

# SHIRE OF MERREDIN



**“Heart of the Wheatbelt”**

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**18 June 2013**

MINUTES OF THE SHIRE OF MERREDIN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2013

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**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Merredin held in the Council  
Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on  
Tuesday 18 June 2013 commencing at 3.04pm.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors:	M Morris	
	BJ Anderson	
	RM Crees	
	DN Hayes-Thompson	
	KA Hooper	
	T McFarlane	
	D Morris	
Leave of Absence:	DM Crook	
	W Wallace	
Staff:	G Powell	Chief Executive Officer
	E Arnold	Executive Manager of Corporate and Community Service
	M Ioppolo	Executive Manager of Developmental Services
	K Paust	Executive Manager of Engineering Service
	L Wyatt	Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer
Gallery	Mr M Townrow	
	Mrs J Townrow	

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**1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING**

In the absence of a person presiding, the CEO opened the meeting at 3.04pm. Mrs Gloria Banks JP, Evelyn Arnold, Kevin Paust, Mario Ioppolo, Julie and Michael Townrow were also present.

**2.0 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT**

Given the resignation of Cr Crook from the position of Shire President, the Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for the position of Shire President for a 4 month term. Cr Hooper was nominated. There being no further nominations Cr Hooper was declared elected.

Mrs Banks swore in Cr Hooper as Shire President.

The President took the Chair and thanked Councillors for their support.

**3.0 ELECTION OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT**

Given the resignation of Cr Morris from the position, the President called for nominations for the position of Deputy Shire President. Cr Crees was nominated.

There being no further nominations, Cr Crees was declared elected.

Mrs Banks swore in Cr Crees to the position of Deputy Shire President. Cr Crees thanked Councillors for their support.

The President thanked Mrs Banks for her contribution.

Mrs Banks, Evelyn Arnold, Kevin Paust and Mario Ioppolo left the meeting at 3.11pm.

**4.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

- 31142** Moved: Cr M Morris                      Seconded: Cr McFarlane  
*That item 14.3 Self Supporting Loan Request – Merritville Retirement Village (Inc) be considered at this time.*

**CARRIED 7/0**

- 31148** Moved: Cr Crees                      Seconded: Cr Anderson  
**Officer's Recommendation**  
*That Council support the application to Western Australian Treasury Corporation to secure a self-supporting loan of \$500,000 to be uplifted in October 2013 for the purpose of building 3 stand-alone Units by the Merritville Retirement Village (Inc).*

**CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 7/0**

Mr and Mrs Townrow left the meeting at 3.23pm.

**5.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Cr Crook and Wallace have approved leave of absence from this meeting.

- 31143** Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson      Seconded: Cr McFarlane  
*That Cr M Morris and Cr D Morris be granted a leave of absence for all the meetings until the July ordinary meeting.*

**CARRIED 7/0**

**6.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

**7.0 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**8.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting  
**Attachment 7.1A**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 May 2013.

- 31144** Moved: Cr D Morris                      Seconded: Cr McFarlane  
**Officer's Recommendation**  
*That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 May 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.*  
**CARRIED 7/0**

**9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Nil

**10.0 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

Nil

**11.0 RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL**

11.1 WE-ROC Special Council Meeting held on 22 May 2013  
**Attachment 11.1A**

11.2 WE-ROC Executive Meeting held on 29 May 2013  
**Attachment 11.2A**

11.3 WE-ROC Special Council Meeting held on 5 June 2013  
**Attachment 11.3A**

- 31145** Moved: Cr Crees                      Seconded: Cr Anderson  
**Officers Recommendation**  
*That the minutes of the WE-RO Special Council Meeting held 22 May 2013, the WE-ROC Executive Meeting held 29 May 2013 and the WE-ROC Special Council Meeting held 6 June 2013 be received.*  
**CARRIED 7/0**

**12.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

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Nil recommendations to Council.

**13.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES**

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Nil recommendations to Council.



**14.0 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

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**14.1 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance & Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
	Finance and Administration
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995 & Financial Management Regulations
<b>File Reference:</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	List of Accounts Paid

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**Background**

The attached List of Account Paid (**Attachment 14.1A**) 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 \$186,157.72.

**31146** Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson                      Seconded: Cr D Morris

**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 \$1,466,857.28 from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account and \$1,000 from Council's Trust Account.*

**CARRIED 7/0**

14.2 **MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance and Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Monthly Finance Report

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**Background**

The Monthly Finance Report is attached for Council's information.  
**(Attachment 14.2A)**

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

**Financial Implications**

As outlined in **Attachment 14.2A**.

**31147** Moved: Cr Crees                      Seconded: Cr Anderson

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for May 2013.***

**CARRIED 5/2**

14.3 **SELF SUPPORTING LOAN REQUEST MERRITTVILLE RETIREMENT VILLAGE (INC)**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance & Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachment:</b>	Cash Flow Forecast ( <b>Attachment 14.3A</b> ) Western Australian Treasury Corporation Loan Repayment Schedule ( <b>Attachment 14.3B</b> ) Plans and Specifications ( <b>Attachment 14.3C</b> )

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**Background**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012 Council received a letter from the Merrittville Retirement Village (Inc) requesting support for a self-supporting loan to complete the construction of three stand-alone units.

The amount requested is \$500,000.

**Comment**

The Merrittville Retirement Village (Inc.) has spent the last 5 years researching and planning how best to finance an expansion of the retirement residential accommodation in Merredin. The Merrittville Committee feels the only option available to fund this development is a self-supporting loan.

The provision of aged accommodation is listed as a strategic priority in the Merredin Community Plan 2012/13 -2022/23. Specifically Council identifies working with community groups to achieve this as there is “..*strong community support for a self-funded retirement village.*” Building capacity within the community to manage and maintain this asset will also assist Council in the future management of its asset portfolio to meet the service demands of an aging population.

Attached is the cash flow forecast for the next 5 years of the Merrittville operation including the funding received and the project completion. The project budget is based on 3 units at \$200,000 per unit purchased from Nordic Homes (plan and specifications attached) and includes an allowance for head works of \$45,000. The committee has also allowed for some funds to cover any project contingency costs. Based on the revenue projected it is expected that Merrittville should be able to build an additional Unit in 2017/18 which will be self-funded.

Also attached is an indicative schedule of payments from the Western Australian Treasury Corporation which shows loan repayments of \$46,624.08 per year over the term of 15 years. This forecast confirms that, with Council support, this project is viable and the Merrittville Retirement Village (Inc) is projected to generate enough income to cover the repayments. Nordic Homes are also available to project manage the build if required.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Supports the strategic priority of accommodation as outlined in the Merredin Community Plan 2012/12-2022/23.

**Financial Implications**

By the nature of this loan there will be no direct financial implications.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council support the application to Western Australian Treasury Corporation to secure a self-supporting loan of \$500,000 to be uplifted in October 2013 for the purpose of building 3 stand-alone Units by the Merrittville Retirement Village (Inc).*

**ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED**

This item was considered as the first item of business due to the attendance at the meeting of Mr and Mrs Townrow.

Please refer to page 5.

14.4 **ADDITIONAL AUDITOR**

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

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**Background**

In March 2012 Council resolved to appoint UHY Haines Norton as auditors, with Mr D J Tomasi and Mr G Godwin listed as the partners.

**Comment**

UHY Haines Norton has written requesting that an additional partner be added to appointment list to allow for greater flexibility in managing the audit process. The list of appointed auditors should be amended to include:

Name	Registered Company Auditor Number
Mr Wen-Shien Chai	299761

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

**Financial Implications**

Nil

**31149** Moved: Cr M Morris                      Seconded: Cr McFarlane

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That Council confirm the appoint of UHY Haines Norton Accountants as official auditors with the listed partners being:***

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Registered Company Auditor Number</i></b>
<b><i>Mr Wen-Shien Chai</i></b>	<b><i>299761</i></b>
<b><i>Mr D J Tomasi</i></b>	<b><i>15724</i></b>
<b><i>Mr G Godwin</i></b>	<b><i>310219</i></b>

**CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 7/0**

14.5 **USE OF SHIRE LAND FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Author:</b>	Marilyn Sayers
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Notes from community meeting held 21 May <b>(Attachment 14.5A)</b> Notes from community meeting held 11 June <b>(Attachment 14.5B)</b> Activate Merredin Project Plan 1 – Community Garden, Merredin <b>(Attachment 14.5C)</b>

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**Background**

The establishment of a community garden in Merredin is one of the proposed projects under the Activate Merredin Project. The availability of suitable land in the Merredin township is a priority for such a project to be successful and accessible to the whole community.

**Comment**

Two community meetings have been held to gauge the interest in creating a community garden and several locations for the community garden considered. (Notes attached).

The preferred location is the old lawn tennis club site on Bates Street which has now been vacated by the club. (Advised by Ken Hooper, President 11 June 2013). The area is considered to be very accessible for the whole community, well fenced and secure, adjacent to the Mens Shed site and Nukarni Hall facilities, has a regular water and electricity supply and off road parking facilities.

The garden could be established on top of the existing turf or all/some of the turf relocated to another area. All infrastructure of the garden can be relocated should the land be required for another purpose in the future.

The community members who have indicated their support for the project come from several age, ethnic, culture and social economic demographics. They are all very committed and enthusiastic for the establishment of a community garden and the project will ensure a positive social and learning environment for young people with older experienced people as mentors. There is an overlap of different community groups for the project including the Mens Shed, the Fine Arts Society, CRC, the Lions Club, the Wildflower Society, Avon Youth and church groups.

There is a design/site plan workshop planned for Saturday 22 June 10-12noon. It is proposed the plan will be created in stages to include ideas from the community and meet any seasonal, environmental, donations/funding and labour constraints.

The garden would be established with due care and responsibility to the environment using waterwise and organic practices, incorporating art and culture to create a place the community and Council can be proud of.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

The project will be funded through donation, self-funding and applicable grants.

**31150** Moved: Cr M Morris                      Seconded: Cr McFarlane

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That support be given to the establishment of a community garden on the lawn tennis courts area on Bates Street.***

**31151** Moved: Cr McFarlane                      Seconded: Cr D Morris

**Amendment**

***That in principle support be given to the establishment of a community garden on the lawn tennis courts area on Bates Street.***

**CARRIED 4/3**

**THE AMENDMENT BECAME THE MOTION, WAS PUT AND CARRIED 7/0**

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## 15.0 ADMINISTRATION

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### 15.1 PROPOSED MOTORSPORT LOCATIONS

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	CEO
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	RCS/04/41
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Map indicating locations of reserves.

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#### **Background**

Several presentations have been made to Council in regard to a Bike Tattoo and Car Show being held at MRC&LC (requiring construction of a burn out pad) which resulted in Council undertaking community consultation on two separate occasions.

The community surrounding MRC&LC was initially consulted and a response in the negative was received on the location of the burnout pad.

An alternative site located on Crooks Road was suggested as a possibility for the location however it was resolved at the August 2012 meeting that Council would seek comment from "all" residents (re: location, usage and management of any proposed facility).

The matter was again presented to Council on 20 November 2012. There was support for the concept but no proposals were forthcoming from any clubs, associations or interested parties with regard to the formation and running of such an event or organisation.

Council was advised that, "without an overarching organisation prepared to undertake and manage a facility it makes it difficult to progress the concept unless Council determines it to be a community priority and allocates resources to a new project"

Council reached the following resolutions:

31005              Moved: Cr M Morris                              Seconded: Cr D Morris  
Officer's Recommendation

*That after consideration of the responses from the community on the proposal to construct a burn out pad at the MRC&LC Mr Geoff Wells be advised that Council does not support the proposal.*

CARRIED 9/0



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31006 Moved: Cr M Morris Seconded: Cr McFarlane  
*That staff prepare a report of options for an area for development for motor sport outside the town boundary and it be presented to the February Council meeting.*

CARRIED 6/3

A report was prepared and presented at the March 2013 ordinary Council meeting where the following resolution was reached:

31088 Moved: Cr Anderson Seconded: Cr M Morris  
Officers Recommendation  
*That Council, before making a final determination on the suitability of Reserve 23580 for motorsport purposes, seeks a briefing from Mr Tony Bird, President of the Dowerin Car Club.*

CARRIED 9/0

**Comment**

Contact was made with Mr Bird and a presentation was subsequently made to Council at the April briefing session.

The report indicating the results of the research undertaken is repeated below and a map of their locations can be found at **Attachment 15.1A**.

5 Km Radius of Merredin				
Number	Vesting Order	Purpose	Size/area	Comment
2914	Vest Shire of Merredin	Water	509ha	Health issues/water supply.
23357	Commonwealth of Australia	Rifle Range	213 ha	Rifle range
23909	No Vesting order known.	Railway purposes: Ballast pit. (Parklands and recreation)	63 ha	Too close to residential properties. (proposed site of Harvest Rock)
24906	Vest Shire of Merredin	Under cemeteries Act	14.2 ha	Merredin Cemetery - Not suitable
24922	No vesting order known	Gravel (Merredin/Narembeen Road)	19.3 ha	Proximity to airstrip

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<b>5 - 10km Radius of Merredin</b>				
<b>Number</b>	<b>Vesting Order</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Size/Area</b>	<b>Comment</b>
10009	Vesting Minister of Agriculture	Experimental Farm	1172 ha	Not suitable - Ag Department
19476	Vesting WA Wildlife Authority	Merredin Nature Reserve (Conservation of flora and fauna)	224.1 ha	Not suitable - Not vested to Shire
19991		Quarry - Old Nukarni Road	10.0 ha	Not suitable - area too small
20268		Quarry / gravel - Old Nukarni Road	3.47 ha	Not suitable - area too small
23580	Vest Shire of Merredin	Recreation and parklands.	1160.73 ha	Dissected by standard gauge rail. Surrounds (east of) Whitfield Way development.
23846		Gravel - Chandler Road	9.76 ha	Area too small
29700	Vest Shire of Merredin	Public recreation	25.914 ha	Area too small

*Research into the land area requirements to establish a motorplex type facility have indicated that a minimum of 50ha is required in order to have a 2km distance track, inside which could include the burnout pad. Interestingly, the Wanneroo Raceway was originally constructed on a 200 acre (80.97 ha) lot.*

*From the list above it would appear that the only suitable land may be contained within reserve 23580. However, in order to verify this on ground inspection/survey would be necessary. It should be noted that noise and traffic could be an issue because of its proximity to Whitfield and Maiolo Ways.*

*Should Council wish to pursue this further, it will need to commit resources, however before doing so it may be appropriate to be briefed by representatives of the proposed Dowerin Motorplex Complex.*

Conversations with David Bird, President of Dowerin Car Club have indicated that there is interest in establishing a "Wheatbelt Motorplex" (location is irrelevant at this time) however funding for such a venture has been and is difficult to come by. State and Federal assistance has been non-existent and reasons given include "not at this time".

Given the community response and the lack of suitable land available for development, it is suggested that Council would be better served by offering "in principle" support to the concept of the "Wheatbelt Motorplex" rather than duplicating services already being proposed and developed. However, Council may wish to undertake further investigations into the suitability of Reserve 23580 to determine whether it, or part of it, may be suitable for such a venture.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

It should be noted that Council has not made any provision towards any further studies for such a facility in the current or future budgets or long term financial planning.

**31153** Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson                      Seconded: Cr McFarlane

**Officers Recommendation**

*That it be noted that Reserve 23580 may be suitable for the development of a motor sports precinct in the future but at this time support be offered to individuals and organisations in developing a facility in the Wheatbelt.*

**CARRIED 6/1**

15.2 **LOT 502 CROOKS ROAD - SALE**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	CEO
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

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**Background**

An expression of interest has been received to purchase Lot 502 Crooks Road. The email received is reproduced below:

*The purpose of Mineral crushing Services wishing to purchase a suitable sizeable portion of land is to develop our Mine Equipment Manufacturing business & our Agricultural Fertiliser business.*

*Lot 502 Crooks Road is well suited for our two business's, in the right location & in a good central regional town .The light industrial land at the East end of Merredin is not suited for our purposes & is also not big enough.*

*We would be interested in a straight outright purchase if it is available for sale.*

- *Our manufacturing business will employ approximately 12 people*
- *Our Fertiliser business will employ approximately 18 – 20 between Merredin & Dowerin*
- *Local contractors such as Trans Plus will be supported by the utilisation of their road haulage fleet*
- *Local engineering firms such as Karni Engineering will be utilised*
- *Local suppliers , will benefit as we have a shop local policy in our corporate structure.*

*Our fertiliser products are Natural elements only, we do not use manufactured chemicals. The product is called Agrimin which is a combination of Ultrafine crushed Granite, Gypsum & Dolomite.*

**Comment**

There are economic benefits that would accrue to Merredin should this company establish here. As well as the direct expenditure with existing businesses as described in the email above, the benefit from employees and potentially their families would also be significant. Such an operation would also diversify the economic base of the Shire.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

The key implication at this point is the acquisition of the land. This is governed by the LGA 1995 and the relevant section appears below:

**3.58. Disposing of property**

(1) *In this section —*

*dispose* includes to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of, whether absolutely or not;

*property* includes the whole or any part of the interest of a local government in property, but does not include money.

(2) *Except as stated in this section, a local government can only dispose of property to —*

- (a) *the highest bidder at public auction; or*
- (b) *the person who at public tender called by the local government makes what is, in the opinion of the local government, the most acceptable tender, whether or not it is the highest tender.*

(3) *A local government can dispose of property other than under subsection (2) if, before agreeing to dispose of the property —*

- (a) *it gives local public notice of the proposed disposition —*
  - (i) *describing the property concerned; and*
  - (ii) *giving details of the proposed disposition; and*
  - (iii) *inviting submissions to be made to the local government before a date to be specified in the notice, being a date not less than 2 weeks after the notice is first given;*

*and*

- (b) *it considers any submissions made to it before the date specified in the notice and, if its decision is made by the council or a committee, the decision and the reasons for it are recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision was made.*

(4) *The details of a proposed disposition that are required by subsection (3)(a)(ii) include —*

- (a) *the names of all other parties concerned; and*
- (b) *the consideration to be received by the local government for the disposition; and*
- (c) *the market value of the disposition —*
  - (i) *as ascertained by a valuation carried out not more than 6 months before the proposed disposition; or*
  - (ii) *as declared by a resolution of the local government on the basis of a valuation carried out more than 6 months before the proposed disposition that the local government believes to be a true indication of the value at the time of the proposed disposition.*

- (5) *This section does not apply to —*
- (a) *a disposition of an interest in land under the Land Administration Act 1997 section 189 or 190; or*
  - (b) *a disposition of property in the course of carrying on a trading undertaking as defined in section 3.59; or*
  - (c) *anything that the local government provides to a particular person, for a fee or otherwise, in the performance of a function that it has under any written law; or*
  - (d) *any other disposition that is excluded by regulations from the application of this section.*

It is assumed that Council wishes to sell the land in order for this business to establish in Merredin. If this is so, of relevance is S3.58 (3) and (4) of the LGA as described above.

Given that there is little interest in industrial land in and around the town and the proponent wishes an early outcome on its expression of interest, this would be the most expeditious way of releasing the land and complying with the statutory requirements.

#### **Financial Implications**

Some administration costs would be incurred in complying with the requirements of the Act but no income from the sale of this land has been budgeted. It should be noted that a valuation for the valuation is required and Council would be required to justify any discount from the valuation. In other words, it would be expected that the purchase price will be at least the valuation.

**31154** Moved: Cr M Morris                      Seconded: Cr Crees

#### **Officer's Recommendation**

***That subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 being met, Council offers in-principle approval for the sale of Lot 502 Crooks Road, Merredin to Mineral Crushing Services or its legal entity with the matter being referred back to Council at the earliest opportunity for further consideration.***

**CARRIED 7/0**



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<i>Joondalup</i>	<i>Merredin Shire Council Policy</i>
<b>4.3 Annual Conference and Training Expense Allocation</b>	
<i>Expense allocation of: Mayor: \$13,000 plus ALGA (WA), ALGA (National) and WALGA Annual Conference Councillors: \$5,000 plus WALGA Annual Conference.</i>	<i>There is a total budget allocation of \$40,000 for all conference and training expenses to cover ALL elected members. Partners are entitled to attend Local Government Week at Council expense.</i>
<b>4.4 Definition</b>	
<i>Specific terminology</i>	<i>Non specific.</i>
<b>4.5 Approval</b>	
<i>Seeks prior approval to attend via resolution of Council.</i>	<i>Item 1 - approval can be made via Council, Shire President or CEO. Conferences in other states require the prior approval of Council.</i>
<b>4.6 Conferences and Training that May be Attended</b>	
<i>Specific about the types of conferences and training that can be attended.</i>	<i>Non specific with the exception of Local Government Week.</i>

*Consideration should be given to the size of our Council and in turn the budget constraints.*

*Statutory/Policy Implications*

*Local Government Act 1995 and Shire of Merredin Policy Manual, policy number 1.5 - Councillor Attendance at Conferences, Seminars, Training Courses and Meetings.*

*Financial Implications*

*Currently there is a budget allocation of \$40,000 in cost centre E041030.*

*By adopting a policy on similar lines to that of the City of Joondalup each Councillor would receive an allocation. This would see the total allocation increase by an undetermined extent but by possibly \$2-3,000 per Councillor depending on the activity.*

**Comment**

In the absence of any decision regarding salaries and allowances, Council is presented with two options;

1. Determine a training allowance allocation for each elected member. Council will need to take into consideration the cost of attendance at events such as Local Government Week and other conferences where not all Councillors are represented when determining the division of the allocation and amount.
2. Leave the current allocation as it is. The budget is currently adequate to cater for current training and conference requirements for elected



members as they request, without allocating individual annual allowances .

**Statutory and Policy Implications**

Option 1 – *Policy 1.5 Councillor Attendance at Conferences, Seminars, Training Courses and Meetings* will need to be amended to reflect the allocations.

Option 2 – No change.

**Financial Implications**

Undetermined - Currently there is a budget allocation of \$40,000 in cost centre E041030. The outcome depends on which option Council adopts.

**31155** Moved: Cr Crees                      Seconded: Cr Anderson

**Officers Recommendations**

***That Council adopts option 2 but that it deletes item 6 from the current policy 1.5 Councillor Attendance at Conferences, Seminars, Training Courses and Meetings as this is already covered under item 1.***

**CARRIED 7/0**

15.4 **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – INTEGRATED PLANNING DOCUMENTATION**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	CEO
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

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**Background**

As Council is aware, the State Government requires each local government to adopt plans which meet the intent of an integrated planning regime by 30 June 2013. There is a need to set a date for a special meeting of Council to adopt the plans.

**Comment**

Council has adopted its community plan and its workforce plan. Yet to be adopted are the asset management plan and the corporate business plan. Staff have been working with consultants to finalise these plans. Because of their complexity and as they are inter-related, internally established deadlines have been difficult to meet.

It was anticipated that documentation would have been finalised by the June Council meeting but this has not been possible. Therefore, there is a need to set a date in the latter half of the week commencing 24 June, say Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

There are statutory implications if the 30 June deadline is not met. Additionally, there are a number of policies that will require Council consideration.

**Financial Implications**

Nil

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That a date be set for a Special Council Meeting to adopt the integrated planning suite of documentation.***

**31156** Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson                      Seconded: Cr Anderson

**Resolution**

***That a Special Council Meeting to adopt the integrated planning suite of documentation be held on Thursday 27 June at 2013 at 4.00pm.***

**CARRIED 7/0**

**16.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**17.0 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**18.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION**

18.1 Voluntary Redundancy

- 31157** Moved: Cr Crees                          Seconded: Cr Anderson  
*That Council authorise payment of redundancies at a value of \$98,498.00*  
**CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 7/0**

18.2 WALGA AGM – Voting Delegates

- 31158** Moved: Cr Hayes-Thompson   Seconded: Cr Crees  
*That the President and Deputy President be the registered nominated delegates at the WALGA 2013 Annual General Meeting.*  
**CARRIED 7/0**

**19.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

Nil

**20.0 CLOSURE**

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 4.16pm.