



COUNCIL TO COMMUNITY 15 APRIL 2020



Governance Update

CHANGES TO COUNCIL MEETING PLACE AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME COVID-19

New Local Government Regulations have come into effect which enable local governments to host and attend Council and Committee meetings electronically in a *public health emergency*, which has been declared by the Federal and State Governments with respect to COVID-19.

In order to adhere to the social distancing and self-isolation rules that have been put into place, Council will be holding future Ordinary Council Meetings electronically, commencing from 16 April 2020.

This format will continue until the public health emergency has passed.

Elected Members will attend the meetings electronically via a video conferencing platform and from a suitable place, which have both been determined by the Council.

The Regulations provide that the meeting(s) will be deemed to be open to the public if the Minutes are available for public inspection within 10 working days after the meeting.

Public Question Time will still remain an item on the Agenda however the format will change. Questions and comments need to be submitted to the Shire by 4.00pm

on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. The comments and questions need to relate to items that are on the Agenda, which is available for inspection the Friday prior to the meeting.

Council and Officers will endeavour to answer any questions at the meeting. A summary of both the question and the response will be recorded in the Minutes.

Regrettably, the COVID-19 public health emergency has meant that Council business needs to be conducted in a slightly different way. This notwithstanding, the Shire is committed to continuing to be open, transparent and accountable to the community and there are many other ways that people can make contact with the Shire, other than attendance at monthly Council meetings.

Elected Members are available to contact individually, should you wish to discuss any Shire or Council related matters. Councillor contact details can be found on the Shire's website at <https://www.westonia.wa.gov.au/councillors>.

Shire Officers can also be contacted by email, telephone or via the Shire website's 'Contact Us' page.

For further information please contact Jasmine Geier, Manager of Corporate Services on telephone 90467063 or email admin@westonia.wa.gov.au

Shire Office Closure – ANZAC Period

Please note the Shire Offices and Public Library will be closed on the following ANZAC public holidays:

ANZAC Day – 27 April



New Restricted Burning Times in Place for April the Restricted Burning Time for Local Governments in the southern half of Western Australia - from the MidWest Gascoyne through to the Great Southern - will be extended to Thursday, 30 April.

The Bush Fire (Restricted Burning Times) Amendment Notice 2020 is due to be gazetted on Tuesday, **31 March** outlining that all 129 Local Governments in the southern half of the State will have their Restricted Burning Time extended to Thursday, **30 April**. Local Governments whose Restricted Burning Times has already lapsed will recommence those restrictions on Wednesday, **1 April**. Local Governments which have Prohibited Burning Time in place until Thursday, **30 April** will not be impacted by these changes. The Department of Fire and Emergency Services will release a media statement on Tuesday advising land owners planning to burn on their properties to contact their Local Government for a permit.





Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

LAURA BLACK

NEXT VISIT

Tues 21st & Thurs 30th April 2020

9.00am—2.00 pm

Booking made through

SHIRE ADMIN on (08) 9046 7063



DR OLGA WARD

MBBS, FRACGP, GDRGP, FARGP
Procedural Surgical GP Westonia

SHIRE ADMIN on (08) 9046 7063

Consulting Dates 2020 (Monday's)

4th of May 2020

15th of June 2020

13th of July 2020

10th of August 2020

5th of October 2020

9th of November 2020

14th of December 2020

Due to COVID-19 Distancing Precautions, The Shire Medical Waiting Rooms will only Take 2 People at a Time other Patients will be requested to wait Outside or in Vehicles.

The next Council Meeting will be held on **Thursday 16th April 2020**, from 3.30pm. The meeting will be held at the Westonia CRC Building (Old Shire Administration Building) The meeting's agenda will be published on Council's website from 5.00pm on **Friday 10th April 2020**.

Public Question Time commences as 3:30pm and is limited to 15 minutes

for more info:  (08)90467063



www.westonia.wa.gov.au/council-meetings



ROADWORKS

Council has finally completed the Boodarockin Road project with white line marking the final task. The road has been audited for RAV7 rating and we are just awaiting outcome of this with MRWAHVS. Repair work on scoured shoulders has also been carried out so the road is all but in a completed condition. MLG have been carting on the road now for several weeks in 2 x trailer roadtrain combinations. Even though this has been an exhausting exercise for those involved it is a very satisfying outcome and an excellent asset for the Council and the community.

The roads crew are well advanced with the realignment of a section of Warrachuppin Road with all clearing, topsoil removal, formation and subbase completed. The trucks have commenced cartage of the final layer gravel pavement in preparation for 2 x coat sealing likely to be completed in early May.

A 8km section Leach Road from the townsite heading West has been widened from 6m seal to 7.5m seal with work undertaken by Safe Roads. This has improved the safety of this road immensely

GRAVEL PIT CLOSURE

Council have gated off the gravel pit located on the eastern boundary of the townsite. This is due to Council requiring the area as a laydown for materials that are required to be secured. Trespassers in this area will be prosecuted..



CEMETERY UPGRADES

The cemetery continues to have small improvements carried out as an overall upgrade to the area. In the last month the front carpark has been sealed with an emulsion product.

FOLLOW US ON



Instagram
@shireofwestonia



Be Flu Smart
and get
your Flu

Shot Now!

Free flu vaccines are available now at Westonia Drs Surgery. **All People who are eligible for the Free vaccine** To book an appointment Please call the Shire Office on **(08) 90467063**

Please be patient as we clear the existing appointment backlog.





Extending our Deepest Sympathy to Michelle, and the families of Steve Lindores. Wishing you moments of peace and comfort as you remember

“Rest in Peace Steve”

President, Councillors and Staff of the Shire of Westonia

Dorothy (Dot) Bennett

Sharing in the families sadness as you remember Dorothy .The Shire of



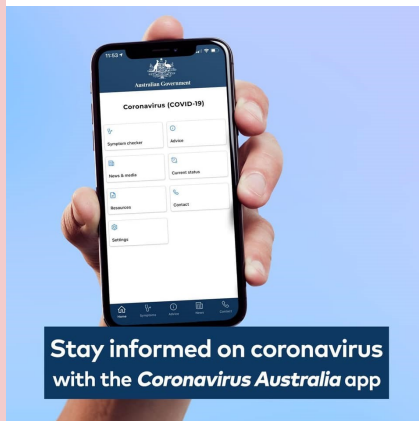
*With
Deepest
Sympathy*

Westonia offer their deepest Sympathy while you celebrate the life of a beautiful woman!



Scammers have been using the COVID-19 crisis as an opportunity to target individuals for personal and financial information. We've put together a fact sheet to help you to protect yourself.

Please be aware that this is not an exhaustive list, and scams are not new, or limited to COVID-19. Always protect yourself, and if something seems suspicious- it probably is. For more information on protecting yourself, visit the Scamwatch website at <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>



Stay up-to-date with the latest information and advice through the new [Australian Government](https://www.health.gov.au/) Coronavirus app, launched today.

iOS download here: <https://apps.apple.com/au/app/coronavirus-australia/id1503846231>

Android download here: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.gov.health.covid19>

A new WhatsApp channel has also been launched to supply you with the latest information. To access it go to www.aus.gov.au/whatsapp



Budget Submissions 2020/2021

Council is currently inviting submissions for the coming 2020/2021 Budget. Submissions will be accepted until the 30th April 2020 for the financial year commencing 1st July 2020. Council generally adopts the 2020/2021 Budget at a special meeting of Council taking place in early July.

Submissions must include a detailed description, if appropriate detailed plans and an estimated cost, if known, of the project and other funding that has been received or is being applied for to deliver the project.

Submission forms are available from the Shire Office or on the website:

www.westonia.wa.gov.au

Submissions can be posted to: Shire of Westonia C/- Post Office Westonia WA 6423 transmitted by facsimile to 90467001 or emailed to ceo@westonia.wa.gov.au and marked to the attention of the Chief Executive Officer. Submissions are to be received no later than Thursday 30th April 2020.

OFFICIAL MEDICAL ADVICE

Coronavirus: You must take action to save lives in your community.

Stay at home unless absolutely necessary. Banks, supermarkets/groceries, petrol stations, medical services and suppliers will remain open. You must avoid non-essential travel.

If you can, work from home. If going to work, avoid groups. Use phones for meetings and stop handshaking. Tap to pay where possible instead of using cash.

You must stay 2 arms lengths away from others and wash your hands for 20 seconds. Exercise away from others.

Advice and restrictions will be updated regularly, visit [australia.gov.au](https://www.australia.gov.au)

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

