



UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Annual Electors Meeting



Meeting held in Council Chambers at
15 Maddock Street, Mukinbudin
Commencing at 4.30pm Tuesday 13th February 2024

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ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Council is committed to a code of conduct and all decisions are based on an honest assessment of the issue, ethical decision-making and personal integrity. Councillors and staff adhere to the statutory requirements to declare financial, proximity and impartiality interests and once declared follow the legislation as required.



Dirk Sellenger
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AGENDA

Agenda of the Annual Electors Meeting held in Council Chambers, Maddock Street, Mukinbudin on 13th February 2024

1. Declaration of Opening

- 1.1 The Shire President to declare the Meeting open at 4.33pm

2. Record of attendance and apologies

2.1 Councillors

Cr G Shadbolt	Shire President
Cr R Nicoletti	Deputy President

Cr G Bent
Cr A Farina
Cr C McGlashan
Cr S Ventris
Cr A Walker

2.2 Staff

Dirk Sellenger	Chief Executive Officer
Renee Jenkin	Manager of Corporate and Community Services

2.3 Electors

Mr Ed Nind
Ms Claire Nind
Ms Robbie Fagan
Ms Ev Comerford
Ms Teresa Morony
Ms Robyn Geraghty

2.4 Apologies

Nil

Ms Barb English entered the meeting at 4.34pm

3. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes for the 2021/2022 Annual Electors Meeting held 21st March 2023.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

Council Decision Number – 12 02 2024

Moved: Cr Farina

Seconded: Mr Ed Nind

That the Minutes of the 2021/2022 Annual Electors Meeting held on 21st March 2023 be accepted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried

Mr Jeff Seaby entered the meeting at 4.35pm

Ms Tracey Seaby entered the meeting at 4.35pm

Ms Kylie Sippe entered the meeting at 4.36pm

4. Reports

4.1 Shire President and Chief Executive Officer's Report

4.1.1 Shire President & Chief Executive Officer's Report – 2022/23

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

Council Decision Number – 13 02 2024

Moved: Ms Robyn Geraghty

Seconded: Ms Claire Nind

That Shire President and Chief Executive officers report for the 2022/2023 year be received.

Carried

4.2 Financial Statement / Audit Report**4.2.1 Financial Statement / Audit Report – 2022/2023****OFFICER RECOMMENDATION****Council Decision Number – 14 02 2024****Moved: Cr Farina****Seconded: Ms Claire Nind**

That the Financial Statement and Audit Report for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 be received.

Carried

5. General Business (with the approval of the President or meeting)

5.1 General Business

Reconstruction of Ferguson Street

Cr Shadbolt began by speaking to the Electors in response to recent feedback regarding the proposed removal of several trees on Ferguson Street. He clarified the criteria used to identify problematic trees for removal, taking into account factors such as their health and whether their root systems interfere with upcoming projects such as the annual footpath program. The Council reassured its dedication to delivering capital projects of excellent quality, ensuring they offer value for money to the Electors. Council then asked for community feedback regarding the removal of the trees.

Question

Ms Kylie Sippe inquired about the existence of a treatment strategy for trees affected by white ants and whether the Council has formulated a replanting schedule for trees in different areas across the Mukinbudin townsite.

Response

Cr Shadbolt explained that tree examinations are conducted on an as required basis. Council were unaware of any treatment plans available to salvage termite infested trees but are willing to explore options and associated costs. While there is currently no formal plan in place, the Council values the feedback received and is committed to exploring the development of a plan for replanting, aiming for uniformity where feasible and suitable.

Question

Mr Jeff Seaby conveyed appreciation to the Council for providing clarification on the reconstruction of Ferguson Street and commended the Council for their visionary and forward-thinking approach to the Community Hub project. Additionally, he sought information about the process of marking the trees and the meaning behind the ribboning.

Response

Council emphasized the significance of footpath safety, acknowledging that, when feasible, efforts will be made to salvage trees. Nevertheless, the Council maintains its dedication to executing high-quality capital projects aimed at enhancing the townsite and providing value for money to ratepayers. Trees identified with ribbons are slated for additional scrutiny due to their potential to affect future projects or present safety hazards.

Question

Ms Ev Comerford inquired about the significance of the white ribbon around a tree situated at the front of her property. She also raised inquiries regarding senior trips, seeking information on any upcoming plans for travel specifically designed for seniors in the near future.

Response

CEO Dirk Sellenger informed Ms Ev Comerford that Western Power has identified several trees in the townsite needing pruning. An external contractor is scheduled to be in town in the upcoming weeks for the pruning task. The Council reiterated its commitment to organising social outings for the senior community, with budget allocations made for the 2023/2024 financial year. The Council extended an invitation to Ev and the senior community to share any ideas with the Shire or CRC to contribute to future planning efforts.

Question

Mr Ed Nind queried asbestos materials on Forester Lane.

Response

CEO Dirk Sellenger thanked Mr Ed Nind for reporting the asbestos and assured him that the Shire would rectify the matter as a priority, now that he was aware of the matter.

Question

Ms Robyn Greaghty expressed gratitude to Mr Dirk Sellenger for his support during the prolonged power outage in January and inquired whether the Shire maintains a register for the elderly to conduct welfare checks in case of emergencies.

Response

The Council expressed appreciation to Ms Robyn Geraghty for her positive feedback and acknowledged the challenges faced during the extended power outage in January 2024. CEO Dirk Sellenger clarified that the Shire is currently in the process of establishing an Elderly Persons Welfare Register.

Question

Ms Barb English questioned whether an emergency fuel reserve could be established in the event of an emergency.

Response

The Council expressed gratitude to Cr Ventris and Cr Shadbolt for their generous fuel donations during the prolonged power outage. They elaborated on the limitations and restrictions associated with the resale of fuel. The Council also voiced concerns about the absence of telecommunications, particularly with Telstra, during emergencies. They assured Electors of their continued commitment to ensuring essential communications are available in such emergency situations.

Question

Ms Teresa Morony asked if there were any plans to reinstate seating at the shade structure opposite the railway station. Concerns were raised regarding the ongoing storage of the lawn clippings at the oval, memorial hall upgrades and the lack of community consultation on the Community Hub project. Teresa queried if the Shire would implement a designated history section within the Harold Williams Library as she owns many historical books of which may be of interest to the general public. questioned whether it can be displayed for public engagement. storage of lawns clippings near the oval.

Response

The Council expressed appreciation to Ms Teresa Morony for her feedback and proposed the incorporation of her suggestions within the new Community Hub building. Cr Shadbolt and CEO Dirk Sellenger clarified that the available funding had an exceptionally short and demanding timeline, leaving minimal room for public consultation. The Council apologised for this constraint, emphasizing that the circumstances were beyond their control and not standard procedure for a project of this nature.

Cr Geoff Bent departed the meeting at 5.25pm
Cr Geoff Bent returned to the meeting at 5.27pm.

Cr Sandie Ventris departed the meeting at 5.30pm
Cr Sandie Ventris returned to the meeting at 5.31pm

Ms Ev Comerford commended the Council on the various upgrades at the Cemetery.

6. Closure of Meeting
6.1 Closure of Meeting 5.33pm.