

# SHIRE OF MERREDIN



*“Heart of the Wheatbelt”*

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**17 NOVEMBER 2009**

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**Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Merredin held in the Council Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on Tuesday 17 November 2009 commencing at 1.00pm.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Cr KA Hooper – Shire President  
Cr RM Crees – Deputy Shire President  
Crs D Crook, P Forbes, A Hooper; M Morris; J Townrow; W Wallace; M Young

Messrs FB Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer; J Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services; J Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services and D Morris, Executive Manager of Community Services

Sal Marais, Small Business Centre – Central Wheatbelt; Lynne Lagan and Paul Bultitude, Collgar Windfarm

Shelley Lombardini, Sally Robson-Thomas

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1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

The Shire President, Cr Ken Hooper, declared the meeting open at 1.07pm. Sal Marias and Debbie Morris, Executive Manager of Community Services, were in attendance.

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Shelley Lombardini and Sally Robson-Thomas questioned Council on the Merredin Super School proposal. Points emerging from the discussion were:

1. The Group believed there needed to be a physical separation between the buildings of the primary school and the senior high school;
2. Does the Concept Plan contained in Council's Agenda enable for the future growth of the school?;
3. The Concept Plan contained in Council's Agenda does not address all the community's questions raised at the public forum held on 15 October 2009;
4. Research indicates that joining a primary school with a secondary school may not be in the best interest of the primary school students;
5. The Concept Plan contained in Council's Agenda does not address the issue of the need for physical separation between senior high school students and primary school students at the canteen;
6. They were advised that Council has no regulatory powers (i.e. planning or building approvals) as the work was considered a public work and therefore exempt from scrutiny by the local government;
7. The Chief Executive Officer had been invited to attend the next meeting of the Steering Committee which is being held on 19 November 2009 and feedback on this meeting will be provided to Council.
8. Residents wanted the best outcome for the community.

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Jim Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services, and John Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services, entered the meeting at 1.20pm.

The Shire President thanked Shelley Lombardini and Sally Robson-Thomas for their questions and Shelley Lombardini and Sally Robson-Thomas left the meeting at 1.25pm.

3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Emma Growden, Executive Manager of Finance and Administration; Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer.

4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Cr declared a Interest in Agenda Item

5.0 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Small Business Centre – Central Wheatbelt

Sal Marais of the Small Business Centre – Central Wheatbelt addressed Council on the functions and activities of the Small Business Centre (SBC).

It was suggested that perhaps the SBC could assist in reviving the Merredin Business Forum or Chamber of Commerce. It was also suggested that perhaps the Merredin Community Awards could add a category for Wheatbelt Business Award with nominations from surrounding towns.

Sal Marias left the meeting at 1.44pm.

Cr Young left the meeting at 1.45pm.

5.2 Collgar Windfarm Pty Ltd

Lynne Lagan and Paul Bultitude from Investec addressed Council during afternoon tea (3.00pm) in relation to the Collgar Windfarm Project.

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6.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES6.1 Previous Council Meeting

Confirmation of the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 20 October 2009.

**30167**

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr A Hooper

*That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held on 20 October 2009 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.*

**CARRIED 8/0**

Jim Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services, left the meeting at 1.45pm.

Cr Young entered the meeting at 1.46pm.

7.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

8.0 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC17.1 Contract Extension – Executive Manager of Development Services

Refer to Page 30 for information on this Confidential Agenda Item.

17.2 Reserve 13267, Lot 1420 Great Eastern Highway – Land Acquisition

Refer to Page 22 for information on this Confidential Agenda Item.

17.3 Vehicle for Female Doctor in Merredin

Refer to Page 32 for information on this Agenda Item.

9.0 RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL

## 9.1 Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Meeting held on 28 October 2009

**Attachment 9.1A**

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- 9.2 Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2009

**Attachment 9.2A**

- 9.3 Community, Health, Building, Town Planning; Environmental Services, Business and Community Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009

**Attachment 9.3A****30168**

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Morris

*That Council receive the minutes of the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Meeting held on 28 October 2009, the Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2009 and the Community, Health, Building, Town Planning; Environmental Services, Business and Community Development Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2009.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

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- 9.1 Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils

Nil Recommendations to Council

- 9.2 Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee

Nil Recommendations to Council

- 9.3 Community, Health, Building, Town Planning; Environmental Services, Business and Community Development Committee Meeting

- 8.1 Aged Accommodation Strategy

Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Townrow

*That Staff pursue acquiring Reserves 36065, 28563 and the Unallocated Crown Land adjacent to Reserve 36065 freehold at no cost for the purposes of Aged Accommodation.*

CARRIED 5/0

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Morris

*That Staff are instructed to determine the area required for the synthetic Tennis/Hockey/Soccer Turf in order to establish the land available to be subdivided for Aged Accommodation on the Recreation Ground (Lot 684 Bates Street, Merredin).*

CARRIED 5/0

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## 8.4 Committee/Meeting Structure

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Townrow

*That the Community, Health, Building, Town Planning, Environmental Services and Business and Community Development Committee recommend that Council endorse the name of this Committee as the "Planning and Development Committee".*

CARRIED 5/0

**30169**

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Morris

*(en bloc)*

- 1. That Staff pursue acquiring Reserves 36065, 28563 and the Unallocated Crown Land adjacent to Reserve 36065 freehold at no cost for the purposes of Aged Accommodation.*
- 2. That Staff are instructed to determine the area required for the synthetic Tennis/Hockey/Soccer Turf in order to establish the land available to be subdivided for Aged Accommodation on the Recreation Ground (Lot 684 Bates Street, Merredin).*
- 3. That Council endorse changing the name of the Community, Health, Building, Town Planning, Environmental Services and Business and Community Development Committee to the "Planning and Development Committee".*

**CARRIED 7/2**



10.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil Recommendations to Council

Debbie Morris, Executive Manager of Community Services, left the meeting at 1.58pm.

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**11.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

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**11.1 TENDER 02 – 09/10 – SALE OF LOT 26 INSIGNIA WAY, MERREDIN**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Development Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Mitchell – Executive Manager, Development Services
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995, Section 3.58
<b>File Reference:</b>	CM/19/59; P2120

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**Background**

At its September 2009 meeting Council resolved (**CMRef 30109**):

1. *That Lot 26 Insignia Way, Merredin be offered for sale by tender with the following conditions:*
  - a. *compliance with the tender specifications, which includes a requirement to demonstrate a construction ready project;*
  - b. *that if development proposed has not occurred within two years that the land reverts to Council at the purchase price for the land less 10%.*
  
2. *That the proceeds of this sale are to be applied to the Land Development Reserve.*

The tender was advertised and administered in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995. A map is contained within **Attachment 11.1A**.

**Statutory Implications**

Advertisements were placed in the West Australian on 3 October 2009 with a closure date of 23 October 2009.

Tenders were opened on 26 October 2009. One tender was received from Mr Derek Mason for \$49,000.00 plus GST. Mr Mason advises in writing that the land is required for the expansion/extensions to his trucking business.

**Financial Implications**

At Council's September 2009 meeting, Council was advised by the Executive Manager of Development Services that the sale price should be in the vicinity of \$75,000.00.

LandCorp sales in McKenzie Way, Merredin have been revised and the average selling price is \$37,500.00 - \$59,500.00, dependent on the size of the lot. Those lots are serviced. Lot 26 Insignia Way, Merredin is not serviced.

Discussions with Elders Real Estate confirm the above and LandCorp has adjusted expected returns for the lots down.

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**Comment**

The selling price of \$49,000.00 plus GST is considered reasonable.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That the tender from Mr Derek Mason of PO Box 125, Merredin WA 6415 to purchase Lot 26 Insignia Way, Merredin for \$49,000.00 plus GST be accepted with the condition of purchase being that development of the site must occur within two years of the settlement of the lot.*

**30170**

Moved Cr Wallace

Sec Cr Townrow

*That the tender from Mr Derek Mason of PO Box 125, Merredin WA 6415 to purchase Lot 26 Insignia Way, Merredin for \$49,000.00 plus GST be accepted with the condition of purchase being that development of the site must occur within two years of the settlement of the lot and the proceeds of the sale be transferred to the Land Development Reserve.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

**MINUTES****11.2 ALLOCATION OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FUNDS - ROUND TWO**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Development Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Mitchell – Executive Manager, Development Services
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	A325

During the budget process the additional funds of \$30,000.00 allocated by the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) to Merredin was allocated to the following budgetary codes:

1. *E112510 & I113331* - \$15,000.00 – completion of Pool Steps; and
2. *I113331* and *E113500 (E1135/2)* - \$15,000.00 towards construction of the storage shed at the Merredin Recreation Ground.

For information, the initial RLCIP funds of \$100,000.00 were allocated towards the renovation and improvements to the swimming pool slide. This project has been completed and acquitted to the Department. Final expenditure was \$105,594.61. The over expenditure was resolved by Council to be drawn from the Pool Reserve (**CMRef 29947** – Apr 2009).

During the acquittal process, and in discussions with Officers of the Department, it was advised that the use of these new funds to finance the remainder of the work would not be supported.

The Department has supported the use of these funds for the storage shed at the Merredin Recreation Ground.

**Statutory Implications**

Any in change in Budget allocation must be approved by Council.

**Financial Implications**

The total budget for the storage shed project at the Merredin Recreation Ground is:

1. Agricultural Society (received)	\$ 10,000.00
2. RLCIP	\$ 15,000.00
3. Golf Club (received)	\$ 20,000.00
4. Royalties for Regions (received)	\$ 50,000.00
5. <u>Own Resources Budget allocation</u>	<u>\$ 25,000.00</u>
Total	\$120,000.00

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The Administration has decided to use the total RCLIP allocation of \$30,000.00 against the expenditure of the storage shed. Endorsement of the Administration's actions is sought. This decision frees up Council funds for other purposes and is an acceptable use of the grant funds. This mean Council's Own Resources allocation will reduce to \$10,000.00 (ie \$25,000.00 less \$15,000.00).

Rather than determining the re-allocation now, it would more appropriate to consider them in the Budget Review due in February /March 2010 where they can be considered in the context of the overall Budget situation.

If this proposal is unacceptable to Council, the proposed works can be changed prior to 30 November 2009. If this is to happen please advise where Council seeks to place the funds.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That the actions of the Administration in allocating the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program funds of \$30,000.00 towards the Merredin Recreation Ground storage shed be endorsed.*

**ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED**

**30171**

Moved Cr Wallace

Sec Cr Morris

*That the actions of the Administration in allocating the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program funds of \$30,000.00 towards the Merredin Recreation Ground storage shed be endorsed.*

**CARRIED 9/0****ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

**MINUTES**

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Jim Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services, entered the meeting at 2.01pm.

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11.3 **MERREDIN SCHOOLS AMALGAMATION (MERREDIN SUPER SCHOOL) – CONCEPT PLAN**

**Reporting Department:** Development Services  
**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico – Chief Executive Officer  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Reference:** CS/16/10

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**Background**

On 20 August 2009 the Minister for Education announced that North and South Merredin Primary Schools will amalgamate at the town's high school site to create one education precinct from Kindergarten to Year 12 students.

On 4 September 2009 I contacted the Education Ministry and indicated to them that the Shire of Merredin should be involved in the planning processes associated with this super school as issues such as traffic congestion, bus traffic, supply of recycled water, fire safety and alike all need to be resolved. To date, I have only received an acknowledgement of that email.

On 15 October 2009 the Shire of Merredin hosted a community forum to discuss the issue. The Minutes of the forum are included in **Attachment 11.3A**.

I also understand that a Reference Group comprising of Education Ministry staff, school staff, parents of students and others have met to discuss the development of the Minister's proposal.

A draft Concept Plan (**Attachment 11.3B**) has been prepared and has been forwarded to Council for comment.

**Statutory Implications**

We have been informed by the Government of Western Australia that they do not need to comply with any Councils town planning matters or the Building Code of Australia.

**Comment**

Staff make the following comments in respect to the Plan:

1. there could be traffic congestion and difficulty accessing the car park at the corner of Cunningham Street and Woolgar Avenue;
2. traffic flow is a concern as Pollock Avenue is closed to the Highway;
3. school bus parking and drop off/pick up zones need to be identified;
4. car parks appear isolated and away from the classroom which will lead to stray and adhoc parking;

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5. teaching block appears close to the recycled water storage facility; and
6. we have required the developer of 361 and 362 Todd Street, Merredin to prepare a Traffic Management Plan and the State Government should be required to prepare the same Plan for the super school.

Whilst planning is at a preliminary stage, it is considered worthwhile to reiterate some of the issues identified in our email of September 2009. These are:

1. the safety issue of children crossing the Great Eastern Highway to get to and from school;
2. traffic congestion in and around the school;
3. designated pick up and drop off points;
4. traffic congestion at the Great Eastern Highway;
5. supply of recycled water to the school;
6. footpath routes; and
7. fire safety – we understand that the Crown is not exempt from this requirement for which the Shire has a responsibility.

**Officer's Recommendation**

1. *That Council request the following information be provided by the Education Ministry in relation to the amalgamation of Primary and Secondary schools at the Senior High School site in Merredin:*
  1. *the safety issue of children crossing the Great Eastern Highway to get to and from school;*
  2. *traffic congestion in and around the school;*
  3. *designated pick up and drop off points;*
  4. *traffic congestion at the Great Eastern Highway;*
  5. *supply of recycled water to the school;*
  6. *footpath routes; and*
  7. *fire safety.*
2. *That Council request the Education Ministry to advise its intentions regarding the future use of the North and South Merredin Primary School sites and indicate that Council wishes to participate in any discussion regarding the future of those sites.*

**30172**

Moved Cr Townrow                      Sec Cr Young

*1. That Council request the following information be provided by the Education Ministry in relation to the amalgamation of Primary and Secondary schools at the Senior High School site in Merredin:*

- 1. the safety issue of children crossing the Great Eastern Highway to get to and from school;*
- 2. traffic congestion in and around the school;*
- 3. designated pick up and drop off points;*
- 4. traffic congestion at the Great Eastern Highway;*
- 5. supply of recycled water to the school;*
- 6. footpath routes; and*
- 7. fire safety.*

*2. That Council request the Education Ministry to advise its intentions regarding the future use of the North and South Merredin Primary School sites and indicate that Council wishes to participate in any discussion regarding the future of those sites.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

The Chief Executive Officer indicated that he had been invited to attend the Merredin Schools Steering Committee meeting on Thursday 19 November 2009 and he would report any issues back to Council.



**MINUTES****11.4 WHEATBELT REGIONAL STRATEGY****Reporting Department:** Development Services**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico – Chief Executive Officer**File Reference:** LUP/05/07**Background**

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has requested Council input towards the development of a Wheatbelt Regional Strategy (WRS) (**Attachment 11.4A**). The purpose of the WRS is to guide development of the Wheatbelt region until 2031. The WRS intends to plan for people and population in the region, protect the natural and cultural environment of the region, facilitate economic development across the region, consider settlements and land supply needs and provide evidence on regional infrastructure issues.

The WRS will need to respond to the following key issues:

1. climate change;
2. development pressure;
3. extensive historical clearing of the region;
4. water availability;
5. providing infrastructure to a relatively small and geographically dispersed population;
6. population trends including a shift from inland to western areas;
7. provide diverse economic and employment options to retain current residents and attract more people; and
8. recognising the historical and cultural role of the region.

A public comment period is open to 21 December 2009.

**Comment**

The WRS considers 32 possible directions. Staff have only commented on those relevant to the Central and Eastern Wheatbelt.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible Direction</b>	<b>Staff Comment</b>
1	The WRS will consider the planning needs of the north-west Wheatbelt in closer detail, including the development of spatial growth plans where appropriate.	The WRS also needs to consider the planning issues in the central and eastern Wheatbelt and not only concentrate on the north-west Wheatbelt.

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<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible Direction</b>	<b>Staff Comment</b>
4	The WRS will assess future needs and develop land use planning policies based on economic activity, town functions and environmental constraints across the region, but not administrative boundaries.	The WRS needs to undertake a proper assessment of future needs and not simply a projection forward from past data.
5	The WRS will develop a planning response to the issue of population decline and redistribution.	This needs to occur and adequate consideration needs to be given to the Central and Eastern Wheatbelt.
9	The retention of remaining high value native vegetation will be a primary consideration in assessing planning proposals.	Agreed
11	The WRS will acknowledge the importance of landscape in the Wheatbelt and will consider ways to meaningfully address landscape issues in planning decisions.	Agreed
12	Ensure the retention of adequate quality and quantity of agricultural land to maintain a viable domestic and export agricultural industry.	Agreed
13	The WRS will consider strategies to support the planning and policy needs of the animal industry, including locating intensive animal production, buffers and essential service needs of the industry in the context of industry trends.	Agreed
15	The WRS will seek to provide a land use policy response to tree farming for harvest and carbon sequestration.	Agreed
16	The WRS should consider the application of tourism policy in the Wheatbelt.	Agreed and needs to specially consider the Central and Eastern Wheatbelt and the opportunity that it provides for high quality accommodation to be established in this area.
17	The WRS will consider the specific recognition of agricultural lime as a basic raw material under State and regional policy.	Agreed

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<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible Direction</b>	<b>Staff Comment</b>
17 Page 29	The WRS will provide a basic audit of land supply, including opportunities and constraints, in major Wheatbelt towns.	On Page 34 of the WRS it is indicated that a “major town” has a population of over 5,000 people. This Possible Direction should consider those towns that are of regional significance, even though the population criteria does not consider them to be “major towns”.  Regional towns, such as Merredin, have the same significance and influence in their regions as “major towns”.
19	The WRS will promote a settlement hierarchy based on economic opportunities and existing and planned services (including suitable water supplies), that are capable of sustaining future growth.	Agreed
20	The WRS will establish a policy position on gazetted but unoccupied towns in the region.	Agreed
21	The WRS will highlight the broad road network deficiencies in the region for input to existing road planning and investment processes.	Agreed
22	The WRS will support the movement of grain on a rail system, and where possible other freight, to reduce freight movements on roads.	The WRS needs to consider the most efficient and cost effective movement of freight which may not be rail. Any determination in this area needs to be supported by significant funding to ensure whatever is determined in the Strategy can actually be implemented.
23	The WRS will clarify the position of State Government policy in respect to water supply for development in the Wheatbelt.	The State Government needs to be aware of their responsibilities from an asset management point of view and commit to the maintenance and retention of the existing water supply schemes in the Wheatbelt.

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<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible Direction</b>	<b>Staff Comment</b>
24	The WRS will ensure land use and development is compatible with the protection and long term management of water supplies and will explore ways to make smarter use of existing water supplies.	The Wheatbelt has significant saline groundwater issues and there is an opportunity to use this resource to supplement, support and increase the water available for use.
25	The WRS will promote maximising the use of existing sewer infrastructure by encouraging higher density development in sewered locations and investigating expanded local government and private sector involvement in sewage treatment systems, including the possibility of smaller systems to service individual subdivisions and alternative treatment methods.	Agreed
26	The WRS will consider the merits and implications of further investment in aviation infrastructure to support the aviation industry.	Real opportunities exist for the Wheatbelt to provide training to the aviation industry but also to allow mining workers to domicile in the Wheatbelt and fly-in fly-out to their workplaces
27	The WRS will audit existing social and community infrastructure to assist in the identification of existing and proposed regional service centres and to determine possible social infrastructure deficiencies in the region.	Agreed
28	The WRS will ensure suitable land requirements are considered for social and community infrastructure when planning for population increases and new land release.	Agreed

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<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible Direction</b>	<b>Staff Comment</b>
29	Local planning strategies and schemes should acknowledge existing waste facilities, and reflect the spatial goals of endorsed strategic waste management plans. Initiatives aimed at waste avoidance, resource recovery and minimisation of waste to landfill, will extend the life of existing waste facilities and support the State's vision of towards zero waste.	Agreed
30	Local planning strategies and schemes will be expected to be consistent with the endorsed WRS	Agreed
31	WAPC decision-making will be consistent with the endorsed WRS	Agreed
32	The WRS can be submitted as a guidance document in the State's budget process, particularly with respect to capital expenditure plans, and special programs such as Royalties for Regions.	Agreed

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council forward its comments in respect to the "Towards a Wheatbelt Regional Strategy" document.*

**30173**

Moved Cr Forbes

Sec Cr Townrow

*That Council forward its comments in respect to the "Towards a Wheatbelt Regional Strategy" document.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

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This Agenda Item 17.2 was brought forward due to the attendance of John Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services.

- 30174** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Wallace  
*That Council go behind closed doors to discuss a confidential matter in accordance with Section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

Council went behind closed doors at 2.17pm.

- 30175** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young  
*That Council come out from behind closed doors.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

Council came out from behind closed doors at 2.37pm.

17.2 Reserve 13267, Lot 1420 Great Eastern Highway – Land Acquisition

- 30176** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young  
*That Council delegate authority to the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to meet and negotiate with the Ministers for Transport and Regional Development for the purchase of the Lots 161 – 168, 200 and 202 - 205 fronting Great Eastern Highway, Kitchener Road and Allbeury Street, Merredin up to the limit agreed by Council.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

**ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

John Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services, left the meeting at 2.38pm.

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**12.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES**

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**12.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S VEHICLE CHANGE OVER**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Engineering Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Jim Garrett – Executive Manager, Engineering Services
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995; Council Policies 2.2, 3.14

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**Background**

At its March 2007 meeting Council adopted a vehicle replacement policy for senior management vehicles (**CMRef 28846**). The Chief Executive Officer's Holden Statesman is now due for changeover.

Under Councils Purchasing Policy three quotes are to be obtained for purchases above \$40,000.00. Three quotes were requested from the local car dealerships and two from Perth dealers, Midway Ford and Phoenix Holden. Phoenix Holden did not submit a quote.

Merredin Toyota did not submit a quote.

Lewis Motors quoted \$16,702.00 for a changeover to a 2009 VEA Series WM Statesman Sedan. A photo is contained within **Attachment 12.1A**. The new vehicle price for a WM Statesman Sedan is \$62,418.00 including GST.

Donovan Ford quoted \$17,428.00 for a changeover to a 2009 FG G6E Turbo Falcon Sedan. A photo is also contained within **Attachment 12.1A**. The new vehicle price for a FG G6E Turbo Falcon is \$48,728.00 including GST.

Midway Ford quoted \$20,228.00 for a changeover to a 2009 FG G6E Turbo Falcon Sedan. The new vehicle price for a FG G6E Turbo Falcon is \$48,728.00 including GST.

**Financial Implications**

In Council's 2009/2010 Budget \$14,000.00 was allocated for the changeover of the Chief Executive Officer's vehicle.

**Comment**

As local governments can claim back GST paid on vehicles they purchase, the changeover price for the WM Statesman from Lewis Motors would be \$15,184.00 excluding GST. Lewis Motors' quote is \$1,184.00 above the \$14,000.00 allocated in the 2009/2010 Budget.

The changeover price excluding GST from Donovan Ford for the FG G6E Turbo Falcon is \$15,844.00. Donovan Fords quote is \$1,844.00 above the \$14,000.00 allocated in the 2009/2010 Budget.

**MINUTES**

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The changeover price excluding GST from Midway Ford for the FG G6E Turbo Falcon is \$18,389.00. Midway Ford's quote is \$4,389.00 above the \$14,000.00 allocated in the 2009/2010 Budget.

The FG G6E Turbo Falcon is a top of the range Falcon and better value for money.

An absolute majority is required if the purchase price is higher than the budget allocation.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council purchase one FG G6E Turbo Falcon from Donovan Ford for \$15,844.00 excluding GST with funding for the purchase to come from the Plant Reserve Fund (Account E163040).*

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED

**30177**

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Crook

*That Council purchase one FG G6E Turbo Falcon from Donovan Ford for \$15,844.00 excluding GST with funding for the purchase to come from the Plant Reserve Fund (Account E163040).*

**CARRIED 8/1****ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

Cr Young left the meeting at 2.42pm.

Cr Young entered the meeting at 2.44pm.

**12.2 Final Trim Grader Driver**

Jim Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services, indicated that he is currently recruiting for a final trim grader driver.

**12.3 Narembeen Road**

Jim Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services, was questioned about the work being undertaken on Narembeen Road adjacent to the Merredin Airport.

Jim Garrett, Executive Manager of Engineering Services, left the meeting at 2.45pm.



**13.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

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**13.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – OCTOBER 2009****Reporting Department:** Finance and Administration**Reporting Officer:** Emma Growden – Executive Manager, Finance and Administration**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995

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**Comment**

The Monthly Financial Report is attached for Council's information. (Attachment 13.1A).

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for October 2009.*

**30178**

Moved Cr Young

Sec Cr Forbes

*That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for October 2009.***CARRIED 9/0**

**MINUTES**

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**13.2 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance and Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Emma Growden – Executive Manager, Finance and Administration
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations

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**Background**

The attached List of Accounts Paid (**Attachment 13.2A**) during the month under Delegated Authority is provided for Council's information.

**Statutory Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

**Financial Implications**

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

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques as numbered and totalling \$151,547.53 and amounts directly debited from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account BSB 066-518 Account Number 000-000-10 totalling \$222,360.35 and outstanding creditors totalling \$215,531.17.*

**30179**

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Crees

*That Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques as numbered and totalling \$151,547.53 and amounts directly debited from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account BSB 066-518 Account Number 000-000-10 totalling \$222,360.35 and outstanding creditors totalling \$215,531.17.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

**MINUTES**

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**13.3 APPOINTMENT OF ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Frank Ludovico – Chief Executive Officer
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	Personnel

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**Background**

Council's Chief Executive Officer has resigned effective 18 December 2009.

Council's new Chief Executive Officer will not commence in his new position until 5 January 2010 and the appointment of an Acting Chief Executive Officer during that interim period is required.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to be the Acting Chief Executive Officer for the period 19 December 2009 to 4 January 2010.*

**ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED**

**30180**

Moved Cr Townrow                      Sec Cr Young

*That Council appoint Mr John Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services, to be the Acting Chief Executive Officer for the period 19 December 2009 to 4 January 2010.*

**CARRIED 9/0  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

**MINUTES**

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**13.4 SHIRE OF MERREDIN ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Frank Ludovico – Chief Executive Officer
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	FM/19/Annual Report

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**Background**

Council's Annual Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2009 have been completed as has the annual audit of the financial statements by Council's auditors, UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants.

**Statutory Implications**

The Local Government Act 1995 requires the Council to accept 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 accepted by Council (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 meeting is advertised in the West Australian on Saturday 21 November 2009 and then in the Wheatbelt Mercury on Wednesday 25 November 2009, the Annual Electors Meeting could be held after 7 December 2009.

The Annual General Meeting of Electors is required to be held not more than 56 days after Council have accepted the Annual Report.

The Annual Report is included in **Attachment 13.4A**.

Council's Audit Committee met with the Auditor to discuss the Annual Financial Statements on 10 November 2009. Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting are included in **Attachment 13.4B**.

**Officer's Recommendation**

- 1. That Council accept the Shire of Merredin Annual Report for the 2008-2009 Financial Year, and receives the Auditor's Report from UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants for the 2008-2009 Financial Year.*
- 2. That Council hold its Annual General Meeting of Electors on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ in the Shire Administration Centre.*

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr

1. *That Council accept the Shire of Merredin Annual Report for the 2008-2009 Financial Year, and receives the Auditor's Report from UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants for the 2008-2009 Financial Year.*
2. *That Council hold its Annual General Meeting of Electors on 15 December 2009 in the Shire Administration Centre.*

**LAPSED FOR WANT OF A SECONDER**

**30181**

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young

1. *That Council accept the Shire of Merredin Annual Report for the 2008-2009 Financial Year, and receives the Auditor's Report from UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants for the 2008-2009 Financial Year.*
2. *That Council hold its Annual General Meeting of Electors on 8 December 2009 at 7.00pm in the Shire Administration Centre.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

**30182**

Moved Cr Crees Sec Cr Townrow

*That Council suspend Standing Orders and adjourn for afternoon tea.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

Council adjourned at 3.00pm.

**30183**

Moved Cr Crees Sec Cr Wallace

*That Council reinstate Standing Orders and recommence the meeting.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

The meeting recommenced at 3.55pm.

**MINUTES**

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These Agenda Items 17.1 and 17.3 were brought forward.

- 30184** Moved Cr Young Sec Cr Wallace  
*That Council go behind closed doors to discuss a confidential matter in accordance with Section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

Council went behind closed doors at 3.57pm.

- 30185** Moved Cr Crees Sec Cr Townrow  
*That Council come out from behind closed doors.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

Council came out from behind closed doors at 4.15pm.

17.1 Contract Extension – Executive Manager of Development Services

- 30186** Moved Cr Crees Sec Cr Young  
*That the contract of Mr John Mitchell, Executive Manager of Development Services, be extended for a five year period from 4 June 2010 on the current conditions that apply to his contract.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

17.3 Vehicle for Female Doctor in Merredin

- 30187** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young  
*That Council offer to sell the Ford Falcon sedan (MD-40) to Dr Gabriel Adeniyi for the agreed sum.*

**CARRIED 7/2**

**MINUTES**

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**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 OF COUNCIL****16.1 Lifting the Profile of the Wheatbelt**

Cr Morris indicated that there had been a number of articles where the focus of the Government seems to be in the mining areas and Council should be taking relevant steps to list the profile of the Wheatbelt.

**30188**

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Townrow

- 1. *That the Shire of Merredin take a leading role in lobbying relevant organisations such as State Government to promote the need for assistance and recognition of the Wheatbelt as being a region of equal importance to that of the mining industry.***
- 2. *That the Shire of Merredin approach the Wheatbelt East Organisation of Regional Councils to take a leading role in lobbying relevant organisations such as State Government to promote the need for assistance and recognition of the Wheatbelt as being a region of equal importance to that of the mining industry.***

**CARRIED 9/0****16.2 Collgar Windfarm – Water Supply**

At the briefing with the Collgar Windfarm it was indicated that they would be using water from the Kalgoorlie-Perth pipeline for the windfarm project arguing the supply of water that was required could not be provided by using desalinated water (as has been the case with the A-Line East upgrade of the Great Eastern Highway project).

Council felt that there was some opportunity to use desalinated water in non-time critical projects, such as dust suppression, road construction, road maintenance etc and lobbying should occur to bring this to the attention of the Collgar Windfarms.

**17.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS****17.1 Contract Extension – Executive Manager of Development Services**

Refer to Page 30 for information on this Agenda Item.

**17.2 Reserve 13267, Lot 1420 Great Eastern Highway – Land Acquisition**

Refer to Page 22 for information on this Agenda Item.

**17.3 Vehicle for Female Doctor in Merredin**

Refer to Page 32 for information on this Agenda Item.

**18.0 CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Shire President declared the meeting closed at 4.30pm.