



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council

Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
on Thursday **23 April 2026**, commencing at 12:30pm

Ancient land under brilliant skies

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.50pm

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor
Cr G Mead
Cr E Foulkes-Taylor
Cr P Squires
Cr Q Fowler

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO
William Herold – Works Manager
Bec Fogarty – Community Manager
Travis Bate (RSM) - Financial Accountant
(Remote via Teams)

Apologies

Cr A Whitmarsh

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 26 March 2026

Background

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council have previously been circulated to all Councillors.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2026 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2026 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

17 FINANCE

17.1 Accounts Paid since the last list was presented to Council

File: 4.37.1
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 19 April 2026
Attachments: 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2026 (Elected Members Only)

Matter for Consideration

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 13* requires that if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, then the CEO is to prepare a list of accounts paid by the CEO for each month and present this to the next ordinary meeting of the Council after the list has been prepared and have this list recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

A list of payments presented in accordance with *Regulation 13* of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* made since the last report to Council is attached.

Strategic Implications

None

Policy Implications

None

Budget/Financial Implications

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Recommendation

- 1 That that pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b) & (e) of the Local Government Act 1995 that attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2026 be discussed behind closed doors
- 2 That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2026 be and that the accounts since the last report to Council, as provided to Councilors be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

1 Item to be Discussed behind closed doors

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Q Fowler

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That that pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b) & (e) of the Local Government Act 1995 that attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2026 be discussed behind closed doors

Carried

For

5

Against

0

The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at 12.51pm

3 Motion to open the meeting to the public

Council Decision

Moved: Cr P Squires

Seconded: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

That the meeting move out from behind closed doors

Carried

For

5

Against

0

The meeting was moved out of closed doors at 12.53pm

2 Decisions Disclosed from the Closed Section of Meeting associated with Attachment Item 17.1.1

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That Council receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for March 2026 be and that the accounts since the last report to Council, as provided to Councillors be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

17.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 March 2026

File: 2.6
Author: Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 18 April 2026
Attachments: 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report March 2026

Matter for Consideration

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34 requires that local government report monthly and prescribes what is required to be reported. Council is required to consider and receive the Monthly Financial Statements.

Comments

These statements are being presented to meet a statutory obligation to have each month's end and report presented within the following two months. Few points to note.

- 1 Executive Summary
 - a Net Surplus \$3,397,839, ahead of YTD budget of \$(1,755,195). Mostly affected by year-to-date reserve transfers of \$1,500,000 from Grants Commission Reserve (budget profile has reserve transfers at year end).
 - b Significant Capital Projects:
 - i SKA Route \$3,082,129 YTD
 - ii Power Supply \$910,469 YTD
 - iii Carnarvon Mullewa Road \$1,118,661 YTD
 - iv All below full year budget.
 - c Grants, Subsidies and Contributions (Note 12 has further detail)
 - i Operating Grants – In line with budget, however note:
 - ~ Flood damage \$1,586,350 above budget
 - ~ SKA Operating \$1,386,594 below budget – some reallocation from the above budget SKA capital grant required.
 - ii Capital Grants - \$2,358,820 above budget
 - ~ SKA Capital \$1,755,821 above budget.
 - ~ Roads to Recovery \$343,662 above budget
 - d Rates Revenue – in line with full year budget.
- 2 Note 4 Total Cash Balances: \$9,822,703
 - a Restricted \$7,563,068
 - b Unrestricted \$2,259,634
- 3 Major variances are outlined in Note 2.

Consultation

RSM Australia

Recommendation

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 March 2026 as attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead **Seconded: Cr** E Foulkes-Taylor

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 March 2026 as attached.

Carried	For	5	Against	0
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Travis Bate Financial Accountant left the meeting at 12.55pm

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

5 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

6 STANDING ORDERS

Matter for Consideration

It has been customary practice in the interests of a productive meeting in relation to the Conduct of Members during debates for the Council suspend Standing Orders 8.2 (Limitation on Number of speeches) and 8.3 (Duration of Speeches) under Local Law 2001. To facilitate this, the following recommended resolution is required.

Recommendation

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr G Mead

Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

Carried	For	5	Against	0
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7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

8 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 28 May 2026 commencing at 12:30pm

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

10 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

17.1.1 Account Listings Paid since the last list was presented to Council as outlined in the Agenda. This was previously dealt with earlier in the meeting

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

On 17.04.26 along with Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor the Shire President attended the Murchison WALGA Country Zone Meeting in Cue. Positive meeting and good to catch up with newly appointed WALGA President Mark Irwin (City of Stirling) and WALGA CEO Nick Sloan. Minutes of meeting to come out soon.

14.2 Councillors

Cr Q Fowler

Nil Meetings Attended.

Cr P Squires

13.04.26 MRWA Regional Road Group Meeting in Geraldton, Report as per attachment 14.2.1
Also caught up via phone and in person with Gary Patterson WYAC

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

14.04.26 GeoRegion Teams Meeting.

17.04.26 Murchison WALGA Country Zone Meeting in Cue with Cr Rossco Foulkes-Taylor.

21.04.26 Murchison Camp Oven Muster Festival Working Group Meeting. Preparation of Festival ticking along nicely

Cr G Mead

21.04.26 Murchison Camp Oven Muster Festival Working Group Meeting.

15 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16 WORKS

16.1 Works Report

File: 12.42
Author: William Herold – Works Manager
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 18 April 2026
Attachments: Nil

Construction

The crew returned from the Easter break to a very tight fuel availability situation. The decision was taken before the Easter break, that if we had not received a fuel delivery construction work would be halted. Their time has been used erecting signs, emergency repair to roads post Cyclone Narelle as well as some plant maintenance and tyre repairs.

I am pleased to say that we received two loads of fuel from Fuelex of about 20,000 l each on Monday 3 April and Thursday 16 April. This filled the Powerhouse, Roadhouse and construction and maintenance mobile tankers. At the time of writing this report I am quietly confident that I have managed to secure an additional 45,000 l from another source, to be delivered on Monday 20 April. This company has been extremely helpful in being of assistance in spite of us not being one of their customers.

On a more positive note, most of the Shire has picked up some rain from Cyclone Narelle as well as bits and pieces in the weeks thereafter. There is significant road damage in the northern section of the Shire, the Wooramel River has had two significant flows days apart as have the Tathire and Yarra Yarra creeks, Deep well Creek, Milly Milly Woolshed Creek and the Byro Plains on the Byro Woodleigh Rd. are still under water.

It is hoped that the construction crew will wind back up on Monday 20 April and we can return to normal programming.

Maintenance

We will have a new maintenance grader operator on deck starting on Tuesday 21 April. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome Douglas Fraser to the Murchison community and hope his stay is both long and happy.

Like the construction crew Jamie has mainly been involved with getting our cyclone affected roads, safe and trafficable. We had to wait for a Flood Damage pickup to be done before starting to open up. My thanks to Greenfield for acting as quickly as they did in getting these works done. They are currently busy with the assessment and DFES submission. Council will be kept up to date as this process unfolds and develops, hopefully it will be less arduous than the previous event.

Power Upgrade

If all goes according to plan these works should commence in the first half of May. How long it will take is still an unknown.

SKA Route

These works continue for now, but will in all likelihood be wound up later in the year, hopefully still with a few dollars left in the bank for maintenance to be topped up by CSIRO and SKAO contributions. Significant upgrade works have happened along most of the route. This has left us with a greatly improved asset and will certainly assist with our overall maintenance requirements going forward. The unsealed CGG section of the Carnarvon Mullewa Rd, surely has to be one of the most improved roads in the Midwest!

MRWA LGA Funding

Unfortunately at this stage it would appear that, in spite of fuel scarcity and weather events a \$179,945 shovel ready project funding from MRWA (Central not Regional) may not be able to be carried over to the next financial year. CEO Bill is in contact and negotiating with MRWA at present.

Recommendation

That the Works Report be noted

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr G Mead

That the Works Report be noted

Carried

For 5

Against 0

16.2 Fuel Supply Update

File: 12.42
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 22 April 2026
Attachments: 16.2.1 FWC Road Transport Contractual Chain Order Fact Sheet

Introduction

Like the rest of the nation we have been caught up and are reacting to Fuel Supply Issues arising out of the Iran war with the USA / Israel and its flow on regional effects one of which is the disruption to maritime trade through the Strait of Hormuz. The effective suspension of commercial shipping through this passage has triggered global supply chain realignment which are being felt everywhere in what is a fast-moving environment.

The following local update is provided

- 1 As indicated in the Works Report we have received two fuel deliveries from Fuelex and anticipate an additional delivery from another source soon. This will allow us to resume normal Works operations. Price excl gst is slightly above \$3.00 per litre for diesel.
- 2 Current restrictions on our Roadhouse regarding supplying only during opening hours, with a maximum of 50 per litre per customer imposed on 18.03.26, with only vehicles not jerry cans or drums being supplied remain for the time being.
- 3 A range of organisations such as DFES, WALGA and others continue to be updated upon request our fuel situation.
- 4 On 01.04.26 the State Government declared a Fuel State of Emergency using emergency powers under the *Fuel Energy and Power Resources Act 1972*. Parliament was later recalled to ratify the use of emergency powers which amongst other things provide powers to obtain information including written agreements or other documents, contractual commitments, current or expected capacity, pricing and customer behaviour. This followed a voluntary request made which some, but not all fuel distribution companies complied with.
- 5 It seems from all accounts that Robert Cossart (Wheatbelt Development Commission CEO) who was appointed by the State Government to lead WA's fuel crisis response as WA Fuel Controller has been active and it appears successful in some respects as evidenced by our recent fuel deliveries. We understand there are regularly stakeholder meetings and the Fuel Controller with WALGA now included as a key stakeholder and able to provide input with regular updates to the Local Government sector.
- 6 The State Government has now expanded the Fuel Watch website under the *Petroleum Products Pricing Amendment Regulations 2026* to include regional areas. This applies to the Roadhouse such that from 1 May 2026 our fuel prices will need to be provided for inclusion on the website whenever the price changes.
- 7 On 01.04.26 the Commonwealth Government's *Fair Work Amendment (Fairer Fuel) Act 2026* received Royal Assent and commenced on 02.04.26. This act amends the *Fair Work Act 2009* to allow the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations to classify certain road transport applications as "emergency applications," enabling the Fair Work Commission (FWC) to make or vary Road Transport Contractual Chain Orders (RTCCOs) in an expedited manner.

Late last week we received advice from WALGA that the Transport Workers Union had lodged a claim earlier in the week in the Fair Work Commission to provide a price adjustment mechanism for what we understand will apply to all existing contracts involving road transport. An additional claim from the ACTU may also be in the pipeline. The scheme we understand will come into effect on 20.04.26.

A further update will be provided at the meeting once the final details of the Fair Work orders are known.

Comments

Future impacts are still to be determined and will continue to evolve but will obviously be impacted on by global events and the nations and response by all levels of government as this situation is fast moving and looking like being prolonged. As oil is so intertwined with everything, we do it is inevitable that prices will increase and flow right through the community. This is starting to happen locally with fuel adjustments to contracts likely as well as outcomes from point 7 above to be considered.

It seems that cost increase will inevitably flow through to the end consumer in way or another. In local government this can only be addressed by alterations if fees and charges or when rates are levied annually. levied

Anecdotally it seems that there may be some pressure being applied on local government from some sections of the State Government to not increase fees and charges. Whether this becomes more pronounced remains to be seen.

Post Agenda Update

Introduction

On 20.04.26 the Fair Work Commission (FWC) issued a fuel recovery decision which is likely to have operational implications for WA Local Governments commencing, 21 April 2026.

The FWC issued an emergency Road Transport Contractual Chain Order (Order) and Decision in response to escalating fuel price volatility arising from the conflict in the Middle East and disruption to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. The Order commences on 21 April 2026. The FWC has issued a factsheet about this Order as attached

Local Governments are covered by the Order because they participate in road transport contractual chains through service delivery arrangements such as waste management, goods distribution, and passenger transport.

The Order

The Order imposes mandatory fuel cost recovery obligations across road transport contractual chains. The Order's key requirements include:

- ~ Fuel rate reviews must occur at least fortnightly (or twice per calendar month).
- ~ Payments within the contractual chain must be adjusted to ensure that the increased cost of fuel (from on or before 6 March 2026 fuel rates) is recovered by downstream contractors and employee-like workers. Adjustments may be made through rate increases, fuel levies, reimbursement mechanisms, or a combination of these.
- ~ Primary parties must take reasonable steps to ensure compliance by secondary and downstream parties.
- ~ Dispute resolution mechanisms and anti-avoidance provisions (civil remedy provision).

The Order applies broadly to all work in the road transport industry, except the cash in transit sector. The Order will remain in force until the weekly average national terminal gate price for diesel falls below \$2.00 per litre. This price is measured by the weekly diesel price report of the Australian Institute of Petroleum. The FWC will review the Order after one month, and subsequently at three monthly intervals.

For clarification, the Order operates solely to regulate contractual fuel cost recovery mechanisms within road transport supply chains. It does not make Local Governments in the state system into national system employers.

Comment

Whilst the order appears on the surface to be straight forward, coverage and implementation are not as per the following few points.

- i The Order applies to road transport costs associated with fuel only for existing contracts. Reference is to weekly diesel price report of the Australian Institute of Petroleum not what fuel applies locally. Other cost rises relating to inputs by suppliers are not covered by the order.
- ii Actual coverage is very nuanced with WALGA working hard to decipher what it means at an operational level

- iii For other situations not covered by the order we have no information of the quantity of diesel used by suppliers and contractors, price etc. Methods for determining same will vary. A flat increase on a % basis cannot be accepted without evidence. We are currently determining what evidence is acceptable and come up with a consistent approach a which is tied into the current fuel crisis period. WALG advice will be important
- iv For some situation a combination of point I and ii above may apply
- v Regardless there is every intention to make appropriate adjustments on a consistent evidentiary basis

Recommendation

That the Fuel Supply Update Report be noted

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision				
Moved: Cr	Q Fowler	Seconded: Cr	G Mead	
That the Fuel Supply Update Report be noted				
Carried		For	5	Against 0

18 DEVELOPMENT

18.1 Community Development Progress Report

File:

Author: Bec Fogarty – Community Manager

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 20 April 2026

Attachments: Nil

Matter for Consideration

Community Development Progress Report April Council Meeting

Background

This report seeks to inform the Shire of the works undertaken in relation to references to the relevant objectives and strategies contained within the Community Strategic Plan, in accordance with the following Vision Statement.

Vision Statement	<i>Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.</i>
Objectives & Strategies	<i>Description</i>

Murchison Camp Oven Muster Festival

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</i>
Economic Development	<i>Retain existing industries and encourage the establishment of new industries to broaden the region's economic base through the provision of residential and industrial land / buildings in Murchison</i>
Environmental Objective 2	<i>To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.</i>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by: Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required. Providing information on services (funding opportunities, Grant processes etc.). Supporting community groups.</i>
Civic Leadership Objective 4	<i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through: Regional collaboration where possible; Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation;</i>
Communication Strategies and more involvement with Pia Wadjari	<i>Increase communication between the Council and all sectors of the Community (both ways).</i>

Planning for the Murchison Camp Oven Muster continues. Rachel and I continue to lock in contractors for event delivery the next working group meeting is after this council meeting and will be reported on in the May Report. Sydney Fogarty has since joined the staff and will also be joining the working group and we look forward to having her on board and assisting in presenting the event.

Community Conversations

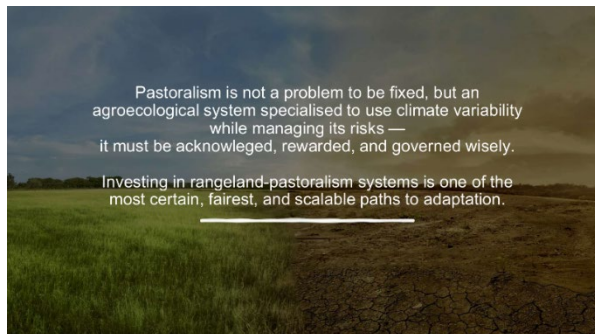
Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Economic Development	<i>Retain existing industries and encourage the establishment of new industries to broaden the region's economic base through the provision of residential and industrial land / buildings in Murchison</i>
Environmental Objective 2	<i>To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.</i>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:</i> <i>Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required.</i> <i>Providing information on services (funding opportunities, Grant processes etc.).</i> <i>Supporting community groups.</i>
Strategies	
Support for Community Groups	<i>Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.</i>
Civic Leadership Objective 4	<i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:</i> <i>Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation;</i>

International Year of the Rangelands and Pastoralists

April's IYRP focus highlighted the growing pressures of climate variability on WA's rangelands, emphasising water security, pastoral adaptation and the importance of community resilience.

The featured article underscored how pastoralists are responding to increasingly unpredictable seasons through improved herd management, infrastructure investment and collaboration across industry and research networks.

It also reinforced the global significance of rangelands, the vital role of women in pastoralism, and the international momentum behind IYRP activities.



These themes align closely with the Shire's April initiatives, including preparations for the Camp Oven Muster storytelling panel, the IYRP mural project and broader efforts to celebrate and strengthen the pastoral identity of the Murchison.

Murchison Meat Initiative

The first stations have now been invited to participate in the pilot phase of the Murchison Meat Initiative, with early responses showing strong positivity and enthusiasm. Discussions are progressing well around preferred cuts, retail and kitchen packaging options, and the development of marketing collateral to support the launch. If momentum continues at the current pace, we anticipate having the first locally produced meat available for sale on the Roadhouse shelves by the end of May.

Tourism

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</i>
Civic Leadership Objective 4	<i>To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:</i> <i>Regional collaboration where possible;</i>

Upcoming Events

Anzac Day Dawn Service, Murchison Polocrosse Carnival, Murchison Camp Oven Muster, Annual Christmas Tree

Tourism Partner News

CDO Collaboration

The final session of the CDO Network with Julian Canny focused on consolidating the work achieved across the program and articulating the value of the coordinated regional system that has been developed. The network has effectively become a regional think tank, building tools, solving shared problems and exchanging lessons learned to lift the overall quality and efficiency of social investment across participating communities. This coordinated approach is strengthening capability, reducing duplication and creating a more connected and strategic regional development environment.

AGO + Gascoyne Murchison Outback Pathways

Coordination continued throughout April regarding messaging on fuel accessibility and road impacts following recent cyclones and storms, ensuring consistent and accurate information was shared across the region. The printed holiday planner will be released once final approval is received from all participating Shires, maintaining a unified approach to visitor communication. Despite the challenging conditions, communication with Ainsley, the program coordinator, has been excellent, enabling smooth progress and strong collaboration during a period of significant environmental disruption.

The launch of the AGO road trippers campaign for the Murchison Gascoyne region has been pushed back to may for hopefully a more favourable environment for road travel.

Tourism Council of WA

Tourism Council WA continues to support the industry through strong advocacy, operator engagement and the delivery of training and development opportunities across the state. Current focus areas include strengthening digital capability, improving marketing effectiveness, and supporting tourism businesses to build resilience in response to ongoing economic and workforce challenges. There is also a continued emphasis on regional tourism development, encouraging collaboration and the growth of unique, place-based visitor experiences.

Regular communication and industry updates ensure operators remain informed and connected, while workshops and resources provide practical support in areas such as customer experience, online presence and business sustainability. These initiatives align closely with the Murchison's priorities, particularly in building operator capacity and enhancing the overall visitor experience.

Rachel and I are really looking forward to attending the 2026 WA Tourism Conference in Carnarvon, which will provide a valuable opportunity to connect with industry peers, gain insight into emerging trends and further support our approach to tourism development within the Murchison.

Roadhouse Update

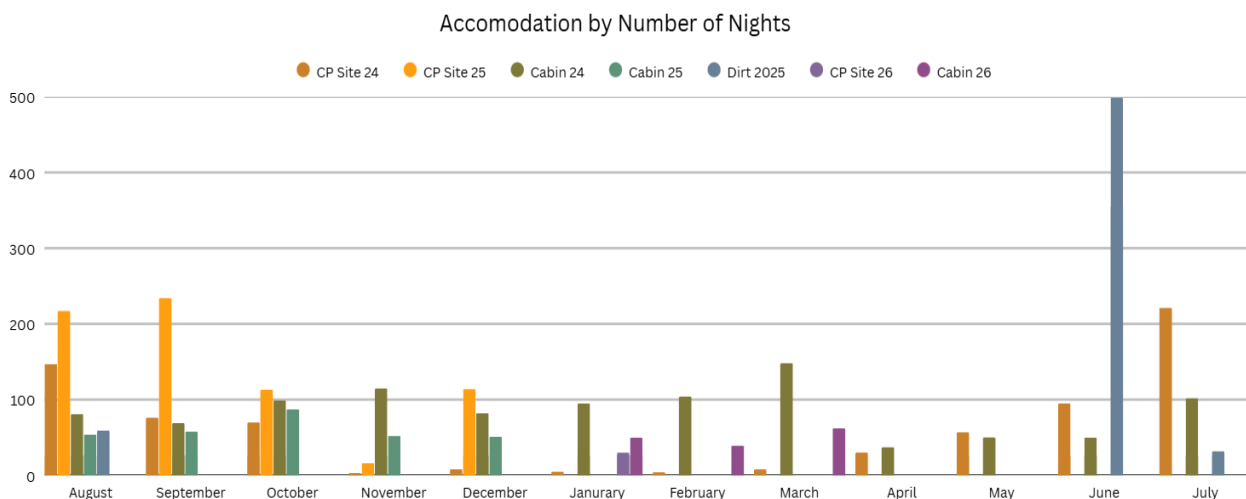
Economic Objective 1 *To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.*

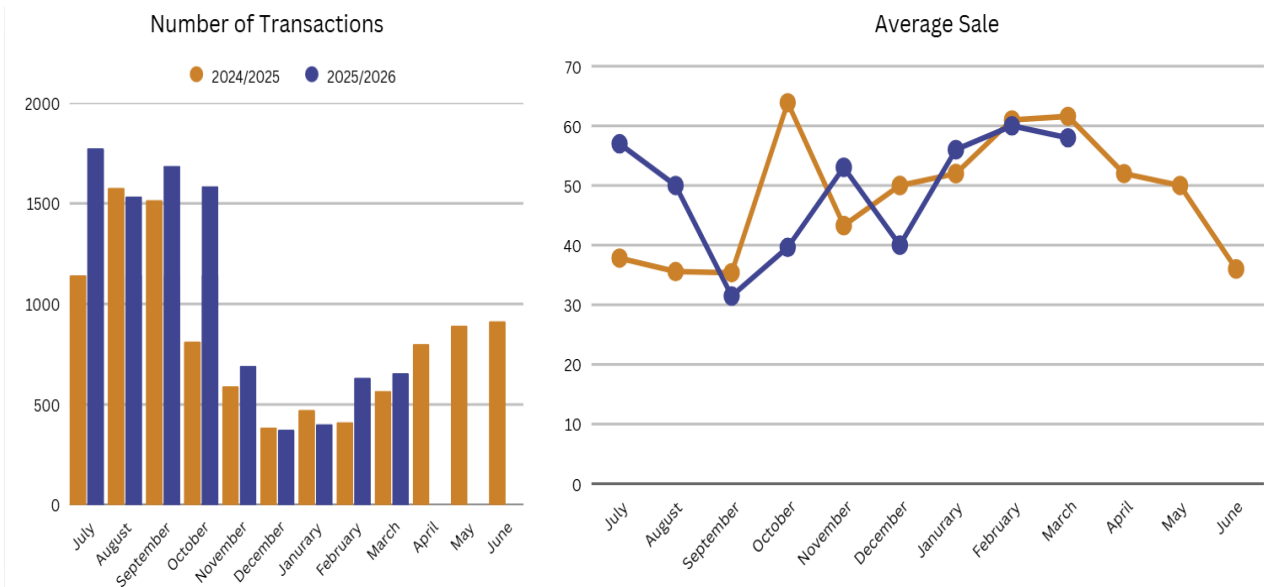
Tourism Development *To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.*

Civic Leadership Objective 4 *To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:*

Regional collaboration where possible;

Roadhouse Statistics





Operational Summary

The Roadhouse continues to stabilise following February’s strong rebound, though growth has since levelled out, with transactions now only slightly ahead of the same period last year. Recent disruptions—including Cyclone Narelle, flooding and storm-related road closures, along with broader traveller concerns around fuel insecurity—have all contributed to reduced road-trip traffic.

Operational improvements are also advancing, with the Roadhouse preparing to transition to the cloud-based Square POS system to enable remote management and easier troubleshooting, while new Caravan Park management software is being implemented, with Ronnie currently transferring data and preparing staff for efficient adoption.

The Roadhouse the new combi oven has arrived and will be installed in the coming weeks. The community are excited for the potential this is going to bring.

Caravan Park renovations are progressing well, with piping installation and mature tree planting underway ahead of the first turf delivery on 25 April; despite cyclone-related delays, the project remains on track for a mid-May opening, supported by strong uptake of interim bush-camping options.



Roadhouse Housing Developments

Housing construction continues to progress, the two houses now at lock-up stage have progressed with exterior fit and finishing almost complete and interior fit and finishing well on its way. I will be heading down to Perth for a walk through in early May.

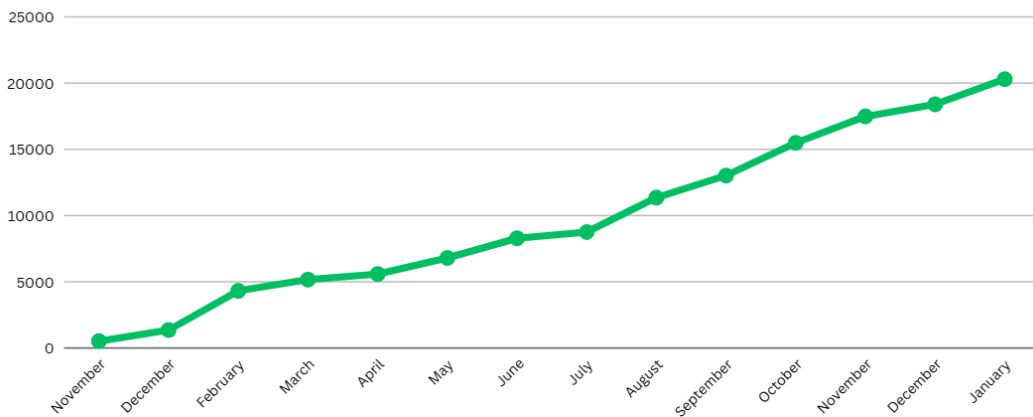


Containers for Change Recycling

- Economic Objective 1 *To develop the region’s economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.*
- Interpretive Centre *Development of an Interpretative Centre was identified within the Tourism Development Strategies of the 2013 Strategic Community Plan.*
- Tourism Development *To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.*
- Environmental Objective 2 *To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.*
- Social Objective 3 *To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:*
 - Supporting and assisting in coordinating projects and events as required.*
 - Supporting community groups.*
- Support for Community Groups *Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.*

The latest return of containers has not been reported on in our profile however we are currently seeking further information as to why and to get the total updated as deliveries have been backloaded.

Containers collected and donated to the Shire for Community Groups



Local Loyalty Scheme

Applications to the local loyalty scheme now has 33 members up from 25 and adoption for the purpose of using the pool has been welcomed.

Community Garden & Orchard

Economic Objective 1	<i>To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area.</i>
Tourism Development	<i>To promote and support a sustainable tourism industry in the Shire of Murchison.</i>
Economic Development	<i>Retain existing industries and encourage the establishment of new industries to broaden the region's economic base through the provision of residential and industrial land / buildings in Murchison</i>
Environmental Objective 2	<i>To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.</i>
Social Objective 3	<i>To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire by:</i> <i>Supporting community groups.</i> <i>Supporting and maintaining social infrastructure (i.e. Parks, Gardens, Cemetery) and support those groups who use them.</i>
Support for Community Groups	<i>Provision of Human Resources to assist community groups.</i>

On Easter Sunday, Roadhouse and Shire staff came together after closing to prepare the community garden for the upcoming winter planting season. A huge thank you goes to Ronnie, Darren, Mel, Luke, Vicki, Travis and Adam for their work cultivating and mulching the wicking beds and central garden beds, as well as replacing the reticulation. Mel and Ronnie have already begun planting seeds, resulting in an impressive number of healthy seedlings now underway, including beans, peas, broccoli, cauliflower, broccolini, cabbage, kale, brussels sprouts, dill and coriander. The asparagus seem to struggle with the cyclone and has been some what slower to bounce back.



The orchard is rebounding since cyclone Narelle. Unfortunately some plants did not appreciate the additional flood waters mostly it was various stone fruit and the ice-cream bean tree. We will be pruning and watching these to see if we can bring them back to life.



Communications

Civic Leadership Objective 4 *To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:*
Regional collaboration where possible;
Detailed and professional administration;
High levels of accountability;
Compliance with statutory requirements;
High-quality forward planning, particularly for assets and finances;
Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation;
Provision of quality customer services, good financial management and pursuit of excellence in professional administration and communication.

Strategies

Communication Strategies and more involvement with Pia Wadjari *Increase communication between the Council and all sectors of the Community (both ways).*

Email Communications March 20 to April 20

- 19 Community Announcements
 - PGA - Urgent Fuel Survey
 - Fuel Issue
 - Pest Control Services - Any Issues?
 - 3 x Cyclone and Flood Advice
 - 11 x Road Reports
 - Climate Change and Resilience in the Rangelands
 - Calling Artists - International Year Rangelands and Pastoralists Community Mural Opportunity

Social Media Communications

The Shire continues to share developments within the settlement and Shire through Facebook. This month has been used to present tourism within the shire in a positive light as well as sharing content on International Year Rangelands and Pastoralists and the Settlement mural opportunity.

Mail Communications

None

REDS Grant Announcement

On April 22nd I attended the RED Grants Round 8 announcements at 30 Knots distillery in Geraldton. In attendance was Minister Jackie Jarvis, Lara Doulton Chairperson MWDC, Sandra Carr MLC, Nils Hay CEO MWDC, various MWDC staff and fellow applicants of the round. There was over 25 applications in the round and 5 successful applicants were announced. The total funds allocation was \$647,047

- ~ Shire of Murchison 250,000 for the Murchison Oasis Roadhouse Redevelopment
- ~ Shire of Morawa \$200,000 for a Childhood education and family centre
- ~ TIAM Solutions \$150,000 for the establishment of new mining equipment repair facility in Meekatharra
- ~ Feral Hive Honey \$28,500 expansion of honey processing, hive manufacturing and pollinator food production
- ~ 30 Knots Distillery \$18,547 for distillery production equipment

Attendance at the announcement provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the Murchison Meat Initiative and how it will be strengthened through the Roadhouse Redevelopment investment. Minister Jarvis expressed strong interest in both the initiative and the Murchison Camp Oven Muster.

I also met with Gilly and Mike from the Mid-West Food Alliance to explore how they can support the initiative and their broader goals of promoting regional food production. In addition, I spoke with Jo from the Mid West Chamber of Commerce and Industry about opportunities to collaborate in supporting industries within our

20 CEO REPORT

20.1 CEO Update Report

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 20 April 2026

Attachments: Nil

CEO Activity Report

The table below provides an update of activities undertaken since the last report.

Date	Activity
24.03.2026	Fuel Review Work. Timesheets. General Administration. SKA Route Work
25.03.2026	SKA Route Work. Fuel Review Work. Catch up with Works Manager & Community Manager. Attend DFES Cyclone Narelle Teams Meeting. Telephone discussion with Shire President
26.03.2026	Council Meeting & Workshop. Council Minutes. Catch up with Community Manager & Phil Swain (EHO)
27.03.2026	Council Minutes. Catch up and briefings with Community Manager. Brief Rick Ryan wrt road closure in Mullewa. Attend two OASG - TC Narelle Teams Meetings. Administration. TC Narelle Prep Work.
28.03.2026	Attend OASG - TC Narelle Teams Meetings. Brief Telephone discussion with Shire President.
30.03.2026	Catch up with Community Manager & Works Manager. Insurance Teams Meeting with LGRIS. Complete Insurance Renewal Questionnaires. Finalise Council Minutes
31.03.2026	Fuel and Flood Review Work. Catch up Community Manager. TOIL
1.04.2026	TOIL
2.04.2026	LGRIS questionnaire. Emails correspondence. Touch bas via phone with Community Manager, Works Manager & Shire President. TOIL
3.04.2026	Good Friday Public Holiday
6.04.2026	Easter Monday Public Holiday
7.04.2026	TOIL
8.04.2026	Timesheet Review. Works Fuel. Brief catch up with Community Manager.
9.04.2026	Touch base on phone and in person with Cr Paul Squires. Regional Road Group Work. Clean Energy Future Fund application work
10.04.2026	Clean Energy Future Fund application work. Touch base on phone and in person with Cr Paul Squires. Regional Road Group Work
11.04.2026	Clean Energy Future Fund Application work. WALGA Country Zone Report Work
12.04.2026	WALGA Country Zone Report Work
13.04.2026	Regional Roads Group Meeting via Teams. MWDC Strategy Workshop via Teams. Catch up with Community Manager & Works Manager.
14.04.2026	Roadhouse Fuel Work. Catch up with Community Manager. General Administration
15.04.2026	Catch ups with Community Manager & Works Manager. Finance Work.
16.04.2026	Travel Murchison to Cue. MEG Meeting
17.04.2026	WALGA Country Zone Meeting. Travel Cue to Murchison. Emails. Clean Energy Future Fund Application work
18.04.2026	Work on and submit Clean Energy Future Fund Application. Agenda Work
19.04.2026	Agenda Work
20.04.2026	Agenda Work. Fuel Review Work

21 OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

22 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at 1.23pm

Minutes of the Meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 28 May 2026

Signed..... Presiding Officer