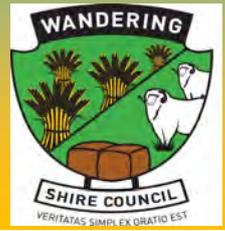


# Council Corner

Wandering Shire monthly newsletter



## Amanda's Update

8 weeks to Christmas—Wow where did the year go... Being about 10 months into my first year and I can now happily say I think I'm getting the hang of it. I have gotten to know many of you, and have been exposed to many of the ongoing issues, or one off issues that come along. I am looking forward to exploring strategic opportunities with the Council over the coming months.

Congratulations to Brendan Whitely and Bruce Dowsett on being elected as Shire President and Deputy respectively.

I look forward to working with Brendan over the next two years.

I commend the Council once again on their strategic thinking and for taking the opportunity to appoint a President that enables information and skills

dissemination, ensuring there is a solid succession plan for the future of the Shire. Welcome to new Cr Kim Stripe and farewell to long serving Cr Graeme Kerr.

Fire season is upon us and unfortunately the fire risk across the state is very high, with Wandering being rated in the extreme risk category. We have been sending out preseason letters to encourage residents to be as proactive as possible with fire prevention on their properties. Some people haven't been to happy receiving the letters, however I can assure you that my intent was positive and I was working to ensure that all residents of the Shire had attended to their Fire mitigation responsibilities. I apologise if I/we have offended anyone by the letters.

We have had some minor renovations undertaken in the

Front Office, A new door and front counter have been installed. This work is to ensure that we meet Australia Post security requirements, now that we are offering cash out and other banking services.

The Town recycle bin has been moved to the rubbish tip, I understand that this has also caused some angst in the community, I would like to accept responsibility for not communicating Councils intent to undertake this action, and informing the community of the need to do so to ensure equity across all facets of the community.

On a more positive note we have made a few improvements to the Website and I encourage you all to jump on board and take a look. We have implemented an online feedback process, which we encourage you all to try.



***Shire of Wandering Annual Electors Meeting***

***7.30 pm Wednesday 4th November 2015***

***Wandering Community Centre***

***Light supper provided***

***Annual reports will be available on the night or are available now at the Shire or CRC.***



# Transfer Station Seasons Pass

The Wandering Shire is offering a seasons pass for remote and rural users of the Wandering Transfer Station. Please note that fees have been calculated to take into consideration the cost of travel to and from the tip. By purchasing the pass weekly users will save up to \$700 per annum, Fortnightly users will save approx \$530 per annum.

We are keen to support users where possible, recognising the logistical intricacies of waste management in the Wandering Shire. Please don't hesitate to call us or pop into the Office to find out more.

***On Sale this month for \$208.30***

## Council Election Results

173 votes were received during the early voting period and Saturday the 17 October 2015. One vote was an invalid vote. This years voting turn out was amongst the lowest ever, and whilst still a little above the State average in the high 40%, I understand that this is 10—20% less than what usually happens in Wandering. A number of residents were disappointed to not be able to vote on the day and I would like to encourage all residents to ensure they registered well in advance of election times. *Come in to see us to find out more.*

<b>Judith Price</b>	133	Elected till 2019
<b>Chad Ferguson</b>	137	Elected till 2019
<b>Graeme Kerr</b>	68	Not Elected
<b>Kim Stripe</b>	91	Elected till 2019



to Graeme Kerr for his contribution and commitment to the Wandering

Shire Council over the last 22 years.

Graeme was elected to Council on the 1/5/1993 and has held the position of Shire President during this time.

Graeme has given his time and energy to improving the Wandering Shire and has

closely supported initiatives that would see the sustainability improve. Graeme was passionate about economic development in an effort to increase the rate base for the Wandering Shire.

I had the pleasure of working closely with Graeme this year and would like to thank him for his support and coaching. As a newbie CEO, Graeme was incredibly approachable and supportive. His love of the Wandering Shire was evident and he gave all of his time if required.

The Councillors and Staff wish Graeme all the very best for the future and look forward to sharing the successes from the foundations that have been built during Graeme's time on Council. We are sure Judy will be pleased to have her husband back without Council distractions and the never ending phone calls etc...

***Be sure to continue to pop in from time to time....***

## **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](http://www.wandering.wa.gov.au)

### **1.2 SWEARING IN OF COUNCILLORS ELECT**

Crs Chad Ferguson, Judith Price and Kim Stripe were sworn in by Ian Turton JP

### **1.3 ELECTION OF THE SHIRE PRESIDENT**

Cr Brendan Whitely was nominated by Cr Jim McNeil. Cr Whitely accepted the nomination, no other nominations were received.

Cr Brendan Whitely was elected unopposed—7/0 and sworn in by Ian Turton JP

### **1.4 ELECTION OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT**

Cr Bruce Dowsett was nominated by Cr Judith Price. Cr Dowsett accepted the nomination, no other nominations were received.

Cr Bruce Dowsett was elected unopposed—7/0 and sworn in by Ian Turton JP

## **10.1.2 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW**

### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The Shire Administration has been undertaking a review of Council Policies as per the findings of the 2014 Department of Local Government and Communities Probity Audit.

The Department proposed as per its final findings, *Recommendation 13 - That Council gives priority to developing effective policies and instructs the CEO to review its policy manual by improving, and updating all policies for Council's adoption.*

The Shire has engaged the services of a local contractor to assist with the implementation of the above recommendation. This work is currently well ahead to the delivery schedule agreed with the Department.

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

**MOVED: Cr C Ferguson**

**SECONDED: Cr J Price**

That Council adopts the following reviewed and new policies as finalised formal policies of Council as included as **ATTACHMENT 10.1.2** of this agenda and minutes:

### **COUNCIL POLICIES**

Occupational, Health and Safety	CP024
Premier's Australia Day Award	CP034

**CARRIED 7/0**

## **10.1.3 COUNCILLOR COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Following the 17 October Election Council must appoint Councillors to various committees on which it is represented. This item is to formalise the arrangement immediately post the election.

### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.1.3**

**MOVED: Cr B Dowsett**

**SECONDED: Cr J McNeil**

**That Council:**

1. Confirm that all previous appointments of Councillors to committees have expired.
2. Make the following appointment to Committees of Council

## Swearing in of newly elected Councillors, Shire President and Deputy President

Mr Ian Turton JP, and a previous Councillor, attended the 22 October 2015 Council Meeting to officially swear in the new Councillors, Shire President and Deputy. Newly elected Councillors Chad Ferguson, Judith Price and Kim Stripe were sworn in at the beginning of the Council Meeting.



New Shire President Cr Brendan Whitely and Deputy President Bruce Dowsett were sworn in and Ian Turton JP gave an address to the Councillors regarding the responsibility of the Office of Council and the importance of listening and governing in the best interests of the residents and rate payers of the Wandering Region.



## 2015 Council ready for business.....



## **COUNCIL MEETING ROUND UP CONT....**

### **2.1 Audit Committee**

**Members:** All Councillors

**Purpose:** To provide guidance and assistance to the local government as to the carrying out of its functions in relation to audits carried out under Part 7 of the Act. Meet the auditor at least once per year. Development of the process to select and appoint a person to be an auditor.

### *Working Groups of Council*

#### **3.1 Bush Fire Advisory Committee**

**Member Crs:** C Ferguson, B Dowsett,

**Purpose:** To advise Council on all matters relating to— The prevention, controlling and extinguishing of bush fires, prosecutions for breaches of the Bush Fire Act, the formation and de – formation of the bush fire brigades, the coordination of the efforts and activities of the bush fire brigades and any other matter related to bush fire control.

#### **3.2 CEO Performance Review Committee**

**Member Crs:** All Councillors

**Purpose:** To advise Council on all matters relating to— Completion the annual performance review of the CEO

#### **3.3 Shires of Pingelly and Wandering Joint Emergency Management Committee**

**Member Crs:** B Whitely

**Purpose:** To advise Council on all matters relating to Emergency Management

#### **3.4 Shires of Pingelly and Wandering Local Recovery Committee**

**Member Crs:** B Whitely

**Purpose:** To support and advise Council during recovery efforts

#### **3.5 Hotham Williams Economic Development Alliance**

**Members:** Crs B Whitely

**Deputies:** Crs J McNeil, J Price

**Purpose:** Facilitate and support the Economic Development and Growth of the Shires of Wandering, Williams and Boddington.

### *External Committees*

#### **4.1 Central Country Zone of WALGA**

**Members:** Crs B Whitely, K Stripe

**Deputies:** Crs B Dowsett

#### **4.2 Regional Road Group**

**Members:** Crs B Whitely

**Deputies:** Crs C Ferguson

#### **4.3 Development Assessment Panel**

**Members:** Crs Judith Price, Brendan Whitely, Chad Ferguson, Wade Gowland.

**Purpose:** To assist with significant State planning decisions within the Shire of Wandering

#### **4.4 Hotham-Dale Regional Road Sub-Group**

**Members:** Cr B Whitely

**Deputies:** Cr B Dowsett

#### **4.5 Wheatbelt South Aged Housing Alliance**

**Members:** Cr J Price

**Deputies:** Cr K Stripe

**Purpose:** To facilitate aged housing in the Wandering Shire

#### **4.6 South 32 Community Liaison Committee**

**Members:** Cr B Dowsett

**Purpose:** To communicate with South 32 representatives and support the feedback of information.

**CARRIED 7/0**

## **COUNCIL MEETING ROUND UP CONT....**

### **10.1.4 AGED CARE COMMITTEE MOU**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Council has been working with local Shires in the region to increase the opportunities to secure Aged Housing in Wandering. The Shires Strategic Plan highlights the need to support and promote facilities that meet the needs of the aged in Wandering. The Wheatbelt South Aged Housing Alliance has been formed and requires Councils formal agreement to progress. The memorandum of understanding to facilitate the formalisation of the Alliance is presented for Councils formal consideration.

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.1.4**

**MOVED: Cr J Price**

**SECONDED: Cr C Ferguson**

#### **That Council:**

1. Supports a regional approach to construct dedicated aged persons independent living units;
2. Approves the Shire of Wandering entering into the Memorandum of Understanding as per **ATTACHMENT 10.1.4.1** to establish the Wheatbelt South Aged Housing Alliance; and
3. Agrees to contribute \$3,500 as seed funding to the Alliance for development of a Business Plan to attract State and/or Federal funding to construct aged persons independent living unit in the various communities.

**CARRIED 7/0**

### **10.1.5 SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL PARK STATUS FOR DRYANDRA FORREST**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The Department of Parks and Wildlife are seeking Councils support regarding their proposal to create the Dryandra Woodlands National Park and Nature Reserves. **ATTACHMENT 10.1.5.1**

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.1.5**

**MOVED: Cr K Stripe SECONDED: Cr J McNeil**

#### **That Council:**

Advise the Department of Parks and Wildlife that it supports the amendment to State Forest No 51,52 and 53 for the creation of the Dryandra Woodlands National Park and Nature Reserves.

**CARRIED 7/0**

### **10.4.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 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 September 2015 are presented for Councils consideration.

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.1**

**MOVED: Cr B Dowsett**

**SECONDED: Cr C Ferguson**

#### **That Council**

1. Endorse all Cheque, EFT, BPay, salary & wages, transport payments, transfers to investments, credit card payments and other direct debits and transfers as listed from the Municipal and Trust Fund totalling \$414,121.11 for the period ending 30 September 2015.
2. Receive the bank reconciliations & bank statements for the period ended 30 September 2015.
3. Receive the financial statements for the period ended 30 September 2015.

**CARRIED 7/0**

## **COUNCIL MEETING ROUND UP CONT....**

### 10.4.2 BUDGET AMMENDMENT/ VARIATION 2015/16

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The 2015/2016 budget was officially adopted by Council on 16 July 2015 and throughout the year variations occur. It is the purpose of this report to bring these to the attention of Council.

The Shire Administration is undertaking a Competitive Neutrality Assessment on fuel services provided by the Shire in Wandering. During this assessment it was identified that the administration allocation to the program was not adequate and needed to be amended to appropriately reflect the cost of supporting the service.

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

**MOVED: Cr J Price**

**SECONDED: Cr K Stripe**

**That Council:**

Approves the required budget variation to the Current Budget for 2015/2016 as outlined below:

<b>1. Economic Services – Fuel Facility</b>				
<b>GL/Job Number</b>	<b>General Ledger Description</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Variation Amount</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
E13699	Administration Allocated	\$5,408	(\$19,125)	\$24,533
<b>Reason:</b> This was an oversight during the budget process, and in order to complete the Competitive Neutrality Assessment accurately this needs to be amended. 2014/15 allocation was \$19,371.00.				

**CARRIED 7/0**

### 10.4.3 QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL BUDGET REVIEW

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The Shire administration made an undertaking to Council prior to the commencement of the 2015/16 financial year to conduct quarterly budget reviews and present the information in a meaningful manner to Council.

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – ITEM 10.4.3**

**MOVED: Cr J Price**

**SECONDED: Cr J McNeil**

**That Council:**

Accepts the item presented for their information.

**CARRIED 7/0**

## **Prohibited Burn Period**

### **1 November—21 February 2016**

Please note that from the 1 November there is no burning and no fires to be light in the Shire of Wandering. We thank every one for their cooperation in advance.

***Please check your Fire Notices for more information***



## **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.

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

## **WORKS CREW UPDATE**

- Nth Bannister Wandering Road— Tree pruning and mulching program has mostly been completed, we have spent approximately \$50,000 on the work. The Shire has a three year plan to prune and mulch the whole of the Nth Bannister Narrogin Road. It is anticipated that this will give 10 years outcome with only minor pruning and limb management required.
- Concrete stabilisation has been finished on Albany Hwy on Nth Bannister Road, unfortunately works will continue through out the harvest period and road users will need to be considerate of construction requirements.
- Moramocking Road concrete stabilisation has been finalised, further construction works will continue over the coming months.
- Gravel Carting to support re sheeting program and road construction is ongoing.
- Gardening and fire break work has been ongoing, Ian Price from Spiffy's gardening services is now working with the Shire on a contract basis and is providing expert advice and support.

### **Other projects due to start over the next month include—**

- Finalisation of brick paving at community centre
- Caravan Park renovations

#### **WANDERING SHIRE COUNCIL**

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