



## Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held in the Wandering Community Centre on Monday, 7th February 2011.

### 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING & ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.37pm.

### 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### Present

Cr. BE Dowsett, President

Cr. GG Kerr, Deputy President

Cr. KJ Price

Cr. KJ Barge

Cr. DF White

Mr. MG Whitely, CEO

Mrs J Gowland

Mrs D Nottle

Mr B Treasure

Mrs MC Whitely

Mr M Watts

Mrs L Muller

Mr R Curtis

Ms C Prins

Miss H Barge

Mrs M White

Mr B Cornish

Mrs S Cornish

Mr M Cornish

Mrs C White

Mrs V Watts

Mr J Martin

Mr D Martin

Mr B Whitely

Mrs T Reitmajer

Mrs L Wilkins

Mr O Woolfitt

Mrs J Cornish

#### Apologies

Cr JR McNeil

Mr J Whitely

Mr I Turton

Mrs L Barge

### 3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 9 FEBRUARY 2010

The Minutes of the previous Annual Electors Meeting, held 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

*Moved Mrs MC Whitely seconded Mrs L Muller that the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting, held 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010, be confirmed.*

**CARRIED**

### 3.2 ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report was made available prior to the meeting and distributed on the night of the meeting.

*Moved Mrs D Nottle seconded Mrs L Muller that the Annual Report incorporating the Presidents Report, Chief Executive Officers and Auditors Report be received.*

**CARRIED**

### **3.3 MATTERS ARISING**

#### **3.3.1 LANDCARE OFFICER**

Mrs M C Whitely enquired as to what was happening with the vacant Landcare officer. The CEO advised that the existing arrangement between Wandering, Boddington and Cuballing was still talked about being wound up but nothing further had eventuated and that Council had contributed funds this financial year to the Hotham Catchment Landcare..

#### **3.3.2 FIREBREAKS**

Mr M Watts raised concerns as to the state of some of the properties within the Shire. The President advised that a number of infringement notices had been sent out this year and the CEO added that educating landowners was an important element of fire safety and the Fire Awareness night held in October 2010 was well received.

#### **3.3.3 AMALGAMATIONS**

Mr B Cornish asked where things were currently at with the Council Amalgamations. The ratepayers were informed that Council's preference position on amalgamations was to maintain the status quo, however a Regional Transition Group information session with the Shire's of Williams, Boddington and the Department of Local Government was to be held in Wandering on Thursday 9 February 2011. Mrs Wilkins voiced her concerns that there had been no community consultation with regards to amalgamations. The President informed Mrs Wilkins that the community had previously been asked for their feedback in the initial consultation process and that these meetings were advertised publicly in accordance with the Local Government Act.

#### **3.3.4 FUEL FACILITY**

Mr B Whitely asked how things were progressing with the fuel facility site. The CEO responded that the project had been delayed as a result of applying for some funding under the Royalties for Regions program and that Council were waiting to see if they had been successful in obtaining the funding since the funds could not be spent retrospectively. The CEO added that the funding applications closed on 31 December 2010 and there should be further advice very shortly as to whether or not Council had been successful in securing the additional funds and that the project would still hopefully be completed by the end of June 2011.

#### **3.3.5 DISABILITY ACCESS**

Mr J Martin raised concerns as to the lack of access points for disabled persons at the Public Toilets, Shire Offices and around the town. The CEO acknowledged that the access to the public toilets had been scheduled to be completed but as yet had not be done and that disabled access points would continue to be addressed.

#### **3.3.6 COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Mr J Martin commented that he had requested lighting on the western side of the Community Centre at last year's Annual General Meeting and that nothing had been done. Council replied that provision for lighting on Down Street would be considered in the coming budget.

### **5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 VERMIN CONTROL**

Mr M Watts asked what Council's position was on vermin control. Council acknowledged that there was no specific policy and that such matters should be brought to Council's attention on a case by case scenario.

#### **5.2 VOLUNTEERS BUSH FIRE INSURANCE**

Mr M Watts raised concerns over the level of cover in place for volunteer bush fire officers and Mrs MC Whitely voiced her concern that the current bush fire brigade lists were outdated meaning that some volunteers may not be covered by the policy. The CEO informed ratepayers that volunteers not listed on brigade lists were still covered under the insurance policy as long as in the event of a fire the bush fire control officer in charge signed in those volunteers not listed.

**5.3 ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

Mr Watts asked if Council had considered using contractors for road construction and using the existing crew only for road maintenance. The CEO advised that the cost to outsource road construction would be far greater than completing the works ourselves and that the current works program allowed for the Shire to complete both road construction and maintenance.

**5.4 ROAD TRAFFIC COUNTS**

Mr M Watts asked if road traffic counts were used to determine what road construction projects are carried out. The CEO stated that traffic counts formed a very important element for road construction and implementing long term road replacement programs especially those roads where funding was involved.

**5.5 PUMPHREYS BRIDGE LIONS PARK**

Mrs MC Whitely asked with the recent storm damage sustained at the Lions Park who was responsible for taking away the debris. Mrs Whitely continued that the Lions Club was going to clean up the mess but they were uncertain as to whom would take care of the debris. The President responded that if the Lions Club was prepared to clean up the area then the Shire would be able to remove the debris for the Lions Club.

**5.6 GEOFF MARSH PAVILION**

Mrs MC Whitely asked if Council had any plans to upgrade the existing facilities at the Geoff Marsh Pavilion and if so if this upgrade would be completed prior to the next Community Day. The CEO responded that Council had made provision in the budget to create a bush kitchen in the Geoff Marsh Pavilion and this was planned to be completed prior to the upcoming Community Day.

**5.7 DRUMMUSTER**

Mr M Watts asked Council how the DrumMuster was being utilised and when there would be another collection. The CEO informed Mr Watts that the DrumMuster had been only reasonably successful to date and that there would be another DrumMuster later in March 2011.

**6. MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all those in attendance, Mrs Carol White from the Wandering the CWA for catering for the Meeting and declared the Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

**These Minutes were accepted by the Council at the Ordinary Council meeting on 17th February 2011.**

**CR B E DOWSETT, Chairman**