

Shire of Kojonup Briefing Session – 4 July 2017

Record of Meeting (9:00am – 3:40pm)

Attendance: Shire President and Councillors: Sexton, Radford, Pritchard, Mathwin, Warland, Hobbs & Pedler (from 1.10pm).

Officers: CEO (9:00am – 9:30am, 12:45pm – 3:40pm), MCS (9:00am – 1:00pm), MCDT (9:00am – 2:30pm), MACS/MRS/SFO (11:00am – 12:30pm) & RO (9:00am – 10:15am)

Guests: Tracey Hodgkins – Southern Dirt CEO (10:30am – 11:00am)
Frank House – Kojonup Community Growth Association (1:00pm – 1:45pm)

Apologies: MWS & SR/BMC

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

CONCEPT/AGENDA FORUM

Time Slot	Item	Response / Action
9:00am – 10:15am	The Manager Corporate Services to discuss the draft Community Strategic Plan with Council	The MCS presented draft 1 of “Smart Possibilities”, the Shire of Kojonup’s Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027. Each attendee was given an electronic copy and details of the major content of the plan discussed and feedback noted.
10:30pm – 11:00am	Tracey Hodgkins – Southern Dirt to provide an update to Council	Council welcomed Tracey Hodgkins to the Briefing Session. She provided an update to Council on Southern Dirt’s recent and upcoming activities including the Southern Dirt TECHSPO event to be held in Katanning 12-14 September 2017. It will be a great opportunity to showcase the latest in agricultural technology and practices.
11:00am – 12:30am	The Manager Corporate Services to undertake revision of the draft 2017/18 Budget with Council	The MCS updated minor changes to the draft budget since last fortnight’s briefing session as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install Solar Panels to Shire Office - \$40,000 (fully funded from reserve account) • Major Plant Repairs - \$10,000 • Improve all ability access to the Reception Lounge - \$1,500 • Alzheimers Grant at Springhaven – To fund \$30,000 for building improvements • Consultant for EBA Negotiations - \$17,000

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		<p>A question and answer session was held to ensure Councillor's were comfortable with the contents of the draft budget.</p>
<p>1:00pm – 1:45pm</p>	<p>Frank House (Kojonup Community Growth Association) to discuss signage with Council</p>	<p>The Shire President welcomed Mr. House who indicated that the Kojonup Community Growth Association Inc., despite the best efforts of the committee members, was not receiving the support of local businesses to promote and market Kojonup and increase patronage and exposure of our businesses.</p> <p>The committee was known for assisting in the Australia Day Awards and Wild Flower Festival but the new constitution aligned to objectives a Chamber of Commerce & Industry would undertake as well as a local tourism association.</p> <p>The committee is of the general opinion that it should 'wind up' the association given the lack of support. Shire President, Councillors, CEO and MCDT urged the association to consider a period of recession with a caretaker committee in preference to 'winding up' as the Great Southern Hinterland shires are about to review 'Hidden Treasures' and the recent formation of the Great South Coast Alliance between Albany, Denmark, Plantagenet and Jerramungup and how tourism, marketing and promotion would occur for those shires not in the alliance.</p> <p>Should the association wish to reconvene in the future it is easier than establishing a new group, especially if assets have been given to a 'like' group.</p> <p>Mr. House also advised that the committee also urges Council to undertake improvements to entry signage as a priority and were prepared to allocate funds for this to occur.</p> <p>The Shire President indicated that Council has been reviewing signage and the various themes necessary to align with the Community Strategic Plan, Kodja Place Master Plan, Main Street Enhancement Strategy, Airport area, entry points into the shire as well as tourism and interpretation signage. Officers had included provision in the 2017/18 budget for this to occur within the first quarter of the new financial year once Council formally adopts the budget at the Council meeting to be held 25 July 2017.</p>

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<p>1:45pm - 2:00pm</p>	<p>Stone Axe Pastoral Company – Feedlot</p>	<p>MCDT advised that an immediate priority was to develop a Signage Policy/strategy/guidelines which included Council and Community input allowing approved signs to be erected as soon as possible after approval was received from Main Roads WA regarding signs proposed to be erected on state roads. The MWS was also developing a street/road signage policy. Mr. House will discuss Council feedback with the committee. The Shire President and CEO would also welcome an opportunity to meet with the committee as 'winding up' the association is certainly not preferred by Council.</p> <p>CEO reported that he together with Town Planner had met onsite that morning with Stone Axe Representatives – Dean Morgan and John Molenaar to receive an update on the development phases for the feedlot. Discussions were very beneficial and the proponent was keen to commence tree planting of the buffer zones in consultation with Kojonup NRM Coordinator – Jane Kowald and Phil Worts (Native plant suggestions upper/lower canopies and ground covers), lodging design plans for the first 5000 head feedlot area and associated storage barns, tanks, ponds, worker accommodation, etc., ASAP but was having difficulty communicating with Government Agencies particularly DER given the downsizing effective 1 July 2017 by the new state government.</p> <p>Gravel samples taken onsite have returned excellent results for base preparation and road use. Fencing is occurring as well as improvements to general farm practices.</p> <p>Proponents aim to talk to Minister McTiernan, Transport Minister as well as Main Roads WA, etc., to assess how prepared the government is to assist innovation and economic development in agricultural based businesses in the upper Great Southern Region.</p>
<p>2:00pm – 2:20pm</p>	<p>Meeting with Main Roads WA – Regional Manager</p>	<p>The CEO reported that he and the MWS met with Andrew Duffield and Brad Lenton (Network Manager) on Wednesday, 28 June 2017 to ascertain status of Heavy Vehicle Route. Mr. Duffield advised that he is still awaiting assessment of Eastern routes by the Perth based planning section however was confident preliminary scope would be completed by mid-July.</p> <p>This would allow him to meet with Council to discuss engineering options linking the route at the north and south entrances to Kojonup for example</p>

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2:20pm – 2:30pm	NAIDOC week	<p>round-a-bout v spur lane as well as progress discussion with property owners to ascertain their receptiveness to sell as against compulsory acquisition.</p> <p>The CEO stressed the importance of continued consultation as Council will not made a formal decision on the Heavy Vehicle Route preferred route until it is fully informed as the community was generally 50/50 on the proposal but if the heavy vehicle route did proceed the eastern side option was favoured but questions still remained regarding connection with Blackwood and Broomehill Roads.</p> <p>Discussion also addressed the need for an improved car parking layout plan for Albany Highway as some intersections were unsafe as driver's vision was obscured by trees or vehicles parking too close to the intersection. The size of vehicles such as SUV's also impeded view even if turning left into normal traffic flow. The area near the CWA building and from the Library Car Park also needed to be addressed/improved. MWS meeting Main Roads WA officer on-site to progress Highway car parking as line marking needed to be renewed following resealing of the main street.</p> <p>The MCDT reminded Councillors of events being conducted at Kodja Place on Sunday – 9 July 2017 and would love to see them attend.</p>
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COUNCILLOR Q & A

2:30pm – 3:40pm	<p>Councillor Updates <i>Opportunity for Councillors to outline meetings attended, discussions had or queries received for Councillor and Officer information.</i></p>	<p>Cr Mathwin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported on WALGA Zone Meeting held at Nyabing (Minutes to be distributed to Councillors) noting that the Zone supported the State Government not Local Government introducing plastic bag free areas. • Netball Courts – CEO advised that 3 courts available 7 days per week and a matter of Club rostering juniors and seniors over more than one afternoon/evening rather than insisting on an extra court. <p>Cr Pritchard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadwise meeting 13 July in Katanning • Rob Dickie – CBH Government & Industry Relations Advisor was asked by Cr Pritchard to assess implications of Soldier Road being access to weighbridge etc. at Kojonup rather than present Pensioner Road entry. Councillors, generally of opinion that Soldier Road bridge would need
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		<p>upgrading and cost of road widening would be prohibitive as CBH expectation would be at least 50/50 cost sharing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mens Shed – potential for a mural on external southern walls being explored with request to Community Development Officer for guidance.• Signage – Albany Highway works – inconsistent and missing however with road works almost complete original signs should be re-erected. CEO to ensure Works & Services monitor same.• Peace Park – Appears a galvanised hand rail has been 'cut up' and left lying below stone wall in park near Bowler Place. CEO to ask MWS to inspect. <p>Cr Sexton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marribank – very disappointed at condition of area. Shire President advised that the Southern Aboriginal Corporation were the owners however have little if any affinity with Noongars of this area. Cr Sexton expressed concern that a summer fire would destroy a vast majority of existing buildings and infrastructure which insurance would never replace!• Queried why younger people are not nominating as an elected member and whether Council should look at initiatives such as a Day Care subsidy?• Roads Tour was appreciated and district suffering from lack of rain. With over 1000kms of roads and the dry conditions our road network was still in pretty good condition.• Fisher Road intersection – queried design as appeared to be on a bend which not preferred from a sight safety distance requirement. <p>Cr Hobbs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black Cockatoo Café – EOI Process; CEO advised that an item would be included on the 25 July 2017 agenda outlining actions taken especially KP Community Fund Inc. 'surrender of lease' which will allow Council to progress EOI process. <p>Cr Radford:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heritage Interpretation Report – outcome from 20 June Council Meeting. The Shire President advised that Council adopted the following resolution:
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		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) <i>Accept the Interpretation Strategy: Future Use and Development of the Kojonup Railway Station and Line (Helen Munt - Heritage and Interpretation Consultant January 2017) report and instruct the CEO to prepare an Action Plan including projected timings/costings for Council consideration.</i>2) <i>Advise the public that the Interpretation Strategy has been accepted and can be viewed at the Shire Office, Library and online.</i>3) <i>Advise the Kojonup Historical Society, Kojonup Visitor Centre and State Heritage Office that the Interpretation Strategy has been accepted and provide them with a copy.</i> <p>CEO advised item 1 above would be included in 2017/18 Budget.</p> <p>Shire President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great Southern Regional Facilities Plan – met with consultant Dave Lanfear, 21 June 2017 to provide input of Kojonup’s existing and future requirements as part of developing the regional plan as listed below:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Shire overview: Strategic sites; alignments/partnerships; critical issues/opportunities; infrastructure and club viability and sustainability and current/projected funding commitments.➤ Sports/Recreational priorities on a sport by sport and activity by activity basis.➤ School agreements and successes challenges.➤ Cross Boundary priorities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Developmental○ Competition○ Events○ Tourism○ Economic Development○ Cost sharing➤ Benchmarking – optimum/ideal models.➤ Management – preferred models.➤ Current position on asset management.• Southern Dirt Techspo Event 12-14 September 2017 – encouraged Councillors and management to attend with registration required by 13 July 2017.
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10:30am Morning Tea

12:30pm Lunch

Info Bulletin	Circulated.	Councillors to review and ask questions out of session or at the next briefing session. A copy of any question, and the response will be circulated to all Councillors for information.
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Rick Mitchell-Collins
Chief Executive Officer