

MINUTES

Minutes for the Annual Electors Meeting of the Merredin Shire Council held in the Council Chambers, Cnr King/Barrack Streets, Merredin on Tuesday 17 March 2009 at 7.00pm.

ATTENDANCE: Cr KA Hooper – Shire President
Cr RM Crees – Deputy Shire President
Crs S Elliott; P Forbes; M Hayden; M Morris; J Townrow; W Wallace

Messrs FB Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer; J Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services; V Green, Executive Assistant; E Hooper, Executive Manager of Finance and Administration; J Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services; D Morris, Executive Manager of Community Services and J Twomey, Senior Finance Officer

Mr Eddy Johnston OAM JP, Mrs Margaret Johnston, Mr Dennis Lane, Mrs Bev Drakeford, Mrs Gloria Banks, Mrs Michelle Hooper, Mrs Lillian Armstrong (7.09pm)

1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7.08pm.

2.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr John Simmonds has been granted Leave of Absence for this meeting (**CMRef 29789**), Cr A Hooper, Cr M Young, Ms Sally Robson-Thomas, Mr Roger Drakeford

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Annual Electors Meeting held on 7 April 2008.

Moved Cr Forbes Sec Cr Hayden

That the Minutes of the 2008 Annual Electors Meeting held on 7 April 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

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4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Aged Care Accommodation

The meeting was advised that a funding application under the Federal Governments Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program has been made for additional housing at Merrittville had been submitted.

The proposed additional housing will be outside of Department of Housing and Works Guidelines making it available for a greater range of people.

4.2 Land Zoning – Near Abattoir

The meeting was advised that the situation remains unresolved and is dependant on what is decided by the owners of the Abattoir land.

5.0 RECEIVAL OF SHIRE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The Shire President, Cr Ken Hooper, will present his report to the meeting.

5.1 Kerbside Recycling Service – Refuse Site

Mr Lane queried the current state of the Kerbside Recycling Service and the Shire’s future plans for the Refuse Site.

The Shire President advised that most residents have come around to idea, realising that something needed to be done, particularly as the Merredin Lions Club will no longer be conducting a recycling service. The Shire President further advised that the Services appears to be going quite well with all recyclables collected being returned to Avon Waste’s York depot.

In relation to the Refuse Site the Shire of Merredin was currently in the process of acquiring land for an extension to the existing site.

Moved D Lane

Sec Cr Elliott

That the Shire President’s report for 2007/2008 be received.

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6.0 RECEIVAL OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Frank Ludovico, will present his report to the meeting.

Mrs Banks made the comment that it was good to see building applications have increased.

Moved Cr Elliott Sec Cr Morris

That the Chief Executive Officer's report for 2007/2008 be received.

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7.0 RECEIVAL OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Frank Ludovico, will present the Annual Financial Report to the meeting.

7.1 Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Financials

Mr Lane queried the revenue figures listed for the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRC&LC). Frank Ludovico responded by stating that the MRC&LC had opened in October 2007 and therefore the figures did not reflect a full financial year.

The Shire President tabled the letter from Mr Johnston and Frank Ludovico responded in answer with the correspondence as given to Mr Johnston.

Moved Cr Elliott Sec Cr Hayden

That the Annual Financial Report for 2007/2008 be received.

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8.0 RECEIVAL OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Frank Ludovico, will provide information to the meeting on the Auditor's Report.

8.1 Statutory Compliance

Mrs Banks queried the Statutory Compliance statements contained with the Auditor's Report, specifically in relation to the sale of land for outstanding rates and the timeliness of the Annual Electors Meeting.

Frank Ludovico responded to the query stating that advertising had appeared in the Merredin Mercury (local public notice) as opposed to the West Australian (state-wide public notice) as was required by the Local Government Act 1995.

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The Shire President indicated it was hoped that future Annual Electors Meetings would be held in October/November of each year.

Moved G Banks Sec Cr Morris
That the Auditor's Report for 2007/2008 be received.

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9.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 Recognition for Sporting Clubs

Mr Lane queried why Sporting Clubs using the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRC&LC) were unable to have any memorabilia on display.

Mr Ludovico responded stating that the Shire of Merredin had been liaising with the Sports Council for some months to determine a policy for recognising the various users of the MRC&LC. The difficulty has been in determining who should be acknowledged and what form that recognition should be in. There is to be a MRC&LC Advisory Committee meeting held next week and the issue is to be further discussed at this meeting.

10.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Presiding Member thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 7.47pm.