

**Special Council Minutes Index – 12 April 2022**

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## MINUTES

For the Special Meeting of Council held in the Bridgetown Leisure Centre on **Tuesday 12 April 2022**, commencing at 5.30pm, called for the purpose of considering the motions carried at the Special Meeting of Electors held on 28 March 2022.

### **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.*

### **Attendance & Apologies**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| President   | - Cr J Bookless  |
| Councillors | - B Johnson<br>- T Lansdell<br>- S Mahoney<br>- J Mountford<br>- A Pratico<br>- P Quinby<br>- A Rose   |
| Officer     | - T Clynch, Chief Executive Officer<br>- M Larkworthy, Executive Manager Corporate Services<br>- P St John, Executive Manager Development and Infrastructure |
| Apology     | - Cr J Boyle   |

### **Attendance of Gallery**

S Tilley, J Brown, J Nicholas, B Moore, A Scott, J Mews, L Mews, A Scott, D Hansen, S Bonser, B Price, D Bonser-Price, B Taylor, M Schneider, K Watson, P Bartlett, M Hoskins, K Ladner, M Sandberg, S De Waal, M White, S Reynolds, Michael (Surname Unknown)

### **Public Question Time**

#### **J Braun**

Part 2, Division 3, section 2.10 of the Local Government Act 1995 describes the role of Councillors. Sub-section (a) of section 2.10 states “a councilor represents the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents of the district”. On the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at the Special Electors Meeting, open to all electors, ratepayers and residents, the motions put forward to the Council had a close to unanimous vote and therefore should be considered representative of the electors wishes regarding the motions presented. As Councillors are required to represent the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents of the district, will all Councillors present vote on the motions put forward at the special electors meeting in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 without:

- (a) Presuming to know what other electors may or may not have voted when not in attendance at the special electors meeting;

- (b) Without personal feelings, personal beliefs or personal choice swaying the vote; and
- (c) Without bias prejudice and non-objectivity?

*Shire President Response – I feel very comfortable answering on behalf of all councillors that the answer is yes.*

M White

Our Shire values for our community are meant to be welcoming, diverse, inclusive, a safe community for people and animals, access to quality education and work opportunities, genuine free choice and lifestyle community. The general consensus in our community is that the un-vaxxed are classified as a minority. May the Council consider all council events coming up in the future to be inclusive for everyone?

The café in this building could be offering morning teas for all the community to come together. Can the people have a voice of when you choose to put on events, can the events be non-judgmental or open regardless of status?

*Shire President Response – in every event or function that the Council presides over it is bound by State Government mandates. Cafes are subject to the mandates.*

S De Waal

How many of the Councillors did not attend the Special Electors Meeting held on 28 March despite the fact that COVID guidelines were adhered to. Given that it was a special electors meeting was there any responsibility on the part of all Councillors to be in attendance at that meeting under the Local Government Act? How many of you that were not present have watched the video of the meeting in its entirety? If you did not watch the video or were not present how can you purport to be representing the whole community if you don't have all the facts to begin with?

*Shire President Response – I have it on good authority that all Councillors either attended the meeting or watched it online. There was no requirement for Councillors to be physically present at that meeting.*

M Sandberg

Has there been any petition going around for people that support the mandates otherwise we don't know what proportion of people that support the mandates? I think the mandates are a good thing I'm not in favour of protesting against the mandates

*Shire President Response – thank you, I'll take that as a comment.*

S Tilley

Can Council explain to me how you can sit in silence support of a group of people, however minor they may be perceived to be, not being allowed to participate in certain parts of society unless they take a medicine from a pharmaceutical company that has zero liability from death and injury as a result?

*Shire President Response – that is precisely why we are here tonight.*

A Scott

Would the Shire BG speak up for its people by actively and consistently advocating for we the people?

*Shire President Response – that is why we are here tonight.*

T Deans

In the 'risk management' section on page 9 of the Agenda tonight it seems that the Shire is very concerned about risking its reputation. Does the Shire care more for its reputation than the people it is being elected to represent?

*Shire President Response – No.*

L Roberts

Is anybody concerned that when you go for a vaccine nobody asks you what other medications you are on? I would like to ask the Councillors what they consider to be safe with these vaccines. Are Councillors confident we aren't being taken for a ride?

*Shire President Response – Not personally being a medical practitioner I'm not sure whether I would ask a patient what other medications they would be on. Cr Rose has indicated she can respond so I will hand to her.*

*Cr Rose Response – When you go to the doctor to have the jab the doctor or nurse has a sheet that has to be completed in order for that vaccine to be distributed to you. If you go to the pharmacy I can't tell you what goes on there. The doctor has notification that a sheet has to be filled in. They do find out about your medication and if you go to your regular doctor to have the jab they will know whether the vaccinations will talk to your regular medications or not.*

**Council Decision**

**SpC.00/0422**  
**minutes.**

**Moved Mahoney, Seconded Cr Rose**

**That public question time be extended by a further 15**

**Carried 8/0**

S Bonser

Will the Shire advocate on behalf of us and others that have had a vaccine injury?

*Shire President Response - That's why we are here tonight.*

L Duncan

Will Council advocate for us and the community and contact Mark McGowan for the proof of science behind these mandates?

*Shire President Response - Once again, I can't speak on behalf of Council but that's why we are here tonight.*

Michael (Surname Unknown)

Why is Mark McGowan making us wear masks?

*Shire President Response – Perhaps I should suggest you ask Mr McGowan.*

D May

The two local newspapers have been name calling and conducting gutter journalism. Does the Council condone this?

*Shire President Response – It's a simple answer - no.*

S Tilley

Should it not be in each person's individual choice whether they follow the mandates or not if they feel it is in their best interests?

*Shire President Response - That's why we are here tonight.*

**Notification of Disclosures of Interest**

Section 5.65 or 5.70 of the Local Government Act requires a Member or Officer who has an interest in any matter to be discussed at a Committee/Council Meeting that will be attended by the Member or Officer must disclose the nature of the interest in a written notice given to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting; or at the meeting before the matter is discussed.

A Member who makes a disclosure under Section 5.65 or 5.70 must not preside at the part of the meeting relating to the matter; or participate in; or be present during, any discussion or decision making procedure relating to the matter, unless allowed by the Committee/Council. If Committee/Council allow a Member to speak, the extent of the interest must also be stated.

Nil

**SpC.01/0422      Suspension of Standing Orders**

At its December 2021 meeting Council resolved:

*That Council:*

- 1. That at an appropriate period after the commencement of each ordinary and special council meetings Council is to consider suspending Clause 9.1 of its Standing Orders Local Law to allow Council Members to remain seated whilst addressing Council, either in speaking to a motion or the asking of a question.*
- 2. That this procedure be conducted as a trial to determine whether a permanent change in the Standing Orders should be sought.*

Clause 18.1 of the Standing Orders states:

- (1) The Council or a committee may decide, by simple majority vote, to suspend temporarily one of more of these Standing Orders.
- (2) The mover of a motion to suspend temporarily any one or more of these Standing Orders is to state the clause or clauses to be suspended, and the purpose of the suspension

The key words in clause 18.1 are "suspend temporarily" meaning that Council must resolve at each Council Meeting to suspend clause 9.1 of the Standing Orders for the duration of the meeting.

Motion

*That Council suspend clause 9.1 of its Standing Orders Local Law to allow Council Members to remain seated whilst addressing Council, either in speaking to a motion or the asking of a question.*

**Council Decision**

***Moved Cr Bookless, Seconded Cr Rose***

***SpC.01/0422 That Council suspend clause 9.1 of its Standing Orders Local Law to allow Council Members to remain seated whilst addressing Council, either in speaking to a motion or the asking of a question.***

***Carried 7/1***

*Cr Mahoney voted against the Motion*

**Business Items**

|                       |   |                  |     |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|-----|
| <b>ITEM NO.</b>       | SpC.02/0422   | <b>FILE REF.</b> | 208 |
| <b>SUBJECT</b>        | Consideration of the Motions Carried at the Special Meeting of Electors held on 28 March 2022 |                  |     |
| <b>PROPONENT</b>      | Electors that Attended Special Meeting of Electors held on 28 March 2022                      |                  |     |
| <b>OFFICER</b>        | Chief Executive Officer   |                  |     |
| <b>DATE OF REPORT</b> | 8 April 2022  |                  |     |

Attachment 1 – Minutes Special Meeting of Electors held 28 March 2022

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council:*

- 1. Notes but does not endorse the 5 motions carried at the Special Meeting of Electors held on 28 March 2022.*
- 2. Refrains from endorsing an advocacy position in relation to the State Government vaccination mandates or covid-19 Directions.*
- 3. Notes that any elector has the right to direct any concerns they have about State Government vaccination mandates or covid-19 Directions to the WA State Government who have full jurisdiction over the mandates imposed.*

**Summary/Purpose**

Council is required to consider the motions carried at the Special Meeting of Electors held on 28 March 2022.

**Background**

A written request was received on 24 February, signed by 270 electors, requesting this special meeting of electors be held with the details of the matters to be discussed being:

- Seek declaration of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes community being declared a 'Pro-Choice Community' in relation to State Government vaccination mandates.
- To hear and discuss community concerns in relation to the vaccination mandates, specifically seeking a vote of electors in attendance opposing

vaccination mandates and declaring Bridgetown-Greenbushes a 'Pro-Choice Community'.

- iii. To advise the Premier and State Parliament of community concerns in relation to existing mandates and request they refrain from imposing further mandates as well as removing all existing mandates currently in place.

Accordingly a Special Meeting of Electors was held in the Bridgetown Leisure Centre on 28 March 2022. The minutes of the meeting record a total of 165 persons in attendance, including electors, non-electors, councillors and Shire staff. It is clear that additional persons did attend. In order to comply with COVID-19 mandates and directions a limitation of 150 persons per enclosed indoor space was enforced and for this reason regular head counts were conducted during the meeting. At its peak attendance approximately 185 persons were counted. It is noted that not all attendees chose to record their details on the attendance sheet.

A total of 5 motions were carried at the meeting. The meeting was respectful and provided an opportunity to hear from those moving and supporting the motions, as well as anyone objecting to them, noting that only 2 persons spoke against any motion. All motions, although not unanimous, were carried by a clear simple majority

It is noted that the Shire has received a number of emails, Facebook posts and phone calls from persons that were either unable to attend the meeting or chose not to attend. The majority of these contacts have sought to record their opposition to the subject matter of the meeting, in particular the potential declaration of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes as a pro-choice community.

The 5 motions carried at the meeting were:

#### Motion 1

Moved L Duncan, Seconded G Braun

SE.01/0322 *We request that the Council adopt this position statement (the 'COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement') and actively advocate to the State Government to remove vaccination mandate policy. The first part of the position statement to be voted on in this motion is a list of basic principles and fundamental rights that we believe are currently being violated by the State Government. We believe that the local government should advocate to the State Government in support of these fundamental rights and basic principles:*

*Part 1. No person should be:*

- a. *Prevented from performing work and unable to pay their mortgage or provide for their family. Neither should business be prevented from receiving income by being required to deny service to members of the community;*
- b. *Across the State people are being discriminated and segregated based on their vaccination status. This has caused significant mental health problems that even includes suicide or suicide attempts;*
- c. *Many people are being forced to do what they do not want to do so they can work and participate in society. This is coercion. No one should be mandated to undergo a medical treatment to work or participate within their local community and society;*
- d. *This is a derivation of basic benefits and protections of employment through statute;*
- e. *The health directions restrict access to premises such as work sites or cafes which is a violation of a person's right to freedom of movement;*

- f. the consequence of this is that people are being restricted from participating in their community and meeting with friends;*
- g. The right to privacy has been invaded with the requirements to provide evidence of their medical details;*
- h. There should be equality before the laws but currently the unvaccinated are being subject to laws and penalties that others are not subject. This is clear discrimination and segregation.*

*Carried by a show of hands*

#### Motion 2

*Moved L Duncan, Seconded G Braun*

*SE.02/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:*

*Part 2. That the Local Government shall:*

- a. not restrict any function, property, or service of the Local Government based on vaccination status;*
- b. as far as practicable redeploy or reinstate employees of the Local Government that risk termination or have been terminated on the basis of vaccination status;*
- c. honour all obligations under contract for all persons adversely impacted as a consequence of inferred mandatory requirement for vaccination; and*
- d. establish means to compensate Local Government employees that have lost income as a consequence of termination on the basis of vaccine status.*

*Carried by a show of hands*

#### Motion 3

*Moved L Duncan, Seconded T Deans*

*SE.03/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:*

*Part 3. That the Local Government actively advocate for:*

- a. the removal of the COVID-19 mandatory vaccination policy and any associated directions made under the Public Health Act 2016 (WA); and*
- b. the repeal of any mandate or written law, or, anything done under any mandate or written law that conflicts with this position statement.*

*Carried by a show of hands*

#### Motion 4

*Moved L Duncan, Seconded J Small*

*SE.05/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:*

*Part 4. The Local Government in performing an advocacy role will seek the cooperation of:*

- a. other Local Governments across the State;*
- b. Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA);*
- c. Local Government Professionals WA; and*
- d. other professional bodies, associations, and business entities*

*Carried by a show of hands*



Motion 5

Moved L Duncan, Seconded L Gloede

SE.05/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'Covid-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:

*Part 5. That the Council confirm in writing from the State Government what the regulator would determine the outcome would be should a worker, contractor or subcontractor pass away due to a vaccine adverse reaction at your workplace or cause injury or death to another worker due to an adverse reaction.*

*Carried by a show of hands*

Officer Comment

An estimated 185 people, a number equivalent to approximately 5% of the 3,675 electors (as at October 2021 local government election) of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes attended the meeting. Although not unanimous there was a clear majority of attendees that expressed their strong support for the motions passed and the supporting arguments. They were clear and strong in their views about the impacts of mandates on businesses and community cohesiveness, based on their own experiences.

Overall the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes as a district has very high vaccination rates. In acknowledging this, it is also fair to say that there are a diversity of views in the community in relation to vaccine mandates. Without undertaking some form of referendum (which is not recommended) the Councillors are not in a position to know exactly what the views of all electors are in relation to mandates; and as such officers would not recommend the Council move to declare itself 'pro-choice' or similar, or adopt the 5 parts of the 'Covid-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' that is referenced in all 5 motions carried at the meeting. Notwithstanding whether Council is or isn't in a position to know the views of all electors there is also the issue of whether a local government should be seeking to advocate on an issue that is solely within the province of the State Government.

All 5 motions carried request that the Council advocate on behalf of those electors their concerns about the impacts of mandating vaccination on the community and businesses. It is accepted that one way that the Council can represent the different views of its community is through advocacy and that often advocacy is undertaken for a small elements or groups of the community. However with respect to Covid-19 mandates the impacts are across the community.

Based on its health advice, the WA State Government introduced both a mandatory vaccination policy for various occupations and workforces in WA as well as restrictions on entry by unvaccinated patrons to certain venues in WA. These mandates have had impacts on a small number of Shire employees, a high number of emergency services volunteers and on patrons of some Shire facilities such as the gym at the Leisure Centre.

Local government is not the legislating body in relation to vaccine mandates, therefore the concerns raised at the Special Meeting of Electors would be best addressed directly to the State Government or one of their representatives. The question of vaccination mandates can be divisive within a community and it may be difficult for Council to be satisfied that the opinion of the majority of electors is accurately reflected in the motions carried at the meeting.

Local governments, including the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes have been required to adhere to the State Government Directions or risk committing an offence. The Shire has implemented all State Government vaccination policies where required.

In relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, primarily local government is responsible for working closely with the State Government to support preparedness, implementation of response measures and recovery, as well as communication of messages to the local community. The Shire is in regular contact with the State agencies responsible for managing the Covid-19 pandemic in Western Australia including the Department of Health and WA Police and will continue to provide any assistance necessary to support the community during this time.

#### Options for Council Decision-Making

The officer recommendation is for Council to simply note (not endorse) the motions and refrain from adopting an advocacy position on the 5 parts of the 'Covid-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' referenced in those motions.

As an alternative to the officer recommendation Council could decide:

1. To advocate to State Government on any or some of the motions;
2. To write to the Premier of Western Australia and advise that circa 185 persons in our community attended a recent meeting to outline their concerns about the impacts that the vaccine mandates are having on business, employees, volunteers, and the community and request that the Premier takes the concerns of the those electors into account as he reviews the State Government's position on vaccine mandates;
3. To conduct its own survey on the impacts of vaccine mandates on ratepayers; and/or
4. To take some other course of action.

#### Statutory Environment

Section 5.28 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires a special electors meeting to be held on the request of not less than 100 electors or 5% of the number of electors, whichever is the lesser number. The request is to specify the matters to be discussed at the meeting and be in the form set out by the Regulations. All of these requirements were met.

Section 5.33 of the Local Government Act 1995 sets out the process for Council to consider decisions made at electors meetings.

#### *5.33. Decisions made at electors' meetings*

- (1) All decisions made at an electors' meeting are to be considered at the next ordinary council meeting or, if that is not practicable —
  - (a) at the first ordinary council meeting after that meeting; or
  - (b) at a special meeting called for that purpose, whichever happens first.
- (2) If at a meeting of the council a local government makes a decision in response to a decision made at an electors' meeting, the reasons for the decision are to be recorded in the minutes of the council meeting.

### Integrated Planning

- Strategic Community Plan  
Outcome 13 – Proactive, visionary leaders who respond to community needs  
Objective 13.1 – Strengthen leadership and advocacy
- Corporate Business Plan - Nil
- Long Term Financial Plan – Not applicable
- Asset Management Plans – Not applicable
- Workforce Plan – Not applicable
- Other Integrated Planning – Nil

### Policy Implications - Nil

### Budget Implications - Nil

### Whole of Life Accounting – Nil

### Delegated Authority - Nil

### Risk Management

The subject of vaccination mandates is a divisive issue and whatever decision Council makes with respect to the 5 motions carried at the Special Meeting of Electors is likely to receive both support and objection. The level of risk to the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes is in the area of reputation and have been assessed as “moderate consequence” with an “almost certain” likelihood, giving a risk rating outcome of “high” in accordance with Council Policy F.21 ‘Risk Management’.

### Voting Requirements – Simple Majority

### Council Decision                      *Moved Cr Rose, Seconded Cr Johnson*

#### **SpC.02/0422              That Council:**

- 1. Notes but does not endorse the 5 motions carried at the Special Meeting of Electors held on 28 March 2022.**
- 2. Refrains from endorsing an advocacy position in relation to the State Government vaccination mandates or covid-19 Directions.**
- 3. Notes that any elector has the right to direct any concerns they have about State Government vaccination mandates or covid-19 Directions to the WA State Government who have full jurisdiction over the mandates imposed.**

**Carried 5/3**

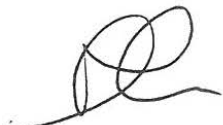
*Crs Lansdell, Mountford and Quinby voted against the Motion*

### Closure

*The President closed the Meeting at 6.17pm*

### List of Attachments

| Attachment | Item No.    | Details  |
|------------|-------------|--|
| 1.         | Spc.02/0422 | Minutes Special Meeting of Electors held 28 March 2022 |

|   |  |            |
|---|--|------------|
| Minutes checked and authorised by<br>CEO, Mr T P Clynch |  | 20.04.2022 |
|---|--|------------|



## **SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS**

### **MINUTES INDEX – 28 March 2022**

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## MINUTES

For the Special Meeting of Electors, held at the Bridgetown Leisure Centre, Monday 28 March 2022.

### **Opening of Meeting**

*The Shire President opened the meeting at 5.30pm.*

### **Acknowledgment of Country**

*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.*

### **Presiding Member**

The Shire President, Cr John Bookless was the Presiding Member for this Special Meeting of Electors.

### **Attendance**

D Roberts, S Baxendale, N Graebner, C Lewenhoff, J Boyle, J Gasper, J Gasper, A Connor, T Deans, J Murray, G Walker, S Hawkins, P Shrachan, S Karafilis, S Bonser, T Lansdell, P Mills, B Vuckovic, S de Waal, A Day, J Small, S Tilley, L Duncan, D Achilles, P Atkins, A Rose, M White, D White, H Hoskin, M Hoskin, P Hoskin, M Forth, M Gibson, D Robertson, L Roberts, C Hill, K Baxendale, G Braun, J Herring, M Maher, J Tilley, B Punch, I Buss, M Aberle, S Meyers, D Smyly, J Linto, L Vuckovic, L Vuckovic, L Gloebe, F Roberts, L Roberts, E Roberts, D Bartlett, E Crust, A Bless, M Richards, L Evans, F Wilson, T Wilson, E Baskett, E Smith, K Miller, G Gyani, R Brown, S Whiting, C Bloor, C Barker, B Johnson, N Ryan, S Mews, B Parks, D Barrett, J Mountford, M Lockley, M Lockley, H Dale, S McIntosh, K Ellement, A Rose, B Whiteford, I Van De Griend, J Van De Griend, M Van De Griend, P Dunne, S Reynolds, R Parks, R Watts, M De Vattimo, S Evans, E Evans, J Evans, J Burns, R Burns, M Evans, M De Vattimo, M Scallan, R Kelly, R Price, J Blake, T Dittrich, A Dhu, K Watson, J Kaye, M Kaye, J Mitchell, K Greenslade, T Weaver, D Purnell, D Hansen, S Reimers, J Dittrich, J Ruwaard, T Semmens, B Caper, M Schneider, A Scroop, J Shead, M Lockley, S Browning, L Mills, S Sanzone, M Mason, B Nicholson, L Carroll, J Spargo, C Dale, B Dale, L Maxfield, N Maxfield, M Rothery, L Butler, S Sieradzki, B Winfield, L Mews, G Robertson, B Taylor, C Narr, H Paget, S Paget, M Graham, Z Murphy, A Terriguo, J Browning, J Browning, T Browning, Z Browning, S Seesank, T Clynch, M Larkworthy, P St John, E Matthews, T Lockley, S Sehm, J Butler, S Ellis, M Zhuo

*Note the above attendance list has been compiled from the details provided by attendees on the attendance sheet. Some of the writing and/or details provided by persons were unable to be interpreted. It was also evident that some persons chose not to provide details or overlooked filling in the attendance sheet.*

*Note the above attendance list includes councillors and staff that were in attendance*

### **Announcements by the Presiding Member**

This meeting has been scheduled in accordance with section 5.28 of the Local Government Act. Under this section of the Act a special meeting of the electors of a district is to be held on the request of not less than 100 electors.

A written request was received on 24 February, signed by 270 electors, requesting this special meeting of electors be held with the details of the matters to be discussed being:

- i. Seek declaration of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes community being declared a 'Pro-Choice Community' in relation to State Government vaccination mandates.
- ii. To hear and discuss community concerns in relation to the vaccination mandates, specifically seeking a vote of electors in attendance opposing vaccination mandates and declaring Bridgetown-Greenbushes a 'Pro-Choice Community'.
- iii. To advise the Premier and State Parliament of community concerns in relation to existing mandates and request they refrain from imposing further mandates as well as removing all existing mandates currently in place.

The representatives of the electors that requested this meeting have provided notice of 5 motions they wish to present to this meeting tonight. These motions will be the first 5 motions considered. If after these motions have been dealt with any person wishes to move another motion this can be done from the floor by the person putting their hand up and approaching the microphone at the front of this room.

This meeting is being run so as to comply with current Western Australian Government COVID-19 mandates and directions. This is why we have had to separate the attendees into separate rooms as there is a maximum capacity of 150 persons per inside room. With this double court being used and the single court we can accommodate 300 persons inside. There is an overflow area outside near the pool area that can accommodate a further 200 persons.

We have a camera set up in this room to record the proceedings and there is a screen and speakers set up in the single court so that persons in that space can follow the proceedings. Unfortunately we weren't able to set up a camera in the outside space but there are speakers there for persons to listen to proceedings.

To ensure that the meeting is held in the right spirit and conviviality there are some rules we will have to follow:

- i. Everyone is to be treated with respect;
- ii. All speakers are to use the microphone in this room so that everyone can hear them speak. For those persons in the other spaces I will discuss shortly how you are able to access the microphone here.
- iii. When a person is speaking no responses from the floor, heckling, comments, etc. are to be made.

This is a meeting of electors. In short, to be an elector of this Shire you must be eligible to be on the electoral roll for the Shire. This means you must be 18 years of age or older, be a resident of this Shire or own property in this Shire. If you are an

elector you can vote on any motion. Without knowing how many people would be attending this meeting we made the decision that voting would be done on an honour basis and we wouldn't be checking off IDs of every person that attended. Therefore, if you believe you meet the definition of an elector to vote on a motion (when I put a motion to the vote) you need to simply put your hand up either when I call for votes in favour of the motion or when I call for votes against.

On each motion once it has been moved and seconded and after the mover and seconder have spoken to their motion I will be seeking other speakers, firstly a speaker against the motion, then a speaker for the motion. Once a 5 speakers for and 5 against have spoken I can put the motion to the vote.

Where a clear majority is evident from the raising of hands we will not be counting votes. However where a clear majority isn't evident we will be doing a count.

If you wish to speak at this meeting, either by asking a question or speaking for or against a motion, you will have to be signed off as an elector and have been given a wrist band to wear. If you intend to speak and haven't already obtained a wrist band please approach one of the Shire staff in attendance and they will check your eligibility to be confirmed as an elector and will give you a wrist band.

If you are in either the single court or in the outside area and you wish to ask a question or speak to a motion please see one of the Shire staff in your area and they will escort you to the microphone in this room.

Please don't try and move from one area to another. We must ensure that the number of people in each space doesn't exceed the maximum numbers permitted. If you need to use the toilets please let the staff member in the foyer area know as you walk there. If you plan on leaving this meeting early please leave through the front doors.

In the event of an emergency please follow the instructions of Shire staff. There are a number of exit doors that can be opened in an emergency.

The order of proceedings for this meeting is:

- Presentations from/on behalf of Petitioners (Pre-approved by the Shire President)
- Consideration of Motions
- Close

### **Presentations from/on behalf of Petitioners**

Presentations, all providing reasons, statistics or stories in support of the motions proposed to be moved at the meeting, were made by the following persons:

- Simone Tilley
- Marilyn Gibson
- Michael Hoskins
- Jai Braun
- Sharon Bonser



## **Consideration of Motions**

### **Motion 1**

**Moved**        **L Duncan, Seconded G Braun**

**SE.01/0322**        **We request that the Council adopt this position statement (the ‘COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement’) and actively advocate to the State Government to remove vaccination mandate policy. The first part of the position statement to be voted on in this motion is a list of basic principles and fundamental rights that we believe are currently being violated by the State Government. We believe that the local government should advocate to the State Government in support of these fundamental rights and basic principles:**

#### **Part 1. No person should be:**

- a. Prevented from performing work and unable to pay their mortgage or provide for their family. Neither should business be prevented from receiving income by being required to deny service to members of the community;**
- b. Across the State people are being discriminated and segregated based on their vaccination status. This has caused significant mental health problems that even includes suicide or suicide attempts;**
- c. Many people are being forced to do what they do not want to do so they can work and participate in society. This is coercion. No one should be mandated to undergo a medical treatment to work or participate within their local community and society;**
- d. This is a derivation of basic benefits and protections of employment through statute;**
- e. The health directions restrict access to premises such as work sites or cafes which is a violation of a person’s right to freedom of movement;**
- f. the consequence of this is that people are being restricted from participating in their community and meeting with friends;**
- g. The right to privacy has been invaded with the requirements to provide evidence of their medical details;**
- h. There should be equality before the laws but currently the unvaccinated are being subject to laws and penalties that others are not subject. This is clear discrimination and segregation.**

**Carried by a show of hands**

### **Motion 2**

**Moved**        **L Duncan, Seconded G Braun**

**SE.02/0322**        **We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the ‘COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement’ with the content:**

#### **Part 2. That the Local Government shall:**

- a. not restrict any function, property, or service of the Local Government based on vaccination status;**
- b. as far as practicable redeploy or reinstate employees of the Local Government that risk termination or have been terminated on the basis of vaccination status;**

- c. honour all obligations under contract for all persons adversely impacted as a consequence of inferred mandatory requirement for vaccination; and**
- d. establish means to compensate Local Government employees that have lost income as a consequence of termination on the basis of vaccine status.**

**Carried by a show of hands**

**Motion 3**

**Moved L Duncan, Seconded T Deans**

**SE.03/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:**

**Part 3. That the Local Government actively advocate for:**

- a. the removal of the COVID-19 mandatory vaccination policy and any associated directions made under the Public Health Act 2016 (WA); and**
- b. the repeal of any mandate or written law, or, anything done under any mandate or written law that conflicts with this position statement.**

**Carried by a show of hands**

**Motion 4**

**Moved L Duncan, Seconded J Small**

**SE.05/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'COVID-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:**

**Part 4. The Local Government in performing an advocacy role will seek the cooperation of:**

- a. other Local Governments across the State;**
- b. Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA);**
- c. Local Government Professionals WA; and**
- d. other professional bodies, associations, and business entities**

**Carried by a show of hands**

**Motion 5**

**Moved L Duncan, Seconded L Gloede**

**SE.05/0322 We request that the Council adopt an advocacy position statement called the 'Covid-19 Vaccination Pro-Choice Statement' with the content:**

**Part 5. That the Council confirm in writing from the State Government what the regulator would determine the outcome would be should a worker, contractor or subcontractor pass away due to a vaccine adverse reaction at your workplace or cause injury or death to another worker due to an adverse reaction.**

**Carried by a show of hands**

The Shire President asked if there were any further motions to be presented. No motions were proposed.

**Closure**

*The Shire President closed the meeting at 8.19pm.*

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| Minutes checked and authorised<br>by CEO, T Clynch |  | 7.4.22 |
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