

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

MINUTES INDEX – 6 February 2020

Subject	Page No
Attendance, Apologies & Leave of Absence	2
Attendance of Electors	2
Confirmation of Minutes	2
Annual Report & Annual Financial Report.....	3
General Business Regarding the Financial Statements	3
General Business	3
Closure	6
Attachments	6

unconfirmed minutes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors, held in the Council Chambers on Thursday, 6 February 2020 commencing at 5.30pm

The Presiding Member opened the Meeting and welcomed those in attendance

Acknowledgment of Country – Presiding Member

On behalf of the Councillors, staff and gallery, I acknowledge the Noongar People, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are gathered, and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

1. Attendance, Apologies and Leave of Absence

President	- Cr Nicholas
Councillors	- J Bookless
	- J Boyle
	- B Johnson
	- J Moore
	- J Mountford
	- T Pratico
	- P Quinby
	- A J Wilson
In Attendance	- T Clynch, CEO
	- M Larkworthy, Executive Manager Corporate Services
	- T Lockley, Executive Assistant

2. Electors Present

M Morton, W Menzie, B Moore, M Sharp, S Smith, T Dittrich, R Debenham, A Williams, T Wheeler (MB Times)

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Attachment 1

A Motion is required to confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held 7 February 2019.

Moved Mr Moore, Seconded Cr Wilson

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held 7 February 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

4. Annual Report & Annual Financial Report

A Motion is required to receive the Annual Report & Annual Financial Statements for the 2018/19 year as presented.

Moved Cr Pratico, Seconded Cr Moore

That the Annual Report & Annual Financial Statements for the 2018/19 year be received as presented.

Carried

5. General Business Regarding the Financial Statements

Following receipt of the Annual Report & Annual Financial Statements for the 2018/19 year the President called for questions or queries regarding the Report and Statements.

Nil

6. General Business

B Moore

In the Minutes for the Annual General Meeting of Electors for 2019, I note that Cr Moore raised an issue regarding the parking restrictions in Forest Street behind the primary school. At that time the CEO wasn't sure if they were to be relined or not. I'm just wondering, in the past 12 months has any action been taken because there are no signs on the street indicating that parking is restricted, however there are some worn out lines on the road indicating that there is 'no standing'.

CEO's response – A request has been put in to renew the yellow line, this is the time of the year that that work would get done. The painting on the street is an alternative to a posted sign, and there is a works request that has been put in, I will just need to find out where it's at.

Cr Moore

There is a tree blocking one of the signs as you are coming down to the back of the school on the left hand side.

A Williams

The droughts over parts of Australia and devastating bushfires that have rocked Australia have brought climate change into community focus like never before. Bridgetown-Greenbushes is not immune with falling annual rainfall and longer bushfire seasons. The Shire's Strategic Community Plan has as its fifth Key Goal: 'Our leadership will be visionary, collaborative and accountable.' Considering these, please would you explain the steps the Shire Council is taking to avoid and mitigate an onset of more severe adverse effects driven by climate change?

Response – Council's integrated planning framework recognises the issues associated with climate change. Strategy 2.1.6 of the Strategic Community Plan states that Council "recognise and respond to the impacts of climate change". The Corporate Business Plan activates (and schedules such activation) the strategies contained within the Strategic Community Plan and proposes that in 2021/22 a

climate change strategy for the Shire be prepared. Such a strategy is likely to have a dual purpose:

- *Mitigation – to seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to minimise the severity of climate change; and*
- *Adaption – implement strategies to ensure the Shire as an organisation is prepared and able to adapt to current and future impacts of climate change.*

Although preparation of a climate change strategy isn't scheduled until 2021/22 there will be some preliminary work done before that to determine how such a strategy will be prepared, including the need for professional assistance.

Notwithstanding the proposal to develop a climate change strategy Council has already implemented a number of initiatives that are relevant to the issue, including:

- *An energy audit was undertaken for all Shire owned facilities, identifying short and long term options regarding energy efficiency for the Shire.*
- *A component of the current gym expansion project is the installation of solar panels that will supply approximately 80% of the electricity use of the aquatics side of the Leisure Centre.*
- *Council's Light Fleet Purchasing Policy sets out maximum emissions when purchasing vehicles.*
- *Endorsement of a Warren Blackwood Cycling Strategy that promotes the development of a more extensive cycleway network.*
- *As part of the development of a new Local Planning Strategy a bushfire hazard assessment is being done for the purpose of identifying bushfire hazards that impact on current and future development.*
- *The Shire is one of several local governments receiving State Government funding to carry out bushfire mitigation activities. In addition to this grant funded work Council also funds additional mitigation works and in an organisational restructure last year increased its staff resources for this activity.*
- *The installation of reticulation at the sporting fields in Bridgetown and Greenbushes is proposed over the next few years and this will see more efficient watering being done.*
- *Investigations are currently occurring on increasing surface water catchment at the Bridgetown Sportsground as a new irrigation source for watering.*
- *A Waterwise Action Plan is to be developed in consultation with the Water Corporation.*
- *A 'bee-friendly' strategy is being investigated that could see changes in how the Shire's parkland is managed.*
- *The Shire is participating in a regional waste plan that is investigating a number of different technologies for management of waste in the South-West.*
- *Emergency management planning includes identifies risk from severe storms and other climatic events, noting that these may become more prevalent with climate change.*

M Morton

I found out this morning that this meeting was on and it made me start to think how come I didn't know beforehand. How long before an AGM do you normally send out notification and in which way was it sent out because I had a look on the community noticeboard (Facebook) and didn't see it, not many of my friends who are elderly

people are on Facebook so they didn't know. I looked in the February Mailbag and I didn't see it in there so how does this notice for the AGM which is an electors AGM, get out to people, and at what point does it go out?

Executive Assistant's response – Advertising was placed in the Manjimup-Bridgetown Times both yesterday and the week preceeding, so we had two advertisements run there. We have it pinned on our Facebook page, so as soon as you go to the Shire's Facebook page that's the first thing you will see, it is also in our events and meetings sections on our website, as well as being advertised on our Shire Bytes – an email service where people can send me an email to register, and also placed on the Shire noticeboards.

M Sharp

I read in the media yesterday that Bridgetown might be able to apply for drought relief funding up to \$1M. I wonder if that is accurate and if so, will the shire be applying for it and have they formed a strategy for what they might do with it?

President's response – the Shire has been advised by the Commonwealth Government that we are one of 52 Councils that is eligible for that million dollars, and so yes, we will be putting forward a plan to meet their requirements to spend that million dollars. We haven't yet formalised exactly what that yet looks like, but we certainly have some pretty crystal clear ideas about where we should be going with it. It's very much built around infrastructure, economic development and employment, that's where we have to be looking, that's where we have to be going. The Commonwealth Government has been issuing this funding for some time, and this an extension round which was offered to another 52 councils, quite a few of them in WA built around falling rainfall – there is some criteria about rainfall depletion and also built around the fact that the percentage of people that are actually employed in rural businesses within the shire. We have qualified for that and are looking forward to putting together our case to get the million dollars brought forward.

The CEO and I have been working very hard on lobbying the current government and its ministers about spending some money in Bridgetown-Greenbushes on what we are calling our 'growth strategy' built around the expansion of Talison, simply because we believe that the predominance of additional employment coming to Talison will reside in our shire, given the limitation of driving time and that sort of thing stands and the government doesn't interfere and start shipping people in from Collie which is high on the governments agenda apparently, we're very much opposed to that so we've got our own 'growth strategy' in place to do a whole range of things within the shire and all of those things are currently embedded into our Strategic Plan, they're in our outears if you like, simply because each of them has significant funding attached to it. We are working with the state government for them to put their hands in their pockets to the tune of around about \$5M to prop up those plans that we have for strategic development. Some of those things are built around providing better facilities for the community, some are built around improving safety, both here and in Greenbushes, some of them are about proving additional facilities both here and in Greenbushes for what we are expecting to be an increase in population. Part of that 'growth strategy' may in fact be consumed in that million dollars you spoke about, but we are hoping we can come to some agreement about which of those programmes, and which of those projects best fits the requirements that the Commonwealth Government has, and we will keep labouring with the

current government about them putting their hands in their pockets to do something for Bridgetown and Greenbushes just for a change.

7. Closure

Shire President closed the Meeting 5.49pm

8. List of Attachments

Attachment	Item No.	Details
1	3	Minutes of the AGM of Electors held 7 February 2019

Minutes checked and authorised by CEO, T Clynch		7.2.20
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<p><u>CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES</u></p> <p>As Presiding Member, I certify that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held 6 February 2020 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting at the Annual Meeting of Electors held on 20.....</p> <p>.....(Date).....</p>
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unconfirmed minutes