

1.0	Opening of meeting
	The meeting was opened by Chair, Mayor Liz Schmidt, at 1.00pm
2.0	Attendance & Apologies
	<p>Attendance:</p> <p>Council: Mayor Liz Schmidt Cr Kim Farmer Cr Steven Plant Martin Drydale, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Glenn Petersen, Executive Manager Infrastructure Services Mic Langburne, Acting Manager Operations Kathleen Morris, Acting Executive Services Manager (Minute Taker)</p> <p>Representatives: Blair Knuth Jenny Black (MS Teams) John Brownson Kylie Stretton Neil Angus Patrick Scharf</p> <p>Fire Management Group Daryl Robinson, Bushfire Mitigation Officer (MS Teams) Christopher Wegger, Bushfire Management Officer (MS Teams)</p> <p>Apologies: Nick Hall, Manager Operations Andrew & Toni Bourke Liz Miller Kate Andison Carl Martel Judith Costello</p>
3.0	Confirmation of minutes
	Carried: Kylie Stretton & Patrick Scharf
4.0	Declarations of interest
	Nil
5.0	Actions
	As per attached table
6.0	Matters of discussion
6.1	<p>Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) Andrew Cripps, State Recovery Coordinator, update on recent visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site visit to Charters Towers and surrounds, including to the Weir - Ewan and Laroona Road damage discussion - Hidden Valley and Paluma - Mt Fox range <p>Robbie Katter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently attending site visits to Hidden Valley / Mt Fox <p>Road Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weather and access permitting, Inspectors on site identifying damage

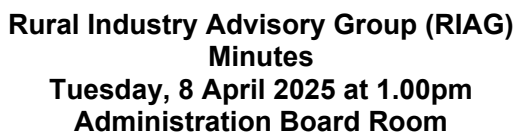
	<p>Working in Road reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Property owners advised not to undertake work on road reserves without a permit - This is due to QRA guidelines, required insurances and authorisations <p>Rates discount period extension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request for extension of discount period would require resolution of Council - Hardship policy option available: Able to apply based on incapacity to pay, requiring evidence, if approved, payment plan and no interest applied. - Link: Rates & Charges Hardship Policy - Online form: Application for Rates Relief on the Grounds of Hardship - Website: Rates & Charges Hardship Policy – Charters Towers Regional Council <p>Resupply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Messaging to RIAG on resupply requests and wider community - Once an activation has occurred - Reminded to call or contact Council any questions or would like to request supply - Online form: https://fs30.formsite.com/ctrc/medpajt8hd/index <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting further follow up through Andrew Cripps and QRA to legitimise works completed by property owners in Road Reserves (Mayor Schmidt). - Council to investigate access issue on Braceborough Road (GP). - Council to request information through TMR on the rock wall above the Lolworth and Fletcher (GP). - Send out hardship details to group / send media and comms to community (KM).
6.2	<p>2025 Declared Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grants and funding opportunities (Business relief / Recovery / Exceptional / Fencing) - QRIDA Disaster Assistance Loans: https://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/program/disaster-assistance-loans https://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/program/disaster-assistance-essential-working-capital-loan - Small Business Survey - Contacts: Rural Financial Counselling Services >> https://www.rfcsnq.com.au/ Transport and Motoring Assistance >> https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/disasters/money-finance/types-grants/transport-and-motoring-assistance <p>Further help</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Department of Communities can direct people on what they're able to apply for - QRIDA hotline & Rural Financial Counselling Service are helpful
6.3	<p>Charters Towers Area Fire Management Group</p> <p>Contact Daryl Robinson, Bushfire Mitigation Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobile: 0428 730 822 - Email: daryl.robinson@qfes.qld.gov.au <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information to educate people volunteering in different areas to what they are used to - Resilience and preparedness, help in response and recovery - Familiarisation and needs regarding resilience <p>Burning off edges of the highway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QFES have spoken to TMR allowing landholders to burn off if they hold the right permits - Rail corridors and main roads corridor (Patches) encouraged to have conversation <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Send info back through the group regarding burning off edges (QFES).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Patrick Scharf to send through info on patches missed by QR & TMR (PS). - Council to raise issue through Regional Roads Transport Group (RRTG) process (GP).
6.4	<p>Environment & Pests</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Roadside weeds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spraying activities limited by weather and poor access - 4,000lts sprayed in Ravenswood, and concentrated on reserves such as Flatrock - 20,000lts of herbicide sprayed so far this year <p>1080 Baiting program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beginning 28 April 2025 - Starting the program at Cardigan, followed by Silver Valley, Rangeview, etc. - Access to baiting stations, consideration to move stations to other areas where access is questionable. <p>Calotrope and Prickly Acacia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dawsonvale Road enquiry - Road inspectors and baiting crew spotting weeds across the region - Encouraged to do a Customer Requests or Snap Send Solve - Prioritisation and Risk determine spraying activities. Grader Grass and Bellyache bush are widespread, and activities will be limited to isolated pockets and protecting assets <p>Highway corridor responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RMPC (Road Maintenance Performance Contract) Council doing work through Main Roads - Shared responsibility with annual limits on spending - Requiring prioritising - Some Highway sections Contracted out for slashing and poisoning activities <p>Grader Grass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraged to Snap Send Solve or Customer Request - Around roadsides Dotswood Road, Eumara and Gainsford
7.0	<p>General Business</p> <p>Highway Mine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigation of large crack in the ground - Concerned it will cave in like Mt Leyshon - Concerned proximity to edge of the pit <p>Action: Council to report to Main Roads (GP).</p> <p>Causeways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding to get back up and operating, raised with Andrew Cripps - Operations developing a program to upgrade causeways - \$3m funding secured, causeways identified by prioritisation <p>Coronation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bitumen peeling off with the water - Encouraged to use Snap send solve <p>Action: Council to raise as a CR</p> <p>Rural Land valuations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Earning capacity hasn't increased - 500% increase in four years - Presentation by State Valuer to Council, informed the methodology hasn't changed, mainly going off recent sales - Important to recognise that increase in valuation does not correlate to similar increase in rates as these are adjusted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Modelling is currently being completed through an external consultant - State Valuation appeal period (60 Days) - Request for assistance in coordinating advocacy - Andrew Cripps advocating strongly - LGA RV has increased from \$18m rateable value to \$30m (66% Increase) - 135% raise in Rural Agricultural <p>Action: Martin to send out high level details to RIAG</p> <p>Betterment program consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Campaspe approach on Helenslee Road - Campaspe approach in Red Hill - Support the Betterment Project <p>Unused stock routes and road access</p> <p>Carbon accounting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carbon footprint reporting likely to increase red tape for producers in the coming years
8.0	Next Meeting
	Tuesday, 10 June 2025
9.0	Close of Meeting
	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2.19pm

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Item No.	Meeting Date	Description	Progress
6.3	16/10/2024	John Brownson to send through details as discussed on Grader Grass Kylie Stretton to send through details of Bellyache bush Nick to further discuss, suggestion for Council to collaborate with Isaac shire / surrounding or request funding for Isaac rate payers to attend (1080 Baiting)	Pending Pending In progress
6.4	16/10/2024	Single Access Roads to be added to future RIAG agenda.	Future agenda due to recent weather event
6.2	25/02/2025	Council to send through link to 1080 baiting program and applications once available Investigate Winton (Shire Council) baiting & Request information Investigation into working around army exercises	ESO enquired with Environmental Services ESO enquired with Environmental Services Invite Peta Ross
6.3	25/02/2025	Request for information on UHF and repeater maintenance and who to discuss issues with (Council?)	ESO to follow up with IT
6.4	25/02/2025	Group to discuss and send feedback through for Ashlee Keen, Economics Development Officer by 3 March 25	ESO has sent out an email outlining discussion points, links and due date
7.0	25/02/2025	Send links through to the group (Actioned above) Suggestion of regular email (Media can add RIAG to the email for all media releases) Request for Council to look further into email groups for Rural Residents Blair Knuth to send through details for defence contact / future invite Group to send through as a Customer Request (CR) or snap send solve for areas not covered under DRFA or considerations for Council to fix to a higher standard Request for Nick to contact Matt Stanger (Details exchanged following meeting) Council to discuss and investigate Macrossan Training Facility (Only mentioned Dotswood) & Grader grass Request for 'Woody Weed' section in future agenda to discuss Siam weeds	Complete ESO has enquired with media to consider options In progress Future agenda item / invite & discussion In progress In progress ESO spoke with Environmental Services Coordinator — In progress ESO spoke with Environmental Services Coordinator — In progress



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