

SHIRE OF CUBALLING

COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 18 AUGUST 2011

MINUTES

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1. OPENING - ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Meeting commenced at 4:05pm

2. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr T Wittwer President
Cr R Newman Deputy President
Cr Joy Meharry
Cr C Hawksley
Cr T Haslam
Cr C McDougall
Cr M Conley
Mrs Eva Haydon Chief Executive Officer

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4. STANDING ORDERS

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Standing Orders be suspended for the duration of the meeting to allow for greater debate on items.

Moved: Cr Meharry

Seconded: Cr Haslam

Carried 7/0

5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil

6. MINUTES

6.1 CONFIRMATION OF 21 July 2011 ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes (as circulated) of the ordinary meeting of the Shire of Cuballing held in the Council Chambers on 21 July 2011 be confirmed.

Moved: Cr Newman

Seconded: Cr McDougall

Carried 7/0

7. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & DECLARATIONS

8. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillors' and Employees' Disclosures of Interest.

8.1 DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST AND PROXIMITY INTEREST

Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting.

8.2 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AFFECTING IMPARTIALITY

Members and staff must disclose their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the Member or employee has given or will give advice.

9.1 REPORTS – FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

9.1.1 LIST OF ACCOUNTS SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL AND PAYMENT – JULY 2011

Submission to:	Ordinary Meeting of Council
Location/Address:	Not applicable
Reporting Officer:	Nichole Gould, Administration Officer
Enabling Legislation:	Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
Council Policy:	Register Delegated Authority
Budget Implications:	Nil
File Reference:	CMR 7
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority

Background

Council is supplied with a list of payments for consideration.

Comment

A copy of the list of payments made from each of Council's bank accounts is attached to this item.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

Approve for payment the list of Creditors paid from the Municipal fund, as detailed below, totalling	\$457,296.24
Vouchers 14103	\$1007.05
Electronic Fund Transfers	\$456,289.19
Credit Card	\$3.33

Approve for payment the list of Creditors paid from the Trust Fund, as detailed below, totalling	\$0
Electronic Fund Transfers	\$0

Moved: Cr Hawksley

Seconded: Cr Newman

Carried 7/0

9.1.2 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

Submission to:	Ordinary Meeting of Council
Location/Address:	Not applicable
Reporting Officer:	Eva Haydon, CEO
Enabling Legislation:	Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
Council Policy:	Nil
Budget Implications:	Nil
File Reference:	CMR 7
Voting Requirements:	Simple majority

Background

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, section 34, provides for monthly financial reporting requirements for local government.

Comment

A Statement of Financial Activity has been prepared for period ending 31 July 2011 in accordance with the abovementioned legislation and circulated with the Council Meeting Agenda.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That the Statement of Financial Position, as circulated, for the Shire of Cuballing for period ending 31 July 2011, be received.

Moved: Cr Conley

Seconded: Cr Meharry

Carried 7/0

9.2.0 PERMISSION TO COLLECT NATIVE SEED

Location/Address: Whole of shire
Reporting Officer: Eva Haydon – Chief Executive Officer
Enabling Legislation: Nil
Council Policy: Nil
Budget Implications: Nil
File Reference:
Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Background

Mr Peter Denton has written to request permission to collect native seed from road and gravel reserves within the shire. He was granted permission two years ago and would like to extend the permit.

Mr Denton has advised that he is happy to supply seed to Council and provide advice if needed.

Comment

Council will be required to rehabilitate both refuse sites in the near future and receiving seed from persons collecting in our shire will enable a seed bank which will assist when rehabilitating sites.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Mr Peter Denton be granted permission to collect native seed from road and gravel reserves within the shire.

Moved: Cr Conley

Seconded: Cr Meharry

Carried 7/0

9.2.1 GRAIN FREIGHT – CUBALLING EAST ROAD

Location/Address:	Whole of shire
Reporting Officer:	Eva Haydon – Chief Executive Officer
Enabling Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995 as amended
Council Policy:	Nil
Budget Implications:	Nil
File Reference:	
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment:	Works Schedule

Background

Council is aware of the proposal to close tier 3 rail lines and move grain on strategic grain freight routes. One of these routes is Cuballing East Road, which bisects the most populated areas of Cuballing townsite.

Main Roads WA advised that we were required to complete roadworks on Cuballing East Road by June 2011. Due to all resources focussing on making up the 2009/10 shortfall in our reference amount, Main Roads were advised that this would not be possible.

During the past eight months, the Railway Retention Alliance has worked tirelessly to prevent the closure of Tier 3 rail lines however they have not been successful and Main Roads is now pushing to have the roadworks underway.

Comment

By carrying out the proposed roadworks, Council is creating a legacy that will last for generations of ratepayers unless Main Roads agrees (in writing) that additional funding will be available for future maintenance and construction. Cuballing East Road was not constructed to carry the volume and weight of proposed grain freight, particularly in a good harvest.

There are two other issues which are far more important, namely the safety of our residents and the potential for heavy freight to cross over Great Southern Highway and proceed along Campbell Street and Wandering Narrogin Road.

Council has two options, tender the roadworks (as detailed on the attachment) to include clearing permits (if required), barriers along the footpath, remediation works if required for residents with dwellings close to the road and request an alteration to the speed limits on Cuballing East Road residential area and Campbell Street; or request that Main Roads take over responsibility for Cuballing East Road.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

For Council consideration.

COUNCIL DECISION:

That;

The CEO meet with MRWA to discuss councils options and report at the September Council Meeting

Moved: Cr Newman

Carried 7/0

9.2.2 PLAN FOR THE FUTURE – REGULATORY CHANGES

Location/Address:	Whole of shire
Reporting Officer:	Eva Haydon – Chief Executive Officer
Enabling Legislation:	Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996
Council Policy:	Nil
Budget Implications:	
File Reference:	
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority

Background

The Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests has written to advise Council of the implementation of the new Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework for local governments in Western Australia.

Local governments will be expected to be fully compliant with the new regulations by 1 July 2013 and to take the contents of the new plans into account when preparing their annual budgets for the 2013/14 financial year.

The Strategic Community Plan is a principal planning document, in which Council (with community input) will establish aspirations and priorities for the local government. The Corporate Business Plan on the other hand, is an operational and financial planning instrument that will demonstrate the local government's capacity to deliver and/or achieve Council priorities from the key focus areas and objectives that were identified in the Strategic Community Plan.

Asset Management planning, Long Term Financial Planning and Workforce Planning will also need to be integrated with the Community and Business Plans.

Comment

Community workshops will be required to capture community aspirations and priorities, and with the limited finance and administration resources this Council currently has, a timeline will need to be developed in order to achieve regulatory requirements.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

Moved: Cr Newman

Seconded: Cr Conley

Carried 7/0

9.3.1 WORKS MANAGER REPORT AUGUST 2011



WINTER GRADING

Winter maintenance grading is ongoing.

One grader is currently doing Bunmulling Rd and then working across to the Congelin Rd area. The second grader is engaged in Shoulder Grading of the bitumen roads. Springhill, Cuballing West and most of the Wandering Narrogin have been completed at the time of this report.

STORM DAMAGE

Storm Damage cleanup is ongoing at this time. Bims contracting have very nearly finished the Popanyinning West Road. They will then do the Popanyinning Townsite and the sealed section of Williams Rd before moving to the Popanyinning East Road. The next section after the above will be Yornaning West (Bitumen Section) before commencing the Yornaning East Rd through to Stratherne Rd.

POPANYINNING WEST ROAD

A proposal has been submitted to Roads to Recovery for funding to continue the widening works of the Popanyinning West Rd. We intend to skip approx 1.5.kilometres at this time to enable survey and design to be undertaken. Dependent on the design we may have to negotiate land use or resumption for a shift of the centreline to remove or at least minimise the impact of the sharp S Bend within the current work areas. A meeting has already been held with the Landowners whom are somewhat sympathetic to our requirements.

CULVERT INSTALLATIONS.

We were able to dry hire a backhoe at a good rate for several days and immediately set about installing some Xovers. We also installed a Culvert on Hart Street. Whilst still having the backhoe available we have endeavoured to clean out some existing culverts with varying results, depending on how much water was lying.

STANDPIPE CONTROLLERS

There are some issues in regard to maintaining sufficient battery charge after several overcast days. These battery charge issues have not yet been resolved. We are continuing to speak with the suppliers in the hope of a speedy resolution.

DAM STORAGE

A diesel engine driven pump has been ordered and delivered.. At this time it has not been installed due to other works. The electric pump has also been delivered.

It is hoped that we will form up the pump bases in the next few days. When installed we will be able to complete all the pipe works including the installation of the standpipe assembly.

TREE MULCHING

Tree pruning mulching works are continuing. The mulcher is on Walsh Rd after having completed Gath Rd. This will complete council funded tree mulching works this financial year.

All reports on the clearing of Gath Rd have been of a positive nature.

REFUSE SITES

Fill materials have been carted to allow for the covering of both the Cuballing and Popanyinning refuse sites. Both sites are pushed and covered on a weekly basis. We have started a new lift at the Cuballing refuse site, This will add approx 1 metre additional height for waste disposal.

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

All items of plant and equipment are being serviced and maintained as required, and generally in good working order.

STAFF

We have started Alex Scanlon as a full time employee. This was necessitated with the leaving of Darryl Stanton.

PRIVATE WORKS

Only works such as sand and gravel deliveries has been undertaken in the last month.

EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

The equestrian indoor arena construction is well underway. At report time the framework has been assembled on the ground. Roof sheeting should commence today (Friday 12th August) and the intention is to crane lift the structure next Wednesday morning.

There has been a requirement to cart some gravel to form hardstands over the wetter clay area to allow the cranes to work safely.

ROADSIDE SPRAYING

Some townsite spraying has been completed. It is intended to engage a contractor to undertake the whole of the Shire roadside spraying. We are currently accepting pricing from two interested parties to undertake the spraying requirements.

GRAIN FREIGHT ROUTE

MRWA have been in contact regarding Cuballing East road works and costing. We have previously looked at this road in relation to works required and the appropriate costing for these works. My belief of what is required differs significantly to what MRWA believe is satisfactory at this time.

CLIFFORD STREET.

Clifford St where it meets with Cuballing East is a concern. It is suggested that Council may consider closing Clifford St at this junction and have it terminated as a cul de sac. There is very limited vision to the East and with additional traffic use will only enhance the opportunity for an accident to occur.

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Bob Walker

Works Manager.

11. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the urgent business items 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 be considered.

Moved: Cr Haslam Seconded: Cr McDougall

Carried 7/0

11.1. RAILWAY SLEEPERS

Location/Address: Whole of shire
Reporting Officer: Eva Haydon – Chief Executive Officer
Enabling Legislation: Local Government Act 1995
Council Policy: Nil
Budget Implications:
File Reference:
Voting Requirements: **Absolute Majority**

Background

Contractors have been replacing sleepers on the railway line in the shire and have offered the old sleepers at (no cost) to interested persons.

Council staff have collected several truck loads and deposited them at the refuse site

Comment

One of the potential uses for the sleepers is to retain the Bow Street bank on the dressage arena, which is badly scoured from water run off.

The balance of the sleepers can be sold to ratepayers, however a price needs to be set by Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That:

- 1 Railway sleepers be sold for five dollars each to ratepayers with a delivery charge to be added if required for longer distances; and**
- 2 The Cuballing Men's Shed receive \$2.50 per sleeper for assisting with deliveries.**

Moved: Cr Hawksley Seconded: Cr McDougall

Carried by Absolute Majority 7/0

11.1.2

WAGIN REGIONAL LANDFILL GROUP

Location/Address:	Whole of shire
Reporting Officer:	John Case – Project Officer Wagin Group Eva Haydon – Chief Executive Officer
Enabling Legislation:	Environmental Protection Act 1986 Environmental Protection (Rural Landfill) Regulations 1997 Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007
Council Policy:	Nil
Budget Implications:	Nil
File Reference:	
Voting Requirements:	Absolute Majority

Background

The Wagin Group of Councils Strategic Waste Management Plans identified that a Regional Landfill Site is a priority, particularly for some members. A preferred site has been identified at Tarwonga that would satisfy the soil permeability requirements of the Department of Environmental Conservation's best practice for a Landfill site. To ensure that land continues to be available, an MOU is required with the landowner subject to relevant approvals processes being approved by the Community, Planning Commission and DEC.

The Wagin Group of Council's steering Committee held a telephone conference on 1st August to discuss the next step for the Strategic Waste Project Regional Landfill site.

The project had previously, at the groups meeting on 23rd July, recognised that both Tarwonga and Piesseville sites were preferences and that a feasibility study should be conducted on both to identify the relevant merits of each. Since then, the owners of the Piesseville site have removed permission to include their land in the project and as a consequence the project now has one site only as the preferred regional landfill site.

The time taken to investigate further sites was discussed by the steering committee who elected to get an agenda item to councils for support of Tarwonga MOU.

Comment

One council, Lake Grace, has written to the committee advising that they no longer intend to participate in the Regional Landfill site, however are still considering membership and may re-apply to join the group at a later date.

Early in the project it was apparent that the funding for the capital costs would need to be found by all participants and the majority view of the responses from a motion put to each of the group's councils at the December 2010 meetings was that the capital costs would be equally divided. It is now evident that land purchase may be able to be funded by Royalties for Regions funds, or at least some part of it.

Additional funding in phase 1 of the Waste Authority Regional Funding Program 2011/12 – 2015/16 will be available to the group, however the details of the items that can be funded have not been published as yet, and will be released at RFP workshops at a later date.

The remainder of the membership need to consider their continued support of the process being undertaken and membership of the group.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That:

- 1 The Shire of Cuballing continue their membership of the Wagin Regional Landfill Group, subject to the Town of Narrogin retaining their membership of the group; and**
- 2 The President and Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), subject to the following:**
 - a. The number of member Councils in the Wagin Regional Landfill Group remain at eleven (inclusive of the Town of Narrogin;**
 - b. An indication of potential costs and sources of funding be included in the MOU; and**
 - c. Relevant approvals, following community consultation with landowners surrounding the potential site, are received from WA Planning Commission and Department of Environment and Conservation.**

Moved: Cr Newman Seconded: Cr Meharry

Carried by Absolute Majority 7/0

12. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary Council meeting to be held Thursday 15 September 2011 at 3.00pm

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, Meeting closed at 5.05pm