



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Wandering Shire Council held in the Council Chamber on Thursday, 20 August 2009.

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

The Shire President Cr Bruce Dowsett declared the meeting open at 11:02am

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

**Present**

Cr. B E Dowsett, President	South Ward
Cr. K J Price, Deputy President	South Ward
Cr. G G Kerr	North East Ward
Cr. J R McNeil	North East Ward
Cr. K J Barge	Town Ward
Cr. D White	Town Ward
Cr. C R Hardie	North Ward
Mr. G S Powell	Chief Executive Officer
Ms. R Hawkins	Deputy Chief Executive Officer

**Apologies**

Nil

**Leave of Absence**

Nil

3. **DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS**

Nil

4. **RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Nil

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

6. **APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

7. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

7.1 **16 July 2009 Ordinary Meeting of Council.**

Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of 16 July 2009 have been circulated to Elected Members with the Agenda.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16 July 2009 be confirmed.

Simple Majority Required

***RESOLUTION 352:2009/2010***

***Moved Cr Price seconded Cr White***

***That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 16 July 2009 be confirmed.***

***Carried 7:0***

**7.2 29 July 2009 Special Budget Meeting.**

Minutes from the Special Budget Meeting of 29 July 2009 have been circulated to Elected Members with the Agenda.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting held on 29 July 2009 be confirmed.

Simple Majority Required

**RESOLUTION 353:2009/2010**

*Moved Cr Price seconded Cr Hardie*

*That the Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting held on the 29 July 2009 be confirmed.*

*Carried 7:0*

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Nil

**9. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

**9.1 Petition – Playground Equipment**

The following petition bearing approximately 60 signatures has been received:

“We the parents, friends and grandparents of small children under primary school and small toddler ages from the Wandering Shire have a small request to be considered favourably with consideration at the next Council Meeting:

Additional playground equipment.”

**RESOLUTION 354:2009/2010**

*Moved Cr Hardie seconded Cr McNeil*

*That Council receives the petition and advise that funding is not available in the 2009/2010 Municipal Budget.*

*Carried 7:0*

**10. REPORTS**

**10.1 DELEGATE’S REPORT**

**10.1.1 Attendance of Councillors at Local Government Week**

Cr Hardie reported that much attention was paid to possible amalgamations and changes to the Constitution. She had learnt more from the Minister and Brendan Grylls during the course of the Conference than had in the previous six months.

**10.1.2 Attendance of Cr Kerr and Cr Hardie at the Annual Golf Day held in Brookton**

Cr Kerr reported it was a good day but catering was poor. Cr Kerr was a winner on the day.

**10.2 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**10.2.1 Attendance of Cr Hardie at the Hotham Way Committee meeting**

Cr Hardie advised that Wandering businesses have supported the brochure and it will be printed shortly. She is unsure who is attending the opening yet but the CWA will be catering for the Wandering morning tea about 9:30am. Cr Dowsett will be welcoming the group in Wandering and Terry Waldron will be officially opening the Hotham Way at lunch time in Boddington.

**10.2.1 Report from Cr McNeil on Landcare Committee**

Cr McNeil advised the group is trying to raise sponsorship to keep the program going as there is no funding available. Geoff Ahearn currently spends one day in Wandering, one day in Cuballing and one day in Boddington and it is possible he may work for Williams as their NRMO has resigned. Cr McNeil expressed concern that focus was on small landholders and perhaps his time needs to be spread across more issues.

**10.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

**10.3.1(a) Common Seal Report**

The table below lists all documents that have had the Common Seal affixed for the preceding month.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
August, 2009	Transfer of Land Document - 1 Dowsett Street, Wandering

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council endorses the action of the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer in affixing the Common Seal to the documents listed above, in accordance with Resolution 239:2008/09.**

**Simple Majority Required**

***RESOLUTION 355:2009/2010***

***Moved Cr Kerr seconded Cr Barge***

***That Council endorses the action of the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer in affixing the Common Seal to the documents listed above, in accordance with Resolution 239:2008/09.***

***Carried 7:0***

**10.3.1 Hotham Ridge Winery – Special Facility Liquor License**

**FILE REFERENCE:** Ass 7  
**DATE OF REPORT:** 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** CEO  
**SENIOR OFFICER:** CEO  
**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** Simple Majority  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Letter from Winery

**BACKGROUND**

Hotham Ridge Winery advises it intends to apply for a Special Facility Liquor License and seeks comments from Council.

**COMMENT – GENERAL**

The rationale behind the application is outlined in the attachment. The application is worthy of support as if implemented as stated will add to local employment opportunities and the local wine-based tourist industry as well as provide additional social infrastructure for local residents.

Any support should be conditional upon the Winery meeting Council's planning, building and health requirements which can be assessed once plans etc are submitted.

### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995.  
Liquor Act.

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item although any development associated with this License will enhance existing businesses and provide opportunities for growth.

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

No public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item. Advertising may be a requirement of the Liquor Act.

### **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no adverse social implications anticipated to arise from this Item.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this Item.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council advise Hotham Ridge Winery that it supports the Winery's application and its rationale for a Special Facility Liquor License at Hotham Ridge Winery subject to the condition that any further development complies with Council's planning, health and building requirements.**

**Simple Majority Required**

#### ***RESOLUTION 356:2009/2010***

***Moved Cr McNeil seconded Cr White***

**That Council advise Hotham Ridge Winery that it supports the Winery's application and its rationale for a Special Facility Liquor License at Hotham Ridge Winery subject to the condition that any further development complies with Council's planning, health and building requirements.**

***Carried 6:1***

**10.3.2      Donation – WA College of Agriculture, Narrogin**

**FILE REFERENCE:**                    20.1.1  
**DATE OF REPORT:**                11<sup>th</sup> August 2009  
**REPORT AUTHOR:**                 CEO  
**SENIOR OFFICER:**                CEO  
**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:**        Simple Majority  
**ATTACHMENTS:**                    Nil

**BACKGROUND**

The Narrogin Agricultural College has invited Council to sponsor prizes for the graduation of its 2009 class on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.

**COMMENT – GENERAL**

Council has not sponsored this occasion in previous years but there may be merit in considering doing so as some Wandering students attend the college.

It would appear that the College is seeking sponsorship from a wider area given the current economic climate. There are a number of awards in the areas of agriculture, equine, trades, sport, residential and citizenship. No amount has been specified.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

No public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no social implications arising from this Item apart from some benefit accruing to Council as being seen as a “corporate citizen” of the College.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no specific budget for this sponsorship but if a minor amount is considered it could be accommodated within the existing budget.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council consider making a donation to the Narrogin Agricultural College 2009 Graduation.

Simple Majority Required

**RESOLUTION 357:2009/2010**

*Moved Cr Barge seconded Cr White*

*That Council donate \$100 to the Narrogin Agricultural College 2009 Graduation.*

*Carried 4:3*

**10.3.3 Sale of Land – Lot 118 Humes Way Wandering – Densham/Bryan**

**FILE REFERENCE:**

**DATE OF REPORT:** 11 August, 2009

**REPORT AUTHOR:** CEO

**SENIOR OFFICER:** CEO

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** Simple Majority

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**BACKGROUND**

Council accepted an offer, under delegation, for the above lot which was endorsed at the July Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**COMMENT – GENERAL**

The proposed sale was advertised in accordance with the special conditions applying to the sale of these lots. A notice appeared in the Narrogin Observer. No submissions were received.

It is now in order to conclude the transaction.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item by way of advertising in a local newspaper.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no social implications arising from this Item.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Sale of the land has been included in the 2009/10 Budget.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council delegate authority to the CEO and Shire President to undertake the administrative requirements to conclude the sale of Lot 118 Humes Way.**

**Simple Majority Required**

**RESOLUTION 358:2009/2010**

Moved Cr Hardie seconded Cr McNeil

**That Council delegate authority to the CEO and Shire President to undertake the administrative requirements to conclude the sale of lot 118 Humes Way.**

*Carried 7:0*

**10.3.4 Proposed Subdivision – Lot 60 York-Williams Road - Hemery**

**FILE REFERENCE:** Ass 408 WAPC 140301  
**DATE OF REPORT:** 12 August 2009  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** CEO  
**SENIOR OFFICER:** CEO  
**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** Simple Majority  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Plan

**BACKGROUND**

A previous application to subdivide Lot 60 was not supported by Council at its April Ordinary Meeting. A further application has been received that provides for a realignment of boundaries and not the creation of additional lots.

**COMMENT – GENERAL**

Council's April resolution is as follows:

*“That WAPC be advised that Council does not support the application to subdivide Lot 60 York-Williams Road as it is seen as fragmentation of broad acre agricultural land and does not meet the strategic requirements of the Shire of Wandering Local Planning Strategy, however Council would favourably consider the realignment of the boundaries of Lots 60 and adjoining Lot 7054.”*

The application currently for consideration addresses the requirements outlined in the resolution. The application realigns the boundaries from two lots having an area of 121.4057ha and 96.0661ha to two lots having areas of 201.2637ha and 16.2081ha.

The rationale provided for the proposal is:

- The application is for a boundary realignment only

- The application does not create any additional lots and therefore no intensification of agricultural use of the land nor an undesirable precedent for any future applications
- The proposal maintains large lot sizes consistent with other lots in the vicinity
- The proposal maintains lots of a regular size
- There will be no adverse effects on other agricultural enterprises in the area
- There is no proposed change to the land use of the lots
- The realignment does not cause fragmentation and both lots have frontage to the York-Williams Road and will release the currently land locked lot 7054

Council's Planning Strategy supports broad acre farming and this application meets that requirement in that a larger lot will be created by way of the boundary realignment and fragmentation of land does not occur. The applicant has also advised that existing land uses will continue. The relevant sections of the Strategy are outlined below.

## STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Town Planning & Development Act 1928

Shire of Wandering Planning Strategy

*2.6 State Planning Policy No. 2.5 – Rural Subdivision Policy*

*State Planning Policy No. 2.5 (SPP2.5) (WAPC 2002) applies to rural and agricultural land in the State. The Policy is guided by the fundamental principles that:*

- *The State's priority agricultural land resource should be protected.*
- *Rural settlement opportunities should be provided if sustainable and of benefit to the community.*
- *The potential for land use conflict should be minimised.*
- *The State's natural resources should be carefully managed.*

*Under SPP2.5 local government is to:*

- *identify and appropriately zone agricultural areas of State or regional significance and other agricultural areas;*
- *where necessary, identify and appropriately zone areas for rural-residential and rural smallholdings;*
- *identify and zone appropriately, areas of natural resources which require protection from incompatible development;*
- *wherever possible, provide planning direction for agriculturally-associated rural activities or land uses; and*

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- *in the absence of a local planning strategy make recommendations to the Commission in respect to rural land subdivision having due regard to the objectives of this policy.*

*There are no Agricultural Priority Management Areas identified in the Shire of Wandering. The LPS is to address rural land use, and rural-residential and rural smallholding areas.*

### **5.1.1 Protection of Agricultural Areas**

*Aside from State Forest, agriculture is the most significant land use within the Shire of Wandering in terms of both land area and economic value. It is a general perception that agricultural land should be protected from incompatible development – a concept that is the basis of Statement of Planning Policy 2.5 – Agricultural and Rural Land Use Planning (SPP2.5) (WAPC 2002). SPP2.5 proposes zones for agricultural land as follows:*

- *Priority agriculture zone*
- *General agriculture zone*

*Priority agriculture land is defined by SPP2.5 as being land which:*

*(a) has been identified by State agencies and the local government in consultation with the community as an agricultural area of State or*



*regional significance; or*

*(b) has been identified in a local planning strategy as being an area of local agricultural significance; and*

*(c) is not already an existing Rural-Residential or Rural-Smallholdings development.*

*The Shire does not include land that has been delineated to be of State or regional agricultural significance. There are areas within the Shire that may be identified as having local agricultural significance.*

*The capability of soils within the Shire to support agriculture is largely dependent on the underlying geology. From a broad analysis of Table 3 – General Land Evaluation, it can be concluded that large areas of the Shire are not highly capable for some agricultural activities, particularly on the areas of lateritic uplands, minor valleys with upland terrain and valley floors. The soils associated with major valleys dissected into underlying basement rocks contain areas associated with higher capability for agriculture. The Marradong, Dryandra, and Quindanning land system units represent the most capable agricultural land within the Shire.*

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*It should be noted again however, that the capability assessment in this local planning strategy has used broad scale mapping, and that detailed localised land capability assessment should be undertaken on a case by case basis to support proposed developments.*

#### **5.1.2 Diversification of Agriculture**

*Farmers within the Shire are encouraged by DOA to investigate the diversified use of land. Forestry is also being promoted by the Forest Products Commission and DOA as a land care tool to contain land degradation such as waterlogging and increasing salinity.*

*Horticulture requires deep, medium textured and gravel-free soils with free drainage, flat terrain, and good water supply. Whilst there are areas of flat terrain in the Shire, some are subject to waterlogging and surface salinity. Water supplies are also limited, particularly in the eastern part of the Shire where rainfall is less and groundwater may be saline. Some consideration also needs to be given to climatic implications, particularly winter chilling and frost susceptibility.*

*Soils developed from basement rocks are more fertile than those derived from weathering of the lateritic profile. Some soils within valleys are susceptible to winter waterlogging due to poor subsurface drainage and the presence of clay soils.*

*Diversification into cropping can be accommodated on a large scale on suitable agricultural land within the Shire, however, more intensive forms of agriculture may be appropriate in smaller areas of high quality land. The land evaluation indicates that the Marradong land system units offer the best opportunity for agriculture and potential for more intensive agriculture. However, the Dryandra and Quindanning systems are also suitable for general agricultural purposes.*

*It is important to note that more specific localised land capability assessment would be required prior to the establishment of more intensive agricultural land uses, with emphasis on soil suitability and water availability.*

#### **10.2 Rural and Agricultural**

*The strategy plan is attached as Figure 10. Information relating to use of rural land is in plans prepared by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure with input from the Department of Agriculture and Food and include:*

- o Annual Horticulture*
- o Perennial Horticulture*
- o Salinity risk*
- o Flood Risk*
- o Water Erosion Risk*
- o Wind Erosion Risk*

*These plans are included as Attachments for ease of reference. The opportunities and*

constraints for rural land arising from broad mapping is largely dependent on the proposed land use and ultimate form of development.

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There may be constraints applicable to broad agriculture which provides opportunities for alternative or complementary rural related land uses.

The Council supports continuation of broad acre farming as the principle land use in the district. It will support other rural uses that complement and do not have the potential to constrain broad acre farming. Specifically the Council will be mindful of the need for buffer separation for some uses to avoid nuisance from dust, spray drift, odour, and noise.

In assessing proposals Council will consider the generic buffers outlined in EPA Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors – Separation Distances between Industrial and Sensitive Land uses.

The district appears to be well suited to farm diversification including viticulture, commercial tree plantations and agroforestry, some aquaculture depending on water supply, and crops such as olives. It will be essential for proposals for crops dependent on a water supply (other than rainfall) to demonstrate a sustainable water supply from within the same lot.

The operators of an established vineyard and winery have developed facilities for visitors, including short stay accommodation. The Council supports such development.

More intensive agricultural uses require smaller land area than for broad acre farming, although lot size allowance must be made for sustainable water supply (where appropriate), a dwelling, and farm buildings. In many cases existing farming properties are made up with a number of separate lots for which individual Title is available. Subject to land suitability and sustainable water supply, these lots may be suitable for intensive agricultural production without the need for subdivision or rezoning. The land use of 'Intensive Agriculture' is permissible in the Rural zone and is subject to planning approval.

However, in all probability land suitability assessment and water supply assessment will also point to larger parcels of land in which case applications for subdivision are likely. The Council's recommendations to the WAPC on such applications will be based on detailed investigations of land suitability and water supply, and the land requirements appropriate for the proposed form of intensive agriculture.

The WAPC Policy DC 3.4 "Subdivision of Rural Land" addresses subdivision for intensive uses agriculture in the following terms:

It is WAPC Policy that the subdivision of rural and agricultural land for closer settlement (rural-residential and rural smallholdings) and more intensive agricultural uses should be properly planned through the preparation of regional and local planning strategies and provided for in local planning schemes prior to subdivision. Areas in the Shire suitable for intensive agriculture are broadly identified in Figure 10 of this Local Planning Strategy.

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The Commission may require re-zoning of land to facilitate subdivision for more intensive agricultural use unless the proposal complies with the criteria in WAPC Policy DC 3.4. Land may be re-zoned to 'Rural Residential' to facilitate subdivision for more intensive agricultural uses.

The WAPC's Policy DC 3.4 includes requirements for subdivision for "homestead lots" to enable an existing house on a farm to continue to be occupied provided that:

(a) The land is in the Wheatbelt agricultural policy area.

(b) The population in the locality is declining or relatively static.

(c) The homestead lot has an area between 1 and 4ha, or up to 20 ha where it is desirable to respond to the landform or to include existing outbuildings or water sources.

(d) There is an adequate water supply for domestic, land management and fire

management services.

(e) The homestead lot fronts a constructed road.

(f) The homestead lot contains an existing residence.

(g) A homestead lot has not been excised from the farm in the past.

Criteria for subdivision for "conservation lots" as set out in the WAPC's Policy DC 3.4 include that the vegetation has been identified and agreed as worthy of protection in an approved strategy, catchment plan, or a specific assessment by an appropriate expert be conducted in accordance with principles contained in schedule 5 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

This Local Planning Strategy does not include vegetation assessment to the level of detail necessary for subdivision for conservation. It will be necessary for each proponent to prepare a specific assessment having regard for the criteria set out in the Commission's Policy DC 3.4.

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item.

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

No public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item.

### **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no social implications arising from this Item.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this Item.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the WAPC be advised that Council supports the boundary realignment as outlined in Application No 140301.**

**Simple Majority Required**

**RESOLUTION 359:2009/2010**

**Moved Cr McNeil seconded Cr Hardie**

**That the WAPC be advised that Council supports the boundary realignment as outlined in Application No 140301.**

**Carried 7:0**

**10.3.5 Local Government Reform – Public Meeting**

**FILE REFERENCE:**

**DATE OF REPORT:** 13 August 2009

**REPORT AUTHOR:** CEO

**SENIOR OFFICER:** CEO

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** Simple Majority

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**BACKGROUND**

The local government reform process outlined by the Hon. Minister requires each local government to consult with its constituency and public and its neighbouring local governments.

Discussions with neighbouring local governments have been ongoing. A Public Meeting was held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in Wandering. The meeting was attended by approximately 35 people which represents around 10% of the shire population.

Prior to the meeting approximately a dozen responses to a mail/fax questionnaire (similar to Cuballing's) had been received where the response overwhelmingly rejected any reform. It could be inferred that press reports over the last week have shifted public perception to a point where there is a more pragmatic approach and an acceptance that reform by way of amalgamation is inevitable. This was evident at the Public Meeting although a unanimous preference for the status quo was expressed.

There was a strongly stated preference to merge with similar Councils if anything is done at all. There is also a wish to preserve local identity and the benefits that accrue from small local government in both financial and social terms and to protect local jobs, businesses, services, and social fabric. And of course, representation is and will be an issue as matters progress.

By way of a show of hands at the Meeting, the preferences are:

1. To amalgamate Wandering with Boddington and Pingelly, with another option of a larger grouping of;
2. Boddington, Wandering, Brookton, Pingelly, Cuballing and Williams.

**COMMENT – GENERAL**

The stated position of the Shire of Williams is one of autonomy as is that of Dumbleyung. There are no doubt other options under consideration between Councils in the region. Certainly consideration of Boddington, Williams and Brookton is new in the context of the work undertaken to date by the Dryandra VROC grouping.

Council needs to turn its attention to the form of its submission which is now required to be lodged with the Minister by the end of September and not August as originally stated in the guidelines. It was stated quite clearly at the Public Meeting and through the questionnaires that the preference is for the status quo to remain. Council could take that stance and advise the Minister accordingly recognising that reform will occur and the consequences will be that Council will not be in a position to influence the outcome. But this may be the eventuality whatever final position Council takes. Council should however reflect the status quo position in its submission.

Another strategy may be for Council to submit further options and these were identified at the Public Meeting. Other options can be considered including the DVROC option and others could emerge prior to the submission deadline.

In the absence of any direction from the State Government it is difficult to ascertain whether Council's submission will reflect the outcome determined by the State Government. There has been no definition given to final population size, area, number of Councils to be amalgamated into one or the final number in the State, revenue etc. If the State Government is pursuing a regional government agenda, then the options identified at the Public Meeting and by DVROC will not be sufficiently large to satisfy this criteria.

If Council cannot be reassured that its structural preferences will be achieved it could turn its mind to matters that should be non-negotiable outcomes from amalgamation regardless of structure. These could address representation, services, staff retention, points of presence, depots and machinery, forward capital works, maintenance schedules etc.

It is suggested that some time be spent at the meeting to "dot point" a draft submission that will be developed by the CEO for final adoption at Council's September Meeting.

#### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995.

#### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are substantial strategic implications arising from this Item.

#### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item by way of public advertisement, questionnaires and a public meeting.

#### **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There will be social implications arising from structural reform.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are, at this stage, unknown financial implications arising from this Item.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council provides direction to the CEO on the development of a submission on local government reform for adoption by Council at its September meeting to enable its lodgement with the Minister by the end of September, 2009.**

**Simple Majority Required**

The following additional information was provided at the meeting as a result of Cr Price and the CEO attending a meeting in Cuballing and recent press releases from some Councils. The Shire of Williams has stated it will not support any amalgamation. The Shires of Cuballing, Wickepin, Narrogin Shire and Narrogin Town are investigating possible amalgamation. However Wickepin is reconsidering the matter and may not support an amalgamation.

Not all of the Shires in the CVROC are in favour of amalgamating, with Brookton commenting they are happy to resource share on a CVROC basis but not to amalgamate. They have expressed an interest in amalgamating with Wandering and Pingelly.

The Shires of Kojonup, Broomehill-Tambellup, Cranbrook and Plantagenet announced this week that they will amalgamate and this will give a population of 9,000 and a revenue base of \$25 million. Using this as a base the CEO mapped some alternatives and tabled it as a basis for discussion.

Much discussion took place regarding preferences and it was apparent that Wandering, Boddington and Williams appears to have some merit. The submission should include what requirements will not be compromised such as reduction in representation, retention of existing finances, maintenance of a Works Depot, retention of a Shire Office and maintenance of staffing levels to adequately cater for the needs of Wandering residents.

It should suggest a preference of a smaller grouping of Councils with a population of approximately 3,000 – 4,000 with each of the old Councils having a separate Ward and a new election to vote in representatives. Concern over the level of debt that the Town of Narrogin have were noted.

**RESOLUTION 360:2009/10**

**Moved Cr White seconded Cr Kerr**

**That the meeting adjourn for lunch at 12:30pm.**

**Carried 7:0**

The meeting resumed at 2:15pm with all members present.

**RESOLUTION 361:2009/2010**

**Moved Cr Hardie seconded Cr McNeil**

**That Council instruct the CEO to prepare on a submission based on amalgamating Wandering with all or part of the following (without excluding boundary realignments): Boddington, Williams, Pingelly, and Brookton.**

**Carried 6:1**

**Amendment: Moved Cr Price seconded Cr Barge**

**That the area above be reduced to include Wandering with Williams and Boddington.**

**Lost 4:3**

The Chief Executive Officer was requested to advise all of the above Councils of our intentions.

It was agreed that Council will meet on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 7:30pm to finalise and adopt the submission.

## 10.4 FINANCE

### 10.4.1 Shire of Wandering – Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment

<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	10.1.16 Finance General
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	14 August 2009
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Deputy CEO
<b>SENIOR OFFICER:</b>	CEO
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Simple Majority
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	Statement of Financial Activity. Budget vs Actual Variance Report. Accounts for Payment.

#### **BACKGROUND**

It is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1995 that monthly and quarterly financial statements are presented to Council, in order to allow for proper control of the Shire's finances. In addition, Council is required to review the Municipal Budget on a six monthly basis to ensure that income and expenditure is in keeping with budget forecasts. It should be noted that the budget is monitored on a monthly basis in addition to the requirement for a six monthly review.

The attached financial statements and supporting information are presented for the consideration of Elected Members and Council staff welcomes enquiries in regard to the information contained within these reports.

#### **COMMENT - GENERAL**

In order to prepare the attached financial statements, the following reconciliations and financial procedures have been completed and verified;

- Reconciliation of all bank accounts.
- Reconciliation of the Rates Book, including outstanding debtors and the raising of interim rates.
- Reconciliation of all assets and liabilities, including payroll, taxation and postal services.
- Reconciliation of the Sundry Debtors Ledger.
- Reconciliation of the Sundry Creditors Ledger.
- Reconciliation of the Stock Ledger.
- Completion of all Works Costing transactions, including allocation of costs from the Ledger to the various works chart of accounts.

Upon completion of the above reconciliations and procedures, various matters have been identified as requiring the attention of Council, in accordance with the following Resolution of Council, adopted at the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2006 Ordinary Meeting of Council. These matters are addressed in the Budget vs Actual Variance Report included within the Statement of Financial Activity.

*“RESOLUTION 088:2006/07*

*Moved Cr Barge seconded Cr Kerr*

*That in accordance with Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (as amended) Council adopt a measurement of \$500 or 5% for the purposes of reporting on material variances between budgeted and actual income and expenditure in*

*the monthly Statement of Financial Activity and all other financial reports that may be required by Council.*

*Carried 7:0"*

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995 Section 5.25 (1)

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

The attached statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

No public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no social implications arising from this item.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Income and expenditure is proceeding as per budget forecasts and the end of year position should be as per that projected in the 2009/2010 Municipal Budget, assuming all projects proceed and are completed in this timeframe.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council;**

- 1. Receive the July 2009 monthly financial report incorporating the Statement of Financial Activity and Budget vs Actual Variance Report.**
- 2. Endorse the Accounts for Payment as presented in the attached Payment Listing.**

**Simple Majority Required**

**RESOLUTION 362:2009/2010**

**Moved Cr Price seconded Cr McNeil**

**That Council;**

- 1. Receive the July 2009 monthly financial report incorporating the Statement of Financial Activity and Budget vs Actual Variance Report.**
- 2. Endorse the Accounts for Payment as presented in the attached Payment Listing.**

**Carried 7:0**



**10.4.2 Increase in Fees – Special Series Plates**

**FILE REFERENCE:** 10.1.4 Budget  
**DATE OF REPORT:** 14 August 2009  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** DCEO  
**SENIOR OFFICER:** CEO  
**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** Absolute Majority  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**BACKGROUND**

Notification has been received from the Department for Planning and Infrastructure that the application fees for special plates will be increased from 1 July 2009. The new fee will be \$140.00.

**COMMENT - GENERAL**

Council charges as fee of \$165.00 for Special Series plates, this is broken down into \$135.00 for DPI and a fee of \$30 for Council. The notification was not received until after the Budget meeting and therefore the DPI component included in the 2009/2010 Schedule of Fees and Charges was \$135.00.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

No public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no social implications arising from this Item.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this Item.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adopts the new application fee for Special Series Plates and increases the total fee charged to \$170.00.**

**Absolute Majority**

**RESOLUTION 363:2008/2009**

Moved Cr Hardie seconded Cr White

**That Council adopts the new application fee for Special Series Plates and increases the total fee charged to \$170.00.**

*Carried 6:1*

**10.5 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER'S/ BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

**10.5.1 Environmental Health Officer's Report – July**

Nil.

**10.5.2 Building Inspector's Report – July**

Nil.

**11. ELECTED MEMBERS' ROADWORKS REPORTS**

The following roads be identified for urgent attention once weather conditions permit.

Moramocking Road

York-Williams Road

Graham's Road Crossing

Carabin Road – east of Joyce Loney's gate

North Bannister-Wandering Road, Avon Downs – holes in bitumen

Corser Road – Grader has gone through to Kevin Weir's and this is not an identified road.

Cr Barge advised that the blocked down pipes at the TeleCentre (Ag Hall) are contributing to the building moving and require fixing immediately.

Cr Price discussed the expenditure on roads. The CEO tabled the Report on Local Government Road Assets and Expenditure and highlighted the percentages currently being spent and needed to maintain the roads.

**12. MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Nil

**13. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING**

**13.1.1 Advice of Deficiency in Cash Balance – Australia Post**

**FILE REFERENCE:**

**DATE OF REPORT:** 19 August 2009

**REPORT AUTHOR:** DCEO

**SENIOR OFFICER:** CEO

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** Simple Majority

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**BACKGROUND**

Advice was received from Australia Post on 31 July 2009 that there was a deficiency in the cash remitted on Monday, 13 July 2009.

**COMMENT - GENERAL**

A complete review of procedures and reconciliation of all cash held on the premises has been conducted. The final total of money missing is \$290.90. This deficiency has been funded through petty cash at this stage. Please refer to the attached Confidential File Note for further information.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 1995.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications arising from this Item.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

No public consultation has been undertaken in regards to this Item.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no social implications arising from this Item.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no provision in the budget for this expenditure.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this Item.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council;

1. Endorses the action of recouping the cash shortages through petty cash.
2. Notes the information contained in the attached Confidential Report.
3. Notes the resignation of Miss Shannon Hunt.

Simple Majority Required

**RESOLUTION 364:2009/2010**

*Moved Cr Hardie seconded Cr White*

*That Council;*

1. *Endorses the action of recouping the cash shortages through petty cash.*
2. *Notes the information contained in the attached Confidential Report.*
3. *Notes the resignation of Miss Shannon Hunt.*

*Carried 7:0*

**13.1.2 Purchase of Turton Road**

Owners of the land known as Lot 9500 Turton Road have contacted the Chief Executive Officer to investigate if Council would be interested in purchasing the property at a significantly reduced price.

**RESOLUTION 365:2009/2010**

*Moved Cr McNeil seconded Cr Kerr*

*That Council;*

1. *Makes an offer of \$275,000 for the purchase of Lot 9500 Turton Road.*

*Carried 7:0*

**14. QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS WITHOUT RESOLUTIONS**

**15. INFORMATION BULLETIN**



# COUNCILLORS INFORMATION BULLETIN – August 2009

## INDEX

1. **Chief Executive Officer's Information Report**
2. **Building Surveyor's Report and Environmental Health Officer's Report**
3. **Staff**
4. **Works Information Report**
5. **Plant Information Report**
6. **Outwards Correspondence**

1. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S INFORMATION REPORT**

1.1 **Planning Approvals Issued By CEO using Delegated Authority from Council (Property File)**

Nil

1.2 **WALGA News**

**6 July 2009**

**HEADLINES**

- ◀ MEETING WITH DEPUTY PREMIER; MINISTER FOR HEALTH; INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS
- ◀ REGIONAL GRANTS SCHEME FUNDING
- ◀ OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE YOUR COUNCIL
- ◀ SWBP TARGETED GRANTS AWARDED
- ◀ CCTV PANEL
- ◀ BLUE IRIS
- ◀ RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITIES SCHEME (RBFS) ROUND 14 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS
- ◀ ARTS FUNDING FOR FESTIVAL PROJECTS
- ◀ PERTH AIRPORT PRELIMINARY DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2009
- ◀ CESSATION OF PROVISION OF DANGEROUS GOODS STORAGE LICENCE
- ◀ AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL ECONOMIES CONFERENCE 2009

**MAILBAG**

- ◀ INFO PAGE - LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT AND ROADS STRATEGY AND BROCHURE
- ◀ OPEN LETTER FROM WA POLICE TO CCTV OWNERS

**13 July 2009**

**HEADLINES**

- ◀ 2009/10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS PROGRAM
- ◀ WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PLANNING COMMISSION FORMS AND FEES 2009/10
- ◀ OFFICER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE
- ◀ WALGA Eco NEWS
- ◀ INSIGHT CONTACT CENTRE SERVICES
- ◀ FEEDBACK ON STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIBRARY AGREEMENT DUE 14 JULY
- ◀ INCREASE IN BUILDING LICENCE FEE
- ◀ PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SURVEY
- ◀ HEALTHWAY HEALTHY CLUB SPONSORSHIPS SUMMER 2009/10
- ◀ HEARTMOVES AUGUST WORKSHOP
- ◀ WA TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT 2009
- ◀ WA SENIORS AWARDS

**MAILBAG**

- ◀ WA TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT
- ◀ BUSH FIRE ACT AMENDMENTS – BUSH FIRE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT WA AND TOTAL FIRE BANS
- ◀ LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTION 2009 OFFICERS' DAY INVITATION
- ◀ GRAIN FREIGHT NETWORK UPDATE
- ◀ REVIEW OF NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING LEGISLATION
- ◀ AMENDMENTS TO THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING FUND

**20 July 2009**

**HEADLINES**

- ◀ 2009 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION
- ◀ PROMOTE YOUR COUNCIL IN THE WEST
- ◀ ROADS AND TRANSPORT FORUM 2009
- ◀ ASSET MANAGEMENT PANEL
- ◀ WASTE LEVY AND STRATEGIC WASTE FUNDING POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW
- ◀ 2009/10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS PROGRAM
- ◀ REVIEW INTO GM CROPS FREE AREAS ACT 2003
- ◀ REACH FOUNDATION BREAKFAST
- ◀ LANDGATE'S NEW NAME SUPPRESSION INITIATIVE
- ◀ IPWEA FORUMS
- ◀ INTRANET SITE VISITS AND WORKSHOPS

**MAILBAG**

- ◀ JASON MCCARTNEY BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM
- ◀ THE REACH FOUNDATION BREAKFAST INVITATION
- ◀ TELSTRA - MOBILE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT TRIMBLE GEOMANAGER
- ◀ VEHICLE OWNER DETAILS –DEPT OF TRANSPORT

**27 July 2009****HEADLINES**

- ◀ [MEETING WITH MINISTER HON JOHN CASTRILLI MLA](#)
- ◀ [OVERSEAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT](#)
- ◀ [OFFICER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE](#)
- ◀ [CCTV AND SECURITY SERVICES TENDER](#)
- ◀ [CTM – BEST NATIONAL TRAVEL COMPANY 2009](#)
- ◀ [LANDGATE'S VALUATION ROLL EXTRACTS – NOW ONLINE](#)
- ◀ [INAUGURAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TOURISM CONFERENCE](#)
- ◀ [IDOC'09 DESIGN OUT CRIME CONFERENCE](#)

**MAILBAG**

- ◀ PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER
- ◀ MWAC INFORMATION BULLETIN – ISSUE 127 JULY 2009
- ◀ THE REFORM REPORT – BULLETIN 8
- ◀ FAX BACK - OVERSEAS PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE

**3 August 2009****HEADLINES**

- ◀ [LOCAL GOVERNMENT SAFE SYSTEM PROJECT](#)
- ◀ [STATE PLANNING POLICY 4.1 STATE INDUSTRIAL BUFFER \(AMENDMENT DRAFT\)](#)
- ◀ [OFFICER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE](#)
- ◀ [OVERSEAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT](#)
- ◀ [CORPORATE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT \(CTM\) – SKYWEST DEAL](#)
- ◀ [INCREASE IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYERS OF RESERVISTS](#)
- ◀ [STRATEGIC E-LEARNING](#)
- ◀ [AUSTRALASIAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE](#)
- ◀ [NEW ONLINE RESOURCE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME](#)
- ◀ [VITAL PLANET SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS](#)

**MAILBAG**

- ◀ ECONOMIC BRIEFING JULY 2009
- ◀ INFO PAGE – BUS STOP INFRASTRUCTURE
- ◀ INFO PAGE - MINISTERIAL REVIEW OF NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING LEGISLATION AND PROCESSES
- ◀ AGM MATTERS OF SPECIAL URGENT BUSINESS (3)

**10 August 2009****HEADLINES**

- ◀ [COMMONWEALTH REVIEW OF THE WA GRAIN FREIGHT REVIEW](#)
- ◀ [COMPOSITE ADVERTISING – 2009 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS](#)
- ◀ [OVERSEAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT](#)
- ◀ [OFFICER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE](#)
- ◀ [WESTERN POWER BUSHFIRE GRANTS NOW OPEN](#)
- ◀ [PROPELLING ARTS INTO A VIRTUAL REALITY](#)
- ◀ [FERTILISE WISE](#)
- ◀ [RIGHT CLICK 2009](#)
- ◀ [WALK WEEK – WALK THERE TODAY](#)

**1.3 WALGA – Central Country Zone**

Minutes of the Meeting held in Perth on 5 August, 2009 have been received.

**1.4 Landfill Levy**

A response has been received from the relevant Minister advising that the WA levy is less than that in other States, an increase will encourage recycling and 25% of funds will be directed to waste avoidance with additional funds being used by DEC for broader purposes which, again, it is stated, is consistent with the approach in other States.

2. **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT/BUILDING SURVEYOR'S REPORT (13.1.2) (2.2.4)**

**Environmental Health Officer/ Building Surveyor's Activity Report July 2009.**

2.1 **Environmental Health**  
**Septic Tank Approvals**

Nil

**Food Premises Inspections**

Nil

**Other Environmental Health Matters**

Nil

2.2 **Building Surveyor**

**Building Inspections**

**Building Approvals**

Building Permits have been issued as follows:

DATE	LICENSE NUMBER	OWNER	ADDRESS	TYPE	VALUE
09/07/2009	21	C Morgan Const (Shire of Wandering)	Watts Street	Public Toilets	\$99,000
23/07/2009	22	Meliador	Lot 9 Blackboy Gully Rd	Dwelling	

**General Matters**

3. **STAFF**

There has been some movement in staff in the last month. Mr Allan Dunn has accepted the position of Works Supervisor and will commence in early September. Mr Chris Little has resigned his position on the outside crew effective 7 August and Ms Shannon Hunt resigned her position effective 12 August. Both vacancies will be advertised locally.

3.1 **Leave and Overtime Report – July 2009.**

Leave taken for months of July is as follows:

LEAVE TYPE	HOURS
Annual Leave	201.2 hours
Personal Leave	16.5 hours
Bereavement Leave	Nil hours
Long Service Leave	Nil hours
Leave Without Pay	63 hours
Overtime	Nil hours

4. **WORKS REPORT** – 6 July 2009 – 12 August 2009

4.2 **Construction**

Laid water pipe to new ablution block at Pumphrey's Bridge.  
Work progressing well with new ablution block in Wandering.

4.3 **Maintenance**

**Bitumen patching**

Patching undertaken on all bitumen roads as required. One tonne of patching material used. Indicates that reseals are necessary.

**Maintenance Grade**

Reformation work completed on Potts, Ricks, Herdigan, Youngs, Wearne, Barrett, Underwood, Lamont, Kubbine. Codji-Hastings and George currently underway.

**Signs**

Nil

**Depot**

Nil

**Town**

General cleanup around town as required. Mowing as necessary. Some preparation work and cleanup after footpath construction.

**Next Jobs**

Complete reformation grading and commence shoulder work on sealed roads.

4.4 **Private Works**

Nil

4.5 **Fuel Quotes (11.1.1)**

Quotes for 4500 litres of distillate were obtained from the following:

Caltex - \$1.1940

Great Southern Fuel Services - \$1.250

4.6 **Traffic Counts**

No traffic counts were undertaken during the month.

4.7 **Roadwork's Requests Received**

Roadworks requests were received for Herdigan, Codjatotine-Hastings, York-Williams Roads. All roads have been attended to during the maintenance grading program.

4.8 **Councillors Roadwork's Requests from Previous Meeting/s**

5. **PLANT REPORT**

No plant report has been prepared for this month. All plant operating ok with minor work required to graders. New roller has had first service.



**6. OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Addressee</b>	<b>Subject</b>
22/07/2009	Bernie Miler Main Roads	Roads 2025- Review of Significant Road Network
22/07/2009	Leann & Bradley Rose	Building Licence #22 Lot 10 Mellows Road
22/07/2009	Ms Lorna M Manuel	Permission to collect seeds
22/07/2009	Australian Bureau of Statistics	Engineering survey
24/07/2009	Australia Post Commercial Division	Certificate of Currency
24/07/2009	WALGSP	Application for Superannuation
24/07/2009	Meliador (WA) Pty Ltd	Building Licence Payment
30/07/2009	G & V Botting	Information - Building envelope #442
31/07/2009	Finco Superannuation Fund	Leach Drains Lot 54 #18 White Street Wandering
31/07/2009	WA Country Builders	Application for Building Licence Lot 97 Echidna Close
31/07/2009	Rob and Karen Meakins	Payment for Building Licence #13
05/08/2009	Allan Dunn	Appointment of Works Supervisor
11/08/2009	Mr L Nilan	CBH Ex Gratia Rates
11/08/2009	Alfred Watts	Licence Renewals
13/08/2009	Avon Hills Pty Ltd	Rates notice reprint #39 - 494 Codjatonine-Hastings
13/08/2009	Tanglefoot Winery	Food premises inspection
13/08/2009	S & N Kelliher	Completion of building license
13/08/2009	L Bruin & W Denig	Completion of building license
13/08/2009	D & L Hassett	Illegal building work
13/08/2009	State Library Board	Found DVD's presumed lost

**16. MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 4:45 pm.

**These Minutes were confirmed by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 17 September 2009.**

**CR B E DOWSETT, Chairman**