



*A progressive, diverse and caring community,
with access to modern services and infrastructure,
in a unique part of the world*

MINUTES

of the

Special Meeting of Council

held

WEDNESDAY 22nd JUNE 2022

Shire of Cuballing
Council Chambers
Campbell Street, Cuballing

COUNCIL MEETING PROCEDURES

1. All Council meetings are open to the public, except for matters raised by Council under “Confidential Matters”.
2. Members of the public may ask a question at an ordinary Council meeting at “Public Question Time”.
3. Members of the public who are unfamiliar with meeting procedures are invited to seek advice at the meeting. If unsure about proceedings, just raise your hand when the Presiding Member announces Public Question Time.
4. All other arrangements are in accordance with the Council’s standing orders, policies and decisions of the town.

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In particular, and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or limitation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Cuballing during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice or approval from the Shire of Cuballing. The Shire of Cuballing warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Cuballing must obtain and only should rely on WRITTEN CONFIRMATION of the outcome of that application and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Cuballing in respect of the application.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING:

The Shire President, Cr Dowling declared the meeting open at 4.15pm

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

2.1.1 Attendance

Cr Eliza Dowling	President
Cr Robert Harris	Deputy President
Cr Dawson Bradford	
Cr Adrian Kowald	
Mr Stan Scott	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Fred Steer	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr Bruce Brennan	Manager of Works and Services

2.1.2 Apologies

Cr Julie Christensen
Cr Peter Dowdell

2.1.3 Leave of Absence

Cr Julie Christensen and Cr Peter Dowdell have approved leave of absence.

3. STANDING ORDERS:

COUNCIL DECISION 2022/65

That Standing Orders be suspended for the duration of the meeting to allow for greater debate on items.

Moved Cr Bradford

Seconded Cr Kowald

Carried 4/0

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

4.1 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE:

Nil

4.2 WRITTEN QUESTIONS PROVIDED IN ADVANCE:

Nil

4.3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY:

Nil

5. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Nil

The confirmation of minutes from the previous Ordinary Meeting of Council will be included in the Agenda for the next Ordinary Meeting to be held at 2pm, Wednesday 20th July 2022.

**7. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/
SUBMISSIONS:**

Nil

8. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST:

Nil

9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

9.1 DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

9.1.1	Draft 2022/23 Budget
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Applicant:	N/A
File Ref. No:	ADM214
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	15 th June 2022
Author:	Fred Steer
Attachments:	9.1.1A Draft 2022/23 Budget - INCLUDED SEPARATELY 9.1.1B Draft 2022/23 Fees and Charges – INCLUDED SEPARATELY

Summary

Council is to review a Draft 2022/23 Budget and the priority of discretionary items to be included in the 2022/23 Budget.

Background

Council is to discuss Council's 2022/23 Draft Budget with a view to finalising the priority of those discretionary matters to be included in the document.

The finalised Council's 2022/23 Budget is expected to be considered at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 22nd July 2022.

Comment

In reviewing the Draft 2022/23 Budget, Council should note that while staff have attempted to finalise the calculations used in the Draft Budget, there is a likelihood that some amounts will change prior to the presentation of a finalised draft budget at the July 2022 Ordinary Meeting.

The Draft 2022/23 Budget, as presented in the Attachment 9.1.1A Draft 2022/23 Budget, included separately in Councillors Agenda package, includes:

1. A 10% rate increase has been included in calculations;
2. A 10% increase to fees and charges has been included in calculations;
3. Changes to staffing and wages of:
 - Wage increases for the majority of staff as per the Local Government Industry Award of 5.00%;
 - given the significant increase in road works tasks in the Draft 2022/23 Budget, two new, full time, General Hand/Plant Operator to join the Works crew at a wage cost of \$148,208 annum;
4. Some grant funding – including the MRWA Roads Direct Grant amount and Grants Commission Financial Assistance Grant (FAG) – have yet to be confirmed. The Draft 2022/23 Budget includes indicative figures and estimates for this grant income.

5. Council has received an advance of about 75% of the 2022/23 FAGs in May 2022 totalling \$703,766. This, now annual occurrence, reduces the anticipated receipt of FAG income in 2022/23;
6. Insurance cost increases are expected to be 5% but have yet to be confirmed.
7. Completion of the construction of four aged person units in Cuballing. This \$1,349,624 project will be part funded by a loan of \$850,000.
8. Road construction projects totalling \$3,671,927 including:
 - Completion of the first stage of the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network project on the Cuballing East Road. This project is carried over from 2021/22 and includes funding income of \$705,958 with expenses of \$1,114,868;
 - Stage two of the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network project on the Cuballing East Road. This project includes income of \$1,580,836 With expenses of \$1,521,588
 - Regional Road Group project to widen and reconstruct a section of Stratherne Road in totalling \$210,600;
 - Regional Road Group funded project to reconstruct a section of Wandering Narrogin Road totalling \$269,400;
 - Roads to Recovery funded projects to replace floodways on;
 - Youngs Road \$40,660,
 - Continue Siding \$41,750,
 - Lol Gray Soak Road \$74,927
 - and Dent Road \$37,424;
 - Roads to Recovery funded project for the final seal on Narrogin Wandering Road Springhill Road intersection at a cost of \$40,050: and
 - Capital Bridge works at \$55,000
9. The Draft 2022/23 Budget includes Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) projects the Federal Governments response to COVID-19. These LRCI funds need to be expended on Infrastructure projects brought forward from future years. The projects included in the Draft 2022/23 Budget include;
 - LRCI Phase 3 Project(s) – \$495,536. These project(s) will be decided by Council at a future date.
 - LRCI Phase 3 Extension Projects - \$247,768. These project(s) will need to be decided by Council at a future date.
10. The Draft 2021/22 Budget includes purchases of new plant and equipment including;
 - Road Grader - \$440,000 and a trade in of \$100,000;
 - Loader - \$350,000 and a trade in of \$100,000;
 - CEO - \$57,771 and a trade in of \$50,000;
 - Works Crew Communication System - \$20,000; and
 - Split Roller Mower - \$6,500.

11. The Draft 2022/23 Budget includes building construction projects including;
- complete the Cuballing War Memorial Upgrade. Council has completed some works on this project with the cost to complete the works being \$99,887;
 - Upgrade Eastern Fence & Gates at Shire Depot totalling \$30,000. This project would replicate the automatic gate at the western side of the depot to make vehicles movements more efficient. The Shire depot is increasingly becoming crowded with larger trucks and their trailers requiring increased parking and larger turning circles. Also at times there are not alternative sites to store product such as road aggregate which further crowds the Depot;
 - Upgrade to the depot crib room, for \$10,00 to install storage and work station for Works supervisor and general refurbishment of room; and
 - Gazebo & seating costing \$15,000 for the Cuballing Skate park.

The Draft 2022/23 Budget, currently has no budgeted surplus available for application to discretionary items. Staff have prioritised the discretionary expenditure in the Officer's Recommendation, with the first activities listed being those activities assessed as a higher priority. These discretionary activities are listed in priority order in the Officer's Recommendation.

For alternative items to be included in the Draft 2022/23 Budget, the value of these alternative discretionary items will need to be cut from expenditure programs and/or increase revenue collections to balance the Draft Budget.

Strategic Implications – Nil

Statutory Environment – Nil

Policy Implications – Nil

Financial Implications

The budget will set Council's approved expenditure for the 2022/23 financial year.

Economic Implication – Nil

Environmental Considerations – Nil

Social Implications

Many projects contained within the 2022/23 Annual Budget are focused on improving facilities within the general community.

Consultation – Nil

Options

Council may resolve:

1. the Officer's Recommendation;
2. an amended Officer's Recommendation; or
3. to not set any priority at this time and set a meeting date to further discuss this matter.

Voting Requirements – Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION 2022/66

That Council adopt the priority ranking, from highest to lowest priority, of discretionary activities for possible inclusion of these discretionary activities in Council's 2022/23 Budget as follows:

	Details	Cost
1.	Works Crew Communications System	20,000
2.	Upgrade Eastern Fence & Gates at Shire Depot	25,000
3.	Upgrade to Depot Crib Room	10,000
4.	Gazebo & seating to the Cuballing Skate Park	15,000
5.	Reserve Transfer Plant & Equipment Reserve	(\$350,000)
6.	Reserve Transfer War Memorial	(\$84,887)
	Moved Cr Bradford	Seconded Cr Kowald
		Carried 4/0

9.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Nil

9.3 MANAGER OF WORKS AND SERVICES:

Nil

10. ELECTED MEMBERS' MOTION OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

Nil

11. URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT OR MEETING:

Nil

12. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

Nil

13. NEXT MEETING:

Ordinary Council Meeting, 2.00pm, Wednesday 20th July 2022 at the Shire of Cuballing Council Chambers, Campbell Street, Cuballing.

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING:

There being no further business, the Shire President, Cr Dowling, closed the meeting at 5.38pm.