



Western Australia

Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,  
To be held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,  
On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March **2013**, commencing at 10.00 am.

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**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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

Nil.

**4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**4.1 Standing Orders**

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	
That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:		
8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches		
8.3 Duration of speeches		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**5. NEXT MEETING**

This is scheduled for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

There is one item to be discussed behind closed doors

**8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

**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 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION****10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS**

Presentation by Mr Travis Bate of RSM Bird Cameron on the draft report of the Strategic Community Plan Workshop & Community Survey Results document.

**11. ACTION LIST**

No	Item	Action	Action
1.	CEO Residence	Decorative front fence – need input from new CEO	Ongoing – Design pending
2.	Improve shade house south of Road House	Per MSDC meeting and September Council meeting. Changed per November 2012 meeting	RLCIP funding changed – further input required re shade house
3.	Concrete front of motel units	Budgeted item	Not yet actioned
4.	Beringarra-Pindar Road New Road Agreement	CSIRO advised acceptance of agreement. Still awaiting final document for signing	Documents received from CSIRO for signing.
5.	Provision for open fires at Caravan Park	Investigate – get quotes	Not yet actioned
6.	Replacement Patient Transport Vehicle	Vehicle purchased and collected on 21 <sup>st</sup> March – final changes to allow licencing being carried out.	PTV in Murchison undergoing final modifications and licencing. Old one to be tendered.
7.	Murchison Freight Service	Pick up points decided and advised and accepted by Keros. Trying to establish a drop off point within Geraldton	See report in today's meeting.
8.	Kalli Road classification as a road of regional significance	Matter raised at Murchison Regional Road Group Meeting on the 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Submission completed awaiting final decision of TWG review.
9.	Bitumen and Sealing works Carnarvon-Mullewa Road	Tenders completed – work scheduled for first week of April	Should be completed by the 7 <sup>th</sup> April
10.	Stripping of Road south of settlement	Repair work being carried out at time of seal. Shire need to decide whether to pursue previous contractor	See item today
11.	MSDC – Variation to grant and plans for laundry	Variation to grant approved. Laundry plans being worked on.	Roller shutters Completed. Quotes for laundry being obtained.
12.	Classification of Pindar Beringarra Road	Pindar – Beringarra ongoing.	Item today
13.	Nookawarra Airstrip	Meeting with the Tomkins held 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Advice being sought on a legal matter.
14.	Advisory Committee – SKA site access road	Letter sent to Minister Day – committee to be developed	Liaise with MWDC to define terms of reference etc.
15.	Settlement generators	Noise Suppression	Embankment with flora being established
16.	Community Centre Kitchen	Install Lockable Storage Area	Job being prioritised.
17.	Rates on Boolardy Station now that it is owned by CSIRO	Query PLB re clarification of issue relating to sub-lease	Awaiting response from Karel Eringa Manager Pastoral Land

18.	Review of the committees of council	Establish terms of reference and roles of councils committees.	CEO working on details for presentation to council as soon as completed
19.	Dust Suppression	Costing for proposed work to be done by Supervisor and CEO for presentation to CEO	Costings being undertaken.

**Recommendation:**

That the Action List be accepted.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
That the Action List be accepted.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**12. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The CEO declares an interest in item 17.7

**13. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**13.1 Monthly Plant Report – Works Supervisor**

HEAVY PLANT			Start	End	Total	
Plant Item	Year	Rego	Hours	Hours/km	Total	Operating Costs Including Fuel
Cat Grader 12H	2005	MU 141	9280	9405	125	\$42957.00
Cat Grader 12M	2008	MU 51	5256	5374	118	\$46388.72
Volvo L110 Loader	2006	MU 65	4939.6	5071	131.4	\$33124.85
Komatsu Dozer	1997		In town for repairs			\$6649.93
Cat Vibrating Roller	2005	MU 177	1120.5	1170.5	50	\$23498.24
John Deere Grader	2011	MU 121	2315.5	2455.8	140.3	\$36639.39
Bomag M/Tyre Roller	2012		760.4	801.8	41.40	\$7997.42
Cat 938G Loader	2004		3656.8	3758	101.2	\$13854.01
Iveco Prime Mover	2003	MU 000	263169	264442	1273	\$26683.49
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	127723.7	133193	5469.3	\$33414.10
Iveco Tipper	2004	MU 00	157725	157757	32	\$21328.65

Generator 2-110kva	2011		5579.6	5863.0	283.4	
Generator 1-110kva	2011		5007.4	5391.2	383.8	
Maintenance Genset						\$1330.41
Construction Genset			9529.8			\$707.34
Kubota 6kva Genset	2012		690.6			

Mitsubishi Canter	2011	01 MU	66576	70090	3514	\$7877.44
Mitsubishi Canter	2004	MU 140	146032	147767	1735	\$7810.28
Toyota Prado	2012	MU 0	1536	2480	944	\$985.60
Great Wall	2012	MU167	2438	4032	1594	\$579.30
Isuzu DMAX	2009	MU 300	137046	140149	3103	\$5985.95
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	76923	79948	3025	\$8769.63
Isuzu T/Top	2005	MU1002	101863	105723	3860	\$9489.92
Toyota P/T Vehicle	1986	MU 1017	21188	21188	-	\$773.96
Side Tipper	2001	MU 2010	16434	19417	2983	\$3020.31

Side Tipper – Evertran	2009	MU 662	58970	61951.2	2981.2	\$8974.82
Tri-Axle Low Loader	2008	MU 663				\$27886.73
No. 2 float	2001	MU 2004	23037	23461	424	\$2384.37
30000lt Water Tank	2005	MU 2024	20153	22653	2500	\$2717.02
Dog Fuel Trailer	1993	MU 658				\$2054.21
Dog Fuel Trailer	1972	MU 2005				
Dolly 1-Red	2001	MU 2003	23700			\$1478.19
Dolly 2-Black	2000	MU 2009				\$1206.28
New Holland Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1551	1565.9	14.9	\$362.25
Forklift			11785	11794	9	\$204.00
Caravans						\$6927.08
Various small plant						\$7274.66
Ride on Mower - JD			228.9	242	13.1	

### **13.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor**

#### **Construction crew**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2013 the crew finished all 17km of the construction road works on the Carnarvon-Mullewa road. (there is about 2 days of drains left for grader to do). All flood-ways in this 17 km have also been completed.

Start date for sealing is Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2 days after Easter.

Aggregate – the 10mm for the 10 km sealing from settlement south has been delivered. The delivery of 14mm and 7mm for the 17 km sealing job is under way with half already carted.

On the Monday 25/3/2013 I will begin the final trim grade of the 17km at approx 3-4km per day. This will involve a grader (which I will operate), 2 water trucks, 1 rubber tyre roller and 1 vibe roller. Any crew not operating plant equipment will be string marking flood-ways in readiness for sealing.

On the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Feb crew moved camp and plant over to Wooleen (camping up Wooleen drive way) and commenced construction work on the Meeberrie-Wooleen road.

Sub base (fill) is now being carted into low and rocky areas and on the corners. Two new bunds will be put in place to control water flow and drains.

When the 2km section of sub base has been completed we will gravel sheet road and then move work signage up to the next 2kms of road works. More signs (curves/crest/keep left/ guide post) will be put in the completed 2km, and signs will also be put at the North and south sides of the Murchison river.

As mention above, crew will halt works on the Meeberrie-Wooleen road to work on the Carnarvon/Mullewa road until sealing is completed. The crew will not move camp, they will travel to and from the camp based at Wooleen.

Shire crew will be doing traffic control for the sealing of the 17 km and 10 km road works.

I will be here for the 17km primer and 14mm seal. Nigel Goode will take control of the 10km re-seal as I leave here on the 07/04/2013 and fly out of the state on the 08/04/2013.

While I am away Neil Combe will be in control of the shire outside crew (Maintenance/Construction).

Clearing Permits - We are having a hard time with the clearing permits and I will explain in full detail at the meeting.

#### **Maintenance/Heavy Maintenance Crew**

Crew have finished New Forrest/Yallalong Road with some new bunds, gravel sheeting and repairs to some contour banks. From here they moved onto Twin-Peaks/Wooleen road.

Full maintenance was carried out on Twin-Peaks Wooleen with some clearing of trees (sticking out on road side) some gravel sheeting and new bunds. From there a patch grade was done on the Meeberrie-Wooleen road.

A full maintenance grade was completed on Boolardy-Wooleen and Wooleen-Mt Wittenoom road.

Heavy maintenance work was required between Boolardy-Wooleen and Cockney Bill intersection with some new bunds and 200-300m of gravel sheeting of section in the break-away hills.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Holcim will finish carting the aggregate from Geraldton to sites on the Carnarvan-Mullewa Road.

\*Maintenance crew will do full grade on the Carnarvon-Mullewa road with Sandy carting gravel in to low and sandy/rocky areas and also to grid approaches.

I would like to hear council’s thoughts on grading the 28km section in the GCG as we did cart 2,300 tonnes of aggregate over this section. I estimate it would take approx 2 ½ days to complete.

When crew finish Carnarvan-Mullewa road they will go onto Mt Wittenoom, then grade down to Pindar on the Beringarra-Pindar road.

**Staff**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> April Peta & Barry Panting, Leanne & Trevor Hipper and Sharon and myself will be going on holidays for 2 weeks in Tasmania and will be back on the 26<sup>th</sup> April. Mick Wall will be doing the gardening duties and Neil Combe will run the outside crew. Trevor (mechanic) will be operating the grader for Baz with the construction Crew.

**Plant**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> March the dozer was finally back on deck. It is running well and is now out on the construction site at Wooleen-Meeberrie pushing up gravel.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> March I picked up the new Kenworth truck and replacement trailer for the construction crew from Steve Mahony’s yard.

**General**

I would like to seek permission from council to put 1 or 2 of the old roadhouse dongers in the shire yard to use as a storage room for cement/signs/tyres/ramps/gensets/posts etc. The dongers are currently located near the shire depot on the outside of the yard.

**ROADS GRADED IN FEBRUARY**

Name	Length of Road	SLK Graded this month	Heavy-Road Maintenance Repairs Loader--truck	Comments
Beringarra /Pindar	319.80km			
Erong	63.12km			
Beringarra/Byro	90.89km			
Twin-Peaks/Wooleen	47.65km	47.65km	Gravel sheeting + tree clearing and new bunds	Full grade + batters and drains
Boolardy/Kalli	57.30km			
Byro/Woodleigh	71.00km			
New Forrest/Yallalong	36.18km			
M <sup>c</sup> Nabb/Twin-peaks	49.75km			
Yallalong-West	34.46km			
Mileura/Nookawarra	49.08km			
Muggon	38.75km			
Manfred	34.55km			
Beringarra/Mt Gould	34.80km			
Tardie/Yuin	13.20km			
Innouendy	9.30km			
Boolardy Homestead	2.00km			
Yunda Homestead	32.80km			
Meeberrie Woolleen	25.22km	3km		Opening up of small creek crossings.
Mt Wittenoom	37.55km			
Woolleen/Mt Wittenoom	33.85km	33.85km	Gravel sheeting,+ tree clearing and new bunds in the breakaway hills	
Beringarra Cue	109.82km			
Boolardy Wooleen	19.08km	19.08km		Full grade + drains
Kalli Cue East	21.87km			
Coodardy Noondie	19.92km			
Butchers Track	64.54km			
Butchers Muggon	23.80			
Murchison Settlement	2.00km	2.00km		

Pinegrove Yallalong	-----			
Carnarvon-Mullewa	278.63km			
Woolgorong-South	15.00km			
Ebabiddy-Bluff	12km			
Air strip Graded		Wooleen & Meeberrie		

Total graded this month: 105.58km

**Recommendation:**

That the Work’s Supervisor’s report be accepted.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
That the Work’s Supervisor’s report be accepted.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED**

**14.1 Shire President**

**14.2 Councillors**

**15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**15.1 Audit Committee – Compliance Audit Return 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

The audit committee met earlier today to discuss the Compliance Audit return.  
*Their recommendation will be included here to allow council to action the Compliance Audit Return as an item in this meeting.*

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**16. FINANCE**

**16.1 Financial Activity Statements January 2013**

File:	
Author:	Dianne Daniels – Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	21 March 2013
Attachments:	Financial Activity Statements for 7 months to 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2013 Balance Sheet Income Statement Detail Income Statement by Nature & Type Income Statement Summary



**Matter for Consideration:**

Council to consider adopting the monthly financial statements for seven months to January 2013.

**Background:**

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. Regulation 34 requires that local government report on a monthly basis and prescribes what is required to be reported.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4–Specifies that a local government is to prepare “such other financial reports” as is prescribed.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Regulation 34 states:

(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d) for that month in the following detail:

- (a) Annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c);
- (b) Budget estimates to the end of month to which the statement relates;
- (c) Actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
- (d) Material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and
- (e) The net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil.

**Financial Implications:**

Reports showing year to date financial performance allow monitoring of actual expenditure, revenue and overall results against budget targets.

**Consultation:**

UHY Haines Norton

**Comment:**

As February results are also being presented at this meeting, please refer to the February report for comments and notes on variances.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor**

**Seconded: Councillor**

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013, as attached.

**Carried/Lost**

**For:**

**Against:**

**16.2 Accounts Paid during the period since the last list was adopted/endorsed by Council**

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 21 March 2013

Attachments: EFT & Cheque Details for January 2013

**Matter for Consideration:**

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of January 2013

**Background:**

Accounts paid are required to be submitted each month.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Reg 13(1)–Requires that where the Chief Executive Officer has delegated power to make payments from the Municipal or Trust funds a list of accounts paid is to be prepared each month.

**Strategic Implications:**

None

**Policy Implications:**

None

**Financial Implications:**

Payment from Council’s Municipal, Oasis Roadhouse and Trust Funds

**Consultation:**

UHY Haines Norton

**Comment:**

Payments made during the month of January 2013 as per attached schedule. Please note that internal transfers of \$185,000 are included in the payment total.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$456,189.43 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**16.3 Financial Activity Statements February 2013**

File:	
Author:	Dianne Daniels – Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	21 March 2013
Attachments:	Financial Activity Statements for 8 months to 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2013 Balance Sheet Income Statement Detail Income Statement by Nature & Type Income Statement Summary

**Matter for Consideration:**

Council to consider adopting the monthly financial statements for eight months to February 2013.

**Background:**

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. Regulation 34 requires that local government report on a monthly basis and prescribes what is required to be reported.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4–Specifies that a local government is to prepare “such other financial reports” as is prescribed.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996  
 Regulation 34 states:

(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d) for that month in the following detail:

- (a) Annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c);
- (b) Budget estimates to the end of month to which the statement relates;
- (c) Actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
- (d) Material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and
- (e) The net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil.

**Financial Implications:**

Reports showing year to date financial performance allow monitoring of actual expenditure, revenue and overall results against budget targets.

**Consultation:**

UHY Haines Norton

**Comment:**

Summary of Financial Results February 2013

The Current Position at 28 February 2013 is a surplus of \$1,932,561 which is up on YTD Budget by \$449,732, as summarised below:

Opening Funding Surplus up	\$114,734
Less Operating Revenues down	(\$1,122,448)
Add Operating Expenditure down	\$997,063
Less Funding Balance Adjustment down	(\$142,256)
Less Capital Revenue down	(\$581,032)
Add Capital Expenditure down	\$1,038,430
Add Rate Revenue up	\$145,241

Refer to Notes 9, 12 and 14 in the Financial Report for comments and explanations on variances.

This month has seen the completion of the 2012-13 Budget Review, as required by the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Reg 33A 'Review of Budget'. Adjustments have been made to better reflect actual performance for the period 1 July 2012 to 28 February 2013 and to give a more accurate projection of position at 30 June 2013. The increased opening funding Surplus of \$114,734 has been expended and internal account transfers made to maintain a balanced budget. Please refer to separate Agenda Item 16.5 for details.

Rates collection is not progressing as well as predicted with 71% of rates collected at the end of February as against the 75% predicted in December's report. Reminders and collection letters have been sent and as per Council Policy, those rates overdue for more than twelve months will be issued with advice of legal action. Just a reminder to rate payers in possession of a pensioner concession card, a 50% rate rebate is available on current rates from the date of registration with the relevant authority. Registration can be completed on line or by phone with the Water Corporation, who will then forward your registration form to the Shire.

The current Administration inherited a Debtors Ledger with debts outstanding that went back years. Rather than just write these debts off, we have written to the people concerned and given them the opportunity to pay the debt or to contact us and let us know that it had already been paid. We have had some response from this and thank those concerned.

Capital Expenditure has been continuing on the Mullewa Carnarvon Road between SLK 199-206 and SLK 206-213 and is progressing well with \$.616 million of the \$1.93 million budget left in kitty at the end of February. There are still five days formwork to be accounted for in March, and then the final ‘shave’ just prior to sealing. Please note that the R2R funding of \$.323 million will be pooled with this to complete the new seal and the re-seal from the Settlement to 10 km South. We’re predicting a cost overrun of approximately 5%, which has been factored into the Budget Review. Seal and aggregate tenders have been approved, with seal scheduled for commencement in the week after Easter.

Assets purchased since the last report in December are the fridge and TV for Council Chambers, a replacement fridge for the CEO house, conversion of the Iveco to a Prime Mover and three ‘seaside’ shelters and seating as part of the RLCIP project.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority.

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2013, as attached.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**16.4 Accounts Paid during the period since the last list was adopted/endorsed by Council**

File:	
Author:	Dianne Daniels Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	21 March 2013
Attachments:	EFT & Cheque Details for February 2013

**Matter for Consideration:**

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of February 2013

**Background:**

Accounts paid are required to be submitted each month.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996  
 Reg 13(1)–Requires that where the Chief Executive Officer has delegated power to make payments from the Municipal or Trust funds a list of accounts paid is to be prepared each month.

**Strategic Implications:**

None

**Policy Implications:**

None

**Financial Implications:**

Payment from Council’s Municipal Account, Oasis Roadhouse and Trust Accounts

**Consultation:**

None

**Comment:**

Payments made during the month of February 2013 as per attached schedule. Please note that internal transfers of \$540,000 are included in the payment total.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$1,182,257.26 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.		
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**16.5 Budget 2012-13 Review**

File:	2.4
Author:	Dianne Daniels
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	20/03/2013
Attachments:	1. Budget Review based on financial performance between 01/07/2012 and 28/02/2013 2. Budget Amendments as Endorsed by Council between 01/07/2012 and 28/02/2013

**Matter for Consideration:**

Review the 2012-13 Budget based on financial performance between 01/07/2012 and 28/02/2013.

**Background:**

As required by the Local Government Act 1995 Council adopted a budget for the 2012-13 financial year, based on forward plans and best estimates at the time. There have been several circumstances that have led to major variances on the original Adopted Budget, as listed below:

1. Following the 2010-11 Audit, which was completed in the current financial year, the Opening Position for 2012-13 increased \$114,734 from \$3,065,414 to \$3,180,148 surplus. The major portion of this difference is due to the reversal of a provision for doubtful fuel debts of \$148,700;
2. Between 1 July 2012 and 28 February 2013, several amendments have been adopted by Council and these amendments have been included in the review; (*refer Attachment 2*)
3. The formwork and sealing of SLK 199-216 will run over budget by approximately 5% or \$100,000;
4. The depot fuel tank, the spare fuel tank and two mobile fuel tanks which were provided free of charge to the Shire by BP Reliance when they were supplying fuel have been recalled by BP, after the fuel tender was awarded to another supplier. The cost of purchasing a new depot tank and two new mobile tanks will be approximately \$118,000, including the cost of picking them up from Perth.
5. Salaries and wages have been varied down by \$161K and added back to Public Works Overheads and Plant Operating Costs mainly due to the unfortunate circumstances early in the year which saw our mechanic take three months bereavement leave;
6. Other less significant transfers and adjustments, both up and down, have been suggested in order to give a more accurate projection of position at 30 June 2013. (*refer Attachment 1*)

**Comment:**

The shortfall caused by the above listed variances has been made up by reducing heavy maintenance from \$250k to \$180K.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

**33A Review of Budget**

- (1) Between 1 January and 31 March in each year a local government is to carry out a review of its annual budget for that year.
- (2) The review of an annual budget for a financial year must –

- (a) Consider the local government’s financial performance in the period beginning on 1 July and ending no earlier than 31 December in that financial year; and
  - (b) Consider the local government’s financial position as at the date of review; and
  - (c) Review the outcomes for the end of that financial year that are forecast in the budget.
- (3) Within 30 days after a review of the annual budget of a local government is carried out it is to be submitted to council.
- (4) A council is to consider a review submitted to it and is to determine\* whether or not to adopt the review, any parts of the review or any recommendation made in the review.

*\*Absolute majority required.*

- (5) Within 30 days after a council has made a determination, a copy of the review and determination is to be provided to the Department.

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

The changes suggested in the budget review are based on the local government’s financial performance for the financial year up to 28 February 2013. Adjustments have been made to better reflect actual performance for the period and to give a more accurate projection of position at 30 June 2013. The increased 30 June 2012 brought forward amount has been expended and internal account transfers made to maintain a balanced budget.

**Consultation:**

Chief Executive Officer, Works Supervisor.

**Recommendation:**

That Council adopt the reviewed Budget to supersede the original Adopted Budget as of 1 March 2013 through to 30 June 2013.

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority.

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**16.6 NLD Transport**

File:	4.37.1
Author:	Dianne Daniels
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	20/02/2013
Attachments:	Shire of Murchison and NLD Transaction Ledgers

**Matter for Consideration:**

Response to Council decision from the November 2012 Ordinary Meeting of Council that a payment of \$34,100 to NLD Transport be investigated and a copy of the invoice obtained.

**Background:**

NLD Transport appear as a creditor in the Shire accounts from 30/06/2008 through to the 21/12/2009 and were contracted on a casual basis to provide general cartage services to and from the Shire.

On the 25 June 2009, \$34,100 was paid to NLD Transport against their invoice 113, to 'Transport the Ballinyoo Bridge'. However, the construction of the bridge did not go ahead due to lack of funding and so the service of carting the new bridge from Perth to Ballinyoo was not required.

It wasn't until late 2009 that NLD were notified that the service was not required and rather than refund the money, a decision was made by the administration at that time that subsequent services would not be entered into the Shire's accounts until the \$34,100 credit was expended.

**Comment:**

We have obtained copies of invoices for the subsequent services from NLD, however the original invoice 113 was deleted from their system and replaced with the subsequent invoices and so a copy of that original invoice isn't available. A copy of an 'All Transactions' report for the Shire of Murchison has been obtained from NLD and this agrees with the \$ value of the transactions on our ledger for NLD Transport.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Chief Executive Officer; Lisa Dearing

**Recommendation:**

That Council accept that no overpayment was made to NLD Transport as demonstrated by investigations and the supporting ledger reports.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**16.7 Freight Report**

File:	14.13
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	

**Matter for Consideration:**

Consideration of the necessity of securing a drop off point for freight in Geraldton.

**Background:**

Back in August the freight contract to the Murchison Settlement was awarded to KL & HS Keynes of Geraldton – Murchison Freight. At the time there was discussion regarding a drop off point for the freight in

Geraldton. There was an agreed list of companies, which would be picked up from for free and pick-ups from other places would incur a \$15.00 fee.

At the last meeting there was a general discussion regarding the action list and this item. The freight provider has said that things are going well and he feels that a drop off point is not necessary so it was decided to get some further details and present an item to council.

**Comment:**

The Deputy CEO has provided some figures for council:

*The councillors asked me to work out how much extra we are paying for freight over and above the agreed tender price. I averaged the extras for the last three months and then estimated the year based on that. (I also compared current charges to what we were paying with Grey's freight, so a big difference over a year)*

Company	\$ per week ex GST	\$ per year ex GST	\$ extra ex GST	\$ Total per year
Grey's Freight	\$1,150	\$59,800		\$59,800
KL & HS Keynes	\$1,720	\$89,440	Approx. \$1,440	\$90,880

Whilst there is a considerable increase in the overall freight costs compared to the previous freight company the amount over and above the actual tendered price is predicted to be about \$1440.00 per year.

The provision of a drop off point would be considerably more than this and finding a suitable place could be difficult as we would have to take into account security and liability should goods go missing or be damaged. Also some of the companies would still charge a drop off fee even if we did have a point for them to deliver too.

A fee of \$15.00 is very reasonable for freighting goods from Geraldton to the settlement and I'm sure most people would find this acceptable and still a very subsidised service.

It can be annoying on some small parts which the shire has ordered from suppliers not on the list where the cost may be almost as much as the part itself and it will be the shire that bears the majority of the additional costs.

However it appears that these additional costs are a lot less than the provision of a drop off point.

In view of this it is suggested that we no longer worry about trying to secure a drop off point and just continue with things as they currently are, as long as council is aware of the annual costs being incurred.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Small additional cost involved but nothing of a material nature that would affect the financial stability of the shire.

**Consultation:**

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO

**Recommendation:**

That council advise Geraldton-Murchison Freight that they will not be establishing a drop off point within Geraldton.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority



<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>		<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17. DEVELOPMENT**

**17.1 Fuel Tanks**

File:	12.15
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	Tank quotes

**Matter for Consideration:**

Purchase of shire owned self-bunded fuel tanks for the shire depot and mobile trailers used in construction and maintenance.

**Background:**

At the February meeting of council the fuel supply contract for the next two years was awarded to Oil Tech. Subsequent to this Reliance Petroleum have been in contact regarding the fact that they actually own the tanks we are currently using. Both mobile fuel tanks and the depot tank and the tank behind the old depot (gardeners shed) are the property of Reliance and as they no longer have the fuel contract they wish to come and remove their tanks. This issue had first come to light back in November 2011, when Reliance had proposed a rental charge for us to continue using the tanks. This was never responded to and with the change in CEO's nothing further was actioned until Neil Warne the Acting CEO, was contacted by them in January 2012. At the end of the day no rent has been charged as Reliance waited to see what happened with the fuel contract this year. There was some discussion as to whether the shire did in fact own one or both of the mobile tankers, however a search of the records can find no evidence of this and there is a signed inspection and tank record for 2003 which shows Sovereign Petroleum (the company before Reliance Petroleum) as owners of the tanks.

Reliance have been very helpful in allowing us time to source alternative tanks but do want to collect their tanks as soon as possible.

**Comment:**

Usually this would be an item for discussion by the plant committee but due to the need to make a decision reasonably quickly it is being presented to all councillors.

Over the past month we have looked at the various options available to the shire; Oil Tech have offered to assist with installing their 50,000L tank which is at the depot. However this would require considerable monies to install the bunding to current specifications and would take up a large area. Whilst we are very grateful for their offer it may be better to bite the bullet and purchase our own tanks. This way they would be new, fully compliant and owned by the shire. Future fuel contracts would never see us in this position again and it would give the shire total freedom with fuel suppliers.

Whilst it is a substantial investment cost the new tanks supplied are self bunded – doing away with the need for bunding – fully lockable and fitted with pumps, meters and nozzles as required.

Below I have listed the quotes received from the WA suppliers, Brian did manage to get some other quotes but they were from the eastern states and by the time freight was included were not competitive.

We have obtained quotes for the large depot tank fairly easily but have had trouble getting mobile tank quotes. The mobile tank quotes from Petro Industrial are based on two different types.

The 12,000L and 25,000L higher quotes are for containers fully baffled and bunded. The quotes for the 10,000L and 13,000L are based on the Petro 'cube' design and includes manufacturing a skid that will fit the pumps, reels etc., this would have fork lift points that would allow us to lift the skid onto the rear of the truck and will be pre-drilled to allow fitting to the trailer bed, a fuel delivery hose with cam lock fittings will then attach the pump to the tank. This will allow the staff to access the pumps from trailer height. Fitted to the skid will be a lockable weather proof cover, which will allow us to secure the system when not in use.

Logitank suggested maybe purchasing a second hand fuel truck for use as a mobile tanker.

It seems that second hand mobile tankers are quite hard to track down and again we have time constraints to consider and the fact that a second hand tank may come with problems of its' own.

Company	Tank size	Cost ex GST	Rental option	Term	Availability	Power
<b>DEPOT TANK</b>						
Petro Industrial	65,000	59,879.65	63,317-68,952	24-60 mths	in stock Balcatta	240 v
Logitank	68,000	65,550	89,440	48 mths	in stock Bibra Lake	240 v
Westanks	68,000	103,118	no option		not stated	3 phase
<b>MOBILE TANKS</b>						
Petro Industrial	13,000	27,998	n/a	n/a	in stock	240 v
Petro industrial	10,000	25,358	n/a	n/a	in stock	240 v
Petro industrial	12,000	36,476	n/a	n/a	in stock	240 v
Petro Industrial	25,000	50,600	n/a	n/a	in stock	240 v

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Total cost for the three tanks would be around \$113,000. We have a budget allocation of \$50,000 for the provision of a trailer/fuel/water/generator in this year’s budget. Provision has been made in the budget review for additional funds required to purchase the tanks.

**Consultation:**

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor  
 Jumbo McAlpine, Reliance Petroleum  
 Mike Spilby, Petro Industrial  
 Wayne Fraser, Logitank

**Recommendation:**

1) That the shire proceeds with the purchase of the Petro Industrial 65,000L Liquitainer self bunded tank and fittings as per quote # PIWA3125.

- 2) That the shire proceeds with the purchase of the petro Industrial 10,000L Cube – Self banded and baffled with fittings and skid per quote PIWA3261.
- 3) That the shire proceeds with the purchase of the petro Industrial 13,000L Cube – Self banded and baffled with fittings and skid per quote PIWA3271.

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.2 Beringarra – Pindar Road**

File:	12.24
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	Beringarra-Pindar Road Letter from Shire and response from Main Roads + policy 2.1.1.

**Matter for Consideration:**

Response from main roads to the shires letter sent in January regarding the assessment of the Beringarra-Pindar Road.

**Background:**

At the December meeting of Council we had received the responses from Main Roads following their assessments of the Carnarvon-Mullewa and Beringarra-Pindar Road. Following discussion on the Beringarra-Pindar Road it was resolved:

- 1) *Beringarra- Pindar Road - Write to main roads acknowledging the Nookawarra Airstrip issue and narrow grids and providing details of budgeted plans to improve the road and signage with the outcome that the road can be classed as a RAV7 if this work is completed.*

**Comment:**

A letter was sent on 5<sup>th</sup> January and a reply has now been received. There was a section in the shires policy manual under 2.1.1 – Use of heavy Vehicle Combinations on Local Roads which was referred to in the letter and which has been clarified in the Main Roads response. However Main Roads are still saying that with all proposed improvements and a resolution to the Nookawarra Airstrip issue the road would only be acceptable as a low volume road for 27.5m network 4 RAV classification.

Council needs to review this response and the implications for road users within the shire.

**Statutory Environment:**

S3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s.55 (20) of the land Administration Act 1997. The local government within the district of which a road is situated has the care, control and management of the road.

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Bernie Miller, Main Roads

Rod Gillis, Main Roads

**Recommendation:**

TBA

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.3 Stripping of Seal – Carnarvon- Mullewa Road**

File:	12.9
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	

**Matter for Consideration:**

What action is to be taken following the problems with the stripping of the seal SLK 164-174 and the repairs works which are being carried out.

**Background:**

Following problems with the Sealmac stripping in places on the 10km stretch of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road which had been done by Bitumen surfacing last year there was correspondence between all parties, i.e. Bitumen Surfacing, Greenfields and the Shire of Murchison. In November Michael Keane advised:

*The Shire now has the following options;*

1. *Accept the quote including mobilisation costs to get the works done asap, estimated cost approx \$24,844 + GST.*
2. *Accept the quote provisionally and allow works to be deferred until Mar-April 2013, thus saving mobilisation cost **if Bitumen Surfacing win the tender**, estimated cost approx \$13,944 + GST.*
3. *Respond advising that the Bitumen Surfacing response will be considered after tenders close.*
4. *Reject the quote and advise the contractor that the Shire will arrange to have the works completed by others and all costs thus incurred by the Shire will be raised as a debt owing to the Shire by Bitumen Surfacing.*

*If the shire is comfortable to defer repairs until Mar-April 2013, then the new tender could include a separate item for re-sealing the defects section,*

*At that stage, Bitumen Surfacing could be offered the new contract subject to them accepting liability for the defects or alternatively, the Shire accepts the Bitumen Surfacing tendered price (less the cost of mobilisation).*

It was decided to take option 3.

**Comment:**

Now that tenders have been awarded and they did not include any from bitumen Surfacing the shire needs to re-visit the previous problem. The successful tender from RnR included an amount of \$26,279.60 to repair the localised stripping and the repairs will be carried out at the time of the sealing works which are to commence early April.

The shire could pursue recovery of these costs by issuing a Notice of Dispute. This could be a lengthy legal process and council need to consider whether this is the course of action they wish to take. Investigations at the time, including one by Mark Salt of Main Roads gave inconclusive results and there is a disagreement between the parties as to whether it was a fault with the design specifications, the gravel or the quality of work carried out.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Additional costs of \$26,279.60 for the repairs work being undertaken

**Consultation:**

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor  
 Michael Keane, Greenfields Technical Services

**Recommendation:**

That the shire of Murchison instructs/does not instruct Greenfield Technical Services to proceed with a Notice of Dispute.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.4 Acceptance of the 2010/2011 Annual Report**

File:	1.2
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	2010/2011 Annual Report

**Matter for Consideration:**

The Annual Report for the 2010/2011 financial year is presented for consideration by the Council. In accordance with s5.55 of the Local government Act the Annual report will be made available to the public after it is accepted by Council.

**Background:**

As council is aware there has been some considerable delay in the production of the 2010-2011 annual report, mainly due to the delay with the audited financial statements which form part of the report. The auditor's report was completed on the 12<sup>th</sup> February. s5.54 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995-*If the auditor's report is not available in time for the annual report for a financial year to be accepted by 31 December after that financial year, the annual report is to be accepted by the local government no later than 2 months after the auditor's report becomes available.*

**Comment:**

The annual report contains all sections required by the Department of Local Government as well as information and statistics relating to the shire and its' operations. It relates the shires performance in relation to its' adopted strategic plan and its' compliance with various other legislation such as Disability Access and Inclusion, Freedom of Information and Record Keeping. It also includes a full financial report and the auditor's report.

As noted in the background above there have been some serious anomalies discovered that relate back to the 2010/2011 financial year and these are reflected in the auditor's report. These problems have been referred to the CCC who have carried out investigations and prosecutions that are still ongoing. The auditor has had to include a disclaimer in his report as he was not able to get all the information required to enable him to give an opinion.

Two of the statutory non compliance issues listed relate to the delay with the financial report and annual report. This is due to the above problems and the reports have only recently been finalised. The other non compliance issue relates to the purchasing policy. This has been implemented and was adopted by council in October 2011.

Regarding the other matters listed the severe adverse trends noted relate to the anomalies within the financial records. Policies and procedures have been put in place to ensure compliance and accountability and the current administration staff have worked extremely hard to turn this around which should be reflected in subsequent annual reports and audits. The department of local government has been aware of the problems the Shire of Murchison has been dealing with and has been supportive of the efforts made by everyone involved to sort out the problems.

**Statutory Environment:**

S5.54 Local Government Act 1995

**Strategic Implications:**

This is a statutory function.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

UHY Haines Norton  
Anderson, Munro and Wyllie

**Recommendation:**

- 1) That Council accepts the Annual Report for 2010/2011.
- 2) That in accordance with s5.27 of the Local Government Act 1995 an electors general meeting be held on xxxxxxxx

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.5 Compliance Audit Return 2012**

File:	
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	2012 Compliance Audit Return

**Matter for Consideration:**

Consideration of the Compliance Audit Return.

**Background:**

The Compliance Audit return has to be completed each year. The return covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December and has to be submitted to the Department of Local Government by the 31<sup>st</sup> March each year. This report covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012.

**Comment:**

The compliance audit return has been completed and shire is compliant in all but two areas:-

Under s.5.46

*(1) The CEO is to keep a register of the delegations made under this Division to the CEO and to employees.*

*(2) At least once every financial year, delegations made under this Division are to be reviewed by the delegator.*

This has not been reviewed in the last twelve months so will now be prioritised by the CEO.

Under s7.9 (1)

*Was the auditor’s report for 2011/2012 received by the local government by 31 December 2012.*

Report not yet received.

Apart from these two points all other aspects are compliant. Under regulation 14 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 the local government’s audit committee is to review the compliance audit return and report to council the results of that review.

The audit committee met earlier this morning and their report has been included under section 15 – Reports of committees.

The compliance audit return is now presented to council so that it can be adopted by council and recorded in the minutes of the meeting that it is adopted.

Once this has been done a certified copy of the return and a copy of the minutes will be sent to the Executive Director of the Department of Local Government

**Statutory Environment:**

Local government (audit) regulations 1996 - regulations 14 & 15

**Strategic Implications:**

This is a statutory compliance requirement.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

**Recommendation:**

That Council adopts the Compliance Audit Report for 2012.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.6 Regional Tourism Strategy**

File:	13.10
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	14 March 2013
Attachments:	Regional Marketing Strategy prepared by Frances Jones, Gascoyne Murchison Tourism Inc

**Matter for Consideration:**

To consider matters relating to a regional tourism strategy, including adoption of Billy Bungarra as the regional mascot.

**Background:**

In the 2012/13 budget Council made an allocation of \$5,000 towards the development of a regional approach to tourism development and delivery. This was in addition to the \$5,000 allocation for area promotion.

The Shire does not have any tourism staff, and usually advertises in Australia's Golden Outback and a couple of other publications. This year they also contributed funds to the TV production – Tracks of Ernie Dingo.

Shires in the Murchison have routinely nominated tourism as a regional priority. In September 2012 the Mid West Development Commission (MWDC) facilitated a workshop with Shires in the region to identify infrastructure priorities for the regional allocation of the Country Local Government Fund (CLGF). However, tourism emerged high on the list of regional priorities.

Over the past few years Frances Jones, proprietor of Wooleen station stay business in the Murchison and chair of the Gascoyne Murchison Tourism Inc, has presented tourism marketing information to CEOs of the local governments in the Murchison Region. Frances' assistance to date has been on a voluntary basis and she has actively advocated for the Murchison Outback Pathways.

In 2012, Frances was successful in gaining funding via Tourism Transition Funding, leveraged with contribution from regional Shires, to engage a professional to develop a regional mascot. This resulted in the design and adoption of Billy the Bungarra as the Gascoyne Murchison Tourism Inc mascot.

In consideration of Frances' willingness, experience and passion for the region, Frances was asked whether she would be willing to prepare a strategy to assist Shires in the Murchison to pursue tourism on a regional basis. Frances subsequently prepared a marketing strategy and was invited to present this at a Murchison Executive Group meeting in Meekatharra. This meeting was ultimately cancelled by its members due to competing commitments, and Frances was invited to present the strategy to the next meeting of the MEG which was due to be held at Wooleen Station (of which Frances is proprietor) in December 2012.

Jo Burgess of WALGA also attended this meeting. Having considered Frances' presentation, the group agreed that the next step would be to invite elected members to attend a regional tourism meeting. It was agreed that this would occur in Yalgoo in February 2013, and that Frances would be invited to present her marketing strategy.

Gavin Treasure of MWDC, Jac Eerbeek of Australia's Golden Outback and Marcus Falconer of Tourism WA made presentations at this meeting. Jac has state funding to market the region therefore is able to add value to any funds that local governments contribute. Marcus, Jac and Jo Burgess were enthusiastic about the proposal put forward by Frances; whether or not it was actually delivered by Frances; as regional marketing would be an entry point to spearhead a cohesive regional approach to tourism.

**Comment:**

Debate during the regional tourism meeting on 27 February 2013 at Yalgoo, and subsequently at a Murchison Executive Group (MEG) meeting hosted at MWDC in Geraldton on 7 March, generally indicated in-principle support for a regional tourism strategy.

Billy the Bungarra was extremely (although not universally) popular.

Local governments were divided on the regional marketing strategy presented by Frances Jones for the following reasons:

- Differing need: some Shires are extremely keen to immediately pursue marketing and have funds available, whilst other Shires would need to identify new funds.
- Timing: the Shires who require marketing assistance now are keen to proceed with the marketing now; other Shires prefer that a strategy is developed before committing funds to marketing.
- Shires with few businesses, and/or already full caravan parks, are unsure of what benefit would be gained by the expenditure on marketing.
- Governance and potential conflict of interest: Frances Jones, who was invited to prepare the marketing strategy, has offered her services to implement it at an attractively reduced cost. This is possible because she is already involved in marketing through her business, and for instance already attends the caravan and camping show. Frances is the chair of Gascoyne Murchison Tourism Inc and the proprietor of a station stay business in the Murchison. The Murchison Executive Group rotates its meetings amongst the member Shires, and uses Wooleen Station for accommodation when meeting in Murchison Shire. Note that to balance this issue, Frances clearly stated that whilst she offered her services, she equally supported any decision to use another person or organisation to carry out the services.



- Engagement relationship: If Frances Jones is to be engaged to undertake the marketing strategy, the engagement relationship will require clarification. Sandstone CEO indicated that Sandstone Shire would consider being 'banker' if Shires wish to proceed with the marketing strategy. It is likely that Frances Jones would be engaged as a consultant, but may need to resolve whether this constitutes a conflict of interest with her chairmanship of Gascoyne Murchison Tourism Inc.
- Local Government Legislation: Local governments individually would pay around \$23,000, for a range of marketing services. However, the marketing strategy in total exceeds \$100,000 therefore advice would need to be sought regarding whether a tender would need to be called.

I recommend that Council as a minimum opts in to developing a regional tourism strategy, and adopts Billy the Bungarra as our regional mascot. This mascot was professionally developed, with funds contributed by Murchison and other regional Shires. The bungarra is uniquely representative of our region, and is an extremely versatile mascot that can be tailored to just about any particular situation. For instance Billy could be holding a telescope for the Astrofest, could point visitors into our caravan park, could be pictured riding a horse for the polocrosse; the list is only limited by imagination

### **Statutory Environment:**

*Local Government Act 1995*

s.3.1 (1) The general function of the local government is to provide for the good government of persons in its district.

### **Strategic Implications:**

The Murchison region is the only area in the Mid West that does not have a regional tourism strategy. Jac Eerbeek cited examples of the increased visitation achieved when tourism is approached on a regional basis, with an identifiable regional brand.

### **Policy Implications:**

Nil

### **Financial Implications:**

The Shire currently allocates \$5,000-\$10,000 in the annual budget for tourism promotion and related activities.

The marketing strategy proposed by Frances Jones would cost approximately \$23,000 per Shire if all Shires in the Murchison Region agree to contribute.

This would cover all marketing for the year and still leave ample funds available to put towards a tourism strategy or other initiatives.

### **Consultation:**

- CEOs and elected members in the Murchison Region
- Jac Eerbeek, CEO, Australia's Golden Outback
- Marcus Falconer, Tourism WA
- Frances Jones, Chair, Gascoyne Murchison Tourism Inc
- Gavin Treasure, CEO, Mid West Development Commission
- Jo Burgess, WALGA

### **Officer Recommendation:**

Regional Tourism Strategy

That Council:

1. Agrees in principle to the development of a Regional Tourism Strategy that includes the Shires in the Murchison Region and Upper Gascoyne; and
2. Authorises the CEO to work with the regional Shires to prepare a draft scope for the strategy and identify sources of funding; and
3. Adopts Billy the Bungarra as the mascot for the Shire of Murchison and the Gascoyne Murchison Regional Shires; and
4. Authorises the CEO to seek opportunities to collaborate with willing Shires in the region on marketing initiatives that are within the Shire’s tourism budget; and
5. Pending equal commitment by the Shires in the regional group and resolution of any governance issues includes an amount of \$23,000 in the preparation of the 2013-14 budget for the regional tourism marketing strategy.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.7 Pool at CEO House**

File:	9.2
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	The CEO declares an interest
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	Pool & Spa

**Matter for Consideration:**

Whether the council proceeds with repairs to the pool at the CEO’s house or authorises the purchase of a spa instead.

**Background:**

The pool at the CEO’s house currently has a liner which is in a poor state of repair – there are a couple of holes around the edge and particularly where the steps are, a previous patch on the step has come away which has allowed water to get behind the liner. Frogs have got into this water and the liner is pulling away from the wall and wrinkled across the floor making it harder to clean and maintain. Council made an allocation of \$15,000 in this year’s budget to allow for repairs.

**Comment:**

The CEO has requested council to review this matter. The pool takes a considerable amount of maintenance – in the region of 2-3 hours per day to keep it clear of leaves and usable, especially as it is located in the middle of a group of gum trees that drop their bark every summer. It also uses a lot of chemicals, water and power during the season and it seems to be getting very minimal use. During the summer there has been only half a dozen times when the pool has been used by members of the settlement other than the CEO and her husband although they have advised everyone that they are welcome to use it whenever they like. It just seems to be an awful lot of effort for very little use. The CEO’s husband has been maintaining the pool but should the shire have a single CEO in the future the cost of this cleaning would fall back onto the shire staff as it did prior to the current CEO and make it unfeasible. Also the pump and pipe work, whilst currently working, are fairly old and having stood out in the full sun since being installed are brittle meaning that should anything fail it will probably incur replacement costs rather than repair. Whilst the idea of a pool with the house is great, in reality it is a never ending round of cleaning and checking. Many people that had pools in the past have come to this conclusion and are no longer using them due to costs of operation and time constraints.

An alternative would be to install a spa, these units are fully self contained and covered and easier to maintain. Most are now very energy efficient and use far fewer chemicals and less water. Also given the current demographics of the settlement the therapeutic benefits of the jets could be very beneficial. The CEO has obtained quotes on three spas which range from \$11,050 - \$12,190 which make them a comparable alternative to the proposed repairs by the time freight and wiring in is included.

Should council decide to opt for the spa alternative the existing pool could be drained and covered so that it could be re-activated in the future if the need arose (although this would no doubt be at a greater cost if it had not been used for a number of years) or alternatively the pool could be filled and a low maintenance Japanese Zen garden or similar put in its' place.

If council wishes to proceed with repairs to the pool two quotes have been obtained. One for a new liner \$14,000.00 or one to fibreglass and gelcoat the pool (a preferable alternative to a liner) for \$15,510.00.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil as an amount of \$15,000 has been allocated in the budget.

**Consultation:**

Tropicana Pools & Spas  
Pool & Spa Mart  
Clarke Rubber

**Recommendation:**

To be decided by council following discussion

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority (if changing to a capital purchase)

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.8 Subsidy for Satellite Services**

File:	14.12
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	Satellite Subsidy letter from Shire & reply from Minister

**Matter for Consideration:**

Response to the letter sent to Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy.

**Background:**

At the November meeting of council, Councillor Squires gave notice of a motion regarding the Satellite Phone Subsidy Scheme and council resolved to contact the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy to request and extension past the current 2013 date, request a 100% subsidy for residents of the shire of Murchison and a subsidy for the cost of the phone calls.

**Comment:**

A letter was sent on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2012 addressing the issues and a reply has now been received. The response states that the Australian Government is considering an extension of the scheme in the budget context. It basically says that the residents of the shire of Murchison are entitled to 85% of the handset, up to a maximum of \$1,000 and that this is the highest level of subsidy available. It does not address the issue of the subsidised phone calls at all. The letter is enclosed for Councils' consideration so that it can decide what further action, if any, it would like to take.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

To be determined

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**17.9 Lawn Bowls**

File:	
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	Bowls Quotes

**Matter for Consideration:**

Consideration of installation of bowling rinks at the Murchison Settlement.

**Background:**

Following the community consultation day it became apparent that there was strong support for the development of a couple of lawn bowls rinks in Murchison. There are a lot of people in support of establishing a club and it would add to the economic and social benefits of the community. At the February meeting it was suggested that we could accommodate up to two rinks by removing the western tennis court and that it could be an idea for the sports club to submit a proposal to the Community fund Committee to see if funding was available. The CEO was to obtain some quotes to see what sort of costs would be involved and what sort of funding might be available from the Department of Sport and Recreation.

**Comment:**

Following the meeting the CEO was given details of 'EverGreen' a WA based company specialising in synthetic grass Bowling Green installation. They have completed greens at Mullewa, Leonora, Wongan Hills, Geraldton, Jurien and many other country locations. I contacted them and they have supplied three quotes (as appended) ranging from \$109,648.00 to \$116,006.00 depending on the surface chosen. This quote is

based on the shire removing the old tennis court bitumen first. The rest of the work including levelling the surface, installing ditches and walls and supply and installing the grass is included in their quote. This would appear to be a very comprehensive quote and in view of the work entailed a reasonable proposal, but it may be higher than council had been thinking when originally discussing using second hand synthetic turf and doing the job ourselves. However, most bowlers would argue that if you want to actually have a bowls club then it has to be on a proper surface and these people are very experienced in this field of work.

In view of this council needs to consider the project in detail and when and how it could be funded if they wish to proceed with it. The proposal would fall into the category of the CSRFF grants from the Department of Sport and Rec. They have a funding round for small projects up to \$150,000 which is on a dollar for dollar matching basis which unfortunately closed at the end of February. Otherwise the next round of funding opens in August/September so the shire could make a submission then. This would need council to include an amount in their budget preparations for 2013/14.

Alternatively the shire could consider this project as part of this year’s CLGF funding. Currently this is proposed as \$100,000 towards a mini interpretive centre, \$100,000 for a Ballinyoo Bridge model/recognition and \$305,000 for the laundry development at the caravan park. The terms of this grant can be varied as we still have to submit full funding applications and business case proposals. Council may want to consider postponing the mini interpretive centre until a later date when a full centre can be considered, as this also seems to be high on the list of community priorities, or defer the bridge model/recognition until the outcome of the replacement project is known. If council did wish to proceed with any of these changes the FCWP would need to be reviewed to reflect these alterations.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Dependant on decision made by council – It could involve the varying of budgeted projects within the 2012/2013 financial year or inclusion of a funding provision within the 2013/2014 budget preparation.

**Consultation:**

EverGreen Synthetic Grass  
Department of Sport and Recreation

**Recommendation:**

That council look at varying the CLGF grant for 2012/2013 to include building of two bowling green rinks rather than the mini interpretive centre/Ballinyoo Bridge model and amend their FCWP accordingly to reflect these changes; or

That council make provision in their 2013/2014 budget preparations to include the building of two bowling green rinks subject to a successful grant funding from CSRFF; or

Council investigates other options and designs.

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority (If a variation to this year’s budget)

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**18. ADMINISTRATION**

**19. NOTICE OF MOTION****20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> February	Visit from Peter Foley, Police Inspector Mid West- Gascoyne District Office and Andy Greatwood Police District Superintendent, Mid West-Gascoyne district. General discussion on the area
19 <sup>th</sup> February	Meeting with Tami Maitre, Liberal Candidate – discussed SKA, Council Amalgamations, land sustainability and education assistance
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Discussion with Malcolm Goff of Carpe Diem regarding Workforce Planning
27 <sup>th</sup> February	With the Shire President and Cr Seaman I attended the Tourism Strategy Group Meeting and Yalgoo workshop.
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Meeting with road house operators to discuss some issues including provision of fire extinguisher and hose to front by pumps, the air compressor and minor repairs to building as noted by previous operators.
1 <sup>st</sup> March	With Cr Halleen I attended RRG Sub-Group meeting via tele-conference. Reviewed TWG response to roads 2030 submissions. Kalli Road not supported and argued our case for it to be included.
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Spoke with Alex Petrovski regarding possible funding availability towards our town planning scheme and town planning strategy
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Met with Travis Bate of RSM Bird Cameron to go through first draft of results of Community Plan Workshop and Community Survey
7 <sup>th</sup> March	With Cr Halleen I attended the RRG meeting in Geraldton. Presented our case for the Kalli Road to be included and the TWG are to have an out of session meeting to reconsider the decision.
7 <sup>th</sup> March	I attended the March MEG meeting, which was hosted by the MWDC and included further discussion on the Regional Tourism Strategy. We also discussed the regional CLGF funding application for the MRVC cell, which may not be ready in time for this year's round of funding. The meeting was followed by dinner at Skeetas, also hosted by the MWDC and including Alan Bradley, Executive Officer RDA to talk about the digital switch over.
8 <sup>th</sup> March	I had a meeting with Tony Turner of GIP to discuss the progress of the TPS and Strategy. He has completed a lot of work and has finally obtained the maps of the district – there had been some delay from the Department of Planning regarding the MRO/SKA site. He is hoping to attend the April meeting to do a presentation to council.
11 <sup>th</sup> March	With the Shire President and Works Supervisor we had a meeting with Mr & Mrs Tomkins to discuss the Nookawarra airstrip issue.
11 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> March	AVP Valuers attended the settlement to carry out a complete valuation of all shire plant and equipment and land and buildings. The valuations will be utilised in the Asset Management Plan, and we will be able to reconcile our asset register and insurance. They are also providing values to tie in with the 'Fair Value Accounting' standards which become part of the AAS standards and Local Government regs with effect from 30 <sup>th</sup> June.
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Astrofest committee meeting – Very positive first meeting with Priscilla Clayton, Brendin Flanigan, Sandy McTaggart, Trevor Hipper and Steve Goodbourn. Apologies Frances Jones and Robin Bodington.
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Budget review with Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels

**Recommendation:**

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

**21. URGENT BUSINESS**

**22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

**22.1 Chief Executive Officer – 6 Month Qualifying Period**

File:	4.20
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	The author declares a financial interest
Date:	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	

**Matter for Consideration:**

Council is required to review the fact that the six month qualifying period for Jenny Goodbourn as Chief Executive Officer for the Shire of Murchison has been completed as per the endorsed employment contract.

**Background:**

Jenny Goodbourn commenced in the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Shire of Murchison on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2012 and has now completed the six month qualifying period. Under the agreed employment contract section 3.3 states:

*3.3.1 The Chief Executive Officer’s employment will be subject to an initial qualifying period of six months. If the Chief Executive Officer’s performance has not been successful during this period, the Council may terminate this Contract or extend the period for a further three months, up to a total period of nine months. If the Chief executive Officer’s performance has met the Council’s requirements, then the Chief Executive Officer’s appointment will be confirmed.*

**Comment:**

Having completed the initial qualifying period Council need to formally address the fact and record their decision regarding the performance of the Chief Executive Officer.

**Statutory Environment:**

Section 5.39 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires that:

*The employment of a person who is a CEO or senior employee is to be governed by a written contract in accordance with this section*

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil.

**Financial Implications:**

Nil.

**Consultation:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

To be decided by council following discussion.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority.

***Council Decision:***

**Moved: Councillor**

**Seconded: Councillor**

**Carried/Lost**

**For:**

**Against:**

**23. MEETING CLOSURE**