



SHIRE

of

DANDARAGAN

MINUTES

OF

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

HELD AT THE

BADGINGARRA COMMUNITY CENTRE

ON

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2007

COMMENCING AT 7.07 PM

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MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS 7 FEBRUARY 2007

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President declared the Meeting open at 7.07 pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Councillors:

Councillor S Love (President)
Councillor L Short (Deputy President)
Councillor M Russell
Councillor D Kent
Councillor L Smith
Councillor J Nelson

Staff:

Mr C Strugnell (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr I Rennie (Deputy Chief Executive Officer)
Mr C Ashe (Manager Finance and Administration)
Mr G Harris (Manager Technical Services and Works)

Electors / Members of the Public:

Mr & Mrs F Creagh, Mr I Oliver, Mr H Roberts, Mr G Betteridge, Mr A Lofthouse, Mr W Wimmeler, Mr M Kenny, Mr & Mrs M Wilkins, Mr C Moore, Mrs L Short, Mrs D Richardson, Mr I McCooke, Mr & Mrs H Wilkinson, Mrs B Fisher.

3. APOLOGIES

Councillor C Underwood, Councillor K Loveland, Mrs M Smith, Mrs Y Caddy, Mr A Ogden, Cervantes Ratepayers Association Committee, Mr & Mrs P Randell, Mrs M McConnell, Mr D Roberts

4. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

The President introduced the new Manager Technical Services and Works, Mr Gavin Harris.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Annual General Meeting of Electors held 16 January 2006

Moved: Cr Russell/ Seconded: Cr Kent

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That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 18 January 2006 as circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6. RECEIVING OF THE 2005/06 ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report incorporated the following:

- President's Report
- Acting Chief Executive Officer's Report
- Auditor's Report
- Annual Financial Statements
- Works, Services and Plant Report
- Community Services Report

Moved: Mr M Kenny / Seconded: Cr Short

That the Annual Report for the year 2005/06 as presented be received.

CARRIED

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Staff Retention

Mr M Kenny asked advice from Council with regard to the retaining of staff and what difficulties were being experienced.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that there had been a turn over of approximately 25% of staff with many seeking employment in the mining industry. Council are still several staff down on permanent numbers. Council had resolved to sell the bulldozer and utilise a contractor. The position of Works Supervisor is still vacant after having advertised four times.

7.2 Proposed Residential Subdivision - Dandaragan

Mr C Moore requested advice from Council with regard to the proposed residential subdivision on the Dandaragan Road, particularly with respect of the construction of a dual carriageway through the town of Dandaragan.

The President explained the difficulties with respect of development in the two inland towns of Dandaragan and Badgingarra. Council is attempting to facilitate subdivisions in both towns either for freehold land or Crown Land.

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The Chief Executive Officer spoke with respect of the imposition of conditions upon the application for subdivision and making conditions of approval cost prohibitive.

Cr Short spoke with respect of the suitability of cross over construction and that it had to be to Council's satisfaction. It was felt that drainage would not be an issue.

Mr H Roberts spoke of the increasing use of heavy vehicle traffic using the road.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the 2006 traffic count was 590 vehicles per day with 96% of those vehicles being light vehicles.

7.3 Parking problems - Dandaragan Store

Mr Moore raised the issue of the poor parking set-up at the Dandaragan General Store.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the parking requirements were set as part of a development application and that the issue was more a behavioural issue rather than a poor road design.

Mr G Betteridge advised that the parking situation would be worse with a dual carriage way.

The President advised that parking at the shop will be looked into further.

Mr I Oliver advised that the drainage along this section of Dandaragan Road in the townsite was very poor.

The President advised that Council would look into the issue of drainage during 2007 / 2008 as part of the overall drainage of the Dandaragan Townsite.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that Council had been working closely with Mr John Cook and the appointed drainage consultant.

This drainage work / design was holding up works in regard to the proposed information bay.

7.4 District Planning Strategy

Mr F Creagh asked with regard to the review of the District Planning Strategy and whether the issue of water, particularly the Yarragadee Aquifer would be taken into consideration.

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The President advised that he was a member of the Dandaragan Gingin Water Resource Management Committee. There had been a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer of the Water Corporation and the yields were low from the Yarragadee Aquifer. There was two sections to the Yarragadee Aquifer being the north and south sections. The issue of water allocations would be considered as part of the review being undertaken.

Mr Creagh advised that the water supply for the Cervantes Townsite had been listed as the worst in the State.

Mr Creagh requested advice from Council with regard to pests such as Patterson's Curse, South African Love Grass and rabbits spreading on road reserves.

The President advised that Council does slash a lot of road reserves and had considered the spraying of plants. The spread of South African Love Grass was impacting on roadside vegetation.

Mr M Kenny requested advice with respect of the spread of Victorian Tea Tree.

The President and Chief Executive Officer advised that the matter had been taken up with the Department of Environment and Conservation as well as Main Roads Western Australia. Some control work had already taken place.

7.5 Issuing of Building Licences on Lots without road frontage

Mr C Moore requested advice from Council with respect of the issuing of Building Licences on lots that did not currently have road access.

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer advised that a new clause in Town Planning Scheme No 7 required Planning Consent of Council in instances where lots did not have road access.

7.6 Mimegarra Road Works

Mrs K Wilkins requested advice with respect of the involvement of farmers in carrying out works at Mimegarra Road.

The President advised that a very poor response had been received from farmers who were drought effected to participate in this road construction project.

Mr A Lofthouse requested advice with respect of cost overrun's on the project and delays that had been experienced resulting in the project being behind schedule.

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The Chief Executive Officer advised that the project was not over budget but may be several weeks behind schedule. It was pointed out that the road will be a locked road and constructed to a gravel standard and it is expected that there would be 400 vehicles per day utilising the road when open. If high traffic counts eventuate, Council will be approaching Main Roads Western Australia in order to have the road sealed.

7.7 Badgingarra Residential Land Release

Mr W Wimmler requested advice on progress being made with respect of a residential land release at Badgingarra.

The President advised that when expressions of interest were called for, there was strong support for the release of land in Badgingarra. The application had been forwarded to Landcorp and subsequently to the Standing Committee of Cabinet. There have been numerous applications and the matter had been referred to the Wheatbelt Development Commission who will come back with a recommendation in approximately three months.

Mr M Kenny advised that it was an absolute priority for Badgingarra to have land available for new residents to purchase. Other towns in the Wheatbelt were able to attract people because of the availability of land.

The President advised that if the request to Landcorp was unsuccessful, then Council would need to look at becoming the developer of the residential land.

Mr W Wimmler advised of the problems with a private subdivision at Badgingarra and in regard to difficulties of the release of land within the townsite.

The President advised that the town of Cervantes was in the same position with regard to Crown Land Development. The process with freehold land was much quicker.

7.8 Passing lanes on Brand Highway

Mr H Roberts requested advice with respect of the construction of passing lanes on Brand Highway.

The President advised that works were commencing.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that Council was not aware of the priority for construction of the passing lanes however, advice would be sought from Main Roads Western Australia as to where and when works will take place.

7.9 Badgingarra Community Centre extensions

Mr M Kenny spoke with regard to the extensions to the Badgingarra Community Centre which have recently been completed. He commended Mr M Wilkins who was the contractor carrying out the works and Council staff was also commended on their participation in the project.

7.10 Management of Badgingarra Community Centre

Mr W Wimmler spoke of the difficulties with respect of the managing of the Badgingarra Community Centre by a voluntary committee. Issues such as insurance were difficult issues to contend with.

The Manager of Finance and Administration spoke on the issue of insurance and advised that there will be a meeting being held with Council's insurers in May 2007 at which these problems could be aired.

Mr F Creagh also spoke of issues of incorporation for organisations.

7.11 Incorporation of Clubs

Mr F Creagh spoke with respect of changes to legislation relating to the incorporation of clubs and the impact this legislation will have on voluntary groups.

Mrs F Wilkinson advised that it was necessary for clubs to make a submission with regard to the proposed changes.

The President advised that guidance was needed from Council in order to assist voluntary organisations.

7.12 Cervantes townsite - speeding vehicles

Cr L Smith had passed on a complaint with regard to speeding vehicles in the Cervantes Townsite.

The matter was raised at the previous Annual General Meeting of Electors and will be taken up again with the Police.

7.13 Talavera Street, Cervantes - Dust Issue

Councillor L Smith raised an issue with respect of dust in Talavera Street inconveniencing residents.

The President advised the matter would be investigated.

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7.14 Speed limits - Jurien Bay Townsite

Mrs K Wilkins requested advice with respect of the 90km/h speed limit signs near Coalseam Drive. In her opinion the sign needs to be re-located further north than the existing site.

The President advised that Council had taken the matter up with Main Roads Western Australia and they did not consider it to be a problem.

7.15 Badgingarra Waste Transfer Station

Mr W Wimpler advised that the Waste Transfer Station at Badgingarra was running well.

7.16 Use of Council Graders at Bushfires

Mr H Roberts requested clarification with respect of use of Council Graders Vs Private Contractors at bushfires. It had taken four hours for a grader to get to the recent fire that occurred on Agaton Road.

The President advised that some stand-by procedure was necessary and that the issue had been complicated with the fire being on Crown Land.

7.17 Badgingarra Townsite - Firebreaks

Mr I McCooke sought advice from Council in regard to the installation of fire breaks around the Badgingarra townsite.

The President advised that the matter would be referred to the Chief Bushfire Control Officer for appropriate action.

8. SUMMATION

8.1 President Summation

The President thanked those ratepayers who had attended tonight's meeting.

8.2 Vote of Thanks

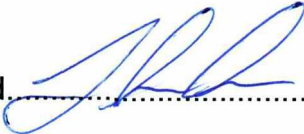
Mr M Kenny then proposed a vote of thanks to the Councillors and staff for work undertaken in the 2005 / 06 year.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Shire President closed the Meeting at 8.36 pm.

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These Minutes were confirmed at a Meeting on... 14/2/08

Signed 

Presiding Person at the Meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed.

Date... 14/2/08

