

SHIRE OF
WESTONIA
A vibrant community lifestyle

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers, Wolfram Street Westonia

Thursday 31st October 2024

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

These minutes were confirmed by the Council on 21st November 2024 as a true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 31st October 2024.

.....
Cr RM Crees
Shire President

All attachment items referred to in these minutes are available for public perusal at the Shire Office



Disclaimer

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Westonia for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council meetings.

The Shire of Westonia disclaims and liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused by arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during the Council Meetings.

Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or committee meeting does that persons or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the board disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, any statement or intimation made by any member or Officer of the Shire of Westonia during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Westonia.

The Shire of Westonia warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Westonia must obtain and should only rely on **WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Westonia in respect of the application.



SHIRE OF WESTONIA
A vibrant community lifestyle

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY

SNAPSHOT

PLAN

2018-2028

CORE DRIVERS

1. Relationships that bring us tangible benefits (to the Shire and our community)
2. Our lifestyle and strong sense of community.
3. We are prepared for opportunities and we are innovative to ensure our relevancy and destiny.

OUR VALUES

Respect – We value people and places and the contribution they make to the Shire.

Inclusiveness – Be receptive, proactive, and responsive.

Fairness and Equity – Provide services for a variety of ages and needs.

Communication – Create opportunities for consultation with the broad community.

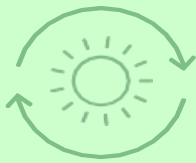
OUR VISION

A vibrant community lifestyle

MISSION

Provide leadership and direction for the community.

ECONOMIC



Support growth and progress, locally and regionally...

Efficient transport connectivity in and around our Shire.

- Continue to utilise our Road Management Plan, which incorporates a road hierarchy, minimum service levels and maintenance policy.
- RAV Ratings and Shire boundaries are consistent across local government boundaries.
- Lobby and build enduring partnerships with key Government Departments to improve Great Eastern Hwy.
- Actively participate in the Secondary Freight Network group.
- Develop and implement a Road Asset Plan highlighting key funder and strategic partnerships to support sustainability.
- Develop a Gravel Reserve Policy which identifies future gravel reserves and recognises cost to local government.
- Educate road users about road safety and driving on gravel roads.
- Optimal and safe use of our plants and equipment assets.
- Ensure that appropriate RAV vehicles traverse correct RAV routes.
- Maintain our airport with a view to improvements to meet commercial and recreational aviation needs.

Facilitate local business retention and growth.

- Council recognises the opportunity of partnering with Westonia Progress Association, works closely and supports them to help achieve their economic development projects and our strategic goals.
- Council continue to have a role in facilitating the presence of a Co-op in our community.
- Enhance local economic activity by supporting the growth of tourism in our Shire and region including applying for funding to improve tourist facilities.
- Improve our online tourism presence.
- We forward plan to improve the economic diversity in our community.
- In partnership with Council, the mine develops long term business plans for current mine assets.
- Investigate options for multipurpose accommodation if vacancies arise in mine accommodation.

SOCIAL



Provide community facilities and promote social Interaction...

Plan for community growth and changing demographics.

- Develop the Town Planning Scheme.
- Plan and develop residential and industrial land.
- Community safety and ease of access around town is a priority.
- Our lifestyle, facilities and sense of community is promoted.
- The CEACA project continues to expand the number of universally designed dwellings in our town.
- We support our emergency services.
- We enable visiting health professionals to our community.
- The Community Resource Centre receives external funding to provide preventative health and community development initiatives to the community.
- We facilitate healthy and active ageing in place
- Our cemetery is well presented.

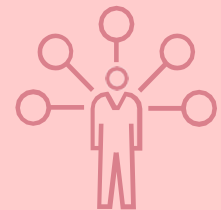
Our community has the opportunity to be active, socialised and connected.

- We collaborate and encourage active engagement in local clubs and community initiatives that support a healthy lifestyle.
- Investigate motor sport opportunities around the Shire.
- Preserve and celebrate our local history.
- Support our volunteers and clubs to remain strong, dynamic, and inclusive.
- Encourage lifelong learning.
- Children and youth have active and social opportunities.
- Continue to provide high standard and accessible shire facilities.
- Retain and expand Westonia's unique tourism experience.

Natural spaces are preserved and bring us value.

- Sustainably manage our reserves and open spaces.
- Participate in best practice waste management.
- Work collaboratively to meet legislative compliance with managing weeds and pests as well as our environmental health standards.
- Investigate renewable energy generation technologies.

GOVERNANCE



Continually enhance the Shire's organisational capacity to service the needs of a growing community...

Be progressive and capture opportunities.

- Be open to local productivity/ best practice and cost saving opportunities locally and regionally.
- Investigate joint resourcing and tendering
- Advocate and develop strong partnerships to benefit our community.
- Be prepared by forward planning our resources and focusing on continuous improvement.
- Identify risks and opportunities after the life of the mine.

The community receives services in a timely manner.

- Meet our legislative and compliance requirements.
- Work towards optimal management of our assets.
- Work to develop Councillor and staff skills and experience to provide career and succession opportunities within the Shire.
- Inside and outside staff are multi skilled to understand the business of local government and provide a seamless service to the community.
- Communicate and engage with our community regularly.

Financial resources meet the ongoing needs of the community.

- Seek external funding for significant capital improvements that deliver upon our strategic objectives.
- Investigate ways to reduce reliance on operational grants given the current State and Federal Government priorities.

Shire of Westonia: -
A vibrant community lifestyle.



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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President, Cr Crees welcomed Councillors and staff and declared the meeting open at 3.35pm.

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillors:

Cr RM Crees	<i>Shire President</i>
Cr RA Della Bosca	<i>Deputy Shire President</i>
Cr DL Geier	
Cr WJ Huxtable	
Cr A Faithfull	
Cr DL Simmonds	

Staff:

Mr.AW Price	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>
Mrs JL Geier	<i>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</i>

Members of the Public:

Nil

Apologies:

Nil

Approved Leave of Absence:

NIL

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (3.35PM – 3.50PM)

NIL

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr DL Simmonds requested a Leave of Absence for the November Meeting

RESOLUTION

Moved:	Cr DellaBosca	Seconded:	Cr Geier
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01/10-24 **That Cr Simmonds be granted a Leave of Absence for the November Ordinary Meeting.**

CARRIED 6/0

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20th August 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr DellaBosca **Seconded:** Cr Faithfull

02/10-24 That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20th August 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record

CARRIED 6/0

6. RECEIVAL OF MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the CEACA committee meeting held on Monday 30th September 2024 be accepted.

That the minutes of the WEROC committee meeting held on Monday 21st October 2024 be accepted.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Huxtable **Seconded:** Cr DellaBosca

03/10-24 That the minutes of the CEACA committee meeting held on Monday 30th September 2024 be accepted.

That the minutes of the WEROC committee meeting held on Monday 21st October 2024 be accepted.

CARRIED 6/0

7. PRESIDENT/COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

President, Cr Crees advised having attended the following meetings:

Local Government Week 8 to 11 October 2024

Great Eastern Country Zone Conference Subcommittee 30 October 2024

Deputy President, Cr Della Bosca advised having attended the following meetings:

Local Government Week 8 to 11 October 2024

CEACA committee meeting held on Monday 30th September 2024

Westonia Bushfire Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 24th September 24

Councillor Geier advised having attended the following meetings:

Local Government Week 8 to 11 October 2024

Westonia Bushfire Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 24th September 24

Councillor Simmonds advised having attended the following meetings:

Warrior Ambassador & Stakeholder event Friday 25th of October 2024

Westonia Bushfire Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24th September and the Westonia Advisory

Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8th October 24

Councillor Faithfull advised having attended the following meetings:

Local Government Week 8 to 11 October 2024

Warrior Ambassador & Stakeholder event Friday 25th of October 2024

Westonia CRC Xmas Markets 26th October 2024

Councillor Huxtable advised having attended the following meetings:

Newtravel AGM & General Meeting 31 October 2024

8. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Financial** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **31st October 2024**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Closely Association Person and Impartiality** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **31st October 2024**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	



In accordance with Section 5.60B and 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Proximity. interest** were made at the Council meeting held on **31st October 2024**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

9. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

9.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

9.1.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEPTEMBER 2024

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.1 List of Accounts
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of, and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits July be obtained.

Comment

Attached is a copy of Accounts for Payment for the month of September 2024 The credit card/ Fuel Card statements currently show: -

MasterCard Transactions

CEO August 2024 \$2076.75 associated with the Bendigo Card Fee, Cloud Anti pam Recurring, Office 365 Exchange Recurring, Microsoft 365 Business Recurring, Activ8me Internet Service, Managed endpoint and Subscriptions Recurring, Starlink – CEO August Internet, Go Mad Merredin – Storage Containers, Esplanade Hotel Busselton, Pelican Point – Refreshments (card used in error), Westonia Tavern – Depot Refreshments, Cadds Fashion – CEO Uniform

DCEO August 2024 \$939.60 associated with the purchase of Officeworks – Phone holder and Hand cleaner, Department of transport – Plate Change, Landgate – Certificate of Title, LG Professionals – Membership, Bendigo Bank Card fee.

Fuel Card Transactions

CEO	September 2024 \$0.00
DCEO	September 2024 \$0.00
Construction Supervisor	September 2024 \$0.00

Statutory Environment

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulations 12 & 13 requires the list of accounts to be presented to Council. Payments are made by staff under delegated authority from the CEO and Council.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to payment of accounts.

Strategic Implications

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Financial Implications

Expenditure in accordance with the 2024/2025 Annual Budget.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That September 2024 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4274 to DD4296 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7112 to EFT7160 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$383,447.07 be passed for payment.

RESOLUTION


Moved: Cr Faithfull

Seconded: Cr Simmonds

04/10-24 That September 2024 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4274 to DD4296 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7112 to EFT7160 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$383,447.07 be passed for payment.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY– SEPTEMBER 2024

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.2 Monthly Statement of Financial Activity
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council’s activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Comment

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending September 2024 is attached for Councillor information, and consists of:

1. Statement of Financial Activity
2. Statement of Financial Position
3. Note 1 Basis of Preparation
4. Note 2 Statement of Financial Activity Information
5. Note 3 Explanation of Material Variances
6. Supplementary information

Statutory Environment

General Financial Management of Council
Council 2024/2025 Budget
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 1996
Local Government Act 1995 section 6.4

Policy Implications

Council is required annually to adopt a policy on what it considers to be material as far as variances that require to be reported for Council. Council policy is that the material variation be set at \$10,000 and 15%.

Strategic Implications

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council’s activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending September 2024 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

RESOLUTION

Moved:

Cr Geier

Seconded:



Cr Huxtable

05/10-24

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending September 2024 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.3 GST RECONCILIATION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2024

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	F1.4.4 Audit Report
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.3 GST Report
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council's current GST liability, which has an impact on Council's cash-flow.

Background

The Reconciled Balance of the GST Ledger to the General Ledger as reported as at August 2024 provided to Council on a monthly basis as a means of keeping Council informed of its current GST liability.

Comment

The GST Reconciliation Report is attached for Councillor consideration.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in regard to Goods and Services Tax.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council's current GST liability, which has an impact on Council's cash-flow.

Voting Requirements

- Simple Majority Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the GST Reconciliation totalling \$20,092.00 for the period ending September 2024 adopted.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Faithfull

Seconded: Cr Simmonds


06/10-24 That the GST Reconciliation totalling \$20,092.00 for the period ending September 2024 adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.4 CHRISTMAS OFFICE CLOSURE

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	A2.4.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil

Signature:	Officer	CEO
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Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider closing the administration offices for a period over the Christmas break.

Background

Council has traditionally closed the office and operations over the festive season to accommodate the taking of leave and public holidays, given that the town is very quiet during this time. Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Wednesday this year.

It is also anticipated to hold the annual end of year Christmas function at the conclusion of the December Ordinary Council meeting. This year it falls on the 19th December which coincides with the outside crew break up.

Comment

The outside crew will commence the Xmas break on Friday 20th December 2023, with a return to work on Monday 6th January 25.

Arrangements are in place to provide for emergencies with a skeleton staff available during the holiday period.

It is proposed that the office will be closed from 5.00pm Friday 20th December 2024 until Thursday 2nd January 2025.

There has traditionally been no meeting in January in previous years.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

7.12 Christmas Office Shutdown & Two Paid "Grace & Favour" Days for Staff

The Council office & depot will be closed from 12 noon on the last working day prior to the Christmas Day holiday until normal office hours on the day following the New Year public holiday. At least one Senior staff member will remain contactable and reasonably close to town in the event of an emergency such as a bushfire during this shutdown period.

Staff will also be granted 2 paid "grace and favor days" based on their ordinary hours in recognition of time worked in excess of normal hours during the year, to assist with covering their leave over the shutdown period between Christmas and New Year. Staff required to work during the Christmas Shutdown period as part of responding to an emergency will be granted the equivalent hours of ordinary time paid leave by agreement at another time.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications in relation to this matter.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council

1. Approve the office closure from 12.00pm on the 24th December 2024 until Thursday the 2nd January 2025, and that;
2. Hold the annual end of year Christmas function at the conclusion of the December Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 19th December 2024.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Huxtable

Seconded: Cr Faithfull

07/10-24 That Council

1. Approve the office closure from 5.00pm on the 20th December 2024 until Thursday the 2nd January 2025, and that;
2. Hold the annual end of year Christmas function at the conclusion of the December Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 19th December 2024.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.5 SALE OF LAND LOT 113 GRANITE STREET – USE OF COMMON SEAL

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	T.1.1.3
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil

Signature:	Officer	CEO
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Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider selling Lot 113 Granite Street to Greg Logvyn.

Background

Council have been selling land via a Conditional Land Release arrangement to help promote population growth and development within the townsite.

Council has received an application from a Greg Logvyn to purchase Lot 113 Granite Street Westonia for the purpose of constructing a minimum 150m² light industrial shed with Colourbond fence surrounds.

Below is a map illustrating the lot in question.



Comment

This lot is still requiring connection to Western Power which is currently in the application process. Mr Logvyn has previously purchased neighbouring Lot 112 and has the same intentions for both lots.

Should Council approve the sale the President and the CEO will be required to sign the Transfer of Landform and affix the Common Seal.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

\$ 10,000 land sales with Western Power connection costs still to be determined.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the sale of Lot 113 Granite Street to Greg Logvyn and authorise the President and CEO in affixing the common seal on the Transfer of Land Ownership form.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Simmonds

Seconded: Cr Faithfull

08/10-24


That Council approve the sale of Lot 113 Granite Street to Greg Logvyn and authorise the President and CEO in affixing the common seal on the Transfer of Land Ownership form

CARRIED 6/0

9.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATIONS

9.2.1 BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AND APPOINTMENTS.

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	L1.1.2 Bush Fire Advisory
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Bush Fire Advisory Committee Minutes
Signature:	Officer CEO



Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is to in accordance with section 38 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 appoint Bush Fire Control Officers for the 2024/25 bush fire season and to endorse the recommendations of the Westonia Bush Fire Advisory Committee.

Background

The Annual Shire of Westonia Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday 8th October 24 at the Council Depot.

In accordance with section 38 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 a local government may appoint such persons as it thinks necessary to be its Bush Fire Control Officers (FCO's) and of those officers the local government shall appoint two as the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

Comment

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommended the following appointments for Council endorsement.

1. *Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Chairman of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee*
Frank Corsini
2. *Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chair of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee*
Michael Crook
3. *Westonia Brigade FCO/Advisory Committee Members*
Frank Corsini, Colin Lindley and Brad Penny
4. *Warralakin Brigade FCO/Advisory Committee Members*
Steve Le Moignan, Michael Crook, Brayden Brennan.
5. *Walgoolan Brigade FCO/Advisory Committee Members*
Jason Wahlsten, Shaun Crees.
6. *Fire Weather Officers.*
Frank Corsini, with Michael Crook as Deputy.
7. *Authorised Harvest Ban Officers.*
Frank Corsini with Michael Crook as Deputy.
8. *Weather Officers*
Rohan Day, Bill Price, Steve LeMoignan and Jason Wahlsten.

Brayden Brennan has been nominated for the past two years by the Warralakin Brigade but has yet been to a training induction course for the FCO. It is recommended that he not be nominated as a FCO until that training is completed.

Statutory Environment

Bush Fires Act 1954, section 38 appointment of Bush Fire Control Officers.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council in accordance with section 38 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 appoint the following persons as Bush Fire Control Officers for the 2024/25 bush fire season:

Frank Corsini	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Michael Crook	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Officer
Steve Le Moignan	Warralakin Bush Fire Brigade
Jason Wahlsten	Walgoolan Bush Fire Brigade
Shaun Crees	Walgoolan Bush Fire Brigade
Colin Lindley	Westonia Bush Fire Brigade
Brad Penny	Westonia Bush Fire Brigade

Rohan Day, Bill Price, Steve Le Moignan and Jason Wahlsten Fire Weather Officers.

Frank Corsini with Michael Crook as Deputy Authorised Harvest Ban Officers.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Simmonds

09/10-24

That Council in accordance with section 38 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 appoint the following persons as Bush Fire Control Officers for the 2024/25 bush fire season:

Frank Corsini	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Michael Crook	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Officer
Steve Le Moignan	Warralakin Bush Fire Brigade
Jason Wahlsten	Walgoolan Bush Fire Brigade
Shaun Crees	Walgoolan Bush Fire Brigade
Colin Lindley	Westonia Bush Fire Brigade
Brad Penny	Westonia Bush Fire Brigade

Rohan Day, Bill Price, Steve Le Moignan and Jason Wahlsten Fire Weather Officers.

Frank Corsini with Michael Crook as Deputy Authorised Harvest Ban Officers.

CARRIED 6/0

9.2.2 KABC TIDY TOWNS AWARDS

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO	
Author:	Bill Price, CEO	
File Reference:		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Finalist List	
Signature:	Officer	CEO

Bill Price

Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider nominating the following representatives to attend the KABC Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards 2024.

Background

The Shire of Westonia nominated itself in 3 categories for the Tidy Towns awards this year being

- General Appearance
- Community Action & Wellbeing
- Community Containers for Change

KABC has advised that Council are finalists in the Community Action & Wellbeing and the Community Containers for Change categories.

Comment

The State Awards event is being held at the Black Swan Room Optus Stadium on Friday 29th November between 10am – 3pm.

I have attached a list of the finalists for each category for Councillor information.

Is there any Councillors interested in attending the event. The CEO and several staff members will be attending.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Social – Our community has the opportunity to be active, socialised and connected.

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil


Voting Requirements

- Simple Majority Absolute Majority

9.3 WORKS AND SERVICES

9.3.1 WATER CORPORATION REQUEST FOR BORE HOLE WALGOOLAN

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO	
Author:	Bill Price, CEO	
File Reference:	Ca4.3.1	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Site Location Map	
Signature:	Officer	CEO



Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a request from the Water Corporation to install a ground water testing bore on the Woolgar Street Road Reserve in the Walgoolan townsite.

Background

As Council are aware, Water Corporation are currently in the process of planning future upgrades to the Goldfields Pipeline. This work will improve the reliability of the Goldfields and Agricultural Water Supply Scheme (GAWSS) and support future growth and development in the region.

Water Corporation wanted to touch base with you regarding the possible installation of a shallow bore well in the Woolgar Street road reserve in Walgoolan.

After conducting various surveys over the past few months, they have identified a need to further investigate groundwater conditions in the area to safely plan the installation of underground pipeline sections. To help them better understand the groundwater chemistry and levels, they'd like to install some small shallow bore wells for monitoring. This will enable them to carry out more detailed design work and determine the safest and most suitable methods for construction.

They have identified one proposed bore location in the Woolgar Street Road reserve. An image of the proposed location, marked by a red point is attached for Council consideration. They have selected the site based on geotechnical pit excavations, specifically nearby where they've completed test pits.

The bore would have a diameter of around 100mm and be drilled to a depth of about 3m (these are very shallow bores). The bore would sit flush with the ground and would be capped, allowing vehicles to drive over it without hindrance. Following the installation, personnel would attend for a very brief visit around once monthly to collect samples. The bore would be removed at a later date during the pipeline's construction

Comment

This proposal has very little or no impact on the Council or the community and I recommend that Council authorise the proposal.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

Nil



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve of the Water Corporation proposal to install a shallow ground water testing bore on the Woolgar Road Reserve located in Walgoolan.

RESOLUTION

Moved:

Cr Huxtable

Seconded:

Cr Faithfull

11/10-24


That Council approve of the Water Corporation proposal to install a shallow ground water testing bore on the Woolgar Road Reserve located in Walgoolan.

CARRIED 6/0

9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

9.4.1 SHIRE OF YILGARN – TREE FARM APPLICATION

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	D2.1.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Shire of Yilgarn Information
Signature:	Officer CEO



Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this item is for Council to consider making comment to the Shire of Yilgarn on the proposed Carbon Farming Project in their district.

Background

The Shire of Yilgarn are inviting public and relevant government agency comment on the Carbon Farming (Tree Farm) project proposed by a corporation within its boundaries.

The tree farm is proposed on various lots located as per the attached plan and on properties referred to as Avalon Homestead South, Avalon North, Cairns Road, Garrat, Marafioti, Newbury, Perilya and South Garrat.

The total area of the combined properties is approximately 18,162Ha. The tree farm is proposed in cleared areas and approximately 14,500Ha of land is proposed to be planted.

The intention is to establish a tree farm on all cleared agricultural land with trees in twin rows and 20-30m of interrow where agricultural activities can continue for the life of the project. The planted areas will be established in a design similar to a shelterbelt.

The applicant advises that the carbon permanence period will be 25 years, and the tree and carbon crops will be complementary to the predominant traditional agricultural land uses in the area. It is projected that the trees will be retained for approximately 40 years before harvest and used for products such as furniture, building products, firewood and biofuels.

Planting activities will take place between May and August depending upon rain events.

Comment

Council's Local Planning Strategy states

'That rural use of land should be protected to support agricultural activity while facilitating a wide variety of complimentary land uses.'

It seems that 20-30m rows between the planted trees will not be sufficient space to undertake traditional agricultural practises particularly with the size of equipment in this modern era. The loss of 14,500Ha of cleared agricultural land would not be a desirable outcome.

If this application was lodged within our Shire boundary, I believe that it contravenes our position in the preservation of traditional agricultural land and that we would make strong objection to the proposal. It is recommended that this position be conveyed to the Shire of Yilgarn submission.

Comments are required by the 14th November 2024.

Statutory Environment

Shire of Westonia Local Planning Strategy



Policy Implications

Nil



Strategic Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

Nil



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council provide a submission to the Shire of Yilgarn 'Proposed Carbon (Tree Farm) Project' advising that it is our position that rural use of land be protected to support agricultural activity and that the sacrifice of 14.500Ha of cleared land for a carbon offset project for a large Corporation is not an acceptable outcome in our area.

RESOLUTION

Moved:

Cr Geier

Seconded:

Cr Faithfull

12/10-24

That Council provide a submission to the Shire of Yilgarn 'Proposed Carbon (Tree Farm) Project' advising that it is our position that rural use of land be protected to support agricultural activity and that the sacrifice of 14.500Ha of cleared land for a carbon offset project for a large corporation is not an acceptable outcome in our area.

CARRIED 6/0

10. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING

Nil

12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Thursday schedule 21 November 2024 commencing at 3.30pm.

13. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the Shire President, Cr Mark Crees declared the meeting closed at 4.20 pm