



Town of Port Hedland

MINUTES

OF THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2013

**COMMENCING AT
7:30PM**

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE,

McGREGOR STREET, PORT HEDLAND

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*M.J.(Mal) Osborne
Chief Executive Officer*

OUR COMMITMENT

To enhance social, environmental and economic well-being through leadership and working in partnership with the Community.

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ITEM 1 OPENING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 7:34 pm and acknowledged the traditional owners, the Kariyarra people.

ITEM 2 RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**2.1 Attendance**

Mayor Kelly A Howlett
Councillor George J Daccache
Councillor Arnold A Carter
Councillor Michael (Bill) Dziombak
Councillor Julie E Hunt
Councillor Gloria A Jacob
Councillor Penny M Taylor

Mal Osborne	Chief Executive Officer
Natalie Octoman	Director Corporate Services
Gordon MacMile	Director Community Development
Eber Butron	Director Planning & Development
Russell Dyer	Director Engineering Services
Josephine Bianchi	Governance Coordinator
Grace Waugh	Administration Officer Governance

Mr Ron Morley
Ms Katherine Sakey
Mr Sam Arif
Mr Chris Whalley
Mr Richard Bairstow
Ms Jan Ford

2.2 Apologies

Councillor David W Hooper
Councillor Jan M Gillingham

2.3 Approved Leave of Absence

Nil

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday 14 March 2012

201213/366 Officer's Recommendation / Council Decision

Moved: Cr Jacob

Seconded: Mr Whalley

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday 14 March 2012 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.2 Response for Previous Question – Taken On Notice

Nil

ITEM 4 ANNUAL REPORT

4.1 Mayor's Report

201213/367 Officer's Recommendation / Council Decision

Moved: Cr Carter

Seconded: Mr Whalley

That the Town of Port Hedland Mayor's Report for the 2011/12 Financial Year be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 Chief Executive Officer's Report

201213/368 Officer's Recommendation / Council Decision

Moved: Cr Hunt

Seconded: Cr Jacob

That the Town of Port Hedland Chief Executive Officer's Report for the 2011/12 Financial Year be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.3 Annual Report**2012/13/369 Officer's Recommendation / Council Decision****Moved: Cr Carter****Seconded: Cr Dziombak****That the Town of Port Hedland Annual Report for the 2011/12 Financial Year be received.*****CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*****ITEM 5 GENERAL BUSINESS****5.1 Mr Sam Arif**

I received a letter from the Town of Port Hedland advising me that the rezoning in Sutherland Street has been put on hold, what does this mean?

Director Planning and Development advised that Council decided to put the rezoning on hold pending the Town Planning Scheme review. TPG has been appointed as the consultant that will carry out this review.

5.2 Ms Jan Ford

When will the Town Planning Scheme 6 come out?

Director Planning and Development advised that the Town Planning Scheme 6 should be out in 12 to 18 months and will undergo a community consultation period.

Will the Town Planning Scheme 6 be gazetted in 18 months?

Director Planning and Development advised it could potentially be gazetted in 18 months pending process and the Minister of Planning's decision.

Does this mean that there will be no more scheme amendments between now up until when the Town Planning Scheme 6 is gazetted?

Director Planning and Development advised at the moment amendments can still be made but Council will need to resolve a cut-off date closer to the release of the Town Planning Scheme 6.

5.3 Mr Sam Arif

Is there a budget for the Port Hedland Retirement Village as the doors appear to be damaged and the roof needs repairing?

Director Corporate Services advised that no money has been set aside for the retirement village in the current budget.

Director Community Development advised that minor works were conducted at the retirement village in the last 12 months and that the Town was looking at handing the management over to Southern Cross Care. However, this matter has not progressed further to date.

Chief Executive Officer advised that he needs to understand the history of this asset's ownership and have the maintenance team inspect the site and determine works that may be required.

I have noticed a number of travellers camping in the car parks at Cemetery Beach Park and at the Gratwick pool. Is anything being done by the Town to stop this?

Mayor advised that the Rangers have been working with a community member who lives in close proximity to the car park at Cemetery Beach to stop the travellers camping there.

Director Planning and Development advised that Rangers are doing patrols out of hours to warn and / or infringe the people camping at Cemetery Beach.

5.4 Ms Jan Ford

I would like to thank the Town for the opening of Marquee Park, the Wanangkura Stadium and for the new road going to the Port Hedland International Airport. However, a member of the public has recently approached me and asked when the South Hedland Aquatic Centre will be opened.

Mayor advised that a number of repairs have recently taken place at the pool inclusive of the adjustment chlorination filters. Members of the public had the opportunity to participate in a guided tour of the pool on Tuesday 23 April to view these repairs and receive clarification as to why they had to be carried out. Mayor advised that the water will be tested again on Monday 29 April with the results expected back on 6 May. The free pool rider bus service is now operational every day of the school holidays.

There is a picture of the marina at the South Hedland Shopping Centre, can Council look into displaying similar promotional and marketing materials at the Civic Centre?

Mayor advised that there are currently space constraints at the Civic Centre but the matter can be looked into once more space becomes available. Mayor also advised that once the Town's website has been upgraded this type of material will be showcased on this web page.

Can the front door of the Civic Centre be opened for the 'Last Hurrah High Tea' that is being held in the Gratwick Hall on Sunday 28 April?

Mayor advised that the Town has only just received quotes for having the front desk area secured.

Chief Executive Officer advised that if adequate security was to be provided the front doors of the Civic Centre may be opened.

As Gratwick Hall is now being closed to the public some community members are looking into using the old school building on McKay street as a community hall. We are asking for Council support to turn the building into a community hall.

Chief Executive Officer said he believes this building to be under the control of the Department of Regional Development and Lands therefore Council can only support the proposal in principal. To start the process a letter stating this request should be addressed to the Town.

Director Community Development also advised that the Colin Matheson Oval club room is now available for public hire and can be hired through the Rovers Football Club.

The Styles road development was outlined in the Land Use Masterplan workshops a few years ago however has since dropped off the radar. The Progress Association is asking for support to have the Styles Road development prioritised.

Mayor advised that she is part of the Port Hedland Steering Group that is monitoring and reporting on the Styles Road development.

Director Planning and Development advised that these developments have been included in the Growth Plan and LandCorp has been working on developing Masterplans for the entire East End Precinct including the Styles Road area. Athol Street is currently in the process of being released as stage one of the project and will be followed by Styles Road in future stages.

I have recently been approached by a number of entrepreneurs and also by an ABC journalist who are all asking the same question; what is happening in Port Hedland as it seems that business is slowing down and a number of investors are pulling the plug on their projects? I am asking the Town what can we do as a community to let these investors know that we are here for the long term? There have been discussions at a federal government level of a '50 year plan'. What is the Town's take on this?

Chief Executive Officer advised that the Town has endorsed and is working on achieving the Pilbara Cities' Vision, which is a 20 plus year plan.

As part of this plan a number of different projects will be considered and a number of various topics discussed at state and federal level which could include the establishment of a university in town, of more renewable energy industries and creating a tax free or special economic zone.

I have recently met with Dr Ken King, Chief Executive Officer at the Pilbara Development Commission and he is very keen to start a leaders group in Port Hedland with representation from both the private and the public sector to get these plans into action; is this something that the Town would consider?

Director Planning and Development advised that the Town is looking into a 'Committee for' Port Hedland. Marion Faulkner, Chief Executive Officer of the Committee for Perth, will be presenting to Council in June as to how a similar committee could be established here. This type of committee already exists in a number of locations across Australia and its membership includes influential business and community leaders. The aim of these committees is to improve economic prosperity, sustainability and cultural diversity.

5.5 Mr Ron Morley

I have previously brought this matter to Council and have not received a response. The footpath on McGregor Street near the car park of the Boulevard Shopping Centre floods and when this happens people with wheelchairs and pedestrians have to wade through the water to get access to the shopping centre. What is the Town going to do about the footpath as it is the Town's responsibility?

Mayor advised that the Town will look into this matter and contact Mr Ron Morley regarding this issue.

Director Engineering Services advised that he is meeting with WaterCorp on Friday and will speak to them regarding the flooding. He also advised that the Engineering team will look into fixing this section of the footpath.

At the Marapikurrinya Park the roots of trees are pulling up the tree guards and are causing a hazard to members of the public. What is the Town going to do about this matter?

Mayor advised that this matter will be attended to.

Why is Council wasting \$30,000 on an election? Why doesn't the Council go back to the way elections were run years ago?

Mayor advised that voter participation has increased since postal elections have been introduced. Mayor also suggested that Mr Ron Morley may want to encourage fellow electors to vote in the upcoming October Local Government election.

In 2012 the Wanangkura Stadium was opened and then closed three days later with no provisions made for disabled people. Also, what about the fire precautions at the Wanangkura Stadium? How much extra money did all this cost to Council?

Mayor advised that the entrance doors at the Stadium have now been fitted to standard and the building is fully accessible to disabled people. With regards to the point that Mr Morley made about fire precautions Mayor advised that no extra money was spent as it came out of the project's contingencies. There is currently a review of the Stadium being undertaken and the findings will shortly be disclosed to the public.

There are 'No Parking' signs on the verge out the front of Hedland Home Hardware yet people still park there. Is this area being patrolled by Rangers? How many infringement notices have been issued in that area?

Chief Executive Officer advised that he would contact Mr Morley and advise how many infringement notices have been issued at the front of Hedland Home Hardware.

Mayor advised that the Town may need to look into who the signs belong to as they may belong to the business owner's.

Motion

Moved: Mr Ron Morley

That a motion of no confidence in the Town of Port Hedland Council be passed.

MOTION LOST FOR WANT OF A SECONDER

ITEM 6 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8:13 pm.