

**Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting of the Shire of Merredin held in the
Council Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on
Tuesday 14 February 2012 commencing at 7.00pm.**

1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 7.00pm and welcomed those present.

2.0 ATTENDACE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors:	D Crook	Shire President
	M Morris	Deputy Shire President
	BJ Anderson	
	RM Crees	
	DN Hayes-Thompson	
	T McFarlane	
	D Morris	
	W Wallace	
Staff:	G Powell	Chief Executive Officer
	E Arnold	Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services
	J Garrett	Executive Manager Engineering Services
	L Wyatt	Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer
Apologies:	Cr KA Hooper	
	Cr Tracey McFarlane	
	Cr Wayne Wallace	
	Julie Townrow	
Electors:	Kay Snell	
	Ray Snell	
	David Morley	
	Greg Shea	
	Rebecca Bowler	

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Annual Electors Meeting

Confirmation of the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 15 February 2011.

- 30818** Moved: Cr M Morris Seconded: Cr B Anderson
That the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 15 February 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings subject to confirmation of Cr Julie Townrow's attendance.
CARRIED

4.0 SHIRE PRESIDENTS REPORT

- 30819** Moved: Cr M Crees Seconded: Cr M Morris
That the Shire Presidents report for the 2010/2011 year be received.
CARRIED

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- 30820** Moved: Cr D Morris Seconded: Cr B Anderson
That the Chief Executive Officers report for the 2010/2011 year be received.
CARRIED

6.0 ANNUAL REPORT – 2010/2011

- 30821** Moved: Cr D Morris Seconded: Cr B Anderson
That the Annual Report for the financial year ended 30th June 2011 be received.
CARRIED

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Seatbelts in Coaches

Mrs Snell advised Council of her concern that there are no coaches available to groups such as the seniors within the Merredin shire with seatbelts fitted. She asked if the Council would consider the transport issues and the possibility of acquiring a bus with seatbelts for such purposes.

The Shire President advised that this issue would be taken on board and considered within the Community Strategic Planning currently being undertaken.

7.2 Aged Accommodation

Mrs Snell expressed concern regarding the lack of aged accommodation available and stated she was worried there would be nowhere for herself and her husband to go when they were unable to continue living in their house.

The CEO advised Mrs Snell of the work Council is currently undertaking to address this issue as a regional strategy in conjunction with Wheatbelt Develop Commission and private stakeholders.

He also stated it is anticipated significant progress would be made towards the middle of the year with regard to planning for the provision of land and the building of units more suitable for elderly occupants.

7.3 Kerbside Collection

Mrs Snell asked if Council would consider reintroducing a kerbside collection as there were many residents in the community who do not have access to trailers or the tip.

The Shire President advised this would be considered within the upcoming budget process.

7.4 Disability Access

Mr Morley advised Council he had recently inspected a number of footpaths and driveways after discussions with concerned residents that they were unable to access pathways on their Gophers. Residents were finding access impeded by a two inch step from the road to the footpath which the Gophers are unable to negotiate. The end result is residents were having to ride Gophers on the road which is dangerous or travel indirect routes to reach their destinations.

The Shire President advised Mr Morley that Council is aware of this matter through the recent Community Consultation process and that steps would be put in place to address this as part of the Community Strategic Planning process.

7.5 Green Living Initiatives

Renee Manning made contact with Council via email requesting support for green living initiatives through the allocation of funding or provision of staff for coordination (in conjunction with community groups) of a range of activities such as: educational seminars, coordination of activities for Sustainable House Day, bulk purchasing schemes such as the solar energy procurement already undertaken and other funding initiatives.

She made special mention of the efforts of Councils previous Natural Resource Management Officer and commended him on his efforts. Renee declared she is a member of a small community group called Small Green Steps which is keen to work with Council to get some initiatives off the ground.

The Shire President stated the suggestions would be taken forward and given consideration as part of the Community Strategic Planning process.

8.0 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President thanked everyone for their attendance and encouraged electors present to attend ordinary Council meetings. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed by the Shire President at 7.14pm.