



**murchisonshire**

*Ancient land under brilliant skies*

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council

Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,  
on Wednesday **27 October 2021**, commencing at 12 Noon.

*Ancient land under brilliant skies*

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## ATTACHMENTS

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## 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

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Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.01pm and then vacated the chair with the Chief Executive Officer chairing the Meeting until the successful conclusion of item 3.1 of the Agenda. (Election of President).

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## 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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Prior to the Meeting E Foulkes-Taylor and S Fowler as incoming councillors completed Form 7 (Declaration by elected member of council) pursuant to the *Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998*, at which time a verbal declaration was also undertaken before the Chief Executive Officer as an Authorised Person pursuant as outlined in Schedule 2 of the Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005 prior to taking Office.

### Present

#### Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor  
Cr A Whitmarsh  
Cr Q Fowler  
Cr E Foulkes-Taylor  
Cr S Fowler

#### Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO  
Steven Cosgrove – Community Manager DCEO

#### Apologies

William Herold – Works Manager

*CEO left the meeting at 12.05pm*

*CEO returned to the meeting at 12.06pm*

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## 3 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

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### 3.1 Election of President

File: 4.1  
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer  
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose  
Date: 18 October 2021  
Attachments: 3.1.1 LGA Schedule 2.3 - Division 1 - President Elections  
*Note President Nomination Form sent out to councillors with Agenda*

#### Matter for Consideration:

A President is to be elected from within Council for a two-year term of office expiring in October 2023.

#### Background

The Local Government Act prescribes that Council is to elect a President as the first matter dealt with at the first meeting of Council after an ordinary election's day.

#### Comment

Nominations are to be lodged in writing to the CEO, indicating consent of the nominee, prior to or at the Meeting. (*President Nomination Form sent out to councillors with Agenda*).

Councillors will cast their vote by secret ballot, votes will be counted, and the CEO will declare the results. If there is equality of votes between 2 or more candidates, then the meeting is to be adjourned for not more than seven days. Nominations may be withdrawn, or further nominations may be made before or when the meeting

resumes. If the second round of voting results in a tie, then the CEO is to draw lots in accordance with regulations to determine which candidate is elected.

Statutory Environment:

*LGA Schedule 2.3 Division 1. Copy is attached.*

Nominations Received

The Chief Executive Officer received a written nomination from Cr R Foulkes-Taylor prior to the Meeting.

**Result of Election**

No further nominations received, and Cr R Foulkes-Taylor was declared duly elected as President.

**Declaration of Office**

The successful councillor, Cr R Foulkes-Taylor completed Form 7 (Declaration by elected member of council) pursuant to the *Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998*, at which time a verbal declaration was also undertaken before the Chief Executive Officer as an Authorised Person pursuant as outlined in Schedule 2 of the Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005 prior to taking Office.

*At 12.04pm the Chief Executive Officer vacated the Chair and Cr R Foulkes Taylor commenced chairing the meeting as Shire President.*

**3.2 Election of Deputy President**

File:	4.1
Author:	Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	18 October 2021
Attachments:	3.1.2 LGA Schedule 2.3 - Division 2 – Deputy President Elections <i>Note Deputy President Nomination Form sent out to councillors with Agenda</i>

Matter for Consideration:

The Deputy President is to be elected from within Council for a two-year term of office expiring in October 2023.

Background

The Local Government Act prescribes that Council is to elect a Deputy President as the next matter dealt with after the election of a President at the first meeting of Council after an ordinary elections day.

Comment

Nominations are to be lodged in writing to the CEO, indicating consent of the nominee, prior to or at the Meeting (*Deputy President Nomination Form sent out to councillors with Agenda*).

Councillors will cast their vote by secret ballot, votes will be counted and the CEO will declare the results. If there is equality of votes between 2 or more candidates, then the meeting is to be adjourned for not more than seven days. Nominations may be withdrawn or further nominations may be made before or when the meeting resumes. If the second round of voting results in a tie, then the CEO is to draw lots in accordance with regulations to determine which candidate is elected.

Statutory Environment:

*LGA Schedule 2.3 Division 2. Copy is attached.*

### Nominations Received

The Chief Executive Officer received a written nomination from Cr A Whitmarsh prior to the Meeting.

### **Result of Election**

No further nominations received, and Cr A Whitmarsh was declared duly elected as Deputy President.

### **Declaration of Office**

The successful councillor, Cr A Whitmarsh completed Form 7 (Declaration by elected member of council) pursuant to the *Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998*, at which time a verbal declaration was also undertaken before the Chief Executive Officer as an Authorised Person pursuant as outlined in Schedule 2 of the Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005 prior to taking Office.

*Cr S Fowler left the meeting at 12.07pm*

*Cr S Fowler returned to the meeting 12.08pm*

At 12.08pm Council received presentation by Steve Crabbe and Mark Roesner of 10M Limited as outlined under Item 14 Petitions/Deputations/Presentations/Submissions.

*The Meeting was adjourned for lunch at 1.13pm*

*The Meeting was recommenced following at 1.44pm*

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## **4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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### **4.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 23 September 2021**

#### Background

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council have previously been circulated to all Councillors.

#### Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23 September 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

#### Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

#### **Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** A Whitmarsh

**Seconded: Cr** Q Fowler

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23 September 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

**Carried**

**For** 5

**Against** 0

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## 5 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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*Cr R Foulkes-Taylor declared a Financial Interest in 19.1 Development Application 01/2021 – Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building Relocation and also an Impartially Interest in 19.4 ICPA Sponsorship Request.*

*Cr E Foulkes-Taylor declared a Financial Interest in 19.1 Development Application 01/2021 – Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building Relocation and also an Impartially Interest in 19.4 ICPA Sponsorship Request.*

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## 6 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

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Nil

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## 7 STANDING ORDERS

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### Matter for Consideration

It has been customary practice in the interests of a productive meeting in relation to the Conduct of Members during debates for the Council suspend Standing Orders 8.2 (Limitation on Number of speeches) and 8.3 (Duration of Speeches) under Local Law 2001. To facilitate this, the following recommended resolution is required.

### **Recommendation**

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** A Whitmarsh

**Seconded: Cr** Q Fowler

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

**Carried**

**For**

5

**Against**

0

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## 8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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Nil

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## 9 NEXT MEETING

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Thursday 25 November 2021 commencing at 12:00noon

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## 10 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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Cr A Whitmarsh

**Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** E Foulkes-Taylor

**Seconded: Cr** Q Fowler

That Council grant Leave of Absence for Cr A Whitmarsh for Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 25 November 2021.

**Carried**

**For**

5

**Against**

0

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## 11 URGENT BUSINESS

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Item 19.4 ICPA Sponsorship Request

**Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** E Foulkes-Taylor

**Seconded: Cr** Q Fowler

That Council receive Item 19.4 ICPA Sponsorship Request as urgent business.

**Carried**

**For**

5

**Against**

0

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## 12 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

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Nil

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## 13 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

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President Cr R Foulkes-Taylor

- ~ announced his gratitude towards the exceptional effort and service provided by the Roadhouse during the busy period of 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Landor Races and
- ~ congratulated and welcomed Cr E Foulkes-Taylor and Cr S Fowler to their election on Council.

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## 14 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

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*Note 14 Petitions/Deputations/Presentations/Submissions was addressed after Item 3.2*

Steve Crabbe and Mark Roesner of 10M Limited provided a presentation of their companies proposed mining activities at Twin Peaks.

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## 15 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

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### 15.1 Shire President

#### WALGA State Convention

I recently attended the WALGA Convention at the Crown Hotel in Perth and was proud to be one of two representatives from the Murchison (Councillor Emma F-T attended as well).

My commitments started on Sunday afternoon (September the 19th) with the Mayors and Presidents forum.

During the Convention we heard from and interacted with many presenters including the following.

- ~ President of WALGA Tracey Roberts (Mayor of City of Wanneroo)
- ~ WALGA CEO Nick Sloan
- ~ Minister for Local Govt John Carey
- ~ Former Federal Foreign Minister Julie Bishop
- ~ Radio presenter Liam Bartlett
- ~ WACA CEO Christina Mathews
- ~ Anthony De Ceglie Editor of the West Australian
- ~ Northampton CEO Gary Keefe
- ~ Numerous councillors from all around WA

I have had the privilege of attending several Local Govt conventions over the past 15 years or so and never tire of catching up with people from all walks of life with the one common connection of Local Government.

Councillors from the largest inner Metropolitan Councils to the smallest and most isolated regional ones all have interesting tales to share and I find the opportunity to discuss all sorts of different aspects of being in Local Government very helpful in trying to continue my role in hopefully being a reasonably useful Councillor for the Murchison Shire.

I am very appreciative to be given the chance to attend the Convention.

If anyone has specific queries about different aspects of my involvement in the Convention I am happy to take calls.

*Cr Rosco Foulkes-Taylor*

*29/09/21*

### 15.2 Councillors

#### **Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor**

#### LG Convention 2021

Thanks to the Murchison Shire Council for the opportunity to attend this year's LG Convention in Perth. As always it was a great opportunity to meet with other elected members, LG officers and invited guests.

The highlight of the presentations on day 1 was hearing political insights from former Foreign Minister **Julie Bishop**. She ran through her career journey towards her goal of Foreign Minister and her thoughts on leadership. A couple of interesting points that she made include:

- The current generation of children will be known as the 'Pandemials'
- Australia's net debt is \$1Trillion. Governments around the world are printing money. Her quip, "There is nothing more permanent than a temporary spending program."
- On male v female leaders she says, "women are more transformational and men are more transactional" which is why you need diversity on boards/councils etc



- Ethical leadership, around the world, is in short supply. Too much conditional leadership eg Trump's America First policy
- Australia doesn't invest enough in diplomacy
- Her framework for decision making is:
  - ~ Ask yourself 'compared to what'?
  - ~ At what cost?
  - ~ What's the evidence?
  - ~ What could possibly go wrong?
- Her 'Mega Trends'
  - ~ The Tech Revolution-the greatest disruptions are ahead of us
  - ~ Tensions between the US and China- our largest trading partner is at odds with our largest defence partner
  - ~ A backlash against globalisation is leading to a resurgence of populism eg Trump's bans on immigration and trade barriers
  - ~ Climate change
- China is a full time job for a minister. China sees the world through a different lens. We could manage differences because of the strong economic relationship but Aust is now in a diplomatic deep freeze and the only connection is through business. it will take 'A very grand gesture' from Australia to somewhat repair Australia's relationship with China. Eg Invite a Chinese company to be part of our comms network.

**Glenn Mitchell**, former ABC sports broadcaster, spoke about his battle with mental health issues, including an attempt on his own life. A couple of interesting stats:

- 1/5 Australians have mental illness each year and 45% of the population over a lifetime
- Suicide is the biggest killer of men under 44 with 9 deaths per day
- 3318 suicides in Aust in 2019

LGs are well placed to create an environment that is inclusive and provides opportunities for community activities and interaction.

His recommendation is to go out of your way to ask 'R U OK' and he asked the attendees to make a commitment to be a mental health first aider

Christina Matthews -CEO WACA spoke of losing her dad to suicide when she was 17 and was unable to talk about it for years. She believes talking about these things is what saves people. A strong believer in the power of local community and sport being a vehicle for bringing people together and belonging. LG leaders need to understand the importance of providing the environment for good mental health.

Anthony DeCeghi- Editor in Chief of The West Australian provided reflections on what readers think (not necessarily his own views)

1. Mark McGowan is still stratospherically popular
2. WA Libs have yet to hit rock bottom
3. Fed Election could get worse for the Libs with WA seats making a difference
4. Clive Palmer will loom large at the federal election but WA voters hate him
5. In a pandemic people want to be safe- wanting a 90% vaccination rate
6. Our health system is sick
7. Housing is a canary in a coal mine
8. Homelessness is complex but must be addressed -reference tent cities in Perth, Freo and Albany
9. We must do better by our First Nations Peoples
10. Pay attention to sexual harassment in mining camps- an enquiry happening

I attended 2 plenary sessions

- 1 Champions of Economic Resilience and community prosperity
  - Economic Development = Community Wellbeing
  - For strong economy- Aim to maximise spending and plug leakages
  - Economic development is dependent on collaboration between private markets, different levels of government and the community

- The knowledge economy is growing significantly with Ag and Manufacturing decreasing in importance to the economy
- Firms now outsource to specialists. Eg advertising, design etc- what used to be inhouse is now outsourced. However, we have probably plateaued re the advantages of outsourcing services and thinks we are on the threshold of a paradigm shift re decentralisation (pandemic has sped this along with many people working from home)

#### *Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR)*

There is an IPR Network developed to support and guide LGs to meet IPR goals. Support includes IPR Webinars, IPR document portal to share docs and templates and a peer support program. It can provide templates, advocacy for more IPR trainers and guidance for implementing IPR.

They encourage LG officers to touch base.

We heard from the Mayor of the City of Stirling and the President from the Shire of Brookton about their approach to IPR. Both very different and interesting approaches. It's important that each LG tailors their approach suitable to their own shire.

[https://lgprofessionalswa.org.au/Lgmawa/Branches\\_Networks/WA\\_Networks/Integrated\\_Planning\\_and\\_Reporting\\_Network/Lgmawa/Branches\\_Networks/Networks/Integrated\\_Planning\\_and\\_Reporting\\_Network.aspx?hkey=44ead69d-425d-4001-aa08-271d91ff1526](https://lgprofessionalswa.org.au/Lgmawa/Branches_Networks/WA_Networks/Integrated_Planning_and_Reporting_Network/Lgmawa/Branches_Networks/Networks/Integrated_Planning_and_Reporting_Network.aspx?hkey=44ead69d-425d-4001-aa08-271d91ff1526)

*Cr. Emma Foulkes-Taylor*  
4/10/21

#### Other

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor commented that Mayor Tracey Roberts (WALGA) has stepped down as at December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.

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## **16 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

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Nil

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## 17 WORKS

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### 17.1 Works Report

File:

Author: William Herold – Works Manager  
Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 22 October 2021

Attachments: 17.1.1 2022-23 RPG SBS Submissions Assessment Summary

#### Construction Crew

The Pinegrove corner re-alignment has taken longer than was originally envisaged. The culverts have been installed but in order to have the recommended layer of gravel over the top of the pipe we have had to cut in an extra 4 rounds of dirt from the pit. By the time Council meets this should be almost finished. Sometime has been lost due to the rain event on 19 & 20 October 2021. On completion of the Pinegrove corner the crew will move back to the start of the bitumen 13km south of the bridge and complete preparation for sealing of this 3km section.

#### Maintenance Crew

The maintenance crew have continued up the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. They will pull up at the MRO intersection and head down the Boolardy-Wooleen Rd, Twin Peaks-Wooleen Rd, Meeberrie-Wooleen Rd before heading up to the north end of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd and grade back to the Settlement. The Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd has carried an unusually heavy traffic load over the last 6 weeks or so with all the Landor Traffic as well as heavy traffic carting material for the new Bilung Creek crossing plus large numbers of stock trucks.

#### Roadhouse Fuel Sales

In the week leading up to Landor the Roadhouse sold 17,000lt of diesel and 4,000lt of ULP. The following week on the return leg 16,000lt of diesel and 3,500lt of ULP was sold. To the best of my knowledge this has never been done before. The caravan park also experienced a particularly busy period.

#### Bilung Creek Crossing

The Bilung Creek crossing has been completed and looks spectacular. My thanks to Yuin for a job well done.

#### Mid-West Regional Road Group 2022/23 Funding Allocations

The Mid-West Regional Roads Group have met and finalised the recommended 2022/23 Main Road Funding Allocations for Black Spot and Project Works. All projects are funded on a 2:1 basis. A copy of the final list is attached. The actual amount will depend on the final pool allocated. In our case we have had the perhaps the best result ever as follows.

#### *Blackspot Funding*

\$152,040 Beringarra-Pindar (Wreath Flowers Section)  
Modify the nose of the pseudo median, upgrade the 'cross tracks' & prohibit stopping on right side of each carriageway. Upgrade of signs and delineation

Blackspot funding is notoriously difficult to receive. Future changes to funding criteria will see "Crash Map" data as being a prerequisite for funding.

#### *Project Work*

\$300,000 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road  
SLK 241.74 to 245.04 Upgrade from an existing gravel Rd to a 7.2m wide sealed standard  
\$300,000 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road  
SLK 245.04 to 248.34 Upgrade from an existing gravel Rd to a 7.2m wide sealed standard

Main Roads WA Mid-West Region Funding is allocated on the following basis.

*Note max grant per project is \$300,000 and max total grant allocation per Council is \$1.2m*

1 Final seals over previous years works.

*Note in future years to encourage two coat seals this section of priority allocation will be removed*

2 Each Council will receive as a minimum their highest scoring project

3 Thereafter projects are funded based on scoring assessment

#### Few Comments

- ~ Currently the Carnarvon- Mullewa Road is the only road within the Shire that has the potential to attract a high score owing to its road classification, traffic and economic importance
- ~ Councils second ranked project was the second highest in priority terms once the minimum allocations were completed
- ~ Both projects on the Carnarvon Mullewa Road scored higher than all of those put forward by the City of Greater Geraldton
- ~ The city was approached prior to submissions closing to include a submission for one seal extension project on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road but obviously declined to do so.
- ~ Perhaps formal correspondence with the City is now required to encourage a more positive approach..

#### Recommendation

That Council

- 1 Notes the Works Report and
- 2 Writes to the City of Great Geraldton to formally advise the City as to the work that Council is undertaking to upgrade the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, highlighting the importance of this road to the Murchison Shire and region, and requesting that the city include seal construction projects on this road within their City as part of future Main Roads WA Mid-West Funding submissions.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	E Foulkes-Taylor	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	Q Fowler
That Council			
1 Notes the Works Report;			
2 Writes to the City of Great Geraldton to formally advise the City as to the work that Council is undertaking to upgrade the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, highlighting the importance of this road to the Murchison Shire and region, and requesting that the city include seal construction projects on this road within their City as part of future Main Roads WA Mid-West Funding submissions;			
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For</b>	5	<b>Against</b> 0

#### *Main Roads WA Road Funding*

Cr E Foulkes Taylor commented that Shire Staff are to be congratulated for their work in achieving additional road grant funding above the normal allocations

*City of Greater Geraldton Roads Closure Practices*

It was noted by several councillors that it appeared that the City of Greater Geraldton had a blanket approach to road closures within their City, whereby all gravel roads were closed regardless of location following rain, with exceptions for local traffic.

Council noted that this practice is adversely impacting within the Murchison Shire and other adjoining Shires for those that use the Carnarvon-Mullewa and Beringarra- Pindar Roads and who rely on these roads not for access but also for freight and groceries. On a number of occasions within the Murchison Shire these roads are often deemed suitable for traffic, with or without conditions, as rainfall in this part of the State often varies markedly from that encountered within close proximity to the coast.

**Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** E Foulkes-Taylor

**Seconded: Cr** Q Fowler

That Council write to the City of Greater Geraldton formally advising of the impacts of the City's current practices in relation to road closures on the Carnarvon-Mullewa and Beringarra- Pindar Roads and that the CEO liaise with City on ways that their current practice can be improved.

**Carried**

**For** 5

**Against** 0

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## 18 FINANCE

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### 18.1 Accounts Paid since the last list was presented to Council

File: 4.37.1  
Author: Bill Boehm - Chief Executive Officer  
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose  
Date: 22 October 2021  
Attachments: 18.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for September 2021

#### Matter for Consideration

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 13* requires that if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, then the CEO is to prepare a list of accounts paid by the CEO for each month and present this to the next ordinary meeting of the Council after the list has been prepared and have this list recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

A list of payments presented in accordance with *Regulation 13* of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* made since the last report to Council is attached.

#### Strategic Implications

None

#### Policy Implications

None

#### Budget/Financial Implications

Nil

#### Consultation

Nil

#### **Recommendation**

That the accounts since the last report to Council, as per the attached Schedule be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

#### **Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** A Whitmarsh

**Seconded: Cr** E Foulkes-Taylor

That the accounts since the last report to Council, as per the attached Schedule be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

**Carried**

**For**

**5**

**Against**

**0**

## 18.2 Financial Activity Statements 30 September 2021

File: 2.6  
Author: Bill Boehm - Chief Executive Officer  
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose  
Date: 22 October 2021  
Attachments: 18.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report September 2021

### Matter for Consideration

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34 requires that local government report monthly and prescribes what is required to be reported. Council is required to consider and receipt the Monthly Financial Statements.

### Comment

These statements are being presented to meet a statutory obligation to have each month's end and report presented within the following two months.

### Budget/Financial Implications:

Reports showing year to date financial performance allow monitoring of actual expenditure, revenue and overall results against budget targets.

### Consultation

Moore Australia

### **Recommendation**

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 30 September 2021 as attached.

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

### **Note**

*A Budget Schedules Report 30 September 2021 was provided to all councillors, but Moore Australia's formal report was not able to be provided due to an inability to remotely access to Councils Server in time for the meeting. This item will be re-presented at the November Council Meeting*

*Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor left the meeting at 2.02pm*

*Cr. A Whitmarsh took the Chair*

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## 19 DEVELOPMENT

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### 19.1 Development Application 01/2021 - Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building Relocation

File:

Author: Phil Swain – Environmental Health Officer / Building Surveyor  
Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: Nil

Date 19 October 2021

Attachments: 19.1.1 Development Application 01/2021 and Environmental Health Officer /  
Building Surveyor's Report  
19.1.2 Letter of Support

#### Matter for Consideration

Consideration of a development application from David and Francis Pollock to relocate the Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to the Wooleen Station Homestead

#### Development Proposal

David and Francis Pollock have of Wooleen Station have applied for a development application to relocate the Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to the Wooleen Station Homestead.

The Development Application and some photographs are attached. Whilst this is conceptual at this stage, the relocation will go ahead if the Pollock's are able to obtain the grant funding.

The intention is then to repurpose the building as an accommodation office at the Station at which stage a building permit and health approval will be required.

Under the Shire's Local Planning Scheme for pastoral zoned land inside the Special Control Area – Inner Zone - Australian Radio Quiet Zone WA, an application for planning approval will be required in accordance with Clause 6.2 which states;

- (a) *An application for planning approval is required for the following within the special control area:*
  - ~ any dwellings and other buildings for and associated with the use of the land for pastoral purposes;
  - ~ any other non-pastoral development or use.
- (b) *Prior to making a determination the local government is to refer any application for planning approval to the radio-astronomy managing entity/authority, and may refuse, approve or approve with conditions having regard for the recommendations of the managing entity/authority.*

The proposal has been referred to CSIRO who have provide comments which have been included within the proposed development consent as attached.

#### Funding Application

The Applicant has indicated that the relocation will go ahead if they are successful in obtaining grant funding. Unfortunately, the funding round closed prior to the Council Meeting so following discussions with the Deputy Shire President a letter of support was provided with the draft approval as a support attachment. A copy of this is attached.

#### Comment

The application is fairly straight forward but the building itself has significant heritage significance even if there does not appear to be any formal heritage listing. It is in all respects and impressive building, and we understand an outstanding example of a creation by the late Alf Couch who built a number of similar structures within the area and Murchison District between 1909 and 1931. It is also one of the few structures of the type remaining in good condition.



**Recommendation**

That Council

- 1 Approve the Development Application 01/2021 to relocate the Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to the Wooleen Station Homestead as per the attached
- 2 Endorse the Chief Executive Officers actions in providing a letter of support for David and Francis Pollock’s funding application as per the attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	Q Fowler	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	S Fowler
That Council			
1 Approve the Development Application 01/2021 to relocate the Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to the Wooleen Station Homestead as per the attached			
2 Endorse the Chief Executive Officers actions in providing a letter of support for David and Francis Pollock’s funding application as per the attached.			
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For</b>	3	<b>Against</b> 0

*Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor returned to the meeting at 2.05pm*

*Cr. R Foulkes-Taylor resumed the Chair.*

## 19.2 Community Development Report

File:  
Author: Steven Cosgrove – Community Manager -DCEO  
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose  
Date: 18 October 2021  
Attachments: Nil

### Matter for Consideration

Update of community development projects at Murchison Shire.

### Update

Updates on current community development projects are in this report.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Status</b>
Go For 2 & 5 Children's Week Event	Successful
The Pia Wajarri Community Funding Application Indigenous Language and Arts (ILA)	Successful
RAC Reconnect Funding Application	Shortlisted
Regional Events Scheme Funding Application	Submitted on 19 October 2021 Outcome April 2022

### *GO FOR 2 AND 5 CHILDREN'S WEEK EVENT*

Children's Week is an annual national event held during the fourth week of October across Australia. In WA, this week is dedicated to celebrating children across our state and highlighting their right to happiness. It is an opportunity for the community to engage in a variety of activities that facilitate, support and encourage children and their families to celebrate, play and discover together.

The event will include healthy eating healthy, stargazing and a fun Character Party (2hrs). The Character Party includes face painting, and a range of interactive musical games, treasure hunt, parachute games, magic show, balloon games and more with the character of the Shire's choice. The entertainer will use the stars and galaxy as a theme for the party and will bring the music, slap band prizes, stickers, and everything else needed for the entertainment.

After the Character Party, there will be opportunity for a CSIRO representative to chat to the kids and adults, updating them on the SKA project and how its developing while they take turns stargazing using the telescope.

On 24 September 2021 the Shire was notified of a successful application.

### *PIA COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATION*

On 19 June 2021, the Shire finalised and submitted an Indigenous Language and Arts Competitive grant to undertake an arts project with the children, Elders and community members at Pia Wajarri Remote Community School and Community. The Arts and Cultural Development Program through the Indigenous Language and Arts (ILA) grant provides opportunities to Indigenous peoples to actively engage in the Language and Arts program.

The objectives of the Arts Project are to:

- ~ Develop, produce, present, exhibit or perform a diverse range of traditional and contemporary Indigenous art forms.
- ~ Support new and innovative forms of Indigenous cultural expression through arts.
- ~ Contribute to the Australian Government's priorities and outcomes for Aboriginal culture expressed through arts activities, including those under Target 16 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The ILA program provides operational funding support to a network of 20 Indigenous language centres around the country working on capturing, revitalising, and maintaining Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. The program also supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to develop, produce, present, exhibit or perform Indigenous arts and language projects that showcase Australia's traditional and contemporary Indigenous cultural and artistic expressions.

The successful application will provide for a mosaics workshop(s) depicting Aboriginal culture and will be undertaken by Pia students, Elders, and community members. The workshop(s) will likely be undertaken over two or possibly more days. The specific details are being determined with the potential facilitator as the application progresses.

The project will provide an opportunity for students, community members and school staff to work together on a project that will encourage interactions with the arts, improved cultural awareness as well as educational development with the children.

On 14 October 2021 the Shire was notified of a successful application.

#### *RAC RECONNECT WA*

The Reinvigorating Streets and Spaces Fund Grant through RAC Reconnect WA opened on 12<sup>th</sup> July and will provide the Shire with an opportunity to apply for funding to set in motion elements of the Shire's masterplan...revitalising those existing pocket parks and establishing connective pathways.

The Masterplan was used as supporting documentation to the application so that the funding body is aware of the work that has already been done in terms of identifying opportunities for connecting community, and how the funds will support a community owned project.

Murchison community, along with tourists will benefit from the community pocket park connectivity pathways project. The pocket parks and connecting pathways will fashion an environment that will connect people to each other and nature, thus creating an inviting and pleasant ambiance to the Murchison Settlement. The project will serve as a connectivity tool - one that brings together architectural and natural landscape elements to a community 'space'.

The proposed pocket park and connectivity pathways and tourism trail will be small scale and occupy a space in front of the Shire Office, sporting complex, oasis roadhouse and caravan park.

On 29 September 2021 the Shire was notified that our application has been shortlisted.

#### *REGIONAL EVENTS SCHEME FUNDING PROGRAM*

On 19 October 2021 the Shire submitted a funding application through the Regional Event's Scheme Program for the proposed '*Ancient Land Under Brilliant Skies Festival*' in 2022 and will cater for the wider Murchison and Mid-West community a high-quality annual calendar event, that provides a positive space to celebrate the Murchison while having some rollicking outback fun by showcasing Astro dark sky tourism, science tourism and geo-tourism assets.

The event will generate additional tourism income for the Murchison community by increasing visitor numbers and expenditure in the area, encouraging visitors to take a road trip through stunning outback Gascoyne and Murchison station stay country. It will also attract media coverage and raise the profile of the Murchison as Western Australia's premier Astro tourism destination.

#### Statutory Environment

Nil

#### Financial Implications

Nil for 2021/22

Consultation

Nil

**Recommendation**

That Council note the Community Development Report.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	E Foulkes-Taylor	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	A Whitmarsh
That Council note the Community Development Report.			
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For</b>	5	<b>Against</b> 0

### 19.3 Murchison Settlement Masterplan Redevelopment

File

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: Nil

Date 23 October 2021

Attachments: 19.3.1 Murchison Settlement Redevelopment Schematic Overview  
19.3.2 Murchison Masterplan Final  
19.3.3 Murchison Roadhouse Final (Draft)

#### Matter for Consideration

Consolidation of an updated approach in delivering the redevelopment of the Murchison Settlement and Shire as outlined in the adopted Settlement Masterplan.

#### Background

Over the past few years Council has identified an array of projects and actions that have either been implemented or are in the process of being developed that will significantly advance the community economic fortunes of the Shire. In addition, a number of external influences have and will continue to have an impact, as will Council's Strategic Community Plan.

A summary update of the state of play includes then the following.

#### *Murchison Settlement Masterplan*

The adopted Settlement Masterplan took around 18 months to be finalised and provides a detailed layout of the way the settlement is to be developed.

Importantly the Masterplan includes the following "Project Vision" statement which encapsulates the relationship of the Settlement within the context of the broader Shire.

*"To ensure that Murchison Settlement is an attractive focal point that enables the Shire to function successfully and deliver a range of services that will underpin community, cultural and economic development within the Settlement and broader Shire"*

The following overarching 'Project Vision' and design principles have been developed to help guide the development of the Murchison Settlement Masterplan.

- ~ To create an attractive activity hub for the community and visitors to Murchison that maintains the existing character, cultural and built qualities of the Settlement.
- ~ Provide functional pedestrian connectivity, improved access, and sight lines throughout the precinct.
- ~ Design a unified landscape character that maximises shade.
- ~ Create a consolidated sequence of spaces and activities for locals and tourists.
- ~ Allow space in design for Geo/Astro tourism and convey the idea of 'The Oasis'.

Projects identified thus far are listed in no priority order include

- PROJ A Transportable Classroom
- PROJ D Community / Sports Centre Upgrade
- PROJ E Community Swimming Pool / Splash Pad
- PROJ F New -Caravan Park Ablution Block
- PROJ H New -Caravan Park 2 Ensuite Units
- PROJ I General Settlement Amenity Improvements
- PROJ J Playground Upgrade
- PROJ K Interpretive Centre

Detailed scoping and design for each element is still required.

A 2021/22 budget allocation amount of \$1.30m was transferred into Reserves. PROJ F is to proceed in 2021/22. PROJ K is to be developed and scoped with additional funding to be sought.

A copy of the Settlement Masterplan Redevelopment is attached as background.

#### *Roadhouse Redevelopment*

In 2020/21 it was realised that Roadhouse and Caravan Park layout needed a supplementary review to further develop desired expansion that would dovetail into the wider Settlement Masterplan. Work was undertaken to also review the overall operation of the roadhouse, considering the need to provide suitable long-term accommodation for the Roadhouse Management, to improve the functionality of the Roadhouse Business and to explore opportunities for a potential PROJ K Interpretive Centre.

This work has largely been completed with a separate Roadhouse Residence to be located separately but close to the Roadhouse Building, thereby unencumbering the business redevelopment of the Roadhouse. Detailed refinement and design for each element is still required.

A copy of the Roadhouse Redevelopment Concept Plans, which have just been received but as yet not formally discussed by the Working Group, is attached as further background.

#### *Roadhouse Operation*

In March 2021 Council took over direct management of the Oasis Roadhouse and Caravan Park. Some seven months of operational changes have been well received, with the facilities, their management and operation having a total community first focus and are readily adaptable to changes in the future brought about by any redevelopment that may occur.

#### *Council Settlement Related Infrastructure and Operations*

Council and Shire staff are responsible for all maintenance and capital upgrades of key Shire related infrastructure. This includes roads, footpaths, streetscaping, houses and building generally, power supply, water supply and refuse management.

Over the past two years two new houses have been established, renovations undertaken to six dwellings, and major upgrade of generators at the Powerhouse. Additional budget allocations totalling \$1.1m for work on the water supply and provision of solar power have been included in the 2021/22 Budget. The later solar power microgrid project is also awaiting advice of potential funding under the State Governments Clean Energy Fund. Council has also been short listed under the RAC Connect for a project to link pathways within the settlement as per the Settlement Masterplan.

#### *Settlement Optic Fibre Cable*

Some months ago, Council was advised that the Commonwealth would fund the installation of optic fibre cable from the CSIRO connection to the PIA Wadjari Community and Murchison Settlement. This has positive long-term implications for the Shire and creates a range of benefits and opportunities for the roadhouse, proposed interpretive centre, business development, residents etc.

#### *Carnarvon-Mullewa Road*

Within the Murchison Shire, over the past two years and into the next two with funding via a combination of Council, Commonwealth and Main Roads WA, the entire 37km section between the Shire boundary and existing narrow 4m seal will have been upgraded and sealed to a min 7.2m width. Moving forward additional widening of sections of the 4m seal will be a likely logical next step.

Within the City of Greater Geraldton approximately 28km of gravel will remain to complete the 200km section between the Murchison Settlement and Mullewa. If the City of Greater Geraldton can be persuaded to submit applications for Main Roads Funding, it is entirely possible that this section can be progressively upgraded and sealed annually as one of four projects that the city could ordinarily secure as part of its annual submission.

A large section of this road up to the Twin Peaks-Woollen Road turn off forms part of the SKA Route which has a State Government maintenance budget allocation for the construction phase of the SKA Project. Some mining activity can also be expected in the future.

#### *Mid-West Development Commission Business Case*

Some six months or so ago the Minister for Regional Development announced that \$290,000 in funding would be provided to develop up business cases to evaluate opportunities from the emerging Mid-West space economy, with particular focus on the SKA and Mingenew Space Precinct. Within this funding, \$80,000 was allocated for the development of plans and a business case for an Interpretive Centre in Murchison, and \$50,000 for plans / designs for upgrade and sealing of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road.

The \$130,000 will be administered by the Mid-West Development Commission (MWDC) and allocated to the Shire to administer, given the strong alignment with works already underway. ie The Murchison Settlement Masterplan and Roadhouse redevelopment, and existing road sealing program. It is intended that this additional funding can value add and help further progress the Shire's aspirations.

In the ordinary course of events, it was envisaged that Council would provide a \$20,000 contribution to the business case development of an Interpretive Centre. Cost for works already undertaken in the redevelopment of Roadhouse however cannot be allocated towards this project.

Council is also expected to contribute \$20,000 towards the business case development and design for an upgrade and sealing of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road.

#### *CSIRO Impact Planning and Monitoring*

A significant amount of work and action by CSIRO has been in play over many years with the MRO now having been completed and SKA Project now about to enter the construction phase. Impact both short and long-term will be significant as will the opportunities.

As part of best practice, CSIRO have indicated that they are looking to ensure that these projects meet not just the required scientific, environmental, and economic outcomes, but that this is done in a socially just manner that ensures that the long-term impacts on the community are positive.

With this in mind, CSIRO have indicated that they are in the process of developing an impact pathway and associated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, which will enable the ability to measure, qualify and quantify the impact of the MRO and SKA projects. This will involve extensive stakeholder engagement processes with sections of the community, including each Station and other key actors. The key methodologies applied will be a Cost Benefit Analysis, a Social Return on Investment, and a Socio-economic and Cultural Impact assessment.

CSIRO has an international reputation in impact planning and evaluation, which will be drawn upon to shape the scope, methods and analysis required for reporting on potential benefits. This type of data underpins CSIRO's strategic and investment decisions, which will provide an opportunity for the Shire to access this capability and expertise, which would not have been possible without this potential partnership.

#### *Shire Strategy*

Councils current Strategic Community Plan was adopted by Council on 29 March 2017. This forms part of requirements under *s5.56 of the Local Government Act 1995* where Council is required to plan for the future of the district through such a plan. The Plan is required to be reviewed at least once every 4 years and must include the involvement of electors and ratepayers.

Whilst review of the current plan is now required legislatively, given the huge array of the above changes such a review will also enhance the delivery of these projects.

In the ordinary course of events Council could either elect to run this process in house or use an external facilitator.

Given the impact from CSIRO on the community now and in the future, and their strategic review processes, which are in reality far more detailed than Council could ever hope to replicate, an opportunity to work together would seem appropriate.

### Project Funding

The Settlement Masterplan estimates the cost to deliver all of the Masterplan Projects to be around \$3.1m. It would be expected that detailed design may alter this figure. Cost estimates to internally refit the existing roadhouse and provide a new residential dwelling and develop the immediate precinct is around \$1.7m. This excludes costs for an extended Interpretive Centre if this transpires. Perhaps other projects will come to the fore which will increase the spend. A total spend of around \$5.0m will be required.

Notwithstanding Council's not unhealthy financial position, already committed allocation of \$1.3m for Settlement Projects and historic low interest rates, additional grant funding will be essential. Whilst the total spend seems significant for Murchison as it's in addition to our normal operations, with partnerships it is not, especially as once these projects are completed it would seem unlikely that we would ever need to undertake such a significant redevelopment again; unless we triple the population!!!!

Securing grant funding in the order required will require a few things; namely a succinct business case with cost benefit analysis, strategic funding partners, champions of the redevelopment, and broad community acceptance. The "story" of the Murchison Settlement redevelopment is compelling. Potential Building Better Regions Funding is a real possibility. All that is needed is strong evidence and shovel ready projects. Undoubtedly politically lobbying wouldn't hurt.

### Shire - CSIRO Strategic Collaboration

The current work and approach undertaken by CSIRO presents an ideal opportunity to significantly enhance much of what Council is trying to achieve with respect to delivery of Projects within the Murchison Settlement, as well as contributing to an improved Community Strategic Plan.

Discussions with CSIRO indicate that there would be an opportunity to collaborate on aligned goals, particularly in exploring the social elements more broadly. The consultants engaged can also arrange for specialist economic cost benefit work that both Council and the Mid-West Development Commission would require to deliver on various elements.

### Way Forward

With this in mind I have contacted the MWDC who have reviewed their funded scope of works on the basis that there is an expanded Shire – CSIRO Collaboration process. This would mean that

- (a) rather than MWDC part funding for consultation and a cost benefit work for an Interpretive Centre and the Carnarvon- Mullewa Road in isolation, that these projects would form part of an integrated suite of works within the entire settlement that includes consultation for the Interpretive Centre within the context of the social development of the entire Shire.
- (b) rather than Council part funding for consultation and a cost benefit work for an Interpretive Centre and the Carnarvon- Mullewa Road, our contribution would be put towards final scoping, detailed survey and designs thereby delivering shovel ready projects. In any event these costs would be required anyway.

Ideally community consultation would be coordinated so that stakeholders are engaged only once, but extensively from social, economic, strategic and project perspectives. Findings would inform CSIRO's future planning, Settlement masterplan implementation and Shire strategic community planning, as well as the SKA Interpretive Centre and road sealing work proposed with MWDC. However, if this cannot be achieved in the timeframes required by MWDC, points (a) and (b) would still be delivered.

To highlight the above attached is a schematic overview. Elements associated with collaboration will significantly increase outcomes at a much faster rate but also enhance integrated long-term partnerships.

From my previous experience a separate complimentary politically engagement strategy is essential. Preliminary moves to see how this may be achieved have started.



## Consultation

### *External*

CSIRO Related. (*Dr Anne-Maree Dowd, Executive Manager Performance and Evaluation Strategy*) and Rebecca Wheadon (*MRO Site Entity Leader Astronomy and Space Science*), Social Innovations (*Dr Karen Cosgrove PhD, Director / Principal Social Scientist*) and Tractuum Pty Ltd (*Dr Thomas Keenan, Director*)  
MWDC (*Adam Murszewski, Principal Regional Development Officer*)  
UDLA (*Scott Lang*)

### *Internal*

Works Manager

## Statutory Environment

*In part s5.56 of the Local Government Act 1995*

## Policy Implications

Nil

## Strategic Implications

These projects are of significant strategic and community importance and are relevant to the implementation Shire of Murchison Community Strategic Plan. The Plan itself will also form part of the way forward hence only the broader vision statement is referenced.

### Shire of Murchison Vision Statement

*Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.*

### Risk Implications:

MWDC funding needs to be expended with 2021/22, preferably by April 2022. The Shire procurement will need to commence almost immediately to meet these timeframes. Timing for CSIRO community consultation needs to also be factored in but the MWDC component can still be finalised regardless and then later potentially enhanced.

### Financial Implications

As outlined delivery of the projects and upgrade of the Community Plan will involve significant future budget allocations beyond 2021/22.

At this stage a new specific budget allocation of \$40,000 is required to support MWDC Business Analysis work for the SKA Interpretive Centre and road sealing. With this variation in approach this would be offset against other future works that will be required anyway for detailed scoping and design for each project element identified. Impact on the 2021/22 budget will be incorporated in the mid-term budget review.

## Comment

It would be rare that a Shire would be in a position to have such an in-depth review of the community and be in a position to deliver such a large array of development projects through a strategic partnership with a major stakeholder in such a cost-effective manner.

As indicated whilst sound business cases can be developed, strategic political and community engagement is also essential.

**Recommendation**

That Council resolves as follows.

- 1 That Council notes the Chief Executive Officer’s Murchison Settlement Masterplan Redevelopment Report
- 2 That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to develop and refine arrangements with CSIRO to form a collaborative partnership to assist in the redevelopment of the Murchison Settlement and Shire’s Strategic Community Plan.
- 3 That Council allocates \$40,000 towards detailed survey and design work as part of the Mid-West Development Commission’s Business Case Work for the Murchison Settlement and Carnarvon-Mullewa Roads.
- 4 That Council develops and implements a coherent political and communication strategy to advance the development of the Murchison Settlement and Shire generally.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	Q Fowler	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	E Foulkes-Taylor
That Council resolves as follows.			
1 That Council notes the Chief Executive Officer’s Murchison Settlement Masterplan Redevelopment Report			
2 That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to develop and refine arrangements with CSIRO to form a collaborative partnership to assist in the redevelopment of the Murchison Settlement and Shire’s Strategic Community Plan.			
3 That Council allocates \$40,000 towards detailed survey and design work as part of the Mid-West Development Commission’s Business Case Work for the Murchison Settlement and Carnarvon-Mullewa Roads.			
4 That Council develops and implements a coherent political and communication strategy to advance the development of the Murchison Settlement and Shire generally.			
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For</b>	5	<b>Against</b> 0

## 19.4 ICPA Sponsorship Request

File

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer  
Interest Declared: Nil  
Date: 25 October 2021  
Attachments: 19.4.1 ICPA Sponsorship Request

### Matter for Consideration

Request from the Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA) for Council to Sponsor their State Conference for an amount of \$2,000.

### Background

Council has traditionally sponsored the conference and has allocated an amount of \$1,000 in the 2021/22 the same as in the previous year.

Ordinarily sponsorship would be put in place as a matter of course but given that the request is an increase and has not been included in the 2021/22 budget the matter has been brought to Council for decision

### Policy Implications

Policy 4.2 Donations and Grants

### Financial Implications

An additional \$1,000 increase to the 2021/22 budget if agreed to.

### **Recommendation**

For Council to decide.

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

#### **Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** Q Fowler

**Seconded: Cr** S Fowler

That Council donate \$2,000 to the Mid-West branch – Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA) and that an additional \$1,000 increase be applied to the 2021/22 Donations Budget.

**Carried**

**For** 5

**Against** 0

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## 20 ADMINISTRATION

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### 20.1 2021 Extraordinary Election

File:	4.9
Author:	Bill Boehm – Chief Executive / Returning Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	22 October 2021
Attachments:	Nil

#### Matter for Consideration

Update on progress for an Extraordinary Election required to fill one vacancy following the 2021 Ordinary Council Election

#### Update

As indicated at the September Council resolved that

*Council, having decided to undertake the 2021 Extraordinary Election agrees that the Shire President should fix the Election date.*

Since this time a request to the Electoral Commission was made to use the current roll for the Extraordinary Election. Permission was subsequently and following discussion with the Shire President an Election date of Saturday 27 November 2021 was set. This was in practice the earliest we could set within the requirements of the Local Government Act, and if there is an election, the successful candidate will be able to attend the December Meeting, otherwise it would be February.

As a result, in order to meet the required timeframes, notice to call for nominations was advertised in the West Australian on Saturday 9 October 2021 and a community email set the day prior. Nominations opened on Thursday 14 October 2021 and closed at 4pm on Thursday 21 October 2021

At the close of nominations 3 nominations were received. A draw for position on the ballot paper was then undertaken with candidates nominated to be listed positioned in the following order.

BARBUTO, Bradley  
MEAD, Greydon. S  
WALTON, Samantha

Voting is in person at the Council Office. Election Day is from 8:00am to 6:00pm on Saturday 27 November 2021.

Early Pre-Poll votes can also be made during Business Hours at the Council Office up until 4:00pm the day before the election. Absent and Postal voting deadline is at 4:00pm on the 4th day before the election (23 November 2021).

#### **For Information**

## 20.2 Committees Working Groups & Outside Organisations Operation

File:	14.24
Author:	Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	22 October 2021
Attachments:	20.2.1 Policy 1.3 Committees and Working Groups 20.2.2 Membership of Current Committees, Working Groups and Other Organisations 20.2.3 Terms of Reference for each Committee 20.2.4 Terms of Reference for each Working Group

### Matter for Consideration

Pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1995* Council is to determine the membership of all Committees following the day of Ordinary Elections (16 October 2021).

It has also been past practice that the opportunity is taken for the renewal of membership for those groups that have been established as Working Groups that provide advice to the CEO and to appoint delegates of other organisations that Council is involved in.

At this time, it would also be prudent to also review the current Terms of Reference for each Working Group or Committee.

Policy 1.3 Committees and Working Groups, which outlines current requirements, rationale and practice is attached. A copy of the Membership of current Committees, Working Groups and Other Organisations is attached as is the existing Terms of Reference for each current Committee / Working Group as applicable.

### Committees

A local government may establish committees of 3 or more persons to assist the Council and to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the local government that can be delegated to committees.

Committees are to report to Council and provide appropriate advice and recommendations on matters relevant to their terms of reference in order to facilitate informed decision-making by Council in relation to the legislative functions and duties of the local government that have not been delegated to the CEO.

At any given time, each Councillor is entitled to be a member of at least one committee and if a Councillor nominates himself or herself to be a member of such a committee or committees, Council is to include that Councillor in the persons appointed to at least one of those committees, as the Council so decides.

If at a meeting of the Council, a local government is to make an appointment to a committee that has or could have a Councillor as a Member and the President informs the local government of his wish to be a member of the committee, the local government is to appoint the President to be a member of the committee.

If at a meeting of the council a local government is to make an appointment to a committee that has or will have an employee as a member and the CEO informs the local government of his or her wish —

- (a) to be a member of the committee; or
- (b) that a representative of the CEO be a member of the committee,

the local government is to appoint the CEO or the CEO's representative, as the case may be, to be a member of the committee.

An absolute majority of Council is required to appoint each member to a committee.

Where a Councillor is appointed as a member of a committee, the Councillor's membership of the committee continues until:

- (a) the Councillor no longer holds the office of Councillor;
- (b) the Councillor resigns from membership of the committee.
- (c) the committee is disbanded; or
- (d) the next ordinary elections day,

whichever occurs first.

The members of each committee are to elect a presiding member from among themselves in accordance with the Act. The members of a committee may elect a deputy presiding member among themselves, but any such election is to be in accordance with the Act.

At the current time Council has one such committee being the Murchison Community Fund Management Committee. Its main purpose is to manage written applications of request for financial assistance from community members and community groups.

### Working Groups

Working Groups are essentially established to make recommendations to the CEO for presentation to Council. As such that are not formal committees under the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Members are to be appointed having due regard for their particular skills and expertise in the area of interest for which the Working Group has been formed. Community Positions have historically been advertised. If there are more Community applicants than positions, then Council will decide the successful applicant(s), usually at the December Ordinary Council Meeting, having due regard for their particular skills and expertise.

I have reviewed the allocation of staff members and made minor suggested changes from the previous list as per the following suggestions:

### Delegates

Delegate positions are those that Council is required to appoint as representatives on other organisations.

### Comments

From my perspective the current operation of Committees and Working Groups has worked well. Some such as the Community Development Working Group and Economic Development Working Group have not met but the Settlement Redevelopment Working Group, which was formed in 2020 to oversee the Murchison Settlement Masterplan has been very active. In light of the way that this Masterplan has grown and expanded as outlined in Agenda Item 19.3, it perhaps begs the question whether these two groups are needed as the functions could easily be adapted and included in this Working Group.

Over the past two years former Cr P Squires has been Council's delegate on the Murchison Regional Road Group and as a consequence was subsequently appointed by that group to be a proxy representative on the Mid-West Regional Road Group. As CEO I have also been appointed to the Technical Reference Group. Understanding and contributing on these Forums is essential especially given our strong roads-based focus. One committed councillor representative is advantageous.

In the ordinary course of events the terms of Reference for each Committee and Group should also be reviewed.

Apart from minor name changes to some staff members and the issue of the Settlement Redevelopment Working Group, Community Development Working Group and Economic Development Working Groups no changes are proposed.

### Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995

*LGA Subdivision 2 - Committees and their meetings. s5.8 to s5.25*

### Strategic Implications

These groups support the overall implementation Shire of Murchison Community Strategic Plan as per the Shire of Murchison Vision Statement, *Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.*

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Financial Implications

Nil

### **Recommendation**

That for each Committee, Working Group and Organisation as listed, that Council endorses the listing of staff and community positions and appointments for member positions and if required makes minor changes to the Respective Terms of Reference to reflect any positional changes.

*Note that Council will need to determine from its ranks the relevant member appointments as part of a final resolution*

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Community</b>
Audit Committee	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Murchison Community Fund Management Committee	Shire President			CEO	N/A	2 Positions
Local Emergency Management Committee	Shire President or Delegate			CEO	Works Manager	Refer LEMA

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Community</b>
Plant Working Group	1	1	1	CEO	Works Manager	N/A
Settlement Drinking Water Working Group	1	1		CEO	Works Manager Health Officer	1 Position
Settlement Power Supply Working Group	1	1	1	CEO	Works Manager	1 Position
Wild Dog Control Working Group	1			CEO		2 Positions
Community Development Working Group	1	1		CEO	Community Manager	2 Positions
Economic Development Working Group	1	1		CEO	Community Manager	2 Positions
Settlement Redevelopment Working Group	1	1		CEO	Works Manager Community Manager	
Information Bay Working Group	1	1		CEO	Community Manager	
Accident Prevention Working Group	The Accident Prevention Group has been discontinued for now but if circumstances change this this group could be resurrected.					

Organisation	Delegate	Delegate	Proxy	Observer	Observer	Community
Murchison Regional Road Group	1		1	CEO	Works Manager	N/A
WALGA Zone Delegates	1	1		CEO		N/A
Murchison GEO Region	1				Community Manager	N/A

### Voting Requirements

Council Committees

Absolute Majority.

Working Groups and Delegates

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

**Moved: Cr** A Whitmarsh

**Seconded: Cr** E Foulkes-Taylor

That for each Committee, Working Group and Organisation as listed, that Council endorses the listing of staff and community positions and appointments for member positions and if required makes minor changes to the Respective Terms of Reference to reflect any positional changes.

Committee	Member	Member	Member	CEO	Staff	Community
Audit Committee	Cr R Foulkes-Taylor	Cr Q Fowler	Cr A Whitmarsh	N/A	N/A	N/A
Murchison Community Fund Management Committee	Shire President			CEO	N/A	2 Positions
Local Emergency Management Committee	Shire President or Delegate			CEO	Works Manager	Refer LEMA

Working Group	Member	Member	Member	CEO	Staff	Community
Plant Working Group	Cr R Foulkes-Taylor	Cr A Whitmarsh	1 Vacant	CEO	Works Manager	N/A
Settlement Drinking Water Working Group	Cr R Foulkes-Taylor	Cr Q Fowler		CEO	Works Manager Health Officer	1 Position
Settlement Power Supply Working Group	Cr R Foulkes-Taylor	Cr A Whitmarsh	1 Vacant	CEO	Works Manager	1 Position
Wild Dog Control Working Group	Cr A Whitmarsh			CEO		2 Positions
Community Development Working Group	Incorporated into Settlement Redevelopment Working Group					
Economic Development Working Group	Incorporated into Settlement Redevelopment Working Group					
Settlement Redevelopment Working Group	Cr E Foulkes-Taylor	Cr A Whitmarsh	Cr S Fowler	CEO	Works Manager Community Manager	
Information Bay Working Group	Cr S Fowler	1 Vacant		CEO	Community Manager	1 Position
Accident Prevention Working Group	The Accident Prevention Group has been discontinued for now but if circumstances change this this group could be resurrected.					



Organisation	Delegate	Delegate	Proxy	Observer	Observer	Community	
Murchison Regional Road Group	1 Vacant		Cr R Foulkes-Taylor	CEO	Works Manager	N/A	
WALGA Zone Delegates	Cr R Foulkes-Taylor	Deputy Shire President or delegate		CEO		N/A	
Murchison GEO Region	Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor				Community Manager	N/A	
<b>Carried</b>				<b>For</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>0</b>

*It was noted that Ex-Cr P Squires had expressed a wish to continue to be a part of the Information Bay Working Group. A Community position was therefore added to the group enable him any member of the community to nominate.*

## 20.3 Policy Proposal – Superannuation for Elected Members

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 22 October 2021

Attachments: 20.3.1 Elected Member Superannuation Policy Position

### Matter for Consideration

WALGA request for feedback on a draft policy proposal to facilitate the payment of superannuation to Elected Members in addition to fees and allowances

### Request

WALGA have written to Council requesting for feedback on a draft policy proposal to facilitate the payment of superannuation to Elected Members in addition to fees and allowances.

The recommended advocacy approach is to propose that the *Local Government Act 1995* be amended to facilitate the payment of superannuation to Elected Members in addition to fees and allowances. Feedback from the Local Government sector will inform a State Council agenda item, which will be considered at November Zone meetings and the 1 December meeting of State Council. Following a State Council decision, advocacy will be undertaken with the Minister for Local Government. Feedback on the draft policy paper can be submitted to Manager, Strategy and Association Governance, Tim Lane by Friday, 22 October 2021.

### Strategic and Policy Implications

None

### Budget/Financial Implications

\$8,000 per annum with superannuation based on 10% on \$80,000 for elected members allowances

### Consultation

Nil

### Comment

Whilst the requested date has expired if Council has a view has a view it can still be expressed and or addressed the WALGA Zone Meeting. There is no change proposed to the status of councillors who are not “employees”. Currently no tax is taken, and this would also remain the case. The main reason for the request seems to be as a means to encourage greater participation by increasing the remuneration. In our instance most of the allowances adopted are well less than the maximum permitted.

### **Recommendation**

For Council to decide

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	E Foulkes-Taylor	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	A Whitmarsh
Council does not support the proposal and believes that increasing the allowance would be a simpler method to achieve the desired outcome of providing more encouragement to recruiting potential councillors.			
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For</b>	5	<b>Against</b> 0

## 20.4 Review of Councils Policy and Procedures

File:

Author: Steven Cosgrove – Community Manager -DCEO

Interest Declared: Nil

Date 19 October 2021

Attachments: 20.4.1 Policy 5.5 Community Garden  
20.4.2 Policy 5.6 Community Paddock.

### Matter for Consideration

Ongoing Review and update of Councils Policy and Procedures as part of a Policy Review Schedule on an item-by-item regular basis.

### Background

At the September 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting, Policy 5.5 Community Garden and Policy 5.6 Community Paddock were drafted. Following this, councillors were requested to provide clarification of the draft policies for consideration at the October 2021 ordinary Council meeting.

Council recognises the benefits of both the Community Garden and Community Paddock to the people living in the Murchison settlement. Community gardens are a unique type of public open space. They contribute to food production, improve local food security, and enhance public health and wellbeing. The community paddock is a safe space for animals to exercise, feed, rest and socialise with other field mates. If a paddock is not properly maintained, it can quickly run into disrepair.

The requirements of each policy are outlined in the attachments to this report.

### Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995

#### 2.7. *Role of council*

- (1) *The council —*
  - (a) *governs the local government's affairs; and*
  - (b) *is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.*
- (2) *Without limiting subsection (1), the council is to —*
  - (a) *oversee the allocation of the local government's finances and resources; and*
  - (b) *determine the local government's policies.*

### Strategic Implications

Strategically policies should follow and implement Councils overall Community Strategic Plan.

### Policy Implications

The Policy Manual is the implementing Policy Document.

### Financial Implications

Nil.

### Consultation

Elected Member Workshops

*Note the clause 5 of Draft Policy 5.6 Community Paddock which was not completely finalised at the time was subsequently amended following the Elected Member Workshops*

**Recommendation**

That Council adopts Policy 5.5 Community Garden and Policy 5.6 Community Paddock as attached

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>				
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	R Foulkes-Taylor	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	A Whitmarsh	
That Council adopts Policy 5.5 Community Garden and Policy 5.6 Community Paddock as attached.				
<b>Carried</b>		<b>For</b>	5	<b>Against</b> 0

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## 21 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

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File:  
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer  
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose  
Date: 23 October 2021  
Attachments: Nil

### General

Summary of activities which highlights the areas worked in is shown as follows:

Date	Activity
21.09.2021	Finance Work. Discussion with Adam Murszewski MWDC and Mark Holdsworth RDA. Meetings with Community Manager DCEO
22.09.2021	Finance Work
23.09.2021	MRWA Technical Working Group Phone Meeting. Council Meeting. Electors Meeting
24.09.2021	Follow up Council Work
27.09.2021	Public Holiday
28.09.2021	Arrange for car to be serviced. Emails Work Generally TOIL
29.09.2021	Financials Statement Work. Emails. Discussion with Pitcher Partners New Auditor
30.09.2021	Email. Financial Acquittals. TOIL
1.10.2021	Annual Leave
4.10.2021	Check Emails. Roads expenses analysis. Roadhouse and Works Fuel check. Meeting with Community Manager DCEO. Library Return
5.10.2021	Check Emails. Roads expenses analysis. Roadhouse and Works Fuel check. Meeting with potential Financial Consultant
6.10.2021	Finalise Ballinyoo Bridge Acquittal. Roads Finance Work.
7.10.2021	Phone discussion with Adam Murszewski MWDC over Business case funding. Phone meeting with Anne-Marie Dowd CSIRO. R2R Quarterly Report. Elections Work.
8.10.2021	Elections Work
9.10.2021 to 10.10.21	Office Work
11.10.2021	Regional Road Group Work. Finance Reporting Budget template. Emails. Meeting with Rick Ryan
12.10.2021	Fire Training. Mid-West Regional Road Group Telephone Meeting. Tel discussion with Cr P Squires following RRG Meeting
13.10.2021	Finance Work.
14.10.2021	Finance & Recruitment Work.
15.10.2021	Finance Work. Meeting with Steve Crabbe 10M Limited
18.10.2021	Election Work. Agenda Report. LRCIP Phase 1 and 2 Annual Reports
19.10.2021	Election Work. Agenda Report. Ablution Block Tender. Letter of Support Wooleen Building relocation
20.10.2021	Election Work. Agenda Report. Assist RFDS Patient Transfer
21.10.2021 to 24.10.2021	Election Work. Agenda Work

**Recommendation**

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr</b>	Q Fowler	<b>Seconded: Cr</b>	A Whitmarsh
That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.			
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For</b>	5	<b>Against</b> 0

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**22 ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

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Nil

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**23 MEETING CLOSURE**

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*The Shire President closed the meeting at 3.02pm.*

<b>Minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2021.</b>	
Signed.....	Presiding Officer