# **INDEX**

1009.01		DEC	LARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS	2
1009.02	ı	REC	ORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	2
1009.03	I	ELEC	CTIONS	2
1009.04	I	RES	PONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE	4
1009.05	I	PUBI	LIC QUESTION TIME	5
1009.06	,	APPI	LICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
1009.07	(	CON	FIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS	5
1009.08	,	ANN	OUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION	5
1009.09	ı	PETI	TIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS	5
1009.10	I	REP	ORTS OF COMMITTEES/MEMBERS	6
1009.11	ı	REP	ORTS OF OFFICERS	6
	11.3	WC	ORKS, PLANT, PARKS & GARDENS	6
	11.	3.1	Walga Regional Road Group Report September 2009	6
	11.4	FΙΝ	IANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE	7
	11.	4.1	Mullewa Swimming Pool – Free Entry 2009/2010 Holiday Period	7
	11.	4.2	Administration Christmas Closure – Request For	7
	11.	4.3	Finance Report – September 2009	9
	11.	4.4	Accounts For Payment	9
	11.	4.5	Statement Of Financial Activity	11
	11.	4.6	Statement Of Financial Activity	11
	11.	4.7	Lot 550, 29 Jose Street Mullewa	12
	11.5	CH	IEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT	15
	11.	5.1	Reduction Of The Number Of Councillors	
	11.	5.2	Update On Local Government Structural Reform	
	11.	5.3	Geraldton To Murchison Optic Fibre Cable - Intermediate Hut	20
	11.	5.4	Roadside Contamination From Gm Canola	22
1009.12	I	NEW	BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING	23
1009.13			CTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	
1009.14	I	DELE	EGATED AUTHORITY	23
1009.15	(	CLO	SURE OF MEETING	23

# MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHIRE OF MULLEWA HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2009.

#### 1009.01 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

1:00pm The Chief Executive Officer declared the meeting open.

#### 1009.02 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### **PRESENT:**

Councillor A J (Nino) Messina – President (West Ward)
Councillor B I N (Barbara) Thomas – Deputy President (East Ward)
Councillor J L (Julie) Freeman (Central Ward)
Councillor A J (Tony) Crudeli (Central Ward)
Councillor K P (Kim) Keeffe (South Ward)
Councillor A J (Andrew) Messina (South Ward)

#### **OFFICERS:**

Mr TA (Tom) Hartman - Chief Executive Officer
Ms NJ (Noelene) Holmes – Deputy Chief Executive Officer

#### **APOLOGIES:**

Nil

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor M D (Mick) Tierney (Central Ward)

#### **VISITORS**

Mullewa District High School Principal – Niki Patterson Students – Reece Walker Luke Walker

#### **1009.03 ELECTIONS**

#### **ELECTION OF PRESIDENT:**

Mr T Hartman, CEO conducted the election for the position of President of the Shire of Mullewa. One written nomination was received nominating Councillor Messina as President. Councillor Messina advised to the Chief Executive Officer that he was willing to accept the nomination. The Chief Executive Officer called for any further nominations. The nomination having been accepted and there being no further written nominations, Councillor Messina was declared elected President of the Shire of Mullewa for the next two years.

#### **SWEARING IN OF PRESIDENT:**

Councillor Messina made the Declaration for the position of Shire President of the Shire of Mullewa before Mr T Hartman, CEO.

#### **ELECTION OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT:**

The President called for nominations for Deputy President and advised that he had received a written nomination for Councillor Thomas for the position of Deputy President of the Shire of Mullewa.

Councillor Thomas indicated in writing her willingness to accept the nomination as Deputy President of the Shire of Mullewa.

The nomination having been accepted and there being no further written nominations Councillor Messina declared Councillor Thomas elected to the position of Deputy Shire President for the next two years.

### **SWEARING IN OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT:**

Councillor Thomas made the Declaration before Cr A J Messina Shire President.

### **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES AND DELEGATES:**

Moved: J L Freeman Seconded: K P Keeffe

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT THE FOLLOWING COUNCILLORS BE APPOINTED AS

REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES AS LISTED:

**CARRIED 6/0** 

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- 1. Cr Nino Messina
- 2. Cr Barbara Thomas
- 3. Cr Julie Freeman

**CARRIED by Absolute Majority 6/0** 

#### **MID WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL:**

- 1. Cr Nino Messina
- 2. Cr Barbara Thomas

#### **MULLEWA COMMUNITY TRUST:**

- 1. Cr Nino Messina (Shire President)
- 2. Ms Judy Critch (Community)
- Mr Rob Mencel (Mt Gibson Mining)

## **MULLEWA LANDCARE GROUP:**

Offile	Williams of Ordinary Weeting of Council 21st October 2009								
4	Cr Nino Messina								
1. 2.	Cr Kim Keeffe								
۷.	Of Rim Reene								
MIIII	LEWA TOURIST COMMITTEE:								
1.	Cr Barbara Thomas								
REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (APB):									
1.	Cr Andrew Messina								
	THERN BARRIER FENCE COMMITTEE:								
1.	Mr Danny Williams								
MIID	CHISON LAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMITTEE:								
1.	Cr Kim Keeffe								
	of run reone								
CHIE	F AND DEPUTY BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS:								
1.	Cr Nino Messina (Chief)								
2.	Mr Tom Hartman (Deputy)								
	AL GOVERNMENT REFORM WORKING GROUP:								
1.	Cr Nino Messina								
2. 3.	Cr Barbara Thomas Mr Tom Hartman								
J.	I VIII TOTTI TIAITITIAIT								
MIDA	VEST REGIONAL ROAD CENTRAL SUB-GROUP:								
1.	Cr Nino Messina								
2.	Mr Tom Hartman								
GER/	ALDTON-GREENOUGH REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:								
1.	Cr Mick Tierney								
2.	Cr Tony Crudeli								
CT	TE DADDIED FENOE ADVICEDY COMMITTEE								
1.	E BARRIER FENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:  Mr Tom Hartman								
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# 1009.04 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

#### 1009.05 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Questions to Council from the Students:

Luke Walker - Firstly, thank you to the Shire for the nice foot path that was put down during the holidays.

Reece Walker – It is great to see the shade that has been put up at the park opposite Yarrumba Deli, is there anymore plans for around town?

The President advised that there was more shade structures planned for the swimming pool and Caravan Park.

Luke Walker – What is happening at the pool? There is lots of activity going on down there. When will the pool be opening?

The President advised that the plant room at the pool is in the process of being upgraded at a cost of \$270,000 and should be open in around 3 weeks. He also advised that the pool will be further upgraded next year with the installation of a wetdeck.

## Reece Walker - When are they building the bike track?

The CEO advised that a meeting is to be organised with the older children and it will be incorporated into an environmental project.

#### 1009.06 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Moved: BIN Thomas Seconded: Andrew J Messina

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT CR JULIE FREEMAN BE GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

FOR THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING.

CARRIED 6/0

#### 1009.07 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Moved: BIN Thomas Seconded: JL Freeman

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009, AS PRINTED BE CONFIRMED.

CARRIED 6/0

## 1009.08 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

#### 1009.09 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

#### 1009.10 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/MEMBERS

Nil

#### 1009.11 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

# 11.3 WORKS, PLANT, PARKS & GARDENS

#### 11.3.1 WALGA REGIONAL ROAD GROUP REPORT SEPTEMBER 2009

DATE OF MEETING: 21st October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT:

FILE REFERENCE: ADM0257

PREVIOUS MINUTE/S &

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: Tom Hartman, Chief Executive Officer DISCLOSURE

INTEREST:

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

SUMMARY Report recommends receiving the WALGA Regional Road Group Report

BACKGROUND: The attached report at APPENDIX A from WALGA provides an update of

key projects currently being undertaken by WALGA

COMMENT: The report lists the various projects that WALGA is undertaking on behalf

of Local Government and is provided for Council information.

CONSULTATION:

STATUTORY There are no known statutory implications at this time. **ENVIRONMENT:** 

**POLICY** There are no known policy implications at this time. IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known financial implications at this time. **FINANCIAL** IMPLICATIONS:

STRATEGIC There are no known strategic implications at this time. IMPLICATIONS:

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple majority

**OFFICER** THAT THE REPORT FROM WALGA FOR SEPTEMBER 2009 BE

RECOMMENDATION NOTED.

Seconded: Moved: Andrew J Messina A J Crudeli

**COUNCIL DECISION:** THAT THE REPORT FROM WALGA FOR SEPTEMBER 2009 BE

NOTED.

CARRIED 6/0

# 11.4 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE

#### 11.4.1 MULLEWA SWIMMING POOL - FREE ENTRY 2009/2010 HOLIDAY PERIOD

21<sup>st</sup> October 2009 DATE OF MEETING:

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT:

FILE REFERENCE: 609.01

PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & 15 October 2008

REFERENCE: DATE AND AUTHOR:

12 October 2009 - Tom Hartman, Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

INTEREST: SUMMARY

Report raises consideration to allow free entry to the Mullewa Swimming

Pool during the 2009/2010 school holiday period.

BACKGROUND: Over the past three years Council has resolved to allow free entry to the

Mullewa Swimming Pool for the school holiday period.

COMMENT: There has been considerable discussion on this matter over the past

three years and Council has been satisfied that allowing free entry to the

swimming pool has more positive than negative implications.

Changes to the criteria and Guidelines for the Mullewa Community Trust

now allow Council to apply for funding to offset the loss of income.

CONSULTATION:

STATUTORY There are no known statutory implications at this time.

**ENVIRONMENT: POLICY** 

There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

**FINANCIAL** There has been an allowance in the 2009/2010 Budget for a reduction in

the pool entry fees, similar to the income received last season.

**STRATEGIC** IMPLICATIONS: There are no known strategic implications at this time.

**VOTING** Simple majority

REQUIREMENT: **OFFICER** 

THAT COUNCIL ALLOW FREE ENTRY TO THE MULLEWA SWIMMING

RECOMMENDATION POOL DURING THE 2009/2010 CHRISTMAS SCHOOL HOLIDAY

PERIOD.

Moved: J L Freeman Seconded: B I N Thomas

**COUNCIL DECISION:** THAT COUNCIL ALLOW FREE ENTRY TO THE MULLEWA

SWIMMING POOL DURING THE 2009/2010 CHRISTMAS SCHOOL

**HOLIDAY PERIOD.** 

CARRIED 6/0

#### 11.4.2 ADMINISTRATION CHRISTMAS CLOSURE - REQUEST FOR

DATE OF MEETING:

21st October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE:

PREVIOUS MINUTE/S &

REFERENCE:

Noelene Holmes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer DATE AND AUTHOR:

DISCLOSURE

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

INTEREST: SUMMARY

Report requests permission to close the Shire Office over the coming

Christmas/New Year period.

BACKGROUND: As in previous years staff are again requesting the Administration office

be closed over the 2009 Christmas and New Year holiday period

COMMENT: As Christmas 2009 falls on Friday it is requested that the administration

be closed from the 24<sup>th</sup> December. Closing the day before Christmas will allow staff safe journey to their destination. The proposed closure would also include 29-31 December, reopening on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	21	22	23	24	Xmas	26
27	P/Hol	29	30	31	P/Hol	2
3	4					

TABLE – SHADED AREA DENOTES PROPOSED OFFICE CLOSURE

The office was closed for a similar period over the last 3 years and previous to that the level of telephone and front counter activity was minimal during the Christmas/New Year period. This closure will present an opportune time for staff to clear a small amount leave with little interruption to the organisation.

The closure time shall be taken as either annual leave, rostered days off or leave without pay, depending on the individual officers leave entitlement.

Should the request be granted the closure will be advertised extensively throughout Mullewa by way of notice boards and the Mullewa Mail.

CONSULTATION: Chief Executive Officer & Administration Staff.

**STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:**  There are no known statutory implications at this time.

**POLICY** IMPLICATIONS: There are no known policy implications at this time.

**FINANCIAL** IMPLICATIONS: There are no known policy implications at this time.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS: There are no known strategic implications at this time.

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

Simple majority

**OFFICER** RECOMMENDATION THAT THE REQUEST FOR CLOSING THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE FOR THE PERIOD OF 24, 29, 30 & 31 DECEMBER 2009 REOPENING

ON MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2010 BE APPROVED.

Seconded: Andrew J Messina Moved: J L Freeman

**COUNCIL DECISION:** THAT THE REQUEST FOR CLOSING THE ADMINISTRATION

> OFFICE FOR THE PERIOD OF 24, 29, 30 & 31 DECEMBER 2009 REOPENING ON MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2010 BE APPROVED.

**CARRIED 6/0** 

### 11.4.3 FINANCE REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2009

DATE OF MEETING: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & -

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: Noelene Holmes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

INTEREST: SUMMARY

Report presents a bank reconciliation of Councils bank accounts.

A reconciliation of funds is carried out at end of each month for

A reconciliation of funds is carried out at end of each month for all of Councils bank accounts. The accounts are reconciled with the general ledger to ascertain accuracy of income and expenditure of the previous

month.

COMMENT: BANK RECONCILIATION

The Bank Reconciliation for the month of September 2009 is attached at **APPENDIX A.** The CDA account is a Cash Deposit Account where excess Municipal funds are transferred to obtain maximum interest.

\$4,225.06 has been reinvested by the bank in error into the Road Reseal

Term Deposit. This will be rectified when the deposit matures.

CONSULTATION:

There are no known statutory implications at this time.

ENVIRONMENT:

There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL

There are no known financial implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

STRATEGIC There are no known strategic implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple majority

OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th

SEPTEMBER 2009 BE RECEIVED.

Moved: BIN Thomas Seconded: A J Crudeli

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT THE FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th

SEPTEMBER 2009 BE RECEIVED.

**CARRIED 6/0** 

#### 11.4.4 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

DATE OF MEETING: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS:

NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & -

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR:

Noelene Holmes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE

INTEREST: SUMMARY

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

The purpose of this report is to provide details of cheques drawn and direct debit entries made to Council's bank account during the month, to

be passed for payment by Council.

BACKGROUND: Clause 11 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations

> provides that a Local Government shall develop procedures for the authorisation of payments. Clause 12 of the Regulations requires a schedule of cheques drawn to be presented at the next Ordinary Meeting

following preparations of the list.

COMMENT: Attached to this report at **APPENDIX B** is a list detailing all cheques

drawn and direct debits since the last Council meeting.

The summary of the schedule of accounts to be passed for payment

totalling \$ 396,194.08 covers the following:

Municipal Account

Cheque No. 10261 - 10290 \$ 90.668.61 **Electronic Fund Trans** \$ 194,814.04 5364 - 5445 \$ 109,951.43 Payroll & Fees **VARIOUS** 

**Trust Account** 

Cheque No. 398 - 402760.00 Total: \$ 396,194.08

CONSULTATION: Nil

**STATUTORY** 

**ENVIRONMENT:** 

Local Government Act and Regulations

**POLICY** 

IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known policy implications at this time.

FINANCIAL

IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known financial implications at this time.

STRATEGIC

IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known strategic implications at this time.

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

Simple majority

OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT LISTED ON THE SCHEDULE

AS PRESENTED BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT.

Municipal Account

Cheque No 10261 - 10290 \$ 90,668.61 Electronic Fund Trans 5364 - 5445 \$ 194,814.04 Payroll & Fees VARIOUS \$ 109,951.43

Trust Account

Cheque No. 398 - 402760.00 Total: \$ 396,194.08

Moved: K P Keeffe Seconded: A J Crudeli

**COUNCIL DECISION:** THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT LISTED ON THE SCHEDULE

AS PRESENTED BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT.

**Municipal Account** 

 Cheque No
 10261 – 10290
 \$ 90,668.61

 Electronic Fund Trans
 5364 – 5445
 \$ 194,814.04

 Payroll & Fees
 VARIOUS
 \$ 109,951.43

Trust Account

Cheque No. 398 – 402 \$ 760.00 Total: \$ 396,194.08

**CARRIED 6/0** 

#### 11.4.5 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

DATE OF MEETING: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & -

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: Noelene Holmes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE

INTEREST: SUMMARY Author has no disclosure of interest.

BACKGROUND:

GROUND: Financial Management Regulation 34 requires a local government to

prepare a 'Statement of Financial Activity' reporting on the sources and

applications of funds on a monthly basis.

COMMENT: Attached at APPENDIX C is the Statement of Financial Activity for

August 2009.

CONSULTATION:

There are no known statutory implications at this time.

ENVIRONMENT:

There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known financial implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known strategic implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple majority

OFFICER

THAT THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

RECOMMENDATION OF AUGUST 2009 BE RECEIVED.

Moved: A J Crudeli Seconded: B I N Thomas

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

OF AUGUST 2009 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED 6/0

#### 11.4.6 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

DATE OF MEETING: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: -

FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S &

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: Noelene Holmes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE INTEREST:

Author has no disclosure of interest.

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND: Financial Management Regulation 34 requires a local government to

prepare a 'Statement of Financial Activity' reporting on the sources and

applications of funds on a monthly basis.

COMMENT: Attached at APPENDIX D is the Statement of Financial Activity for

September 2009.

CONSULTATION:

**STATUTORY** There are no known statutory implications at this time. **ENVIRONMENT:** 

**POLICY** There are no known policy implications at this time. IMPLICATIONS:

**FINANCIAL** There are no known financial implications at this time. IMPLICATIONS: STRATEGIC There are no known strategic implications at this time. IMPLICATIONS:

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple majority

OFFICER THAT THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

RECOMMENDATION OF SEPTEMBER 2009 BE RECEIVED.

B I N Thomas Moved: J L Freeman Seconded:

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

OF SEPTEMBER 2009 BE RECEIVED.

**CARRIED 6/0** 

#### 11.4.7 LOT 550, 29 JOSE STREET MULLEWA

21st October 2009 DATE OF MEETING:

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S &

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: 14 October, 2009, Tom Hartman, Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE Author has no disclosure of interest.

INTEREST:

SUMMARY Report submits request for Council to consider purchasing Lot 550. 29

Jose Street, Mullewa for community purposes.

BACKGROUND: During the development of the Trails Master Plan & Associated

> Townscape Projects this land was identified as a prominent location for developing a community project as part of the Townscape projects. The Yamatji Sitting Place concept was developed and the plan is attached. Also attached is the Mullewa Town Centre Streetscape Enhancement

Concept Plan at APPENDIX E.

COMMENT:

This land, at the time of developing the Trails Master Plan, was vacant due to the buildings being burnt down. It was offered to Council at no cost other than the transfer cost etc. Unfortunately Council at the time did not want to accept the offer.

The Master Plan spawned a number of significant projects, some were 'pure' trail projects and others related to visitor infrastructure and/or townscape enhancement. The report briefly outlined the projects and included a staged implementation program. The outline for the Yamatji Sitting Place stated -

#### 13 - Yamatji "Sitting Place"

Roughly half of the population of Mullewa are Aboriginal, mainly from the Yamatji people whose traditional lands stretched from the Mid West right through to Meekatharra and Carnarvon. Yamatji culture – indeed, Aboriginal culture – is very different to "wadjella" (white-fella / European) culture, and in a town like Mullewa it is imperative that this is acknowledged and respected.

Aboriginal people are generally highly social – sitting and talking is a vital glue that bonds the community in unseen but important ways. Indigenous women in Mullewa have expressed a desire for a place in the central part of town where they can gather together and sit, to talk and share their lives. Traditionally they sit in a circle – and this is what has been requested here: a simple circle of stone seats with some shade and a little surrounding greenery, at a place that can be "theirs", a common ground where they can meet and talk.

Naturally, procedures will need to be put in place to ensure this space is not abused, but it should not be difficult to establish appropriate lines of responsibility that would ensure a positive outcome for the whole community. It may be that in time this "sitting place" could also become something of a meeting space for indigenous and non-indigenous sectors of the population, particularly in semi-formal situations where consultation or discussion is necessary or desirous. It would not be inappropriate for the "wadjella" community to meet on Yamatji ground from time to time, and the potential benefits of this cross-flow and communication are substantial.

Following the adoption of the Master Plan, the Mullewa Townscape Project was commissioned in early 2007, when discussions with Council during a trails and interpretation project highlighted the need for 'townscape' related improvements in Mullewa, and opportunities for community capacity building

and an extract from that report stated -

#### **Brief**

'The project has had 3 main goals:

to propose a set of co-ordinated physical improvements for the town;

to design each initiative so that they will build towards a long term vision for Mullewa and:

to develop projectst in such a way as to involve the community, and in doing so build skills and ownership of improvements.

#### Approach

The rationale behind undertaking physical improvements in town centre public spaces is that these have the potential to:

boost morale and support local pride;

lift people's experiences ~ so a trip to town can be a pleasure;

encourage private land-owners to upgrade or enhance their street front properties; support local business;

create opportunities for people to come together, as strong community links result in more viable and tolerant communities and;

initiate positive change and support people who are working to improve things.

The projects proposed have been aimed squarely at local residents rather than tourists. If local people enjoy their town so will visitors; but this is a bonus for the short tourist season, where as locals are living and shopping in Mullewa all year round.

The projects have been broken into practical 'bite sized' elements (see Special Projects; Section 5) and recommend employing local labour and developing new skills where possible. During this study two workshops on landscaping and colour palettes were conducted with Mullewa residents, and these have been invaluable in identifying the skills and aspirations of the community.

Proposals focus on the town centre and high profile places, so that funds can initially be spent where people spend most time, and in highly visible locations. However, ideally townscape plans should be reviewed in-house annually to check they are responding to new opportunities and that completed projects have met the town's aims.

The Yamatji Sitting place was the project that was submitted to the recent Regional Grants Scheme along with the 'Open for Business' concept project. As Council is aware the funding for the 'Sitting Place' was successful, however, the other projects were not. The approved grant is for \$37,400 and is normally matched as part of the process.

Council has carried over from previous budgets \$141,000, to continue implementing the projects within its Master Plan. Included in this expenditure is the matching funding for the Yamatji Sitting Place. Due to the significance of this project it is to be recommended that Council consider making an offer to purchase Lot 550.

The CEO has been having discussions with various members of the male Aboriginal community concerning a proposal for a "men's shed' type project that could be included behind the 'sitting place' on this lot. These initiatives are being evaluated in Queensland and are showing positive outcomes. An extract from a report that was forwarded from a group conducting research is attached also at **APPENDIX E**, for information and interest. Due to the success of the women's group building the local men are quite keen on the idea, especially a meeting place and the possibility of doing similar engagement processes as the women.

As can be noted from the above this site is strategic for the overall development of our town centre, especially the streetscape aspect and the site would be ideal for a project for our indigenous men.

An unofficial communication with the existing owner has revealed that they are asking \$35,000, however, a current valuation and assessment has been received indicating a value of \$20,000.

Local Governments have been vested with the power to acquire land for public works (which includes for the purpose of a community buildings, parks, recreation etc) This avenue would need to be researched further before any decision along those lines would be made.

CONSULTATION: STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: POLICY IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known statutory implications at this time.

There are no known policy implications at this time.

Council has budget funds that could be expended on this proposal for land acquisition.

Current valuation and assessment has been received indicating a value

of \$20,000.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

There are no known strategic implications at this time.

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

Simple majority

OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF LOT 550 JOSE STREET FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE YAMATJI SITTING PLACE COMMUNITY PROJECT AS DETAILED IN THE TRAIL MASTER PLAN AND AUTHORISE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON THE CURRENT VALUATION.

Moved: BIN Thomas Seconded: Andrew J Messina

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT COUNCIL AGREE TO THE PURCHASE OF LOT 550 JOSE

STREET FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE YAMATJI SITTING PLACE COMMUNITY PROJECT AS DETAILED IN THE TRAIL MASTER PLAN AND AUTHORISE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON THE CURRENT VALUATION.

CARRIED 5/1

# 11.5 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

#### 11.5.1 REDUCTION OF THE NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

DATE OF MEETING: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & -

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: 12 October, 2009, Tom Hartman, Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

INTEREST:

SUMMARY

Report raises the possibility of Council applying to the Local Government Advisory Board for a reduction in the Councillor numbers due to not

being able to fill the vacancies.

BACKGROUND: One of the structural reform strategies announced by the Minister in

February, 2009, was for Local Government to reduce the number of elected members to between 6 & 9 members, depending on the size of

the Local Government.

Due to the two recent vacancies remaining at the close of nominations for the 2009 Ordinary Elections, contact was made with the Local Government Department to possibly commence the process to reduce

our numbers.

COMMENT: Contact was made with Ross Earnshaw, Manager, Statutory Support

Branch of the Department who provided the following response -

'When I spoke to you briefly yesterday, I had assumed that Mullewa was a district ward and as such the provisions of section 4.17(3) would apply. Given that you have wards the provisions of this section don't apply.

Unfortunately the provisions of section 4.57 apply to your circumstances and you will have to conduct an extraordinary election. There are no provisions within the Act which allow you to avoid this.

If you complete the extraordinary process and receive no nominations and then find that you are unable to appoint anyone, you can then apply to the Local Government Advisory Board for a reduction in councillor numbers on the basis that you are unable to comply with the Act.

You may want to consider moving to a district ward (no wards) but given an amalgamation is imminent, there is probably little point.

I note that there are five vacancies but you have only 4 positions expiring in 2009.....I assume one of the other councillors resigned.

Just a note on the amalgamation time line. Amalgamations will always apply from 1 July, not October.

Sorry I can't provide you with a more suitable solution.

Regards Ross'

Following this advice, nominations have been called for an extraordinary election to be held 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2009, to fill the vacancy in the Town Ward (2 year term) and the East Ward (4 year term). Nominations opened Friday, October 9, 2009, and will close Friday at 4.00pm 16 October, 2009.

Due to the impending amalgamation, it is suggested that Council may wish to commence the process to reduce its numbers from 9 to 7 elected members. If at the closure of the nomination period there still remain vacancies, the advice received is to approach the Minister with the view of making a submission to reduce the number of members by the number of vacancies. However, Council's attention is drawn to the provisions of Section 4.57(3) of the Local Government Act which states-

'If, at the close of nominations for an extraordinary election required under subsection (1) or (2) there are no candidates or the number of candidates is less than the number of offices to be filled at the election, the council may appoint\* to any unfilled office a person who would be eligible to be a candidate for election to the office and who is willing to accept the appointment.

\* Absolute majority required.'

An extract from the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act showing the process regarding representation states -

## Schedule 2.2 — Provisions about names, wards and representation

- 6. Local government with wards to review periodically
  - (1) A local government the district of which is divided into wards is to carry out reviews of
    - (a) its ward boundaries; and
    - (b) the number of offices of councillor for each ward,

from time to time so that not more than 8 years elapse between successive reviews.

- (2) A local government the district of which is not divided into wards may carry out reviews as to
  - (a) whether or not the district should be divided into wards; and
  - (b) if so
    - (i) what the ward boundaries should be; and
    - (ii) the number of offices of councillor there should be for each ward,

from time to time so that not more than 8 years elapse between successive reviews.

(3) A local government is to carry out a review described in subclause (1) or (2) at any time if the Advisory Board requires the local government in writing to do so.

[Clause 6 amended by No. 49 of 2004 s. 68(5) and (6).]

#### 7. Reviews

- (1) Before carrying out a review a local government has to give local public notice advising
  - (a) that the review is to be carried out; and
  - (b) that submissions may be made to the local government before a day fixed by the notice, being a day that is not less than 6 weeks after the notice is first given.
- (2) In carrying out the review the local government is to consider submissions made to it before the day fixed by the notice.

#### 8. Matters to be considered in respect of wards

Before a local government proposes that an order be made —

- (a) to do any of the matters in section 2.2(1), other than discontinuing a ward system; or
- (b) to specify or change the number of offices of councillor for a ward,

or proposes under clause 4(2) that a submission be rejected, its council is to have regard, where applicable, to —

- (c) community of interests;
- (d) physical and topographic features;
- (e) demographic trends;
- (f) economic factors; and
- (g) the ratio of councillors to electors in the various wards.

[Clause 8 amended by No. 49 of 2004 s. 68(7).]

#### 9. Proposal by local government

On completing a review, the local government is to make a report in writing to the Advisory Board and may propose\* to the Board the making of any order under section 2.2(1), 2.3(3) or 2.18(3) it thinks fit.

\* Absolute majority required.

#### 10. Recommendation by Advisory Board

- (1) Where under clause 5(b) a local government proposes to the Advisory Board the making of an order under section 2.2(1), 2.3(3) or 2.18(3), and the Board is of the opinion that the proposal is
  - (a) one of a minor nature; and
  - (b) not one about which public submissions need be invited,

the Board, in a written report to the Minister, is to recommend the making of the order but otherwise is to inform the local government accordingly and the local government is to carry out a review.

(2) Where under clause 9 a local government proposes to the Advisory Board the making of

- an order of a kind referred to in clause 8 that, in the Board's opinion, correctly takes into account the matters referred to in clause 8(c) to (g), the Board, in a written report to the Minister, is to recommend the making of the order.
- (3) Where a local government proposes to the Advisory Board the making of an order of a kind referred to in clause 8, or that a submission under clause 4(2) be rejected, that, in the Board's opinion, does not correctly take into account the matters referred to in that clause
  - (a) the Board may inform the local government accordingly and notify the local government that a proposal that does correctly take those matters into account is to be made within such time as is set out in the notice; and
  - (b) if the local government does not make a proposal as required by a notice under paragraph (a), the Board may, in a written report to the Minister, recommend\* the making of any order under section 2.2(1), 2.3(3) or 2.18(3) it thinks fit that would correctly take into account those matters.
    - \* Absolute majority required.
- (4) Where a local government fails to carry out a review as required by clause 6, the Advisory Board, in a written report to the Minister, may recommend\* the making of any order under section 2.2(1), 2.3(3) or 2.18(3) it thinks fit that would correctly take into account the matters referred to in clause 8.

A process document is attached at **APPENDIX A** that should provide information regarding the steps to be taken for a proposal for changes to representation. It is suggested that Council may consider the proposed changes be assessed as minor matter and be put to the Local Government Advisory Board for consideration.

CONSULTATION:

Ross Earnshaw, Local Government Department President

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:

### 4.17. Cases in which vacant offices can remain unfilled

- (3) If a councillor's office becomes vacant under section 2.32
  - (a) in a district that has no wards; and
  - (b) at least 80% of the number of offices of member of the council in the district are still filled.

#### 4.57. Less candidates than vacancies

- (1) If, at the close of nominations, there are no candidates for the office or offices to be filled at the election, an extraordinary election is to be held to fill the office or offices as if it or they had become vacant on the day after the close of nominations.
- (2) If, at the close of nominations, the number of candidates is less than the number of offices to be filled at the election
  - (a) the candidate or candidates is or are elected; and
  - (b) an extraordinary election is to be held to fill the remaining office or offices as if it or they had become vacant on the day after the close of nominations.
- (3) If, at the close of nominations for an extraordinary election required under subsection (1) or (2) there are no candidates or the number of candidates is less than the number of offices to be filled at the election, the council may appoint\* to any unfilled office a person who would be eligible to be a candidate for election to the office and who is willing to accept the

#### appointment.

Absolute majority required.

Schedule 2.2 — Provisions about names, wards and representation

**POLICY** 

There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

**FINANCIAL** There are no known financial implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS: STRATEGIC

There are no known strategic implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

RECOMMENDATION

Absolute majority

**OFFICER** 

**PROPOSAL** THAT COUNCIL SUBMIT Α TO THE LOCAL

GOVERNMENT ADVISORY BOARD REDUCE TO REPRESENTATION FROM 9 TO 7 ELECTED MEMBERS REDUCING THE TOWN WARD BY ONE MEMBER AND EAST WARD

BY ONE MEMBER.

J L Freeman B I N Thomas Moved: Seconded:

**COUNCIL DECISION:** 

THAT DUE TO VACANCIES REMAINING AT THE CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS ON FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009. FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION 21ST NOVEMBER, 2009, COUNCIL SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY BOARD TO REDUCE THE REPRESENTATION FROM 9 TO 7 ELECTED MEMBERS BY REDUCING THE TOWN WARD BY ONE MEMBER AND EAST WARD BY ONE MEMBER. THIS REDUCTION IS TO TAKE AFFECT AS SOON AS PRACTICABLY POSSIBLE.

#### **CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6/0**

#### UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURAL REFORM 11.5.2

21st October 2009 DATE OF MEETING:

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT:

FILE REFERENCE: ADM0067

PREVIOUS MINUTE/S &

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: 13 October, 2009, Tom Hartman, Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE INTEREST:

Author has no disclosure of interest.

SUMMARY

Report submits a draft Memorandum of Understanding for consideration

concerning the voluntary structural reform between the Shire of Mullewa, City of Geraldton Greenough, Shire of Chapman Valley and the Minister

for Local Government

BACKGROUND: This proposal was developed following a recent media release whereby

the Shires of Mingenew, Three Springs, Morawa and Perenjori held a function with the Minister for Local Government and executed an MOU.

This event was an excellent public relations exercise.

COMMENT: At a recent working group meeting between the City and the Shires of

> Chapman Valley and Mullewa the attached MOU at APPENDIX B was tabled for discussion. This MOU also includes the management of the

transitional arrangements for the new entity.

The City of Geraldton Greenough was trying to get a meeting with the

Minister to execute and endorse the MOU.

President CONSULTATION:

STATUTORY **ENVIRONMENT:**  There are no known statutory implications at this time.

**POLICY** 

There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL

There are no known financial implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS: STRATEGIC

There are no known strategic implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

RECOMMENDATION

Simple majority

**OFFICER** 

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOU AS

PART OF THE VOLUNTARY REFORM PROCESS

J L Freeman Seconded: B I N Thomas Moved:

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOU AS

PART OF THE VOLUNTARY REFORM PROCESS

CARRIED 6/0

#### 11.5.3 GERALDTON TO MURCHISON OPTIC FIBRE CABLE - INTERMEDIATE HUT

21<sup>st</sup> October 2009 DATE OF MEETING:

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE:

PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & 17 December 2008, 16 September 2009

REFERENCE: DATE AND AUTHOR:

DISCLOSURE

OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

INTEREST: SUMMARY

Report re-submits the proposal from the CSIRO to lease of a portion of Council land in Mullewa for a proposed hut for the SKA optic fibre cable

BACKGROUND:

At the September 2009 meeting Council considered a request from CSIRO to consider up to a 30 year lease to lease a portion of Council land in Lovers Lane to site an "Intermediate Hut" associated with the optic fibre cable that runs from Geraldton to the Murchison Radio

Observatory Site.

At the September 2009 meeting Council resolved -

'THAT COUNCIL FURTHER NEGOTIATE WITH CSIRO AT A RATE OF \$2,000 PLUS CPI PER ANNUM, AND SUGGEST LOCATING THE FACILITY AT AN ALTERNATIVE LOCATION, ACROSS THE ROAD, BEING THE EX MRWA DEPOT.'

The September minutes also had a NOTE following the resolution

#### stating-

'The reason the officer recommendation was not accepted was because Council considered that there was evidence that two communication carriers had negotiated yearly rentals between \$2000 - \$4000 for antennas on farming properties and the land on the old Main Roads Depot site should be investigated as it would free up Lot 1 for future tourist accommodation purposes'.

COMMENT:

Following Councils September meeting the alternative site, being the old Main Roads depot, was investigated. It was revealed that this land is a Crown Reserve for the purpose of 'Depot' and Council has control only by way of a Management Order. This order does not give Council the power to lease. The Department for Lands have advised that the power to lease would not be agreed to and that if CSIRO required land for their 'hut' then they would have to lease from them.

Since the September meeting there has been developments through the City of Geraldton Greenough to commence negotiations with the Federal Government and the CSIRO regarding the optic fibre past Mullewa. Information was included in the October Councillors Information Bulletin regarding the business case and strategy that has been developed. A provision in these documents is to negotiate a link between the City and Mullewa. The documents are attached at **APPENDIX C.** 

Council may recall that a previous report contained the following comment –

'As previously advised this may be a wonderful opportunity for Council to negotiate a future connection to the cable for Mullewa which would provide a very high speed internet communication service, in return for providing a site for the 'Hut'.

This comment was the basis for the contents of the letter that was forwarded to the CSIRO in December 2008, which in part stated –

'Following consideration Council resolved to support the further discussion with the CSIRO for a long term lease of Council owned land being a portion of lot1, Lovers Lane, and authorise the CEO to negotiate an agreement that may include a connection to the system for Mullewa upon commissioning the optic cable'

In view of the above information and to reinforce Councils support for the project, the previous recommendation is resubmitted for consideration.

CONSULTATION:

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: POLICY There are no known statutory implications at this time.

There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

The lease provides for an annual consideration to Council for \$1,000

There are no known strategic implications at this time.

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Sir

Simple majority

OFFICER
RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CSIRO FOR A 30 YEAR LEASE FOR A PORTION OF LAND MEASURING 10MX10M SITUATED ON LOT 1 OF LOT 23 LOVERS LANE TO ERRECT A 2.5MX3.0M BUILDING FOR THE PURPOSES OF AN INTERMEDIATE HUT ASSOCIATED WITH THE OPTIC FIBRE THAT IS CONNECTED TO THE MURCHISON OBSERVATORY SITE, AND ADVISE THE

CSIRO THAT THE LEASE DOCUMENT IS ACCEPTABLE SUBJECT TO INCLUDING A CLAUSE RELATING TO AN AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENT TO THE ANNUAL RENTAL IN LINE WITH CPI.

Moved: J L Freeman Seconded: Andrew J Messina

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT COUNCIL ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CSIRO FOR A

30 YEAR LEASE FOR A PORTION OF LAND MEASURING 10MX10M SITUATED ON LOT 1 OF LOT 23 LOVERS LANE TO ERRECT A 2.5MX3.0M BUILDING FOR THE PURPOSES OF AN INTERMEDIATE HUT ASSOCIATED WITH THE OPTIC FIBRE THAT IS CONNECTED TO THE MURCHISON OBSERVATORY SITE, AND ADVISE THE CSIRO THAT THE LEASE DOCUMENT IS ACCEPTABLE SUBJECT TO INCLUDING A CLAUSE RELATING TO AN AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENT TO THE ANNUAL RENTAL IN LINE WITH CPI.

**CARRIED 6/0** 

#### 11.5.4 ROADSIDE CONTAMINATION FROM GM CANOLA

DATE OF MEETING: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

LOCATION/ADDRESS: NAME OF APPLICANT: FILE REFERENCE: PREVIOUS MINUTE/S & -

REFERENCE:

DATE AND AUTHOR: 15 October, 2009, Tom Hartman, Chief Executive Officer

DISCLOSURE

INTEREST: SUMMARY OF Author has no disclosure of interest.

Report submits information received regarding GM Canola for Councils

attention.

BACKGROUND: The following correspondence has been received from Mick Murray,

Member for Collie-Preston regarding roadside contamination from GM

canola.

'To the Shire CEO

Dear Sir/Madam

I draw your attention to the attached transcript from Parliament and a media statement that I released regarding roadside contamination from GM canola.

The Western Australian Department of Agriculture has indicated that they will not provide financial assistance for testing for the potential presence of GM canola resulting from roadside spills.

The Department has also indicated that they will not provide financial assistance for the chemicals to eradicate any canola that germinates as a result of roadside spills.

I ask if it is possible to attach these papers to your Shire's next Council Meeting agenda for Council information.

Yours sincerely



Mick Murray MLA

MEMBER FOR COLLIE-PRESTON

Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Racing and Gaming'

COMMENT: The papers referred to in the letter are attached at **APPENDIX D** 

CONSULTATION:

STATUTORY
ENVIRONMENT:

There are no known statutory implications at this time.

POLICY There are no known policy implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:

FINANCIAL

There are no known financial implications at this time.

IMPLICATIONS:
STRATEGIC There are no known strategic implications at this time.

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple majority

OFFICER THAT THE REPORT BE RECEIVED

RECOMMENDATION

IMPLICATIONS:

Moved: Andrew J Messina Seconded: J L Freeman

COUNCIL DECISION: THAT THE REPORT BE RECEIVED

CARRIED 6/0

# 1009.12 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

Nil

# 1009.13 ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

### 1009.14 DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Nil

## 1009.15 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The President closed the meeting at 2:40pm.

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009:

Signed:

A J Messina, President

Date: