



Norseman Woodlands to Eucla Coast

**Minutes of Meeting  
Special Council Meeting  
27<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

MINUTES of the SPECIAL Meeting of the Council held  
in the Council Chambers at the Shire Administration  
Office – Prinsep Street Norseman on the 27<sup>th</sup> May  
2021 commencing at 6:00pm

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## 1 Declaration of Opening and Announcement of Visitors.

The Shire President welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting open at 6:00pm.

This Council meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Ngadju people and I wish to acknowledge them as traditional owners and pay my respects to their elders, past and present.

### 1.1 Attendance at meeting by Councillor AR Patupis.

The Shire President has been advised that Cr Patupis will be in Esperance, Western Australia when the meeting is held and have requested attendance by way of instantaneous video connection with other Councillors present at the meeting in accordance with Administration Regulation 14A.

Cr Patupis will be at 58 Dempster Road, Esperance WA 6450.

The Council must approve of the place that Cr Patupis is located as a "suitable place" that must be in a town site or other residential area at least 150 kilometres from where the meeting is being held.

#### Recommendation

**That Cr Patupis be permitted to attend this meeting by way of instantaneous video connection from Esperance, Western Australia, on the basis that she is in a "suitable place" for the purpose of Administration Regulation 14A.**

Moved: Cr Warner

Seconded: Cr Hogan

#### Resolution

**That Cr Patupis be permitted to attend this meeting by way of instantaneous video connection from Esperance, Western Australia, on the basis that she is in a "suitable place" for the purpose of Administration Regulation 14A.**

Carried by: Absolute Majority

For: 4

Against: 0

## 2 Declarations of Financial, Proximity, Impartiality Interests & Gifts Received.

#### Financial Interests:

Nil

#### Proximity Interests:

Nil

#### Impartiality Interests:

Nil

#### Gifts Received by Councillors:

As per the Shire of Dundas Code of Conduct section 3.4 Gifts, adopted by the Council on 21 October 2014 and reference to Regulation 34B of the Local Government (Administration) 1996.

Nil

**3 Record of Attendance of Councillors / Officers and Apologies.**

Cr L Bonza	Shire President
Cr R Patupis	Deputy Shire President
Cr JEP Hogan	
Cr S Warner	
Cr V Wyatt	
Peter Fitchat	Chief Executive Officer
Pania Turner	Manager of Community Development
Joe Hodges	Manager of Works and Services

**4 Public Question Time.**

Nil

**5 Petitions, Deputations or Presentations.**

Nil

**6 Announcements by Presiding Member without Discussion.**

Nil

**7 Reports of Officers**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>7.1 – Acceptance of Annual Report 2019/2020</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	FM.AD.
Author	CEO – Peter Fitchat & MCD - Pania Turner
Date of Report	24th May 2021
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

Summary

For the Council to consider and approve the Annual Report for the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 (as included in the papers relating) and to set the date for the Annual Electors Meeting.

Background

The Audited Annual Financial Report and Auditors Report were presented to the Council at its ordinary meeting held on 22nd February 2021 and the Council resolved the following:

**That the Council of the Shire of Dundas**

- 1. Accept the recommendation of the Audit Committee that the Audit Report for 2019/20 as included in the papers relating be accepted;**
- 2. Accept the Annual Financial Report for the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 as included in the papers relating.**

### Statutory Environment

The Local Government Act requires that the local government accept the Annual Report by the 31<sup>st</sup> December following the year subject to the audit report being available. If the audit report is not available to allow the local government to accept it by that date, then the annual report needs to be received within two months of the audit report being received. Due to changes in the new Financial Standards introduced by the Office of the Auditor General there was a delay in receiving the Financial Statements causing subsequent delay in the Annual Report being adopted.

The Act also requires that a General Electors Meeting be held within 56 days of the local government accepting the annual report of the previous financial year.

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Financial Implications

Nil

### Strategic Implications

Regularly review of strategic plans in line with the actual performance (summarised in the annual report) will indicate the progress that the Shire has made in achieving its strategic objectives.

### Consultation

CEO  
CDM  
Other Staff

### Comment

## **Key Events of the Year**

COVID-19 remains one of the most significant events for the Shire of Dundas, as it is in the rest of Australia and globally. Council, Shire staff and the whole Community worked to overcome the challenges the pandemic placed on health, business, and day to day living.

### Governance

- Two Councillors were re-elected to the Council during the year, as well as a new Councillor CR Valma Schultz elected.
- Cr Laurene Bonza was re-appointed as the Shire President.
- The Shire of Dundas was the only local government in WA to have agenda items presented at the WALGA AGM.

### Law, Order and Public Safety

- Norseman West Complex Bushfires greatly impacted the Shire of Dundas over December 2019-January 2020, closing the Eyre highway and access to Norseman.
- The Shire invested in portable CCTV cameras as a more flexible option to address hot spots of crime.
- Council continues to advocate for recognition of the impact Drought along the Eyre Highway, seeking Government support for pastoralists, local business and Community.

### Education, Welfare and Community

- The Woodlands Cultural Community and Visitor Centre construction was completed, providing a taste of the art community hub in Norseman to be used by local residents and visitors to the town.

### Culture and Tourism

- The Shire took on the running of the Norseman Visitor Centre, and with the completion of the Woodlands Centre saw the service move into the new facility.

### **Audit Report**

The Independent Audit Report identifies that the Shire of Dundas has completed the 2019/20 financial year in accordance with the appropriate legislation and regulations and that there are no material matters affecting the Shire's financial position. Furthermore, there are no items of statutory non-compliance raised.

### **Annual Financial Report**

The revenue of the council is derived from rates, fees, charges and grants. Council received operating and capital grants of \$1,754,661 during the year to support service provisions and various projects. Revenue from the rates for the year was \$2,537,808.

During the year, Shire has incurred operating expenditure of \$3,180,261 excluding depreciation to provide various services to the community.

It is proposed to hold the General Electors Meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> June prior to the June Ordinary Council meeting.

### Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

### Officer Recommendation

#### **That the Council of the Shire of Dundas**

- 1. Accept the Annual Report for the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 as is included in the Papers Relating.**
- 2. Advertise that the Annual General Electors Meeting is to be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the Shire Administration Building at 88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman at 5.30pm.**

Moved Cr: Hogan  
Seconded Cr: Patupis

### Resolution

#### **That the Council of the Shire of Dundas**

- 1. Accept the Annual Report for the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 as is included in the Papers Relating.**
- 2. Advertise that the Annual General Electors Meeting is to be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the Shire Administration Building at 88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman at 5.30pm.**

Carried by: Absolute Majority For: 5 Against: 0

### **8 Next Meeting**

The next Special Meeting of the Council will be called as required.

**9 Closure of Meeting**

There being no further business the Shire President thanked all those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6:04pm.