



SHIRE

of

DANDARAGAN

MINUTES

OF

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

HELD AT THE

BADGINGARRA COMMUNITY CENTRE

on

THURSDAY 27 JANUARY 2011

COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM

(THIS DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE IN LARGER PRINT ON REQUEST)

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President declared the meeting open at 6.25pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Councillors:

Councillor S Love (President)
Councillor L Short (Deputy President)
Councillor M Russell
Councillor L Smith
Councillor J Nelson
Councillor K McGlew
Councillor M Sheppard

Staff:

Mr T Nottle (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr R Pepper (Manager Technical Services and Works)
Mr I D'Arcy (Manager Planning)
Mr S Geere (Manager Building Services)
Mr S Clayton (Manager Finance and Administration)

Electors / members of the public:

Tony Abbey, Mike Kenny, Noel White, Sandra White, Marlene Neethling, Sara Kenny

3. APOLOGIES

Councillor D Kent, Councillor T Bailey, Mr I Rennie (Deputy Chief Executive Officer), Terry Hughan

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Annual General Meeting of Electors held 21 January 2010

Moved: Cr Short / seconded: Cr Smith

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 21 January 2010 as circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5. RECEIVING OF THE 2009 / 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report incorporated the following:

- President's report
- Chief Executive Officer's report

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- Auditor's report
- Annual financial statements
- Works, services and plant report
- Community services report

Moved: Mr M Kenny / seconded: Cr Russell

That the annual report for the year 2009 / 2010 as presented be received.

CARRIED

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Badgingarra land release

Marlene Neethling

Q. *Can we obtain any reports in relation to the land release in Badgingarra?*

A. There are a few issues with regard to this matter (Cr Love response):

1. The Barriers have been a lack of Local Planning Strategy in regards to subdivision. Council has been working on that and trying to keep this process moving.
2. Department of Lands are in the process of releasing three vacant lots which have to go through heritage and environmental clearances prior to their release. This matter is progressing.
3. LandCorp feasibility on approximately eight lots on Dodd Street subdivision.

Tony Abbey

Q. *"I am thinking of retiring and it's frustrating that I can't get hold of a block so I can stay here in the future."*

A. Council understands your frustration however, unfortunately Crown land surrounds Badgingarra and this makes it very difficult to access available land. (Cr Love response)

Q. *There are private blocks around town and the Shire should approve it to make them available.*

A. Council can not approve such a thing and the WA Planning Commission recently refused a similar proposal. I assure you the Council has been trying to address this matter. It is in the

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Strategic Plan and hopefully in a year's time the result will be different. (Cr Love response)

6.2 Subdivision - Mr Gary Park

Mike Kenny

Q. *WA Planning Commission did not approve Mr Park's subdivision. Why doesn't Council consider going to the media about this matter?*

A. Going to the media will not expedite the process. Council's Local Planning Strategy may allow more flexibility and assist similar development in the future. It may be counter productive to use media. (Cr Love response)

Q. *What is the expected timeframe for the Local Planning Strategy?*

A. Council have resubmitted further modifications to make the document more reflective of Council's views. This is currently with the WA Planning Commission for approval to advertise. (Cr Love response)

Q. *Why does it have to be confidential?*

A. Once the WA Planning Commission approve the Local Planning Strategy ready for advertising, the public will then be able to make submissions / comment regarding the document content. (Cr Love response)

6.3 Freehold land - DEC

Noel White

Q. *Freehold land was sold to DEC - are they paying rates?*

A. The land is not rateable and therefore, they have not paid rates. (Manager Finance and Administration response)

Q. *Concern if this is a common practice as who is going to pay the rates in the future?*

A. The situation on that particular block is unique. The Valuer General reduced rates on that land. Council was already receiving little to no rates. (Cr Love response)

Q. *"I'm a wool producer and the State is a wood producer and I have to pay rates but the State does not?"*

A. The issue is not the land use its that the owner is the State

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that they don't have to pay rates. Council probably needs to have further discussions regarding these issues. (Cr Love response)

Tony Abbey

Q. *Similar issues with regard to Rocky Gully which is all sold out to trees and nobody there now.*

A. Unfortunately, with the future concerns of a price on carbon, this could become more common. (Cr Love response)

6.4 Warro Gas Field

Tony Abbey

Q. *What is the latest status on the Warro Gas Field?*

A. Manager of Planning has received conditional approval from the Environmental Protection Authority. This matter is currently proceeding and moving forward. (Cr Love response)

Q. *Concern over heavy vehicles chopping out roads that are associated with Gas Fields - will the roads require re-sheeting. Could we send them something to limit their speed?*

A. Good point, there was some conditions put on heavy equipment / vehicles but may need to look at the maintenance agreement. (Cr Love response)

6.5 Royalties for Regions

Mike Kenny

Q. *How much of the Royalties for Regions are going towards the jetty project?*

A. It is unclear at this stage as to how much exactly but approximately \$300,000 - \$350,000 is being allocated from the Country Local Government Fund allocation and the remainder from the specified area rate. (Manager Finance and Administration response)

A. Program changes in future and is focused on more regional projects. Shires of Dandaragan and Gingin have agreed projects that will need to be approved in future. (Cr Love response)

6.6 Works Department

Mike Kenny

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Q. *How is the works department going ie staff matters and roads etc?*

A. The works department have recently had staffing issues with various vacancies and as a result of this, the program is a bit behind schedule but is still progressing. Dandaragan Road to commence around February 2011. Re-sheeting schedule is behind but confident we will catch up on program. (Manager Technical Services and Works response)

Q. *Problem with staff - money elsewhere?*

A. Unfortunately we are competing with the mining industry and we are trying to get the right fit. (Manager Technical Services and Works response)

Q. *Watheroo Road - what's the future plan?*

A. Continuing to progress 2 - 3 km stretches of bitumen. Project is ranked high within region so more funding maybe available. (Manager Technical Services and Works response)

7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Mr Mike Kenny thanked the Council and the Shire of Dandaragan for the kind donation for the annual Australia Day celebrations held in Badgingarra.

The President, Cr Shane Love, thanked everyone for their attendance and also encourages the gallery to attend future meetings when they are in town.

The President closed the meeting at 6.55pm.

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting on 19/1/12

Signed 

Presiding person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed.

Date 19/1/12