



**MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015
HELD IN THE LESSER HALL, BEVERLEY
ON MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2015**

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The President, Cr Ridgway declared the meeting opened at 7:00pm

The President introduced Councillors and Staff.

2. ATTENDANCE

COUNCILLORS

Cr DJ Ridgway	President
Cr K Murray	Deputy President
Cr T Buckland	
Cr DW Davis	
Cr P Gogol	

STAFF

Mr SP Gollan	Chief Executive Officer
Mr SK Marshall	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Ms A Lewis	Executive Assistant
Mrs K McLean	Community Development Officer
Mr P MacTaggart	Works Crew

PUBLIC

Mr J Islip	Mr G Edwards
Mr B Beddall	Mr B Hobbs
Mr R Williamson	Mr K Lupton
Mrs G Petchell	Mrs J Rayner
Mrs M Whitney	Mr K Smith
Mr H Morrell	Mrs J Johnson

APOLOGIES

Mr SP Vincent Manager of Works
Cr DC White
Cr DL Brown
Mr R Hall
Mr G Rayner

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MAE1/1115

Moved: Cr K Murray

Seconded: Mr G Edwards

That the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting for the Financial Year Ended 30th June 2014, held in the Lesser Hall, Vincent Street, Beverley, on Monday 17th November 2014, be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Town Hall Curtains

Are in the process of being replaced and should be ready by the end of the year.

4.2 Main Street Speed Limit (Vincent Street)

Main Roads were approached to make Vincent Street 40km/ph, the requested was declined.

4.3 Forrest Street Speed Checks

The SAMM Trailer was used over the course of 2014/15 to slow traffic and alert motorists of their speed.

4.4 Gravestones

During 2014/15 rabbit control was applied to the two cemeteries in town.

5. ADOPTION OF 2014/2015 ANNUAL REPORT

MAE2/1115

Moved: Mr J Islip

Seconded: Mr H Morrell

That the Annual Report for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2015, be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. ANNUAL REPORT QUESTIONS

6.1 Youth Engagement in the Annual Report

Mr H Morrell enquired to Council's position regarding youth and the relationship with Beverley District High School (BDHS), as he could not locate it in the Annual Report.

The Shire President responded that Council had recently completed a desktop review of the Community Strategic Plan which states the need for a Youth Engagement Plan. At a recent workshop Councillors also agreed to financially support community groups through community grants, with programs that engage youth.

The Community Development Officer (CDO) also commented that programs supported by the Shire during 2014/15 included workshops run by the CRC, Work Experience at the Shire, Heroic Town Ride, Beverley Show, Water Harvesting, Music Rocks Workshop, collaboration with BDHS for the Artist in Residence.

6.2 Road Depreciation

Mr H Morrell enquired as to how the roads were depreciated to \$42M and how the Council determined how much to spend on our biggest asset, when the road network is becoming insufficient due to bigger machinery, more road trains and less rail?

The Deputy CEO, Mr S Marshall explained that the Shire had moved to Fair Value Accounting and a desktop analysis of the roads is completed every year with a software program that calculates the value of road based on the condition of the road, the age of the road and any work completed on it throughout the financial year. Council conduct a road inspection every year and then set a ten year road programme.

Cr Ridgway acknowledged that Council were actively lobbying the State Government and Main Roads to increase funding. The Shire manages over 70km of bitumen roads being used daily by heavy haulage. Council has representatives on the Wheatbelt Railway Alliance (Cr Alexander) and Regional Road Group (Cr Murray).

Cr Murray commented that this insufficient road funding is a statewide issue that many Shires are facing, due to lack of funds from the Government.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

As there were no written questions received, the President opened General Business from the floor. Questions & Responses are not verbatim or electronically recorded.

7.1 Body Holding Facility

Mrs J Rayner thanked Council and Cr Murray for getting the Body Holding Facility (previously known as the Morgue) up and running again at the Beverley Hospital.

Cr Ridgway acknowledged Cr Murray and Hon Mia Davies MLA for their valuable assistance in the process.

7.2 Caravan Park

Mrs J Rayner commended Council and in particular Ms Janet Baldwin for the immaculate presentation of the Caravan Park.

Cr Ridgway agreed and said Janet is a wonderful ambassador for the Caravan Park and provides a positive image for Beverley.

7.3 Footpath at Hospital

Mrs J Rayner thanked Cr Murray and Shire staff for fixing the footpath around the Hospital, but warned it may need attention in the near future as it is starting to rise again and could be dangerous to seniors or people with disability.

Noted

7.4 Doctors Attending Beverley Hospital

Mrs J Rayner asked if the Doctors are under any obligation to attend the Hospital if in town, and does the Shire have any control over this?

Cr Ridgway responded that the Shire does not have any control over Doctors attending the Hospital. The Shire has an agreement with Dr Remi for services at the Beverley Medical Centre. The Shire meets with Dr Remi and the Hospital HSM quarterly and will discuss the issue at the next meeting.

Mr H Morrell asked what to do when a problem arises?

Cr Murray advised if someone in the Community had a complaint involving the Hospital, it needs to be sent through the proper channels in writing, so the issue can be addressed from the governing body in Northam. Cr Murray can provide anyone with the address required to make a formal complaint.

Mr K Smith asked if this information can be published in the Blarney?

Cr Murray will request that the Beverley Health Service make available a complaints procedure that can be advertised in the Beverley Blarney.

Cr Ridgway closed the Hospital discussion adding that the Alex Miles Lodge Committee needed to be reactivated to ensure retention and expansion of the Lodge, due to its current assessment not meeting standards. The Lodge is an absolute necessity in our town and Beverley cannot afford to lose it.

Cr Ridgway also commented that Council was engaging in an age friendly audit which should address aging in place, footpaths, gopher trails and main street access.

7.5 Vincent Street – Footpath

Mrs J Rayner considered some sections of paving along the footpath in the Vincent St shopping area were becoming a hazard.

The Shire President advised that areas are fixed as problems are identified and requested community members to report issues to the Shire office. Also that Council was seeking funding to undertake an Age Friendly Community Audit, which would include things such as the footpaths.

7.6 Main Street Parking – ACROD

Mr B Beddall commented that there should be ACROD parking out the front of the IGA, he currently travels to York for easier parking.

Cr Ridgway acknowledged his comments and said this may come out in the Age Friendly Audit.

7.7 Vincent Street Streetscape Project

Mr B Hobbs was unimpressed with the lack of parking in the Streetscape Design and felt it was detrimental to business owners and seniors and asked how much is this costing the ratepayer.

Cr Ridgway replied that the plan was designed in house by the Shire Planner and was only the first draft in its infancy stages. The design is for concept and discussion only. The feedback from the community will be collated to come up with a second design which will again be released to the community. The design is to be used if a grant becomes available.

Mr G Edwards asked what were the responses to the draft plan?

Cr Ridgway advised that the Shire Planner was on leave and the responses would not be known until the New Year. However she was aware that there were comments received in the negative towards the roundabout, banner poles and parking.

Mr K Smith asked if the Banner Poles could or would be removed as they are sometimes dangerous, especially outside the IGA?

Cr Ridgway advised that Council will wait to hear the feedback on the streetscape plan. The banners poles would be needed to hang the Christmas banners as the old decorations were no longer being hung in the main street.

7.8 Luptons Road

Mr K Lupton enquired as to when his road will receive attention, as he had written to Council many times?

The CEO responded that it was hoped the dust suppression trial will take place while work was being carried out on Westdale Road. The CEO will check with the Manager of Works the expected date.

7.9 Community Development Plan

Mrs J Johnson enquired about the Community Development Plan in the Strategic Community Plan and was their \$15,000 still in the budget to complete it?

Question taken on notice.

7.10 Busport

Mr B Beddall commented that the pick-up and drop-off location had become dangerous with cars parking in the wrong spot on Queen Street.

The CEO responded that Shire representatives had met with Transwa and had agreed to move the pick-up and drop-off location to the Information Bay. Mr Beddall and the public gallery agreed that was a much better location.

7.11 Liability

Mr H Morrell asked now that the Shire had been informed at this meeting about possible dangers including banner poles, footpaths and roads is the Council liable if they do not act?

The CEO responded that each case would be dealt with by the Shire's Insurers and he was uncertain in each case. The CEO agreed that the footpaths do need to be looked at but was being dealt with through a footpath audit which has recently been completed.

7.12 Noise at Motor Cycle Events

Mr R Williamson asked if Council planning conditions in relation to Motor Cycle events are not adhered too, what is the course of action to take?

Cr Ridgway replied if an event is running longer or appears to be violating noise standards then a complaint needs to be made to the Shire immediately after the event so Council have a record and can address the issue.

7.13 Hobbs Road Bridge

Mr B Hobbs advised the bridge crossing known as "Hobbs Bridge" is in dire need of maintenance.

Noted

7.14 Sewerage

Mr B Beddall complained that it was unfair that some households were made to connect to the deep sewerage costing over \$1000 a year, compared to homeowners living in the same area who are still on septic tanks paying \$300 a year. Does the Shire have any control over this?

Cr Ridgway replied that the infill sewerage is controlled by the Water Corporation, and believes lack of funding many years ago saw the project incomplete throughout many towns in the State. Cr Ridgway will pass on a Water Corporation contact to Mr Beddall.

7.15 Vote of Thanks

MAE3/1115

Moved: Mrs M Whitney

Seconded: Mrs G Petchell

That a vote of thanks be made to Councillors for volunteering their time to serve and assist the Community, and to recognise Shire Staff for the paid work they do in the Community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Ridgway thanked Mrs Whitney and Community members for the vote of thanks.

7.16 St John Ambulance Volunteers

Cr P Gogol offered congratulations to Mrs J Rayner and Mr J Lane on receiving St John Ambulance Life Membership after many years of dedicated service as Volunteers.

Cr Ridgway reiterated Cr Gogol sentiments and also offered congratulations on behalf of Council and the Community.

The Public Gallery responded with a round of applause.

8. MEETING CLOSURE

The President acknowledged the work undertaken by Councillors and staff on behalf of the community and thanked those present for their attendance at the electors meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:29pm.

The President invited attendees to join Councillors for supper.