

SHIRE OF WEST ARTHUR



Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting of the Shire of West Arthur to be held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 in the Council Chambers, 31 Burrowes Street, Darkan commencing at 7.00pm.

In accordance with section 5.27(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 15 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations, the matters to be discussed at a general electors' meeting are, firstly, the contents of the annual report for the previous financial year and then any other general business.

1000 OPENING OF MEETING AND ATTENDANCE

The Presiding Member, Cr Harrington, welcomed attendees and opened the meeting at 7.01pm. Cr Harrington advised attendees of audio being recorded.

COUNCILLORS

Cr Karen Harrington	(Shire President)
Cr Duncan South	(Deputy Shire President)
Cr Graeme Peirce	
Cr Neil Morrell	
Cr Russell Prowse	
Cr Helen Lubcke	

STAFF

Vin Fordham Lamont	Chief Executive Officer
Raj Sunner	Manager Corporate Services
Gary Rasmussen	Manager Works & Services
Kathy Rasmussen	Supervisor Parks & Gardens

APOLOGIES

Nil

ABSENCES

Cr Natalie O'Neill

ELECTORS

Pam Stockley
Ian Woodruff
Nicki Morrell

2000 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2100 Annual Electors Meeting Minutes 10th February 2025

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held in the Hawthorn Room at the West Arthur CRC on 10th February 2025 be confirmed as true and correct.

Moved: _____ Cr Peirce _____ Seconded: _____ Cr Morrell _____

CARRIED

3000 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2025

3100 Questions or comments in relation to the annual report are invited.

It is preferred that these are communicated in writing (email accepted) to the CEO prior to the meeting to enable questions to be adequately researched.

3101 *Pam Stockley made the following comments regarding the Annual Report.*

- *Community nurses only come to Darkan for pre-booked appointments to do dressings.*
- *The Shire population has gone down so the Shire is not meeting its strategic targets.*
- *Nangip Creek is overgrown and a fire hazard.*

Cr Peirce (with his Chief Bush Fire Control Officer hat on) responded to Pam that he and our Community Emergency Services Manager, Paul Gibson, are working on an application for mitigation funding.

- *Nangip Creek walk trail is in need of maintenance work.*

The CEO suggested that Pam submit a budget request as Council has a lot of decisions to make as to what is included in the next annual budget.

3200 Receipt of Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2025.

Recommendation:

That the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2025 as presented, be received.

Moved: _____ Cr South _____ Seconded: _____ Cr Peirce _____

CARRIED

4000 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS ELECTORS MEETING

4100 A copy of the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 10th February 2025 is attached for information purposes.

5000 GENERAL BUSINESS

5100 Questions are Invited from the Public.

It is preferred that these are communicated in writing (email accepted) to the CEO prior to the meeting to enable questions to be researched.

Questions submitted to the CEO by Ian Woodruff, followed by responses.

5101 Is Darkan an RV Friendly town? If not, I think Council should consider the cost vs income for businesses in the Shire.

Darkan is currently not an RV Friendly Town; however, staff are currently working towards this outcome. This project was identified in 2024 and was submitted for budget consideration for both the 24/25 and 25/26 financial years. The finalisation of this project is anticipated for the 26/27 financial year, subject again, to budget considerations.

The final stage for being recognised as a RV Friendly Town and receiving the signage is the installation of a free Dump Point for which the Easy Dump top has already been received. A site for the dump point and RV camping has been narrowed down to two options (east and west ends of the Railway Reserve between Fisher and Burrowes Streets). Once the dump point is installed, signage from the CMCA (Caravan, Motorhome, Campervan Association) will be ordered.

5102 I believe there are up to 6 residents of West Arthur, maybe more, who have received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in recognition of their contribution to our Shire and the wider community over a long period of time. Some have passed on, but they should not be forgotten. Council should honour them by placing their names on a board in a public place. i.e. the foyer of the Shire Office.

Cr Harrington advised that Shire admin staff will investigate costs and identify local winners of the OAMs, then submit for budget consideration.

Questions submitted by Pam Stockley, followed by responses.

5103 Pam asked if the damaged trampolines in the Railway Reserve will be ready for use before the upcoming Sheephfest.

The Manager Corporate Services will follow up the Shire's insurance claim with our insurer.

5200 Other General Business as Permitted by the Presiding Member

5201 Pam Stockley advised that the new ambulance will be arriving sometime in February/March. St Johns will undertake works at the subcentre to enable the new ambulance to fit.

5202 Feedback was received from Sue Byrne regarding the supply and usage of the new Fruit Fly baiting systems. Sue praised the Shire for providing readily available replacements and refills for the systems and deems the new system a success.

6000 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Presiding Member closed the meeting at 7.28pm.
