



# **GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL CONFIRMED MINUTES**

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting  
held on **Tuesday 28 November 2023**

in the Council Chambers,  
16-18 Anne Street, George Town,

commencing at **1:00 pm**.

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

*The public are requested to pre-register if attending this meeting of Council.*

Shane Power  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>PRESENT .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	Apologies And Leave Of Absence .....	5
1.2	In Attendance .....	5
<b>2</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1	Ordinary Council Meeting Held 24 October 2023.....	6
<b>3</b>	<b>LATE ITEMS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1	Public Question Time Procedure.....	8
4.2	Public Questions On Notice.....	9
4.3	Public Question Time .....	10
4.4	Response To Questions From Previous Public Question Time .....	13
<b>5</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S DECLARATION .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>PLANNING AUTHORITY .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER .....</b>	<b>19</b>
8.1	Council Workshops - October And November 2023.....	19
8.2	Council Meeting Schedule 2024.....	20
8.3	Quarterly Report - Quarter 1 - 1 July - 30 September 2023 .....	22
8.4	Municipal Emergency Management Arrangements.....	24
<b>9</b>	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE, STRATEGY &amp; ENGAGEMENT .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>MAYOR .....</b>	<b>28</b>
12.1	Matters Of Involvement - Mayor.....	28
<b>13</b>	<b>PETITIONS.....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>NOTICES OF MOTIONS .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE .....</b>	<b>32</b>

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

---

<b>15.1 Various Questions - Cr Barwick.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>16 CLOSED MEETING.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>16.1 Into Closed Meeting.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>17 CLOSURE .....</b>	<b>35</b>

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

**Meeting Commenced at 1:00 pm**

**Acknowledgement of Country**

*George Town Council acknowledges the palawa people from the litarimirina tribe from Port Dalrymple as the traditional custodians of the land.*

*We honour and give thanks for the caring of country, seas and skies of kinimathatakinta and surrounds.*

*We pay respect to the elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hope of pakana people in lutruwita.*

**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 is 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 Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy GTC 1, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

*The community are requested to pre-register to attend this meeting of Council.*

*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.*

*Cr Mason stated that in the last fortnight the municipality has sadly lost three prominent citizens Mr Les Cole, Mr Ian Littlejohn, and Mr Gary Crane who were all invested in our community. A request was made to have a minutes silence.*

*The Chair held a minutes silence for the three prominent members of our community who sadly have passed away.*

## **1 PRESENT**

Acting Mayor Cr Greg Dawson Chairperson  
Cr Winston Archer  
Cr Heather Ashley  
Cr Heather Barwick  
Cr Tim Harris  
Cr Simone Lowe  
Cr Winston Mason

### **1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Mayor Cr Greg Kieser, Chairperson  
Cr Jason Orr  
Director Corporate & Community - Mrs C. Hyde

### **1.2 IN ATTENDANCE**

General Manager - Mr S Power  
Acting Director Corporate & Community - Mr J Anderson  
Director Operational Performance, Strategy & Engagement - Mr R Dunn  
Director Infrastructure & Development - Mr A McCarthy  
Executive Support and Governance Officer - Ms L Dickenson

## **2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24 OCTOBER 2023**

**Minute No. 192/23**

#### **DECISION**

Moved: Cr Harris  
Seconded: Cr Mason

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 24 October 2023 numbered 172/23 to 185/23 as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

#### **VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr  
Mason  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0

**3 LATE ITEMS**

Nil.

## **4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

### **4.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME PROCEDURE**

*[Refer to Minute No. 243/16. The period set aside for public question time will be at least 15 minutes. Questions given on notice will be addressed first. Once questions on notice have been addressed, persons who have registered their interest to ask a question will be called to do so in the order in which they have registered. Persons attending Council meetings will have the opportunity to register their interest to ask a question without notice prior to the commencement of the meeting. Council staff will be on hand to assist with this process.*

*Participants cannot ask more than 2 questions in a row with a maximum of 2 minutes per question. If a person has more than (2) questions, they will be placed at the 'end of the queue' and may, if time permits, ask their further questions once all other persons have had an opportunity to ask questions. Persons who have not registered their interest to ask a question will be given an opportunity to do so following all those who have registered. All questions must be directed to the Chairperson.*

*For further information on Council's Public Question Time Rules and Procedure, please refer to George Town Council Public Question Time Policy GTC13.*

*Questions asked and answers provided may be summarised in the Minutes of the meeting.*

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*Council requests that members of the public pre-register to attend meetings of Council.*

**4.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Nil.

### **4.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Commenced at: 1.06 pm

Concluded at: 1.16 pm

**Mrs L. Wootton**

#### Question 1

Mrs Wootton thanked Council for answering her questions from the last meeting in regards to the Jim Mooney Gallery. As Mrs Wootton had only read the answer to her question in the agenda last Friday, Mr Uncle and herself restored the Jim Mooney Gallery last Monday after the Lighthouse Regional Arts exhibition finished on last Friday and there is no need for Council staff to do this. It is a bit late for the thousands who have visited over the past three months. In regards to the metal sculptures could you please advise why the cost of the installation was not included?

*Through the Chair to the General Manager, the General Manager thanked the Chair and Mrs Wootton for her question. The cost provided in the agenda is only for the supply and manufacture of the sculpture, it does not include the installation. The reason why the installation costs have not been included are due to teething problems in Council's corporate system and we're unable to interrogate at this point of time. Council commits to providing the installation costs to Mrs Wootton.*

Mrs Wootton advised that there is a cost to Council?

*The General Manager advised that it was part of the Placemaking Committee's budget so the entire lot is a cost to Council.*

#### Question 2

I visited Mount George last week and found the red netting cordons that was placed around the 'danger area' were completely trashed, and there seems to have been more interference with rocks from the once intact dry-stone wall around the historic garden.

There was a couple visiting after someone had told them down the street about the lookout and the walk around the summit. I met them at the end of their walk and found they'd walked around the top bike trail, but fortunately hadn't met any bikes.

Can I ask for an update on the Semaphore Mast and the whole site, please?

*Through the Chair, the General Manager advised Council recently received correspondence from the Treasurer's office that commits additional funds to the Semaphore site on the proviso that Council assumes ownership of the site. That process is currently underway and has not yet been before Council, however Council Officers have, whilst not a Council managed site, been proactive and completed further investigations on the structure soundness of the timber there to inform the program moving forward. However, a formal position of Council to have ownership to increase the funds has not yet been before Council. The asset would be owned by Council should Council accept that.*

*The land underneath the infrastructure remains at this point of time with Crown.*

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

Question 3

I am really concerned at the overload of Council instigated community surveys, workshops, World Cafes, events, meetings, etc. over the last three months of the year, when most organisations have their own end of year activities as well.

Lumping all these together at the end of the year doesn't allow time for those who are concerned, to make considered submissions or be engaged in these things.

Council I ask that Council be more aware of the 'overload' for the community in the planning of these consultation events, surveys, workshops, etc at the busy time of the year for everyone from October to December, please?

*The Chair advised that at the timing of these community engagements are based around once the budget process has been completed, Council then can go out to community consultation on these projects. Council has to do it now or after the Christmas period.*

Mrs Wootton stated that she had noticed that a few things had been cancelled.

*The Chair stated that it is more about the workload and how Council can get things progressed and actioned.*

*Through the Chair, the General Manager stated that he appreciates the question, and that it is a challenge and as per the Chair, budgets are adopted by Council and then released for the organisation to commence 1 July then procurement process commence. Once external assistance are appointed and consultation process deserving of proper community consultation, goes to Council as draft, then possibly community consultation again prior to Council endorsing it. It does take time, but also the other challenge is ie. township character plans, quite often when Council is out at the coastal areas they actually want us to be there during the Christmas period because that is when all the shack owners are there. I accept that it is not ideal and it is challenging to reach everyone in the municipality at one time. The General Manager further stated that this a particularly busy year for Council in terms of community consultation and community engagement. Council recently held a world cafe which we have not held for years. The last world cafe was at that time, due to the number of consultations occurring. There was an opportunity for the community to have their say on a number of consultations at one point of time. Each one of those consulted on the day will be further consulted through working groups and also on their individual consultation and engagement programs in place.*

Mrs Wootton stated that it just is a very busy time of the year and would like the consultations to be spread out a bit more.

*Through the Chair the General Manager continued to state that each consultant comes up with their own individual methodology plan and engagement plan to get the most engagement. Some of the outlying areas reliant on a number of shack owners and Christmas period is the one time that they have asked for engagement. It is a challenging process.*

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

**Mr Jarvis**

Question 1

They have corresponded with a Council officer in relation to a fire hazard that his wife is concerned about and there have been severe fires in coastal areas and where Ann lives at ..Gunn Parade there has been privately owned property and public owned property. A letter was written on the 6 November to the Council and really appreciated the prompt response from Council's Compliance Officer stating that the situation would be investigated and the appropriate letter sent to the owners of the property. This was 2-3 weeks ago and asking whether something has been acted upon and has it been investigated and with summer rapidly approaching and hopefully there will be some action taken. also Mr Jarvis has spoken to the Low Head Company which is behind her boundary and taking the appropriate action. If someone were able to get back to me it would be greatly appreciated.

*The Chair stated that the question will be forwarded to the General Manager but suggested that it may be taken on notice. The Chair requested that his details please be provided prior to leaving the meeting today so a response can be sent.*

*Through the Chair, the General Manger advised Council will provide a formal response which will form part of the minutes of the next meeting. But in terms of issuing abatement notices, on private properties to action the reduction fire hazards, Council provides 14 days for the owners to act and if they don't act within that period of time, Council is authorised to undertake action itself, and charge back the owners of the property. The General Manager hopes that this is what has happened with this property but this is the usually Council process.*

Mr Jarvis stated that this was the exact response he had received from Council's Compliance Officer.

#### **4.4 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

*(Refer to Minute No. 425/00, which states in part, “that a copy of all written replies to questions from the Public Gallery be included in the following Council Agenda.”)*

##### **Mrs D. Rainbow**

###### **Question 1**

What proviso or regulation exists that protects residents, homeowners in residential areas for indiscriminate burning of waste such as trees, under growth over a number of days that produces a prolific amount of smoke?

###### **Response**

*Burning off in residential areas sometimes referred to as ‘backyard burning’ is subject to various legislation and is regulated through a number of authorities including the EPA, TFS and local councils.*

*In Tasmania, the main rules for backyard burning are in Part 4 of the [Environmental Management and Pollution Control \(Smoke\) Regulations 2019](#) (Smoke Regulations). These rules apply across the whole State.*

*In addition, section 53 of the [Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994](#) (EMPCA) has a general requirement that a person should not cause an ‘environmental nuisance’. This includes smoke emissions.*

*Some councils have bylaws that restrict backyard burning. George Town Council has no such bylaw, however, is empowered under section 53 of the EMPCA to address excessive smoke emissions where backyard burning is compliant with the Regulations.*

*Councils are also empowered under the Fire Services Act 1979 to appoint Fire Permit Officers who can issue, and revoke permits to light fires. Council does not have an appointed Fire Permit Officer, however, defers requests for permits to the TFS.*

*Infringements were issued by the Council to the property owner, relating to excessive smoke emissions from a burn off that took place at 40-46 Friend Street.*

##### **Mrs L. Wootton**

###### **Question 1**

Now that all three metal sculptures are in place, could I ask what was the total cost of these, including the installation, please?

###### **Response**

*The cost of the three metal sculptures that were commissioned by Council as part of the Place Making Committee initiative was \$53,112 (exclusive of installation costs).*

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

Question 2

Who is responsible for seeing that the Gallery is put back to rights after a community exhibition is finished, so that locals can have some pride in their civic building and our visitors get a favourable impression of this community?

Can I expect to see some attention to this detail soon, please?

Response:

*Officers will endeavour to ensure that permanent exhibit items are returned to display at the Jim Mooney Gallery as soon as practical following temporary exhibitions.*

**Mr G. Neilsen**

Question 1

At the September meeting I asked questions relating to the ex RSL development and in particular had there been consultation with local rate-paying licensed outlets and coffee shops. I was further concerned at the reporting of the haste to purchase in May 2020. I also asked for timelines of Council approval to purchase and the Contract signing dates - these have been provided in today's agenda but raise two important issues.

My question is: How in the name of proper governance under the leadership of Mayor Kieser and General Manager Shane Power could Council make a decision after being presented with a Confidential Late report - Strategic Asset Acquisition to be able to read, be briefed, assess, review, question and vote to commit to a property purchase of over \$1M and then much more to re-develop in less than 30 minutes?

This is detailed in the Minutes of May 2020 confirms the matter was not workshopped and I remind four Councillors you were not part of that decision.

The General Manager has confirmed there had been no consultation with local providers but there had been (quote) "Consultation was done with social enterprises in Tasmania, mainland and including the UK. Incredible isn't it - where is the 'local' component in this nonsense.

The General Manager further commented on observations and comments on the operating hours of local facilities.

This raises to me two aspects namely why local providers weren't consulted and what is Social Enterprise. Google will tell the latter but it is hard to reconcile with the ex RSL development.

In regard to consultation with local providers I note again from the May 2020 Minutes that both the Mayor and General Manager visited local businesses re COVID support just seven (7) days before elected members were asked to make a hasty and enormous financial commitment to purchase the ex RSL. This was the perfect opportunity to ask especially the food and beverage outlets if they had the capacity to cater for any expansion of visitor numbers. Purchasing the ex RSL was the first step in initiating competition with established local businesses without a creditable or moral business case. Apparently, you failed these businesses and the community.

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

Response

*Council was satisfied it had sufficient information to make a decision.*

Question 2

I refer to what I believe will be an impending proverbial 'train-wreck' re this Council's foolhardy and irresponsible pursuit of the re-development of the ex RSL which as you all know was a decision of a previous Council.

I ask:

In reference to the ex RSL building which of the following well researched statements are without truth?

1. Council purchased the building without a fully qualified valuation and professional building survey.
2. Council did not receive a business case for the purchase prior to the 20 May 2020 meeting.
3. Council has no confirmed Lessee.
4. Council is highly unlikely, considering capital and renovation costs, to receive a competitive commercial return on investment.
5. Unexpected building deficiencies have been discovered since purchase.
6. Many aspects pertaining to the linkage between the mountain bike initiative and maybe the original intent is lacking contemporary evaluation.
7. Mayor Kieser irresponsibly and without basis is on public record of stating quote "if the ex RSL is to be sold the profits will go back to you the ratepayers".
8. An updated business plan/case has not been processed and made available to elected members.
9. Local providers of food and beverage services have not been consulted yet face potential subsidised competition.
10. Council officers engaged in a bidding war during the purchase process that exposed failings. They may have been pressured into negotiations with a fear of missing out to a competitor but left high and dry when the competitor ceased negotiations.
11. Competitive Neutrality complaints are decided by a Government Agency not by a legal firm advising Council.
12. Both the administrative arm of Council and the elected representatives have a first duty to act in the best interests of the community.

Response

*The question is deemed inappropriate being that is comprised of a series of statements (see s9.5 of GTC-13 Public Question Time policy) that are in some instances subjective, presumptive, and speculative in nature.*

Question 3

Can the General Manager please advise what section of delegation gives the General Manager the authority to decide and convey Council's decision on public open space prior to becoming before Council for a decision?

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

It is my contention that it should be the decision of elected members and for obvious practical reasons, that a subdivision of over 20 normal allotments it is the elected members who should receive advice and make a decision as this important part of their responsibility to decide the destiny of a developed environment to take a financial contribution or land donation. When a DA comes before Council with a recommendation currently only rubber stamping a previous decision made by the General Manager and convey sometimes months prior to the developer or their representative. If delegation has been assigned to the General Manager, elected members have literally handed over an important aspect of their role in deciding the physical wellbeing of their town to an unelected public servant.

Response

*There are no discrete delegations associated with determining the issue of Public Open Space, nor are any required. Public Open Space is but one of the matters considered when assessing an application for sub-division. We note that an Open Space Contribution Policy is currently being drafted for Council's consideration.*

## **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

## **6 GENERAL MANAGER'S DECLARATION**

I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendations provided to Council with this Agenda:

- the advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation; and
- where any advice is given directly to Council by a person who does not have the required qualifications of experience, that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice, the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.



Shane Power  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 – SECTION 65**

#### **65. Qualified persons**

- (1) A general manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council or a council committee is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.
- (2) A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless –
  - (a) the general manager certifies, in writing –
    - (i) that such advice was obtained; and
    - (ii) that the general manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
  - (b) a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the general manager's certificate.

**7 PLANNING AUTHORITY**

Nil.

## **8 OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER**

### **8.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS - OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2023**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** General Manager - Mr S. Power  
**REPORT DATE:** 20 November 2023  
**FILE NO:** 14.10  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

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#### **Minute No. 193/23**

#### **DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Lowe

That Council:

1. Receives the report on the Council Workshops held on the 24 October 2023 and 14 November 2023.

#### **VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

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**8.2 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2024**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager – Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	7 November 2023
<b>FILE NO:</b>	14.21
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	Nil

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**Minute No. 194/23**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Harris

Seconded: Cr Ashley

That Council by absolute majority:

1. Endorse the following schedule for Ordinary Council meetings and Annual General Meeting to be held in 2024:

<b>COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Tuesday 23 January	1.00pm
Tuesday 27 February	1.00pm
Tuesday 26 March	1.00pm
Tuesday 23 April	1.00pm
Tuesday 28 May	1.00pm
Tuesday 25 June	1.00pm
Tuesday 23 July	1.00pm
Tuesday 27 August	1.00pm
Tuesday 24 September	1.00pm
Tuesday 22 October	1.00pm
Tuesday 26 November	1.00pm
Tuesday 17 December	1.00pm

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

---

<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Thursday 14 November	6.00pm

2. Publish this schedule in a daily newspaper as prescribed in Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 and facebook.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason

Against: Nil

Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

---

**8.3 QUARTERLY REPORT - QUARTER 1 - 1 JULY - 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager – Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	20 November 2023
<b>FILE NO:</b>	14.21
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	1. 2023 9_30 Quarterly Performanc Report [8.3.1 - 79 pages]

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**Minute No. 195/23**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Harris

That Council:

1. Receives the George Town Council 1st Quarter Performance Report 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
2. Provides public access to the report as part of Council’s commitment to ongoing good governance.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0

*The Chaired called a short break at 1.38 pm for five minutes to enable Cr Barwick to compose her motion.*

*The meeting was adjourned at 1.38 pm.*

*Cr Harris left the meeting at 1.40 pm.*

*Cr Harris returned to the meeting 1.41 pm.*

*The Chair resumed the meeting at 1.45 pm.*

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

---

**Minute No. 196/23**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Barwick

Seconded: Cr Archer

That Council take out of the Closed Session Minute Number 149/23 Item 16.4 dated 22nd August 2023 all information (non-commercial) be taken to the open Council to provide public awareness on Anzac Drive.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason

Against: Nil

Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

---

**8.4 MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	General Manager – Mr S. Power
<b>REPORT DATE:</b>	20 November 2023
<b>FILE NO:</b>	45.6
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	1. Emergency Management Structure August 2022 [8.4.1 - 1 page]

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**Minute No. 197/23**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Harris  
Seconded: Cr Mason

That Council:

1. Nominate Mr Rick Dunn, Director Organisational Performance, Strategy and Engagement for the appointment of Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator for a four-year term; and
2. The nomination to be presented to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management.

*The Director Organisational Performance, Strategy and Engagement entered the meeting at 1.49 pm.*

**VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0

*The Director Organisational Performance, Strategy and Engagement thanked the Councillors for their welcome message.*

*The Director Organisational Performance, Strategy and Engagement left the meeting at 1.52 pm.*

**9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Nil.

**10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY**

Nil.

**11 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE, STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT**

Nil

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

**12 MAYOR**

**12.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT - MAYOR**

**REPORT DATE:** 21 November 2023

**FILE NO:** 14.11, 14.15

<b>Mayor Cr Greg Kieser</b>		
<b>October</b>	18	Attended Tamar NRM launch of Sustainable Living Festival
	19	Met with local resident
	19	Attended Seniors Concert
	21	MC for Hillwood Trivia Night
	24	Chaired Council Workshop
	24	Chaired Ordinary Council Meeting
	25	Attended George Town Neighbourhood House AGM
	25	Met with local resident
	25	Interview with Tamar FM
	26	Attended George Town Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards
	27	Attended Tasmanian-Flemish Trade Mission
	31	Met with local business developer
<b>November</b>	1	Attended LGAT General Meeting
	1-2	Attended LGAT Annual Conference
	3	Attended Bass and Flinders Museum Celebration of Norfolk Sloop
	7	Attended SunCable Presentation
	7	Attended Seagulls to Chips – Youth Graduation
	14	Chaired Council Workshop
<b>Acting Mayor (15 November – 28 November) / Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson</b>		
<b>October</b>	18	Attended Launch of Sustainable Living Festival
<b>November</b>	1	Attended LGAT General Meeting
	1	Attended LGAT Conference
	7	Attended SunCable Presentation
	14	Met with Consultant re Social and Economic Impact Assessment of local large industry
	15	Met with resident re dust issue
	16	Chaired George Town Council's AGM
	21	Attended SunCable presentation
<b>Cr Jason Orr</b>		
<b>October</b>	18	Attended Tamar NRM Sustainable Living Launch
	19	Attended George Town Seniors Concert
	25	Attended TEER 2023 kanamaluka Forum/Tamar Forum
<b>November</b>	1	Attended LGAT General Meeting

**George Town Council  
2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting  
Confirmed Minutes**

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	1-2	Attended LGAT Conference
	3	Attended Bass and Flinders 25 Years Celebration of Norfolk Sloop Launch
	4	Attended Weymouth Progress Association Meeting
	7	Attended SunCable Presentation
	13	Attended 2024 National Road Safety Week Presentation
<b>Oct- Nov</b>		Tamar NRM Catch it in the Catchment – Hillwood, Low Head and George Town *

\* Catch it in the Catchment - George Town Council supports this event through our partnership and funding of Tamar NRM. Many groups including Hillwood Progress Association, East Tamar Landcare Group, Friends of Low Head Penguin Colony, Soroptimist International of George Town, The George Town Youth Council, Seagull to Chips, Future Impact Group, Tasmanian Divers, and Seadragons Dive Groups were involved.

**Minute No. 198/23**

**DECISION**

Moved: Cr Mason  
Seconded: Cr Ashley

That the information report from the Mayor, Acting Mayor/Deputy Mayor and Councillor/s on Matters of Involvement be received and the information noted.

**VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr Mason  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0

**13 PETITIONS**

Nil.

**14 NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

Nil.

## **15 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE**

### **15.1 VARIOUS QUESTIONS - CR BARWICK**

- Q1. What is the reason after 16 or more years of use by local groups, Council are suddenly telling them they cannot have an official opening or a fundraising event when they use the Jim Mooney Gallery?

Response

*The event application received for exhibiting in the Jim Mooney Gallery was limited to exhibition only and did not include an event launch which may be subject to an application to consume alcohol if so desired. Whilst the applicant did request to sell works on exhibition, the group indicated that they did not want to rely on their own insurance which is required for the sale of goods. Officers worked with the group moving forward to try and accommodate future exhibitions to meet their expectations.*

- Q2. Who authorised the Super Room to be locked up and access to the Hot Water heater be denied to the 70 stallholders of the George Town Market. They have had access to hot water for 15 years. Comment from users told me Council staff said "let them go and buy a coffee" i.e. the market stall holders purchase their own tea, coffee and milk. All they want is access to the water heater.

Response

*The Tamar FM market has booked the Graham Fairless Centre and has a fee remission for this booking. The supper room is a separate room which the market hasn't booked for their dates. As the supper room isn't booked by the markets, it is available for the public to book. Council had a booking for a birthday party on the same day/time, and hence the supper room would have been locked for their booking. Council can provide the market with an urn for future market days.*

- Q3. Can I please have a complete breakdown of the Events program for the 2023/204 budget and what monies is allocated to what? Monies are being spent and I cannot remember when any items came to the table for approval.

Response

*The events budget was approved by Council at the June Ordinary Council meeting for 2023/2024 financial year. The individual events within this budget were not finalised as at 30 June 2023. Council will be provided with an Events Strategy at a future meeting.*

*Council is currently implementing its corporate system with transactional reporting limited at this point in time. A breakdown of expenditure on events to date will be provided to elected members as soon as practical. Council is undertaking a review of the events strategy to inform future events in line with its budget.*

- Q4. 2022/2023 budget the Anzac Building had a carried forward budget of \$1,002,964.00 which included a carry forward from the FIG. Can you tell me where the extra funding has come from to increase the figure to \$1,562,924.00?

**George Town Council**  
**2023 11 28 Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**Confirmed Minutes**

---

Response

*The draft September quarterly report provided at the Council Workshop on the 14 November 2023 incorrectly detailed the estimated budget for the project. Officers has corrected this project budget to reflect Council decision at the Closed Session of Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023. The budget is now \$1,491,468.00.*

- Q5. Work order 90036 Mt. George Semaphore site. When Council passed its budget in July 2023/2024 there was \$40,000 as Council input \$10,000 as external input (which was Crowns donation), giving a budget of \$50,000 to do work on the Semaphore and Flag Mast on Mt. George. How come there is no external funding noted in the budget and why is it not recorded that Minister Ferguson gave the Council a figure of around \$25,000 to complete the works up on Mt. George?

Response

*The Council's budget has an allocation of \$40,000 and \$10,000 from the Department of Parks and Wildlife Service to the decommissioning of the infrastructure. Council has received a commitment from the Treasurer for an additional \$14,330 subject to Council having ownership of the Semaphore which will be subject to a future report of Council.*

- Q6. Work Order 90070 Design and Scope for future Capital Works \$135,000.00 being spent on? The comment says "in progress" completion June 2024.

Response

*Work Order 90070 is used for the purpose of informing capital projects for future budget and can include and is not limited to labour, consulting costs associated with road safety assessments, design, quantity surveyors etc.*

## **16 CLOSED MEETING**

### **16.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING**

**Minute No. 199/23**

#### **DECISION**

Moved: Cr Barwick  
Seconded: Cr Archer

That Council move into closed meeting at 2.01 pm to discuss the following items:

#### **Agenda Item 17.2 Minutes of the Closed Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 October 2023**

*As per the provisions of Regulation 34(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.*

#### **Agenda Item 17.3 Reseal Program 2023/2024**

*As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(d) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.*

#### **VOTING**

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe and Cr  
Mason  
Against: Nil  
Abstained: Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7 / 0  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

*The Chair opened the meeting to the public at 2.14 pm.*

**17 CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.26 pm.

**Cr Greg Dawson  
ACTING MAYOR**