



GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES – 18 AUGUST 2016 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

***Mission Statement:** West Wimmera Shire Council will work in partnership with the community, business and government to develop and enhance a productive, healthy and safe community by providing leadership, services, advocacy and good governance*

HELD: Thursday 18 August 2016

LOCATION: Kaniva Council Chamber

COMMENCEMENT: 7.00pm

IN ATTENDANCE:	
Councillors	Senior Management Group
Annette Jones, Mayor	David Leahy Chief Executive Officer
Ron Hawkins	Venkat Peteti General Manager Corporate & Community Services
Bruce Meyer	Robyn Evans General Manager Infrastructure Development & Works
Richard Wait	
Warren Wait	

***Vision Statement:** West Wimmera Shire delivers the very best experience and opportunity that rural living has to offer*



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APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Nil

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST Nil

BUSINESS

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Confirmation of the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held on Thursday 21 July 2016.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held on Thursday 21 July 2016, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Richard Wait

Seconded: Cr Ron Hawkins

That the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held on Thursday 21 July 2016, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried (5/0)

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

2.1 COUNCILLOR RICHARD WAIT

2.1.1 DELEGATION TO SPRING STREET – 16 AUGUST 2016

- I was part of the delegation to Spring Street in Melbourne earlier this week, where we met with a variety of State Government Ministers and their advisers.
- This included meetings with the Minister for Public Transport and a Senior Adviser to the Minister for Roads, to discuss road and transport issues.
- We also met with a Senior Advisor to the Minister for Regional Development, seeking funding for projects such as Lake Charlegrark, the Edenhope Mechanics Hall redevelopment, and the water pipeline.



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2.1.2 REGIONAL FUTURES SUMMIT IN BENDIGO – JULY 2016

- I attended the Regional Futures Summit in Bendigo, last month.
- There was unfortunately a lot of city-centric language at this Summit, rather than being regional as the summit name suggested.
- However the recent invitation Council received to become a member of the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership should be advantageous for the Shire.

2.2 COUNCILLOR BRUCE MEYER

2.2.1 CURRENT STATUS OF TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Cr Meyer would like to know the current position of the Advisory Committee, has heard from an anonymous source that this committee has been dismantled, and is concerned whether it is necessary to have one.

Cr Richard Wait: No meetings have been called to dismantle the Tourism Advisory Committee. Any dismantling would be a decision of Council, not the Committee.

Cr Ron Hawkins: This situation needs to be cleaned up and the community needs to be notified of the current status of the Committee.

Moved: Cr Bruce Meyer

Seconded: Cr Ron Hawkins

That Council be provided with a report on the current status of the West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee.

Carried (5/0)

2.3 COUNCILLOR ANNETTE JONES

2.3.1 COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

- The big news of the week is that no Victorian Councillors will be dismissed on 1 September 2016, as had been publicised earlier this week.
- The State Government has advised it will amend its legislation regarding due dates for the Councillor Code of Conduct declaration by Councillors.



GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES – 18 AUGUST 2016 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

- I hope that prospective candidates will remain keen to run for Council at the October 2016 Election, and that this week's events don't translate to hostility towards the State Government.

CEO: Important that we encourage people to stand for Council.

2.4 COUNCILLOR RON HAWKINS

2.4.1 COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

- Everyone tried to do the correct thing. I am disappointed that some of the comments made regarding local government got hurtful in the media this week.
- The radio interview this week involving Cr Jones and CEO David Leahy was well managed. Nobody likes their integrity attacked, however that is what happened.
- I hope this doesn't deter people from running for Council this year. I encourage people to disregard the negative comments in the media this week.

CEO: The West Wimmera Shire Council Councillor Code of Conduct was submitted to the Victorian State Government on 6 June 2016, approximately one month prior to the due date. Thanks to Cr Hawkins for his positive comments about Cr Jones and myself, it is greatly appreciated.

MEETING CONCLUDED: 7.20 PM

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2016
EDENHOPE COUNCIL CHAMBER**