

# **Shire of Cunderdin**

# **Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting**

Dear Council Member,

The Ordinary Meeting of the Cunderdin Shire Council was held on <u>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020</u> in the Council Chambers, Lundy Avenue, Cunderdin WA, 6407 commencing at 5.00pm

Stuart Hobley

Chief Executive Officer

15 May 2020

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# 1. Declaration of Opening

## The President declared the meeting open at 5.00 pm

#### The Shire of Cunderdin disclaimer was read aloud.

The *Local Government Act 1995* Part 5 Division 2 Section 5.25 and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Regulation 13

"No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Cunderdin for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during this meeting. It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this Meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of Council's decisions, which will be provided within ten working days of this meeting".

Read by Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen

# 2. Record of Attendance, Apologies and Approved Leave of Absence

#### 2.1 Record of attendances

## **Councillors**

Cr DA (Dennis) Whisson Shire President
Cr AE (Alison) Harris Deputy President

Cr TE (Todd) Harris Cr B (Bernie) Daly Cr W (Sam) Stewart Cr A (Tony) Smith Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen Cr J (Jayson) Goldson

#### In Attendance

Stuart Hobley Chief Executive Officer

Lauren Cole Governance and Compliance Officer

Craig Robertson Works and Service Manager

## **Guests of Council**

Nil

# **Members of the Public**

Nil

## 2.2 Apologies

Hayley Byrnes Manager of Corporate Services and Finance

## 2.3 Leave of Absence Previously Granted

Nil

# 3. Public Question Time

Nil

## 4. Petitions, Deputations & Presentations

Nil

#### 5. Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

## 6. Confirmation of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

# 6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16th April 2020

## Resolution 6.1 OCM May 2020

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Cr A (Tony) Smith Seconded: Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

#### Note to this item:

The President will sign the minute declaration on the previous minutes.

# 6.2 Plant & Vehicles Committee Meeting of the Cunderdin Shire Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020

# Resolution 6.1 OCM May 2020

That the Minutes of the Plant & Vehicles Committee Meeting of the Cunderdin Shire Council held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Cr W (Sam) Stewart Seconded: Cr B (Bernie) Daly

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

# 7. Declaration of Members and Officers Interests

Nil

#### 8. Announcements by President without Discussion

Congratulation to the Staff at the Shire of Cunderdin on their work in keeping the community up to date and engaged during the COVID-19. Special mention to the Community Development Officer Mrs Liezl De Beer on her social media Community Connections posts.

Thanks was also given to Cr Jayson Goldson on his role at the Cunderdin CO-OP in making sure the Cunderdin town and community were able to able to have access to everything they require during these difficult times.

## 9 Finance & Administration

# 9.1 Financial Reports for April 2020

**Location:** Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Date: 12 May 2020 Author: Hayley Byrnes

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

File Reference: Nil

Attachment/s: 1 attachment – Monthly Report

## **Proposal/Summary**

The financial reports as at 30 April 2020 are presented for consideration.

# **Background**

The financial reports have been circulated to all Councillors.

## Comment

Nil.

#### Consultation

Nil.

# **Statutory Environment**

The *Local Government Act 1995* Part 6 Division 3 requires that a monthly financial report be presented to Council.

## **Policy Implications**

Nil.

## **Financial Implications**

All financial implications are contained within the reports.

## **Strategic Implications**

Nil.

## Resolution 9.1 OCM May 2020

That Council receives the monthly financial reports for the period ending 30 April 2020.

Moved: Cr J (Jayson) Goldson Seconded: Cr AE (Alison) Harris

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

# 9.2 Accounts Paid – April 2020

**Location:** Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Author:Hayley ByrnesReport Date:12 May 2020

Item Approved By: Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest:

File Reference:

Nil

Attachment/s: 1 attachment – Creditors list of payments April 2020

## **Proposal/Summary**

Council is requested to confirm the payment of Accounts totalling:

Total for Municipal - \$210,768.65 Total for Trust - \$0.00 TOTAL - \$210,768.65

For March 2020 as listed in the Warrant of Payments for the period 1st to 30th April 2020.

# **Background**

Nil.

# **Comment**

Nil.

## Consultation

Nil.

## **Statutory Environment**

In accordance with Financial Management Regulations 12 & 13, a List of all accounts paid or payable shall be presented to Council (Refer Warrant of Payments attached).

Financial Management Regulations 12 & 13.

# **Policy Implications**

Nil.

# **Financial Implications**

All financial implications are contained within the reports.

# **Strategic Implications**

Nil.

# Resolution 9.2 OCM May 2020

1. That Council's payment of accounts amounting to \$210,768.65 being from Municipal Account for April 2020, as follows:

Municipal Account	\$	Total
Electronic Funds Transfer: EFT 4081 – 4144	\$186,084.44	
Direct Debit (Inc Bank Charges): DD1816.1.1-	\$12,222.43	
DD1817.11		
Cheques: 11611-11618	\$12,461.78	
TOTAL		\$210,768.65

be confirmed and noted; and,

2. That the Payments List as presented be incorporated in the Minutes of the Meeting.

Moved: Cr AE (Alison) Harris Seconded: Cr J (Jayson) Goldson

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

# 9.3 Council Investments – As at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Location:** Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Author:Hayley ByrnesReport Date:13 May 2020

**Item Approved By:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest:

File Reference:

Nil

Attachment/s: 1 Attachment- Bank Statements

# **Proposal/Summary**

To inform Council of its investments as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

## **Background**

The authority to invest money held in any Council Fund is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer. Council Funds may be invested in one or more of the following:

- Fixed Deposits;
- Commercial Bills;
- Government bonds; and
- Other Short-term Authorised Investments.

Council funds are to be invested with the following financial institutions:

• Major Banks & Bonds Issued by Government and/ or Government Authorities.

# **Comment**

In addition to the Shire's Municipal Operating Accounts, the below investment accounts are held as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

	CO	UNCIL ACCOUNTS			
Institution	Amount	Investment type/ Account details	Municipal Funds	Reserve Funds	Trust Funds
Westpac Bank	\$256,050.26	Municipal- 0000030	\$256,050.26		
Bendigo Bank	\$611,490.53	Municipal- 155971377	\$611,490.53		
Bendigo Bank	\$990,594.47	Reserves Term Deposit 1.9% Expires : 23/06/2020		\$990,594.47	
Westpac Bank	\$146.78	Business Cash Reserve 22-3647 0.50%	\$146.78		
Bendigo Bank	\$1,098.37	Bendigo Trust Account 164 488 686			\$1,098.37
Westpac Bank	\$1,248.71	Trust Working Account 12-2981			\$1,248.71
Westpac Bank	\$250,000.00	Westpac Term Deposit 1.75% Expires:20/06/2020	\$250,000.00		
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	\$1,243,088.33		\$250,146.78	\$990,594.47	\$2,347.08

In addition to the above Shire funds, the Shire administers the Cunderdin Community Centre Trust Account being Westpac Account 000 073 - \$ 95,720.75 and Bendigo Term Deposit Ref: 3030072 – \$ 448,062.49.

CUNDERDIN COMMUNITY TRUS 30 April 2020	T DETAILS	
Opening Balance as per Bank Statement & Term Deposits	INVESTMENT ACC TERM DEPOSIT	95,719.75 448,062.49
	TOTAL	543,782.24
Credits Debits		0.78 0.00
Closing Balance as Per Bank Statements & Term Deposits	TOTAL	543,783.02
INCOMING  Interest ( Investment account)		0.78
		0.78
OUTGOING		0.00
Balance as at end of month	TOTAL	543,783.02

# **Consultation**

Nil.

# **Statutory Implications**

Financial Management Regulation 19.

# **Policy Implications**

Nil.

# **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications in considering this item.

# **Strategic Implications**

This item related to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, which feeds into the Long Term Financial Plan when determining annual Council Budgets.

# Resolution 9.3 OCM May 2020

That the report on Council investments as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020 be received and noted.

Moved: Cr B (Bernie) Daly Seconded: Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

# Resolution 9.3.1 OCM May 2020

That Item 13.2 – Six Year Draft Roadworks Program be brought forward for discussion.

Moved: J (Jayson) Goldson Seconded: Cr B (Bernie) Daly

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

#### 13.2 Six Year Draft Roadworks Program

**Location:** Shire of Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Chief Executive Officer

Date: 15 May 2020 Author: Stuart Hobley

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil
File Reference: Nil

Attachment/s: 1 Attachment – Six Year Road Works Program

Description

# **Proposal/Summary**

The Shire does not currently have a long term plan for the renewal and upgrade of its road network. This report seeks Councils endorsement of a draft six year road program focusing on renewal and upgrade of the road network and the proposed funding for the program.

# **Background**

The Shire of Cunderdin has an extensive road network that consists of 376km of sealed roads, and 466km of unsealed roads.

The sealed roads range in type from 7-8m seal with 1-2m gravel shoulders, to 3.5m single lane seal. The sealed roads vary in condition from good to poor however the majority of the sealed roads outside the townsites of Cunderdin and Meckering are in need of a reseal.

The unsealed roads within the Shire consist of gravel roads and formed roads. Gravel roads have been sheeted in gravel and are usually all weather roads. Formed roads have not been gravelled and may not be able to be traversed in wet conditions.

The Shire does not currently have a long term plan for the renewal of its road network. This has resulted in an adhoc approach to the upgrade of its road network. A long term plan will provide the opportunity for the Council to match its funding with its plans for the renewal and upgrade of its road network.

#### Comment

The Shire has several funding sources for the renewal and upgrade of its road network:

- Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network (WSFN)
- Regional Road Group (RRG)
- Roads to Recovery(R2R)
- Council Rates

The maintenance of the road network is funded by:

- Direct Grant Main Roads
- Financial Assistance Grants (FAG's) Roads
- Council Rates

# Wheatbelt Secondary Fright Network

The WSFN is a new source of funding from the Federal Government. The Wheatbelt North and South Regional Road Groups lobbied the Federal Government for funds to upgrade significant freight routes in the region and was successful in receiving over \$70M over the next six years. This program will commence in 2020/21.

The aim of the program is to provide a consistent standard of road across identified routes within the Wheatbelt. These routes include lime routes, stock routes and grain routes.

The Shire of Cunderdin has three roads that have been identified for funding under this program:

- Meckering Goomalling Road
- Cunderdin Quairading Road
- Cunderdin Wyalkatchem Road

The Meckering - Goomalling Road and Cunderdin – Quairading Road have been identified for funding in the first phase of the program and project planning has commenced on both of these roads.

The Shire is required to fund 6.6% of the project from its own funds.

# **Regional Road Group**

The Regional Road Group funding is provided by the State Government via Main Roads to Local Government and is based on 20% of the Motor Vehicle Licence Inspection Fees. Cunderdin is a part of the Wheatbelt North RRG and the Kellerberrin Sub Group. The Kellerberrin Sub-Group includes the Shires of Cunderdin, Dowerin, Kellerberrin, Merredin and Tammin.

The Wheatbelt North RRG receives an allocation of funds from Main Roads which is based on the following methodology, 75% Asset Preservation Model and 25% population factor. The Sub Group then receives an allocation based on the same methodology.

The Kellerberrin Subgroup is permitted to determine how it allocates its funding to the Councils and the present model used is as follows: 25% to Merredin and 19% each to the remaining Councils.

To be eligible to be funded under the RRG program a road must be submitted by the individual Council to the Wheatbelt North RRG and the road must meet a select criteria. These criteria include, traffic volume, commodity routes, school bus routes and economic value. These roads are usually local distributor roads.

The roads within the Shire of Cunderdin that are eligible for RRG funding are:

**Baxter Road** 

**Carter Drive** 

Carter Doodenanning Road

**Cubbine Street** 

Cunderdin - Minnivale Road

Cunderdin - Quairading Road

Cunderdin - Wyalkatchem Road

Dowerin - Meckering Road

Goldfields Road

Goomalling - Meckering Road

Loton Street (Meckering)

Moore Road

Olympic Avenue

**Quellington Road** 

Southern Brook Road (part of)

This year the Shire completed works on Cubbine Strett and the Meckering Goomalling Road and next year it has works programed to be completed on Goldfields Road and the Cunderdin Minnivale Road.

RRG funding is allocated on a two thirds Main Roads, one third Shire ratio. In 2019-20 the Shire budgeted to receive approximately \$330,000 from Main Roads which equates to nearly \$500,000 when the shire contributes its third.

It appears that in the recent past the RRG funds have allocated in an adhoc manner, which could be a direct result of the high turnover of senior staff in the past three years.

These funds are most effectively spent when large sections of roads are targeted over a number of years to improve the entire road.

RRG funds are usually spent on reconstructing failing sections of sealed roads or resealing existing sealed roads.

# Roads to Recovery

R2R is funded by the Federal Government and can be spent on any road within the Shire. The Shire of Cunderdin has used these funds to complete gravel resheeting throughout the Shire and to complete reactionary maintenance on sealed roads.

R2R funding does not have to be matched by the Shire, however the Shire must continue to spend a minimum of its own funds on roadworks to receive the R2R funding. The minimum own source funding for the Shire of Cunderdin is \$74,133.

The Shire has been advised that for the funding period 2019-20 to 2023-24 it will receive a total of \$1,648,369 equating to \$329,674 per year.

# Other Funding

The Shire receives Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) from the Federal Government. There are two parts of the FAGs funding, General and Roads. These grants are unconditional and untied and can be spent by the Shire for any purpose. The Shires Roads allocation of the FAG for 2019/20 was \$526,930.

The Direct Grant is received from Main Roads and is untied. The amount of the Direct Grant received in 2019/20 was \$125,739.

# **Previous Years**

The following table indicates the Councils expenditure on roadworks over the past 4 years. Note 2019/20 is an estimate. These figure fluctuate every year based on the priorities of the Council and external events. In 2016/17 flooding forced the Shire to increase its maintenance expenditure to repair damage. The funding to offset this was then received in 2017/18.

Council also received more of its R2R money in 2017/18 and 2018/19 meaning significantly less R2R money was received in 2019/20.

	2019/20*	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Capital Expenditure	\$1,000,000.00	\$885,778.00	\$805,236.00	\$741,804.00
Maintenance	\$600,000.00	\$933,051.00	\$830,612.00	\$1,302,571.00
Total Roadworks	\$1,600,000.00	\$1,818,829.00	\$1,635,848.00	\$2,044,375.00
Funding Received	\$945,648.00	\$1,222,304.00	\$1,322,072.00	\$1,040,267.00
Council	\$654,352.00	\$596,525.00	\$313,776.00	\$1,004,108.00

With the introduction of WSFN funding Council is budgeting to receive the following grants over the next six years. This is a significant increase on previous years funding. The Council funding in this table indicates the minimum that Council must spend to receive the grant funding.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
WSFN	\$1,286,981	\$1,449,568	\$898,508	\$1,356,168	\$1,279,580	\$410,960
Council	\$90,943	\$102,432	\$63,492	\$95,832	\$90,420	\$29,040
	\$1,377,924	\$1,552,000	\$962,000	\$1,452,000	\$1,370,000	\$440,000
RRG	\$330,000	\$330,000	\$330,000	\$340,000	\$340,000	\$340,000
Council	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$170,000	\$170,000	\$170,000
	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$510,000	\$510,000	\$510,000
R2R	\$329,674	\$329,674	\$329,674	\$329,674	\$330,000	\$330,000
FAG	\$526,930	\$530,000	\$530,000	\$535,000	\$535,000	\$540,000
Direct	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Grants	\$2,598,585	\$2,764,242	\$2,213,182	\$2,685,842	\$2,609,580	\$1,745,960
Council	\$255,943	\$267,432	\$228,492	\$265,832	\$260,420	\$199,040
Total	\$2,854,528	\$3,031,674	\$2,441,674	\$2,951,674	\$2,870,000	\$1,945,000

The Shire not having a current long term road management plan will make it difficult to plan for the next few years, especially when the amount of funding received must be matched by expenditure. This report looks to establish a six year road renewal plan. This plan is not set in stone and will be able to be changed by Council in the future according to the needs of the time. This plan does however give Council the opportunity to see what it is able to achieve.

The following table is a draft 6 year road program. For more detail on the project please refer to Attachment 1

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
<u>WSFN</u>						
Meckering Goomalling Road	1,377,924	1,552,000	962,000			
Cunderdin Quairading Road				1,452,000	1,370,000	440,000
	1,377,924	1,552,000	962,000	1,452,000	1,370,000	440,000
RRG						
Cunderdin - Minnivale Road	254,700	255,639	260,000	260,000		
Goldfields Road	251,524	250,000	250,000	250,000		
Carter Doodenanning Road					250,000	250,000
Carter dr / Olympic Ave / Baxt	er Road				250,000	
Meckering - Dowerin Road						250,000
	506,224	505,639	510,000	510,000	500,000	500,000
<u>R2R</u>						
Flowery Patch Road	100,000					
Scadden Road	65,000					
Carter Road	220,000					
Dorathy Road	80,000					
Bolland Road		55,000				
Mt Anne Road		250,000				
Three Mile Gate		85,000				90,000
Hopkins Road		100,000				
Fullwood Road			65,000			
Southern Brook Road			100,000			
Wilding Road			75,000			
Rabbit Proof Fence Road			40,000	100,000		
Dennis Road			100,000			
Hills Road				100,000		
Hagboom Road				60,000		
Fleay Road				100,000		
Hardy Road					100,000	
Town Streets Cunderdin and N	/leckering				150,000	
Coleman Road					60,000	
Culbarting Road					60,000	
Baxter Road						160,000
Wyola Road						45,000
Youndegin-Kelkering Road						170,000
	465,000	490,000	380,000	360,000	370,000	465,000
Total Construction	2,349,148	2,547,639	1,852,000	2,322,000	2,240,000	1,405,000
Maintenance	650000	660000	650000	670000	680000	680,000
Total Roadworks	2,999,148	3,207,639	2,502,000	2,992,000	2,920,000	2,085,000
Grant Funding	2,598,585	2,764,242	2,213,182	2,685,842	2,609,580	1,745,960
Council Contribution	400,563	443,397	288,818	306,158	310,420	339,040
Total Funding Required	2,999,148	3,207,639	2,502,000	2,992,000	2,920,000	2,085,000

It is the intention of the administration that the shire staff will complete the works on the WSFN roads. This will be the first priority of the outside works staff each year. The remaining work will then be scheduled subject to the type of works and time allocated to complete the project.

This roadworks program budgets to complete more roadworks out of Councils own funds than is required. The more works that Council completes out of its own funds the less it has to spend on other projects.

With the Shires current resources it will not be able to complete the amount of work being programed without the use of outside contractors.

The following table gives an estimate of the work that is expected to be completed by the Shires works crew in 2020/21. Please note that only 42 workings weeks are budgeted for to take into consideration annual leave, sick leave, public holidays and training.

	2020/21			
<u>WSFN</u>	\$	Weeks	Description	
Meckering Goomalling				
Road	1,377,924	20	Full Width Reconstruction	
	1,377,924	20		
RRG				
Cunderdin - Minnivale				
Road	254,700	2	Clearing and sealing	
Goldfields Road	251,524	2	Clearing and sealing	
	506,224	4		
<u>R2R</u>				
Flowery Patch Road	100,000	6	Resheet and clearing	
Scadden Road	65,000	Contractor	Resheet and clearing	
Carter Road	220,000	Contractor	Resheet and clearing and culvert replacement	
Dorathy Road	80,000	Contractor	Resheet and clearing	
	465,000	6		
Total Construction	2,349,148	30		
Maintenance	650,000	12	Winter grading, clearing, culverts and signs	
Total Roadworks	2,999,148	42		

The structure of the outside crew has been changed in 2019/20. Both the Mechanic and Building Maintenance positions have been reallocated to plant operator /general hand positions in the outside workforce. The operations previously completed by these two employees will now be outsourced to contractors. It is considered that by outsourcing these two specialised positions it will improve the quality of the work.

The outside workforce will now be split into two crews, a construction crew and a maintenance crew. The construction crew will consist of 6 employees and they will be responsible for the completion of the major winter grading and the construction works budget to be completed by the Shire. This crew will have priority over the majority of the plant and equipment.

The maintenance crew will consist of 3 employees and they will be responsible for completing maintenance work within the shire. This will include works at the airport, cemetery, town drainage, town clean ups, culvert cleaning, road side spraying, pot hole repairs and tree clearing. In the past the construction crew has assisted with these works and it has severely limited the amount of time the construction crew has been able to spend on its projects. The maintenance crew will also be able to support the construction crew when required.

During 2020/21 the plant and equipment required by the maintenance crew will be monitored and it may require the purchase of additional plant to ensure this crew can continue to operate without effecting the construction crew.

# Consultation

Manager of Works

# **Statutory Implications**

Nil

# **Policy Implications**

Nil

# **Financial Implications**

The information in this report will be used to construct the draft budget.

# **Strategic Implications**

# Resolution 13.2 May OCM 2020

That the Six Year Roadworks Program be received, and that a road inspections be held in June 2020.

Moved: Cr W (Sam) Stewart Seconded: Cr B (Bernie) Daly

Vote – Simple majority Carried: 8/0

# 9.4 Shire of Cunderdin Meeting Dates for 2020/2021

**Location:** Shire of Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Governance and Compliance Officer

Date: 4 May 2020 Author: Lauren Cole

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest:

File Reference:

Attachment/s:

Nil

#### **Proposal/Summary**

For Council to consider the Council and Committee meetings dates and times for the 2020/21 financial year.

#### **Background**

Each year Council is required to set the dates for their Ordinary and Committee meetings for the next financial year.

Currently Ordinary Meetings of Council are held on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Thursday of each month, with the exception of the month of January (when there is no scheduled meeting), commencing at 5:00pm.

#### Comments

The current meeting schedule has been in place for some time and appears to work well for the Council members, and provides reasonable opportunity for members of the community to attend the meetings if they desire.

In accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, Council must give local public notice of the times, dates and place for Ordinary and Committee meetings.

#### Consultation

Nil.

## **Statutory Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 – section 5.3 Ordinary and Special Meetings of Council

## 5.3. Ordinary and special council meetings

- (1) A council is to hold ordinary meetings and may hold special meetings.
- (2) Ordinary meetings are to be held not more than 3 months apart.
- (3) If a council fails to meet as required by subsection (2) the CEO is to notify the Minister of that failure. Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Regulation 12 Public Notice of Council and Committee meetings

## 12. Meetings, public notice of (Act s. 5.25(1)(g))

- (1) At least once each year a local government is to give local public notice of the dates on which and the time and place at which
  - (a) the ordinary council meetings; and
  - (b) the committee meetings that are required under the Act to be open to members of the public or that are proposed to be open to members of the public,

are to be held in the next 12 months.

(2) A local government is to give local public notice of any change to the date, time or place of a meeting referred to in subregulation (1).

- (3) Subject to subregulation (4), if a special meeting of a council is to be open to members of the public then the local government is to give local public notice of the date, time, place and purpose of the special meeting.
- (4) If a special meeting of a council is to be open to members of the public but, in the CEO's opinion, it is not practicable to give local public notice of the matters referred to in subregulation (3), then the local government is to give public notice of the date, time, place and purpose of the special meeting in the manner and to the extent that, in the CEO's opinion, is practicable.

#### **Policy Implications**

Nil.

# **Financial Implications**

Nil.

## **Strategic Implications**

**Cunderdin Community Strategic Plan** 

The Cunderdin Community Strategic Plan aims to manage growth sustainably through governance, leadership, and targeted service and economic growth. The goals to achieve the aim are:

## Social

- Grow and build the population base.
- Improve community spirit, collectively caring for each other.
- Build an active community, increasing participation and ownership.

#### Environmental

- Maintain and enhance the natural environment and resources.
- Maintain and enhance the area's infrastructure.

# **Economic**

- Strengthen local business and employment capacity.
- Support and encourage sustainable business growth.
- Position the area as a regional strategic location and transport hub.

## Resolution 9.4 OCM May 2020

That Council adopts and provides Local Public Notice for the following Ordinary Council and Committee Meeting dates, time and places for the 2020/2021 financial year:

1. The date for Ordinary Council Meetings to be as follows, commencing at 5:00pm and being held in the Council Chambers, Lundy Avenue, Cunderdin:

Month	Meeting Date
July 2020	Thursday 16 July 2020
August 2020	Thursday 20 August 2020
September 2020	Thursday 17 September 2020
October 2020	Thursday 15 October 2020
November 2020	Thursday 19 November 2020
December 2020	Thursday 17 December 2020
January 2021	No meeting
February 2021	Thursday 18 February 2021
March 2021	Thursday 18 March 2021
April 2021	Thursday 15 April 2021
May 2021	Thursday 20 May 2021
June 2021	Thursday 17 June 2021

- 2. Audit Committee meetings will be held as and when required with local public notice given on those occasions where the public are invited to attend.
- 3. Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) meetings are to be held four (4) times per year in, August, November, February & May, commencing at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Lundy Avenue, Cunderdin.

Moved: Cr B (Bernie) Daly Seconded: Cr AE (Alison) Harris

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

#### 9.5 Proposed renumber of some properties along Great Eastern Highway

Location:Shire of CunderdinApplicant:Finance OfficerDate:1st May 2020

Author: Brooke Davidson

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: NIL
File Reference: NIL

Attachment/s: 1x attachment

# **Proposal/Summary**

For Council consideration to renumber the properties along the Great Eastern Highway, beginning at Lot 86 on DP 222359 through to the West end of town lot 5 on P87542.

### **Background**

The portion of road located between Lot 86 on DP 222359 (corner of Great Eastern Highway and Pemberton Street) through to the West end of town lot 5 on P87542 (Manta Performance), is officially approved as the Great Eastern Highway and has been since the realignment of Great Eastern Highway happened in 1991.

At the time of the realignment the properties along this road should have had their addresses changed to a Great Eastern Highway address. They are currently still using a Forrest Street address.

These properties cannot use a Forrest Street address as they are not accessing from Forrest Street.

#### Comment

The Shire will need to advise the affected property owners along this portion of road that they will need to be using the correct road name and in line with that the Shire will be allocating them a new street address with the correct number and road name. It will need to be reiterated to the occupants that they are not on Forrest Street and to continue to use Forrest Street as their address may result in them being unlocatable in an emergency situation.

The numbering allocated would fit within the two known Rural Street Addresses currently in place of 12752 Great Eastern Highway (DP255540 Lot 2224) and 13032 Great Eastern Highway (DP255011 Lot 2194).

With the assistance of Landgate, street numbers starting at 12888 will be allocated to the properties along the portion of Great Eastern Highway.

# Consultation

Landgate.

## **Statutory Implications**

Nil.

#### **Policy Implications**

Nil.

# **Financial Implications**

Nil.

#### **Strategic Implications**

# Cunderdin Strategic Community Plan

The Goals of the SCP are:

#### Social

- Grow and build the population base;
- Improve community spirit, collectively caring for each other;
- Build an active community, increasing participation and ownership.

# **Environmental**

- Nurture and enhance our natural environment and prioritise the protection of our natural resources;
- Manage resource consumption and reduce waste, preserve and protect buildings and places of heritage and indigenous significance;

# **Economic**

- Strengthen local business and employment capacity;
- Support and encourage sustainable business growth;
- Position the area as a regional strategic location and transport hub.

#### Resolution 9.5 OCM May 2020

That Council approve for the renumbering of properties located along the Great Eastern Highway, beginning at Lot 86 on DP 222359 through to Lot 5 on P87542, with the assistance of Landgate, and the allocation of a new street address with the correct road name and number.

Moved: Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen Seconded: Cr J (Jayson) Goldson

Vote – Simple majority Carried: 8/0

#### 9.6 Property Seizure and Sale Order on Lot 127, 119 Cubbine Street, Cunderdin

**Location:** Shire of Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Finance Officer

**Date:** 12 May 2020

Author: Brooke Davidson

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: NIL

File Reference: A52937

Attachment/s: Nil

# **Proposal/Summary**

That Council, approve to proceed with a Property Seizure and Sale Order on Lot 127, 119 Cubbine Street, Cunderdin.

#### **Background**

The current owners of 119 Cubbine Street, Cunderdin purchased the property is December 2016. The Rates and Charges have remained outstanding since Billing 2017/18.

Since the 15/08/2017, a total of \$3,150.00 has been paid off of the debt of the assessment to date. Numerous phone calls and conversations have taken place to try and set up a suitable payment arrangement during this time. A written payment agreement was signed in July 2019 on which the ratepayers agreed to pay \$100.00 per week, however this was not adhered to.

No payments have been received since 19/12/2019. The ratepayers expressed in December 2019 that they were looking to access their superannuation to pay out the total of the debt. The Shire has been unable to get in touch with them since, to confirm if this eventuated, despite several phone call attempts.

# Comment

The current outstanding debt on the property, including legal fees, is \$3,517.13.

The ratepayers have been unable to enter into a suitable payment arrangement which meets the requirements of Councils Delegation Register, section 3.5 – Sundry and rate debtors – Recovery and agreements, which requires the ratepayer to enter into a payment arrangement that will clear the outstanding debt by June 30 of the current financial year.

# Consultation

**AMPAC Debt Recovery** 

#### **Statutory Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 -

- s.6.49 Agreement as to payment of rates and service charges
- s.6.56(1) recovery of rates by complaint or action

## **Policy Implications**

**Councils Delegation Register** 

3.5 Sundry and rate debtors – Recovery and agreements

**FUNCTION DELEGATED** 

- 1. The CEO is delegated authority to negotiate an agreement for the payment of rates, service charge and sundry debts, together with the costs of proceedings, if any, for that recovery, subject to any administrative or instalment charges, penalty interest etc. being incorporated into the agreement.
- 2. The CEO is delegated authority to recover unpaid rates or service charges after becoming due and payable, together with the costs of proceedings, if any, for that recovery –
- a) by use of a debt collection agency,
- b) in a court of competent jurisdiction;
- c) by serving notice on a tenant to pay rent to the Shire;
- d) other such means as is provided for and appropriate.
- 3. The CEO is delegated authority to recover unpaid sundry debtors, together with the costs of proceedings, if any, for that recovery –
- a) by use of a debt collection agency,
- b) in a court of competent jurisdiction;
- c) other such means as is provided for and appropriate.

#### **APPLICATION**

1. The arrangements agreed are to be on the basis that the total debt outstanding will be extinguished by 30 June following.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To ensure timely recovery of sundry and rates debtors.

#### STATUTORY CONTEXT

Local Government Act 1995 -

- s.6.49 Agreement as to payment of rates and service charges
- s.6.56(1) recovery of rates by complaint or action
- s.6.60(2) recovery of rates by requiring payment of rent to Shire

#### **CORPORATE CONTEXT**

None

# PRIMARY DELEGATION

CEO

# SECONDARY DELEGATION PERMITTED TO

Manager of Corporate Services and Finance

# FORMAL RECORD OF USE

- i) File copy of instruction to court or debt collection agency etc., written agreement with debtor, notice to tenant etc.
- ii) Property file

#### **HISTORY**

Former Delegation 47, 51, 52 Adopted 20 June 2019

#### **REFERENCES**

Nil

## **Financial Implications**

The time period to sell a property under the PSSO will be approximately 12-18 months provided all instructions from Shire of Cunderdin are given in a timely matter.

The sale period is ONLY active for 6 months; there will need to be an extension of the PSSO at least once during this period. The approximate cost for each extension is \$700.00.

The first set of costs to register the Shire's interest to sell the land with Landgate is approximately \$1,000 this includes lawyer's time, receiving the official documents for the Bailiff and appropriate Landgate charges. These fees can be on charged to the ratepayer and will be collected in a successful sale of the property.

Once the document is lodged at Landgate, the Bailiff will require payment of \$1800 to prepare for sale. This preparation includes mortgagee information, rates (both land and water) and valuations of the land.

If the bailiff deems there to be insufficient equity they CAN NOT proceed to auction. This then means we can invoke the 3 Year Rule process.

If an auction cannot proceed any funds from the \$1800 that remain will be refunded.

If we are able to proceed to auction, we can request for extra advertising to be added to help with a successful sale.

As the property may not sell at auction the Shire of Cunderdin will need to be prepared to begin the 3 year process.

# **Strategic Implications**

Cunderdin Strategic Community Plan

The Goals of the SCP are:

# Social

- Grow and build the population base;
- Improve community spirit, collectively caring for each other;
- Build an active community, increasing participation and ownership.

# **Environmental**

- Nurture and enhance our natural environment and prioritise the protection of our natural resources;
- Manage resource consumption and reduce waste, preserve and protect buildings and places of heritage and indigenous significance;

#### **Economic**

- Strengthen local business and employment capacity;
- Support and encourage sustainable business growth;

Position the area as a regional strategic location and transport hub

# Resolution 9.6 OCM May 2020

That Council, approve to proceed with a Property Seizure and Sale Order on Lot 127, 119 Cubbine Street, Cunderdin.

Moved: Cr B (Bernie) Daly Seconded: Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen

Vote – Simple majority Carried: 8/0

# 9.7 National Redress Scheme (Participation of WA Local Governments)

**Location:** Shire of Cunderdin

Applicant: Department of Local Government, Sport and

**Cultural Industries** 

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Author: Lauren Cole

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest:

Nil
File Reference:

Nil

Attachment/s: Local Government Information Paper

# **Proposal/Summary**

This item is for the Shire of Cunderdin to:

- Note the background information and the WA Government's decision in relation to the National Redress Scheme;
- Note the key considerations and administrative arrangements for the Shire of Cunderdin to participate in the National Redress Scheme;
- Formally endorse the Shire of Cunderdin's participation as part of the WA Government's declaration in the National Redress Scheme; and
- Grant authority to an appropriate position / officer to execute a service agreement with the State, if a Redress application is received.

### **Background**

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission) was established in 2013 to investigate failures of public and private institutions to protect children from sexual abuse. The Royal Commission released three reports throughout the inquiry:

- Working with Children Checks (August 2015);
- Redress and Civil Litigation (September 2015); and
- Criminal Justice (August 2017).

The Royal Commission's Final Report (15 December 2017) incorporated findings and recommendations of the three previous reports and contained a total of 409 recommendations, of which 310 are applicable to the Western Australian Government and the broader WA community.

The implications of the Royal Commission's recommendations are twofold: the first is accountability for historical breaches in the duty of care that occurred before 1 July 2018 within any institution; the second is future-facing, ensuring better child safe approaches are implemented holistically moving forward.

The scope of this report addresses only the historical element of institutional child sexual abuse through the National Redress Scheme.

All levels of Australian society (including the WA local government sector and the Shire of Cunderdin will be required to consider leading practice approaches to child safeguarding separately in the future.

#### National Redress Scheme

The Royal Commission's *Redress and Civil Litigation (September 2015)* Report recommended the establishment of a single National Redress Scheme (the Scheme) to recognise the harm suffered by survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

The Scheme acknowledges that children were sexually abused, recognises the suffering endured, holds institutions accountable and helps those who have been abused access counselling, psychological services, an apology and a redress payment.

The Scheme commenced on 1 July 2018, will run for 10 years and offers eligible applicants three elements of Redress:

- A direct personal response (apology) from the responsible institution, if requested;
- Funds to access counselling and psychological care; and
- A monetary payment of up to \$150,000.

All State and Territory Governments and many major non-government organisations and church groups have joined the Scheme.

The WA Parliament has passed the legislation for the Government and WA based non-government organisations to participate in the National Redress Scheme.

The Western Australian Government (the State) started participating in the Scheme from 1 January 2019.

Under the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Act 2018 (Cth), local governments may be considered a State Government institution. (Section 111(1)(b))

A decision was made at the time of joining the Scheme to exclude WA local governments from the State Government's participation declaration. This was to allow consultation to occur with the sector about the Scheme, and for fuller consideration of how the WA local government sector could best participate.

#### **Comment**

Following extensive consultation, the State Government (December 2019):

- Noted the consultations undertaken to date with the WA local government sector about the National Redress Scheme:
- Noted the options for WA local government participation in the Scheme;
- Agreed to local governments participating in the Scheme as State Government institutions, with the State Government covering payments to the survivor; and
- Agrees to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) leading further
  negotiations with the WA local government sector regarding local government funding costs, other
  than payments to the survivor including counselling, legal and administrative costs.

The following will be covered for local governments participating in the Scheme as a State Government institution and part of the State's declaration:

- Redress monetary payment provided to the survivor;
- Costs in relation to counselling, legal and administration (including the coordination of requests for information and record keeping in accordance with the State Records Act 2000); and

Trained staff to coordinate and facilitate a Direct Personal Response (DPR – Apology) to the survivor
if requested (on a fee for service basis with costs to be covered by the individual local government –
see below for further explanation).

State Government financial support for local government participation in the Scheme, as set out, will ensure that Redress is available to as many WA survivors of institutional child sexual abuse as possible.

Individual local governments participating in the Scheme as a State Government institution, with the State will be responsible for:

- Providing the State with the necessary (facilities and services) information to participate in the Scheme:
- Resources and costs associated with gathering their own (internal) information and providing that information (Request for Information) to the State (if they receive a Redress application); and
- Costs associated with the delivery of a DPR (apology), if requested (based on a standard service fee, plus travel and accommodation depending on the survivor's circumstance). The State's decision includes that all requested DPR's will be coordinated and facilitated by the Redress Coordination Unit Department of Justice, on every occasion.

The WALGA State Council meeting of 4 March 2020:

- 1. Acknowledged the State Government's decision to include the participation of Local Governments in the National Redress Scheme as part of the State's declaration;
- 2. Endorsed the negotiation of a Memorandum of Understanding and Template Service Agreement with the State Government, and
- 3. Endorsed by Flying Minute the Memorandum of Understanding prior to execution, in order to uphold requirements to respond within legislative timeframes.

The State and WALGA will sign a Memorandum of Understanding to reflect the principles of WA local governments participating in the Scheme as State Government institutions and being part of the State's declaration.

State agencies (led by DLGSC), WALGA and Local Government Professionals WA will support all local governments to prepare to participate in the Scheme from 1 July 2020 (or earlier, subject to completing the necessary arrangements).

The State's decision allows for the WA Government's Scheme participation declaration to be amended to include local governments and this report seeks endorsement of the Shire of Cunderdin's participation in the Scheme.

As an independent entity and for absolute clarity, it is essential that the Shire of Cunderdin formally indicates via a decision of Council, the intention to be considered a State Government institution (for the purposes on the National Redress Scheme) and be included in the WA Government's amended participation declaration.

The Shire of Cunderdin will not be included in the State's amended declaration, unless it formally decides to be included.

The financial and administrative coverage offered by the State will only be afforded to WA local governments that join the Scheme as a State Government institution, as part of the State's amended declaration.

The option also exists for the Shire of Cunderdin to formally decide not to participate in the Scheme (either individually or as part of the State's declaration).

Should the Council formally decide (via a resolution of Council) not to participate with the State or in the Scheme altogether, considerations for the Shire of Cunderdin include:

- Divergence from the Commonwealth, State, WALGA and the broader local government sector's position on the Scheme (noting the Commonwealth's preparedness to name-and-shame non-participating organisations).
- Potential reputational damage at a State, sector and community level.
- Complete removal of the State's coverage of costs and administrative support, with the Shire of Cunderdin having full responsibility and liability for any potential claim.
- Acknowledgement that the only remaining method of redress for a victim and survivor would be through civil litigation, with no upper limit, posing a significant financial risk to the Shire of Cunderdin.

### Considerations for the Shire of Cunderdin

Detailed below is a list of considerations for the Council to participate in the Scheme:

# 1. Executing a Service Agreement

All Royal Commission information is confidential, and it is not known if the Shire of Cunderdin will receive a Redress application. A Service Agreement will only be executed if the Council receives a Redress application.

The Shire of Cunderdin needs to give authority to an appropriate position / officer to execute a service agreement with the State, if a Redress application is received. Timeframes for responding to a Request for Information are 3 weeks for priority applications and 7 weeks for non-priority applications. A priority application timeframe (3 weeks) will be outside most Council meeting cycles and therefore it is necessary to provide the authorisation to execute an agreement in advance.

## 2. Reporting to Council if / when an application is received

Council will receive a confidential report, notifying when a Redress application has been received. All information in the report will be de-identified but will make Council aware that an application has been received.

## 3. Application Processing / Staffing and Confidentiality

Administratively the Council will determine:

- Which position(s) will be responsible for receiving applications and responding to Requests for Information;
- Support mechanisms for staff members processing Requests for Information.

The appointed person(s) will have a level of seniority in order to understand the magnitude of the undertaking and to manage the potential conflicts of interest and confidentiality requirements

#### 4. Record Keeping

The State Records Office advised (April 2019) all relevant agencies, including Local Governments, of a 'disposal freeze' initiated under the *State Records Act 2000* (the Act) to protect past and current records that may be relevant to actual and alleged incidents of child sexual abuse. The Shire of Cunderdin's record keeping practices as a result, have been modified to ensure the secure protection and retention of relevant records. These records (or part thereof) may be required to be provided to the State's Redress Coordination Unit in relation to a Redress application.

The Redress Coordination Unit (Department of Justice) is the state record holder for Redress and will keep copies of all documentation and RFI responses. Local Governments will be required to keep their own records regarding a Redress application in a confidential and secure manner, and in line with all requirements in *The Act*.

## 5. Redress Decisions

The Shire of Cunderdin should note that decisions regarding Redress applicant eligibility and the responsible institution(s), are made by Independent Decision Makers, based on the information received by the applicant and any RFI responses. The State Government and the Shire of Cunderdin do not have any influence on the decision made and there is no right of appeal.

## Consultation

The State, through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC), consulted with the WA local government sector and other key stakeholders on the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (in 2018) and the National Redress Scheme (in 2019).

The consultation throughout 2019 has focused on the National Redress Scheme with the aim of:

- raising awareness about the Scheme;
- identifying whether WA local governments are considering participating in the Scheme;
- identifying how participation may be facilitated; and
- enabling advice to be provided to Government on the longer-term participation of WA local governments.

Between March and May 2019, DLGSC completed consultations that reached 115 out of 137 WA local governments via:

- Webinars to local governments, predominately in regional and remote areas;
- Presentations at 12 WALGA Zone and Local Government Professional WA meetings;
- Responses to email and telephone enquiries from individual local governments.

It was apparent from the consultations local governments were most commonly concerned about the:

- potential cost of Redress payments;
- availability of historical information;
- capacity of local governments to provide a Direct Personal Response (apology) if requested by Redress recipients;
- process and obligations relating to maintaining confidentiality if Redress applications are received, particularly in small local governments;
- lack of insurance coverage of Redress payments by LGIS, meaning local governments would need to self-fund participation and Redress payments.

LGIS published and distributed an update (April 2019) regarding the considerations and (potential) liability position of the WA local government sector in relation to the National Redress Scheme.

The WALGA State Council meeting on 3 July 2019 recommended that:

- 1. WA local government participation in the State's National Redress Scheme declaration with full financial coverage by the State Government, be endorsed in principle, noting that further engagement with the sector will occur in the second half of 2019.
- 2. WALGA continue to promote awareness of the National Redress Scheme and note that local governments may wish to join the Scheme in the future to demonstrate a commitment to the victims of institutional child sexual abuse.

DLGSC representatives presented at a WALGA hosted webinar on 18 February 2020 and presented at all WALGA Zone meetings in late February 2020.

The State's decision, in particular to cover the costs / payments to the survivor, has taken into account the feedback provided by local governments during the consultation detailed above.

## **Statutory Implications**

The Shire of Cunderdin in agreeing to join the Scheme, is required to adhere to legislative requirements set out in the *National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Act 2018* (Cth).

Authorisation of an appropriately appointed person to execute a service agreement with the State, if a Redress application is received, will be in accordance with s.9.49A(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

#### **Policy Implications**

Nil

## **Financial Implications**

The State's decision will cover the following financial costs for local governments:

- Redress monetary payment provided to the survivor;
- Costs in relation to counselling, legal and administration (including the coordination or requests for information and record keeping); and
- Trained staff to coordinate and facilitate a Direct Personal Response (DPR Apology) to the survivor if requested (on a fee for service basis with costs to be covered by the individual local government see below).

The only financial cost the local government may incur will be the payment of the DPR's, which is on an 'as requested' basis by the survivor. This will be based on the standard service fee of \$3,000 plus travel and accommodation depending on the survivor's circumstances. All requested DPR's will be coordinated and facilitated by the Redress Coordination Unit – Department of Justice.

The State's decision also mitigates a significant financial risk to the local government in terms of waiving rights to future claims. Accepting an offer of redress has the effect of releasing the responsible participating organisation and their officials (other than the abuser/s) from civil liability for instances of sexual abuse and related non-sexual abuse of the person that is within the scope of the Scheme. This means that the person who receives redress through the Scheme, agrees to not bring or continue any civil claims against the responsible participating organisation in relation to any abuse within the scope of the Scheme.

#### **Strategic Implications**

## **Cunderdin Community Strategic Plan**

The Cunderdin Community Strategic Plan aims to manage growth sustainably through governance, leadership, and targeted service and economic growth. The goals to achieve the aim are:

#### <u>Social</u>

- Grow and build the population base.
- Improve community spirit, collectively caring for each other.
- Build an active community, increasing participation and ownership.

## Environmental

- Maintain and enhance the natural environment and resources.
- Maintain and enhance the area's infrastructure.

#### Economic

- Strengthen local business and employment capacity.
- Support and encourage sustainable business growth.

Position the area as a regional strategic location and transport hub

# Resolution 9.7 OCM May 2020

## That Council:

- 1) Notes the consultation undertaken and information provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries in regarding the National Redress Scheme and the participation of WA local governments;
- Notes that the Shire of Cunderdin will not be included in the WA Government's amended participation declaration (and afforded the associated financial and administrative coverage), unless the Shire of Cunderdin makes a specific and formal decision to be included;
- 3) Endorses the participation of the Shire of Cunderdin in the National Redress Scheme as a State Government institution and included as part of the State Government's declaration;
- 4) Grants authority to Shire of Cunderdin to execute a service agreement with the State, if a Redress application is received;
- 5) Notes that a confidential report will be provided if a Redress application is received by the Shire of Cunderdin;

Moved: Cr J (Jayson) Goldson Seconded: Cr NW (Norm) Jenzen

Vote – Simple Majority Carried: 8/0

## 9.8 Chief Executive Officers Report

**Location:** Cunderdin

**Applicant:** Chief Executive Officer

Date: 14 May 2020 Author: Stuart Hobley

**Item Approved by:** Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

File Reference: Nil
Attachment/s: Nil

# **Proposal/Summary**

To provide an update on the matters the Chief Executive Officer has been addressing over the past month.

### **Background**

#### Corona Virus Update

The Shire is receiving daily updates from the Department of Health with respect to the Corona Virus.

At this stage the Shire is planning for a disruption to its normal business at some stage in the next six months.

The State Government have recently relaxed the intrastate border travel restriction. It is expected that this will result in an increased number of vehicles and people traveling through both Cunderdin and Meckering.

The following facilities remain closed:

- Pool
- Museum
- Playgrounds (Cunderdin and Meckering)

The following facilities will reopen with phase two of the State Governments COVID 19 policy.

- Town Halls (Cunderdin and Meckering)
- Town Hall Public Toilets
- Overnight Camping facility Meckering

The Shire Office will return to normal operating hours as of the 18 May 2020.

The Shire Depot will remain closed to the public and will only be open via appointment. The refuse sites in Cunderdin and Meckering remain open, however we will continue to keep in place processes to provide a safe working environment for staff.

Some administration staff will continue to work from home due to personal reasons however this will be phased out in the upcoming weeks.

The outside staff continue to work as normal with the standard precautions being taken.

The Shire has not yet received any requests from the business community for economic assistance. The manufacturing and agricultural based businesses do not appear to be effected as yet however this could change. The industries that are suffering the most at the moment are the Hotel/Clubs, cafes, gyms and health related services (massage, physio).

The Shire continues to keep the community updated as much as possible via its social media outlets. Our Community Development Officer is also trying new ways to keep people busy and active over this period while they are locked down.

## **Community Trust**

Staff are seeking a legal opinion on clauses within the Community Trust to ascertain if the Trustees are able to act on the requested of the Cunderdin Sport and Recreation Committee. It is planned to have a Community Trust Meeting before June 2020 Council Meeting. Not action will be taken on the outstanding loan amount before the matter is considered by Council.

## Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network

The Shire has been advised it is in line for funding for a Stage 1 Projects in the WSFN program. The program is to be delivered over 5 years commencing 2020/21. A recent WSFN Steering Committee Meeting approved the commencement of "Project Development" work that is able to be completed in the remainder of 2019/20 financial year, in order for initial projects to be included in your budget planning and subsequent delivery processes for 2020/21.

The Shire of Cunderdin has been allocated \$30,000 to complete investigation and planning on the Meckering Goomalling Road SLK 12.44 to 18.5. The cost to the Shire is \$2,000 which will be sourced from existing expenditure accounts.

#### Interim Audit

The interim audit has been completed and it is expected the audit report will be received shortly. In consultation with the auditors it was decided to conduct the audit off site via electronic means. This has resulted in a significant increase in workload for the DCEO over the past two weeks.

The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, City and Regional Development (the Department) have advised the Shire that they are undertaking an assessment of the projects which are within the scope of Roads to Recovery Program (R2R). This is a standard audit and will draw on the resources of the DCEO and MOW.

# <u>Budget</u>

It is planned to have a draft budget meeting at the Council Information Session scheduled to be held on the  $4^{th}$  June 2020. If any Councillors have any requested to be included in the budget could they please forward them in as soon as possible.

It is anticipated to have the buildings budget, 5 year roadworks plan and plant and machinery replacement plans available at this time.

#### Department of Local Government - Changes to the Local Government Act

The Local Government Act 1995 provides the power to enable the Minister to modify or suspend provisions of the Act and Regulations while a State of Emergency declaration is in force and where the Minister considers that such an order is necessary.

The Minister has made several Orders under this legislation including:

- requirements to hold public meetings,
- for access to information when council offices are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic,
- budgetary matters.

The budgetary matters include reducing the amount of interest that can be charged on instalments from 5.5% to 3% if the Shire does not have a hardship policy. It is intended that the Shire will develop a Hardship Policy to be adopted by Council at the June 2020 Council Meeting.

The development of Hardship Policy will mean the Shire can determine if a ratepayer's hardship is from the effects of COVID 19 or whether it is another issue. It places the decisions back in the hands of the local Council.

It is estimated that if Council does not develop a hardship policy it could cost Council up to \$4,000 in 2020/21.

Interest rates that can be charged for late payments are to be capped at 8%, from 11% which aligns with the interest rate charged by the Australian Taxation Office. It is estimated that this change could cost Council up to \$7,000 in 2020/21.

## REED - Cunderdin Early Learning Centre

The Shire has completed the final grant acquittal for the funding received to operate the Cunderdin ELC. The Deed of Novation transferring the license to operate an Early Learning Centre to REED has also been signed and returned to the Department of Education, Skills and Employment. A final acquittal of the ELC budget will be presented when the grant acquittal is approved.

## Gliding Club of Western Australia

At the April Council Meeting it was decided to not charge the Gliding Club its lease fees until they could return to the airfield. The Club have recently advised that with the recent lifting of travel restriction the will return to gliding on 1 July 2020.

#### **Government Regional Officer Housing**

The Department of Communities – Housing has recently contacted Council requesting the availability of housing in Cunderdin for a new teacher. 14 Robyn Street is expected to be vacant in the near future and consideration is being given to leasing this premises to GROH for a period of time.

# **Great Eastern Country Zone meeting**

The Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting was held via zoom on the with the President, Cr A Harris and the CEO in attendance.

- Issues of note that were discussed included:
- Cost of Audits for 2020/21
- Movement of oversize vehicles on major roads
- COVID 19 issues including school boarding and grocery supplies.
- An update on the National Redress Scheme.

# **Comment**

Nil.

#### Consultation

Nil.

# **Statutory Implications**

Nil.

# **Policy Implications**

Nil.

# **Financial Implications**

Nil.

## **Strategic Implications**

Nil.

# **Resolution 9.8 OCM May 2020**

That the Chief Executives Officers Report be received.

Moved: Cr B (Bernie) Daly Seconded: Cr AE (Alison) Harris

Vote – Simple majority Carried: 8/0

Mr Craig Robertson existed the Council Chambers at 5:48pm Mr Craig Robertson returned to Council Chambers at 5:50pm

Nil Items	

#### 11. Planning & Development

# 11.1 Proposed Shire of Cunderdin Local Planning Scheme No. 4 – Amendments

Location:CunderdinApplicant:Town PlannerDate:13 February 2020Author:Natasha Jurmann

Item Approved by: Stuart Hobley, Chief Executive Officer

File Reference: Nil

Attachment/s: 3 Attachments

# **Proposal/Summary**

The Council is to receive the Town Planner's update for May 2020 and consider the changes for the proposed Shire of Cunderdin Local Planning Scheme No. 4 for adoption for advertising purposes.

# **Background**

The Shire of Cunderdin resolved at its Ordinary Meeting held in February 2020 that Council:

- 1. Make the proposed changes to the draft Shire of Cunderdin Local Planning Scheme No. 4.
- 2. That the Shire re-advertise the draft Shire of Cunderdin Local Planning Scheme No.4 for a period of 21 days as requested by the residents of Meckering.

Advertising for the Shire of Cunderdin proposed Local Planning Scheme No.4 commenced on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 and submissions were open for a three month period, closing on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020. Letters were issued to all affected property owners and two information sessions held for community consultation, one in Cunderdin and one in Meckering.

During the submission period for the Shire of Cunderdin proposed Local Planning Scheme No.4 many of the local property owners contact the shire of discuss the zoning changes to their properties. A number of changes were made to reflect this consultation.

#### Comment

Upon liaising with our contact at the Department of Planning, all the proposed changes were approved with the exception of allowing the use Agriculture-Intensive in the Rural Townsite zone in Meckering. The new maps and the modified zoning table are attached.

### **Consultation**

Additional consultation will occur once the changes have been adopted by council for a further 21 days as decided at the February Council Meeting.

#### **Statutory Implications**

The *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* require every local government have a local planning scheme and any new scheme prepared to be accompanied by a local planning strategy.

The Regulations also require local governments to review their local planning schemes every five years with initial review periods for existing schemes prepared under the previous regulations stipulated as follows:

- 2020 If the scheme is less than five years old (i.e. Gazetted from 19 October 2010 to present).
- 2017 If the scheme is more than five years old (i.e. Gazetted from 18 October 2010 or older).

The Scheme Review Report received by Council in September 2017 was endorsed by the WAPC and recommends that due to the age of the Scheme and the non-conformance with the new Model Scheme Text, that a new local planning scheme be developed, in conjunction with the development of a regional local planning strategy.

## Local Planning Scheme

Part 5 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and Part 4 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* set out the requirements for the development, content, advertising and approval of a new local planning scheme. A flowchart depicting the process has been published by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and has been attached to this report for Council's reference.

The draft documents have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations and the Department of Planning, Land and Heritage's (DPLH) Local Planning Manual.

#### **Policy Implications**

The Shire's Local Planning Policies adopted under the provisions of LPS3 will continue to operate under a transitional clause in LPS4 until such time the review has been completed. It is important that the LPPs are current and consistent with the provisions of LPS3, and represent the needs of the community.

## **Financial Implications**

Additional advertising costs

## **Strategic Implications**

Local planning schemes are the principal statutory tool for implementing the local planning strategy and achieving the local government's aims and objectives with respect to the development of its local area. While schemes deal mainly with land use, development control and infrastructure coordination, they must be developed in the context of the strategic framework and the broader environmental, social and economic goals and objectives.

The local planning scheme will be developed utilising existing local and regional strategic planning documents.

# **Recommendation**

Item to be tabled until June Council Meeting

# 12. Works & Services

Nil

# 13. Urgent Items

## 13.1 Proposal to Rezone Lot 2195 to industrial Development/Rural Residential

**Location:** Lot 2195 Great Eastern Highway

**Applicant:** Shire of Cunderdin

**Date:** 21 May 2020

Author: Natasha Jurmann

Item Approved by: Stuart Hobley

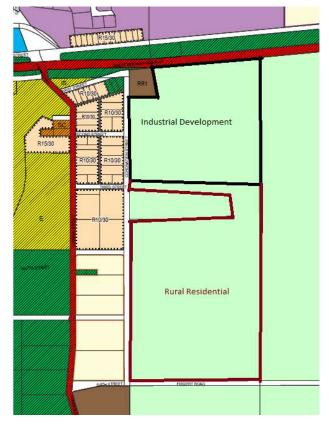
Disclosure of Interest: NIL
File Reference: ADM89

Attachment/s: NIL

### **Proposal/Summary**

It is proposed to rezone Lot 2195 Great Eastern Highway to Industrial Development and Rural Residential, to facilitate the development of the land.

# **Background**



Currently the Shire of Cunderdin Local Planning Scheme No.4 proposes to rezone several blocks of land to Industrial and Industrial Development. With the blocks along the rail line being bought by CBH ltd and the one to the North West side of town being owned and farmed by the Stokes family.

Last Thursday, a prospective buyer came in with an expression of interest to purchase and subdivide Lot 2195 Great Eastern Highway, which is currently not possible due as it is zoned General Agriculture. This led to discussions about rezoning the land so that it could be subdivided and the current lack of Industrial Land in Cunderdin, especially in the prized location along the highway.

As such it is proposed that Lot 2195 be zoned as depicted in Figure 1, to allow for future development along the highway.

Figure 1 – Proposed Zoning of Lot 2195

# **Comment**

The proposed Rezoning of Lot 2195 would provide much needed industrial land in the shire, although there are some site restrictions including a water course along the western boundary and a power easement along the Northern boundary. As such a Structure Plan would need to be developed by the shire to mitigate any negative impacts in this area.

A locality plan could be prepared by the Shire Planning Officer and put to a future council meeting if this was approved.

# Consultation

This rezoning proposal could be advertised with the changes to the Local Planning Scheme and no additional costs would be incurred.

# **Statutory Implications**

Nil

# **Policy Implications**

Nil

# **Financial Implications**

Nil

# **Strategic Implications**

A Structure Plan would need to be developed for the Industrial Development portion of the land to encourage the best possible outcome and the least impacts on the nearby residences.

# Recommendation

Item to be tabled until June Council Meeting

# 14. Scheduling of Meeting

# 14.1 June 2020 Ordinary Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of council is scheduled to take place on Thursday 18 June 2020 commencing at 5pm at the Cunderdin Shire Council Chambers, Cunderdin, WA 6407

# 15. Closure of meeting

There being no further business the Shire President will declare the meeting closed at 6:00 pm.

# 16. Certification

### **DECLARATION**

Deed (IV (110))
I, Dennis Whisson, certify that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2020 as shown were confirmed at the ordinary meeting of Council held on 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2020.
Signed:
Date: