

Minutes of the Shire of Tammin Ordinary Council meeting held at Council Chambers, 1 Donnan Street, Tammin, on Thursday, 16 October 2008.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Cr R Stokes declared the meeting open at 2.00pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Cr R.J. Stokes	President (Presiding Person)
Cr K.L. Caffell	Deputy President
Cr M.D. Greenwood	Member
Cr S.J. Jefferies JP	Member
Cr B.F. Stokes	Member
Cr M.K. Wheeldon	Member

Mr M.G. Oliver	Chief Executive Officer
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Visitors

Nil

Apologies

Nil

Leave of Absence

Nil

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5.1 Cr Jefferies

Cr Jefferies sought leave of absence for the November Ordinary Council meeting.

MIN 165 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Jefferies 2nd Cr Wheeldon

That leave of absence be granted to Cr Jefferies for the November Ordinary Council meeting.

CARRIED 6/0

6. DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 Cr Wheeldon

Cr Wheeldon declared an interest in Item 11.3.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 18 September 2008

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 5.22(2) of the Local Government Act provides that minutes of all meeting to be kept and submitted to the next full Council meeting for confirmation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 September 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 166/08 MOTION – Moved Cr Greenwood 2nd Cr Caffell

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

9. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS

10.1 Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils (WE-ROC) Executive

Meeting held in Kellerberrin on 24 September 2008 and attended by the CEO.

Issues discussed of relevance to Tammin included:

- WE-ROC Budget – the Budget is recommended to WE-ROC Council with a membership subscription of \$6,000 per Council and a project contribution to:
 - Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre of \$1,100 per Council (\$550 for Tammin).
 - Australian Golden Outback planner, press advertising, consumer shows, West Australian supplement, Cooks Amazing South of \$1,100 per Council.
 - Map reprint - \$1,100 per Council
- Weather Radar – letters to be sent to the Federal Members promoting the case for the installation and maintenance of weather radar within the WE-ROC area and also to submit an application to Infrastructure Australia for the inclusion of the project by the Department of Meteorology.
- Natural Resource Management – NRM Officers were requested to keep the CEOs of those Councils without an NRM Officer (Tammin & Yilgarn) in the loop in relation to project opportunities.
- WAAMII Program – further concerns raised regarding the resource hungry WALGA solution to Asset Management – with a meeting to be held between interested CEOs and the Pilbara Regional Council on 23 October to investigate alternatives.
- Western Power issues – problems experienced by Tammin (street light maintenance, street light upgrading and trees and powerline conflicts) are to be raised with WALGA's Liaison Officer for resolution with Western Power and Synergy.
- Role of WE-ROC – a list of portfolios, projects and priorities for the next 12 months is to be submitted to WE-ROC Council for endorsement. Tammin retains the Transport and Resources portfolio.
- Gravel royalties – a proposal to standardise gravel royalties across the Region did not receive support.

Comment

Provision for WE-ROC membership was included in the 2008/09 Budget (Account E041060) for \$3,700 and (Account E132020) for Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre \$500, the Wheatbelt Travellers Guide \$635, the West Supplement \$250 and Map reprint and distribution \$1,300,.

10.2 Great Eastern Country Zone of WALGA (GECZ)

Meeting held in Trayning on 25 September 2008 and attended by Crs Caffell and Wheeldon together with the CEO.

Speakers included:

- Wendy Harris, Wheatbelt Area Consultative Committee – the meeting put together a list of essential infrastructure items for Federal Government's Regional Development Australian consultation on infrastructure needs which included:
 - Roads to Recovery continuation
 - Weather radar
 - Rail network upgrade
 - Mobile telephone reception/broadband upgrade
 - Housing for government employees
 - Local Government infrastructure grant on a roads to recovery grant system
 - Sewerage infill
 - Health infrastructure & services
 - Water pipeline upgrade
 - Deep drainage
 - Dog proof fence
 - Regional landcare
 - Electricity distribution upgrade
- Tim Collins, Grain Express
- Tim Free, David Singe & Paul West, Health Services & MOU
- Tony Richmond, Department of Food and Agriculture.
- Jenny Law, Department of Local Government and Regional Development

Issues discussed of relevance to Tammin included:

- 2008/09 Budget – with subscriptions increasing from \$1,075 to \$1,875. It is proposed that future Budgets be bought down earlier.
- In person meetings to be increased from 2 to 3 per year (alternative meetings to be teleconferenced).
- Steve O'Halloran, CEO, Bruce Rock is to represent GECZ on the Wheatbelt Health MOU Steering Committee.
- Received a report from Cr Jarvis, President, Avon Midland Country Zone who attended the Local Government Exploration Forum in Canberra to review and refine the options for constitutional recognition of local government in preparation for the Local Government Constitutional Summit in December (but declined to contribute \$451 towards her costs).
- Received the Liberal Plan for the first 100 days in Government – which includes:
 - Immediate reinstatement of the Rural Crime Squad.
 - Increase Living Away From Home Allowance to \$2,000 for regional students.
 - Provision of additional funding to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.
- Supported WALGA's opposition to compulsory voting in local government and reinstatement of the first past the post voting system.
- Supported a review of the operation and effectiveness of the Building and Construction Industry Training Fund and Levy Collection.
- Supported a mass concessional loading system for grain of up to 10%.
- Supported legislative change to make Electors Meetings optional rather than compulsory.
- Supported change to the Clearing of Native Vegetation legislation.
- Supported more time for debate at the AGM.

Next in person meeting is in Kondinin on 26 March 2009 where it is proposed to look at different models for the implementation of the SSS Report.

Tammin is to host a meeting on 24 September 2009.

Comment

The 2008/09 Budget provided (Account E041060) \$1,200 for GECZ subscription.

Federal Government's Regional Development Australian is also seeking details from each local government of infrastructure needs (for completion by 17 October 2008). Items are proposed for:

- Teacher accommodation (2)
- Low income community housing (2)
- Roads to Recovery permanent
- Roads to Recovery type grant for infrastructure

10.3 LEMAC (ORGE-05)

Meeting held in Kellerberrin on 7 October 2008 and attended by Cr Stokes together with the CEO (together with Toby McQuistan (Volunteer Fire Service) and Graeme Button (St John Ambulance).

The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a *desk top* simulated emergency exercise – a B-Double truck loaded with sheep hitting the Prospector at the Goldfields Rd near (Dyer Rd) rail crossing.

11. AGENDA ITEMS

11.1 Rate Collections – Early Payment of Rates Competition (PROP-14)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 1 October 2008 Interest – Nil

BACKGROUND

Rates collected at the close of the Early Payment of Rates Competition (due date or end of discount period) were:

	Arrears	Levies & Interim	Sub-Total	Collection Including Discount	Collection Percentage
Rates	\$9,328.62	\$632,493.90	\$635,218.55	\$516,728.05	
Rubbish	\$1,747.50	\$15,750.00	\$14,187.5	\$6,850.00	
ESL	\$781.23	\$13,263.70	\$13,214.58	\$9,611.43	
Total	\$11,857.35	\$661,507.60	\$662,620.03	\$533,189.48	80.5%

This compares with 78% in October 2006 and 90% in October 2007.

Two prizes are available for the early payment of rates draw:

- Overnight accommodation for two in a Hotel Studio Room with ocean views at the Sorrento Beach Resort
- Overnight accommodation for two in a Standard Room at the Esplanade Hotel Fremantle including buffet breakfast in the Atrium Garden Restaurant.

COMMENT

Last year the draw was conducted at the Ordinary Council meeting (18 October 2007) by the Acting CEO (without an interest in property (rates) in the Shire of Tammin).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Early Payment of Rates competition prize draw be conducted at the Ordinary Council meeting on 16 October 2008 by the President of the Shire of Tammin assisted by a Staff member without an interest in property (rates) in the Shire of Tammin. Further, that the prizes be awarded by draw in the order listed in the Agenda.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 167 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Stokes 2nd Cr Caffell

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

Miss Laurise Winterswyk entered the Chamber at 2.35pm. Assessment 435 – Allan & Janet Munday (Sorrento Beach Resort) was drawn first and Assessment 367 – Danny & Jeanette Martin (Esplanade Hotel Fremantle) was drawn second.

11.2 Rate Collections

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 1 October 2008 Interest – Nil

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

Item 12.4 – 15 November 2007 refers.

BACKGROUND

Three Assessments have been identified as having rates outstanding (totalling \$4900.57) for 3 or more years.

COMMENT

Past rate notices and follow up action has failed to address these debts. Interest is accruing at 11%. It is proposed that the final collection action be instigated – sale of the property pursuant to section 6.64 of the Local Government Act.

Ample opportunity will exist for the property owners to clear the debt during the process leading up to the sale and avoid this action – although instalment plans are not considered an appropriate option.

The CEO has renewed the General Auctioneers license to allow this process to commence.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 6.64 of the *Local Government Act* provides that:

- (1) If any rates or service charges which are due to a local government in respect of any rateable land have been unpaid for at least 3 years the local government may, in accordance with the appropriate provisions of this Subdivision take possession of the land and hold the land as against a person having an estate or interest in the land and —
 - (a) from time to time lease the land;
 - (b) sell the land;
 - (c) cause the land to be transferred to the Crown; or
 - (d) cause the land to be transferred to itself.
- (2) On taking possession of any land under this section, the local government is to give to the owner of the land such notification as is prescribed and then to affix on a conspicuous part of the land a notice, in the form or substantially in the form prescribed.
- (3) Where payment of rates or service charges imposed in respect of any land is in arrears the local government has an interest in the land in respect of which it may lodge a caveat to preclude dealings in respect of the land, and may withdraw caveats so lodged by it.

Section 6.68 provides that:

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a local government is not to exercise its power under section 6.64(1)(b) (in this Subdivision and Schedule 6.3 referred to as the "power of sale") in relation to any land unless, within the period of 3 years prior to the exercise of the power of sale, the local government has at least once attempted under section 6.56 to recover money due to it.
- (2) A local government is not required to attempt under section 6.56 to recover money due to it before exercising the power of sale where the local government has a reasonable belief that the cost of the proceedings under that section will equal or exceed the value of the land.
- (3) Schedule 6.3 has effect in relation to the exercise of the power of sale.

Section 6.69 provides that:

- (1) Up to 7 days prior to the time of the actual sale of any land for non-payment of rates or service charges a person having an estate or interest in the land may pay the rates or service charges and the costs and expenses incurred to that time in proceedings relating to the proposed sale.
- (2) At any time after the 7 days referred to in subsection (1) but prior to the time of the actual sale of any land the local government may, upon such terms and conditions as are agreed between the parties, accept payment of the outstanding rates or service charges.
- (3) On payment being made under subsection (1) or (2) the proceedings relating to the proposed sale are stayed and the local government is required to make such notifications and take such measures as are prescribed in relation to the payment and the cancellation of the proposed sale.

Section 6.72 provides that where a transfer or conveyance of an estate in fee simple in land is made in purported exercise of a power under section 6.64(1)(b), (c) or (d) the title transferred or conveyed is not impeachable on the ground that —

- (a) no case had arisen to authorise the sale;
 - (b) the proper procedures were not followed; or
 - (c) the power was otherwise improperly or irregularly exercised,
- and a person who claims there has been an unauthorised or improper or irregular exercise of the power has a remedy in damages against the relevant local government but not against the Crown or the State with the Registrar as the nominal defendant under the *Transfer of Land Act 1893*.

Section 6.73 provides that a sale of land by a local government or a transfer or conveyance of land to the Crown or a local government under this Subdivision discharges —

- (a) the land; and
- (b) the owners (present and past) of the land, from any liability to the local government for rates, service charges or other money due to the local government which were, at the time of the sale, transfer or conveyance —
- (c) secured by a charge over the land; or
- (d) otherwise recoverable, whether under this Act or another written law, by the local government in respect of the land.

Section 6.75 provides that:

- (1) Where, at the expiration of 12 years from the taking of possession of any rateable land by a local government under section 6.64 —
 - (a) all rates and service charges due and payable in respect of the land have not been paid; and
 - (b) the land has not, under the provisions of this Subdivision, been —
 - (i) sold by the local government;
 - (ii) transferred to the local government; or
 - (iii) transferred to the Crown,by operation of this section the fee simple in the land is to be transferred to the local government subject to —
 - (c) easements in favour of the public which affect the land;
 - (d) the rights of the Crown in right of the State or Commonwealth or a department, agency, or instrumentality of the Crown in right of the State or Commonwealth; and
 - (e) rates and taxes (other than local government rates and service charges) due on the land, but free from other encumbrances.
- (2) Schedule 6.3 has effect in relation to a transfer under this section.

Regulation 72 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that for the purposes of section 6.64(2) the notification to be given by a local government on taking possession of land under that section is to be in the form of Form 2.

Regulation 73 provides that for the purposes of section 6.64(2) the notice to be affixed on land by a local government on taking possession of land under that section is to be in the form of Form 3.

Regulation 74 provides that for the purposes of Item 1(2)(e) of Schedule 6.3 of the Act a notice requiring payment of outstanding rates and service charges is to be in the form of Form 4.

Regulation 75 provides that for the purposes of Item 2(1)(a) of Schedule 6.3 of the Act a Statewide public notice of a sale of land is to be in the form of Form 5.

Regulation 76 provides that to stay sale of land for non-payment:

- (1) As soon as practicable after the payment in accordance with section 6.69 of outstanding rates, service charges, costs and expenses on any land the local government is to deliver to the Registrar of Titles or the Registrar of Deeds, as the case requires, a certificate signed and dated by the CEO certifying that all outstanding rates, service charges, costs and expenses have been paid.
- (2) Upon receipt of the certificate referred to in subregulation (1) the Registrar of Titles or the Registrar of Deeds is to endorse a memorandum that the land has ceased to be bound by the memorial.

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Staff be instructed to take the administrative action necessary to sell the land with rates outstanding for three or more years for non-payment of rates pursuant to section 6.64(1)(b) of the Local Government Act.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 168 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Caffell 2nd Cr Greenwood

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

Cr Wheeldon left the Chamber at 2.42pm.

11.3 Tammin CWA – Rubbish Charge (ASS-347)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 12 September 2008 Interest – Nil

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

Item 11.10 – 21 August 2008 refers.

BACKGROUND

Seeking the rebating of the rubbish charge for it's property in Walston Street, indicating that as rubbish is only collected 10 times per year for the site, a figure of \$62.50 to \$65.00 would be a more realistic figure.

COMMENT

The rubbish charge involved is \$125.

Council currently exempts the property from rates (2008/09 this would have been \$300.00) to encourage community organisations. This decision is made annually – Resolution 141/08.

The rubbish service is provided 52 weeks of the year and Avon Waste's contract provides that the Shire of Tammin pays for that service regardless whether it is used. The same applies to all developed properties in the townsite.

Council discounts eligible pensioner rubbish charges by 50%.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil if recommendation accepted.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Tammin CWA's request to discount the rubbish charge be declined, indicating that the service is provided and paid for by the Shire of Tammin under contract to Avon Waste, regardless of whether it is used.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 169/08 MOTION – Moved Cr B Stokes 2nd Cr S Jefferies

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 5/0

Cr Wheeldon entered the Chamber at 2.44pm.

11.4 Audit Committee (FIN-01)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 22 September 2008 Interest – Nil

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

Item 11.6 – 21 August 2008 refers.

BACKGROUND

Legislation requires Council to establish an Audit Committee. Membership can be either full Council or a Committee of three or more persons including elected members and/or community members with elected members being the majority of the Committee. No employee is to be a member of Committee.

The role of the Audit Committee is to provide an independent oversight of the financial systems of a local government on behalf of Council. The Council (unless delegated to the Audit Committee) is required to meet a minimum of once per year with the Auditor (which may be by video or telephone). The Committee is required to examine audit reports / management letters and advice received from the Auditor and to ensure appropriate action and response is provided.

In May 2005 Council established the Audit Committee with the following members:

- Cr Leslie
- Cr Stokes
- Cr Greenwood
- Mr Ivan Rogers
- Mr Donald Thomson

In November 2007 Council replaced Cr Leslie with Cr Jefferies.

It is understood that the Audit Committee has met twice – most recently on 15 March 2007. At that meeting, the Committee elected Ivan Rogers as Committee Chairman and resolved that:

- the Committee meet bi-annually (following the Interim Audit and the Annual Audit);
- the CEO convene the next meeting following the Interim Audit;
- the CEO provide the Committee members with a copy of the Department's Audit Committee guidelines; and
- the CEO provide the Committee members with a copy of the Annual Financial Report.

Since that time, the CEO has been unable to reach agreement with the Committee's Chairman regarding a meeting date.

In August 2008 Council resolved that Council review the membership of the Committee, deputies and the Committee quorum and that an advertisement for expressions of interest to serve on the Committee be placed in the Tammin Tabloid.

No responses were received from the public. Mr Donald Thomson had indicated that he remains interested in serving on the Committee and Mr Ivan Rogers has indicated he would prefer not to remain on the Committee.

COMMENT

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 7.1A of the *Local Government Act* provides:

- (1) A local government is to establish an audit committee of 3 or more persons to exercise the powers and discharge the duties conferred on it.
- (2) The members of the audit committee of a local government are to be appointed (absolute majority) by the local government and at least 3 of the members, and the majority of the members, are to be council members.
- (3) A CEO is not to be a member of an audit committee and may not nominate a person to be a member of an audit committee or have a person to represent him or her as a member of an audit committee.
- (4) An employee is not to be a member of an audit committee.

Section 7.1B provides that:

- (1) Despite section 5.16, the only powers and duties that a local government may delegate (by absolute majority) to its audit committee are any of its powers and duties under this Part other than this power of delegation.
- (2) A delegation to an audit committee is not subject to section 5.17.

Section 7.1C provides that:

Despite section 5.20, a decision of an audit committee is to be made by a simple majority.

Regulation 16 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations* provides that an audit committee —

- (a) is to provide guidance and assistance to the local government —
 - (i) as to the carrying out of its functions in relation to audits carried out under Part 7 of the Act; and
 - (ii) as to the development of a process to be used to select and appoint a person to be an auditor;

and

- (b) may provide guidance and assistance to the local government as to —
 - (i) matters to be audited;
 - (ii) the scope of audits;
 - (iii) its functions under Part 6 of the Act; and
 - (iv) the carrying out of its functions relating to other audits and other matters related to financial management.

Section 5.19 of the *Local Government Act* further provides that the quorum for a meeting of a council or committee is at least 50% of the number of offices (whether vacant or not) of member of the council or the committee.

Section 5.15 provides that the local government may reduce (by absolute majority) the number of offices of committee member required for a quorum at a committee meeting specified by the local government if there would not otherwise be a quorum for the meeting.

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council review the membership of the Committee, deputies and the Committee quorum.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 170 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Jefferies 2nd Cr Wheeldon

That the Audit Committee, with a quorum of 3, be appointed with the following members:

- Cr Jefferies
 - Cr R Stokes
 - Cr Greenwood
 - Mr Donald Thomson
- and Cr B Stokes as general deputy.*

CARRIED 6/0

11.5 Authorised Officer Appointment (Personnel)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 7 October 2008 Interest – Nil

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

Item 11.2 – 15 May 2008 refers.

BACKGROUND

The following are existing appointments under the provisions of the Dog Act 1976:

Registration Officers	Michael Geoffrey Oliver Julie Susanne Oliver Myra Tisha Hand Carolyn Ann Crane Laurise Winterswyk Lisa Ellen Mackin
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and authorised officers appointment under the following statutes:

- *Dog Act 1976 & Regulations, Control of Off-Road Vehicles Act 1978 & Regulations, Litter Act 1979 & Regulations, Shire of Tammin Local Laws, Local Government Act 1995* (Section 3.39, 9.10, 9.11, 9.15)
- Section 449 of the *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960*.
- Issue of Infringement notices – Section 59 (2) (a) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and Section 64 (1) of the *Cemeteries Act 1986*.
- Power of Entry – Part 3 – Division 3 Section 3.28 & 3.29 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
- Miscellaneous provisions about enforcement – Part 9 – Division 2 – Subdivision 1 Sections 9.13, 9.16, 9.17 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
- Impounding and removing goods involved in certain contraventions – Section 3.39 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Authorised Persons	Michael Geoffrey Oliver Thomas Francis Findlay Graeme Price Button Geoff Copley (WA Ranger Services) Paul Reece (WA Ranger Services)
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COMMENT

Following WA Ranger Services withdrawal of service and new arrangements in conjunction with the Shire of Kellerberrin through the Shire of York, it is appropriate that WA Ranger Services appointments be cancelled and Angela Plichota be appointed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Advertising costs.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That:

- the appointments of Geoff Copley and Paul Reece (WA Ranger Services) be cancelled;
- Angela Plichota be appointed Authorised Officer under the *Dog Act 1976 & Regulations, Control of Off-Road Vehicles Act 1978 & Regulations, Litter Act 1979 & Regulations, Shire of Tammin Local Laws, Section 449 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960; Section 59 (2) (a) of the Bush Fires Act 1954 and Section 64 (1) of the Cemeteries Act 1986 and Sections 3.28, 3.29 3.39, 9.10, 9.11, 9.13, 9.15 9.16 & 9.17 of the Local Government Act 1995.*

Simple Majority Required

MIN 171 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Greenwood 2nd Cr Wheeldon

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

Crs R Stokes and L Caffell declared an interest and left the Chamber at 3.00 pm.

The CEO assumed the Chair and called for nominations to Chair the meeting. Cr Jefferies nominated Cr Wheeldon. There being no further nominations, Cr Wheeldon was declared elected – and assumed the Chair.

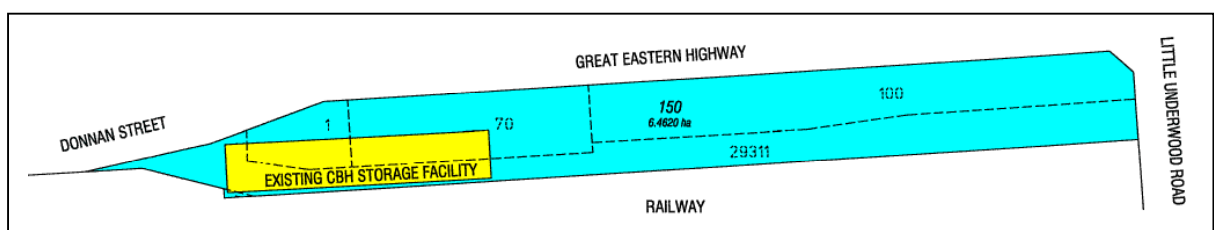
11.6 WAPC - Amalgamation Proposal (ASS-38)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 7 October 2008 Interest – Nil.

BACKGROUND

CBH has proposed to amalgamate Lots 1, 70, 100, 300 & 29311 into one Lot (150) 6.4620 ha.

The WAPC has invited comment on the proposal.



COMMENT

The proposal will rationalise the multitude of land parcels created by the realignment of Great Eastern Hwy and alteration of CBH's grain handling facility some years ago. No adverse issues are anticipated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the WAPC be advised that the Shire of Tammin has no objection to the proposal to amalgamate Lots 1, 70, 100, 300 & 29311 into one Lot.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 172/08 MOTION – Moved Cr Jefferies 2nd Cr B Stokes

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 4/0

Crs R Stokes and Caffell entered the Chamber at 3.02 pm.

11.7 Royalties For The Regions (FIN-21)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 8 October 2008 Interest – Nil.

BACKGROUND

Central Wheatbelt MLA Brendon Grylls has sought input from local communities on how the Royalties for the Regions money should be spent (*Avon Valley Advocate* – 8 October 2008).

COMMENT

The project that readily springs to mind is housing for school teachers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Unknown – but most projects require matching funds.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide direction.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 173 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Jefferies 2nd Cr B Stokes

That a letter be sent to Hon Brendon Grylls indicating the following projects as being the priorities for the Shire of Tammin for Royalties for the Regions funding:

- *Restoration of the Tammin Town Hall;*
- *Upgrade of Donnan Park (including the grandstand, new covered way BBQ area and playground shade);*
- *Housing for teachers and 2 police families;*
- *Changerooms and public toilets for Kadjininy Kep;*
- *Sealing of Town streets and completion of footpaths; and*
- *Museum.*

CARRIED 6/0

The Chairman requested Mr Oliver to leave the Chamber at 3.55 pm to allow Council to discuss Item 11.8.

11.8 Staff (PROP-00)

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 8 October 2008 Interest – Mr Oliver declares an interest in this item as the incumbent.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

Item 11.1 – 18 September 2008 refers.

BACKGROUND

Council resolved in September 2008 that the Shire of Tammin accept WALGA's quote to undertake the performance appraisal of the CEO prior to entering into the new 5 year contract.

COMMENT

It is understood that the appraisal is to be completed prior to the meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Unknown.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide direction.

Simple Majority Required

Mr Oliver entered the Chamber at 5.03pm.

MIN 174/08 MOTION – Moved Cr Caffell 2nd Cr Jefferies

That Council finalise the appraisal on 13 November 2008 with the CEO and WALGA (John Phillips).

CARRIED 6/0

11.9 Financial Report (FIN-05)

Author – JS Oliver, Senior Finance Officer, 7 October 2008 Interest – Nil

BACKGROUND

The Financial Report for 2008/09 to 30 September 2008 is attached.

COMMENT

The Financial Report has been prepared in the format requested by Council.

The effect of the Council's Policy decision on reporting variances is shown in the far right column – being the calculated variance between the Actual Column and the YTD Budget column figures where the variance is greater than 10% and \$5,000.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No significant implications.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council resolved (Item 11.8 – 23 August 2007) that in accordance with section 34(5) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 a variance percentage of 10% and \$5,000 be adopted for reporting material variances.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations* requires a Statement of Financial Activity to be prepared each month which is to contain the following details:

- (a) annual budget estimates;
- (b) budget estimates to the end of the month;
- (c) actual amount of expenditure and revenue;
- (d) material variances between comparable amounts in (b) and (c) above; and
- (e) the net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates (i.e. surplus / (deficit) position).

The Statement is to be accompanied by:

- (a) explanation of the composition of net current assets, less committed assets and restricted assets;
- (b) explanation of the material variances; and
- (c) such other information considered relevant by the local government.

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Financial Report for September 2008 be received.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 175/08 MOTION – Moved Cr Caffell 2nd Cr Wheeldon

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

11.10 List Of Payments (FIN-05)

Author – JS Oliver, Senior Finance Officer, 7 September 2008 Interest – Nil

BACKGROUND

Accounts paid and for payment for September 2008 are listed totalling:

Municipal Fund	Voucher numbers 2080 – 2175	\$362,848.97
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COMMENT

No abnormal expenditure has occurred.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations* provides that:

- (1) If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared —
 - (a) the payee's name;
 - (b) the amount of the payment;
 - (c) the date of the payment; and
 - (d) sufficient information to identify the transaction.
- (2) A list of accounts for approval to be paid is to be prepared each month showing —
 - (a) for each account which requires council authorisation in that month —
 - (i) the payee's name;
 - (ii) the amount of the payment; and
 - (iii) sufficient information to identify the transaction;and
 - (b) the date of the meeting of the Council to which the list is to be presented.
- (3) A list prepared under subregulation (1) or (2) is to be —
 - (a) presented to the Council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and
 - (b) recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the list of accounts for September 2008 be endorsed.

Simple Majority Required

MIN 176 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr B Stokes 2nd Cr Jefferies

That the Staff Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

12. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

12.1 Future Directions

Author – MG Oliver, CEO, 6 October 2008 Interest – Nil

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

Items 10.7 – 19 June 2008 and 11.4 – 18 September 2008 refer.

BACKGROUND

Council resolved in September 2008 that the Shire of Tammin seek to attend a SEA-ROC meeting to see how it functions.

Cr Wheeldon has given notice of motion that a Special meeting of Council be convened to decide:

- What we need to go forward
- How to achieve our aims
- What are our needs and aims of the Shire of Tammin
- Questions we need to ask SEA-ROC and WE-ROC
- What benefit we need to aim for
- The needs of the Shire of Tammin and what are they
- What projects require finishing in Tammin.

COMMENT

Crs Caffell, Wheeldon and Jefferies together with the CEO attended the Planning Success Strategic Business and Project Planning Workshop in Cunderdin (conducted by the ACC) on 6 June 2008. Arising from that Workshop was an understanding that Council was interested in re-visiting it's 5 year Strategic Plan which expired in 2006.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 5.3 of the Local Government Act provides that:

- (1) A Council is to hold ordinary meetings and may hold special meetings.
- (2) Ordinary meetings are to be held not more than 3 months apart.
- (3) If a Council fails to meet as required by subsection (2) the CEO is to notify the Minister of that failure.

Section 5.4 provides that an ordinary or a special meeting of a council is to be held —

- (a) if called for by either —
 - (i) the mayor or president; or
 - (ii) at least 1/3 of the councillors,in a notice to the CEO setting out the date and purpose of the proposed meeting; or
- (b) if so decided by the council.

FUTURE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Significant once determined.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil – but should be considered.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That a Special meeting of Council be convened to decide:

- What are the needs and aims of the Shire of Tammin
- What the Shire of Tammin needs to go forward
- How to achieve the Shire of Tammin's aims
- The needs of the Shire of Tammin for a ROC and what are they
- Questions that need to be asked of SEA-ROC and WE-ROC
- What benefit the Shire of Tammin needs to aim for from a ROC
- What projects require finishing in Tammin.

Simple Majority Required

Cr Wheeldon withdrew the motion.

MIN 177 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr R Stokes 2nd Cr Jefferies

That a Special Council meeting be convened in early 2009 to develop a Strategic Plan.

CARRIED 6/0

13.2 Yorkrakine Centenary Celebrations (ORGL-20)

Cr Wheeldon has tabled a motion as follows:

That a letter be forwarded to the Yorkrakine Hall Committee congratulating them on their great effort and the success of the 100 years of Yorkrakine celebrations.

MIN 178 /08 MOTION – Moved Cr Wheeldon 2nd Cr Greenwood

That a letter be forwarded to the Yorkrakine Hall Committee congratulating them on their great effort and the success of the 100 years of Yorkrakine celebrations.

CARRIED 6/0

14. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

15. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 5.30 pm.

Tabled before the Ordinary Council meeting on 20 November 2008.

Cr R.J. Stokes, Chairman

COUNCILLORS INFORMATION BULLETIN – OCTOBER 2008

Councillors are invited to view any of the information listed by seeking a copy of the document at the Shire Office.

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IB 1 Status Report

The following is an update on items considered relevant to Council either in progress or completed. Those items marked with an asterisk (*) are new for this month.

	Council Resolution	Officer	Action
	Consolidated Emergency Services Building Item 11.2.2 – 7/12/2005 That the Shire of Tammin proceed to acquire 15m of the rear of the lot for the Consolidated Emergency Services building lot for amalgamation into the Hydrology Model land for the purposes of change rooms and infrastructure for the model.	CEO	FM Surveys Northam quoted \$6,150 (November 2005) and have been requested to prepare the necessary documentation for the acquisition. Application has been made to DLI.
	Storage & Catchment Dams Item 11.6 – 20/4/2006 That the gravel bund at the corner of Shields Street and Station Road be replaced with a concrete wall with an emergency removable section.	CEO	Project discussed with Alex Perron for completion in November 2008.
*	Kadjiny Kep Item 11.14 – 20/4/2006 That a non-return valve be sourced and fitted to the stage area water trough.	CEO	165mm outside diameter of PVC pipe in a 300mm wide section – very difficult. Alternative of lowering the water levels in the balance tanks is being explored.
	Properties Inspection Item 11.18 – 20/4/2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Locate memorabilia or small cardboard buildings for historic photo cabinet. Seek advice from Ron York regarding displaying the existing photos.• Prepare septic and storm water drainage plans for the Hall.	CEO	
	Roads Inspection Item – 20/4/2006 That pedestrian ramps (concrete slab) over curb be provided at the intersection of Ridley & Redmond Streets (south west corner).		Alex Peron requested to complete.
	Statements & Plans Item 11.13 – 21/6/2006 That the CEO research and complete/update draft plans when time permits for Council's consideration. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Municipal Inventory• Health & Safety Plan• Severance & Redundancy Plan• Gratuity Plan• Strategic Plan Review of Wards & Representation	CEO	

	<p>Item 10.7.17 – 19/4/2007 That Staff clear the existing prunings and carry out further clearing to allow Mr Ralston to replace the section of fence. Note to keep the culvert clear and avoid the water pipe running through the culvert.</p> <p>Item 10.7.22 – 19/4/2007 That a crossover be installed into the School vehicle gate off Booth Street and a footpath crossover in Ridley St across Redmond St (both sides) to allow gopher on the footpath.</p>	<p>Works Supervisor</p> <p>Works Supervisor</p>	<p>Waiting on a request from Mr Ralston.</p> <p>Alex Peron requested.</p>
	<p>Properties Inspection Item 10.3 – 17/5/2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-nail timber slat in lesser hall ceiling and also in kitchen. • Replace missing tiles in Donnan Park umpires room. • Replace broken floodlight (250W/500W) in Donnan Park carpark (protect with mesh). • Install saddles on reticulation wiring in TALEC west accommodation wing. 	<p>CEO</p>	<p>Job issued to Warner Hutchinson.</p> <p>Job issued to Peter Mitchell.</p>
	<p>House Inspections Item 10.3 – 17/5/2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Russell St – timber skirting fallen off eaves. • 11 Nottage Way – smoke alarm required. • 9 Nottage Way – smoke alarm required. 	<p>CEO</p>	
	<p>Equipment Hire Item 11.9 – 18/7/2007</p> <p>That Staff provide details of items of equipment that should not be available for hire together with items of equipment that are available for hire but are currently not on the fees and charges list for further consideration by Council.</p>	<p>CEO</p>	<p>Items identified todate include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ladder • PA system • Pie warmer • Warmer oven • Level
	<p>Outstanding Projects Item 12.1.3 – 21/12/2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dam completion – plan to stabilise inlet to catchment dam and plan to transfer of water to storage dam are required. Headwall (with relief gate) to be installed across the creek on the corner of Station Rd and Shields Street. Northern section of the drain (between the Donnan Park gate and the dam) requires widening. Consideration of the 		

	<p>width of the drain at the crossover into Donnan Park has been mentioned. Provision of a security flap across the drain in the fence still to be completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donnan Street off street parking – power supply to be resolved. • Building maintenance program – program to consider heavy maintenance and improvements to the Shire’s buildings. • 4 Russell St – bathroom refit. • Tamma Village – Unit 1 bathroom. • Painting – 4 Russell St interior 		<p>Job issued to Peter Mitchell.</p> <p>Warner Hutchins given the work. Warner Hutchins given the work.</p>
	<p><u>M.G. Oliver Employment Contract Item 11.22 – 21/2/2008</u> That Mr Oliver be offered a new 5 year contract.</p>	<p>CEO</p>	<p>Whilst Mr Oliver has agreed to accept a new 5 year contract, the details of the contract and hence signing can not be determined until negotiated.</p>

IB 2 WALGA – Asset & Expenditure Report (OLGOV-03)

Correspondence forwarding the 2006-07 edition of the Report on Local Road Assets and Expenditure.

IB 3 WALGA – Issues Update No 36.08 (OLGOV-11)

Correspondence providing an update on issues including:

- WALGA Submission to the Carbon Pollution reduction Scheme Green Paper
- WALGA Climate Change and Sustainability Annual Review
- Out Of Office Email Replies
- WALGA Tax Service
- REACH Foundation Update
- Palliative Care WA (inc) Outcomes Report
- 2009 WA Innovation and Excellence Awards
- Water Sensitive Urban Design International Conference
- Australian Swimming Coaches and Teachers Qualification Course
- Walk Week: 3 – 9 November
- Watt’s New at Western Power?

IB 4 Tammin Art Prize Committee – Liquor License (ASS-1063)

Information Item 2 – 17 April 2008 refers.

Correspondence seeking consent to consume liquor at the Tammin Town Hall as part of the Art Prize on 25 October 2008.

Comment

Using the delegated authority, approval was given subject to the following conditions:

- the requirements of the Liquor Licensing Act are fully complied with;
- the liquor is consumed in an orderly manner;
- no liquor is served or consumed by persons under the age of 18 years; and
- all rubbish (including drink containers) is placed in the receptacles provided before departing the property

IB 5 1988 Isuzu FTS 4x4 Fire Tender – Sale (TN.267)

Items 11.16 – 16 November 2006, 11.5 – 17 May 2007 and 11.13 – 21 February 2008 refer.

The purchase price was finalised on 18 September 2008 with Mr Williams taking possession of the vehicle on 19 September 2008.

Comment

Council resolved to sell the vehicle for \$4,400 (Inc) in February 2008.

IB 6 WALGA – Issues Update No 37.08 (OLGOV-11)

Correspondence providing an update on issues including:

- Systemic Sustainability Study Statewide Forum
- First Meeting of Australian Council of Local Government
- State Government Cabinet Announced
- Submission: State Budget 2009-10
- Plant and Equipment Preferred Supplier Panel Update
- New Regional Cooperation Manager Position- WALGA
- WALGA Submission to the Draft NRM Plan for WA
- WALGA Tax Service Workshop
- Captivate Participation For All Launch
- Heritage Planning & Management Seminar

IB 7 S Jefferies – Liquor Consumption (RES-26973)

Correspondence seeking consent to consume liquor at Kadjininy Kep as part of the Absolutely 80s concert on 19 October 2008.

Comment

Using the delegated authority, approval was given subject to the following conditions:

- the requirements of the Liquor Licensing Act are fully complied with;
- the liquor is consumed in an orderly manner;
- no liquor is served or consumed by persons under the age of 18 years; and
- all rubbish (including drink containers) is placed in the receptacles provided before departing the property

Similar approval has been granted to Josh Brooks for the same event.

IB 8 Hon A Albanese MP Minister for Transport – Roads To Recovery (ENG-28)

Correspondence advising that on 25 September 2008 the Australian Parliament passed AusLink (National Land Transport) Amendment Bill 2008 that will provide local government with resources that will extend the Roads to Recovery Program for another five years until 2014 and increases its funding from \$300 to \$350 million per year. The legislation will also allow for the construction of rest stops and other truck facilities under the AusLink program.

IB 9 WALGA – Issues Update No 38.08 (OLGOV-11)

Correspondence providing an update on issues including:

- Meeting with Brendon Grylls, Minister for Regional Development
- Vacancies on Boards and Committees
- Corporate Travel
- Plant and Equipment Preferred Supplier Panel
- WALGA Eco- News
- Audits- Bus Stop Infrastructure
- Local Activity Grants (LAGs) Round 9
- Pest Animal Management Funding Available for Rural Local Governments
- Anti Poverty Week 12-18 October
- Volunteer Grants Program

IB 10 Staff - Conferences

Elena Wong has registered to attend the Circuit West Conference in Perth on 7-8 October 2008 (2008-09 Budget provision E131085).

Julie Oliver has registered to attend the LGMA State Conference in Perth on 15-17 October 2008 (2008-09 Budget provision E045428).

Mick Oliver has registered to attend the LGMA State Conference in Perth on 15 and 17 October 2008 (2008-09 Budget provision E045428).

IB 11 Kellerberrin Police – Blue Light Disco

Sgt Matthews has advised that a Disco is to be held in Kellerberrin on 1 November 2008 (7pm-10pm) for 4-12 year olds and has sought the use of the community bus to transport Tammin children to and from Kellerberrin.

Comment

As part of Tammin's community events, the Bus has been provided at no cost.

IB 12 Yorkrakine Centenary Celebrations (ORGL-20)

Items 11.4 – 20 March 2008 and 4.1 – 18 September 2008 refer.

With Council not making a decision regarding the request from Libby Hutchinson the CEO arranged for 7 pin-up boards, 12 trestles and 1 larger pin-up board to be delivered to Yorkrakine and picked up following the event.

The PA system was also loaned.

IB 13 Loan 77 – Purpose (FIN-19)

Following Councillor discussions the CEO has researched the Shire of Tammin's records and had discussions with Mr Peczka. It is understood that Loan 77 (Plant & Machinery) was raised for the purchase of the Isuzu side tipping truck and trailer with the balance of funds being used to pay for some of either the grader or ute purchase (mixed up in a plant purchasing program).

IB 14 Hon A Albanese MP Minister for Transport – National Infrastructure

Correspondence extending an invitation to attend the inaugural one-day meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government in Canberra on 18 November 2008. The meeting will discuss the following issues:

- Building national and local infrastructure to boost economic capacity and improve the quality of life in our communities;
- Tackling immediate challenges facing major cities and growth corridors, including urban congestion, urban planning and design; and
- Steps towards constitutional recognition for local government.

After this first meeting the Federal Government will announce the ongoing membership and charter of the Australian Council of Local Government to establish a regular dialogue with local government on issues of national significance.

The Ministers Office has advised that the invitation is for Mayors/ Presidents only; however, if a Mayor/ President cannot attend, they can be represented by an Elected Member from their Council. If a Local Government is not in a position to send their Mayor/ President they can be represented by a neighboring Council or the State Association. There will be no voting involved.

The national meeting will start with the Rudd Government hosting an official welcoming function on the evening of 17 November 2008. Winners of the 2008 National Awards for Local Government will be awarded there.

The Government will meet the costs of holding the meeting, but each Council will bear the travel and accommodation costs for their attendee.

IB 15 WALGA – Current Vacancies

Correspondence advising that nominations are sought (closing 4pm Monday 10 November 2008) for the following vacancies:

- Local Health Authorities Analytical Committee – (re-advertised)
- Board of Australia's Golden Outback – (re-advertised)
- Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Advisory Committee – (re-advertised)
- National Trust of Australia (WA) Council
- South West Catchments Council
- Community Titles Advisory Committee
- Tourism Industry Reference Group
- Waste and Recycling Conference Organising Committee (closes 5pm Monday 13 October)
- Southern Feral Pig Advisory Group

IB 16 ABC Radio Reception

Item 14.1 – 18 September 2008 refers.

An email was sent to ABC Radio Geraldton regarding the deteriorated reception of AM531 raised by Cr R Stokes in September. Whilst a response has not been provided, it would seem that ABC Radio has addressed the problem – based on reception at the Shire Office.

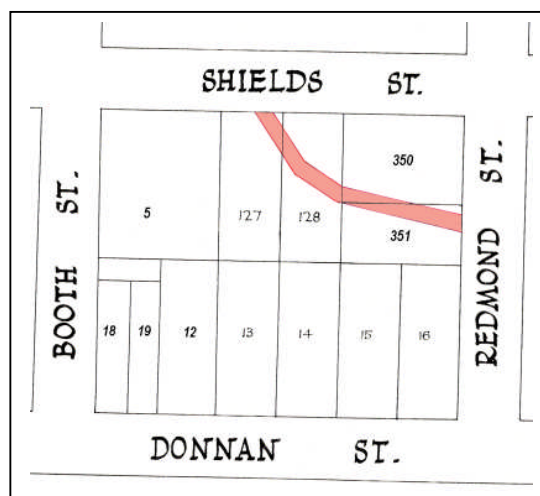
IB 17 Lots 350 & 351 Shields St (ASS-467)

These two properties have been sold and the new owner has advised that the access to the rear of Coinda (Lot 15 across Lot 351) is no longer to be used.

Comment

A crossover has been constructed off Donnan Street to allow access to the Coinda shed (Lot 14) and rear area (Lot 15).

The 1961 Deed of Grant and Easement registered over the Title of Lots 350, 351, 128 and 127 appears to protect the Shire of Tammin's interest in the storm water drain across the properties. A copy of the documentation was provided to the Settlement Agent to ensure the purchaser was aware of the situation.



IB 17 Landgate – Unimproved Value of Rural Land (PROP-18)

Correspondence giving notice of the intention to amend the Valuation of Land Regulations 1979 relating to the prescribed percentage applied in the determination of unimproved values of rural land from 30 June 2009.

Comment

The percentage is used for determining the unimproved value of land from the improved value of land (excluding buildings).

The change will see the percentage for Tammin change from the current 30% to the proposed 50%. Interestingly, both Cunderdin and Kellerberrin are currently 35%.

As the change will essentially be applied evenly across the whole district and will only affect the unimproved values, the net result on individual assessments will be minimal if at all.

IB 18 WALGA – Issues Update No 39.08 (OLGOV-11)

Correspondence providing an update on issues including:

- Vacancies on Boards and Committees
- Skills Shortage Resolution for Local Governments
- Grants Commission- General Purpose Grants, Methodology Review
- Green Precincts Fund for Local Government Projects
- Water Ombudsman Scheme Proposed
- Captivate Launch October 15- Reminder to Register
- Drowning Implications & Consequences Seminar
- Housing Affordability Program Launched
- Walk Week Seminar
- Sharing Stories – Community Sponsorship Fund 2008

IB 19 WALGGC – Methodology Review (FIN-09)

Correspondence advising that the Grants Commission is undertaking a review of its current grant methodology for general purpose grants with a view of having the review complete in time for the 2009/10 determinations and providing a discussion paper. Specifically, the Commission invites comments and submissions on the following points:

1. Do you think that the current Balanced Budget methodology provides an equitable grant to your local government? If no, please elaborate.
2. Do you think there is a need for the Commission to consider a greater range of revenues and expenditures than it currently does? If yes, please elaborate.
3. The Commission does not currently assess capital expenditure as part of its methodology. Do you think capital expenditure should be recognised in the formulae used to calculate the General Purpose Grants? If yes, please elaborate.
4. Do you think the current disability factors adequately recognise the additional costs your local government faces due to its physical and demographic circumstances? If no, please elaborate.
5. Do you think there are any additional disabilities the Commission should consider and of the existing disabilities, are there any that you think should be removed?
6. Do you think that any of the National Principles (see page 3) have an adverse affect on your General Purpose Grant? If so, please elaborate.
7. What are your views on the ABS Information Return? On average, how long does it take your local government to complete the return?
8. What are your views on the Minimum Grant Principle and its impact on the non-minimum grant local governments?
9. Do you think the current process for determining grants is sufficiently transparent? If not, please elaborate.
10. Would you like to see the current grants methodology simplified? If yes, can you comment on how you consider this might be achieved.
11. What changes, if any, would you like to see made to the grants methodology?
12. Has your local government made submissions about its Financial Assistance Grants to the Grants Commission? If so, were the submissions prepared by an external source? Where an external source has been used, please provide reasons.
13. Are you generally satisfied with the level of your General Purpose Grant over the last five years? If not, please elaborate.
14. What are your views on the current methodology and its effectiveness in achieving Horizontal Equalisation?
15. Please list in order of priority what you consider are the five most important issues the Commission should consider as part of this review.

IB 20 WALGGC – Accommodation (OLGOV-01)

Correspondence advising that some 12 months after advising members that it was necessary to find new accommodation for WALGA and LGIS, the search continues for suitable sites. The proposal to move to land in Leederville has fallen through and alternatives are now being explored.

IB 21 WALGA – Grain Freight Infrastructure (OLGOV-06)

Correspondence providing an update on the Local Road Evaluation Study Project and seeking input from local governments to confirm the identified substandard roads based on the 2030 average season scenario.

Comment

The data to be verified is yet to be supplied by WALGA – but will be checked by Staff when received.

IB 22 ALGA – Constitutional Summit

Correspondence forwarding an invitation to attend the Local Government Constitutional Summit in Melbourne on 8-11 December 2008.

IB 23 Bradley Bayly Legal – Lot 118 Draper St (ASS-383)

Correspondence advising that Maud McNamara (decd) tendered \$600 to purchase Lot 118 Draper St in 2000 but has not received the land title.

Comment

Another legacy to research and resolve.