



MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY
19TH OCTOBER 2011



WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

**SHIRE OF MINGENEW
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MINGENEW, ON WEDNESDAY, 19th October 2011.**

1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding member, Cr MA Bagley declared the meeting open at 7:31 pm and welcomed all visitors to the meeting.

2.0 ATTENDANCE

2.1 PRESENT:

MA Bagley	President	Rural Ward
PJ Gledhill	Deputy President	Town Ward
MP Pearce	Councillor	Town Ward
PJ Ward	Councillor	Rural Ward
GJ Cosgrove	Councillor	Rural Ward
HM Newton	Councillor	Town Ward
AT Sobey	Councillor	Town Ward

Ian Thomas	Elector	
Jill Thomas	Elector	
Rick Starick	Elector	
Linley Starick	Elector	
Hal Stokes	Elector	
Dave Brindal	Elector	
Jon Holmes	Elector	
Jill Holmes	Elector	
David Bagley	Elector	
Steph Bligh-Lee	Elector	arrived at 7:43pm

2.2 APOLOGIES:

Nil

2.3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Moved Cr PJ Ward
Seconded Cr MP Pearce

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on the 16th March 2011 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 D Brindal

That the President's Report as presented be received.

CARRIED

4.2 CEO'S REPORT

Moved by Cr PJ Ward

Seconded by Cr PJ Gledhill

That the CEO's Report as presented be received.

CARRIED

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

Moved by Cr HM Newton

Seconded by Cr PJ Ward

That the EHO/Works Manager and Statutory Report for 2010/2011, as adopted be received.

CARRIED

4.4 AUDITOR'S REPORT

Moved by Cr AT Sobey

Seconded by Cr GJ Cosgrove

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

CARRIED

4.5 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Moved by Cr PJ Ward

Seconded by Cr PJ Gledhill

That the Annual Financial Report for 2010/2011, as presented, be received.

CARRIED

5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS:

Questions received on notice by Mrs Jill Thomas

Telstra phone towers and the reception in the Shire.

What is currently being done to upgrade the mobile phone and wireless internet service to the whole Shire not just town? What will the Shire need to contribute to ensure that we get an upgrade?

Chief Executive Officer Ian Fitzgerald responded with;

Council has commenced discussions with both the Mid West Development Commission and Telstra on the installation of new towers in the Mingenew Shire. The two sites that have been mentioned are Yandanooka and Nangetty. Telstra have been requested to undertake some preliminary investigations as to the site location and prepare an indicative costing for the proposal. It is unlikely Telstra will provide a contribution to the project and therefore funds will need to be sourced by Council – possibly from the Royalties for Regions fund.

Shire Staffing

Request to provide further information on Shire staffing arrangements now that amalgamation is not happening. What salaries will they be paid?

The Chief Executive advised that now that amalgamation is not to proceed, Councils internal staffing will consist of a CEO, Manager of Finance and Administration, Administration / Finance Officer (4 days per week), Community Development / Customer Service Officer and Customer Service / Library Officer. Individual information is confidential but I can advise the total salary budget for internal staff is \$291,000. There are no planned changes to the existing outside workforce staffing levels.

Karara Stockpile Proposal

Request for updated information regarding the negotiations on terms and conditions to be placed on Karara's use of the land in the middle of town for their ore dump. What benefits are there for our Shire?

The Chief Executive Officer again advised on this matter. Whilst Council has given conditional approval to Karara using a portion of Lot 303 Eleanor Street for a proposed stockpile and loading area the project is still not certain to proceed. Karara will need to obtain environmental and mining approvals together with agreement from Main Roads WA for their proposed trucking route. In addition Council has yet to reach an agreement with Karara on the rent that will be payable for use of the site.

Discussions with Karara indicate they will be engaging in a local contractor to load the trains and provide the water truck to ensure the stockpile remains damp as to minimise dust issues. Council will receive payment for the use of the land but as yet the amount has not been determined. Council has not discussed what purpose any income, which will be unbudgeted income, will be put to.

Questions received on notice by Rick & Linley Starick

Industrial Land Subdivision / Certificates of Title – Starick Tyres

What progress has been made on this, in particular determining and addressing the requirements outlined by the Water Corporation, Western Power and the Public Transport Authority?

The Chief Executive Officer advised the WA Planning Commission has given preliminary approval to the subdivision subject to Water Corporation, Western Power and Public Transport Authority conditions being met.

Water Corporation – requires sign off by a licensed plumber that water installation is to standard. We are seeking this sign off from the plumber who carried out the recent installation of water to the north side of town.

Western Power – require undergrounding of power. A preliminary estimate of \$35,000 has been placed on this work which must be undertaken by Western Power. We have requested, through our agent, a formal quotation / estimate so this work can be undertaken.

Public Transport Authority – require fencing along the edge of the railway reserve. We are seeking details as to the form of fencing required and also the justification for it seeing as there are no other fences along the railway reserve in Mingenew townsite.

Karara Stockpile

Why is the Shire having the stockpile in the centre of town? Is there a plan specific to this location and what reporting structures will you be using to advise results of any testing? Are we going to be exposed to any potential fibrous materials from the dust as a result of the stockpile? What is the level of silica in the soil / dust? Request for a simple explanation of the hematite mining process? What is meant by the term 'fines'? What does the negotiated rental payments amount to in monetary terms with Karara and what plans the Council has for the use of these funds.

Some of the points raised in Mrs Thomas' questions address Mr & Mrs Starick's queries.

The remaining queries were addressed as follows;

Dust Management – a plan will be developed by Karara on the monitoring and reporting of dust management. A copy will be provided once it is received from Karara.

Fibrous material / silica – from the information provided by Karara on the hematite neither of these will be an issue. The material data sheet has previously been provided.

Mrs Linley Starick verbally queried the monitors' currently in place and enquired as to whether they were operating? This is unknown.

Mrs Linley Starick requested a professional to present a summary of the proposal and mining processes. Staff to arrange.

Eleanor Street is part of a gazetted industrial area of Mingenew, this project, subject to all other approvals (environmental, transport, mining) is an allowable use of the land. This is only a 6 month approval – not an open ended approval.

At this stage the project is still in the planning phase. Once we have details as to when dust monitoring will commence and who will be managing the project that information will be made available.

Whilst Karara are still developing the project it is not anticipated there will be any significant changes to that outlined originally. Any significant changes would need to be presented to Council for their consideration and approval before being implemented.

Lumps and fines – it is understood that hematite is the ore located near the surface that is reasonably easy to mine. The product is put through a crushing process before being transported. The fines are the smaller iron ore particles that are produced as part of the crushing process. All of the product will be watered down to prevent dust.

Mrs Jill Thomas enquired as to whether there had been any community consultation to-date regarding phone and internet black spots, the usage types etc. President MA Bagley advised that this had not yet occurred however a community survey would assist with the project and staff would be directed to undertake such a survey.

Mrs Jill Thomas noted that funding had been approved for the Depot Hill crossing and enquired as to the works it would entail. The Chief Executive Officer advised that the road would be raised 3m with large culverts to support. There would be little change to the bend in the road due to land ownership and purpose constraints. Mr Hal Stokes commented that the speed of the trucks entering the curve was a concern. President MA Bagley advised that the Shire is unable to restrict speeds, only advise. Main Roads is responsible for monitoring and limiting speeds and Council can request this be investigated. Local police are responsible for policing the speed.

Mrs Jill Thomas also enquired as to whether the new ISA Inspector had identified areas of concern on Morawa Rd. The Chief Executive Officer advised of the work scheduled, which includes installation of pull over areas and crest widening – particularly through the boundary of Mingenew Morawa section. Over \$5 million worth of work has been identified and Council will continue to lobby for further funding to upgrade the road. Staff to write a request to the Minister and Main Roads to encourage the projects to receive priority.

Mr Ian Thomas enquired as to whether negotiations have been undertaken for Karara's land use of Lot 303 Eleanor Street? The Chief Executive Officer advised it is currently ongoing. Mrs Jill Thomas requested that the community continue to be updated on the progress of the stockpile project throughout the stages.

Mr Ian Thomas commented on the fantastic state of the tennis courts and bowling green. Mick Warren to be praised for his efforts.

Mr Jon Holmes advised that courts 1 to 4 are great but 5 and 6 are in poor condition. A tournament is scheduled for early December. Mrs Jill Holmes commented that the poor state of the courts reflects badly on our community. Cr PJ Gledhill commented that feedback from the club through the Sports Advisory Committee have indicated they would like to seek funding in the near future to resurface these two courts with artificial turf.

Hal Stokes requested the dead tree near the museum be removed if Council's responsibility – the Chief Executive Officer advised that this has been scheduled.

Cr PJ Ward advised those present that currently the Shire spends approximately \$160,000 on parks and gardens and \$460,000 on the sporting facilities compared to half of that in Three Springs.

Mrs Jill Thomas provided feedback from tourists that our town looks 'prosperous' which adds value to this expenditure and promotes pride in the community.

President MA Bagley announced that the Chief Executive Officer has submitted his resignation and his last day at work will be the 7th December 2011.

7.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING

8:07 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: