



Western Australia

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,  
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,  
On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March **2013**, commencing at 9.40 am.

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

The President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 9.40 am.

**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 W Halleen  
 Councillor B M Seaman  
 Councillor P R Squires  
 Councillor A Whitmarsh

**Staff:**

Ms Jenny Goodbourn, Chief Executive Officer  
 Ms Dianne Daniels, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

**Apologies:**

Nil

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

Nil.

**4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME****4.1 Standing Orders*****Council Decision:***

**Moved: Councillor Squires**

**Seconded: Councillor Haleen**

**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: 6**

**Against: 0**

**5. NEXT MEETING**

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

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**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

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Halleen**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

The Shire President advised that he had only received the agenda late last evening and apologised that he had not had time to go through it all prior to the meeting.

**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 will be carried out at 10 am via a telephone hook-up

*10.00 am – Travis joined the meeting via telephone hook up.*

Travis presented the draft Strategic Community Plan Workshop & Community Survey Results document. He provided an overview of the report explaining how the results have been collated and what we need to do next. We will need to hold a workshop where we work through and prioritise the results and develop a strategic plan using this document for information and input, taking into account funding, feasibility and deliverability. The strategic community plan is under the four main headings of Economic, Social, Civic Leadership and Environmental and will form a working plan for the future of the shire based on core activities and achievable improvements.

*The teleconference concluded at 10.24*

**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 licensing being carried out.	PTV in Murchison undergoing final modifications and licensing. 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.

The Shire President noted that he was glad to see items on the list moving and action being completed and followed up.

Cr Halleen had some questions regarding item 19. Dust suppression but he would discuss this when the Works Supervisor was present. Cr Squires asked how the meeting with Nookawarra went and the Shire President advised he would be covering this under meetings attended.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor asked if there was a specified date for accessing the CSIRO funding under the road agreement – there have been no dates stipulated.

Cr Squires also wanted to discuss the dust suppression funding –but as there are some proposed changes this will be discussed as part of the budget review later in the meeting.

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Action List be accepted.

#### **Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

#### **Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Squires**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the Action List be accepted.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

## **12. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

The CEO declares an interest in item 17.7

*It was determined by council to leave items 13.1 and 13.2 until later in the meeting when the Works Supervisor will be able to attend to present the reports*

## **13. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

### **13.1 Monthly Plant Report – Works Supervisor**

See this page below.

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

See page 7.

## **14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED**

### **14.1 Shire President**

The President advised that he had attended the State Council meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> March. The main focus had been around the metropolitan review.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> March the President, along with the CEO and Works Supervisor, had paid a visit to Mr & Mrs Tomkins to discuss the Nookawarra Airstrip. The meeting wasn't very successful as Mr & Mrs Tomkins were not interested in talking about the airstrip and would not consider any of the alternatives offered by the shire. They raised several issues of concern regarding the use of the road and another legal argument regarding a recent ruling by the Attorney General in South Australia. At the end of the meeting they did offer us a chance to inspect the airstrip, they did not want to come with us. We went to both ends of the strip and believe it will be possible to extend the strip to the west as offered and that with minimal earthworks we could make this a viable strip. We are clarifying the latest legal argument and will then write to offer to extend the strip, leaving the eastern end until after the next weather event that causes the creek to flow to ensure the extension is useable. We will then remove the section that crosses the road  
General discussion followed.

*The meeting was suspended as it was 10 am and we had the telephone hook up with Travis Bate from RSM Bird Cameron – see item 10 Page 4.*

*The meeting resumed at 10.24 am*

The Shire President reported that he had attended the Regional Tourism Strategy meeting held at Yalgoo on the 27<sup>th</sup> February. The CEO and Councillor Seaman had also attended and Councillor Seaman will give an overview of the meeting in her report.

*Council broke for morning tea at 10.29am*

*Council resumed the meeting at 10.50*

*Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor, joined the meeting.*

*As the Works Supervisor was now at the meeting it was decided to deal with items 13.1, 13.2, 17.1, 17.2 & 17.3 so that the Works Supervisors input could be included.*

### **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 Carnarvan-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 dongas in the shire yard to use as a storage room for cement/signs/tyres/ramps/gensets/posts etc. The dongas 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

The Works Supervisor ran through the plant report. He advised that the Kenworth truck is here and the tri axle trailer has been brought back from town. The bulldozer is back at work. Cr Squires queried the plant costs and it was clarified that they are from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 and include fuel and oil.

Cr Halleen asked for some costings. The changes to the Iveco truck have cost about \$6,500, the bulldozer repairs \$29,000 and the new Kenworth truck \$ 177,000.

The major sealing works start next Wednesday with RnR travelling to the job on Tuesday. There will be some savings to the original tender as the shire is proving the Traffic Management Control and they have asked to hire our roller and loader.

Clearing permits were discussed and the recent problem explained. We need to develop a long term plan so that permits can be obtained in readiness for future works. Same also for native title so that we have required clearances in time for works program.

*Cr Seaman left the meeting at 11.14 am*

*Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 11.15 am*

There was discussion on grading the section of the Carnarvon Mullewa Road that is within the City of Greater Geraldton (previously Mullewa). The general consensus was that although it is not our road and is not being well maintained, that as it is mainly our people that use the road the work should be done. There is a need to try and establish a road agreement with CGG and a motion was introduced to this effect.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Whitmarsh**

That council requests the CEO to contact the CEO of the City of Greater Geraldton to try and establish a memorandum of understanding or a road agreement for the maintenance of the 28kms of gravel on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and the 5.2kms of gravel on the Beringarra-Pindar Road that fall within their shire.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

Dongas - There was discussion as to whether the dongas which the Works Supervisor wished to put into the depot were up to the job or were in too poor a condition to be useable. It was requested that the Works Supervisor do up a costing for a purpose built shed/shelter for comparison and if the expense is reasonable that this be the preferred alternative.

Cr Halleen asked if the drains could be flattened out at the Tallering end of the Beringarra-Pindar Road whilst we have someone there. He was also concerned that some new gravel was sitting on a corner, narrowing the road and not appropriately signed. This will be corrected straight away. He also asked who the shire used to take away our waste oil as Boolardy will need to organise something and may be able to access the same contractor when he is here.

**Recommendation:**

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

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Whitmarsh</b>	
That the Work’s Supervisor’s report be accepted.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 6</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

**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 banded. 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

There was a thorough discussion on the tank options. Whilst this is a major cost to council it will provide freedom and flexibility in future fuel negotiations and will provide the shire with updated facilities. The size of the mobile tanks was queried, the works supervisor had been hoping to get a 20,000L tank for the construction crew but this had proved very hard to source, with the one quote we had obtained being \$50,600, almost as much as the 65,000L static tank. There was also the size and weight of such a large tank to be taken into consideration. The self banded tanks are quite heavy with the 10,000L tank weighing 3,500kg and the 13,000L tank weighing 4,500kg. There was discussion on whether we should get two 13,000L tanks as it is always good to have plenty of fuel. Since writing this item the CEO had received an offer from Petro Industrial regarding a new 10,000L tank they have available with a few scratches from transportation which they are willing to offer for \$22,798. A saving of \$2,560. Quote PIWA3285.

**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 bunded and baffled with fittings and skid per quote PIWA3285.
- 3) That the shire proceeds with the purchase of the petro Industrial 13,000L Cube – Self bunded and baffled with fittings and skid per quote PIWA3271.

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority

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

- 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 bunded and baffled with fittings and skid per quote PIWA3285.
- 3) That the shire proceeds with the purchase of the petro Industrial 13,000L Cube – Self bunded and baffled with fittings and skid per quote PIWA3271.

**Carried by Absolute Majority****For: 4****Against: 2****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.

There was discussion on the problems on the road and how we are going to address it. Council is not happy with main roads response as this road is used to access stations in the area and the MRO and always has been. Cr Halleen asked whether main Roads would consider it in sections as they have with the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. Cr Seaman says we need a program of improvements we are planning to the road to take back to main Roads.

Cr Halleen says Barry Turner and Ant Schinckel had asked him about the classification and what they could do to assist. The CEO has also raised the matter with the Department of Commerce, as the lead agency for the SKA project. Cr Seaman says we need to advise Main Roads of the previous safety records of the road – with no serious accidents or road train rollovers. Cr Squires pointed out that Main Roads have not actually detailed the problems we need to address and we should try and get these specifics from them.

**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:**

That the letter from Main Roads be received and council instructs the CEO to formalise a reply stating their dissatisfaction and detailing requirements to progress the situation.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the letter from Main Roads be received and council instructs the CEO to formalise a reply stating their dissatisfaction and detailing requirements to progress the situation.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**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.

There was discussion on this matter and the main problem is that no firm cause for the stripping has been established, despite inspections. Each party is blaming the other and in view of the fact that should the council pursue the matter the only likely winner is likely to be the lawyers it was felt that further legal action was not the most cost effective way to proceed. We have learnt some good lessons from this and proper supervision from our engineers will be in place at all times in the upcoming sealing works.

**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

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

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

**Carried****For: 6****Against: 0****11.a Action List Re-visited - 19. Dust Suppression**

Before the Works Supervisor left the meeting there was discussion on item 19 from the Action List. There are serious concerns about sealing the section in front of Pia Community. Cr Halleen advised that he was driving home the other day and nearly collided with a person on a motorbike who came straight out of the driveway onto the road in front of him. There is a lot of damage being caused to the Beringarra-Pindar Road by motorbikes entering and exiting at excessive speed. If the shire applies a sand seal this will not stand up to this kind of excessive wear and tear.

Pia are aware of the problem and the local police have visited to talk to the community about safety concerns. Various options were discussed including binding with polycom or blue metal seal rather than sand seal. It was resolved that we need to engage with Pia and share our concerns, we will proceed with the sealing but if the section is destroyed, we may have to revert it back to a gravel road.

*Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor left the meeting at 12.25 pm*

*Councillor Foulkes-Taylor left the meeting at 12.26 pm*

*Councillor Squires left the meeting at 12.28 pm*

*Councillor Foulkes-Taylor returned to the meeting at 12.29 pm*

*Councillor Squires returned to the meeting at 12.30 pm*

**14.2 Councillors****Councillor Halleen**

Councillor Halleen had attended the Regional Road Group Murchison sub group meeting via teleconference with the CEO on the 1<sup>st</sup> March. This included an item on the decision of the TWG regarding inclusion of roads in the roads 2030 document. They had not supported inclusion of the Kalli Road which we had submitted for inclusion.

Councillor Halleen had then attended the Regional Road Group meeting in Geraldton, along with the CEO, on the 7<sup>th</sup> March. The meeting had started with a presentation by Graham Lantzke and Michael Keene on Roman II. There have been a lot of problems with the development of this program and there are still issues with depreciation. Michael Keene has been working with them to try and resolve the issues and Graham has offered to come out to the shires to assist them with individual programs. Also all data in Roman I has to be verified and corrected so it is correct for upload into Roman II.

The meeting proper commenced after lunch and there was much discussion on the Kalli Road and other roads that had not been supported. It was resolved that the TWG would meet out of session to review their decisions. Road counts have since been provided and at the meeting of the TWG on the 20<sup>th</sup> March it was resolved to include the Kalli Road.

A presentation by Samantha Adams of Roadwise included reference to the RAC's recent report which highlights fatalities per 100,000. The Mid West region is second highest with 20.22 fatalities per 100,000 population.

Cr Halleen then discussed the recent Rangelands Biosecurity Association meeting that he had attended with Cr Whitmarsh. The Association has a lot of problems and has had to undertake a financial audit and stand down the doggers until things can be sorted out. There have been a lot of in house politics and this has led to some poor decisions and slack operating procedures. Cr Whitmarsh has now taken over the finances and is sorting out the problems. Travis of RSM Bird Cameron has carried out the audit and is providing assistance. Things are now getting back on track but will need good backing for next budget.

It was requested that the minutes of the meetings be circulated to all councillors and that the meeting venues be alternated to include more places other than just Carnarvon.

**Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

Cr Foulkes-Taylor advised that he had not attended any meetings.

He did wish to mention again how impressed he was with the time and trouble taken by Cr Halleen to inspect the possible patient transfer vehicles available down in Perth.

He also wanted to thank Cr Seaman and her husband Reg for the commitment they had given in collecting the PTV and the telescope from professor Tingay and bringing them up to the settlement. He felt this was even more worthy because Cr Seaman had not been in favour of purchasing the replacement vehicle.

Cr Seaman responded that although she had indeed voted against the motion it had been carried as a decision of council and she was happy to carry out the decision and support council.

*The meeting broke for lunch at 12.59 pm*

*Whilst at lunch council discussed and decided on the location of the two park shelters and benches that are to be installed to the south of the road house.*

*The meeting resumed at 2.00 pm*

**Councillor Squires**

No meetings attended

**Councillor Whitmarsh**

Nothing further to add to the report from Cr Halleen on the RBA meeting.

**Councillor Seaman**

Cr Seaman had attended the Regional Tourism Strategy meeting held in Yalgoo on the 27<sup>th</sup> February along with the Shire President and CEO. Cr Seaman explained that initially Mr Ron Adams, project officer for Yalgoo, had been included and was to drive the bus on a tour of Yalgoo to explain their projects. Due to the ongoing criminal charges against Mr Adams by the CCC concerning fraud and stealing from the Shire of Murchison this was totally inappropriate. In discussion with the Shire of Yalgoo’s CEO and Shire President this was pointed out and alternative arrangements were made with the bus being driven by Mr Brendin Flanagan of the MWDC. Mr Adams did not take any part in the tour or tourism meeting which followed.

Full details of the meeting and its outcome are included in one of the items at today’s meeting.

Cr Seaman advised that she had been about to get involved with Astrofest 2013 but due to personal circumstance has had to review her involvement and has decided to resign her position as chair of the committee this time around. Mr Sandy McTaggart has been appointed as the new chairperson.

**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. The audit committee resolved:

*That the Compliance Audit Report be accepted and referred to the Ordinary Council Meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013 for adoption by the Council.*

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That the recommendations of the audit committee be accepted.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**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.

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels, pointed out the changes to the opening surplus which is now \$114,000. This alteration is a flow on from the completion of the 2010/11 financial audit and adjustments required by the auditor.

**Recommendation:**

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

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh**

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

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**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.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor asked a question on the payment to Keens Bros for training. The costs had been covered by the shire for it’s employees and contractors as the shire will get the value back for the additional training and work that can be done by the operatives. Other people that took advantage of the training opportunity such as Ross Collins have reimbursed the shire for the cost of the training.

**Recommendation:**

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$456,189.43 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Squires</b>		<b>Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</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</b>	<b>For: 6</b>	<b>Against: 0</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.

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels ran us through the variations to the financial report. Cr Squires noted that we had recently bought a trailer – this was purchased in March so will reflect in next month's figures.

Cr Squires also raised the issue of air-cons. The shire has purchased several additional air cons over the past couple of years and he is wary that we may be buying too many for the generators to cope with. We need to make sure all new air-cons are invertors as they have a much less energy usage. There was general discussion and it was resolved that we need to undertake a power audit and review our current usage and future plans.

#### **Recommendation:**

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

#### **Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority.

#### **Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Halleen**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013, as attached.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

#### **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.

**Recommendation:**

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$1,182,257.26 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

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

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$1,182,257.26 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

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

*Cr Seaman left the meeting at 3.15 pm*

*Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 3.17 pm*

**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.

**Note: This should actually read:**

The shortfall caused by the above listed variances has been made up by reducing heavy maintenance from \$250k to \$230k.

There was an error discovered (\$65,000 accidentally entered against E41110 rather than \$6,500). This was corrected in the appended budget review document prior to the meeting but the report was not updated to reflect it.

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels, took us through the budget review document and explained all proposed changes and highlighted the largest ones including reduced income from CSIRO for maintenance of the Beringarra-Pindar Road offset by reduced expenditure including the shires allocation towards the proposed dust suppression, and reduced income and expenditure on the final flood damage claim.

**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.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Halleen**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

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

**Carried by Absolute Majority**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**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 Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Halleen</b>	
That Council accept that no overpayment was made to NLD Transport as demonstrated by investigations and the supporting ledger reports.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 6</b>	<b>Against: 0</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

#### **Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Whitmarsh**

**Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

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

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

## **17. DEVELOPMENT**

### **17.1 Fuel Tanks**

*Item already dealt with see page 10.*

### **17.2 Beringarra – Pindar Road**

*Item already dealt with see page 12.*

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

*Item already dealt with see page 13.*

**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 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013, commencing at 3.30 pm.

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

- 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 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013, commencing at 3.30 pm.

**Carried by Absolute Majority**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

*The meeting adjourned for a short drinks break at 3.30 pm*

*The meeting recommenced at 3.40 pm*

**17.5 Compliance Audit Return 2012**

File:	2.1
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:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

That Council adopts the Compliance Audit Report for 2012.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

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

That Council adopts the Compliance Audit Report for 2012

**Carried****For: 6****Against: 0****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 Woolleen 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 Woolleen 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 needs: 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.

Council discussed the proposal. There is a late item to be introduced today that has a solid plan for the development of a regional strategy. Council's general consensus was that they would support the development of a regional strategy but would find it very hard to support an amount of \$23,000 purely for marketing. Rather develop the strategy first and then use that to drive the regional marketing.

### **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

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Hallen**

**Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

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.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**The recommendation was changed as Council's general consensus was that they would support the development of a regional strategy but would find it very hard to support an amount of \$23,000**

**purely for marketing. Rather develop the strategy first and then use that to drive the regional marketing. Therefore the 5<sup>th</sup> point of the recommendation was not supported.**

*The CEO declared an interest in this item and left the meeting at 3.50pm. Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels took over taking the Minutes for this item.*

### **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.

There was a robust discussion regarding this proposal. The general feeling was that the pool was for the benefit of the community rather than just the CEO and their family. Whether this had been pointed out to the CEO or not was discussed, the CEO has actually said in her report that they have offered usage to everyone in the settlement. A spa would not provide the same facility with limited numbers able to use it.

Various types of more user friendly cleaning and maintenance equipment was discussed including robotic cleaners, covers, conversion to salt etc. There was also a concern about the amount of power a spa would require. At the end of the discussion council agreed that they did not want to install a spa and they did not

want the pool to be decommissioned. They would authorise repairs and replacements as necessitated to bring it up to a good standard and enable it to be maintained at this level.

**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:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the shire accepts the quote of \$15,510 from Pool & Spa Mart to fibreglass and gelcoat the pool.  
That good quality pool maintenance equipment and cover be researched and budgeted for in 2013/2014.

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**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 an 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.



Council discussed this matter. Cr Squires feels it is a very standard letter and does not really address the issues specific to Murchison. Cr Foulkes-Taylor thinks we should accept the subsidy at 85% rather than 100%. Cr Seaman said that we should request that should the subsidy programme cease that Murchison be treated separately and still be able to access the subsidy due to our unique circumstances. It was discussed whether it was better to involve surrounding shires to give a broader push or to remain as just our shire.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

To be determined

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

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

That council accept the letter from the office of Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy and formalise a reply.

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

There was discussion on the item. Cr Foulkes-Taylor thanked the CEO for her action in following through with the request to obtain details.

Cr Halleen asked if it was proposed to use both tennis courts – no, one tennis court will remain and the two rinks will fit into where the second court currently is. From the recent community survey and workshop it was felt that there would be more support for this project than for the previous ones. However the model bridge or recognition of the bridge is an integral part of its' replacement and shouldn't be dropped. It is just that at this time it may be better to defer this recognition until the bridge replacement is actually known to be happening and we can discuss the best way to proceed with it e.g. build a model, or preserve a span etc.

**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

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

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/Ballynoo Bridge model and amend their FCWP accordingly to reflect these changes. The preferred option for the bowling greens being the Ultra Plus surface at a cost of \$116,006.00

**Carried by absolute majority****For: 6****Against: 0****18. ADMINISTRATION**

Nil

**19. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Cr Seaman would like to raise a motion to request that council officially support the proposed work on the Murchison Regional Vermin Fence as proposed by our neighbouring shires under their Royalties for Regions regional funding application. However as three of the councillors would have a direct interest in this there would not be a quorum.

The CEO will investigate how to proceed with this and get back to Cr Seaman.

**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 Squires</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh</b>	
That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 6</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

**21. URGENT BUSINESS****21.1 Regional Tourism Strategy**

File:	13.10
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Attachments:	

**Matter for Consideration:**

Participation in a joint funding application to develop a regional tourism strategy.

**Background:**

Item 17.6 of this meeting went over the background behind the development of a regional tourism strategy and marketing plan in some detail. This item is a continuation of that strategy.

**Comment:**

Sharon, Daishe, the CEO of Yalgoo, has forwarded an email regarding a funding opportunity which could allow us to access funding from T-Qual (tourism quality) to develop a regional tourism strategy. If we wish to participate in this round of funding we need to make a decision quickly as the funding closes on 3 May. Details as below:

*Dear colleagues of the mighty Murchison and Upper Gascoyne*

*I am writing to invite you to pursue the regional tourism strategy that we have been discussing, by pledging funds and applying for the T-Qual (tourism quality) grant that closes on 3 May. With a small commitment per Shire we may be able to leverage funds and purchase \$80,000 of professional services to achieve our aim.*

- I have obtained a quote (\$1,530 + GST) from Tammy King of Grants Empire to write the grant. Tammy wrote Yalgoo's successful TIRF grant application. If you all opt in to this project Shire of Yalgoo will engage Tammy and invoice you \$218 (+GST) each (7 Shires). Tammy will need to prepare a draft by 26 April.*

- *Ian Fitzgerald is going to speak to Marcus from Tourism WA today to arrange a scope and list of suppliers. John McCleary has also already obtained one brief and quote, with another on the way. Thank you very much John and Ian for your assistance.*
- *I have spoken to Gavin Treasure this morning and he has provisionally pledged that MWDC will match up to \$20,000. Thanks Gavin – I know you will need to obtain further clearances on these funds.*
- *I have spoken to Dirk Sellenger this morning (CEO Upper Gascoyne). Dirk was enthusiastic and very pleased to be invited to participate. Thanks Dirk and welcome aboard.*
- *If each of our seven Shires commits \$2,858 we will have a project budget of \$80,000 pending a successful T-Qual application (\$40K T-Qual, \$20K MWDC, \$20K local govts).*

*We have all identified the need to work together on tourism; and that in order to have a direction to take we need a strategy in place. This is an opportunity to commence the process and use \$2,858 per Shire of our own funds to potentially purchase \$80,000 in services. We are advised that this may be the last round of T-Qual, hence the tight timeframe.*

*Please note that this project relates to the overall strategy and is a completely separate matter to the marketing services proposal presented by Francis Jones.*

*Kind regards*

***Sharon Daishe***

***Chief Executive Officer***

This would appear to be an excellent opportunity for all seven shires to work together to develop a regional strategy and get the best outcome from the investment of a conservative sum of money. As Sharon says, John McCleary of Cue has already obtained a quote on the development of such a strategy and it fits within these funding parameters. The cost to the Shire of Murchison would be \$218 for the preparation of the grant submission and \$2,858 towards the project budget of \$80,000 if our grant submission was successful. Total commitment \$3,076.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government Act 1995 s.3.1 (1) The general function of the local government is to provide the good government of persons in the district.

**Strategic Implications:**

Developing a regional tourism strategy would help to increase tourism to the region and supports one of the fundamental priority areas of the shires strategic planning policy.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

There is an amount of \$5,000 included in this year's budget for regional tourism initiative.

**Consultation:**

CEO's of the Murchison Region  
Gavin Treasure, CEO, Mid West Development Commission  
Tammy King, Grants Consultant

**Recommendation:**

Pending equal commitment by the Shires in the region, the Shire of Murchison:

- 1) supports the T-Qual grant application to be prepared by Tammy King of Grants Empire;
- 2) commits an amount of \$2,858 + GST as their contribution towards the project should the grant application be successful.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Halleen**

**Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

Pending equal commitment by the Shires in the region, the Shire of Murchison:

- 1) supports the T-Qual grant application to be prepared by Tammy King of Grants Empire;
- 2) commits an amount of \$2,858 + GST as their contribution towards the project should the grant application be successful

**Carried**

**For: 6**

**Against: 0**

**21.2 Setting of Date for Workshop of Strategic Community plan**

File:

Author: Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Attachments:

**Matter for Consideration:**

Setting the date for the workshop to progress the development of the Strategic Community Plan

**Background:**

At the presentation earlier today by Travis of RSM Bird Cameron it was requested that we set a mutually convenient date to hold a workshop to further develop the strategic community plan.

**Comment:**

These plans need to be developed as soon as possible as they need to be in place by the end of the financial year so a date sooner than later would be best. There was discussion as to availability of councillors. Travis had also advised that he would not be available the week commencing the 15<sup>th</sup> April.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Part of the integrated planning required under the amendments to the Local Government Act 1995.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil.

**Consultation:**

Nil

**Resolution:**

That the workshop be held on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> April if that is suitable for Travis as well,

**21.3 Request to Attend Training.**

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

**Matter for Consideration:**

Application by Cr Seaman and Cr Whitmarsh to Elected Member training in May.

**Background:**

Per the policy manual it says that prior to any councillor attending a conference or training course the matter is to be discussed at the council meeting prior and a motion put and carried. Also per the policy manual, as it is a full day course, the shire would cover the cost of accommodation for the Friday and Saturday night and travel.

**Comment:**

The course is ‘Councillor roles and responsibilities’ and is being held in Perth on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> May. Cr Halleen suggested that there might be a course in Geraldton later on in the year following the October elections. However this is over six months away and Cr Whitmarsh would probably not be able to fit in a course during October or November.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Council encourages councillors to attend training courses and broaden their knowledge.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

There is an amount allocated for councillor training included in the budget, and this would fall within these provisions

**Consultation:**

Nil

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Halleen</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	
Council gives permission for Councillors Seaman and Whitmarsh to attend the Councillor Roles and Responsibilities Course and cover costs as per the Policy Manual		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 5</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

*Cr Squires left the meeting at 4.55 pm  
 Cr Squires returned to the meeting at 4.57pm  
 Council asked all staff to leave the room so they could discuss an item behind closed doors. Jenny Goodbourn, the CEO and Dianne Daniels, the Deputy CEO, left the meeting at 4.57pm*

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

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Seaman</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Halleen</b>	
That the meeting move behind closed doors.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 6</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

