

SHIRE NOTES

Christmas Week Rubbish Removal

Not surprisingly, there will be no rubbish removal in Tammin on Friday 25 December 2009! This service will now be performed on Thursday 24 December 2009.



Entertainment

A final reminder to all regarding the public entertainment function at Kadjinyiny Kep on New Years' Eve which is being co-ordinated by Terry O'Dea. Have you got your group together for the Kep on the 31st December?

General Meeting of Electors'

The General Meeting of Electors' is now behind us for another 12 months. Attendance was similar to last year with 27 being present inclusive of councillors electors and staff.

There was the usual range of questions to keep the President and Councillors on their toes, but overall, no burning issues of concern to the community.

New Housing

Working on behalf of Council, the Housing Design Committee has been toiling hard to formulate an acceptable design for a new Shire owned house. This project will see the construction of a modest two bedroom residence at 12 Russell Street in the new year. Funding will come from Royalties for Regions monies.

Tammin Abattoir

The Tammin Abattoir will be re-opening on 4 January 2010 under new management. The new operators are Westone Pty Ltd and they plan to operate 5 days a week subject to the availability of stock.

Council, mindful of past experience, has resolved to invoke regulations 43-45 of the *Food Regulations 2009* which provide a process whereby the Shire can protect itself against the possibility of future loss through non payment of meat inspection fees. Essentially this translates to a requirement on the operators to provide a trust deposit or a bank guarantee equivalent to the deemed amount of two months meat inspection fees.

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Trials

The Shire currently has a policy of opposition to GMO trials – arising from trials carried out in the Region some years ago.

Whilst the benefits for GMO trials are many, and the technology may provide agronomic benefits to help WA adapt to a changing climate, the risks associated with using the technology are not well understood and could lead to environmental disaster.

However, whilst Council has noted that the West Australian Local Government Association encourages local government to take a position on GMO crops which reflect the views of their community, the legal decision making powers lie with the Minister for Agriculture and Food. Above all, the Minister has indicated he will consider the Policies put in place by each local government when making decisions on GMO crops.

At the December meeting, Council decided it would be appropriate to conduct another community survey to gauge whether there has been any shift in community opinion. This will be undertaken in the latter part of January 2010.

Christmas Lighting & Greetings

This year Tammin reflects new colour and vibrancy in the festive season!

Lighting decorations now adorn the Shire Office and the Tammin Hall and several businesses along Donnan Street. They make a very pleasant sight! And, on the evening of 16 December the new Christmas tree opposite the office was alight for the first time!

Finally, may I again extend the very best wishes to all for an enjoyable Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Glenn Bone,
Acting Chief Executive Officer