



Western Australia

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
On Friday **16th August**, commencing at 10.00 am.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 10.58am and welcomed Travis Bate of RSM Bird Cameron.

The start of the meeting had been delayed due to an outdoor broadcast by the ABC. Glen Barndon had come to the settlement to do his morning show to help promote the Astrofest. The President and CEO had been asked to do interviews. Council decided they would come to the sports club to hear the interviews and also remained to hear the interview by Sandy McTaggart and Reg Seaman regarding Wild Dogs and pastoral lease changes.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Elected Members:

- Councillor S A Broad, Shire President
- Councillor R E Foulkes-Taylor, Deputy Shire President
- Councillor M Halleen
- Councillor P Squires
- Councillor B M Seaman
- Councillor A Whitmarsh

Staff:

- Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
- Dianne Daniels - Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Brian Wundenberg - Works Supervisor

Visitors:

Travis Bate – RSM Bird Cameron

Apologies:

Nil.

Leave of Absence:

Nil

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4.1 Standing Orders

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

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: 1

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 20th September 2013.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 19th July 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 19th July 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Halleen****Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19th July 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings

Carried**For: 6****Against: 0****9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Nil

10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

The Shire President welcomed Travis Bate from RSM Bird Cameron who had come to assist council with any queries they might have on the Long Term Financial Plan and the Corporate Business Plan and to provide an over view on the Integrated Planning Framework and what we have achieved.

Travis had been going to join us by phone but decided it would be better to attend in person as these plans really pull all the previous plans together. The Long Term Financial plan takes all the results from the other plans and tries to project them into a ten year budget to show the performance of the shire.

The new ratios have been set by the Department of Local Government and some of them such as the 'Own Source Revenue Ratio' and the 'Rates Coverage Ratio' will never be achievable by Shires such as Murchison and our neighbouring shires as there is a very small population base and limited opportunities for revenue raising.

The plans have been developed to present a realistic view and do not include any CLGF or Royalties for Regions money, which is just as well following announcements earlier in the week that the 2012/2013 will be the final round.

The asset values have been based on the revaluation done by AVP valuations and data from Roman processed by Greenfields for the road infrastructure. All values are fair value @ 30th June 2013 and this has led to an increase in the depreciation allocation required.

The 2013/2014 budget and the 2012/2013 actuals have provided a starting point for the plans.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor raised the issue of the KPI's and the ratios set by the department. He is concerned that there are a lot of red lines on the KPI pages and that some of the ratios will be impossible for a shire such as Murchison to ever achieve. He asked if there was anything we could do to note that we understand and that it is unrealistic for a shire of our dynamics to ever reach the 'own source revenue' ratio or 'rates coverage ratio'. We just do not have the population base or the opportunities to raise revenue that larger or metropolitan councils do.

Cr Seaman said that whilst we are not achieving the ratios the shire is consistently achieving and there is no downward spiral.

Cr Broad agreed and said the real question was why had the own source revenue ratios been set at 40-60% which would not be achievable by any of the small rural shires.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor felt that we needed to add something in so that down the track if there were any questions it showed that Council had discussed the matter and would justify the reports.

There was discussion on adding a type of disclaimer or explanation to the reports.

Regarding the capital works programme it was felt that it was a bit heavy on the Carnarvon–Mullewa road seal (\$876,601) and light on renewal/upgrade of buildings (\$21,795). This was based on the last few years actual expenditure, however this included an unusually large amount of sealing work – some 17Km's of seal had been completed in 2012/2013, which is not the norm. It was also felt that many of the buildings were at the stage where they will need more upgrades (kitchens, air-cons etc) and this should be reflected in the projections.

Travis advised that we could adjust the renewal/upgrade of buildings up to \$100,000 per year and the roadworks down without any change to the bottom line figures and Council agreed this would be good. Cr Foulkes-Taylor thanked Travis for making the effort to come to the shire as it had been very good to be able to get explanations and arrange amendments face to face and much better than had it been over a telephone hook up.

Council decided to deal with items 17.1 and 17.2 whilst Travis was still available and brought them forward to this part of the meeting.

17.1 Consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan

File:	4.39
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 th August 2013
Attachments:	Long Term Financial Plan Draft

Matter for Consideration:

Consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan for adoption by Council.

Background:

As part of the Integrated Planning Process council engaged RSM Bird Cameron to prepare our Long Term Financial Plan and other required reports.

Comment:

The Draft Long Term Financial Plan has been developed and is now presented for council's comments and/or adoption. The plan is being developed in conjunction with the Asset Management Plan, Strategic Community Plan, Workforce Plan and Corporate Business Plan and forms part of the required Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework introduced by the Department of Local Government.

This framework had to be developed by 30th June 2013 as budget preparations and annual reports have to reflect the new criteria with effect from 1st July 2013, however as long as we have the plan adopted before we adopt the budget we can show that this year's budget strategies have been based on the integrated planning framework developed by the shire. The plan is a little bit later than we had hoped but as we were in the middle of budget preparation we wanted to make sure we were using the correct information from within our adopted plans to develop the LTFP and that this then flowed through to the budget and everything tied in as it should. We had hoped to have the plan available at the July meeting but it is available at today's meeting.

Statutory Environment:

Integrated Planning and Reporting Standards as set by the Department of Local Government.

Strategic Implications:

The Long Term Financial Plan is an integral part of the Integrated Planning Process which has to be developed by all local governments within WA.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Travis Bate – RSM Bird Cameron
Dianne Daniels – Deputy CEO

Recommendation:

That the shire adopts the Long Term Financial Plan.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

That the shire adopts the Long Term Financial Plan including the following amendments:-

- New section *The Shire's Circumstances* (Page 7 & 8), which provides some commentary regarding the KPI's and Ratios
- Changes under *Key Assumptions Underpinning the Long Term Financial Plan* in relation to the adjusted Capital Expenditure on buildings and roads.
- Capital Works Schedule has been updated as follows:
- Building Renewal/Upgrade increased to \$100,000 p.a. from 2015/16 onwards
- Road Construction reduced by \$78,205 from 2015/16 onwards.
- These changes have resulted in some minor changes to ratios due to differences in the depreciation rates between Buildings and Roads and the reduction in road expenditure being from construction as opposed to Renewal. The ratios have not been impacted negatively from these changes.

Carried by Absolute Majority

For: 6

Against: 0

The recommendation was amended to reflect the amendments to the plan which Council wanted to include.

17.2 Consideration of the Corporate Business Plan

File:	4.39
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 th August 2013
Attachments:	Corporate Business Plan Draft

Matter for Consideration:

Consideration of the Corporate Business Plan for adoption by Council.

Background:

As part of the Integrated Planning Process council engaged RSM Bird Cameron to prepare our Corporate Business Plan and other required reports.

Comment:

The Corporate Business Plan has been developed and is now presented for council's comments and/or adoption. The plan is being developed in conjunction with the Asset Management Plan, Strategic Community Plan, Workforce Plan and Long Term Financial Plan and forms part of the required Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework introduced by the Department of Local Government.

This framework had to be developed by 30th June 2013 as budget preparations and annual reports have to reflect the new criteria with effect from 1st July 2013, however as long as we have the plan adopted before we adopt the budget we can show that this year's budget strategies have been based on the integrated planning framework developed by the shire. The Corporate Business plan is a little bit later than we had hoped but it could not be developed until all our other plans had been developed as all these plans feed into the Corporate Business Plan and as we were in the middle of budget preparation we wanted to make sure we were using the correct information from within our adopted plans to develop this plan and everything tied in as it should. We had hoped to have the plan available at the July meeting but it is available at today's meeting.

Statutory Environment:

Integrated Planning and Reporting Standards as set by the Department of Local Government.

Strategic Implications:

The Corporate Business Plan is an integral part of the Integrated Planning Process which has to be developed by all local governments within WA.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Travis Bate – RSM Bird Cameron
Dianne Daniels – Deputy CEO

Recommendation:

That the shire adopts the Corporate Business Plan.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor	Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh	
That the shire adopts the Corporate Business Plan including the following amendments:		
New section <i>The Shire's Circumstances</i> is on pages 10 & 11 and provides some commentary regarding the KPI's and Ratios.		
Capital Works schedule updated to reflect the changes to the Long Term Financial Plan:-		
Building Renewal/Upgrade increased to \$100,000 p.a. from 2015/16 onwards		
Road construction reduced by \$78,205 p.a. from 2015/16 onwards		
Carried by Absolute Majority	For: 6	Against: 0

The recommendation was amended to reflect the amendments to the plan which Council wanted to include.

The Shire President thanked Travis for his time and input into the meeting.

Travis left the meeting at 11.35am

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	Further input required re alteration to shade house CAG meeting planned for 31 st August
3.	Classification of Pindar Beringarra Road	Pindar – Beringarra ongoing.	Programme of works to be established
4.	Nookawarra Airstrip	Work to rip strip proposed for week commencing 15 th July. Will rip within road boundary and close end of strip to the east of Beringarra-Pindar Road	Work completed to close east end of airstrip and prevent it crossing Beringarra-Pindar Road
5.	Community Centre Kitchen	Install Lockable Storage Area	Area installed – just requires painting & final touches.
6.	Rates on Boolardy Station now that it is owned by CSIRO & Dust Suppression and ongoing road agreement issues	Rates not payable. Letter sent to CSIRO. Ex-gratia payment of \$95,000 received. Still no response to road dust suppression and road agreements.	Letter sent expressing disappointment – CSIRO not honouring agreement.

7.	Contact CGG re gravel road in their shire. Carnarvon-Mullewa and Beringarra-Pindar	Discussed with CGG CEO, Ken Diehm on 27 th June. Details sent through to him as no response from previous correspondence with Neil Arbuthnot (CGG) or Brendan Wilson (Mullewa)	Following up – still – with CGG
8.	Establishment of Working Group for Accident Prevention	Following annual Electors Meeting – community wish to set up accident prevention group to help work towards road safety and reduced RTA's.	To be established.
9.	Litter initiatives	Following annual Electors meeting' – community push to improve litter situation. Set up initiative with Pia to coincide with council visit.	CEO to arrange date for Council Meeting to be held out at Pia - trying to establish best date with Liz Sorrensen

The CEO ran through the action list. Re # 5 Cr Seaman asked whether there was any lighting in the new lock up area - there hasn't been any installed but it is a good idea and we will get it done the next time we get an electrician out here.

The CEO advised that she had spoken with James Abbot regarding the Beringarra-Pindar Road and will be sending formal details of proposed work included in the budget for their action once the budget has been adopted. James has advised that following receipt of this CSIRO will be able to advise what funding is available to assist with this work.

Re # 7 Cr Foulkes - Taylor advised that Michael Foulkes-Taylor had attended a meeting of the Pindar Progress association and advised that representatives from the city of Greater Geraldton had been there to discuss roads and concerns. The CEO advised that Mr Foulkes-Taylor had spoken to her regarding the Pindar meeting on the 27th July and had said that he had raised the Beringarra – Pindar Road and the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and been advised to get the shire to follow it up with Neil Arbuthnot. The CEO had sent correspondence to Mr Arbuthnot back in April and followed up with Brendan at Mullewa but is still to receive any response. The CEO has now raised the issue with Ken Diehm (CEO – City of Greater Geraldton) and received a reply that he will look into the matter and get back to us shortly. This reply was received this morning (16th August).

There was a general consensus that it would be a good idea if council had a representative at the next Pindar Progress Association meeting and it was confirmed that no-one had known the date of the meeting and that it would be a good idea to contact the group and confirm our support and ask to be advised of meeting dates.

Recommendation:

That the Action List be accepted.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Halleen	Seconded: Councillor Seaman	
That the Action list be accepted		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

11.1 Pindar Progress Association

Following the above discussion on #7 council wished to introduce a resolution.

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Seaman	Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor	
That Council write a letter of support to the Pindar Progress Association and ask to be advised about meeting dates.		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

12. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

13. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**13.1 Monthly Plant Report – Works Supervisor**

July			Hours					YTD	
Plant Item	Year	Rego	1 July '12	Start	End	Total		Operating Costs	
			Hrs/kms	Hrs/km	Month	YTD	Plant	Fuel	
Cat Grader 12H P.02	2005	MU 141	9996	9996	10185	189	189	1381.29	3578.08
Cat Grader 12M P.03	2008	MU 51	5844	5844	6025	181	181	1131.66	3854.39
Volvo Loader P.27	2006	MU 65	5420	5420	5534	114	114	183.12	1198.33
Komatsu Dozer	1997		8208	8208	8288	80	80	1712.16	2550.33
Cat Vibe Roller P.16	2005	MU 177	1509	1509	1591	82	82	305.2	1897.59
JD Grader P.01	2011	MU 121	3040	3040	3235	195	195	344.16	4896.24
Bomag Roller P.43	2012	1DVH736	1097	1097	1140	43	43	571	635.82
Cat 938G Loader P.41	2004	MU 193	4078	4078	4135	57	57	1473.84	1694.58
Kenworth P/Mover	2004	MU 000	7174	7174	9724	2550	2550	989.02	2585.57
Iveco P/Mover	2003	1AGW988	267205	267205	269746	2541	2541	0	1311.11
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	141649	141649	144006	2357	2357	3574.96	1944.12
Iveco Tipper Conv P.10	2004	MU 00	157865	157865	157865	0	0	183.12	1601.53
Generator 1-110kva	2011		7315	7315	7593	278	278	549.36	11170.63
Generator 2-110kva	2011		6897	6897	7366	469	469		
Maintenance Gen			658	658	1255	597	597	597.71	
Construction Gen			11770	11770	12368	598	598	0	
Kubota 6kva Gen	2012		1844	1844	2089	245	245		
Mitsubishi Canter P.06	2011	01 MU	82788	82788	85918	3130	3130	122.08	985.45
Mitsubishi Canter P.25	2009	MU 140	160154	160154	163509	3355	3355	2328.69	728.87
Toyota Prado	2012	MU 0	9557	9557	9601	44	44	0	124
Great Wall	2012	MU 167	11257	11257	12494	1237	1237	217	315.8
Isuzu Dmax P.28	2009	MU 300	154278	154278	156777	2499	2499	244.16	304.52
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	93250	93250	96745	3495	3495	747.28	810.64
Isuzu T/Top	2005	MU 1002	116400	116400	118553	2153	2153	2087.31	1447.87
Mercedes Patient/Trf	2004	MU 1009	97283	97283	97496	213	213	49	0
Side Tipper P.18	2001	MU 2010	25303	25303	28341	3038	3038	0	n/a
Side Tip-Evertran P.17	2009	MU 662	66102	66102	68243	2141	2141	39.10	n/a
Tri-Axle L/L Float P.13	2008	MU 663	3769	3769	4233	464	464	0	n/a
45ft Flat Top	1978	1THH060	25	25	25	0	0	0	n/a
No. 2 Float	2001	MU 2004	26835	26835	29290	2455	2455	0	n/a
30000L W/Tanker P.24	2005	MU 2024	26524	26524	27675	1151	1151	0	n/a
Dog Fuel Trailer P.48	1993	MU 658					n/a		n/a
Dog Fuel Trailer P. 49	1972	MU 2005					n/a		n/a
Dolly 1-Red P.05	2001	MU 2003	24567	24567	26627	2060	2060		n/a
Dolly 2-Black P.08	2000	MU 2009	562	562	562	0	0	183.12	n/a
New/H Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1596	1596	1614	18	18	0	367.96
Forklift			11847	11847	11861	14	14	244.16	66.26
Caravans							n/a	732.84	n/a
JD Ride on mower			293	293	299.6	6.6	6.6		n/a

The works supervisor was welcomed by the Shire President and ran through his plant report. There was a marked increase in the maintenance grader hours this month. The heavy maintenance is freeing up John and Glen to do just maintenance grading and also they are working on the narrower roads in the north of the shire and had been camping out for more of the month. Cr Squires said having worked on site last week he realised how much the additional works had slowed down the kilometres able to be graded. Cr Broad queried the settlement generator hours. It had been decided to run mainly one generator but this didn't appear to be happening. There was discussion on the best way to do this. It was decided to run the 'second' generator for one day per week to keep it in condition.

Cr Seaman left the meeting at 11.45am

Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 11.47am.

13.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor

Construction Crew

Since my last report on the 13th July, the crew have finished the 3km of gravel sheeting on the Beringarra - Cue Road. Additional drains have been put in this 3km section to direct water off the road on the east side. 12km of maintenance grading was also completed by the construction grader while waiting for gravel to be carted onto road works. With the completion of the 3km road works crew then moved onto the next section of works program - the new realignment of corner on the Beringarra/Mt-Gould road (known as Dirk's corner). This new realignment is now complete with a big improvement for traffic.

See attachment.

While the grader, water truck and roller were working on the corner, gravel was also carted into the low lying areas and bog holes in the river section of this road. Extra gravel was also placed on road-side in readiness for heavy maintenance/maintenance crew when they work their way up to Beringarra.

Gravel has also been carted by construction crew and placed on the road-side on Beringarra/Pindar road with extra for some bunds south of the intersection at Beringarra.

With the completion of works at Beringarra, crew then moved onto the next works program - 2.5km of reforming of road and rebuilding and putting in new bunds and contour banks plus drains. Work commenced from the intersection of Beringarra/Byro - Carnarvon/Mullewa road. At this stage road has been widened, reformed and crew are now starting on contour banks plus gravel sheeting.

Maintenance Crew

John and Glen have completed a full grade on the Beringarra/Pindar road as far as Nookawarra/Mileura road intersection including the Manfred road and Nookawarra/Mileura road. From here crew will do 2 days grading heading north on the Beringarra/Pindar road from Nookawarra then move their camp up to Beringarra homestead and finish off Beringarra/Cue – Beringarra/Mt Gould roads. They will then do a full grade to Milly Milly before moving camp to the intersection of Erong road.

On Saturday 10th August I had the two maintenance graders brought back to the settlement from their camp at Nookawarra to do a light grade (with the help of a contract grader) on the Carnarvon/Mullewa road south of the settlement in readiness for the Astrofest to be held on Saturday 17/8/2013 and Landor races at the end of next month.

On Monday 19th August John and Glen will begin patch grading the rough section north of the settlement on the Carnarvon/Mullewa road as far as Beringarra/Byro for Landor races traffic heading north. I have allowed 4 days grading on this section and crew will then head back to their maintenance grading program.

On Sunday 11th August I, (Brian) graded the Errabiddy Bluff road in readiness for tourists on the Astrofest weekend.

Grids

A new 24ft grid has been installed replacing the old 12ft grid, 5km north of Boolardy homestead on the Beringarra/Pindar road by Rossco and Tom Foulkes-Taylor. Prep work – approaches to the new grid will be completed by heavy maintenance crew when next heading north for road works.

Heavy Maintenance.

Heavy Maintenance - (Sandy) is now in full swing with gravel sheeting. Starting from turn off into MRO heading north to boundary grid on the Beringarra/Pindar road.

He has 600m of gravel carted on road ½ km before boundary grid of Boolardy/Nookawarra plus gravel carted to bunds for repairs, rebuilds and installation of 1 new bund.

Today Monday 12th August Sandy is getting together grid inserts for new grid replacement program on the Beringarra /Pindar road.

We have hired Greydon Mead's semi side tipper for \$200p/day until shire new tipper is built

Road Traffic Counter Report - Beringarra/Pindar Road

300m before Boolardy Homestead turn off

Ave 11.9 vehicles per day over 68 days

10km north of Boolardy

Ave 14 vehicles per day over 42 days

100m up MRO road

Ave 8.1 vehicles per day over 68 days

2.5km north of MRO turn off

Ave 4.3 vehicles per day over 68 days

[See attachments](#)**Staff**

Sandy - Monday 15/7/2013 - Friday 19/7/2013 off = 5days

Stuart Broad filled in for Sandy finishing off signage on various roads from the 18th July to 26th July.

Brian – 26/7/2013 - 2/8/2013 =5days - Part of long service leave.

Pick up on the Beringarra/Pindar road as requested by council at June meeting.Started pick up 9.45am Friday 5th August commencing from south end of Pindar.

4.00pm got as far as Mc-Nabbs/Twin-Peaks road.

Saturday 6th August (second day) got to Murgoo turn off. Short day as I had to go up to see how Sandy was going with gravel sheeting and bunds (north of MRO) plus get road counter info.[See attachment for pick up to Murgoo.](#)**Plant repairs.**

No big repairs this month.

Isuzu ute air bag for back ----\$800

Pre clear bowl dozer -----\$350

Have ordered 4 new back tyres for construction grader

New alternator for dozer---\$450

Construction camp now have TV in their vans ---\$8,500

ROADS GRADED 12/07/2013 – 12/08/2013

Name	Length of Road	SLK's Graded this month	Heavy-Road Maintenance/Repairs Loader-truck	Comments
Beringarra /Pindar	319.80km	62km	Gravel sheet 600m section plus repair bunds	MRO to Nookawarra
Erong	63.12km			
Beringarra/Byro	90.89km			
Twin-Peaks/Wooleen	47.65km			
Boolardy/Kalli	57.30km	37km		
Byro/Woodleigh	71.00km			
New Forrest/Yallalong	36.18km			
M ^c Nabb/Twin-peaks	49.75km			
Yallalong-West	34.46km			
Mileura/Nookawarra	49.08km	49km		
Muggon	38.75km			
Manfred	34.55km	34.550km		
Beringarra/Mt Gould	34.80km			
Tardie/Yuin	13.20km			
Innouendy	9.30km			
Boolardy Homestead	2.00km			
Yunda Homestead	32.80km			
Meeberrie Woolleen	25.22km			
Mt Wittenoorn	37.55km			
Woolleen/Mt Wittenoorn	33.85km			
Beringarra Cue	109.82km	12km		By construction grader
Boolardy Wooleen	19.08km			
Kalli Cue East	21.87km			
Coodardy Noondie	19.92km			
Butchers Track	64.54km			

Butchers Muggon	23.80km			
Murchison Settlement	2.00km			
Pinegrove Yallalong	-----			
Carnarvon-Mullewa	278.63km			
Woolgorong-South	15.00km			
Nookawarra homestead		1km		
Errabiddy-Bluff	12km	12km		Graded by Brian
Air strip Graded				nil

Total this month graded – 207.550km

The works supervisor ran through his report.

Cr Broad asked whether our signage was Ok or more than we needed. The Works supervisor advised that it was adequate but whilst carrying out the inspection of the Beringarra-Cue road and travelling slowly there were corners and sections that needed further signage. The areas are known by locals but not to visitors and further signage would be advisable.

There was discussion on the report on the Beringarra-Pindar road which the works supervisor has started to enable a comprehensive costing of improvements to be compiled.

Tenders have been called for the first grids to be replaced and Cr Squires asked whether we had enough grid tops.

Cr Broad suggested we put a notice in the Monologue/to the community to advise that the shire is looking for grids as there may be some not being used on stations that could be obtained.

Cr Halleen asked about the two C section grids that are at Boolardy. Apparently the design makes them higher than the grids we are currently using and we are trying to keep them all the same so that parts can be interchanged if required.

Cr Halleen asked about stripping that is occurring north of the Meeberrie turn off. This is from the most recent reseal. There is also a problem with the work just past the Twin Peaks Turnoff with some corrugations in the bitumen. The works supervisor advised that he has taken pictures and been in contact with Greenfields. It would seem that there is a problem with one full strip and this should be under warranty.

Cr Seaman queried whether we had used Geofabric at the floodway south of Meeberrie. Yes.

Cr Squires queried who is the best company to do this sort of work? Boral have had a lot of experience but were a lot more expensive in the recent tender.

There was general discussion and it was noted that following the hassles we have had with the last two lots of sealing it is not necessarily best to go for the cheapest tenderer.

Cr Broad asked when the maintenance crew were going to get their vast TV set up. This will be done in town when the new caravans come up, prior to bringing them out to the settlement.

Cr Halleen asked whether the dozer was still using oil. The works supervisor advised that it had not been the oil seal but the problem has been fixed and it is not using anything like as much oil as it was.

Recommendation:

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

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Squires	Seconded: Councillor Halleen	
That the Work’s Supervisor’s report be accepted.		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

Council decided to deal with item 18.1 whilst Brian Wundenberg, the Works Supervisor was still available and brought it forward to this part of the meeting.

18.1 Beringarra-Cue Road Train Permit Termination

File:	12.24
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 th August 2013
Attachments:	Greenfield Report Beringarra- Cue Road Report

Matter for Consideration:

Report on the Beringarra-Cue Road in conjunction with the termination of the road train permit agreement by Crosslands Resources.

Background:

At the July meeting it was advised that Crosslands had written to the shire saying that they were terminating the road train agreement which they have had in place to maintain the Beringarra-Cue Road since 2006. There are certain points under the termination clause which they have to comply with before handing the road back to the shire. The first thing which needed to be done was a joint inspection of the road to ascertain its' condition and what repairs are required.

Comment:

On the 24th July an inspection was carried out with representatives from the shires of Murchison and Cue, Crosslands Resources, Greenfield Technical Services, Roadtech and MRWA. The full report prepared by Greenfields Technical Services is attached.

The three main options are:-

6.0 OPTIONS & COSTS**6.1 Maintain Sealed Road Standard**

Under the terms of the Agreement, CRL is committed to repair all defects per Schedule 3 and to apply a chip-seal over all sealed sections, total 176 Kms. I expect that the order of costs under this requirement is conservatively \$ 6M-\$ 8M.

This work would most likely only address surface apparent issues. It would most likely not address the underlying reasons for poor pavement performance – poor basecourse, poor drainage, salt affected seal.

If CRL completes repairs and re-seal per the terms of the Agreement, then the Shires will have to take over responsibility for the road. At that stage, the shires will need to develop a long-term management plan and funding strategy to either maintain or run-down the road.

As an indicator of potential on-going maintenance costs, Roadtech advise that the current monthly maintenance bill is approx. \$ 80,000 per month. The long-term cost of re-sealing the road every 12-15 years will be approx. \$ 5M-\$6M (2013 dollars). Note that Cue-Beringarra Road is unlikely to attract any significant RRG funding.

6.2 Revert to Unsealed Road Standard

If all parties are agreed, the road could be wholly returned to an unsealed standard.

The seal could be fully stripped off to expose the basecourse and the road shaped up with a light grade, water and roll. Allow for some top-up basecourse and allow also to improve off-road drainage. Estimated Cost – allow in the order of \$ 2M-\$ 3M.

Alternatively, the pavement including seal could be chewed up using a reclaimer and the road reconstructed as an unsealed road. Allow for some top-up basecourse and allow also to improve off-road drainage. Estimated Cost – allow in the order of \$ 2.8M-\$ 3.8M.

This work could be undertaken by CRL as part of an exit strategy or by the Shires using CRL exit funding. Once the road is wholly returned to unsealed standard, the shires would then maintain the road per it's routine road maintenance program.

6.3 Retain all serviceable seal until it is no longer serviceable

Although, this makes some sense in the short-term, it is probably the worst of both worlds because all responsibility rests with the Shires and the final cost is something of an educated best-guess.

The process for closing out the agreement and recovering ultimate costs would be as uncertain as the future life of the sealed pavement.

During the Local Government Convention the CEO and the Shire President met with the CEO and Shire President of the Shire of Cue for preliminary discussion on the report. It was felt that option 3 was the most preferred due to the low volume of traffic using the road but further details are required. We have gone back to Greenfields to ask for a full costing of repairing the road and resealing the road from beginning to end in accordance with the agreement.

In subsequent talks with Brian Wundenberg, the works supervisor, he has raised concerns with this option. It would involve a lot of patching and maintenance. As pot holes appear the shire would either have to repair the pothole or decide to revert that section back to gravel and carry out the work in a timely manner. If we are holding sufficient monies to enable the work to be carried out by contractors that would offset the demand on the shire crew, however costs for mobe/de-mobe of contractors for what could be fairly small jobs would need to be taken into account.

There are three other points which the Shire of Murchison also needs to consider:-

7.5 Pindabam (Ponthoon) Creek Crossing

The Worley Parsons Report listed that Pindabam Creek crossing would be upgraded to 8.0m wide concrete structure with relief culvert. This was not done.

The current crossing has concrete cut-off walls each side with cement-stabilised pavement and seal. There is no relief culvert. Shire of Murchison to advise it's requirements.

7.6 Mine Access Road intersection

The Cue-Beringarra Road was re-aligned to give priority to traffic to and from the Mine Access Road. Now that the Mine Access Road is closed, the Shire of Murchison may want to put the Cue-Beringarra Road back on original alignment. I gather that there may still be a grid to be reinstated at this location.

Shire to advise it's requirements.

7.7 Roadtech Camp at Mileura

The area used by Roadtech for camp and storage facilities should be reinstated to its original condition.

The CEO advised that since writing the agenda item there had been some further correspondence. Greenfields have given a scope of works to do a full report on the road to document what is required to bring it back to standard and prepare an estimate of the costs of those works and a costing for the re-seal of the entire length of the road. The cost for this report would be in the region of \$25-\$30,000. CRL have advised that they will be able to fund the proposed report subject to receiving a copy of the initial report and a copy of the proposed report to be undertaken.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor felt the only real option that Council could take was to revert the road to gravel unless MRWA would support it.

Brian Wundenberg, works supervisor, said that Mark Salt from MRWA had been on the inspection and there were lots of problems with sections where there are pin holes appearing due to problems with the foundations. Brian feels there would be a lot of work constantly checking and patching the road if we want to keep it part bitumen and part gravel.

Cr Squires said that after reading the report we would have to go with option 2 as we don't have a bitumen crew and it would overall be easier to maintain as a gravel road.

Cr Seaman asked what sort of maintenance costs would be involved and the impact of the FAG. Greenfields have said that Roadtech say the maintenance is \$80,000 per month – although this would have been when carting not now and the likely loss to the FAG is around \$50,000 per annum. (A lot less than the cost of maintaining it as bitumen).

Cr Halleen asked whether we would be able to retain some sections of seal to allow overtaking spots.

Brian Wundenberg, works supervisor said that drainage issues were a major concern and could impact on any future flood damage claims.

Cr Broad said that from driving on it a lot of it still looks good and there would be a very low volume of traffic using the road. We need to get more details.

CEO said that today's item was only to decide the next step and not choose what option to take regarding the road. To enable Council to make a decision we need to get the detailed report and costings and then revisit the issue.

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:

To be determined

Consultation:

Michael Keane, Greenfields Technical Services
Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor

Recommendation:

That council continue negotiations with Crosslands Resources regarding the termination of the Crosslands Road Train Agreement.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

That council continue negotiations with Crosslands Resources regarding the termination of the Crosslands Road Train Agreement and request Greenfields to undertake the full report at a cost of \$25 - \$30k, to be paid for by Crosslands Resources, so that we can progress the matter.

Carried

For: 6

Against: 0

The recommendation was amended to reflect the further information received since the Agenda item was originally prepared.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED**14.1 Shire President**

The Shire President wanted to say how much he appreciated Council nominating him for the WALGA life membership award.

It is a huge honour and a privilege to receive this award. Council has been through some tough times and the ability to stick together and work through issues has helped overcome them.

Thank you

The Shire President would like to thank Council for allowing him and Natalie to attend the LG Convention. One of the speakers had been Aron Ralston the guy who after becoming trapped by a rock fall when canyoning had had to make the decision to cut off his arm with a pen knife. He had been a very motivational speaker and Simon had been asked to look after him during afternoon tea. A few points he had not mentioned during his speech was that it had been 2 months after the accident before he was given a clean bill of health. He had suffered for 6 weeks with a severe bone infection and was given only a 50/50 chance of survival.

The president had also asked him why hadn't he cut the arm off at the elbow rather than further down where he had to break the bone as well. Aron said that it only struck him about 6-8 weeks later that it would have been easier to cut through the elbow, however he is glad he didn't as it has left him with a workable joint and more of an arm to work with the prosthetic.

Lastly the president asked him why he hadn't had a survival plan – no one knew where he was, when he was expected back or anything.

Aron said that he usually prepared a full survival plan, full details of times, places, vehicles etc, but this to him had been a Saturday afternoon walk - nothing major and he hadn't thought there would be any problems. Lesson learnt – always have a plan – don't take things for granted.

The president said that he was glad to see that Dick's corner (corner east of Byro T junction) had now been improved. Now a much safer corner and one of those jobs that should have been done years ago.

The president had a clipping from the Mid West Times – 'Anti-smoking message nets cash for school'. Gus Thomas of Pia Wadjarri had won a competition that had won \$1,500 for the school. Council resolved to send a letter of encouragement to Gus and the school.

The president advised that he and the CEO had attended a meeting with the CEO and Shire President of Cue whilst at the LG Convention to discuss the Beringarra-Cue Road.

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor left the meeting at 12.57pm

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor rejoined the meeting at 12.59pm

Cr Seaman raised the issue that the Driver Reviver programme is to be axed. The \$1.5m funding is being cut. This programme has worked very well in the bush and she would like to know why it is being cut. Cr Seaman suggested that Council write to the Minister of Police to ask for the rationale behind the cut. Cr Squires supported Cr Seaman's idea and Council resolved to issue a letter to this effect.

Council broke for lunch at 1.03pm

Council resumed at 2.00pm

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor, did not rejoin the meeting after lunch.

The President advised that he had received an email from Neil Warne who wanted to express his appreciation to Council for nominating him for the WALGA Local Government Officer's award. The President had caught up with Neil at the LG Convention and been able to congratulate him on his award which he was very pleased to receive.

The President advised that he had been speaking with Cr Squires at lunch and felt it was a good idea that we encouraged surrounding shires to also write to the Police Minister regarding the Driver Reviver Programme. The CEO will advise them of our letter and ask for their support.

14.2 Councillors

Cr Seaman
Nil

Cr Whitmarsh

Had attended the NRM (Natural Resource Management) meeting – one of the issues addressed was bringing all states into the Camel Control programme and the requested \$15k contribution.

Dr Brian Warren was re-signing his position. The meeting had been cut short as the speaker was taken ill and had to be taken to hospital.

Cr Halleen asked if they had moved to their new facility yet. Cr Whitmarsh – not yet.

Cr Squires asked if the \$15k camel contribution was per state. Yes. What would it achieve? Cr Halleen advised that there has been a working group set up for the past few years but nothing has been done. The camel problem in the Murchison is getting worse/Mobs as big as 38 had been seen around Jack Hills, south of Mileura homestead. The general consensus was that the issue should be raised addressed and could be raised at the RBG AGM.

The AGM is to be held on the 19th September and will need to address the issue that 22 properties have not paid and this will affect who is a current member. The government will only match monies paid so this is costing the RBG funding.

Cr Halleen advised that there will be an email coming out regarding voting/proxy voting. The next RBG meeting after the AGM will be held in Murchison or Shark Bay.

Cr Whitmarsh also attended the LG Convention and agreed with Cr Foulkes-Taylor's report. He had attended two training courses whilst down in Perth – 'Roles and Responsibilities' and Public Speaking.

Cr Whitmarsh had found the main speakers to be good but some of the later ones not so good.

Cr Squires

Thanks to Council for letting him and Jo attend the LG Convention. Jo enjoyed the partner programme and can now make cheese.

Cr Squires likes Cr Foulkes-Taylor's report. He had enjoyed the convention and come away with something, worthwhile attending.

Cr Squires just wanted to note that he will not be running for re-election in October. As he does contract work for the shire he has decided not to stand again. Cr Squires has enjoyed his time on council – he feels it has taught him to be patient and to work as a team member. He has enjoyed being a part of it.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor – Report on Local Government Convention

Local Government Convention

Thank you to the Shire of Murchison for the opportunity to attend the Local Government Convention 2013. Below is a brief report of my experiences.

My week in Perth began on Monday August 5th, when I attended a Councillor's Roles and Responsibilities course, which I found to be a timely reminder of what is acceptable and expected of a shire councillor.

On Wednesday I attended the WALGA AGM, and with amalgamations on the radar, and the controversies around it, this was very well attended with plenty of passionate views being aired. As a broad generalization, WALGA is committed to working through these amalgamations with the State Government in a constructive manner. It sees this as the most positive way of influencing the outcome, rather than constantly fighting any new proposals.

From a Murchison perspective, a highlight of the AGM was the presentation of prestigious Local Government awards to two of our own. Neil Warne received the, 'Local Government Officers Award' for an outstanding career in local government spanning 52 years. Simon Broad received an exclusive WALGA Life Membership Award, for his commitment, achievements and ongoing contribution to the Shire of Murchison since 1987. My sincere congratulations to them both and their awards are certainly very well deserved.

The Convention proper ran during the following Thursday and Friday and consisted of many and varied aspects, including;

- A great line up of speakers, most of whom had a very interesting story to tell
- Several training workshops on topics such as: community resilience/disaster management, conflict resolution, planning strategies and native title issues
- An exceptional products and suppliers display of everything from heavy machinery to IT assistance, legal services and playground equipment etc
- A very good opportunity to interact with councillors from all around the state to discuss common council interests and issues.

I found the week very constructive and gained a lot of knowledge which I can hopefully apply in my role as a councillor for the Shire of Murchison.

If anyone would like more information on the sessions I attended please feel free to contact me.

Report submitted by Councillor Roscco Foulkes-Taylor

Date - August 11, 2013

Cr Foulkes-Taylor had submitted his written report on the convention as above.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor feels there is something for everyone at the convention. He wanted to state that Simon's speech had been good – he had said that he 'wanted to give recognition to the older Councillors and he knew everyone would be polite and clap but it wasn't for him but the partners and supporters.'

Cr Foulkes-Taylor thanked Council for letting him and Emma attend the LG Convention, it was appreciated.

Cr Halleen

Thanks to Council – he had really enjoyed attending the LG Convention.

Well deserved to the Shire President and Mr Neil Warne re the awards they had received. Murchison has had a lot of Freeman and some WALGA life members and it would be nice to have this on the honours board or a separate plaque.

Cr Halleen had spoken to John Phillips and Troy Pickard regarding the Metropolitan review and amalgamations. Any future amalgamations in this area would unlikely see the shire merged with Upper Gascoyne but more likely with City of Greater Geraldton.

Cr Halleen had attended the Professionally Speaking course and learnt some valuable things – never do interviews off the cuff – put them off and do some research first.

Always good to mix and talk with other members and it seemed that there was a lot of infighting and conflict within many of the Councils. The boat trip with the Mid West Regional Council on Thursday night had been good.

Cr Halleen apologised that he had to leave on Friday as his father had not been well. His condition has picked up a bit since.

Cr Squires wanted to congratulate Simon on his tremendous award for dedication and effort. Very short list of people who get this award and great to see that there have been three recipients from Murchison.

The Shire President said that Murchison always punches well above its weight and once again thanked everyone for the award which is much appreciated.

15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16. FINANCE**16.1 Financial Activity Statements to 31 July 2013**

File:	
Author:	Dianne Daniels – Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	13 August 2013
Attachments:	N/A

Matter for Consideration:

Presentation of the July 2013 Financial Activity Statements will be withheld until the September meeting, for the reasons highlighted in the comments section below.

Background:

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34(4)(a) states that ‘A statement of financial activity is to be presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of the month to which the statement relates’.

Comment:

Effective from 1 July 2012, the Local Government Financial Management Regulations were amended and the measurement of non-current assets at Fair Value became mandatory, to be reflected in the Annual Financial Report for the year ending 30 June 2013. Even though the amendments allow for a phasing in period over three years, all the Shire of Murchison assets were valued in March 2013 as it was more cost effective to have the valuation completed in one visit. The task of updating the Fixed Asset Online register has been arduous and is now in the final stages. We believe that it would be prudent to wait until we can generate the Fair Value figures before presenting reports in this Financial Year.

Further, as the Statutory Budget for 2013-14 is yet to be adopted (refer Agenda Item 17.3), we have not yet input budget figures for analysis of actuals against budget.

Due to these circumstances, the July Financial Activity Statement will be presented at the September meeting, along with the August Financial Activity Statement.

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.

- (2) Each statement of financial activity is to be accompanied by documents containing —
 - (a) an explanation of the composition of the net current assets of the month to which the statement relates, less committed assets and restricted assets; and
 - (b) an explanation of each of the material variances referred to in subregulation (1)(d); and
 - (c) such other supporting information as is considered relevant by the local government

Strategic Implications:

The July report, when presented at the next meeting, will reflect the Fair Value of assets as represented in the Long Term Financial Plan.

Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

Expenditure incurred in July has been undertaken within the limits of the Draft Budget adopted at the July 2013 meeting.

Consultation:

UHY Haines Norton

Recommendation:

For information only. No decision required.

The item was taken as read

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:	13 August 2013
Attachments:	EFT & Cheque Details for July 2013

Matter for Consideration:

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of July 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.

Comment:

Payments made during the month of July as per attached schedule

Cr Squires queried the fuel payments – was it split to maintenance and construction as it was purchased?

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO advised that it is costed to an inventory account and allocated as used.

Cr Squires queried the \$3.4k paid to Truckline for a grease gun. The grease gun was only \$900 and other tools had made up the balance of the payment.

Cr Halleen queried whether his councillor claim for the last quarter had been received as the fax and computer lines had been playing up.

Strategic Implications:

None

Policy Implications:

None

Financial Implications:

Payment from the Municipal and Trust Bank Accounts.

Consultation:

Haines Norton

Recommendation:

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$963,694.93 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Squires****Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$963,694.93 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

Carried**For: 6****Against: 0****17. DEVELOPMENT****17.1 Consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan***Item already dealt with refer page 5***17.2 Consideration of the Corporate Business Plan***Item already dealt with refer page 6***17.3 2013-14 Budget**

File:	2.4
Author:	Dianne Daniels
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	13 August 2013
Attachments:	2013-14 Budget Letter of Approval from Department LG regarding Differential Rates Fees and Charges

Matter for Consideration:

The adoption by Council of the 2013-14 Financial Budget in the prescribed format, including Differential Rates and Fees and Charges.

Background:

As part of the function of local government and its operations, under Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995, during the period 1 June in a financial year to 31 August in the next financial year, each local government is to prepare and adopt its Annual budget in the prescribed format.

2013-14 is the first year of budget preparation informed by the Community Strategic Plan and the Long Term Financial Plan with the Budget as presented reflecting the first year of that plan.

Comment:**Budget Result**

A Draft Budget was presented at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the 19th July 2013 and the following adjustments were made prior to its endorsement:

Over-allocation of Admin costs of \$45,869 at E77300 removed;
 Staff Training at E143175 increased from \$25,000 to \$30,000 to allow for air-con ticket for mechanic;
 Proceeds of Sale from Asset disposals revised to reflect more realistic figures;
 Extra \$1,000 allocated to Patient Transfer Vehicle to allow for a UHF radio and sat phone aerial;
 The allocation for 5 new grids was increased by \$27,369 to allow for 7 new grids to be completed;
 The allocation for the new side tipper was increased to \$105,000 from \$95,000;
 The \$2,500 mobile work platform was deleted from Section 12 as it was also included in section 14;

These adjustments have been included in the Statutory Budget, along with a decrease to depreciation to align it with the Long Term Financial Plan. The net result of the 2013-14 Budget recommended for adoption is a balanced budget and as depreciation is a non-cash item, this has not impacted on the net result.

The Budget provides for Capital Expenditure of \$6,886,338, which will be funded from General Revenue, Reserves, borrowings and funding provided by State and Federal agencies. This figure includes

commencement on the replacement of the Ballinyoo Bridge (contingent on funding approvals being granted), a new unit of staff accommodation, lawn bowls rink, laundry/dump point/motel units for the caravan park, a further seven kilometres of formwork and gravel sheeting on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, plant replacement as recommended by the Plant Working Group and the replacement of the server and four office computers, along with other more minor Capital expenditure.

This forecast result is based on the endorsed differential rates model in which a 2.5% increase in aggregate rates revenue was recommended for all properties.

Fees and Charges

All fees and charges have been revised considering the cost to Council and by comparing the proposed Fee or Charge to that charged by alternative suppliers in a similar situation. These were adopted by Council at the July 2013 meeting – refer Agenda Item 16.4 of the minutes of the July meeting.

Allowances

In June 2013, the WA Salary and Allowances Tribunal determined a general increase in the range of allowances that can be paid to Presidents and Elected Members in WA. Allowances for the President and Councillors for 2013-14 have been based on those revised scales and were adopted by Council at the July 2013 meeting - refer Agenda Item 16.5 of the July 2013 minutes.

Borrowings

Borrowings in 2013-14 are confined to projects previously approved by Council in the (now superseded) Forward Capital Works Plan. An allowance was made to build a new unit of staff accommodation funded by a loan of \$150,000, with the balance of \$150,000 drawn from the Building Reserve.

The loan has been budgeted over 20 years at a projected interest rate of 6.5%

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels ran through the statutory budget.

Cr Halleen queried the LCDC/Roderick Restoration amount of \$349 shown in trust funds. This needs to be netted off against the negative \$300 for the LCDC Waters and Rivers Commission and a cheque for \$49 sent back.

Cr Squires queried the revenue under governance on the Statement of Comprehensive Income. This year's budget shows \$14,500 and last year's actual was \$271,340. Why is it so different?

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels, explained that last year's actuals included the Crosslands Resources additional funding and the grant money for the preparation of the Strategic Reports. This money would not be received this year so the budgeted income is therefore a lot less than last year.

Community Consultation:

In accordance with the requirements of section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a statement of intended differential rates and minimum payments was published in the Geraldton Guardian newspaper on Wednesday 22 May 2013. The advertisement contained details of each differential general rate and minimum payment endorsed by Council and invited submissions from electors or ratepayers in respect of the proposed differential general rate or minimum payment and any related matters within 21 days. No submissions were received and before adopting the differential general rates and associated Minimum Rates, Council was required to seek Ministerial Approval under s6.33 (3) of the Local government Act as the UV Mining Rate is more than twice the lowest differential general rate.

This approval was sought immediately following the June 2013 meeting and approval was granted on the 19 July 2013 – see attached letter.

Statutory Environment:

Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 refers.

Section 6.2(2) of the Act requires that in preparing its annual budget the Council is to have regard to the contents of its plan for the future prepared in accordance with section 5.56. Under the Integrated Planning Framework for Local Government, that is the Community Strategic Plan. This section requires that Council must prepare detailed estimates of:

- (a) Expenditure;
- (b) Revenue and income, independent of general rates
- (c) The amount required to make up the 'deficiency' if any shown by comparing the estimated expenditure with the estimated revenue and income.

Section 6.2(3) requires that all expenditure, revenue and income must be taken in account unless otherwise prescribed. Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 32 prescribes amounts that may be

excluded in calculating the 'budget deficiency'

Section 6.2(4) requires the annual budget to incorporate:

- (a) Particulars of estimated expenditure proposed;
- (b) Detailed information relating to the rates and service charges which will apply, including:
 - (i) Amount estimated to be yielded by the general rate
 - (ii) Rate of interest to be charged on unpaid rates and service charges;
- (c) Fees and charges;
- (d) Borrowings and other financial accommodations proposed;
- (e) Reserve account allocations and uses;
- (f) Any proposed land transactions or trading undertakings per section 3.59

Strategic Implications:

The budget has been devised with reference to the Strategic Community Plan, taking into account the wishes and aspirations of the community.

Policy Implications:

The Budget has been prepared for presentation to Council before the first week of August in accordance with Council Policy.

Financial Implications:

The Budget details planned revenue and expenditure for the 2013-2014 Financial year, with the estimated brought forward surplus being expended along with revenue from rates, general revenue, grants, reserves and borrowings, to give a balanced outcome.

Consultation:

CEO
Works Supervisor
Plant Working Group
UHY Haines Norton
Strategic Community Plan/Long Term Financial Plan

Recommendation:

1. That the rates and charges specified hereunder and in the attached budget document be imposed on all rateable property within the district of the Shire of Murchison in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995.

Rates

That council adopt the following differential and minimum rates for the year ending 30 June 2014

Rate Category	Basis	2013/14 Rate in \$	2013/14 Minimum
Pastoral	UV	0.025422	\$249
Mining	UV	0.272240	\$375
Prospecting/Exploration	UV	0.091718	\$375

Penalty Interest and Discounts

A Penalty Interest of 8% will apply for late payment and no discount will apply for early payment

Instalment Administration Charge

An administration fee of \$15 is to be charged to those rate payers that elect to pay by instalments.

That in accordance with S6.50 (2) (3) of the Local Government Act 1995 the following dates for rates payments for 2013/2014 are adopted:

Due Date	30 th November 2013
Second Instalment	31 st January 2014
Third Instalment	31 st March 2014
Fourth instalment	31 st May 2014

2. That Council, in accordance with Section 6.16 of the Local Government Act 1995, adopt the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the financial year 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 as presented (and attached), and

3. That the budget as presented (and attached) for the financial year 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 be adopted.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

1. That the rates and charges specified hereunder and in the attached budget document be imposed on all rateable property within the district of the Shire of Murchison in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995.

Rates;

That council adopt the following differential and minimum rates for the year ending 30th June 2014

Rate Category	Basis	2013/14 Rate in \$	2013/14 Minimum
Pastoral	UV	0.025422	\$249
Mining	UV	0.272240	\$375
Prospecting/Exploration	UV	0.091718	\$375

Penalty Interest and Discounts:

A penalty interest rate of 8% will apply for late payment and no discount will apply for early payment.

Instalment Administration Charge

An administration fee of \$15 is to be charged to those rate payers that elect to pay by instalments.

That in accordance with S6.50 (2) (3) of the Local Government Act 1995 the following dates for rates payments for 2013/2014 are adopted:

Due Date	30 th November 2013
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2. That Council, in accordance with Section 6.16 of the Local Government Act 1995, adopt the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the financial year 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 as presented (and attached); and

3. That the budget as presented (and attached) for the financial year 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 be adopted.

Carried by Absolute Majority

For: 6

Against: 0

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels left the meeting at 2.48pm

Cr Seaman left the meeting at 2.48pm

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels returned to the meeting at 2.49pm

Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 2.50pm

17.4 Radio Communications Upgrade

File:	11.9
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 th August 2013
Attachments:	Quote Mt Barker Communications

Matter for Consideration:

Diplexer filters to be fitted on channel 1, 6 & 7.

Background:

At the meeting in July 2012 Council resolved to:

Moved: Councillor Halleen		Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor	
That Council approve of the upgrade of Council's radio communication system, subject to the following amounts being included in the adopted 2012/13 budget, and that the quotes for this work submitted by Mt Barker Communications be accepted subject to inclusion of funds in the adopted 2012/13 budget, as under –			
Channel 1 \$18,919	less Diplex \$4,816	less GST \$1,719	Nett \$12,384
Channel 6 \$ 9,353		less GST 850	Nett \$ 8,503
Channel 7 \$ 9,353		less GST 850	Nett \$ 8,503
Travel \$ 5,775		less GST 525	Nett \$ 5,250
Total			\$34,640
For budget purposes			\$36,000

Following this there was then some protracted correspondence between the shire and CSIRO regarding the upgrade to the channel 7 mast so the work was delayed and has only recently been carried out by Laurie Maddren, there is still some more work to do on channel 7.

Comment:

The coverage from channel 1 and 6 has been greatly improved but the work on channel 1 included fitting new diplexer filters, which had not been approved in last year's budget. I contacted Mr Maddren to query this once I was made aware by Cr Squires that he had fitted new filters, his response is as follows:

Hello Jenny,

Yes that is correct, the filters that are on channel 1 are new ones. The original plan was to use the surplus one assigned to channel 8. I spent many hours trying to retune the old ones, but they didn't come up to the necessary specifications. They would severely reduce the coverage if used. The cost of the channel 1 filter is \$4816+GST which was in my original quote. As yet you haven't been invoiced for them as I wasn't authorised to supply them. I strongly recommend replacing the channel 7 filters & they are the same cost \$4816+GST. Channel 6 is running adequately well apparently, so the need to replace the filters is not urgent, but consideration in future budgets would be appropriate. I had previously been unaware of the substance of channel 7 as this was my first visit to Mt Murchison. When I visited the site recently I noted that the make & model of the Ch7 filter is the same one as channel 8 & is a vastly inferior product & is likely to be more than 10 years old. I haven't made any measurements on the channel 7 filters to establish their serviceability. I will report back with the results in the coming weeks when I visit again. Quotes to follow separately.

Regards

Laurie Maddren

Quotes are attached and are \$4,816.00 plus GST for each channel which would make a total of \$14,448 if all three were done. However we have only carried over \$10,000 from last year's budget provision and \$7,367 has already been invoiced to complete the work as above.

Council could decide just to go with the filter on channel 1, which has already been installed and delay the installation on channels 6 & 7 until they have problems, or in view of the vastly improved coverage and the increased safety this can provide, decide to proceed with all three upgrades, in which case we would need to review the budget and find approximately \$12,000 to cover the additional work.

The CEO explained Laurie was currently in Murchison and was completing the scheduled work on channel 7. Cr Squires said that channels 6 and 7 were working very well with very good coverage.

As they are existing installation we may be able to get funding from DFES for the upgrades of the filters when required.

Cr Broad said that Miles Williams from Innouendy Station is ecstatic about channel 6. He can get it at Curbur and the jump up at Mt Narryer.

Statutory Environment:

Provision of radio communications is well within Council's legislative powers.

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

To be determined

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

That Council decides to authorise the installation of diplexer filters on Channel 1 at a cost of \$4,816.00 plus GST; or

That Council decides to authorise the installation of diplexer filters on Channels 1, 6 & 7 at a cost of \$14,448.00 plus GST.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority (if a variation to budget required)

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That Council decides to authorise the installation of diplexer filters on Channel 1 at a cost of \$4,816.00 plus GST.

Carried**For: 6****Against: 0**

Council meeting adjourned for a short tea break at 3.15pm

Council meeting recommenced at 3.25pm

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels, rejoined the meeting at 3.28pm

18. ADMINISTRATION**18.1 Beringarra-Cue Road Train Permit Termination**

Item already dealt with refer page 12

18.2 Report on Alcohol Related harm & disorder in Meekatharra and surrounding areas

File:	4.42
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 th August 2013
Attachments:	Alcohol Harm & Disorder

Matter for Consideration:

Report received from Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor regarding proposed restrictions of the sale of alcohol in Meekatharra, Cue, Mount Magnet, Sandstone and Yalgoo.

Background:

All shires within the region received a letter and report from the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor regarding incidents of harm and disorder which they say are related to alcohol abuse. The report had been sent to the WA police and suggested restricting the sale of alcohol to counteract these problems. The letter and restrictions suggested are attached to the agenda, the full report is available to anyone who would like to review it in detail.

Comment:

Whilst the proposals don't actually have any effect on Murchison shire they do affect our neighbouring shires. All of the CEO's have been in discussion and none are in support of the proposed changes. The proposed restrictions could cause serious damage to the hotels and businesses within the shires. The restrictions have been based on the current restrictions in place in Wiluna which have not been effective in

solving the problems.

Some of the issues raised include the following effects that could occur if the proposed restrictions are implemented in the five towns;

- People will relocate to nearby towns and centres with lessor restrictions
- People will purchase their liquor supplies out of town (directly or by internet/phone)
- People will undertake “sly grogging”
- The people with real problems around alcohol will continue, one way or another to access their liquor of choice
- Burglaries to obtain alcohol will increase
- There will be negative economic impacts on the towns

Mt Magnet Resolved:

That Council authorizes the CEO to advise the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor that:

1. *The proposal put forward by WA Police to apply alcohol restrictions in Mount Magnet, identical to those that apply in Wiluna, is rejected in its entirety as to do so penalises the whole community for the actions of a few.*
2. *A more appropriate form of action would be to restrict access to alcohol by those found, through the judicial process, to be perpetrators of alcohol related harm and disorder within the Mount Magnet community.*

Sandstone Resolved:

agreement that we work with our neighbours to put in a joint submission regarding the proposed liquor restrictions.

Meekatharra Resolved:

1. *authorise the Chief Executive Officer to write to Mr Peter Minchin, the Director of Administrative Law at the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor requesting clarifications and further information including, but not limited to:*
 - *Responding to the WA Police report in detail outlining the flaws therein,*
 - *Requesting for the Department to investigate and provide information detailing the potential economic and social impacts of the proposed restrictions on Meekatharra.*
 - *Enquire as to what community consultation the Department proposes to undertake*
 - *Advising that the Shire became aware of this issue after receipt of a copy of the letter and report from a local licensee. As the Local Government Authority of a town being targeted by the WA Police Report, why have Council not been given the courtesy of being advised of what the Department/WA Police are proposing?*
 - *Asking if the Department or the WA Police have considered other means of controlling alcohol consumption which would impact only on errant individuals rather than whole communities including, but not limited to banning of a persons from being on licensed premises under the Liquor Control Act 1998 section 115AA.*
2. *authorise the CEO to write to the WA Premier, Minister for Police, Minister for Racing and Gaming and MLA Vince Catania to ensure they are aware of the actions and processes used, and the proposals of the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor and the WA Police and advising that the Shire of Meekatharra understands that there are “at risk” alcohol drinkers in Meekatharra and most other towns and places in WA, however increasing restrictions on the sale of alcohol to whole communities will not improve the prognosis for these “at risk” individuals. The Shire of Meekatharra will therefore vehemently oppose any further all-encompassing restrictions on the sale of liquor in Meekatharra. Copies of the Departments letter to licensees (21/6/13) and the WA Police report along with Council’s response to these documents are to be enclosed with these letters.*

Meekatharra have also engaged Dr Ritu Gupta, Senior Lecturer| Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Curtin Uni to review and report on all the statistics used in the WA Police report.

Cue have also sent a letter to the Director of Liquor Licensing advising that *from the outset it is advised that the Shire of Cue is totally and unambiguously opposed to the imposition of liquor restrictions for a number of reasons...*

Yalgoo are taking the matter to their August meeting on the 19th.

Cr Broad said that he understood that pastoralists should be exempt as there is nothing worse than travelling all the way into town and then being unable to buy what you came in for.

Cr Whitmarsh said that similar restrictions have been imposed on Gascoyne Junction with the opening of their new hotel.

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO said restrictions don't work and there were better alternatives. At Nhulumbuy they had a register and people had to show a card or their licence and those that played up had restrictions registered against the card and couldn't buy alcohol. It worked by restricting the few that had problems rather than the whole community.

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

CEO's of Meekatharra, Cue, Sandstone, Mt Magnet and Yalgoo

Recommendation:

1. That the Shire of Murchison write a letter to Peter Minchin, Director of Administrative Law, Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor to advise that they are not in support of the proposed alcohol restrictions.
2. That the Shire of Murchison works in conjunction with the neighbouring shires to support any submissions they may prepare following further investigation and reports currently being carried out by those shires.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

1. That the Shire of Murchison write a letter to Peter Minchin, Director of Administrative Law, Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor to advise that they are not in support of the proposed alcohol restrictions.
2. That the Shire of Murchison works in conjunction with the neighbouring shires to support any submissions they may prepare following further investigation and reports currently being carried out by those shires.

Carried

For: 6

Against: 0

19. NOTICE OF MOTION

19.1 Wild Dog Working Group Proposal

File:	13.2
Author:	Councillor Bridget Seaman
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	6 th August 2013
Attachments:	Backflip on Wild Dogs Bounty

Matter for Consideration:

Proposal to form a Wild Dog Control Working group.

Background:

Councillor Seaman has given notice of a motion regarding the forming of a Wild Dog Control Working Group. The attachment is from the West Australian on the 8th August and may change the proposed motion.

Comment:

Under the “Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976” *Dingos* in Western Australia must be controlled in agricultural and pastoral areas. Dingos are classified as unprotected native fauna under the “Wildlife Conservation Act 1950”.

Dingos are an established species within Western Australia that has the ability to have substantial economic, social and environmental impacts.

Wild dog management strategies are most successful when people work together.

Wild dog/Dingo’s do not respect tenure boundaries such as stock fences, borders or land uses. Wild dog managers in one area are likely to be affected by the actions or inactions of people in surrounding areas.

It is the responsibility of the landholder to control and remove declared species.

Unfortunately, due to the impact of wild dogs in the shire of Murchison, many landholders are under resourced and this has impacted on their ability to contribute to the control of this Predator.

The wild Dogs are not only a threat to the economic sustainability of the pastoral industry, they are also a real threat to the General public.

The shire of Murchison recognizes that there is a wild dog emergency within its boundaries, and commits to working alongside current regional wild dog control Strategies.

Cr Seaman went over the WA newspaper article re bounty but felt we should continue to be proactive and develop the proposed working group.

Cr Seaman suggested that the community representatives be Reg Seaman and Sandy McTaggart and Cr Whitmarsh be the councillor.

Cr Halleen queried whether it should be two councillors and not the CEO.

CEO is usually on the working groups.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor wanted to leave the members as suggested as a starting point.

Cr Squires was also happy with the suggested membership.

Financial Implications:

Council have made a provision in the 2013/2014 budget of an additional \$20,000 towards vermin/wild dog control giving a total allocation of \$30,000

Motion:

The shire of Murchison proposes to form a Wild Dog Control Working group.

This Working Group will

- Contain one Shire of Murchison Councillor, Two community representatives and the Shire of Murchison CEO.
- Develop a plan of action with achievable and measurable goals.
- Meet at the earliest possible date at the shire of Murchison.
- Report initial findings at the October 2013 ordinarily council meeting.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

The shire of Murchison proposes to form a Wild Dog Control Working group.

This Working Group will

- Contain one Shire of Murchison Councillor, Two community representatives and the Shire of Murchison CEO.
- Develop a plan of action with achievable and measurable goals.
- Meet at the earliest possible date at the shire of Murchison.
- Report initial findings at the October 2013 ordinarily council meeting.
- Reg Seaman and Sandy McTaggart be invited to be the two community representatives on the working group.

Carried

For: 6

Against: 0

Council amended the motion to include the names of the two community representatives.

20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Activity
12 th July	Spoke with Bernie Miller regarding the Nookawarra airstrip and RAV classification. Also regarding queries on the costings of the Ballinyoo Bridge
15 th July	Meeting with Brendin Flanigan and Noel Ferguson of the MWDC.
17 th July	Discussion with Simon Wilkes of Urbis on the Local Planning Scheme and Strategy.
18 th July	Meeting with Michael Brennan on Mid West Housing Needs analysis for Murchison.
18 th July	Further work with Travis on the LTFP
18 th July	Astrofest meeting
24 th July	Nookawarra airstrip ripped within road reserve and cross placed to close eastern end of strip.
24 th July	Inspection of Beringarra-Cue Road by Greenfields in conjunction with the shire of Cue, Crosslands, Main Roads and Roadtech as part of the termination process.
24 th July	Garth, Hayley and Lisa of the Tidy towns committee attended the shire and were shown around by the CEO and Trevor and Leanne Hipper to support our entry in this year's competition.
25 th July	Teleconference with Dianne Daniels, DCEO and Karen Godfrey of Market Creations re council connect – update of website
31 st July	Worked with Travis on LTFP and Corporate Business Plan
3 rd -7 th August	CEO on leave – Dawesville
8 th -9 th August	CEO attended WALGA Local Government Convention in Perth

The CEO ran through the activity report and gave a bit more information on the survey carried out by Michael Brennan

Recommendation:

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Halleen	Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh	
That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

21. URGENT BUSINESS

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Whitmarsh	Seconded: Councillor Halleen	
That council deal with two urgent items.		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

21.1 Invitation to Yalgoo Goo Fest

There was discussion on the invitation received by Councillors to attend the Yalgoo Goo Fest on the 6th and 7th September. This is the official opening of a host of completed projects ranging from the new nursing post and water park to the improved air strip, ADSL connection and solar lighting.

Councillors would have liked to attend the weekend and show their support to a neighbouring shire but as Ron Adams is going to be there (as the Yalgoo Project Officer) it would be inappropriate for Murchison to attend. There was further discussion regarding an update from the CCC and a request for the CEO to confirm the bail conditions.

It was decided that Council write a letter of congratulation to the Shire of Yalgoo on the successful completion of the projects and note their disappointment at being unable to attend the celebrations due to the ongoing prosecution. The letter to be sent to the CEO and Shire President.

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Seaman	Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor	
That Council write a letter of congratulation to the Shire of Yalgoo on the successful completion of the projects and note their disappointment at being unable to attend the celebrations due to the ongoing prosecution. The letter to be sent to the CEO and Shire President.		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

21.2 Botanical Walk update

An update on the Murchison Museum Botanical Walk was tabled at the meeting.

This had been prepared by Mrs Jano Foulkes-Taylor and list the things still to be done to complete the project.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor said that one of the issues was that people who had been doing work had not put in invoices and this was making it difficult for Jano to acquit the grant monies.

There was a request for the shire to assist with concreting in the benches and some more work to be done to finish the paths once Trevor’s bob cat is repaired.

Council resolved to receive the update as tabled.

22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

23. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss the Shire President declared the meeting closed at 4.05pm.

These Minutes were confirmed at the council meeting held on Friday 20th September 2013.

Signed.....Presiding Officer