



SHIRE OF WANDERING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

MINUTES

Wandering Community Centre

Down Street, Wandering

2 November 2016

Commencing at 7.30pm

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1.0 Declaration of Opening

The Shire President opened the meeting at 7.33pm

2.0 Announcement of Visitors

Nil

3.0 Attendance

3.1 Present

Cr B Whitely **President**
Cr B Dowsett **Deputy President**
Cr W Gowland
Cr C Ferguson
Cr J Price
Cr G Parsons
Cr M Watts

Mrs L Barge
Mr R Treasure
Mr J Price
Mr S Dexter
Mr T Edwards
Mr D Lockwood
Mr S Bullock

Mr G Hardie
Mrs A Hardie
Mrs J Gowland
Ms D Ebsary
Mr R Steer
Mr G Treasure
Mr K Price
Mrs J Cornish
Mrs S Cornish
Mrs L Muller
Mr R Curtis
Mrs K Stripe
Mr T Martin
Mrs V Watts

A O'Halloran *Chief Executive Officer*
D Ojha *Manger Admin & Finance*
R Evenis *Manager of Works*
M Treasure *Manager Communities & minutes*

3.2 Apologies

Mr B Cornish
Mr D Cornish
Mr C Woodward
Mrs B Woodward
Mrs J Lockwood

Mr M Flint
Mrs P Flint
Mrs L Wilkinson
Mr M Wilkinson

4.0 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1 *Annual General Meeting of Electors held on the 4th November 2015*

Moved: Mr S Bullock

Seconded: Mr T Martin

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4th November 2015 to be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried

4.2 *Business Arising from Previous Minutes*

Nil

5.0 Adoption of 2015/2016 Annual Report

5.1 *President's Report- Annual Report*

Cr B Whitely reported on the 2015/2016 financial year within the Shire of Wandering, making specific mention of the extensive road program carried out, Caravan Park upgrade, and CCTV cameras installed in the main street of town. Cr B Whitely thanked his fellow Councillors and Staff for their contribution, time and effort during the year and welcomed new Councillors Watts and Parsons to the Council.

5.2 *Chief Executive Officer's Report*

The Chief Executive Officer gave a presentation on the 2015/2016 year. Presentation attached.

Adoption of 2015/2016 Annual Report - that the Shire of Wandering's 2015/2016 Annual Report and Audited Financial Report be received as presented.

Moved: Mrs L Muller

Seconded: Mrs J Cornish

That the Shire of Wandering 2015/2016 Annual Report and Audited Financial Report be received as presented.

Carried

6.0 General Business

6.1 Presentation of Plaque

The Shire President presented a plaque to Mrs K Stripe, former Councillor for her time, service and effort on Council. Mrs K Stripe responded with thanks to the Council, Ratepayers and Staff.

The Shire President also made special mention of ex Councillor Jim McNeil who resigned due to illness during the year. Jim served 15 years on Council and during that time was active in many community initiatives. Jim unfortunately couldn't attend the meeting and his plaque will be sent to him directly.

6.2 Roads

Mr K Price referred to the minutes of the previous AEM in November 2015 regarding the grading of gravel roads during summer. Last summer the roads were in poor condition and he couldn't get any response from staff or Council regarding the annual program and more specifically the state of Carabin Road. Mr K Price commented that as ratepayers we should have roads graded during summer and made a suggestion to decrease the current road construction budget to increase the funds available for summer grading. Mr K Price stressed to the Council to look seriously at the grading of roads during summer and to get it right.

Mr K Price moved a motion:

That the Wandering Shire Council take enough money from the Roads to Recovery road program to cover the cost of summer grading, to keep the roads in good condition through the 2016 -17 summer and thereafter in years to come.

The Shire President thanked Mr K Price for his comments but stated he doesn't agree with Mr K Price and thinks Mr K Price is wrong and that the roads are in a good position at present. Last summer was an exception and the Shire didn't get to the roads we wanted. Carabin Road was in poor condition but at the same time the roads in the Shire were in exceptional condition, it was just timing.

Mrs J Cornish stated that before a discussion should be undertaken there is a motion on the table that needs to be put on the books.

The Shire President asked Mrs J Cornish to wait. Last summer we couldn't afford to do them but hopefully we have worked through this issue this year.

Mr K Price asked will you do summer grading?

The Shire President stated if finances are available

Mr K Price asked what happens if you haven't got any money?

Mr J Price stated last year it was stated there wouldn't be two grades, if the roads are rough, the country needs a grade, if the roads are worn out the road needs a grade. Roads have to be graded.

The Shire President stated that it can be argued previous Council didn't do enough to maintain the roads which are worn out and need re-sheeting.

The Chief Executive Officer stated that during her first year grading cost in the vicinity of \$400,000. This year Council allocated enough to undertake as required summer grading. There isn't enough money for a full summer grade. Council have a five year road program, which is focused on maintaining the road network, ensuring adequate asset management and renewal. This year is done and dusted with Federal Government and we aren't in a position to change as many jobs are underway or pipes etc... have been ordered. Council is aware that Carabin Road is in need of significant works and over \$200,000 has been allocated over 2 years to significantly improve this road.

Mr K Price stated the council was dreaming.

The Shire President stated other Shires have poorer roads and Mr K Price should go for a drive.

Mr K Price stated it is up to Council to take the motion, with the CEO and President not agreeing, it is up to Council. Before the motion is to be put forward, Mr K Price stated that the Codjatotine Bridge was in a terrible state and should have been fixed two years ago. It was stated that the Council should be ashamed to have that bridge in a poor state on the main road. Mr K Price asked electors to support the motion.

The Chief Executive Officer stated the Shire had applied for funding, Main Roads had assessed the bridge and it will be fully upgraded with full asphalt seal along with three other bridges this financial year. The Chief Executive Officer invited electors to view the budget and that the Shire wasn't trying to fool electors but had to wait for funding.

The Shire President agreed that the bridge was in a terrible state but the Shire doesn't have funds and has to wait to secure funding before commencement.

The Shire President put the motion on the table:

That the Wandering Shire Council take enough money from the Roads to Recovery road program to cover the cost of summer grading, to keep the

roads in good condition through the 2016 -17 summer and thereafter in years to come.

Moved: Mr K Price

Seconded: Mrs J Cornish

That the Wandering Shire Council take enough money from the Roads to Recovery road program to cover the cost of summer grading, to keep the roads in good condition through the 2016 -17 summer and thereafter in years to come.

6/3 Carried

Cr J Price asked how the motion is worked.

The Chief Executive Officer stated the motion goes to Council to consider as it's not in the budget but it's on the record.

Mr J Price noted to the Council it is up to you Councillors; we used to have good roads.

6.3 Drains

Mrs J Cornish asked if Shire workers take notice of blocked drains as they drive around, one particular culvert/bridge hasn't been cleaned out for two years and a significant problem occurred just recently.

The Chief Executive Officer stated that the bridge in question was serviced in 2015 and the undermining that occurred was due to engineering failure not due to lack of being cleaned out. About \$50,000 was spent on the bridge. Mrs J Cornish stated that Shire workers should take notice of blocked drains as they drive around.

CEO stated - Shire workers do try to get there as often as they can but we are often behind, don't hesitate to report to Council if you think it needs work.

6.4 Firebreaks

Mr D Lockwood asked if firebreaks will be enforced this year.

The Chief Executive Officer stated that Council didn't carry out infringements last year due to internal management issues, however this year we have carried out a formal process and are ensuring that our actions are compliant and will ensure that the infringement process is appropriate.

Council started the process formally at the beginning of October -

- *with letters sent to ratepayers regarding firebreaks,*
- *again two weeks later and on the*
- *1st November the Ranger inspected all properties with the local Fire Captains and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer approximately 30 infringements will be forwarded out shortly.*

7.0 Closure of Meeting

The Shire President thanked all those in attendance and closed the meeting at 8.32pm. The Shire President stated that the minutes for the meeting will be signed off at the November Council meeting and will be published in the December edition of the Wandering Echo.