



**Special Council Minutes Index – 11 March 2021**

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## MINUTES

A Special Council Meeting of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes was held on Thursday 11 March 2021.

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 5.40pm.

The purpose of the meeting is for considering a budget amendment to allow urgent works to be carried out on the ablutions at Greenbushes Pool prior to the Easter period.

### **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 and Leave of Absence**

President	- Cr J Nicholas
Councillors	- Cr J Bookless
	- Cr J Boyle
	- Cr J Moore
	- Cr J Mountford
	- Cr A Pratico
	- Cr P Quinby
	- Cr A Wilson
Officer	- T Clynch, Chief Executive Officer
	- E Denniss, Executive Manager Community Services
	- K Dudley, Executive Assistant
Apology	- Cr B Johnson
	- M Larkworthy, Executive Manager Corporate Services
	- G Arlandoo, Executive Manager Development & Infrastructure

**Attendance of Gallery** – Nil

**Public Question Time** – Nil

**Petitions/Deputations/Presentations** – Nil

**Comments on Agenda Items by Parties with an Interest** – Nil

**Notification of Disclosures of Interest** – Nil

## **Business Items**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	SpC.01/0321	<b>FILE REF.</b>	461
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Greenbushes Pool Toilets – Septic Tank and Leach Drain Replacement		
<b>OFFICER</b>	Executive Manager Corporate Services		
<b>DATE OF REPORT</b>	5 March 2021		

### *OFFICER RECOMMENDATION that Council*

- 1. Amends its 2020/21 Budget by including an expenditure allocation of \$10,000 to Job '05BU - Greenbushes Pool Toilets' for the installation of new septic tanks and leach drain at the Greenbushes Pool Reserve 22315.*
- 2. Transfers an amount up to \$10,000 from the 'Building Maintenance Reserve' as funding for replacement of the existing septic tank and French drain.*

### Summary/Purpose

To consider an amendment to the 2020/21 Budget for installation of new septic tanks and leach drain for the ablutions at the Greenbushes Pool site.

### Background

The Greenbushes Pool is located on an "A" Class reserve (No 22315), and has been vested in the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes for recreational purposes since 6 March 1942. According to Council records the ablutions at Greenbushes Pool were constructed prior to 1973 with no major works recorded as being undertaken on the septic system since that time. Visits to the facility have increased in recent years by tourists and locals alike with overnight stays now permitted for up to 3 nights. Due to increased usage and age and of the system there is a need to replace the existing septic tank and French drain.

### Officer Comment

The septic tank at the Greenbushes Pool has been pumped out twice in recent weeks. The cost of each pump out has ranged from \$700 - \$1,000. Investigations have now occurred regarding the state of the existing system. These investigations have identified that the existing system comprises of one baffled 1,200mm tank and an old style rock French drain. It is believed that the baffle in the tank may have collapsed allowing solids to leach into the French drain. There is a possibility that nearby tree roots have grown into the French drain causing the drain to clog and subsequently not being able to hold the capacity generated by current usage patterns.

The increased usage of this area for recreational purposes has put pressure on the existing system to the point it is now deemed not suitable. It is recommended that the existing single tank and French drain is replaced with two larger capacity tanks (1 x 1,500mm for solids and 1 x 1,200mm for liquids) and one new 17 – 24 meter leach drain. This proposal would create capacity within the replaced system to sufficiently cope with usage moving forward. The estimated cost for replacement of the existing system with the above specified system is expected to be \$7,500. A contingency of \$2,500 is also required for common 'rock clauses' attached by contractors when working around Greenbushes due to prevalent cap rock in the general area.

Should the officer recommendation to replace the existing system not be supported it is highly likely the facility will require regular pump outs of the septic tank on an ongoing basis at a cost of between \$700 - \$1,000 each time. Depending on contractor availability it is also possible the facility would need to be closed to the public until a contractor is available. Such action would negatively impact the Shire's reputation in relation to management of its facilities.

The recommended works are considered urgent with the Easter break and April school holiday period fast approaching. Quotations are currently being sourced and some indications from contractors is that the system could be installed prior to the Easter break.

### Statutory Environment

Section 6.8. of the Local Government Act - Expenditure from municipal fund not included in annual budget, states:

- (1) A local government is not to incur expenditure from its municipal fund for an additional purpose except where the expenditure —*
- (a) is incurred in a financial year before the adoption of the annual budget by the local government; or*
  - (b) is authorised in advance by resolution\*; or*
  - (c) is authorised in advance by the mayor or president in an emergency.*
- \* Absolute majority required.*

*(1a) In subsection (1) —*  
*additional purpose means a purpose for which no expenditure estimate is included in the local government's annual budget.*

### Integrated Planning

- Strategic Community Plan
  - Key Goal 3 Our Built Environment is Maintained, Protected and Enhanced
  - Objective 3.2 Outdoor spaces, places and buildings fit for purpose
  - Strategy 3.2.1 Community spaces and buildings accommodate a wide range of interests and activities
  - Strategy 3.2.5 Provide and maintain a range of facilities that cater for the community's needs
- Corporate Business Plan – Nil
- Long Term Financial Plan – Nil
- Asset Management Plans
  - Data that informs Council's Property Asset Management plan and renewal requirements will be updated to reflect the replacement of the septic tank and leach drain.
- Workforce Plan – Nil
- Other Integrated Planning - Nil

Policy Implications – Nil

### Budget Implications

No specific allocation is included in Council's 2020/21 Budget for replacement of the existing septic tank and French drain at the Greenbushes Pool site. It is recommended the cost of replacing these items be funded by a transfer from the Building Maintenance Reserve. The current balance of the Building Maintenance Reserve is \$226,484 with no transfers from the reserve currently being identified in the 2020/21 Budget.

### Whole of Life Accounting

Replacement of the existing septic system with a new system fit for purpose will reduce the requirement to pump out the system on a regular basis resulting in reduced whole of life costs associated with managing this facility.

### Risk Management

Replacement of the septic system at the Greenbushes Pool will mitigate the risk to Council's reputation in the event of unforeseen facility closures.

### Voting Requirements – Absolute Majority

### **Council Decision Moved Cr Wilson, Seconded Cr Moore SpC.01/0321 That Council**

- 1. Amends its 2020/21 Budget by including an expenditure allocation of \$10,000 to Job '05BU - Greenbushes Pool Toilets' for the installation of new septic tanks and leach drain at the Greenbushes Pool Reserve 22315.***
- 2. Transfers an amount up to \$10,000 from the 'Building Maintenance Reserve' as funding for replacement of the existing septic tank and French drain.***

***Carried 8/0  
By Absolute Majority***

### **Matters Behind Closed Doors (Confidential Items)** – Nil

### **Closure**

*The Presiding Member closed the meeting at 5.43pm*

### **List of Attachments** – Nil