

Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council

To be held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison, on Thursday **28 November 2024**, commencing at 12 Noon.

Ancient land under Brilliant skies

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| 1 | DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS | 3 |
|----|---|----|
| 2 | RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE | 3 |
| 3 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES | 3 |
| | 3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 October 2024 | 3 |
| 4 | DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS | 3 |
| 5 | RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE | 3 |
| 6 | STANDING ORDERS | 4 |
| 7 | PUBLIC QUESTION TIME | 4 |
| 8 | NEXT MEETING | 4 |
| 9 | APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE | 4 |
| 10 | URGENT BUSINESS | 4 |
| 11 | NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS | 4 |
| 12 | ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION | 4 |
| 13 | PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS | 4 |
| 14 | ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED | 5 |
| | 14.1 Shire President | 5 |
| | 14.2 Councillors | 5 |
| 15 | REPORTS OF COMMITTEES | 5 |
| 16 | WORKS | 6 |
| | 16.1 Works Report | 6 |
| 17 | FINANCE | 8 |
| | 17.1 Accounts Paid since the last list was presented to Council | 8 |
| | 17.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 October 2024 | |
| 18 | DEVELOPMENT | 11 |
| | 18.1 Community Development Progress Report | 11 |
| 19 | ADMINISTRATION | 16 |
| | 19.1 Murchison Pool & Splashpad Policy | |
| | 19.2 Murchison Shire Information Statement 2024 | |
| | 19.3 Christmas Settlement Arrangements | |
| 20 | CEO ACTIVITY REPORT | |
| 21 | OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS | |
| 22 | MEETING CLOSURE | 21 |

ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Shire President declared the meeting open at

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

<u>Councillors</u> Cr R Foulkes-Taylor Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Cr G Mead Cr Q Fowler Cr M Fowler <u>Staff</u> Bill Boehm – CEO Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant William Herold – Works Manager Lisa Keen – Senior Executive Manager DCEO Bec Fogarty – Community Officer

Cr A Whitmarsh

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 October 2024

Background

Apologies

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 24 October 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

| Council Decision | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | | |
| | | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against | |
| | | | |

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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 | Seconded: Cr | |
| | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against |
| | | |

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

8 NEXT MEETING

Friday 13 December 2024

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

10 URGENT BUSINESS

11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

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

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Wooleen Station have confirmed that they will formally present a petition in relation to the Shire's Wild Dog Bounty Scheme

Chris Brayton from CSIRO to provide an update.

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

14.2 Councillors

15 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16 WORKS

16.1 Works Report

| File: | 12.42 |
|--------------------|---|
| Author: | William Herold – Works Manager Bill Boehm - Chief Executive Officer ** |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 23 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Construction

The construction crew have moved to the Settlement and commenced preparation for the sealing of Mulga Crescent and the section between the Roadhouse and the new ablution Block. They will continue in the Settlement until we have a date for the cement stabilisation of the floodways north of the Twin Peaks-Wooleen Rd. intersection. Some fine tuning of levels is still required before the stabilizing process commences. The RFQ's are in and are being assessed. This may not be finalised by the time Council meets.

Maintenance

The maintenance crew have moved onto the Beringarra-Pindar Rd and started grading north from the McNabb-Twin Peaks Rd intersection. We are attempting to dovetail with TDK Civils who are working on the fiber optic cable heading up to Boolardy. Once they leapfrog the crew they will then start at the south boundary.

New Ablution Block

By the time Council meets the concrete slab will have been poured, this is the only progress that would have happened since the last report. We are waiting for MI Global to come and complete their works.

Swimming Pool Splashpad

There has been considerable progress as far as the swimming pool splashpad precinct goes. The splash pad is almost complete, the pool needs its final plaster and paint. The pump house container and accessories installation is imminent. Final plumbing should be in place by early December. Electricity connections and pool earthing are an unknown quantity at this stage.

Parks and Gardens

The past month has seen a focus on reticulation and the caravan park lawns over and above the normal day to day chores. We are expecting a horticulturalist/ arborist to look at some of our trees that are not fairing too well and to investigate the possibility that we may have dieback in some areas.

SKA Route Works

Squires Resources have started work on the Boolardy-Kalli Rd. and Beringarra- Pindar Rd. There will be several kms of new sheeting and other upgrade works in this program as well as heavy maintenance works. Walladar will return to SKA Route works once they have completed work for Newhaul post their carting operation from the Woolbung Peak site.

Power

Hosken Electrical should be in the Settlement to install our new distribution board and to tackle various other jobs around the beginning of December. Hopefully we can get through most of them prior to the Christmas shut down. While the new distribution board is being installed the Settlement will be run off 3 or 4 standby generators.

Recent Rain Event

The very welcome recent rain event has certainly put a smile on the faces of us all. As far as the road infrastructure goes, I would say it has been a huge benefit, especially as far as our maintenance program goes. The damage has been virtually nonexistent.

MRWA Regional Road Group 2025-26 Funding Update**

Applications for four reconstruction and widening projects were submitted to Main Roads WA for 2025-26 for reconstruction and widening works on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. Works continue on from this year's program between SLK189.595 to 203.435 north of the Twin Peaks-Wooleen Road Intersection. Projects are funded on a 2:1 basis. Total of \$1.2m funds were applied for.

Along with other Council's, submissions were analysed with ours attracting the highest scores in the region. The Technical Working Group reviewed all submissions, which were later endorsed by the Murchison Sub Group with all projects being funded. One Council did not submit any projects this year due to funding being received from other sources, meaning that there was a surplus of funds. The Technical Working Group endorsed a further call for additional projects with the results to go direct to the Regional Road Group for endorsement. One of these projects includes an additional reconstruction and widening project on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road between SLK 187.325 to 189 505 that we have submitted. At this stage an additional \$289,967 in funding is being recommended to the Regional Road Group which meets on 2 December 2024.

Recommendation

That the Works Report be noted

Voting Requirements Simple Majority

| Council Decision | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | | |
| | | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against | |
| | | | |

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 | 23 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for October 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 October 2024 be discussed behind closed doors
- 2 That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for October 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 | Seconded: Cr | |
| | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against |
| | | |

The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at

3 Motion to open the meeting to the public

| Council Decision | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | | |
| | | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against | |

The meeting was moved out of closed doors at

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

| Council Decision | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | |
| | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against |

17.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 October 2024

| File: | 2.6 |
|--------------------|---|
| Author: | Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 23 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report October 2024 |

Note this Item was held over from the previous meeting

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 October 2024 as attached.

Voting Requirements Simple Majority

| Seconded: Cr | | |
|--------------|---------|--|
| | | |
| For | Against | |
| | | |

18 DEVELOPMENT

18.1 Community Development Progress Report

File:

| Author: | Bec Fogarty – Community Officer |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 25 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Matter for Consideration

Community Development Progress Report November 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 | Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities. |
|-------------------------|--|
| Objectives & Strategies | Description |

Murchison Camp Oven Muster

| 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. |
| 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. |
| | Providing information on services (funding opportunities, Grant processes etc.). |
| | Supporting community groups. |
| Civic Leadership Objective 4 | To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: |
| | Regional collaboration where possible; |
| | Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation; |
| Communication Strategies and more involvement with Pia Wadjari | Increase communication between the Council and all sectors of the Community (both ways). |

The first working Group meeting will be called in January 2025. Behind the scenes work has begun to upgrade our website to support ticketing of the 2025 in response to the 2024 event analysis.

<u>Tourism</u>

Economic Objective 1To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.Tourism DevelopmentTo promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.

We have been working in collaboration with the Murchison Geo-Region in creating a 30minute TV show called Great Aussie Road trips. Shires of Cue, Yalgoo and Mt Magnet all opted in along with us. The 30 minute TV show will be shown internationally on the Outdoor Channel and in Australia through 7plus. This project has been completed and is awaiting release dates.

We have been in discussion with the Tourism and Community Development Officer at the Shire of Upper Gascoyne regarding working together to create better connectivity for travellers to access online information in offline areas. Information provided by Cr Mead from Specialised Solutions for off grid information booths has been further investigated and road sign integration options are being bought together.

Roadhouse Update

Milly and Ben have arrived to support Roadhouse Operations.

The Local Loyalty Scheme has been developed and implementation can be expected to begin before Christmas. Applications to the Scheme will be available online and distributed through email networks as soon as the cards to support purchases have arrived.

Containers for Change Recycling

| Economic Objective 1 | To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area. |
|------------------------------|--|
| 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. |
| 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. |
| Support for Community Groups | Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups. |

Our first load of containers has been backloaded to Containers for Change depot in Geraldton 519 containers were saved from our landfill on behalf of the Shire. The funds from this will be dispersed across the community groups as adopted in the previous council meeting.

There were also individuals using the bag drop location to get their recycling back to the return depot in Geraldton what saved at least another 500 containers from the Murchison landfill.

Additional infrastructure has been sought from Containers for Change to support times when Tourism will be more active.

Thank you to all Shire residents for supporting the recycling program.

Community Garden

| 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. |
| 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 community groups. |
| | Supporting and maintaining social infrastructure (i.e. Parks, Gardens, Cemetery) and support those groups who use them. |
| Support for Community Groups | Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups. |

The Shire was successful in receiving a \$10,000 grant from the Department of Communities to establish an Orchard. The funds have been received and

The Shire has committed to establishing an orchard. The intention is for the orchard to bring together residents of the vast local government area to share knowledge and established agricultural practices. The fruit produced by the orchard will allow residents of the shire to come together to preserve the harvest through homesteading practices that have been occurring on the surrounding 26 pastoral stations of many decades. These would include jams, jellies, chutneys and canning to be shared throughout the community. The orchard will build understanding of where food comes from and how to develop the skills to nurture and preserve these valuable resources. The funds sought through this grant will support the initial purchase of fruit trees, soil conditioner, irrigation materials, mulch, fertilisers and tree boarder rings.

The current tunnel is producing well with roughly 10 - 15kgs of tomato's coming out per week a steady supply of carrots, cucumbers and radishes. Summer crops of melons, corn, beans, pumpkins are all getting off the ground. Vegetable concentrate and mulch deliveries are due shortly and I'd like to thank the teams from Green Life Soil Co and Great Northern Rural for working with us to increase the quality of the soil structure and nutrient density as it is having a direct impact on the quality of produce.

2025 Significant Event Opportunity - Box Rally

| 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. |
| 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. |
| Support for Community Groups | Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups. |
| Civic Leadership Objective 4 | To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: |
| | Regional collaboration where possible; |
| Regional Collaboration | Work collaboratively with neighboring shires, state and federal government and private enterprise to ensure the efficient and effective use of the Shire's scarce resources. |

We are awaiting responses from Box Rallies about the information we have provided to them. We have reached out for Catering quotations to support this event. I would like to encourage community members to let us know if they would like to volunteer for the evening so we can provide some great hospitality that is authentically Murchison.

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

| 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. |
| 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. |
| Support for Community Groups | Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups. |
| Civic Leadership Objective 4 | To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: |
| | Regional collaboration where possible; |
| | Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation; |
| Regional Collaboration | Work collaboratively with neighboring shires, state and federal government and private enterprise to ensure the efficient and effective use of the Shire's scarce resources. |

Unfortunately Art on the Move are not in a position to work with the Shire for a 2025 residency program, however the door remains open for potential future time when they have capacity.

| <u>Communications</u> | |
|--|---|
| Civic Leadership Objective 4 | To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: |
| | Regional collaboration where possible; |
| | Detailed and professional administration; |
| | High levels of accountability; |
| | Compliance with statutory requirements; |
| | High-quality forward planning, particularly for assets and finances; |
| | Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation; |
| | Provision of quality customer services, good financial management and pursuit of excellence in professional administration and communication. |
| Strategies | |
| Communication Strategies and more involvement with Pia Wadjari | Increase communication between the Council and all sectors of the Community (both ways). |

Email Communications

Communications

- ~ 1 Community Message Christmas tree event invitation
- ~ 3 Road Condition Reports
- 1 Murchison Monologue This included integrated feedback options due to the significant change in format.

Social Media Communications

The Shire continues to share developments within the settlement and shire through facebook. This month has been used to present tourism within the shire in a positive light. Sharing the latest drop of photo and video from The Murchison Camp oven Muster held in August.

Mail Communications

None

Website

Regularly updated to reflect operations.

Monologue

The next Monologue will be released on December 6th as this is the second Friday following council meeting.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995.

Sustainability Implications

EnvironmentalThere are no known significant environmental considerations.EconomicThere are no known significant economic considerations.SocialThere 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

| Council Decision | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | |
| | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against |

19 ADMINISTRATION

19.1 Murchison Pool & Splashpad Policy

| File: | 4.40 |
|--------------------|---|
| Author: | Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 23 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | 19.1.1 Policy 5.10 Murchison Pool & Splashpad |

Matter for Consideration

Adoption of a policy to guide operations of Murchison Settlement Pool and Splashpad.

Background

As identified in the adopted the Murchison Settlement Masterplan Report 2021 the construction of a pool and splashpad was always to be undertaken on the basis that the pool was not a public pool per say with supervision not provided but that the splashpad was a community use facility.

In order to achieve this aim a policy outlining the purpose and broad operating arrangements associated with ongoing use needs to be developed to fulfill theses intents.

<u>Comments</u>

The policy as attached has been developed to include as separate elements the purpose and use of both the Swimming Pool and Splashpad. It is intended that for safety and liability reasons the actual operational conditions for users of the pool will be set separately by the Chief Executive Officer.

Strategic Implications

Murchison Shire Council Community Strategic Plan as detailed below.

| Vision Statement | Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities. |
|------------------------------|--|
| Objectives and Strategies | Description |
| Economic Objective 1 | To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area. |
| Strategies | |
| Tourism Development | To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison. |
| 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. |
| | Supporting and maintaining social infrastructure (i.e. Parks, Gardens, Cemetery) and support those groups who use them. |
| Civic Leadership Objective 4 | To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: |
| | Compliance with statutory requirements; |
| | High-quality forward planning, particularly for assets and finances; |
| | Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation; |

<u>Financial Implications</u> Operational costs form part of the current and future budgets

Consultation

Councillors and staff present at the October 2024 Workshop, Bec Fogarty (Community Officer) and Lisa Keen (Executive Manager DCEO)

Recommendation

That Council adopt Policy 5.10 Murchison Pool and Splashpad as attached

Voting Requirements Simple Majority

| Council Decision | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | |
| | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against |
| | | |

19.2 Murchison Shire Information Statement 2024

| File: | 4.72 |
|--------------------|---|
| Author: | Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 23 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | 19.2.1 Murchison Shire Information Statement 2024 |

Matter for Consideration:

Council to consider accepting the Murchison Shire Information Statement 2024

Background

The Freedom of Information Act 1992 (FOI Act) created a general right of access to documents held by state and local government agencies. The FOI Act requires agencies, including local governments, to make available details about the kind of information they hold and enables persons to ensure that personal information held by government agencies about them is accurate, complete, up-to-date and not misleading.

Section 96 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 1992 requires each government agency, including local governments, to prepare and publish annually, an Information Statement that includes the following:

- ~ the Agency's Mission Statement.
- ~ details of legislation administered.
- ~ details of the agency structure
- ~ details of decision-making functions
- opportunities for public participation in the formulation of policy and performance of agency functions.
- ~ documents held by the agency.
- \sim the operation of FOI in the agency.

Comment

It is the aim of the Murchison Shire to make information available promptly, at the least possible cost and wherever possible, documents will be provided outside the Freedom of Information (FOI) process.

Statutory Environment

Freedom of Information Act 1992

Local Government Act 1995 Division 7 Access to Information

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

This is a statutory function.

Policy Implications Nil

Financial Implications Nil Consultation Nil

Recommendation

That Council accepts the Murchison Shire Information Statement 2024 as presented and attached.

Voting Requirements Simple Majority

| Council Decision | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | | |
| | | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against | |
| L | | | |

19.3 Christmas Settlement Arrangements

| File: | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Author: | Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 23 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Matter for Noting

Council to note arrangements within the Murchison Settlement for the annual Christmas period.

Background

In previous years the well-established practice was that the Office was closed for a two-week period with Office staff returning the day after New Years Day. A similar closure period applied to Roadhouse staff. This was well received by staff with minimal impact on the Councils operation.

Comment

This year however we have Office staff available and willing to go on leave a few days later after the last freight run for the year prior to Christmas. As New Years Day falls on a Wednesday it has been agreed that in the Office will reopen on Monday following the first weekend in January. A number of staff will be around the Settlement during the Christmas / New Year period and are available for local emergencies if required.

Summary of arrangements as follows.

Office will be closed over the Christmas / New Year Period from Friday 20 December 2024 reopening on Monday 6 January 2025.

Murchison Oasis Roadhouse and Caravan Park will be closed from 4pm Thursday 24 December 2024 and reopen on Friday 27 December 2024. Normal summer and public holiday hours will otherwise apply. Public toilets will remain open, and fuel will be available with 24-hour access to fuel bowser with card swipe facility.

Last freight run for 2024 will be on Thursday 19 December 2024, with the freight run recommencing in 2025 on Thursday 9 January 2025.

For Information

20 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

| File: | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Author: | Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 24 November 2024 |
| Attachments: | Nil |

<u>General</u>

The following update of activities is provided.

| Date | Activity | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 22.10.2024 | Onsite Meeting with Settlement Crew (Works Manager, Executive Manager DCEO, Community Officer, Roadhouse Managers and Garden Staff) at Caravan Park to view potential redevelopment options | |
| 23.10.2024 | Roadhouse Precinct Redevelopment Work including meetings with Community Officer. Telephone discussions with Dean Crothers DPLH | |
| 24.10.2024 | Council Workshop Meeting & Minutes | |
| 25.10.2024 | Council Minutes & follow up actions. Roadhouse Redevelopment work | |
| 26.10.2024 | Council Minutes & follow up actions. | |
| 28.10.2024 | Council Meeting follow up actions. R2R & LRCIP Work. MRWA Technical Working Group Work. | |
| 29.10.2024 | R2R & LRCIP Work. DPLH Land Tenure . Settlement Projects Work | |
| 30.10.2024 | Settlement Projects Work. | |
| 31.10.2024 | DPLH Land Tenure . Settlement Projects Work. Settlement Works. Meeting with Dept Conservation and Muggon Ranger Program Representative | |
| 1.11.2024 | Travel to Geraldton. MRWA Technical Working Group Meeting. TOIL | |
| 4.11.2024 | TOIL. Emails Meeting with Community Officer and UDLA and their Offices in Fremantle regarding Playground, Roadhouse and Roadhouse Precinct | |
| 5.11.2024 to 6.11.2024 | Attend LGPro Conference in Perth | |
| 7.11.2024 | TOIL. Emails Regional; Road Group Submission | |
| 8.11.2024 | TOIL. Touch base via phone with Works Manager | |
| 11.11.2024 | Separate Meeting Briefings with Works Manager. Executive Manager DCEO and Community Officer. Recruitment Works. WALGA Country Zone Report | |
| 12.11.2024 | Site inspection with Works Manager over drainage in and around the Settlement. Policy Work | |
| 13.11.2024 | Policy Work. Follow up telephone discussions Dept Conservation Representative concerning the Muggon Ranger Program | |
| 14.11.2024 | Policy Administration and Agenda Work | |
| 15.11.2024 | Policy and Administration Work. Attend MRWA Murchison Sub Group Meeting via Teams. Catch up and briefings Executive Manager DCEO. Telephone discission with Lyn Fogg (WALGA). | |
| 16.11.2024 | Touch base with Swimming Pool Splash Pad Contractor on site. Policy Administration and Agenda Work. Catch up briefings with Works Manager | |
| 17.11.2024 to 19.11.2024 | Policy Administration and Agenda Work | |
| 20.11.2024 | Policy Administration and Agenda Work. Catchup with Mark Holdsworth (Regional Development Australia). Attend Teams Meeting for Playground Scope Update with UDLA, Councillor E Foulkes-Taylor, Julia Foulkes-Taylor, Community Officer & Executive Manager DCEO. Touch base with Chris Brayton CSIRO via Phone | |
| 21.11.2024 | Travel to Cue with Community Officer. Attend Regional Community Development Officers and MEG Meeting | |
| 22.11.2024 | Attend WALGA Country Zone Meeting. Travel back from Cue | |
| 23.11.2024 | Agenda Work. Grants Commission Submission | |
| 24.11.2024 | Grants Commission Submission | |
| 25.11.2024 | Finalise Agenda. Grants Commission Submission | |

Recommendation

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

Voting Requirements Simple Majority

| Council Decision | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------|
| Moved: Cr | Seconded: Cr | |
| | | |
| Carried/Lost | For | Against |

21 OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

22 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at.