



MINUTES

FOR THE

**ANNUAL GENERAL ELECTORS
MEETING**

HELD ON

MONDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2019



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, IRWIN REC, ON MONDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2019 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:	Councillors	Cr M T Smith (President) Cr B Wyse (Deputy President) Cr A J Gillam Cr S F Gumley Cr I Scott Cr I F West Cr K L Wilson
	Staff	Mr S D Ivers – Acting Chief Executive Officer Mr B Jeans – Manager Regulatory Services Mrs D K Chandler – Governance & Executive Coordinator
	Guests	Mr Jim Dillon – MidWest Financial
	Electors	J Arden, N Zis, C Wears, B Sharp, J McMahon, G Parker, A & S Blake, M & D Brown, F Allan, J Rossiter, J Fitzhardinge.
	Apologies	Cr M Leonard

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

As listed above.

3. 2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT

S Ivers, Acting Chief Executive Officer, provided a brief overview of the 2017/18 Annual Report and highlighted significant events that occurred throughout the year.

M Smith, Shire President, expressed his appreciation in the efforts of S Ivers in his role as Acting CEO throughout a tumultuous year including the loss of a colleague, the late B Thompson and the resignation of the previous CEO due to health issues.

M Smith also thanked Council for addressing the Shire's adverse trend in the current financial position and explained that Council are now focussed on reconsolidating and redirecting the future of the Irwin Shire. M Smith thanked the public for their patience during this time.

MEETING OF ELECTORS RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Cr Wilson

SECONDED: Cr Wyse

That the Shire of Irwin’s Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2018 be accepted.

CARRIED 7/0

4. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY ELECTORS

Mr Norm Zis submitted the following question: Will there be funding available for the Brand Highway / Midlands Road T-junction black spot zone in the near future? If so, can the Shire please apply for the funding so something can be done?

Response: As the Brand Highway / Midlands Road intersection is managed by Main Roads WA, the Shire is unable to apply for Black Spot funding on behalf of Main Roads WA.

John & Jan Adams suggested the installation of recreational equipment and shade structures near the Cricket Pavilion for both locals and tourists to utilise. The old shades were removed and the oval currently gets very little use.

Response: The Shire will soon be reviewing its public open space strategy and associated amenities to ensure the most cost effective solution whilst delivering the appropriate level of service to the community, including visitors. This suggestion regarding the Dongara Cricket Ground will be taken into consideration during this review.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Shire President invited those present to ask any questions.

J Rossiter questioned whether the request raised at the 2017 Electors Meeting for toilets at Grannies Beach had progressed?

Response: S Ivers explained that during 2018, Council endorsed the decision to develop a foreshore plan which will include a design for Grannies Beach in the coming months. This process will involve the public through consultation processes.

J McMahon questioned whether anything has been done regarding dog exercise areas at the Irwin Rec oval and the Dongara Cricket oval, as this was raised at the 2017 Electors Meeting.

Response: M Smith indicated that the work surrounding this idea has been done and that Regulatory staff will be preparing a recommendation to Council in the near future.

A Blake questioned where the Milo Road project is currently at as the signs have been taken down allowing trucks on the road again.

Response: S Ivers advised that the Main Roads WA Regional Road Group funding has been approved and detailed designs with associated costings will be undertaken.

J McMahon questioned whether a large retractable screen and audio equipment can be purchased for the Irwin Rec function room as it is the largest rentable venue in town.

Response: M Smith indicated that this is certainly a good recommendation and Council will be looking into the Rec Centre as a whole where this will be taken into consideration.

J McMahon questioned when the results of the coastal / wave study will be available and whether there are any updates or progress on the results.

Response: B Jeans advised that the Shire recently received a grant from the Department Planning, Lands and Heritage to develop a coastal management plan in line with the existing Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP). The new plan is in the early stages with a steering committee appointed and public consultation session to follow shortly. This plan will address the issues long term.

S Ivers advised that on a short term basis, coastal engineers have investigated Surf Beach to explore cost effective solutions. Majority of solutions are very costly such as the installation of finger groynes. There are limited funds in the current year's budget with government funding being very difficult to obtain when the funds are for this purpose.

J Fitzhardinge queried why the sand replenishment program has stopped.

M Smith advised that there was a complaint from the community as the sand being used was having an adverse effect on the environment, therefore Council need to ensure all legal responsibilities are being met before recommencing. S Ivers advised that sand from Milo Road crossing has been stockpiled for this purpose.

J McMahon expressed her disappointment with the lack of recycling in town. She advised that she takes her own trailer loads to Geraldton but for people that don't do this, would it be possible to provide a skip bin at the transfer station for recycling glass?

S Ivers advised that the City of Greater Geraldton have investigated costings associated with the transport of recycled goods to Perth and at this stage it comes at a cost to ratepayers. The State Government is about to introduce a glass buyback scheme and local government will be involved in these processes.

6. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Shire President thanked all those in attendance and reminded the community to contact their elected members with any issues or concerns, and declared the meeting closed at 5.30pm.