

# SHIRE OF WANDERING



## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**29 October  
2018**

### **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes for the Special Council Meeting to be held on Monday

29 October, 2018 in the Council Chambers commencing at 6.00pm.



## Notice of Meeting

The next Special Council Meeting for the Shire of Wandering will be held on Monday 29 October, 2018 in the Wandering Council Chambers at 22 Watts Street. Commencing at 6.00pm to present the 2017/18 Annual Report and 2018-2028 Strategic Community Plan for adoption and advertising

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'A Halloran', is written over a circular official stamp.

Amanda O'Halloran  
Chief Executive Officer

### DISCLAIMER

*The recommendations contained in the Agenda are subject to confirmation by Council. The Shire of Wandering warns that anyone who has any application lodged with Council must obtain and should only rely on written confirmation of the outcomes of the application following the Council meeting, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Council in respect of the application. No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Wandering for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during a Council meeting.*

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**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The President declared the meeting open at 6.19pm

VISITORS

Nil

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Councillors**

Cr B Whitely

President

Cr G Parsons

Cr I Turton

Cr J Price

Cr M Watts

**Apology**

Cr C Ferguson

Deputy President

**Staff:**

A O'Halloran

Chief Executive Officer

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (NOTES FOR YOUR GUIDANCE) (*updated 13 March 2000*)**

A member who has a Financial Interest in any matter to be discussed at a Council or Committee Meeting, which will be attended by the member, must disclose the nature of the interest:

- (a) In a written notice given to the Chief Executive Officer before the Meeting or;
- (b) At the Meeting, immediately before the matter is discussed.

A member, who makes a disclosure in respect to an interest, must not:

- (c) Preside at the part of the Meeting, relating to the matter or;
- (d) Participate in, or be present during any discussion or decision-making procedure relative to the matter, unless to the extent that the disclosing member is allowed to do so under Section 5.68 or Section 5.69 of the Local Government Act 1995.

**NOTES ON FINANCIAL INTEREST (FOR YOUR GUIDANCE)**

The following notes are a basic guide for Councillors when they are considering whether they have a Financial Interest in a matter. I intend to include these notes in each agenda for the time being so that Councillors may refresh their memory.

- 1. A Financial Interest requiring disclosure occurs when a Council decision might advantageously or detrimentally affect the Councillor or a person closely associated with the Councillor and is capable of being measured in money terms. There are exceptions in the Local Government Act 1995 but they should not be relied on without advice, unless the situation is very clear.
- 2. If a Councillor is a member of an Association (which is a Body Corporate) with not less than 10 members i.e. sporting, social, religious etc., and the Councillor is not a holder of office of profit or a guarantor, and has not leased land to or from the club, i.e. if the Councillor is an ordinary member of the Association, the Councillor has a common and not a financial interest in any matter to that Association.

3. If an interest is shared in common with a significant number of electors or ratepayers, then the obligation to disclose that interest does not arise. Each case needs to be considered.
4. If in doubt declare.
5. As stated in (b) above, if written notice disclosing the interest has not been given to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting, then it **MUST** be given when the matter arises in the Agenda, and immediately before the matter is discussed.
6. Ordinarily the disclosing Councillor must leave the meeting room before discussion commences.  
The only exceptions are:
  - 6.1** Where the Councillor discloses the extent of the interest, and Council carries a motion under s.5.68(1)(b)(ii) or the Local Government Act; or
  - 6.2** Where the Minister allows the Councillor to participate under s5.69 (3) of the Local Government Act, with or without conditions.

## **INTERESTS AFFECTING IMPARTIALITY**

**DEFINITION:** An interest that would give rise to a reasonable belief that the impartiality of the person having the interest would be adversely affected, but does not include an interest as referred to in Section 5.60 of the 'Act'. A member who has an Interest Affecting Impartiality in any matter to be discussed at a Council or Committee Meeting, which will be attended by the member, must disclose the nature of the interest;  
(a) in a written notice given to the Chief Executive Officer before the Meeting; or  
(b) at the Meeting, immediately before the matter is discussed.

## **IMPACT OF AN IMPARTIALITY CLOSURE**

There are very different outcomes resulting from disclosing an interest affecting impartiality compared to that of a financial interest. With the declaration of a financial interest, an elected member leaves the room and does not vote.

With the declaration of this new type of interest, the elected member stays in the room, participates in the debate and votes. In effect then, following disclosure of an interest affecting impartiality, the member's involvement in the Meeting continues as if no interest existed.

## **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

## **5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The confirmation of minutes from the last Ordinary Meeting of Council will be included in the Agenda for the next Ordinary Meeting to be held at 3.30pm, Thursday 15th November 2018.

## **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

NIL

## 7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

#### 7.1.1 ADOPTION OF THE SHIRE OF WANDERING 2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT

File Reference	10.1.6
Proponents:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	25 October 2018
Previously Before Council:	Nil
Authors Name & Position:	Amanda O'Halloran CEO
Attachments:	7.1.1.1 2017/18 Shire of Wandering Annual Report

#### NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:

- ☐ Advocacy *When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.*
- ☒ Executive *The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.*
- ☐ Legislative *Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.*
- ☐ Review *When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.*
- ☐ Quasi-judicial *When Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's rights and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice e.g. local planning applications, building permits, other permits/licences (e.g. under Health Act, Dog Act or local laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT).*

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This item presents the Shire of Wandering 2017/18 Annual Budget Report for adoption by the Council.

#### BACKGROUND

The annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2018 have been completed, and adopted by the Audit Committee and Wandering Shire Council at the 18 October 2018 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.2**

**MOVED: CR FERGUSON**

**SECONDED: CR WATTS**

#### **That Council:**

1. *Accept the Auditors Report and the Audited Annual Financial Statements of the Shire of Wandering for the financial year ended 30 June 2018 as per ATTACHMENT 7.1.1 of this agenda and minutes.*
2. *Hold an Annual General Meeting of Electors at Wandering Community Centre, Wandering commencing at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14 November 2018 and authorise the CEO to advertise accordingly.*

**CARRIED 6/0**

Generally the Annual Report in its entirety would also be adopted and approved for circulation prior to the Annual Electors Meeting at the same time, however due to resourcing constraints the 2017/18 Annual Report was not finalised at that time and is now presented for adoption and community release.

## **COMMENT/ DETAILS**

Local governments are required to adopt the annual report prior to 31 December each year and conduct an annual electors meeting (AEM) not more than 56 days after adopting the report. Considering the above legislative timeline, if the 2017/18 Annual Report is adopted at Council's 29 October 2018 Special Meeting, the AEM must be held on or prior to Thursday 13 December 2018. It is therefore proposed to conduct the AEM on the evening of 14 November 2018, to enable maximum attendance given that harvest will be commencing in earnest for some farmers and residents over the coming weeks.

The Annual Report presented showcases the Council's achievements throughout the 2017/18 financial year, key features include the Presidents Report, Operational Highlights, Works progress and Community development events undertaken. The Annual Report demonstrates that Council has met the statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 1995 as prescribed.

## **ATTACHMENT 7.1.1.1**

## **CONSULTATION**

Manager Finance  
Manager Communities  
Council Auditors  
Shire President

## **STATUTORY/ LEGAL ENVIRONMENT**

Section 6.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires a local government to prepare a financial report for the preceding financial year by 30 September.

### Section 5.27 Electors' general Meetings

- (1) that a general meeting of the electors of a district is to be held once every financial year.
- (2) A general meeting is to be held on a day selected by the local government not more than 56 days after the local government accepts the annual report of the previous financial year.
- (3) The matters to be discussed at the general electors' meetings are to be those prescribed.

### Section 2.29 Convening electors' meetings

- (1) The CEO is to convene an electors' meeting by giving –
  - (a) At least 14 days' local public notice; and
  - (b) Each council member at least 14 days' notice, of the date, time, and purpose of the meeting.
- (2) The local public notice referred to in subsection (1)(a) is to be treated as having commenced at the time of the publication of the notice under section 1.7(1)(a) and is to continue by way of exhibition under section 1.7(1)(b) and (c) until the meeting has been held.

Section 5.53(2)(f) of the Act requires the annual report of the local government to include the financial report.

### Section 5.55 Notice of Annual Reports

The CEO is to give local public notice of the availability of the annual report as soon as practicable after the report has been accepted by the local government.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil, all costs associated have been included in the 2017/18 Annual Budget

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Community Strategic Plan 2013-2023

### Goal 5 – A strong and effective Organisation

Strategic Community Plan			
Outcome	Strategies	Strategies	
5.2	Accountable decision making and resource allocation through effective governance.	5.2.1	Ensure the Council's decision making process is effective and transparent.
		5.2.2:	Ensure that the organisation's governance structure, policies and procedures are current and relevant.

## VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

## OFFICER' S RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Adopt the 2017/18 Annual Report as per **ATTACHMENT 7.1.1.1** of this agenda and minutes; and
2. Confirm the date of the Annual General Meeting of Electors on Wednesday 14 November 2018 commencing at 7.30pm at the Wandering Community Centre, Down Street, Wandering
3. In accordance with Section 2.29 of the Local Government Act 1995, the Chief Executive Officer is to undertake advertising accordingly.

## COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 7.1.1

**MOVED: CR PRICE**

**SECONDED: CR TURTON**

That Council

1. Adopt the 2017/18 Annual Report as per **ATTACHMENT 7.1.1.1** of this agenda and minutes; and
2. Confirm the date of the Annual General Meeting of Electors on Wednesday 14 November 2018 commencing at 7.30pm at the Wandering Community Centre, Down Street, Wandering
3. In accordance with Section 2.29 of the Local Government Act 1995, the Chief Executive Officer is to undertake advertising accordingly.

**CARRIED 5/0**



## 7.1.2 ADOPTION OF THE SHIRE OF WANDERING STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2018 – 2023

File Reference	1.1.20
Proponents:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	25 October, 2018
Previously Before Council:	18 July 2018 Ordinary Meeting of Council – Item 1.10.2
Authors Name & Position:	Amanda O'Halloran, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	10.1.2.1 Shire of Wandering Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2023

### NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:

- ☐ Advocacy *When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.*
- ☒ Executive *The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.*
- ☐ Legislative *Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.*
- ☐ Review *When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.*
- ☐ Quasi-judicial *When Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's rights and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice e.g. local planning applications, building permits, other permits/licences (e.g. under Health Act, Dog Act or local laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT).*

### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This item presents the Wandering Shire Council Strategic Community 2018 – 2028 Plan for adoption by the Council.

### BACKGROUND

The Strategic Community Plan outlines the visions, values, aspirations and priorities of the Shire of Wandering Community in the longer term (+10 year).

It is just one part of a suite of documents that form the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and must be closely aligned, in particular, with the Long Term Financial Plan and Budgetary documents. Amendments made in the Strategic Community Plan will flow through to the Corporate Business Plan.

Comprehensive community consultation has been undertaken by the Shire with support from the Wheatbelt Business Network and Caroline Robinson which has been incorporated in the final plan. Council has been heavily involved in the development of the Plan and have actively taken part in four workshops to facilitate the production of the attached draft Plan.

At the 19 July Ordinary Meeting of Council recommended the following:

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.1.2**

**MOVED: Cr Ferguson**

**SECONDED: Cr Turton**

*That Council:*

- 1. Approves the release of the draft Strategic Community Plan for community consultation*
- 2. Approves community consultation on the draft Strategic Community Plan to take place for a period of approximately four weeks from 30 July 2018 and closing on 27 August 2018*

3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer as part of the community consultation to:
- a. Letter drop a flyer outlining the consultation opportunity
  - b. Make copies of the plan available on the Shire's website and at the front counter of the Shire Office
  - c. Promote the consultation process on social media and the Shires website
  - d. Create a submission form to assist people in making responses to the plans
  - e. Place notices of the consultation period on notice boards where appropriate.

**CARRIED 6/0**

### **COMMENT/ DETAILS**

The Draft Strategic Community Plan addresses the main challenges we foresee for the future and sets out the strategies and key actions required to achieve the vision.

Community consultation is an important step in the development of the Strategic Community Plan, allowing our community to contribute to the final document. A series of face-to-face sessions and survey engagements were completed in 2017 which provided valuable input that was assessed and included in the Strategic Community Plan.

The Shire advertised the Draft Strategic Community Plan from the 30 July, 2018. The plan was available for comment at the Shire Office and Wandering CRC. By the close of the comment period on the 27 August 2018 the Shire had received no submissions.

### **ATTACHMENT 7.1.2.1**

### **CONSULTATION**

Shire Councillors  
Shire President  
Manager Communities  
Wandering Community Members  
Key Stakeholders

### **STATUTORY/ LEGAL ENVIRONMENT**

Section 5.56 of the Local Government Act 1995 states:

"5.56 Planning for the Future

- (1) A local government is to plan for the future of the district.
- (2) A local government is to ensure that plans made under subsection (1) are in accordance with any regulations made about planning for the future of the district."

Section 19C of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 states:

19C Strategic community plans, requirements for (Act s. 5.56)

- (1) A local government is to ensure that a strategic community plan is made for its district in accordance with this regulation in respect of each financial year after the financial year ending 30 June 2013.
- (2) A strategic community plan for a district is to cover the period specified in the plan, which is to be at least 10 financial years.
- (3) A strategic community plan for a district is to set out the vision, aspirations and objectives of the community in the district.
- (4) A local government is to review the current strategic community plan for its district at least once every 4 years.
- (5) In making or reviewing a strategic community plan, a local government is to have regard to —
  - (a) the capacity of its current resources and the anticipated capacity of its future

- resources; and
- (b) strategic performance indicators and the ways of measuring its strategic performance by the application of those indicators; and
- (c) demographic trends.
- (6) Subject to sub regulation (9), a local government may modify its strategic community plan, including extending the period the plan is made in respect of.
- (7) A council is to consider a strategic community plan, or modifications of such a plan, submitted to it and is to determine\* whether or not to adopt the plan or the modifications.
- \*Absolute majority required.
- (8) If a strategic community plan is, or modifications of a strategic community plan are, adopted by the council, the plan or modified plan applies to the district for the period specified in the plan.
- (9) A local government is to ensure that the electors and ratepayers of its district are consulted during the development of a strategic community plan and when preparing modifications of a strategic community plan.
- (10) A strategic community plan for a district is to contain a description of the involvement of the electors and ratepayers of the district in the development of the plan or the preparation of modifications of the plan.”

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

### CP027 INTEGRATED PLANNING POLICY

The Shire recognises that for sustainability, good governance and the provision of effective services and facilities for the community, an integrated approach is needed to all planning and resourcing activities. The objective of this policy is to provide guidance and mandate activities to ensure compliance with the Integrated Planning Regulations of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil all expenses have been approved as per the 2017/18 Budget.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

### Community Strategic Plan 2013-2023

#### Goal 5 – A strong and effective Organisation

Strategic Community Plan			
Outcome	Strategies	Strategies	
5.2	Accountable decision making and resource allocation through effective governance.	5.2.1	Ensure the Council’s decision making process is effective and transparent.
		5.2.2:	Ensure that the organisation’s governance structure, policies and procedures are current and relevant.

## VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

## OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopts the Shire of Wandering Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 as per **ATTACHMENT 7.1.2.1** of this agenda and minutes.

2. In accordance with regulation19C of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 authorises local public notice to be given of the adoption of the Shire of Wandering: Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028.
3. Confirms the formal launch of the Shire of Wandering Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 at the Annual Electors Meeting on the 14 November 2018 at 7.30pm, Wandering Community Centre.

**COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 7.1.2**

**MOVED: CR WATTS**

**SECONDED: CR PRICE**

That Council:

1. Adopts the Shire of Wandering Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 as per **ATTACHMENT 7.1.2.1** of this agenda and minutes.
2. In accordance with regulation19C of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 authorises local public notice to be given of the adoption of the Shire of Wandering: Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028
3. Confirms the formal launch of the Shire of Wandering Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 at the Annual Electors Meeting on the 14 November 2018 at 7.30pm, Wandering Community Centre

**CARRIED 5/0**

**8. BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING**

Nil

**9. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 15 November, 2018 at 3:30pm.

**10. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Shire President declared the meeting closed at 6.39 pm

**These Minutes were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting  
on Thursday 15 November 2018.**

**Signed: .....**

**Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed**

**Date: .....**

SHIRE OF  
**WANDERING**

# **STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN**

2018 - 2028

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# WELCOME

It is an honour as your Shire President to present the Shire of Wandering Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028. The Plan is a culmination of the community's aspirations and day to day needs. Times are tough in regional Western Australia, funding opportunities have decreased significantly and our communities need to be self-determined and find their own internal solutions with very little assistance like has previously been available.

As well as being a legislative requirement to review the plan, this work has been an excellent opportunity to engage with our Community. The Shire engaged the Wheatbelt Business Network to undertake engagement and we were very pleased at the number of community members that responded directly to inform the Council's views. 96 direct interactions occurred equalling 21% of our population. The themes that came through have been reflected in the plan giving Council confidence that the community's views and feedback have been reflected.

The Council's priority is – "to lead our Wandering community into a stable yet progressive future with strong partnerships".

To achieve this we have developed 4 clear policies detailing where we want to see action. Each priority area contains several outcomes and strategies which will guide Councillors, Shire Officers and the community into the future.

1. Improve our financial position
2. Improve the economic growth of our community
3. Retain and grow our population
4. Provide strong leadership

I would like to thank every community member who has given their time and energy to help develop this plan for the future. We look forward to continuing this partnership with the community to ensure we are best placed to adapt to changing environments and celebrating who we are.

Brendan Whitely  
**Shire President**

# STRATEGIC PLAN PURPOSE

Council and senior staff have been working towards the Strategic Community Plan for a significant period of time, with a number of workshops to determine their current position and future goals amongst a revamped staffing structure.

Council saw the opportunity to develop a clear direction and ensure it was adequately resourced for the future, so this Plan is important to both the Council and community as it:

- Clearly establishes where the Shire of Wandering is starting from
- Includes a revised vision for the Shire of Wandering which Council feels is more reflective of their direction, priorities and how they will achieve them
- Includes a clear direction for Council using a decision making criteria developed by Council
- Identifies the risks and opportunities for Council
- Establishes the direction of other integrated planning documents, relevant to the context that the Shire of Wandering operates in
- Is measureable and results orientated, developed by Council in response to the community and staff contributions

The Shire of Wandering has developed this Strategic Community Plan for the "people" – electors, ratepayers, permanent residents and temporary visitors.

## Monitoring and Reporting

The Shire of Wandering will conduct a Strategic Review every two years, alternating between a Minor Strategic Review and a Major Strategic Review.

### INFORMING STRATEGIES

- Finance
- Assets
- Workforce
- Services
- Issues specific strategies

### STRATEGIC PLAN

### CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN

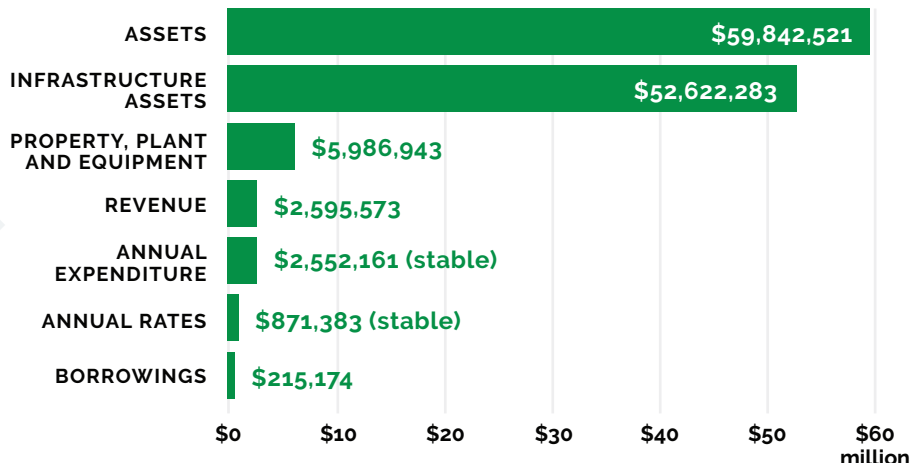
### ANNUAL BUDGET



# PROGRESS MADE

The Shire of Wandering has undergone significant leadership changes and resource challenges since the last Strategic Community Plan (2013), hence for this Plan it is clearly establishing where it is starting from.

4 FTE INSIDE AND  
6 FTE OUTSIDE STAFF (stable)



## What we have achieved from the 2013 – 2023 Strategic Community Plan:

### Community

- Upgraded the Tennis Courts and built a Lawn Bowls facility
- Provided improved facilities for our youth, built a skate park and playground
- Promoted the programs and facilities at the Community Centre Precinct
- Facilitated Wandering Community Resource Centres services to the community
- Supported our local clubs, through funding, grant assistance and loan of equipment
- Assisted with community events for people of all ages

### Economy

- Promoted Wandering as a tourism destination
- Built the Wandering 24hr Fuel Station
- Upgraded and expanded the Wandering Caravan Park
- Advocated for improved economic outcomes through memberships and representation on the Hotham Williams Economic Development Alliance
- Advocated for the provision of improved utility services
- Promoted the agricultural industry and relocation opportunities

### Environment

- Prepared and promoted a town strategy
- Built a Waste Transfer Station, closed rubbish tip
- Implemented Recycling Services
- Developed a strong partnership with the Peel Harvey Catchment Council for improved environmental outcomes in the Shire.
- Encouraged variety in land use planning
- Auspice funds on behalf of the Hotham Declared Species Group for the eradication of feral pigs
- Auspice funds for the Wandering Lions Club for the environmental reinstatement of the Woglin Creek area.

### Infrastructure

- Maintained and further developed roads
- Promoted the services and facilities of the Shire and looked towards multi-use
- Developed a strategic direction and use for the Community Precinct

### Strategic Community Plan programs that will be included in the 2018 – 2028 Plan:

- Asset management planning and long term financial planning
- Robust business cases for future developments
- Accessing Shire information in a timely manner with a high standard of services
- Council decision making is open
- Appropriate governance structures, policies, procedures, systems and frameworks



# COMMUNITY PROFILE

## SHIRE OF WANDERING PROFILE

### Statistical Profile of the Shire of Wandering

- WAEC Electorate Roll (July 2017) – 316 people (2015/16 financial year was 316)
- Population 444 (Census 2016)
- 347 ratepayers in 2015/16 (WALGA)
- No of dwellings: 220
- Population increase: Approximately 350 (2006) to 444 (2016) (Census 2016)
- Median age: 47yrs (ABS, Census 2016) up from 43yrs in 2006
- 3 Indigenous persons
- Median weekly income is \$748 (ABS, Census 2016)

The Shire of Wandering is a small rural authority located in the Central South region of the Wheatbelt of Western Australia. Some 120km South East of Perth it is a short yet scenic drive off the Albany Highway to picturesque fields and homes. With an area of 1,955 km<sup>2</sup> it is a cosy farming town with approximately 450 people residing in the Shire and approx. 120 people in the township itself.

The Shire borders the local authorities of Armadale, Serpentine – Jarrahdale, Murray, Boddington, Williams, Cuballing, Pingelly, Brookton and Beverley.

Major agricultural activities include cereal crops (oats, wheat, barley) pulse crops (lupins, chickpeas, faba beans) oil seed (canola), sheep (wool & meat), cattle (meat), pigs and vineyards. Other commercial industries include wineries, timber milling and hay exporting.

A range of local commercial services exist. Services provided include a primary school (with bus services to Boddington for junior high school education). Major sporting facilities include oval (cricket), tennis/basketball/netball courts, badminton courts (inside Community Centre) and golf course (Wandering Golf Club Inc.).

Wandering is within the State electorate of Wagin and the Federal electorate of O'Connor.



# CONSIDERED RISKS

Throughout the Strategic Planning process a number of internal and external risks have been discussed and presented to Council for consideration, additionally Council conducted a SWOT analysis on the organisation. The risks identified and being considered in the development of this Strategic Plan include:

## Internal Risks

- > Current rate structure
- > Low rate base
- > Increasing compliance on local governments
- > Asset management and preservation from own funds
- > Reliance on external government funding
- > Allocation of resources to achieve our goals
- > Increasing costs of doing business e.g. water, electricity and regulatory price increases

## External Risks

- > We are a small local government next to larger local governments
- > Close proximity to metropolitan area
- > Transient permanent population (DIDO from Perth and neighbouring communities)
- > Volunteer numbers and their resources are diminishing
- > Access to financial and staff resources
- > Large parcels of land that are unproductive
- > Road infrastructure (extensive kms of gravel roads)
- > Access to health services located in regional centres or neighbouring Shires
- > Retaining our Primary School

## Managing these internal and external risks

### Our Strengths

#### Internal

- > Business acumen of senior staff
- > Utilising the CRC connection and service offering to the community

#### External

- > Strong agricultural sector
- > Growing light industry

### Our Opportunities

#### Internal

- > Our people – their skills, their volunteering spirit, their leadership
- > Sharing our resources
- > Physical location and high standard of facilities

#### External

- > Growing our events and attracting new ones
- > Our natural environment (clear skies, cold weather, national park etc)
- > Access to Albany Highway and inland southern route
- > Being the gateway to the Dryandra National Park
- > Our close proximity to Perth
- > Having affordable land for families
- > Low business start up costs

# CREATING OUR STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

## Inform

- Project Plan publicised for the Strategic Community Plan
- Community Engagement Plan publicised for the process
- CEO Notices regarding the process – online and print
- Council introductory and teamwork workshop (2)
- Summary of all community feedback publicised online and in print

## Involve

- Administration and Works staff workshop
- Councillor workshops

## Consult

- Online and hard copy survey
- One on one Councillor interviews
- One on one phone interviews (random and structured with community leaders)
- One on one conversations with business owners
- One on one conversations with advisors to the district
- One on one conversations with key service organisations in the Shire e.g. School
- Community conversations

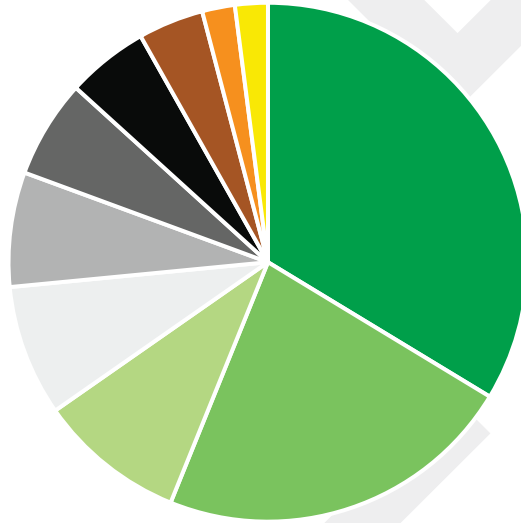
## Collaborate

- Strategic Community Plan feedback period



## Responses

- > **33** Survey respondents
- > **22** Random phone calls to ratepayers across all parts of the Shire answering a series of set questions
- > **9** Outside Works Crew toolbox meeting
- > **8** Parents at Playgroup
- > **7** Shire Councillors one on one meetings
- > **6** Community conversations
- > **5** Administration Staff
- > **4** Business owners in town site separate to any other consultation
- > **2** Community leaders of local clubs and associations separate to online and hard copy survey
- > **2** Advisors to the district
  - outside of the Shire of Wandering



**Total engagement: 96**  
**(21% of total population residing in the Shire of Wandering)**

- > **Respondents**
- > Total population of the Shire of Wandering

### High Priority

- > Maintenance and improvement of road infrastructure
- > Appropriate financial management
- > Remaining independent and being able to choose our destiny
- > Rate structure
- > Capturing the opportunity e.g. Dryandra National Park, access to Albany Hwy
- > Having a stable and increasing population
- > Business diversification

### Medium Priority

- > Poor mobile telecommunications
- > Working proactively with neighbouring local governments

These priorities have all been reflected in the goals and strategies of our plan.



# OUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Where will the Shire be in 10 years' time?



## Our Vision:

Wandering is a community of responsible, resilient and adaptable residents thriving in our scenic, economically diverse environment.

## Keys to our success:

- > Innovative solutions
- > Retention of local services
- > Opportunities for commercial interaction
- > Retention of existing businesses

## Our Values:

- > **Adaptability**
- > **Perseverance**
- > **Accountability**
- > **Diligence**

## How Will We Get There?

### Our Council Priorities:

**To lead our Wandering community into a stable yet progressive future with strong partnerships**

1. Improve our financial position
2. Improve the economic growth of our community
3. Retain and grow our population
4. Provide strong leadership

## What we must achieve in 1-3yrs to achieve our Council Priorities and the 10yr plan

### Improve our Financial Position

Our Goals	Our Strategies	Our Measurement
<b>The Wandering Shire is financially sustainable</b>	Improve accountability and transparency Develop an investment strategy that plans for the future and provides cash backed reserves to meet operational needs Prudently manage our financial resources to ensure value for money Reduce reliance on operational grants	Rate review implemented over a staged process by 2020 Balanced budget delivered annually Annual external financial audit identifies no adverse issues Long Term Financial Plan updated annually Investment Strategy completed by 2020
Our Outcomes		
<b>After 10yrs we will have achieved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ We remain a strong, independent local government</li> <li>➤ We have a fair and equitable rate structure</li> <li>➤ We have reserve funds for current and new capital projects</li> </ul>	

## Improve the Economic Growth of our Community

Our Goals	Our Strategies	Our Measurement
<b>The agricultural industry continues to be a main economic driver</b>	Maintain our road network to a high standard Encourage new and existing complimentary business to grow	5 yearly road plan adopted annually Business growth and development increases
<b>Roads are a critical driver for our Shire</b>	Develop a Road Management Plan, which incorporates a Road Hierarchy, minimum Service levels, Maintenance Policy, Contractor Policy and Asset Management Plan Lobby and build enduring partnerships with key Government Departments to better manage Heavy Vehicles and their impact on local roads Develop a Roadside Reserve Management Plan Develop a strategic Gravel Reserve Policy	Road infrastructure is maintained to satisfactory levels Plant & Road Asset Plan developed by 2021 Roadside Reserve Management Plan developed by 2021 Gravel Reserve Policy developed by 2022
<b>Facilitate increased business opportunities</b>	Support Business Development and facilitate opportunities for startup and growth. Ensure our planning framework & environment supports nimble decision making and gives confidence to developers Ensure our procurement policies support local business and help generate local employment Develop the remainder of the industrial area by 2020	Develop a Business Growth Strategy supporting commercial and industrial growth by 2021 Develop remaining Industrial Area by 2020
<b>Capture tourism opportunities locally</b>	Encourage tourists, longer stays and repeat visitation Provide for and maintain infrastructure that grows tourism	Increased visitation Access external funding to support tourism growth and return
<b>The Hotham Williams Economic Development Alliance (HWEDA) partnership brings economic return to the Shire and community</b>	Maintain our commitment to HWEDA Start up incentives are investigated for businesses	Strategic Opportunities are gained by Wandering through the association with the Alliance HWEDA is considered by State and Federal Governments as an important and optimistic partnership
Our Outcomes		
<b>After 10yrs we will have achieved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ We have grown our commercial and industrial areas</li> <li>➤ Our permanent population increases whilst maintaining our rural lifestyle and environment</li> <li>➤ We support the Hotham Williams Economic Development Alliance to enhance regional opportunities for Wandering</li> <li>➤ We have harnessed the prospects of the Dryandra National Park</li> </ul>	

## Retain and Grow our Population

Our Goals	Our Strategies	Our Measurement
<b>Our permanent and transient population grows</b>	We assist with retaining the Wandering Primary School We promote the lifestyle and business opportunities of Wandering We support Early Years and Youth We encourage Aging in Place	The Wandering Primary School is retained Our population is retained or grows annually Children and Youth actively participate in the community Our Seniors can age confidently in Wandering
<b>People feel safe, connected and actively involved in the community</b>	Facilitate and support activities that optimise use of our facilities Assist Community and sporting organisations to remain sustainable and active Engage and celebrate local culture, both indigenous and non-indigenous Facilitate and support Emergency Services Planning Preserve our history	Our residents are engaged and actively participate in events and activities Preservation of our history and culture, and our cemetery Our facilities and services can be accessed by everyone We can respond to emergencies in a coordinated and resourced approach
Our Outcomes		
<b>After 10yrs we will have achieved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Wandering Primary School is retained and is supported by Wandering families</li> <li>➤ Families are attracted to Wandering</li> <li>➤ We preserve our culture and history</li> <li>➤ The diversity and number of clubs in our Shire adds to our quality of life</li> </ul>	



## Provide Strong Leadership

Our Goals	Our Strategies	Our Measurement
<b>A well informed Community</b>	Foster Opportunities for connectivity between Council and the Community	Our Community is informed and engaged
<b>We plan for the future and are strategically focused</b>	<p>Ensure accountable, ethical and best practice governance</p> <p>Develop and maintain our Strategic Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Asset Management Plan, Workforce Plan and Long Term Financial Plan</p> <p>Service Level Plans detail operational roles, responsibilities and resources</p> <p>Engage with local, regional, state and federal stakeholders to grow mutually beneficial relationships</p>	<p>Audit and Compliance Returns identify no adverse issues</p> <p>We meet the Integrated Planning Standards</p>
Our Outcomes		
<b>After 10yrs we will have achieved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; We are connected to our Community</li> <li>&gt; We provide timely services and facilities by an adaptable workforce</li> <li>&gt; Council makes informed decisions in regards to resource allocation and communicates this to the community</li> </ul>	

Services and facilities provided by the Shire have been linked with the relevant strategies in the Strategic Community Plan in the following table. The table provides a connection between the services and facilities and the desired outcomes and community vision for the Shire of Wandering.

Shire Service	Strategic Community Plan
<b>ECONOMIC</b>	
Caravan Park	4.6
Cemetery	6.3
Community Resource Centre	7.4, 11.2
Economic development	1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 4.1 – 4.5, 8.2, 11.1
Emergency Services	7.1, 7.2
Road construction, maintenance and preservation	1.1, 1.2, 2.1 – 2.6, 7.1
Tourism	4.1 – 4.5
Town beautification, parks, gardens and reserves	2.5, 4.7
Town planning	3.2, 3.3
<b>SOCIAL</b>	
Community development and health	6.1, 6.2, 7.1 – 7.4, 10.1 – 10.4
Community facilities (halls, recreation etc)	10.3, 10.4, 12.2
Community safety	6.3
Early years support	8.1, 9.1, 9.2
Library and services	9.2
Recreation and leisure	6.1, 10.3, 10.4, 12.2
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	
Environmental Health	12.1
Natural Resource Management	13.2
Ranger services	12.1
Waste management	12.1, 13.2
<b>GOVERNANCE</b>	
Council and Workforce	11.1, 14.1 – 14.3
Regional participation	2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 13.1
Financial management	13.1, 15.1 – 15.4
Planning and policies	2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 3.4, 3.5, 11.3, 12.3, 13.1