inaugural flag raising event for NAIDOC week, continued support of MannaLargenna Day and development of public spaces that celebrate Aboriginal culture. I am especially proud to be a member of the George Town Reconciliation Action Working Group.

It is always pleasing to achieve surplus beyond budget estimates but is nothing short of exceptional when considering the forecast budget had estimated \$500k deficit as a result of COVID-19 implications. Our approximate \$250k surplus represents a net \$750k favourable result from our forecast budget.

I commend the forever diligent work of our staff who placed Council in an enviable financial position. This allows Council to flex outside its usual core business and invest in assets and operations for the betterment of its community. No greater example of this is the acquisition and management of the Bass and Flinders Maritime Museum. Not only has Council been able to preserve the historic maritime assets and secure the museum for the enjoyment of generations to come but has expanded its operations to accommodate lengthened tourism seasons, weekends, provide for school excursions, and an events calendar in the future.

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6. MAYOR’S MESSAGE – 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT (CONT.)

Having reflected on another year of advancement for our community, I’m very much looking forward to the 2021/2022 year. A year in which we have once again set an ambitious program of works and initiatives. One such concept we are looking to pursue is Wild Tamar. Council will be looking to kick start adventure-based tourism activities to compliment the mountain bike trails and our existing tourism offerings. Watch this space!

Meanwhile I commend the 2020/2021 Annual Report to you and trust you find it both an interesting read, one of much substance and achievement for our community.

**Greg Kieser
MAYOR**

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7. GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the organisation, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2020/2021. The report details the performance of the organisation over the past twelve months.

With the challenges COVID-19 has presented particularly with limitations on revenue, I'm proud of the achievements the organisation has been able to deliver in trying circumstances. In particular, the end of year financial results is most pleasing. With a freeze on rates, fees and charges, forecast reduction in dividends from TasWater (in which Council is a shareholder) and a number of other austerity measures, the 2020/2021 budget was forecast to deliver a \$500k deficit. Through prudent budgetary management, we were able to deliver a \$250k surplus. This is the third consecutive year a surplus has been achieved and none greater giving consideration of the dire forecast at the start of the year.

Once again, a surplus has not come at the expense of performance and service delivery. For the second consecutive year, our team has achieved just shy of 100% customer response rates. Across the organisation, we delivered 86% of Annual Plan actions and processed a significant increase in planning and building permits within compliance timeframes. The infrastructure team delivered over 75% of the capital works program which is impressive given current market conditions, shortage in contractor labour and material supply.

Council continues to succeed in its advocacy efforts whether it be attracting funds or representing community interests in legislative reform. Efforts include meeting with various ministers in Canberra, the Federal Member for Bass Bridget Archer and various state ministers, advocating for investment in various projects and programs for the enhancement of the quality of life for our community.

I also continue to represent Council on various boards including LGPRo, Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone, Northern Waste Management Group and the Future Impact Leadership Table. The collective efforts of elected members, officers and these groups has resulted in many positive outcomes for our community and has secured in excess of \$2 million dollars in unplanned grants for Council in 2020/2021 year alone.

Like most Councils throughout Australia we are dependent on the ongoing financial assistance provided by the Federal Government through its Financial Assistance Grants Scheme, Roads to Recovery, Country Roads and Bridges and Black Spot funding programs among others. Likewise, we are very appreciative of the financial support provided by the State Government through various grants programs.

Without doubt we have been fortunate to have freedom of movement. We have been able to enjoy programs and events that our mainlanders could not. Examples of these include the Healthy George Town program which continues to be well received by the community with vast increases in programs and participants. This is detailed further in the ensuing report. Events throughout the year have been all well attended and enjoyed by young and old, families and visitors. One of my personal favourites was the Christmas Parade and I'm told there was a familiar face on the sleigh.

In closing, I am proud of the efforts of the team over the past twelve months from right across our diverse organisation. I trust you enjoy reading some of the highlights within.

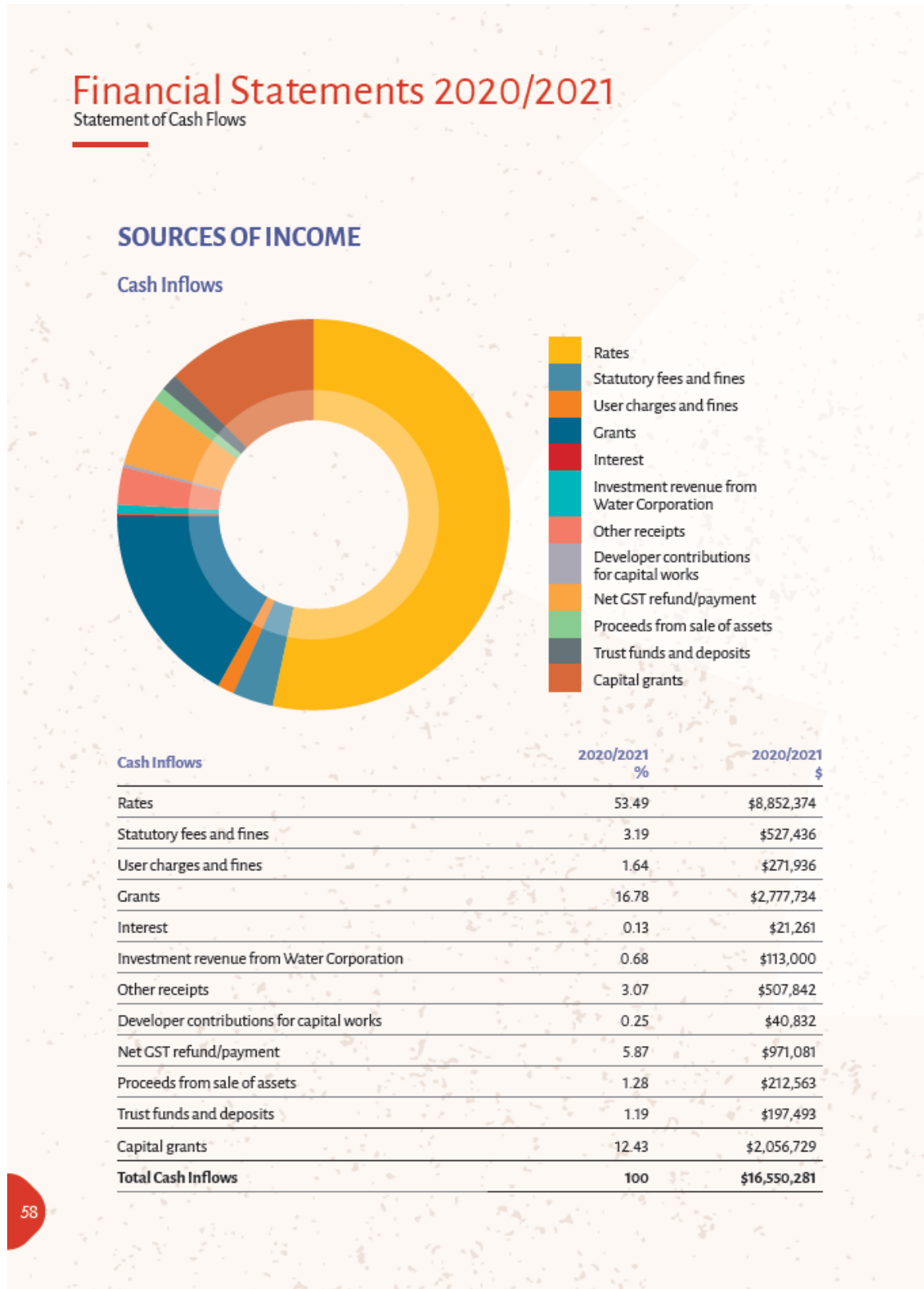
Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

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Through the Chair the General Manager thanked Cr Brooks for her contribution to Council as an Officer, General Manager and Councillor and wished her well on her future endeavours.

The General Manager also thanked Anthony Barrett (Wally) for his service to Council. Wally has been with Council for nearly 30 years.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT – MANAGER CORPORATE AND FINANCE

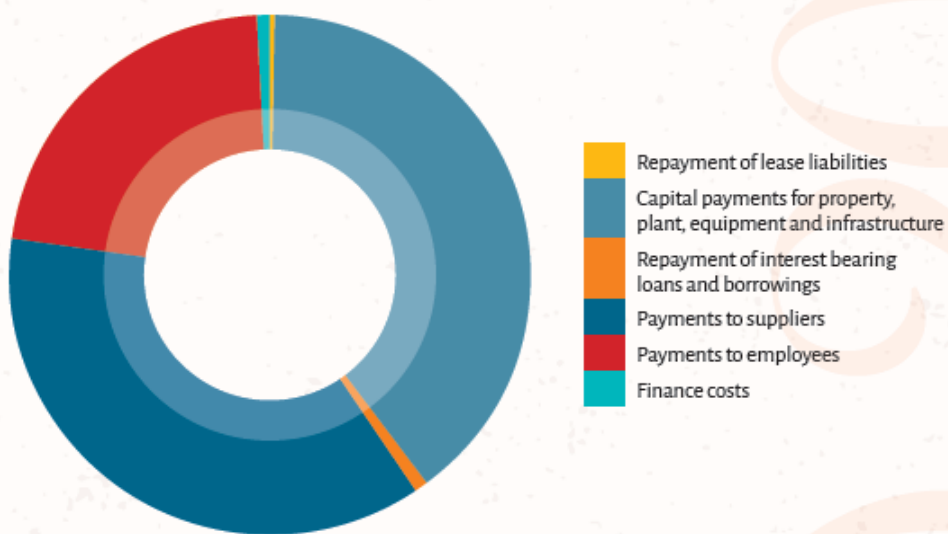


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8. FINANCIAL REPORT – MANAGER CORPORATE AND FINANCE (CONT.)

George Town Council – Annual Report 2020/21

Cash Outflows



Cash Outflows	2020/2021 %	2020/2021 \$
Repayment of lease liabilities	0.34	\$59,191
Capital Payments for property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	39.60	\$6,803,459
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	0.88	\$151,343
Payments to suppliers	36.51	\$6,271,573
Payments to employees	22.07	\$3,791,630
Finance costs	0.60	\$102,819
Total Cash Outflows	100.00	\$17,180,015

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9. SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

10. QUESTIONS TO THE 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

11. MOTIONS ON THE 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.16 pm.

The Chair thanked all for attending the AGM.

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Greg Kieser
Mayor