



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 15 JULY 2020 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD: Wednesday 15 July 2020

LOCATION: Edenhope Council Chamber & Zoom

COMMENCEMENT: 2.09pm

PUBLIC ACCESS: Live Streamed on Council's website
www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au

IN ATTENDANCE:	
Councillors	Senior Management Group
Bruce Meyer OAM, Mayor Jodie Pretlove, Deputy Mayor Trevor Domaschenz Richard Hicks Tom Houlihan	David Leahy Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	Ashley Roberts Director Corporate & Community Services (DCCS)
	Mark Marziale Director Infrastructure Development & Works (DIDW)
	Officers Elizabeth Matuschka, Governance Manager Melanie Jordan, Finance Coordinator Leilani Dawes, Rates Coordinator

Vision Statement:

Our Wimmera Shire communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity



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1.0 WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That in view of the current COVID-19 Pandemic and the social distancing restrictions put in place by the Australian Government, public access to this meeting be limited to live streaming via Council's website.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That in view of the current COVID-19 Pandemic and the social distancing restrictions put in place by the Australian Government, public access to this meeting be limited to live streaming via Council's website.

Carried (5/0)

2.0 OPENING PRAYER

The CEO read the opening prayer.

3.0 APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE, DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

3.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3.3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All Councillors have a personal responsibility to ensure they are aware of the provisions mandated in the Local Government Act 2020 with regard to Conflict of Interest disclosures.

None declared



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2.11pm: Question Time commenced

4.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY (maximum of 30 minutes)

4.1 WRITTEN QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions on Notice are to be submitted to Council no later than the Monday nine days prior to the relevant Council Meeting. The template for Questions on Notice is available from the Edenhope and Kaniva Council offices, and from the Shire's website.

None received

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council suspend Standing Orders for the purpose of receiving questions without notice from members of the Gallery.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council suspend Standing Orders for the purpose of receiving questions without notice from members of the Gallery.

Carried (5/0)

4.2 VERBAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Time permitting, this section of the Agenda allows members of gallery to ask verbal questions of Councillors, through the Mayor. At all other times during the meeting, members of the gallery are required to be silent, pursuant to West Wimmera Shire Council Local Law No.7, 2017.

No questions were asked



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RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resume Standing Orders.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council resume Standing Orders.

Carried (5/0)

2.13pm: Question Time concluded

5.0 DELEGATES REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY) AS PROVIDED BY COUNCILLORS PRIOR TO AGENDA BEING ISSUED

5.1 COUNCILLOR BRUCE MEYER OAM (MAYOR)

19/06/2020	CEO David Leahy
23/06/2020	WWSC Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
24/06/2020	Public 2020/21 Budget Submissions Meeting
25/06/2020	CEO David Leahy
30/06/2020	Mayoral Gathering – Halls Gap
01/07/2020	Councillor Forum
03/07/2020	CEO David Leahy
03/07/2020	Wimmera Southern Mallee Media & Council Liaison Group
08/07/2020	CEO David Leahy
09/07/2020	Zoom Meeting with CEO
10/07/2020	Zoom Meeting with CEO
14/07/2020	Council Agenda Review – SMG & Councillors
15/07/2020	Council Meeting

5.2 COUNCILLOR JODIE PRETLOVE (DEPUTY MAYOR)

22/06/2020	Wimmera Primary Care Partnership (PCP) Executive Meeting
23/06/2020	WWSC Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
24/06/2020	Public 2020/21 Budget Submissions Meeting
24/06/2020	Edenhope Community Centre Advisory Group Meeting
25/06/2020	Wimmera Primary Care Partnership (PCP) Special Meeting
01/07/2020	Councillor Forum
06/07/2020	Wimmera Primary Care Partnership (PCP) Meeting
09/07/2020	Zoom Meeting with CEO
10/07/2020	Zoom Meeting with CEO



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14/07/2020 Council Agenda Review – SMG & Councillors
15/07/2020 Council Meeting

5.3 COUNCILLOR TREVOR DOMASCHENZ

24/06/2020 Public 2020/21 Budget Submissions Meeting
01/07/2020 Councillor Forum
09/07/2020 Zoom Meeting with CEO
10/07/2020 Zoom Meeting with CEO
14/07/2020 Council Agenda Review – SMG & Councillors
14/07/2020 Wimmera Development Association Board Meeting
15/07/2020 Council Meeting

5.4 COUNCILLOR RICHARD HICKS

24/06/2020 Public 2020/21 Budget Submissions Meeting
01/07/2020 Councillor Forum
09/07/2020 Zoom Meeting with CEO
10/07/2020 Zoom Meeting with CEO
14/07/2020 Council Agenda Review – SMG & Councillors
15/07/2020 Council Meeting

5.5 COUNCILLOR TOM HOULIHAN

19/06/2020 WWSC Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee Meeting
19/06/2020 WWSC Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee Meeting
24/06/2020 Public 2020/21 Budget Submissions Meeting
24/06/2020 Harrow Discovery Centre Meeting
01/07/2020 Councillor Forum
03/07/2020 Grampians Central West Waste & Resources Recovery Group
09/07/2020 Zoom Meeting with CEO
10/07/2020 Zoom Meeting with CEO
14/07/2020 Council Agenda Review – SMG & Councillors
15/07/2020 Council Meeting

5.6 GENERAL DELEGATES' REPORTS

Councillors to provide delegates reports to Council meeting in relation to meetings attended in last month for which they have been appointed as Council representative. Verbal or written delegates' reports.



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6.0 CONDOLENCES

6.1 MR ROY PRETLOVE

Cr Jodie Pretlove: Roy and his late wife Betty were the caretakers at Lake Charlegrark for a long time, and this loss has really touched the community. Roy was also heavily involved with the Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon for many years. He served the Minimay Cemetery Trust Committee as Secretary over a long period of time, and was a great contributor at working bees. Roy was very committed to the Border Districts Netball Club, as well as being a lifetime supporter. He was inducted into trucking Hall of Fame some years ago, and will be missed at all of our local silos. Roy was a very colourful and passionate character, and lived life to the full.

Cr Houlihan: Roy was a great contributor for many years.

Cr Domaschenz: It is very sad to see Roy's passing.

Cr Meyer: Everybody knew Roy, he was known far and wide. An absolute larrikin spirit, always giving it a go.

6.2 MR ALEXANDER MCDOUGALL

Cr Houlihan: Have known Alex for many years. He lived in Edenhope, and attended school in Edenhope.

Cr Domaschenz: Alex was heavily involved with the Edenhope community including the Edenhope Race Club and the Edenhope Hospital.

Cr Meyer: Alex was a humble man, a true gentleman, very involved within the Edenhope community, especially the Edenhope Race Club. Very well known locally, and extremely interested in the history of the town.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Richard Hicks

That Council send letters of condolence to the families of Mr Roy Pretlove and Mr Alexander McDougall.

Carried (5/0)



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7.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – 18 JUN 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2020 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2020 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Carried (5/0)

8.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

9.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

None received



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10.0 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES & COUNCILLOR FORUM RECORD

10.1 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – TO HEAR 2020/2021 BUDGET SUBMISSIONS – 24 JUN 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting to hear 2020/2021 Budget Submissions, held on Wednesday 24 June 2020, be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting to hear 2020/2021 Budget Submissions, held on Wednesday 24 June 2020, be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Carried (5/0)

10.2 COUNCILLOR FORUM RECORD – 1 JUL 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum held Wednesday 1 July 2020 be received and noted.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That the Record for the Councillor Forum held Wednesday 1 July 2020 be received and noted.

Carried (5/0)

11.0 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

None received



12.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND GOVERNANCE

12.1 RELEASE OF GOVERNANCE RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

FILE NUMBER: AD0186

REPORT AUTHOR: DAVID LEAHY – CEO

FOR DECISION

Introduction

The intent of the following report is to enable Council to release the draft Governance Rules to the community for public comment.

The Governance Rules are first stage of implementing the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020. The Governance Rules include the meeting rules, election period policy and public transparency policy.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

Background

Following the Local Government Act 2020 receiving Royal Assent and becoming active legislation, the process of implementing the various requirements of the new act began.

This has involved a number of information sessions with Local Government Victoria (LGV), two information sessions with Maddocks Lawyers, receiving a number of template documents from LGV and the review of existing and development of new policies to ensure alignment with the new act.

Council has also gained access to templates for policy development and for the Governance Rules from Maddocks. The draft presented to Council has been provided by Maddocks and this has provided a degree of comfort in ensuring that the rules have been tested from a legal perspective.

In addition to the Meeting Rules, the document also contains the Election Period Policy that was updated in late 2019 and is compliant with the requirements of the 2020 Act. The recently adopted Public Transparency Policy is included along with a number of documents that have been included as Annexure documents, such as Codes of Conduct.



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Other works that have been completed towards the implementation of the requirements of the new act include, the commencement of the workforce plan, commencement of the development of the community engagement policy and continued review of policy to ensure compliance with new act.

Also following the Council Election of 24 October 2020, there are a number of documents to be rolled out including, the review of the Councillor Code of Conduct, commencement of the Council Plan and presentation of the Councillor Induction Program.

The following is a list of key items and deadline dates for implementation;

Key dates

Tuesday 1 September 2020

To allow councils to comply with the requirements by the 1 September 2020 time frame, there is a grace period of 4 months. To clarify, 1 September 2020 is the hard deadline and includes the 4 month grace period because it's an extension of when the provision commences.

- Governance rules
- Expenses policy
- Delegated Committees
- Asset Committees
- Audit & Risk Committee
- Public Transparency Policy

Thursday 17 September 2020

- Mandatory candidate training

To allow councils to comply with the requirements for the following time frames, there is a grace period of 6 months. *To clarify, the dates below are the hard deadlines and already include the 6 months' grace period which is an extension of when the provision commences.*

Friday 24 February 2021

- Councillor Code of Conduct

Monday 1 March 2021

- Community Engagement policy



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Friday 30 April 2021

- Gift policy

Wednesday 30 June 2021

- Councillor Induction Training – undertaken within 6 months after the Oath of Office is taken
- Annual budget
- Revenue and Rating Plan

Sunday 31 October 2021

- Financial plan
- Council plan
- Community vision
- Annual report

Friday 31 December 2021

- CEO employment and remuneration policy
- Workforce plan
- Recruitment policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Complaints policy
- Procurement policy

Thursday 30 June 2022

- Asset Management plans

Of the above items, Council has completed the review and endorsement of the Expenses Policy, Audit and Risk Committee Charter, Public Transparency Policy, Election Period Policy and completed the drafting of the Governance Rules (including meeting rules).

In addition to the above, a complete rewrite of the Councillor Code of Conduct was completed in 2019, along with the Staff Code of Conduct.

The outstanding items to complete and have reported to Council include the Delegated Committees and Asset Committee appointments. The current draft does not contain these items as the assessment is that there are currently no Delegated Committees, Joint Delegated Committees or Community Asset Committees that Council needs to create.



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Council is aiming to have the Governance Rules endorsed at the August 2020 Meeting of Council. This will ensure that Council has complied with the timelines set out in implementation guidelines supplied by Local Government Victoria, to have them adopted by 1 September 2020.

To enable the Meeting Rules component of the Governance Rules to be adopted, the current Local Law #7 (Common Seal and Meeting Procedure) will need to be revoked and replaced with a new Local Law #8 to cover the use of the Common Seal. This process will also be subject to an advertising period to enable public comment.

Risk Management Implications

Non-compliance with the recommended timelines will result in Council being named as in breach of the implementation requirements.

Legislative Implications

Compliance with the Local Government Act 2020 is an essential requirement of all Local Government Authorities.

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Minor costs of subscribing to information webinars and the appointment of a 0.6 Governance Support Officer to assist with workload.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

- Advocacy Policy
- Asset Capitalisation Policy
- Asset Disposal Policy
- Asset Management Policy
- Asset Management Strategy
- Borrowings Policy
- Building Fee Refunds Policy
- Building Permit Information Policy
- Business Assistance Scheme Policy
- Business Continuity Policy
- Change Management Policy
- Communications Policy
- Community & Commercial Advertising on Council Buildings & Structures Policy
- Community Engagement Policy



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Community Halls Policy
Community Support Fund Policy
Complaints Handling Policy
Corporate Credit Card and Purchase Cards Policy
Council Grants Policy
Council Major Hall Hire Policy
Councillor Code of Conduct Policy
Councillor Expense Entitlement & Support Policy
Customer Service Policy
Domestic Firewood Collection Policy
Election Period Policy
Environmental Policy
External Hire of Plant Policy
Fraud & Corruption Control Policy
Guarantor Policy
Human Rights Policy
Investment Policy
Media Relations Policy
Play Space Management Policy
Procurement Policy
Protected Disclosures Policy
Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy
Recreation Policy
Risk Management Policy
Road and Street Naming Policy
Street Tree Policy
Support to Community Events Policy
Support to Public Art Policy
Temporary Street Closure Policy
Tourism Policy
Township Amenity Policy
Tree Plantations on Unused Road Reserves Policy
Tree Planting on WWSC Road Reserves Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.

Communication Implications

As policies are reviewed or developed and then endorsed by Council, they are communicated to staff.



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The draft rules as presented with this report will be advertised for comment for a 28 day period and people lodging a submission will be provided with an opportunity to present their submission to Council.

Conclusion

The development of documents to enable the implementation of the provisions of the Local Government Act 2020 has been a time consuming exercise to date, for the Governance Manager and Senior Management Group.

It will also require a level of resourcing into the future for items such as the development of the workforce plan (completion), the development of the CEO remuneration and employment policies, the creation of a 10 year asset plan and the continued review of policies and delegations.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1) Receives and notes the draft Governance Rules**
- 2) Releases the draft Governance Rules for public comment for a period of 28 days commencing on 16 July 2020 and closing on 13 August 2020.**
- 3) Hears submissions from members of the public regarding the Governance Rules on Wednesday 19 August 2020, prior to formally adopting the Governance Rules at the Wednesday 19 August 2020 Council Meeting.**

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council:

- 1) Receives and notes the draft Governance Rules**
- 2) Releases the draft Governance Rules for public comment for a period of 28 days commencing on 16 July 2020 and closing on 13 August 2020.**
- 3) Hears submissions from members of the public regarding the Governance Rules on Wednesday 19 August 2020, prior to formally adopting the Governance Rules at the Wednesday 19 August 2020 Council Meeting.**

Carried (5/0)



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Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
12.1.1	Draft Governance Rules (1)	AD0186



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12.2 DRAFT LOCAL LAW NO.8 OF 2020 – USE OF THE COMMON SEAL

FILE NUMBER: AD0107

**REPORT AUTHOR: DAVID LEAHY – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND
ELIZABETH MATUSCHKA – GOVERNANCE MANAGER**

FOR DECISION

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) proposes to create a new Local Law, regarding the use of the Common Seal.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

Background

On 15 February 2017 Council resolved to adopt the West Wimmera Shire Council Local Law No.7 of 2017 – Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law. This Local Law dictates:

1. Election of the Mayor.
2. Procedures applying to the conduct of Council Meetings.
3. Use of the Common Seal.

Local Law No.7 has a ten year life span, unless it is revoked earlier.

The Local Government Act 2020 came into effect this year, and requires Council to adopt Governance Rules by 1 September 2020. The Governance Rules are a substantial document and must include:

1. Election of the Mayor.
2. Procedures applying to the conduct of Council Meetings.

The Governance Rules are being addressed at this Council Meeting, in an earlier Agenda item.



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Creation of the Governance Rules does not in itself cancel or revoke Local Law No.7 – Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law, even though the Governance Rules will contain a large portion of the content of Local Law No.7.

The Victorian Government has advised that a Local Law can only be revoked through the creation of another Local Law.

Council is therefore now proposing to adopt a new Local Law, named the West Wimmera Shire Council Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal.

Adopting this new Local Law No.8 will achieve the following:

1. Legal revocation of Local Law No.7 in its entirety.
2. A continuance of laws regarding the use of Council's Common Seal.

The Act also dictates that Council must undergo community engagement when proposing a new Local Law.

Council plans to undertake this community engagement in conjunction with the Governance Rules community engagement, mentioned in an earlier report in this Agenda. This is proposed to take place for 28 days, commencing on Thursday 16 July 2020 and concluding on Thursday 13 August 2020.

Council will hear submissions from members of the public in relation to the draft Local Law No.8 at the Wednesday 19 August 2020 Council Meeting, prior to adopting the draft Local Law No.8 at that Meeting.

The result will be that on Wednesday 19 August 2020, the content of Local Law No.7 will be seamlessly transferred to the Governance Rules and Local Law No.8.

Risk Management Implications

Council is managing risk implications by moving to adopt the new Governance Rules and Local Law No.8 at the Wednesday 19 August 2020 Council Meeting, while also revoking Local Law No.7 at the same Council Meeting. This will occur in advance of the 1 September 2020 deadline.

Legislative Implications

Local Laws: Sections 71-86 of Local Government Act 2020

Community Engagement: Sections 55-56 of Local Government Act 2020



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Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

There will be costs incurred when advertising the community engagement process in local newspapers.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:
Communications Policy
Community Engagement Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.
- Strategic Objective 2: Meaningful partnerships to support advocacy priorities and service provision.

Communication Implications

Council will advertise the community engagement process for Local Law No.8 in the local newspapers, and on its website and Facebook page.

Conclusion

Council is proposing to adopt a new Local Law, named the West Wimmera Shire Council Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal, which includes the revocation of Local Law No.7 of 2017 – Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law.

Prior to its adoption in August 2020, Council proposes to undertake the mandatory community engagement outlined in the Local Government Act 2020.



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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

1. That Council receives and notes the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal.
2. That Council undertakes community consultation in relation to the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal for a 28 day period, commencing on Thursday 16 July 2020 and concluding on Thursday 13 August 2020.
3. That Council publishes notices in relation to the proposed Local Law No.8 regarding its objectives, its intended effect, the locations where it can be inspected, and the community engagement process, as required by the Local Government Act 2020.
4. That Council hears submissions from members of the public in relation to the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal on Wednesday 19 August 2020, prior to adopting the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal at the Wednesday 19 August 2020 Meeting.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

1. That Council receives and notes the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal.
2. That Council undertakes community consultation in relation to the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal for a 28 day period, commencing on Thursday 16 July 2020 and concluding on Thursday 13 August 2020.
3. That Council publishes notices in relation to the proposed Local Law No.8 regarding its objectives, its intended effect, the locations where it can be inspected, and the community engagement process, as required by the Local Government Act 2020.
4. That Council hears submissions from members of the public in relation to the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal on Wednesday 19 August 2020, prior to adopting the draft Local Law No.8 of 2020 – Use of the Common Seal at the Wednesday 19 August 2020 Meeting.

Carried (5/0)



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Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
12.2.1	Draft Local Law No.8 – Use of the Common Seal	AD0107
12.2.2	Local Law No.7 of 2017 – Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law	AD0107



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12.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS 2020

FILE NUMBER: AD0183

**REPORT AUTHOR: DAVID LEAHY – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND
ASHLEY ROBERTS – DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

FOR DECISION

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) participates in the annual Community Satisfaction Survey (the survey) organised through Local Government Victoria. This report provides a summary of Council's results from the Community Satisfaction Survey.

The survey is conducted by JWS Research on behalf of Local Government Victoria. The survey is conducted annually around February - March every year. There is a total of 400 residents of West Wimmera Shire surveyed which includes sampling a number of demographic groups to obtain a statistically valid result.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

Background

JWS Research undertook the Community Satisfaction Survey via telephone interviews between 30 January and 22 March 2020. A total of 400 interviews were completed across a range of demographic groups. This sample size reflects the Australian Bureau of Statistics demographic indicators for the West Wimmera Local Government Authority region and is regarded as being statistically valid to represent overall community views.

Interviews were completed via telephone with up to 60% of calls being made to mobile telephones. Contact numbers were purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available telephone numbers.

The survey provides for index rankings over seven core measures – *Overall Performance, Community Consultation, Lobbying, Making Community Decisions, Sealed Local Roads, Customer Service, and Overall Council Direction*. These core measures are reportable in Council's Performance Statement and on the Know Your Council website.



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In addition to these core measures there are a number of individual performance areas which reflect the reporting requirements of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework, including *Appearance of public areas, Elderly support services, Waste management, Local streets & footpaths, Enforcement of local laws, Family support services, Informing the community, Slashing & weed control, Sealed local roads, Unsealed roads.*

Of the seven core measures, all but one saw a decline, with Sealed local roads being the only measure which increased, by two points from 53 to 55.

The movement in measures can be seen from the following table. Whilst many of the movements may be relatively minor, of concern is the result for Overall Council Direction which has shown a 12.5% decline, along with the Making Community Decisions which has declined by 4.9%.

Measure	Council Result 2020	Council Result 2019
Overall Performance	63	65
Community Consultation	59	60
Lobbying	57	59
Making Community Decisions	58	61
Sealed Local Roads	55	53
Customer Service	77	78
Overall Council Direction	48	54

The following table ranks Council's results against the Small Rural Councils cohort and the all municipalities state-wide average:

Measure	Council Result 2020	Small Rural Councils Average	State-Wide Average
Overall Performance	63	56	58
Community Consultation	59	54	55
Lobbying	57	52	53
Making Community Decisions	58	53	53
Sealed Local Roads	55	51	54
Customer Service	77	70	70
Overall Council Direction	48	50	51



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A number of these measures remain significantly higher than both the Small Rural Councils cohort and state-wide averages, however the significant decline in the Overall Council Direction result places Council below both the Small Rural Councils and state-wide averages.

Council's Sealed Local Roads measure provided an index score of 55, an increase of two index points over 2019. This brought Council result for this measure above the average for both the Small Rural Councils cohort and state-wide average.

Council's overall performance rating decreased by two points. This followed a significant increase in the 2019 survey of four points over the 2018 result. Even with the decline in the current year's survey result Council's result remains significantly above the small rural Councils cohort average of 56 and the state-wide average of all Council groups of 58 index points.

As stated the largest decline was in Overall direction of Council which fell six index points to a score of 48. While 70% of respondents believed Councils overall direction had stayed the same, a worrying 16% responded that there had been a decline over the last 12 months.

Council's highest rating of the core measures was once again Customer Service, which returned a result of 77 index points, slightly down from the 2019 result of 78. This is significantly above both the small Council cohort average of 70 and the state-wide average of 70.

Results for the individual service area performance measures are shown in the following table:

Measure	Council Result 2020	Council Result 2019	Small Rural Average	State Wide Average
Appearance of Public Areas	78	78	72	72
Elderly Support Services	75	77	71	68
Waste Management	69	71	64	65
Local Streets & Footpaths	68	67	57	58
Enforcement of Local Laws	66	68	62	63
Family Support Services	66	69	66	66
Informing the Community	62	64	58	59



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Slashing and Weed Control	57	58	48	49
Unsealed Roads	50	48	43	44

Of the individual service area performance measures, Council achieved the highest results in the Appearance of public areas (78 index points), Elderly support services (75 index points) and Waste management (69 index points). These areas were also Council's three highest ranking indicators from the 2019 survey results. However, both Elderly support services and Waste management measures declined by two index points each from the previous year's results, with the Appearance of public areas measure maintaining the previous year's result.

The lowest results were for Unsealed roads (50 index points) and Slashing and weed control (57 index points). Again these were the lowest ranked results from the previous year. It is worth noting that the Unsealed roads measure returned a result of 50 index points for 2020, an increase of two index points over the previous year.

All of these individual service areas were at or above both the small rural councils cohort and state-wide all councils averages. The result for Family services however showed a decline of 3 index points for the 2020 survey. This left this result at equal to both the Small Rural Councils and state-wide average. It must be stressed that being at or above average is not a reason for Council to not continue to search for ways to improve its service levels and results.

The survey also included questions around preferred communication methods and whether rate payers would prefer a rate rise or would rather accept a reduction in services as a trade-off.

The results showed that residents preferred means of communication with Council remained via a newsletter, however the preferred delivery of this (via email or post) showed a clear difference between age groups, with those under 50 preferring email and those over 50 preferring post.

Interestingly Council's website was the least preferred form of communication with both age groups, with the more traditional advertising in a local newspaper showing significant decline over the last four surveys with all groups, although inserting a Council newsletter into local papers found some support. The use of social media rated quite highly for under 50s also.

When responding to whether residents would prefer a rate increase or would accept service cuts in lieu of a rate increase, 33% of respondents indicating they would probably or definitely prefer a rate increase, with 48% responding that they probably or definitely would prefer service cuts (the remaining responding that they could not say). This result is



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quite close to the small rural cohort average (34% pro rate rise, 46% pro service cuts) and state-wide average (33% pro rate increase, 49% pro service cuts), and has remained relatively constant to the previous year (35% rate cut, 47% service cut)

Risk Management Implications

The Community Satisfaction Survey can be a useful tool in efficiently allocating resources to programs. However it must be noted that Council must be aware of longer term trends highlighted by these survey to avoid misallocating resources as a result of a one-off ‘blip’ in the survey results. Council may be at reputational risk if the survey results are ignored.

Legislative Implications

While Council is not required to participate in this particular Community Satisfaction Survey program, Councils are required to undertake regular surveys of their communities and furnish such information as is required under the Local Government Performance Report Framework as set out in the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

Environmental Implications

Not commented on

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The Community Satisfaction Survey costs Council approximately \$12,500 per annum. This amount is included in the budget.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

Advocacy Policy

Community Engagement Policy

Customer Service Policy

Media Relations Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.
- Strategic Objective 2: Meaningful partnerships to support advocacy priorities and service provision.



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- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.
- Strategic Objective 7: Providing access to and promoting the natural environment.

Communication Implications

Following the presentation of results to Councillors, a media release can be developed for further communication of the results and any actions agreed upon to remedy low scores.

Conclusion

The community satisfaction survey is undertaken independent of Council operations and provides an opportunity for residents to provide their opinion of the service levels provided by way of a score.

Whilst the survey does not get to every resident, JWS Research attempt to cover all age demographics and have achieved a sample size that is statistically valid based upon Australian Bureau of Statistics figures.

The results are a positive for the Shire (irrespective of the score) as it provides some guidance as to what services are of highest importance and what level of service people are expecting or satisfied with.

A summary of the 2020 survey results has been provided to each Councillor as an attachment to this report and the full report can be provided if Councillors wish to view it in its entirety.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the summary report on the Community Satisfaction Survey 2020, and considers the preparation and content of a media release highlighting the outcomes of the survey.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council notes the summary report on the Community Satisfaction Survey 2020, and considers the preparation and content of a media release highlighting the outcomes of the survey.

Carried (5/0)



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Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
12.3.1	Community Satisfaction Survey Results 2020	AD0183



13.0 INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND WORKS

13.1 COUNCIL OWNED HALLS POLICY REVIEW

FILE NUMBER: AD0186

**REPORT AUTHOR: MARK MARZIALE, DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE,
DEVELOPMENT & WORKS**

FOR DECISION

Purpose

To review the Council Owned Halls Policy, as derived from the former Community Halls Policy along with the Community Managed Halls (Not Council Owned) Policy, and decide on its adoption.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared any interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* or the *Planning & Environment Act 1989*, in the preparation of this report.

Background

At its Meeting held August 2019, Council considered an information report on the review of the (then called) Community Halls Policy, and resolved that the Policy should be divided and reviewed as two separate Policies:

1. Council Owned Halls Policy
2. Community Managed Halls (Not Council Owned) Policy.

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) undertook a review of its hall assets in July 2014.

The *Hall Assets Review Report* by Sena Solutions P/L, provided recommendations for the classification of Community Hall assets, including some to be considered further for divestment and transfer.

The existing Community Halls Policy was adopted in March 2010.

At the 17 July 2014 meeting of Council, Council resolved as follows (extract only) which in part pertained to a number of its smaller town halls;



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6. That Council adopt the Sena Solutions final report Hall Group and Individual Hall recommendations – Group E halls recommendations;

23. These halls be removed from the Community Hall portfolio

24. Where necessary, Council facilitate the winding up of incorporated bodies

25. Council liaise with halls that are privately owned to remove from the Halls Portfolio

26. Council ensure that council owned halls that are unsafe are cordoned off from potential visitors to the site or passers by

27. Council dispose of Council owned halls and property that is no longer required.

Risk Management Implications

Financial Sustainability

Public Liability

Council Reputation

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 2020

Planning & Environment Act

Building Act

Public & Environmental Health Act

Environmental Implications

Not commented on

Financial and Budgetary Implications

In accordance with Budget.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

Asset Management Policy

Asset Disposal Policy

Major Halls Policy

Borrowing Policy

Commercial Advertising on Council Buildings Policy

Community Grants Policy



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Customer Service Policy
Environmental Policy
Human Rights Policy
Procurement Policy

Council Plan Implications

The Council Owned Halls Policy will enable the achievement of the following Strategic Objectives in accordance with the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.

Communication Implications

The Policy will be available for Public access.

Conclusion

The Council Owned Halls Policy is presented for review, comments and revision.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to adopt the revised Council Owned Halls Policy 2020.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council resolves to adopt the revised Council Owned Halls Policy 2020.

Carried (5/0)

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
13.1.1	Council Owned Halls Policy - Review 2020	AD0186
13.1.2	<i>Hall Assets Review Report</i> by Sena Solutions P/L, July 2014	AD0186



**13.2 COMMUNITY MANAGED (NOT COUNCIL OWNED) HALLS POLICY
REVIEW**

FILE NUMBER: AD0186

**REPORT AUTHOR: MARK MARZIALE, DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE,
DEVELOPMENT & WORKS**

FOR DECISION

Purpose

To consider and review the Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls Policy, as derived from the former Community Halls Policy 2010, along with the Council Owned Halls Policy.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared any interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* or the *Planning & Environment Act 1989*, in the preparation of this report.

Background

The existing Community Halls Policy was adopted in March 2010.

At its Meeting Held August 2019, Council considered an information report on the review of the (then called) Community Halls Policy, and resolved that the Policy should be divided and reviewed as two separate Policies:

1. Council Owned Halls Policy
2. Community Managed Halls (Not Council Owned) Policy.

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) undertook a review of its hall assets in July 2014. The *Hall Assets Review Report* by Sena Solutions P/L, provided recommendations for the classification of Community Hall assets, including some to be considered further for divestment and transfer. [Note: error page 17: incorrect reference to the “Telopea Downs Hall”]

At the 17 July 2014 meeting of Council, Council resolved as follows (extract only) which in part pertained to a number of its smaller town halls;



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6. That Council adopt the Sena Solutions final report Hall Group and Individual Hall recommendations – Group E halls recommendations;

23. These halls be removed from the Community Hall portfolio

24. Where necessary, Council facilitate the winding up of incorporated bodies

25. Council liaise with halls that are privately owned to remove from the Halls Portfolio

26. Council ensure that council owned halls that are unsafe are cordoned off from potential visitors to the site or passers by

27. Council dispose of Council owned halls and property that is no longer required.

Risk Management Implications

Financial Sustainability

Public Liability

Council Reputation

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 2020

Planning & Environment Act

Building Act

Public & Environmental Health Act

Environmental Implications

Not commented on

Financial and Budgetary Implications

In accordance with Budget.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

Asset Management Policy

Asset Disposal Policy

Major Halls Policy

Borrowing Policy

Commercial Advertising on Council Buildings Policy

Community Grants Policy

Customer Service Policy



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Environmental Policy
Human Rights Policy
Procurement Policy

Council Plan Implications

The Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls Policy will enable the achievement of the following Strategic Objectives in accordance with the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.

Communication Implications

The Policy will be available for Public access.

Conclusion

The Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls Policy is presented for review, comments and revision.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to adopt the revised Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls Policy 2020.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council resolves to adopt the revised Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls Policy 2020, subject to the Miga Lake Hall being added to the list of Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls in the Policy.

Carried (5/0)



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Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
13.2.1	Community Managed (Not Council Owned) Halls Policy - Review 2020	AD0186
13.2.2	<i>Hall Assets Review Report</i> by Sena Solutions P/L, July 2014	AD0186



14.0 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

14.1 RATE RECOVERY AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

FILE NUMBER: FM0021

REPORT AUTHOR: LEILANI DAWES, RATES COORDINATOR

FOR DECISION

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) has a Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy (the Policy), which is due for review July 2020.

After considering feedback received at the July 2020 Councillor Forum, a final draft form of the Policy is provided seeking formal adoption by Council.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

Background

The Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy provides Council with clear parameters around the effective collection and recovery of outstanding rates and charges, while providing mechanisms to assist ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship.

During policy review, benchmarking and comparison with other municipalities was undertaken. Recommended changes included in the policy review include:

1. Increased transparency around Interest Posting Dates for Instalment and Annual accounts.
2. Removal of CIV constraint for Financial Hardship application.
3. Addition of a 'Financial Hardship Form'.
4. Inclusion of an Assessment Section.



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These recommendations aim to improve transparency in the rating and revenue recovery process, provide a framework for objective, consistent application of processes by rating officers.

The policy outlines the steps and methodology Council will use in the recovery of outstanding rates. Put simply, this process includes:

1. The charging of interest on overdue rates;
2. The issue of an Overdue /Final Payment notice;
3. Referral of the debt to Council's contract debt collectors;
4. Legal action.

If a legal judgement is granted in Council's favour and the outstanding amounts remain unpaid, then Council may elect to instigate one of the following actions, any of which would require a court order:

- Letter to Mortgagee requesting the mortgagee remit the amount of the unpaid rates to Council. The mortgagee would then on charge this to the ratepayer. This is of course only practical where the property concerned has an active mortgage.
- Rent demand – where the property is leased, Council may apply to have the rent income diverted to pay the outstanding rates.
- Sale of property – if a property debt has been outstanding for 3 years or more and there is no likelihood that the outstanding amount will be paid, Council may apply to have the property sold to recover the outstanding amount.

At any stage a ratepayer may request that Council enter into a Special Payment Arrangement with them in order to repay the outstanding amount. Such an arrangement needs to be of such nature that the debt will actually be reduced. Council will not enter any agreement which simply defers the payment of debt which continues to rise.

A ratepayer may also apply at any stage to Council for assistance due to financial hardship. For assistance to be granted the ratepayer must show Council that they are suffering a legitimate financial hardship. Assistance granted due to financial hardship is not designed to be an ongoing matter, but rather to provide the ratepayer with time to restructure their financial affairs and as such would not normally extend beyond 12 months.

Details of assistance for financial hardship are included in the policy.

Risk Management Implications

Council is subject to significant risk arising from unpaid rates and the methodology implemented to recover unpaid rates.



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Financial Risk – Where Council is unable to raise or receive revenue, resulting in Council spending being placed in jeopardy.

Operational Risk – Where Council is unable to fund its operational commitments; and

Reputational Risk – Where Council suffers severe reputational risk arising from the inability to continue its necessary operations or from the use of inappropriate debt collection methodologies.

The provision of a Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy sets out a structured set of parameters around mitigating this risk.

Legislative Implications

The *Local Government Act 1989 (the Act)* sets out strict guidelines around the raising of rates, the application of penalty interest on overdue rates, and the collection of unpaid rates. The Act also requires that Council allow for relief for ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship.

This policy fulfils these legal requirements.

Environmental Implications

Not commented on.

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Council is subject to significant financial risk from unpaid rates and charges. These may have major financial and budgetary implications if not mitigated.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.



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- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.

Communication Implications

The draft Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy if adopted will be available on the Council website for public viewing.

Council officers and Council's debt collection contractors are made aware of all provision of this policy and are instructed to inform all ratepayers with outstanding balances as to their rights under this policy.

Conclusion

The Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy provides Council with clear parameters around the effective collection and recovery of outstanding rates and charges, whilst providing mechanisms to assist ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship.

It updates the provisions of our current Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy by removing unnecessary constraints and enhancing transparency by further defining processes.

After receiving feedback the draft Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy the final draft is presented to the July Council Meeting for formal adoption.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy; and**
- 2. Commits to review the Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy in July 2022.**

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy; and**
- 2. Commits to review the Rate Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy in July 2022.**

Carried (5/0)



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Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
14.1.1	Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy	FM0021



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14.2 ADOPTION OF WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL 2020/21 BUDGET

FILE NUMBER: FM0055

REPORT AUTHOR: MELANIE JORDAN, FINANCE COORDINATOR

FOR DECISION

Introduction

This report presents West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) with the final draft 2020/21 Budget and updated 2020/21-2023/24 Strategic Resource Plan projections for adoption.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

Background

Section 127 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires that Council prepare a budget for each financial year, and that such budget be in the form of and containing the information required by the regulations (currently the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* (the Regulations)). Council's 2020/21 budget as presented complies with these requirements of the Act and the Regulations.

Section 130 (3) of the Act requires that Council must adopt its annual budget by 30 June each year. Due to the current situation involving Covid-19, Council has an extension to 30 August 2020 to adopt its 2020/21 budget.

As per Section 129 of the Act, Council resolved at its Ordinary Meeting held 20 May 2020 to consult with the community and receive submissions (in accordance with Section 223 of the Act) on the draft budget up to 5.00pm Friday 19 June 2020. Council held a special meeting to consider the submissions received on the morning of 24 June 2020 at the Edenhope Community Centre.

Council has made the following alterations to the draft budget as advertised;

- Council has been informed that it will receive an additional \$1,528,011 in non-recurrent federal grants under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program. This will produce an operating surplus of \$0.888 million, up from a deficit of \$0.717 million.
- KDPAA Inc. annual funding increased from \$2,500 to \$4,000



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- Additional grant funding of \$88,833 has been recognised in relation to the Edenhope and Districts Community Centre fit-out.
- Per Council instructions, the following public submissions with budget implications that have been added to the budget:
 - o Edenhope Tourism Inc. annual funding increased from \$5,000 to \$7,500 for the next 2 years.
 - o Funding of \$2,000 for new computer/IT equipment for Edenhope Tourism Inc.
 - o Funding of \$7,000 for Henley on Lake Wallace 100th year event.
 - o Funding for the Apsley Alligators of \$4,500 per year for the next 3 years.

The attached draft 2020/21 budget includes rate increase of 2.0% in line with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System.

Risk Management Implications

The provision of an annual budget and medium term Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) form central planks in Council's internal control mechanisms.

The annual budget and SRP allow Council to have a baseline for measuring its financial performance and sustainability, and also allow Council to control and allocate its resources forming a strong mitigation to financial, fraud, operational and reputational risk to Council.

Legislative Implications

Council is required under the Act to prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year. The budget is required to be adopted by 30 June each year. This year, there is an extension to 30 August 2020 to adopt the budget.

Under the Act, Council is also required to prepare and adopt a Strategic Resource Plan. The SRP must include 4 financial years and address both financial and non-financial resources of Council. Council must review the SRP during preparation of the Council Plan and adopt no later than 30 June each year. The draft budget provides these updates to the SRP.

Section 158(1) of the Act requires Council to at least once in respect of each financial year declare its rates and service charges. As the date of declaration must appear on the rate notice, this declaration must be done prior to 30 June each year and must be completed prior to the issue of rate notices.

Environmental Implications

Not commented on



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Financial and Budgetary Implications

The adoption of the Council Budget annually and the four year Strategic Resource Plan are the fundamental building blocks in Council's financial management framework.

The budget sets the basis for which Council Officers implement Council's strategic direction, as contained within the Council Plan, and to ensure the prudent and equitable allocation of Council's resources, while the Strategic Resource Plan allows Council to provide short/medium term planning to ensure efficient and sustainable resource allocation.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policies:

Advocacy Policy
Asset Capitalisation Policy
Asset Management Policy
Borrowings Policy
Communications Policy
Community Engagement Policy
Fraud & Corruption Control Policy
Investment Policy
Procurement Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports all section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.
- Strategic Objective 2: Meaningful partnerships to support advocacy priorities and service provision.
- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 4: Building on our agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.
- Strategic Objective 7: Providing access to and promoting the natural environment.



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Communication Implications

Consultation is required to be carried out in accordance with Sections 125, 127 and 223 of the Act. The draft Budget and SRP update have been advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act.

This includes advertising and publishing details of the draft budget in local papers, Council's website & Council's social media page. Copies of the draft documents have also been available at Council's Customer Service Centres at Edenhope and Kaniva and also on Council's website.

Council has also held one public information session on the draft budget, which was livestreamed via Council's website & social media page. The recording was made publicly available on Council's website & social media page.

Once adopted, copies of the adopted Budget and SRP will be made available in Council's customer service centres and on Council's website. Copies of each document will also be forwarded to the Minister for Local Government and the State Library.

Conclusion

Council is required under the Act to prepare, and after a suitable public submission period and considering any submissions made, adopt a budget each year.

This activity also forms the most fundamental building block in Council's financial management framework and is of critical importance in providing for effective financial management.

The draft budget as presented fulfils all of these requirements.



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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the 2020/21 Budget and forward projections amendments to the Strategic Resource Plan contained within the budget papers, along with any adopted amendments resultant from any public submissions received and considered by Council; and**
- 2. As per the budget document, raise a total amount of rates and charges of \$7,935,285 for the 2020/21 financial year; and**
- 3. That Council declare the following rates and charges:**
 - General rate \$0.2255 cents in the dollar of CIV**
 - Municipal Charge \$155.65**
 - Waste Collection Charge \$323.70 per unit; and**
- 4. Public Notice of the adoption of the budget be made; and**
- 5. Advise any person(s) making a submission as to the outcome of that submission; and**
- 6. Forward a copy of the adopted 2020/21 Budget to the Minister for Local Government, and make copies of the adopted 2020/21 Budget available for public perusal at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, and also on Council's website.**



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Moved: Cr Tom Houlihan

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the 2020/21 Budget and forward projections amendments to the Strategic Resource Plan contained within the budget papers, along with any adopted amendments resultant from any public submissions received and considered by Council, and also include:**
 - a. Apsley Recreation Reserve funding of \$25,000 to remove trees at Tennis Netball courts and \$200,000 funding to rebuild courts;**
 - b. Kaniva Leor United Football Club be funded \$200,000 eliminating debt of 'Project Managers' WWS and 'Committee of Management' WWS of the Kaniva Recreation Reserve Project;**
 - c. Johnny Mullagh Park \$80,000 funding for pop up sprinklers;**
 - d. Harrow Historical Society \$200,000 funding for 'Browns House' replacement as promised when 'Browns House' was ordered to be pulled down by West Wimmera Shire;**
 - e. Goroke Recreation Reserve if grant application is successful funding be increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000;**
 - f. Dergholm Hall \$25,000 funding for repair to main hall roof which is leaking water through to wooden floor;**
 - g. Edenhope Tennis Court toilet replacement to be held over to 21-22 Budget; and**
- 2. As per the budget document, raise a total amount of rates and charges of \$7,935,285 for the 2020/21 financial year; and**
- 3. That Council declare the following rates and charges:**
 - General rate \$0.2255 cents in the dollar of CIV**
 - Municipal Charge \$155.65**
 - Waste Collection Charge \$323.70 per unit; and**
- 4. Public Notice of the adoption of the budget be made; and**
- 5. Advise any person(s) making a submission as to the outcome of that submission; and**
- 6. Forward a copy of the adopted 2020/21 Budget to the Minister for Local Government, and make copies of the adopted 2020/21 Budget available for public perusal at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, and also on Council's website.**

Not voted on



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Cr Hicks moved a procedural amendment

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Cr Houlihan's addition of Items 1(a) to 1(g) to the original Officer Recommendation be dealt with in one motion, rather than individually.

Carried (3/2)

Moved: Cr Tom Houlihan

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the 2020/21 Budget and forward projections amendments to the Strategic Resource Plan contained within the budget papers, along with any adopted amendments resultant from any public submissions received and considered by Council, and also include:**
 - a. Apsley Recreation Reserve funding of \$25,000 to remove trees at Tennis Netball courts and \$200,000 funding to rebuild courts;**
 - b. Kaniva Leor United Football Club be funded \$200,000 eliminating debt of 'Project Managers' WWS and 'Committee of Management' WWS of the Kaniva Recreation Reserve Project;**
 - c. Johnny Mullagh Park \$80,000 funding for pop up sprinklers;**
 - d. Harrow Historical Society \$200,000 funding for 'Browns House' replacement as promised when 'Browns House' was ordered to be pulled down by West Wimmera Shire;**
 - e. Goroke Recreation Reserve if grant application is successful funding be increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000;**
 - f. Dergholm Hall \$25,000 funding for repair to main hall roof which is leaking water through to wooden floor;**
 - g. Edenhope Tennis Court toilet replacement to be held over to 21-22 Budget; and**
- 2. As per the budget document, raise a total amount of rates and charges of \$7,935,285 for the 2020/21 financial year; and**
- 3. That Council declare the following rates and charges:**
 - General rate \$0.2255 cents in the dollar of CIV**
 - Municipal Charge \$155.65**
 - Waste Collection Charge \$323.70 per unit; and**



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 15 JULY 2020 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

4. **Public Notice of the adoption of the budget be made; and**
5. **Advise any person(s) making a submission as to the outcome of that submission; and**
6. **Forward a copy of the adopted 2020/21 Budget to the Minister for Local Government, and make copies of the adopted 2020/21 Budget available for public perusal at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, and also on Council's website.**

Motion Lost (For: 1 / Against: 3 / Abstention: 1)

Cr Domaschenz moved an amendment

Moved: Cr Domaschenz

Seconded:

That Council:

1. Adopt the 2020/21 Budget and forward projections amendments to the Strategic Resource Plan contained within the budget papers, along with any adopted amendments resultant from any public submissions received and considered by Council, and that Council make borrowings of up to \$93,000 available to the Edenhope & District Community Centre; and
2. As per the budget document, raise a total amount of rates and charges of \$7,935,285 for the 2020/21 financial year; and
3. That Council declare the following rates and charges:
 - General rate \$0.2255 cents in the dollar of CIV
 - Municipal Charge \$155.65
 - Waste Collection Charge \$323.70 per unit; and
4. Public Notice of the adoption of the budget be made; and
5. Advise any person(s) making a submission as to the outcome of that submission; and
6. Forward a copy of the adopted 2020/21 Budget to the Minister for Local Government, and make copies of the adopted 2020/21 Budget available for public perusal at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, and also on Council's website.

The Motion lapsed for lack of a seconder



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 15 JULY 2020 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

The Meeting returned to the substantive motion

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council:

1. Adopt the 2020/21 Budget and forward projections amendments to the Strategic Resource Plan contained within the budget papers, along with any adopted amendments resultant from any public submissions received and considered by Council; and
2. As per the budget document, raise a total amount of rates and charges of \$7,935,285 for the 2020/21 financial year; and
3. That Council declare the following rates and charges:
 - General rate \$0.2255 cents in the dollar of CIV
 - Municipal Charge \$155.65
 - Waste Collection Charge \$323.70 per unit; and
4. Public Notice of the adoption of the budget be made; and
5. Advise any person(s) making a submission as to the outcome of that submission; and
6. Forward a copy of the adopted 2020/21 Budget to the Minister for Local Government, and make copies of the adopted 2020/21 Budget available for public perusal at Council's Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva, and also on Council's website.

Carried (5/0)

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
14.2.1	WWSC Draft_Budget_2020-21 v5 – for adoption	FM0055



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15.0 LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Local Law No.7 (2017), Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law 2017, West Wimmera Shire Council:

28. Urgent Business

Business must not be admitted as urgent business unless it:

- i. Relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and*
- ii. Cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Ordinary Meeting.*

Nil

16.0 SEALING SCHEDULE

Nil

17.0 CONFIDENTIAL (PURSUANT TO LG ACT 2020 SECTION 66 (2)(a)) RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council pursuant to Section 66 (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 close the meeting to members of the public at pm to resolve on matters pertaining to the following items:

17.1 KANIVA COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council pursuant to Section 66 (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 close the meeting to members of the public at 4.10pm to resolve on matters pertaining to the following items:

17.1 KANIVA COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

Carried (5/0)



RESOLUTION REGARDING GROUNDS FOR DETERMINING TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That as required by Section 66 (5) (a) and (b) of the Local Government Act 2020, Council hereby records the ground or grounds for determining to close the meeting to the public as follows:

Item 17.1: Kaniva Community Hub Update

Grounds: LG Act 2020 Section 3 Confidential Information definition (g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets, or if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Explanation: This report contains private commercial information regarding the financial arrangements (including income, expenditure and debts) of the Kaniva-Leeor United Football Club.



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 15 JULY 2020 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That as required by Section 66 (5) (a) and (b) of the Local Government Act 2020, Council hereby records the ground or grounds for determining to close the meeting to the public as follows:

Item 17.1: Kaniva Community Hub Update

Grounds: LG Act 2020 Section 3 Confidential Information definition (g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets, or if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Explanation: This report contains private commercial information regarding the financial arrangements (including income, expenditure and debts) of the Kaniva-Leeor United Football Club.

Carried (5/0)

RECOMMENDATION

That the resolutions pertaining to Confidential / In-Camera items be adopted and made public (except where the resolution restricts publication) and that the reports for those items remain In-camera and that Council open the meeting to the public at pm.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That the resolutions pertaining to Confidential / In-Camera items be adopted and made public (except where the resolution restricts publication) and that the reports for those items remain In-camera and that Council open the meeting to the public at 4.39pm.

Carried (5/0)



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 15 JULY 2020 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

17.1 KANIVA COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

That Council consider the required payment of the rental of the Kaniva Recreation Reserve by the Kaniva Leeor United Football Club, and the repayment instalments pertaining to the Kaniva Community Hub by the Kaniva Leeor United Football Club to the WWSC, as separate items.

That Council resolves to waive the required payment of \$4,942.95 for the annual rental of the Kaniva Recreation Reserve by the Kaniva Leeor United Football Club for the 2020 calendar year.

That Council resolves that 2020 instalments due from the Kaniva Leeor United Football Club to the West Wimmera Shire Council, pertaining to the Kaniva Community Hub under the Loan Agreement signed on 7 May 2018:

- a) Be reduced from \$10,000 to \$7,500 for the period up to 30 June 2020, and from \$10,000 to \$7,500 for the period up to 31 December 2020; and**
- b) That no interest to be charged during these 12 months; and**
- c) That the \$5,000 discount offered by WWSC upon full 2020 calendar year payment of the \$15,000 be deducted from the outstanding \$160,000 loan.**

MEETING CONCLUDED: 4.41PM

**NEXT MEETING: WED 19 AUGUST 2020
KANIVA COUNCIL CHAMBER**