



SHIRE OF MANJIMUP ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING 2021

Minutes of the 2021 Annual Electors Meeting held Wednesday 13 January 2022 in the Shire of Manjimup JC Rose Room, corner Rose and Brockman Streets, Manjimup

1. **Attendance**

Councillors

Cr Paul Omodei (Chairperson)
Cr Susan Dawson Vidovich
Cr Robert Taylor
Cr Donelle Buegge

Electors

Nancy Giblett
David Giblett
Alan Lloyd
Mary Nixon
Ken Sanders (from 5:18pm)
Jo Schofield (from 5:20pm)
Julian Sharp
Tony Giumelli

Staff

Andrew Campbell (Chief Executive Officer)
Jason Giadresco (Senior Governance Officer)

Apologies

Nil.

Cr Omodei opened the meeting at 5.00pm and acknowledged the attendance of electors, gave an acknowledgement to the Traditional Custodians and early pioneers, and the background on the purpose of the Annual Electors Meeting.

2. **Confirmation of previous minutes**

Moved: D Giblett

Seconded: A Lloyd

“That the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held 16 June 2021 be confirmed as a true record.”

Carried

3. **Receipt of the Annual Report for year ended 30 June 2021**

The Shire of Manjimup Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2021 was tabled with copies available to attendees.

The Chairperson noted that:

- The 2020/2021 financial year had been challenging, but the Shire had been thriving with visitors nonetheless;
- Highlighted the current COVID-19 situation in the Eastern States of Australia;
- Discussed the Shire's ongoing road construction program is progressing;
- Discussed Council's involvement in the current timber industry transition, and meeting with the Just Transition Group;
- A letter had been sent to the Minister of Local Government about the proposed new reforms, particularly around ward representation, and another letter about the recently acquired land from SOTICO for aged care in Pemberton; and
- The Rea Park/Collier Street redevelopment was progressing.

The Chairperson invited the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to provide an overview of the Shire's performance for the year. The CEO:

- Shared the Shire President's concerns regarding the COVID-19 situation, and noted the new directions/laws released.
- Shared concern how COVID will impact over the course of the year, and discussed that the organisation has a strong focus on mitigating impacts to services; and
- Read from the 'Key Achievements' and 'Conclusion' section of the 2021 Annual Report

Moved: R Taylor

Seconded: S Dawson Vidovich

"Confirm receipt of the Shire of Manjimup Annual Report for the 2020-2021 financial year."

Carried

4. Response to Questions with Notice

Electors Mr Julian Sharp and Mr Alan Lloyd provided written questions with notice, which were duly answered by the CEO. A copy of the questions and the response provided by the CEO is attached to these minutes.

5. General business

Mr Alan Lloyd

- Noted that the Shire President did not make mention of the proposed local government reform about the proposed direct election of the Shire President.

Chief Executive Officer Response: Advised Mr Lloyd the Council has already made a submission regarding this aspect of the proposed reforms to the State Government, and that Council's position is not to support this reform. Noted there's a whole range of proposals to modify the Local Government Act.

Shire President Response: Noted the State Government has significant parliamentary strength to pass the reforms as proposed. Noted other local government advocates are also making submissions. Noted there may be significant cost to local government to enact the reforms.

- Noted that no mention of mining development projects in Shire. Once a mining company has obtained approvals to undertake a mining operation, should they not be liaising with the Shire?

Chief Executive Officer Response: Yes, mining companies should be. We have had limited involvement with mining companies. There has always been a lot of exploration permits in this area. When bauxite was a local matter, there was always a lot of bauxite exploration permits. In terms of recent permits, we as a Council have had no deep engagement with any mining companies. They are obligated to consult with the Shire if they are wishing to use Shire infrastructure, such as roads. There is a state process which deals with mining.

Mr Julian Sharp

- The Aged Care land handed over by Wesfarmers in Pemberton. How big is that land?

Shire President Response: Land donated is about 13,000m² in size. Committee has been set up to obtain insurance, investigate development and costs.

Mrs Mary Nixon

- Following on from your COVID report, when will the Manjimup Town Hall become available for public use again?

Chief Executive Officer Response: Advised that Council has given consent to extend the use of the Manjimup Town Hall until June 30 2022 as a vaccination clinic. Not sure beyond that point.

- Where would we be able to find a job description for senior staff? Is it available anywhere?

Chief Executive Officer Response: No, it isn't. They are not required to be published unless the Shire is seeking to fill a vacancy. May be in previous Council minutes, but cannot recall.

- Note that the Shire website recommends that Councillors keep a log of contacts with community members. Is this actively encouraged?

Chief Executive Officer Response: Yes, Councillors are encouraged to keep records where possible. It's part of their training.

- Note the advertising for this meeting has improved. Can the time of this meeting be 6pm and maybe offer light refreshments?

Chief Executive Officer Response: This meeting is more of a statutory meeting than a consultation.

Shire President Response: I will discuss the timing of this meeting with Council.

Mr Ken (John) Sanders

- Noted the gravel road system in the Shire is appalling. Asked what the Shire's long-term plan is. Does a forum need to be brought together to discuss?

Shire President Response: Advised Mr Sanders of the Road Infrastructure Advisory Committee and the 15 year Forward Capital Works Plan.

Chief Executive Officer Response: Please contact the Shire Depot for urgent issues with your road. Council asks for community input on roads through its Strategic Community Plan review. Discussed road depreciation issues. Noted that issues with roads should be reported immediately. We seek funding for our roads wherever we can. Noted issues getting contractors.

Ms Jo Schofield

- Sought clarity on the lease over Karri Lake, Quinninup. December meeting Council minutes were not clear if the Shire does or does not have a lease over the lake.

Chief Executive Officer Response: Understanding is there is a lease. The Shire does not own the property, it is owned by the Water Corporation in freehold title. There are some issues holding back the lease being de-proclamation of Karri Lake as a water supply.

- Noted that they have lodged a Freedom of Information (FOI) application with the Shire? How long will it take to process?

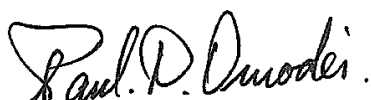
Chief Executive Officer Response: We have 45 days to deal with it. The Shire should have a response to you shortly.

No further questions or statements were received from electors.

6. Close

The Chairperson thanked those in attendance for their ongoing interest in Council matters before closing the meeting at 6.01pm.

Signed



Paul Omodei
Shire President

Annual Electors Meeting 2021

Response to Questions Taken on Notice

Electors: Julian Sharp

1. Can you please outline all current and planned Shire of Manjimup responses to the growing impacts of climate change on our region? Responses would include comprehensive climate change policy and strategy development, addressing energy use, water use, emergency management (including fire, disease, drought, supply chain disruptions to food security and rapid population increases from displaced persons), infrastructure protection and adaptation, regional planning and co-operation with other local governments, and advocacy to state and federal governments for increased action and support.

Shire of Manjimup Response:

All planned activities are identified in the Shire of Manjimup Corporate Business Plan at the following Shire of Manjimup website address: <https://www.manjimup.wa.gov.au/repository/libraries/id:2dsd3ekxd17q9s83uxq6/hierarchy/SITE%20COLLECTION%20DOCUMENTS/our-documents/strategic-planning/Corporate%20Business%20Plan%202021%20-%202025>

The measurement of those activities occur on an annual basis and are included in the Annual Report 2021.

2. Will the Shire of Manjimup be forming a community-based sustainability advisory committee to Council? If it is planned to do so, when will this happen? If not, why not? Will the 2008 Natural Environment Strategy be reviewed and updated this year?

Shire of Manjimup Response:

There is no plan to establish a community based sustainability advisory committee of Council. Instead the Shire of Manjimup is a member of a sub-regional Climate Change Impact Assessment Committee through the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils which comprises five member local governments.

The Natural Environment Strategy is due for review however this is pending the direction taken at sub-regional Climate Change Impact Assessment Committee and further consideration of Council.

3. How does the Shire of Manjimup reconcile the inherent conflicts between proposed mining operations in our region and our status as a premium food growing region and tourism destination? How is it possible to encourage or allow mining, a high impact, polluting, disruptive and destructive industry, to operate without negatively impacting tourism, existing rural industries, our environment, water assets, cultural heritage values and rural and regional amenity?

Shire of Manjimup Response:

There is no proposal for any mining operation before the Shire of Manjimup for consideration currently nor in the previous Annual Report year.

4. Does Council and administration fully understand and appreciate the rapidly growing impacts of climate change on all aspects of life in our region? It is fact that the south-west of Western Australia is and will continue to face unprecedented impacts over the next 10 to 20 years, with serious and dangerous consequences for our environment, farming, tourism, industry, our regional economy, and our way of life.

Shire of Manjimup Response:

The Shire of Manjimup administration is keeps up to date with credible sources of information about climate change and endeavours to maintain a balanced view in the application of mitigation strategies on behalf of the Shire of Manjimup.

5. The Shire of Manjimup has made some significant achievements in recent times in terms of reducing energy and water use, feral animal and weed control, community consultation on climate change impacts and planning for mitigation and adaptation. There is much more that needs to be rapidly achieved, given the accelerating pace of climate change, and council must bring the community on-board as valued partners in the essential work of addressing this greatest of existential issues.

Shire of Manjimup Response:

This is a statement and not a question.

Elector: Alan Lloyd

1. The Annual Electors meeting held in January 2020 passed a motion asking the Shire to consider targeting rates for the 2020/2021 financial year aligned to the Perth Consumer Price Index. The rates for the 2020/2021 year were frozen because of the WA response to COVID and we did not have an opportunity to see if that CPI constraint could be effective in setting Shire Rates. Will the Shire now consider targeting the 2022/2023 rates to the Perth Consumer Price index?

Shire of Manjimup Response:

Council gives detailed consideration to annual budgets including considering the impact of Rate increases on the community. 2022/23 budget deliberations will be similar and Council will give due consideration to Rate increases balanced against rising costs of business and other priority projects.

2. These questions are about the effectiveness of the CCTV security cameras in the Manjimup central business area.
 - a. What has been the availability (in service) of the CCTV network since installation?

- b. How are the cameras monitored?
- c. How many anti-social incidents have been detected with these cameras and what follow up action has resulted?
- d. Are there cameras in Brockman Street that effectively monitor the proposed entrance to the upstairs night club?
- e. Will there be cameras that monitor the off street parking and possible rear entrance for the proposed nightclub.

Shire of Manjimup Response:

- a) It is understood the CCTV service has been continuous since installation;
- b) There is a live feed to the Manjimup Police Station and recordings are made at the Manjimup Police Station and Shire Offices;
- c) This is a matter for the Manjimup Police. The Chief Executive Officer understands that the CCTV system has been used by Manjimup Police to obtain evidence of anti-social and other criminal activity in the CBD including the use of the specialist licence plate recognition camera. The Shire of Manjimup has utilised the CCTV system very effectively to identify accidental and intentional damage to Shire infrastructure such as solar light bollards and signs;
- d) CCTV cameras cover the entire length of Brockman Street and the abutting parts of Guadagnino Lane and will pick up the front and side entrance points to 5D Brockman Street.
- e) No there are no CCTV cameras used for surveillance in the carpark at the rear of 5 Brockman Street. The only access to 5D Brockman Street will be via a lift and this is not the main entry point.



Andrew Campbell
Chief Executive Officer

12 January 2022