



DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

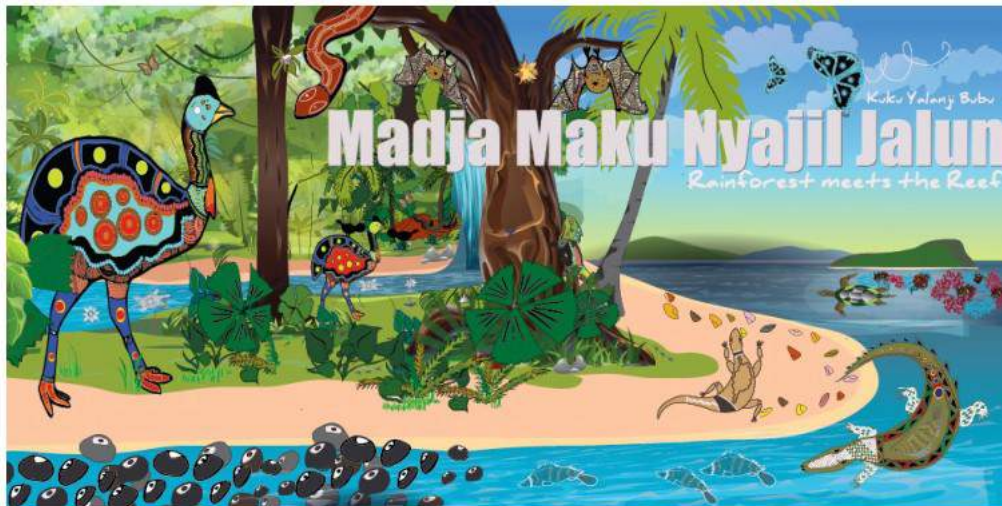
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, 19 June 2018

ENSURING EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE
ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT DECISION-MAKING
ENGAGING, PLANNING, PARTNERING
CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITIES

DOUGLAS
SHIRE COUNCIL



Douglas Shire Council would like to show its appreciation by acknowledging local indigenous artists Lenice Schonenberger, Loretta Pierce (Lenoy) and Ronald Bamboo for providing the cover artwork entitled "**Daintree Ferry**"

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT THE DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 64-66 FRONT STREET, MOSSMAN
ON TUESDAY, 19 JUNE 2018 COMMENCING AT 10.00AM**

1. PRESENT

Cr Julia Leu (Mayor), Cr Abigail Noli (Deputy Mayor), Cr David Carey, Cr Michael Kerr, Cr Roy Zammataro, Darryl Crees (Acting Chief Executive Officer), Joanne Jacobson (Acting General Manager Corporate Services), Michael Kriedemann (Acting General Manager Operations), John Rehn (Manager Finance & IT), Natalie Crimmins (Acting Mayoral and Councillor Support Officer)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Leu acknowledged the Kuku Yalanji people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land and paid respect to their Elders both past and present and extended that respect to other Indigenous Australians present.

APOLOGIES

No apologies.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

Nil.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

3.1. OPERATIONAL PLAN 2018 – 2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Zammataro

“That Council adopts the Operational Plan 2018 - 2019.”

Carried unanimously

3.2. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES 2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Kerr

“(a) Pursuant to section 81 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the categories in to which rateable land is categorised, the description of those categories and, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the method by which land is to be identified and included in its appropriate category is as follows:

CATEGORY 1 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties used, or capable of being used, for residential purposes with a valuation from \$1 to \$250,000.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

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Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural; (excluding those in category 7);
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

CATEGORY 2 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties used, or capable of being used, for residential purposes with a valuation from \$250,001 to \$500,000.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural; (excluding those in category 7);
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

CATEGORY 3 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties used, or capable of being used, for residential purposes with a valuation from \$500,001 to \$1,000,000.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural; (excluding those in category 7);
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

CATEGORY 4 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

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Properties used, or capable of being used, for residential purposes with a valuation from \$1,000,001 to \$1,300,000.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural; (excluding those in category 7);
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

CATEGORY 5 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties used, or capable of being used, for residential purposes with a valuation from \$1,300,001 to \$2,000,000.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural; (excluding those in category 7);
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

CATEGORY 6 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties used, or capable of being used, for residential purposes with a valuation greater than \$2,000,000.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural; (excluding those in category 7);
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in category 7 and those in commercial categories 11 and 12);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

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CATEGORY 7 - RESIDENTIAL

(i) Description

Properties (excluding those in categories 1 to 6) where that land's Planning Area is included in the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme 2006 or the Integrated Resort Development Act 1987 (Mirage Port Douglas Scheme) as Low Density with a total land area over 10 Hectares or Residential 1 with a total land area over 0.5 Hectares or Residential 2 with a total land area over 3.5 Hectares or Residential 3 with a total land area over 0.5 Hectares or Tourist and Residential with a total land area over 0.5 Hectares or Community Facilities with a total land area over 1 Hectare.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 04 Large Homesite - Vacant Urban and Rural (excluding those in commercial categories 11 and 12);*
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in commercial category E); and*

(ii) Description

Properties (excluding those in categories 1 to 6) where that land's Planning Area is included in the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme 2006 or the Integrated Resort Development Act 1987 (Mirage Port Douglas Scheme) as Residential 1 with a total land area over 5 Hectares or Residential 2 with a total land area over 3.5 Hectares or Residential 3 with a total land area over 1.5 Hectares or Tourist and Residential with a total land area over 0.5 Hectares or Community Facilities with a total land area over 1 Hectare.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:-

- 05 Large Homesite – Dwelling - Urban and Rural; and*

(iii) Description

As well as those properties used as Residential Institutions (non-medical care).

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:-

- 21 Residential Institutions (non-medical care);*

CATEGORY 8 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties that are used for residential purposes and the lot is part of a Community Title Scheme.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:-

- 08 Building Units*

CATEGORY 9 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

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Properties that are used for multi residential (flats) purposes.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:-

03 Multi Unit Dwelling (Flats)

CATEGORY 10 - RESIDENTIAL

Description

Properties that comply with section 50 of the Land Valuation Act 2010.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:-

72 Residential land which is subject to section 50 of the Land Valuation Act 2010.

CATEGORY 11 - COMMERCIAL

(i) Description

Properties that are used, or capable of being used, for commercial/industrial purposes in the localities of Cooya, Mossman and other localities to the north of Mossman (excluding those properties in Commercial Categories 13 and 14).

Identification

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 07 Guest House/Private Hotel;
- 08 Building Units;
- 09 Group Titles;
- 10 Combined Multi Dwelling and Shop;
- 11 Shop - Single;
- 12 Shops - Shopping group (more than 6 shops);
- 13 Shopping group (2 to 6 shops);
- 14 Shops - Main Retail;
- 15 Shops - Secondary Retail;
- 16 Drive In Shopping Centres;
- 17 Restaurant;
- 18 Special Tourist Attraction;
- 19 Walkway;
- 20 Marina;
- 22 Car Park;
- 23 Retail Warehouse;
- 24 Sales Area Outdoor;
- 25 Offices;
- 26 Funeral Parlours;
- 27 Hospitals;
 Convalescent Homes (Medical Care) (Private);
- 28 Warehouses and Bulk Stores;
- 29 Transport Terminal;
- 30 Service Station;
- 31 Oil Depots and Refinery;
- 32 Wharves;

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- 33 Builders Yard/Contractors Yard;
- 34 Cold Stores - Iceworks;
- 35 General Industry;
- 36 Light Industry;
- 37 Noxious/Offensive Industry;
- 38 Advertising - Hoarding;
- 39 Harbour Industries;
- 40 Extractive;
- 41 Child Care;
- 42 Hotel/Tavern;
- 43 Motel;
- 44 Nurseries;
- 45 Theatres and Cinemas;
- 46 Drive-In Theatres;
- 47 Licensed Clubs;
- 48 Sports Clubs/Facilities;
- 49 Caravan Parks;
- 50 Other Clubs
Non-Business;
- 51 Religious;
- 52 Cemeteries (including Crematoria);
- 55 Library;
- 56 Showgrounds/Racecourses/Airfields;
- 57 Parks and Gardens;
- 58 Educational - including Kindergartens;
- 91 Transformers;
- 92 Defence Force establishments;
- 95 Reservoir, Dam, Bores;
- 96 Public Hospital;
- 97 Welfare Homes/Institutions;
- 99 Community Protection Centre.

(ii) Description

Also including the following properties where that land is included as Commercial and Industry Planning Areas in the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme 2006.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land;
- 04 Large vacant urban land;
- 06 Outbuildings;
- 09 Group Titles;
- 72 Refer to section 50 of the Land Valuation Act 2010.

CATEGORY 12 - COMMERCIAL

(i) Description

Properties that are used, or capable of being used, for commercial/industrial purposes in the localities of Port Douglas, Craiglie and other localities to the south of Craiglie (excluding those properties in Commercial Categories 13 and 14).

Identification

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

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- 07 *Guest House/Private Hotel;*
- 08 *Building Units;*
- 09 *Group Titles;*
- 10 *Combined Multi Dwelling and Shop;*
- 11 *Shop - Single;*
- 12 *Shops - Shopping group (more than 6 shops);*
- 13 *Shopping group (2 to 6 shops);*
- 14 *Shops - Main Retail;*
- 15 *Shops - Secondary Retail;*
- 16 *Drive In Shopping Centres;*
- 17 *Restaurant;*
- 18 *Special Tourist Attraction;*
- 19 *Walkway;*
- 20 *Marina;*
- 22 *Car Park;*
- 23 *Retail Warehouse;*
- 24 *Sales Area Outdoor;*
- 25 *Offices;*
- 26 *Funeral Parlours;*
- 27 *Hospitals;*
Convalescent Homes (Medical Care) (Private);
- 28 *Warehouses and Bulk Stores;*
- 29 *Transport Terminal;*
- 30 *Service Station;*
- 31 *Oil Depots and Refinery;*
- 32 *Wharves;*
- 33 *Builders Yard/Contractors Yard;*
- 34 *Cold Stores - Iceworks;*
- 35 *General Industry;*
- 36 *Light Industry;*
- 37 *Noxious/Offensive Industry;*
- 38 *Advertising - Hoarding;*
- 39 *Harbour Industries;*
- 40 *Extractive;*
- 41 *Child Care;*
- 42 *Hotel/Tavern;*
- 43 *Motel;*
- 44 *Nurseries;*
- 45 *Theatres and Cinemas;*
- 46 *Drive-In Theatres;*
- 47 *Licensed Clubs;*
- 48 *Sports Clubs/Facilities;*
- 49 *Caravan Parks;*
- 50 *Other Clubs*
Non-Business;
- 51 *Religious;*
- 52 *Cemeteries (including Crematoria);*
- 55 *Library;*
- 56 *Showgrounds/Racecourses/Airfields;*
- 57 *Parks and Gardens;*
- 58 *Educational - including Kindergartens;*
- 91 *Transformers;*
- 92 *Defence Force establishments;*
- 95 *Reservoir, Dam, Bores;*
- 96 *Public Hospital;*
- 97 *Welfare Homes/Institutions;*

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99 Community Protection Centre.

(ii) Description

Also including the following properties where that land is included as Commercial and Industry Planning Areas in Douglas Shire Planning Scheme 2006.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 01 Vacant urban land;
- 04 Large vacant urban land;
- 06 Outbuildings;
- 09 Group Titles;
- 72 Refer to section 50 of the Land Valuation Act 2010.

CATEGORY 13 – COMMERCIAL (Properties used by Not for Profit Recreation, Sporting and Community Groups that are eligible for Rates Based Financial Assistance).

Description

Properties in this category must qualify for rate assistance under Council's Rates Based Financial Assistance Policy.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Properties in this category are recipients of rate assistance under Council's Rates Based Financial Assistance Policy.

CATEGORY 14 - COMMERCIAL (Shopping Centres with a secondary land use of Marina with a total area over 1.5ha.)

Description

All properties which are predominantly used or intended for use as a Shopping Centre and Marina which:

- (a) Have an area in excess of 1.5 ha; and
- (b) Contain a building or group of buildings comprising more than six shops.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:-

- 12 Shops - Shopping group (more than 6 shops).

CATEGORY 15 - RURAL PRODUCTIVE

Description

Properties which are used predominately for Primary Production.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:-

- 60 Sheep Grazing - Dry;
- 61 Sheep Breeding;
- 64 Cattle Grazing - Breeding;
- 65 Cattle Breeding and Fattening;
- 66 Cattle Fattening;
- 67 Goats;

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- 68 Milk - Quota;
- 69 Milk - No Quota;
- 70 Cream;
- 71 Oil Seeds;
- 73 Grains;
- 74 Turf Farms;
- 75 Sugar Cane;
- 76 Tobacco;
- 77 Cotton;
- 78 Rice;
- 79 Orchards;
- 80 Tropical Fruits;
- 81 Pineapples;
- 82 Vineyards;
- 83 Small Crops and Fodder Irrigated;
- 84 Small Crops Fodder Non-irrigated;
- 85 Pigs;
- 86 Horses;
- 87 Poultry;
- 88 Forestry and Logs;
- 89 Animals Special;
- 93 Peanuts.

CATEGORY 16 - ALL OTHER LAND

Description

All land which is not otherwise categorized.

Identification (as determined by the CEO)

(b) Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, to identify the rating category to which each parcel of rateable land belongs.

(c) Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 80 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the differential general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category and, pursuant to section 77 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the minimum general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category, is as follows:

Table 1:

Category	Rate in the Dollar		Minimum Differential General Rate	
1 - Residential	.722241	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,005
2 - Residential	.702707	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$2,027
3 - Residential	.647642	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$3,920
4 - Residential	.624260	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$7,158
5 - Residential	.536818	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$8,414
6 - Residential	.382768	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$11,046
7 - Residential	.798921	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,005

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8 - Residential	1.363153	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,005
9 - Residential	.974736	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,507
10 - Residential	.798306	cents in the dollar	Minimum	Nil
11 - Commercial	1.046857	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,035
12 - Commercial	.857750	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,035
13 - Commercial	.768341	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,005
14 - Commercial	4.175489	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$292,393
15 - Rural Productive	1.139116	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,035
16 - All Other Land	.768341	cents in the dollar	Minimum	\$1,005

(d) Pursuant to section 116 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the amount of the differential general rate to be levied for the 2018/19 financial year on the categories of land identified in Column 1 of the table below, be limited to an amount no more than an amount equal to the amount of general rate levied on that land in the previous financial year increased by the percentage identified in Column 2 of the table below.”

Table 2:

Column 1 Category	Column 2 Percentage Increase (i.e. “the cap”)
Category 15 – Rural Productive	Twenty Percent (20%)

Carried unanimously

3.3. MOWBRAY VALLEY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - SPECIAL CHARGE
2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Noli

“Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$40.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to annually fund the Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade.

1. The overall plan for the Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:
 - a. The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the annual funding of the Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade.
 - b. The rateable land to which the plan applies is delineated in orange on the map named Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade.
 - c. The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$5,601.

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- d. *The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is one (1) year ending on 30 June 2019.*
2. *The rateable land (or its occupier) within the area delineated in orange on the map named Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because each such parcel is within the area for which the brigade is in charge of fire fighting and fire prevention under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990.*
3. *The special charge for the 2018/19 financial year is to be levied by two half year levies.*
4. *The entire budgeted revenue shall be remitted to the Mowbray Valley Rural Fire Brigade to be expended in accordance with their budget."*

Carried unanimously

3.4. **DAINTREE RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - SPECIAL CHARGE 2018/2019**
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Kerr

"Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Daintree Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$15.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to annually fund the Daintree Rural Fire Brigade

1. *The overall plan for the Daintree Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:*
 - a. *The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the annual funding of the Daintree Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - b. *The rateable land to which the plan applies is delineated in orange on the map named Daintree Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - c. *The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$1,461.*
 - d. *The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is one (1) year ending on 30 June 2019.*
2. *All rateable land (or its occupier) within the area delineated in orange on the map named Daintree Rural Fire Brigade specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because each such parcel is within the area for which the brigade is in charge of fire fighting and fire prevention under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990.*
3. *The special charge for the 2018/19 financial year is to be levied by two half year levies.*
4. *The entire budgeted revenue shall be remitted to the Daintree Rural Fire Brigade to be expended in accordance with their budget."*

Carried unanimously

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3.5. THORNTON PEAK RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - SPECIAL CHARGE
2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Zammataro

Seconded Cr Carey

“Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$8.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to annually fund the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade

1. *The overall plan for the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:*
 - a. *The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the annual funding of the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - b. *The rateable land to which the plan applies is delineated in orange on the map named Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - c. *The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$2,628.*
 - d. *The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is one (1) year ending on 30 June 2019.*
2. *All rateable land (or its occupier) within the area delineated in orange on the map named Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because each such parcel is within the area for which the brigade is in charge of fire fighting and fire prevention under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990.*
3. *The special charge for the 2018/19 financial year is to be levied by two half year levies.*
4. *The entire budgeted revenue shall be remitted to the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade to be expended in accordance with their budget.”*

Carried unanimously

3.6. WONGA RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - SPECIAL CHARGE 2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Kerr

“Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Wonga Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$35.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to annually fund the Wonga Rural Fire Brigade.

1. *The overall plan for the Wonga Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:*
 - a. *The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the annual funding of the Wonga Rural Fire Brigade.*

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- b. The rateable land to which the plan applies is delineated in orange on the map named Wonga Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - c. The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$25,330.*
 - d. The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is one (1) year ending on 30 June 2019.*
- 2. All rateable land (or its occupier) within the area delineated in orange on the map named Wonga Rural Fire Brigade specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because each such parcel is within the area for which the brigade is in charge of fire fighting and fire prevention under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990.*
 - 3. The special charge for the 2018/19 financial year is to be levied by two half year levies.*
 - 4. The entire budgeted revenue shall be remitted to the Wonga Rural Fire Brigade to be expended in accordance with their budget.”*

Carried unanimously

**3.7. BLOOMFIELD RIVER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - SPECIAL CHARGE
2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Carey

“Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$25.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to annually fund the Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade.

- 1. The overall plan for the Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:*
 - a. The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the annual funding of the Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - b. The rateable land to which the plan applies is delineated in orange on the map named Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade.*
 - c. The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$3,885.*
 - d. The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is one (1) year ending on 30 June 2019.*
- 2. All rateable land (or its occupier) within the area delineated in orange on the map named Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because each such parcel is within the area for which the brigade is in charge of fire fighting and fire prevention under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990.*

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3. *The special charge for the 2018/19 financial year is to be levied by two half year levies.*
4. *The entire budgeted revenue shall be remitted to the Bloomfield River Rural Fire Brigade to be expended in accordance with their budget."*

Carried unanimously

3.8. REFUSE - SPECIAL CHARGE 2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Zammataro

"Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Special Refuse Charge) of \$182.84, on the rateable land identified in this resolution for the purpose of contributing to the costs of operation and maintenance of the Cow Bay, Daintree, Killaloe and Ayton Transfer Stations, as follows:

1. *The overall plan for the special charge is as follows:*

- a) *The Service, Facility or Activity for which the plan is made:*

The special refuse charge is to be applied to a number of rateable parcels of land, with improvements, which are located outside Council's kerbside waste and recyclables collection service area or are inaccessible for the provision of the collection service.

Levied properties will be eligible to dispose of 1 x 240L wheelie bin of general waste, or equivalent, per unit levied per week at Council's Transfer Stations.

Properties holding Permits to Occupy on the South Arm and the Heads of Daintree River are excluded from this special refuse charge.

The occupiers of the subject land will have special access to the following Transfer Stations for free disposal of waste:

- i. *Cow Bay Transfer Station*
- ii. *Daintree Transfer Station*
- iii. *Killaloe Transfer Station*
- iv. *Ayton Transfer Station*

- b) *The rateable land to which the plan applies is:*

- i. *All land with improvements that does not receive the Council kerbside waste and/or recyclables collection service, where the occupier has been provided with an identification card to use the Daintree and Killaloe Transfer Stations free of charge.*
- ii. *All land with improvements north of the Daintree River that does not receive the Council kerbside waste and/or recyclables collection service, where the occupier has been provided with an identification card to use the Cow Bay and Ayton Transfer Stations free of charge.*

- c) *Estimated Cost of carrying out the Overall Plan is:*

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The estimated cost to Council of operating the Transfer Stations over the 2018/19 financial year is \$284,796 and the estimated revenue from gate fees for the same period is \$12,061, resulting in an anticipated net operating loss of \$272,735. The special refuse charge is to be levied to contribute to the cost of operation and maintenance of the Transfer Stations and will raise approximately \$108,608, which equates to approximately 38% of the yearly operating cost.

d) *Estimated Time for carrying out the Overall Plan is 1 year ending on 30 June 2019.*

2. *For the 2018/19 financial year a special charge of \$182.84 per unit will be levied against each rateable assessment defined in clause 1(b), based on the improvements on the property as defined in the schedule below:"*

Type of Improvement		Unit
1.	Hotels	10
2.	Cafes/Restaurants	5
3.	Take Away Food Outlets	2
4.	General store/shop	2
5.	School/kindergarten/childcare facility	1
6.	Residential dwelling, including Caretaker residence	1
7.	Caravan Park/camping Ground	
	i. for every 5 sites or part thereof	1
8.	Motel/Resort Accommodation	
	i. for each unit with facilities to enable the preparation and/or cooking of food. (Examples of these facilities, which are not necessarily exhaustive, would be a combination of two or more of a sink, hotplates, microwave oven, oven etc.)	1
	ii. without facilities to enable the preparation and/or cooking of food - for every three units or part thereof	1
9.	Holiday Cabins for every three cabins or part thereof	1
10.	Industrial/Commercial Premises (includes professional offices and industrial/commercial premises not otherwise specified in this schedule) each shop office	1

Carried unanimously

3.9. UTILITY CHARGES AND ASSOCIATED RATING MATTERS 2018/2019
Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

A. CLEANSING UTILITY CHARGES (WASTE MANAGEMENT)

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Carey

"Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy cleansing utility charges, for the supply of waste management services by the Council, as follows:

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(a) DOMESTIC

- (i) *A Domestic Cleansing Charge, for the purpose of removal and disposal of refuse for the 2018/19 financial year be set at an amount of \$457.98 per service and applied in accordance with the following schedule:-*

Table 1:

Type of Improvement	No. of Services
<i>Residence</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Flats (each domicile)</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Strata Title Units</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Boarding House/Guest House/Hostel for each four (4) persons able to be accommodated or part thereof</i>	<i>1</i>

- (ii) *A minimum charge of one service to apply on all improved properties for refuse removal and disposal and that a minimum of one annual charge of one service be made and levied on each separate occupancy (whether occupied or vacant) within the Council solid waste area of coverage and that such charge shall apply whether or not a service is rendered, save and except that where land is for the first time built on during the year the charge shall be made from the date the structure is ready for occupancy, calculated proportionately for the unexpired part of the year.*
- (iii) *Ratepayers may apply for an additional cleansing service and each additional service approved will attract the standard domestic cleansing charge.*
- (iii) *Ratepayers may apply for an additional recycling only cleansing service and each additional recycling only service approved will attract half of the standard domestic cleansing charge. Each additional recycling only cleansing service will entitle the property to an additional recycling bin for fortnightly servicing, or equivalent.*
- (iv) *That for the purpose of calculating utility charges, the term "Strata Title Unit" is deemed to be each lot created pursuant to the provisions of the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997.*

(b) COMMERCIAL

This includes all land that has driveway access to the roadway on which the collection vehicle travels in the course of carrying out refuse/recycling collection on behalf of Council. The basis of assessing such charges whether such land is rateable or not shall be as follows:-

- (i) *In the area where the services are provided by Council's day labour force/contractor and whether or not a recycling service has been introduced, a charge of \$457.98 per annum for a weekly refuse removal service for each separate occupancy is to apply.*
- (ii) *In the area where the services are provided by Council's day labour force/contractor and whether or not a recycling service has been introduced, a charge of \$457.98 per unit for a weekly refuse removal service. Application of the charge is to be in accordance with the schedule below:*

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- (iii) *Commercial properties may apply for an additional recycling only cleansing service and each additional recycling only service approved will attract half of the standard commercial cleansing charge. Each additional recycling only cleansing service will entitle the property to an additional recycling bin for fortnightly servicing, or equivalent.*

Table 2:

Type of Improvement		Minimum Number Of Cleansing Service Units
1.	<i>Caretakers/Managers Accommodation Each</i>	1
2.	<i>Schools (Pre-Schools)</i>	
	<i>- Mossman State High School</i>	30
	<i>- Mossman State Primary School</i>	15
	<i>- Mossman State Pre-School</i>	5
	<i>- Daintree State School</i>	1
	<i>- Miallo State School</i>	1
	<i>- Port Douglas State School</i>	4
	<i>- St Augustine's School</i>	6
	<i>- Wonga State School</i>	6
3.	<i>Industrial/Commercial Premises (includes professional offices and industrial/commercial premises not otherwise specified in this schedule) each shop office</i>	1
4.	<i>Hotels</i>	10
5.	<i>Cafes/Restaurants</i>	2
6.	<i>Take Away Food Outlets</i>	2
7.	<i>Caterer's Premises</i>	3
8.	<i>Grocery/Convenience Store/Supermarkets</i>	
	<i>8.1 SUPERMARKETS Supermarkets</i>	4
	<i>8.2 GENERAL STORES Welcomemart Front Street Foodstore Johnston Road Store Four Mile Beach Mini Market Foodtown Food Store</i>	2
	<i>8.3 CONVENIENCE STORES Port Douglas General Store Newell Store Marano's Daintree</i>	1
9.	<i>Halls</i>	1
10.	<i>Churches (including Church Hall)</i>	1
11.	<i>Mossman Hospital</i>	36
12.	<i>Day Care Centre</i>	3
13.	<i>Kindergartens</i>	1

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<i>Type of Improvement</i>		<i>Minimum Number Of Cleansing Service Units</i>
14.	<i>Sporting Clubs</i>	3
15.	<i>Motel/Resort Accommodation</i>	
	<i>i) with facilities to enable the preparation and/or cooking of food. (Examples of these facilities, which are not necessarily exhaustive, would be a combination of two or more of a sink, hotplates, microwave oven, oven etc.)</i>	1
	<i>ii) Without facilities to enable the preparation and/or cooking of food - for every three units or part thereof</i>	1
16.	<i>Holiday Cabins For every three cabins or part thereof</i>	1
17.	<i>Marinas</i>	
	<i>i) up to fifty berths for every two berths</i>	1
	<i>ii) for every additional five berths in excess of fifty berths</i>	1
18.	<i>Fire Stations, Ambulance Centres, Police Stations, Court Houses</i>	
	<i>i) Station or Centre</i>	1
	<i>ii) Each Officer's residence (where jointly rated with i) above)</i>	1
19.	<i>Post Offices</i>	1
20.	<i>Wrecking Yards</i>	2
21.	<i>Mossman Central Mill</i>	10

(c) **ALL CATEGORIES**

- (i) *That for the purpose of calculating utility charges, the term "Strata Title Unit" is deemed to be each lot created pursuant to the provisions of the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997.*
- (ii) *Any property which has more than one prescribed occupation may receive a combination of charges to reflect the varying uses."*

Carried unanimously

B. SEWERAGE UTILITY CHARGES

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Zammataro

"Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy sewerage utility charges, for the supply of sewerage services by the Council, as follows:

Sewerage charges shall be made for the cost of supplying a service for the removal of sewage for the 2018/19 financial year in accordance with the following:-

- (a) **RESIDENTIAL** and "ALL OTHER LAND" (excluding Commercial and Rural Productive)

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- (i) *A standard charge of \$888.50 to be applied for each residence, each flat and each strata title unit.*
- (ii) *A charge of \$707.40 to be applied to each vacant allotment.*
- (iii) *A standard commercial charge per Water Closet (W.C.) will apply to properties where strata title units have pedestals/urinals servicing common property.*

(b) COMMERCIAL

A standard charge of \$760.16 per W.C. to be applied in accordance with the following:-

- (i) *In respect of sewerated premises designed or used as boarding houses, hostels, guest houses, hotels or motels or designed or used for commercial, manufacturing, repairing, servicing, building and like industries, erected on one allotment of land, a separate charge for each W.C.*
- (ii) *In respect of sewerated premises designed or used as boarding houses, hostels, guest houses, hotels or motels or designed or used for commercial, manufacturing, repairing, servicing, building and like industries, erected over two or more allotments of land, a separate charge for each W.C.*
- (iii) *In respect of sewerated premises designed or used as boarding houses, hostels, guest houses, hotels or motels or designed or used for commercial, manufacturing, repairing, servicing, building and like industries, which are not connected to a sewer main, but in respect of which the Council is prepared to accept sewage, a charge shall be made in accordance with the applicable basis set out in subclause (i & ii) hereof.*
- (iv) *In respect of any structure, building or improvement on land exempt from rating under section 93 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 73 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 excluding however, places of worship, a charge in accordance with the applicable basis set out in sub-clause (i) to (iii) hereof shall be levied on the person or body, or Commonwealth or State Department at whose request the structure, building or improvement was provided with sewerage.*
- (v) *In respect of places of public worship and nursing homes listed under section 73 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 a charge of 50% of the standard charge for each W.C., with the total charge being rounded up to the next full charge.*
- (vi) *In respect of caravan parks connected to sewer mains, a charge of 25% of the standard charge for each caravan, each tent site and each cabin without facilities, and 50% of the standard charge for each fully self-contained cabin (FSC) shall apply with the total charge being rounded up to the next full charge.*
- (vii) *In respect of vacant land where Council is prepared to accept sewage, a standard charge equivalent to one W.C. per allotment shall apply.*
- (viii) *Each residence, each flat, each strata title unit that has for the purposes of differential rating been categorised as co-existing with a commercial category a standard charge equivalent to one W.C. per improvement shall apply.*
- (ix) *The rating on the basis set out above to be charged from the date on which sewer connections are completed to the premises concerned. In the case of*

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vacant land, or in the case where an owner or occupier refuses or delays permission to enter his land to complete connections, the rating be charged from the date on which connections would have been made if there was a building or improvement on the land or if the owner or occupier had not refused or delayed permission. In all those cases where the sewer connection is completed or would have been completed (as the case may be) after 1 July 2018 the rate shall be apportioned.

- (x) *Each 1.8m of urinal or part thereof shall be deemed to be a W.C.*
- (xi) *Each three individual wall hung urinals or part thereof shall be deemed to be a W.C.*
- (xii) *Each pedestal shall be deemed to be a W.C.*

(c) **RURAL PRODUCTIVE**

A standard charge of \$888.50 to be applied in accordance with the following:-

- (i) *In respect of all sewered premises designed or used for rural productive purposes, a standard charge per W.C. shall apply.*
- (ii) *In addition, where a residential improvement co-exists, the standard sewerage charge shall apply for each barrack, each residence, each flat, and each strata title unit and vacant allotment where Council is prepared to accept sewage.*

(d) **ALL CATEGORIES**

In respect of sewerage for all properties the following shall apply:-

- (i) *Subject to sub-clause (ii), properties and/or improvements capable of being connected to the scheme will be charged in accordance with the charges set out above.*
- (ii) *Council reserves the right to exempt certain properties from sewerage charges if such properties as defined by Council are not, in Council's opinion, capable of being connected within the foreseeable future.*
- (iii) *That for the purpose of calculating utility charges, the term "Strata Title Unit" is deemed to be each lot created pursuant to the provisions of the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997.*
- (iv) *Any property which has more than one prescribed occupation may receive a combination of charges to reflect the varying uses."*

Carried unanimously

C. WATER UTILITY CHARGES

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Noli

"1. Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy water utility charges, for the supply of water services by the Council, as follows:

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Water Charges shall be made for the purpose of supplying water for the 2018/19 financial year on the following basis:-

(a) RESIDENTIAL and "ALL OTHER LAND" (excluding Commercial and Rural Productive)

- (i) An access charge of \$327.15 shall be applied for each barrack, each residence, each flat, each strata title unit and each vacant allotment.*
- (ii) In respect of all properties and/or premises at which a water meter is installed on the water service connection to such property and/or premises, water usage shall be charged at the rate of \$1.45 per kilolitre for all water passing through the water meter within the water year.*

(b) COMMERCIAL

- (i) An Access Charge of \$327.15 shall be applied in accordance with the following:-*
 - For each vacant allotment, each shop, each office, each school, each hotel, each motel, each club, each hospital and each other commercial/industrial improvement not otherwise specified.*
 - In respect of hotels and motels, one additional access charge shall apply for every three rooms or part thereof, provided for accommodation.*
 - In respect of caravan parks, one additional access charge shall apply for every three accommodation units and every six tent/van sites or part thereof.*
 - For each residence, each flat, each strata title unit co-existing with commercial/industrial improvements.*
- (ii) Where water is supplied through a water meter, which is not a trial water meter, all water consumed will be charged at the rate of \$1.56 per kilolitre for all water passing through the meter within the water year.*

(c) RURAL PRODUCTIVE

- (i) An access charge of \$327.15 to be applied in accordance with the following:-*
 - For each barrack, each residence, each flat, each strata title unit.*
 - For each vacant allotment with a water meter connected.*
 - For each rural productive improvement with a water meter connected.*
- (ii) In respect of all properties and/or premises at which a water meter is installed on the water service connection to such property and/or premises, water usage shall be charged at the rate of \$1.45 per kilolitre for all water passing through the water meter within the water year.*

(d) ALL CATEGORIES

In respect of all properties, the following shall apply:

- (i) In respect of newly subdivided vacant land, water charges shall be levied proportionately for the unexpired part of the year from the date the plan of*

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subdivision is registered at the Titles Office or from the date of connection of water to the subject land, whichever date shall be the earlier.

- (ii) In respect of improvements erected during the year, water charges shall be levied proportionately for the unexpired part of the year from the date the improvement is ready for occupation, or from the date of connection of water to the subject land, whichever date shall be the earlier.*
- (iii) Where residential type improvements share a meter with commercial improvements and the Department of Natural Resources and Mines land use code for that assessment is commercial, water usage charges will be levied at the commercial rate.*
- (iv) Where improvements are of a joint nature, water usage charges will be calculated using the water usage rate applicable to the category on which general rates are levied or would be levied if the property were rateable.*
- (v) Not for Profit Recreation, Sporting and Community Groups that are recipients of Rates Based Financial Assistance will be charged for all water usage at \$1.45 per kilolitre.*
- (vi) Meters shall be read on a rotational basis three times each year.*
- (vii) For the purpose of charging water usage charges for water meters read after 1 July 2018 the charge made shall be at the rate specified for the 2018/19 financial year.*
- (viii) That for the purpose of calculating utility charges, the term "Strata Title Unit" is deemed to be each lot created pursuant to the provisions of the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997.*
- (ix) Any property which has more than one prescribed occupation may receive a combination of charges to reflect the varying uses.*

2. Pursuant to section 102(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, a water meter is taken to have been read during the period that starts 2 weeks before, and ends 2 weeks after, the day on which the meter is actually read."

Carried unanimously

D. INTEREST

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Zammataro

"Pursuant to section 133 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, compound interest on daily rests at the rate of eleven percent (11%) per annum is to be charged on all overdue rates or charges."

Carried unanimously

E. LEVY AND PAYMENT

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Carey

- (a) "Pursuant to section 107 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and section 114 of the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990, Council's rates and charges (with the*

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exception of Water Utility Charges), and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy be levied:

- *for the half year 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018 - in July/August 2018; and*
- *for the half year 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019 - in January/February 2019.*

- (b) *That Water Utility Charges (Access and Water Usage Charges) imposed for the 2018/19 financial year will be issued three times a year.*
- (c) *Pursuant to section 118 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council's rates and charges, and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy, be paid within 35 days of the date of the issue of the rate notice."*

Carried unanimously

F. RATES CONCESSIONS

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Kerr

"Pursuant to sections 120, 121 and 122 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, a rebate of 40% on the differential general rate to a maximum of \$1,350.00 per annum be granted to all ratepayers who are pensioners and who are eligible for the State Government pensioner remission."

Carried unanimously

3.10. STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FINANCIAL POSITION

John Rehn, Manager Finance and IT

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Carey

1. *"Pursuant to section 205 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the statement of the financial operations and financial position of the Council in respect of the 2017/18 financial year ("the Statement of Estimated Financial Position") be received and its contents noted.*
2. *The Financial Report for the period ended 31 May 2018 be noted."*

Carried unanimously

3.11. ANNUAL BUDGET 2018 – 2019

Darryl Crees, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Carey

"Pursuant to section 107A of the Local Government Act 2009 and sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council's Budget for the 2018/19 financial year, incorporating:

- I. *The statements of financial position;*
- II. *The statements of cash flow;*
- III. *The statements of income and expenditure;*
- IV. *The statements of changes in equity;*
- V. *The long-term financial forecast;*
- VI. *The revenue statement;*

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- VII. *The revenue policy (adopted by Council resolution on 15 May 2018);*
- VIII. *The relevant measures of financial sustainability; and*
- IX. *The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget,*

as tabled, be adopted.”

Carried unanimously

Mayoral Budget Address

I am delighted to present the Douglas Shire Council Budget – my sixth as Mayor of Douglas.

Douglas continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and invest – friendly and safe and celebrated for its unique environment, diversity and laid back lifestyle.

In June 2014, I outlined a 5 year plan to achieve financial sustainability in the 2019/20 financial year, after recording a \$5.2 million deficit due to accounting for de-amalgamation costs.

Financial sustainability is this Council's top priority so future generations can enjoy the benefits of a strong and capable Douglas Shire and I'm very proud to say we are well on the way to a budget surplus next year.

This budget sets the scene for the final stretch of five-year journey to financial sustainability, and puts Council in a position we have fiercely strived for since 2014.

The last 4 ½ years have been a remarkable journey and I can confidently say the new Douglas Council has been an outstanding success. In the past three years we have delivered three record capital works programs worth almost \$50 million and shaken off loan borrowings to achieve a debt-free status.

This year, we have worked through several challenges, such as unexpected changes by the Queensland Valuer-General to rural land valuations. Council has worked hard to minimise the impact of shire-wide land revaluations, including changes to the rural production category.

Despite these land valuations, Council has been able to keep 75% of properties general rate increases at 3.9% or lower. For a residential 1 category that receives the minimum general rate and utilities charges, this equates to \$2.22 per week.

This will allow Council to continue its investment in essential infrastructure and provide an impressive suite of fresh projects that heads a strong \$16.49 million capital works program, the second highest on record.

Major capital works investments over the next 12 months features major infrastructure such as the \$3m Noah Creek Bridge renewal, \$1.3m Craiglie Reservoir roof replacement, \$460,000 to repair the Sugar Wharf, and \$250,000 to refurbishment the Flagstaff Hill Communications Tower.

A significant \$3.8m investment has also been earmarked to improve water security with \$1.17m towards water reticulation works and upgrades to the water treatment plants for Mossman (\$974,000), Whyanbeel (\$140,000) and Daintree (\$92,000). This will be a great 12

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months for Douglas Shire to move forward in water security, especially with the new Port Douglas Water Supply Reservoir Project ready in a few months.

Council will complete repairs to Flagstaff Hill Walking Trail (\$200,000), design a drainage rectification program for Ribbon Avenue (\$120,000) and replace the decking on a pedestrian bridge at Hutchinson's Creek (\$115,000).

Ratepayers can also even expect more projects with \$970,000 secured for Round 2 of Works For Queensland project.

Council is also spending \$2.68m on the Diggers Bridge Replacement Project, a complete culvert renewal on Upper Daintree Road (\$270,000) and \$250,000 on the gravel re-sheet program.

Council has also invested in infrastructure that provides recreational opportunities, and encourages us all to be healthy and active. The investment is part of a handful of projects in community spaces that will boost Douglas Shire's lifestyle and recreational appeal.

I am pleased to announce a \$145,000 off-leash trial for the northern area of Hutchins Park, so dog owners will have a new place to let their pooches run free in Port Douglas.

This is something dog owners have been asking for, and will provide a fantastic opportunity for people and their pets to socialize with the wider community. I can see this park becoming a real social hub for pet lovers. The project will include welded mesh fencing, water fountains, activity areas and a ball play area. Natural rummaging environments such as rock scramble, seating, bins for dog droppings and signage will be installed.

Council has also committed \$40,000 towards a funding submission for Stage One of the Principal Cycle Network from Mossman to Cooya Beach.

Other projects include playground upgrades (\$250,000) and a new toilet block at Lou Prince Park in Cooya Beach (\$100,000).

We have also committed \$150,000 to extend the Mossman Skate Park and build a pump track.

Last year, schoolboy Colby Taylor lodged a petition with about 80 signatures requesting an extension to the Mossman skate bowl to cater for increased users at the popular park. The upgrades will make the Skate Park more attractive and fun for our Douglas Shire youth, and will no doubt complement existing facilities. It comes after Council built a \$131,000 Pump track at the Port Douglas Sports Complex in September last year.

Council's vision to create a popular kid's waterpark in Port Douglas will be investigated after funding has been allocated in this budget. I am therefore pleased to announce that Council has committed \$30,000 to complete a design of a zero-depth water park or nature play activities space in Port Douglas.

This project will be a huge lifestyle boost and a tourist attraction. We envisage an activity precinct to rival Muddies Playground in Cairns. It is important that we make this stack up, find an appropriate location and get a feel for what the community wants. This project could give people another reason to not only visit our shire, but move and raise a family here.

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It comes as Council commits to Stage 2 of the Port Douglas Waterfront South Precinct Plan, which will be released for community engagement and progressed to shovel-ready status in the next 12 months.

Council will investigate the feasibility of a solar farm at the Killaloe Landfill site. This was one of many initiatives designed to boost the region's environmental performance. Council will adopt measures that reduce consumption; more effectively manage waste and achieve reductions in energy and fuel consumption.

Other environmental initiatives include a waste and recycling education program at schools; develop a project plan for achieving Regional Eco Destination Certification and continue our Plastic Free Douglas initiative and Coconut Action Plan.

We have previously committed to six key actions to reduce impacts on Southern Cassowary populations in the Daintree Rainforest. Council will undertake a pre-feasibility study for a Cassowary Research, Rehabilitation and Breeding Centre. Council is firmly dedicated to protecting our cassowaries and we have committed to seeing if this facility would be viable. The Far North has two cassowary facilities and I think it is time we at least look at the feasibility of building one in the Daintree Rainforest.

The 2018-19 Operational Plan details the priority projects for Council over the next 12 months, with an emphasis on building on the success of major economic, environmental and community initiatives.

Among these initiatives, is the development of a new Corporate plan 2020-2024, continuation of the economic development taskforces as recommended in the Economic Development Strategy as well as the continuation of our advocacy to establish a domestic and family violence refuge in the Douglas Shire.

More than \$977,000 will be distributed to local organisations, businesses and individuals, including more than \$481,000 for Tourism Port Douglas & Daintree (TPDD). Council's grants program includes the Community Support Program, the Business Development Program, the Events Funding Program and the Regional Arts Development Fund. Council continue to supports Port Douglas Carnivale, Ironman, Great Barrier Reef Marathon, NAIDOC Week, Mossman Show, Port Shorts Festival and Taste Port Douglas, New Years Eve, Christmas in the Park.

What I have outlined above is only a snapshot of our capital works and operational initiatives. Full details are on Council's website.

In conclusion, I believe today is again a celebration of the combined effort of Councillors and staff over the last 4 ½ years. This budget further delivers with a significant number of new economic, community and environmental initiatives that are precisely designed to stimulate our economy, protect our unique environment and lifestyle that we all treasure.

The success of our council is due to an excellent partnership between Councillors, and our staff, and I would like to thank and express my sincere appreciation to Darryl Crees, John Rehn, Michael Kriedemann, Joanne Jacobson, the finance team and all staff who have worked incredibly diligently to get the best outcomes for the Douglas Shire.

Finally, I want to thank my fellow Councillors for your significant contributions towards this budget.

Councillors, it is my pleasure to present the 2018/19 Douglas Shire Council Budget to you for adoption.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, 19 JUNE 2018 COMMENCING AT 10.00AM

4. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 10.26am

CONFIRMED THIS 24TH DAY OF JULY 2018


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MAYOR/CHAIR