



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council

held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
on Thursday **27 April 2023**, commencing at 12 Noon.

Ancient land under brilliant skies

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.01pm

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor

Cr A Whitmarsh

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Cr M Fowler

Cr G Mead

Leave of Absence

Cr Q Fowler

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO

William Herold – Works Manager

Apologies

Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant

At 12.02pm Council addressed Agenda Item 13 with separate presentations and updates from CSIRO/SKAO and DFES Fire Management.

13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

The following Deputations / Presentations were provided from the following as scheduled

CSIRO and SKAO

Chris Brayton (CSIRO) and Mark Bennett (SKAO) provide a brief update on the following

Chris Brayton

- ~ AARNET progress. Materials have been purchased as part of project of providing optic fibre cable to PIA and the Murchison Settlement. Supply to PIA and the Settlement to the Council Office. Thereafter to each residence via a fibre to the node arrangement separate providers thereafter. This was advised that all residences and buildings within the Settlement were part of the Council operation and that any ongoing operating costs would be met by Council. Given these circumstances Chris indicated that he would follow through on the most appropriate arrangements. Meanwhile possibility of providing a secondary optic fibre link to Perth via Cue was being explored.

Mark Bennett

Brief power point presentation on SKAO progress

DFES Fire Management

Mark Bowen (Superintendent) Ian Combe (Distract Officer) and Rick Ryan (Community Emergency Services Manager – Murchison, Morawa and Perenjori and Yalgoo Shires) from the Mid-West Gascoyne Region of DFES attended at Council request to update on progress and future arrangements regarding manage of Bush Fires.

Mark Bowen

Mark indicated that currently Bush Fire Management is a Local Government responsibility with DFES support. Whilst currently some areas in the Kimberly and Goldfields have MOU's in place for DFES to be the primary manager these were non-binding with local government still ultimately responsible. DFES were not entering and new MOU's.

Legislative changes are being pursued to enable DFES to assume this role if a local government so desires. Consultation on the Bill expected later in the year. Meanwhile DFES would welcome expressions of interests from Shires who may wish to take up this opportunity in the future so that they can provide advice to the

Minister as to likely resource implications for DFES. Regardless of any changes current arrangements operations on the ground are not expected to change.

The following questions provided to DFES were responded to and also addressed as part of Mark's overview.

- 1 What will the transition process look like?
- 2 What will be the funding arrangements going forward and how will that be different to now?
- 3 Please talk through what might happen in a typical scenario of a fire breaking out eg Hot summer day in January with electrical storms- lightning strike starts a fire, first responders are pastoralists....next steps?
- 4 I have concerns about the response times and agility of DFES to attend to fires quickly. We witnessed this recently with a fire on Tallering last summer. Ultimately it was a local pastoralist with a plane and pilots license (at their own cost) to advise DFES (and the leaseholder) on the status of the fire- please respond.
- 5 How will things be handled by DFES in the case of an accident or human death during a fire?
- 6 What is the process in the case of a dispute/disagreement between locals and DFES on the handling of a fire.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 23 March 2023

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 March 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes Taylor

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23 March 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor for Item 18.1 Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building Relocation

5 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

6 STANDING ORDERS

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 M Fowler

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

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

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

8 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 25 May 2023

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr A Whitmarsh indicated that he may be absent with a pending engagement from the next Council Meeting and requested a Leave of Absence.

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr M Fowler

That Cr A Whitmarsh be granted Leave of Absence for the May Ordinary Council Meeting.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

10 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Item 17.1.1 Account Listings Paid since the last list was presented to Council

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor thanked all those community members and paid staff who assisted in working above and beyond planning and running the inaugural Ancient Lands under Brilliant Skies Festival held on 15 - 16 April 2023.

13 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

13.1 Shire President

14.04.2023

Attended and chaired WALGA Murchison Country Zone Meeting at Cue Council Chambers. *Refer to Cr E Foulkes-Taylor report below.*

13.2 Councillors

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

14.04.2023

Attended WALGA Murchison Country Zone Meeting at Cue Council Chambers

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the MCZ and represent Murchison Shire

1. Presentation by WACHS Mental Health Unit on the services available – resource pack provided
2. Update from WALGA President, Cr Karen Chappel. National Assembly of LGs in Canberra in June. Karen strongly encouraged good representation from WA.
3. Update from Cr. Las Price- Zone rep to State Council-discussion around the Best Practice Governance Review by WALGA- our zone does not support a change to Model 1 and wishes it to remain as it currently is with a bit of tidying up of the constitution. Main concern is regional representation. Our zone put forward an alternative motion to State Councils recommendation around this issue. Also work on: Speed Management by LGs, LG Act amendment bill, ACHA- WALGA planning an educational workshop, Stage 3 of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act expected mid April, LEMA Review Project. Les reminded councillors about the LG honours awards recognising outstanding contribution to LG- Please see minutes for more information.
4. Craig Vinci- Regional Manager Dept of LG, Sport and Cultural Industries – Report in minutes has a good section on summarising LG Act reform and Optional Preferential Voting
5. Motion put forward by Murchison Shire “Natural Disaster Relief Funding for Flood Damage Restoration Works” was strongly supported with most councillor providing an example of issues in their shire. – Motion – *That with regard to natural disaster relief, specifically for flood damage road restoration works, WALGA continue to lobby DFES for a systemic change in the way claims are managed that improves the whole process.*
6. Nils Hay- CEO MWDC gave update on projects and priorities. REDS grants open May 5th
7. Karen Grima- final report for Murchison Geo Region and introduced the new MGR Project Officer Ali Taylor, who is planning to visit at the next council meeting.
8. Hon. Melissa Price MP – bit of an update around funding
9. Meeting moved to increase the zone’s State Council rep honorarium from \$530 pa to \$1500pa in recognition of the very significant time and effort given to representing our zone. The member shire subscription will therefore increase from \$2600 to \$2800pa.
10. Shire reports in minutes
11. Next meeting 17.11.23

14 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

15 WORKS

15.1 Works Report

File: 12.42
Author: William Herold – Works Manager
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 21 April 2023
Attachments: Nil

Construction Crew

Like the entire works department, the construction crew have had a rather disjointed month. We had the very welcome rain event which pulled up works on the construction job. The ALUBS festival also required some of the crew for several days. They then headed off on their Easter break. They returned on Monday 17th April to assist with the post festival clean up and then resumed on the widening job on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. Hopefully we can now get our teeth into this job and make good progress to the end of this financial year.

Maintenance Crew

Like construction they were affected by weather and the festival. They were in fact rained in at Byro and the only way out was by grader. They had completed from the north boundary on the Carnarvon Mullewa Road back to the Byro homestead when the rain arrived. Their movements going forward will be determined by the damage we find east of the Murchison River when we can safely cross.

ALUBS Festival

I believe a fairly successful festival took place in spite of several challenges coming our way. Congratulations to all involved. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Shire staff who were involved especially our three lady staff members, Lisa, Vicki and Robyne who stepped up and made things happen quietly behind the scenes, without them there would have been many nervous moments.

Rain Event

Certainly, a very welcome event from the pastoral point of view, however we do appear to have suffered some reasonable road damage. My initial estimate is somewhere around the \$5 million mark from what I have heard and the little I have been able to see so far. This is surely the biggest river we have seen since 2010. I hope to give a more accurate update at the Council meeting.

SKAO Road Upgrade

Walladar made a start on this project starting at the intersection of Boolardy Wooleen Road and Wooleen Mt Wittenoom Road. Then it rained and work came to a halt in spite of some valiant effort to get things going and a rather innovative way of crossing the Twin Peaks crossing. I believe it is all systems go at last.

Flood Damage

Flood 8 (AGRN951) and Flood 9 (AGRN974)

Both packages headed off on their Easter break when the rain arrived. Both returned on Monday 17th April to find most of their work impacted. I hope to give a more up to date report of the situation at Council meeting.

Meanwhile we continue to follow up with status of grant payments. Whilst there have been some improvements delays of between 72 and 171 days have thus far been experienced. This has stretched our cashflow. Recent approach released a \$1.4m payment. Discussions with DFES indicate that they have been allocated additional funding for internal resources to improve the turnaround times for claims. It is understood other mechanisms are being explored. Wider improvements are a separate matter

Flood 10 (AGRN1021) March-April 2022 Event

We are still waiting advice as to approval for last year's event. Preliminary notification was lodged on 5 April 2022 and detailed claim submitted on 22 June 2022. Responses to various requests for clarification have also been promptly addressed as they arise. We are still waiting advice following our most recent update request of 14 April 2023

Flood 11 (AGRN????) March-April 2023 Event

Preliminary notification for recent March-April 2023 event was lodged with DFES on 19 April 2023. A number of other neighbouring Shires have also lodged their formal notifications

Beringarra-Cue Road

Rowe Contractors have completed their work and de-mobbed from site. I have not been there since the rain event but the feedback I have received from Mileura is very positive and our real road design has pretty much done what we expected it to do. My thanks to Justin for the work he did.

Settlement Power

Petro Min Engineers have been engaged in conjunction with Hosken Electrical to come up with the design of the new power upgrade. So far Geoff Mitchell of Petro Min Engineers seems to be a practical fairly hands on type which is refreshing. Formal design and documentation proposal with an estimated cost of \$130,950 covers Replacement of the Site Main Switchboard and New Power Station Design and Engineering.

Meanwhile recent extended outage in the Settlement has been traced to a portion of cable located east of the CEO's residence. This will also need to be addressed as part of the design and if possible, undertaken as soon as practicable as only a short-term fix is currently in place. At this stage exact details are unknown but an expense of \$50,000 could be anticipated.

Whilst a future budget allocation was foreshadowed for 2023/24 at the March Budget Review no allocation was proposed for 2022/23.

For these works to proceed now as suggested a budget variation will be required as per part 2 of the Recommendation below.

Water Upgrade

Initial works were also disrupted by the rain and rivers. 8 May 2023 is now the kick off date for Murchison Plumbing and Gas.

Roads to Rehydration Workshop

The Works Manager asked Cr E Foulkes-Taylor as Mid-West Development Commission representative to pass on our appreciation for the work the involved in putting on a successful Roads to Rehydration Workshop on in Mt Magnet last month.

Recommendation

That Council resolve that

- 1 The Works Report be noted
- 2 Council amends the 2022/23 Budget to include expenses associated with the design and documentation of an upgrade to the Settlement Power Station and replacement of a section of existing power cable within the Settlement.

Voting Requirements

Recommendation 1 Simple Majority
Recommendation 2 Absolute Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr M Fowler

- 1 The Works Report be noted
- 2 Council amends the 2022/23 Budget to include expenses associated with the design and documentation of an upgrade to the Settlement Power Station and replacement of a section of existing power cable within the Settlement.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

16 FINANCE

16.1 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	21 April 2023
Attachments:	17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2023 (Elected Members Only)

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

- 1 That that pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b) & (e) of the *Local Government Act 1995* that attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2023 be discussed behind closed doors
- 2 That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2023 and that the accounts since the last report to Council, as provided to Councillors be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

The Shire President adjourned the meeting for lunch at 1:00pm

The Shire President reopened the meeting after lunch at 1:41pm

Item to be Discussed behind closed doors

Council Decision

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That that pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b) & (e) of the *Local Government Act 1995* that attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2023 be discussed behind closed doors

Carried	For	5	Against	0
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The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at 1.41pm

Motion to open the meeting to the public

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That the meeting be open to the public

Carried	For	5	Against	0
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The meeting was moved out of closed doors at 1:43pm

Decisions Disclosed from the Closed Section of Meeting associated with Attachment Item 17.1

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2023 and that the accounts since the last report to Council, as provided to Councillors be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council

Carried	For	5	Against	0
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16.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 March 2023

File: 2.6
Author: Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 20 April 2023
Attachments: 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report March 2023

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

RSM Australia

Recommendation

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 March 2023 as attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead **Seconded: Cr** M Fowler

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 March 2023 as attached.

Carried	For	5	Against	0
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16.3 2023 Rating Strategy Review

File:	3.1
Author:	Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	23 April 2023
Attachments:	17.3.1 Regional Rates Benchmarking Comparison April 2023 17.3.2 Local Rates Scenarios – April 2023

Matter for Consideration

Review of Council's Rating Strategy on a long-term policy basis.

Background & Legislative Provisions

It is incumbent on the Shire administration, for equity reasons to ensure that differential rating proposals are highly equitable amongst ratepayer groupings, optimise total rate yields and are legally compliant.

Whilst the consideration of rates and the supporting objects and reasons for differential rates is an annual event given the COVID19 influence and zero rate increase scenario in 2020/21 and expansive COVID 19 changes to Council's operating environment, it is considered prudent to further expand on the 2021/22 and 2022/23 resets and continue with a more "eyes wide open review" but on a long term basis.

The legislative provisions for rating are lengthy and complex. The following relevant summary highlights relevant legislative provisions under the *Local Government 1995* that are provided as a snap shot as part of this Rating Strategy Review

Rateable Land – s6.26

Except as provided all land within a district is rateable land. Exemptions include:

- ~ Land which is the property of the Crown and used or held for a public purpose.
- ~ Land owned by the local government and used for that purpose by the local government.
- ~ Land used exclusively for charitable purposes.
- ~ Land which is exempt from rates under any written law
- ~ Land which is declared by the Minister to be exempt from rates.

Basis of Rates – s 6.28

Land is rated according to the method of valuation as determined by the Minister. ie

- ~ unimproved value for land use predominately for rural purposes (UV); or
- ~ gross rental value for land used predominately for non-rural purposes (GRV).

Rates are based on valuations under the *Valuation of Land Act 1978*. The local government sets a rate in the dollar which is applied to this valuation to give the rates liability for each property.

Mining Valuations and Rates – s6.29

Unless otherwise provided for mining tenements under the *Mining Act 1978* or permit drilling leases or licences under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967* are rated on unimproved value.

Rates and Service Charges - s 6.32

Rates are established at the time Council adopts its budget to make up the budget deficiency. The following may be imposed:

- ~ a general rate imposed either uniformly or differentially.
- ~ a special area rate of minimum payment and
- ~ service charges

Where a rate is imposed it is required to be expressed rate in the dollar of the gross rental value of rateable land or on the unimproved value of rateable land depending on the circumstances.

Differential General Rates – s6.33

A local government may impose a single general rate which applies to all the properties in the unimproved value or gross rental value category; or alternatively, the local government can distinguish between land in either category on the basis of its zoning, use or whether or not it is vacant land (or a combination of these factors) and apply a differential rate to each.

Ministerial approval is required where a differential rate which is more than twice the lowest differential rate is to be imposed by it.

Limit on Revenue from General Rates – s 6.34

Unless otherwise approved by the Minister the amount shown in the annual budget as being yielded from general rates shall be within 90 and 110% of the budget deficiency.

Minimum Payment – s 6.35

A local government may impose on any rateable land in its district a minimum payment which is greater than the general rate which would otherwise be payable on that land. A minimum payment is to be a general minimum but, must ensure that the general minimum is imposed on not greater than —

- ~ 50% of the total number of separately rated properties in the district; or
- ~ 50% of the number of properties in each category being land rated on gross rental value, unimproved value to each differential rating category where a differential general rate is imposed.

A minimum payment is not to be imposed on more than the prescribed percentage separately rated properties or the number of properties rated under gross rental value, (GRV), unimproved value (UV) or in each differential rate category where this is imposed. The current prescribed limits are set under the *Local Government Financial Regulations 1996*.

There is no restriction on the proportion of properties subject to the minimum providing the minimum is not more than \$200. If the minimum is over \$200, no more than half of the properties (50%) can be subject to the minimum unless the differential rating category is for vacant land **and** Ministerial approval is granted.

Local Government to give notice of certain rates – s6.36

Before imposing any differential general rates or a minimum payment applying to a differential rate category a local government is to

- ~ give local public notice of its intention to do so.
- ~ prepare a document describing the objects of, and reasons for, each proposed rate and minimum payment and to publish the document on the local government's official website.
- ~ provide opportunity to receive and hear any submissions.

Service Charges – s 6.38

The money from any service charge imposed on owners or occupiers can only be used to meet the cost of providing a specific service. Under the *Local Government Financial Regulations 1996* prescribed works include property surveillance and security, television and radio rebroadcasting, underground electricity, and water.

Rates Charges on Land- s 6.43

Subject to the *Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferments) Act 1992*, rates remain a charge on the land.

A Value and Principle Approach

Through the Local Government Act 1995, Part 6, the Western Australian Parliament has conferred upon local government the power to levy and collect property tax in the form of rates. Property taxes with rare exemptions, are not fees for service or relate to directly or indirectly an any specific services provided by the Shire. Just like income tax they are a just that, a tax; with the property owner responsible for paying, although it is doubtful whether all ratepayers would necessarily see this in this light.

The application of Councils rate and budget setting are partly outlined in the Minister's policy approach when exercising his / her discretionary powers in relation to Minimum Payments, and differential rating with key values of **objectivity, fairness and equity, consistency, transparency, and administrative efficiency** required to be demonstrated. So long as Council meets these criteria the rating regime should comply.

However, this does not really provide much guidance when it comes to determining matters such as the levels and nexus between differential rates and minimums or any specific justification.

As with all taxation systems there are various well-established principles that have been applied in other local government jurisdictions. Some of these seem to have been included in the above values but perhaps the most useful in this regard a few points to consider.

Does the tax burden fall appropriately across different classes of ratepayers? Equity is a subjective concept that is difficult to define. What is considered fair for one person may be considered unfair for another. There are two main equity concepts used to guide the development of rating strategies (and taxation more generally): namely the Benefit Principle (Horizontal Equity) and Capacity to Pay Principle (Vertical Equity).

Benefit Principle

Taxpayers should receive some benefits from paying tax, but not necessarily to the extent of the tax paid. Ratepayers in similar situations should pay similar amounts (ensured mainly by accurate property valuations undertaken in a consistent manner, their classification into homogenous property classes and the right of appeal against valuation).

Example of this is the application of a fixed charge or minimum rate component of a rating system; although the minimum payment example applies on a 'sliding' scale and unlike the fixed charge is not applied equally to all ratepayers.

In many local government jurisdictions this must be applied the same across all differential rate sectors whilst in Western Australia it can vary between differential rates sectors, although in doing so it could be argued that it weakens this principle.

Capacity to Pay Principle

In levying taxes, the ability of the taxpayer to pay the tax must be considered. Those who are better off should pay more than those worse off (the rationale applies for the use of progressive and proportional income taxation. It implies a "relativity" dimension to the fairness of the tax burden).

Example of this is the rate in the \$ component and differential rate classification. How this is balanced is open to question. Benchmarking with other local governments are a useful exercise although only this provides a guide.

Rating Nuances

A few rating issues.

- (a) There is a common misconception that rates are directly set by property values when in fact they are only derived in part from them after Council has considered a raft of budget and equity considerations.
- (b) If property values increase generally due to market forces by say 10%, rarely do rates increase by that amount and if property values decline, rates do not normally reduce. In each instance the rate in the \$ and potentially the minimum rate is adjusted.
- (c) Property valuations are a surrogate for income when it comes to the application of the Capacity to Pay Principle, even though this may not reflect in a personal sense. Just because a property valuation is higher than another doesn't necessarily mean that owner has an actual greater capacity to pay, just that on proportional basis they will attract under this principle a larger proportion of rates levied.
- (d) For properties that have a perpetual life and continue to exist from one year to the next, when property valuations increase through market forces, in reality there is no change to the rates base. If, however, a property has its GRV expanded by a capital development or subdivision or say a new tenement or changes it rating category then that is often termed "natural growth." If that element is not segmented for analysis purposes, then a rates base does not grow, adversely affecting the financial capacity of the local government and leads to new "growth" ratepayers subsidising old ones. This situation also applies reverse where a property such as a mining tenement or lease ceases to exist and disappears from the rates base

As a result, any increase in the rate should be express in terms of a % revenue increase "*excluding natural decline or growth.*" However, for UV properties that situation is less clear as there is no easy identifiable increase through natural growth as would be the case for GRV or Capital Values which apply in other rating systems.

- (e) For properties such as in the mining sector that do not have a perpetual life and are often highly speculative and can come and go regularly, property numbers and valuations from year can vary markedly. This makes it more difficult to treat in the same manner as perpetual life properties in part as the use if the capacity pay principle may be relatively short lived and often any rates levied do not necessarily remain a charge on the land. Yet the entire value of the infrastructure and services provided by the Shire are also available to all ratepayers regardless and invariably this can only be addressed through differential rating. Not unreasonably high to very high differentials would be expected.
- (f) With perhaps the exception of perpetual life mining type properties given the vagaries and variables of valuations, differential rates, minimum rates and rates in the \$, the best and least unreliable comparator is properties actual rates from one year to another and on sector and a district wide basis the average rate in a sector.

Benchmarking

Like previous years, benchmarking included comparisons with neighbouring Shires. In 2021/22 the depth of analysis was expanded with the addition of two additional sparsely populated Shires more akin in makeup with Murchison. A far more expansive comparison was then undertaken. Last year five (5) additional comparators of which three (3) specifically relate to Murchison. This year this analysis has been further expanded upon.

As indicated in the attached (*Regional Rates Benchmarking Comparison*), whilst such an exercise is far from perfect and not conclusive there are common themes.

Like all local governments the Grants Commission undertakes a more systematic amongst other things to establish an average local governments rate capacity and with it an assessed level applied to each local government. This analysis is also presented.

The following tables and graphs are attached. Summary comments are also shown.

Sector Comparisons

Note fig 00 and fig 0 and comments below were provided to Council the 25.04.23

fig 00 Valuation Base \$

Provided as the "base" as this aspect is not subject to Council Policy influences. Murchison has way and far the smallest valuation base

fig 0 Average Valuations

Murchison's average UV Valuation for the mining sector is significantly greater all of the others However, a number also have GRV mining values whereas some don't.

fig 1 Rate Revenue by Sector \$

Provided as the "base" as this aspect is not subject to Council Policy influences. Murchison is way and far the smallest rate base.

fig 2 Rate Revenue by Sector %

In % terms the Mining contribution Murchison appears well within the parameters compared to others.

fig 3 Average Rate by Sector \$

The average mining rates paid in Murchison on the surface are well outside those of other Shires giving an opposite picture to fig 2 but as shown in fig 8 can partly be explained by the small size of the mining sector compared to other local governments.

fig 4 Rate Cents in \$ by Sector

The Pastoral and Mining Exploration Rates in the \$ appear low compared to others. However as indicated under points (a) and (f) above under Rating Nuances; rates in the \$ are not a good comparator per say.

fig 5 Rate Highest Rate in \$ v Pastoral Rate in the \$

The Mining Rate differential for Murchison appears and is very high compared to others but as other figs show there are a range of relevant reasons. The Threshold triggering requirements to obtain Ministerial Approval is also shown.

fig 6 % of ratepayers based on Minimum Payment

No major difference compared to others in the region.

fig 7 Min UV Rates Comparison \$

Min UV Rates for Murchison appear within the parameters of others. However, the amount is really a function of the rates base and equity considerations

fig 8 No of Pastoral Properties vs Others

The small numbers for Murchison appear to reflect our relatively small pastoral rates base compared to others. By comparison mining and other sectors elsewhere are very much larger in number

fig 9 UV Rates Comparison as % of Rates Base.

In % terms the Pastoral sector in Murchison appears to contribute to greater extent than other areas most likely reflecting the lack of GRV rates

fig 10 Min Rates

Min Rates for Murchison are within parameters of others. However, the amount is really a function of the rates base and equity considerations

fig 11 Grant Commission 3 Year Average Rates Assessments (\$)

Grants Commission have assessed Murchison as having significant capacity to lift rates in the pastoral sectors but also conversely reduce rates in the mining sector. However, this situation is not dissimilar to most other Shires.

fig 12 Grants Commission 3 Year Average Rates Comparison (%)

Grants Commission have assessed Murchison as having significant capacity to lift rates in the pastoral sectors but also conversely reduce rates in the mining sector. However, this situation is not dissimilar to most other Shires.

fig 13 Non-Current Assets (\$)

fig 14 Depreciation Non-Current Assets

Figs 13 & 14 shows a general snapshot of the value of assets that each Shire is required to manage and provides some broad context to the comparison as rate revenue is a significant source of own source funds. By comparison Murchison has a moderately large infrastructure component to manage but as shown in fig 1 has the equally smallest rate base by some measure.

fig 15 Rates as a % of Depreciation.

This highlights the importance of lifting overall levels of rate revenue as the proportion is very low, especially as there will be likely increase in new or upgraded assets which will need to be funded and replaced over time.

Murchison Comparisons

fig 16 Murchison Grants Commission 3 Year Average Yearly Comparison (\$)

This shows the continued effects of the previous policy approach where the distribution of rate revenue with increases in the pastoral sector over the past three years. Whilst rates from the mining sector have increased in total this was result if an increase in the numbers of mining tenements

fig 17 Average Rates Yearly Comparison \$

This shows the start of a policy approach to lift the quantum of rate revenue, in part as outlined by the Grants Commission Analysis in figs 11 and 12 but in doing so distribute rate revenue across sectors with increases in the Pastoral and Prosecting & Exploration Sector but with a reduction in the Mining Sector

fig 18 Murchison Differential Rates Yearly History

This shows empirically a reduction in the ratio of differentials between the mining and pastoral sectors over time

The following observations are also noted.

- ~ The Mining Rate appears on the surface to be too high in comparison and makes up a much higher percentage of the rate base than compared to other areas.
As outlined in DLGSC Rates Detailed Discussion Paper a differential of 4 times the lowest differential rate has been suggested instead of the current level requiring rates to obtain Ministerial approval. This implies a recognition that large differentials are not exceptional
- ~ As shown Murchison's rate base is very very much smaller by some margin in comparison with others. Other Shires also have larger numbers within the Other (Mining and Other GRV) than Murchison. By contrast Murchison has a more infrastructure to manage relative to out rates base so the current differences are in part explainable.
- ~ Even though the Pastoral Rate makes up a small percentage of the rates base the average rate appears low in comparison and in 2021/22 a program to lift this commenced. Given the apparent and arguable over reliance on the mining sector, lifting the pastoral rates is appropriate. As indicated in the attached comparative local analysis a continuation of this strategic approach but in an accelerated manner is considered essential.

Local Rates Rationale

Whilst benchmarking with Shires provides a useful guide, modelling local rates and changes in valuations needs to be undertaken. This is done on an annual basis once details of new valuations arrive.

Under the current methodology Local Government has limited options available to with respect to raising rates but needs to ensure long term financial sustainability it being incumbent that a long-term strategic approach be undertaken.

Essentially one can only control the controllables. For instance, local government it can only control through its decision-making aspects such as what it spends its money on, what fees and charges it can levy and what rates are derived. Virtually all other aspects a local government can address by way of influence, not direct control.

For Murchison like all local governments Rates are by and far the largest component in revenue raising. Whilst rates are small compared with grant revenue nevertheless, they are essential, and yield should be maximised.

Rationale to lift rate revenue is justified amongst other things for the following reasons

- 1 As indicated in the previous analysis in a number of figures there is a significant inequity between the current mining and pastoral rate. The current differential of 5.05 (even though reducing) is too large. When one considers that the rating methodology ignores capital improvements, which are mainly only applicable to pastoral properties, then this inequity is further compounded.
- 2 The current differentials based on average rates shows a significantly distorted picture.

Rating Sector	Rate cents in \$	Ratio	Average Rate \$	Ratio
Pastoral	4.9	1.0	2,313	1.0
Mining	24.6	5.02	36,249	15.67
Exploration & Prospecting	9.3	1.92	2,259	0.98
- 3 The current average rate for a pastoral property of \$2,313 is virtually the same as for Prospecting and Exploration but pales into insignificance compared the average rates of \$36,250 for a mine. Arguably Pastoral properties have more opportunity to benefit from Shire works than others.
- 4 Mining rate revenue is \$398,744 which is 64% of the rates base derived from just 11 properties. Such a heavy dependence is a potential risk.
- 5 The proportion of rate revenue as related to Councils recurrent works is extremely low. This makes Murchison more reliant than many on external grants such as grants commission, roads and flood damage and represents a potential risk financially if funding in these aspects are reduced.
- 6 Most local governments will improve the levels of service and undertake new works and upgrade assets. This in itself partly justifies an increase in rates. In our instance we have already substantially increased our asset base through new works and have an expanded works program to deliver. This provides ample justification for significant increases in rates.

Strategic Rates Approach

It is essential that from a policy perspective option for future rate scenarios are explored.

In this regard attached are details of three specific rating scenarios which show various ways for Council to consider when setting rates for each financial year. There are also other variations available. These scenarios are merely illustrative.

In this analysis rates modelling has been undertaken on a rate base and valuations that applied when setting rates for 2022/23. Changes in valuations and potential growth that may arise annually, or any new valuations have not been factored in.

Three Scenarios have been shown as follows:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Scenario 1 | Traditional Increases. Minimal change in Mining Differential with some lift in rate revenue |
| Scenario 2 | Reduction in Mining Differential over time with moderate lift in Rate revenue |
| Scenario 3 | More rapid in Reduction in Mining Differential with substantial lift in rate revenue |

Scenarios 2 and 3 substantially increase rates revenue in a quicker time period. Scenario 3 puts more effort in the early years which has a far greater effect long term. This approach is similar to the approach undertaken by the Shire of Upper Gascoyne who are most akin to Murchison and who in 2022/23 increased rates by over 100%.

Comments

At this particular point in time there is no need to formally adopt any scenario, but I believe the issues, potential solutions and rational and case for substantive change is clear.

This report will, however, provide supporting evidence for next year's budget considerations and rate setting and the anticipated application to the Minister to approve next year's Differential Rates.

It will importantly feed into Councils 3-year budget approach and long-term financial plan, a draft of which is near completion

Sustainability Implications

Environmental	There are no known significant environmental considerations.
Economic	There are significant economic considerations.
Social	There will potentially be impacts on social considerations.

Policy Implications

Nil. This report however will assist in an improved policy setting framework

Recommendation

That Council note the Chief Executive Officers 2023 Rating Strategy Review Report with the intention that it will be used to inform Council's considerations when setting rates as part of future budgets.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr M Fowler

Seconded: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

That Council note the Chief Executive Officers 2023 Rating Strategy Review Report with the intention that it will be used to inform Council's considerations when setting rates as part of future budgets.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

At 1.56pm Crs R Foulkes-Taylor and E Foulkes Taylor declared a Financial Interest item 18.1 and left the room.

Cr A Whitmarsh assumed the Chair

17 DEVELOPMENT

17.1 Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building Relocation and Redevelopment

File:	10.3
Author:	Bill Boehm - Chief Executive Officer Phil Swain - Environmental Health Officer / Building Surveyor
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	26 April 2023
Attachments:	18.1.1 Site Location Proposed Ablutions Block Site Plan

Preliminary Background

At the October 2021 Council Meeting Development Application 01/2021 for the proposed relocation of the Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to the Wooleen Station Homestead was approved.

Since this time substantial progress in relocating the building has been made and the applicant is seeking to undertake fit out works details of which were not known at the time the application was approved.

Whilst Council does not require building permits for building works undertaken within the Shire and any installation needs to meet Health requirements in relation to food business aspects, never the less the approved Development Application requires an amendment.

Ordinarily approval for such a matter would be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer but in our instance, there appears to be no formal delegation in place, hence this Agenda Item.

Council's Environmental Health Officer / Building Surveyor will provide a formal report at the Meeting. Th was actioned on 26.04.23 as follows.

Matter for Consideration

A proposal to vary planning approval 01/2021 - Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building Relocation. In October 2021 the Shire of Murchison approved an application for planning approval from Wooleen Station relating to the relocation of a historic kitchen building on the station. The building is located approximately seven (7) kilometres from the existing homestead, where previously the Wooleen woolshed stood before being destroyed in a storm in 2004.

The proposal related to the relocation and preservation of the kitchen building to be utilised as a reception building and a small café facility for the Station's tourist visitors. The proponents have since investigated the provision of abluion facilities adjacent to the reception facility, (the current proposal has one universal access facility). The Station operates Nature Based Park camping with rudimentary facilities. The provision of ablutions, including showers at the homestead would add to the visitor experience.

Details

Property Location:	Wooleen Station, Twin Peaks Wooleen Rd, Murchison
Application Details:	Variation to proposal to relocate existing historic woolshed kitchen building to Wooleen Homestead with the addition of an abluion block.
Applicants:	David & Frances Pollock
Owner:	David & Frances Pollock
Value of Development:	\$20,000
LG Reference:	Development Application 01/2023
Application Receipt Date:	17 th April 2023

In accordance with the definitions contained within the Shire of Murchison Local Planning Scheme 1 (LPS1), Wooleen Station is located in the Pastoral Zone and the construction or in this case relocation of a building would not normally compel a Development Application. However, the proposal is within the inner Radio Quiet Zone and under LPS1 and normally compels a planning application for any development and consultation with CSIRO in relation to the same.

Comment

The proposal includes:

- 1 3 showers and 2 toilets as unisex facilities
- 2 Two shower cubicles 2m x 2m with one to universal access requirements with hot and cold water service. Shower cubicles will have permanently affixed seats, dressing areas, clothes hooks, and soap holders.
- 3 A minimum 3 hand wash basins with cold water only and with access to an electrical plug, mirror and shelving, and
- 4 Outdoor lighting to the building.

The proposal represents a minor variation to the existing approved development.

Statutory Environment

Planning and Development Act 2005.

Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015

Shire of Murchison Local Planning Scheme No. 1.

Shire of Murchison Local Planning Strategy

Under the Local Planning Scheme Pastoral Land within the radio quiet inner zone compels restrictions and consultation relating to development. Clause 6.2 of the scheme states: *Inner Zone – Australian Radio Quiet Zone WA - Purpose of the Special Control Area*

- (a) *To protect radio-astronomy observatory facilities, both existing and future, against radio frequency interference caused by radio transmissions and electrical interference.*
- (b) *To allow for the co-existence of radio-astronomy and pastoral use of land within the 70 kilometre Inner Zone - Australian Radio Quiet Zone WA.*

Having regard to the State Planning Framework, the provisions of the Scheme and the objective of the Radio Quiet Zone with respect to development on "Pastoral" zoned property. Clause 6.2 also states with reference to Application and Referral Requirements:

- 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, (CSIRO) and may refuse, approve or approve with conditions having regard for the recommendations of the managing entity/authority.*

The proposal is inside the Special Control Area and an application for planning approval has been submitted by the proponents, requesting it be considered as a variation to the existing Development Approval.

The Shire can vary the requirements of an existing approval if that variation is minor. Regulation 77 of the deemed provisions of the Regulations allows Council to vary the same. Given that the construction of additional ablution facilities is in conformity with the intended use and replacement of existing ablution facilities for tourism purposes, the request for variation is reasonable.

Strategic Implications

The Shire's Strategic Community Plan includes objectives:

Economic

Develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area; and

Tourism Development

To Promote and Support a Sustainable Tourism Industry in the Shire of Murchison.

Sustainability Implications

Environmental

Environmental impacts will be limited with the reuse of materials currently making up the fabric of the existing building and the refurbishment compelling the use of materials, some waste requiring disposal to landfill. Wooleen Station owners have previously made substantial commitments the solar power which will enable the new building to operate to a large extent with the same.

Economic

The economic develop implications of the development are real but localised. It is likely that tourist activity of the type planned for with the provision of this service will increase over time.

Social

Social sustainability is likely to be enhanced with increased tourist numbers, recognition of the value of the historic building repurposed in this way, at the Station proper.

Policy Implications

Policy 7.1 Building Planning and Health

Amongst other things under *Building Control*

- ~ *The Shire of Murchison has no current obligation to issue building permits for any building work undertaken within the Shire.*
- ~ *Where any owner or occupier wishes to lodge a CDC for any construction undertaken within the Shire but outside of the Murchison Settlement, a copy will be retained on the Shire records free of charge. Proponents of any construction project within the Shire are to be advised of this Council Policy with respect to Building Controls and that fees such as the Building and Construction Industry Training Fund (BCITF) may still require payment. All enquiries and payments to the BCITF and/or the Building Commission should be directed to those authorities.'*

This whole project is above the threshold for payment to the BCITF and consequently fees are payable to the fund. It is proposed that a note advising the applicants of the above be included in the approval.

Financial Implications

The Regulated fees have been paid to the Shire for the planning application. The proposed development variation cost is valued at only \$20,000.

Consultation

The Shire is obligated to consult where development applications are within the Special Control Zone or the scheme dictates the same via the classification in the zoning tables. The Shire previously sought comment from CSIRO and received the following:

"We can confirm that CSIRO can provide in principle support for this application. Prior to commencement of construction related activities, the proponent will be required to submit a Radio Emissions Management Plan (REMP) to CSIRO. This REMP will need to cover the duration of the works proposed to be undertaken and include the type of equipment proposed to be used during construction.

The CSIRO have accepted the REMP submitted by the proponents and the only variation to this document will be a slightly longer duration before they notify completion.

The Shire has contacted the CSIRO staff in relation to the variation and they have responded that they have no objection to the proposal provided the proponents amend the REMP accordingly.

Recommendation

In relation to Development Application 01/2021, being the proposed relocation of Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to Wooleen Station Homestead Council approves the minor variation of the addition of an ablution block as shown in Attachment A subject to the following.

Conditions

- 1 the conditions of planning approval previously issued, and
- 2 that the proponents amend the Radio Emissions Management Plan (REMP) with CSIRO accordingly.

That the applicants also be advised of the following notes.

Notes:

- ~ The proponents are advised that you are required to obtain a septic installation approval for any effluent disposal associated with the building.
- ~ The proponents are advised that fees for the project are payable to the Building Industry Construction Training Fund and this may require variation;
- ~ This approval relates only to the building described in the application and you are encouraged to obtain a Certificate of Design Compliance (CDC) from a registered Building Surveyor prior to commencing the relocation of the building. The Shire can retain a copy of any plans and the CDC on file, in perpetuity, free of charge, in accordance with Council Policy.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr M Fowler

In relation to Development Application 01/2021, being the proposed relocation of Wooleen Woolshed Kitchen Building to Wooleen Station Homestead Council approves the minor variation of the addition of an ablution block as shown in Attachment A subject to the following.

Conditions

- 1 the conditions of planning approval previously issued, and
- 2 that the proponents amend the Radio Emissions Management Plan (REMP) with CSIRO accordingly.

That the applicants also be advised of the following notes.

Notes:

- ~ The proponents are advised that you are required to obtain a septic installation approval for any effluent disposal associated with the building.
- ~ The proponents are advised that fees for the project are payable to the Building Industry Construction Training Fund and this may require variation.
- ~ This approval relates only to the building described in the application and you are encouraged to obtain a Certificate of Design Compliance (CDC) from a registered Building Surveyor prior to commencing the relocation of the building. The Shire can retain a copy of any plans and the CDC on file, in perpetuity, free of charge, in accordance with Council Policy.

Carried

For 3

Against 0

At 1.59pm Crs R Foulkes-Taylor and E Foulkes Taylor returned to the room.

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor resumed the Chair

17.2 Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival

File: 13.2
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 24 April 2023
Attachments: Nil

Matter for Consideration

Brief Update of Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival (ALUBSF) Activities

Update

By now we all realise that inaugural Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival (ALUBSF) undertaken on the weekend of 15-16 April 2023 has been and gone.

The Working Group and many others are to be congratulated for putting on a very successful festival event which from all accounts was extremely well received. Obviously, numbers were down due to the high river but nevertheless feedback has been extremely positive. Opportunities were also taken up to obtain video footage through Destination WA and to have the Festival professionally photographed. All of this work will become usable by the Shire moving forward and is opportune given we haven't much in place.

There will be a number of lessons learnt from the aftermath and in this regard the Working Group will soon meet for a debrief with a report to then follow. A survey has also been instituted to assist in this deliberation.

For Information

18 ADMINISTRATION

Nil

19 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 24 April 2023

Attachments: Nil

General

The following update of activities is provided.

Date	Activity
21.03.2023	Road Asset Management. ALUBS Festival Working Group Meeting. Technical Working Group Meeting remotely via Teams
22.03.2023	Road Asset Management LTFP
23.03.2023	Road Asset Management LTFP. Council Meeting. Council Minutes and follow up actions
24.03.2023	TOIL. Attend to emails
27.03.2023	Portion Travel from Perth to Mt Magnet to attend Roads for Rehydration Meeting
28.03.2023	MEG Meeting in Mt Magnet. Travel back to Murchison
29.03.2023	Provide comments to MRWA Technical Working Group Updated Manual. Meeting and update with Works Manager. Attend to update of materials for Auditor. Grants Commission Update response wrt Murchison additional costs. Start follow up for Rating of Miscellaneous Mining Tenement Licences
30.03.2023	Plant Replacement Program. COVID Sick. Work from home
31.03.2023	Provide comments to MRWA Technical Working Group Updated Manual. Meeting and update with Works Manager. Attend to update of materials for Auditor. Grants Commission Update response wrt Murchison additional costs. Start follow up for Rating of Miscellaneous Mining Tenement Licences
1.04.2023 to 2.04.2023	LTFP & Settlement Infrastructure Asset Work. COVID Sick. Work from home
3.04.2023	LTFP & Settlement Infrastructure Asset Work. COVID Sick. Work from home Telephone catch ups with Works Manager and Shire President. Telephone Touch base with John McCleary (Shire of Gascoyne) and Travis Bate (RSM)
4.04.2023	LTFP & Settlement Infrastructure Asset Work. COVID Sick. Work from home Telephone catch up with Works Manager. ALUBS Festival Work
5.04.2023	LTFP & Settlement Infrastructure Asset Work. Follow up Miscellaneous Mining Tenement Rates. LGIS Insurance Return. Meeting with Works Manager. Electrical Upgrade follow up. Floods 11 Follow Up.
6.04.2023	TOIL. Pick up Shire Vehicle in Perth
7.04.2023	Good Friday Public Holiday
8.04.2023	WALGA Murchison Country Zone CEO Report
10.04.2023	Easter Monday Public Holiday
12.04.2023	Rates Info follow up. ALUBS Festival Working Group Meeting via Zoom. Emails incl briefing for Shire President. Telephone catchup with Phil Swain. Roads to Recovery Quarterly Report
13.04.2023	Administration and emails. Festival Work. Budget LTFP and Asset Work
14.04.2023	LTFP and Asset Work. DFES Flood Damage follow up work
15.04.2023 to 16.04.2023	ALUBS Festival Assistance
17.04.2023	Budget LTFP and Asset Work. Meeting / catchup with Works Manager
18.04.2023	Budget LTFP and Asset Work. Flood Damage Preliminary Notification Work
19.04.2023	Budget LTFP and Asset Work. Finalise and lodge Flood Damage Preliminary Notification. Follow up on Audit queries
20.04.2023	Budget LTFP and Asset Work. Roadhouse Recruitment
21.04.2023 to 24.04.2023	Agenda Work. Rates Comparison Work.

Recommendation

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision			
Moved: Cr	G Mead	Seconded: Cr	M Fowler
That Council note the CEO's Activity Report			
Carried	For	5	Against 0

20 OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

21 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at 2.03pm

Minutes of the Meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 May 2023

Signed..... Presiding Officer