



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 19 MAY 2021 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

HELD: Wednesday 19 May 2021

LOCATION: Kaniva Council Chamber

COMMENCED: 2.04pm

PUBLIC ACCESS: Open to the Public

**Meeting to be recorded and published on
Council Website post meeting.**

IN ATTENDANCE:	
Councillors	Senior Management Group
Bruce Meyer OAM, Mayor Jodie Pretlove, Deputy Mayor	David Bezuidenhout Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Trevor Domaschenz Tom Houlihan Tim Meyer	Vin McKay Director Corporate & Community Services (DCCS)
	Officers: Kaddie Cother, Governance Support Officer Sarah Ellis, Manager Business Performance & Development Melanie Jordan, Finance Coordinator Leilani Dawes, Rates Coordinator

*The West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules
set out the meeting procedure rules for this Council Meeting.*

*Members of the public are reminded that they are required to remain silent
during this meeting, except during Section 4.0 Questions from the Gallery.*

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The West Wimmera Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays respect to their elders, past, present and emerging.

2.0 OPENING PRAYER – CEO

Almighty God, we humbly ask your blessing upon this Council. Guide and prosper our decisions to the advancement of Your Glory and the true welfare of the people of West Wimmera Shire. Amen.

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

3.1 APOLOGIES

Mark Marziale – Director Infrastructure, Development & Works

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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.

Conflict of Interest Declared by Mayor Bruce Meyer on item 13.4 Community Strengthening Grants as Kaniva A&P Society have applied for a grant to which Mayor Bruce Meyer is a life member.



4.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY (maximum of 30 minutes)

4.1 WRITTEN QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Governance Rules – Division 8 Section 53:

53.4 Questions submitted to Council can be submitted as follows:

53.4.1 In writing, stating the name and address of the person submitting the question and generally be in a form approved or permitted by Council; and

53.4.2 Placed in the receptacle designated for the purpose at the place of the meeting at least two hours prior to the Council meeting, or be lodged electronically at the prescribed email address at least two hours prior to the Council meeting.

53.5 No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting.

The Question on Notice template is available from the Edenhope and Kaniva Council Offices, and from Council's website.

Written Questions on Notice submitted to Council no later than the deadline of 5:00pm on the Monday in the previous week to the relevant Council Meeting, will be included in the Agenda.

Written Questions on Notice submitted subsequent to that deadline can be lodged electronically to govmanager@westwimmera.vic.gov.au, no later than two hours prior to the Council Meeting.

None Received

RECOMMENDATION:

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

No members of the public in gallery. None Received



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4.2 VERBAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Time permitting, this section of the Agenda allows members of gallery to ask verbal questions of Councillors, following the removal of standing orders and when prompted by the Mayor (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.3)

Members of the Gallery providing verbal questions without notice at a Council Meeting must state their name, to be recorded in the minutes (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.4)

No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.5)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resume Standing Orders.

No members of the public in gallery.



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

5.1 COUNCILLOR BRUCE MEYER OAM (MAYOR)

23/04/2021	Rural North West Regional Meeting & Strategic Planning Session
25/04/2021	ANZAC Day Service, Apsley
28/04/2021	GWM Water Meeting
28/04/2021	Glenelg Hopkins CMA Board Networking Luncheon
30/04/2021	NAB Kaniva Closure Meeting
30/04/2021	Conflict of Interest Training
04/05/2021	Badge Assembly, Kaniva College
05/05/2021	Councillor Forum
11/05/2021	Carpe Diem – Seize the Day Performance, Kaniva
18/05/2021	Budget Drop in Session, Edenhope
19/05/2021	Budget Drop in Session, Kaniva
19/05/2021	Council Plan Briefing
19/05/2021	SMG Agenda Review
19/05/2021	Council Meeting

5.2 COUNCILLOR JODIE PRETLOVE (DEPUTY MAYOR)

25/04/2021	ANZAC Day Service, Goroke
26/04/2021	Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Committee of Management Meeting
28/04/2021	Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Organisational Meeting
30/04/2021	Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Transport Group Meeting
30/04/2021	Conflict of Interest Training
05/05/2021	Councillor Forum
18/05/2021	Budget Drop In Session, Edenhope
19/05/2021	Council Plan Briefing
19/05/2021	SMG Agenda Review
19/05/2021	Council Meeting



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5.3 COUNCILLOR TREVOR DOMASCHENZ

25/04/2021	ANZAC Day Service, Edenhope
25/04/2021	ANZAC Day Service, Harrow
27/04/2021	Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting
28/04/2021	Edenhope Hospital Meeting
30/04/2021	NAB Kaniva Closure Meeting
30/04/2021	Conflict of Interest Training
03/05/2021	Streetscape Draft Plan Community Discussion Kaniva & Edenhope
05/05/2021	Councillor Forum
11/05/2021	Wimmera Development Association Board Meeting
13/05/2021	Carpe Diem – Seize the Day Performance, Edenhope
17/05/2021	Edenhope Childcare Meeting
18/05/2021	Wimmera Mallee Tourism Meeting
19/05/2021	Council Plan Briefing
19/05/2021	SMG Agenda Review
19/05/2021	Council Meeting

5.4 COUNCILLOR TIM MEYER

23/04/2021	Western Highway Action Committee Meeting
25/04/2021	ANZAC Day Service, Kaniva
30/04/2021	NAB Kaniva Closure Meeting
30/04/2021	Conflict of Interest Training
05/05/2021	Councillor Forum
07/05/2021	Rail Freight Alliance Meeting
11/05/2021	Carpe Diem – Seize the Day Performance, Kaniva
19/05/2021	Council Plan Briefing
19/05/2021	SMG Agenda Review
19/05/2021	Council Meeting

5.5 COUNCILLOR TOM HOULIHAN

25/04/2021	ANZAC Day Service, Harrow
05/05/2021	Councillor Forum
13/05/2021	Carpe Diem – Seize the Day Performance, Edenhope
14/05/2021	Volunteers Morning Tea, Harrow
18/05/2021	Budget Information Session, Edenhope
19/05/2021	Council Plan Briefing
19/05/2021	SMG Agenda Review
19/05/2021	Council Meeting



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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.

Nothing to report.

6.0 CONDOLENCES

Cr Trevor Domaschenz wishes to send congratulations to the Burns Family on Phoebe Burns turning 100. He also wishes to send our condolences to the Burns family on the passing of Phoebe. Phoebe was an active volunteer in our shire.

Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council send a letter of condolence to the Burns family.

Carried (5/0)

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – 21 APRIL 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 April 2021 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 April 2021 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Carried (5/0)



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8.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

9.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

10.0 COUNCILLOR FORUM RECORD – 5 MAY 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum held Wednesday 5 May 2021 be received and noted.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That the Record for the Councillor Forum held Wednesday 5 May 2021 be received and noted.

Carried (5/0)

11.0 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Nil



12.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND GOVERNANCE

12.1 COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

FILE NUMBER: AD0203

REPORT AUTHOR: DAVID BEZUIDENHOUT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FOR ADOPTION

Introduction

Every day Council staff communicate with our community members. This policy reinforces our commitment to enhancing communications and working with residents to foster increased community involvement in council decision making.

Declaration of Interests

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

Background

Communication with our community members is a key part of how we undertake our work at Council. This Communications Policy provides guidance to Councillors and Council staff on how to communicate with our community members in an effective way.

The current version of this policy was adopted on 17 May 2017 and is now due for review.

This draft policy contains minor updates to reflect both the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

Risk Management Implications

Failure to review the Communications Policy in line with the “next review date” creates a risk that Council’s policy suite is out-of-date. Maintaining up to date policies is a key element of good governance.

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 2020
Gender Equality Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Nil



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Financial and Budgetary Implications

The review of the Communications Policy has been undertaken in-house using existing resources and budgets.

Policy Implications

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

- Councillor Code of Conduct Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Community Engagement Policy
- Media Relations Policy
- Council Election Period Policy
- Customer Service Charter

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section 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

Following adoption of the reviewed policy it will be published on Council's website and all staff will be notified of the revised document.

Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been conducted on this policy, and where appropriate, changes have been made to the policy to address the principles of the Gender Equality Act 2020.

Conclusion

Communication with our community members is a key part of how we undertake our work at Council. This Communications Policy provides guidance to Councillors and Council staff on how to communicate with our community members in an effective way. Ensuring that Council's suite of policy documents is reviewed and updated in a timely manner is a key element of good governance.



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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the draft Communications Policy.

Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council adopt the draft Communications Policy.

Carried (5/0)

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
12.1.1	Communications Policy DRAFT	



13.0 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

13.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

FILE NUMBER: FM0068

REPORT AUTHOR: MELANIE JORDAN, FINANCE COORDINATOR

FOR INFORMATION

Introduction

This report presents West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) with the Quarterly Budget Report for the period ended 31 March 2021.

Declaration of Interests

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

Background

The Local Government Act 2020 ('the Act') requires Council to implement the principles of sound financial management (s.101). Section 97 of the Act requires that Council be presented with a Quarterly Budget Report comparing actual to budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year to date every quarter. This report was previously known as the Financial Performance Report under section 138(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The budget reports show an analysis of the actuals to budget forecasts at 31 March 2021. Where significant variances exist between actual amounts and budgeted figures, a note is included to provide an explanation for the variance. The budget reports include a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Capital Works Statement to give a true indication of Council's operations, capital works program and financial position.

Risk Management Implications

Financial risks exist where officers are not adhering to budgets.

Legislative Implications

Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that Council is provided with budget reports every three months comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure with actual revenue and expenditure.



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Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Financial and budgetary performance reporting and oversight form the fundamental building blocks of sound financial management. Without oversight of financial and budgetary performance Council may find itself unable to meet its obligations and desired community outcomes.

Policy Implications

Nil

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

The Finance Coordinator will continue to work with officers and managers to educate and enable budgetary management of their department.

Conclusion

Council's quarterly budget report at 31 March 2021 is attached for Council's information, in accordance with the requirements of s.97 of the Act.



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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 March 2021 be received and noted.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Tim Meyer

That the Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 March 2021 be received and noted.

Carried (5/0)

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
13.1.1	Quarterly Budget Report March 2021	E21/000004



13.2 REVENUE AND RATING PLAN

FILE NUMBER: FMO002

REPORT AUTHOR: LEILANI DAWES, RATES COORDINATOR, MELANIE JORDAN, FINANCE COORDINATOR

FOR DECISION

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) is required to adopt a Revenue and Rating Plan (The Plan) by 30 June 2021 in accordance with s93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Revenue and Rating Plan will repeal and replace and incorporate the existing Rating Strategy and extend the scope to include other Revenue sources.

The Revenue and Rating Plan forms part of the integrated planning framework. It governs how Council will generate income from a variety of sources for the coming 4-year period, and integrates with the Community Vision, Council Plan, Asset Plan, Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Plan.

The Plan does not dictate the quantum of rates and revenue available to Council but the framework, strategy and basis for generation of income sources.

Declaration of Interests

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

Background

The Revenue and Rating Plan will include the rating system. A rating is developed to provide a fair and equitable system for all ratepayers.

The rating system details the rating structure and outlines the charges included for consideration, along with the legislative framework applicable as imposed by the *Local Government Act 1989*. The rating system determines how Council will raise money from properties and the proportion contributed by each property but does not dictate the total amount to be raised.



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The *Local Government Act 1989* allows Council to determine the distribution of the rates and charges across the community through General Rates, Municipal Charges, Service Fees and Charges and Special Rates and Charges. There are options for rebates and early payment incentives.

Council was presented with the rating options available under the *Local Government Act 1989* at the February 2021 Council Forum. In the February 2021 Council Meeting, Council provided guidance for the rating strategy detail to be included in The Plan including:

- Service Fees and Charges s162: Council seeks full cost recovery through service fees and charges for waste recovery under a ‘User Pays’ Principal.
- Special Rates and Charges s163: No Special Rates and Charges will be levied.
- Incentives for Prompt Payment s168: No Incentives for Prompt Payment will be offered.
- Rebates and Concessions s169: No Additional Rebates or Concessions will be Levied.
- Rate Capping Part 8A: No Application for Higher Rate Cap will be made
- Municipal Charge s159: Maintain a municipal charge
- Valuation System s157: Continue with Capital Improved Valuation Base.
- General Rates s160, s161: Continue with a uniform general rate.

The Plan puts these recommendations into practice with regards to Council’s rating system.

The Plan also details how and when other revenue opportunity will be generated, including grants, fees and charges (user and statutory), contributions, interest on investments and borrowings.

The Plan has been developed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* s9 overarching governance principles and supporting principles.

Risk Management Implications

The Rating Strategy provide guidance on how Council’s rating system will impose rates within stipulated thresholds and legislation.

Legislative Implications

Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006
Local Government Act 1989
Local Government Act 2020
Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020
Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983
Valuation of Land Act 1960
Electricity Industry Act 2020
Fire Service Property Levy Act 2012
Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963



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Gender Equality Act 2020
Domestic Animals Act 1994
Planning and Environment Act 1987
Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016
Subdivision (Fees) Regulations 2016
Monetary Units Act 2004
Environment Protection Act 2017
Food Act 1984
Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
Residential Tenancies Act 1997

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The Revenue and Rating plan will shape how Council generates revenue for the next 4 years. It will not determine how much can be raised but establish a transparent framework for determining rates, fees and charges ensuring predictable, consistent revenue for the future.

The Draft Plan will support Council in meeting its obligations of economic sustainability and ongoing financial viability in accordance with Section 9(2)(c) and (g) of Local Government Act 2020. Once adopted the Revenue and Rating Plan will be used to guide the development of future budgets of Council.

Policy Implications

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

Asset Capitalisation Policy
Asset Disposal Policy
Asset Management Policy
Asset Management Strategy
Borrowings Policy
Business Continuity Policy
Community Engagement Policy
Council Grants Policy
Council Major Hall Hire Policy
External Hire of Plant Policy
Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy
Council Major Hall Hire Policy
External Hire of Plant Policy



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Council Plan Implications

Council is currently working towards developing a Community Vision and new Council Plan, extensive community consultation is being carried out to inform these documents. Until the new Council Plan is in place (due October 2021), the Rating and Revenue Plan has been prepared on the existing strategic objectives of the Council Plan and will feed into Council's budgeting and long-term financial planning documents.

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.
- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 4: Building on our agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.
-

Communication Implications

Community engagement of The Plan will be required in alignment with the Community Engagement Policy.

The community engagement strategy is detailed in Section 5 of the plan.

Level of Engagement: Consult

Type of Engagement: Participatory (submissions)

Draft Revenue and Rating Plan prepared by officers;

Draft Revenue and Rating Plan placed on public exhibition calling for public submissions;

Community engagement through local news outlets and social media,

Consideration of public submissions; and

Present the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, with any revisions, to the June Council meeting for adoption.

Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been undertaken in relation to this matter in accordance with the Gender Equality Act (2020)



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Conclusion

The Draft Revenue and Rating Plan is recommended to be endorsed by Council for public consultation in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy. Feedback will be considered by Council prior to adopting a Revenue and Rating Plan by 30 June 2021, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The draft Plan defines Council's revenue raising framework for the next four years. Community members will be encouraged to submit their feedback before Sunday 30 May 2021.



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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, appended as Attachment.**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:**
 - a) Give notice of the preparation of the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, inviting feedback on the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy, until 5pm on Sunday 30 May 2021.**
 - b) Make available for public inspection the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan at all Council Offices in hard copy and provide an electronic copy on Council’s website.**
- 3. Consider any feedback made by the public on the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan.**
- 4. Consider a motion to adopt the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan at a Council meeting to be held on Wednesday 16 June 2021, having regard to all feedback received.**

Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, appended as Attachment.**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:**
 - a) Give notice of the preparation of the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, inviting feedback on the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy, until 5pm on Sunday 30 May 2021.**
 - b) Make available for public inspection the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan at all Council Offices in hard copy and provide an electronic copy on Council’s website.**
- 3. Consider any feedback made by the public on the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan.**
- 4. Consider a motion to adopt the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan at a Council meeting to be held on Wednesday 16 June 2021, having regard to all feedback received.**

Carried (5/0)

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
13.2.1	Draft Revenue and Rating Plan	



13.3 EDENHOPE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE PROGRESS UPDATE

FILE NUMBER: ED0090

**REPORT AUTHOR: VIN MCKAY, DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Introduction

In April 2019, Council commenced construction on the new Edenhope and District Community Centre. The project is due to be completed by August 2021. This report aims to provide Councillors with an update on the progress of the project and seeks Council's approval for a revised project forecast budget.

Declaration of Interests

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

Report

Construction on the Edenhope and District Community Centre commenced in 2019 and practical completion was issued in June 2020. In December 2020, the contract with the architect was finalised.

The building is now operational for library, community and Council use.

The main elements of the project were funded through the Drought Communities Program, Living Libraries Infrastructure Program, Council contribution and Community contributions. Council's contribution (\$500,000) and the community fundraising component (\$120,000) satisfied state government matching contribution requirements for the initial grants based on original project scope and estimates. Total funds available from all initial sources amounted to \$1,920,000

In May 2020 additional funding of \$333,000 was received from Regional Development Victoria (RDV), with a requirement for Council to match this grant with a local contribution of \$150,000. This funding was intended to cover works beyond the original scope, but nevertheless essential to fully complete the project. The Community Advisory Group has confirmed that an additional \$16,000 community cash contribution is feasible.

The cost of meeting the planning permit conditions was not originally factored into the overall project budget. The forecast expenditure required to meet all planning permit conditions is currently \$82,500.



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With total funding available from all sources amounting to \$2.299 million and a revised total project cost of \$2.497 there is therefore a funding shortfall to complete the project of \$198,000.

A comprehensive list of outstanding works to complete the project and a full project financial report was presented to the May Councillor Forum.

Council Officers have recently reviewed this year's Capital Works program expenditure. Substantial savings are projected in the road reconstruction program which is now 100% complete. These savings alone will offset the additional funds required to complete the Community Centre Project. Based on current financial projections, the year-end result for Capital Works in total will be within the total Capital Works budget set by Council when it adopted the 2020-2021 Council Budget.

Risk Management Implications

If Council failed to complete this project within the guidelines of the funding agreement, then the funding will need to be returned leaving Council with an outstanding financial liability and an incomplete project.

Legislative Implications

The project has complied with all legal obligations.

Environmental Implications

Environmental considerations have been made throughout the project's planning and implementation phases.

Policy Implications

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

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections 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.



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- 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.

Communication Implications

An official opening will be organised on completion of the project. This event will be widely publicized providing an opportunity to fully recognise all stakeholders that have made this valuable community facility a reality.

Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been undertaken in relation to this matter in accordance with the Gender Equality Act (2020)

Conclusion

The Edenhope and District Community Centre has already been receiving positive feedback from across the region with people attending training and information sessions. This highlights the value of the investment that Council has made into this project.



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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Notes the progress report on the Edenhope Community Centre.**
- 2. Approves an increase in the project forecast budget of an additional \$198,000 to enable the project to be completed in its entirety and to also meet funding body acquittal requirements.**

Moved: Cr Tom Houlihan

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That Council:

- 1. Notes the progress report on the Edenhope Community Centre.**
- 2. Approves an increase in the project forecast budget of an additional \$198,000 to enable the project to be completed in its entirety and to also meet funding body acquittal requirements.**
- 3. Similar to the Edenhope Community Centre project, Council acknowledges that the Kaniva Community Hub project also have had scoping and cost estimation issues, including variations and accordingly:**
 - a) Approves that the remaining debt of \$120,000 that was passed on to the Kaniva Leor Football Club by West Wimmera Shire Council, be waived;**
 - b) The wavering of the debt will be regarded as full and final settlement between the Kaniva Leor Football Club and West Wimmera Shire Council, and all parties will be excluded from taking any legal action to claim any financial benefit or restitution to do with the project's overrun.**

Cr Tim Meyer stated that he felt there was no conflict of interest, but couldn't be certain there was no apprehended bias.

Cr Bruce Meyer stated Cr Tim Meyer doesn't believe there's a conflict but there may be a perceived bias.

Cr Bruce Meyer asked CEO David Bezuidenhout whether Cr Tim Meyer should abstain from voting or if he should leave the room, CEO David



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Bezuidenhout stated that if there was any uncertainty he should leave the room.

Cr Tim Meyer left the room at 2:56pm

Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council seek independent legal advice in regards to the Kaniva Community Hub agreement prior to the wavering of any debt held by the Kaniva Leer Football Club.

Lost (2 for/2 against)

Casting Vote of the Mayor, vote Lost (2 for/3 against)

Motion Lapsed

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That Council:

- 1. Notes the progress report on the Edenhope Community Centre.**
- 2. Approves an increase in the project forecast budget of an additional \$198,000 to enable the project to be completed in its entirety and to also meet funding body acquittal requirements**
- 3. That point three of the original motion regarding The Kaniva Community Hub be discussed at length with new information presented. This matter is to be discussed at a later date.**

Lost (2 for/2 against)

Casting Vote of the Mayor, vote Lost (2 for/3 against)

Motion Lapsed

Cr Bruce Meyer stated that he had new evidence to present to Council relating to the Kaniva Community Hub Contract, Cr Bruce Meyer offered to suspend standing orders to peruse the documentation.

Cr's declined the offer to peruse the documentation.



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Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council does not progress with the original motion until we have witnessed the new information being presented.

Lost (2 for/2 against)

Casting Vote of the Mayor, vote Lost (2 for/3 against)

Motion Lapsed

Procedural Motion

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That Council votes on items 1 & 2 of the original motion, item 3 to be voted on separately.

Carried (3 for/1 against)

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That Council:

- 1. Notes the progress report on the Edenhope Community Centre.**
- 2. Approves an increase in the project forecast budget of an additional \$198,000 to enable the project to be completed in its entirety and to also meet funding body acquittal requirements**

Carried (4/0)



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Moved: Cr Tom Houlihan

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That Council:

3. Similar to the Edenhope Community Centre project, Council acknowledges that the Kaniva Community Hub project also have had scoping and cost estimation issues, including variations and accordingly:

- a) Approves that the remaining debt of \$120,000 that was passed on to the Kaniva Leer Football Club by West Wimmera Shire Council, be waived;**
- b) The wavering of the debt will be regarded as full and final settlement between the Kaniva Leer Football Club and West Wimmera Shire Council, and all parties will be excluded from taking any legal action to claim any financial benefit or restitution to do with the project's overrun.**

Carried (2 for/2 against)

Casting Vote of the Mayor, vote Carried (3 for/2 against)

Cr Tim Meyer returned to the room 3:50pm

Cr Bruce Meyer left the room prior to item 13.4 - 3:51pm as Conflict of Interest was declared.

As Deputy Mayor Cr Jodie Pretlove took the chair



13.4 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS PROGRAM 2020-21 ROUND

2

FILE NUMBER: PR0118 – PT2

**REPORT AUTHOR: SARAH ELLIS, MANAGER BUSINESS PERFORMANCE,
AND DEVELOPMENT**

FOR INFORMATION

Introduction

Round two of the 2020-21 West Wimmera Shire Council Community Strengthening Grants Program closed Monday 19 April 2021. Nine applications were received across the three categories.

Declaration of Interests

Two officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 2020*. These interests have been disclosed and have been managed within Councils' Conflict of Interest Policy.

Background

The Community Strengthening Grants program is designed to promote and increase participation of local residents in community initiatives, to build and strengthen local networks and partnerships, and to support community leadership, learning, and skill development.

Through the program, Council provides financial assistance to community groups and organisations to support the provision of programs, activities, and services which respond to identified community needs, contribute to the building of a stronger community, develop innovative approaches and local social issues, and are in accordance with Council's strategic objectives.

Risk Management Implications

Community Strengthening Grants present minimal risk to Council. The policy requires a successful applicant to manage the grant funding themselves. Each application has been assessed against the policy guidelines, ensuring a transparent and equitable process has been followed.

Council could also be subject to compliance risk with recipients not meeting permit requirements, however successful applications will be reviewed by our regulatory team.

Legislative Implications



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Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

A total of \$124,820 is allocated in the 2020-21 budget for Community Strengthening Grants. Approximately \$24,000 is still required to close out outstanding grants. This funding has been divided between the three categories as follows:

- Community Events \$11,100
- Community Projects \$34,102
- Facilities Upgrades and Equipment \$79,618

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:
Council Grants Policy
Support to Community Events Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of 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.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.

Communication Implications

The Community Strengthening Grants program was promoted through advertisements on the Council website, local newspapers, community newsletters, and social media.

In previous rounds, Community Information Sessions have been poorly attended, so these were replaced with one-on-one sessions as requested. Three requests for assistance with the application were received and actioned, and six applicants made contact prior to submitting their application.

Successful applicants will be provided with constructive feedback as appropriate. Unsuccessful applicants can request feedback should they wish.



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Further media will take place following the confirmation of successful applications, as well as media associated with individual applications.

Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been completed.

Conclusion

Round Two of the Community Strengthening Grants Program 2020-21 has been well-subscribed with strong applications and projects submitted for consideration.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council allocates the following funding to applications under Round 2 of the 2020-2021 West Wimmera Shire Council Community Strengthening Grants.

- **Kaniva Lions Club – \$4,627.00**
- **Kaniva Playgroup – \$750.00**
- **Edenhope Motorcycle Club – \$5,000.00**
- **Karnak Country Fire Authority Brigade – \$1,803.00**
- **Kaniva Hockey Club Inc. – \$4,217.00**
- **Kaniva Agricultural and Pastoral Society Inc. – \$4,913.00**
- **Edenhope Tourist Information inc. - \$5,000.00**
- **Goroke Golf Club – \$4,000.00**
- **Harrow Historical Society- \$3,067.00**



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Moved: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council allocates the following funding to applications under Round 2 of the 2020-2021 West Wimmera Shire Council Community Strengthening Grants.

- **Kaniva Lions Club – \$4,627.00**
- **Kaniva Playgroup – \$750.00**
- **Edenhope Motorcycle Club – \$5,000.00**
- **Karnak Country Fire Authority Brigade – \$1,803.00**
- **Kaniva Hockey Club Inc. – \$4,217.00**
- **Kaniva Agricultural and Pastoral Society Inc. – \$4,913.00**
- **Edenhope Tourist Information Inc. - \$5,000.00**
- **Goroke Golf Club – \$4,000.00**
- **Harrow Historical Society- \$3,067.00**

Carried (4/0)

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
13.4.1	West Wimmera Shire Community Strengthening Grant applications 2020-21- Round 2 Summary	PR0118-PT2

Cr Bruce Meyer re-entered the room at 3:58pm and resumed the chair



14.0 LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules – Division 3 Section 20:

20. Urgent Business

If the agenda for a Council meeting makes provision for urgent business, business cannot be admitted as urgent business other than by resolution of Council, and only then if it:

20.1 relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and

20.2 cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.

None Received.

15.0 SEALING SCHEDULE

15.1 SUPPLY OF QUARRY AND ROADMAKING MATERIAL No. CMO527, COOK

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council sign and seal the Supply of Quarry and Roadmaking Material Contract CMO527 between West Wimmera Shire Council and AS & MK Cook

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

That Council sign and seal the Supply of Quarry and Roadmaking Material Contract CMO527 between West Wimmera Shire Council and AS & MK Cook

Carried (5/0)



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**15.2 SUPPLY OF QUARRY AND ROADMAKING MATERIAL No. CMO527,
JOHN R BADE**

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

**That Council sign and seal the Supply of Quarry and Roadmaking Material
Contract CMO527 between West Wimmera Shire Council and John R Bade**

Moved: Cr Tim Meyer

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

**That Council sign and seal the Supply of Quarry and Roadmaking Material
Contract CMO527 between West Wimmera Shire Council and John R Bade**

Carried (5/0)

MEETING CONCLUDED: 4:00PM

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021
EDENHOPE COUNCIL CHAMBER**