



# Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

**Date: 14 December 2011**

**Please Note: These minutes and the decisions recorded therein have not as yet been confirmed by Council as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

## **The Shire of Moora Vision and Mission Statement**

### **Vision**

Our vision is that:

*The Moora region will be a place of brilliant opportunity over the next twenty years. Sustainable growth will result in a vibrant, healthy, wealthy and diverse community.*

### **Mission**

Our mission is:

*To identify and stimulate growth through creative leadership and a willingness to get things done.*

**SHIRE OF MOORA**  
**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MOORA**  
**14 DECEMBER 2011**

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## **I. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

### **I.1 DECLARATION OF OPENING**

*The Shire President declared the meeting open at 5.38pm.*

### **I.2 DISCLAIMER READING**

*No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Moora for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during this meeting.*

*It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of Council's decision, which will be provided within fourteen (14) days of this meeting.*

## **2. ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **ATTENDANCE**

CE Gardiner	-	Shire President
AR Tonkin	-	Councillor
SA Bryan	-	Councillor
CD Hawkins	-	Councillor
DV Clydesdale-Gebert	-	Councillor
R Keamy	-	Councillor
JW McLagan	-	Councillor
OC Cocking	-	Councillor
TG Humphry	-	Councillor
AJ Middleton	-	Acting Chief Executive Officer
LJ Parola	-	Manager Finance & Corporate Services
JL Greay	-	Manager Engineering Services
RL McCall	-	Manager Community & Economic Development
PR Williams	-	Manager Health, Building & Planning Services

## **3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Nil

## **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

## **5. PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER**

Attended meetings of:-

- Avon Midland Zone
- Health Strategy Group
- Chair of the Regional Development Council
- Presentation evenings for Watheroo Primary, Central Midlands Senior High and Moora Primary schools

Cr Humphry

- Attended WALGA training in Gingin on 13<sup>th</sup> November
- Attended the Childcare Christmas party on 1<sup>st</sup> December

Cr Bryan

- Attended school presentation evenings

Cr Tonkin

- Attended the West Koojan-Gillingarra LCDC on 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Remembrance Day Ceremony

**8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****8.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 23 NOVEMBER 2011****COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

*164/11 Moved Cr Keamy, seconded Cr Cocking that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 November 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

**8.2 SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 7 DECEMBER 2011****COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

*165/11 Moved Cr Hawkins, seconded Cr Bryan that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 7 December 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

## **9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

### **9.1 CORPORATE SERVICES**

#### **9.1.1 LIST OF PAYMENTS AUTHORISED UNDER DELEGATION 1.31**

**REPORT DATE:** 8 December 2011

**OFFICER DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** Nil

**AUTHOR:** Katie Bailey, Finance Officer – Creditors and Records

**ATTACHMENTS:** Accounts Paid Under Delegated Authority

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

Payments have been made under delegated authority and a listing of these payments is attached for Council to note and endorse.

#### **BACKGROUND**

At the December 2005 Ordinary Meeting of Council resolution 276/2005 delegated the authority of payments from Municipal and Trust Funds to the Chief Executive Officer.

#### **COMMENT**

Accounts Paid under delegated authority are periodically presented to Council.

#### **POLICY REQUIREMENTS**

Delegation 1.31 – Payments from Municipal and Trust Funds.

#### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

Local Government Act 1995 - Section 6.10

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 – Regulations 12 & 13.

#### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no known strategic implications associated with this proposal.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

##### **➤ Environment**

There are no known significant environmental implications associated with this proposal.

##### **➤ Economic**

There are no known significant economic implications associated with this proposal.

##### **➤ Social**

There are no known significant social implications associated with this proposal.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Payments are in accordance with the adopted budget.

#### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

<b>COUNCIL RESOLUTION (MANEX RECOMMENDATION)</b>
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***166/11 Moved Cr Hawkins, seconded Cr Bryan that Council notes and endorses the Payments from the Municipal and Trust Funds made under delegation 1.31***

<b><i>Municipal Fund</i></b>	<b><i>Cheques 60582 to 60611</i></b>	<b><i>\$23,471.95</i></b>
<b><i>Direct Debits</i></b>	<b><i>EFT 7137 to 7255</i></b>	<b><i>\$288,199.45</i></b>
	<b><i>Net Pays – PPE 8 November 2011</i></b>	<b><i>\$84,363.44</i></b>
	<b><i>Net Pays – PPE 23 November 2011</i></b>	<b><i>\$79,504.39</i></b>
	<b><i>Credit Cards to 14 November 2011</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,673.25</i></b>
<b><i>Total</i></b>		<b><i><u>\$477,212.48</u></i></b>
		<b><u>CARRIED</u>                      <u>9/0</u></b>

**9.1.2 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2011**

**REPORT DATE:** 7 December 2011

**OFFICER DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** Nil

**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** Nil

**AUTHOR:** Leanne Parola, Manager Finance & Corporate Services

**ATTACHMENTS:** Statement of Financial Activity for the Period Ended 30 November 2011

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To note and receive the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ended 30 November 2011.

**BACKGROUND:**

Council is provided with monthly financial reports to enable monitoring of revenues and expenditures against the adopted budget.

**COMMENT:**

The Statement of Financial Activity for the Period Ended is provided as a separate attachment in Program format.

**POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

Nil

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

Local Government Act 1995, Section 6.4

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Clause 34

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

Monitoring of actual revenues and expenditures against the adopted budget assists Council in being informed as to the financial health of the organisation.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- **Environment**  
There are no known significant environmental implications associated with this proposal.
- **Economic**  
There are no known significant economic implications associated with this proposal.
- **Social**  
There are no known significant social implications associated with this proposal.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Year to date income and expenditure is provided by program to enable comparison to 2010/11 adopted budget.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
(MANEX RECOMMENDATION)**

*167/11 Moved Cr Hawkins, seconded Cr Tonkin that Council notes and receives the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ended 30 November 2011.*

**CARRIED                      9/0**

**9.1.3 BUSH FIRES ACT - FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS**

**FILE REFERENCE:** LO/BUFI  
**REPORT DATE:** 5 December 2011  
**OFFICER DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** Nil  
**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** Nil  
**AUTHOR:** Allan Middleton, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

Confirmation of the appointment of Shire of Moora Bush Fire Control Officers 2011-12.

**BACKGROUND:**

A Local Government may from time to time appoint such persons as it thinks necessary to be its bush fire control officers under and for the purposes of the Bush Fire Act, and of those officers shall appoint the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and 2 Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers who shall be first and second in seniority of those officers, and subject thereto may determine the respective seniority of the other bush fire control officers appointed by it.

The Local Government shall cause notice of appointment made under the provisions of the Act to be published at least once in a newspaper circulating in its district.



**COMMENT:**

Below is the list of appointed Fire Control Officers for the year 2011-2012 for the Shire of Moora District Bush Fire Brigade network.

Council is required to adopt this list and authorise the publishing of the names in the Central Midlands & Coastal Advocate for public information.

It is recommended Council appoint Mrs Vicki Booth (Community Emergency Service Manager) as a Fire Control Officer.

**POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

Shire of Moora Bush Fire Policy Section 2.1 adopted 18 May 2009.

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

Bush Fires Act – 1954 – (with amendments) and Regulations – Section 38 (1) & (2a)

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

Experienced Fire Control Officers throughout the Shire of Moora district for the protection of rural property.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- **Environment**  
Efficient fire control and enforcement of fire breaks protects the natural environment and cereal crops.
- **Economic**  
There are no known significant economic implications associated with this proposal.
- **Social**  
There are no known significant social implications associated with this proposal.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Funding for the Bush Fire Brigade operations is funded from the E.S.L. levy Grant.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
(MANEX RECOMMENDATIONS)**

*168/11 Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Tonkin that the Shire of Moora*

- (1) appoint Mrs Vicki Booth as a Fire Control Officer for the Shire of Moora; and*
- (2) adopt the following addition to the list of current Bush Fire Control Officers for the 2011-2012 season and that Council authorise the publishing of the list in the Central Midlands & Coastal Advocate for public information.*

*Chief Fire Control Officer  
Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer (1)  
Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer (2)*

*Keith Piper  
Les Crane  
Brendon Pratt*

<b>Community Emergency Services Manager</b>	<b>Vicki Booth</b>
<b>Chief Radio/Fire Weather/Harvest ban Officer</b>	<b>Hugh Bryan</b>
<b>Deputy Radio/Fire Weather/Harvest ban Officer (1)</b>	<b>Les Crane</b>
<b>Deputy Radio/Fire Weather/Harvest ban Officer (2)</b>	<b>Neil Pearce</b>
<b>Deputy Radio/Fire Weather/Harvest ban Officer (3)</b>	<b>Jeremy Lefroy</b>
<b>Training Officer</b>	<b>Hugh Bryan</b>

**Fire Permits Only**  
**Shire Ranger**

**Murray Matthews**

**CARRIED                      9/0**

Cr Gardiner declared an impartiality interest in item 9.1.4 as he is the President of the Moora Bowling Club.

#### **9.1.4 CROPPING RIGHTS TO WEST END**

**FILE REFERENCE:** L/LEA1  
**REPORT DATE:** 7 December 2011  
**APPLICANT/PROPONENT:** Moora Bowling Club (Inc)  
**OFFICER DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** Nil  
**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** Nil  
**AUTHOR:** Leanne Parola, Manager Finance & Corporate Services  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To consider a request from the Moora Bowling Club for an agreement to allow them to crop the 36 ha of West End on the sewerage side of the Moore River for a period of 5-10 years.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Council owns a rural property immediately west of the Moora townsite known as 'West End'. Traditionally the management of the property has been handled by the Moora Community Recreation Council, however it has now been handed back to Council.

A large portion of the land is currently utilised by two community groups to crop to raise funds, these being the Moora Districts Tennis Club and the Moora Bowling Club (Inc). The clubs have been making a small payment to the Moora Community Recreation Council for the ability to crop the land.

#### **COMMENT:**

The Moora Bowling Club (Inc) has been cropping 36 ha of West End for many years now, and has indicated a desire to enter into an agreement with the Shire of Moora to continue to crop it for the next five to ten years.

The Club is a major partner in the proposed Community Resource Centre and has indicated that for it to contribute financially to the project, it would need to crop this portion of West End for several years. The length of time required would depend on the extent of their financial contribution to the project which is not yet known.

The other portion of the land that is being used for fundraising by a community group is much larger, and has been cropped by the Moora District Tennis Club for the past three years. Whilst the Club have not formally approached Council regarding the future cropping of West End, it is the understanding of staff that they do not wish to do so next year.

The Shire does not have any formal lease agreements with either Club, which can create issues relating to the responsibilities of each party, e.g. who maintains fire breaks and fencing.

### **POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

Council does not have a policy relating to the management/cropping of West End.

### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires Council to either call for public tender to lease the portion of land, or to have it valued, give public notice and consider submissions before signing a lease.

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

The development of West End is included in the Shire of Moora Forward Capital Works Plan for commencement of Stage One from the 2013/14 financial year. Any leases will need to consider the location and timing of this development.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

#### ➤ **Environment**

Any lease to crop a portion of West End will need to include the responsibility for firebreaks, fencing, weed and pest control and fertiliser to ensure its suitability and sustainability into the future if it is to be continued to be used for cropping purposes.

#### ➤ **Economic**

The two Clubs currently pay a total annual amount of approximately \$20,000 towards the Moora Community Recreation Council and use the profits for improving their facilities.

#### ➤ **Social**

West End has been cropped for many years by sporting groups to raise funds for capital works.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Any future lease of West End or portions of West End will provide a new revenue stream for the Shire. The land could be leased to a community group, or on a commercial basis, depending on benefit/interest.

### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

### **MANEX RECOMMENDATION**

*Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Tonkin that Council advertise for expressions of interest for the lease of the portion of West End currently used for cropping, or part thereof.*

### **AMENDMENT**

*Moved Cr Gardiner, seconded Cr Clydesdale-Gebert that the words “commercial and / or community” be added between the words “for” and “expressions”; the words “for cropping purposes,” be added between the words “lease” and “portion”; the words “on the west side of the Moore River” be added between the words “End” and “currently”; and the words “for a period of up to 3 years” be added after the word “thereof”.*

The amended motion was put and **CARRIED 9/0**

The amended motion became the question before the meeting and was put as follows:

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**169/11** *That Council advertise for commercial and / or community expressions of interest for the lease for cropping purposes, portion of West End on the west side of the Moore River currently used for cropping, or part thereof for a period of up to 3 years.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

## **9.2 HEALTH, BUILDING & PLANNING SERVICES**

### **9.2.1 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillors have previously been provided with copies of the minutes of the Town Planning Occasional Committee meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**170/11** *Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Hawkins that the minutes of the Town Planning Occasional Committee meeting held on 8 December 2011 be received.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

The following are recommendations from the meeting held on 8 December 2011:-

### **AGROFORESTRY AND PLANTATION POLICY**

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION (COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION)**

**171/11** *Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Hawkins that under the provisions of Clause 8.7 of the Shire of Moora Local Planning Scheme No. 4 the Shire of Moora advertise its intention to prepare a planning policy titled “Local Planning Policy – Agroforestry and Plantations”. The planning policy as prepared, with point 11. Vermin and Weed Control now to read;*

#### **11. VERMIN AND WEED CONTROL.**

Council is mindful of the impact of agroforestry and plantation on neighbouring and surrounding property owners in relation to the possible spread of noxious and declared weeds, and invasion of native and feral animals.

The applicant is to prepare in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Food WA and Department of Environment and Conservation a weed, native and feral animal control plan that will ensure that noxious and declared weeds are effectively managed on the property so that pests, weeds and native or feral animals are not invasive to adjoining properties.

*be available for public comment in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

At 6.11pm the Manager Finance & Corporate Services left the meeting and returned at 6.14pm

### **SUBDIVISION APPLICATION 145234 LEFROY**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION (COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION)**

*172/11 Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Tonkin that Council will support the subdivision of lot M282 to create a 9.1ha lot as described on application 145234 on the condition lots M282 and M283 are amalgamated.*

*In addition the newly created lot needs to be connected to the comprehensive water scheme in the event of a residence being constructed on the lot or have at least 100,000 litre tank capacity potable water supply.*

**CARRIED                      9/0**

### **LEASE OF LAND – L TIMMINS**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION (COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION)**

*173/11 Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Tonkin that the Shire of Moora advises Mrs L Timmins it will not support an application to have Unallocated Crown Land (Lot 327) released for the purposes of equestrian activities.*

**CARRIED                      7/2**

## **9.3 COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **9.3.1 MOORA YOUTH CENTRE STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2016**

**FILE REFERENCE:** CC/MOY1

**REPORT DATE:** 6 December 2011

**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** Nil

**AUTHOR:** Rebecca McCall, Manager Community & Economic Development

**ATTACHMENTS:** Moora Youth Centre Strategic Plan 2011-2016

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

For Council to endorse the Moora Youth Centre Strategic Plan 2011-2016.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

It was identified by the Moora Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee that there were significant gaps relating to servicing the youth of the Shire of Moora. With the closure of the Moora Youth Centre, previously run by a voluntary community group, the Shire of Moora offered a small service of delivering holiday programs.

Through the delivery of these programs and feedback obtained from stakeholders it was evident that there was a need for a full time coordinated youth service.

With increased funding through the Department of Child Protection it enabled the employment of a full time youth coordinator. The youth coordinator commenced delivery of youth services in February 2012.

**COMMENT:**

The Moora Youth Centre Strategic Plan was developed utilising data and statistical information from various sources. Extensive consultation was also conducted with stakeholders and local young people. Through the research and consultation conducted issues were identified. To assist combat these issues identified operational and capital priorities have being formulated.

Each priority includes actions and key performance indicators. The plan notes that capital works will be subject to external funding and budget approval.

The adopted plan will be integrated in the Shire of Moora's Corporate Plan.

**POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

Nil

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

There are no known legislative requirements related to this item.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

The Shire of Moora's Strategic Plan outlines the goal to maintain, improve and increase community facilities and services within budget and practicability.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:****➤ Environment**

There are potential environmental implications associated with this proposal with the opportunity to upgrade the facilities located at the Moora Youth precinct through capital improvements which will enhance the aesthetics of the immediate area.

**➤ Economic**

There are economic implications associated with this proposal with possible employment opportunities.

**➤ Social**

There are significant social implications associated with this proposal with the opportunity to provide additional services that compliment existing services that will benefit the wellbeing of the youth and their families.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no financial implications to Council in relation to this item for the 2011/12 budget other than the adopted budgeted operational and capital allocations. The plan includes operational and capital expenditure over a five year period. The expenditure is subject to future external funding and council budget approvals.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
(OFFICER RECOMMENDATION)**

*174/11 Moved Cr Bryan, seconded Cr Gardiner that Council adopts the Moora Youth Centre Strategic Plan 2011-2016.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

### **9.3.2 MOORA COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN**

**FILE REFERENCE:** LO/CRS3

**REPORT DATE:** 6 December 2011

**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** Nil

**AUTHOR:** Rebecca McCall, Manager Community & Economic Development

**ATTACHMENTS:** Shire of Moora Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2011-2016

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

For Council to endorse the Shire of Moora Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2011-2016.

**BACKGROUND:**

Through funding received from the Office of Crime Prevention a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan was developed. This Plan identified four priorities to be implemented by the Moora Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee consisting of community members and stakeholders. The original Plan was for the period between 2006 and 2008.

With additional funding made available from the Office of Crime Prevention a part-time officer was contracted to implement identified priorities outlined in the original plan. There were some goals achieved but when the funding ceased it was difficult to drive further progress.

**COMMENT:**

The Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2006-2008 was reviewed by the stakeholders and community consultation was conducted to gain feedback. This research and information was utilised to formulate the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2011-2016.

The Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2011-2016 will help to address crime, safety and associated fears for residents within the Shire of Moora. The plan aims to reduce antisocial behaviours and illegal activities ensuring the community enjoys a safe, healthy and full lifestyle.

The identified goals will be achieved through establishing and strengthening stakeholder partnerships. Targets and actions will be reviewed biannually.

**POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

Nil

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

There are no known legislative requirements related to this item.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

The Shire of Moora's Strategic Plan identifies the key result area to improve the level of understanding, respect and pride within the community. The Plan also outlines the goal to maintain, improve and increase community facilities and services within budget and practicability.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**➤ **Environment**

There are potential significant environmental implications associated with this proposal through the installation of surveillance cameras and street lighting to improve community safety.

➤ **Economic**

There are potential economic implications associated with this proposal through the reduction of vandalism and graffiti and associated costs to the community.

➤ **Social**

There are potential significant social implications associated with this proposal through the implications of activities and initiatives to improve community safety.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no financial implications to Council in relation to this item for the 2011/12 budget other than the adopted budgeted capital allocations. The plan includes capital expenditure over a five year period. The expenditure is subject to future external funding and council budget approvals.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
(OFFICER RECOMMENDATION)**

*175/11 Moved Cr Clydesdale-Gebert, seconded Cr Hawkins that Council adopts the Shire of Moora Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2011-2016.*

**CARRIED                      9/0**

Cr Tonkin declared an indirect financial interest in item 9.3.3 as he is a partner in a tourist venture situated on the Midlands Road.

**9.3.3 THE EXPLORING WILDFLOWER COUNTRY MIDLANDS ROUTE-PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**FILE REFERENCE:** ED/WCO2

**REPORT DATE:** 6 December 2011

**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** Nil

**AUTHOR:** Rebecca McCall, Manager Community & Economic Development

**ATTACHMENTS:** Exploring Wildflower Country Midlands Route Product Development Plan

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

The Draft 'Exploring Wildflower Country Midlands Route Product Development Plan' is presented to Council for endorsement.

**BACKGROUND**

In June 2009 the original "Exploring Wildflower Country" Planning Study as commissioned jointly by the Shires of Dalwallinu, Perenjori, Morawa, Mullewa and the then City of Geraldton-Greenough, was finalised. The goal of the study was to create a "drive trail"



linking Dalwallinu to Geraldton via the Mullewa-Wubin Road. The intention was to encourage more travellers to use this route on their way north or south, or as a destination-specific holiday attraction. The project has commenced.

The sites nominated in that Report all fell close to the main through route: the Great Northern Highway – Mullewa Wubin Road – Geraldton Mt Magnet Road link. The project was listed as “Stage 1” and is being promoted as: “*Exploring Wildflower Country – The Wildflower Way*”. The Report envisaged that other routes such as the Midlands Road or Brand Highway could be similarly developed and promoted, in order to expand the whole Exploring Wildflower Country concept – and it was this prospect that led directly to the work outlined in this Report.

In October 2011 Jessie Brampton and Mike Maher consultants involved in the project provided a briefing/presentation in Three Springs on the “Exploring Wildflower Country Project” as it impacts on the Midlands Road. Representatives of the six Shires attended the briefing together with the Shire of Morawa.

In November 2011 again in Three Springs the draft report was presented to representatives of the six Shires by Jessie Brampton.

## **COMMENT**

As highlighted in the Executive Summary of the report the “Exploring Wildflower Country – Midlands Route” project proposes:

- Developing a further 23 interpretive sites broadly spread either side of the Midlands Road.
- Use of the same uniquely designed and visually appealing “site markers” that are being installed on the Wildflower Way – this will brand the experience and tie it into the Wildflower Country connection;
- A continuation of the Wildflower Way’s potent interpretive program, focusing strongly on creative visual images (rusty steel sculptures), with traditional text-based signage forming a “supporting act” only;
- An expansion of the application of the concepts being proposed in the ArtBelt Planning Study to the whole of Wildflower Country;
- Expanded / ongoing promotion of the outcomes of the “Exploring Wildflower Country” concept (both routes) via updating and recapitalising the Marketing Plan prepared for the Wildflower Way.

The project proposes interpretive sites in each of the 6 local authorities involved. Whilst significant work has already gone into identifying these sites, changes to the locations and the site design or layout could occur as the project is developed.

This exciting regional project in partnership with the Shires of Coorow, Carnamah, Three Springs, Mingenew and the City of Greater Geraldton has the capacity to provide for significant regional capacity building. The reports states that *“In the end, it must be recognised that this project has the capacity to be the foundation of a significant region changing process. As such, it comes at a cost. Pruning can be undertaken, but that too will have a cost. In this case, it is highly like that boldness will be rewarded.”*

**CONSULTATION:**

Two briefings have been provided by the consultants together with site visits and ongoing discussion with council representatives involved in the project. Gavin Treasure CEO Shire of Morawa and Tom Hartman former CEO Shire of Mullewa have also been involved in the briefing sessions given their involvement in initiating this project and stage one development.

**POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

Nil

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

There are no known legislative requirements related to this item.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

The proposed project and the interpretive sites along the Midlands Route will have a significant impact on tourism and the economic benefits that can be derived from the increase in visitation to each of the local Authorities along the route.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**➤ **Environment**

There are potential environmental implications associated with this proposal with the installation of interpretative panels and signage at specified locations.

➤ **Economic**

There are significant economic implications associated with this proposal from increased visitation to each of the local authorities.

➤ **Social**

There are possible social implications associated with this proposal with capturing and preserving the regions environmental, cultural and historical stories.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The Exploring Wildflower Country Midlands Route Product Development Plan has been funded as part of stage one with funding received by the original four local authorities.

The Project budget as listed in the report for the Midlands Route is as follows.

<b>Item Total cost</b>	
Major & minor site markers, and advance warning markers	123,800
Steel and galvanised cut-out interpretive sculptures	84,480
First-person interpretive signs for steel sculptures	23,520
Research, write, design and supply interpretive & map panels	89,380
Fabricate and supply steel cut-out support pedestals for map & interp panels	33,590
Directional signs, fingerboards and warning signs 50,410	50,410
Installation and construction works outlined in Section 6	110,960
Major infrastructure items (tables, seats, shade shelters etc)	22,460
Site finalisation and Project Management of purchasing & installation process	34,800
Write, design & supply 20,000 copies of updated brochure/map	11,230
Update marketing plan to accommodate this project	5,000
Marketing budget for expenditure as per plan above	51,500
<b>SUB-TOTAL (not inc GST) \$641,130</b>	<b>\$641,130</b>
Contingency allowance for cost increases - Report to Implementation (5%)	\$32,060

<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET (not inc GST)</b>	<b>\$673,190</b>
<b>TOTAL INC GST (\$66,055)</b>	<b>\$740,509</b>

It is proposed that the project be funded by grants which would include the Royalties for Regions Country Local Government Fund and the Midwest and Wheatbelt Development Commissions. Other funding opportunities are listed in the development plan.

Quotes from suitability qualified consultants are currently being obtained to assist in the preparation of grant applications and any business case that would need to be prepared. It is envisaged that this total cost would not exceed \$10,000. This cost (\$1,666) could be funded from existing allocated funds within the tourism and area promotion budget.

### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION (OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS)**

***176/11 Moved Cr Hawkins, seconded Cr Clydesdale-Gebert that Council***

- 1. Endorse the Exploring Wildflower Country Midlands Route Product Development Plan.***
- 2. Approve working in partnership with the Shires of Coorow, Carnamah & Mingenew, Three Springs and the City of Greater Geraldton (with the Shire of Three Springs administering the project).***
- 3. Approve that a suitability qualified consultant be engaged to assist with development of grant applications and business plans to fund the project.***
- 4. Request that staff present details of identified funding opportunities, proposed projects timelines and an update on the project to the February Ordinary Meeting of Council.***
- 5. Write to the Shires of Dalwallinu, Perenjori, Morawa, and the City of Greater Geraldton (Mullewa) acknowledging their efforts in obtaining funding to include the Midlands Route and in the initiative in the development of the “Exploring Wildflower Country” project.***

**CARRIED                      9/0**

## **9.4 ENGINEERING SERVICES**

### **9.4.1 LOADER - 3.0 CUBIC METRE BUCKET CAPACITY - TENDER # 4/2011**

**FILE REFERENCE:** L/TEPI  
**REPORT DATE:** 8 December 2011  
**OFFICER DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** Officer owns a Caterpillar product  
**PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES:** 21/11/11 (160/11)  
**AUTHOR:** John Greay, Manager Engineering Services  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Loader Comparison Sheet

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To advise Council of the result of the front end loader evaluation to replace Councils existing 1998 Caterpillar front end loader.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

At councils previous meeting it was decided to evaluate both the Caterpillar 938H and the Komatsu 320PZ-6 loaders which would be evaluated by councils Operational Development Group and councils plant operators.

#### **COMMENT:**

Contact was made with both companies and seeing that the Shire of Victoria Plains have, within the last year, purchased a new Caterpillar 938H loader which was being operated on Old Plains Road and Komatsu were comfortable in demonstrating their machine in the same environment it was arranged for this to happen on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Council's operational and mechanical staff were invited to evaluate and assess both machines in a working environment. Both machines were operated for reasonable periods of time and at the end of the day the overall consensus of opinion was that the Caterpillar 938 H was the preferred machine.

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 councils Operational Development Group met to consider the findings of the evaluation group who conducted the field trip to Victoria Plains. From this meeting, after considerable discussions it was agreed that the Caterpillar 938H be the preferred machine.

#### **POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

That tenders be called for items of plant with a value greater than \$100,000.

#### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

That tenders be called for items of plant with a value greater than \$100,000.

#### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no known strategic implications associated with this proposal.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

##### **➤ Environment**

There are no known significant environmental implications associated with this proposal.

➤ **Economic**

It is important that this loader be replaced, due to its age and the number of hours that it has performed. The machine due to its condition and possible brand has attracted a fair and reasonable price and needs to be changed as it is expected that on average this machine will be becoming due for a major overhaul should it continue to accumulate the hours that it is currently being worked.

➤ **Social**

There are no known significant social implications associated with this proposal.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Council has allowed for this changeover in this years budget. An estimate of gross price \$270,000 is identified in the budget under (34018 = \$202,500 and 34007 = \$67,500).

A trade value of \$50,000 has been allowed for leaving a changeover of \$220,000.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:**

Simple Majority Required

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
(OFFICER RECOMMENDATION)**

*177/11 Moved Cr Cocking, seconded Cr Humphry that Council in relation to Tender # 4/2011 purchase the Caterpillar 938H front end loader for \$268,000 ex GST by trading councils existing Caterpillar front end loader for \$61,000 ex GST leaving a change over of \$207,000.*

**CARRIED 9/0**

**10. ELECTED MEMBER MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Nil

**11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF COUNCIL**

Nil

**12. MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED**

Nil

**13. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

*There being no further business, the Shire President declared the meeting closed at 6.37pm.*

**CONFIRMED**

**PRESIDING MEMBER**