

# NOTICE OF MEETING

Councillors:

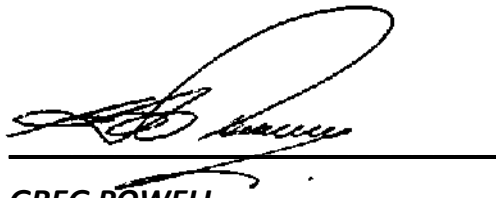
Please be advised that the next meeting of the

## Shire of Merredin

will be held on Tuesday  
16 July 2013 commencing at 3:00pm

### SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

- 11.00am Citizenship Ceremonies x 3
- 1.00pm Briefing Session  
Mark Turner – MRC&LC  
Budget Briefing
- 3.00pm Commencement of Council Meeting



**GREG POWELL**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**11 July 2013**

---

#### *Disclaimer:*

*The advice and information contained herein is given by and to Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.*

Please note this Agenda contains recommendations which have not yet been adopted by Council.

---

**INDEX**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>OFFICIAL OPENING</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b> .....	<b>5</b>
6.1	Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 June 2013 .....	5
6.2	Special Council Meeting Held 27 June 2013 .....	5
<b>7.0</b>	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL</b> .....	<b>5</b>
9.1	WE-ROC Council Meeting Held on 26 June 2013 .....	5
9.2	GECZ Meeting Held 27 June 2013 .....	6
<b>10.0</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b> .....	<b>7</b>
10.1	Reopening Of The Shire Of Merredin Waste Water Lagoon- Chandler Road Landfill Site .....	7
10.2	Landfill Passes 2013/2014 .....	9
<b>11.0</b>	<b>ENGINEERING SERVICES</b> .....	<b>11</b>
11.1	Roads To Recovery (R2R2) Funding.....	11
11.2	Merredin Landfill Facility – Free Mulch Day.....	13
11.3	Road Expenditure – 2011/12.....	14
<b>12.0</b>	<b>CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES</b> .....	<b>15</b>
12.1	List Of Accounts Paid .....	15
12.2	Monthly Finance Report.....	16
12.3	Employer Superannuation Obligations – Increase From 9% To 9.25% .....	17
12.4	Fees And Charges 2013/14 Financial Year - Additional.....	19
12.5	2013/2014 Budget - Adoption.....	21
12.6	Youth Activity /Music Event – Fee Waiver .....	24
12.7	Activate Merredin Youth Activities – Urban Art Project .....	26
<b>13.0</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b> .....	<b>28</b>
13.1	Cummins Theatre – Fee Waiver .....	28
13.2	Salaries & Allowances Tribunal – Fees Etc For Council Members....	30
<b>16.0</b>	<b>MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN</b> .....	<b>34</b>

**AGENDA**

---

<b>17.0</b>	<b>QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>18.0</b>	<b>URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION .....</b>	<b>34</b>
	18.1 Differential Rates Model .....	34
<b>19.0</b>	<b>MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>20.0</b>	<b>CLOSURE.....</b>	<b>34</b>

**AGENDA**

---

**Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Merredin to be held in the Council Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on Tuesday 16 July 2013 commencing at 3.00pm.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors: M Morris  
BJ Anderson  
RM Crees  
DN Hayes-Thompson  
KA Hooper  
T McFarlane  
D Morris  
W Wallace

Leave of Absence: DM Crook

Staff: G Powell Chief Executive Officer  
E Arnold Executive Manager of Corporate and  
Community Service  
K Paust Executive Manager of Engineering Service  
L Wyatt Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer

---

**1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING****2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME****3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Cr Crook has approved leave of absence from this meeting.

**4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

**5.0 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS****6.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 June 2013 and Special Council Meeting Minutes held 27 June 2013.

6.1 Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 June 2013  
[Attachment 6.1A](#)

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 June 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.*

6.2 Special Council Meeting Held 27 June 2013  
[Attachment 6.2A](#)

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 27 June 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.*

**7.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION****8.0 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC****9.0 RECEIVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL**

9.1 WE-ROC Council Meeting Held on 26 June 2013  
[Attachment 9.1A](#)

- 9.2 GECZ Meeting Held 27 June 2013  
[Attachment 9.2A:](#)

***Officers Recommendation***

***That the minutes of the WE-ROC Council Meeting held 26 June 2013  
and GECZ Meeting held 27 June 2013 be received.***

**AGENDA**

---

**10.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

---

**10.1 REOPENING OF THE SHIRE OF MERREDIN WASTE WATER LAGOON-  
CHANDLER ROAD LANDFILL SITE**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Development Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Rebecca Bowler- Environmental Health and Compliance
<b>Legislation:</b>	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986, Local Government Act 1995</i>
<b>File Reference:</b>	WM 16/02
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

---

**Background**

In accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*- Licence for Prescribed Premises, the Shire of Merredin Chandler Road Landfill site is able to accept the following Controlled Wastes from the Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004: Septage Waste – wastes from the apparatus for the treatment of sewerage, Grease Wastes- waste resulting from food preparation, stormwater, pondwater and finally fire debris and washwater. The current liquid waste treatment lagoon is at close to full capacity. Council recently resolved to cease acceptance of liquid waste from 1 July 2013.

If Council is to continue to accept controlled waste from controlled waste carriers then it will need to accept only that liquid waste is collected from within the bounds of the Shire of Merredin.

**Comment**

The service is being provided to those that do not generally service the Shire of Merredin area. We receive, on a regular basis, liquid waste from Shire of Westonia mine site, Tammin and from as far east as Southern Cross and Coolgardie.

There was an incident in 2012 where approximately 20,000L of 'non-compliant' liquid waste was disposed of within the current liquid waste lagoon. Since advice of the proposed closure of the lagoon became known, concern was expressed by contractors at the impact this would have on their businesses and the business sector. After further review it became apparent that the current lagoon could continue to operate but there is a need to limit the depositions into the waste water lagoon to those which come from the Shire of Merredin residents only.

**AGENDA**

---

This will be achieved through the implementation of a declaration form which will need to be signed by the owner of the Shire of Merredin property, the controlled waste carrier and a Shire of Merredin Chandler Road Landfill Site Attendant. The declaration will determine the address of the property from where the liquid waste has been derived from, the amount (volume) of waste collected and the relevant contact details of the owner of the property. It is believed that this will allow the facility to remain open within current constraints and still service the local community.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

A charge of \$0.07c per Litre from waste disposal carriers for the deposition of appropriate waste water in to the Shire of Merredin waste water lagoon will apply.

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That the Shire of Merredin Waste Water Lagoon remains open post 1 July 2013 and be restricted to use by Shire of Merredin residents only subject to appropriate procedures being put in place.***



**AGENDA**

---

**10.2 LANDFILL PASSES 2013/2014**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Development Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Rebecca Bowler- Environmental Health and Compliance
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	WM 16/02
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

---

**Background**

The landfill pass system was introduced in the 2011/12 financial year and has been in use up until the end of the 2012/13 financial year. The original concept behind the implementation of tip passes was to limit the number of times the landfill was accessed by the owners of each rateable property to 4 visits per financial year, irrespective of the waste load that they were intending to deposit (unless disposing of recyclables- unlimited access granted).

Due to differences in interpretation caused perhaps by an overly complex system, the current system has been rendered ineffective. It is proposed that changes be made to the way that Shire of Merredin residents are identified in relation to allowing access to the Chandler Road Landfill Site.

**Comment**

It is proposed that a Shire of Merredin Residential Landfill Pass be issued to Shire of Merredin residents for the purposes of identification only. This identification tag/disc (see draft attached) will be used to identify Shire of Merredin residents from commercial entities and also from residents residing outside the bounds of the Shire of Merredin.

The landfill pass system will be used by residents to gain entry into the Landfill Site. A 'no tip pass, no free dump' policy will apply. This will mean that Shire of Merredin residents will be able to dump sorted waste free of charge. Unsorted waste will attract the appropriate fee.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

Nil. Cost of identification tags/discs will be met from within the current budget. Should the pass not be produced the normal fee will apply except for sorted loads and recyclables which will remain free of charge.

**AGENDA**

---

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That a new Landfill Pass scheme, allowing Shire of Merredin residents unlimited free access to the Chandler Road landfill site, provided that they present their Identification tag/disc on entry with a "no tip pass, no free dump" stance applying.*

---

**11.0 ENGINEERING SERVICES**

---

**11.1 ROADS TO RECOVERY (R2R2) FUNDING**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Engineering Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Kevin Paust
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	R10/01
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

---

---

**Background**

The current Roads to Recovery program expires on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The Shire of Merredin's allocation for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 is \$2,033,033. \$1,165,721 has been recouped leaving \$867,312 of which \$513,462 has been allocated to specific roads in the draft budget for the 2013/14 financial year.

The remaining \$353,849 requires allocation this financial year as there is no carry over to the next round of R2R2 funding.

**Comment**

It is suggested that the remaining \$353,849 be allocated in near equal portions between urban and rural roads.

Six town streets have been identified by Roman2 and a visual inspection of these roads was carried out by the CEO and EMES.

The order of priority on urban streets according to Roman2 and costing are as follows;

Alfred Street - \$56,700  
Ellis Road - \$26,100  
Pereira Drive - \$33,300  
Solomon Road - \$66,428  
Tomlinson Road - \$50,400  
Allbeury Road - \$111,428

Insufficient funds are available to undertake all the above (total \$344,056) and it is suggested that Alfred Street, Ellis Road, Pereira Drive and Solomon Road be undertaken at a cost of \$182,528. The remaining roads will be prioritised through the Five Year Plan.

In the rural area, Korbrellkulling Road has been prioritised as it requires a second coat seal. \$72,000 has been allocated in the draft budget to reseal 2.5 kilometres. The extra funds will increase this by 6.1 kilometres to 8.6 kilometres at a cost of \$171,321.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

Nil. This is external funding with no matching requirement.

**Officer's Recommendation**

- 1. That the following urban streets be included in the 2013/14 Road program at a cost of \$182,528 - Alfred Street, Ellis Road, Pereira Drive and Solomon Road.***
  
- 2. That an additional 6.1 kilometres for the resealing of Korbrellkulling Road be included in the 2013/14 Road program at a cost of \$171,321.***

**AGENDA**

---

**11.2 MERREDIN LANDFILL FACILITY – FREE MULCH DAY**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Engineering
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	EMES
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	WM 11/01
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

---

**Background**

There is currently a considerable amount of mulch that has accumulated over the past year and is stored at the Shire refuse site.

A free mulch day was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2013 and was well received by the rate payers of Merredin.

Two Dogs Hardware was approached by EMES and given the opportunity to purchase mulch at a discounted rate but to date have not taken up this option.

**Comment**

The storage and maintenance of the mulch takes a considerable amount of space and time which is not recouped in the sales with year to date yielding \$360.00 in 2012/2013.

As the Shire of Merredin has an MOU with the Water Corporation and is recognised as a Water Wise Council, free mulch days could encourage community members to become Water Wise.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

This will not create an income for Council but would create good will and contribute towards saving water resources.

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That three free mulch days per year be scheduled commencing on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 as part of Councils obligations under the Water Corporation MOU to encourage the community to become Water Wise.***

**AGENDA**

---

**11.3 ROAD EXPENDITURE – 2011/12**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Engineering Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Kevin Paust
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	R10/01
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	2011/12 Report ( <a href="#">Attachment 11.3A</a> )

---

**Background**

WALGA produces an annual report on road assets and expenditure for all Local Governments within Regions of Western Australia.

**Comment**

A record \$720 million was spent during the 2011/12 financial year by Western Australian Local Governments. The expenditure was used on maintaining, upgrading and renewal of road assets within the State.

Local Governments are responsible for the management of 128,162 kilometres of local roads within the State. The replacement value of these assets is \$21.91 billion.

The cost of maintaining the States road assets in 2011/12 was estimated to be \$598 million and of this Local Governments expenditure was \$495.3 million a shortfall of \$102.7 million.

Local Governments within the Wheatbelt North region would have to spend 86% of their total revenue to make up the difference between their road preservation needs and State and Federal grants.

Over the whole State Local Government would be required to spend an estimated 32% of their revenue capacity to make up the shortfall.

Table 20 (page 26) and Appendix 13 (page 105) of this report is a comparison of the Shire of Merredin to the other Shires in the Wheatbelt North Region. Tables in Appendix 19 (pages 147 &148) refer to comparisons of agricultural Shires without large Towns expenditure.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

Nil

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That the 2011/12 report on Local Government road expenditure be noted.*

**12.0 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

---

**12.1 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance & Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
	Finance and Administration
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995 & Financial Management Regulations
<b>File Reference:</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	List of Accounts Paid

---

**Background**

The attached List of Account Paid ([Attachment 12.1A](#)) during the month under Delegated Authority is provided for Council's information.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

**Financial Implications**

All liabilities settled have been in accordance with the Annual Budget provisions. It should be noted that outstanding creditors total \$77,227.38.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council receive the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques, EFT's, bank charges, directly debited payments and wages, as numbered and totalling \$1,432,066.79 from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account and \$1,015.10 from Council's Trust Account.*

**AGENDA**

---

**12.2 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance and Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Monthly Finance Report

---

**Background**

The Monthly Finance Report is attached for Council's information.  
([Attachment 12.2A](#))

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

**Financial Implications**

As outlined in [Attachment 12.2A](#).

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council receive the Monthly Finance Report for June 2013.*



**AGENDA**

---

**12.3 EMPLOYER SUPERANNUATION OBLIGATIONS – INCREASE FROM 9% to 9.25%**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Chantelle Paust
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

---

**Background**

From July 1 2013, Council is obligated to increase Superannuation Guarantee payments for all employees from 9.0% to 9.25%.

**Comment**

Employers are obligated to pay superannuation to all employees who are over the age of 18 years old and who earn over \$450.00 (gross) per month.

Over the next 7 years the Australian Taxation Office will gradually increase the Superannuation Guarantee amount payable to all employees by their employer. These contributions are compulsory. As at July 1 2013, employers will be obligated to increase Superannuation Guarantee amounts and continue to increase contributions until July 1 2019 when contributions will total 12.0%. The table below details the increments;

Year	Rate (%)
2013-14	9.25
2014-15	9.5
2015-16	10
2016-17	10.5
2017-18	11
2018-19	11.5
2019-20	12

The Superannuation Guarantee age limit of 70 will also be removed from July 1 2013. As a result employers will be required to contribute to the complying superannuation funds of employees 70 years and older.

An option for Council consideration is to amend its policy on superannuation to reduce its matching contribution thereby ensuring that its total contribution does not exceed the maximum of 14% currently applying under the policy.

**AGENDA**

---

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992

Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993

Superannuation Legislation Amendment Regulation 2013

Local Government Act 1995

Council Policy

**Financial Implications**

It is estimated that the additional cost for 2013/14 will be in the order of \$7,100. Should Council wish to reduce its voluntary contribution, there would be a saving of approximately \$2,300 thereby incurring an additional cost of approximately \$4,800 for the 2013/14 financial year.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council acknowledge the 0.25% increase in Superannuation Guarantee payments from 1 July 2013 and resolves whether to amend its policy to reflect a maximum superannuation contribution of 14% to any one employee.*

**AGENDA****12.4 FEES AND CHARGES 2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR - ADDITIONAL**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance & Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Schedule of Fees and Charges ( <a href="#">Attachment 12.4A</a> )

**Background**

In the May 2013 ordinary meeting of Council the Fees and Charges schedule for 2013/14 financial year was adopted. Subsequently, some amendments are required.

**Comment**

The below listed additional charges and clarifications are required:

Description	Charged 2012/13	Proposed 2013/14
Commercial Refuse Charge 1100lt - per annum*	\$546	\$575
Commercial Refuse Charge 1100lt – (Additional Pick Up) per annum*	\$546	\$575
Commercial Refuse Charge 1.5m3 – (Additional Pick Up) per annum*	-	\$965
Commercial Refuse Charge 3.0m3 – (Additional Pick Up) per annum*	-	\$1,925
Commercial Refuse Charge 4.5m3 – (Additional Pick Up) per annum*	-	\$2,885.00
Waste Management Levy	\$32	\$32
Commercial Green Waste - per M3	-	\$10
Residential 6x4 Trailer –Bulk Waste/ Demolition Waste (Sorted) = Residential Tip Pass	-	Free

**AGENDA**

Residential 6x4 Trailer – Bulk Waste/Demolition Waste = Residential Tip Pass (Unsorted) - per m <sup>3</sup>	-	\$31.00
Residential Tandem Trailer – Bulk Waste/Demolition Waste = Residential Tip Pass (Sorted)	-	Free
Residential Tandem Trailer – Bulk Waste/Demolition Waste = Residential Tip Pass (Unsorted) - per m <sup>3</sup>	-	\$45
Provision of Bar Staff for Functions outside normal hours of bar operation – Bar Manager	-	\$40.00 per hour
Provision of Bar Staff for Functions outside normal hours of bar operation – Additional Staff	-	\$30 per hour

The Commercial Refuse Charge was removed from the original schedule on the understanding that the 1100lt bins would no longer be available in the 2013/14 year. However, due to supply shortages of the new bins, it will now be necessary to phase in the change which means some commercial properties will continue to use the 1100lt bins for at least a portion of the 2013/14 year. The additional categories for waste disposal at the land fill site represent an effort to clarify and classify the type waste being deposited and restrict free waste disposal to Shire of Merredin residents.

The addition of Bar Staff fee will allow the flexibility to provide a bar service for a specific function as well as an additional revenue stream.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

The Local Government Act 1995 allows for the imposition of fees and charges as outlined in section 6.16 and 6.17.

**Financial Implications**

Any increase in fees will be reflected in the budgeted revenue.

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That Council adopt the fees and charges to be effective from 1 July 2013.***

**ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED**

**AGENDA**

---

**12.5 2013/2014 BUDGET - ADOPTION**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Finance and Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold – Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations
<b>File Reference:</b>	Nil
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	2013/2014 Budget document <b>Attachment 12.5A</b>

---

**Background**

Council is required to prepare and adopt, in the manner and form prescribed, its Annual Budget by no later than 31 August each year, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995. A number of motions are required to formalise the process.

**Statutory Implications**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, an Absolute Majority decision of Council is required in adopting the Annual Budget.

**Comment**

Council has considered the contents of the various schedules contained in the draft budget, the plant replacement program, road works program and capital expenditure items. Variations to the draft information are incorporated in the Annual Budget document which is presented in **Attachment 12.5A**.

**Officer's Recommendation****1. General Rate**

*That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.33 of the Local Government Act 1995, imposes a rate in the dollar for the areas in the Shire valued on Gross Rental Values of 10.4332 cents and Unimproved Values as outlined below for the 2013/2014 financial year.*

**AGENDA**

Unimproved Value	Rate in \$
UV1 – Rural	\$1.4902
UV2 – Urban Rural	\$1.9861
UV3 – Mining	\$2.9804
UV4 - Special Zone Wind farm	\$2.9804
UV5 – Special Use Airstrip	\$2.9804
UV6 – Merredin Power	\$2.9804

**2. General Minimum Rate**

*That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.35(1) of the Local Government Act 1995, set a general minimum rate of \$699 for the 2013/2014 financial year for Gross Rental Value properties. Unimproved Values properties as outlined below:*

Unimproved Value	Minimum Rate
UV1 – Rural	\$868
UV2 – Urban Rural	\$868
UV3 – Mining	\$139
UV4 - Special Zone Wind farm	\$1,157
UV5 – Special Use Airstrip	\$1,157
UV6 – Merredin Power	\$868

**3. Due Date for Payment of Rates**

*That the Shire of Merredin set the due date for payment of rates for the 2013/2014 financial year to be 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013.*

**Due Date for Payment of Rate Instalments**

*That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, set the due date for the payment of rate instalments for the 2013/2014 financial year as follows:*

<i>First Instalment</i>	<i>23 September 2013</i>
<i>Second Instalment</i>	<i>25 November 2013</i>
<i>Third Instalment</i>	<i>28 January 2014</i>
<i>Fourth Instalment</i>	<i>24 March 2014</i>

**4. Interest on Rate Instalments**

*That the Shire of Merredin set an interest rate of 5.5% for the 2013/2014 financial year in accordance with Section 6.45 (4)(e) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 68 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.*

**5. Administration Charge on Instalments**

*That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.45(3) of the Local Government Act 1995, set an administration charge of \$11.00 per rate instalment notice where the instalment plan is selected.*

**6. Interest on Overdue Rates**

*That the Shire of Merredin set an interest rate of 11% for the 2013/2014 financial year in accordance with Section 6.51(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 70 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.*

**7. Interest on Money Owing to Council – General Debtors**

*That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.13 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 19(a) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, set an interest rate of 11% for the 2013/2014 financial year.*

**8. Adoption of Budget**

*That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.2(1) of the Local Government Act 1995, adopt the Budget for the 2013/2014 financial year as presented in Attachment 7.3A.*

**9. Adoption of Material Variance Level for Reporting**

*That Council adopt the value of +/- \$5,000.00 or 5% whichever is the greater as the minimum amount for reporting material variances for the 2013/2014 financial year.*

**ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED**

**AGENDA**

---

**12.6 YOUTH ACTIVITY /MUSIC EVENT – FEE WAIVER**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Author:</b>	Marilyn Sayers
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Letter from Ethan Cooper <a href="#">Attachment 12.6A</a>

---

**Background**

The Community Liaison Officer has facilitated three meetings held with students from Merredin College over the last two months to ascertain and plan youth activities for Shire of Merredin and neighbouring shires. Fifteen students have been involved in the meetings from Y8-12. They have surveyed the senior school on what events were the most popular and now have undertaken to organise two events – a trip to Perth and a music event. One College staff member has also taken a lead role and the students have enlisted the help of older youth/siblings/friends, parents and some key community groups eg Police.

The group decided they needed a name and came up with Merredin Youth Voice which is to be used on a Shire sponsored Youth Activity Grant application to the Department of Communities. They have also named the music event “Bring On Summer” as explained in the letter.

**Comment**

Each person in the group has taken responsibility for a task of the event organisation from input into writing the grant application, promotional material, engaging bands, dance groups and DJ’s, security, merchandise and food. Their next meeting planned for July will be for a complete project plan and timeline. They are a very motivated and responsible group. A pleasure to work with.

The group is currently in the process of applying for grants to fund their planned events and are seeking a waiver of the hire fees for facilities required at MRC&LC as an in kind contribution to assist them.

The correspondence is not specific in regard to the area/rooms they are requesting to hire. It is assumed this is an outdoor event.



**AGENDA**

---

The amount of revenue Council could waive is as follows:

Oval hire – community	
Friday (up to 4 hours) for set up	358.00
Saturday (up to 8 hours)	594.00
Sunday (up to 4 hours) for clean up	358.00
Kitchen hire (estimated requirement) \$22 x 6 hours	142.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1442.00</b>

Plus a \$500 bond payable.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

Potential loss of revenue of \$1442.00.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council endorse the request to waive all fees payable for the "Bring on Summer" music event to be held at MRC&LC as an in kind contribution towards youth activities in Merredin but, that Merredin Youth Voice be advised they are responsible for the all set up, cleaning and rubbish removal at their own cost.*

**AGENDA**

---

**12.7 ACTIVATE MERREDIN YOUTH ACTIVITIES – URBAN ART PROJECT**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Corporate and Community Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Evelyn Arnold
<b>Author:</b>	Marilyn Sayers
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Examples of urban art in other WA cities/Shires completed by Darren Hutchens, community artist. ( <a href="#">Attachment 12.7A</a> )

---

**Background**

One of the Activate Merredin projects is to deliver an urban art workshop for youth in the Shire of Merredin. A workshop of this nature delivers many skills for young people – taking responsibility and ownership of a public place, communication, self-worth, design and creativity.

**Comment**

The Community Liaison Officer has had several discussions with community groups – students, Merredin Fine Arts group, the TAFE art class and tutor who have expressed a wish to brighten up many spaces by painting the blank walls/buildings in the town.

To satisfy part of the community's desires in a small way, it is proposed to paint the fence around the "Lions Den" on the inside panels in urban art through offering a three day workshop to the whole community, facilitated by a professional artist. It is proposed to hold the workshop during the October school holidays. The Lions Club members have agreed to have the fence painted in urban art. It is possible to have some of the 2013 Banners in the Terrace artwork replicated onto the fence also.

Perth based Darren Hutchens is a community artist who has worked with young people in Metro and Regional WA to create urban art in public spaces. He has been recommended to facilitate the workshop by several CDO's and Wheatbelt RDA Youth Support workers throughout the Wheatbelt and is renowned for his work with youth and the professional outcomes. Examples of his work are attached.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**AGENDA**

---

**Financial Implications**

The project will be funded through grants, Wheatbelt RDA and the Shire's youth activities budget 2013/14.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*The Council support an urban art project to paint the inside facing panels of fence around the Lions Den on the corner of Throssell Road and Woolgar Avenue.*

---

**13.0 ADMINISTRATION**

---

**13.1 CUMMINS THEATRE – FEE WAIVER**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Lorraine Wyatt
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	FM 21/01
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Correspondence

---

**Background**

Correspondence was received from Merredin Fine Arts Society requesting an in kind contribution from the Shire for the hiring of Cummins Theatre for hosting of the biannual Wheatbelt Art Prize. A copy of the correspondence can be found at [Attachment 13.1A](#).

**Comment**

The event that is under consideration is a separate event to that which Council currently contributes by way of the Acquisition Art prize in the order of \$1000.00.

The Fine Arts Society successfully applied for a Community Funding Grant for the 2012/13 financial year totalling \$1480.00 however they did not submit one for the 2013/14 financial year.

On this occasion, the Fine Arts Society have offered to make a monetary donation to Council if the exhibition operates at a surplus. The amount of revenue potentially able to be raised from the event is as follows:

Theatre hire – more than 4 hours (community)	440.00	
Tivoli room hire – more than 4 hours (community)	181.50	
Kitchen hire – more than 4 hours (community)	88.00	
<b>Total hire for the three days (Fri, Sat and Sun)</b>		<b>2128.50</b>
<b>Plus a refundable bond of \$500.00</b>		

Council has had a number of telephone requests from a variety of community groups requesting a fee waiver or reduction and while not all of them are formalised in writing, it is fair to say that Council is not in a position to support them all in their entirety.

**AGENDA**

---

The three options available are:

Option 1 – Waive the fees and lose the revenue.

Option 2 - If Council resolves to waive the hire fees then consideration should be given to a request of the Fine Arts Society to pay a nominal amount towards utilities costs and for the commercial cleaning of the Theatre on vacation of the premises.

Option 3 – Council charges full hire fees as set out in the 2013/14 Fees and charges schedule.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

Loss of revenue in the order of \$2128.50 plus utilities and cleaning costs.

**Officer's Recommendation**

*That Council determines it's position and advises which option it chooses and in the event that option 2 is chosen, Council advises the amount to be charged to offset the utilities costs.*

**AGENDA**

---

**13.2 SALARIES & ALLOWANCES TRIBUNAL – FEES ETC FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS**

<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	CEO
<b>Legislation:</b>	Local Government Act 1995
<b>File Reference:</b>	
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Determination of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal on Local Government Elected Council Members ( <a href="#">Attachment 13.2A</a> )

---

**Background**

The Salaries and Allowances Tribunal has completed its review of fees, allowances and expenses for elected council members of Local Governments throughout Western Australia. The determination which will operate from 1 July 2013 establishes a scale of payments and provisions for reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*.

This is the first independent determination of fees, allowances and expenses which were set in 1996 and last adjusted in 2005. It brings levels of remuneration for elected council members into line with other States and also with the fees paid to Government Board and Committee members in Western Australia.

At the forefront of the Tribunal's deliberations has been the recognition of the important role local government plays in the community.

**Comment**

There are 138 Local Governments and 11 Regional Local Councils in Western Australia. In 2011-12 local governments accounted for operating and capital expenditure exceeding \$4.25 billion. There are 15,000 full time equivalent employees in the sector and 1245 elected council members. Local governments vary in size from 1.5 square kilometres suburban precincts to 371,693 square kilometre remote areas. Local governments are responsible for the planning and delivery of a broad range of services affecting the everyday lives of the community.

The Tribunal noted that it is vital that local governments attract capable and committed elected council members to provide leadership, expertise and good government at a community level.

After extensive consultation the Tribunal concluded that the 1996 framework of fees, allowances and expenses did not take into account the significant weight of responsibilities shouldered by elected council members, particularly in the large and most populated local governments.

**AGENDA**

---

In establishing a new framework for the payment of fees, allowances and expenses, the Tribunal has adopted a banding model to differentiate between the responsibilities carried by Councillors, Mayors, Presidents and their deputies in local governments throughout the State. Provision has been made for reimbursement of expenses properly incurred in enabling elected council members to properly fulfil their duties.

The levels of remuneration for attending meetings and allowances for elected council members are not intended to be salaries but do take into account the responsibilities and commitments of elected council members serving as representatives of the community. Community service continues to be the cornerstone of a commitment to local government.

Under the existing structure of fees, allowances and expenses, Councillors could claim up to \$7000pa for Council and Committee meetings and Mayors and Presidents up to \$14,000pa. The annual allowance payable to Mayors and Presidents is from \$600pa up to \$12,000pa or 0.002 of the operating revenue of the local government, whichever is the greater amount, but in any case not more than \$60,000pa.

Deputies could receive up to 25% of this allowance. Expense allowances of \$2,400pa for telecommunications costs and \$1,000pa for Information Technology services are currently provided for under the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*.

From 1 July 2013 under the Tribunal's determination the banding structure for local governments provides for meeting fees within a range of \$3,500pa to \$30,000pa for Councillors and \$3,500pa to \$45,000pa for Mayors and Presidents. The Annual Allowance for Mayors and Presidents will extend from \$500pa to \$85,000pa within the four band structure. The same limit with respect to 0.2% of operating revenue and the entitlement to Deputies still applies. The Office of the Lord Mayor has been given special consideration.

Provision has been made to increase the Childcare allowance from \$20 to \$25 per hour and to combine the allowance for Information and Communication Technology costs up to \$3,500pa. There is a continuing provision for the reimbursement of expenses incurred in fulfilling the duties of an elected council member under Regulation 32.

Merredin has been classified as a Band 3 Council. It is recommended that an annual payment be made rather than the more cumbersome and costly meeting allowance methodology. Therefore the following arrangements will apply to the Merredin Shire Council in relation to Meeting Fees in accordance with Band 3 in the table below.

**AGENDA****For a council member other than the mayor or president**

<b>Band</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
1	\$24,000	\$30,000
2	\$14,500	\$22,000
3	\$7,500	\$15,500
4	\$3,500	\$9,000

**For a council member who holds the office of mayor or president**

<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
\$24,000	\$45,000
\$14,500	\$29,500
\$7,500	\$24,000
\$3,500	\$18,500

The Tribunal has also set fees for Shire Presidents and Mayors and their Deputies. These amounts are listed in the tables below and again Merredin has been classified as a Band 3 Council.

**Annual allowance for a mayor or president of a local government For a mayor or president**

<b>Band</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
1	\$50,000	\$85,000
2	\$15,000	\$60,000
3	\$1,000	\$35,000
4	\$500	\$19,000

The amount payable to the Deputy has been determined as 25% of that payable to the President/Mayor.

In addition to the above, the Tribunal has stipulated that expenses incurred by elected members can either be reimbursed or paid by way of an annual allowance. These expenses relate primarily to ICT, child care and travel. The annual allowance for ICT is a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$3500 and travel has been set at \$50.

It has not been the practice of the Merredin Shire Council to claim for expenses and if it so resolves the matter should be referred back to staff for clarification should Council wish to allow reimbursement or alternatively Council could adopt the annual allowance provision.

**Statutory/Policy Implications**

The determination of the Tribunal is mandatory.

**Financial Implications**

Previously this Council has paid an annual allowance of \$4,000 for each Councillor and a further \$11,500 to the Shire President and \$2,500 to the Deputy Shire President.



**AGENDA**

---

This can now increase from \$4,000 to \$7,500-\$15,500 for Councillors with up at an additional \$8,500 for the Shire President, and a range of \$1,000 to \$35,000 for the Shire President with the Deputy's allowance being 25% of that applicable to the Shire President.

This means that the annual Councillors allowance will increase from \$36,000 to a minimum of \$67,500. Consideration will need to be given to the additional meeting allowance for the Shire President (up to \$8,500), the Shire President's allowance (currently \$11,500 and now within the range of \$1,000-\$35,000) and that pertaining to the Deputy (25% of that of the Shire President).

**Officer's Recommendation**

***That Council determines the allowances paid from 1 July 2013 under the determination of the Western Australian Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.***

**16.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**17.0 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**18.0 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION**

18.1 Differential Rates Model

**19.0 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

**20.0 CLOSURE**