



MINUTES OF THE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS  
HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY  
**16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2011**



WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

**SHIRE OF MINGENEW  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MINGENEW, ON WEDNESDAY, 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011.**

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**1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Presiding member, Cr MA Bagley declared the meeting open at 7:32 pm and welcomed all visitors to the meeting.

**2.0 ATTENDANCE**

**2.1 PRESENT:**

MA Bagley	President	Rural Ward
BP Horwood	Councillor	Rural Ward
JL Holmes	Councillor	Town Ward
PJ Ward	Councillor	Rural Ward
MP Pearce	Councillor	Town Ward
PJ Gledhill	Councillor	Town Ward

David Bagley	Elector	
Jill Thomas	Elector	
Alison Cosgrove	Elector	
Ian Thomas	Elector	arrived 7:52pm

**2.2 APOLOGIES:**

ET Hathaway	Councillor	Town Ward
Robert McTaggart	Elector	
Sally McTaggart	Elector	

**2.3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Nil

**3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**Moved Cr PJ Gledhill**  
**Seconded Cr MP Pearce**

***That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting***

**CARRIED**

**4.0 REPORTS**

**4.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Moved by Cr MA Bagley**  
**Seconded by Cr BP Horwood**

***That the President's Report as presented be received.***

**CARRIED**

**4.2 CEO'S REPORT**

**Moved by Mrs Alison Cosgrove**  
**Seconded by Cr PJ Ward**

***That the CEO's Report as presented be received.***

**CARRIED**

**4.3 EHO REPORT/WORKS MANAGER'S REPORT/STATUTORY REPORTS**

**Moved by Mrs Alison Cosgrove**  
**Seconded by Cr PJ Ward**

***That the EHO/Works Manager and Statutory Report for 2009/2010, as adopted be received.***

Staff to amend Work's Manager's Report to take out the raking of bunkers for the golf course as this practice is not currently being carried out by staff.

**CARRIED**

**4.4 AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**Moved by Cr PJ Gledhill**  
**Seconded by Cr BPHorwood**

***That the Auditor's Report and Management Letter be received.***

**CARRIED**

**4.5 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Moved by Cr JL Holmes**  
**Seconded by Cr BP Horwood**

***That the Annual Financial Report for 2009/2010, as presented, be received.***

Mrs Cosgrove enquired what the breakdown in income and expenditure of Royalties for Regions funds and what projects were undertaken. CEO directed all relevant listing in Annual Report.

Mrs Thomas enquired as to why the Auditor's Report was so late in being completed. CEO advised this is mainly due to their busy schedule and lack of staff. UHY Haines Norton have been made aware that Council are disappointed in their time management however as they meet the requirement to have the report completed before the 30<sup>th</sup> December there is little action to be taken.

**CARRIED**

**5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Questions received on notice by Mrs Jill Thomas**

**Mingenew – Morawa Road and it's use by Sinosteel Midwest and Karara**

***Q1) Has Council representing its ratepayers requested that Main Roads WA further upgrade the Mingenew-Morawa Road to the standard of the Midlands Road and Allanooka Springs Road to accommodate these increased movements?***

Cr MA Bagley responded: Council has, on several occasions, requested Main Roads WA to carry out widening and other maintenance works on the Mingenew – Morawa Road. They acknowledge the condition of the road but to-date have not been able to get funding to carry out the work.

***Q2) Has Council representing its ratepayers requested that Main Roads WA have an ongoing maintenance programme to maintain the 'shoulders' of the Mingenew – Morawa Road?***

Cr MA Bagley responded: Council has requested a regular shoulder maintenance program to be put in place for the Mingenew – Morawa Road and has offered to carry out these works on behalf of Main Roads. We acknowledge that a shire complaint form should not have to be lodged before works are undertaken but is the required practise.

It is our understanding that this road, for some reason, was not included in the term network contract Main Roads have with Downer EDI for maintenance on their road network. Therefore it is not inspected regularly as is the case with other roads (such as the Midlands Road) and it is only when a resident or the Shire make a complaint or it is noticed by a Main Roads employee that action is initiated.

As from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 there will be a new maintenance contract in place and the Shire of Mingenew, along with five other Midwest Shires, is a party to this contract. This will see the road inspected regularly and any required maintenance reported to Mai Roads WA. Hopefully this will see more regular routine maintenance works completed. It should be noted also that we have had no further correspondence from Karara or Sinosteel on their proposal to truck ore. There has been suggestions that they were looking to truck ore to Arrino or Three Springs and then rail to Geraldton, which will have no impact on Mingenew residents.

**Mr Ian Thomas joined the meeting at 7:52pm.**

***Q3) If Council has not requested either of the above then would it please do so in the interest of safety for all users of this road?***

Addressed in above.

Staff Numbers Employed by the Mingenew Shire

**Q1) What changes have been made to the office and outside staffing levels since the sharing arrangements with Three Springs no longer occur?**

A table was provided to those present and will be mailed with a letter of response to Mrs Thomas. The table shows the staffing levels during the resource sharing arrangement with Three Springs and the current staffing, and you will note there is a minimal difference.

**Q2) What changes will be made when amalgamation goes ahead?**

Cr MA Bagley responded: A definite answer cannot be given as to what the staffing arrangement post amalgamation will be should it go ahead. To-date a decision has not been made on what part of the new shire's operations will be based in Mingenew however there is a guarantee that the office and depot will remain open with no loss of jobs for the next 2 years following amalgamation.

**Amalgamation**

Mrs Alison Cosgrove enquired as to whether there were other groups within the state looking at amalgamating.

Cr MA Bagley advised that there are several other groups, including Geraldton – Greenough and Mullewa. Most of these groups have 3 years to complete the amalgamation process and are not as advanced as the Midwest groups.

Mrs Cosgrove voiced concerns with rate rises as a result of amalgamation should it go ahead.

Cr MA Bagley advised that it is certain there will be a rate increase over the next 5 years to bring each of the 4 shires into line if amalgamation goes ahead. Should amalgamation not go ahead we may be forced into an amalgamation with "Greater Geraldton". If the Perenjori Poll is successful the four shires have agreed to work as a regional collaborative group due to the resources made available through the pre-amalgamation process and would continue to resource share regardless.

There were 5 petitions for a poll on amalgamation submitted by the closing date however only 1 was valid. The poll will be conducted by postal vote and votes are due in by the 16<sup>th</sup> April. 51% of Perenjori's 353 registered electors are required to vote and 50% plus 1 vote must vote against amalgamation for the poll to be successful (meaning amalgamation will not go ahead).

**Mingenew-Morawa Road**

Mrs Thomas enquired what the process is for lobbying for further funds for the Mingenew-Morawa Road.

Cr MA Bagley informed Mrs Thomas that a petition be completed and presented at Parliament.

Mrs Cosgrove voiced concerns that a petition may not be enough – maybe a large volume of letters at once voicing concerns or weekly letters be written to gain some attention. Mrs Thomas requested a contact name and address be made available.

### **Depot Hill Crossing**

Mrs Cosgrove informed the Shire that the road sign on Mullewa Road to Depot Hill Road is conflicting – has large sign saying Allanooka Springs Road with Depot Hill Road above in smaller lettering.

Staff advised that the first section (Mingenew end) is Depot Hill Road and would inspect and address.

Mrs Cosgrove also advised that the “subject to flooding” sign is placed too close to the crossing not giving road users sufficient warning or an appropriate turn around point, particularly when non-local. Staff to address. Staff to investigate using delegate (resident) on Geraldton side of crossing to erect signage when necessary due to long travel time for shire staff to get around to other side.

Mrs Thomas suggested another steep incline warning to be issued on Mingeneew side of crossing.

The CEO advised all concerns would be considered and actioned where possible.

### **Recycling**

Mrs Cosgrove asked Council to confirm whether items disposed into ‘recycling’ bin was actually recycled or not?

Cr MA Bagley responded: No, recycling is not feasible in our area as it is too costly.

### **Annual Truck Permits – Switchback Road**

Mr I Thomas requested that land owners of property on roads such as Switchback should be entitled to an Annual Permit for truck movement.

Cr MA Bagley advised that Council do not want large trucks on this road due to irresponsible road users and dangerous road conditions. Mr Thomas was advised to put his proposal, as an individual case, to Council for consideration at a Council Meeting.

**7.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

**8:24 PM There being no further business the Presiding Officer thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.**

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting on

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Officer

Date: