

SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY

Ordinary Council Meeting: Agenda

Tuesday 9 December 2025



DISCLAIMER

Members of the Public are advised that recommendations to Council contained within this Agenda and decisions arising from the Council meeting can be subject to alteration.

Applicants and other interested parties should refrain from taking any action until such time as written advice is received confirming Council's decision with respect to any particular issue.

Members of the public, please note that this meeting is being broadcast live and a video record will be made of these proceedings and published on the Shire's website.

Signed on behalf of Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. E. Lawrence', written in a cursive style.

VERNON LAWRENCE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

NOTES:

- 1. Councillors wishing to make alternate motions to officer recommendations are requested to provide notice of such motions electronically to the minute taker prior to the Council Meeting.**
- 2. Councillors needing clarification on reports to Council are requested to seek this from relevant Officers prior to the Council meetings.**

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**SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES
KUNUNURRA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2025 AT 5:00PM**

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Members of the Public are advised that recommendations to Council contained within this Agenda and decisions arising from the Council meeting can be subject to alteration.

Applicants and other interested parties should refrain from taking any action until such time as written advice is received confirming Council's decision with respect to any particular issue.

Members of the Public to please note that this meeting is being broadcast live and a video record will be made of these proceedings and published on the Shire's website.

The Shire President declared the Meeting open at 5:03pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

Cr D Menzel	Shire President (Presiding Member)
Cr T Chafer	Deputy Shire President
Cr K Bond	Councillor
Cr C Cane	Councillor
Cr M Dear	Councillor
Cr V Goulden	Councillor
Cr S Martin	Councillor
Cr B Robinson	Councillor
Cr S Timms	Councillor
V Lawrence	Chief Executive Officer
N Allen	Director Planning and Community Development
R Smith	Acting Director Corporate Services
N Bray	Minute Taker

Leave of Absence

Nil

Apology

P Webb	Director Infrastructure & Strategic Projects
A Bell	Director Corporate Services

Absent

Nil

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Financial Interest (Direct and Indirect) - Nil

Impartiality Interest - Nil

Proximity Interest - Nil

4. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

7. PETITIONS

Nil

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

PURPOSE

To formally confirm the accuracy of the Minutes from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 October 2025, ensuring they represent a true and correct record of Council's proceedings in accordance with Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

PROCEDURAL MOTION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119346

Minute Cr K Bond

Seconded: Cr S Timms

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 November 2025.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

Note: The Minutes of the above meeting/s are available via www.swek.wa.gov.au.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

26 November 2025 – DevelopmentWA - Attended by the Shire President and the CEO regarding land supply & project delivery

26 November 2025 – SWEK Industry Analysis Workshop - Attended by the Shire President and the CEO.

26-27 November 2025 – Town Centre Prioritisation and Strategy - Steering Group Workshop - Attended by the Shire President and the CEO.

1 December 2025 - KDC Board Meeting - Attended by the Shire President.

1 December 2025 - Ms Divina D'Anna MLA - Attended by the Shire President and the CEO regarding the Town Revitalisation Project

2 December 2025 –Yajany yarrowoo ngoondebtha (YYN) Group – meeting with the Deputy Director General Child Protection and Family Support Melanie Samuels - Attended by the Shire President, Cr Bond and the CEO.

2 December 2025 - WA Department of Communities, Deputy Director General - Attended by the Shire President, the Deputy Shire President and Cr Bond regarding income management use and strategy.

3 December 2025 – Meeting with Divina D'Anna MLA at Parliament House – Update on the town revitalisation project. Attended by the Shire President and the CEO.

5 December 2025 - Yajany yarrowoo ngoondebtha (YYN) Group – meeting with Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, Minister for Regional Development; Ports; Science and Innovation; Medical Research; Kimberley and Hon Divina D'Anna MLA – Discussion on social matters in the East Kimberley including the proposed night space facility. Attended by Cr Bond and the CEO.

5 December 2025 - Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, Minister for Regional Development; Ports; Science and Innovation; Medical Research; Kimberley and Hon Divina D'Anna MLA – a visit to the Kununurra Leisure Centre to view the construction works on the new swimming pool infrastructure – Attended by the CEO.

5 December 2025 – Daniel Bowden CEO Airnorth – general discussion on air services from Kununurra. Attended by the Shire President and the CEO.

10. MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED

16.1. License For Reserve 50120 - 1 Chestnut Avenue, Kununurra

11. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / SUBMISSIONS

Nil

12. REPORTS

12.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Nil

12.2. OFFICE OF THE CEO

12.2.1. STANDING ITEM - OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

AUTHOR:	Executive Officer to the CEO
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Vernon Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Provider - provide physical infrastructure and essential services
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119347

Moved: Cr S Martin

Seconded: Cr T Chafer

That Council notes the report - Outstanding Actions from Previous Council Resolutions.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

To report to the Council on the progress of and provide comment on outstanding actions from Council resolutions.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

At each meeting of Council, resolutions are made which require actions to be taken by officers to implement those resolutions. This monthly update advises the Council as to the status of the implementation of resolutions.

COMMENTS

Attachment 1 - Details completed actions relating to Council resolutions & summarises actions that are outstanding from previous Council resolutions.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Various, as referenced in individual reports presented to the Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Various, as referenced in individual reports presented to the Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Various, as referenced in individual reports presented to the Council.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Various, as referenced in individual reports presented to the Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Various, as referenced in individual reports presented to the Council.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

Various, as referenced in individual reports presented to the Council.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement is required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - REG-1003 Council Action Register - December 2025 [12.2.1.1]

12.2.2. 2026 ADVOCACY AGENDA

AUTHOR:	Manager Economic Development
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Chief Executive Officer
FILE NO:	N/a
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Advocator - advocate and support initiatives on behalf of the community
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119348

Moved: Cr T Chafer

Seconded: Cr C Cane

That Council notes:

1. The 2026 Advocacy Agenda provided in Attachment 1;
2. The 2026 Advocacy Agenda is considered a live document and can be updated as required;
3. Administration will report to Council quarterly on progress; and
4. That, in accordance with the Corporate Business Plan 2025-2029, a coordinated, whole-of-Shire Advocacy Plan will be developed and presented to Council for consideration in 2026/27.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

To provide Council with the 2026 Advocacy Agenda for noting ahead of the development of a coordinated, whole-of-Shire Advocacy Plan in 2026/27.

The Agenda identifies immediate advocacy priorities across key focus areas including housing, community safety, economic development, and liveability, all of which are aligned to the *Strategic Community Plan 2023–2033*.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

The Shire works collaboratively with other levels of government to advocate for policy changes and funding that enable the delivery of vital infrastructure and services for the community.

This advocacy approach has resulted in significant public investment across the Shire, including the following key projects:

- Kununurra All-Abilities Playground (complete)
- Kununurra Aquatic Centre (under construction)
- East Kimberley Regional Airport Runway Extension (under construction)
- Kununurra Town Centre Revitalisation Masterplan (underway)
- Lake Kununurra Foreshore Masterplan (underway)
- Wyndham Community Hub (planning underway)
- Wyndham Boat Launching Facility (planning underway)
- Kununurra Leisure Centre Upgrades (planning underway)
- Water Lily Place Accommodation (underway)
- First Point of Entry – Wyndham Port (Federal policy change)

Strategic Alignment

The *Strategic Community Plan 2023–2033* emphasises **community-driven leadership**, advocating for *strong and consistent advocacy for local needs and priorities*.

This has led to the inclusion of **Project 12: Advocacy and Public Investment** within the *Corporate Business Plan 2025–2029*, which aims to:

“Attract government investment for critical infrastructure, services and facilities through a coordinated, whole-of-Shire approach to advocacy and grant funding.”

Deliverables:	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	Responsible
Establish and implement an advocacy framework that defines objectives, target audiences, and consistent messaging, supported by governance, strategic guidance, and conflict resolution.		X	X	X	Econ. Dev.

In line with this strategic direction, a whole-of-Shire Advocacy Plan will be developed and presented to Council in 2026/27. The Plan will:

- Provide a robust evidence base and evaluation framework to guide decision-making and strengthen the Shire’s competitive advantages;
- Identify and assess economic opportunities based on comparative and competitive advantages, informed by consultation with government, private industry, and community stakeholders;
- Establish a system to evaluate through a multi-criteria assessment, prioritise, and monitor opportunities in a logical and strategic sequence; and
- Outline processes to advance prioritised development proposals, with a focus on aligning them to relevant funding sources and investment criteria.

Pending completion of the comprehensive plan, the 2026 Advocacy Agenda has been developed to guide immediate advocacy and communication with Councillors, Members of Parliament, staff, residents, and the broader public.

The 2026 Advocacy Agenda identifies key advocacy areas aligned to SCP goals:

Advocacy Focus Area	Key Issues / Actions	SCP Alignment	Lead / Partners	Advocacy Targets
Housing & Land Development	Rural land release (Crossing Falls & Drovers Road); Sewer capacity upgrades; Approval of revised Local Planning Strategy	Goal 3 – Access to Housing	CEO, DPCD, Strategic Projects	Ministers for Planning, Housing, Water, Regional Development
Community Safety & Social Wellbeing	Reinstatement of Community Policing Officers; Youth justice reform; Increased family support and social services; Night-safe youth facilities; Urban Design & Safety; and Education.	Goal 1 – Safe Communities; Goal 2 – Healthy Communities; Goal 4 – Access to Education	CEO, DPCD	Ministers for Police, Corrective Services, Community Services
Economic Development & Employment	Agriculture land release; Kimberley Eclipse 2028; Airport Masterplan; Indigenous enterprise partnerships	Goal 5 – Access to Employment; Goal 7 – Connecting to the World	CEO, DPCD, Strategic Projects	Ministers for Regional Development, Agriculture, Transport
Liveability & Community Development	Kununurra Town Centre Revitalisation; Wyndham Water Affordability; Lotteries West playground funding	Goal 2 – Healthy Communities; Goal 6 – Accessible Places	CEO, DPCD, Strategic Projects	Premier, Treasurer, Minister for Regional Development
Local Government Sustainability	Review of Financial Assistance Grants and regional funding models	Goal 10 – Community-Driven Leadership	CEO, DCS	Ministers for Local Government, Regional Development, Treasurer

COMMENTS

The 2026 Advocacy Agenda aligns directly with the *Strategic Community Plan 2023–2033*. The development of the 2026/27 **whole-of-Shire Advocacy Plan** will build upon these priorities and integrate future outcomes from key masterplans such as the Kununurra Town Centre, Foreshore, and Wyndham projects including the Port revitalisation project, led by Kimberley Development Commission.

It is also expected that several emerging projects will form part of the next advocacy cycle, including the *Swim Beach and Celebrity Tree Park Upgrades*, *Welcome to WA Centre*, and various housing initiatives.

The timing will align with the rollout of anticipated **State and Federal regional funding programs**, following the expected end of the *Growing Regions* and *Regional Precincts and Partnerships* programs in 2025.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: Liveability

Goal 1: Safe communities - A community where we all feel safe

Goal 3: Access to housing - There are housing opportunities for everyone

Goal 6: Accessible places - Places that are connected, accessible and well maintained

Goal 10: Community-driven Leadership - Leaders work with the community to develop and implement change in delivering positive outcomes

Goal Outcome 1.3: Families, Children, Young People - Families are supported and children and young people make better choices

Goal Outcome 1.4: Alcohol and Other Drugs - Less alcohol and drug related harm in the community

Goal Outcome 3.1: Housing Supply - The supply of housing meets current and future demand

Goal Outcome 6.1: Towns are easy to get around safely and sustainably - Places are connected by safe, accessible, well maintained roads, footpaths, cycle ways and trails.

Goal Outcome 6.2: Access to services - Attractive and resilient Town Centres that connect residents and visitors to shops and services

Goal Outcome 10.3: Advocacy - Strong and consistent advocacy for local needs and priorities

Strategy 1.3: The Shire will advocate for greater support for families, children and young people

Strategy 1.4: The Shire will advocate for services to support the reduction of alcohol and drug related harm

Strategy 3.1: The Shire will work with key partners to advocate for the construction of housing the meets current and future demand

Strategy 6.1: Increase the use of active transport with improved paths, cycleways and end-of-trip facilities and improve road safety and connectivity

Strategy 6.2: Plan and deliver vibrant, attractive town centres that support services for residents and visitors

Strategy 10.3: The Shire will influence decisions of others in a way that recognises and prioritises the needs of our local community

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to facilitate community development initiatives which support positive social outcomes for community members, including; health, aged care, youth services and Indigenous services.

Risk: Failure to provide effective advocacy for the Shire and the Region to develop projects, support industry and provide opportunities for all.

Risk: Failure to secure land which promotes heritage and meets the operational and service delivery requirements of the Shire.

Control: Develop and resource an advocacy plan to seek the desired outcomes for the community

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report. Individual actions relating to the advocacy agenda may have financial implications which are provided for in the current budget allocations. Should a matter not be covered by a current budget allocation a Council decision will be required.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

There are no asset requirements arising from this report. Individual advocacy matters may result in assets being constructed which will have asset management implications. These will be dealt with as and when they arise.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No Community engagement is required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - SWEK Advocacy Agenda 2026 DRAFT [12.2.2.1]

12.2.3. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE KIMBERLEY COUNTRY ZONE AND KIMBERLEY REGIONAL GROUP MEETINGS

AUTHOR:	Chief Executive Officer
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Vernon Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer
FILE NO:	N/a
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Advocator - advocate and support initiatives on behalf of the community Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices Partner - Collaboration with external stakeholders to deliver service and projects. Provider - provide physical infrastructure and essential services
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119349

Moved: Cr B Robinson

Seconded: Cr K Bond

That Council:

1. Notes the contents of the minutes of the Kimberley Country Zone as attached in the meeting minutes of 21 November 2025 as provided in Attachment 1;
2. Notes the contents of the minutes of the Kimberley Regional Group as attached in the meeting minutes of 21 November 2025 as provided in Attachment 2 to this report.
3. Notes the contents of the State Council Agenda for 3 December 2025 as provided in Attachment 3 in this report.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

This report presents for Council's endorsement, the Minutes from the meetings of the Kimberley Regional Group (KRG) and the Kimberley Country Zone which took place on 21 November 2025. It is also for Council to note the matters in the State Council Agendas of 3 December 2025.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

The Kimberley Zone is a group established to represent regional issues to the State Council of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). This group includes the four Kimberley Shires in addition to the Shires of Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Islands.

The KRG is a group defined through a Memorandum of Understanding between the four Kimberley Shires and a Governance agreement, which has recently been updated. The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley is the Secretariat for the Kimberley Regional Group.

The various minutes of the Kimberley Country Zone and the Kimberley Regional Group of the various meetings are in the Attachments to this report. A copy of the State Council minutes and agendas are set out in the Attachments.

COMMENTS

The Kimberley Country Zone and Kimberley Regional Group met formally on 21 November 2025. The Kimberley Regional Group met informally on 14 November 2025 where the agenda was discussed. However, due to the local government elections not all the Shires had appointed their representatives to the Kimberley Zone and Kimberley Regional Group and so there was not a quorum to make decisions. The decisions on the agenda items were postponed to the meeting held on 21 November 2025.

Kimberley Regional Group Meetings:

Meeting of 21 November 2025: This was the fifth and final Kimberley Regional Group meeting for the calendar year. The agenda was relatively brief. The main item for discussion was the renewal of the Executive Officer contract. The contract allows for a one year extension. However, it was put to the meeting that the contract be renewed for two years to match with the change in secretariat and Chair. This position was endorsed unanimously.

There were report backs on the housing pipeline, the priority action list and interim financial report. It was also noted the work that had been undertaken in the strategic planning session. The Executive Officer and the CEO will work together to formulate this into an action plan for approval at the next meeting.

Kimberley Country Zone:

The WALGA CEO Nick Sloan attended the meeting. He provided a report to the members of the Zone on the activity of the WALGA President Karen Chapple since the last meeting. The Presidents report can be found at page 9 in the Attachment. Feedback given was on the WALGA's 2025 convention, their political engagement, WALGA's state budget submission, the rating of miscellaneous licences and funding for local government roads from the State.

A written submission from the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety included updates on the Local Government Inspector, Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees, Communication Agreements and Integrated Planning and Reporting Reforms,

Matters for decision included resolutions from the Annual General Meeting and endorsing the submission to the Salaries and Allowance Tribunal Remuneration Inquiry.

The State Council Agenda and Minutes are in Attachment 3 to this report.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to all sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: CONNECTION

Focus Area: LIVEABILITY

Focus Area: SUSTAINABILITY

No goals, outcomes or strategies have been included as the vast majority of them could be inserted in this section. The work of the Kimberley Regional Group advocates and facilitates in all of our Focus Areas.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to provide effective advocacy for the Shire and the Region to develop projects, support industry and provide opportunities for all.

Control: Meeting regularly as a collective, agreeing on common courses of action for the benefit of the region and advocating for solutions with key decision makers at both State and Federal levels of Government.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications for the Shire from this report are that the Shire makes a budgeted allocation for members contribution of \$45,000 to the Kimberley Regional Group annually which funds the activities of the Group. The Shire further provided a budget for the 2025/26 financial year of \$10,200 for travel and accommodation for the Shire President, Deputy Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to attend meetings in both Perth and Canberra on behalf of the Kimberley Regional Group.

With respect to the finances of the KRG, the Financial Report tabled at the meeting stated that expenditure to 30 September 2025 was a deficit of \$44,184. This was mainly due to the Shires not being invoiced for their contributions for the financial year. The expenditure for the period was in line with what was budgeted for the period. The cash position of the KRG at 30 September 2025 was \$217,190.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

Not applicable

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement is required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Minutes Kimberley Zone - 21 November 2025 [**12.2.3.1**]
2. Attachment 2 - Minutes KRG - 14 November 2025 [**12.2.3.2**]
3. Attachment 3 - State Council Agenda - 3 December 2025 [**12.2.3.3**]

12.2.4. ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

AUTHOR:	Senior Projects Officer
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Vernon Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer
FILE NO:	CM.13.9
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119350

Moved: Cr D Menzel

Seconded: Cr T Chafer

That Council:

1. Accepts the 2024/2025 Annual Report (including the Annual Financial Statements and Associated Notes) as presented in Attachment 1.
2. Approves the Annual General Meeting of Electors to be held at 5.00pm on Wednesday 4 February 2026 at the Kununurra Council Chambers.
3. Requests that the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to sections 5.29 and 5.55 of the Local Government Act 1995, provides the requisite statutory local public notice of the acceptance of the 2024/2025 Annual Report and the place, time and date of the Annual General Meeting of Electors.
4. Requests that the Chief Executive Officer invite electors to submit questions and motions in advance of the meeting (via attachment 2) and to include those questions in the meeting agenda.
5. Requests that the Chief Executive Officer publish the Annual Report on the Shire's website within 14 days of it being accepted.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

For Council to accept the Annual Report for 2024/25 and to set the date for the Annual General Meeting of Electors.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

The Annual Report for the period 1 July 2024 to the 30 June 2025 has been prepared in line with the *Local Government Act 1995* and summarises that year's achievements and challenges, as well as addressing stipulated statutory requirements. The Annual Report also demonstrates performance against the Shire's Strategic Community Plan 2023-33. The Annual Report includes the Audited Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024, which has been certified by the Office of the Auditor General. The Annual Report also includes the Auditor's Report stating that the financial statements contained in the report are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and the Australian Accounting Standards.

COMMENTS

The Annual Report provides a summary of achievement against stated Council actions as well as comprehensive review of its financial performance and is recommended to be accepted by Council. It has also been prepared in line with relevant legislative requirements, and the report of the auditor meets the requirements of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations*.

Council is required to convene the Annual General Meeting of Electors no later than 56 days after the report's acceptance, being no later than 5 February 2026. To allow for statutory notice periods the meeting must be held after 23 December 2025. It is recommended that Council convene the Annual General Meeting of Electors on Wednesday 4 February 2026 to allow Council and community time to return to the East Kimberley following the Christmas break. If for unforeseen circumstances the meeting is unable to be held on the 4 February, then it can be held on the 5 February.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The *Local Government Act 1995 section 5.54(1)* requires the Shire to accept the Annual Report for a financial year no later than 31 December after the end of that financial year. The Shire is required to then hold a meeting of electors (Annual General Meeting of Electors) no later than 56 days after acceptance of the Annual Report (*section 5.27(2)*). If the auditor's report is not available in time for the annual report for a fiscal year to be accepted by 31 December after that fiscal year, the annual report is to be accepted by the local government no later than 2 months after the auditor's report becomes available.

The *Local Government (Audit) Regulations* are relevant to the report of the auditor which is included in the Annual Report at page 94 of the Annual Report.

The *Local Government Amendment (Auditing) Act 2017* gives the Auditor General the mandate to audit the Shire's Annual Financial Statements and Associated Notes. The Annual Financial Statements and associated notes contained within the Annual Report has been audited by the Auditor General. This can be found from page 97 of the report.

The *State Records Act 2000* requires that the Shire include a statement on the compliance with the Shire's Record Keeping Plan. This can be found on page 81 of the report.

The *Disability Services Act 1993* requires the Shire to include a statement on the compliance with the Shire's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. This can be found on page 59 of the report.

The *Freedom of Information Act 1992* requires the Shire to include a statement on the process for applying for information under the Act. This can be found on page 81 of the report.

The *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003* requires the Shire to have procedures in place for the making of public interest disclosures, ensuring protection for individuals who report wrongdoing in accordance with the Public Interest Disclosures (PID) framework. This statement can be found on page 80 of the report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

POL-2002 Strategic Rating

POL-2017 Significant Accounting

POL-3000 Community Engagement

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: SUSTAINABILITY

Goal 10: Community-driven Leadership - Leaders work with the community to develop and implement change in delivering positive outcomes

Goal Outcome 10.1: Community engagement - Community is engaged in decision making with opportunities to share their views on things that affect them

Strategy 10.1: The Shire will regularly inform the community about Shire projects, programs and services, and seek community input into decision making

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to manage the appropriateness and effectiveness of the Shire's systems and procedures in relation to risk management, internal control and legislative compliance.

Control: Report annually to Council and community on the activities undertaken.

Risk: Failure to manage the disbursement of funds to meet the needs of the Shire's forward planning requirements, including the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Long Term Financial Plans and Annual Budget.

Control: Report annually to Council and community on the activities undertaken.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A full financial report for the 2024/25 fiscal year incorporating the Annual Financial Statements and associated notes, and the Auditor General Independent Auditor's Report is included as a component of the Annual Report.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement will take place in accordance with the Community Engagement Guidelines and will include:

- Statutory local public notices in the local paper and notice boards
- A copy of the Report will be made available at Shire facilities and electronically on the Shire website
- Public meeting (General Meeting of Electors) where community can ask questions and propose motions

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Annual Report 2024-2025 V3 [**12.2.4.1**]

12.2.5. 2026 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - AMENDED

AUTHOR:	Executive Officer to the CEO
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Vernon Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer
FILE NO:	GN.05
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119351

Moved: Cr T Chafer

Seconded: Cr V Goulden

That Council:

1. Adopts the amended 2026 Council and Committee meeting dates as detailed in the table below:

MONTH	AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE BRIEFING	AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE BRIEFING	EAST KIMBERLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMITTEE	COUNCIL BRIEFING SESSIONS	ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS	WYNDHAM MEET & GREET
January	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
February	23rd	-	-	10th	24th	12th
March	-	9th	25th	10th	24th	-
April	-	-	-	14th	28th	-
May	11th	25th	-	12th	26th	14th
June	-	-	24th	9th	23rd	-
July	-	-	-	14th	28th	-
August	10th	24th	-	11th	25th	13th
September	-	-	30th	8th	22nd	-
October	-	-	-	13th	27th	-
November	9th	23rd	-	10th	24th	12th
December	-	-	9th	-	15th	-

2. Notes that all Committee and Council Meetings are held at the Kununurra Council Chambers, commencing at 5:00pm:
 - a. Notes that, in accordance with the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* requiring the live streaming of Ordinary Council Meetings, these meetings will continue to be held in the Kununurra Council Chambers until suitable live-streaming infrastructure is installed in Wyndham.

3. Notes that Wyndham Meet & Greets will be held at 5:00pm at the Wyndham Council Chambers.

4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice, by way of advertising the accepted Ordinary Council Meeting dates, times and place of meeting.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

For Council to consider adopting the amended 2026 Council and Committee meeting dates, times, and locations due to a date change requirement for the February Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) meeting.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 November 2025, Council adopted the 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council and Committee dates, along with designated Wyndham Meet and Greet dates.

The 2026 meeting schedule was developed giving consideration to the following public holidays, local events and operational requirements:

- Easter
- ANZAC Day
- Ord Valley Muster
- Local Government Week
- WA Public Holidays
- Seasonal travel impacts during the Wet Season
- No Council Briefing Session is held in December to allow for an earlier Ordinary Council Meeting dates prior to school holidays and Christmas closures

All Council and Committee meetings commence at 5.00pm in the Kununurra Council Chambers.

Wyndham Meet & Greets commence at 5.00pm at the Wyndham Council Chambers.

Due to amendments to the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* requiring live-streaming of Ordinary Council Meetings, all Ordinary Council Meetings would continue to be held in Kununurra until live-streaming infrastructure is installed in Wyndham.

COMMENTS

The proposed amendment to the first ARIC meeting is requested to accommodate officer leave that will affect the Administration's ability to write the reports to meet publishing deadlines.

The date changes requested for the ARIC by Council are:

Meeting Type	Current Adopted Date	Proposed New Date
ARIC Briefing Session	9 th February 2026	23 rd February 2026
ARIC Meeting	23 rd February 2026	9 th March 2026

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996

12. Publication of meeting details (Act s. 5.25(1)(g))

Part 2A Electronic broadcasting and video or audio recording of council meetings (Act s. 5.23A)

14H. Class 1 local governments and class 2 local governments to broadcast council meetings publicly

14I. Local governments to make recordings of council meetings

14J. Informing members of public of broadcasting or recording

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council Policy *POL-1000 Council Briefing Sessions* applies to this report

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: SUSTAINABILITY

Goal 10: Community-driven Leadership - Leaders work with the community to develop and implement change in delivering positive outcomes

Goal Outcome 10.3: Advocacy - Strong and consistent advocacy for local needs and priorities

Strategy 10.3: The Shire will influence decisions of others in a way that recognises and prioritises the needs of our local community

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to manage the appropriateness and effectiveness of the Shire's systems and procedures in relation to risk management, internal control and legislative compliance.

Control: Ensure that adequate policies and procedures are in place to monitor and address risk management, internal control and legislative compliance requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Minor expenditure will be incurred to ensure the appropriate statutory advertising occurs, this is provided for in the 2025/26 Annual Budget.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ASSET CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In accordance with the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, Part 2 r.12*, details regarding the adopted 2026 Council and committee Meeting dates will be duly advertised on the Shire's website, on social media and via public notice boards.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

12.3. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

12.3.1. PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

AUTHOR:	Manager of Planning and Regulatory Services
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Director Planning and Community Development
FILE NO:	LP.02.52
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Legislative
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119352

Moved: Cr B Robinson

Seconded: Cr M Dear

That Council That Council:

- 1) Initiates the road closure process for Lot 500 on Deposited Plan 75731 in accordance with section 58 of the Land Administration Act 1997 and regulation 9 of the Land Administration Regulations 1998;
- 2) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake public advertising and stakeholder consultation as required under the Act;
- 3) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to prepare and submit the road closure package to the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) upon completion of statutory requirements; and
- 4) Notes that the road closure will facilitate the amalgamation of Lot 500 into Lot 425 on Deposited Plan 400992 as part of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) amendment to Ministerial Statement 938.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to commence the statutory road closure process for Lot 500 on Deposited Plan 75731, as requested by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), to support the realignment and amalgamation of buffer areas required for the amendment of Ministerial Statement 938.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

DPIRD is progressing an amendment to Ministerial Statement 938 (MS938), which governs the environmental approvals for the M2 Supply Channel, irrigated agricultural development of up to 33,500 ha, and associated buffer management areas within the Ord River Irrigation Area.

To ensure the buffer boundary for Lot 425 on DP 400992 accurately reflects the amended MS938, DPIRD is seeking to incorporate two adjoining lots (Lot 500 and Lot 8013 on DP 75731) into Lot 425.

Lot 500 is currently a dedicated but undeveloped portion of the Moonamang Road, road reserve. Its inclusion as a road resulted from legacy cadastral planning and does not reflect the constructed road network. DPLH advice confirms that formal closure under section 58 of the Land Administration Act 1997 is required before the lot can be amalgamated.

Lot 8013 forms part of Reserve 50604 (M1 Channel) under Water Corporation management. DPIRD will separately obtain Water Corporation's consent and progress changes to the reserve boundary. No Shire action is required for Lot 8013.

A formal request dated 5 November has been submitted by DPIRD seeking the Shire's assistance to undertake the required road closure process for Lot 500.

COMMENTS

Lot 500 (4,962 m²) is zoned Environmental Conservation under Local Planning Scheme No. 9 and is not currently used as a road, nor is it required for future transport planning. Its dedication reflects earlier planning that was not realised on the ground.

The road closure of Lot 500 will enable:

- rationalisation of misaligned cadastral boundaries;
- alignment of land tenures with the amended MS938 buffer requirements;
- improved environmental monitoring and management clarity; and
- a streamlined approval pathway for DPLH to progress the proposed amalgamations.

As at Attachment 2, DPLH has confirmed, that:

- the amalgamation will not require on-ground survey because existing DP 75731 500 boundaries can be used; and
- the road closure package submitted by the Shire is a necessary prerequisite for Crown subdivision and amalgamation.

Once Council initiates the process, the Shire will be required to:

1. Advertise the proposed road closure for a minimum of 35 days;
2. Consult with relevant stakeholders (including service authorities);
3. Prepare a closure report and provide evidence of compliance;
4. Submit the closure package to DPLH for final determination by the Minister for Lands.

DPIRD will provide any additional mapping or supporting material required to support this process.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

[Land Administration Act 1997 – Section 58](#)

Provides the statutory mechanism for closing dedicated roads and outlines consultation, advertising, and submission requirements.

[Land Administration Regulations 1998 – Regulation 9](#)

Specifies the requirements for notices and the format of road closure proposals.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: SUSTAINABILITY

Goal Outcome 10.2: Collaborative partnerships - Collaborative partnerships that build capacity and increase opportunities

Strategy 10.2: Support collaboration and partnerships to deliver key outcomes for our community

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to progress closure may impede the timely delivery of land and future management of Ord Stage 2 project.

Control: Undertaking the statutory road closure process ensures compliance with State legislation and reduces risk of future tenure irregularities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial costs to the Shire beyond routine administrative and advertising expenses associated with the road closure process.

DPIRD has confirmed it will bear the costs associated with survey instruction, Crown subdivision, and plan lodgement.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

Lot 500 is not a constructed or maintained Shire asset. Its closure and amalgamation will not impact the Shire's road network or asset management obligations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Statutory advertising for 35 days will be undertaken pursuant to section 58 of the *Land Administration Act 1997*.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Lot Reference Details [**12.3.1.1**]
2. Attachment 2 - DPLH Correspondence [**12.3.1.2**]
3. Attachment 3 - DPIRD Request for Road Closure [**12.3.1.3**]

12.4. CORPORATE SERVICES

12.4.1. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

AUTHOR:	Finance Coordinator
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Robyn Smith, Acting Director Corporate Services
FILE NO:	FM.09.32
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Regulator - Responsible for the enforcement of statutory requirements
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119353

Moved: Cr B Robinson

Seconded: Cr T Chafer

That Council receives the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 30 November 2025.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

To present the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 30 November 2025, for Council's consideration, in accordance with statutory requirements.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

Council is required to prepare monthly financial statements in accordance with Regulations 34 and 35 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*. Council adopted materiality thresholds of 10% or \$50,000 for reporting variances at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 October 2024.

COMMENTS

Council officers have prepared the Monthly Financial Report with variance analysis of income and expenditure where actuals differ from budget by more than 10% or \$50,000. Details are provided in Note 3 - Explanation of Material Variances on page 6.

In accordance with Regulations 34(4) and 35(2), the financial statements will be presented to Council within two months after month-end and recorded in the minutes.

Note: The 2024/25 Annual Financial Statements have been completed and signed off, with all historical figures updated in line with amendments requested by the compilers and auditors.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

[Regulation 34 of the Local Government \(Financial Management\) Regulations 1996](#)

[Regulation 35 of the Local Government \(Financial Management\) Regulations 1996](#)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Significant Accounting Policies have been applied in the preparation of the report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: Sustainability

Goal 10: Community-driven Leadership - Leaders work with the community to develop and implement change in delivering positive outcomes

Goal Outcome 10.4: Innovation - Embrace technology, creativity and innovation to solve complex problems

Strategy 10.4: Integrate all planning and resource management to drive continuous improvement and innovation

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to manage the disbursement of funds to meet the needs of the Shire's forward planning requirements, including the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Long Term Financial Plans and Annual Budget.

Controls: Monthly Financial Report and List of Accounts Paid reported to Council monthly as required by Legislation and Regulations (including Regulation 13 regarding monthly lists of accounts/payments).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional costs associated with the preparation of this report. Monthly financial reporting is a primary financial management and control process. This report provides Council with the ability to oversee the Shire's financial performance against budgeted targets.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement is required in relation to this item.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Financial Reports November 2025 [**12.4.1.1**]

12.4.2. LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID FROM MUNICIPAL FUND AND TRUST FUND

AUTHOR:	Finance Coordinator
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Robyn Smith, Acting Director Corporate Services
FILE NO:	FM.09.36
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Regulator - Responsible for the enforcement of statutory requirements
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119354

Moved: Cr B Robinson

Seconded: Cr V Goulden

That Council receives the List of Accounts Paid from the Municipal Fund for the period 1 – 30 November 2025 comprising:

Municipal fund payments (1 – 30 November)	\$6,911,843.92
Payroll (1 – 30 November)	\$575,190.41
Direct debits, October credit card, (1 – 15 November)	\$28,344.43
Total	\$7,515,378.76

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

To present the list of accounts paid from the Municipal and Trust Funds in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council's Delegations Register (adopted 27 February 2024), delegation to the CEO exists under Regulations 12 and 13 of the *Financial Management Regulations 1996* for payment authorisation from the Municipal and Trust Funds.

COMMENTS

A list of all payments from the Municipal and Trust Funds is prepared monthly, in accordance with statutory requirements. It includes the supplier's name, amount, date, and transaction description.

The list is tabled at the next Ordinary Council Meeting and entered into the minutes. Purchasing card transactions by staff, as required under Regulation 13A, are included in the attached report.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Amendments to the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13A)* now require the List of Accounts Paid to include payments by employees via purchasing cards. The attached report includes these payments.

[Local Government Act 1995 - Section 5.42 Delegation of some power and duties to CEO](#)

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

[Regulation 5. CEO's duties as to financial management](#)

[Regulation 11. Payments, procedures for making etc.](#)

[Regulation 12. Payments from municipal fund or trust fund, restrictions on making.](#)

[Regulation 13. Payments from municipal fund or trust fund by CEO, CEO's duties etc.](#)

[13A. Payments by employees via purchasing cards](#)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley Delegation Register 2023-2024 Sub-delegation 6 "Payments from the Municipal Fund and Trust Fund" applies subject to compliance with Council Policy *POL-2004 Purchasing*.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Goal 10: Community-driven Leadership - Leaders work with the community to develop and implement change in delivering positive outcomes

Strategy 10.4: Integrate all planning and resource management to drive continuous improvement and innovation

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to manage the disbursement of funds to meet the needs of the Shires forward planning requirements, including the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Annual Budget.

Controls: Monthly Financial Report and List of Accounts Paid reported to Council on a monthly basis as required by Legislation and Regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All payments are in line with the 2025–26 Adopted Budget and any approved budget amendments. The report ensures Council has visibility over the financial transactions of the Shire.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement is required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - November List of Accounts Paid [**12.4.2.1**]

12.5. INFRASTRUCTURE

Nil

13. MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

13.1. PROPOSED RENAMING - WEABER PLAIN, WEABER PLAIN ROAD AND WEABER RANGE

AUTHOR:	Chief Executive Officer
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Vernon Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer
FILE NO:	TBA
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

MEMBERS MOTION – SHIRE PRESIDENT

ELECTED MEMBER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119355

Moved: Cr D Menzel

Seconded: Cr C Cane

That Council resolve to undertake community consultation in relation to the proposal for renaming of Weaber Plain, Weaber Plain Road and Weaber Range.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

To authorise the Administration to undertake community consultation for the renaming of the three locations associated with the name "Weaber" being Weaber Plain, Weaber Plain Road and Weaber Range.

BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE

Elected Members and Shire Officers have had several verbal requests from the community to rename Weaber Plain Road. The reasons provided have been that the name is associated with historical abuse of Indigenous people. While no formal written request has been received directly from the Traditional Owners, the number of approaches made to the Shire by community members indicates that a formal, Shire-led process is now appropriate. In addition to these approaches, the Shire has received correspondence from visitors to the local government area requesting a name

change. Of particular interest is the correspondence from one K Scotton who researched the matter before approaching Council. Correspondence from G Dixon also made a similar request.

Council first considered this in General Business at its 26 October 2000 meeting where the minute 3707 read:

“Cr Johnson informed the Council that she has been approached by a member of the community who has alerted her to concerns raised by the Aboriginal community in regard to the name “Weaber”. According to information given to Cr Johnson, many years ago, the Weaber brothers slaughtered a number of Aboriginal people, leaving their remains unburied. Cr Johnson advised that the local Aboriginals are distressed by these past events and the name “Weaber” causes them pain and grief.

Cr Johnson asked Council to consider changing the name of Weaber Plain Road to something else, as a gesture of reconciliation or to acknowledge the grief suffered by the Aboriginal community. It was agreed by Council to refer matter to the Council’s Aboriginal Liaison Committee, consisting of Cr Lewis, Cr Lefmann and Cr Vagg. The Committee will be notified of a suitable date to meet in the near future.”

It was resolved that Council refer the issue to the Aboriginal Liaison Committee.

Council considered that matter again on 23 August 2001 where Council resolved to undertake a consultation process for renaming Weaber Plain, Weaber Plain Road and Weaber Range to an acceptable community alternative. It also resolved to advertise for nomination of names for Council to consider to be included in a preferred names list. Council did not continue with the process as there were objections mainly from residents on Weaber Plain Road.

More recently Council supported a change of name for similar reasons when it approved the naming of Galboorrang Crossing:

COUNCIL DECISION

Minute No. 27/02/2018-117897

Moved: Cr J Farquhar

Seconded: Cr M Dear

That Council supports the unnamed crossing, located approximately 25 km east on the Victoria Highway in-between Kununurra and the Northern Territory border and signposted as ‘Philchowski’s Crossing’, to be named as ‘Galboorrang Crossing’ and requests the Chief Executive Officer to advise Landgate of its support for this naming.

Carried 6/1

COMMENTS

Weaber Plain Road is major throughfare in Kununurra. The sealed section extends from the Victoria highway in the South to Carlton Hill Road in the North for approximately 22kms where it becomes Moonamang Road. There is an unsealed section of Weaber Plain Road off Carlton Hill Road that extends for approximately 12kms.

Weaber Plain are the flat plains around the Ningbing area. The Weaber Range is the range that is in the Jemarde–wooningim Conservation Park. This range already has dual naming as the

Jemarde–wooningim/Weaber Range following a dual naming process with the Miriuwung Gajerrong Aboriginal Corporation.

Shire Officers acknowledge that certain names have negative connotations for a significant part of our community. By recognising this and implementing a name that is acceptable pays respect to Indigenous people and can do a lot for reconciliation.

In previous engagement with the Geographic Names Committee, it was established that dual naming is generally not supported for roads. Dual naming is considered acceptable for topographical features such as the Jemarde–wooningim/Weaber Range. A change of name for Weaber Plain and Weaber Plain Road should be a name associated with our local area and supported by our community.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Part 3 of the LL-1000 Meeting Procedures Local Law 2016 has been considered in submission and forming this report. This allows a Member to *“raise at a meeting such business as he or she considers appropriate, in the form of a motion, of which notice has been given in writing to the CEO and which has been included on the agenda.”*

The statutory authority governing the use of names is the Geographic Names Committee (GNC) and it is an advisory committee established to assist the Government in regulating the recording and appropriate use of place and feature names, ensuring that the official naming of topographic and cultural features in the State are in accordance with national and international naming policies and standards.

Landgate, on behalf of the GNC, has produced a document titled Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia to provide an open and transparent basis and process on which the assignment of names to places, features, administrative boundaries and roads can be undertaken. They serve the long-term interests of the community by identifying, protecting and reflecting our culture, heritage and landscape and apply to all nomenclature within Western Australia.

Any person, community group, organisation, government department or local authority can request a new name or an amendment to an existing name, however consultation is required with the relevant local authority. Proposals normally require the support of local government, but the Minister is the final authority in all such matters.

In relation to naming topographic features, the policies and standards recommend the following sources:

- names from Indigenous languages formerly identified with the general area
- descriptive names appropriate to the features
- names of pioneers who were relevant to the area
- names of persons who died during war service
- names associated with historical events connected with the area.

The use of Aboriginal names and words for naming features, administrative boundaries and roads are a way of recognising the different enduring cultural and language groups. The use of Aboriginal names is encouraged by Landgate, and compilation of recorded Aboriginal topographic names is

supported. The identification of a name (or names) of Aboriginal heritage is encouraged to be undertaken by local governments and relevant Aboriginal groups.

Landgate also recognises the significance of historic commemorative naming and encourages the continued recognition of outstanding achievements, contributions to the community and significant events. Commemorative naming proposals are required to meet the same criteria required of any other name proposal, including evidence of support by the wider community.

A commemorative name should not be used to commemorate victims of, or mark the location of, accidents or tragedies, and the use of unofficial commemorative names in publications, or in landscape dedications or markers, is no assurance that they will be adopted into official names records.

The GNC Policies and Standards outlines that consultation should be held with the communities that will be affected by the proposed naming/renaming or boundary adjustment of any feature, locality or road. The guide provided by GNC within this document identifies that the immediate and extended community should be consulted when renaming a feature, and the type of consultation may include notices and surveys. The immediate community is defined as including residents, ratepayers and businesses within the immediate area who are directly affected by the submission. The extended community includes residents, ratepayers and businesses surrounding the area directly affected by the proposal, any visitor groups to the area, and government or non-government organisations with an interest in the area.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no Shire Policies that are relevant to this report. There are policies that the Geographic Names Committee will apply to any suggested name from the community or Local Government.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This matter relates to the following sections of the *Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033*:

Focus Area: CONNECTION

Goal 10: Community-driven Leadership - Leaders work with the community to develop and implement change in delivering positive outcomes

Goal Outcome 10.1: Community engagement - Community is engaged in decision making with opportunities to share their views on things that affect them

Strategy 10.1: The Shire will regularly inform the community about Shire projects, programs and services, and seek community input into decision making

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Failure to undertake effective community engagement strategies which develop the Shire's understanding of the needs and aspirations of the community, grow community capacity and ensure supportable outcomes are reached with stakeholders.

Control: Properly plan and execute community engagement activities

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any financial implications arising out of this report can be accommodated within the current budget provisions. Depending on the outcome of the renaming process there may be some funding required to assist with the changing of addresses of residents on the renamed section of the road.

Current and Future Asset Considerations

There are no asset considerations associated with this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement will take place in accordance with the Community Engagement Guidelines and will include:

Consultation with the relevant Traditional Owners, the Kununurra Historical Society and other people and organisations that can assist with garnering required historical information.

Additional engagement will take place in accordance with the Shire's Community Engagement Guidelines and will include a newspaper advertisement in the Kimberley Echo and notice via the Shire's Facebook page with information and submission forms available at:

- The Shire's Offices in Kununurra and Wyndham
- The Shire's website
- The Kununurra Community and School Library

Notification letters being sent to any relevant individuals, community groups or agencies that may have an interest in this proposition giving a period of 45 days for the community to comment.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

14. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

15. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

Nil

16. MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119356

Moved: Cr D Menzel

Seconded: Cr T Chafer

That Council closes the meeting to the members of the public at 5:23 pm to consider Matters Behind Closed Doors listed at item 10.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

16.1. LICENSE FOR RESERVE 50120 - 1 CHESTNUT AVENUE, KUNUNURRA

AUTHOR:	Manager Planning and Regulatory Services
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Nick Allen, Director Planning and Community Development
ASSESSMENT NO:	A2529P
FILE NO:	CP.16.48
DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:	Nil
COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:	Provider - provide physical infrastructure and essential services
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119357

Moved: Cr D Menzel

Seconded: Cr K Bond

That Council approves the Chief Executive Officer:

- (1) Executing the Licence (Attachment 1), conditional on the licence to operate a child care centre at the Premises issued to Ewin Early Learning Centre Incorporated being extinguished and One Tree Community Services Incorporated being issued with a licence to operate a child care centre at the Premises; and
- (2) Negotiating and executing a lease of the Premises in favour of One Tree Community Services Incorporated on substantially the same terms as those set out in the attached Lease (Attachment 2); and
- (3) Seeking Ministerial approval for any negotiated lease between the Shire and One Tree Community Services Incorporated.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

PURPOSE

For Council to consider a Licence for Reserve 50120 with One Tree Community Services Incorporated (One Tree) to operate a child care centre at the Premise, conditional on the licence to operate in favour of Ewin Early Learning Centre Incorporated (Ewin ELC) being extinguished and One Tree Community Services being issues with a licence to operate a child care centre at the Premises while the Chief Executive Officer negotiates the terms of a lease in favour of One Tree Community Services and seeks Ministerial consent to that lease.

MATTER IS BEING CONSIDERED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

This item is to be considered behind closed doors as per the *Local Government Act 1995*:
[Section 5.23. \(2\) \(e\)](#)

17. CLOSURE

PROCEDURAL MOTION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute Number: 09/12/2025 - 119358

Moved: Cr D Menzel

Seconded: Cr S Timms

That Council reopens the meeting to the public at 5:47pm.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr D Menzel, Cr T Chafer, Cr C Cane, Cr K Bond, Cr M Dear, Cr V Goulden, Cr S Martin, Cr B Robinson, Cr S Timms.

Against: Nil

Read decisions made behind closed doors for gallery and on livestream.

17. CLOSURE

Cr D Menzel declared the meeting closed at 5:50 pm.