

**MINUTES****INDEX**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>OFFICIAL OPENING .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>PETITIONS &amp; PRESENTATIONS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
6.1	Previous Council Meeting.....	4
<b>7.0</b>	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>10.0</b>	<b>COMMUNITY, HEALTH, BUILDING, TOWN PLANNING &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
10.1	Application For Planning Consent – Aline East Village.....	7
10.2	Applications For Planning Consent – Uses Not Listed In Shire Of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1 .....	10
10.3	Application For Planning Consent – Wind And Meteorological Monitoring Equipment, Avon Location 20218, Bullshead Rd, Norpa – Windlab Systems For George Giraudo.....	12
<b>15.0</b>	<b>URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION .</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15.2</b>	<b>REQUEST FROM LIONS CLUB OF MERREDIN INC – USE OF FORMER ARMY CADET/MILITARY MUSEUM ON RESERVE 10359, MERREDIN .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>11.0</b>	<b>ENGINEERING SERVICES.....</b>	<b>16</b>
11.1	Manager Of Works – Monthly Report .....	16
11.2	Manager Of Development Services – Vehicle Changeover.....	18

---

<b>12.0</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE &amp; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.....</b>	<b>20</b>
12.1	Merredin Local Health Advisory Group – Local Government Membership .....	20
12.2	Donation – Cummins Theatre Hire Charge – Wa Symphony Orchestra .....	21
12.6	Merredin Peak Recreation Trail Project .....	22
12.7	Adoption Of The Merredin Physical Activity Plan .....	24
12.8	Merredin Youth Advisory Council.....	26
12.9	Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre Staff Structure.....	28
12.10	Community Funding – Fine Arts Society.....	32
12.11	Monthly Finance Report.....	34
12.12	List Of Accounts Paid .....	35
12.3	Chief Executive Officer’s Report.....	36
12.4	Whitfield Way .....	38
12.5	Deputy Chief Executive Officer’s Report .....	40
<b>13.0</b>	<b>MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>14.0</b>	<b>QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>15.0</b>	<b>URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION .</b>	<b>41</b>
15.1	Motor Vehicle Agreement – Dr Gabriel Adeniyi.....	41
<b>16.0</b>	<b>MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>17.0</b>	<b>CLOSURE.....</b>	<b>43</b>

**MINUTES**

---

**Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Merredin Shire Council held in the Council Chambers, Cnr King/Barrack Streets, Merredin on Tuesday 20 February 2007 at 1.00pm.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Cr KA Hooper – Shire President  
Cr RM Crees – Deputy Shire President  
Crs JP Townrow; WR Wallace; G Astbury; N Hooper, J Jones, S Marley, J Simmonds, M Morris & D Morley.  
  
Messrs FB Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer;  
JA McGovern, Deputy Chief Executive Officer;  
WD Bow, Manager of Development Services;  
JF Garrett, Manager of Works; AM Peters, Personal Assistant

---

1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 1.07pm.

Allison Cooke, Regional Director – WACHS entered the meeting at 1.08pm.

5.0 PETITIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Allison Cooke – Regional Director - WACHS

Allison Cooke provided a short summary of her previous experience in England and provided the following information:

- The development of the Wheatbelt Health Service Plan is designed to meet the community's needs in the wheatbelt region.
- Date for completion of the plan is for mid-March then the outcomes will be transferred into a local area and plans set in place for the Merredin region.
- Currently emerging in the health care area is the change of population in country regions, the growth in the coastal patch with more aged people and retirement communities springing up.
- There was a changing demand for health care from older people including health support and care rather than acute hospital care.
- Recruitment is difficult in the country hospitals as opposed to the city hospitals.
- As Merredin is the regional hub improvement works and provision of additional services should be made a priority.
- WACHS will use the capital allocation for the redevelopment of the Merredin Hospital.

- There was frustration in delay in the implementation of the Read Report. WACHS have noted this.
- A third doctor is being recruited.
- WACHS will keep a watch on how the joint Hospital/Practice MOU was being delivered.
- Community health was a high priority.

Alison Cooke left the meeting at 1.52pm.

## 2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with section 5.24 of the Local Government Act 1995, a 15 minute public question time is made available to allow members of the public the opportunity of questioning Council on matters concerning them.

## 3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Townrow advised her unavailability for the March 2007 BCDC meeting and Cr Marley advised his unavailability for the March 2007 BCDC meeting and the Annual Road Inspection on the 8 March 2007.

## 4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Cr Crees declared a Proximity Interest in Item 10.3.  
Cr Morley declared an Impartiality Interest in Item 15.2.

## 6.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 6.1 PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

**28797**

Moved Cr Morley sec Cr Townrow

*That the Minutes of Council meeting held on the 16 January 2007 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings subject to the following amendments to the attendance register:*

*Cr N Hooper to be deleted and Councillors Jones and Simmonds to be included.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

**MINUTES**

---

**7.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION****8.0 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC****9.0 RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL**

- 9.1 WE-ROC NRMO's meeting on 18 December 2006.
  - 9.2 Merredin Recreation Community & Leisure Centre Committee meeting held on 23 January 2007.
  - 9.3 Engineering Services Committee meeting held on 02 February 2007.
  - 9.4 Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee meeting Monday 05 February 2007.
  - 9.5 Business and Community Development Committee meeting held on 07 February 2007.
- 

**28798**

Moved Cr Townrow sec Cr Morris

*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the minutes of the WE-ROC NRMO's meeting held on 18 December 2006; Merredin Recreation Community & Leisure Centre Committee meeting held on 23 January 2007; Engineering Services Committee meeting held on 02 February 2007; Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 05 February 2007 and the Business and Community Development Committee meeting held on 07 February 2007.*

**CARRIED 11/0****9.3 Engineering Services Committee meeting held on 02 February 2007.****6.4 Aline East – Use of Dam No 3**

Moved Cr Simmonds sec Cr Morley

*That we recommend Council to allow Aline East to use Dam No 3 for storage of excess desalinated water.*

**CARRIED 4/0****28799**

Moved Cr Morris sec Cr Simmonds

*That Council allow Aline East to use Dam No 3 for storage of excess desalinated water.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

**6.3 Annual Roads Inspection**

Moved Cr K Hooper sec Cr Morley  
*That the Annual Road Inspection occur on Thursday 8 March 2007 commencing at 8.00am.*

CARRIED 4/0

**28800**

Moved Cr Morris sec Cr Simmonds  
*That the Annual Road Inspection occur on Thursday 8 March 2007 commencing at 8.00am.*

CARRIED 11/0

W Bow, MDS entered the meeting at 2.03pm.

---

10.0 COMMUNITY, HEALTH, BUILDING, TOWN PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

---

10.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING CONSENT – ALINE EAST VILLAGE

**Reporting Department:** Development Services  
**Reporting Officer:** John Mitchell, Environmental Health Officer  
**Legislation:** Town Planning Scheme No 1  
**File Number:** P/1762

---

**Background:**

An application to establish 4 temporary accommodation units at 149 Great Eastern Highway, previously Potts Motor Inn, has been received from Brierty Contractors Pty Ltd of 38 Mandarin Road, Maddington. **Attachment 10.1A.**

Mr Mark Sutton of Brierty Contractors advises the facilities are of a temporary nature for a period of six months. After this time the accommodation units will be removed. The structures are mining camp style facilities with air conditioning and ensuites. The application advises the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2007 as a removal date.

Brierty Contractors seek the additional temporary units due to ongoing contracts to upgrade the Great Eastern Highway throughout the region.

The land is zoned "Tourist" pursuant to the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1. The use of the land is motel/lodging house and is an approved use pursuant to the town planning scheme.

**Legal Implications:**

The provisions of the Town Planning Scheme No. 1 apply.

**Budget Implications:**

There are no budget implications.

**Comment:**

The zoning and development table, page 15, policy statement advises that: -

Council intends to encourage the development of tourist accommodation and associated facilities in selected locations within the Merredin townsite along the Great Eastern Highway to encourage patronage of east west travellers. Overnight accommodation including motels and caravan parks would be permitted as would short stop travel facilities such as service stations, roadhouses, restaurants, art, craft and souvenir shops.

The application is in keeping with the approved use of the site.

**MINUTES**

---

The existing buildings are not located in accordance with the setback requirements as determined by the town planning scheme which requires a 7.5m setback.

The proposal is to locate the four units as shown on the attached plans, with a setback from the rear boundary of 1.5m which is level with the existing setbacks of the buildings. Fire separation in accordance with the Building Code of Australia is set at 3.0m separation.

Clause 6.7 of the town Planning scheme no.1 permits the Council to relax a standard where if approval were granted, the development would be consistent with the orderly and proper planning of the locality and the preservation of the amenities of the locality; and

The non compliance will not have an adverse effect upon the occupiers or users of the development or the property in or the inhabitants of the locality or the likely future development of the locality.

The relaxation of the rear setback will not have an adverse effect upon the occupiers as setbacks and fire separations are maintained adequately and the development, whilst temporary, is consistent with the orderly planning of the locality.

The provisions of the Building Regulations 1989 (Regulation 13(d)) permits the issue of a special building licence for temporary facilities. A licence to place the accommodation units on site can be issued with a condition that the structures are to be removed by the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2007.

The Health Act 1911 will require the connection of the accommodation units to the sewer.

Officer's Recommendation:

*"That the application from Brierty Contractors to establish four temporary accommodation units with ensuites on Avon Location 26229, Volume 1017, folio 247, and known as 149 Great Eastern Highway (Aline East/Brierty) be approved subject to the following conditions: -*

*The temporary accommodation units are to be removed from the site by the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2007.*

*Rear setback relaxation to 1.5m is approved with a fire separation of 3m between buildings.*

*Submit the plans to the Fire and Emergency Service Authority of WA for approval and comply with the conditions issued by the Authority.*

*Connect the accommodation units to the Water Corporation sewer.*

*Apply for a building licence from the Shire of Merredin.*



**28801**

Moved Cr Townrow sec Cr Astbury

*“That the application from Brierty Contractors to establish four temporary accommodation units with ensuites on Avon Location 26229, Volume 1017, folio 247, and known as 149 Great Eastern Highway (Aline East/Brierty) be approved subject to the following conditions: -*

*The temporary accommodation units are to be removed from the site by the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2007.*

*Rear setback relaxation to 1.5m is approved with a fire separation of 3m between buildings.*

*Submit the plans to the Fire and Emergency Service Authority of WA for approval and comply with the conditions issued by the Authority.*

*Connect the accommodation units to the Water Corporation sewer.*

*Apply for a building licence from the Shire of Merredin.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

**10.2 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING CONSENT – USES NOT LISTED  
IN SHIRE OF MERREDIN TOWN PLANNING SCHEME No.1**

Reporting Department:	Development Services
Reporting Officer:	Warren Bow, Manager of Development Services
Legislation:	Planning and Development Act 2005, Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1
File Number:	P/8068

**Background:**

An application has been received to construct a wind and meteorological monitoring tower on a farming property in the Shire of Merredin.

The property is zoned “General Farming” in accordance with the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1.

Wind and meteorological monitoring installations is a use that is not listed within the zoning and development tables of the Scheme.

**Legal Implications:**

Clause 2.2.4 of the Scheme states that –

*“if a particular use is not listed in the use classes, and it is not included in the general terms of any use class, then the Council shall, upon application to it determine either:*

*That the use shall be prohibited within the Scheme area; or*

*That the use may be permitted within one or more of the zones within the Scheme area.*

*The Council shall, in the latter case, decide which of the use symbols shall apply and may impose any conditions or development standards it deems fit.”*

The relevant use symbols of the Town Planning Scheme No.1 are -

“P” – permitted

“PS” - not permitted unless special approval given by Council subject to conditions being complied with

“AP” - not permitted unless special approval given after advertising

“IP” - not permitted unless it is incidental to a predominant use as determined by Council

**Budget 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.

**MINUTES**

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION WHERE THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE DEVELOPMENT (other than for an extractive industry)	FEE (\$)
Not more than \$50 000	\$100
More than \$50 000 but not more than \$500 000	0.23% of the estimated cost of development
More than \$500 000 but not more than \$2.5 million	\$1150 + 0.18% for every \$1 in excess of \$500 000
Extractive Industry	\$500

**Comment:**

Whilst the current application for planning consent relates only to wind and meteorological monitoring installations, the wider issue of commercial windfarms and electricity generating equipment is covered by the Town Planning Scheme No.1; with a "PS" use assigned to such development.

Council may wish to seek public comment on this matter prior to formally considering such.

## Officer's Recommendation:

*That the Merredin Shire Council, in accordance with Clause 2.2.4 (a) of the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No. 1, determine that wind and meteorological monitoring installations is a "PS" use, meaning that it is not permitted unless special approval given by Council subject to conditions being complied with.*

**28802**

Moved Cr Townrow sec Cr Morley

***That the Merredin Shire Council, in accordance with Clause 2.2.4 (a) of the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No. 1, determine that wind and meteorological monitoring installations is a "PS" use, meaning that it is not permitted unless special approval given by Council subject to conditions being complied with.***

**CARRIED 11/0**

---

Cr Crees declared a Proximity Interest in Item 10.3 and left the room at 2.09pm.

---

**10.3 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: Warren Bow, Manager of Development Services  
Legislation: Planning and Development Act 2005; Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No.1; Building Amendment Regulations 2002.  
File Number: PA01/07; P/8068

---

**Background:**

Council have received an application for planning consent (PA01/07) to install wind and meteorological monitoring equipment submitted by Windlab Systems on behalf of George Giraudo at Avon Location 20218, Bullshead Rd, Norpa.

Information accompanying the submission can be seen as **Attachment 10.3A**

An area map of the location taken from the Landgate system can be seen as **Attachment 10.3B**.

**Legal Implications:**

Avon Location 20218 is 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 zone.

A report seeking determination of the use symbol to be assigned to such development has previously been presented to Council, with a recommendation 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 2006. 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.

It is not within the Council’s power to consider the request from the applicant to waiver the requirement for a registered to builder to construct the mast.

**MINUTES****Budget 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	\$100

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 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 George Giraudo, in relation to application for planning consent PA01/07, to install wind and meteorological monitoring equipment at Avon Location 20218 Bullshead Rd, Norpa.*

**28803**

Moved Cr Jones sec Cr Morley

***That Council grant planning consent to George Giraudo, in relation to application for planning consent PA01/07, to install wind and meteorological monitoring equipment at Avon Location 20218 Bullshead Rd, Norpa.***

**CARRIED 10/0**

Cr Crees entered the meeting at 2.10pm.

J Garrett entered the meeting at 2.15pm.

**MINUTES**

---

Item 15.2 was moved forward due to the attendance of W Bow, MDS.

15.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

Cr Morley declared an Impartiality Interest in Item 15.2.

---

15.2 REQUEST FROM LIONS CLUB OF MERREDIN INC – USE OF FORMER ARMY CADET/MILITARY MUSEUM ON RESERVE 10359, MERREDIN

**Reporting Department:** Development Services  
**Reporting Officer:** Warren Bow, Manager of Development Services  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:** WM/16/3, R/10359

---

**Background:**

The Shire of Merredin recently submitted a letter of support to the Public Transport Authority of WA (PTAWA) on behalf of the Lions Club of Merredin Inc (Lions) to occupy and use buildings located on part (Lot 5317) of Reserve 10359, Merredin. It is the Lions intent to use these buildings for their recycling activities, especially the collection and processing of cardboard and plastics.

A site map and aerial photo of the area can be seen as **Attachment 15.2A**.

The buildings in question are the disused Army Cadet and Military Museum buildings and amenities and the former Westrail maintenance building.

PTAWA have provided a response to the proposal which can be seen as **Attachment 15.2B**.

**Legal Implications:**

Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995 prescribes the way in which local government property must be disposed of. Disposal includes by way of sale or lease.

Section 30 of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996 details exemptions to the abovementioned section of the Act. This includes where land is disposed of to a body, whether incorporated or not —

- (i) the objects of which are of a charitable, benevolent, religious, cultural, educational, recreational, sporting or other like nature; and
- (ii) the members of which are not entitled or permitted to receive any pecuniary profit from the body's transactions.

Council policy - Rental charges for agreements to occupy Council non-residential property (the policy) is applicable, with the lessee classified as a "community organisation".

**Budget Implications:**

PTAWA advise that the terms of the lease agreement will include a peppercorn rental, with nil administrative costs in the preparation of the documents.

Clause 9. of the policy is applicable, however the Lions have indicated that they will retain responsibility for building maintenance, grounds and fence maintenance as well as utilities and public liability. As such, it is only the additional property insurance costs that will be incurred by Council.

Council has allocated \$10,000 in its 2006/2007 budget towards subsidising recycling initiatives.

**Comment:**

At the time of writing this report a draft agreement was yet to be received from PTAWA.

Given the proposed purchase of portion of Reserve 10359 by the Shire of Merredin and future commercial subdivision of land in the area, the Lions have been advised that the occupancy and operation of the buildings should be viewed as a short term measure.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

*That Council advise the Public Transport Authority of West Australia that it wishes to obtain a lease for buildings and land at Lot 5317 of Reserve 10359, Merredin incorporating the ability to sub-lease, with further terms to be negotiated by the Chief Executive Officer.*

*That subject to 1. Council sub-lease the buildings and land at Lot 5317 of Reserve 10359, Merredin to the Lions Club of Merredin Inc. for the purpose of recycling activities, with any additional insurance costs to be allocated to account E101040 –Waste Management.*

**28804**

Moved Cr Simmonds sec Cr Morris

- 1. *That Council advise the Public Transport Authority of West Australia that it wishes to obtain a lease for buildings and land at Lot 5317 of Reserve 10359, Merredin incorporating the ability to sub-lease, with further terms to be negotiated by the Chief Executive Officer.***
- 2. *That subject to 1. Council sub-lease the buildings and land at Lot 5317 of Reserve 10359, Merredin to the Lions Club of Merredin Inc. for the purpose of recycling activities, with any additional insurance costs to be allocated to account E101040 –Waste Management.***

**CARRIED 11/0  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

W Bow, MDS left the meeting at 2.19pm.

**MINUTES**

---

**11.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES**

---

**11.1 MANAGER OF WORKS – MONTHLY REPORT**

**Reporting Department:** Engineering  
**Reporting Officer:** James Garrett, Manager of Works  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

Monthly report on operations.

**Legal Implications:**

Nil

**Budget Implications:**

Nil

**Comment:****Road Construction**

Reconstruction of Pollock Avenue and Bates Street have started and should be completed end of April depending on the weather.

**Road Maintenance**

After two complaints about the two corners of South Burracoppin and Goldfields Road being unsafe, warning signs have been put in place. Main Roads WA have provided advice on the appropriate signage to put in place.

Bitumen patching of rural roads have been under way over the last three weeks.

**Water**

Due to the lack of summer rains our dam levels are low and watering of parks and gardens has had to be cut down. The Council supplies water to schools and bowling clubs, who have been informed that water supplied to them will be reduced. With restrictions in place water is estimated to last to the end of April 2007.

Submersible pump in main drain has been refurbished for a cost of \$9,250 due to worn out bearings (to replace pump the cost is \$21,000)



Parks And Gardens

Lawn mowing program ongoing.

Consultant Horticulturist Peter Luff has been training garden staff to improve their understanding on how to maintain the Shire parks and gardens. He has also set up a weekly works program to help them maintain the parks and gardens.

Recreation Ground

Watering has been reduced to conserve water supply.

Staff Training

Eleven staff members have received qualifications in Certificate III in Rural Operations.

Units covered can be seen in **Attachment 11.1A**

Water

Dam #1	65% Full	Capacity	74,455 kilolitres
Dam #2	10% Full	Capacity	71,675 kilolitres
Dam #3	30% Full	Capacity	46,000 kilolitres
Railway Dam	65% Full	Capacity	23,000 kilolitres

Officer's Recommendation:

*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the Manager of Works report for February 2007.*

**28805** Moved Cr Simmonds sec Cr Astbury  
*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the Manager of Works report for February 2007.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

---

**11.2 MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – VEHICLE CHANGEOVER**

**Reporting Department:** Engineering  
**Reporting Officer:** James Garrett, Manager of Works  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

Council allocates \$6,000 dollars each year for the change over of the Manager of Development Services vehicle. Over the past years vehicles are changed over when they have 15,000 kilometres on the odometer on advice from car retailers.

The Manager of Development Services vehicle has reached the required kilometres. This is the second vehicle change over this financial year for the Manager of Development services. The first vehicle change over was \$3,454.50 excluding GST. The second vehicle change over will be \$4,334.54 excluding GST for a Toyota Aurion V6 Sedan from Merredin Toyota. See **Attachment 11.2A**.

Changeover cannot proceed without Council direction as it is beyond the allocated Council budget.

**Legal Implications:**

Section 6.11 of the Local Government Act 1995 permits a local government to set aside money in reserve accounts for use in a future financial year, with each reserve account established for a specific purpose. The established purpose of the Plant Reserve is to fund Council plant purchases and extra ordinary plant maintenance.

**Budget Implications:**

The quote for change over is \$4,334.54 excluding GST and is \$1789.04 over total vehicle budget. The budgeted Plant Reserve balance as at 30 June 2007 is \$144,302.

**Comment:**

The Manager of Development Services is currently driving an XR6 Ford Falcon and quotes were received from four car dealers as can be seen on **Attachment 11.2B**. All quotes include GST. Midway Ford were the cheapest quote but with Council's regional preference policy, Merredin Toyota is recommended for the deal.

---

Officer's Recommendation:

*That Council provide \$1789.04 from the Plant Reserve for the purchase of an Aurion V6 Sedan for the Manager of Development Services vehicle from Merredin Toyota.*

Absolute Majority Required.

**28806**

Moved Cr Townrow sec Cr Morley

*That Council lay the matter on the on the table for one month until Council has reviewed policy on vehicle changeovers.*

**CARRIED 7/4**

J Garrett, M W left the meeting at 2.45pm.

J McGovern left the meeting at 2.45pm.

J McGovern entered the meeting at 2.48pm.

**MINUTES****12.0 ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT****12.1 MERREDIN LOCAL HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP – LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERSHIP**

**Reporting Department:** Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico, CEO  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

**Background**

The WA Country Health Service has written to Council seeking a representation on the Merredin Local Health Advisory Group. This group will advise the Merredin Hospital on matters relating to health, service quality, access coordination and planning. Attached are the “Terms of Reference” for the group. (**Attachment 12.1A**).

Local Health Advisory Group’s have been formed in all the hospitals in the wheatbelt area of WACHS with Merredin being one of the last.

Apart from liaising with the local hospital the LHAG will provide representation to the District Health Advisory Group.

Due to the lack of Merredin representation on the District Health Advisory Group, Cr Townrow and myself applied for membership in November 2005 and have been attending meetings of the Group.

**Financial Implications**

Nil

**CEO Comment**

I believe it is important that there is Local Government representation on the Merredin Local Health Advisory Group as it is vital to have input into the issues at the hospital.

I would see that my role at the District level would diminish once representation from the Merredin Local Health Advisory Group is made to the District Group.

**Staff Recommendation**

That Council nominate ..... as its representative on the Merredin Local Health Advisory Group.

**28807**

Moved Cr Simmonds sec Cr Crees

***That Council nominate Cr Julie Townrow and Frank Ludovico, CEO as its representatives on the Merredin Local Health Advisory Group.***

**CARRIED 11/0**

---

**12.2 DONATION – CUMMINS THEATRE HIRE CHARGE – WA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**Reporting Department:** Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico, CEO  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background**

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra Education Chamber orchestra is planning to tour Merredin, Northam, Cunderdin and York on 15 to 18 May 2007 to present concerts for primary school students and secondary music students. (**Attachment 12.2A**).

The group is interested in performing at Cummins Theatre on Thursday 17 May 2007 and are requesting free venue hire so they can present the concerts to the schools students at no charge.

**Financial Implications**

Hire fees for the Cummins Theatre for professional performance is \$660.00. Performance per day for community organisations is \$363.00 per day.

**Staff Recommendation**

*That Council donate the use of the Cummins Theatre to the WA Symphony Orchestra – Education Chamber Orchestra on the 17 May 2007 in order to provide an educational opportunity to students in Merredin.*

Absolute Majority Required.

**28808** Moved Cr Morris sec Cr Morley  
*That Council donate the use of the Cummins Theatre to the WA Symphony Orchestra – Education Chamber Orchestra on the 17 May 2007 in order to provide an educational opportunity to students in Merredin.*

**CARRIED 11/0  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

T Martin, Recreation Centre Manager entered the meeting at 2.58pm.

**MINUTES**

---

The following items were moved forward due to the attendance of T Martin, Recreation Centre Manager.

---

**12.6 MERREDIN PEAK RECREATION TRAIL PROJECT**

**Reporting Department:** Community Services  
**Reporting Officer:** Patricia Martin, Recreation Centre Manager  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

The 2007 Trails Grant Program through Lotterywest is currently open for submissions until 30th March 2007. The grant categories include the construction of trails and the upgrade of existing trails.

Current planning initiatives by the Shire of Merredin involving trails include the Merredin Physical Activity Plan, Merredin Trails Plan and the Merredin Peak Management Plan. Each of these Plans have indicated the need to provide accessible and safe trails for the purpose of increasing physical activity levels within the community and enhancing tourism feature areas within and surrounding Merredin, particularly Merredin Peak Reserve.

With this in mind, it would be appropriate to submit an application to Lotterywest for the development of the Merredin Peak Recreation Trail. This would be classed as a stage one development in both the Merredin Trails Plan and the Merredin Peak Management Plan.

**Legal Implications:**

Nil

**Budget Implications:**

The funding body, Lotterywest, has specified guidelines that indicate grants need to be matched on a \$1 for \$1 basis (up to \$100,000) of which this matching component may be:

- Financial
- In Kind (not more than 25% of total Project Costs)
- Loan of Machinery
- Provision of appropriate material (i.e gravel)
- Skilled Labour
- Non-skilled or voluntary Labour

Projects must be completed within 12 months of official notification of a grant from Lotterywest, therefore budget allocation must be implemented in the Shire of Merredin 2007/2008 financial year budget.

**Comments:**

Use of trails is growing as a popular feature for physical activity in the Merredin community. There is potential to continue this growth by effectively

**MINUTES**

planning and allocating appropriate resources to projects such as the Merredin Peak Recreation Trail Project.

The Merredin Peak Management Plan community consultation conducted in 2005, identifies infrastructure, interpretation and human interaction development as a key community requirement :

*'Recommendation 10 - That infrastructure development for the Merredin Peak site focuses on providing visitor amenities; interpretive opportunities; and vehicular and pedestrian access as recommended by participants in the consultative process'*

The Management Plan gave rise to the present Merredin Peak Advisory Committee's 'Interpretation Plan' (funded by Lotterywest) with the consultants presently identifying trails and infrastructure development opportunities. It is this report that will guide future development of Merredin Peak.

With Merredin Peak identified as the ideal location for a comprehensive trails network, supported by interpretation and visitor amenities, the proposed Merredin Peak Recreation Trail will be planned on the basis of specific trail routes interpreting the areas heritage, history and diverse ecology in a series of trail walks with easy through to challenging physical aspects.

As Council is aware, Lotterywest funding is cyclical and by applying now, Council will be informed of the outcome when developing the 2007/2008 Annual Budget. It is envisaged that the Merredin Physical Activity Plan (Item 12.7 February 2007 Agenda), Merredin Trails Plan and the Merredin Peak Management Plan will be adopted during the 2006/2007 financial year, permitting Council to budget for development implications and Stage One of development in the 2007/2008 financial year.

Officer's Recommendation:

*That Council;*

- 1. Acknowledges an application for funding be developed and submitted to Lotterywest for the purpose of constructing the Merredin Peak Recreation Trail at the Merredin Peak Reserve; and*
- 2. Will consider allocating funding in the 2007/2008 Annual Budget to match any granted Lotterywest funding for this purpose.*

**28809**

Moved Cr Townrow sec Cr N Hooper

*That Council;*

- 1. Acknowledges an application for funding be developed and submitted to Lotterywest for the purpose of constructing the Merredin Peak Recreation Trail at the Merredin Peak Reserve; and*
- 2. Will consider allocating funding in the 2007/2008 Annual Budget to match any granted Lotterywest funding for this purpose.*

**CARRIED 10/1**

---

---

**12.7 ADOPTION OF THE MERREDIN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PLAN****Reporting Department:** Community Services**Reporting Officer:** Patricia Martin, Recreation Centre Manager**Legislation:****File Number:**

---

---

**Background:**

At Council's Ordinary Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2005 (CMRef 28041) Council agreed to support the Physical Activity Plan proposal and the investigation of funding for this proposal. Upon successfully applying for funds through the Physical Activity Task Force, Council agreed to endorse the Be Active Coordinator's role in developing the Physical Activity Plan for the Shire of Merredin, commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

The Be Active Coordinator and the Recreation Centre Manager have worked on developing the Shire of Merredin Physical Activity Plan, conducting a comprehensive community consultation process to assess attitudes to the ability, or barriers, to participate in physical activity.

**Legal Implications:** Nil**Budget Implications:**

The Physical Activity Task Force granted \$13,000.00 to the Shire of Merredin to develop both the Physical Activity Plan and the Merredin Trails Master Plan. The Be Active Coordinator invoiced the Shire the agreed amount of \$4,000 (ex GST) to prepare the Plan.

**Comments:**

The Merredin Physical Activity Plan has been compiled and is provided **under separate cover 12.7A**. I draw your attention to the key pages namely :

- |                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| - Executive Summary    | Page 1  |
| - Strategies           | Page 13 |
| - Facility Action Plan | Page 44 |
| - Conclusion           | Page 51 |

This document includes community confirmed perceptions of barriers to participating in physical activity, physical activity variation levels, proposals for implementation of programs and priorities for the Physical Activity Programs Coordinator. Also included as a result of consultation is forward planning information provided by existing sporting groups that will be useful in the ongoing development of activities at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre and in planning for development of infrastructure for physical activity purposes.



**MINUTES**

---

It is common practice for Plans developed by Shire Staff to be presented to Council in Draft format, with an administrative recommendation that there be a period of public comment prior to formal adoption. In the case of the Physical Activity Plan, it is not considered necessary to seek further input, as comprehensive community consultation has been conducted and it is consequently recommended that Council adopt the Plan as provided.

Officer's Recommendation:

*That Merredin Shire Council adopt the Merredin Physical Activity Plan.*

**28810**

Moved Cr Hooper sec Cr Morris

***That Merredin Shire Council adopt the Merredin Physical Activity Plan subject to amendment as can be seen in Attachment 12.7A.***

**CARRIED 11/0**

---

---

**12.8 MERREDIN YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL****Reporting Department:** Community Services**Reporting Officer:** Patricia Martin, Recreation Centre Manager**Legislation:****File Number:**

---

---

**Background:**

Youth Advisory Councils (YACs) have been established throughout the State, in conjunction with local government authorities aimed at young people aged between 13 and 25 years. YACs are made up of young people elected by their peers who represent their communities and are designed to enable young people to locally influence the availability of youth-oriented activities, development and assistance.

On a Statewide basis, YACs can influence Government decision-makers on policy, programs and services in the area of youth affairs. Young people have regularly used YACs to provide comment and initiatives directly to the Office for Children and Youth.

YACs have a strong role to play in helping to decide funding priorities for youth facilities and services, and in encouraging greater participation by young people in a range of community initiatives. By participating in a YAC, young people will also be developing skills they can use throughout their lives, such as decision making, working in a team, developing creative ideas, volunteering and finding out how Government at all levels operate.

The Shires Community Development Team has been assisting Dionne Hayes-Thompson, the Merredin Telecentre Coordinator, to re-form the Merredin Youth Advisory Council. On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2006, 2 workshops were held to gauge the level of support from the community's young people. From these meetings, 29 people responded to the expressions of interest indicating that there would be a great support base to initiate this project.

A meeting was then held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December to further investigate the commitment from these people and to also target other groups of youth. At this meeting it was agreed to proceed with the re-formation of the Merredin Youth Advisory Council.

**Legal Implications:**

The Merredin Youth Advisory Council is an informal grouping of individuals, whose formation is not affected by provisions for establishing Committees under the Local Government Act 1995. The YAC will have no powers or authority and members will join and participate voluntarily on this understanding.

**MINUTES****Budget Implications:**

\$5,000 is allocated in the 2006-2007 Annual Budget for Youth Advisory Council activities (E132315).

**Comments:**

Attached is a report with information gathered from young people who live in the community and want to make a difference (**Attachment 12.8A**). This information was gathered through consultation processes performed with Merredin Senior High School students.

It is proposed that the Merredin Youth Advisory Council meet once a month at the Telecentre until such time as the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre is operational. These venues create an inclusive and informal environment for youth.

By supporting the formation of the Merredin Youth Advisory Council, the Merredin Shire Council has a direct link with representatives of youth within the community to consult on issues that relate to youth issues, services, activities and ultimately, youth retention in Merredin. Council's budget allocation provides the wherewithal for administering the Merredin YAC and providing opportunity to seek matching grant funding for identified projects and activities.

The formation of the Merredin YAC will augment the Shire's involvement in the Early Years Strategies (0 – 8 years) through participation in the Eastern Wheatbelt Early Years Network Reference Group, also administered by the Office for Children and Youth.

It is optional for Council to consider allocating a Councillor representative to act in a portfolio role. As stated, the Merredin Youth Advisory Council is not a formal Committee of Council under the Local Government Act, however there are advantages in there being a recognised Councillor who may be invited from time to time, to attend YAC meetings. This would be beneficial as the Elected Member will be informed of YAC activities and aspirations, and would provide a useful conduit to Council. The lack of a recognised Elected Member will not affect the operations of the YAC, but may hinder the decision-making process when Council is approached to support YAC initiatives and project/grant/budget requests. This matter is entirely discretionary and it is recommended any interested Councillor move to be recognised as the Elected Member associated with the Merredin Youth Advisory Council.

Officer's Recommendation:

*That Merredin Shire Council support the formation of the Merredin Youth Advisory Council.*

**28811**

Moved Cr Townrow sec Cr Morris

***That Merredin Shire Council support the formation of the Merredin Youth Advisory Council.***

**CARRIED 10/1**

**MINUTES**

---

J McGovern left the meeting at 3.27pm.

J McGovern entered the meeting at 3.30pm.

---

**12.9 MERREDIN REGIONAL COMMUNITY & LEISURE CENTRE  
STAFF STRUCTURE**

**Reporting Department:** Community Services  
**Reporting Officer:** Patricia Martin, Recreation Centre Manager  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

Council is aware that planning for placement of staff prior to the commencement of operations at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre has been undertaken by the Recreation Centre Manager and Senior Staff.

Staff structure was an agenda item discussed at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Advisory Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Attached is the proposed Recreation Centre Staff Structure and predominant objectives of each position discussed at the meeting (**Attachment 12.9A**).

Part funding has been successfully sourced to employ the temporary (12 month contract) full time Physical Activity Programs Coordinator, the part time Administration and Telecentre Coordinator and the part time Administration and Telecentre Officer.

Funding is currently being sourced from the Department of Sport and Recreation for the employment of Recreation Officers and Crèche Staff for a period of 12months to implement early-years development programs and programs for parents.

**Budget Implications:**

A number of indicative and budgeted staff structures have been brought through a process of community consultation, Recreation Centre Management Committee and Council meetings in the past three years. The following tables represent the chronological history of the planning for staff at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre.

Table 1

This Table is a summary of an indicative staff structure and wages implications presented to the Special Electors' Meeting held on 15 November 2004. Council will recollect there were a number of presumptions regarding the structure, with opportunities such as relocating the Police Licensing

function and 1 FTE to the Centre featured in this proposal. This has since been disregarded for reasons of operational efficiency:

<b>INDICATIVE WAGES</b>			
<b>Position</b>		<b>Level</b>	<b>Total Wages Cost</b>
Rec Centre Manager	50%	8.1	24,682
Rec Centre Manager - Police Licensing	50%	8.1	24,682
Police Licensing Officer	100%	3.1	32,769
Rec Ground Curator	100%	6.3	43,934
Rec Ground Assist Curator	50%	4	24,682
Rec Ground Building Mtce	9%	4	6,534
Bar / Functions Staff	100%	Adult	18,130
Kiosk Staff	100%	Adult	3,626
Activity Staff	100%	Adult	18,130
Cleaner	8%	2	2,509
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$199,678</b>

Table 2

This Table represents the 2006/2007 Annual Budget allocation for staff wages and on costs. It is to be remembered that the budget proposal was developed on the basis of an incomplete financial year for staff other than the Recreation Centre Manager, who then took a lead role in developing an appropriate staffing structure, as a stated requirement of her conditions of employment and Position Description.

Tricia Martin	Recreation Centre Manager	<b>50,760</b>	4,568	<b>55,328</b>
Vacancy	Function Manager	<b>24,434</b>	2,199	<b>26,634</b>
Vacancy	3 x casuals	<b>20,756</b>	1,868	<b>22,626</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>104,588</b>

Table 3

Table 3 is the proposed management structure as developed in the context of this report.

<b>Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre</b>				
<b>SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYEE WAGES/SALARIES</b>				
	<b>Level</b>	<b>\$ / annum</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Shire Funded</b>
<b>FULL TIME STAFF</b>				
Recreation Centre Manager (1 FTE)	LGOA 8	\$55,106	0	\$55,106
Functions and Facility Supervisor (1 FTE)	LGOA 5	\$44,150	0	\$44,150
Physical Activity Coordinator (1 FTE)	LGOA 4	\$40,433	50%	\$20,216
<b>PART TIME STAFF</b>				
Admin/Telecentre Coordinator (0.5 FTE)	LGOA 4	\$20,216	50%	\$10,108
Admin/Telecentre Officer (0.5 FTE)	LGOA 2	\$16,172	50%	\$8,086
Cleaner (0.75 FTE)	LGOA 2	\$17,141	0	\$17,141
<b>CASUAL STAFF</b>				
Recreation Officer 1 (0.1 FTE)	LGOA 2	\$2,778	50%	\$1,389
Recreation Officer 2 (0.1 FTE)	LGOA 2	\$2,778	50%	\$1,389
Crèche Staff (0.2 FTE)	LGOA 2	\$4,444	50%	\$2,222
Bar Attendant 1 (0.3 FTE)	RTCA 2	\$7,778	0	\$7,778
Bar Attendant 2 (0.3 FTE)	RTCA 2	\$7,778	0	\$7,778
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$218,773</b>		<b>\$175,363</b>

**Legal Implications:**

Local Government Officers (WA) Award, 1999 and Restaurant, Tearoom and Catering Workers Award.

**Comments:**

It is imperative to the success of operations at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre to have the appropriate staffing levels, not enough staffing resources will result in the centre not being utilised to its potential.

***Physical Activity Programs Coordinator***

The Physical Activity Programs Coordinator position will involve developing and delivering programs within both the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre and the Shire of Merredin including but not limited to walking groups, cycling groups, School holiday programs and activities for the ageing population.

Upon proving its viability, the position of Physical Activity Programs Coordinator could potentially continue beyond the 12 month contract. This could be accomplished by releasing the Shires financial obligation to participating in the Be-Active Scheme and re-allocating this funding to the continued employment of the Physical Activity Programs Coordinator.

***Functions and Facility Supervisor***

The Functions and Facility Supervisor's primary role will be to manage the bar area and supervise bar staff in the responsible service of alcohol. However, this role has been extended to include the following:

- Provide a proactive approach in attracting a range of events and functions to the centre from a local, regional and state perspective. This will include marketing the Merredin Regional Community and

Leisure Centre as a quality facility for hosting events, functions, meetings and seminars.

- To ensure the facility is maintained to a high standard. The role of the Function and Facility Manager will also be responsible for ensuring the cleanliness of the facility and will instruct the cleaning staff of their duties.

Staff will need to be employed in a particular order to ensure operational efficiency when the centre is opened to the public.

As recommended:

- the Physical Activity Coordinator should be employed immediately to commence community program planning;
- the Function Facilities Supervisor position will need to be advertised and employed a minimum of three weeks prior to the centre becoming operational;
- Bar attendants will need to be employed a week prior to the centre becoming operation for training purposes;
- Other casual and part time staff will need to be employed around the same time to ensure they are trained to provide customer service once the centre is open to the public.

Officers Recommendation:

*That Council adopt the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Staff Structure presented and that advertising for the role of Physical Activity Programs Coordinator commence immediately.*

Absolute Majority Required

**28812**

Moved Cr Morris sec Cr Wallace

*That Council adopt the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Staff Structure as presented in Attachment 12.9A with the following amendments:*

1. *the Functions and Facility Supervisor position be renamed Bar Manager;*
2. *the Cleaner be directly responsible to the Recreation Centre Manager; and*
3. *when necessary, the Bar Manager will be responsible to the CEO in regards to the Liquor Licence with all other duties directed through the Recreation Centre Manager.*

*and*

*advertising for the role of Physical Activity Programs Coordinator commence immediately.*

**CARRIED 9/2  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

**28813** Moved Cr Simmonds sec Cr Morley  
*That Council adjourn for afternoon tea.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

Council adjourned for afternoon tea at 4.09pm.

**28814** Moved Cr Crees sec Cr Simmonds  
*That Council reconvene the meeting.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

Council recommenced the meeting at 4.28pm.

Emma Hooper, Manager of Admin and Finance was in attendance.

James McGovern and T Martin, Recreation Centre Manager were not in attendance.

J McGovern DCEO entered the meeting at 4.30pm.

---

**12.10 COMMUNITY FUNDING – FINE ARTS SOCIETY**

**Reporting Department:** Community Services  
**Reporting Officer:** James McGovern, D/Chief Executive Officer  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

The Merredin Fine Arts Society writes to inform their intention to accept an offer to exhibit at the Houghtons Vineyard in March 2007, in lieu of the usual exhibition of works in conjunction with the Annual Community Show.

The Society request a donation of \$500.00 to pay the venue hire fee for the 2 week exhibition.

There is a budget allocation of \$500.00 for the traditional Arts Acquisition Prize, however this proposal is a different concept and as it could be argued it is a change of purpose to the intent of the Budget, it is for Council to determine whether a similar donation will be provided to the Society this year.

**Comment:**

The Fine Arts Society informs the reason for relocating the exhibition to Perth is to broaden the exposure of local artists to a larger market and to lessen the sense that the Merredin market is at a point of saturation, evidenced by fewer local purchases. The exhibition will return to Merredin next year.

This application and request is supported administratively. Exposure to a broader audience will benefit local artists and encourage their continued artistic activities. In addition, the traditional Community Show exhibition will not be 'lost' as such, merely rested for one year.



---

**Legal Implications:**

Nil

**Budget Implications:**

The last donation to the Society was in September 2005. An amount of \$500.00 is set aside in the 2006/2007 Annual Budget for the Arts Acquisition Prize – E116123.

Officer's Recommendation:

*That Council make a donation of \$500.00 from account E116123 – Arts Acquisition Prize - to the Merredin Fine Arts Society for their Houghton's Winery exhibition in Perth during March 2007.*

Absolute Majority Required

Moved Cr Simmonds sec Cr Morley

*That Council make a donation of \$500.00 from account E116123 – Arts Acquisition Prize - to the Merredin Fine Arts Society for their Houghton's Winery exhibition in Perth during March 2007.*

**LOST 2/9**

**28816**

Moved Cr Morris sec Cr Townrow

*That Council continue the tradition of contributing \$500.00 towards the acquisition of an Art Prize from the Fine Arts Society.*

**CARRIED 11/0  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

---

J McGovern, DCEO left the meeting at 4.36pm.

---

### **12.11 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT**

**Reporting Department:** Finance and Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Emma Hooper, MFA  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

#### **Background**

Each month attached to the Agenda (**this will be made available at the Council meeting**) is the Monthly Financial Report prepared for Council.

Officer's Recommendation:

*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for January 2006.*

Cr Jones left the meeting at 4.58pm.

**28817** Moved Cr N Hooper sec Cr Crees  
*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for January 2006.*

**CARRIED 10/0**

---

**12.12 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID**

**Reporting Department:** Finance and Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Emma Hooper, MFA  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act & Financial  
Management Regulations  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

A list of accounts paid during the month under delegated authority is presented to Council each month. Refer to **Attachment 12.12A**.

**Legal Implications:**

Local Government Act and Financial Management Regulations.

**Budget Implications:**

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

**Comment:**

The process of the accounts for payment has now been finalized with cheques being processed on a fortnightly basis and the main signatories being the Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, with the Shire President and Deputy President also being signatories in the case of the Chief Executive or Deputy being absent.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques as numbered and totalling \$323,412.48 and amount directly debited from Councils Municipal Fund Bank Account BSB 066-518 000 000 10 totalling \$900,733.84 and outstanding creditors totalling \$303,985.10.*

J McGovern entered the meeting at 4.58pm.

Cr Jones entered the meeting at 5.00pm.

**28818**

Moved Cr Crees sec Cr Morris

*That the Merredin Shire Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques as numbered and totalling \$323,412.48 and amount directly debited from Councils Municipal Fund Bank Account BSB 066-518 000 000 10 totalling \$900,733.84 and outstanding creditors totalling \$303,985.10.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

E Hooper, MAF left the meeting at 5.02pm.

---

**12.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**Reporting Department:** Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico, CEO  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

I present the following report for February 2007:

**Liquor Licence for the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre**

I wish to advise Council that a Conditional Liquor Licence has been issued for the MRC&LC. The conditions are that a full licence will not be issued until the local health authority is satisfied and approves the building and alcohol should not be served whilst the Centre is being used exclusively for junior activities. It is anticipated that the facility will be multiuse at all times and this is not considered an issue.

**Department of Environment and Conservation**

The Department of Environment and Conservation has requested additional information from Council regarding the application to clear native vegetation on Lot 684 Bates Street, Merredin. This information was provided to them on the 25 January 2006.

**Carrington Way Subdivision**

Attended a meeting at Landcorp to discuss the development of the Carrington Way subdivision. Details of the outcome of that meeting were discussed at the February 2007 meeting of the Business and Community Development Committee meeting.

**Merredin Medical Centre**

In conjunction with the Shire President and Deputy President I met with Dr Gabriel Adeniyi and Dr Sola Freeman to discuss various aspects at the Merredin Medical Centre. The issues discussed were remuneration, Medical Centre and Merredin Hospital MOU arrangements and Practice Management.

**Local Emergency Management**

I have attended several meetings to discuss the Emergency Management Exercise scheduled for the 24 February 2007. Cr Morley, Cr Morris, Mr Jim Garrett and myself will be Council's representatives on the day.

**Western Power Visit**

Met with the Country Services Manager – Customer Services Western Power, Dr Des Lehmann to discuss Western Power issues in Merredin.

He indicated that the Economic Regulation Authority had recently called for submissions relating to Western Power's revised access arrangements to the power grid. Essentially this proposal indicates that if there is insufficient

---

power in a town to meet the proposed development then it suggests that that developer should meet the costs of upgrading the power supply to the town to meet the needs of that subdivision.

Additionally it discussed absorbing power allocations made to land that will not be used for some time. For example, in an industrial subdivision each block is allocated an amount of power so that when development occurs the establishment has power to commence operations. However in certain circumstances if this land is not developed for a number of years and there is substantial demand for power Western Power seeks the right to reallocate that allotment to other developments.

I am aware that WA Local Government Association has made a submission objecting to this proposal and I am intending to bring this matter forward at the WE-ROC Council meeting held on the 28 February 2007 to voice our objections to the proposal.

#### **Great Eastern Country Zone of WALGA**

Great Eastern Country Zone of WALGA will be holding their next meeting on Friday 23 March 2007 in Dowerin. If Council has any agenda items that it wishes me to bring forward would you please forward them to me.

#### **Northam Saleyards**

The President and I attended a briefing session on this matter of Tuesday 13 February 2007.

The meeting was informed that the project would be able to secure funding of \$4 million if its scale increased from 17,000 to 25,000 sheep and provided a more cost effective proposal than Muecha.

The increased capacity would increase the total project cost to about \$6 million.

The meeting supported obtaining further information for the development of a revised business plan.

#### **Officer's Recommendation**

*That the Chief Executive Officer's report for February 2007 be received.*

**28819**

Moved Cr Jones sec Cr Townrow

*That the Chief Executive Officer's report for February 2007 be received.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

---

**12.4 WHITFIELD WAY**

**Reporting Department:** Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico, CEO  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background**

On Tuesday 30 January 2007 an onsite meeting was convened to progress the underground power reticulation of the Whitfield Way subdivision. At that meeting it was discovered that the water pipeline along Chandler Road meandered between the front of the blocks and the road drain. The Western Power alignment /corridor for underground power is 0 – 600mm. Western Power alignment/corridor for overhead power is 2.7 metres and the Water Corporation alignment/corridor for water services is 2.4 metres.

This meant that placing the high voltage underground power line on the proper Western Power alignment was not possible.

A number of solutions were identified to remedy this problem:

1. Move the water pipeline along Chandler Road to the correct alignment. At that meeting this was quoted as being \$150,000.
2. Run the power line along the western side of Chandler Road and service the blocks fronting Chandler Road from that location. This would involve numerous excavations across Chandler Road, joining and adding more cable which has the potential for a twelve week wait.
3. Create a one metre easement along the blocks fronting Chandler Road. Creating this easement was considered to be the best solution as it could be achieved relatively quickly.

It was noted that the transformer to be placed on the northwest corner of Lot 1348 could not be done as the area was part of a drainage/creek system and would be inundated. It was agreed to move the transformer into the southwest corner of Reserve 25611.

It was also noted that Chandler Road, north of Lot 1348 was not constructed on the correct alignment and if the underground power line was to be constructed on the correct alignment the road would be excavated.

A meeting was held with the owners of the Whitfield Way lots on Tuesday 06 February 2007 and these options were placed before them.

The meeting attendees were frustrated at the delay of servicing the blocks and were uncomfortable about the creation of an easement along Chandler Road.

Since that meeting additional discussions have been held with the contractor and the Water Corporation in an endeavour to see whether a pipeline can be

**MINUTES**

---

placed on the correct alignment. This was seen as a better solution to the creation of an easement. The Water Corporation have been encouraged to contribute to the remedy of this situation.

Initial estimates indicate that placing the water pipeline on the correct alignment will cost in the vicinity of \$12,000.

At the time of writing this report these negotiations were still occurring and an update will be provided at the Council meeting.

The CEO provided the following additional information to Council:

- Water Corporation have agreed to supply water pipes (at their cost) so the pipeline can be put on the correct alignment.
- Completion date is still end of March 2007.

Recommendation

*That Council discuss the Whitfield Way project.*

**28820**

Moved Cr Crees sec Cr Jones

*That Council receive the report on the Whitfield Way project.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

---

---

**12.5 DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**Reporting Department:** Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** James McGovern – D/ Chief Executive Officer  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act

---

---

**Visitor Centre Manager's Report**

Report is at **Attachment 12.5A.**

**Community and Economic Development Project Officer's Report**

Report is at **Attachment 12.5B.**

**Recreation Centre Manager's Report**

Report is at **Attachment 12.5C**

**Natural Resource Management Officer's Report**

Report is at **Attachment 12.5D.**

**Library Manager's Report**

Report is at **Attachment 12.5E.**

**Status Report:**

The Action sheet detailing progress of Previous Council Resolutions from March 2004 is **Attachment 12.5F.**

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That the Deputy Chief Executive Officer's report for February 2007 be received.*

**28821**

Moved Cr Jones sec Cr Crees

*That the Deputy Chief Executive Officer's report for February 2007 be received.*

**CARRIED 11/0**



**MINUTES**

---

**13.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN****14.0 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN****15.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION**

Cr Jones left the meeting at 5.38pm.

Cr Jones entered the meeting 5.39pm.

---

**15.1 MOTOR VEHICLE AGREEMENT – DR GABRIEL ADENIYI**

**Reporting Department:** Administration  
**Reporting Officer:** Frank Ludovico, Chief Executive Officer  
**Legislation:** Local Government Act 1995  
**File Number:**

---

**Background:**

Dr Gabriel Adeniyi commenced employment with the Merredin Medical Practice on 18 December 2006. He was provided with a Ford Falcon sedan for his use.

Dr Adeniyi has requested an upgrade of his vehicle to a Toyota Prado Grande V6 4 wheel drive Wagon. The change over cost of upgrading to this vehicle is \$50,908.40 inc GST (Gross \$67908 less \$17,000 Trade-in) from Merredin Toyota.

Dr Adeniyi has requested that he be provided this vehicle on the same basis as the vehicle currently provided to Dr Freeman.

The Agreement stipulates that Council provides a vehicle of the Doctors choice for business and full private use within WA. The Doctor then maintains the vehicle subject to the provision of certain allowances (ie fuel) and if the Doctor leaves there is a sliding scale of payment to obtain ownership of the vehicle.

For example if the Doctor leaves after one year he will be required to pay 80% of the purchase cost and so on. A draft is provided for Council perusal (**Attachment 15.1**).

At the end of the five years the Doctor pays \$1.00 and obtains full ownership of the vehicle.

The basis of this arrangement is that Council provides an amount of money each year for vehicle replacement each year and if that is not exceeded then it is cost neutral to Council.

**Legal Implications:**

As the change over figure is \$50,000 with the GST excluded Council is not required to go to tender to purchase the vehicle.

**Budget Implications:**

In the 2006/2007 Budget, \$6,000 was allowed for the change of the vehicle. However it is anticipated Ford Falcon to Ford Falcon change over in the current climate will be about \$10,000.

The anticipated balance of the Plant Reserve at 30 June 2007 is \$144,302

Whilst this will have significant effect on our current Budget, savings coming from subsequent budgets will balance this out.

The current vehicle has only completed 15,000 kilometres.

**Comment:**

The arrangement could be seen to be an inducement to retain Doctors.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

- 1. That Council purchase a Toyota Prado Grande V6 4 wheel drive Wagon for change over cost of \$50,908.40 inc GST (Gross \$67908 less \$17,000 Trade-in) from Merredin Toyota for use by Dr Gabriel Adeniyi with funding being provided by the Plant Reserve.*
- 2. That Council enter into an Agreement for the provision of a motor vehicle for Doctor Gabriel on the basis as shown on Attachment 15.1A.*

**28822**

Moved Cr Astbury sec Cr Townrow

*That Council provide \$10,000 per annum for four years towards the purchase of a vehicle of Doctor Gabriel Adeniyi's choice with funding being provided by the Plant Reserve and a further \$2,000 per annum towards the cost of fuel.*

**CARRIED 10/1  
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

Reason: Council wish to keep the remuneration package with Doctors similar to each other.

---

Manager of Development Service – Vacant Position

The CEO advised Council that he had received the resignation of Mr Warren Bow – Manager of Development Services as he had been successful in obtaining a position at the Town of Narrogin.

- 28823** Moved Cr Morris Sec Cr Townrow  
*That Council advertise the Manager of Development Services position on a similar remuneration package to the existing officer immediately and authorise Senior Staff Review Committee to interview and appoint successful candidate.*

**CARRIED 11/0**

16.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

17.0 CLOSURE

The Presiding Member closed the meeting at 5.53pm.