

SHIRE OF MERREDIN



“Heart of the Wheatbelt”

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

17 JUNE 2008

INDEX

1.0	OFFICIAL OPENING	4
2.0	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....	4
3.0	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
4.0	DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST	5
5.0	PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS.....	5
6.0	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	6
6.1	Previous Council Meeting	6
7.0	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION.....	6
8.0	MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC	6
16.4	Staff Attraction and Retention – Senior Staff.....	6
9.0	RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL	6
9.1	LEMC Exercise Management Team Meeting held on 14 May 2008.....	6
9.2	Merredin Heritage Management Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2008	6
9.3	Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee Meeting held on 26 May 2008	7
9.4	WALGA Great Eastern Country Zone Teleconference Minutes held on 29 May 2008.....	7
9.5	Senior Staff Review Committee Meeting held on 29 May 2008	7
9.6	Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2008.....	7
9.7	Merredin Business and Community Development Committee Meeting held on 4 June 2008.....	7
10.0	COMMUNITY SERVICES	11
10.1	Manager of Community Services – Monthly Report	11
10.2	Grandstand Bar – Functions Requiring Alcohol Policy	15
10.3	Grandstand Bar – Unconsumed Liquor Policy.....	16
10.4	Nukarni Football Club Band Subsidy Request.....	17
10.5	Governance for Wheatbelt Drainage-Review of Draft Policy Framework	20
16.3	Eric Hind Music Scholarship	23
11.0	DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	25
11.1	Building Statistics Report.....	25
13.0	FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	27
13.1	Manager of Finance and Administration – Monthly Report	27
13.2	Monthly Finance Report.....	30
13.3	List of Accounts Paid	31
11.0	DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONTINUED	32
11.2	Occupational Safety and Health Manual – Adoption of Statement of Occupational Safety and Health.....	32
11.3	Landfill Site – Sims Metal Agreement to Remove Recyclable Steel.....	36

MINUTES

11.4	Application for Planning Consent – Wind and Meteorological Monitoring Equipment, Avon Location 20218, Bullshead Rd, Norpa – Windlab Systems for George Giraud	38
11.5	Sale of Lot 258, 54 Bates Street, Merredin – Request of Purchaser to Withdraw – G.E. and J.M. Howard	40
11.6	Request for Support – Community Grant – Merredin Aeromodellers Club – Water Binding Airstrip and Shade Structures at Old Civic Bowling Club	42
11.7	Lot 15 Avon Location 24776, Booran South Road, Merredin WA 6415	44
12.0	ENGINEERING SERVICES	45
12.1	Manager of Engineering Services – Monthly Report	45
12.2	Removal of Gamenya Avenue from the Restricted Access Vehicle Route	47
12.3	Road Naming Burracoppin Townsite	49
12.4	Road Widening - Great Eastern Highway Reserve	50
12.5	Amalgamation of Old Rail Reserve into Great Eastern Highway Reserve	51
5.0	PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	53
5.1	WA Country Health Issues	53
12.0	ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTINUED	55
12.6	Draft Recreation Ground Master Plan	55
13.0	FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CONTINUED	58
13.4	Chief Executive Officer’s Report	58
13.5	Constitutional Recognition of Local Government	60
13.6	Shires of Merredin and Westonia Liquor Accord	62
13.7	Rural Water Council of W.A. Inc	63
13.8	Local Government Act 1995 – Proposed Standing Down Provisions	64
14.0	MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	67
15.0	QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	68
15.1	Chief Executive Officer Delegated Authorities	68
16.0	URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION	72
16.1	Dr Herma Inverarity – Payment of Travel Allowance	72
16.2	Merredin Medical Practice	74
17.0	MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS	76
16.4	Staff Attraction and Retention – Senior Staff	76
16.0	URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION CONTINUED	77
16.5	Shire Inspection – Exceptional Circumstances	77
16.6	Shire Lobbying of Government Departments	77
16.7	Aboriginal – Police Relations	77
16.8	Wheatbelt Development Commission	77
16.9	Death of Mr Roy Little	78
16.10	Closure of Centrelink Office - Merredin	78
6.0	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	78
6.1	Previous Council Meeting	78
18.0	CLOSURE	78

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Merredin Shire Council held in the Council Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on Tuesday 17 June 2008 commencing at 1.00pm.

ATTENDANCE: Cr KA Hooper – Shire President
Cr RM Crees – Deputy Shire President
Crs S Elliott; P Forbes; M Hayden (1.35pm); A Hooper; M Morris; J Simmonds; JP Townrow; W Wallace; M Young (1.05pm)

Messrs FB Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer; J Garrett, Manager of Engineering Services; V Green, Executive Assistant; E Hooper, Manager of Finance and Administration; J Mitchell, Manager of Development Services and D Morris, Manager of Community Services

Mr Kim Snowball, Chief Executive Officer WA Country Health Service; John Fielding, Acting Regional Director WA Country Health Service - Wheatbelt (4.30pm)

Mrs Kerry Duffield, Mrs Gwen Price

1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 1.03pm. Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services and John Mitchell, Manager of Development Services were in attendance.

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Kerry Duffield & Mrs Gwen Price addressed Council in relation to the proposed kerbside recycling service and signage within the townsite of Burracoppin. The main points of the discussion were:

1. The residents of Burracoppin are mostly pensioners, do not use the waste service and so feel they should not have to pay for the service
2. As they do not receive the Wheatbelt Mercury and do not come into Merredin often, they are unaware of the majority of public notices issued by the Shire and that a letter drop to the residents of outlying communities would be beneficial.
3. The residents requested that street signs be erected for all the streets/roads within the townsite of Burracoppin, that a suitable sign be erected for a burial site in the town and that the sign for the old school site remain in its current location.

The Shire had initiated this service at the request of Ratepayers and was designed to encourage environmental responsibility and increase the life of the Refuse Site.

The other issues would be dealt with by staff.

Mrs Duffield, Mrs Price and John Mitchell, Manager of Development Services left the meeting at 1.18pm.

3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

29528

Moved Cr Simmonds

Sec Cr Forbes

That Cr Townrow be granted three months leave of absence from Council and Committee meetings.

CARRIED 10/0

4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Cr Crees declared a Financial Interest in Agenda Item 11.4

Cr Crees declared a Financial Interest in Agenda Item 11.7

Cr Forbes declared an Impartiality Interest in Discussion Item Page 46

Cr Morris declared a Financial Interest in Agenda Item 16.4

5.0 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mr Kim Snowball, Chief Executive Officer and Mr John Fielding, Acting Regional Director of WA Country Health Service addressed Council at 4.30pm.

Refer to Page 53 for details of the discussion.

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Previous Council Meeting

Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on 20 May 2008, subject to the removal of Cr Forbes from the membership of the Townscape/Tidy Towns Group.

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Elliott
That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 20 May 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings – with the removal of Cr Forbes from the membership of the Townscape/Tidy Towns Group.

29529

Moved Cr Elliott Sec Cr Townrow
That this Item 6.0.6.1. lay on the table until further information can be obtained in relation to a point of order made by Cr Young regarding the Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre recommendations.

CARRIED 10/0

Refer to Page 78 for the resolution of the above matter.

7.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

8.0 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

16.4 Staff Attraction and Retention – Senior Staff
Refer Page 77

9.0 RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL

9.1 LEMC Exercise Management Team Meeting held on 14 May 2008
Attachment 9.1A

9.2 Merredin Heritage Management Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2008
Attachment 9.2A

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- 9.3 Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee Meeting held on 26 May 2008
Attachment 9.3A
- 9.4 WALGA Great Eastern Country Zone Teleconference Minutes held on 29 May 2008
Attachment 9.4A
- 9.5 Senior Staff Review Committee Meeting held on 29 May 2008
Attachment 9.5A
- 9.6 Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2008
Attachment 9.6A
- 9.7 Merredin Business and Community Development Committee Meeting held on 4 June 2008
Attachment 9.7A
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29530

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young

That the Merredin Shire Council receive the minutes of the LEMC Exercise Management Team Meeting held on 14 May 2008, the Merredin Heritage Management Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2008, the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee Meeting held on 26 May 2008, the WALGA Great Eastern Country Zone Teleconference Minutes held on 29 May 2008, the Senior Staff Review Committee Meeting held on 29 May 2008, the Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2008 and the Merredin Business and Community Development Committee Meeting held on 4 June 2008.

CARRIED 10/0

9.1 LEMC Exercise Management Team

Nil Recommendations to Council

9.2 Merredin Heritage Management Committee

8.2 Municipal Inventory

Following a briefing on the presentation held on Monday 16 June 2008 the following motion was put.

29531

Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Townrow

That staff investigate quotations for the networking of Shire offices to outstations and the installation of Mosaic software in the 2008/2009 Budget.

CARRIED 10/0

9.3 Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee

8.3 Please refer to Agenda Item 12.6 Draft Recreation Ground Master Plan

8.7 Bar Managers Course

Moved Cr Wallace Sec Cr Crees

That the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Licensee calls for Expressions of Interest from volunteers who wish to undertake the Approved Bar Manager's course. Criteria to be developed to enable the Shire to assess and select applicants. The Shire to cover the costs of the Approved Bar Manager's course for those selected. Approved Bar Manager's will be expected to volunteer on occasion for sports other than those they are associated with.

CARRIED 6/0

29532

Moved Cr Wallace Sec Cr A Hooper

1. That the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Licensee calls for Expressions of Interest from volunteers who wish to undertake the Approved Bar Manager's course.

2. A selection criteria be developed by the Recreation Centre Manager and current Bar Manager to assess and select suitable applicants.

3. The Shire of Merredin will cover the cost of the Approved Bar Manager's course in the amount of \$375.00 per person for the volunteer(s) selected.

4. Approved Bar Manager's will be expected to volunteer on occasion for sporting events other than those sports they are personally associated with.

CARRIED 10/0

9.4 WALGA Great Eastern Country Zone

Nil Recommendations to Council

9.5 Senior Staff Review Committee

Nil Recommendations to Council

9.6 Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee

Nil Recommendations to Council

9.7 Merredin Business and Community Development Committee

6.1 Action Sheet Items - Christmas Lights

Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Forbes
That the Business and Community Development Committee recommend to Council that Council endorse the \$1,600.00 allocated in the 2007/2008 Budget be carried over to 2008/2009 and a further \$1,000.00 be allocated in the 2008/2009 Budget for Christmas Decorations for Christmas.

CARRIED 3/0

Cr Hayden entered the meeting at 1.36pm.

29533 Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Forbes
That Council endorse the \$1,600.00 allocated in the 2007/2008 Budget be carried over to 2008/2009 and a further \$1,000.00 be allocated in the 2008/2009 Budget for Christmas Decorations for Christmas.

CARRIED 11/0

29534 Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr A Hooper
That an allocation of staff time be made for Gala Night in the 2008/2009 Budget.

CARRIED 10/1

7.2 Reserve 10359 – Public Transport Authority Land – East Barrack Street (Light Industrial Land)

Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Forbes
That the Business and Community Development Committee recommend to Council that more pressure be placed on The Hon Alannah MacTiernan, MLA, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, for a response to previous correspondence, relating to Reserve 10359.

CARRIED 3/0

29535 Moved Cr Elliott Sec Cr Wallace
That Council place more pressure on The Hon Alannah MacTiernan, MLA, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, for a response to previous correspondence, relating to Reserve 10359.
CARRIED 11/0

29536 Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Townrow
That Council commence the process of purchasing all land (in Reserve 10359) between the Mary St and Barrack St railway crossings.
CARRIED 11/0

7.7 Merredin Trails Plan

Moved Cr Forbes Sec Cr Morris
That the Business and Community Development Committee recommend to Council that Council endorse the Northern Circuit as outlined in the Merredin Trails Plan as the priority trail to be progressed and incorporating secondary trails in the following order: Heritage Buildings & Sites, Military & Railway Heritage (Heritage Precinct) and Merredin Peak.
CARRIED 3/0

Note: The Merredin Trails Plan is shown as an appendix to the Attachment of the BCDC Minutes.

29537 Moved Cr Elliott Sec Cr Wallace
That Council endorse the Northern Circuit as outlined in the Merredin Trails Plan as the priority trail to be progressed and incorporating secondary trails in the following order: Heritage Buildings & Sites, Military & Railway Heritage (Heritage Precinct) and Merredin Peak.
CARRIED 10/1

Cr Simmonds left the meeting at 2.08pm.

Cr Simmonds entered the meeting at 2.11pm.

10.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.1 MANAGER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES – MONTHLY REPORT

Reporting Department: Community Services
Reporting Officer: Debbie Morris – Manager, Community Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

Background

The monthly report on operations is provided below for Council information.

Staff

Part time Project Officers Rachael Gearing and Taya Fritsch commenced employment on 12 May 2008.

The Manager of Library Services position was re-advertised in the Wheatbelt Mercury and through the State Library employment systems. Closing date for applications is Friday 13 June 2008.

A Performance Review was conducted on 4 June 2008 with Pam Last, Library Officer.

Grants

Up to date funding register maintained.

WDC Visitor Centre Expansion grant – extension date of acquittal to 30 June 2008 was granted, however it is unlikely that the painting of the exterior of the building will be completed by this date. A further extension of the acquittal is being sought.

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Incentive Grant \$20,000.00 – Agreement signed.

An application for the Lotterywest Interpretation of Cultural Heritage funding is being prepared. The application is for the Interpretation of the Heritage Precinct, inclusive of the Railway and Military Museums, Pioneer Park and future heritage in that precinct.

Lotterywest Conservation of Cultural Heritage Grant application for the Cummins Theatre was unsuccessful. The application was for \$85,000.00 for Urgent Actions outlined in the Cummins Theatre Conservation Plan. Lotterywest advised that competition for this grant round was very strong and they received more grant requests than they could support. \$1.2m was the funding allocation, 58 applications requesting a total of more than \$4.3m were received.

Equal Opportunity Commission

A response has been submitted to the Equal Opportunity Commission in relation to the claim by the previous Manager of Library Services, Mrs Madeleine Carter. The response requested the dismissal of the complaint under S.89(1) of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 as lacking in substance.

Budgets

Monthly print outs of budget accounts are provided to the Community Services Team for monitoring.

2008/2009 Budget allocations have been revised and submitted to the Manager of Finance and Administration.

PromotionWheatbelt Mercury

The Shire met with the Manager of the Wheatbelt Mercury to arrange a monthly Shire page in the newspaper in lieu of the bi-monthly Shire newsletter.

Wheatbelt Liftout

The "Weekend in the Wheatbelt" advertisement appeared in the West Australian "Wheatbelt Liftout" on 22 May 2008.

Children in the Workplace Policy

A policy is currently being developed in response to requests for children of staff members to be allowed in the workplace. The policy will provide both employees and managers with suitable guidelines. This policy is being developed in conjunction with Local Government Insurance Services (LGIS).

Meetings/Seminars attended

Council Meeting held on 20 May 2008

Grants Expo held on 20 May 2008

Community Services Team Meeting held on 22 May 2008

Merredin Heritage Management Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2008

LGIS – Ron Meechin (Performance Descriptions) Meeting held on 26 May 2008

Chief Executive Officer – Manager of Community Services Performance Review held on 27 May 2008

LGIS – Ron Meechin (Staff Survey) held on 28 May 2008

Senior Staff Review Meeting held on 29 May 2008

Senior Staff Meeting held on 3 June 2008

Town Planning Workshop –held on 4 June 2008

BCDC Meeting held on 4 June 2008

Telecentre Advisory Group Meeting held on 5 June 2008

Merredin Peak Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 June 2008

Budget Workshop held on 5 June 2008

Be-Active Management Committee Meeting held on 9 June 2008

Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre Working Group Meeting held on 9 June 2008

Tourism Services

2007/2008 ROC contributions to the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre are being followed up and 2008/2009 contributions are being initiated.

Requests from Pioneer Pathway regarding signage have been actioned.

A Synopsis has been prepared and submitted to Tourism Western Australia for financial assistance to undertake a site analysis on the two proposed tourism sites, to determine the most appropriate style of development suited to each site and the income and expenditure projections to secure a business case for one or both sites.

Natural Resource Management

The NRMO and Manager of Community Services reassessed the Merredin Peak Recreation Trail project including the purpose of the funding and the progression of the project.

The vehicle lease for NRMO is being assessed by Manager of Engineering Services.

Library Services

Considerable support and guidance is being provided to the Library Officer, Sonya Smith, which includes staffing of library, State Library returns, weekly newspaper article content, improvement of processes, building maintenance and improvements.

A student has been placed on the Workplace Learning Program at the Library from 9 June – 20 June 2008.

Recreation Services

Support, guidance and advice is being provided on a daily basis in relation to staff, budgets, activities, functions, vandalism, financial reporting, processes and procedures.

Workplace learning program students have been placed at the MRC&LC on the weeks commencing 16, 23 and 30 June 2008.

The Recreation Centre Manager will be on leave from 30 June – 21 July 2008.

Community and Economic Development

Support, guidance and advise is being provided on a daily basis in relation to budgets, committees, agendas, minutes, community events and projects.

Cummins Theatre

The Manager of Community Services attended a site inspection with the Manager of Development Services and an electrician on 29 May 2008 to outline the priority electrical work required by the end of June 2008.

Reports from individual Community Services' areas:

Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre
Report is **Attachment 10.1A**

Natural Resource Management
Report is **Attachment 10.1B**

Cummins Theatre
Report is **Attachment 10.1C**

Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre
Report is **Attachment 10.1D**

Community Project Officer
Report is **Attachment 10.1E**

Library Services
Position Vacant

Statutory Implications

Compliance with relevant Acts and Local Laws.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the Manager of Community Services' Report for June 2008.

29538

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Elliott

That Council receive the Manager of Community Services' Report for June 2008.

CARRIED 11/0

10.2 GRANDSTAND BAR – FUNCTIONS REQUIRING ALCOHOL POLICY

Reporting Department:	Community Services
Reporting Officer:	Nicole Newton – Manager, Recreation Centre
Legislation:	Liquor Control Act 1998
File Reference:	CS/08/02

Background

On many occasions the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRC&LC) is approached to hold functions of various natures. Not uncommon are 21st Birthdays, Engagements, Wakes, Business Christmas Parties etc.

In these instances the MRC&LC are also questioned with regard to bringing alcohol onto the premise if the time of the function is outside normal trading hours for the Grandstand Bar. On such occasions at these functions, ‘Punch’ with alcohol’ is a familiar request.

Statutory Implications

The MRC&LC is a licensed venue. Whether the Grandstand Bar is open for trading is irrelevant to the licensing situation.

No alcohol is to be brought onto the premise in accordance with our Special Facilities License.

The Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor have been contacted and indicated that for the purpose of ‘punch’ all liquor needs to be purchased from the Grandstand Bar and for the ‘punch’ to be made on site. It is against licensing regulations to allow for any unconsumed liquor to be bought into or taken from the premises.

Comments

A policy outlining the guidelines for functions requesting alcohol at the MRC&LC will enable the MRC&LC Management to ensure a consistent approach, which is in accordance with the Special Facilities License, to requests for functions for alcohol other than provided through the Grandstand Bar.

Officer’s Recommendation

That Council endorse and adopt the “Functions Requiring Alcohol” Policy as presented in Attachment 10.2A.

29539

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Elliott

That Council endorse and adopt the “Functions Requiring Alcohol” Policy as presented in Attachment 10.2A.

CARRIED 10/1

10.3 GRANDSTAND BAR – UNCONSUMED LIQUOR POLICY

Reporting Department:	Community Services
Reporting Officer:	Nicole Newton – Manager, Recreation Centre
Legislation:	Liquor Control Act 1998 Section 110.6
File Reference:	CS/08/02

Background

The Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRC&LC) currently hold a Specialty Facilities License. This license does not permit any alcoholic beverage to be purchased and then taken from the facility ‘takeaway’.

The MRC&LC will open a restaurant on 12 June 2008. As with all Restaurant Liquor Licenses, all purchases of liquor would be ancillary to a meal, however, due to the nature of our premises and our Special Facility License, purchasing a bottle of wine may not be in conjunction with a meal. As the MRC&LC does not hold a Restaurant License it is difficult for Bar staff to assess those drinking in conjunction with a meal or are on the premises for the sole purpose of liquor consumption.

To place responsibility on Bar staff to then assess whether a patron has partially consumed the bottle of wine ancillary to a meal becomes inconsistent and based on personal judgment. For the ease of assessment and consistency, any unconsumed alcohol is not to be taken from the premises, whether or not partially consumed ancillary to a meal.

Statutory Implications

According to the Liquor Control Act 1988 Section 110.6 unconsumed bottles of wine are permitted to be taken from the premises if they are re-sealed and had been purchased ancillary to a meal, with the intention to be finished ‘at home’.

Comments

A policy outlining the guidelines for unconsumed beverages at the MRC&LC will enable the MRC&LC Management to ensure a consistent approach, which is in accordance with the Special Facilities License.

Officer’s Recommendation

That Council endorse and adopt the “Unconsumed Liquor” Policy as presented in Attachment 10.3A.

29540

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Crees

That Council endorse and adopt the “Unconsumed Liquor” Policy as presented in Attachment 10.3A.

CARRIED 10/1

10.4 NUKARNI FOOTBALL CLUB BAND SUBSIDY REQUEST**Reporting Department:** Community Services**Reporting Officer:** Nicole Newton – Manager, Recreation Centre

Background

In previous years Nukarni Football Club (NFC) have held functions requiring the support of local or Perth based bands. In all years, the cost of the band has been jointly covered by the takings from door sales and bar sales.

With relocation to the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRC&LC), Nukarni Football Club (NFC) will be unable to afford the total cost of the band due to the inability of taking advantage of bar sales for the night.

On Saturday 2 August 2008, a scheduled home game for NFC, a request has been received for the provision of a function for the night. This function includes the hiring of live entertainment. NFC will use the Grandstand Bar facilities for all post game activities, including meals and awards, after which, the band will begin at approximately 8:30pm. It is proposed that the conclusion of the function will extend to 1.00am, should licensing permit. NFC will charge a small fee for entry to the function to cover extra costs.

NFC will provide all organisation of the function, including advertising, setting up (envisaged use of dance floor previously purchased for Community Ball), cleaning up of any areas that are outside the usual scope of a function and ensuring all facilities are respectfully treated.

The Nukarni Football Club Memorandum of Understanding states in Section 9 of the Special Terms of Agreement:

The Shire Shall:

Subsidise the Nukarni Football Club to cover against a net loss up to the value of \$5,000.00 upon the receipt of a 2008 season audited financial statement.

Statutory Implications

With community awareness of the function, Police would need to be made aware of the increase in patrons and activity expected to ensure extra surveillance of the area.

Nukarni request the event to be open to those club members who are under 18 years of age. The MRC&LC staff request that any person under 18 years of age be accompanied by their legal guardian.

MRC&LC Public Building Regulations specify a total capacity of 350 patrons when not seated. MRC&LC request no more than 150 patrons permitted to enter for the function in order to limit security risk.

MINUTES

All licensing, as per our Special Facilities License Section 98C of the Liquor Control Act 1988, allows for the trading hours on a Saturday night to extend to 1am. An application for the extension of bar hours would need to be submitted for consideration by the Recreation Centre Manager and Bar Manager.

Financial Implications

No budget allocation has been made in the 2007/2008 Budget for this expenditure.

The Band will cost \$2,200.00, their accommodation \$170.00 and their drinks \$120.00 and the request from Nukarni Football Club is that the Shire of Merredin contribute half the total cost of the live entertainment, meaning the total cost for Shire of Merredin would be \$1,245.00.

Increased sales at the Grandstand Bar would offset this expenditure/donation.

Comment

Nukarni Football Club has indicated they will be responsible for all advertising and intend to promote this function as a Nukarni Football Club event to limit numbers to a manageable amount, as opposed to advertising it as a Shire of Merredin or MRC&LC function, which would increase dramatically and alter the requirements for performing (venue, ticketing, security etc)

While this venture will foster a positive relationship with the Nukarni Football Club it will set a precedent for other clubs wishing to organise similar events in the future. Should the Shire of Merredin be forthcoming on this occasion, an allocation in the 2008/2009 Budget for similar occasions would need to be considered.

Nukarni Football Club is not endeavouring to make a profit from this event but to keep the younger members enthused and therefore are only proposing to charge \$10.00 entry. The attendance of 100 people at \$10.00 per head equals \$1,000.00. At \$20.00 per head the expectation for the number of patrons would decrease. On previous occasions \$10.00 per head would be charged, with the remainder of the cost being covered through bar sales.

In order for adequate staffing, MRC&LC request Nukarni Football Club supply 3 volunteers on the night to help in a range of duties. For example: bar service and cleaning.

This is an appropriate request from a sporting group for a function at the MRC&LC, however the endorsement by Council will set a precedent for other user groups.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council decline Nukarni Football Club's request for a financial contribution towards the costs of a band for the proposed event on 2 August 2008 and consider a budget allocation in 2008/2009 Budget for requests of a similar nature.

29541

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Townrow

That Council decline Nukarni Football Club's request for a financial contribution towards the costs of a band for the proposed event on 2 August 2008.

CARRIED 9/2

29542

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Townrow

That Council investigate holding a major, quality concert for Merredin and the surrounding areas.

CARRIED 11/0

10.5 GOVERNANCE FOR WHEATBELT DRAINAGE-REVIEW OF DRAFT POLICY FRAMEWORK

Reporting Department:	Community Services
Reporting Officer:	Tobias Vudzijena – Natural Resource Management Officer
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995
File Reference:	EM/11/03

Background

Drainage, as an option for alleviating salinity and waterlogging in the Wheatbelt, has been discussed extensively in various forums. Debate has revolved over the need to have clear role definitions and accountabilities between landholders, Local Government and State Government agencies. The issue is complicated by the need for drains to cut across multiple properties with some landholders deriving benefit while others incur consequential costs for no apparent benefit.

Wheatbelt Drainage Council

In an effort to harmonise and provide an optimal drainage policy framework the State Government commissioned the Wheatbelt Drainage Council (WDC) to look into making recommendations to the Minister for Water on the necessary Policy framework. The terms of reference of the WDC were to;

1. By September 2007 provide the Minister with Clear Principles for Drainage
2. By March 2008 develop a Policy Framework for Inland Drainage.

The WDC started its task by undertaking an extensive series of consultation workshops to get on the ground input from farmers and other affected parties. The field consultations, covering the whole Wheatbelt at eight regional centers was done over the period 6 - 21 February 2008.

The Merredin workshop, on 21 February 2008, was well attended and Council was represented by the Shire President, Deputy Shire President, Chief Executive Officer and Natural Resource Management Officer. Among the many issues discussed was a clear statement that Local Government was not in a position to manage drainage, as, besides being an affected party in terms of road maintenance issues arising from drainage, there was inadequate capacity to manage the technical and risk elements of drainage.

Extended Input Request to WDC Draft Policy Framework

With the input from the workshops WDC has tabled a Draft Policy Framework (**Attachment 10.5A**) but still wished for further input from all concerned and sought an extension to their terms of reference to the end of May 2008.

Due to the limited time constraint it was not possible to obtain full Council input for the review. Therefore staff has reviewed the proposed Draft Policy Framework taking into consideration Council's resolutions at previous Council meetings (21 November 2006 and 19 June 2007 respectively):

CMRef 28720: *That Council favours the management of drainage governance by State Government and consequently Council does not support the formation of Regional Local Governments to provide the governance role for drainage in the Western Australian Wheatbelt because it has issues in the following areas:*

- 1. Resourcing of the model particularly financial.*
- 2. The separate pieces of legislation that need to be consolidated.*
- 3. The lack of overall state coordination.*

CMRef 28998: *That the Shire of Merredin advise the Wheatbelt Drainage Council that it believes the following principles should be applied when considering drainage scheme proposals:*

1. Funding

Any benefit from these drainage works will be shared between all stakeholders. Therefore, funding should come from State and Federal governments.

2. Legislative

All drainage legislation should be consolidated into one legislative act and administered by one government department.

3. Liability

The risk associated with any scheme rests with the government department charged to manage and implement the scheme.

4. Consultation

All stakeholders affected by any drainage proposal should be consulted during the project assessment phase.

The above clearly articulated Council's positions were not seen as being embodied in the tabled Draft Policy Framework.

In the interest of meeting the WDC deadline for comments submission (30 May 2008), a written response was prepared and submitted by the Chief Executive Officer, (**Attachment 10.5B**) on behalf of Council, highlighting Council's identified elements as outlined above for inclusion in the Draft Policy Framework.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council endorse the response submitted by the Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of Council, to the Wheatbelt Drainage Council for consideration in the Draft Policy Framework for Drainage.

29543

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Morris

That Council endorse the response submitted by the Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of Council, to the Wheatbelt Drainage Council for consideration in the Draft Policy Framework for Drainage.

CARRIED 11/0

This Agenda Item 16.3 was brought forward due to the attendance of Mrs Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services.

16.3 **ERIC HIND MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP**

Reporting Department: Community Services

Reporting Officer: Taya Fritsch – Project Officer

Background

On 5 September 2000 Council adopted the Eric Hind Music Scholarship Policy 3.12 (**CMRef 27632**) **Attachment 16.3A**.

The Policy indicated that the Scholarship was to be conducted annually, however it has not been presented for a number of years.

At the 17 April 2007 Council meeting (**CMRef 28865**) Council endorsed a recommendation from the Business and Community Development Committee (BCDC) *“That Council support the Merredin Community Awards and provide resources to initiate and coordinate the event.”*

At the September 2007 BCDC meeting it was recommended *“That the award of the annual Eric Hind Music Scholarship be combined with the occasion”*

A community meeting was held on 4 June 2008 to form a committee to undertake the organisation of the Merredin Community Awards Committee incorporating the Eric Hind Music Scholarship. 25 October 2008 was the date proposed for the event, as this date would coincide with WA Week and provide an opportunity to apply for funding from Celebrate WA.

The Eric Hind Music Scholarship Policy 3.12 outlines the Judging Panel, Selection Criteria and Advertising for the Scholarship. The Awards Committee are complying with and incorporating the Judging Panel and Selection Criteria, however the Advertising dates and timeframes as set in the Policy is beyond the scope of the proposed event date for 2008.

The relevant dates proposed for the 2008 Merredin Community Awards are as follows:

1 July 2008	Advertising Commence
1 September 2008	Nominations close
7 September 2008	Nominees informed
14 September 2008	Nominees interviewed and nominations completed
23 September 2008	Judging completed
25 October 2008	Merredin Community Awards

Comment

Policy 3.12 states the judging panel to be: *“Comprising three members selected by the Council of the day. Preferably at least one Councillor and possibly two community members with music backgrounds.”*

At Council’s Special Council Meeting 23 October 2007, Council endorsed (CMRef 29197) the Eric Hind Musical Scholarship Committee (Occasional) Members Cr Elliott, Cr Forbes and two community members.

To enable the 2008 Merredin Community Awards event incorporating the Eric Hind Music Scholarship to progress, Council’s endorsement of the proposed date of the event, advertising schedule and the allocation of a Councillor on the Judging Panel for the Eric Hind Music Scholarship.

Officer’s Recommendation

1. *That Council endorse 25 October 2008 as the date for the Merredin Community Awards, incorporating the Eric Hind Scholarship with the advertising period from 1 July – 25 October 2008.*
2. *That Councillor _____ be Council’s representative on the Judging Panel of the Eric Hind Music Scholarship as outlined in Policy 3.12.*

29544

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Simmonds

1. *That Council endorse 25 October 2008 as the date for the Merredin Community Awards, incorporating the Eric Hind Scholarship with the advertising period from 1 July – 25 October 2008.*
2. *That Cr Forbes & Cr Elliott be Council’s representatives on the Judging Panel of the Eric Hind Music Scholarship as outlined in Policy 3.12 with Nicola Lane or Julie Tiller as the community representative.*

CARRIED 11/0

Cr Young and Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services left the meeting at 2.47pm.

11.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES11.1 **BUILDING STATISTICS REPORT**

Reporting Department: Development Services
Reporting Officer: John Mitchell - Manager, Development Services
Legislation: Building Regulations 1989, Building Code of Australia 2006

Background

The monthly report on Building Licences issued by the Building Surveyor is provided below for Council information.

Statutory Implications

Building fees are levied for Class 1 and Class 10 (residential) buildings at 0.3182% of the construction value of the work.

Building fees are levied for Class 2 – 9 (commercial) buildings at 0.2% of the construction value of the work. In all cases a minimum fee of \$40.00 is levied. In addition a levy is applied by the Builders Registration Board - \$37.00

Applications/Approvals

Building Licence No.	Licence issued to	Address of proposed building, Description of works	Owner of property	Class of Building
BA36/08	James Fletcher, PO Box 570, Merredin WA 6415	Lot 1038, 11 Lefroy Street, Merredin, Additions to dwelling and patio	V Murphy, 11 Lefroy Street, Merredin WA 6415	Class 1(a) and 10(a)
BA37/08	Brett Lane, Lot 1342 Whitfield Way, Merredin WA 6415	Lot 1342 Whitfield Way, Merredin New steel framed and clad garage	Brett Lane, Lot 1342 Whitfield Way, Merredin WA 6415	Class 10(a)
BA38/08	Glen Smith, 17 Hay Street, Merredin WA 6415	Loc 19195, Lot 22 Totadgin Hall Road, Merredin; New steel framed and weatherboard clad dwelling	Glen Smith, 17 Hay St, Merredin WA 6415	Class 1(a)
BA39/08	E Hombergen, Lot 14 Bruce Rock Rd, Merredin WA 6415	Lot 14 Bruce Rock Rd, Merredin WA 6415; new steel framed and clad conc floor outbuilding	E Hombergen, Lot 14 Bruce Rock Rd, Merredin WA 6415	Class 10(a)
BA40/08	Grant Astbury, 15 Endersbee St, Merredin WA 6415	Lot 636, 15 Endersbee St, Merredin WA 6415; new steel framed and clad outbuilding	Grant Astbury, 15 Endersbee St, Merredin WA 6415	Class 10(a)

*- indicates licence not yet issued, hence no name included.

Valuation: \$ 192,940.00
Progressive: **\$2,066,393.00**

Fees: \$ 722.95
Progressive: **\$6,242.82**

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the May 2008 statistics for Building Licences issued (BA36-08 to BA40-08) by the Building Surveyor.

29545 Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Townrow
That Council receive the May 2008 statistics for Building Licences issued (BA36-08 to BA40-08) by the Building Surveyor.
CARRIED 10/0

29546 Moved Cr Simmonds Sec Cr A Hooper
That Council adjourn the meeting at 2.50pm
CARRIED 10/0

29547 Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Morris
That Council reconvene the meeting at 2.59pm.
CARRIED 11/0

Cr Young and Emma Hooper, Manager of Finance and Administration were in attendance.

These Agenda Items 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 were brought forward due to the attendance of Emma Hooper, Manager of Finance and Administration.

13.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

13.1 MANAGER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – MONTHLY REPORT

Reporting Department:	Finance and Administration
Reporting Officer:	Emma Hooper – Manager, Finance and Administration
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations

Background

The monthly report on operations is provided below for Council information.

Staffing

Brianna Astbury is currently completing two weeks of workplace learning within the Administration Office.

Interim Audit

The Interim Audit was completed on Friday 6 June 2008 with a report to follow from UHY Haines Norton shortly.

Budget

The first Budget Concept Forum was held on Thursday 5 June 2008 with discussion taking place regarding general budget issues, the Fees & Charges schedule, draft budgeted capital works for 2008/2009, and Wishlist Items for both Councillors', Staff and the Community.

The next Concept Forum is scheduled to be held in late June 2008 with a draft budget being provided and a detailed review taking place.

Loan

Draw-down of the loan budgeted for the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre construction is currently proceeding.

Hines Hill Fire Brigade EMA Grant

In 2005 James McGovern applied for, in conjunction with members of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) and the Hines Hill Bush Fire Brigade, funding from Emergency Management Australia to fund the installation of the Fire Hydrant at Hines Hill.

Following the works completed whilst resurfacing the Great Eastern Highway through Hines Hill, all pipework and installation of the hydrant was donated by the contractors, Brierty's.

As there was now no funds to be expended by Council in installing the hydrant, communication occurred between the Manager of Finance & Administration, the Manager of Development Services and Emergency Management Australia staff to request that the funding be allowed to be allocated to the additional works being performed to connect the water tank situated outside the Fire Shed. Official notification was received on 30 May 2008 stating that the alteration to funding could not be approved. An official request has been made to refund the grants monies which had previously been held in trust. This refund is currently being processed.

Notification has been received from Emergency Management Australia that there is funding available for various projects that our local Bush Fire Brigades may be looking to undertake. This information has been distributed to Bush Fire Control Officers with a view to identify any projects that may be appropriate with regards to these funding opportunities.

Rates Early Payment Incentive

Subject to the *Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferments) Act 1992*, a Local Government may, when imposing a rate or service charge, resolve (by Absolute Majority) to grant a discount or other incentive for the early payment of any rate or service charge.

It was a Key Performance Indicator set for the Manager of Finance and Administration to investigate the option of a Rates Early Payment Incentive. Staff have contacted approximately thirty Local Governments to ascertain opinions and the success of rate payment incentive schemes. Of those queried, five do not offer any form of discount, ten offered a percentage discount on early payment ranging from two to ten percent and the remainder offered a prize draw.

One Local Government specifically advised against offering a discount as a payment incentive due to the administrative time involved. A prize draw was a popular choice and there was a range of values from \$100.00 to \$10,000.00 cash prize pools, accommodation packages and donations from various businesses.

Staff have currently investigated a trip to Broome (as an example) for a couple, seven nights accommodation, flights included which has been quoted at approximately \$3,000.00 - \$4,500.00 dependent on accommodation and time of travel.

A one-off prize like the above could be offered in conjunction with any prizes donated by local or metropolitan businesses and prizes donated by Council, for example, tickets to Cummins Theatre Shows and Season Tickets to the Pool.

Officer's Recommendation

1. *That Council fund Rates Incentive Prizes to the value of \$4,000.00 with remaining prizes to be sourced via donations from local and metropolitan businesses.*

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED

2. *That Council receive the Manager of Finance and Administration's Report for June 2008.*

29548

Moved Cr Young

Sec Cr Townrow

*That Council receive the Manager of Finance and Administration's Report for June 2008.***CARRIED 11/0****29549**

Moved Cr Young

Sec Cr Elliott

*That Council source sponsorships to a maximum value of \$2,000.00 from non local businesses as an Early Rates Payment Incentive Prize.***CARRIED 10/1****ABSOLUTE MAJORITY****REASON**

In view of the adverse seasonal conditions it was felt that non local businesses should be contacted.

13.2 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

Reporting Department: Finance and Administration
Reporting Officer: Emma Hooper – Manager, Finance and Administration
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

Background

The attached monthly financial report is provided for Council information.
(Attachment 13.2A)

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for May 2008.

29550

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Crees

*That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for May 2008.***CARRIED 11/0**

13.3 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID

Reporting Department:	Finance and Administration
Reporting Officer:	Emma Hooper – Manager, Finance and Administration
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations

Background

The attached list of accounts paid during the month under delegated authority is provided for Council information. (**Attachment 13.3A**)

Statutory Implications

Local Government Act and Financial Management Regulations.

Financial Implications

All liabilities settled have been in accordance with the Annual Budget provisions.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques as numbered and totalling \$480,797.64 and amounts directly debited from Councils Municipal Fund Bank Account BSB 066-518 Account No. 000 000 10 totalling \$41,358.71 and outstanding creditors totalling \$147,582.23.

29551

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Forbes

That Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques as numbered and totalling \$480,797.64 and amounts directly debited from Councils Municipal Fund Bank Account BSB 066-518 Account No. 000 000 10 totalling \$41,358.71 and outstanding creditors totalling \$147,582.23.

CARRIED 11/0

Emma Hooper, Manager of Finance and Administration left the meeting at 3.24pm.

John Mitchell, Manager of Development Services entered the meeting at 3.25pm.

11.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONTINUED

11.2 **OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH MANUAL – ADOPTION
OF STATEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH**

Reporting Department: Development Services
Reporting Officer: John Mitchell - Manager, Development Services
Legislation: Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984
File Reference: P/17/07

Background

The Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act 1984 requires that the employer prepare a series of policies and procedures within the workplace to ensure that a safe place to work exists.

Part of those procedures requires that the employer adopt a work place Occupational Safety and Health statement and Implement an Occupational Safety and Health Management System.

In addition, the employer must prepare and implement an Action Plan to ensure that all employees are aware of workplace policies, protocols and procedures, are properly inducted and that on-going training is commenced.

Mr Greg Cook, Regional Risk Coordinator from Local Government Insurance Services and the Manager of Development Services have completed the required documentation and placed the OSH system on the public drive of the Shire of Merredin computer system. The draft Management System will be reviewed as part of the employee induction procedures.

Statutory Implications

The provisions of Section 19 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 are applicable. In addition various regulations pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1986 are applicable.

Financial Implications

There are no additional financial implications to the Shire of Merredin. An annual OSH budget is maintained to address known safety and health issues and to provide personal protective equipment.

Examples of annual provisions include:

1. Safety boots, sun screen, potable waters;
2. Provision of a lunch room at the Depot;
3. First aid kits;
4. Mobile communications;
5. Safety features purchased in vehicles;
6. Safety meetings and various seminars.

Comment

Council input is sought into three areas:

1. Adoption of the Occupational Safety and Health Policy;
2. Endorsement of the Safety Management Implementation Plan;
3. The provision of delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to implement policies and procedures for the proper enactment of the Occupational Safety and Health Management System.

The Occupational Safety and Health Policy Statement is provided below:

Occupational Safety and Health Policy

The Shire of Merredin recognises its moral and legal responsibility to provide and maintain a work environment in which employees, contractors, customers and visitors are not exposed to hazards. This commitment extends to ensuring that the organisation's operations do not place the local community at risk of injury, illness or property damage.

The Shire of Merredin will:

1. *Provide and maintain safe workplaces, safe plant and safe systems of work.*
2. *Provide written procedures and instructions to ensure safe systems of work.*
3. *Provide information, instruction, training and supervision to employees, contractors and customers to ensure that they are not exposed to hazards.*
4. *Ensure compliance with legislative requirements, Australian Standards, Codes of Practice, Guidance Notes and current industry standards.*
5. *Provide support and assistance to employees.*

All levels of management are accountable for implementing this policy in their area of responsibility and implementation of this policy will be measured by annual performance reviews. Management responsibilities include the following:

- 1. The provision and maintenance of the workplace in a safe condition.*
- 2. Involvement in the development, promotion and implementation of safety and health policies and procedures.*
- 3. Training employees in the safe performance of assigned tasks.*
- 4. The provision of resources to meet the safety and health commitment.*
- 5. Employees are to:*
 - a. Follow all safety and health policies and procedures.*
 - b. Report all known or observed hazards to their immediate Supervisor.*

This policy is applicable to employees, in all its operations and functions, including those situations where employees are required to work off site.

Safety Management Implementation Plan

The Safety Management Implementation Plan (**Attachment 11.2A**) comprises the statement of management commitment, and general policy statements for proper process planning, consultation, hazard management identification, training and induction regimes, procedures for the management of workers compensation and injury and an implementation checklist.

Council endorsement of this Plan is sought.

Delegated Authority

The Occupational Safety and Health Management System comprises the Management Plan and a variety of policies relating to all known issues within the workplace from bullying through to confined spaces procedures to isolated employees policies.

The system will require regular review and amendment as each issue is addressed. The system is “fluid” and will change as OSH principles change or dictate.

To ensure the system’s currency, the ability to amend, change or make workplace policy is required. As the Chief Executive Officer is the responsible officer for OSH, delegated authority to make OSH workplace policy is also sought.

An Action Plan has been prepared for the implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Management System.

Officer's Recommendation

1. *That Council endorse the statement of Occupational Safety and Health Policy and authorises the Chief Executive Officer and the Shire President to sign the statement.*
2. *That Council endorse the document "Safety Management Implementation Plan" (Attachment 11.2A) as contained in the Shire of Merredin Occupational Safety and Health Management System.*
3. *That the Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to make Occupational Safety and Health Workplace Policy and Procedures to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 and the 1986 Regulations as contained within the document "Shire of Merredin Occupational Safety and Health Management System".*

29552

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young

1. *That Council endorse the statement of Occupational Safety and Health Policy and authorises the Chief Executive Officer and the Shire President to sign the statement.*
2. *That Council endorse the document "Safety Management Implementation Plan" (Attachment 11.2A) as contained in the Shire of Merredin Occupational Safety and Health Management System.*
3. *That the Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to make Occupational Safety and Health Workplace Policy and Procedures to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 and the 1986 Regulations as contained within the document "Shire of Merredin Occupational Safety and Health Management System".*

CARRIED 11/0

11.3 LANDFILL SITE – SIMS METAL AGREEMENT TO REMOVE RECYCLABLE STEEL

Reporting Department:	Development Services
Reporting Officer:	John Mitchell - Manager, Development Services
Legislation:	Shire of Merredin Health Local Laws 1999, Environmental Protection (Rural Landfill) Regulations 2002
File Reference:	WM/16/2

Background

Sims Metal have removed recyclable steel components from the Chandler Road landfill site since 2002. The annual budget income for the removal is approximately \$24,000.00.

The contract has expired and has been offered for renewal.

Statutory Implications

Section 3.57 of the Local Government Act 1995 applies. However, as it is below the threshold of \$100,000.00 Council is not obliged to go to tender.

Council's Purchasing Policy (3.14) is then applicable. There are only two contractors servicing the region and only Sims Metal has undertaken regular collections. Comments from other Local Governments in the region who use other contractors have found them to be unreliable and offer an inferior service.

Financial Implications

For the 2007/2008 year Council received a price per tonne of \$135.00. The offered price for the contract of \$232.50 per tonne for the first six months then subject to market pricing for the contract term of one year with option to renew twice expiring on 8 May 2011.

Comment

The Shire of Merredin has enjoyed good service from Sims Metal who seem to be the main provider within WA of the recycling service.

It is recommended that the agreement be reconsidered annually pending an outcome of future decisions regarding the operation, management and maintenance of a new landfill site.

Officer's Recommendation

That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to enter into an agreement with Sims Metal to reclaim steel waste from the Chandler Road Landfill Site for a period of 1 year expiring on 8 May 2009 with two options to renew.

29553

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Morris

That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to enter into an agreement with Sims Metal to reclaim steel waste from the Chandler Road Landfill Site for a period of 1 year expiring on 8 May 2009 with two options to renew.

CARRIED 11/0

Cr Crees declared a Financial Interest in this Agenda Item 11.4 and left the meeting at 3.30pm.

11.4 **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING CONSENT – WIND AND METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING EQUIPMENT, AVON LOCATION 20218, BULLSHEAD RD, NORPA – WINDLAB SYSTEMS FOR GEORGE GIRAUDO**

Reporting Department: Development Services
Reporting Officer: John Mitchell - Manager, Development Services
Legislation: Planning and Development Act 2005; Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1; Building Amendment Regulations 2002.
File Reference: PA/01/07; P8068

Background

Council has received an application for planning consent (PA08/08) to install wind and meteorological monitoring equipment submitted by Windlab Systems on behalf of John Meharry at Avon Location 19112 and Rodney Mark Crees of Avon Location 20724, Bullshead Road – (environs), Norpa.

Information accompanying the submission can be seen as **Attachment 11.4A**.

An area map of the location taken from the Landgate system can be seen as **Attachment 11.4B**.

Statutory Implications

Avon Location 19112 and 20724 are zoned “General Farming” in accordance with the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1. Wind and meteorological monitoring equipment is a use not listed within such a zone.

Council determined at its 20 February 2007 meeting (**CMRef 28802**) that wind and meteorological monitoring equipment be designated as a “PS” use.

The mast is classed as a Class 10(b) building in accordance with the Building Code of Australia 2008. As the structure is proposed to be erected outside the town boundary, there is no requirement for a building license to be issued in accordance with the Building Amendment Regulations 2002.

The request from the applicant to waiver the requirement for a registered builder to construct the mast is not the domain of this office.

Financial Implications

Town Planning fees are levied on applications as per Councils Schedule of Fees and Charges and under the provisions of the Town Planning (Local Government Planning Fees) Regulations 2000.

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION WHERE THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE DEVELOPMENT (other than for an extractive industry)	FEE (\$)
Not more than \$50,000.00	\$123.00

The relevant fee has not been paid by the applicant.

Comment

It is felt that the proposal will have minimal impact on the environment in relation to noise generation or visual impact and there will be no land clearing associated with the development.

Discussions with the proponent indicate that this mast will be used to monitor wind quality and characteristics, with a view to determining the feasibility of a commercial wind farm on the site in the future.

The mast will also be used to accommodate communications equipment to enable remote relay of information.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council grant planning consent to Rodney Mark Crees and John Meharry, in relation to application for planning consent PA08/08, to install wind and meteorological monitoring equipment at Avon Locations 19112 and 20724, Norpa.

29554

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Elliott

That Council grant planning consent to Rodney Mark Crees and John Meharry, in relation to application for planning consent PA08/08, to install wind and meteorological monitoring equipment at Avon Locations 19112 and 20724, Norpa.

CARRIED 10/0

Cr Crees entered the meeting at 3.31pm.

11.5 **SALE OF LOT 258, 54 BATES STREET, MERREDIN – REQUEST OF PURCHASER TO WITHDRAW – G.E. AND J.M. HOWARD**

Reporting Department: Development Services

Reporting Officer: John Mitchell - Manager, Development Services

File Reference: P328

Background

During November 2007, Council offered a number of lots for sale by auction. Lot 258, 54 Bates Street was sold for an amount of \$23,500.00. At the time of sale the Lot was zoned “Civic & Culture” and the advice provided to the public was that Council sought to have the land zoned “Residential” and would ensure that the zoning occurred during the Local Planning Scheme No.3 review.

The Offer and Acceptance clearly stated there could be no guarantee as to when the rezoning would occur nor did the condition that the buyer placed on the contract (that the zoning be changed to “Residential”) have a time period specified.

It was also conveyed to prospective purchasers that the Shire would seriously give consideration to the establishment of a dwelling, through the provision of a use class within the zoning table, if an application was received.

No application to develop was received.

The new owners have now corresponded requesting that they be let out of the sale due to the inordinate delays in rezoning; and that the Shire of Merredin release the deposit funds of the sale and accept the interest accrual against the loan raised.

Correspondence has been sent to the Settlement Agent, Sharon Stivey Settlements, advising that the matter would be presented to Council at the June 2008 meeting, however the refund of interest would not be met by the Shire of Merredin.

Statutory Implications

There is no legal requirement for the Shire of Merredin to refund interest accrued.

Council did not receive an application to develop the land.

Financial Implications

Whilst Council has budgeted to receive the funds, the loss of income can be offset by resale in the 2008/2009 financial year. The land is close to the centre of town, is sewerred, and provided with infrastructure.

It is likely that Council will recoup more funds from another sale.

Comment

To pursue the sale of the land is a civil legal matter and can prove costly.

It is not recommended that Council refund any interest accrued through the purchase of the land because no conditions of sale have been breached.

Officer's Recommendation

That the Settlement Agent (Sharon Stivey Settlements) be advised that the Shire of Merredin will permit the sale of Lot 258, 54 Bates Street, Merredin to lapse and that only the deposit paid of \$2,350.00 will be refunded.

29555

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Forbes

That the Settlement Agent (Sharon Stivey Settlements) be advised that the Shire of Merredin will permit the sale of Lot 258, 54 Bates Street, Merredin to lapse and that only the deposit paid of \$2,350.00 will be refunded.

CARRIED 9/2

11.6 REQUEST FOR SUPPORT – COMMUNITY GRANT – MERREDIN AEROMODELLERS CLUB – WATER BINDING AIRSTRIP AND SHADE STRUCTURES AT OLD CIVIC BOWLING CLUB

Reporting Department: Development Services
Reporting Officer: John Mitchell - Manager, Development Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995 – Section 3.58
File Reference: CS/08/03

Background

A request for community funding (**Attachment 11.6A**) has been received from the Merredin Aeromodellers Club. The Club seeks for Council to consider:

1. Resiting of the shade structures from the Civic Bowling Club to the Merredin Aeromodellers Club for the purposes of shade over modellers refuelling and testing model aircraft;
2. Monetary support or assistance with water binding and rolling of the new air strip.

The Club has been successful in obtaining \$15,000.00 towards construction of new male/female baby change and disabled ablutions. The plans have been sighted by the Manager of Development Services.

The Club hopes to attract annual events to Merredin.

Statutory Implications

The provisions of Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 30 of the Functions and General Regulations are applicable.

The disposal of shade shelters is captured by Section 3.58, however under Regulation 30(2)(b), as the objects of the group are recreational and it is a not for profit organisation, the disposal is exempt from Section 3.58.

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication to the Shire of Merredin for the release of the shade structures other than advertising of the intent of sale/barter/gift by private agreement.

Water binding and rolling of the existing gravel airstrip will suffice for propeller model aircraft. The estimated value of the works is \$3,500.00 in private works charges and will need to be programmed into the Works Program for 2008/2009.

Comment

The removal of the shade structures may require input from the lessee of the Civic Bowling Club. Their views should be sought prior to disposal of the shade structures. The Administration has spoken to Mrs Vicki Heinj (a lessee of the site) who does not see an issue with the removal if Council consents.

The Club hopes to attract model jet aircraft to the site. If this proposal is successful then the strip will require sealing as the turbines cannot ingest sand, grit and dirt without severe damage.

The Club established this new site following complaints from neighbours at their old site alongside Great Eastern Highway allegedly agreed to by Council many years ago. Following onsite discussions with the Manager of Development Services, the Club agreed to relocate further from town.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council endorse the removal of the shade structures, with the cost to be borne by the Merredin Aeromodellers Club, from the Civic Bowling Club, subject to the approval of the current lessees, to the Merredin Aeromodellers Club for the purposes of shade over modellers refuelling and testing model aircraft.

Jim Garrett, Manager of Engineering Services entered the meeting at 3.35pm.

29556

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Young

That Council endorse the removal of the shade structures, with the cost to be borne by the Merredin Aeromodellers Club, from the Civic Bowling Club, subject to the approval of the current lessees, to the Merredin Aeromodellers Club for the purposes of shade over modellers refuelling and testing model aircraft subject to the ownership investigations.

CARRIED 11/0

Cr Crees declared an Financial Interest in the ensuing discussion and left the meeting at 3.36pm.

11.7 Lot 15 Avon Location 24776, Booran South Road, Merredin WA 6415

Council were advised that the Manager of Development Services had prepared a summons against Mr I Wallace in relation to Lot 15 Booran South Road.

With the current arrangements between Mr I Wallace and Mr Townsend (the purchaser of the property), Mr Townsend would bear the effect of the legal action. Mr Townsend was willing to agree in writing to the rehabilitation of the site. Further legal action would not be taken until further negotiations had occurred with Mr Townsend.

John Mitchell, Manager of Development Services left the meeting at 3.39pm.

Cr Crees entered the meeting at 3.40pm.

12.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES

12.1 MANAGER OF ENGINEERING SERVICES – MONTHLY REPORT

Reporting Department: Engineering Services
Reporting Officer: James Garrett – Manager, Engineering Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

Background

The monthly report on operations is provided below for Council information.

Comment

Road Construction

The gravel sheeting of South Burracoppin Road has been completed.

The drainage works on Solomon Street has commenced and is due to be completed by the end of June 2008.

The footpath on Bates Street is nearing completion.

Construction of the sub base has commenced on the Fire Brigade Training Track at the Recreation Ground and once completed the trenching for the electrical and drainage works can proceed.

Road Maintenance

A footpath inspection of the town has resulted in maintenance works being carried out to repair the identified problem areas.

Annual maintenance grading has not fully commenced due to the lack of moisture.

Parks and Gardens

Reticulation maintenance is in progress on all of the town's parks and gardens.

Employees

Murray Thomas has started employment with the Outside Crew in the Gardening Department.

Private Works

Maintenance grading of bitumen edges for Downer EDI Works on the Bruce Rock-Merredin Road and the Goomalling-Merredin Road has been completed.

Regional Road Group Funds

Funds of \$15,000.00 allocated in the 2007/2008 Budget to the intersection of Gabo Way and the CBH Grain Receival Point will be carried over to the 2008/2009 Budget. Works cannot proceed as the original plans from CBH of the intersection have changed from when the application for funding was submitted.

Restricted Access Vehicle Routes

Correspondence was sent to Main Roads W.A. (MRWA) requesting the reasons for certain roads had been removed from the RAV list.

MRWA are in the process of providing the reasons why the roads are not suitable for permit vehicles and their recommendations on how to bring the roads up to permit vehicle standards. Once this information has been received, the roads can be included in the Shire's road maintenance program and the roads that require reconstruction can be considered in the five year road program.

Current Dam Water Volume

Dam #1	45% Full	Capacity	74,455 kilolitres
Dam #2	30% Full	Capacity	71,675 kilolitres
Dam #3	25% Full	Capacity	46,000 kilolitres
Railway Dam	30% Full	Capacity	23,000 kilolitres

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the Manager of Engineering Services' Report for June 2008.

- 29557** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Hayden
That Council receive the Manager of Engineering Services' Report for June 2008.

CARRIED 11/0

- 29558** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Morris
As part of Council's future goals Council seek funding to cover dams (evaporation ponds & Dams 1 and 2) and/or the costs of a desalination plant.

CARRIED 10/1

Cr Forbes declared an Impartiality Interest in the ensuing discussion and left the meeting at 3.55pm.

- 29559** Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Elliott
That Council honour current water arrangements with the Railways Club and advise all other Shire water users that due to ongoing seasonal conditions the Shire is unable to continue with the usual supply of water.

CARRIED 8/2

Cr Forbes entered the meeting at 4.02pm.

12.2 **REMOVAL OF GAMENYA AVENUE FROM THE RESTRICTED ACCESS VEHICLE ROUTE**

Reporting Department: Engineering Services
Reporting Officer: James Garrett – Manager, Engineering Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995
File Reference: R/09/06

Background

At Council's 18 March 2008 meeting Council endorsed that a letter be sent to Main Roads W.A. requesting that Gamenya Road be reassessed as a Restricted Access Route (**CMRef 29411**).

The letter of request that Gamenya Avenue be reassessed for a RAV route was sent to Main Roads W.A. on 9 April 2008 with a reply from Main Roads W.A received on 30 May 2008 as can be seen in **Attachment 12.2A**.

Main Roads W.A. is supportive of the access modification to withdraw Gamenya Avenue from the Restricted Access Vehicle Network. A Council request to remove the endorsement from the network is required to activate the modification.

The BP fuel depot and Keil Engineering are situated on the western end of Gamenya Avenue which may require access for Restricted Access Vehicles to carry out their daily business.

Comment

The removal of Gamenya Avenue from the Restricted Access Vehicle Network does not stop semi trailers or smaller trucks from using Gamenya Avenue to access the CBH receival point.

Restricted Access Vehicles that need to use Gamenya Avenue to have repairs carried out will require a \$12.50 permit from Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council write to Main Roads W.A. requesting they remove Gamenya Avenue from the Restricted Access Vehicle Network from Keil Engineering to the Goomalling- Merredin Road.

Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant left the meeting at 4.16pm

Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant entered the meeting at 4.17pm.

Moved Cr Elliott Sec Cr Townrow
That Council write to Main Roads W.A. requesting they remove Gamenya Avenue from the Restricted Access Vehicle Network from Ross's Diesel to the Goomalling- Merredin Road.
WITHDRAWN

29560 Moved Cr Crees Sec Cr Morris
That Council write to Main Roads WA requesting the speed limit be reduced on Gamenya Avenue to 40km/hr for Restricted Access Vehicles because until such time that the Goomalling-Merredin/Goldfields Road intersection is upgraded it is the only way to ensure that this road is safe for all road users.
CARRIED 10/1

REASON

1. The use of Gamenya Avenue by Restricted Access Vehicles is required to service businesses located on Gamenya Avenue.
2. Main Roads WA had agreed to upgrade the Goomalling-Merredin/Goldfields Road intersection so Restricted Access Vehicles could access businesses via Goldfields/Crooks/Gabo Roads.

12.3 ROAD NAMING BURRACOPPIN TOWNSITE

Reporting Department: Engineering Services
Reporting Officer: James Garrett – Manager, Engineering Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

Background

At the Council meeting on 15 April 2008 Council accepted responsibility for the old section of Great Eastern Highway that runs through the Burracoppin Townsite after Main Roads W.A. realigned the Great Eastern Highway. (CMRef 29454)

Main Roads W.A. asked that Council name this section of road. Council voted to advertise the proposed naming of the road calling for public submissions for the name of the road (CMRef 29456).

After public consultation and investigation by staff it was discovered that this section of road is already named Station Street as can be seen on **Attachment 12.3A**.

Comment

Main Roads W.A.'s plans of the townsite of Burracoppin did not show that that this section of the road was named Station Street.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council retain the name of Station Street in the townsite of Burracoppin and have signs erected accordingly.

29561

Moved Cr Sec Cr Elliott

That Council retain the name of Station Street in the townsite of Burracoppin and have signs erected accordingly.

CARRIED 11/0

12.4 ROAD WIDENING - GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY RESERVE

Reporting Department: Engineering Services
Reporting Officer: James Garrett – Manager, Engineering Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995, Land Administration Act 1997

Background

As part of the Great Eastern Highway upgrade from Hines Hill to Walgoolan, land resubmissions of properties from Robartson Road to Hines Hill took place to accommodate the improvements to the highway.

A letter was received from Main Roads W.A. on 15 May 2008 (**Attachment 12.4A**) asking that Council consider that the land taken be dedicated as a road reserve. For the dedication of the land as a road reserve to take place it is a requirement of the Land Administration Act 1997 that Local Government concurrence be given to the dedication action.

Plans of the road reserve dedications can be seen on **Attachment 12.4B**.

Comment

Once the land has been taken and dedicated as road reserve it is held as crown land in the name of the State of Western Australia.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council writes to Main Roads W.A stating that they concur with the land dedications as shown on Attachment 12.4B.

29562

Moved Cr Crees

Sec Cr Elliott

That Council writes to Main Roads W.A stating that they concur with the land dedications as shown on Attachment 12.4B.

CARRIED 11/0

12.5 AMALGAMATION OF OLD RAIL RESERVE INTO GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY RESERVE

Reporting Department: Engineering Services
Reporting Officer: James Garrett – Manager, Engineering Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

Background

As part of the Great Eastern Highway upgrade from Hines Hill to Walgoolan some realignment of the Great Eastern Highway took place into the old railway reserve.

Main Roads W.A. have been in negotiations with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to have portions of the old railway reserve, which is adjacent to the Great Eastern Highway, incorporated into the highway reserve. Plans can be seen as **Attachment 12.5A**.

Sections of the Great Eastern Highway that were realigned through the Shire of Merredin on the old railway reserve are the Burracoppin Townsite, Nangeenan Townsite, locality of Booran, section near Neening Road and realignment of curve near the Rifle Range. A section of the Great Eastern Highway from the veterinary clinic to Solomon Street was also found not to be a dedicated road reserve.

A letter has been received from Main Roads W.A. on 16 May 2008 (**Attachment 12.5B**) asking if Council would concur with this amalgamation of land.

Comment

Construction of the Great Eastern Highway has been completed and Main Roads W.A. need to have the realigned sections of highway dedicated as road reserve.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council writes to Main Roads W.A. stating that they concur with the amalgamation of land as shown on Attachment 12.5A.

29563

Moved Cr Crees

Sec Cr Elliott

That Council writes to Main Roads W.A. stating that they concur with the amalgamation of land as shown on Attachment 12.5A.

CARRIED 11/0

Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services entered the meeting at 4.25pm.

29564

Moved Cr K Hooper Sec Cr Crees

That the Shire of Merredin Standing Orders be suspended to enable free and open discussion with representatives from WA Country Health Service on the health issues in Merredin and surrounding areas.

CARRIED 10/0

Cr K Hooper, Cr Young, Jim Garrett, Manager of Engineering Services & Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services left the meeting at 4.30pm.

Cr K Hooper, Mr Kim Snowball, Chief Executive Officer WA Country Health Service and Mr John Fielding, Acting Regional Director of WA Country Health Service entered the meeting at 4.31pm.

Cr Young entered the meeting at 4.32pm.

5.0 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 WA Country Health Issues

The main points resulting from the discussion were:

1. The foremost concern for the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) was the provision of 24/7 coverage at the Merredin Hospital and the determination of which “model” would best provide that.
2. In relation to the \$9 million upgrade proposed for the Merredin Hospital, Council were advised that funds were set aside for this project and once the determination of the best model has been completed though the Clinical Service Plan it would progress. The timing for this would depend on which model was chosen.
3. The MoU Group of the Wheatbelt Development Commission may be an appropriate group to provide further leadership, facilitating discussions and meetings with surrounding Shires with the aim of developing Merredin as the regional hub for health services.
4. Dr Adeniyi was experiencing delays in an assessment of qualifications for a Doctor he was proposing to employ. This would need to be progressed.
5. Council believe WACHS should be providing accommodation, vehicle and incentives for this Doctor,. After all, the Doctor would be utilised in the Hospital. WACHS had some responsibility to support a Doctor who would work at the Hospital. WACHS did support Practices by enabling Doctors to work at the Hospital and receive remuneration.

Cr Wallace left the meeting at 4.50pm.

Cr Wallace entered the meeting at 4.54pm.

At the completion of the discussion Cr K Hooper thanked Mr Snowball and Mr Fielding for their attendance.

Cr K Hooper, Mr Kim Snowball, Chief Executive Officer WA Country Health Service and Mr John Fielding, Acting Regional Director of WA Country Health Service left the meeting at 5.34pm.

Cr Crees, Deputy Shire President, took the chair.

29565 Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young
That Council adjourn the meeting at 5.35pm.
CARRIED 10/0

29566 Moved Cr Crees Sec Cr Elliott
That Council reconvene the meeting at 5.40pm.
CARRIED 10/0

Jim Garrett, Manager of Engineering Services and Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services were in attendance.

29567 Moved Cr K Hooper Sec Cr Crees
That the Shire of Merredin Standing Orders be resumed.
CARRIED 10/0

Frank Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer left the meeting at 5.40pm.

Frank Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer entered the meeting at 5.41pm.

Cr Young entered the meeting at 5.42pm.

12.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTINUED

12.6 DRAFT RECREATION GROUND MASTER PLAN

Reporting Department: Engineering Services
Reporting Officer: James Garrett – Manager, Engineering Services
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

Background

In August 2006 (**CMRef 28582** and **CMRef 28583**) Council commenced developing the Recreation Ground Master Plan.

The Draft Recreation Ground Master Plan (**Attachment 12.6A**) was presented to the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee (MRC&LC) at their committee meeting held on 26 May 2008 for comment. The Committee recommended changes to the plan, and once the changes were made, the plan was presented to the Nukarni Football Club and the Merredin Cricket Association (**Attachment 12.6C**) for their comment as per Committee request.

They resolved the following:

Moved Cr Wallace Sec Cr Crees
That the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee recommend to Council that Council endorse the draft Merredin Recreation Ground Master Plan as presented in Attachment 12.6B and distributed to sporting clubs for comment.

CARRIED 6/0

*Note: the presented plan (i.e. **Attachment 12.6A**) was amended to produce **Attachment 12.6B***

Moved E Carlson Sec J Jefferys
That the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee recommend to Council that Council endorse the draft Master Plan Merredin Recreation Ground priorities as presented with the inclusion of the following amendment:

- 1. An upgrade to existing lights and set as priority number 1;*
- 2. 25m Pool elevated to priority number 8;*
- 3. Third Bowling Green moved to priority number 9.*

CARRIED 6/0

Note: the above recommendation is taken as a direct copy of the unconfirmed minutes of the MRC&LC Advisory Committee Meeting and Council should be aware that dot point number 1 should read “An upgrade to existing lights and set as priority number 2”.

The Priorities referred to in the above motion are included as an appendix to MRC&LC Minutes.

A meeting with representatives from the two sporting clubs was held at the main oval on 5 June 2008 with the proposed locations of the cricket wicket and the football field marked out on the oval. After a long discussion and committee meetings they agreed to the Plan as **Attachment 12.6B**.

The major difference between the two plans is the location of the swimming pool and the play area.

The outcomes from the Aquatic Facilities Working Group will have an effect on the timing of moving the pool to the Recreation Ground.

Comment

Council has received some grant monies in the 2008/2009 financial year to reticulate the main oval of the Recreation Ground, this grant needs to be acquitted by December 2008. The location of the turf cricket wicket needs to be decided by the start of August 2008 to help with the planning of the reticulation system. It is anticipated the relocation will cost approximately \$25,000.00. The curator believes that the existing wickets have an anticipated life of approximately 2 years.

It is planned to reticulate the oval between the football and cricket season subject to contractor availability.

Staff have brought forward the Committee recommendation for Council consideration.

Once Council determines a plan it will be advertised in accordance with Council's August 2006 resolution (**CMRef 28582.4**).

Officer's Recommendation

1. *That Council endorse the draft Merredin Recreation Ground Master Plan as presented in Attachment 12.6B and distributed to sporting clubs for comment.*
2. *That Council endorse the draft Merredin Recreation Ground Master Plan priorities as presented with the inclusion of the following amendment:*
 - a. *An upgrade to existing lights and set as priority number 2;*
 - b. *25m pool elevated to priority number 8;*
 - c. *Third bowling green moved to priority number 9.*

29568

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Morris

1. *That Council endorse the draft Merredin Recreation Ground Master Plan as presented in Attachment 12.6B and distributed to sporting clubs for comment.*
2. *That Council endorse the draft Merredin Recreation Ground Master Plan priorities as presented with the inclusion of the following amendment:*
 - a. *An upgrade to existing lights and set as priority number 2;*
 - b. *25m pool if relocated as per the Master Plan;*
 - c. *Third bowling green moved to priority number 9.*

CARRIED 11/0**29569**

Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Townrow

That the Draft Merredin Recreation Ground Master Plan reflect that the western side of the Hockey Ovals may be zoned "Residential" in the future Town Planning Strategy No. 3.

CARRIED 11/0

Jim Garrett, Manager of Engineering Services and Debbie Morris, Manager of Community Services left the meeting at 5.56pm.

13.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CONTINUED

13.4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Reporting Department: Administration
Reporting Officer: Frank Ludovico - Chief Executive Officer
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995

The monthly report on operations is provided below for Council information.

The Action Sheet detailing progress of previous Council resolutions from March 2004 onwards is **Attachment 13.4A**.

Lease of Merredin Medical Practice to Dr. Gabriel Adeniyi

The following actions have occurred in respect to the Merredin Medical Practice. A press release has been made and radio interviews have occurred. Staff have been advised of their redundancy and ongoing negotiations with Dr. Gabriel in respect to his takeover have been occurring. Draft documents have been received from solicitors and will be forwarded to Dr. Gabriel shortly.

Items that remain are discussions in regard to Dr. Herma Inverarity and her future at the Practice.

Local Government Emergency Management Conference

The Shire President, Deputy Shire President and myself attended this conference in Bunbury on Wednesday 28 May 2008. Topics discussed were Western Australian Emergency Management, state perspective and local government perspective; Geo-science mapping, how this can help in preparedness; Community disaster resilience; lessons to be learnt from Cyclone Katrina and Emergency Management future.

Attending the conference enforced the need to develop Emergency Management Plans, which is the role of the Shire of Merredin Local Emergency Management Committee.

The CD of the conference presentations has been requested and appropriate copies will be made available to Councillors.

Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health (CUCRH)

I met with Linda Fardy Hayes in respect to establishing a CUCRH in the Wheatbelt.

The CUCRH is a federally funded program to improve the health of residents in rural and remote communities. Only one centre was established in Western Australia, located in Geraldton.

The main role is to provide education and training and health services research and to facilitate a "Country Week" for final year health students to come and work in rural areas.

I indicated that Council already supported the University of Notre Dame and would like to work with the CUCRH in establishing an office in the Wheatbelt, located in the regional centre of Merredin.

I understand that Ms Fardy Hayes had numerous discussions with Primary Health and Hospital staff.

Waterwise Plans

The Water Corporation visited the Shire offices indicating that we are required to establish Waterwise Plans for rural Local Governments by 1 July 2009. Waterwise Plans are only submitted if Council uses more than 20,000 kilolitres of scheme water.

My response to the request was that, as part of the Local Government Intergovernmental Agreement, new activities proposed by State Government need to be fully funded and until the Water Corporation provided funding to undertake the Waterwise Plans, the information would be noted.

Subsequent to this, the issue was discussed at the Central Eastern Country Zone of WALGA where it was indicated that the Waterwise Plan were not compulsory but voluntary.

Whilst the Shire of Merredin is relatively self-sufficient, water use for the swimming pool and perhaps rural standpipes will cross the threshold. There may be no objection to developing the Plans however there is a cost burden in requiring Local Governments to undertake another activity without compensation or funding support.

October 2007 Election Results

A report has been received from the Western Australian Electoral Commission in relation to the Ordinary Elections held on 20 October 2007. A copy of the Report is shown in **Attachment 13.4B**.

The Report shows that the Shire of Merredin achieved a 45.49% participation rate, compared to a State average of 34.16%.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receive the Chief Executive Officer's Report for June 2008.

29570

Moved Cr Crees

Sec Cr Young

That Council receive the Chief Executive Officer's Report for June 2008.

CARRIED 11/0

MINUTES**13.5 CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Reporting Department: Administration
Reporting Officer: Frank Ludovico - Chief Executive Officer
File Reference: GR/17/11

Background

Attached is correspondence from the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) asking Council to consider the issue of Constitutional Recognition of Local Government. (**Attachment 13.5A**)

At Councils November 2001 meeting (**CMRef 26484**) Council supported a petition for a Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

WALGA and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) specifically require responses to five questions. There are:

1. Simplified/Streamlined Federal Funding (Direct Commonwealth funding rather than through States).
2. Providing a guarantee of funding to some minimum level.
3. Symbolic recognition of local government.
4. Protection of the system of Local Government (require the States to maintain a system of Local Government).
5. Protection for Councils for arbitrary dismissal/amalgamation (require certain minimum principles or processes to be met).

WALGA have suggested that Local Governments conduct a "Council Conversation" then develop a local position. A draft media release has been prepared if Council wishes to engage in this wider community consultation.

In respect to the questions asked by WALGA, it is considered that the following responses should be made:

Question	Support
Simplified/Streamlined Federal Funding (Direct Commonwealth funding rather than through States).	Highly support
Providing a guarantee of funding to some minimum level.	Highly support
Symbolic recognition of local government.	Highly support
Protection of the system of Local Government (require the States to maintain a system of Local Government).	Highly support
Protection for Councils for arbitrary dismissal/amalgamation (require certain minimum principles or processes to be met).	Medium support

In respect to Question Five, it may be more appropriate for the local circumstances to be considered when dealing with dismissals and amalgamations rather than being controlled by Canberra. It would be inappropriate to have both a State and Federal bureaucracies involved as is currently the case in Health and Education.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council forward their response to the Western Australian Local Government Association on the issue of Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

29571

Moved Cr Simmonds Sec Cr Crees

That Council forward their response as detailed below to the Western Australian Local Government Association on the issue of Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

<i>Question</i>	<i>Support</i>
<i>Simplified/Streamlined Federal Funding (Direct Commonwealth funding rather than through States).</i>	<i>Highly support</i>
<i>Providing a guarantee of funding to some minimum level.</i>	<i>Highly support</i>
<i>Symbolic recognition of local government.</i>	<i>Highly support</i>
<i>Protection of the system of Local Government (require the States to maintain a system of Local Government).</i>	<i>Highly support</i>
<i>Protection for Councils for arbitrary dismissal/amalgamation (require certain minimum principles or processes to be met).</i>	<i>Medium support</i>

CARRIED 11/0

13.6 SHIRES OF MERREDIN AND WESTONIA LIQUOR ACCORD

Reporting Department: Administration
Reporting Officer: Frank Ludovico - Chief Executive Officer
File Reference: LE/07/02

Background

On 24 April and 19 May 2008 Merredin Police met with local Licensees to discuss establishing a Liquor Accord in the Shires of Merredin and Westonia. A copy of the minutes for these meetings are shown in **Attachment 13.6A**.

A draft Accord was tabled (**Attachment 13.6B**).

On 19 May 2008 the group met again and all licensees, except the Shire of Merredin, agreed to the Accord. The purpose of this Agenda item is to seek Councils endorsement of the Liquor Accord.

Comment

Essentially, the Accord is designed to introduce a range of positive and effective community-based harm minimisation and preventative strategies in reducing crime, violence and anti-social behaviour stemming from the excessive consumption of alcohol.

It should be noted that the core practices outlined within the document are non-mandatory by its own statement, however they represent the best preferred practices.

I understand the local Police force will take a dim view of any licensee not complying with the practices in the Accord.

It is normal for Local Governments to nominate a representative to the Liquor Accord, however the Shire of Merredin is in the unique situation where it is both a licensee and a community organisation, interested in the health and safety of its community. Council may wish to nominate two members to this committee i.e. one as the Licensee and one as the Local Government.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council adopt the Shire of Merredin and Westonia Liquor Accord.

29572

Moved Cr Forbes

Sec Cr Simmonds

That Council adopt the Shire of Merredin and Westonia Liquor Accord.

CARRIED 11/0

13.7 RURAL WATER COUNCIL OF W.A. INC

Reporting Department: Administration
Reporting Officer: Frank Ludovico - Chief Executive Officer
File Reference: CR/17/13

Background

Attached is correspondence from the Secretary of the Rural Water Council seeking Council comment on whether the group should continue. (**Attachment 13.7A**)

The earliest record I have found of this organisation is minutes of a meeting dated September 2002. I am aware that this organisation has been in existence for many, many years and was responsible for the extension of the water supply pipeline into the wheatbelt agricultural areas.

Comment

It would be worthwhile for Council delegates, Cr Crees and Cr Wallace, to provide comment as to the effectiveness of this organisation.

I understand several years ago the Minister for Water Resources established the Rural Water Advisory Committee that advises the Minister on the provision of farmland water supplies. This Committee has members from all agricultural areas, not only the northern and eastern agriculture areas.

This Committee also allocates funding for projects whereas the Rural Water Council is a lobby group.

Local Government has many avenues to lobby Government and it may be more effective to use the resources allocated to the Rural Water Council in other lobbying efforts.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council consider the Rural Water Council of W.A. Inc. has achieved many things over the years, however its role seems to have been taken over by other organisations.

29573

Moved Cr Simmonds Sec Cr Elliott

That Council consider the Rural Water Council of W.A. Inc. has achieved many things over the years, however it needs to clearly define its role and future direction. Unless this role can be justified the Rural Water Council of W.A. Inc. should seriously consider its future.

CARRIED 9/2

13.8 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995 – PROPOSED STANDING DOWN PROVISIONS**

Reporting Department: Administration
Reporting Officer: Frank Ludovico - Chief Executive Officer
Legislation: Local Government Act 1995
File Reference: GR/17/11

Background

Attached is a survey from the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) concerning the Proposed Standing Down Provisions of the Local Government Act 1995. (**Attachment 13.8A**)

WALGA has asked Council to provide responses on seven questions contained in the survey.

Comment

The background paper provides detailed comment in respect to the seven questions asked. It would be appropriate to provide Councillor feedback to WALGA so they can represent the views of Local Government in any negotiations.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council provide the following comment to the Stand Down Proposal Survey:

Question	Supported Yes/No	Comment
<i>An elected member to have the ability to stand down where they are being investigated or have been charged.</i>		
<i>An elected member to be forcibly stood down where they are being investigated or have been charged and whose continued presence prevents Council from properly discharging its functions and affects its reputation and integrity or where it is in the public interest.</i>		
<i>The Standard Panel to make the stand down decision.</i>		

<i>Such matters to be referred to the Standards Panel only by a Council (absolute majority), a statutory agency or the Department.</i>		
<i>Three to six months stand down periods with six month extensions.</i>		
<i>The elected member to remain entitled to meeting fees and allowances.</i>		
<i>Inclusion of an offence for providing false information leading to a stand down.</i>		

Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant left meeting at 5.24pm

Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant entered the meeting at 5.25pm.

Cr A Hooper left the meeting at 6.36pm.

Cr A Hooper entered the meeting at 6.40pm.

29574

Moved Cr Simmonds

Sec Cr Wallace

That Council provide the following comment to the Stand Down Proposal Survey:

<i>Question</i>	<i>Supported Yes / No</i>	<i>Comment</i>
<i>An elected member to have the ability to stand down where they are being investigated or have been charged.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	
<i>An elected member to be forcibly stood down where they are being investigated or have been charged and whose continued presence prevents Council from properly discharging its functions and affects its reputation and integrity or where it is in the public interest.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Council should make decision only for issues affecting a Councillor in a Local Government</i>
<i>The Standards Panel to make the stand down decision.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	
<i>Such matters to be referred to the Standards Panel only by a Council (absolute majority), a statutory agency or the Department.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	
<i>Three to six months stand down periods with six month extensions.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Council felt that there should be a mandatory period for dealing with an investigation. A maximum of 6 months/12 months period or if this is not possible to provide regular updates as to the progress of the investigation.</i> <i>Council also felt that the stand down period should end at the expiration of an investigation even though that may be only 1 or 2 months into a 6 month stand down period.</i>
<i>The elected member to remain entitled to meeting fees and allowances.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Council believe this should be the case if the Councillor has been found innocent of any allegations.</i>
<i>Inclusion of an offence for providing false information leading to a stand down.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	

CARRIED 10/1

14.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

15.0 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

15.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DELEGATED AUTHORITIES

Reporting Department:	Councillor
Reporting Officer:	Martin Morris
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995

Background

Merredin Shire Council currently focuses on the governance issues of the organisation. The majority of these can be handled through delegation to the Chief Executive Officer and down to other staff.

If we extended the level of delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, this would free Council up to consider issues which affect not only our Shire, but also of those surrounding us.

Statutory Implications

Section 2.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 sets out the role of Council.

2.7. *The role of the council:*

1. *The council —*
 - a. *directs and controls the local government's affairs; and*
 - b. *is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.*

2. *Without limiting subsection (1), the council is to —*
 - a. *oversee the allocation of the local government's finances and resources; and*
 - b. *determine the local government's policies.*

Section 5.41 outlines the role of the Chief Executive Officer.

5.41. *Functions of Chief Executive Officer:*

- The Chief Executive Officer's functions are to —*
- a. *advise the council in relation to the functions of a local government under this Act and other written laws;*
 - b. *ensure that advice and information is available to the council so that informed decisions can be made;*
 - c. *cause council decisions to be implemented;*
 - d. *manage the day to day operations of the local government;*
 - e. *liaise with the mayor or president on the local government's affairs and the performance of the local government's functions;*

- f. *speak on behalf of the local government if the mayor or president agrees;*
- g. *be responsible for the employment, management supervision, direction and dismissal of other employees (subject to section 5.37(2) in relation to senior employees);*
- h. *ensure that records and documents of the local government are properly kept for the purposes of this Act and any other written law; and*
- i. *perform any other function specified or delegated by the local government or imposed under this Act or any other written law as a function to be performed by the Chief Executive Officer.*

Council is able to delegate a great deal of its responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer. The extent of these delegations is legislated in Section 5.42 and 5.43 of the Local Government Act 1995.

5.42. *Delegation of some powers and duties to Chief Executive Officer*

- a. *A local government may delegate* to the Chief Executive Officer the exercise of any of its powers or the discharge of any of its duties under this Act other than those referred to in section 5.43.*

**Absolute majority required.*

- b. *A delegation under this section is to be in writing and may be general or as otherwise provided in the instrument of delegation.*

[Section 5.42 amended by No. 1 of 1998 s. 13.]

5.43. *Limits on delegations to Chief Executive Officer's*

A local government cannot delegate to a Chief Executive Officer any of the following powers or duties —

- a. *any power or duty that requires a decision of an absolute majority or a 75% majority of the local government;*
 - b. *accepting a tender which exceeds an amount determined by the local government for the purpose of this paragraph;*
 - c. *appointing an auditor;*
 - d. *acquiring or disposing of any property valued at an amount exceeding an amount determined by the local government for the purpose of this paragraph;*
 - e. *any of the local government's powers under section 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99, 5.99A or 5.100;*
 - f. *borrowing money on behalf of the local government;*
 - g. *hearing or determining an objection of a kind referred to in section 9.5;*
 - h. *any power or duty that requires the approval of the Minister or the Governor; or*
 - i. *such other powers or duties as may be prescribed*
- Sections 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99, 5.99A or 5.100 relate to the setting of fees for councillors.*

Comment

Merredin Shire Councillors have the same responsibilities as those in other Local Government authorities such as Northam, Bunbury and even Perth. These localities simply could not operate if they were involved at the operational level that we are. It is not suggested for a moment that we have delegations to that level, but we could certainly extend the ones we have to enable us to become more efficient and effective.

A Council sets the budget once a year which authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the functions of the Shire without referring back to Council as long as the expenditure is within budget. Matters do not need to come back to Council if they have already been set by way of budget. Council currently double handles a lot of financial matters.

There are two issues. Many of the issues that come to Council for decisions to be made should actually be dealt with by the Chief Executive Officer as a matter of course. They are simply governance issues.

The other issue is the extent of delegation we have given to the Chief Executive Officer. The way our current agendas are currently structured, we are forced to make many decisions which could easily be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

On average, it would take about an hour to research and prepare an agenda item. If some were able to be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, it would be a dramatic saving in staff time. When these issues come to Council, quite often they are discussed at length, only to be passed convincingly. Either that, or they are dealt with very quickly as the outcome is a mere formality.

Staff time could be utilised much more effectively if many of the minor governance type issues could be handled without unnecessary Council intervention.

As a Council we should have faith in our staff and give them the authority to operate within the guidelines set by us by way of delegations and the setting of policies.

We need to encourage the Chief Executive Officer to make decisions. As a Council we just need to set the parameters within which he must operate.

At the present time, we as a Council are making many decisions that should be made by the Chief Executive Officer, therefore doing a percentage of the job for him.

In the past, Chief Executive Officer's have undertaken the review of the delegated authorities and presented these to Council for approval. This method enables the Chief Executive Officer to present delegations which suit him, not necessarily Council.

In this instance, the review should be done by Council. It would be beneficial to have some Councillors research and develop a list of delegations which would not only free up Councillors time to work on bigger issues, but it would also save a lot of staff time.

Summary

By reviewing the delegations we can improve the operation of Council and allow staff time to be used more effectively. It will also enable the Council to focus on non governance issues.

Officer's Recommendation

- 1. That Council immediately review the delegations given to the Chief Executive Officer.*
- 2. The review be undertaken by the Senior Staff Review Committee.*
- 3. The Senior Staff Review Committee present suggested delegations to the August Council Meeting for Council consideration and implementation.*

29575

Moved Cr Morris

Sec Cr Townrow

- 1. That Council immediately review the delegations given to the Chief Executive Officer.*
- 2. The review be undertaken by the Senior Staff Review Committee.*
- 3. The Senior Staff Review Committee present suggested delegations to the August Council Meeting for Council consideration and implementation.*

CARRIED 11/0

Cr Young left the meeting at 7.00pm.

Cr Young entered the meeting at 7.03pm.

16.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

16.1 DR HERMA INVERARITY – PAYMENT OF TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

Reporting Department:	Administration
Reporting Officer:	Frank Ludovico – Chief Executive Officer
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995
File Reference:	Personnel

Background

Dr Herma Inverarity commenced with Council in September 2005. In December 2006 Dr Inverarity negotiated a new contract with Council allowing her to operate at the Merredin Medical Practice as a independent contractor. As part of these negotiations Dr Inverarity was paid a travelling allowance to travel from Kellerberrin to Merredin.

This allowance was paid in order to provide an incentive for Dr Inverarity and also acknowledged that significant subsidies were being paid to Dr Sola Freeman and Dr Gabriel Adeniyi (a provision of vehicles and fully subsidised housing etc) and it would be appropriate to provide some level of consistency with all doctors.

The average travelling allowance paid is approximately \$840.00 per month.

With the sale of the Medical Practice to Dr Gabriel Adeniyi the continuation of the travelling allowance has been raised.

Comment

The continuation of the incentive will be an appropriate mechanism to retain the services of Dr Inverarity. Whilst it is acknowledged that there are persistent rumours that Dr Inverarity will be moving to Kununoppin from November 2008 it would be appropriate to continue to support her until then for a number of reasons. These being that she has provided good service to the residents of Merredin, an opportunity may exist for her to return to Merredin in the future and it is important to maintain good relations

The purpose of this item is to seek Council's view so that provision can be made in the 2008/2009 Budget and to inform Dr Inverarity of the continued support by Council.

Officer's Recommendation

That Council continue to provide a travelling allowance to Dr Herma Inverarity whilst she continues to operate at the Merredin Medical Practice and that provision be made in the 2008/2009 Budget.

29576

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr A Hooper

That Council continue to provide a travelling allowance to Dr Herma Inverarity whilst she continues to operate at the Merredin Medical Practice and that provision be made in the 2008/2009 Budget.

CARRIED 10/1

16.2 MERREDIN MEDICAL PRACTICE

Reporting Department:	Administration
Reporting Officer:	Frank Ludovico – Chief Executive Officer
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995
File Reference:	PH/20/01

Background

At Council's May 2008 meeting (**CMRef 29521**) Council agreed to formally lease the Practice building and agreed to allow Dr. Gabriel Adeniyi to operate the Merredin Medical Practice.

I have received legal advice from Council's solicitors indicating that whilst the leasing of the property is exempt under Functions and General Regulations 30 (2)(f) that the disposal of the business is only exempt if that disposition has a market value of less than \$20,000.00.

I have contact the Wheatbelt GP Network who have provided a market valuation for the Merredin Medical Practice as \$50,000.00 plus stock.

This exceeds the thresholds as specified in the Regulations.

I believe the Council resolution on May 2008 (**CMRef 29521**) make Council's intention clear and I have therefore advertised in Saturday's West Australian (14 June 2008) and the Merredin Mercury (18 June 2008) asking for submissions closing 30 June 2008 regarding the disposition as required by Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995.

Statutory Implications

Under Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995 if Council is to dispose of any property (other than those exempted by Function and General Regulations 30) by three methods. Either by public auction, public tender or by private treaty. If a private treaty sale is negotiated then before the disposition can occur the proposal containing the name of the proponent, the market value, the consideration is to be advertised for a two week period. Council is to consider any submissions prior to allowing the disposition to occur.

Comment

In order to expedite the matter I would suggest that Council either delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to determine the submissions if none are received or to a small committee if submissions are received.

Officer's Recommendation*That Council:*

1. *Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to determine the matter of the disposal of the Merredin Medical Practice (the business) to Dr. Gabriel Adeniyi if no submissions from the public are received.*
2. *Delegate to a Committee comprising of the Shire President, Deputy Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to determine the matter of the disposition of the Merredin Medical Practice to Dr. Gabriel Adeniyi if any submissions from the public are received.*

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED

29577

Moved Cr Townrow

Sec Cr Elliott

*That Council delegate to a Committee comprising of the Shire President, Deputy Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to determine the matter of the disposition of the Merredin Medical Practice to Dr. Gabriel Adeniyi if any submissions from the public are received.***CARRIED 11/0****ABSOLUTE MAJORITY****29578**

Moved Cr Forbes

Sec Cr Morris

*That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to determine the matter of the disposal of the Merredin Medical Practice (the business) to Dr. Gabriel Adeniyi if no submissions from the public are received.***CARRIED 10/1****ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

17.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Cr Morris declared a Financial Interest in this Agenda Item 16.4 and left the meeting at 7.11pm.

Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant, left the meeting at 7.12pm

29579 Moved Cr Simmonds Sec Cr Elliott
That Council go behind closed doors to discuss a staffing matter in accordance with Section 5.23 2(a) and (e) of the Local Government Act 1995.

CARRIED

Council went behind closed doors at 7.12pm.

29580 Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Hayden
That Council come out from behind closed doors.

CARRIED

Council came out from behind closed doors at 7.35pm.

16.4 Staff Attraction and Retention – Senior Staff

29581 Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Forbes
1. That Council allocates an additional \$4,000.00 in the 2007/2008 Budget to meet the salary increase for the Manager of Finance and Administration.
2. That the titles of all Managers directly responsible to the Chief Executive Officer (i.e. Manager of Engineering Services, Manager of Finance and Administration, Manager of Development Services and Manager of Community Services) be retitled Executive Managers.

CARRIED 7/3

Cr Morris and Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant, entered the meeting at 7.30pm.

16.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION CONTINUED

16.5 Shire Inspection – Exceptional Circumstances

On Saturday 14 June 2008, Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer undertook an inspection of the Shire to assess the seasonal conditions for farmers. The areas inspected were South Burracoppin, North Burracoppin, Nokanning, North Hines Hill, Korbel and back into Merredin.

Council members met with a number of farmers to discuss their situation and actions on how to deal with the situation. Even though the situation seemed very poor, there was a positive attitude in the district.

Non-farming businesses are being affected by the current agricultural situation and so consideration should also be given to those enterprises.

Issues arising from the Inspection were the development of short term courses to learn new or develop skills in preparation for the recovery in conjunction with the Telecentre. Investigation of a Community Concert for the community and working with other agencies to continue the Exceptional Circumstances declaration and to include new areas that have not previously been affected.

The inspection was worthwhile and further tours of this nature should be undertaken to engage the community.

16.6 Shire Lobbying of Government Departments

It was suggested that Council should invite Heads of Government Departments to provide briefings as to the activities in the Wheatbelt. Too often these Officers, who make important decisions, were unaware of the circumstances in those communities.

16.7 Aboriginal – Police Relations

A meeting was proposed to be held on Monday 23 June 2008 between representatives from the Shire, Police and the Indigenous community in Merredin to develop strategies that will assist in resolving the current issues.

16.8 Wheatbelt Development Commission

The Wheatbelt Development Commission Meeting held on 5 & 6 June 2008 in Bruce Rock (including a tour of Merredin) was successful and there was major funding available for innovative proposals that would assist the development of the Wheatbelt region.

16.9 Death of Mr Roy Little**29582**

Moved Cr Young Sec Cr Morris

That Council acknowledge the passing and contribution of Mr Roy Little to the Merredin community during the last 50 years and that the flag will be flown at half mast on Friday 20 June 2008 as a mark of respect.

CARRIED 11/016.10 Closure of Centrelink Office - Merredin**29583**

Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Young

That Council lobby both Centrelink and The Hon. Barry Haase, MP for the establishment of a Centrelink office in Merredin.

CARRIED 11/06.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES6.1 Previous Council Meeting**29584**

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Young

That Agenda Item 6.0.6.1 come off the table.

CARRIED 11/0**29585**

Moved Cr Townrow Sec Cr Elliott

That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 20 May 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings subject to:

- 1. The removal of Cr Forbes from the membership of the Townscape/Tidy Towns Group.*
- 2. The addition of the point of order from Cr Young in relation to the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre recommendations CMRef 29480 and CMRef 29481 stating "the issues should be referred back to the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee for clarification".*

CARRIED 11/018.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 8.01pm.