



SHIRE OF
DOWERIN
TIN DOG TERRITORY

MINUTES

Annual Electors Meeting

To be held at the Dowerin Community Club
East Street, Dowerin WA 6461
Tuesday 13 February 2024
Commencing 6:00pm



ABN: 35 939 977 194

P (08) 9631 1202 E dowshire@dowerin.wa.gov.au
13 Cottrell Street, Dowerin WA 6461

 www.dowerin.wa.gov.au

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UNCONFIRMED

Shire of Dowerin
Annual Electors Meeting
6.00pm Tuesday 13 February 2024



1. Official Opening

The President welcomes those in attendance and declares the Meeting open at 6.00pm.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies / Leave of Absence

Councillors:

Cr RI Trepp	President
Cr NP McMorrان	Deputy President
Cr WG Allsopp	
Cr DP Hudson	
Cr JC Sewell	
Cr BA Ward	

Staff:

Mr D Singe	Chief Executive Officer
Mr A Wooldridge	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr B Forbes	Assets & Works Coordinator
Ms K Rose	Executive & Governance Officer

Members of the Public:

Brent Walsh
Carol MacDonald
Dawn Condo
Frances Anderson
Ian Phillips
Julie Bailey
Ken Myers - from 6:25pm
Lee Ridley
Lesly Marshall
Lyn Phillips
Mary Marion
Pam Lambert
Pat Woods
Peter Crippen
Suzy Crippen

Apologies:

Tracy Jones

Approved Leave of Absence:

Nil

3. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)

3.1 Annual Electors Meeting held on 20 December 2022

Attachment 3.1A

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution

Moved: Brent Walsh

Seconded: Suzy Crippen

0916

That, in accordance with Section 5.32 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 20 December 2022, as presented in Attachment 3.1A, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. OFFICER'S REPORTS - CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.1 Receipt of the 2022/23 Annual Report

Corporate & Community Services



Date:	6 February 2024
Location:	Not applicable
Responsible Officer:	Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Kahli Rose, Executive & Governance Officer
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
SharePoint Reference:	Organisation/Governance/Council Meetings/2023 Annual Electors Meeting
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 4.1A - 2022/23 Annual Report

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Summary

This Item presents the 2022/23 Annual Report to the Annual Electors Meeting.

Background

The annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 have been completed, as has the annual audit of those financial statements by Council's auditors, Macri Partners Chartered Accountants (Macri).

The Audit & Risk Committee adopted the 2022/23 Annual Report at its December 2023 Meeting, with Council also adopting the 2022/23 Annual Report at its January 2024 Special Council Meeting (CMRef O910).

The 2022/23 Annual Report is provided as an Attachment.

Comment

The 2022/23 Annual Report consists of the following parts:

1. 2022/23 Annual Financial Statements;
2. Independent Auditor's Report;
3. President's Report;
4. CEO's Report; and
5. Statutory Reports.

In addition, reports on the activities and events undertaken by the Shire for the financial year are included.

Consultation

Local Public Notice provided on 10 January 2024.
Special Council Meeting 9 January 2024.
Audit & Risk Committee Meeting 22 December 2023.
OAG & Macri Partners.
Senior Management Group.

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively managed Local Government.

Outcome: 5.3

Reference: 5.3.2

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Statutory Implications

Section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995* states that a general meeting of electors is to be held once every financial year on a day selected by the local government but not more than 56 days after the adoption of the annual report.

Section 5.29 of the *Local Government Act 1995* states that the CEO is to convene an electors' meeting by giving 14 days local public notice.

Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* state that the matters to be discussed at an Annual Electors Meeting are, firstly, the contents of the annual report for the previous financial year and then any other general business.

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Failure to fulfil statutory regulations or compliance requirements
Risk Category	Compliance
Risk Description	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
Consequence Rating	Insignificant (1)
Likelihood Rating	Rare (1)
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (1)
Key Controls (in place)	Governance Management Framework
Action (Treatment)	Document Governance Management Framework
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate

Financial Implications

Nil

Meeting Comment

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Resolution

Moved: Pat Woods **Seconded:** Frances Anderson

That, pursuant to Section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, the 2022/23 Annual Report, as presented in Attachment 4.1A, be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. General Business

5.1 Previous Business

Road conditions have improved within the Shire.
Mid-year budget review is currently underway.

5.2 Community Bus – Cr Trepp

Community Bus has been deemed unroadworthy and will cost the shire approximately \$10,600 to relicense.

Meetings with community groups are ongoing to find the best way forward. Companion Club representatives express their interest in being involve with this process.

Shire currently looking into short term options to fill the gap – current quote for replacement is \$160,000.

No concrete decisions have been made yet, and this is an ongoing discussion at Council to work out the best way forward.

Shire will circulate a survey to users to compile a case for possible grant funding available.

5.3 January Storms & Power Outages

Cracks became apparent in Emergency Plans during the power outages. The DCC is currently listed as the evacuation point for the community and does not have a generator for backup power.

Lack of clarity from Western Power made the issues difficult to address and manage. SoD was not being engaged with by Western Power to provide the community with important information.

Shire was unable to source a list of residents with special needs, to be able to do welfare checks.

5.4 Dowerin Tip

Rubbish tip currently has a lifespan of 2-3 years left.

NEWROC carrying out a study on a communal tip within Wheatbelt Shires, and transfer junctions being set up at each Shire.

Shire of Dowerin is required to state a position on the project and whether we support the case.

Can the Shire organise a kerbside collection to happen once or twice a year? Would be very beneficial for residents with limited options.

5.5 Local Shops

Many local shops have had to close or are experiencing financial difficulties.

CEO commented that without housing available, businesses are finding it difficult to source staff. SoD currently looking at options to improve on this issue.

The CEO is aware of the current issues that Dowerin is facing and looking for ways and ideas to solve the evolving problem.

With Coles delivering to Dowerin it is becoming more and more difficult for the small businesses in town to stay afloat.

Query regarding the Australia Day awards, and where the products for the event were sourced from, and why the local supermarket did not supply the items.

The DCEO explained a current issue the Shire is working with to resolve with the Tin Dog General Store.

5.6 DCC Front Doors

Front doors of the community club are proving to be difficult for the elderly residents and those with special needs to open.

Can the doors be replaced with an automatic opening system to assist with this problem?

5.7 Shire Roads

Gravel roads within some parts of the shire are in disrepair.

The AWC confirmed that the main road in question is a high traffic route for trucks during harvest which caused problems for the road quality. Unfortunately due to the lack of rain this season, the roads are difficult to grade to an acceptable level and do not withstand a high volume of traffic for an extended period.

AWC has developed a comprehensive road management program within the shire and with contractors, which has improved the quality of most roads within the SoD.

5.8 Annual Financials

The DCEO provided a summary of the Annual Financials, and audit. The SoD was able to be given an unqualified audit for the 2022/2023 Financial Year, meaning there were no issues found.

Council adopted a budget indicating a \$1,012,000 surplus by end of year. The 2022/2023 FY achieved a \$2,600,000 net surplus before any other income.

Land and assets were revalued and increased the shire's asset class by \$2,400,000.

Council's overall financial position improved by \$5,037,000 compared to 2021/2022 FY.

SoD overall liabilities decreased by \$349,000 compared to 2021/2022 FY with the primary focus on the SoD borrowings (reduced by \$138,000).

Council is engaging in a process to develop, review and amend their financial requirements and obligations. It is important that the community is involved. Based on current predictions, the Shire's financial position will continue to strengthen.

6. Closure

There being no further business the President thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6:51pm.