



SHIRE OF WONGAN-BALLIDU MINUTES

For the ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS
held in the Community Resource Centre, Wongan Road,
Wongan Hills, on Wednesday 14 December 2016
Commencing at 7.00pm

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 7.00pm.

The Shire President welcomed everyone and thanked all for attending.

2. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES

Cr Peter Macnamara
Stuart Taylor
David Taylor

Shire President
Chief Executive Officer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Public:

Brad West
Alfreda Lyon
Jon Hasson
Norma Walton
Richard Morgan
Karl Mickle
Joanne Guest
Melissa Marcon
Carol Mincherton
Jon Cousins
Kath Cousins
Jaime Reily
David Hanson
Lara Golding
Desmond Booth
Doug Basham
Lyle Greenwood
Sue Holme
Duncan Holme
Brian Donnellan
Sylvia Donnellan
Christine Mincherton
E.E.Morgan
Alana Wigmore

Apologies:

Cr Hugh Barrett-Lennard

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2015

MOTION: **MOVED: Eugene Morgan / Cr Walton**

That the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on Wednesday 16 December 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

5. RECEIPT OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2016

MOTION: **MOVED: Kath Cousins / Cr West**

That the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2016, inclusive of the following reports be received:

- **President's Report**
- **Chief Executive Officer's Report**
- **Annual Financial Report**
- **Auditors Report**

CARRIED

6. ANNUAL REPORT

a) **SELF SUPPORTING LOAN**

A community member asked why the \$400,000 self-supporting loan that was budgeted for was not drawn down.

The President advised that instead of drawing this loan, Council took more money from Reserve Funds than was budgeted for, and then replenished this and added extra funds to Reserve Funds.

b) **FULLTIME EMPLOYEES**

The community member then asked if the number of fulltime employees are different to the budgeted number. The President replied that there was no difference.

c) **SPORTS COLOCATION**

A community member asked what the expected timeframe for the sports co-location was. The President advised that grant applications are currently in progress and that the project proceeding is dependent on receiving grant funding.

The President replied that it is Council's hope that the project will commence in the 2017-2018 year and will take approximately two years to complete.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the first stage of this project does not include relocating the Bowling Club.

d) JOINT HOUSING PROGRAM

A community member asked about the current status of the joint housing program.

The President replied that the Shire expects to find out shortly, and there will possibly be an announcement made by the Minister tomorrow.

e) WONGAN HILLS TOWN WATER SUPPLY

A community member congratulated the Shire on the cleanliness of the townscape. The community member also asked the status of the proposal to connect existing water supplies to the Wongan Hills town water supply.

The President referred this question to Joanne Guest, whom replied that the Shire is currently awaiting the result of a grant for a proposal to connect Mocardy Dam to the Wongan Hills townsite.

The President advised that success in obtaining this grant would enable Mocardy Dam to be connected into the Wongan Hills town supply, but would not facilitate connection to all the Shire reticulation throughout the town. The President further advised that the Shire was hoping to know the result of this grant submission by Christmas.

A community member asked if this water could be used for roadworks. The President replied that yes, it could.

f) CRC & VISITORS CENTRE OPERATING BUDGET

A community member stated that he could see the operational financials for the Community Resource Centre in the Annual Report, but not for the Visitor's Centre.

The President referred this question to the Chief Executive Officer, whom replied that no, the Visitors Centre financials are not set out in the Annual Report.

The community member asked if the Community Resource Centre was cost neutral. The Chief Executive Officer confirmed that the Community Resource Centre operation is cost neutral.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) ROAD NAMES

A community member asked if the Shire could investigate inconsistencies with its local road names, specifically the Koorda-Wongan Road.

The community member stated that recently there was a serious accident at her property that required emergency services to attend. The emergency Services could not find this road on their GPS and so could not find the property. This is of great concern as this particular incident involved serious injuries. The road in question is known by three names within the Shire.

The President referred this question to the Chief Executive Officer, whom replied that the Shire would contact the relevant authorities to determine the official name/s, and then amend local signage (if required) to reflect this.

Another community member stated that there were similar issues in relation to road names around the Shire. For example the official road name of 'Wongan Hills-Waddington Road' has been shortened to 'Waddington Road' in the Shire Works program and that they feel that this may add to the confusion.

b) WORKS REQUIRED

Community members requested the following works on local roads:

- Trees growing over road on a 2km stretch of Wongan Hills - Waddington Road ('Snake Gully'), these are hitting passing trucks.
- Overgrown bush disrupting line of sight on Craig Road ('Hoppies Corner').

The President replied that both of these requests are noted and the areas in question will be inspected. The President also stated that the Shire has received formal warning from the Department of Environmental and Regulation regarding clearing of vegetation and will not be permitted to clear any vegetation that is not within the drain or back slopes.

c) NORTHAM-PITHARA ROAD

A community member asked if the Shire could put pressure on the State to declare the section of Northam-Pithara Road where a fatality recently occurred, a Blackspot.

The President replied that Shire will bring this to the State's attention.

d) SIGNAGE

A community member asked if the Shire checks local signage. Current local signage is starting to peel and fade and is past its useful life.

The President replied that this request is noted, however significant cost is involved in replacing signage. This item will be reviewed at budget time.

The President reminded all present that if a community member wished an item to be considered for budget, the community are welcome to attend Public Question Time at any Council meeting and discuss the item with Council.

e) BALLIDU HALL

A community member asked about the status of the Ballidu Hall.

The President stated that the renovation of the Hall is in the current budget, and will be completed.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that significant water ingress had caused floorboards to buckle. It appears that the water issue has now been resolved. Once Council is confident that this is the case, the floorboards will be reinstated.

f) COUNCILLOR & MAIN STREET BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP

A community member asked if it were possible to construct a means to foster a working relationship between Council and main street businesses, now that the Business Association has been disbanded. Possible topics for discussion include entry statements, banners/flagpoles and lighting.

The President replied that this could certainly be investigated.

g) FENTON PLACE RE-SEAL

A community member asked what the plan was for Fenton Place, now that the initial re-seal work had been done.

The President replied that a dual colour seal would be applied in coming months, black in the centre of the road (traffic area), and red in the parking areas. The parking bay angles will be moved to a 22 degree rotation rather than the previous 45 degree angle, to alleviate blind spots when reversing out on to the road. The parking bays will remain 'drive in'.

h) WONGAN HILLS-CADOUX ROAD

A community member thanked the Shire of upgrading the Wongan Hills - Cadoux Road. The community member advised that there was damage to the road already at the Mincherton Road bend.

The President advised that the Shire was well aware of this damage and was rectifying it immediately.

i) TREE ROOTS/POT HOLES

A community member thanked the Shire for recent works to remove tree roots from a section of Koorda West Road, and asked if the Shire was aware that there were pot holes in the reinstated section between the re-seal and the existing gravel.

The President replied that this would be investigated and rectified.

j) STREET RE-SEALING

A community member asked if Quinlan Street and Wandoo Street were being resurfaced this year.

The President referred this question to the Chief Executive Officer, whom replied that both these projects were in the current year budget and would be completed around March/April 2017.

k) PIONEER ROAD

A community member asked who was responsible for reinstating the section of Pioneer Road that the Water Authority had recently completed works beneath.

The President referred this question to the Chief Executive Officer, whom replied that this was the Water Authority's responsibility and that the Shire would follow this up.

l) RAILWAY BARRACKS

A community member asked what the maintenance plan for the Railway Barracks was, and noted the white ant damage visible on the front of the building.

The President and Chief Executive Officer both replied that they were unaware of any white ant damage and this would be investigated.

m) TELECENTRE

A community member asked what was happening with the old telecentre.

The President referred this question to the Chief Executive Officer, whom replied that valuations are being conducted to enable to the Shire to purchase the land underneath the building, and that the Shire hoped to sell the property by June 2017.

n) McINTOSH BUILDING

A community member asked if the Shire had investigated purchasing the now vacant McIntosh & Sons building.

The President replied that the building was currently on the market but was out of the Shire's price range.

o) WORKS REQUESTS

A community member reminded all present that it is possible to attend the Shire Offices and ask staff for a 'Works Request Form', which can then be completed and the issue lodged with

the Works department. Community members do not necessarily need to wait for a meeting such as this to bring urgent issues to the Shire's attention.

p) THANKYOU

Several community members thanked the Shire for their hard work on the community's behalf. This was seconded by a community member whom stated his opinion that any Shire that has the Annual Report distributed and Annual Elector's meeting held prior to Christmas was in a good state.

q) FENTON STREET RE-SEAL

The President concluded the meeting by apologising for the timing of the re-seal of Fenton Place and acknowledged that the process could have been carried out better but the end result is and will continue to be certainly well worth the inconvenience.

8. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Shire President, Cr Macnamara, thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 7.41pm.

Signed _____
President