

Council Corner

Wandering Shire monthly newsletter



Amanda's Update

6 months in Wandering this month, can't quite believe that it has been that long, time really does fly when you're having fun!!

July was a busy month for the Shire team, we have worked with the Councillors to establish a solid budget that provides well for the Wandering Community.

The Budget is targeted to help the Shire consolidate after the extensive capital construction program it has had over the last few years, we have shifted the focus back to roads maintenance and construction. There are minor projects such as the Caravan Park toilets upgrade and the Aged Friendly Community Grants Initiative.

Adequate funding has been

allocated to support Community Events and minor requests for support. The Council is committed to helping the School where it can this year.

Rates have been levied, and it is encouraging that many are starting to pay, this time of the year can be a bit tough for Council cash flow wise, we rely heavily on rates income to fund our operations for 3/4 of the year and I thank those in the community who have started to pay already, it is a great help.

We were sorry to have the fuel facility out of action for a few days this week, it was an unfortunate incident that required a tech from Perth to visit and repair. Technology whilst a wonderful thing, when it goes wrong only an expert can fix

the problem and we are at the mercy of contractors from Perth. We do apologise for any inconvenience.

Our big news of the month is the upgrade to Australia Post Services. We have gone live with nearly full Australia Post facilities and can now support cash out from most of the main banks, credit unions and rural banks. We provide these services from 8.30—4.30pm daily.

We are also live with bill paying etc... and can now provide the Wandering Community with increased service levels. Please remember that we receive commission from the services that you use—so please think of us first with those bills you have to pay, or when you might need cash out!

WORKS CREW UPDATE

Winter Grading continues and fortunately the rain is coming at the right times to ensure we can do a satisfactory job. The Works crew have completed the southern sector and are moving onto the Northern Sector of the Shire this week.

Planning for some of our Major Road jobs has commenced, we are committed to trying to provide communication and planning with farmers regarding fence lines etc... so if Rod hasn't been in touch yet and your road is on our road program then he will be in the near future I'm sure!

Work has commenced on Moramocking, Dwarda East and Fourteen Mile Brook Roads—at present we are mostly undertaking clearing and excavation. Planning for tree pruning on Wandering North Bannister Road is underway also. We hope to publish a works program in next month's ECHO which will give more information regarding our scheduled works this year.

STAFFING

Great News—we have filled the Administration Position. Helen Mark from Boddington will commence work with us next week. We look forward to Helen joining the team and are very excited about having a full compliment of staff for the first time in 3 months or so!

We are committed to improving our customer service at the Shire and the key focus areas over the next few months will be Australia Post Services, Building and Planning Processes and Fire Brigade Support.

Dog microchips compulsory from 1 November

All domestic dogs in Western Australia must be microchipped from 1 November 2015 as part of changes to the *Dog Act 1976*.

Amendments to the legislation, made in 2013, require dog owners to ensure that, from November, their dog is microchipped once it has reached three months of age.

Owners will need to show proof that the dog has been microchipped by providing their local government with the microchip number when their pet is registered.

A penalty of \$200 may apply if a dog is not microchipped. However, a dog may be exempt if

the owner has a vet's certificate stating the animal's health and welfare may be at risk if chip implantation takes place.

Amendments to the Dog Act include a range of measures to improve community safety and encourage responsible dog ownership, including allowing for nuisance behaviour to be more effectively dealt with and the recognition of assistance dogs.

Local governments are urged to remind dog owners of their microchipping responsibilities in the lead up to the November deadline.

Visit [Responsible Dog Ownership – www.dlg.wa.gov.au](http://www.dlg.wa.gov.au) for more information.

Our Ranger Services do offer Microchipping—call Matt on 0459 678 154

Council Elections

It is nearly Council Election time, the Election date is the 17th of October 2015. It is very important to ensure that you are on the State electoral role or the Shires Owner Occupier Role by 5.00pm Friday 28th August 2015, if you would like to vote or run for Council.

We have 3 Council positions open for this election—**Nominations open Thursday 3 September 2015**, nominations are open for 8 days and **close 4.00pm Thursday 10 September 2015**. Please note there is no flexibility with dates as these are prescribed timelines set down by the department for Local Government and the Electoral Commission.

If you require further information please visit the Shire and speak with Amanda O'Halloran. Forms are available for those that need to register for the owner occupier role.

Councillor packages will be available when nominations open.

COUNCIL MEETING ROUND UP

*** Please note that this is a summary of events only – for more information please go to the Shires website and review the minutes. www.wandering.wa.gov.au

10.1.1 USE OF COMMON SEAL AND ACTIONS PERFORMED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2015

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this agenda item is to report to Council for information, Use of the Common Seal and actions performed under delegated authority requiring referral to Council, for the month of June 2015.

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.1.1

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr C Ferguson

That Council accept the report "Use of Common Seal and Actions Performed under Delegated Authority for the Month of June 2015".

CARRIED 5/0

10.1.2 AUTHORISATION OF BANK OVERDRAFT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Council resolved by Absolute Majority at the May 2015 Ordinary Meeting of Council to approve the overdraft of \$200,000.00 from the Westpac Bank, authorising the CEO to advertise the proposal in accordance with section 6.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 and gave authority for the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to affix the Common Seal to, and execute the agreement for the overdraft of \$200,000.00 from the Westpac bank.

The Westpac requires the names of the Officers and Members of Council to be stated in full within the recommendation in order to satisfy the legal requirements of the bank.

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.1.2

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr C Ferguson

That Council:

Approve the overdraft of \$200,000.00 from the Westpac Bank

Authorises the Shire President Cr Graeme Kerr and the Chief Executive Officer Amanda O'Halloran to affix the Common Seal to, and execute the agreement for the overdraft of \$200,000.00 from the Westpac bank.

Authorises the Chief Executive Officer Amanda O'Halloran to manage and draw on the facility as required.

CARRIED 5/0

10.2.1 FINAL ADOPTION OF OMNIBUS AMENDMENT NO.4 TO SHIRE OF WANDERING TOWN PLANNING SCHEME NO. 3

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to review the submissions received during the public advertising period as shown in Attachment 2 of this report and to resolve to finally adopt proposed Omnibus Amendment No.4 to the Shire of Wandering Town Planning Scheme No.3 with minor modifications as shown in the Schedule of Modifications in Attachment 2.1 of this report so that the documentation can be submitted to the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) seeking the Hon. Minister for Planning's final approval.

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.2.1

MOVED: Cr W Gowland

SECONDED: Cr B Dowsett

That Council:

1. Note all of the submissions received in respect of Omnibus Amendment No. 4 to the Shire of Wandering Town Planning Scheme No.3 as shown in Attachment 1 to this report;
2. Adopt Omnibus Amendment No. 4 to the Shire of Wandering Town Planning Scheme No.3 with modifications outlined in the Schedule of Modifications as shown in Attachment 2 to this report, and advise the Western Australian Commission modifications to the Scheme Amendment Proposal are recommended to reflect the content of the submissions received during public advertising;
3. Endorse the three (3) copies of the documentation prepared in respect of Omnibus Amendment No. 4 by affixing the Shire's common seal and authorising the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to sign the amendment documentation accordingly; and
4. Authorise the Shire Administration to submit the endorsed documentation prepared in respect of Omnibus Amendment No. 4 to the Western Australian Planning Commission seeking the Hon. Minister for Planning's final approval.

CARRIED 5/0

10.3.1 APPLICATION TO KEEP MORE THAN 3 DOGS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Is to consider the application made by Mrs Heather Armitage to keep three dogs at her property at 8 Down Street, Wandering.

The application needs to be considered by Council as per the requirements of the Shire of Wandering's Dog Local Law (2000) and the *Dog Act 1976*.

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.3.1

MOVED: Cr C Ferguson

SECONDED: Cr W Gowland

That Council:

1. Approve an exemption for the keeping of three dogs at 8 Down Street Wandering subject to the following conditions:
2. That the exemption be reviewed in twelve months' time to ensure that no adverse problems have been experienced as a result of the exemption.
3. That Council reserve the right to withdraw the exemption at any time if any major or substantial problems are experienced prior to the review period.
4. The exemption only applies to the dogs nominated by the applicant.
5. Each dog must be registered with the Shire of Wandering.
6. Upon the death or permanent removal of any of the nominated dogs a maximum of two dogs only will be permitted to be kept on this property.

CARRIED 5/0

10.4.1 ADOPTION OF THE 2015/16 BUDGET

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To consider and adopt the Municipal Fund Budget for the 2015/16 financial year together with supporting schedules, including imposition of rates and minimum payments, adoption of fees and charges and other consequential matters arising from the budget papers.

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1 – PART A

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr W Gowland

That Council:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, the Council adopt the Municipal Fund budget as contained in **ATTACHMENT 3** of this agenda for the Shire of Wandering for the 2015/16 financial year which includes the following:

- Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature and Type on page (1) showing a net result for that year of \$526,885.00
- Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program on page (2 & 3) showing a net result for that year of \$526,885.00
- Statement of Cash Flows on page (4)
- Rate Setting Statement on page (5) showing an amount required to be raised from rates of \$785,006.00
- Notes to and Forming Part of the Budget on pages (6 to 34)

Transfers to and from Reserves as detailed in page (23)

CARRIED 5/0

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1 – PART B

MOVED: Cr C Ferguson

SECONDED: Cr J Price

For the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget adopted at Part A above, Council pursuant to sections 6.32, 6.33, 6.34 and 6.35 of the *Local Government Act 1995* impose the following differential general rates and minimum payments on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values.

Differential Rates

GRV- Special Use	9.52 cents in the dollar
GRV- Residential	7.90 cents in the dollar
UV – Rural Residential	0.784 cents in the dollar
UV – Rural Mining	0.588 cents in the dollar
UV – Rural	0.588 cents in the dollar

1.2 Minimum Payments	
GRV- Special Use	\$952
GRV- Residential	\$780
UV – Rural Residential	\$952
UV – Rural Mining	\$952
UV – Rural	\$952

Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 64(2) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council nominates the following due dates for the payment in full by instalments:

Full Payment and 1st instalment due date 24 August 2015

2nd quarterly instalment due date 27 October 2015

3rd quarterly instalment due date 29 December 2015

4th quarterly instalment due date 1 March 2016

2. Pursuant to Section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council offers a discount of 10% to ratepayers who have paid their rates in full, including arrears, waste and service charges, on or before the 24 August 2015

3. Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 67 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council adopts an instalment administration charge of \$30.00 per instalment option.

4. Pursuant to section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 68 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, council adopts an interest rate of 5.5% where the owner has elected to pay rates and service charges through an instalment option.

Pursuant to section 6.51(1) and subject to section 6.51(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 70 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Council adopts an interest rate of 11% for rates (and service charges) and costs of proceeding to recover such charges that remains unpaid after becoming due and payable.

CARRIED 5/0

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1 – PART C

MOVED: Cr W Gowland

SECONDED: Cr B Dowsett

Pursuant to section 6.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, council adopts the Fees and Charges included at pages 36 to 42 inclusive of the draft 2015/16 budget included as **ATTACHMENT 3** of this agenda and minutes.

CARRIED 5/0

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1 – PART D

MOVED: Cr G Kerr

SECONDED: Cr J Price

- Pursuant to section 53 of the *Cemeteries Act 1986* the council adopts the Fees and Charges for the Wandering Cemetery included at page 38 of the draft 2015/16 budget included as **ATTACHMENT 3** of this agenda and minutes.
- Pursuant to section 245A(8) of the *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960* the council adopts a swimming pool inspection fee of \$63.00 included at page 41 of the draft 2015/16 budget included as **ATTACHMENT 3** of this agenda and minutes.
- Pursuant to section 67 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007*, Council adopt the following charges for the removal and deposit of domestic and commercial waste:
 - Residential Premises (including recycling) Wandering Town Site and Wandering Downs**
240 litre bin service - per annum - weekly removal of one 240 litre mobile garbage bin and fortnightly removal of one 240 litre mobile recycling bin + 1 tip pass pa (disposal of one trailer 6x4) \$380.00pa
 - Commercial Premises Wandering Town Site and Industrial Area**
240 litre bin service - per annum - weekly removal of one 240 litre mobile garbage bin and fortnightly removal of one 240 litre mobile recycling bin + 1 tip pass pa (disposal of one trailer 6x4) \$380.00pa
- Pursuant to section 67 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007*, and section 6.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995* council adopt the following charges incl of GST for the deposit of domestic and commercial waste:

Charge	Description	Price
Call out Fee	Opening of Transfer Station out of Hours	\$110.00
Seasons Pass	Rural rubbish pass - for those properties that do not have a weekly 240 litre mobile bin service - includes 52 standard tip entries. (Standard tip entry includes - 1 - 240 litre bin or equivalent household waste and 1 - 240 litre bin recycling weekly.	\$250.00
Household Waste	per 240 litre bin	\$15.00
Household Waste	per cubic metre	\$40.00
Household Waste	per trailer 6x4	\$40.00
Household Waste	per tonne	\$120.00
Building Site Refuse Disposal	per building licence issued - for dwellings only	\$500.00
Commercial Refuse Disposal	disposal of commercial waste	\$330.00
Vehicle Body Dumping	disposal of car bodies at tip - per car	\$165.00
Recycling	per 240 litre bin	\$15.00
Recycling	per cubic metre	\$40.00
Recycling	per trailer 6x4	\$40.00
Charge	Description	Price
Animal Carcasses	small domestic - per carcase	\$7.50
Animal Carcasses	large - cattle, sheep, horse - per carcase	\$10.00
White goods - fridge, freezer, stoves, washing machine etc...	per item	\$22.00
Mattresses	per item	\$38.50
Car Tyre	per tyre	\$10.00
4WD Tyre	per tyre	\$15.00
Car / 4WD tyre on rim	per tyre	\$23.00
10 Litre waste oil and units thereafter	3.30 per 10 litres	\$3.30
Green Waste	<i>Must be separated from other waste or household waste charges apply</i>	No Charge
Clean fill	clean sand etc, where it can be used on site	No Charge

CARRIED 5/0

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1 – PART E

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr J Price

Pursuant to section 5.99 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, council adopts the following annual fee for payment of elected members in lieu of individual meeting attendance fees:

CARRIED 5/0

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1 – PART F

MOVED: Cr J Price

SECONDED: Cr W Gowland

In accordance with regulation 34(5) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, and *AASB 1031 Materiality*, the level to be used in statements of financial activity in 2015/16 for reporting material variances shall be 10% or 5,000 whichever is the greater.

CARRIED 5/0

10.4.2 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

In accordance with Regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, the Shire is to prepare a monthly Statement of Financial Activity for consideration by Council.

The monthly financials for the month of June 2015 are presented for Councils consideration.

COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.2

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr J Price

That Council:

Endorse all Cheque, EFT, BPay, wages, transport payments, transfers to investments, credit card payments and other direct debits and transfers as listed from the Municipal and Trust Fund totalling \$176,751.07 for the period ending 30 June 2015

Receive the bank reconciliations & bank statements for the period ended 30 June 2015

Receive the financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2015

CARRIED 5/0

12 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

12.1.1 NOTICE OF NO CONFIDENCE MOTION

COUNCIL DECISION 12.1

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr C Ferguson

That Council:

Adopts a Motion of No Confidence in Cr J McNeil; the motion is made in relation to recent events that have occurred at Council. Cr McNeil's behaviour has been detrimental to the Council and the reputation of the Shire of Wandering and has adversely affected community perceptions.

The Motion is made in relation the upcoming election so that Cr McNeil can consider his commitment to Council.

CARRIED 4/1

13.1 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - CONTRACTUAL MATTERS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report proposes a process to confirm the Chief Executive Officer at the end of the six month probation period provided for in the contract of employment. The report also proposes a framework and process for the on-going management of the CEO's performance contract.

COUNCIL DECISION 13.1

MOVED: Cr B Dowsett

SECONDED: Cr C Ferguson

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the following:

- The self-assessment of progress submitted by the CEO to the May 2015 meeting of the Council, and
- Advice from the CEO that there are no changed circumstance since the May meeting of the Council that materially affect the account abilities.

1. **CONFIRMS**, after giving due consideration to the information referred to in Recommendation 1, Ms Amanda O'Halloran in the role of CEO pursuant to Clause 4 of the CEO's contract,
2. **ADOPTS** the process for management of the CEO performance contract, set out in the section entitled *Performance review cycle and process* in the attached report, incorporating three quarterly interim reviews and one formal annual review.
3. **DIRECTS** that the Annual Performance Review be conducted at the February 2016 meeting of the Council and that quarterly interim reviews be held to coincide with the October 2015, May and August 2016 meetings of the Council,
4. **INVITES** the CEO to identify a potential facilitator for the annual performance review.

CARRIED 5/0

New Improved Australia Post Services

**CASH OUT
AVAILABLE NOW**

We have now gone fully live and electronic with our Australia Post Services. We are able to facilitate cash out and all electronic bill paying. "My Post" services are also available.

Pop in and see Annie or Amy for more information.

Banking services are available for over 70 Banks and financial services. Check the Australia Post Website for more information..... Below is the list of the most common.....

AMP Bank, Bank of Queensland, Bank of Sydney, Bankwest, Bendigo Bank, Citibank, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, G&C Mutual Bank, HSBC Bank Australia, ING DIRECT, ME Bank, National Australia Bank, Police Bank, Rural Bank, St. George Bank, Suncorp Bank, Teachers Mutual Bank, Westpac, Many Credit Unions are also supported as is financial institutions such as GE....

Services that can be carried out include—deposits, withdrawals, credit card payments and checks of your account balance.

We are excited that we are able to offer these services to the Wandering Community and encourage the community to take advantage.

We encourage you to look into MY POST services as well, MY POST accounts can support better Parcel Tracking, Mail redirections and discounts for Pensioners and Concession Card holders, with discounts on stamps and other services available. Previously we weren't able to support this service from Wandering, but now that we are live nearly anything goes!!

***We wont be providing passport services etc....*

Rates questions answered

During the recent Rates advertising period there were a lot of questions from the business community regarding SPOT RATING. There seemed to be general concern that we had slotted it in to the rating system in Wandering without adequate community consultation or consideration.

Please note that the Wandering Shire has established a differential rating system a number of years ago to provide for appropriate distribution of rates across the different land use activities. This has been in place and no recent changes have occurred.

It is however Councils intent to undertake a review of the overall rating system in the Shire of Wandering during this financial year. It is Councils intent to consult with the community and conduct a discussion regarding proposed ways forward. It is prudent given the rising costs of doing business and the impost of governance and compliance that we ensure that our rating is appropriate and equitable for all members of the community.

Please note this is not about robbing small business and thereby harming the economics of our community! What we are proposing is a professional discussion about the future and how to provide for the residents of today and future generations.

We will ensure that everybody is given an opportunity to be heard and included in the Study. Please do not hesitate to consult Amanda 9884 1056 if you have any further questions or concerns.

Compliments and Complaints Procedures at the Shire

We have been working on new processes to better manage complaints and compliments at the Shire. We have developed new forms and a process to register your issues, complaints or thanks! The process will be going live on the website in the next month or so and people will be able to track their issue and follow up with us if it has been too long between contact, or you can check if others have also complained etc... The section on the Web to register your complaint or thanks—will be under the Have Your Say Section, when the website goes live over the coming weeks.

We aim to improve our customer service and response times, so please don't hesitate to give us feedback along the way.

SMS and Shire Communications

The Shire is keen to increase our ability to get messages and information out to the community - currently we have the following mechanisms—

- Letter drop
- Website
- SMS
- Email
- ECHO
- Notice Boards

However we don't seem to be able to capture everyone and are often still hearing I didn't know—or that information didn't get to me—Please can you let us know if you think there are other ways that we could be communicating with you. It is our aim to communicate well with all facets of the community openly and effectively. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have an idea of how we could do this better.

The SMS and email forms are in the ECHO again this edition—if you aren't registered but would like to be please fill in the forms and return to the Shire Office or CRC.

Fire Notices will be sent out end of August

We have had some comments regarding the Fire Notice that is usually included with the rates letter, please note that we haven't forgotten, we have decided to send them out a little closer to the season and hopefully prompt more people into action. It is our intention to try and increase the communities fire season preparedness this year, so we will be looking at ways to stimulate compliance and improve community safety.

WANDERING SHIRE COUNCIL

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