



West Wimmera Shire Council

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 15 November 2023
2:00 pm

Council Chambers
Kaniva Council Office
25 Baker Street, Kaniva Victoria
3419



Councillors and Shire Map



MAYOR
Cr. Tim Meyer



**DEPUTY
MAYOR**
**Cr. Tom
Houlihan**



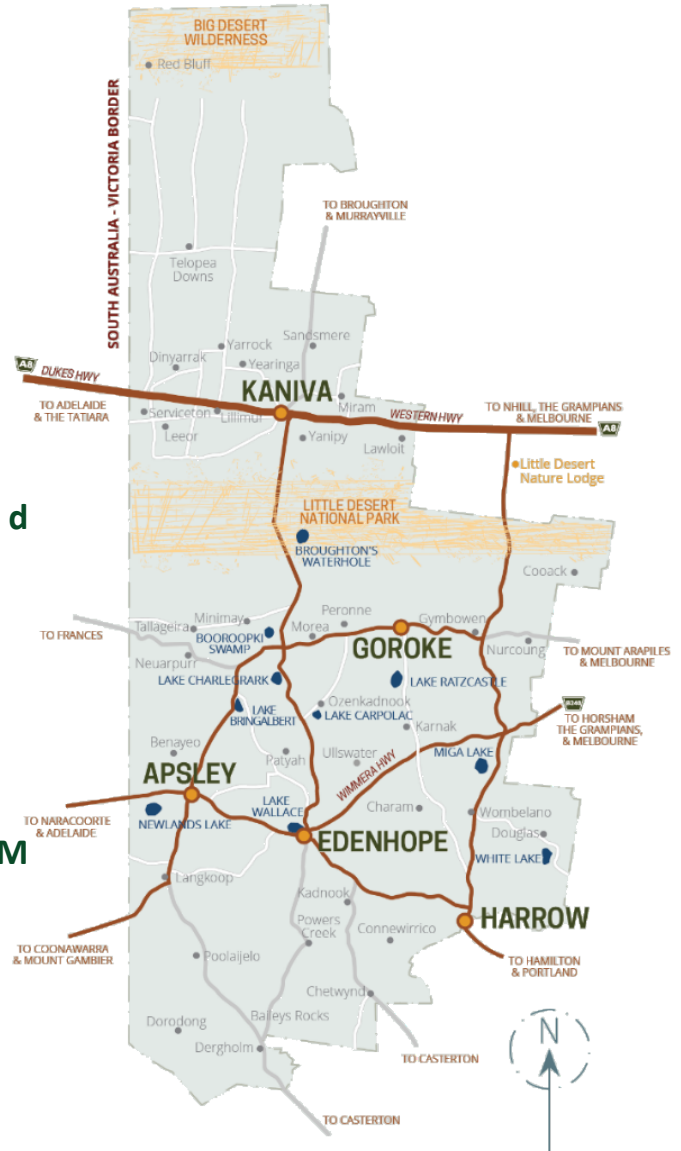
**Cr. Richard
Hicks**



**Cr. Bruce
Meyer OAM**



**Cr. Jodie
Pretlove**





COUNCIL VISION

Our West Wimmera community is healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous, and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity.

OUR VALUES

INNOVATIVE – We will proactively respond to change, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything that we do.

ACCOUNTABLE – We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency, achievement of goals and advocating for our community

UNITED – We will do everything within our ability to encourage and form trusting relationships, to work together as one team to achieve our goals and advocate for ‘One West Wimmera’.

COLLABORATIVE – We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community’s benefit.

OUR GOALS





Purpose of Council meetings

- (1) Council holds scheduled meetings and, when required, unscheduled meetings to conduct the business of Council.
- (2) Council is committed to transparency in decision making and, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, Council and Delegated Committee meetings are open to the public and the community are able to attend.
- (3) Meetings will only be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 66 of the Act, if:
 - (a) there are clear reasons for particular matters to remain confidential; or
 - (b) a meeting is required to be closed for security reasons; or
 - (c) it is necessary to enable the meeting to proceed in an ordinary manner.
- (4) A meeting closed to the public for the reasons outlined in sub-rule 3(b) or 3(c) will continue to be livestreamed. In the event a livestream is not available:
 - (a) the meeting may be adjourned; or
 - (b) a recording of the proceedings may be available on the Council website

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 5 Questions from the Gallery.

This Council meeting will be recorded for live streaming.

Councillors pledge

As Councillors of West Wimmera Shire Council, we solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that we will consider each item on this agenda in the best interests of the whole municipal community.



In Attendance:

Councillors:

Tim Meyer, Mayor
Tom Houlihan, Deputy Mayor
Richard Hicks
Bruce Meyer OAM
Jodie Pretlove

Executive Leadership Team:

David Bezuidenhout - Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
James Bentley - Director Corporate & Community Services (DCCS)
Ram Upadhyaya - Director Infrastructure Development & Works (DIDW)

Officers:

Kaddie Cother - Governance Coordinator
Philippa Hicks - Executive Assistant to the CEO
Abbas Mehr - Chief Financial Officer
John Hutchins - Community Development & Tourism Manager



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1 Welcome

2 Acknowledgement of Country

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.

3 Opening Prayer

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.

4 Apologies, Leave of Absences, Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4.1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council approves Cr Jodie Pretlove's request to attend online.

CARRIED (4 / 0)

4.2 Leave of Absence

4.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Cr Richard Hicks declared a conflict of interest in item 14.3 - Community Strengthening Grants - Applications Round 2 2023, stating that he has a conflict with items relating to the Bill's Gully Welfare Group and the Kaniva Group CFA.

Cr Bruce Meyer declared a conflict of interest in item 14.3 - Community Strengthening Grants - Applications Round 2 2023, stating that he has a conflict with items relating to the Kaniva Cricket Club and the Kaniva Group CFA.



Cr Tim Meyer declared a conflict of interest in item 14.3 - Community Strengthening Grants - Applications Round 2 2023, stating that he has a conflict with items relating to the Kaniva Group CFA.



5 Questions from the Gallery

5.1 Written Questions on Notice



5.1.1 Katherine Shurvell - Kaniva Shire Hall Elevator

Name: Katherine Shurvell

From: Kaniva, Vic.

Question:

Has Council considered if the addition of an elevator to the Kaniva Shire Hall is the best use of resources when there are numerous other needed repairs to the building, the heritage overlay on site, and the availability of other locations for Council Meetings is considered?

Answer:

Response:

***CEO David Bezuidenhout** - Council follows best practice project management principles and procedures with all projects. Any project idea submitted in Councils Innovation platform will follow the same project lifecycle process. Once officers have completed scoping and cost estimation in the concept phase, the information will be presented to Council. Council will then be in a position to make an informed decision whether it is prudent and efficient to continue with the project or not (taking matters such as costing, benefits and priorities into consideration).*



5.2 Verbal Questions without Notice

Moved: Cr Tom Houlihan

Seconded: Cr Richard Hicks

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Katherine Shurvell - What actions has Council taken or going to consider to mitigate the affects of Climate Change?

Cr Tim Meyer - question to be taken on notice, it is part of our Council Plan but we will need to get back to Katherine with a detailed response.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council resume Standing Orders.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)



6 Delegates Reports

Delegate Reports are for providing feedback on formal council business and are for information only

6.1 Councillor Tim Meyer (Mayor)

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 19/10/2023 | WWSC Senior Citizen Award Ceremony |
| 24/10/2023 | Wimmera Souther Mallee Development Meeting |
| 25/10/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting (Annual Stat Meeting) |
| 27/10/2023 | Western Highway Action Committee Meeting |
| 31/10/2023 | Meeting to adopt the Annual Report 2022/23 |
| 01/11/2023 | Annual Statutory Meeting |
| 01/11/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 15/11/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting |
| 15/11/2023 | Council Meeting |

6.2 Councillor Tom Houlihan (Deputy Mayor)

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 25/10/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting (Annual Stat Meeting) |
| 31/10/2023 | Meeting to adopt the Annual Report 2022/23 |
| 01/11/2023 | Annual Statutory Meeting |
| 01/11/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 15/11/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting |
| 15/11/2023 | Council Meeting |
| | |
| | |

6.3 Councillor Richard Hicks

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 25/10/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting (Annual Stat Meeting) |
| 31/10/2023 | Meeting to adopt the Annual Report 2022/23 |
| 01/11/2023 | Annual Statutory Meeting |
| 01/11/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 03/11/2023 | RFA November Meeting |
| 15/11/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting |
| 15/11/2023 | Council Meeting |



6.4 Councillor Bruce Meyer OAM

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 25/10/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting (Annual Stat Meeting) |
| 31/10/2023 | Meeting to adopt the Annual Report 2022/23 |
| 01/11/2023 | Annual Statutory Meeting |
| 01/11/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 15/11/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting |
| 15/11/2023 | Council Meeting |

6.5 Councillor Jodie Pretlove

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| 25/10/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting (Annual Stat Meeting) |
| 31/10/2023 | Wimmera Mallee Tourism Meeting |
| 31/10/2023 | Meeting to adopt the Annual Report 2022/23 |
| 01/11/2023 | Annual Statutory Meeting |
| 01/11/2023 | Councillor Forum |
| 15/11/2023 | Pre-Council Meeting |
| 15/11/2023 | Council Meeting |

7 Condolences

Nil



8 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

8.1 Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th October 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th October 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th October 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

Nil

8.2 Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 31st October 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 31st October 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 31st October 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

Nil



8.3 Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday, 1st November 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday, 1st November 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That the Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday, 1st November 2023 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

Nil



9 Business Arising From Previous Minutes

10 Notices of Motion

10.1 NOM 2023 02 Kaniva Council Chambers

Notice of Motion Number: 2023/02

MOTION:

That West Wimmera Council commence preparations for the relocating and convening all Council Meeting in Kaniva back into the original upstairs Council Chambers within the Kaniva Shire Hall, including urgently identifying and sourcing funds for the purchase and installation of a suitable elevator.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That West Wimmera Council commence preparations for the relocating and convening all Council Meeting in Kaniva back into the original upstairs Council Chambers within the Kaniva Shire Hall, including urgently identifying and sourcing funds for the purchase and installation of a suitable elevator.

Cr Bruce Meyer moved an amendment

Moved: Cr Bruce Meyer

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That the West Wimmera Shire Council cost the proposal to relocate the current Council Chambers to the old chambers within the Shire Hall, and bring a report back to a future meeting by March 2024 that will include any potential grants.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

The amendment became the motion



Moved: Cr Bruce Meyer

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That the West Wimmera Shire Council cost the proposal to relocate the current Council Chambers to the old chambers within the Shire Hall, and bring a report back to a future meeting by March 2024 that will include any potential grants.

CARRIED (4 / 1)

Cr Richard Hicks called for a division:

FOR:

Cr Jodie Pretlove, Cr Richard Hicks, Cr Tom Houlihan and Cr Bruce Meyer

AGAINST:

Cr Tim Meyer

EXPLANATION

Relocating the Council Chambers in Kaniva will return Council Meetings to their original historical (and recently renovated) venue and will free up the existing Conference Room within the current Kaniva Officer for exclusive and secure use by Shire staff. Installation of an elevator will ensure these Council Chambers have 'all access' for Councillors, Council Staff and the general public. The current Council table, chairs, other furniture and photographs should be similarly relocated.

Attachments

Nil



10.2 NOM 2023 03 Telstra Towers

Notice of Motion Number: 2023/03

MOTION:

That West Wimmera Council urgently prioritise and actively lobby Telstra, and State and Federal representatives and agencies for the crucial construction and commissioning of mobile telecommunications towers at/near Lemon Springs and Patyah.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That West Wimmera Council urgently prioritise and actively lobby Telstra, and State and Federal representatives and agencies for the crucial construction and commissioning of mobile telecommunications towers at/near Lemon Springs and Patyah/Ozenkadnook.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

EXPLANATION

In recent years, the Kaniva-Edenhope Road has seen dramatic increase in vehicular traffic. Currently, mobile network coverages are only reliably available from the Kaniva, Minimay and Edenhope telecommunications towers, resulting in long distances in between with zero or sporadic reception. These 'black spots' constitute a major OH&S and stressful dilemma for all road users, including private and business travelers, government agencies who are regular road users, and for traffic during any emergency crisis. Construction and commissioning of mobile telecommunications towers at/near Lemon Springs and Patyah would provide near-continuous telecommunication services between Kaniva and Edenhope.

Attachments

Nil



11 Councillor Forum Record

11.1 Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 1st November 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Record for the Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 1st November 2023 be received and noted.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That the Record for the Councillor Forum Record Wednesday, 1st November 2023 be received and noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

12 Deputations and Petitions

There were no Petitions or Deputations submitted for the agenda.



13 Chief Executive Officer

13.1 December Council Meeting

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Governance Coordinator

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Councillors and Council Officers have identified the potential impact of holding the December Council Meeting on the 20th of December 2023 and would like to re-schedule the meeting to be held the week before on the 13th.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Councillors and Council Officers have identified the potential issues of the December Council Meeting being held on its scheduled date of the 20th of December at 2:00pm. Council staff may already be on leave being so close to Christmas and may not have the capacity to complete Council reports in the allowed timeframes. This will also impact minute processing and resolutions from the Council Meeting, in that there may be potential delays into the new year.

Councillors and Council Officers are proposing that the December Council Meeting be brought forward by a week, to be held on Wednesday, 13th of December 2023 at 2:00pm at the Edenhope Council Chamber.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified: There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications



Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Low

Policy Implications

Not applicable

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 4 – Good Governance

4.4 Develop a high performing accountable organisation.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council reschedule the December Council Meeting from Wednesday 20th December 2023 to Wednesday, 13th December 2023 at 2:00pm at the Edenhope Council Chambers.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council reschedule the December Councillor Forum from Wednesday 6th December to Thursday 30th November at 9am at the Kaniva Council Chamber.

That Council reschedule the Council Meeting from Wednesday 20th December 2023 to Wednesday, 13th December 2023 at 2:00pm at the Edenhope Council Chambers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)



13.2 Quarterly Finance Report

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Chief Financial Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

The first quarter financial summary and related reports are being presented here to the Council for consideration. The financial reports are unaudited and are being presented for information only. The financial progress during first quarter is very much aligned to our budget.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The Council adopted the budget for FY 2023-24 and as part of the quarterly management reports, the first quarter financial results have been summarised and presented to the Council. The report provides an executive summary with the financial results at the end of first quarter with detailed analysis into its comparison with our annual budget and further details into composition of the build up of these amounts.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

Financial risk

Information risk

Legislative Implications

The report complies with the requirements of the:
Local Government Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications



Nil

Policy Implications

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

Not applicable

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 4 – Good Governance

4.1 Ensure long term financial sustainability.

4.4 Develop a high performing accountable organisation.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

Accountability - We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency and advocating for our community.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

The Council's financial results for first quarter are indicative of our well-tracked progress in line with the budget and it is projected that the Council will be on target in achieving its financial objectives and budgeted milestones.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council;

1. Adopts the quarterly financial report for Q1 FY 2023-24 and quarterly Annual Plan Update for Q1 FY 2023-24.
2. Authorise the adopted reports to be tabled at the Audit & Risk Committee meeting on 12 December 2023.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council;

1. Adopts the quarterly financial report for Q1 FY 2023-24 and quarterly Annual Plan Update for Q1 FY 2023-24.
2. Authorise the adopted reports to be tabled at the Audit & Risk Committee meeting on 12 December 2023.

CARRIED (4 / 0)

Attachments

1. WWSC Quarterly Report Q 1 [13.2.1 - 18 pages]
2. WWSC Annual Plan Quarterly Update 2023 24 Q 1 Oct 2023 [13.2.2 - 9 pages]



14 Corporate and Community Services

14.1 Support to Community Events Policy

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council is committed to supporting local communities, including community run events. The Support to Community Events Policy provides information to the community about the ambit of Council's role with respect to the facilitation of those events.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The Support to Community Events Policy is designed to:

- Standardise internal processes to support the West Wimmera community in community events
- Provide clear communication to the community about expectations regarding community run events
- Provide a single point of contact within the Council for community groups for event coordination

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate regarding the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Nil



Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

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

Support to Community Events Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.1 Create a healthy, active, and vibrant community.

1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

This Policy is substantively unchanged from the one that it replaces. Minor corrections have been made (please see yellow highlighted text in the attachment) relating to officer responsibility and grammatical errors. The Policy now incorporates the Overarching Governance Principles which must now be included in all council policies in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the revised Support to Community Events Policy.

Moved: Cr Bruce Meyer

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council adopts the revised Support to Community Events Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

1. Support for Community Event - final for Council 1112023 [14.1.1 - 5 pages]



14.2 Tourism Policy

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council in partnership with various stakeholders collectively work together to promote sustainable tourism across the Wimmera and Mallee Regions. Council's Tourism Policy is the principal expression of Council's determination to engage with all stakeholders to foster increased tourism and its related economic benefits across the entire West Wimmera local government area.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The Tourism Policy reflects the aims of West Wimmera Shire Council and is based on recognition that a coordinated approach to sustainable tourism will result in providing socio-economic benefits for our communities whilst protecting the environment and natural resources.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil



Policy Implications

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

Tourism Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.

1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

This Policy has had a number of minor changes from the one that it replaces. Minor corrections have been made relating to officer responsibility and grammatical errors. The Policy now incorporates the Overarching Governance Principles which must now be included in all council policies in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

The policy has been adjusted to reflect the change of visitor economies from micro-regional to macro-regional and the important role West Wimmera Shire Council plays in the local visitor economy within the Shire and Grampians area.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the revised Tourism Policy.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That Council adopts the revised Tourism Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)



Attachments

1. Tourism- Policy. DRAFT for Council Consideration.2 [**14.2.1** - 4 pages]



14.3 Community Strengthening Grants - Applications Round 2 2023

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

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

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Council will provide 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 accord with Council's strategic objectives.

1. Community Projects Funding: maximum of \$5,000 on a \$2 for \$1 basis
2. Community Events Funding: maximum of \$1,200
3. Facilities Upgrades and Equipment Purchases Funding: maximum of \$5,000 on a \$2 for \$1 basis

Seven applications have been received from the following community groups, all of which have been assessed by officers as eligible for funding:

1. Harrow Men's Shed auspiced by the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre
2. Kaniva Cricket Club
3. Minimay Memorial & Recreational Hall Inc
4. Edenhope Motorcycle Club
5. Bill's Gully Welfare Group
6. The Goroke Swimming Pool Inc
7. Kaniva Group CFA

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:



There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate regarding the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

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

Council Grants Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

- 1.1 Create a healthy, active, and vibrant community.
- 1.4 Deliver quality services that support community life.
- 1.5 Support and encourage our events, cultural and arts communities.
- 1.7 Improve the liveability of the shire to assist in growing our population into the future.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

Council has received seven applications for funding, which have been assessed by officers in accordance with Council's Grants Policy and Community Strengthening Grant Guidelines. Each application has been assessed as compliant with the relevant grant criteria and accordingly officers advise that each application is eligible for funding.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:



That Council

1. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Harrow Men's Shed the amount of \$2,688.09 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
2. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Kaniva Cricket Club the amount of \$4,000 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
3. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Minimay Memorial & Recreational Hall Inc the amount of \$1,901.21 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
4. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Edenhope Motorcycle Club the amount of \$5,000 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
5. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Bill's Gully Welfare Group the amount of \$3,566.98 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
6. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Goroke Swimming Pool Inc the amount of \$3,500 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
7. Resolves/does not resolve to grant Kaniva Group CFA the amount of \$2,064 as a Community Strengthening Grant.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council

1. Resolves to grant Harrow Men's Shed the amount of \$2,688.09 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
2. Resolves to grant Minimay Memorial & Recreational Hall Inc the amount of \$1,901.21 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
3. Resolves to grant Edenhope Motorcycle Club the amount of \$5,000 as a Community Strengthening Grant.
4. Resolves to grant Goroke Swimming Pool Inc the amount of \$3,500 as a Community Strengthening Grant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)



Cr Bruce Meyer left the meeting at 3:04 pm.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council

- 1. Resolves to grant Kaniva Cricket Club the amount of \$4,000 as a Community Strengthening Grant.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 / 0)

Cr Bruce Meyer returned to the meeting at 3:05 pm.

Cr Richard Hicks left the meeting at 3:05 pm.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council

- 1. Resolves to grant Bill's Gully Welfare Group the amount of \$3,566.98 as a Community Strengthening Grant.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 / 0)

Cr Richard Hicks returned to the meeting at 3:06 pm.



Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council:

1. determines that the matter cannot be dealt with in an alternative manner for the purposes of s 67(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (LGA)*;
2. establishes a delegated committee under s 63 of the LGA to determine the matter;
3. appoints the following members of the delegated committee –
 1. Cr Tom Houlihan – Chair
 2. Cr Jodie Pretlove
 3. Officer Rachael Hogget
4. delegates to the delegated committee the power to determine the grant application.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

The Council Meeting is adjourned and the Delegated Committee Meeting under s 63 commenced.

Cr Tim Meyer left the meeting at 3:08 pm.

Cr Richard Hicks left the meeting at 3:08 pm.

Cr Bruce Meyer left the meeting at 3:08 pm.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Officer Rachael Hogget

That Council

1. Resolves to grant Kaniva Group CFA the amount of \$2,064 as a Community Strengthening Grant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (3 / 0)

Cr Tim Meyer returned to the meeting at 3:10 pm.

Cr Richard Hicks returned to the meeting at 3:10 pm.

Cr Bruce Meyer returned to the meeting at 3:10 pm.

The Delegated Committee Meeting was adjourned at 3:11pm



Attachments

1. updated R 2 2023 CSG report [**14.3.1** - 2 pages]



14.4 WWSC Tourism Advisory Committee

Directorate: Corporate and Community Services

Report Author: Community Development and Tourism Manager

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

The West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee was formed in 2021 as an advisory committee of Council. It was intended to act as an advisory forum to Council, bringing together interested stakeholders as a means by which the Shire-wide development of tourism opportunities and their related economic benefits could be fostered and encouraged for the benefit of the entire West Wimmera Community.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee (WWTAC) is a delegated committee of West Wimmera Shire Council established under Section 63 of *the Local Government Act 2020*.

According to Committee's Terms of Reference, its key purposes are to:

- Provide advice on tourism-related issues
- Assist the long-term development of tourism in the Shire, and
- Assist in the development of the tourism strategy

WWTAC membership originally consisted of two Councillors, one Council officer, and community members who were appointed by expression of interest. Councillors and the Council officer have no voting rights. In September 2022, Councillor representation was reduced to a single Councillor.

At Council's Statutory meeting held on 2 November 2022, Cr Pretlove was endorsed as the Councillor representative and the Committee Chairperson, and the Committee's existing 19 community members were re-appointed.

In the twelve months since November 2022, three Committee meetings have been convened as follows. None of these meetings has achieved the required quorum of eight voting members:



- 22 November 2022 – Main agenda item – Tourism Strategy Consultant meeting
Attendance: Cr Pretlove, three Council officers, the Consultant and five community members
- 1 June 2023 – Main agenda item – Tourism Strategy draft review meeting and Tourism Project update
Attendance: Cr Tim Meyer, three Council officers and four community members
- 26 July 2023 – Main agenda item – Purpose of Committee and Tourism Projects update
Attendance: Cr Tim Meyer, three Council officers, four community members and one visitor

It is also relevant that under the Committee's terms of reference, committee members (including community members) are required to attend a minimum of three meetings per annum. Most community members have not attended a single meeting this year and some community members have not attended a meeting over the last two years. These absences explain the Committee's ongoing failure to achieve a quorum at its meetings and, it is submitted, should inform any assessment of the Committee's ongoing viability.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate regarding the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

Not Applicable

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

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

Not applicable



Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

Accountability - We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency and advocating for our community.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

The West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee has not had a validly-constituted meeting over the last twelve months due to its chronic and ongoing failure to achieve a quorum of members at any scheduled meeting. It is for Council to determine whether the Committee continues to exist, or alternatively, if a more dynamic and targeted approach to tourism engagement should occur in the future.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to continue/not to continue with the West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council resolves to continue discussions with the West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee to determine its longevity and future focus.

LOST (2 / 3)

Cr Richard Hicks called for a division

FOR:

Cr Jodie Pretlove and Cr Richard Hicks

AGAINST:

Cr Tim Meyer, Cr Tom Houlihan and Cr Bruce Meyer



Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council resolves not to continue support with the West Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

Nil



15 Infrastructure Development and Works

15.1 Harrow Recreation Reserve AFL Lighting Project

Directorate: Infrastructure Development & Works

Report Author: Project Office Coordinator

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

The 2023-24 Local Sports Infrastructure Funding (LSIF) has opened, and council officers are working towards submitting one project from our football and netball precincts for application. The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the proposed application for the upgrade of Harrow Recreation Reserve Lighting and gain council commitment for the matching fund.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

Under this funding stream of the program, applicants may submit a sports lighting project and funding requested must not exceed \$250,000. Applications close on the 13 December 2023. This is a 3 (LSIF) :1 (applicant) funding ratio round.

Harrow Recreation Reserve's lighting currently does not comply with the requirements for training and games. The existing lighting in the oval needs to be upgraded to meet the requirement for safe play. A four-pole layout would be ideal and is allowed for with this submission.

The project would involve running a new electrical circuit from the main switchboard at the site (upgrading where necessary) to four new poles that have been designed based on the specific heights required by each oval determined by a formula of $0.36 \times \text{distance to centre of the oval}$.

The attached audit report provides details on the specifics of the current lighting and electrical conditions.

As a part of the preparation for this funding round, council officers have contacted representatives for the Harrow Recreation Reserve Committee, who have confirmed their strong support of this project and the contribution required.

The contribution amount below is based on the council applying for the maximum allotted funding for this program. Should a lower amount be applied for (for example if light towers



are viable for reuse), the council required contribution would also come down to the percentage shown.

| Recreation Reserve | Project | Council Required Contribution | Community Contribution Confirmation of the required minimum of 15% of the total project cost |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Harrow | AFL Lighting Upgrade | Up to \$33,334. 10% | Yes |

The final project costing development will be completed before the submission of the application. The council and the community contribution will vary depending on the final project costing with the Council contribution no higher than \$33,334.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified: There are no obvious risks for the Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

The project does pose a potential financial risk to the club given the amount of contribution required for this project. Mitigation of this was by confirming with the club that this contribution would not leave them with nothing in reserve.

Lighting Specific Risks: Some of these existing towers may be perceived as reuseable or in 'good' condition. Unfortunately given the funding we are aiming to apply for, there is a strong preference for the installation of all new infrastructure. Where reusing these towers may be a promising idea, the perceived risk from the funding bodies point of view is too great as the infrastructure being installed is aimed at being around for decades to come with minimal maintenance required. We have also had this discussion with an engineer and without a full check over and computations (which the funding body would choose a project without this risk to award funding to) it is exceedingly difficult to estimate the remaining lifespan of the tower.

Legislative Implications

The report complies with the requirements of the:
Local Government Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Low



Policy Implications

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

Recreation Policy

Community Projects Contributions Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.1 Create a healthy, active, and vibrant community.

1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

Collaboration - We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community's benefit.

Communication Implications

Consultation has already been undertaken in development of the plans

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required

Conclusion

Following the consideration of a number of projects eligible for this funding program, Harrow Recreation Reserve Lighting Upgrade was considered the most suitable and likely to be funded. This was further complemented by confirmation of matching funding (15% of the total project cost) by the Harrow Recreation Reserve Committee. The upgrade of lighting to the current standard for safe play would provide significant benefits to the community.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- **Endorse the funding application for the Harrow Recreation Reserve Oval lighting upgrade under the 2023-24 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund.**
- **Authorise a Council contribution of up to \$33,334 and underwrites a community co-contribution.**



Moved: Cr Bruce Meyer

Seconded: Cr Tom Houlihan

That Council:

- Endorse the funding application for the Harrow Recreation Reserve Oval lighting upgrade under the 2023-24 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund.
- Authorise a Council contribution of up to \$33,334 and underwrites a community co-contribution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

1. Harrow Oval [**15.1.1** - 3 pages]



15.2 Kaniva Recreation Reserve Precinct Planning

Directorate: Infrastructure Development and Works

Report Author: Project Officer

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

The 2023/24 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSIF) has opened, and council officers are working towards submitting the Kaniva Recreation Reserve Precinct Planning under the planning stream of this fund. The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the proposed application and gain council commitment for the matching fund.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

The Local Sports Infrastructure Fund is a highly competitive funding round run by Sport and Recreation Victoria. The fund offers a 'Planning' stream to support projects in becoming shovel ready. Individual municipalities may submit an application for up to \$40,000 from this stream. Applications close on the 13 December 2023. This is a 3 (LSIF) :1 (applicant) funding ratio round.

As the Sport and Recreation Strategy is currently underway and the Kaniva Recreation Reserve Masterplan Review is set to occur in the coming months, council officers believe the Kaniva Recreation Reserve would be the best application to put forward. This Precinct Planning funding would assist with getting projects identified by the strategy and master plan to a shovel ready status. This work includes designs, quantity surveying and technical or specialist reports, and will encompass areas in need including Cricket, Hockey and Netball facilities as highlighted through various consultation in the past.

The results of this funding would be early to mid-2024, by which time the previously mentioned strategy and review will be in a defined position for facility planning to commence alongside.

| Project | Project Value | Council Required Contribution | Other Contributions |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Kaniva Recreation Reserve Precinct Planning | Up to \$53,334 | Up to \$13,334. | Email to Cricket Victoria pending however not confirmed. |



Risk Management Implications

Risk identified: There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.

Legislative Implications

The report complies with the requirements of the:
Local Government Act 2020

Environmental Implications

Not applicable

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The financial risk rating has been assessed as: Low

Policy Implications

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

Recreation Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

- 1.1 Create a healthy, active, and vibrant community.
- 1.3 Provide well planned and sustainable community infrastructure.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

Collaboration - We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community's benefit.

Communication Implications

Consultation has already been undertaken in development of the plans

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required



Conclusion

In conclusion, this project is incredibly important for its community and would strongly assist with the future development of the Recreation Reserve. As this project aligns strongly with the council plan and facilitates community need, council officers recommend endorsement of this project.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Kaniva Recreation Reserve Precinct Planning application for 2023-2024 Local Sports Infrastructure Funding.
2. Authorise a Council contribution of up to \$13,334 and underwrites any co-contribution.

Moved: Cr Tom Houlihan

Seconded: Cr Jodie Pretlove

That Council:

1. Endorse the Kaniva Recreation Reserve Precinct Planning application for 2023-2024 Local Sports Infrastructure Funding.
2. Authorise a Council contribution of up to \$13,334 and underwrites any co-contribution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

Nil



16 Sealing Schedule

Nil.

17 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.*

Moved: Cr Richard Hicks

Seconded: Cr Bruce Meyer

That Council considers the following late items of business:

17.1 – Goroke Recreation Reserve – Designation of Neighbourhood Safer Place

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)



17.1 Goroke Recreation Reserve - Designation of Neighbourhood Safer Place

Directorate: Infrastructure Development & Works

Report Author: Director Infrastructure Development & Works

Report Purpose: For Decision

Introduction

Neighbourhood Safer Place (also known as Bushfire Place of Last Resort or NSP-BPLR) is a place of last resort when all other bushfire plans have failed. The intention of this report is to seek a resolution from the Council for the designation of Goroke Recreation Reserve as a Neighbourhood Safer Place.

Declaration of Interest

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

Background

West Wimmera Shire currently has three designated NSP-BPLRs in Edenhope, Apsley and Dergholm. Following the recommendation from the Municipal Fire Management Sub Committee (MFMPSC), CFA undertook the assessment of Goroke Recreation Reserve against the suitability criteria for NSP-BPLR designation. The MFMPSC adopted this recommendation at a meeting held on 13 March 2023.

As a part of the designation, CFA requires a grassland management agreement from the land manager. Goroke Recreation Reserve has provided the agreement to manage the grass as per the requirement of NSP-BPLR.

The designation of NSP-BPLR is finalised following the resolution from the Council on the designation. This requirement was made available to officers on Friday 10 November 2023 following the release of the council meeting agenda. The designation finalisation was important as the fire danger period for the 23/24 season was commencing on 13 November 2023. Hence, the resolution was sought via a late r report to the November Council Meeting.

Risk Management Implications

Risk identified:

There are no obvious risks for Council to mitigate or eliminate in regard to the proposal considered for funding support in this report.



Legislative Implications

The report complies with the requirements of the:
Local Government Act 2020
Emergency Management Act

Environmental Implications

Nil

Financial and Budgetary Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

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

Not applicable
Municipal Emergency Management Plan
Municipal Fire Management Plan

Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

Goal 1 – Liveable & Healthy Community

1.2 Support a safe and inclusive community.
1.6 Support a prepared and resilient community.

Goal 5 – Our Commitment Values

Accountability - We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency and advocating for our community.

Communication Implications

No Communication Implications

Gender Equality

No Gender Impact Assessment is required



Conclusion

The designation of NSP-BPLR in Goroke will provide a significant benefit to the community and will potentially provide some safety to community members during bushfire emergencies. Goroke Recreation Reserve has been assessed to meet all the requirements of NSP-BPLR.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council

- Approves the designation of Goroke Recreation Reserve as Neighbourhood Safer Place – Bushfire Place of Last Resort
- Authorise the CEO to take necessary steps to finalise the designation.

Moved: Cr Jodie Pretlove

Seconded: Cr Richard Hicks

That Council

- Approves the designation of Goroke Recreation Reserve as Neighbourhood Safer Place – Bushfire Place of Last Resort
- Authorise the CEO to take necessary steps to finalise the designation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)

Attachments

1. 04 - 13 November 2023 - Circular [**17.1.1** - 1 page]
2. GRR confirmation letter NSP PLR [**17.1.2** - 1 page]



18 Confidential Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

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

- 18.1 Business Streetscape Grant Application
- 18.2 Kaniva Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve – Amplitel Pty Ltd (Telstra Tower)
- 18.3 CMO544 Waste Collection Services

Reasons for confidentiality:

Local Government Act 2020, Section 3 - Private commercial information

Local Government Act 2020, Section 3 - Council business Information

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 3:48 pm to resolve on matters pertaining to the following items:

- 18.1 Business Streetscape Grant Application
- 18.2 Kaniva Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve – Amplitel Pty Ltd (Telstra Tower)
- 18.3 CMO544 Waste Collection Services

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 / 0)



19 Close of Meeting

Meeting closed:

The Council Meeting 15th November 2023 was declared closed at 4:21 pm

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 13th December 2023

Edenhope Council Chamber

Mayor's Signature
