

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers Corner King & Barrack Street's, Merredin Tuesday, 14 December 2021 Commencing 4.00pm

Common Acronyms Used in this Document		
СВР	Corporate Business Plan	
CEACA	Central East Accommodation & Care Alliance Inc	
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	
CSP	Community Strategic Plan	
CWVC	Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre	
DCEO	Deputy Chief Executive Officer	
EA	Executive Assistant to CEO	
EMCS	Executive Manager of Corporate Services	
EMDS	Executive Manager of Development Services	
EMES	Executive Manager of Engineering Services	
GECZ	Great Eastern Country Zone	
LGIS	Local Government Insurance Services	
LPS	Local Planning Scheme	
МСО	Media and Communications Officer	
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding	
MRCLC	Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre	
SRP	Strategic Resource Plan	
WALGA	Western Australian Local Government Association	
WEROC	Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils	



Shire of Merredin

December Ordinary Council Meeting

1.	Official Opening4
2.	Record of Attendance / Apologies and Leave of Absence4
3.	Public Question Time4
4.	Disclosure of Interest4
5.	Applications of Leave of Absence4
6.	Petitions and Presentations5
7.	Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings5
8.	Announcements by the Person Presiding without Discussion5
9.	Matters for Which the Meeting may be Closed to the Public
10.	Receipt of Minutes of Committee Meetings6
11.	Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council Consideration
12.	Officers' Reports - Development Services
(N	.1 WAPC Subdivision Application No 161572 – Proposed Termination of Strata Lot 1 o 50) Bates Street and Strata Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street and Creation of Freehold Lot 800 Iff Street, Merredin
Du	III Street, Merreult
Du 13.	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services
13.	
13.	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10
13. 13	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services 10 .1 South Avenue Upgrade Works 10 Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services 14
13. 13 14.	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services 10 .1 South Avenue Upgrade Works 10 Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services 14 .1 List of Accounts Paid 14
 13. 13 14. 14 14 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services 10 .1 South Avenue Upgrade Works 10 Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services 14 .1 List of Accounts Paid 14
 13. 13 14. 14 14 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1List of Accounts Paid14.2Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17
 13. 13 14. 14 14 14 14 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1 List of Accounts Paid14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17.3 CEACA - Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project20
 13. 14. 14 14 14 14 15. 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1 List of Accounts Paid14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17.3 CEACA - Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project20Officer's Reports - Administration24
 13. 14. 14 14 14 15. 16. 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1 List of Accounts Paid14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17.3 CEACA - Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project20Officer's Reports - Administration24Motions of which Previous Notice has been given24
 13. 14. 14 14 14 15. 16. 17. 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1 List of Accounts Paid14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17.3 CEACA - Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project20Officer's Reports - Administration24Motions of which Previous Notice has been given24Questions by Members of which Due Notice has been given24
 13. 13 14. 14 14 14 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1 List of Accounts Paid14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17.3 CEACA - Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project20Officer's Reports - Administration24Motions of which Previous Notice has been given24Questions by Members of which Due Notice has been given24Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision24
 13. 13 14. 14 14 14 14 14 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 19. 	Officers' Reports - Engineering Services10.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works10Officers' Reports - Corporate and Community Services14.1 List of Accounts Paid14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)17.3 CEACA - Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project20Officer's Reports - Administration24Motions of which Previous Notice has been given24Questions by Members of which Due Notice has been given24Matters Behind Closed Doors24

Shire of Merredin Ordinary Council Meeting 4:00pm Tuesday, 14 December 2021



1. Official Opening

The President acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the Njaki Njaki people of the Nyoongar Nation and paid his respects to Elders past, present and emerging. The President then welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 4:08pm.

Record of Attendance / Apologies and Leave of Absence		
Councillors:		
Cr M McKenzie	President	
Cr R Billing		
Cr C Crook		
Cr J Flockart		
Cr R Manning		
Cr P Patroni		
Cr M Simmonds		
Cr P Van Der Merwe		
Staff:		
L Clack	CEO	
A Prnich	DCEO	
G Garside	EMCS	
L Mellor	EMES	
P Zenni	EMDS	
A Brice	EA	
Members of the Public:	Nil	
Apologies:	Cr L Boehme – Deputy President	
Approved Leave of Absence:	Nil	
. Public Question Time		

Nil

4. Disclosure of Interest

Nil

5. Applications of Leave of Absence

Cr Billing requested a Leave of Absence for the Ordinary Meeting on 25 January 2022.

	Resolution		
Moved:	Cr Flockart	Seconded:	Cr Crook
82836	That Councillor Bill	ing be granted a Leave of	f Absence for 25 January 2022.
			CARRIED 7/0

6.	Petitio	ns and Presentations			
Nil					
7.	Confirr	nation of Minutes of	Previous Meetir	ngs	
7.1		ry Council Meeting he nent 7.1A	ld on 23 Novem	ber 2021	
		Voting Requirement	nts		
	Simple	Majority		Absolute Majority	
		Resolution			
Moved	l: Cr I	Patroni	Seconded:	Cr Manning	
82837			-	il Meeting held on 23 N e record of proceeding	
					CARRIED 8/0

8. Announcements by the Person Presiding without Discussion

Cr McKenzie read the following into the public record:

As a result of meeting with Shire Presidents & Mayors at the WALGA offices in Leederville, much discussion was had about the reforms being considered for the Local Government Act by Minister Carey, Minister for Local Government. He addressed the room and spoke about his time as the Mayor of Vincent and using this history he explained his reforms.

During his address he said there were too many councillors and too many councils in Western Australia.

Some of the reforms for discussion were:

- Reviewing the amount of councillor numbers at particular Shires, for example Merredin Shire would move from 9 to 5 councillors. I asked a question with the Toodyay Shire President, noting the significant amount of work that our councillors do and it would be impossible for 5 councillors to keep up. He conceded with some councils of our size may only change to 7 councillors.
- Changing the voting system. Mr Carey is of the view the voting system should change to a preferential system as opposed to first passed the post, consistent with the Electoral Commission. It was felt this would be a significantly extra cost to smaller councils.

- Changes to the Standing Orders with the view of having standardised orders to make meetings streamlined and easier to manage.
- Changes in Event Management in Shires.

Meetings and events attended by the President since the last Ordinary Meeting on 23 November 2021:

- Weekly meetings with CEO;
- 24/11/2021 Attended the WALGA Presidents and Mayors Conference in Perth;
- 26/11/2021 Telephone Interview (Around the Towns) with Terry Siva at Triple M;
- 29/11/2021- 50 Years Celebration of Prospector; and
- 1/12/2021 Attended the St Mary's Awards / Concert night.

9. Matters for Which the Meeting may be Closed to the Public

19.1. Award of eQuotes Tender – Heavy Rigid Truck

19.2. Award of eQuotes Tender – Front End Loader

10. Receipt of Minutes of Committee Meetings

Nil

11. Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council Consideration

Nil

12. Officers' Reports - Development Services

12.1 WAPC Subdivision Application No 161572 – Proposed Termination of Strata Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street and Strata Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street and Creation of Freehold Lot 800 Duff Street, Merredin

Development Services		
Responsible Officer:	Peter Zenni, EMDS	
Author:	Peter Zenni, EMDS	
Legislation:	<i>Planning and Development Act 2005,</i> Residential Design Codes	
File Reference:	A9410	
Disclosure of Interest: Nil		
Attachments:Attachment 12.1A – Proposed creation of new lot and associated plans and details		

	Purpose of Report	
Executiv	e Decision	egislative Requirement
	Background	

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has received a subdivision application for the proposed termination of strata Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street and strata Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street, Merredin and the creation of a new freehold Lot – Lot 800 Duff Street, Merredin. The application has been referred to the Shire of Merredin for comment.

Comment

The property in question comprises of two strata lots - Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street, which is a vacant lot fronting Bates Street and Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street, with an existing house on the lot fronting Duff Street.

Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street and Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street, Merredin are zoned "Residential" under the Shire of Merredin Local Planning Scheme No. 6 (LPS).

The owners of both of the strata lots have applied to the WAPC for the termination of the strata lots and the creation of a new freehold Lot - Lot 800 Duff Street, Merredin.

This will enable them to undertake proposed extensions to the existing dwelling as well as the erection of an oversized domestic shed on the newly created Lot.

The Shire of Merredin Council recently considered a Development Application for the erection of an oversized domestic shed on Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street, Merredin, at its November meeting, where it in part resolved to issue development approval for the proposed shed subject to the amalgamation of Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street and Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street, so that the development is wholly contained on the one Lot - Lot 800 Duff Street, Merredin.

The newly created Lot will have the existing dwelling located it on it (facing Duff Street) and will be provided with all utility services as well as a crossover.

	Policy Implications
Nil	

Compliance with the Residential Design Codes

Statutory Implications

Strategic Implications			
Strategic Community P	Strategic Community Plan		
Theme:	5. Places and Spaces		
Service Area Objective:	5.4. Town Planning and Building Control 5.4.2. The Shire has a current local planning scheme and associated strategy which is flexible and able to suitably guide future residential and industrial growth		
Priorities and Strategies for Change:	N/A		
Corporate Business Pla	in		
Key Action:	4.1.1 Continue to upgrade the Integrated Planning Framework, meet statutory requirements of the Local Government Act and regulations and regulatory obligations required under other regulations		
Directorate:	Development Services		
Timeline:	Ongoing		
Sustainability Implications			
Strategic Resource Plan			
Nil			
 Workforce Plan 			
Directorate:	Nil		
Activity:	Nil		
Current Staff:	Nil		
Focus Area:	Nil		
Strategy Code:	Nil		

Lot 800, Duff Street, Merredin.

Strategy:	Nil	
Implications	s: Nil	
	Risk Implications	
Nil		
	Financial Implicatio	ins
Nil		
	Voting Requiremen	ts
Simp	ole Majority	Absolute Majority
	Resolution	
Moved:	Cr Billing	Seconded: Cr Crook
82838	That Council Advise the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) that it unconditionally supports the WAPC Subdivision Application No: 161572, incorporating the termination of Strata Lot 1 (No 50) Bates Street and Strata Lot 2 (No 40) Duff Street, Merredin and the creation of freehold	

CARRIED 8/0

13. Officers' Reports - Engineering Services

13.1 South Avenue Upgrade Works

Engineering Services		
Responsible Officer:	Lindon Mellor, EMES	
Author:	Lindon Mellor, EMES	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996	
File Reference:	Nil	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 13.1A – South Avenue Works	

	Purpose of Report	
Executiv	e Decision	Legislative Requirement
	Background	

Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) are due to commence road pavement repairs and reseal works to South Avenue, starting in January 2022. These works are to both lanes, between Todd Street through to the intersection of O'Connor Street (refer to Attachment 13.1A - South Avenue Works). These works will include; profiling of the existing road surface, removal of the base course, installation of a new base course, installation of a new S45R two coat seal and all associated pavement marking.

MRWA are responsible for a 5m width on each carriage way and the Shire is responsible for areas between the 5m edge and the kerb line (approximately 2m-3m). Due to cost efficiencies which can be achieved by conducting the whole of road works at the one time, MRWA agreed to complete the full width of each carriageway as part of their works, if the Shire was willing to contribute towards the project for areas under it's control. In the 2021/22 Budget adopted by Council, a total of \$207,500 was allocated for the Shire contribution towards this project, which was based on initial cost projections by MRWA.

Comment

MRWA tendered out the South Avenue upgrades works in early October 2021. Once final costings were received in early November 2021, prices came back much higher than originally expected, due to the current market. MRWA has been working with their preferred

contractor to reduce these costs further, however there are limits to cost savings which can be achieved without severely reducing quality. The Shires EMES met with MRWA and agreed that specification could not be reduced further, without severely impacting the Shires levels of service. As South Avenue is perceived by the public as a Shire road, it is important to ensure the road is suitable for the required traffic, while still meeting noise and comfort levels.

After some refinement in costing, the final awarded contract price (including a provisional sum) for works is \$ 1,727,785 (ex GST). MRWA has asked for the Shire to contribute a total of \$447,515 (ex GST) towards this project. This contribution covers the section under the Shire's control, with an 80/20 split of mobilisation costs. A total of \$207,500 has been allocated within the Shires 2021/22 budget, leaving a shortfall of \$240,015 towards the Shire's contribution.

Given the current condition of South Avenue and the risks associated with the not going ahead with the full extent of these works, it is recommended that Council agree to the required increase in contribution. The suggested method of allocating the funding, is take the additional funds required (\$240,015) out of current Roads to Recovery funding(R2R) budget under GL R2R007 which is yet to be allocated. A table outlining how this will be achieved is listed under the financial implications section of this report.

During the acceptance of the 2021/22 budget Council agreed not to allocate R2R funding towards specific projects until the new EMES started and had a chance to review priorities. As that review is currently underway, the Officer recommendation is that South Avenue should take precedence for the funds, given it is a project already committed to by both MRWA and Council. Given R2R is government funded, it would be prudent to ensure this funding is spent before any further funds are taken from reserves for this project.

Policy Implications

Council Policy 3.8 – Implementing the budget

Statutory Implications

Nil

Strategio	Implications	
Strategic Community Plan		
Theme:	6. Transport and Networks	
Service Area Objective:	6.1. Roads & Footpaths 6.1.1. The Shire's road system, footpaths and cycle trails are well maintained and safe	
Priorities and Strategies for Change:	Improving local roads Development of Roading Hierarchy and ten-year capital works plan to establish clear, transparent and affordable priorities to meet the needs of residents and industry	
Corporate Business Pl	an	
Key Action:	6.1.2. Advocate for improved road infrastructure networks across the region	

Directorate:	Engineering Services
Timeline:	Ongoing
	Sustainability Implications
Strategic Re	esource Plan
Nil	
> Workforce	Plan
Directorate:	Nil
Activity:	Nil
Current Staff:	Nil
Focus Area:	Nil
Strategy Code:	Nil
Strategy:	Nil
Implications:	Nil
	Risk Implications

If Council do not agree to providing the increased contribution towards these works, South Avenue repairs and resealing works are likely to halt or be delayed entirely. MRWA's scope of works for this project includes the section of road under the responsibility of the Shire, so works will not be able to proceed in their current format without a contribution.

MRWA have already expressed that they have constrained budget for this project and if a contribution is not provided, then MRWA would only complete the 5m section of the road they are responsible for on either side of the carriageway. If this occurs the town of Merredin will end up with low quality south entrance into town, which would likely cause public backlash.

Should the works be completed as separate projects, and the Shire portion be completed at a later date, it is likely that overall costs to the Shire will significantly increase in the form of mobilisation costs. Under the MRWA proposal, the Shire will only contribute 20% of the mobilisation costs of the project.

Financial Implications

Council has set aside funds in the 2021/22 annual budget towards the South Ave works to a total of \$207,500. An additional \$240,015 is required to fund the total Shire contribution towards the project. It is proposed these funds be allocated from available R2R funds, which have not yet been allocated per project. The budget amendments to allocate this portion are reflected as per the table below. For accounting purposes the expenditure will be split over two line items to enable tracking of R2R funding.

Account	Description	Current Budg	get Amei	ndment	Revised Budget
RC277	South Avenue	\$207 <i>,</i> 500	Nil		\$207,500
R2R277	South Avenue	Nil	+\$24	0,015	\$240,015
				Project Total:	\$447,515
R2R007	R2R Unallocate	d \$368,363	-\$240),015	\$128,348
Sir Sir	Voting Re o	quirements	Abs	olute Majority	
	Resolution	ı			
Moved:	Cr Flockart	9	Seconded:	Cr Patroni	
82839	That Council;				
 Approve a capital expenditure of \$447,515 ex GST as a contribution to Main Roads WA towards South Avenue Upgrade works; Approve the budget amendment as shown below: 					
	Account		Current Budget	Amendment	Revised Budget
	R2R277	South Avenue	Nil	+\$240,015	\$240,015
	R2R007	R2R Unallocated	\$368,363	-\$240,015	\$128,348

Unallocated

CARRIED 8/0

14. Officers' Reports – Corporate and Community Services

14.1 List of Accounts Paid

Corpo	rate Services
Responsible Officer:	Geoff Garside, EMCS
Author:	Geoff Garside, EMCS
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 14.1A - Payments Listing November 2021

	Purpose of Report	
Executiv	e Decision	Legislative Requirement
	Background	

The attached list of Accounts Paid during the Month of November 2021 under delegated Authority is provided for Council's information and endorsement.

	Comment
Nil	
	Policy Implications
Nil	
	Statutory Implications

As outlined in the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

Strategic	Implications
Strategic Community I	Plan
Theme:	Nil
Service Area Objective:	Nil
Priorities and Strategies for Change:	Nil
> Corporate Business Pl	an
Key Action:	Deliver long term financial planning for asset replacement and new capital projects
Directorate:	2
Timeline:	Continue to provide prudent financial controls and compliance systems

Sustainability Implications

Strategic Resource Plan

Compliance with the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and to also give Council some direction regarding its management of finance over an extended period of time.

Workforce F	Plan	
Directorate:	Nil	
Activity:	Nil	
Current Staff:	Nil	
Focus Area:	Nil	
Strategy Code:	Nil	
Strategy:	Nil	
Implications:	Nil	
	Risk Implications	

Council would be contravening the *Local Government Act 1995* and *Local Government* (*Financial Management*) Regulations 1996 should this item not be presented to Council.

Financial Implications

All liabilities settled have been in accordance with the Annual Budget provisions.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

	Resolution		
Moved:	Cr Flockart	Seconded:	Cr Simmonds
82840	as listed, covering c and wages, as numb	heques, EFT's, bank char	nts paid during November 2021 rges, directly debited payments 014.04 from Council's Municipal rust Account.

CARRIED 8/0

14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021)

Corp	orate Services
Responsible Officer:	Geoff Garside, EMCS
Author:	Geoff Garside, EMCS
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 14.2A – Statement of Financial Activity Attachment 14.2B – Detailed Statements Attachment 14.2C – Investment Statement Attachment 14.2D – Capital Works Progress Attachment 14.2E – Variances by Sub Program

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Background

The Statement of Financial Activity and Investment Register are attached for Council's information.

Comment

Statement of Financial Activity

Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations requires the Shire to prepare a monthly statement of financial activity for consideration by Council within 2 months after the end of the month of the report.

Please note: the figures in the November 2021 financial reports as presented in the attachments are provisional. There are still some transactions and adjustments that are unable to be completed until the finalisation of the audit for the 2021-22 year. In addition, some functions like depreciation are unable to be run before the prior year is finalised.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

As outlined in the Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Strategic	Implications
Strategic Community F	Plan
Theme:	Nil
Service Area Objective:	Nil
Priorities and Strategies for Change:	Nil
Corporate Business Pla	an
Key Action:	Deliver long term financial planning for asset replacement and new capital projects
Directorate:	2
Timeline:	Continue to provide prudent financial controls and compliance systems

		Sustainability Implications
۶	 Strategic Resource Plan 	

Compliance with the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and to also give Council some direction regarding its management of finance over an extended period of time.

> Workforce	Plan
Directorate:	Nil
Activity:	Nil
Current Staff:	Nil
Focus Area:	Nil
Strategy Code:	Nil
Strategy:	Nil
Implications:	Nil
	Risk Implications

The Financial Activity report is presented monthly and provides a retrospective picture of the activities at the Shire. Contained within the report is information pertaining to the financial cost and delivery of strategic initiatives and key projects.

To mitigate the risk of budget over-runs or non-delivery of projects, the Chief Executive Officer has implemented internal control measures such as regular Council and management reporting and a quarterly process to monitor financial performance against budget estimates. Materiality reporting thresholds have been established at half the adopted Council levels,

which equate to \$10,000 for operating budget line items and \$10,000 for capital items, to alert management prior to there being irreversible impacts.

It should also be noted that there is an inherent level of risk of misrepresentation of the financials through either human error or potential fraud. The establishment of control measures through a series of efficient systems, policies and procedures, which fall under the responsibility of the CEO as laid out in the Local Government (Financial Management Regulations) 1996 regulation 5, seek to mitigate the possibility of this occurring. These controls are set in place to provide daily, weekly, and monthly checks to ensure that the integrity of the data provided is reasonably assured.

Financial Implications

The adoption on the Monthly Financial Report is retrospective. Accordingly, the financial implications associated with adopting the Monthly Financial Report are nil.

	Voting Requirem	ents
Sin	nple Majority	Absolute Majority
	Resolution	
Moved:	Cr	Seconded: Cr
00000	That Council in accordance with Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, receive the Statement of Financial Activity and the Investment Report for the period ending 31 November 2021.	
Moved:	Cr McKenzie	Seconded: Cr Billing
82841	That this Item 14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (November 2021) lay on the table until the January 2022 Ordinary Meeting.	
		CARRIED 8/0

14.3 CEACA – Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project

Corporate Services		
Responsible Officer:	Geoff Garside, EMCS	
Author:	Geoff Garside, EMCS	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996	
File Reference:	Nil	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Nil	

Purpose of Report

Legislative Requirement

Background

Executive Decision

Central East Accommodation & Care Alliance Inc (CEACA) was formed in 2012 by 11 Wheatbelt Shires, to investigate resources and services for the aged in the wheatbelt. Support from the founding Shires and Royalties for Regions grants have enabled CEACA to construct 71 two-bedroom units across the region as part of the CEACA Housing Project. 27 of these units have been constructed in Merredin on a parcel of land that CEACA acquired from the State Government.

In Merredin CEACA acquired land from the old North Merredin Primary School site during the 2018-19 financial year. CEACA has also acquired land in the other 10 Shires. All the properties have been used for the construction of the 71 independent living units.

Whilst Royalties for Regions funding was available from the State Government for the CEACA Housing Project, under the terms of the grant the State would only deal with a Local Government as the proponent, rather than dealing with CEACA directly. To facilitate the grant funding, in April 2017 CEACA and the Shire entered into a Memorandum of Understanding stating that the Shire would "act as banker for the Project". However, the MOU omitted to state that all assets would transfer to CEACA at the completion of the project.

During the course of the project, the value of the work completed has been accruing Shire's balance sheet as "Work in Progress". At the conclusion of the 2019-20 financial audit, the auditors raised the issue of the CEACA Housing Project as an item of "significant audit focus" and noted that the issue of ownership of the assets would need to be resolved before the conclusion of the project.

Comment

The independent living units were technically complete and ready for occupation from January 2020. However, rectification of defects has been proceeding since this date. The rectification of defects was slowed due the major contractor (Pindan) suffering financial difficulties and proceeding to liquidation earlier this year. The Shire (on behalf of CEACA) has subsequently received funds from an insurance bond. It is planned that the rectification of defects will be completed by 30 June 2022

As at 30 June 2021 the Shire had \$19.65m of CEACA assets represented on the balance sheet as "Work in Progress". The 2021-22 budget includes an additional \$0.54m in works to complete the project, which is funded from the insurance bond and remaining grant funds.

Units have been constructed on land owned by CEACA (ie: not owned or leased by Shire), so cannot be Shire assets.

The Administration recommends that Council agrees to transfer all assets to CEACA at the completion of project on the condition that, should CEACA be wound-up that no assets will be distributed to any member shires, but be distributed to a similar charitable entity (or entities), as per clause 29 of the CEACA constitution.

From an accounting perspective the transfer of assets will result in loss on disposal of those assets – totalling around \$20.2m. The reason for the loss being recorded is that all consideration or contributions to the project will have been received in prior years. The Shire will not be 'out-of-pocket'.

CEACA has already assumed all rights and responsibilities relating to owning and operating the assets.

	Policy Implications
Nil	
	Statutory Implications

Local Government Act 1995:

3.58. Disposing of Property

It is not considered that Section 3.58 of the Act applies in this instance, as the Shire has no financial interest in the properties or assets. Instead, this is an Administrative correction of an oversight in the original Memorandum of Understanding.

Strategic	Implications	
Strategic Community Plan		
Theme:	4. Communication and Leadership	
Service Area Objective:	4.2. Decision Making4.2.2. The Shire is progressive while exercising responsiblestewardship of its built, natural and financial resources	
Priorities and Strategies for Change:	Nil	

Corporate Busir	ness Plan		
Key Action:	4.4.1. Maximise advocacy benefits with membership of Great Eastern Country Zone, Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation		
	of Councils, Western Australian Local Government		
	Association and CEACA 4.4.2. Increase collaboration amongst stakeholders and		
	surrounding local governments to improve local and regional service delivery and identify opportunities		

Directorate:

Timeline:

	Sustainability Implications		
Strategic Re	Strategic Resource Plan		
Nil			
> Workforce	Plan		
Directorate:	Nil		
Activity:	Nil		
Current Staff:	Nil		
Focus Area:	Nil		
Strategy Code:	Nil		
Strategy:	Nil		
Implications:	Nil		
	Risk Implications		

As the CEACA Housing Project has been identified as an item of "significant audit focus" there is a risk of an adverse audit outcome should the issue of ownership of the assets not be resolved prior to the conclusion of the project.

Financial Implications

Disposal of the assets from the Shire's balance sheet (Statement of Financial Position) will result in a Loss on Disposal of around \$20.2m. This will be recorded on the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year the project is completed.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

	Resolution	
Moved:	Cr Seconded: Cr	
00000	 That Council: RESOLVES that, at the completion of the CEACA Housing Project, all assets related to the project will transfer to Central East Accommodation & Care Alliance Inc (CEACA); NOTES that should CEACA be wound-up, no assets will be distributed to any member Shires, but be distributed to a similar charitable entity (or entities), as per clause 29 of the CEACA constitution; and NOTES that disposal of the CEACA Housing Project assets will result in an accounting loss on disposal of those assets equivalent to the value of the "work in progress" assets at the completion of the project. 	
Moved:	Cr McKenzie Seconded: Cr Crook	
82842	That this Item 14.3 CEACA – Transfer of Assets at Completion of Project lay on the table until the January 2022 Ordinary Meeting to allow for legal advice to be obtained regarding this matter.	

CARRIED 8/0

15.	Officer's Reports - Administration
Nil	
16.	Motions of which Previous Notice has been given
Nil	
17.	Questions by Members of which Due Notice has been given
Nil	
18.	Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision

Nil

19. Matters Behind Closed Doors

In accordance with Section 5.23 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1995 Council will go Behind Closed Doors to discuss these matters.

	Council Decision
Moved:	Cr McKenzie Seconded: Cr Patroni
82843	That Council move Behind Closed Doors and that Standing Orders be suspended at 4:22pm. CARRIED 8/0
	Reason

Matters relating to potential contracts which may be entered into were to be discussed.

Г

19.1 Award of eQuotes Tender – Heavy Rigid Truck

Engineering Services		
Responsible Officer:	Lindon Mellor, EMES	
Author:	Lindon Mellor, EMES	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996	
File Reference:	Nil	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:Attachment 19.1A – Confidential - List of eQuotes or evaluation matrix		

	Resolution		
Moved:	Cr Patroni	Seconded:	Cr Simmonds
82844	That Council awards RFQ VP278723 'Supply of 6 x 4 Truck' to the supplier 'Hino Motor Sales Australia Pty Ltd' for the total sum of \$230,640 ex GST.		

CARRIED 7/1

19.2 Award of eQuotes Tender – Front End Loader

Engineering Services		
Responsible Officer:	Lindon Mellor, EMES	
Author:	Lindon Mellor, EMES	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996	
File Reference:	Nil	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 19.2A – Confidential - List of eQuotes or evaluation matrix	

	Resolution		
Moved:	Cr Flockart	Seconded: Cr Van Der Merwe	
82845		That Council awards RFQ VP278723 'Supply of Front End Loader' to the supplier 'CJD Equipment Pty Ltd' for the sum of \$261,000 ex GST.	

CARRIED 8/0

	Council Resolution		
Moved:	Cr Van Der Merwe Seconded: Cr Crook		
82846	That Council return from Behind Closed Doors at 4:30pm and that the resolutions being passed in the confidential session be confirmed in open meeting.		
	CARRIED 8/0		

20. Closure

There being no further business, the President thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 4:32pm.

This page has intentionally

been left blank