

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers Corner King & Barrack Street's, Merredin Tuesday, 15 June 2021 Commencing 4.00pm

	Common Acronyms Used in this Document
СВР	Corporate Business Plan
CEACA	Central East Accommodation & Care Alliance Inc
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
MCO	Media and Communications Officer
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRCLC	Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre
SRP	Strategic Resource Plan
T/CEO	Temporary Chief Executive Officer
WALGA	Western Australian Local Government Association
WEROC	Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils



Shire of Merredin June Ordinary Council Meeting

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Shire of Merredin Ordinary Council Meeting 4:00pm Tuesday, 15 June 2021



1. Official Opening

The President acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today and paid her respects to the Elders past, present and emerging. The President then welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 4.02pm.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies and Leave of Absence

Councillors:

Cr JR Flockart President

Cr MD Willis Deputy 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:

M Dacombe T/CEO
G Garside EMCS
C Shotter EMES
P Zenni EMDS
A Brice EA

Members of the Public: 1

Apologies: Nil

Approved Leave of Absence: Nil

3. Public Question Time

Nil

4. Disclosure of Interest

Cr Billing declared a Financial Interest in Item 12.1.

Merredin

5.	Applica	tions of Leave of Absence	
Counci	llor Billi	ng requested a Leave of Absence for 12-23 July.	
		Voting Requirements	
	Simple	Majority Absolute Majority	
		Resolution	
Moved	l : C	r Patroni Seconded: Cr McKenzie	
82741		hat Councillor Billing be granted a Leave of Absence of 12-23 July.	for the period
			CARRIED 9/0
6.	Petitio	ns and Presentations	
Nil			
7.	Confirm	nation of Minutes of Previous Meetings	
7.1		ry Council Meeting held on 18 May 2021 ment 7.1A	
		Voting Requirements	
	Simple	Majority Absolute Majority	
		Resolution	
Moved	l: C	r Willis Seconded: Cr Butler	
82742		hat the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting he o21 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proc	_
			CARRIED 9/0
8.	Annour	cements by the Person Presiding without Discussion	
		ent spoke to Council regarding her activities since the gon 18 May 2021.	e Ordinary
21 May		ffee catchup with CEO and resident regarding Aged re Respite	Merredin
25 May	/ CE	ACA Management Meeting	Kellerberrin
1 June		eting with the consultant regarding the CEO ruitment process	Merredin
	Shi	re of Merredin Council Briefing	Merredin

Coffee with a Councillor #1

4 June

8 June 9-10 June	Shire of Merredin Council Briefing &Audit Briefing Wheatbelt Development Commission – Local Government Representative	Merredin Narrogin
11 June	CEO Recruitment Panel Interviews	Merredin
15 June	CEO Catchup	Merredin
	Shire of Merredin Audit Meeting	Merredin
	Shire of Merredin Ordinary Meeting	Merredin

I would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of Council, of extending a warm thank you and farewell to Mr Calvin Shotter, our EMES, who will be leaving the Shire of Merredin at the end of the month. Mr Shotter has been at the Shire for approximately 10 months, and in that time, he has brought with him an energy, enthusiasm and dedication that has been appreciated. Best wishes to Calvin, Jaclyn and family in your exciting career move.

I would also like to take the opportunity, on behalf of Council in acknowledging and thanking Mr Allan Odgers who has recently retired after 24 years of service. Mr Odgers has been a valuable employee of the Shire of Merredin over this time, and his skills and experience; on the grader will be missed by all.

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

Nil

10. Receipt of Minutes of Committee Meetings

Nil

11. Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council Consideration

11.1 Audit Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2021

Audit Committee's Recommendation

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

82743 The Audit Committee recommends that the Council:

- 1. Receives the Auditor's Report and Management Report for the 2019-20 financial year;
- 2. Forwards the report on journal entries deemed significant to the Minister for Local Government; and
- 3. Notes that a report on the operating surplus ratio be forwarded to the Minister following consideration during the budget process.

12. Officers' Reports - Development Services

Use of Commercial Grade Food Trailer for the Production of Packaged Food (Granola) on Lot 12577 Merredin – Nungarin Road Merredin

Cr Billing declared a Financial Interest in this Item 12.1 and left the Chambers at 4.11pm.

Development Services



Responsible Officer:	Peter Zenni, EMDS
Author:	Peter Zenni, EMDS
Legislation:	Shire of Merredin Local Planning Scheme No 6. Food Act 2008
File Reference:	A9665
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 12.1A – Application for development approval and associated documentation

Purpose of Report Executive Decision Legislative Requirement Background

The Shire of Merredin has received an application for development (planning) approval for the placement and use of a commercial grade food trailer on Lot 12577 Merredin – Nungarin Road, Merredin.

Comment

The proposed commercial grade food trailer will be used to add value to the existing farm business through the production and packaging of granola utilising locally grown oats and other grains whilst achieving compliance with requirements of the *Food Act 2008* relating to the fit out of food business related premises.

Statutory Requirements

Shire of Merredin Local Planning Scheme No.6

Lot 12577 Mererdin – Nungarin Road, Merredin is zoned 'General Farming' under the Shire of Merredin Local Planning Scheme No. 6 (LPS).

The proposed placement and use of a commercial grade food trailer on Lot 12577 Mererdin – Nungarin Road, Merredin is not specifically listed as a use class in the zoning tables forming part of the LPS.

Clause 3.4.2 of the LPS states as follows;

"If a person proposes to carry out on land any use that is not specifically mentioned in the Zoning Tables and cannot reasonably be determined as falling within the type, class or genus of activity of any other use category the local government may –

- a) determine that the use is consistent with the objectives of the particular zone and is therefore permitted;
- determine that the use may be consistent with the objectives of the particular zone and therefore follow the advertising procedures of Clause 64 of the deemed provisions in considering an application for development approval; or
- c) determine that the use is not consistent with the objectives of the particular zone and is therefore not permitted."

The proposed activity will be directly related to the preparation and packaging of product sourced from "General Farming" zoned property and is seen as value adding to the existing farm related activity. The proposed activity will be limited to the production, packaging and wholesale of granola products. There will be no retail component or any adverse impact that would prejudice the amenity of the surrounding area.

Clause 3.4.2 of the LPS states the objectives of the "General Farming" zone, which are as follows;

- To provide for a range of rural pursuits that are compatible with the capability of the land and retain the rural character and amenity of the locality.
- To protect land from urban uses that may jeopardise the future use of that land for other planned purposes that are compatible with the zoning.
- To support sustainable farming practices and the retention of remnant vegetation.
- To prevent any development that may affect the viability of a holding.
- To encourage small scale, low impact tourist accommodation in rural locations.
- To encourage a diversification of rural activities that will reduce the dependency of the rural sector on traditional crops.
- To support the creation of homestead lots in accordance with adopted Local Planning Policy.
- To support mining activities where an environmental management plan has been prepared and is acceptable to the local government and the Environmental Protection Authority.
- To preclude the disposal of used tyres or any other material that may be detrimental to the quality of the land.

The proposed placement and use of a commercial grade food trailer on Lot 12577 Mererdin – Nungarin Road, Merredin for the production and packaging of granola utilising locally grown oats and other grains will not contravene the objectives of the LPS with respect to "General farming" zoned property.

Food Act 2008

The food trailer will need to comply with the provisions of the Food Act 2008 and the associated Food Safety Standards relating to the fit out of food premises. The food van will be inspected by the Shire's Environmental Health Officers for compliance and once deemed suitable form part of the food business registration.

The food trailer will be placed in close proximity to the existing farmhouse thus allowing access and use of existing toilet facilities.

Health Act 1911/Environmental Protection Act 1986

The food trailer is fitted with its own water tank, electrical generator, hot water system and gas bottles, making it a stand-alone self-sufficient unit. There will be no discharge of trade waste associated with the use of the trailer on site.

Building Act 2011

The food trailer is a registered vehicle and as such there is no compliance requirements with respect to the Building Act 2011.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

Compliance with the Shire of Merredin Local Planning Scheme No.6

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Theme: 2. Economy and Growth

Service Area Objective: 2.1. Economic Development

> 2.1.2. Merredin is a place of choice for business investment and for new residents settling to enjoy a

balanced lifestyle and employment opportunities.

N/A Priorities and Strategies

for Change:

Corporate Business Plan

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

Development Services Directorate:

Timeline: Ongoing

	Sustainability Implications
> Strategic R	esource Plan
Nil	
> Workforce	Plan
Directorate:	Nil
Activity:	Nil
Current Staff:	Nil
Focus Area:	Nil
Strategy Code:	Nil
Strategy:	Nil
Implications:	Nil
	Risk Implications
Nil	
	Financial Implications
The relevant dev	velopment application fees have been paid.
	Voting Requirements
Simple N	Majority Absolute Majority
	Resolution
Moved: Cr	Manning Seconded: Cr Boehme

82744 That Council;

- Grant development (planning) approval for the placement and use of a commercial grade food trailer on Lot 12577 Merredin

 Nungarin Road, Merredin for production and packaging of granola utilising locally grown oats and other grains as per attachment 12.1A, subject to;
 - a. The use of the food trailer being limited to the production and packaging of granola; and
 - b. The sale of the granola product being by way of wholesale only.
- 2. Advises the applicant that the food business activity incorporating the commercial grade food trailer must comply with requirements of the *Food Act 2008*.

CARRIED 8/o

Cr Billing returned to the Chambers at 4.12pm.

The member of the public in attendance left the Chambers at 4.12pm and did not return.

13. Officers' Reports - Engineering Services

Nil

14. Officers' Reports – Corporate and Community Services

14.1 List of Accounts Paid

Corporate Services



Responsible Officer:	Geoff Garside, AEMCS
Author:	Geoff Garside, AEMCS
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 14.1A - List of Accounts Paid

	Purpose of Report	
Executi	ve Decision	Legislative Requirement
	Background	

The attached list of Accounts Paid during the Month of May 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 Plan

Theme: N/A

Service Area Objective:

Priorities and

Strategies for Change:

Corporate Business Plan

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 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 Patroni **Seconded:** Cr McKenzie

That the schedule of accounts paid during May 2021 as listed, covering cheques, EFT's, bank charges, directly debited payments and wages, as numbered and totalling \$789,563.84 from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account and \$0, from Council's Trust Account be

endorsed by Council.

14.2 Statement of Financial Activity (April 2021)

Corporate Services



Responsible Officer:	Geoff Garside, AEMCS
Author:	Geoff Garside, AEMCS
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	
Executi	ve Decision	Legislative Requirement
	Background	

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

As well as the financial statements, budget amendments are recommended to authorise expenditure that has not previously been approved by Council.

Comment

Capital Expenditure

A detailed look at capital expenditure can be found in note 8, as well as attachment 14.2 (D) showing levels of expenditure.

Attachment 14.2 (E) reports variances by Sub Program, making it easier to drill down on variances to a greater degree.

Budget Amendments

The following budget amendments are recommended:

GL/Job	Description	Current Budget	Variation Amount	Revised Budget	Reason
GL 2120211	ROADM – Road Maintenance - Built-up Areas	\$1,231,210	(\$19,153)	\$1,212,057	Savings on road maintenance due to focus on grant-funded road construction.
GL 2110352	REC - Management Contract MRCLC	\$301,680	\$19,153	\$320,833	Budget increase to give effect to Council resolution setting MRCLC User Group Fees and contributions (Minute 82684 – February 2021)

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 Plan

Theme: N/A

Theme Statement:

Service Area Objective:

Corporate Business Plan

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 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 Requirements
S	Simple I	Majority Absolute Majority
		Resolution
Moved:	Cr	Billing Seconded: Cr Willis
82746	(F	nat in accordance with Regulation 34 of the <i>Local Government</i> inancial Management) Regulations 1996, the Statement of Financial ctivity and the Investment Report for the period ending 30 April

2021 be received.

15. Officer's Reports - Administration

15.1 Delegations Register Review - 2020/21

Administration



Responsible Officer:	onsible Officer: Mark Dacombe, T/CEO	
Author:	Mark Dacombe, T/CEO	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995	
File Reference:	e Reference: Delegations Register	
Disclosure of Interest:	sclosure of Interest: Nil	
Attachments: Attachment 15.1A – Delegations Register		

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Background

The Delegations Register is required to be reviewed at least once in every financial year.

Comment

The Council has reviewed its Strategic Community Plan (SCP) at the April Ordinary Council Meeting (CMRef 82725) and is currently working on the Corporate Business Plan and budget that will give effect to the SCP. It is proposed that no changes are made to the Delegations Register at this time. Once the Corporate Business Plan is adopted it is proposed that a review of the Delegations Register be undertaken to determine if there should be any changes to assist the Council more effectively deliver on its work program.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications arising from adopting the delegations register unchanged at this time. It is noted that staff are currently working on the program for review of policies. It is possible that this review will identify delegations that require consequential amendment.

Statutory Implications

Section 5.42 of the *Local Government Act 1995* states that a number of the local government's powers and duties can be delegated to the CEO. Section 5.43 of the Act details the limitations on those delegations. The review has been conducted within those legislative requirements. An absolute majority of Council is required to adopt the Delegations Register.

The separate legislation referenced in the individual delegations is also applicable.

As required by Section 5.46(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the use of exercising the delegated authority is to be reported to Council, which is done as an attachment to the Manager's Reports provided under separate cover to Council each month.

Section 5.46(2) of the Act requires the Council to review the delegations at least once in every financial year. The Delegations Register was last reviewed at the 16 June 2020 Ordinary Meeting of the Council (CMRef82569).

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Theme: 4. Communication and Leadership

Service Area Objective: 4.1. Decision Making

4.2.3. The Council is well informed in their decision-making, supported by a skilled administration team who are committed to providing timely, strategic

information and advice

Priorities and N/A

Strategies for Change:

Corporate Business Plan

Key Action: Continue to work with business networks to identify

opportunities for programs that support small business (Business Local, Progress Associations, Wheatbelt

Business Network)

Directorate: Office of the CEO

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	

By not conducting the review and adopting the Register Council would be in breach of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Resolution

Moved: Cr Patroni

Seconded: Cr Butler

82747

That Council adopt, pursuant to Section 5.42 of the Local Government

That Council adopt, pursuant to Section 5.42 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Delegations Register as presented in Attachment 15.1A.

15.2 Annual Report 2019/2020 - Adoption & Annual Electors Meeting

Administration Responsible Officer: Mark Dacombe, T/CEO Author: Mark Dacombe, T/CEO Legislation: Local Government Act 1995 File Reference: Nil Disclosure of Interest: Nil Attachments: Attachment 15.2A – Annual Report 2019/20

	Purpose of Report	
Executi	ve Decision	Legislative Requirement
	Background	

The annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020 have been completed, as has the annual audit of the financial statements by the Auditor General. The 2019/20 Annual Report is attached.

Comment

Local governments are required to adopt the annual report prior to 31 December each year (S5.54(1) of the Act). Where the auditor's report is not available in time for the Annual Report to be accepted by 31 December the annual report is to be accepted no later than 2 months after the auditor's report becomes available. Local governments are required to conduct an annual electors meeting (AEM) not more than 56 days after adopting the report.

Considering the above legislative timeline, if the 2019/20 Annual Report is adopted at Council's June 2021 meeting, the AEM must be held on or prior to 4 August 2019.

Council has previously held the AEM following an Ordinary Council Meeting. It is proposed that the AEM for the 2019/20 financial year be held on Tuesday, 20 July 2021 commencing at 6.00 pm.

Pursuant to Section 7.9 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the 'Act'), an Auditor is required to examine the accounts and annual financial report submitted by a local government for audit.

The Auditor is also required to prepare a report thereon and forward a copy of that report to:

- 1. The Mayor or President.
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer; and the Minister for Local Government.
- 3. Furthermore, in accordance with Regulation 10(4) of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996, where it is considered appropriate to do so, the Auditor may prepare a Management Report to accompany the Auditor's Report, which is also to be forwarded to the persons specified in Section 7.9 of the Act. The Management Report provides an overview of the audit process and outcomes, whilst also identifying any matters that, whilst generally not material in relation to the overall audit of the financial report, are nonetheless considered relevant to the day to day operations of Council.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Theme: 4. Communications and Leadership

Service Area Objective: 4.7. Integrated Planning and Reporting

4.7.1 The Shire is committed to ongoing consultation to ensure that the reporting associated with the State's Integrated Planning Framework is in line with the community's vision for the town and its surrounds

Priorities and

Strategies for Change:

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 the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* if this item was not considered by Council.

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Resolution

Moved: Cr Flockart

Seconded: Cr Boehme

82748 That Council:

- 1. Adopt the 2019/20 Annual Report as attached, and receive the Auditor's Report and Management Report from the Auditor General for the 2019/20 financial year; and
- 2. Holds its Annual General Meeting of Electors on 20 July 2021 at 6.00pm in the Council Chambers.

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 of by Decision

Nil

19. Matters Behind Closed Doors

Nil

20. Closure

There being no further business, the President thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 4.22pm.

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