



WANDERING SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 20 August 2014

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING /ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The meeting was opened by the Shire President at 1:38pm.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Attendance:

G Kerr President
B Dowsett Deputy President
J McNeil Councillor
W Gowland Councillor
B Whitely Councillor
J Price Councillor
C Ferguson Councillor
M Whitely Chief Executive Officer
D Ojha Manager Administration & Finance
R Evenis Works Supervisor (3:02pm – 3:24pm)

Apologies: Nil

Leave of Absence Previously Granted: Nil

Visitors: Nil

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There being no members of public the President proceeded with the meeting allowing a period of 15 minutes of questions from the public up until 1:47pm

5 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 Shire of Wandering Ordinary Meeting – 17 July 2014

9:2014/15

Moved Cr Price Seconded Cr McNeil that the minutes of the Shire of Wandering Ordinary Meeting held 17 July 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings after the amendment to the comment made by Cr McNeil to read a need to obtain medical clearances “for staff” on a periodical basis.

CARRIED 7-0

7 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Kerr

Meetings Attended

WALGA Annual General Meeting
Regional Road Group

Councillor Dowsett

Meetings Attended

WALGA Annual General Meeting

Councillor Price

Meetings Attended

Town Entrance Statement Committee

Questions Without Notice

Questioned the integrity of certain information provided by the CEO to Council, citing expenditure at the Pumphreys Bridge toilets and road traffic data for Moramocking Rd as examples. When asked by the CEO if Cr Price was suggesting that the CEO was a liar or manipulating data given to Council Cr Price responded that she was not suggesting the CEO was a liar.

Councillor Whitely

Meetings Attended

Town Entrance Statement Committee
Hotham Williams Economic Development Alliance

Councillor McNeil

Questions Without Notice

Brick Paving at the Community Centre

Raised a matter previously asked of the CEO in relation to obtaining quotes from other contractors for bulldozer work completed by Nash Bros. The CEO had previously stated that quotes had been obtained from Phil Watts and Geoff Lister and again clarified this was the case. Cr McNeil then proceeded to say that he had spoken with both contractors and that neither of them had been given the opportunity to quote on works completed by the Shire. The CEO stated this was incorrect and Cr McNeil proceeded to suggest otherwise. When asked by the CEO if Cr McNeil was insinuating that the CEO was a liar, CR McNeil responded that yes he was in fact calling the CEO a liar. When prompted again by the CEO if Cr McNeil was calling him a liar Cr McNeil responded once again that he was calling the CEO a liar.

8 MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL DECISION

8.1 Local Government Amendment (Regional Subsidiaries) Bill 2014

NAME OF APPLICANT: Hon Terry Waldron MLA
FILE REFERENCE: 19.1.1
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

The Hon Terry Waldron MLA has written to regional local governments seeking Council's support to an amendment of the Regional Subsidiaries Bill 2014 which would see an amendment to the Local Government Act 1995 and the insertion of S3.69 allowing local governments the power to form regional subsidiaries. Details of the proposed changes are outlined in Mr Waldron's letter and a copy of the Regional Subsidiaries Bill is also shown at **Attachment 2**.

COMMENT

The Regional Subsidiaries Bill is not a new concept and was lobbied very heavily by politician Max Trenorden who had several failed attempts to have the original Regional Subsidiaries Bill passed during his time in parliament.

The concept is not dissimilar to the various voluntary groups of councils that have been in operation for the past 10-15 years. In the case of Wandering this has been the Dryandra VROC which is made up of the Shires of Wandering, Pingelly, Cuballing, Narrogin, Wickepin and the Town of Narrogin.

The Regional Subsidiary Model is a concept that has been supported by regional local governments for some time and has been supported by the WALGA country zones including the WALGA Central Country Zone which includes the Shires of Kulin, Wickepin, Brookton, Beverley, Corrigin, Dumbleyung, Lake Grace, Narrogin, Pingelly, Wagin, Wandering, West Arthur, Quairading, Cuballing, Williams and Town of Narrogin.

Regional Subsidiaries are not be confused with amalgamations. The purpose of the Regional Subsidiary model is to allow local governments to collaborate without losing their identity.

The most significance difference between the existing Dryandra VROC and the establishment of a Regional Subsidiary Model is that the establishment of Regional Subsidiaries will see a much greater structured approach for collaborating Council's as outlined at sub section 4 in Mr Waldron's letter.

It may be seen by some as a trade off in lieu of amalgamations, however most Councils are already operating at this level in some form through the resource sharing of EHO, Building and Planning officers. A positive spin on the establishment of Regional Subsidiaries is that it would in all likelihood lead to a more efficient use of staff resources between neighbouring local governments.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

The insertion of a new section, namely S3.69 of the Local Government Act 1995

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation as and when required is detailed in subsection 4 of the proposed amended bill.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is reasonable to expect there will be some cost to Council's in establishing a Regional Subsidiary, however there are also foreseeable cost savings from resource sharing and greater efficiency of staff resources.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council support the Parliamentary National Party's proposed amendment to the Local Government Act 1995 and in doing so support the Regional Subsidiaries Bill 2014 to allow local governments the power to form regional subsidiaries.

[Attachment 2](#)

10:2014/15

Moved Cr Kerr, Seconded Cr Dowsett that Council support the Parliamentary National Party's proposed amendment to the Local Government Act 1995 and in doing so support the Regional Subsidiaries Bill 2014 to allow local governments the power to form regional subsidiaries

CARRIED 5-2

8.2 Wandering Community Resource Centre Business Plan

NAME OF APPLICANT: Wandering Community Resource Centre
FILE REFERENCE: 7.1.6
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

Community Resource Centres were previously funded under Financial Assistance Agreements (FAA's) from the Royalties for Regions program but have now moved to a fee for service arrangement. Part of the new fee for service arrangement is the requirement for a Business Plan to be completed for each Community Resource Centre. The purpose of the Business Plan is to clearly identify the outcomes proposed during the financial year in order to be successful in obtaining funding. A copy of the Business Plan for the Wandering Community Resource Centre is shown at **Attachment 3**.

COMMENT

The Wandering Community Resource Centre was successful in securing \$108,000 per annum over a three year period for which a contract has since been signed. Previously the Wandering Community Resource Centre received \$100,000 per annum under the Financial Assistance Agreement model.

Even with the agreement in place future years funding is reliant on the delivery of the outcomes outlined in the Business Plan.

Under the previous Financial Assistance Agreement arrangement the Department of Regional Development had limited involvement with the expenditure of funds in so much that even though a funding amount was agreed to, the only real requirement of the Community Resource Centre was to ensure that these funds were spent and acquitted in the appropriate manner. The new fee for service arrangement is being implemented by the Department of Regional Development to establish a stronger link between Community Resource Centre funding and measurable outcomes under the Royalty for Regions program.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Future funding is reliant on the delivery of the outcomes depicted in the Business Plan.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received by Council.

[Attachment 3](#)

11:2014/15

Moved Cr Dowsett, Seconded Cr McNeil that the information be received by Council.

CARRIED 7-0

8.3 Bridge No. 0420A North Bannister Wandering Road

NAME OF APPLICANT: Main Roads
FILE REFERENCE: 33.1.5.1
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

Main Roads have recently carried out routine inspections of bridge structures in the district and the inspection report findings for the above mentioned structure are tabled for Council information.

COMMENT

Each year an allocation of \$50,000 is made in the budget which is made up primarily of Council's salaries, overheads and plant allocation costs with a small provision made for materials.

This year there is also an additional \$170,000 allocated to bridge construction and maintenance as the result of leftover funding from maintenance carried out on the Pumphreys Road bridge in 2010/11.

If significant upgrades to any of the bridges in the Shire's network are required then it would be necessary to work with Main Roads in obtaining funds to carry out these works as in most cases the cost to complete the required repairs would prohibit Council from completing such projects with our own resources.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any maintenance and/or construction on the bridges within the Shire of Wandering road network is likely to have a significant financial impact on Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received by Council.

[Attachment 4](#)

8.4 Bridge No. 0422 Wandering Pingelly Road

NAME OF APPLICANT: Main Roads
FILE REFERENCE: 33.1.5.3
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

Main Roads have recently carried out routine inspections of bridge structures in the district and the inspection report findings for the above mentioned structure are tabled for Council information.

COMMENT

Each year an allocation of \$50,000 is made in the budget which is made up primarily of Council's salaries, overheads and plant allocation costs with a small provision made for materials.

This year there is also an additional \$170,000 allocated to bridge construction and maintenance as the result of leftover funding from maintenance carried out on the Pumphreys Road bridge in 2010/11.

If significant upgrades to any of the bridges in the Shire's network are required then it would be necessary to work with Main Roads in obtaining funds to carry out these works as in most cases the cost to complete the required repairs would prohibit Council from completing such projects with our own resources.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any maintenance and/or construction on the bridges within the Shire of Wandering road network is likely to have a significant financial impact on Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received by Council.

[Attachment 5](#)

8.5 Bridge No. 0424A Wandering Pingelly Road

NAME OF APPLICANT: Main Roads
FILE REFERENCE: 33.1.5.5
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

Main Roads have recently carried out routine inspections of bridge structures in the district and the inspection report findings for the above mentioned structure are tabled for Council information.

COMMENT

Each year an allocation of \$50,000 is made in the budget which is made up primarily of Council's salaries, overheads and plant allocation costs with a small provision made for materials.

This year there is also an additional \$170,000 allocated to bridge construction and maintenance as the result of leftover funding from maintenance carried out on the Pumphreys Road bridge in 2010/11.

If significant upgrades to any of the bridges in the Shire's network are required then it would be necessary to work with Main Roads in obtaining funds to carry out these works as in most cases the cost to complete the required repairs would prohibit Council from completing such projects with our own resources.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any maintenance and/or construction on the bridges within the Shire of Wandering road network is likely to have a significant financial impact on Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received by Council.

[Attachment 6](#)

8.6 Bridge No. 3064A Carabin Road

NAME OF APPLICANT: Main Roads
FILE REFERENCE: 33.1.5.3
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

Main Roads have recently carried out routine inspections of bridge structures in the district and the inspection report findings for the above mentioned structure are tabled for Council information.

COMMENT

Each year an allocation of \$50,000 is made in the budget which is made up primarily of Council's salaries, overheads and plant allocation costs with a small provision made for materials.

This year there is also an additional \$170,000 allocated to bridge construction and maintenance as the result of leftover funding from maintenance carried out on the Pumphreys Road bridge in 2010/11.

If significant upgrades to any of the bridges in the Shire's network are required then it would be necessary to work with Main Roads in obtaining funds to carry out these works as in most cases the cost to complete the required repairs would prohibit Council from completing such projects with our own resources.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any maintenance and/or construction on the bridges within the Shire of Wandering road network is likely to have a significant financial impact on Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received by Council.

[Attachment 7](#)

12:2014/15

Moved Cr Whitely, Seconded Cr McNeil that Agenda Items 8.3 – 8.6 be received by Council.

CARRIED 7/0

8.6 List of Accounts – July 2014

NAME OF APPLICANT: Shire of Wandering
FILE REFERENCE: 10.1.16
AUTHOR: Accounts Officer

BACKGROUND

Attached is a list of accounts for Council consideration.

COMMENT

Nil

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Wandering 2014/15 Budget

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That all Cheque, EFT, wages, transport payments, transfers to investments, credit card payments, creditor payments and other vouchers from the Municipal and Trust Fund totalling \$217,328.54 be passed for payment.

[Attachment 8](#)

13:2014/15

Moved Cr Ferguson, Seconded Cr Whitely that all Cheque, EFT, wages, transport payments, transfers to investments, credit card payments, creditor payments and other vouchers from the Municipal and Trust Fund totalling \$217,328.54 be passed for payment.

CARRIED 7/0

8.7 Financial Reports – July 2014

NAME OF APPLICANT: Shire of Wandering
FILE REFERENCE: 10.1.16
AUTHOR: Acting CEO

BACKGROUND

Separately attached are the monthly Financial Statements for the period 31 July 2014.

COMMENT

Refer to Finance Report on page 14.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Wandering 2014/15 Budget

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the monthly Financial Statements for the period ending 31 July 2014.

[Attachment 9](#)

14:2014/15

Moved Cr Dowsett, Seconded Cr Kerr that Council endorse the monthly Financial Statements for the period ending 31 July 2014.

CARRIED 7/0

The Manager of Administration & Finance left meeting the meeting at 3:01pm to get the Works Supervisor and returned to the meeting at 3:04pm

The Works Supervisor entered the meeting at 3:02pm

Rod Evenis, Works Supervisor, fielded general questions from Council in relation to the current outside works program and provided some additional feedback on the status on past and current plant repairs.

The CEO left the room at 3:11pm and returned to the meeting at 3:12pm

The Works Supervisor left the meeting at 3:24pm

9 ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

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

The CEO informed Council that he would like to discuss the Wandering Annual Fair, in specific the Shire's level of contribution towards this years' event and asked for the matter to be discussed as a late item

15:2014/15

Moved Cr Dowsett, Seconded Cr Whitely that Council endorse the late item introduced by the CEO for the Wandering Fair Committee.

CARRIED 7/0

10.1 Wandering Annual Fair 2014

NAME OF APPLICANT: Wandering Annual Fair Committee
FILE REFERENCE: 18.1.27
AUTHOR: CEO

BACKGROUND

A letter has been received from the Annual Fair Committee requesting monetary support for the 2014 Fair.

COMMENT

Last year the Shire provided for free the use of the Cheetaning Street oval and Geoff Marsh Pavilion, purchased portable shade structures which were given to the Committee free of charge and agreed to reimburse costs associated with the day to the value of \$2,500 on the production of receipts from the Wandering Fair Committee.

STATUTORY & TOWN PLANNING

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An allocation \$2,500 was made in the 2014/15 Budget for the Wandering Annual Fair.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the use of the Cheetaning St oval, Geoff Marsh Pavilion and portable shade structures free of charge and in addition Council will reimburse costs associated with the day to the value of \$2,500 on the production of receipts from the Wandering Fair Committee for this amount.

As a member of the Wandering Fair Committee Cr Gowland declared an interest by way of impartiality, was not asked to leave the meeting by Council however Cr Gowland did obtain from voting.

16:2014/15

Moved Cr Dowsett and Seconded Cr Whitely that Council approve the use of the Cheetaning St oval, Geoff Marsh Pavilion and portable shade structures free of charge and in addition Council will reimburse costs associated with the day to the value of \$2,500 on the production of receipts from the Wandering Fair Committee for this amount.

CARRIED 6-0

At this point in the meeting the President raised the matter of Cr McNeil v Shire of Wandering in relation to gravel royalties. While no late item was introduced by way of a motion to the meeting Cr McNeil was asked to leave the meeting to allow the CEO to provide with an update in relation to the matter.

Cr McNeil left the meeting at 3:40pm and returned to the meeting at 3:55pm.

On Cr McNeil's return to the meeting Council continued on with questions without notice from the floor.

11 NEXT MEETING

Next Ordinary Council meeting to be held on Thursday 18 September at 1:30pm

12 CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business for discussion the Shire President closed the meeting at 4:16 pm

**These Minutes were confirmed by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting
on Thursday 18 September 2014.**

CR G G KERR, President