



Shire of
Wongan-Ballidu

Minutes (Unconfirmed)

Annual Electors Meeting
Wednesday, 12 February 2025



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Item 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY/DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member, Shire President, Cr M Stephenson, declared the meeting open at 7:06pm

Item 2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendees:

Electors:

Eric Ganzer	Carol Mincherton	Dawn Vaughan
Leslie Oliver	Danielle Reed	Fiona Brown
Eugene Morgan	Cheryl Whyne	Neil Panton
Yvonne Panton	Doug Basham	Alfreda Lyon
Amy Carragher	Kelly Edmonds	Sylvia Donnellan
Sheree Chasland	Paul Chasland	John West
Desmond Booth		

Councillors:

Cr M Stephenson	Shire President	
Cr S Boekeman	Deputy Shire President	
Cr Brian Donnellan	Councillor	
Cr M Sewell	Councillor	
Cr S Starceвич	Councillor	(left at approx.. 7:30pm)
Cr S Boekeman	Councillor	

Council Staff:

Sam Dolzadelli	Chief Executive Officer
Melinda Lymon	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Melissa Marcon	Manager Regulatory Services
Stephen Casey	Manager Works and Services
Kim Walsh	Manager Community and Customer Services
Tan Evans	Executive Assistant and Governance Officer (Minutes)

Apologies:

Sharon Basham	Pam Toster
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Item 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2024

MOVED: ERIC GANZER

SECONDED: EUGENE MORGAN

That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday, 7 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Item 4. RECEIPT OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

MOVED: CR MANDY STEPHENSON

SECONDED: CR STUART BOEKEMAN

That the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2024, inclusive of the following reports be received:

- President's Report
- Chief Executive Officer's Report (Incorporating Officers Reports)
- Annual Financial Report
- Auditors Report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- Management Report

CARRIED

Item 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 5.1 Carol Mincherton - Concerned about empty shops in town and perception of visitors. CEO advised that the Shire only get involved when the property is unsafe. Can possibly reach out to property owners. Shire President also advised that unless it is a health issue, the Shire cant often get involved. Suggestion from the floor that maybe school art could be displayed in empty windows? CEO advised that the Shire would look into incentives and legislation capabilities.
- 5.2 Dawn Vaughan – Regarding Ants in Ballidu, can someone come out and attend to the major ant problem on footpaths? CEO advised that the Shire would look into and contact Hugh, the pest controller.
- 5.3 Dawn Vaughan – What is happening with the Barracks? Ongoing question. CEO advised that an expert consultant is coming in approximately 2 weeks to assess many heritage buildings around town, including the barracks, museum etc. A report will be done to prioritise issues and presented to Council.
- 5.4 Dawn Vaughan – New Toilets; are they going to be plain white or will they be spruced up? Are there any photos of the concept design?

CEO Advise there will be a colour feature wall and due to be finished in early May 2025. Tiling is commencing in approximately 2 weeks. It will be simple and easy to clean.

Doug Basham asked; was Council provided with a synopsis or drawing of the outcome?

CEO advised yes, the specs were in the tender document.

5.5 Eric Ganzer – Provided an update on the Cocky Shoot Weekend.

Not that successful. MRWA had the Hotel booked out, so no accommodation available. Only one day of shooting and the birds wouldn't move from the school location.

Total of 27 birds culled.

Near the east side 5 acre lot subdivision, Eric advised that he has counted 200-300 flying further east. Numbers seem less than previous years.

Eric gave a summary of the rules for the shoot;

- Not allowed to shoot within the town boundary
- Given set areas to shoot
 - behind hospital
 - railway dam
 - sewerage farm
 - rec centre area

Another solution is to hang false eagles in the trees as a deterrent. These are \$50 each to buy.

There are plans for the Shire to do more pruning in the main street to discourage roosting there. Netting/feeding is not viable as no method to dispose of.

Question was raised from the floor on drugging seed to put birds to sleep and then cull – this raises legal and environmental impact questions.

Doug Basham commented that white cockies are not around, but red tailed blacks are, which is wonderful.

Des Booth has seen cockies going out near his place each evening. Eric will get more information from Des.

5.6 Eugene Morgan & Fiona Brown – 3 Mocardy Place is not being cleaned up – back and front yards. Graffiti has been removed but still concerns over mess.

CEO advised he will look into this, as privately owned.

Fiona also advised that there are 2 more dogs there and they weren't meant to have dogs.

CEO commented that he will advise the ranger.

5.7 Des Booth – Is there a program for building maintenance?

The hall gutter is off, hall front undercroft is a disgrace, hall lights not working and barracks are not in good order.

CEO advise that the Shire has a very large program and a backlog at present. Soon to gain an additional resource to assist as this is too much for one Building Maintenance Officer.

5.8 Doug Basham - Is there a Hall Committee (Residential Users Group)?

CEO advised there has not been for some time.

Des Booth offered to be a part of a Hall Group if one is formed in the future.

5.9 Des Booth – Asked about the Cadoux Church.

Shire President advised that this is still vested in Council and in the plan.

Des stated; there is a lot of history in that building.

CEO advised that the Health, Building and Planning Committee is working through this.

Eric Ganzer asked if Council can get funding for heritage?

CEO advised that they are getting further clarification on this type of funding.

Eric asked; what if listed on the State Municipal Inventory?
CEO advised that this will be looked into.

- 5.10 Fiona Brown – thanked Cr Chambon for graffiti being removed on house.
- 5.11 Dawn Vaughan – Saw prisoners doing work in Goomalling recently. Can we use them for works on buildings?
CEO advised that the Shire has already used the Dowerin Work Camp for some jobs. This will be looked into further.
Des Booth advised that they put up the Christmas Lights and took them down again.
- 5.12 Doug Basham – Questioned the relevance of the Council Offices on Quinlan street.
He said that the customer service side had been moved and he has now notices that the official letterhead had been changed. He asked what the Council's intention is for the future?
He wanted to know; are we going to be able to access Council employees?
Shire President responded by stating the Council supported the move to centralised service.
CEO gave a summary on structural change. Discussion commenced 18 months ago for a move towards move streamlines service delivery.
Complimented by new, updated internal service system (CRMS) that sends an email to the relevant staff member immediately. In line with the 2023 Customer Service Charter. The Administration Office on Quinlan Street is currently open during the transition to wards full change. Resulting in much better service.
Doug asked; has it been discussed to move everything else to the CRC building?
CEO and Shire President both advised; this has not been discussed.
Eric Ganzer commented that the Admin building is looking tired.
CEO advised that there is still 10 staff working in the Admin building most days and if any move was to happen it would require a large capital outlay.
Eric commented that it would be good to create a strategy for the future and adapting of the Admin building. Eric then gave some interesting information on previous buildings and how they came about.
Des Booth advised that previous planning for the Quinlan Street precinct was for further building to take place between the Admin building and the Hall, so as to keep all civic buildings together.
Alfreda Lyon advised that the Station Building was built with the foresight to expand in the future towards the tractor.
- 5.13 Kelly Edmonds – Enquired on Shire record keeping.
Since the new rates system, there is now only one name on notices, not 2 names in the case of joint owners. Issue with correspondence taking of joint names.
CEO advised that the records are correct. There is an issue with the mail merge program only showing the first line.
Software system is to be updated.
- 5.14 Sheree Chasland – Commented that the new rates system couldn't adjust when she was in credit.
CEO advised that the previous system made a changeover error for a very small number of ratepayers and this has been fixed now.
Sheree also commented that she did not get a receipt for her most recent payment.
CEO advised that duplicate receipts can be printed.

- 5.15 Des Booth – Enquired about the relocation of the Fire Station. (a), and also An update on plans for the School Oval (b).
(a) The Shire President advised that in the process of negotiating with BFAC and DFES for new colocation centre as outgrown current building – cannot get the new fire units as no room in the building.
CEO advised that the new building will be state funded and concept drawing come next.
The committee meets regularly with the next meeting on 20 February.
(b) CEO advised that this is owned by the State.
Council have applied for a Management Order for Community and Civic Purposes.
Not suitable for residential purposes.
- 5.16 Des thanked Mandy and Sam for being out and about and being accessible to the public.
- 5.17 Carol Mincherton – Asked if the toilets at Apex Park get cleaned.
The CEO advised that these toilets are on a regular cleaning schedule.
- 5.18 The Shire President thanked all for taking the time to attend and also thanked the Executive staff also for being in attendance.

Item 6. CLOSURE

The Shire President thanked the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and staff for audit successes.

There being no further business, the Shire President, declared the meeting closed at 8:16pm.

Signed by: _____

Name

Date