

SHIRE OF MERREDIN



“Heart of the Wheatbelt”

MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

20 December 2011

INDEX

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| 1.0 | OFFICIAL OPENING | 4 |
| 2.0 | PUBLIC QUESTION TIME | 4 |
| 3.0 | APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE | 4 |
| 4.0 | DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST | 4 |
| 5.0 | PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS..... | 4 |
| 6.0 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES..... | 5 |
| 6.1 | Ordinary Council Meeting | 5 |
| 7.0 | ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION..... | 5 |
| 8.0 | MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC | 5 |
| 9.0 | RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL | 5 |
| 9.1 | Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting held 24 th November 2011 | 5 |
| 9.2 | Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Executive Meeting held 23 rd November 2011 | 5 |
| 10.0 | DEVELOPMENT SERVICES | 6 |
| 10.1 | Development Services – Provision Of Infrastructure Lot 1498 Caridi Close Merredin – Budget Amendment Request..... | 6 |
| 10.2 | Emergency Services Levy- Proposal Support Sought – Allocation Of Levy To Local Government..... | 8 |
| 10.3 | Local Planning Scheme No.6 – Request For Comment – Merrittville Retirement Village, Lot 1460 Bates Street, Merredin..... | 10 |
| 10.4 | Planning & Development – Draft Urban Development Plan | 11 |
| 10.5 | Reserve Vesting Request – Reserve 12283 (Department Of Water) Vested To Reserve 24124 (Gravel – Shire Of Merredin) | 13 |
| 11.0 | ENGINEERING SERVICES | 15 |
| 11.1 | SPEED ZONE CHANGE ON GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY | 15 |
| 12.0 | CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES | 17 |
| 12.1 | List Of Accounts Paid..... | 17 |
| 12.2 | Monthly Finance Report | 18 |
| 12.3 | Lease 20 Priestly Street Merredin..... | 19 |
| 12.4 | Review Of The Foward Capital Works Plan..... | 20 |
| 12.5 | Fees And Chareges Merredin Swimming Pool | 21 |
| | Carried By Absolute Majority..... | 21 |
| 12.6 | Regional Sport And Recreation Plan - Weroc..... | 22 |
| 12.7 | Sports Floor At The Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre | 24 |
| 13.0 | ADMINISTRATION | 26 |
| 13.1 | Shire Of Merredin Annual Report 2010/2011..... | 26 |
| 13.2 | Integrated Planning – Community Consultation..... | 28 |
| 14.0 | MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN..... | 30 |
| 15.0 | QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN | 30 |

16.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION 30

17.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS..... 30

 17.1 Sale Of Whitfield Way Stage Two – 12 Lots 30

18.0 CLOSURE 30

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Merredin held in the Council
Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on
Tuesday 20 December 2011 commencing at 1.00pm.**

ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|--|
| Councillors: | D Crook | Shire President |
| | M Morris | Deputy Shire President |
| | BJ Anderson | |
| | RM Crees | |
| | DN Hayes-Thompson | |
| | KA Hooper | |
| | T McFarlane | |
| | D Morris | |
| | W Wallace | |
| Staff: | G Powell | Chief Executive Officer |
| | E Arnold | Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services |
| | J Garrett | Executive Manager Engineering Services |
| | J Mitchell | Executive Manager of Development Services |
| | L Wyatt | Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer |

1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

The Shire President opened the meeting at 1.00pm. John Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services was present.

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

5.0 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES6.1 Ordinary Council Meeting

Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 November 2011.

30785

Moved: Cr M Morris

Seconded: Cr McFarlane

Officer's Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 November 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED 9/0**7.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

The Shire President announced the appointment of Cr Mark Crees as the Great Eastern Country Zone representative on the Wheatbelt Regional Planning Advisory Committee.

8.0 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

17.1 Sale of Whitefield Way Stage 2 – 12 Lots

9.0 RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL9.1 Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting held 24th November 2011
Attachment 9.1A9.2 Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Executive Meeting held 23rd November 2011
Attachment 9.2A**30786**

Moved: Cr M Morris

Seconded: Cr Wallace

Officers Recommendation

That the minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting held 24th November 2011 and the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Executive meeting held 23rd November 2011 be received.

CARRIED 9/0

10.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**10.1 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – PROVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURE LOT 1498
CARIDI CLOSE MERREDIN – BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST**

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Development Services |
| Reporting Officer: | John Mitchell |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | Reserve 46698; A2131 |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Background

Council provided Lot 231 Carrington Way for public open space when the subdivision was completed in 2009.

The ownership and sale of Lot 1498 Caridi Close (Reserve 46698) has been the subject of discussions between Council and the public for a considerable period of time.

The reserve is vested with the Shire of Merredin for public open space.

Between 2007 and 2010 issues relating to ownership of the land were resolved. Quotations to purchase the land and develop for on-sale have now been obtained.

Comment

Budget forecasts suggest a saving of approximately \$30,000 from the capital works to complete Whitfield Way Stage Two.

Advice from the service providers indicates that the current quotations will lapse on 30 December 2011 and increases in costs are expected.

Statutory/Policy Implications

The funds raised from the sale of the residential lot must be used for provision of public open spaces.

Sale of the land is subject to the provisions of Section 358 of the Local Government Act 1995. The sale by private treaty requires the provision of a valuation performed within the previous six months.

Financial Implications

The following estimates/quotations have been received: -

- 1) Western Power – provision of power - \$7,114.00 – subject to payment of design fee and confirmation of estimate;
- 2) Provision of water and sewer - \$6,500.00
- 3) Land purchase - \$3,500.00;
- 4) Telstra – no allowance
- 5) Trenching - \$5,000.00.

A local valuation would suggest \$75,000 - \$90,000 could be achieved at auction.

Officer's Recommendation

1. *That a budget allocation of \$25,000 be provided from E109101 WW002 Whitfield Way Stage Two Subdivision to provide the infrastructure for Lot 1498 Caridi Close, Merredin*

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED

2. *That the sale of Lot 1498 Caridi Close, Merredin be by auction to be held on _____ (Date to be determined – suggest same date as Whitfield Way Stage Two).*

30787

Moved: Cr K Hooper

Seconded: Cr D Morris

Resolution

1. *That a budget allocation of \$25,000 be provided from E109101 WW002 Whitfield Way Stage Two Subdivision to provide the infrastructure for Lot 1498 Caridi Close, Merredin*
2. *That the sale of Lot 1498 Caridi Close, Merredin be by auction to be held on 17 March 2012.*

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

10.2 EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY- PROPOSAL SUPPORT SOUGHT – ALLOCATION OF LEVY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Reporting Department: | Development Services |
| Reporting Officer: | John Mitchell |
| Legislation: | Bush fires Act 1954 |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Email - South West Local Government Emergency Services Levy (ESL) – Funding for Local Governments. |

Background

A report (**Attachment 10.2A**) has been received from the South West Local Government Emergency Management Alliance seeking comment and support for the proposal to retain a percentage of the Emergency Services Levy to employ staff, enable continuous emergency risk management planning and to retain an annual budget to ensure that all emergency management responsibilities are met.

Comment

The Keely report identifies 55 recommendations local government is implicated in 24. Mr Winters also advises of suggestions within the Keely report of local government having to “lift their game” and commence other community programs.

The Levy contributed by the Shire of Merredin \$117,021 in the 2010/11 year with a grant contribution back of \$44,180. These costs do not reflect the time and efforts of the Administration in maintaining the volunteer brigades.

There are components of operational costs that are not covered by the levy including damage to Council operated vehicles, tea coffee amongst a long list. The training of full time employees e.g. Admin staff is carried out through normal budget allocations as ESL allocations do not cover the costs of training of paid Admin staff. The placement of bans is currently unpaid admin time on the Ranger and Executive Manager of Development Services.

There is a need to review the application and allocation of the levy.

Copies of the discussion document have been circulated to the volunteers of the Bushfire Brigades seeking comment.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

The budget allocation to the Shire of Merredin was \$32,800. Council contributed the balance from general revenue. An additional \$2,000 was spent on staff training and the time allocation was substantial.

30788

Moved: Cr K Hooper

Seconded: Cr M Morris

Officer's Recommendation

That Council supports the intent of the document prepared by FESA to provide additional funding from the ESL to local government as additional resource and support are provided beyond the levy raised to maintain a volunteer fire brigade;

CARRIED 9/0

10.3 **LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME No.6 – REQUEST FOR COMMENT –
MERRITTVILLE RETIREMENT VILLAGE, LOT 1460 BATES STREET, MERREDIN**

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Development Services |
| Reporting Officer: | John Mitchell |
| Legislation: | Local Planning Scheme No. 6 |
| File Reference: | Assessment Lot 1460 Bates Street |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | MMRV Master Plans |

Background

Merrittville Retirement Village is a joint venture between the Merrittville Retirement Village Inc (MRVI), Shire of Merredin and Homeswest.

On behalf of the MRVI the proposed expansion plans have been provided to Council by Braude & Associates Architects. The high yield and medium yield plans are contained in **Attachment 10.3A**.

Comment

The master plan discusses two options for development – high yield and medium yield. The high yield option provides between 72 – 79 units on lot sizes of 204m². The medium yield option provides between 53 and 58 units on lot sizes to 270m².

The Master plan suggests staging and seeks a decision whether the medium or high density yield is to be applied. Either density can be achieved within the constraints of LPS6.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Pursuant to the Local Planning Scheme the application, if received, can be considered as the R Coding is in keeping with the area. On the southern boundary the setbacks include a 6m access road and this will address any setback and privacy issues with neighbouring property residents.

Financial Implications

There is no financial implication for Council.

Officer's Recommendation

That the information regarding the master plan for Merrittville be received.

30789

Moved: Cr M Morris

Seconded: Cr McFarlane

Resolution

That the information regarding the master plan for Merrittville be received and be considered when overall planning of aged accommodation in Merredin is undertaken.

CARRIED 8/1

10.4 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT – DRAFT URBAN DEVELOPMENT PLAN

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Reporting Department: | Development Services |
| Reporting Officer: | John Mitchell |
| Legislation: | Planning & Development Act 2005, Local Planning Scheme No.6 |
| File Reference: | LUP/5/13 (new file please) |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | |

Background

At the ordinary meeting of Council held on 20 April 2010 Council resolved: -

CM Ref: 30299

That a provision of \$10,000.00 be included in the 2010/2011 Budget to retain consultants to undertake a Land Development Strategy incorporating a needs analysis, order of priority and development costs for land identified in the body of this report.

A draft report has been prepared (**Attachment 10.4A**). A copy of the minute of Council appends (**Attachment 10.4B**).

Comment

The plan is a compilation of the outline development plans prepared by the Consultant (PlanWest) and the Administration and reflects the views of those persons only. Council input is sought.

If public consultation is sought specific groups including real estate agents, utility providers views should be actively acquired.

Statutory/Policy Implications

There are currently no statutory provisions which require the preparation of a urban development guide plan. Once complete the document should form a component of Council's future planning documentation.

It is recommended that once the Council has completed input that the draft document be advertised for public comment.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Officer's Recommendation

That the draft Urban Development Plan be advertised for public comment until the end of March 2012.

30790

Moved: Cr M Morris

Seconded Cr D Morris

Resolution

That the matter lay on the table until the January Ordinary Council meeting.

CARRIED 9/0

Note: contact Jim Garrett to join the meeting

10.5 **RESERVE VESTING REQUEST – RESERVE 12283 (DEPARTMENT OF WATER)
VESTED TO RESERVE 24124 (GRAVEL – SHIRE OF MERREDIN)**

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Reporting Department: | Development Services |
| Reporting Officer: | John Mitchell |
| Legislation: | Land Administration Act 1997 |
| File Reference: | Reserve 24124 |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Correspondence Dept Regional Development and Lands: Proposed Management of Reserve 12283 – Shire of Merredin. |

Background

A request to accept a management order over the Reserve 12283 and Reserve 24124 Talgomine Reserve Road, Merredin has been received from the Department of Regional Development & Lands.

The request, locality map and photographs of the Reserve 12283 are contained in **Attachment 10.5A**.

Comment

Reserve 12283 is vested with the Department of Water and is surplus to it's needs.

Reserve 24124 is an unvested reserve from which the Shire of Merredin has taken gravel for road purposes. The entire area of Reserve 24124 was rehabilitated by the Shire of Merredin.

Gravel reserves could still be utilised on the western boundary of Reserve 24124.

In accepting the management order Council should retain the ability to take gravel for road construction and local government purposes. Council will be obligated for the care of the reserve and the rehabilitation of those areas of the reserve affected by gravel taking.

A site inspection on 14 November 2011 has shown the reserve appears to have no refuse accumulation.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

30791

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Wallace

Officer's Recommendation

That the Department of Regional Development and Lands be advised that the Shire of Merredin will accept a management order for the two Reserves 12283 and 24124 providing the Shire of Merredin can access the combined reserve for the taking of gravel for road and local government purposes.

CARRIED 8/1**Cr M Morris requested his vote in the negative be recorded.**

Jim Garrett entered the meeting at 1.25pm

John Mitchell left the meeting at 1.28pm

11.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES

11.1 SPEED ZONE CHANGE ON GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Reporting Department: | Engineering and Services |
| Reporting Officer: | James Garrett |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | R245 |
| Disclosure of Interest: | |
| Attachments: | Correspondence St Mary's Primary School |

Background

A letter has been received from Mark Marando the Principal from Saint Mary's Primary School (**Attachment 11.1A**) seeking a reduction of the speed limit on the Great Eastern Highway, from 70 Kph to 60 Kph between the Barrack Street rail crossing to the Mary Street rail crossing.

Mr Marando's concerns are that children on the northern side of Great Eastern Highway (GEH) will be walking or riding across the highway to attend school and as road trains regularly pass it is not the safest option for the students.

Mr Marando has contacted Main Roads in Northam with his concerns and requested that the speed limit be reduced to 60Kph. Main Roads informed him that he needs to get Council to write to Mains Roads and request the speed limit reduction.

Comments

No information has been made available to the Shire as to the number of students crossing the highway on a regular basis going to and from school nor the manner in which they will cross the road.

As there is a number of areas that students cross the highway to get to and from school a speed reduction to 60 Kph would be the first step to improve road safety for pedestrians crossing the Great Eastern Highway.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Main Roads is responsible for speed zones and changes to speed limits however it is their practise to seek comment from both the Local Authority and the local police prior to seeking Commissioner of Main Roads approval for the change.

Financial Implications

Nil

30792

Moved: Cr Wallace

Seconded: Cr Hayes-Thompson

Officer's Recommendation

That Council supports Mr Marando's view and advises Main Roads W.A. it supports a reduction of the speed zone on Great Eastern Highway between the Barrack Street rail crossing and Mary Street rail crossing from 70Kph to 60Kph.

CARRIED 6/3

Evelyn Arnold entered the meeting at 1.31pm

Jim Garrett left the meeting at 1.34pm

12.0 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

12.1 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Reporting Department: | Finance & Administration |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Author | Rose Jones – Accountant |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 & Financial Management Regulations |
| File Reference: | Nil |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | List of Accounts Paid |

Background

The attached List of Account Paid (**Attachment 12.1A**) during the month under Delegated Authority is provided for Council's information.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Financial Implications

All liabilities settled have been in accordance with the Annual Budget provisions. It should be noted that outstanding creditors total \$

30793 Moved: Cr Crees Seconded: Cr Hooper

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques, EFT's, bank charges, Directly Debited payments and wages, as numbered and totalling \$1,180,478.61 from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account and cheques totaling \$23.10 from Council's Trust Account.

CARRIED 9/0

12.2 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Finance and Administration |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | Nil |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Monthly Finance Report |

Background

The Monthly Finance Report is attached for Council's information.
(Attachment 12.2A)

Statutory/Policy Implications

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Financial Implications

As outlined in **Attachment 12.2A**.

30794

Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson

Seconded: Cr D Morris

Officer's Recommendation***That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for November 2011.*****CARRIED 9/0**

12.3 LEASE 20 PRIESTLY STREET MERREDIN

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Community Services |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Fixed Term Tenancy Agreement |

Background;

In December 2010 Council resolved to the lease the dwelling at 20 Priestly Street Merredin to the resident doctor on a rent free basis for the period of eleven months. This agreement expired on the 9th December 2011.

Comment

Attached is a new fixed term tenancy agreement with the following conditions included:

1. The term is 12 months.
2. The property is leased on a rent free basis.
3. The Tenant is responsible for all communications and utilities charges.
4. The Tenant shall maintain the lawns and gardens.

Should Council wish to offer ongoing support by providing the house on a rent-free basis, it could consider and extended lease term.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Officer's Recommendation

1. *That Council approve the renewal of the tenancy agreement for 20 Priestly Street Merredin for a further 12 month period expiring 10th December 2012.*
2. *That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to renew this lease as required provided the terms and conditions do not change.*

30795

Moved: Cr McFarlane

Seconded: Cr D Morris

Resolution

1. *That Council approve the renewal of the tenancy agreement for 20 Priestly Street Merredin for a further 12 month period expiring 10th December 2012 at which time rent will apply.*
2. *That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to renew this lease as required provided the terms and conditions do not change.*

CARRIED 9/0

12.4 **REVIEW OF THE FOWARD CAPITAL WORKS PLAN**

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Corporate Services |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Reviewed Forward Capital Works Plan |

Background;

In November of 2010 Council adopted a forward capital works plan (FCWP) which had been prepared by Morrison Low. As part of the ongoing Royalties for Regions funding this plan must be reviewed.

Comment

The reviewed FCWP is attached. There has been virtually no change to the original plan presented to Council last year. This is due to the fact that the major projects outlined in this plan are yet to be completed. However, this plan will be reviewed again as part of the integrated planning process Council is in the process of completing.

Council is required to formally adopt the reviewed FCWP and submit it to the Department by 30 December 2011.

It should be noted that the local component of the Country Local Government Fund (CLGF) has only been allocated up until the 2011/12 year. Beyond this financial period there is an expectation that all future funding will be directed towards regional projects.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

30796 Moved: Cr Crees Seconded: Cr Hooper

Officer's Recommendation

That Council adopt the reviewed Forward Capital Works Plan, as attached.

CARRIED 9/0

12.5 **FEES AND CHARGES MERREDIN SWIMMING POOL**

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Finance & Administration |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Background

The Manager of Merredin Swimming Pool has requested a change to the fees and charges for the swimming pool. It is felt these changes will make the facility more attractive to use and thus generate more revenue.

Comment

Listed below is a comparison between the current charge and the proposed change:

| Description | Current Fees | Proposed Fees |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monthly Pass - Child | Not Included | \$40.00 |
| 10 Day Pass - Child | Not Included | \$20.00 |
| ½ Season Pass - Family | Not Included | \$150.00 |
| 10 Day Pass | Type Not Specified – Fee \$28 | Fee \$28, add the word Adult |
| Monthly Pass | Type Not Specified – Fee \$60 | Fee \$60, add the word Adult |

Statutory/Policy Implications

The Local Government Act 1995 allows for the imposition of fees and charges as outlined in section 6.16 and 6.17.

Financial Implications

There is the potential for increased use of and revenue from the pool.

30797

Moved: Cr D Morris

Seconded: Cr McFarlane

Officer's Recommendation

That Council adopt the changes to the fees and charges effective from 1 January 2012.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

12.6 **REGIONAL SPORT AND RECREATION PLAN - WEROC**

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Community Services |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Background;

In June 2010 the WEROC Executive resolved to apply to CSRFF Small Grants for \$30,000 to engage a consultant to complete a regional sport and recreation plan covering the Shires of Tammin, Kellerberrin, Merredin, Westonia, Yilgarn and Bruce Rock (WEROC). On the 23rd November 2011 the results of the application were received. It had met with partial success with the sum of \$10,000 being awarded.

Comment

The WEROC Executive resolved to accept this grant in principle but this leaves the project with a short fall. The breakdown of the budget is as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Income | |
| CSRFF Small Grant | \$10,000 |
| | |
| Expenditure | |
| Solum Wheatbelt Business Solutions | \$30,000 |
| Contingency | \$5,000 |
| Total | \$35,000 |
| | |
| Short Fall | \$25,000 |

It is proposed that the short fall is funded by splitting it amongst the respective shires. Therefore, the Shire of Merredin's share would be approximately \$4,500.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

An additional \$4,500 unbudgeted expenditure is required.

30798

Moved: Cr M Morris

Seconded: Cr Crees

Officer's Recommendation

That council approve an unbudgeted contribution of not more than \$4,500 towards the preparation of a regional sport and recreation plan.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

12.7 SPORTS FLOOR AT THE MERREDIN REGIONAL COMMUNITY & LEISURE CENTRE

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Reporting Department: | Community Services |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold |
| Legislation: | |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Nil |

Background;

The existing sports floor surface at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRC&LC) is lifting and is raised along the constructions joints due to the excessive movement in the nine concrete slabs.

Comment

The recommendation is that the current surface be removed, the surface is cleaned and the damaged joints are repaired. It is further recommended that the joints be primed to allow for additional movement. The current estimated cost for this work is \$65,000.

Whilst this expenditure is unbudgeted, funds could be taken from the Building Reserve which currently has a balance of \$308,580. In addition, the Sports Council and the other major users of the area could be approached to contribute to the cost of repainting and remarking the floor.

Statutory/Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

An additional \$65,000 unbudgeted expenditure which would reduce the Building Reserve to \$243,580.

Officer's Recommendation

1. *That Council approve the transfer of \$65,000 from the building reserve to pay for the resurface of the MRC&LC sports floor.*

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED

2. *That Council resolve to approach the Sports Council and the Merredin Basketball Club to contribute to the repainting and remarking of the floor.*

SIMPLE MAJORITY REQUIRED

30799

Moved Cr Crees

Seconded Cr McFarlane

Resolution

1. *That Council approve the transfer of \$65,000 from the building reserve to pay for the resurface of the MRC&LC sports floor.*
2. *That Council resolve to approach the Sports Council and the Merredin Basketball and Netball Associations to contribute to the repainting and remarking of the floor.*

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

13.0 ADMINISTRATION

13.1 SHIRE OF MERREDIN ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Reporting Department: | Administration |
| Reporting Officer: | Greg Powell – Chief Executive Officer |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 |
| File Reference: | Nil |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Shire of Merredin Annual Report 2010-2011 including Council's Financial Statements to year ended 30 June 2011 |

Background

Council's Annual Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2011 have been completed as has the annual audit of the financial statements by Council's auditors, UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants. The Annual Report is included in **Attachment 13.1A**.

Comment

Taking into account the statutory requirements for adoption of the report and advertising of the annual electors meeting, the options for dates are as follows:

| | Adoption Date | Advertising Availability of Report | Advertising minimum (notice of Meeting) | Electors Meeting (56 days max) |
|----------|----------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Option 1 | 20 Dec 2011 | 18 Jan 2012 | 1 Feb 2012 | 14 Feb 2012 |
| Option 2 | 17 Jan 2012 | 18 Jan 2012 | 1 Feb 2012 | 21 Feb 2012 |

Statutory/Policy Implications

The Local Government Act 1995 requires Council to adopt the Annual Report and to set the meeting date for the Annual General Meeting of Electors.

The Chief Executive Officer is required to advertise by local public notice the availability of the Annual Report after it has been adopted by Council and an Annual Electors meeting is to be held no later than 56 days after the adoption of the report (Section 5.55 of the Act).

Council is required to give 14 days notice of the Annual Electors Meeting (Section 5.29 of the Act).

If the Annual Report is adopted at this meeting the 56 days would expire on Tuesday 14 February 2011. If the report is adopted at the January 2012 Council meeting the Annual Electors meeting can be held on 21 February which is also Council's meeting day and within the statutory 56 day period.

In previous years the Annual Electors Meeting and Council meeting day have been held congruently.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Officer's Recommendation***That Council:***

- 1. adopt the Shire of Merredin Annual Report for the 2010/2011 financial year and receive the Auditor's Report from UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants for the 2010/2011 financial year; and***
- 2. hold its Annual General Meeting of Electors on _____ commencing at _____ in the Shire Administration Centre.***

30800

Moved: Cr Hooper

Seconded: Cr Hayes-Thompson

Resolution***That Council:***

- 1. adopt the Shire of Merredin Annual Report for the 2010/2011 financial year and receive the Auditor's Report from UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants for the 2010/2011 financial year; and***
- 2. hold its Annual General Meeting of Electors on 14 February 2012 commencing at 7.00pm in the Shire Administration Centre.***

CARRIED 8/1**30801**

Moved: Cr D Morris

Seconded: Cr Hayes-Thompson

That Council receive the minutes from the Shire of Merredin Audit Committee Meeting as attached held on Tuesday 20th December 2011.**CARRIED 9/0**

13.2 INTEGRATED PLANNING – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Reporting Department: | Administration |
| Reporting Officer: | CEO |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1195 |
| File Reference: | |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | Towards a Strategic Community Plan - Summary to December 2011 |

Background

Council resolved mid-year to undertake an extensive community consultation process to underpin its business case, long term financial plan and asset management as required by the recently legislated requirement for integrated planning.

Comment

From Council's decision to engage the community, a number of workshops and forums were held as well as the "Wishing Tree" in Barrack Street and an extensive telephone survey of residents of Merredin and some of the adjoining Shires.

Progress to date is outlined in the **Attachment 13.2A** which was the topic of discussion at a briefing session held on 12 December.

Although the process is ongoing into 2012 it is appropriate to consider the information gathered to date and provide some feedback to the community as well as to outline what the next steps will be. As outlined in the attachment, the next steps are:

- Formally receive the results to date. This is achieved by consideration of this report.
- Provide feedback to the community. Participants of workshops and for a can be informed by email, the attachment will be placed on the website and other methods of communication can be used to ensure as wide a distribution as possible is achieved.
- Council's priorities – issues and options. A workshop should be scheduled early in the New Year to work through the subject matter in the Attachment.
- Re-engagement with the community. A programme for re-engagement can be developed after consideration of the issues and options.
- Targeted strategy development with others. Development of partnerships to deliver some of the strategies should form part of the Council workshop to be held in the new year.

Statutory/Policy Implications

There are no implications at this time.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications at this time. These will be developed and included in the long term financial plan.

Evelyn Arnold left the meeting at 2.35pm

30802

Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson

Seconded: Cr D Morris

Officer's Recommendation

- 1. *That the results from the community consultation to date as outlined in Attachment 13.2A be received.***
- 2. *That the attachment be distributed as widely as possible through Council's communication channels.***
- 3. *That Council schedule a workshop early in 2012 to consider the issues from the communication process to date, that they be prioritised and the financial implications developed, a partnership strategy be planned and a programme to re-engage the community be considered.***

CARRIED 9/0

Councillor D Morris left the meeting at 2.36pm

14.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

15.0 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

16.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

Nil

17.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

30803 Moved: Cr Wallace Seconded: Cr M Morris
Resolution

That Council proceed behind closed doors.

CARRIED 8/0

Councillor D Morris entered the meeting at 2.38pm

17.1 Sale Of Whitfield Way Stage Two – 12 Lots

30804 Moved: Cr Crees Seconded: Cr Anderson
Resolution

- 1. That the contract of sale of the twelve lots (Whitfield Way Stage Two) include a caveat that a dwelling must be placed on the lot within five years of the initial sale by the Shire of Merredin.***
- 2. That no sales of land within Whitfield Way Stage Two below the reserve price determined by Council can occur after the auction of 17 March 2012 has occurred.***
- 3. That the initial sale of Whitfield Way Stage Two lots be by auction on 17 March 2012 commencing at 11am at the Merredin Recreation Centre.***
- 4. That any subsequent sales of the Whitfield Way Stage Two land after auction be by private treaty with valuations for land to be paid by the purchaser.***

CARRIED 9/0

30805 Moved: Cr Crees Seconded Cr Hayes-Thompson
Resolution

That the meeting reconvene in open session.

CARRIED 9/0

18.0 CLOSURE

The Shire President declared the meeting closed at 3.02pm