



MISSION AND VALUES OF COUNCIL

"A Sustainable Community that is inclusive, attractive, healthy and pleasant to live in, that uses our land so as to preserve our history and environment, respects the rights and equality of our citizens and manages our future growth wisely."

MINUTES
FOR THE
ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING

HELD AT 7.47PM
Thursday 13 March 2008

In the Council Chambers

13 MARCH 2008

OUR MISSION

“To provide a quality range of affordable and sustainable services to our community with a strong commitment to customer focus so that our citizens and visitors enjoy a quality lifestyle”

CORE VALUES OF THE SHIRE

The core values that underpin the achievement of the mission will be based on a strong customer service focus and a positive attitude:

Communication

Respect

Integrity

Transparency

Courtesy

SHIRE OF BROOME

**ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING
13 MARCH 2008**

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President:.....Date:.....

NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Council Member

The next Annual Electors Meeting of the Shire of Broome will be held on Thursday 13 March 2008, in the Council Chambers, Corner Weld and Haas Streets, Broome, commencing at 7:30pm.

Regards



Ian Bodill
Chief Executive Officer

18 February 2008

SHIRE OF BROOME

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2008 COMMENCING AT 7.47PM

1. OFFICIAL OPENING / WELCOME BY SHIRE PRESIDENT

The Shire President welcomed the public and attendees to the Shire of Broome 2008 Annual Electors Meeting and declared the meeting open at 7.47pm.

The Shire President announced the order of business for the meeting and the Acting Chief Executive Officer ran through the procedures for administering this years Electors Meeting.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

SHIRE PRESIDENT: Cr G T Campbell

COUNCILLORS:

Cr C R Mitchell	Deputy Shire President
Cr C M Maher	
Cr R J Lander	
Cr S E Eaton	
Cr M L B Albert	
Cr V L Wevers	
Cr P D Matsumoto	
Cr E R M Foy	(From 7.53pm)

APOLOGIES: Nil

OFFICERS:

Chris Jackson	Acting Chief Executive Officer
	Director Community Services
Ingrid Bishop	Director Corporate Services
Neville Lavey	Director Engineering Services
Darryl Butcher	Director Development Services
Les Mainwaring	Manager Finance Services
Jo Durbridge	Media & Promotions Officer
Anita Petit	Project Assistant
Jillian McMahon	Council Secretary

ELECTORS:

Chris Hingston	Broome Advertiser
Gary Cann	Elector
Chris Hill	Ships of the Desert
John Gaeppen	Red Sun Camels
David Dureau	Elector
Elizabeth Imbert	Broome Chamber of Commerce
Rosemarie Marley	Elector
Pam Baskind	Dept Planning & Infrastructure

President:.....Date:.....

3. ANNUAL REPORT

The Shire President acknowledged the good work of the outgoing CEO, Mr Ian Bodill and thanked Council staff for their efforts in trying times where staff shortages continue to be a major issue. The Shire President also thanked fellow Councillors for their support as well as the Broome community, for their input on issues which is welcomed.

Moved: Cr C R Mitchell

Seconded: Cr C M Maher

That the Annual Report for the financial year ended 30 June 2007 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. PREVIOUS ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING

The Acting CEO presented a summary of his report on the issues and outcomes of the previous Annual Electors meeting held on 21 December 2006.

[\(Attachment – Report 4 pages\)](#)

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) Question Submitted by Mr Mal Ovens, Roebuck Smash Repairs

Question 1: “What is happening in regards to a safe boat harbor for Broome or some satisfactory boat launching facility? I am aware of the facts up to date, but nothing seems to have changed in the past seven or eight years. I have contacted Carol Martin on Numerous occasions about this subject, but her response has been dismal to say the least. I have spoken to Councilor Chris Mitchell on the phone so he will know basically what I’m referring to, in my Question.

It is time the Broome Shire took responsibility for safe boating in Broome. So I please ask you all to take this matter further then just a meeting of words.”

Answer – Director Development Services: The need for a safe boat harbour in Broome continues to be a high priority for the Shire. The 2005 report of the Broome Planning Steering Committee contained an action to "Encourage the involvement of boat users and coastal stakeholders to act as a reference group to further investigations into a boat harbour in or around Broome that meets agreed sustainability criteria."

Such a project is obviously far too large for the Shire to contemplate by itself and will need to have a range of State and Commonwealth agencies involved if it is to proceed.

With regard to additional launching facilities, it is understood the Port is considering these items in its planning, but anything further will have to be considered in the preparation of coastal management plans for the coastal parks.

b) Questions Submitted by Mr David Dureau, Elector

Question 1: “Recently I heard on the ABC of a proposal to rid the Kununurra district of Neem trees as here too they have become a significant pest plant. Their proposal included the Cooperation of the Shire who asked the public to cut down trees on their properties and place them on the road verge during Cyclone Clean-up and the Shire would remove them. It also encouraged volunteers to go out and cut trees on vacant areas where they have significantly established. I thought the programme to be excellent and the points raised could be adopted by the Broome Shire. If the Shire can’t include them in the upcoming Clean-up perhaps a specific day could be nominated during future Cyclone Clean-ups where it could be put in place.”

Answer – Acting CEO: This question has been presented by Mr Dureau on a number of occasions including the Ordinary Council Meeting of 25 October 2007 and was answered in the 22 November 2007 Agenda/Minutes and similarly responded to at the Annual Electors Meeting in December 2006 and printed in Minutes 18 January 2007.

The Shire President added that the removal of Neem trees is included in the Shire's Weed Strategy and is a priority. We are also well aware that the Council has been criticised for cutting down some of the shady Neem trees in town.

Cr V L Wevers added that the Waste Management Advisory Group is required to discuss green waste collection and could examine the possibility of introducing a day for Neem tree eradication.

Question 2: “This question is in regard to pest plants. I recommend the Shire Council adopt a ‘pest plant’ local law for Broome townsite, Twelve Mile and Coconut Well, to achieve effective weed control based on the Shire Weed Strategy list of weeds identified as targets.”

Answer – Director Engineering Services: The idea is sound and has been employed elsewhere in Western Australia as a means of helping to manage weeds in an area.

A report will be put for Council's consideration at the next available Ordinary Council Meeting proposing a Pest Plants Local Law, which will include the list of weeds identified in the Shire of Broome's Weed Strategy and apply to an area including Broome Townsite, Twelve Mile and Coconut Well.

Question 3: “Will the Shire present a detailed account of all the costs associated with the failed commercial and camel activities on Cable Beach including the substantial administrative in-house costs?”

This question was taken on notice at the meeting by the Shire President and is supplied herewith for the Minutes.

Answer – Director Corporate Services: It can be confirmed that a total of \$22,865 was expended on consultancy which included a commercial & tourism study of Cable Beach, a presentation to Council, an independent review of Cable Beach and associated reports. Legal fees since 2004/05 are \$104,000 relating to processes, proceedings and legal advice on these matters. Administrative in-house costs on governance issues are not costed to individual activities therefore an objective assessment of staff time is not available.

Question 4: “Can you confirm that the Shire assessment of costs on Cable Beach attributable to commercial activities from the Surf Club to ‘North of the rocks’ is estimated to be \$70,000 out of a total management cost of \$1.02 million for all of Cable Beach? If this is correct, why have Council set charges at \$2,000 for this activity in 2006-07 and 2007-08 and \$4,200 (camels), \$2,200 (commercial) for 2008-2013 contract, which is well below the costs to Broome ratepayers? Recommend review to raise rate to cover costs. As a ratepayer I object to subsidising profitable commercial business.”

Answer – Shire President: We are unable to do this; it was a clear announcement from the State Administration Tribunal hearing. We can only do directly attributable cost recovery regardless of what money is made for these businesses.

Question 5: Mr Dureau asked for clarification on the total cost recovery from both camel and other commercial activities on Cable Beach which he quoted was currently \$24,000 rather than the estimated \$70,000 total cost.

Answer – Shire President: The Council are only able to charge what can be demonstrated as costs. These licences will be issued and the fee checked annually in our budget process. We will be endeavouring to demonstrate our actual costs, that we could prove in a court of law, is what we have set. Fees are set annually and reviewed as such.

Question 6: “Following a successful tender being accepted for BRAC’s reticulation & equipment totalling \$60,000 the Shire asked the tenderer to defer some of the work because cost was outside the budget. The tender for outstanding work has since been re-let? What was the original tender price for this deferred component? What was the second accepted tender price? Who were the successful tenderers in each case?”

Answer - Director Engineering Services: This question was taken on notice at the meeting by the Shire President and is supplied herewith for the Minutes.

Answer – Director Engineering Services:

1. A Report was put to the Ordinary Council Meeting of 30 November 2006. (Item 9.5.3 Contract 06/23 BRAC Stage 2A - The construction of automatic effluent reticulation system with freshwater flushing feature [Separable Portion A&B]). This report advised Council of the tenders received which were based upon a design to include state-of-the-art components and some infrastructure for all five ovals. Prices came in at around \$1,200,000 plus GST, which was considerably greater than budget. Council therefore accepted no tenders, and decided to re-tender the contract with separable portions so that the reticulation for playing field 2 could be completed as a minimum within the available budget.
2. A Report was put to the Ordinary Council Meeting dated 15 February 2007. (Item 9.5.1 Contract 06/26 BRAC Stage 2A - The construction of automatic effluent reticulation system with freshwater flushing feature Playing Field 2). This report advised Council of tenders received under Contract 06/26, which included a modified scope of work to reduce the expense of the equipment from the “top-of-the-line” pumps/ controllers etc to be more in line with the standard of an existing Council irrigation facility at Haynes Oval. The revised scope also limited reticulation to Oval 2 only, but with a pump system capable of watering Oval 3 as well. The report for Contract 06/26 recommended that Council award the contract to Water Dynamics. However it could not be adopted due to a lack of

the “absolute majority” required of Council for such a decision. A Special Meeting was subsequently convened to consider the tenders.

3. A Report was put to the Special Council Meeting on dated 21 February 2007. (Item 9.5.1 Contract 06/26 BRAC Stage 2A - The construction of automatic effluent reticulation system with freshwater flushing feature Playing Field 2). Council resolved as follows:

“That the lowest conforming tender from Tyco Flow Control Pacific Pty trading as Water Dynamics of \$648,276 excluding GST be accepted for Contract 06/26 BRAC Stage 2A, the construction of automatic effluent reticulation system with freshwater flushing feature Playing Field 2, and upon award, for the Director of Engineering Services to be authorised to negotiate a deduction to the tendered contract sum to reduce the contract sum by approximately \$100,000 - \$125,000 by modifying or deleting a group of non-essential (for playing field 2) reticulation items”. This was negotiated with the successful tenderer and the contract proceeded resulting in the installation of the Pump Station and Reticulation on Oval 2.

4. Report to Ordinary Council Meeting dated 1 August 2007. (Item 9.5.1 Contract 07/34 BRAC Stage 2A - The supply and installation of effluent reticulation on Playing Field 3). Tenders received for Contract 07/34 to install the Reticulation on Oval 3 were considered by Council and awarded to Water Dynamics in the sum of \$134,005 plus GST.

Note that the items deferred in Contract 06/26 have never been installed or added into another contract.

c) Question Submitted by Rosemary Marley, Elector

Question 1: “What is happening with the excess people congregating in the Chinatown area day and night?” (Ms Marley added examples of potentially dangerous behaviour that she has experienced in the area).

Answer – Shire President: This issue has been facing Broome for over 30 years. Unfortunately, so far, collectively we have only been able to rid the town of large brown beer bottles. There are some positive steps being taken such as I am aware traditional owners have been approached with support to erect a shed for gatherings and others in town have offered funds to erect a toilet block.

Council has been lobbying the State Premier and Cabinet and I have a meeting in Broome on 14/15 April 2008 where I have been given 10 minutes to address Cabinet, where I will repeat make my speech from 2 years ago which has not yet been responded to.

The Kimberley Indigenous Working Group was established by this Council, stakeholders and governments, however it has no local or state members. The only serious action so far has been Department of Indigenous Affairs consideration appointing Kevin Dann to complete studies on why these people are in Broome. An interim report says he had not interviewed any intoxicated people due to the danger of doing so.

The Shire is not responsible for the health or policing of the people, however Broome Police are significantly increasing their activities with regard to people street drinking.

Cr C R Mitchell commented on the Native Title process as did Cr E R M Foy in regard to areas set aside for gatherings out of town. The Shire President emphasised that this is an issue which needs to be addressed within the Native Title process.

d) Question Submitted by Christopher Hill, Ships of the Desert

Question 1: “I request that Council considers the road routes used for camel tours as recent building development activities in the Cable Beach area have meant negotiating barriers causing potential risks.”

Answer – Shire President: This issue has been raised already regarding Sanctuary Road and coming out of tonight, Councillors will be workshopping this.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer added that if operators are having problems with those developments en-route to the beach the Ranger service is here to support you and we will endeavour to ensure the right thing is done.

e) Question Submitted by Elizabeth Imbert, Broome Chamber of Commerce

Question 1: “The Broome Chamber of Commerce would like to ask what is the Council’s position on closed circuit television monitoring (CCTV)? If supported, would the Council be willing to second a staff member or Councillor to attend subcommittee meetings being facilitated by the Broome Chamber of Commerce?”

Answer – Shire President: We will be required to address this issue in the April Agenda and will take action from there. Secondly, the secondment of an officer or Councillor will also be addressed as we recognise what the Chamber is attempting to achieve.

6. QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM THE FLOOR

a) Question Asked by David Dureau, Elector

Question 1: Can next year’s Agenda contain the Chief Executive Officer’s summary of the previous Annual Electors meeting so that electors can be reminded of the topics raised the previous year?”

Answer – Shire President: I’m sure that can be arranged.

Moved: Cr C M Maher **Seconded: David Dureau**

That Council includes the summary report of the previous Annual Electors Meeting within the Agenda for Annual Electors Meetings to allow the community access to issues previously raised.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

