



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CONFIRMED MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held on **Thursday 14 November 2024**

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

commencing at **6:00 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

**George Town Council
2024 11 14 Annual General Meeting
Confirmed Minutes**

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 14 November 2024 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**

7 November 2024

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	PRESENT	5
1.1	Apologies And Leave Of Absence.....	5
1.2	In Attendance	5
2	MEETING PROCEDURES	6
2.0	Meeting Procedures.....	6
3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	7
3.1	Minutes Of 16 November 2023 Annual General Meeting.....	7
4	MAYOR'S MESSAGE - 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT	8
5	GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE	10
6	FINANCIAL REPORT - DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY	12
7	SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT.....	14
8	QUESTIONS TO THE 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT	16
9	MOTIONS ON THE 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT	17
10	MEETING CLOSURE	18

**George Town Council
2024 11 14 Annual General Meeting
Confirmed Minutes**

Meeting Commenced at 6:00 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.

1 PRESENT

Mayor Cr Greg Kieser, Chairperson
Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson
Cr Heather Ashley
Cr Simone Lowe
Cr Winston Mason
Cr Jason Orr

1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Winston Archer
Cr Heather Barwick
Cr Tim Harris

1.2 IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager - Mr S Power
Director Corporate & Community - Mrs C Hyde
Director Operational Performance & Strategy - Mr R Dunn
Director Infrastructure & Development - Mr A McCarthy
Manager Corporate and Finance - Mr J Anderson
Senior Executive Support and Governance Officer - Ms L Dickenson

2 MEETING PROCEDURES

2.0 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 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.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF 16 NOVEMBER 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minute No. 163/24

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason
Seconded: Cr Orr

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on the 10 November 2023 of the George Town Council as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

VOTING

For: Cr Dawson, Cr Kieser, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Cr Ashley
Abstained: Cr Ashley

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5 / 1

4 MAYOR'S MESSAGE - 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Ya Palinga, welcome.

The Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030 vision was re-validated by the community and key stakeholders following a review and consultation during the year. The review confirmed that much has been done toward achieving the vision since 2020, and our community still resonates with the vision and strategic directions.

It is, therefore, with pleasure and pride that I present the 2023/2024 George Town Council Annual Report. The report demonstrates another year of great achievement as Council and its partners advance our community to be Proud, Progressive, and Prosperous.

A measure of prosperity includes access to sports, events, arts and culture. An area in which Council invested significantly throughout the year and one in which I want to really highlight having reflected on the year.

Many of our local athletes benefited from sponsorships assisting in expenses to participate in sporting competitions interstate. A number of community groups and organisations received funding to host local events with great numbers in attendance.

A highlight for me is always the Council facilitated Seniors Concert. Free to over 160 guests, the event is always fully subscribed. Not surprising given the talent from multiple acts performing on the day.

The inaugural Solstice in the Square winter event was a huge success with over 1,000 tickets sold. Patrons braved the cold to be entertained by an amazing array of musicians, fire-twirling performances, and street performers and enjoyed a diverse range of food and beverages. There were plenty of activities for the family and children and indoor performances for those unlucky few not to be fireside one of the many outdoor fire pits throughout the space. It was great to see some of our locals dressing for the occasion celebrating their pagan roots.

Of course, many more Council-hosted or supported events occurred throughout the year, including the Christmas Carnival, New Year's Eve Extravaganza, Australia Day Civic Ceremony and Pool Party, Tamar Valley Folk Festival, NAIDOC Week, Youth Rock Festival, Weymouth 77th Anniversary Celebration and others.

Further in the arts space, and also a first for Council, was the Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize, which attracted talented artists from across the municipality. The submissions to the prize were all first class, showcasing a variety of media and styles across a common subject matter, 'local'. Our gallery spaces hosted a number of exhibitions throughout the year including shows like 'The Art of Engineering', 'Stitching and Beyond' and 'Chaos Within'.

Our Bass and Flinders Maritime Museum paid homage to Matthew Flinders, who would have celebrated his 250th birthday in March. The museum team coordinated a simultaneous dual cutting of the cake broadcast live with the local community of Donnington in the UK, Flinders's place of birth. The occasion was celebrated with the chance to sail on the Tall Ship Juile Burgess, Tool Skool for the children, museum tours and a special release gin from local distillery, Zenith. Incidentally, the 3rd of November marked the 25th year since the replica Norfolk Sloop entered the kanamaluka/Tamar River and 225 years since George Bass and Matthew Flinders arrived on our shores.

**George Town Council
2024 11 14 Annual General Meeting
Confirmed Minutes**

Our highly successful Healthy George Town program provides free access to health programs, while our Creative George Town was a free program for children and young people to explore arts and apply their creativity. Pleasingly, the program attracted full subscriptions with over 800 participants.

With so many events and activities, it is fitting that I reflect on the year as one in which so many members of our community showcased, participated, attended, experienced, and enjoyed our spaces, talent, and culture, which we should all be so proud of.

The ensuing report will provide further insight into the 2023/2024 year, while confirming Council's commitment to prudent financial management, responsible asset management, transparency and sound governance.



**Greg Kieser
MAYOR**

5 GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

The 2023/2024 Annual Report presents another year of significant achievement for our organisation and our community. Cash inflows exceeded \$24.7M for the first time, with cash outflows at approximately \$24.5M. The annual operating result delivered an operational surplus of \$156k in line with the 1.0% target set in Council's Financial Management Strategy. Importantly this result represents the sixth consecutive year that surplus has been achieved. This allows for cash reserves to be bolstered, enabling the organisation not only to meet its liabilities and obligations but also to provide opportunities to invest in strategic initiatives for the benefit of the community.

We acknowledge the financial support provided by the Commonwealth and State governments through both recurrent and non-recurrent funding, as we do investments from our industrial partners in community programs and assets. This funding assistance reduces Council's reliance on rates and charges.

The financial year saw investment in a number of areas of strategic and operational importance. Council's asset management frameworks underwent a wholesale review, with the suite of documents updated to be in line with industry best practices. As a result, the addition of an open space asset management plan was added to the framework, the implementation of an asset management information system commenced, and the establishment of an asset improvement committee and dedicated resources have been recommended for the 2024/2025 budget.

Council invested over \$3.2M in capital works for the year completing over 90% of all projects and achieving > 93% renewal for transport infrastructure, 100% for buildings and > 83% for drainage infrastructure. This is a pleasing result with minimal projects being carried into the 2024/2025 program.

Communities of Pipers River, Weymouth, Lulworth, Bellingham, Bellbouy and Beechford were consulted in the development of Township Character Plans for each of the coastal areas. The plans ascertain the expectations of preserving and enhancing the natural environment while facilitating sensible growth in the built environment and the development of recreational spaces. Similarly, the Hillwood Open Space Plan was endorsed by Council, providing future direction for Council and developers on recreational and social spaces for a growing community. The George Town Street Tree Strategy was developed, establishing a planting prioritisation program, preferred species selection and best practice guidelines to achieve urban greening. Pleasingly over 250 advanced trees were planted throughout the year.

Consultation also occurred to inform the development of a Cat Management Policy, Dog Management Policy, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, business engagement, Local Heritage Study and website design. With the introduction of a new customer service request system interfaced with a new website, we are confident engagement with Council will prove to be an efficient and easy experience. Since its launch on the 17th of January, the system recorded over 760 requests with a 100% compliance rate with Council's Customer Charter.

While down on the previous year, our building and planning activity remains strong. Over 120 planning permits were issued along with 104 building permits, totaling almost \$30M in development. Residents will notice new houses being constructed throughout the municipality particularly in Lulworth, Bellbouy Beach, Hillwood and George Town, proving we remain a compelling place to live.

**George Town Council
2024 11 14 Annual General Meeting
Confirmed Minutes**

Continued interest in large industrial developments in Bell Bay paired with our continued advocacy to improve liveability, will no doubt see residential development continue. It is therefore important we continue to represent our current and future communities through groups such as Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone, Northern Tasmania Development Corporation, Northern Tasmania Alliance for Resilient Councils, Circular North and Regional Development Australia Tasmania among others.

As the 2023/2024 report demonstrates, the past year has been huge. It was a year of many successes that could not have been achieved without the committed staff of our organisation. I am immensely proud and privileged to work among such great people.



**Shane Power
General Manager**

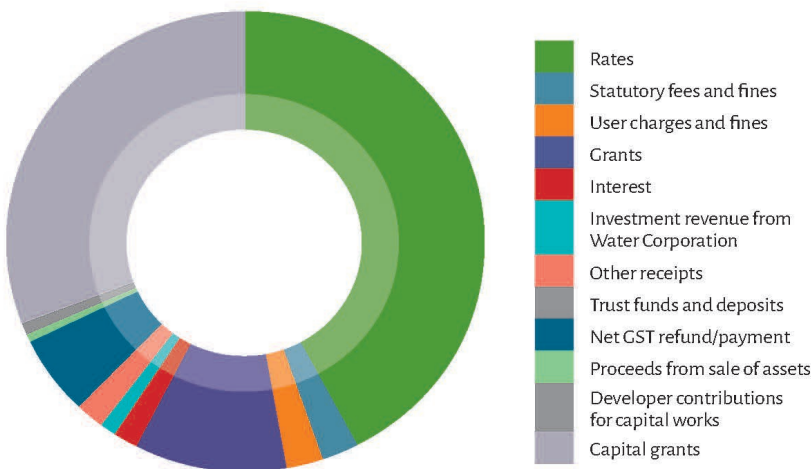
6 FINANCIAL REPORT - DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023/2024

Statement of Cash Flows

Sources of income

Cash Inflows

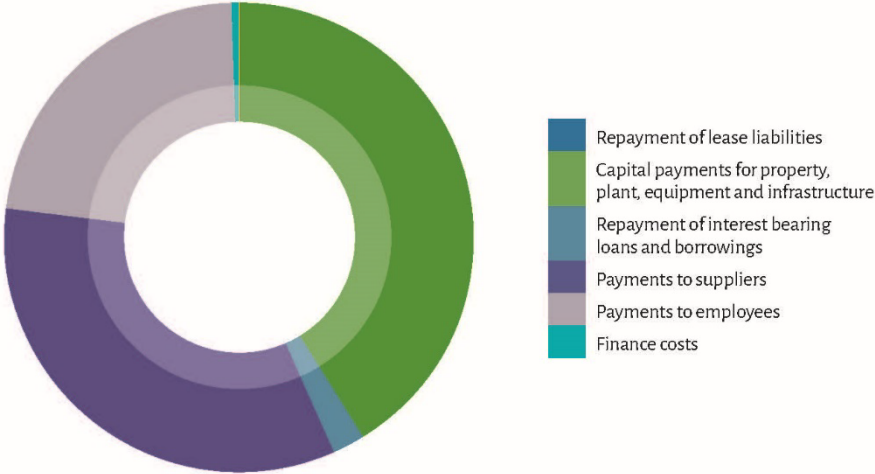


Cash Inflows	2023/2024 %	2023/2024 \$
Rates	42.27	\$10,430,737.00
Statutory fees and fines	2.61	\$644,733.00
User charges and fines	2.53	\$623,988.00
Grants	10.20	\$2,516,759.00
Interest	1.78	\$438,652.00
Investment revenue from Water Corporation	1.10	\$271,200.00
Other receipts	1.80	\$443,953.00
Trust funds and deposits	0.04	\$10,721.00
Net GST refund/payment	5.50	\$1,356,276.00
Proceeds from sale of assets	0.55	\$135,359.00
Developer contributions for capital works	0.91	\$224,805.00
Capital grants	30.72	\$7,581,225.00
Total Cash Inflows	100.00	\$24,678,408.00

George Town Council
2024 11 14 Annual General Meeting
Confirmed Minutes

GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL / ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

Cash Outflows



Cash Outflows	2023/2024 %	2023/2024 \$
Repayment of lease liabilities	0.08	\$19,190.00
Capital Payments for property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	41.05	\$10,073,740.00
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	2.24	\$549,179.00
Payments to suppliers	33.62	\$8,249,480.00
Payments to employees	22.57	\$5,539,262.00
Finance costs	0.44	\$106,833.00
Total Cash Outflows	100.00	\$24,537,684.00

7 SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Mr Graeme Neilsen, George Town

I refer to Capital Works projects ANZAC Drive Refurbishment and associated reported costs.

The project is visually pleasing but at what cost and benefit.

Under Contracts and Tendering it is reported \$1,337,698 for Building Redevelopment and \$240,990 for Carpark Upgrade.

Now that it has been reported that the project has been completed could Council please advise at this AGM the following:

1. Building purchase price and associated costs.
2. Total redevelopment costs including all tenders and non-tender works.
3. Internal Council costs attributed to the project.

Further given that the project would have had specific aims and objectives for the three (3) aspects to the complex can you please advise at this AGM the anticipated percentage return via a leasing arrangement for the commercial aspect of the facility. This would have been provided in the business plan prepared prior to authorising the project. In providing this advice can you also please provide the percentage of the total costs attributed to the commercial sector of the project?

Finally it is assumed the provision of bathroom and bike washing facilities was in direct response to feedback from user focus consultations prior to planning and development of the project. Given that currently these facilities appear to be unavailable for their intended use can Council please advise at this meeting how the facilities will be provided and managed moving forward.

Response:

Through the Chair, the General Manager advised that the expenditure incurred during the 2023/2024 financial year as related to the development of the ANZAC Drive building is as follows:

1. *Building purchase price and associated costs.*

Nil

2. *Total redevelopment costs including all tenders and non-tender works.*

Anzac Drive Building (including Launchpad) \$1,492,994.73

**George Town Council
2024 11 14 Annual General Meeting
Confirmed Minutes**

Carpark \$276,452.00

3. *Internal Council costs attributed to the project.*

Internal costs \$2,639.96 (included in expenditure listed in question 2).

8 QUESTIONS TO THE 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

9 MOTIONS ON THE 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

10 MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.21 pm.



Cr Greg Kieser
MAYOR