



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 Thursday **25 July 2024**, commencing at 12.00 noon.

Ancient land under brilliant skies

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

With the Shire President unable to attend in person attending the Meeting remote via Teams, the Deputy Shire President was requested to chair and act as Presiding Officer for the meeting.

The Deputy Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.03pm

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Councillors

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

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO
William Herold – Works Manager
Lisa Keen – Executive Manager/DCEO
Travis Bate – Financial Accountant RSM
Bec Fogarty – Community Officer

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 27 June 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 27 June 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr M Fowler

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 27 June 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

For

6

Against

0

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

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 Q Fowler

Seconded: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

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 22 August 2024

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

10 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

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

21.1.1 Treatment of Bad Debts

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

The Shire President advised that had had been working on a number of WALGA Murchison Country Zone matters that were relevant to Murchison Shire with Cr Les Price from the Shire of Cue.

14.2 Councillors

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Mid-West Development Commission

On 11-12 July attended Mid-West Development Commission Workshop. Focus on significant trucking issues on the Mt Magnet-Geraldton Road and Northern Highway in and around Mt Magnet. Overall approach to lobby State Government includes a renewed focus on the issue, in part by working through the next meeting of the WALGA Murchison Country Zone.

Murchison GeoRegion

On 28 July 2024 attended via zoom a meeting of the Murchison GeoRegion.

Camp Oven Muster Festival

During the month attended meetings of the Camp Oven Festival Working Group including at Wooleen Station with follow up walk through within the Settlement and remote via Teams

15 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16 WORKS

16.1 Works Report

File: 12.42
Author: Wilam Herold – Works Manager
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 22 July 2024
Attachments: Nil

Construction

The Construction crew has continued on the next prep for seal section on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd. SLK 203 to 208 which includes 5 floodways measuring approximately 980 m. This section will also be straightened up and slightly re-aligned. Pavement level will also be adjusted to fit in with the Roads for Rehydration policy and principles. The recent rain events have hampered their progress somewhat. They have also had a fortnight off in lieu of the days worked over Easter to complete the recent sealing works.

Maintenance

The Maintenance crew have continued south down the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd. picking up Byro-Woodleigh Rd. Muggon Rd, and should be close to starting Butchers Track by the time Council meets, weather permitting.

Material Stockpiling and Pit Rehab:

Thurkles have been stockpiling material for the Construction crew and contractors on the SKA Route. Rehab works are being done at various pits along the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd. while the dozer is in the vicinity.

SKA Route

In my absence very little construction work has happened on the SKAO route. However, after the recent rain events a considerable amount of new work will be needed to fix some rather significant defects especially on the Boolardy-Wooleen Rd and sections south of the Boolardy homestead on the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. Some maintenance work has resumed now that the roads have dried out a little. My thanks to Lisa for managing the road closures in my absence as well as those who assisted her from time to time. I know that bogged trucks and road damage created a few anxious moments.

I think going forward we will need to come up with a better strategy to monitor potential weather events and road closures on the route in consultation with both SKAO and Ventia.

Water Upgrade Works

This has now reached the stage that the Settlement can be supplied from the new bores but utilizing the old plumbing with the required safeguards. The standby generator would also need to be used to make this work. Hopefully the electricians are not too far away from connecting this to the main power supply.

New Caravan Park Ablution Block

ETA for the arrival of the new ablution block is around 5 August. Excavation and concrete work for the pad will be undertaken by Yuin Contracting prior to delivery. Hosken Electrical will also be arriving to do some preparatory work as well as various other non-related jobs around the Settlement.

Polocrosse

The Polocrosse carnival went off without any serious mishaps and appeared to be enjoyed by all participants. My thanks to Lisa and the Construction crew for the preparation work and the 3 staff members who did duty over the weekend.

Recommendation

That Council resolve that the Works Report be noted.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr M Fowler

Seconded: Cr Q 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: 22 July 2024
Attachments: 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for June 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 June 2024 be discussed behind closed doors
- 2 That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for June 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 E Foulks-Taylor

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 June 2024 be discussed behind closed doors

Carried

For

6

Against

0

The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at 12.28pm

3 Motion to open the meeting to the public

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Q Fowler

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 12.29pm

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

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foukes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for June 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 30 June 2024

File: 2.6
Author: Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 22 July 2024
Attachments: 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report June 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.

The Financial Accountant also advised at the meeting that the end of month June figures as derived from the Synergy Accounting System contained in the report, will not represent the final end of month figures as their will be end of year adjustments to be completed.

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 30 June 2024 as attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foukes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 30 June 2024 as attached.

Carried

For

6

Against

0

Council Comment

It was noted that there had been limited the access to the Murchison Community Fund and that the aspect of the fund's operation should form part of a review by Council as part of a future Agenda Item.

18 DEVELOPMENT

18.1 Community Development Progress Report

File:

Author: Bec Fogarty – Community Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 23 July 2024

Attachments: Nil

Matter for Consideration

Community Development Progress Report July Council Meeting

Background

This report seeks to inform the Shire of the works undertaken in relation to references to the relevant objectives and strategies contained within the Community Strategic Plan, in accordance with the following Vision Statement.

Vision Statement	<i>Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.</i>
Objectives & Strategies	<i>Description</i>

Murchison Camp Oven Muster

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</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>
Social Objective 3	<i>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. Providing information on services (funding opportunities, Grant processes etc.). Supporting community groups.</i>
Civic Leadership Objective 4	<i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: Regional collaboration where possible; Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation;</i>
Communication Strategies and more involvement with Pia Wadjari	<i>Increase communication between the Council and all sectors of the Community (both ways).</i>

Event overview

The purpose of the Murchison Camp Oven Muster is to create a wholesome annual event that embraces community participation, creating connectedness for all Muster goers through authentically Murchison experiences.

Event Progress

The event is on target for delivery on August 3rd and 4th. There has been the addition of a community ticket for \$60 to attend either the Saturday or the Sunday that recognises locals may prefer to either go home or camp elsewhere so the camping portion of the ticket has been removed.

Having Meg in residence as the Museum caretaker has been vital to having the botanic walk ready for visitors. Thank you to Emma for organising this and a big thank you to Meg for giving the botanic walk a refresh.

The Camp Oven Muster has been picked up as an advertorial by ABC Radio, Mid West Times, Have a go News. Tourism partners Australia Golden Outback and Murchison Geo Region

Settlement Tourism

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

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

Having a Museum Caretaker in residence has been a great benefit to Settlement Tourism. We are developing a deeper understand about our visitors and their level of awareness of the museum and other experiences the area has to offer. The visitors that are most interested have a connection to Murchison be it through family, friends or themselves. Having someone knowledgeable about the museum systems has resulted in Meg being able to respond to their requests for photos and maps with such a beautiful shared passion for the area.

Terry and Wendy Bryans are the new Roadhouse Managers. In the short few weeks since their arrival they have increased our tourism footprint by starting the Roadhouse's own Facebook page, taking drone footage, running a great specials out of the roadhouse kitchen and making positive impressions on all of the settlements visitors. Terry and Wendys passion for understanding more about the area is clear, they have been visiting what it has to offer so they can share personal and authentic experiences with the settlement visitors.

A visitor survey has been developed so we can further increase our understanding of our visitors and how we can document this to support reporting against the community strategic plan.

The Murchison Enamel Mugs have arrived and are now for sale at the Roadhouse and will be featured at the Camp Oven Muster too.



Containers for Change Recycling

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Interpretive Centre	<i>Development of an Interpretive Centre was identified within the Tourism Development Strategies of the 2013 Strategic Community Plan.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</i>
Environmental Objective 2	<i>To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.</i>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:</i> <i>Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required.</i> <i>Supporting community groups.</i>
Support for Community Groups	<i>Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.</i>

WARRL have made contact and put us in touch with the Geraldton Depot that would receive our recycling. We will progress logistic discussions with them and our freight provider in regards to backloading the recycling and the return process.

Community Garden

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</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>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:</i> <i>Supporting community groups.</i> <i>Supporting and maintaining social infrastructure (i.e. Parks, Gardens, Cemetery) and support those groups who use them.</i>
Support for Community Groups	<i>Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.</i>

There is a new community grant round open for funding in the community garden into 24/25 through Department of Communities.

After the Camp oven Muster I will be catching up with residents and our local groups and organisations to see if they feel applying for the grant money could propel the community garden forward, with the intention of putting in an application. Up to \$10,000 is available and this year the overall funding amount has been increased from \$100,000 to \$300,000.

2025 Significant Event Opportunity – Box Rally

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</i>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:</i> <i>Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required.</i> <i>Supporting community groups.</i>
Support for Community Groups	<i>Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.</i>
Civic Leadership Objective 4	<i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:</i> <i>Regional collaboration where possible;</i>
Regional Collaboration	<i>Work collaboratively with neighbouring shires, state and federal government and private enterprise to ensure the efficient and effective use of the Shire's scarce resources.</i>

The Box rallies have now opened registrations for the 2025 event and has confirmed Murchison is on the route. Their operations team has made initial contact and as more information comes available it will be shared with the community. The event offers great opportunities from a tourism perspective as the Shire will share their outback hospitality with the fresh faces of excited rally participants and their desire to raise funds for Cancer Council.

2025 Artist Residency Opportunity - Art on the move (AOTM)

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</i>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:</i> <i>Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required.</i> <i>Supporting community groups.</i>
Support for Community Groups	<i>Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.</i>
Civic Leadership Objective 4	<i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:</i> <i>Regional collaboration where possible;</i>
Regional Collaboration	<i>Work collaboratively with neighbouring shires, state and federal government and private enterprise to ensure the efficient and effective use of the Shire's scarce resources.</i>

We are currently waiting to hear from Art On The Move as to the potential collaboration opportunity.

Additional thoughts - this program should it work has potential to be expanded. As the Settlement has no freehold land however the desire to provide passionate people with authentic experiences is consistent we could consider the option of providing 4 week residency's to people with skills that can advance the communities objectives. Potential exists for geologists that could support the Murchison Geo Region, Historians that can support preservation and development of the Museum and closer to home horticulturalists that can support the community garden and preservation and support of the natural environment. There would need to be an application process and a selection panel however should this initiative interest the council a proposal can be put forward.

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 as detailed above for each item.

Recommendation

That Council note the Community Development Progress Report

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Recommendation

That Council note the Community Development Progress Report

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr M Fowler

Seconded: Cr E Foukes-Taylor

That Council note the Community Development Progress Report

Carried

For 6

Against 0

Council Comment

Council expressed thanks to Meg Officer, the most recent community volunteer in the Museum who had made a positive impact on the Museum in her stay, with amongst other things a significant amount of sorting out and tidying up work that had been long overdue.

19 ADMINISTRATION

19.1 WALGA Local Government Convention 2024

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 22 July 2024

Attachments: Nil

Matter for Consideration

Provision for an elected member to accept an invitation to attend the WALGA Local Government Convention 2024.

Comments

As per Council Policy 2.2, a formal motion is required to be put and carried supporting such a request hence this Agenda Item. Details associated with expenses will be covered in the 2024/25 Budget

This item has been prepared to provide a platform for any councillor wishing to attend the conference to formally do so and receive Council consent.

Recommendation

For Council to decide. .

Council Comment

Opportunity for all councillors to attend was provided with Cr G Mead agreeing to accept. Cr R Foulkes-Taylor foreshadowed that he would likely be a potential candidate for next year.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr R Foulkes- Taylor

That Council support the request from Cr Greydon Mead to attend and represent Council at the WALGA Local Government Convention 2024 along with partner Tania Mead as a support.

Carried

For

6

Against

0

20 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

File:
 Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
 Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
 Date: 22 July 2024
 Attachments: Nil

General

The table below provides an update of activities undertaken since the last report.

Date	Activity
25.06.2024	Touch base with Executive Manager DCEO. Attend Midwest Public Health Priority Series - Public Health Planning for Local Government via Teams. Emails. Budget Work.
26.06.2024	Budget Work.
27.06.2024	Attend Audit Committee and Council Meeting. Budget Work. Catch up with Executive Manager DCEO and Community Officer. Council and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes.
28.06.2024	Budget Work. Touch base with Community Officer & Executive Manager DCEO
29.06.2024 to 30.06.2024	Budget Work.
1.07.2024 to 2.07.2024	Budget Work. Touch base with Community Officer & Executive Manager DCEO
3.07.2024	Budget Work. Attend Camp Oven Muster Festival Working Group Site walk through
4.07.2024	Budget Work.
5.07.2024	Budget Work. Catch up with Works Manager
6.07.2024 to 8.07.2024	Budget Asset LTFP Work Emails & General Administration
9.07.2024	Plant Analysis. and Budget Work.
10.07.2024	Plant Analysis. Fuel year-end review and Budget Work.
11.07.2024	Fuel year-end review . Touch base with Financial Accountant RSM. Budget Job and Account reconciliation work.
12.07.2024	Budget Job and Account reconciliation work. Touch base with Executive Manager DCEO. Swimming Splash Pad queries
13.07.2024	Budget Asset LTFP Work
14.07.2024	Budget Work. SKA Expenses reconciliation
15.07.2024	Budget Work. Catch up with Works Manager
16.07.2024	Budget Asset LTFP Work
17.07.2024	Camp Oven Festival Working Group Meeting via Teams. Budget Asset LTFP Work
18.07.2024 to 20.07.2024	Budget Asset LTFP Work
21.07.2024	Budget Asset LTFP Work. Council Agenda Work
22.07.2024	Council Agenda Work

Recommendation

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr M Fowler

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

Carried

For

6

Against

0

21 OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Other Items to be Discussed behind closed doors

21.1 Treatment of Bad Debts

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 Treatment of Bad Debts

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Q Fowler

Seconded: Cr E Foukes-Taylor

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 Treatment of Bad Debts

Carried

For

6

Against

0

The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at 12.42pm

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 M Fowler

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That the meeting come from behind closed doors

Carried

For

6

Against

0

The meeting was moved out of closed doors at 12.49pm

Decisions Disclosed from the Closed Section of Meeting

21.1 Treatment of Bad Debts

Council Decision			
Moved: Cr	G Mead	Seconded: Cr	E Foulkes-Talyor
That Council resolves to write off the debts as outlined in the attachment			
Carried		For	6 Against 0

22 MEETING CLOSURE

The Deputy Shire President closed the meeting at 12.50pm

Minutes of the Meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 22 August 2024	
Signed.....	Presiding Officer