

SHIRE OF MOORA
BRIEFING SESSION
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

18 JUNE 2025

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MOORA

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I. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 3.00pm.

2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

ATTENDANCE

TL Lefroy	-	Presiding Member
SJ Gilbert Deputy President	-	Deputy President
SA Bryan	-	Councillor
DV Clydesdale-Gebert	-	Councillor
TL Errington	-	Councillor
TW Dugan	-	Councillor

OFFICERS

GW Robins	-	Chief Executive Officer
B Hoogland	-	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
G Texiera	-	Manager, Financial Services
Travis Bate	-	RSM Australia

APOLOGIES

KM Seymour	-	Councillor
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3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 MARCH 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

16/25 *Moved Cr Errington, seconded Cr Dugan that the Minutes of the General Purpose Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.*

CARRIED 6/0

FOR: Cr's Lefroy, Gilbert, Bryan, Clydesdale-Gebert, Errington, and Dugan

AGAINST: Nil

4. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

4.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

On 12 June, 2025, the WA Government released its draft “*Guideline on Community Benefits for Renewable Energy Projects*”. This is Government’s first formal recognition of the impacts of renewable energy projects on relevant LGAs. While there is much in the document with which we disagree, it at least begins a conversation from which government will find it difficult to retreat. There will be more to report on this time goes on and the Shire coordinates the sector’s collective responses to government.

The decision to release this document highlights the increasing proximity of renewable energy projects in the Moora region. A considerable amount of work is necessary if the community is to generally prosper from the arrival of the renewable energy sector. To build the detail of these impacts, opportunities and future outcomes, the Shire is about to commence the research and development of an economic development strategy. This strategy will be read in conjunction with the Community Strategic Plan and will more than likely, reshape the Community Strategic Plan as the EDS evolves. It is estimated that this body of work will take between four to six months and cost up to \$50,000 as we engage external advisors to facilitate individual bodies of this work. These costs will be built into the 2025-2026 budget.

4.2 BUDGET VARIATION - Moora LRCI-4 Approved Work Schedule (Variation) – May 2025

The Shire was granted a total of \$800,800 under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Programme – Phase 4. Of this sum, \$507,857 was allocated to Part A (Community Project) – Moora Regional Early Childhood Development Precinct – Stage 2, and Part B, amounting to \$292,943 was allocated to a Road Project – Moora Regional Early Childcare Development Precinct – King Street One-Way modification.

The Shire has been unable to complete Part B - the road project portion of the grant, due to the delay in Main Roads and Minister for Transport providing approval for the conversion of a 250-metre section of King Street from two-way to one-way traffic movements. As the funding programme expires on 30 June 2025, and there is no certainty the Shire will receive confirmation of the Minister's approval for the conversion of King St to partial one-way traffic operations, the Shire applied for a variation to allow it to carry out two alternative projects; these being complementary works to support the Padbury Street refurbishment and remediation works on Coomberdale East Road.

The Shire has not been advised of any impediments to the approval being granted, although the appointment of new ministers to new portfolios has created a reassessment of ministerial priorities and work programmes. At the time of application, the Shire was advised that its application would take a considerable time to be assessed.

The total of \$292,943 was previously budgeted under Programme 12 – Transport and Subprogramme 38 – Street, Roads and Bridges. It will remain under the same programme as the function and the nature of the project are the same. The net effect will be neutral as this is a reallocation of the same funds but to alternative projects scope. The variation above was approved by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, regional Development, Communications, Sport and Arts on 27 May 2025, and a new Works Schedule was issued accordingly.

4.3 RV Short Stay Location

As advised at the Briefing Session in May, the Shire has received complaints about the closure of the RV Short Stay behind the MPAC, both from travellers and from local businesses and residents.

The Shire proposed converting the old netball courts at the Recreation Centre into a temporary RV Short Stay location due to the proximity of appropriate facilities and the Carnaby Cockatoo Statue. Council supported this proposal.

The issue was discussed in the knowledge that the foot traffic on the Carnaby Cockatoo Interactive Walk Trail would increase due to the nearby presence of the RV Short Stay site and

the need for the Shire to work with Arc Infrastructure and Public Transport Authority to construct a safe pedestrian rail crossing either in close proximity to the walking trail or at the nearest road / rail intersection.

Since the meeting, the Shire reached out to Arc Infrastructure and PTA and has subsequently been advised that the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) has a policy of no additional at-grade interfaces, with which both the state government and Arc adhere. The Shire has been advised by Arc Infrastructure they are willing to start the conversation with the PTA, but they see similar requests from other local governments come through, and these are unfortunately never endorsed without the closure of an existing crossing.

Given the Shire has only 3 crossings in Moora, and these are needed, the Shire is not in a position to lose one to be able to gain another. The Shire will begin a conversation with PTA to explore if this barrier can be overcome. Based on previous dealings with the PTA, the Shire anticipates this will be a protracted engagement.

In the interim, to encourage tourists to stay in Moora and support our local businesses, the Shire will create a shared parking zone in the newly resurfaced car parks along the east side of Padbury Street, between Clinch Street and Grevillia Street (previously Moore Street). It is intended that 14 shared bays will be available to people for RV Short Stays. Initially, these sites will only be available for overnight stays however, with experience, the site restrictions may be relaxed for increased duration stays. The Shire recognises the priority of the amenity of Moora residents and that bringing RV Short Stays so much closer to town will require considerably revised rules of behaviour. It is intended that new line marking and signage will be put in place in the next few weeks. The Shire will post the new rules of use on its website and related RV sites.

4.4 WACHS Housing

Two new WACHS residences have been delivered and installed on the Carnaby Place sites. Over the next four-six weeks, they will undergo final fit-out, electrical and plumbing installations and connections, landscaping and final finishing.

The Shire and WACHS have established a system for the administration of rental payments in respect of these premises. As the buildings remain Shire assets, the Shire will undertake the related property management responsibilities.

4.5 Works & Related Updates – June 2025

2024/25 Road Program Status.

WSFN Carot Well Road construction

Construction work is complete on this road, with the final recoup and invoice has been sent to Main Roads.

WSFN, Watheroo West Road construction

This project is now complete; all funds have been recouped from Main Roads.

WSFN, Watheroo West Road development

The clearing and culvert upgrade has been completed, Gravel crushing for this project is outstanding and will be completed during July 2025.

RRG Watheroo Miling Road

This project is now complete; all funds have been recouped from Main Roads.

Miling West Road

This project is now complete.

RTR Reseal work has been completed on the following roads.

1. Airstrip Road
2. Moore Street
3. Bullbarnet Road
4. Barberton West Road
5. Coomberdale East Road

RTR Padbury Street, North end upgrade.

This project is nearing completion, including the asphalt overlay in the parking areas on the eastern side. Line marking in the parking areas is programmed to be completed during July 2025.

2025/26 Works

The programming of works to support the 2025/2026 road project master plan is currently being developed.

4.6. Community Perception Survey

The Shire will be undertaking an Annual Community Perception Survey to better understand residents' priorities, satisfaction with Shire services and aspirations.

feedback survey, a common practice for local governments, helps the Shire make informed decisions, advocate for community needs, incorporate resident views into future planning, ensure transparent governance, and build an inclusive community as outlined in our Strategic Community Plan.

The Shire of Moora's Community Perception Survey results will be used to assess current service requirements and community priorities and inform decisions made in the budget cycle.

The survey and preparation of the findings report will be undertaken by an independent social specialist, Localise, a WALGA preferred supplier, who provides this service to several other Councils.

4.7. Moora Youth Council

The Shire of Moora is establishing a Youth Council as part of its ongoing commitment to encouraging youth participation and fostering civic engagement among young residents. The Moora Youth Council will be a group of local "legends" aged 12 to 25 who will meet in the Council Chambers once a month with the aim of making a meaningful difference in the community. This initiative provides young people with the opportunity to represent the broader youth population in Moora by sharing ideas, voicing concerns, and contributing to local decision-making.

Members of the Youth Council will be involved in a range of Shire-led activities and events, including ANZAC Day, NAIDOC Week, and other community initiatives. In addition to supporting existing events, the Youth Council will be empowered to create and lead their own projects and events—ones that are driven by what today's youth are truly passionate about. The structure of the Youth Council will be inclusive and flexible, with monthly meetings facilitated by the Community Development Officer. The group will grow organically, with no strict membership quotas, and members will have the opportunity to take on leadership roles as the council evolves.

The strategy behind the Youth Council focuses on three key goals: representation, engagement, and action. By providing a platform for young voices to be heard and supported, the Moora Youth Council will help build a stronger, more inclusive community where young people feel valued and empowered. At present, two students have signed up to be part of this exciting initiative. We encourage Councillors and the wider community to help spread the word—if you know a young person who would be a great fit for the Moora Youth Council, please direct them to Emma Bryant at cdo@moora.wa.gov.au.

4.8. Moora Youth Centre

The Shire of Moora has undertaken significant work to enhance the appearance and appeal of the Moora Youth Centre. As the owner of the facility, the Shire contracts Avon Community Services to deliver youth services to our community. For over two years, the centre operated without a dedicated youth worker, limiting its ability to provide consistent programs and support for local young people. We are pleased to report that Avon Community Services has now appointed Cameron Wilkes as the new Youth Worker, employed four days per week. As a result, the Youth Centre is once again open for afterschool drop-in sessions from Monday to Thursday, 3pm to 6pm, providing a safe and welcoming space for young people to connect and engage. In addition, the Shire is progressively undertaking improvements to the building, its surrounds and the adjoining skate park, with the aim of enhancing the overall environment and facilities available to youth in Moora. These combined efforts reflect the Shire's ongoing commitment to supporting young people and fostering a vibrant, inclusive community.



4.9 BUDGET DISCUSSION

The meeting was the first of several planned meetings to discuss key aspects of the budget's preparation, including the rates modelling, the percentage increase in rates and operating costs, replacement of capital assets, general principle's underpinning the budget and timing.

* Include Geize material

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE MEETING

NIL

6. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 5.24pm.

CONFIRMED

PRESIDING MEMBER