

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers Corner King & Barrack Street's, Merredin Tuesday 21 January 2020 Commencing 4.00pm

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Common Acronyms Used in this Document				
ACEO	Acting Chief Executive Officer			
CBP	Corporate Business Plan			
CEACA	Central East Aged Care Alliance			
CEO	Chief Executive Officer			
CSP	Community Strategic Plan			
CWVC	Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre			
DCEO	Deputy CEO			
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			
MCO	Media & 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 Ordinary Council Meeting 4.00pm Tuesday 21 January 2020



1. Official Opening

The President welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 4.04pm.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies and Leave of Absence

Councillors:

Cr JR Flockart Shire President

Cr RA Billing

Cr LN Boehme

Cr AR Butler

Cr RM Manning

Cr MJ McKenzie

Cr PR Patroni

Cr PM Van Der Merwe

Staff

MO Dacombe A/CEO K Hall MCO

C Brown EMCS M Hudson EMES

Members of the Public: 3

Apologies: M Ivanetz, EA to CEO

Approved Leave of Absence: Cr MD Willis, Deputy President

3. Public Question Time

3.1 Barking Dogs

Ms Cheryl Price, Mr Dion Jaxon, and Mrs Annette Hombergen addressed Council in relation to an ongoing issue with dogs barking at night along their street. Mrs Hombergen asked the Council what would be done regarding their on-going complaints to the Shire.

The Acting CEO indicated that the Shire of Merredin does not currently have a Ranger as the position was being advertised until January 24th, 2020, however he stated that he would be engaging WA Contract Ranger Services to assist with the matter.

- 4.15pm Ms C Price, Mr D Jaxon and Mrs A Hombergen left the meeting and did not return.
- 4.15pm Councillor McKenzie left the Chambers.
- 4.16pm Councillor McKenzie returned to the Chambers.

4. Disclosure of Interest

Councillor Billing declared an Impartiality Interest in Item 15.1

Acting CEO MO Dacombe declared an Impartiality Interest in Item 19.1

5. Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

6. Petitions and Presentations

Nil

Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meetings 7. Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 December 2019 7.1 Attachment 7.1A Annual Electors held on 17 December 2019 7.2 Attachment 7.2A **Voting Requirements** Simple Majority **Absolute Majority** Officer's Recommendation Moved: Seconded: Cr That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 December 00000

confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Resolution

Moved: Cr Flockart **Seconded:** Cr Boehme

82495

1. That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 December 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings subject to minute number 82491 number 2 being corrected to read, "Authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Shire President to liaise with recruitment consultant (once appointed) as follows:"

2019 and the Annual Electors Meeting held on the 17 December 2019 be

2. That the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on the 17 December 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

CARRIED 8/o

8. Announcements by the Person Presiding without discussion

The Shire President took a moment to update the Council of her activities over the December and January period including her attendance at the following;

- St Mary's end of year concert,
- Merredin College end of year performances,
- TRANS WA meeting with Tim Woolerson regarding the Railway Platform,
- Christmas Wind Up with MLC Laurie Graham and MLC Darren West,
- Gala Night, and
- Carols by Candlelight.

The Shire President acknowledged the work by the staff for Gala Night and stated that the event brought the community together. The Shire President also gave a special mention to the Church of Christ, Merredin College School Choir, and A Choired Taste for their involvement with Carols by Candlelight.

The Shire President went on to inform the Council of her upcoming activities including;

- January 26 Presentation of the Citizen of the Year and Senior Citizen of the Year Awards at the Annual Australia Day Breakfast,
- January 30 Rural Water Council of WA meeting with the Minister for Water Mr Dave Kelly, and
- February 4 meeting with CEACA on behalf of the Council in Kellerberrin.

9. Matters for which the Meeting may be closed to the public

19.1 Staff - Appointment of Consultant to assist Recruitment and Selection of Chief Executive Officer

Refer to Page 26 for the resolution of this Item.

10. Receipt of Minutes of Committee Meetings

- 10.1 Wheatbelt North Regional Road Group Meeting held on 8 October 2019

 Attachment 10.1A
- 10.2 Wildflower Society of Western Australia Meeting held on 20 November 2019

Attachment 10.2A

10.3 Wheatbelt Communities Special General Meeting held on 17 December 2019

Attachment 10.3A

Nil

Wildflower Society of Western Australia Meeting held on 18 December 10.4 Attachment 10.4A **Voting Requirements** Simple Majority Absolute Majority Officer's Recommendation / Resolution Moved: Cr Boehme **Seconded:** Cr Van Der Merwe That the Minutes of the Wheatbelt North Regional Road Group Meeting 82496 held on 8 October 2019, Wildflower Society of Western Australia Meeting held on 20 November 2019, Wheatbelt Communities Special General Meeting held on 17 December 2019 and Wildflower Society of Western Australia Meeting held on 18 December 2019 be received. CARRIED 8/o 11. Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council consideration Nil Officer's Reports - Development Services 12.

13. Officer's Reports - Engineering Services

13.1 Award of eQuotes RFQ VP171557 – Asphalt Program

Engineering Services



Responsible Officer: Mike Hudson, EMES

Authors: Mike Hudson, EMES

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government (Functions and General)

Regulations 1996

File Reference: Nil

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachments: Attachment 13.1A – Evaluation Sheet

Purpose of Report Executive Decision Background Legislative Requirement

This item seeks Council approval to engage a supplier determined as best value for money through a Request for Quotation process for the supply and installation of asphalt sealing works for the 2019/2020 Asphalt Sealing Program.

In accordance with the Shire of Merredin Purchasing Policy – 3.12 and regulation 11 (2) (f) the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, this purchase can be made via the WALGA preferred Supplier arrangement, which is exempted from public tender process.

The tendering process has been initiated via the WALGA preferred supplier eQuotes system, which in accordance with "Using a Tender Exempt Panel of Pre-Qualified Suppliers" guidelines within the Purchasing Policy and the Local Government (Function and General) Regulations 1996.

The value of the purchase is in excess of the Chief Executive Officer's delegation limit and requires a resolution of Council to progress the purchase.

A request for quotation Request for Quote (RFQ) being Reference Number: VP171557 - Shire of Merredin 2019/20 Asphalt Program was issued via the WALGA

Preferred Supplier eQuotes on December 24, 2019. The RFQ utilised selection criteria set out under the category of Road Building Contractors, Materials and Related Services – Asphalt Supply & Services).

The following WALGA preferred supplies were requested to provide quotations:

- 1. Roads 2000 PTY LTD
- 2. J & M Asphalt PTY LTD
- 3. AAA Asphalt Surfaces
- 4. Asphaltech PTY LTD

The RFQ closed to submission on the December 24, 2019 and four suppliers submitted a quotation in accordance with the RFQ.

Comment

The evaluation of the submissions was conducted in accordance with the purchasing policy and incorporated the "value for money assessment accounting for the whole of life cost, technical requirements and service delivery".

The evaluation of the submissions was undertaken by Mike Hudson (EMES) and Troy Davies (Construction Supervisor).

The evaluation spreadsheet is included in the attachments.

During the evaluation, the following was noted:

- All suppliers are Walga Preferred Suppliers and have been assessed and determined capable of delivering a conforming result.
- Supplier 1 price is the cheapest of the preferred suppliers and offers the best value for money when the principles of value for money are applied;
- Supplier 1 has previously undertaken asphalting works within the Shire of Merredin:
- Supplier 1 has a proven track record with service and backup support.

After evaluation of the submissions in accordance with council policies, it is recommended that Council award the supply and installation of Asphalt for the 2019/20 Asphalt Season for the budgeted amount of \$612941.00 (ex GST).

The consultation of this process has been undertaken with the Executive Manager Engineering Services, Construction Supervisor, Executive Manager Corporate Services and the Chief Executive Officer.

Policy Implications

Council Policy 3.12 – Purchasing Policy. This Policy outlines how the Shire of Merredin will deliver best practice in the purchasing of goods, services and works that align with the principles of transparency, probity and good governance whereby establishing efficient, effective, economical and sustainable procedures in all purchasing activities. This Policy was used to undertake the procurement process via WALGA eQuotes. This policy also establishes the evaluation criteria for Council procurement.

The Delegation - DL4.1 has been followed in the purchasing process and as such requires a Council decision to accept a tender above \$ 150 000.

Statutory Implications

This procurement process has been completed in accordance with section 3.75 of the Local Government Act 1995 and the Regulation 11 (2)(f) of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Zone: Zone 6 – Transport and networks

Zone Statement: Merredin provides transport networks that connect it locally,

nationally and internationally.

Key Priority: 6.1 – Developing and maintaining a road hierarchy and

providing an appropriate level of service for the road network.

Corporate Business Plan

Key Action: 6.1.2 – Advocate for improved road infrastructure networks

across the region.

Directorate: Engineering Services

Timeline: Repairs to Sealed Road Services – edge break and potholes

Sustainability Implications

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

Adoption of this item has been evaluated against the Shire of Merredin's Risk Management Policy 3.24 - Risk Matrix. The perceived level of risk is considered to be low risk and can be managed by the routine procedures.

Financial Implications

Council has set aside funds in the Capital Expenditure Program. The expense codes for this purchase is COA E121100 - Roads to Recovery Construction and E121200-Regional Road Group Construction in the amount of \$612941.00

	Voting Requireme	ents			
Si	mple Majority	Absolute Majority			
Officer's Recommendation / Resolution					
Moved:	Cr Boehme	Seconded: Cr Billing			
82497	That Council awards RFQ VP171557 - Shire of Merredin 2019/20 Asphalt Program to Roads 2000 for the budgeted sum of \$671461.00 (ex GST).				
		CARRIED 8/o			

14. Officers Reports – Corporate and Community Services

14.1 List of Accounts Paid

Corporate Services



Responsible Officer: Charlie Brown, EMCS

Author: Charlie Brown, EMCS

Legislation: Local Government Act 1995; Local Government

(Financial Management) Regulations 1996

File Reference: Nil

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachment 14.1A - List of Accounts Paid

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Background

The attached List of Accounts Paid during the month of December 2019 under Delegated Authority is provided for Council's information.

Comment

Nil

Policy Implications

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

Statutory Implications

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

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Zone: Zone 4 – Communication & Leadership

Zone Statement: Merredin Council engages with its Community and leads by

example.

Key Priority: 4.1 – Ensuring all planning, reporting and resourcing is in

accordance with best practice, compliance and statutory

requirements.

Corporate Business Plan

Key Action: 4.1.1 - Continue to update the Integrated Planning

Framework, meet statutory requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulations and regulatory obligations

required under other regulations.

Directorate: Corporate Services

Timeline: Ongoing

Sustainability Implications

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

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

Financial Implications

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

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Butler Seconded: Cr Manning

That the schedule of accounts paid as listed, covering cheques, EFT's, bank charges, directly debited payments and wages, as numbered and totalling \$825,119.87 from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account and \$1,454.18, from Council's Trust Account be endorsed by Council.

CARRIED 8/o

14.2 Statement of Financial Activity

Corporate Services



Responsible Officer: Charlie Brown, EMCS

Author: Charlie Brown, ECMS

Legislation: Local Government Act 1995; Local Government

(Financial Management) Regulations 1996

File Reference: Nil

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachment 14.2A - Statement of Financial Activity

Attachment 14.2B – Detailed Statements

Attachment 14.2C – Monthly Investment Report

Attachment 14.2D – Financial Ratios

Attachment 14.2E - Capital Expenditure

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Background

The Statement of Financial Activity, which includes the Detailed Schedules, Statement of Financial Position, Current Ratios and Investment Register, are attached for Council's information.

Comment

Operating Income and Expenditure is consistent with Council's YTD Budget with Operating Income consistent with budget estimates and Expenditure showing a 5% variance.

The Mid-Year budget review is currently being carried out so an in depth look at all accounts forms part of that process.

I have previously mentioned the councils current position is similar to that of last year, so for your information the following is provided in relation to Councils Net Current Assets;

31/12/2015 \$3,902,898.00

31/12/2016 \$4,814,588.00

31/12/2017 \$5,179,327.00 31/12/2018 \$5,152,482.00 31/12/2019 \$5,170,643.00

Capital Expenditure

A detailed look at capital expenditure can be found in Note 7 and a separate attachment showing Capital Expenditure is also attached for your information.

Policy Implications

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

Statutory Implications

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

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Zone: Zone 4 – Communication & Leadership

Zone Statement: Merredin Council engages with its Community and leads by

example.

Key Priority: 4.1 – Ensuring all planning, reporting and resourcing is in

accordance with best practice, compliance and statutory

requirements.

Corporate Business Plan

Key Action: 4.1.1 - Continue to update the Integrated Planning

Framework, meet statutory requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulations and regulatory obligations

required under other regulations.

Directorate: Corporate Services

Timeline: Ongoing

Sustainability Implications

Strategic Resource Plan

Compliance with the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and to give Council some direction in regard to 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

Nil Strategy: 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.

In order 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 of the Monthly Financial Report is retrospective. Accordingly, the financial implications associated with adopting the report are nil.

Voting Requirements Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Cr Patroni Seconded: Cr McKenzie Moved:

That in accordance with Regulation 34 of the Local Government 82499 (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, the Statement of Financial Activity and the Investment Report for the period ending 31 December 2019 be received.

CARRIED 8/o

14.3 Honorary Freeman Shire of Merredin Policy

Corporate Services



Responsible Officer: Charlie Brown, EMCS

Author: Charlie Brown, ECMS

Legislation: Local Government Act 1995; Local Government

(Financial Management) Regulations 1996

File Reference: Nil

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachments: Attachment 14.3A – Honorary Freeman Shire of

Merredin

Purpose of Report Executive Decision Legislative Requirement Background

One of the key roles of the Council under the Local Government Act 1995 (S2.7) is to determine the policies of the Local Government.

Some policies are required by statute and some are discretionary, representing good governance practices in guiding decision-making and operational matters for any area that the Council wishes to address. The Department of Local Government and Communities has also identified a number of policies which it considers highly desirable for local government to adopt in order to satisfy general guidelines and standards in relation to governance and probity.

The Council is progressively reviewing its Policy Manual updating policies as it considers appropriate and developing new policies where needed.

Comment

Council currently has no set policy to provide guidelines for the granting of Honorary Freeman title on any person that they feel may deserve such an honour.

This policy provides those guidelines and provides the tools to award such an honour.

It is believed that this award has previously been bestowed on some identities (Mr Eric Hind), however no records have currently been found to confirm this at the time of writing this report.

Policy Implications

Creation of a new policy as outlined in the Local Government Act 1995

Statutory Implications

Compliance with Local Government Act 1995

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Zone: Zone 4 – Communication & Leadership

Zone Statement: Merredin Council engages with its Community and leads by

example.

Key Priority: 4.1 – Ensuring all planning, reporting and resourcing is in

accordance with best practice, compliance and statutory

requirements.

Corporate Business Plan

Key Action: 4.1.1 - Continue to update the Integrated Planning

Framework, meet statutory requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulations and regulatory obligations

required under other regulations.

Directorate: Corporate Services

Timeline: Ongoing

Sustainability Implications

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

There is a moderate risk to the Council if it does not regularly review its Policy Manual.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the adoption of these policies.

Voting Requirements Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation

Moved: Cr Seconded: Cr

ooooo That Council adopt 1.18 as presented in attachment 14.3A Honorary

Freeman Shire of Merredin Policy

Resolution

Moved: Cr Boehme Seconded: Cr Billing

82500 That Council adopt 1.18 as presented in attachment 14.3A Honorary

Freeman Shire of Merredin Policy with the amendment to 5.1 to state

Honorary Freeman of the Shire of Merredin.

CARRIED 8/o

Reason

The resolution was changed to keep Title consistent throughout the document.

15. Officer's Reports – Administration

Councillor Billing declared an Impartiality Interest in Item 15.1

15.1 Youth Strategy and Engagement Plan 2019 – 2023 – Progress Report

Administration



Responsible Officer: Kellie Bartley, DCEO

Author: Hannah Martin, CLO

Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

File Reference: Nil

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachment 15.1A – (9A) Youth Strategy Progress

Report

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Background

The Shire of Merredin's Youth Strategy and Engagement Plan 2019-2023 was adopted on 21st May 2019 (CMRef 82378) following input from Council, agency stakeholders and the community.

In August 2019 an update of progress was provided to Council. This update included various activations that had been identified throughout the strategy. Since then, the Shire has continued to implement actions as directed by the strategy.

Comment

Prior to the development of the Youth Strategy, the Shire had already activated and some of the items recognised in the strategy. The adoption of the youth strategy has enhanced many of these priorities, as well as identified new ones. Many of the outputs that have been achieved have been reliant on grant funding from Lotterywest, Collgar and other State Government bodies.

The progress report as contained in **attachment 15.1 (A)** is attached for Council's perusal.

Policy Implications

The Youth Strategy builds on the Shire's Strategic Community Plan.

Statutory Implications

There is no legislative requirements affecting the development of the Youth Strategy and Engagement Plan however it supports the key actions and priorities identified in the Strategic Community Plan and the Corporate Business Plan.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Zone: Zone 1 – Community & Cultural

Zone Statement: Merredin is rich in cultural diversity, performing and fine arts

and a variety of sports available for both residents and

visitors.

Key Priority: 1.7 – Providing support to local organisations which seek to

enhance engagement and opportunities available to early

years and youth in the Merredin region.

Corporate Business Plan

Key Action: 1.7.1 – Develop a Youth Strategy and Engagement Plan to

deliver a range of youth programs.

1.7.2 - Support agencies and community organisations to

implement early years initiatives

Directorate: Community Services

Timeline: Ongoing

Sustainability Implications

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

The level of risk is considered to be low to the Shire, however Officers will need to clearly articulate the commitment made by the Shire to implement to relevant action items. The Shire will not be accountable for the commitment and responsibility of other stakeholders and will continue to play a collaborative,

facilitating role for the youth services sector to ensure organisations have every opportunity to contribute where possible

Financial Implications

The Youth Strategy & Engagement Plan has been identified in the current annual budget and is also supported by successful grant funding.

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr McKenzie **Seconded:** Cr Van Der Merwe

That Council notes the Youth Strategy & Engagement Plan progress plan report as contained in attachment 15.1(A).

CARRIED 8/o

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 of the Local Government Act 1995 Council went Behind Closed Doors to discuss matters affecting an employee.

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Boehme **Seconded:** Cr Billing

82502 That Council move Behind Closed Doors at 4.52pm.

CARRIED 8/o

4.52pm – C Brown, M Hudson left the meeting and did not return.

4.52pm – K Hall left the Chambers.

Acting CEO MO Dacombe declared an Impartiality Interest in Item 19.1

19.1 Confidential - Appointment of Consultant to assist Recruitment and Selection of Chief Executive Officer

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Flockart **Seconded:** Cr McKenzie

82503 That Council;

- 1. After due consideration of the submissions received appoint 'WALGA Recruitment' to assist the Council with the recruitment and selection of the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the quotation provided with funds to be allocated in the forthcoming budget review.
- 2. The Acting CEO Mark Dacombe be requested to facilitate the workshop, attended by the recruitment consultant to establish and understand the specific capabilities that are being sought by Council of a new Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED 7/1

Cr Billing voted against the motion.

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Boehme **Seconded:** Cr Van Der Merwe

82504 That council return from Behind Closed Doors at 5.05pm.

5.06pm – K Hall returned to the Chambers.

20. Closure

There being no further business the President then thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.10pm.

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