



Shire of Northam
Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle

Shire of Northam

Minutes

Annual Electors General

Meeting

12 December 2018

UNCONFIRMED

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Shire President, Cr C R Antonio declared the meeting open at 5:02pm.

2. ATTENDANCE

Council:

Shire President
Deputy President
Councillors

C R Antonio
M P Ryan
J E G Williams
R W Tinetti
S B Pollard
A J Mencshelyi
T M Little
J Proud at 5:19pm
C P Della

Staff:

Chief Executive Officer
Executive Manager Engineering Services
Executive Manager Development Services
Executive Manager Community Services
Executive Assistant – CEO

J B Whiteaker
C D Kleynhans
C B Hunt
R Rayson
A C McCall

Gallery:

Avon Valley Advocate:
Electors:

Eliza Wynn
Brian Daniels
Joy Daniels
Des Hughes
Ulo Rumjantsev
Heather Meiklem at 5:14pm

2.1 APOLOGIES

Councillors
Executive Manager Corporate Services

C L Davidson
C Young

2.2 APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

Minute No: AE.63

Moved: Cr Little
Seconded: Cr Della

That the minutes of the Annual Electors General meeting held Wednesday, 13th December 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED 8/0
4 ABSTAINED FROM VOTING

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5.1 RECEIVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE 2017/18 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SHIRE OF NORTHAM

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

Minute No: AE.64

Moved: Cr Mencshelyi
Seconded: Cr Williams

That the Shire of Northam Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2018, as presented, be received.

CARRIED 8/0
4 ABSTAINED FROM VOTING

5.2 RECEIVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE SHIRE OF NORTHAM

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

Minute No: AE.65

Moved: Cr Mencshelyi

Seconded: Cr Ryan

That the Shire of Northam Auditor's Report, for the year ended 30th June 2018, be accepted.

CARRIED 8/0
4 ABSTAINED FROM VOTING

5.3 RECEIVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR THE SHIRE OF NORTHAM

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

Minute No: AE.66

Moved: Cr Della

Seconded: Cr Little

That the President's Report, for the year ended 30th June 2018 as presented, be received.

CARRIED 12/0

5.4 RECEIVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS FOR THE SHIRE OF NORTHAM

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

Minute No: AE.67

Moved: Cr Little

Seconded: Cr Mencshelyi

That the Chief Executive Officer's Report, for the year ended 30th June 2018 as presented in the Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED 8/2
2 ABSTAINED FROM VOTING

Debate was held around the motion with respect to the terminology used in the CEO's Report which references that the drainage issues in Bakers Hill are 'under control'.

5.5 ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2017/18 SHIRE OF NORTHAM ANNUAL REPORT

One (1) Elector entered the meeting at 5:14pm.

Cr Proud entered the meeting at 5:19pm

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

Minute No: AE.68

Cr Della
Cr Mencshelyi

That the Shire of Northam Annual Report for the year 2017/2018 incorporating the 2017/2018 Annual Financial Statements and the 2017/2018 Auditor's Report, be ACCEPTED.

CARRIED 8/1
5 ABSTAINED FROM VOTING

Debate was held around the motion with respect to the terminology used in the CEO's Report which references that the drainage issues in Bakers Hill are 'under control'.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE

Name: Brian Daniels, Northam & Districts Community Voice.

Question 1: Are they doing Glenmore Estate?? My verge is still a hazard and was deliberately left untouched by the Shire?

Response 1: The Shire's second drainage crew which usually tends to works within town sites has been reassigned to the rural subdivisions, including Glenmore Estate. There are 4 subdivisions within the Bakers Hill area that are the focus of drainage improvements. With 2 dedicated Shire Drainage Crews available, works have been prioritised and will be addressed in that order.

Question 2: Why do they have a company from Albany doing the roadworks and storm drains on Decastilla Road? Why have they spent 18mths ripping up perfectly good roads to then build super steep and narrow replacements on a road that was wide enough for the farm machinery that needs to use it. BUT is now too narrow for them and the shoulder is so steep and high it is outright dangerous. None of this road needed rebuilding, but they didn't fix the washed out culvert or damaged bridge. They are able to waste money and not achieve what needs to be done.

Response 2: The works being performed on DeCastilla Road is part of the WANDRRA storm repairs works which was recently approved by the State Government. The works were publically tendered in accordance with local government legislative procurement processes. An Albany based contractor was the successful tenderer.

Question 3: They started drainage works on Carlin Road and some on Tamma Road but never finished it, my question is are they going to finish it?

Response 3: The Shire intends to finish the works on Tamma Road in sequence with programmed works. With 2 drainage crews addressing works in 4 subdivisions, works have had to be prioritised. Current focus is on Koojedda Hills and Glenmore Estate.

Question 4: Major road works has been carried out on Coates Road but the Great Eastern Highway end has been ignored can you please advise why?

Response 4: The works completed on the Western End of Coates Road was resealing the existing surface. Works programmed for the Eastern end of Coates Road involves widening and resealing. This section has been delayed due to community groups appealing vegetation clearing permits obtained by the Shire. The appeal process has been overseen by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, with recent advice that the works can proceed. These works are scheduled to be completed in January, pending Contractor availability.

Question 5: Was Due Diligence ever done on Cooper & Oxley to ensure that they are and will be financially solvent throughout the term of the contract. If so who carried out the investigation. Was it done by a professional external company or was it done in house?

Response 5: Yes, the financial challenges faced by Cooper and Oxley in 2018 were given consideration through the process. The procurement process, including financial checks, were run independently through the WALGA. Council has also agreed to further safeguards including establishing a project bank account for the project which will assist in managing payments to the contractor and sub-contractor.

Question 6: How much does the Shire of Northam pay to be a member of WALGA?

Response 6:	Service	Amount (Ex GST)
	Association Membership	\$13,062.39
	Services	\$25,310.00

6.2 QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Name: Des Hughes, Northam.

Question 1: Will there be toilets located at the Northam Youth Precinct which is currently under construction? If not, where will the children go to the toilet?

Response 1: The Chief Executive Officer advised that there is currently no plan for toilets. The project has come in under budget and

Council has determined to look at connectivity. It is proposed that the users of the precinct can use the toilets at the Northam Recreation Centre or an alternative option McDonald's.

Question 2: Are there any legislative requirements to provide toilets?

Response 2: The Chief Executive Officer advised that there are requirements for buildings however no requirements for public open space.

Question 3: How much has been raised towards 'Ready.Set.Go' from the private sector?

Response 3: The Chief Executive Officer advised that approximately \$50,000 has been committed and staff are currently working through securing the final \$50,000 with the private sector. It was also advised that staff will work with the budget available and will not exceed this.

Question 4: What is the current debt for the Shire of Northam with the commitments towards the swimming pool and Hockey Association?

Response 4: The Chief Executive Officer advised that his recollection is that the Council's debt will peak in 2019/20 – 2020/21 at approximately \$7 million which is in accordance with the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) that was endorsed approximately 3 years ago (within approximately \$500,000) however the guidelines provided by the Department of Local Government and Treasury Corporation Councils borrowing are well within established thresholds. It was noted that these figures are approximates from the Chief Executive Officer recollection and would need to refer to the LTFP to confirm these.

*The following has been confirmed since the meeting:
Debt peaks at \$7.9m in the 2020/21 financial year as per the revised LTFP.*

Question 5: What is the current plans for the Northam Agricultural Society to ensure they are provided with appropriate facilities to hold the annual show?

Response 5: The Chief Executive Officer advised that staff have been engaging with the Society. Council has provided a level of commitment towards the Show and will continue to work with them to deliver adequate facilities for the event.

7. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Shire President, Cr C R Antonio declared the meeting closed at 5:31pm.

"I certify that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 have been confirmed as a true and correct record."

_____ President

_____ Date

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