



MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS
HELD ON 28 APRIL 2015

I hereby certify that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors are a true and accurate record of the proceedings contained therein.

Shire President Confirmed

Date: _____

Item No	Description	Page No
1.	DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS.....	4
2.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED.....	4
3.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	5
3.1	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS 29/04/2014.....	5
4.	PRESENTATION OF THE 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT	6
4.1	SHIRE PRESIDENTS REPORT.....	6
4.2	ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT	7
5.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME / OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS.....	8
6.	CLOSURE	12

**SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY
MINUTES
OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS
HELD ON TUESDAY, 28 APRIL 2015 AT 6:00 PM**

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 6.00pm.

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE
PREVIOUSLY APPROVED**

ATTENDANCE

Cr J Moulden	Shire President
Cr R Dessert	Deputy Shire President
Cr D Learbuch	Councillor
Cr K Wright	Councillor
Cr B Robinson	Councillor
Cr D Spackman	Councillor
Cr G King	Councillor
Cr G Taylor	Councillor
L Gee	Acting Chief Executive Officer / Director Community Development
N Octoman	Director Corporate Services
D Klye	Director Infrastructure
M Tonkin	Executive Assistant (Minute Taker)

GALLERY

Louise Schubert
Bernice Spackman
Natika Hawes-Wright
Danny Carter
Jade Elvin
Emma Venables
Linda McKenzie
Ann Sorritsma
Rhonda Guerononi
Julie Fysh
Jenny Spragg
Simone Rushby
Mark Northover
Allan Wedderburn
Cally Dupe
Carl Askew
Lincoln Heading
Chris Robinson
Tricia Handasyde

Geoff Garside
Jennifer Ninnette
Wayne Richards
Leigh Pedler
Geoff Warnock
Alma Petherick
Steve Guerinoni
Bevan Spackman
Lisa Spackman
Joanna Atkins
Kellie Jackson
Robert Storey
Vicky Biorac
Charlie Biorac
Helen Wright
Rob Voysey

APOLOGIES

Cr S Cooke

LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS 29 APRIL 2014

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors 29 April 2014

COUNCIL DECISION

Minute No. 10873

Moved: Cr B Robinson

Seconded: Cr D Learbuch

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors 29 April 2014.

Carried Unanimously 8/0

4. PRESENTATION OF THE 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

4.1 SHIRE PRESIDENTS REPORT

The Council's 2013-2014 year was highlighted by some significant projects that were delivered in line with the Council's Strategic Community Plan 2012-2022.

We commenced the development of a Local Planning Strategy to ensure town planning meets the needs of both residential and business communities.

Major projects included the asphaltting of the towns roads, and improved car parking at the East Kimberley regional airport along with some major drainage works to reduce the ongoing risk of flood damage.

The overdue reconstruction of Erythrina Street was completed to solve ongoing maintenance issues.

Council also moved to accept significant grant funding which will see a re-invigoration of the Lily Creek Lagoon boating facilities over the next two years.

Management of the Kununurra landfill site was improved significantly to the point where we are confident of gaining the Department of Environment Regulation's approval to operate it for up to 10 years more. This should give us a sufficient reserve with which to decommission the current site and set up a new facility for when the time comes.

The flood events of February and March were a significant event for the Shire and I am proud of the response and communication strategy that was implemented on the flood days. These events have a long term impact as they exposed the Shire to large unbudgeted expenses.

The year ahead will be a tough one for the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley, requiring Council to make difficult decisions.

The Council is mindful of additional costs being imposed on residents, and attempts to keep rises within reasonable limits, while ensuring that rate increases support the increasing costs of service delivery.

The period of significant development within the Shire is over and we are now moving to core service delivery with a focus on regulatory requirements, risk mitigation and both asset and financial sustainability.

The Shire will continue to deliver on the Council's Strategic Community Plan 2012-2022 and are determined to deliver on the objective of "strong community engagement" by continually investigating and implementing options to encourage and integrate community input in Council planning, policies and decision making.

The Councillors and staff look forward to working together throughout 2014-2015 to ensure the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley continues to be a great place to work, live and play.

Note: An amendment was made to the original published Annual Report. The amendment was to page 16, Section 6.2, Staff Summary.

4.2 ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley has continued to deliver the strategies outlined in the Strategic Community Plan 2012-2022.

This annual report presents the outcomes achieved throughout the year, against these goals and strategies.

It also presents the Shire's financial statements.

Major initiatives that were addressed by the Shire in 2013-2014 included the development of a new Local Planning Strategy that will guide the future development of the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley and the completion of the East Kimberley Tourism Action Plan which will be implemented in partnership with the East Kimberley Marketing Group.

Major infrastructure projects included asphaltting of town centre roads along Coolibah Drive / Konkerberry Drive and connecting streets, reconstruction of Erythrina Street and widening of Coolibah Drive in front of the Kununurra District High School.

Works undertaken at the landfill included recycling of the concrete / steel piles, construction of the new liquid waste lagoons, new gate houses with electronic record keeping, fencing upgrades and extension of the site to provide cover material into the future.

The year was also marked by the significant impact of the February 2014 flood event across the Shire with major damage to Kununurra infrastructure.

The Shire is proud of the immediate response that was provided to support the community during and after this event.

The Shire is on track to complete an estimated \$4.5 million in repairs by end of 2014, a great achievement.

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley welcomed six new Councillors after the October 2013 Ordinary Elections.

The 2014-2015 year promises to be a big year with the Shire driven to continue to perform strongly under difficult economic circumstances.

The year will be highlighted by an emphasis on prudent financial management given major grant reductions and improvement to its governance and legislative requirements.

I would like to thank staff for their continued commitment to providing services to the community and I would like to thank our Councillors who have supported the implementation of our Strategic Community Plan to ensure that the long-term vision for the Shire is achieved.

COUNCIL DECISION

Minute No. 10874

Moved: Cr K Wright

Seconded: Cr B Robinson

That Council accept the Annual Report.

Carried Unanimously 8/0

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME / OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

Question from Jade Elvin, Wyndham

Question 1 - If Wyndham's rates are still remaining high, with no likelihood of reduction why is the Shire failing to mow lawns, water gardens and parks and lop dangerous trees in childrens playgrounds? Is the Shire's aim to reduce the services to Wyndham so much that they will close them all down?

L Gee, Acting Chief Executive Officer provides the following response:

Do you have specific instances? It is not my knowledge that we have stopped mowing etc?

Jade Elvin: For example our town oval was half a metre full of grass, we had to get a member of the community to mow the lawn so people could access the oval without worrying about snakes or ticks. In Lions Park most of the grass had died and there are concerns about snakes in long grass throughout the town. Most of the town has gone brown. My concern is that this is the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley, not the Shire of Kununurra, is the Shire reducing the services so much as to close Wyndham down all together?

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

No we have no intention of reducing Wyndham's status at all in relation to Kununurra. We have taken some tough decisions to address the budget situation and that has resulted in reductions in outdoor staff in both Kununurra and Wyndham and some reduction in the level of services in both those towns. It is not a policy of Council to reduce the services in Wyndham.

Question 2 – The Wyndham fire was used in an insurance claim, were the funds returned to Wyndham?

D Klye, Director Infrastructure provides the following response:

I can confirm that the insurance funds have been applied to the Wyndham depot.

Cr K Wright leaves the Chambers at 6.11pm

Cr K Wright enters the Chambers at 6.12pm

Question from Emma Venables, Wyndham

Question 1 - Will you be repairing the damaged playground equipment at the pool, Lions Park and the recreation centre?

D Klye, Director Infrastructure provides the following response:

We are reviewing all playground equipment throughout the Shire. This review has been ready since December for Council consideration however as we have been inundated with work it will come to Council soon. The review recommends some rationalisation of playground equipment. It is recommended that some equipment is removed and left removed as we do not have the funds to replace or maintain it.

Question 2 - In regards to mosquito fogging are you going to reinstate it now there are public health warnings? I would like to state clearly that mosquito tablets are not working.

L Gee, Acting Chief Executive Officer provides the following response:

In regards to our advice from the Department of Health, mosquito fogging is most worthwhile when there is a lot of water around. Moving into the dry season we do not have pools of water around. Fogging is a once off, once you have sprayed, it targets the insects that can be hit at that time. Yes it may be used as required.

Emma Venables moves the following motion:

ELECTOR MOTION

**Moved: Emma Venables
Seconded: Leigh Peddler**

That the mosquito fogging program is implemented on a weekly basis in Wyndham for a 4 week period to assess its effectivity with a view to continue it through the season. Assessed by a community survey and for it to start as soon as possible.

Carried 33/0

Question from Lisa Spackman, Kununurra

Question 1 – This question is to John in line with your reply previously as to why Wyndham has reduced its services. Why then is Wyndham's demise a lower priority than spending money on things that have not been budgeted for and that Councillors have approved, for example removing the gates to Kelly's Knob, training, legal fees, 3 hour parking sites? The unbudgeted spending and prioritisation of spending is not right.

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

The decision to open Kelly's Knob was made by a resolution of this Council, recognising that there were some costs involved. Funds were reallocated to cover these costs from the existing parks and garden budget. This decision of Council will have no impact on the bottom line. There is no benefit to any individual in this project, the decision was made in recognition that the public have access to it already even with the gates in the way.

Lisa Spackman - I want to show the Councillors what their decision making is doing. You have chosen to spend money on the Kelly's Knob walking trail to the detriment of what is happening in Wyndham because that's your choice. Do we water Wyndham or do we do something that is someones really good idea at the time?

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

It was a majority decision of this Council with the view of it being for the economic benefit of this town.

Lisa Spackman – What I am trying to show is that the Councils wisdom in choosing what the money is spent on needs to be in line with the people that they represent.

Question from Simone Rusby, Kununurra

Question 1 - What was the annual budgeted cost for legal matters last year?

Natalie Octoman, Director Corporate Services takes the question on notice.
As per the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley Standing Orders Local Law 2003, 2.3(3) a response will be given to the member of the public in writing by the CEO, and a summary of the question raised and the response given are to be included in the agenda and minutes of the next meeting of the Council.

Question 2 - Looking at the budget report, its quite comical, there is a blow out of \$150,000 for legal costs which would go a hell of a long way to fixing up some of the complaints that you have heard tonight, however the Shire forges ahead whether or not they have the advice to do so.

Simone Rushby moves the following motion:

ELECTOR MOTION

**Moved: Simone Rushby
Seconded: Cr K Wright**

All legal matters be taken to a minimum of 3 attempts at mediation before legal action.

Carried 25/5

Question from Alma Petherick, Kununurra

Question 1: I am one of the people who is critical of people wasting money however I would like to know what is happening about the beautification of Kununurra and Wyndham because both places are an absolute disgrace. Derby has less water than us yet it is a pleasure to go into. I have recently been to China and it blew me away. Sprinklers have been put in and kids are trashing them. The Shire is spending a lot of money for them to be trashed, can we look at other ways of watering? What about a water truck that goes along and waters the gardens? I have heard of this being done elsewhere. Even the boabs are dying down Messmate Way. You go down Papuana Street and look at the sprinklers you will see that the kids just rip them up and then gardeners come along and rip them up. What is the Shire going to do to look at alternative ways to try and upgrade the standard of both Kununurra and Wyndham?

Cr John Moulden, Shire President takes the question on notice.
As per the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley Standing Orders Local Law 2003, 2.3(3) a response will be given to the member of the public in writing by the CEO, and a summary of the question raised and the response given are to be included in the agenda and minutes of the next meeting of the Council.

Question from Jenny Spragg, Kununurra

Question 1 - There were inconsistencies between the ex CEO's account of the Wyndham Depot fire, the police report and witness statements. Is the Council investigating the discrepancy in reports?

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

The matter of the fire at the Wyndham Depot at its heart is an operational matter. The event has been covered by insurance and it is not an area I expect Councillors to take an active involvement in. If you believe there is something that is not as it should be you should talk to the police or the insurance company. If the insurance company has fully paid the claim there is nothing else to be done. The insurance company sent an investigator here and were satisfied enough to pay the insurance claim.

Question 2 - You are repealing the sexual harrassment policy and you have no racial discrimination policy and there is currently a complaint against yourself Cr J Moulden. Why are you repealing the sexual harrassment policy?

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

No response will be provided as both matters are currently under investigation.

Mark Northover moves the following motion:

ELECTOR MOTION

Moved: Mark Northover

Seconded: Simone Rushby

A no confidence motion in the President.

Carried 21/10

COUNCIL DECISION

Minute No. 10875

Moved: Cr D Spackman

Seconded: Cr G King

That Council overturns the Shire Presidents decision to not allow additional speakers for or against Mr Northover's motion.

Lost 3/5

For: Cr K Wright, Cr D Spackman, Cr G King

**Against: Cr J Moulden, Cr R Dessert, Cr D Learbuch, Cr B Robinson,
Cr G Taylor**

Question from Leigh Pedler, Kununurra

Question 1 - I'm yet to speak with the police but we have an issue with methamphetamine and it is effecting businesses. Can a community group have Shire and police assistance to look at addressing this? I feel the police are keeping certain information under the table such as the information about methamphetamine related arrests and charges. Can we set up a taskforce to address this with Shire help along with other departments?

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

We take your comments on board. There is a lot in what you said and the police are obviously involved and I will have a further conversation with staff about this.

Cr K Wright moves the following motion:

ELECTOR MOTION

Moved: Cr K Wright

Seconded: Cr B Robinson

That the Shire convenes a public meeting of all interested persons, business, private, departmental, police and anybody that may have input into the problem to discuss the ever increasing problem that methamphetamine is posing to our community and seeking ways to find cooperative solutions to address the issue in our community.

Carried 32/1

Cr D Spackman moves the following motion:

ELECTOR MOTION

Moved: Cr D Spackman

Seconded: Cr K Wright

When the probity report becomes available we make it publicly available.

Carried 33/0

Question from Joanna Atkins, Kununurra

Question 1 – Would the Council consider adopting a buy local policy through its procurement process? Companies from Perth or Eastern states are getting Shire work.

Cr John Moulden, Shire President provides the following response:

We can make sure that the conversation happens.

Natalie Octoman, Director Corporate Services provides the following response:

This is called a regional price preference policy and there are provisions in the Act that allow us to do this. Some other Shire's allow for this and sometimes it does cost the Shire. This takes a while to put in place and needs to go through community engagement. It is something we are looking at.

This will be taken to a Council briefing session.

6. CLOSURE

The Shire President declares the meeting closed at 7.08pm