



Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held in the Wandering Community Centre on Thursday, 12th February 2009.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING & ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.35pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Cr. B E Dowsett, President	South Ward
Cr. K J Price, Deputy President	South Ward
Cr. K J Barge	Town Ward
Cr. C R Hardie	North Ward
Cr. G G Kerr	North East Ward
Cr. J R McNeil	North East Ward
Cr. D F White	North Ward
Mr. G S Powell	CEO
Ms R L Hawkins	DCEO
Mrs J Cornish	Mrs S Cornish
Mr G Parsons	Mr I Turton
Mr B Treasure	Mr J Whitely
Mrs M Whitely	Mrs V Watts
Mr M Watts	Mrs L Wilkins
Mr M Wilkins	Mrs M Gunston
Mr S Gunston	Mr B Whitely
Mr P Monk	Ms D Ebsary

Apologies

Mr B Cornish

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 8th NOVEMBER 2007

The Minutes of the previous Annual Electors Meeting, held 8th November 2007, were tabled.

Moved Mrs M Whitely seconded Cr Kerr

That the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting, held 8th November 2007, be confirmed.

CARRIED

3.2 MATTERS ARISING

3.2.1 ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABILITY

Mrs J Cornish queried how the Annual Electors Meeting was advertised. The President advised it was advertised in accordance with legislative requirements and an advertisement was placed in the Narrogin Observer. Discussion took place in regard to various methods of notification and it was suggested that Minutes and Annual Reports be posted to Ratepayers who have attended the previous Annual Elector's Meeting. It was also suggested that a small flyer be placed in all the mail boxes one month prior to the meeting.

**Moved Mr I Turton seconded Mrs J Cornish
That a copy of the Annual Report and the Minutes of the previous Annual Electors Meeting be sent out to all Ratepayers who attended the previous Annual Electors Meeting one month prior to the meeting**

CARRIED

3.2.2 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Mrs Whitely reminded Council that there had been a previous request for consideration to be given to not having an Annual Electors Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month as this clashes with the Lion's Club meetings.

3.2.3 ROADSIDE SPRAYING/CLEARING

Mr Watts requested that staff in the Administration office be educated on the processes required for Roadside Clearing Permits.

4. ANNUAL REPORT

Cr Dowsett presented the Annual Report for the 2007/08 financial year.

**Moved Mr M Watts seconded Mr I Turton
That the Annual Report, incorporating the President's Report, Chief Executive Officer's Report, Annual Financial Statement and Auditor's Report, be received.**

CARRIED

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 NRMO OFFICER (LANDCARE)

The meeting was advised that interviews have been conducted for the position and the new appointee should commence in early March 2009.

5.2 COUNCIL AMALGAMATIONS

Mrs Whitely suggested there needs to be input by Council and/or Ratepayers on this matter. The President advised that Council will be lobbying politicians but suggested Ratepayers should also do this as the Government may take notice dissatisfaction in its constituency. It was suggested that the focus should be on "broken election promises" and "the WALGA report which was four years in the making". Ratepayers were advised that guidelines for the proposed amalgamation process are as yet unknown and once these are revealed a plan can be developed.

The Chief Executive Officer gave a brief overview of what had taken place in other States.

5.3 SUBDIVISIONS/BUILDING LICENCES

Mr Watts queried the length of time a building licence was valid and was advised it was for a two year period in which the building must be substantially commenced.

5.4 ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS

Mr Turton requested information on how this money will be spent and was advised the matter will be discussed at the next Council meeting on 19 February 2009. The President outlined that issues such as housing and a retail fuel outlet will be discussed. The Chief Executive Officer advised that a decision will be made at this meeting as there were deadlines for spending. Council welcomes all ratepayers to make submissions/requests throughout the year.

Mr Turton requested consideration be given to addressing roadside trees and bushes however the Chief Executive Officer cautioned this approach as any Royalties for Regions money spent on roadworks would reduced the Shire’s grants for roadworks.

Mr Gunston asked if the Shire office extensions would still proceed and was told it would as the facility could be utilised by ratepayers and residents for many years to come even if amalgamations occurred.

Other suggestions for projects included replacement of the sinks in the Community Centre as they were considered too low; playground upgrades at both sites; outside shade shelter for Community Centre.

5.5 REFUSE SITE

Mrs Stephanie Cornish commented on the use of the Refuse Site by other towns and asked if the Council were addressing the issue. The Chief Executive Officer advised that there would be considerable costs to fence and man the site and it was not an option as the Shire was part of a group addressing “Regional Waste Management”. The Refuse Site would finally become a Waste Transfer Station to which rubbish and recyclables could be taken then transferred to a Regional Refuse Site once constructed.

5.6 EMAIL REGISTER

Mr Watts asked if ratepayers could register their email address so the Shire Shorts and any other relevant information could be sent out. The Chief Executive Officer agreed to implement this and suggested all ratepayers contact the Shire Office to register.

5.7 TREE PRUNING

Mr Turton said tree pruning on all Shire roads needs to be addressed as it is causing problems for large farm machinery to negotiate the tree canopies hanging over. He was advised to lodge his request at the Shire Office so the matter can be addressed.

5.8 FIREBREAKS

Mrs J Cornish was alarmed at the state of some of the properties within the Shire and asked if residents had been alerted to the requirements. Mr Monk advised that notices had been issued to all residents failing to comply with regulations. The state of the verges and boundary fences was also questioned however ratepayers were advised the Shire is unable to burn or clear the roadside.

5.9 GEORGE ROAD

Mr Parsons commented on the state of George Road advising there had been a problem out there for over six years. The Chief Executive Officer agreed to meet with representatives on site and Mr Parsons was requested to contact the Shire Office to arrange a suitable date.

5.10 BANNISTER ROAD

Mr Watts asked if Council had considered sealing Bannister Road as it was used considerably now to travel to the Gold Mine. The Chief Executive Officer advised that costs prohibited this occurring however it had been a request during discussions for funds from the Boddington Gold Mine Social Infrastructure project.

6. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all those in attendance, Mrs Carol White from the Wandering the CWA for catering for the Meeting and declared the Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

These Minutes were accepted by the Council at the Ordinary Council meeting on 19th February 2009.

CR B E DOWSETT, Chairman