



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 **24 April 2024**, commencing at 12.00 noon.

Ancient land under brilliant skies

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.00noon

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor
Cr A Whitmarsh
Cr E Foulkes-Taylor
Cr Q Fowler
Cr M Fowler
Cr G Mead

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO
Lisa Keen – Executive Manager/DCEO
Bec Fogarty – Community Officer

Apologies

William Herold – Works Manager
Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 28 March 2024

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 28 March 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr M Fowler

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 28 March 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

For 6

Against 0

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Item 18.1 Cr A Whitmarsh potential impartiality Interest (later recorded as potential interest)
Item 21.1 Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor potential financial Interest
Item 21.2 B Boehm CEO potential financial Interest as indicated within the Agenda

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 A Whitmarsh

Seconded: Cr G Mead

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	6	Against	0
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7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

8 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 23 May 2024

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

10 URGENT BUSINESS

10.1 Special Events Fees & Charges

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That Council consider the matter of Special Events Fees & Charges as Urgent Business

Carried	For	6	Against	0
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11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

- 17.1.1 Account Listings Paid since the last list was presented to Council.
- 21.1 Murchison Swimming Pool & Splash Pad Design and Construct Project Tender
- 21.2 CEO Review

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

WALGA Country Zone Meeting

On 19 April 2024, along with Cr E Foulkes-Taylor, I attended the WALGA Country Zone Meeting at Cue.

14.2 Councillors

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

WALGA Country Zone Meeting

On Friday 19 April 2024, along with Cr R Foulkes-Taylor I attended the WALGA Country Zone Meeting at Cue. Few points to note.

- ~ Positive and inventive meeting, with really good energy from participants and attendees.
- ~ Good representation of opposition politicians.
- ~ Agenda and issues raised common to us and the region.
- ~ As a guide to future decision making the meeting adopted a Policy and Advocacy Policy Framework that the State Council uses to determine the priority of a particular policy or advocacy issue.

Camp Oven Muster Festival Working Group

On Monday 22 April 2024 chaired and attended Camp Oven Muster Festival Working Group Meeting via Teams

15 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16 WORKS

16.1 Works Report

File: 12.42
Author: William Herold – Works Manager
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 20 April 2024
Attachments: Nil

Construction Crew

The Construction Crew have spent the last month involved in the cement stabilizing and sealing from SLK 218.20 to SLK 226.57 on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd. Three new floodways have been installed and the road level improved to allow for improved water flow. The road crown has also been decreased to a more acceptable 1.5 %. On April 24, WA Stabilising will return from their RDO to complete the last 3.5 Km working in a northerly direction back to SLK 212.30. Bitutek will then return on May 8 to complete the final sealing and re-seal work which should only take four or five days. This will leave some trimming and other tidy up work for the crew which I anticipate will take 3 to four weeks, bearing in mind that the crew currently consists of 3. All in all I am very happy with the result so far. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the crew for being prepared to work through the Easter break, thus ensuring we kept the operation going. It has been a team effort with various other staff chipping in when required regardless of public holidays or RDO's.

Maintenance Crew

Due to the Construction crew being a little short on numbers I pulled the Maintenance Crew in to assist. They have returned to maintenance on the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. approximately 15 Km north of the Boolardy Nookawarra boundary heading north on April 20.

New Staff

We welcome the Fogarty family to the community, Adam takes over the gardener role which has been vacant for some months, Bec and Sydney slot in to the main office. I would also like to thank Mike and Lisa for stepping up and seeing that the parks and gardens have been getting water and keeping the Settlement in a presentable condition.

Roadhouse

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will unfortunately be saying goodbye to Warren and Olive. I would like to thank them for their positive contribution to the community in the time they have been here and wish them well in whatever future endeavors they may eventually take on. My thanks to Joop and Julia for putting their planned trip on hold to stay and run the roadhouse in the interim.

New Water Supply

The new standalone generator has arrived, and I am waiting for confirmation from MGP with regard to a date to recommence work. Thanks, Henry, for your patience.

AGRN1021 – Flood 10

The CEO verbally advised at the meeting that we have received the formal letter of approval of the cost estimate of \$2,604,383 for AGRN1021 – Flood 10 for restoration works associated with flooding in the Midwest and Gascoyne Regions (26 March - 3 April 2022). As AGRN1021 occurred in the 2021/22 financial year the local government contribution to be made by the Shire for the works completed under this cost estimate is \$187,000. Invoice for Asset Repair Working Capital (ARWC) and some claims have been submitted.

Recommendation

That Council resolve that the Works Report be noted.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr M Fowler

That Council resolve that the Works Report be noted.

Carried

For 6

Against 0

17 FINANCE

17.1 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: 20 April 2024
Attachments: 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2024 (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 2024 be discussed behind closed doors
- 2 That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2024 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

1 Item to be Discussed behind closed doors

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

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 2024 be discussed behind closed doors

Carried

For

6

Against

0

The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at 12.11pm

3 Motion to open the meeting to the public

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor **Seconded: Cr** G Mead

That the meeting move out from behind closed doors

Carried **For** 6 **Against** 0

The meeting was moved out of closed doors at 12.12pm

2 Decisions Disclosed from the Closed Section of Meeting associated with Attachment Item 17.1.1

Council Decision

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh **Seconded: Cr** Q Fowler

That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2024 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** 6 **Against** 0

17.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 March 2024

File: 2.6
Author: Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 20 April 2024
Attachments: 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report March 2024

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 2024 as attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Q Fowler

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 March 2024 as attached.

Carried	For	6	Against	0
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Cr A Whitmarsh declared a potential Financial Interest in relation to Item 18.1 and left the room at 12.18pm

18 DEVELOPMENT

18.1 Murchison Polocrosse Event

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 20 April 2024

Attachments: 18.1.1 Polocrosse Event Briefing 28 March 2024
18.1.2 Murchison Polocrosse Email 23.04.24

Matter for Consideration

Council considered the matter of the hiring of Council Facilities for the 2024 Murchison Polocrosse Event

Background

At the March 2024 Meeting the matter of hiring of Council for the 2024 Murchison Polocrosse Event was raised and considered as an item of Urgent Business. At this meeting a background briefing, as attached, was provided to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Councillors discussed the local history of the event noting that amongst other things over time has seen a decline in the strength on the local membership of the Murchison Polocrosse Club which used to assist in preparation of the fields and facilities and provision of waste management, firewood and other incidentals with more expense now covered by the Shires' workforce. There was strong support for the event but also a view expressed that fees should be charged for use of the facilities. Last year a donation of \$1,000 was received which is close to what would have been charged if Council's scheduled hire fees had been applied. It was thought that normal fees and booking arrangements for caravan park use on powered and unpowered sites should apply with some fees charged for campsites outside of these areas.

The following Motion was moved and carried by a 3-1 Majority.

That Council request a donation of \$1,000 from the Murchison Polocrosse Event Club for use of the Council facilities for the 2024 Murchison Polocrosse Event and advise the Club that normal Council Booking requirements and Fees and charges will apply for the use of powered and unpowered sites and that from the Tuesday prior to and after the event, a fee of \$10 per adult will apply for camping outside of these areas.

Following this motion, it was then noted in the minutes of the meeting that an absolute majority of 4 was required for any amendment to fees and charges, meaning that the requested donation of \$1,000 and fee of \$10 per adult to apply for camping outside of powered and unpowered sites within the caravan park cannot be applied unless a motion with revised charges is carried with an absolute majority at a subsequent Council Meeting.

Update

After this meeting the Murchison Polocrosse were advised that Council is pleased the event is proceeding and notes the positive nature of the event which has been run successfully over many years. Permission for to serve liquor on various dates and times was granted subject to any requirements for use of the bar facilities by the Sports Club and that liquor being served and the alcohol consumption being managed in accordance with a liquor licence being issued, and that any conditions that accompany such licence being followed.

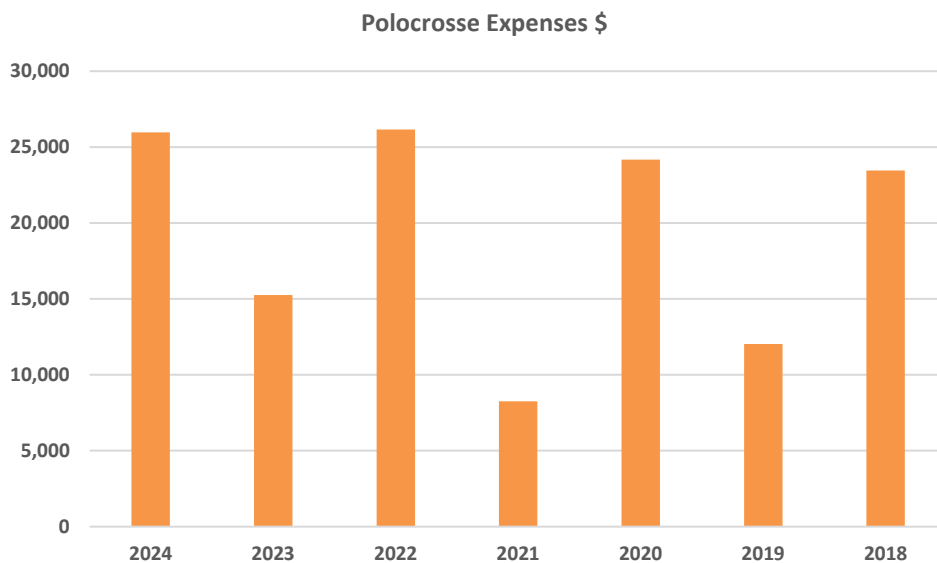
In addition, the Club was also advised that

- ~ Council has undertaken a preliminary view of the event and remains in strong support, notwithstanding that amongst other things it incurs significant expenses in the order of \$25,000 pa. As a result, it is in the process of reviewing the fees and charges for the event and camping arrangements outside of the formal caravan par area. Although no decision has been made with respect to any new fees and charges that may apply it is certain that patrons need to book sites within the caravan park for the grass areas on a first come first serve basis so please advise potential visitors.

~ The matter of a review the fees and charges for the event and camping arrangements outside of the formal caravan par area will be discussed at the April Council Meeting

Since this time, I have become aware that the Polocrosse “may” be concerned about Council support for the event, despite this never being in question and have expressed a view to understand the actual costs involved. Historical expenses and those for this financial year thus far of \$25,964 are shown as follows.

Year	Cost	2024 Costs	
2024	25,964	Labour	\$17,133
2023	15,262	Plant	\$5,935.
2022	26,148	Building Mtce	\$522
2021	8,246	Insurance	\$1,482
2020	24,181	Other	\$892
2019	12,020		
2018	23,453		



Comment

The Murchison Polocrosse event has a strong local history, and it is fair to say that from the Shire’s viewpoint it has operated more or less on the way it has historically operated, notwithstanding a decline in the strength on the local membership of the Murchison Polocrosse Club and support actions by the club.

Whilst any major long term change has not thus far been contemplated it would seem appropriate at some stage to review the event, and gain understanding of the needs of the Polocrosse Club, its members and patrons, and how local the Murchison Community Members and organisations such as the Sports Club and MAC may benefit and what tourism potential there is moving forward.

Review of above expenses, which do not include any capital expense including asset replacement may assist but in reality the main issue seems one of equity and benefit.

However, if Council is of this view that a review is required, from a pragmatic viewpoint, it is really not possible to address this issue now. The recommendation below recognises this and focuses mainly on the fees and charges aspect as per the motion moved and carried without an absolute majority at the last meeting.

18.2 Murchison Community Development

File: 2.6
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 20 April 2024
Attachments: 18.2.1 Murchison Strategy Mind Map

Matter for Consideration

Brief overview of the current evolutionary approach to the development of the Murchison community

Overview

As indicated in the Strategic Implications section below there are a large number of objectives and strategies associated with Council's current Community Plan. Many actions are also contained within Council's Corporate Plan.

These intertwine as per the attached Murchison Strategy Mind Map which illustrates this interconnection. The overall outcome involves a multifaceted approach involving councillors, community and staff working together with Council's new Community Officer as an important resource with an important role to play.

Strategic Implications

Murchison Shire Council Community Strategic Plan

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

Economic Objective 1 *To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.*

Strategies

Interpretive Centre *Development of an Interpretative Centre was identified within the Tourism Development Strategies of the 2013 Strategic Community Plan.*

Tourism Development *To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.*

Economic Development *Retain existing industries and encourage the establishment of new industries to broaden the region's economic base through the provision of residential and industrial land / buildings in Murchison*

Environmental Objective 2 *To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.*

Social Objective 3 *To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:*

Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required.

Supporting community groups.

Providing information on services (funding opportunities, Grant processes etc.).

Supporting and maintaining social infrastructure (i.e. Parks, Gardens, Cemetery) and support those groups who use them.

Strategies

Health Services *Explore strategies to improve the delivery of health services to residents of the Shire.*

Support for Community Groups *Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.*

Refurbishment of Community Centre *The Community Centre is a key building within the Murchison Settlement. The Centre was built in the 1980's and has maintained since this time, however is due to refurbishment.*

Explore Education Opportunities *Explore potential opportunities to improve access to existing education services for residents within the Shire.*

Civic Leadership Objective 4	<p><i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Regional collaboration where possible.</i> <i>Detailed and professional administration.</i> <i>High levels of accountability.</i> <i>High-quality forward planning, particularly for assets and finances</i> <i>Compliance with statutory requirements</i> <i>Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation;</i> <i>Provision of quality customer services, good financial management and pursuit of excellence in professional administration and communication.</i>
Strategies	
Communication Strategies and more involvement with Pia Wadjari	<i>Increase communication between the Council and all sectors of the Community (both ways).</i>
Strategic Planning	<i>Ongoing reviews of the Community Strategic Plan.</i>

For Information

19 ADMINISTRATION

19.1 Local Government Reform Standardised Meeting Procedures

File: 14.19.6
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 20 April 2024
Attachments: 19.1.1 WALGA Standardised Meetings Discussion Paper - March 2024 - Comments

Matter for Consideration:

Council submission to WALGA and DLGSC regarding the State Government's proposed reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* in relation to Local Government Meeting Procedures

Background

At the March Council Meeting Council viewed a report and draft Discussion Paper prepared by DLGSC as adapted by WALGA which included comments by the Chief Executive Officer as per the following resolution.

That Council.

- 1 *Note the Chief Executive Officer's Local Government Reform Standardised Meeting Procedures Report*
- 2 *Review the CEO's comments included as part of WALGA's Standardised Meetings Discussion Paper - March 2024 and finalise its position.*
- 3 *Provide the finalised submission to WALGA and the State Government within the required deadlines.*
- 4 *Councilors to provide comments to the Chief Executive Officer by 14 April 2024*

As indicated WALGA would greatly appreciate receiving our formal response by close of business Monday 29 April 2024. This is a different timeframe to the Department's Consultation Paper closing date of 29 May 2024; however, it is necessary to facilitate development of a consolidated advocacy position that reflects the aggregated views of the sector on standardised meeting procedures.

Comment

Since this time responses have been received from various elected members acknowledging and supporting the CEO's comments as well as additional points being raised. These additional comments are included in the attached Final Draft submission. CEO's Comments are in **Red** with those added since the initial draft highlighted **Red in yellow**, Cr Foulkes-Taylor in **Green**, Cr E Foulkes-Taylor in **Blue** and Cr G Mead in **Purple**.

Subject to any other additions being made at the meeting the attached submission can be adopted.

Recommendation

That Council finalise its submission in relation to Local Government Reform Standardised Meeting Procedures as attached and submit this to WALGA and the State Government within the required deadlines. .

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh **Seconded: Cr** G Mead

That Council finalise its submission in relation to Local Government Reform Standardised Meeting Procedures as attached and submit this to WALGA and the State Government within the required deadlines.

Carried **For** 6 **Against** 0

19.2 Commonwealth Local Government Sustainability Inquiry

File: 14.19.6
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 22 March 2024
Attachments: 19.2.1 Murchison House of Reps Local Gov Sustainability Inquiry Brief Submission

Matter for Consideration

Council decision as whether to put in a submission to the Commonwealth's House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport inquiry examining local government sustainability.

Background

At the March Council Meeting Council was advised that Commonwealth's House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport has announced a new inquiry examining local government sustainability. A copy of details of the Inquiry including Terms of Reference and Committee Membership was then provided. Broadly speaking the Committee is has prioritised gaining a deeper understanding of local government financial sustainability and funding frameworks and the challenges faced by local government in servicing infrastructure requirements across Australia's regional rural and remote locations.

At the Meeting it was resolved that *"Councillors provide comments to the Chief Executive Officer on the Commonwealth's House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport local government sustainability inquiry for inclusion in an agenda item at the next meeting."*

Update

As per the Council resolution following receipt of comments from Cr R Foulkes Taylor, a brief submission was sent to all councillors for further comment and review. Advice provided indicated that the draft submission was not long with Cr R Foulkes-Taylor's comments shown in **Green** text. Paragraphs No's were also provided for referencing. Thus far I have received generally positive comments from elected members with Cr E Foulkes-Taylor's comment to come .

A copy of this draft submission incorporating a few additional comments in **Red** is attached.

It is important to note that I expect other larger local governments with more resources and WALGA itself will likely provide a more comprehensive submission, but as previously advised a "local" touch is perhaps more important. Cr R Foulkes-Taylor's comments hit this mark and have been expanded upon.

In addition, it has also been suggested that the Commonwealth is in a more strategic position to facilitate an improved local government sector and has the power, if it so choses to facilitate change, which in reality is really the underpinning rational for the Inquiry.

Since this time WALGA have written and encourage all local governments to put in a submission. They have also sought an extension in the closing time which has now been extended from 3 May 2024 to 31 May 2024, meaning that Cr E Foulkes-Taylor's comments, which have been foreshadowed and others can be included with the final submission.

Recommendation

That Council endorse “in principle” the Murchison House of Representatives Standing Committee Local Gov Sustainability Inquiry Brief Submission as attached authorise the Chief Executive Officer to submit it on Council’s behalf with any suggestions and amendments that arise up to 23 May 2024.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision			
Moved: Cr	E Foulkes-Taylor	Seconded: Cr	G Mead
That Council endorse “in principle” the Murchison House of Representatives Standing Committee Local Gov Sustainability Inquiry Brief Submission as attached authorise the Chief Executive Officer to submit it on Council’s behalf with any suggestions and amendments that arise up to 23 May 2024.			
Carried	For	6	Against 0

Note Cr A Whitmarsh originally declared an impartiality interest in relation to this Item, but prior to discussion on this matter, and a vote being taken, this was changed to a Financial Interest with Cr A Whitmarsh leaving the room at 12.50pm.

19.3 CSIRO Road Reserve Closure Request Update

File:	4.40
Author:	Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	20 April 2024
Attachments:	19.3.1 CSIRO Road Reserve Closure Request Update 19.3.2 Road Closure Request Advertising

Matter for Consideration

Update of CSIRO's a request for Council to undertake formal road closures for various road reserves within the Boolardy Station with the intent to amalgamate these areas within the adjoining lease.

Background

At the April 2020 Council Meeting this request was considered by Council and declined. At the time amongst other things the rationale and explanation for the request was not made clear and there was some conjecture whether the request included the closure of Manfred Road.

At the June 2021 Council Meeting following further advice being provided by CSIRO Council resolved that
"CSIRO be advised that Council to has reconsidered their request to take formal road closures for various road reserves within the Boolardy Station with the intent to amalgamate these areas within the adjoining lease as attached, and in light of updated information resolves to agree to the request subject to CSIRO agreeing to meet all financial expenses involved and accepting any legal liability that may arise."

Update

For the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage to further consider the closure of the roads under section 58 of *Land Administration Act 1997* there are a set of legislative requirements that must be met by the Shire before they make a formal submission to the Department to close the roads. The formal submission must include:

- 1 Sketch Map of the Proposed Road Closures (the attached would sufficient if nothing has changed).
- 2 Advertisement for the Proposed Road Closures published in newspaper circulating in the Shire.
 - ~ A copy of the advertisement must be provided to the Department
- 3 Further details of the Shire's public consultation including any submissions (if any) received as part of the Shire's consultation process.
 - ~ This includes but may not be limited to any responses to the advertisement.
- 4 Council Resolution formally resolving to request for the Minister for Lands to close the Road.
 - ~ The date of the Council Resolution must be at least 35 days after the proposed road closure is advertised.

As indicated in the attachment the matter has been formally advertised with no objections having been received. Accordingly, Council can now formally resolve to Close these roads and thereby action meet CSIRO's request.

Legislative

Land Administration Act 1997

58. Closing roads

- (1) *When a local government wishes a road in its district to be closed permanently, the local government may, subject to subsection (3), request the Minister to close the road.*
- (2) *When a local government resolves to make a request under subsection (1), the local government must in accordance with the regulations prepare and deliver the request to the Minister.*
- (3) *A local government must not resolve to make a request under subsection (1) until a period of 35 days has elapsed from the publication in a newspaper circulating in its district of notice of motion for that resolution, and the local government has considered any objections made to it within that period. concerning the proposals set out in that notice.*
- (4) *On receiving a request delivered to him or her under subsection (2), the Minister may, if he or she is satisfied that the relevant local government has complied with the requirements of subsections (2) and (3) —*
 - (a) *by order grant the request; or*
 - (b) *direct the relevant local government to reconsider the request, having regard to such matters as he or she thinks fit to mention in that direction; or*
 - (c) *refuse the request.*
- (5) *If the Minister grants a request under subsection (4) —*
 - (a) *the road concerned is closed on and from the day on which the relevant order is registered; and*
 - (b) *any rights suspended under section 55(3)(a) cease to be so suspended.*
- (6) *When a road is closed under this section, the land comprising the former road —*
 - (a) *becomes unallocated Crown land; or*
 - (b) *if a lease continues to subsist in that land by virtue of section 57(2), remains Crown land.*

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995.

Sustainability Implications

Environmental	There are no known significant environmental considerations.
Economic	There are no known significant economic considerations.
Social	There are no known significant social considerations.

Strategic Implications

Murchison Shire Council Community Strategic Plan

Economic Objective 1:

To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.

Strategies to Achieve Economic Outcomes

Maintenance and Upgrade of Road Network

To develop, maintain and improve an efficient road system to support the transport requirements associated with the pastoral and mining industries and tourism.

Negotiate Communication Concerns with CSIRO

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Recommendation

That pursuant to s58 of *Land Administration Act 1997* Council, having advertised its intention to close various road reserves within the Boolardy Station and not receiving any objections, resolves to request the Minister to permanently close various road reserves as attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr M Fowler

That pursuant to s58 of *Land Administration Act 1997* Council, having advertised its intention to close various road reserves within the Boolardy Station and not receiving any objections, resolves to request the Minister to permanently close various road reserves as attached.

Carried

For 5

Against 0

Cr A Whitmarsh returned to the room at 12.53pm.

19.4 2024-25 Declared Pest Rates Submission

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 20 April 2024

Attachments: 19.4.1 Public Notice Proposed Declared Pest Rates 2023-24

Matter for Consideration

Potential submission regarding the proposed Declared Pest Rates under the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act.

Update

Submissions are invited on the proposed Declared Pest Rates for the financial year commencing on 1 July 2024 which are to be determined under section 130 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*.

The Honourable Jackie Jarvis, Minister for Agriculture and Food proposes that the rates listed in the Public Notice be determined on land in prescribed Local Government Districts of Western Australia under section 3 of the Declared Pest Account Regulations 2014.

Rates collected are matched by the State dollar for dollar. The combined funds are made available to Recognised Biosecurity Groups (RBG) who provide support to landholders to fulfil their obligations to manage widespread and established declared pests on their land.

Comment

Whilst Council has no direct financial interest, given that it financially supports the Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association, provides other financial support for the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance and operates a Wild Dog Bounty Scheme the Council may have a view on the proposed rates and or approach and wish to make a submission.

Strategic Implications

Murchison Shire Council Community Strategic Plan

Vision Statement	<i>Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.</i>
Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Strategies	
Small Scale Support for Vermin Control	<i>The Pastoral industry is a key industry within the Shire. Vermin issues, in particular wild dogs, have the ability to impact on the ongoing viability of the Pastoral industry within the Shire. The Shire supports a range of measures in relation to vermin control.</i>
Economic Development	<i>Retain existing industries and encourage the establishment of new industries to broaden the region's economic base through the provision of residential and industrial land / buildings in Murchison</i>
Environmental Objective 2	<i>To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.</i>

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Recommendation

For Council to decide

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Note Council decided to not put in a submission with no motion being required

20 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 20 April 2024

Attachments: Nil

General

As indicated in the Works Report, Bec Fogarty (Community Officer), Sydney Fogarty (Finance Officer) and Adam Fogarty (Parks and Gardens) have now commenced work and been welcomed. Roadhouse Managers Warren Tomlinson and Olive Martina have due to unforeseen circumstances have resigned and will be missed. However, we have been able to source new replacements who are expected to start in May. The table below provides an update of activities undertaken since the last report.

Date	Activity
26.03.2024	General Administration
27.03.2024	Attend CSIRO Parliamentary Friends of Technology and Innovation Visit at Boolardy. Touch base with Works Manager. Rates Follow up work
28.03.2024	Attend and assist in overnight Medical Evacuation Flight. Attend Council and Electors Meeting TOIL
29.03.2024	Attend CSIRO Parliamentary Friends of Technology and Innovation Visit at Boolardy. Touch base with Works Manager. Rates follow up work
1.04.2024	Easter Monday Public Holiday
2.04.2024	Car Service at Melville. Touch base with Shire President. TOIL
3.04.2024	Car Service at Melville. Council Minutes & follow up actions. TOIL
4.04.2024	Council Minutes & follow up actions. TOIL
5.04.2024	Annual Leave. Emails, telephone discussion with Adam Murszewski MWDC
7.04.2024	Council Meeting Minutes & follow up actions
8.04.2024	Meeting with Executive Manager DCEO. Roadhouse Managers Interview with Executive Manager DCEO. Audit Work. MRWA and SKA Roads expenses review and claims
9.04.2024	Audit & Rates Work. Start House of Reps Inquiry Submission. General Administration & Email follow up. Polocrosse Liquor Advice
10.04.2024	General Administration. Touch base with new members of staff
11.04.2024	General Administration. Rates follow up
12.04.2024	General Administration. Rates & SKA Route follow up. House of Reps Standing Committee Submission. Telephone briefing with Shire President
13.04.2024	General Administration. Rates follow up. House of Reps Standing Committee Submission. Catch up with Executive Manager DCEO
14.04.2024	House of Reps Standing Committee Submission.
15.04.2024	New staff Community Officer initial briefing. Swimming Pool Splash Pad Tender work. Rates Work
16.04.2024	Catch up with Works Manager. Briefing with Community Officer. Agenda Work. Separate Telephone discussions with Shire President & Cr E Foukes-Taylor. Telephone conversation with Lyn Fogg (WALGA)
17.04.2024	Agenda Work. Audit Work. Catch up briefing with Community Officer
18.04.2024	Agenda Work. Briefing with Works Manager
19.04.2024	Attend WALGA Country Zone Meeting at Cue
20.04.2024	Catch up with Executive Manager DCEO. Agenda Work
21.04.2024	Agenda 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 6

Against 0

10 URGENT BUSINESS Continued

10.1 Special Events Fees & Charges

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 24 April 2024

Attachments: Nil

Matter for Consideration

Council considered the matter of introduction of a Fees and Charges for Special Events, that are organised by the Shire, as Urgent Business

Background

At the meeting of the Camp Oven Muster Festival Working Group on 19 April 2024, it was agreed that as part the Festival a range of new fees would be required and that these need to be determined now as a part of the Festival advertising well prior to the planned day of the event which is scheduled for 3-4 August 2024. Owing to the nature of the event some flexibility is required as there will be likely a range of circumstances that will apply.

Comment

As a Council Working Group fees and charges cannot be set by the Group with a Council decision required. Given that the Shire, may from time to time run other events, it is thought prudent that, rather than an event-by-event charge being adopted, that a Special Events Fee be adopted for Shire run events that can then be applied to any future event.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the following Special Events Fees and Charges for general admission to all Shire run Special Events, with the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to apply different limits according to the circumstances that are applicable of each Special Event.

Adult	\$0 to \$150
Youth (5-14)	\$0 to \$100
Child (up to 5yrs)	\$0 to \$50

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

Note in discussion of the matter it was decided to increase the Adult Fee to cater for events that may warrant a higher fee.

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That Council adopt the following Special Events Fees and Charges for general admission to all Shire run Special Events, with the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to apply different limits according to the circumstances that are applicable of each Special Event.

Adult	\$0 to \$500
Youth (5-14)	\$0 to \$100
Child (up to 5yrs)	\$0 to \$50

Carried

For

6

Against

0

21 OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Other Items to be Discussed behind closed doors

- 21.1 Murchison Swimming Pool & Splash Pad Design and Construct Project Tender
- 21.2 CEO Review

Recommendation

That that pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b)(c)(d) & (e) of the *Local Government Act 1995* that the following matters be discussed behind closed doors

- 21.1 Murchison Swimming Pool & Splash Pad Design and Construct Project Tender
- 21.2 CEO Review

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That that pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b)(c)(d) & (e) of the *Local Government Act 1995* that the following matters be discussed behind closed doors

- 21.1 Murchison Swimming Pool & Splash Pad Design and Construct Project Tender
- 21.2 CEO Review

Carried	For	6	Against	0
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The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at 1.41pm

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor declared a Financial Interest in relation to Item 21.1 and left the room at 1.41pm

Deputy President Cr A Whitmarsh assumed the Chair for Item 21.1

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor re-entered the room at 1.45pm after consideration of Item 21.1

Staff Member Lisa Keen (Executive Manager DCEO) left the room at 1.45pm

Shire President resumed the chair for Item 21.2.

Motion to open the meeting to the public

Recommendation

That the meeting come from behind closed doors

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That the meeting come from behind closed doors

Carried	For	6	Against	0
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The meeting was moved out of closed doors at 2.03pm

Decisions Disclosed from the Closed Section of Meeting

21.1 Murchison Swimming Pool & Splash Pad Design and Construct Project Tender

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Q Fowler

Seconded: Cr S Fowler

That Council resolves that in relation to RFT 2 - 2023-24 – Murchison Swimming Pool & Splash Pad Design and Construct Project, that Council accepts the tender submission from Water Features by Design, that they become the preferred tenderer, and that the Shire enter into negotiations to incorporate their submission into the final design and contract.

Carried

For 4

Against 0

21.2 CEO Review

Council Decision

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh

Seconded: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

That Council adopts the CEO Review Report and resolves to extend the CEO's current contract and terms of employment for a further year, and that in consideration of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the past two years, agrees to increase the cash component of the Total Reward Package and Regional Isolation Allowance by an amount of 6.75%.

Carried

For 6

Against 0

22 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at 2.04pm

Minutes of the Meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 23 May 2024

Signed.....

Presiding Officer