



# Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council

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## Welcome to Doomadgee's Elected Members

Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Councillors proudly took their Declaration of Office before the community at the Shire Council Offices on 9 May. Following the event, the Mayor invited all who attended to join the Councillors in a barbecue lunch.

Each of the Councillors made the following Declaration of Office:

*"I ... having been elected as a councillor of the Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council declare that I will faithfully and impartially fulfil the duties of the office, in accordance with the local government Act 2009 to the best of my judgement and ability."*

Councillors are the management arm of the Local Government in Doomadgee and have a very specific, and very difficult, role to fill in the Government of Doomadgee.

They must represent the current and future interests of the residents of the Doomadgee area and must provide high quality leadership



Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Councillors, from left to right: Cr Jason Ned, Cr Elaine Cairns, Mayor Fred O'Keefe, Deputy Mayor Tony Douglas, Cr Eugene Escott.

to the local government and the community, participate in meetings, policy development and decision making for the benefit of the local government area and make sure the corporate and community plans are achieved.

We know that the community members of Doomadgee join with the staff of the Council in congratulating the incoming Councillors and Mayor on their appointments, and in offering them our support over the coming years.

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### Upcoming Council Projects

- BMX Track
- New Veterinary Surgery
- Water Reticulation Project
- Upgraded water storage
- Office at the Motor Vehicle Workshop
- Airport Upgrades
- Upgrade to Middle Park
- Town Street Resealing Program
- CBA Bank to reopen



Carlene accepting her award at the Queensland Local Government Managers Association Awards Evening

## Carlene Logan—Above and Beyond

In April Deputy Mayor Logan and Councillors Logan, Evans and Ketchup attended the Queensland Local Government Managers Association Awards Night. With them went the CEO and Office Manager/Executive Assistant, Carlene Logan.

This was a special night where all the Queensland Local Government Councils were represented and awards were given for achievements throughout the year.

It was also a proud night for Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council as our very own Carlene Logan was the winner

of the Above and Beyond Award. The Above and Beyond Award is given to an individual in Local Government who contributes constantly to their Local Government.

Carlene helps to shape the heart of the Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council through the hard work and effort that she puts in at Council. She always goes the extra mile to make sure that things work well, as anyone who has dealt with her across the counter would know.

Carlene is a great role model for Council staff and the community, and always looks to

find ways that will present Council more professionally and efficiently.

Carlene, in her role, supports the Councillors and the CEO, while at the same time she manages the administration of the Council Office, including the Front Office, Centrelink, Bank, Housing and Post Office. Among many other things, she prepares all the pays for Council staff and that makes her very important to us ☺.

Congratulations Carlene from everybody at Doomadgee for your well deserved Above and Beyond Award.

## Mechanic Workshop



Bart Taylor, motor mechanic apprentice at the workshop.

Council now has a mechanic workshop up and running quite smoothly. Dave Cummins is our motor mechanic and his team of two apprentices (Bart and Walter) are a genuine asset to Council and the community.

Thanks to Dave, Bart and Walter the plant machinery that the road gang is using is now maintained to a very professional standard.

As well as undertaking maintenance on the council

fleet of cars, trucks and plant machinery, the mechanic team will do work for businesses and individuals in the town.

If you would like to have your car fixed by the Council Workshop you need to take it in to be looked at by Dave and his team. Once it is decided what needs to be done, Dave needs to be paid in advance for the job. Parts are then ordered and when they arrive the job is done for you.

*“If you would like to have your car fixed by the Council Workshop you need to take it in to be looked at by Dave and his team”*

There is also upgrading work being done at the workshop itself, making it a better work place for the men working there. The new works include an office, a tea room and proper storage area. This work is being undertaken by the Council Carpenter, Russel Giles and his team.

## Town Clean Up



General Gang team members

Our General Gang are being kept extremely busy keeping the town in shape. They have been cutting grass, cutting back overhanging trees across roads. At the moment, they are working their way through the town, doing footpaths, manholes, tree pruning and a general tidying up in preparation for a major street resealing program that will begin later this year.

We can all get behind the

work done by this gang, and help by keeping our streets clean and tidy after they have cleaned your part of town.

Along with keeping our town tidy, the general gang also keep on top of the Airport work as well, so they are very busy. Because of the standard of work that the General Gang do at the airport, we received a very excellent report on our last Air Maintenance Report for the tidiness and general upkeep

of our airport.

The General Gang is led by Stewart Karkadoo and the rest of the gang are Ronnie Fowler, Mark Watson, Chris Toby and Oswald Punjaub.

Thank you to this team of Council workers, who are doing a great job.



## New Houses Arrive in Doomadgee

If you think you have noticed new houses arriving in Doomadgee, you are right.

We have six new houses arriving in the village that should be ready for people to move into very shortly.

After these houses are complete, ten new houses will begin to be built on the AACAP site. These houses will be block houses, and building will begin later this year. At this stage, it is planned that the buildings will be complete by no later than March next year.

These houses are part of the promised new houses that Council signed off on last year.

This is very good news for Doomadgee and will help to assist with the housing shortage that is currently being experienced. Council is involved in ongoing discussions with the State to progress the building of these houses, and to work towards having more houses completed.

In the meantime, the upgrades and maintenance programs will continue.



New houses arrive in Doomadgee

## VAST Satellite Digital Boxes

Under the watchful eye of David Booth the second part of the installation of VAST Satellite Digital boxes in Doomadgee is now almost complete.

Good news is that following an approach to the department, the residents of the Aged Care Centre, who were originally not included in the installation program, received approval to have boxes placed in each of their bedrooms. This was an excellent result, meaning that

Doomadgee Aged Care residents will still have access to television in their rooms once the switch to digital has been completed.

While the initial installation of set top boxes is free, community members need to be aware that if these set top boxes fail, they will be responsible for any replacements.

Council is currently investigating ways to make this

replacement process smoother for Doomadgee community members, however the cost of replacement will fall to the set top box owner.

Council currently have replacement remote controls available at \$25 for a remote. Ask at Council Reception if you need one.

*“Aged Care residents will still have access to television in their rooms once the switch to digital has been completed”*

## Wollogorang Road

Starting on the 14 May a full scale road program on the Wollogorang Road commenced. The sand section from Little Century to the 8 Mile will be covered with gravel to bring it back to its original pre-flood running surface. This is being achieved with NDRRA funding.

For this job to be completed in a reasonable time frame some sub-contractors will be engaged plus dry hired equipment

Council has also employed an additional two full time staff members.

Council often receive comments from people outside the community about the excellent quality of our roads in the DOGIT and this is due to the professional team we have working on our roads.

Our Road Gang is led by Athol Waldon and his team is Dwayne O’Keefe, Chris Ned,

Ross O’Keefe, Shane O’Keefe, Peter O’Keefe, Archie Shadforth, Glenn Campbell, Lewis Ah Fat, Cameron Douglas (when he isn’t working at the Water Treatment Plant!). Thanks to this dedicated team of men for a job well done.



Working on Wollogorang Road



## Who do I ask ...

**If I didn't get a Council job and I don't know why:** Make an appointment through Carlene at the office to see the CEO who will talk about it with you.

**If I have urgent repairs to my house to be done outside business hours:** Telephone the Housing emergency outside business hours number: 1800 808 107.

**If I want to get some maintenance repairs done on my house:** Come to the Council office and ask for Scharrayne. She will help you. Or call 1300 650 912, the blue phone at the Housing Office is available for you to use.

**Council Phone Number:  
4745 3518**

## POSITIONS VACANT AT COUNCIL

Council advertises any positions vacant at the Council Offices, the Doomadgee Store and the Road House. If you see one of these positions advertised, and you would like to be considered for the position, we encourage you to come in and fill out the application forms. You need to come to the front Reception Desk, ask for the application form, and complete it. If there is anything on the form you are unsure about, just ask our friendly staff and they will be more than happy to help you.

## A GENTLE GARBAGE COLLECTION REMINDER

Council Garbage Collectors work around Doomadgee every day, but it can sometimes be a difficult job—dangers such as being chased by dogs are regular occurrences.

It would be really helpful if, when you want your garbage collected, you place it at the front of the house before Allan and Steve arrive, so that they know that you need your garbage to be emptied. Garbage bins that are not placed at the front of the house will not be picked up. (Just inside the gate or fence is okay)

The garbage collectors cannot go on to your property to find a bin to be emptied, this takes up too much of their time, and is dangerous for them if they upset your dog.

So remember, to keep our garbage men safe, and to make sure your garbage is picked up when it needs to be, **garbage bins ready for collection must be left at the front gate.**

## Alcohol Management Plan Boundaries

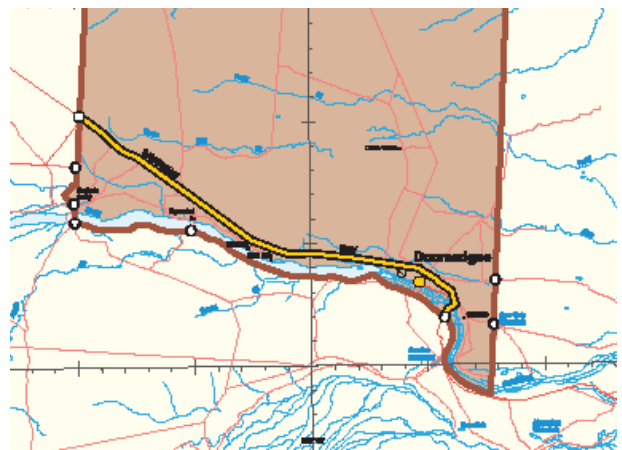
While we all know that we cannot bring more than 2 cartons of mid strength beer into the DOGIT at a time, and that no harder alcohol can be consumed in the DOGIT boundaries, we might not all be aware that for the purposes of the Alcohol Management Plan the Boundaries extend just a little further than our DOGIT.

The DOGIT finishes on this side of the bank at the weir, however the boundary for the Alcohol Management Plan extends to "the bed and banks of the part of the Nicholson River that adjoins the community area of the Doomadgee Shire Council, including the Nicholson River weir"

The difference is shown in the map from the liquor commission, where it can be

seen that the Alcohol Management Plan boundary stretches across the river into Burke Shire. Restrictions commence near the family tree where the sign is placed.

**Don't let this difference catch you out!!!**



Extract from map showing Alcohol Restriction boundaries reaching to the Burke Shire side of the Nicholson River. The restrictions start from where the sign is on the family tree side of the river.