Special Council Meeting

MINUTES

23 April 2018
**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 23 APRIL 2018**

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MINUTES

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF GUESTS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 7.23pm and alerted the meeting of the procedures for emergencies including evacuation, designated exits and muster points and draw the meeting’s attention to the disclaimer below:

Disclaimer
No person should rely on or act on the basis of any advice or information provided by a Member or Officer, or on the content of any discussion occurring, during the course of the meeting.

The Shire of Kojonup expressly disclaims liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person as a result of relying on or acting on the basis of any advice or information provided by a member or officer, or the content of any discussion occurring, during the course of the meeting.

Where an application for an approval, a license or the like is discussed or determined during the meeting, the Shire warns that neither the applicant, nor any other person or body, should rely upon that discussion or determination until written notice of either an approval and the conditions which relate to it, or the refusal of the application has been issued by the Shire.

2 ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

Cr Ronnie Fleay President
Cr Ned Radford Deputy President
Cr John Benn
Cr Jill Mathwin
Cr Ian Pedler
Cr Sandra Pedler
Cr Judith Warland

STAFF
Rick Mitchell-Collins Chief Executive Officer
Lorraine Wyatt Executive Assistant

APOLOGIES
Cr Graeme Hobbs
Zahra Shirazee Manager Community Development & Tourism

3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Nil
5 KEY PILLAR 1 – ‘PLACE’ REPORTS

5.1 REGIONAL GROWTH FUND – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>Rick Mitchell-Collins, Chief Executive Officer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>Friday, 20 April 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILE NO</td>
<td>GS.PRG.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STRATEGIC/CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Pillar</th>
<th>Community Outcomes</th>
<th>Corporate Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KP - 1</td>
<td>1.1 – Have maximized or “One Community” program through specific events, celebration of built form and enhancement of our environment.</td>
<td>1.2.11 – Sporting Infrastructure Upgrades.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.1 – Be a continually engaged and strategic community which leads and organises throughout the entire stakeholder group.</td>
<td>3.1.3 – Encourage interaction and input to the Shire of Kojonup, particularly through contemporary working party teams.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3.2 – Be exceptional in two-way communication within our community, and market our brand outside of our community.</td>
<td>3.1.5 – Implement strategies to improve Councillors role as community leaders and asset custodians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.4 – Be organised and transparent with our financial management.</td>
<td>3.2.3 – Develop and implement a formal media and two-way communications strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP – 3 –</td>
<td>4.1 - Be providing Business assistance for growth in small local industry.</td>
<td>3.4.2 – Act with sound long-term and transparent financial management and deliver residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.2 – Have added value to the agricultural sectors to attract new people to the region.</td>
<td>4.1.4 – Draft a local economic development policy focused to create employment opportunities that attract and retain population in Kojonup.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.3 – Be attracting support industries and diverse and new business sectors to the region.</td>
<td>4.2.2 – Enable and advocate for new industry to set up in and around Kojonup.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP – 4</td>
<td>4.3.4 – Drive population growth through the support of local industry, development of new industry and</td>
<td>4.2.4 – Expand the Industrial Estate as required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosperity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.2.2 – Enable and advocate for new industry to set up in and around Kojonup.</td>
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DECLARATION OF INTEREST
Nil

SUMMARY
To seek Council endorsement of the priority projects following a workshop on 23 April 2018 allowing the Shire of Kojonup to lodge an initial application with supporting documentation under the Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

BACKGROUND
The Australian Government’s $272.2 million Regional Growth Fund (RGF) is now open for Initial Applications. Funding is provided for major transformational projects, which support long term economic growth and create jobs in regional and remote areas. Selection of projects will be undertaken in two stages. Stage One requires submission of an Initial Application for competitive assessment. Stage Two is for the submission of a Full Business Case.

To be competitive in Initial Applications you must score highly against all three of the following criteria:
• Create Jobs
• Drive Economic Growth
• Build Stronger Regional Communities.

The minimum funding available under RGF is $10 million with a requirement for matching funding. The fund is open to state and territory governments, the private sector and not-for-profit organisations for projects that are for common-use infrastructure or private use infrastructure that will deliver significant and sustainable benefits to the region by creating jobs and flow-on benefits to the economy.

Projects may include a number of strategically linked projects, which together form a package of works that will unlock opportunity and potential in regional communities to deliver long term jobs and drive economic growth.

Applications close on 27 April 2018 and successful projects must be fully acquitted by 30 June 2022.

COMMENT
The Shire of Kojonup has undertaken extensive planning over the past 4 years in relation to:
1. Main Street
2. Kodja Place Precinct
3. Benn Parade/Tourist Railway/Apex Park/RSL areas
4. Sports Precinct
5. Civic Precinct – Memorial Hall/Hillman Park/Harrison Place
6. Community Strategic Plan – ‘SMART Possibilities’
7. Sale yards area
8. Water Harvesting & Reuse
9. Health/Aged Care Provision
10. Review of Town Planning Scheme
Possession of the above accompanied by business plans has enabled external funding to be sourced for Springhaven improvements, 6 additional ILU’s and executive residence in Loton Close. Great Southern shires have also been successful in securing $10 million under the ‘Building Better Regions Fund’ for staff and aged appropriate housing and is presently awaiting State Government advice if the region has also been successful in leveraging funds from the Regional Aged Accommodation Program (RAAP).

The Regional Growth Fund has the potential to provide the Shire of Kojonup a one-off opportunity to ‘bundle’ together all of our identified projects which individually may take 25 – 30 years to fund. For example:

- Gymnasium at the netball courts, completion of the new internal access roads/car parks, disability access to the Sports Complex, etc.
- Piping of the drain and extended car park, replacement of defective rammed earth walls, new entrance and community room to Storyplace/Gallery/Visitor Information Centre, etc.
- Revitalising off street parking, paving, street furniture, improved public conveniences, etc. for the Main Street, Memorial Hall, Hillman Park, Council Chambers, Hillman Park, Harrison Place, CWA areas.
- Extension of Sewer/Water/Power/Roads for Soldier Road, Murby/John Streets and Katanning Road area for new residential subdivisions.
- Drainage improvements and developing final stage of Industrial estate.
- Relocating Men’s Shed etc. to Benn Parade and implementing Interpretation Strategy recommendations.
- Upgrading RSL Hall and surrounds including associated infrastructure.
- Improving infrastructure and interpretation at the ‘Kojonup Spring’ and surrounds.

The Shire of Kojonup and State Government would need secure $5 million each as our $ for $ matching contribution. This amount may initially seem daunting but when allocated over a 20 - 25 year repayment schedule the injection of $20 million into Kojonup for assets that will last upwards of 50 years.

CONSULTATION
Council Briefing Session – 3 April 2018

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS
Section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995 permits the Council to close a meeting, or part of a meeting, to members of the public if the meeting deals with any of the following:

(a) a matter affecting an employee or employees; and
(b) the personal affairs of any person; and
(c) a contract entered into, or which may be entered into, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting; and
(d) legal advice obtained, or which may be obtained, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting; and
(e) a matter that if disclosed, would reveal —
   (i) a trade secret; or
   (ii) information that has a commercial value to a person; or
   (iii) information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the trade secret or information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government; and
(f) a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to —
(i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; or
(ii) endanger the security of the local government’s property; or
(iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety; and
(g) information which is the subject of a direction given under section 23(1a) of the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS – POLICY 2.1.7 – MAJOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

“OBJECTIVE
To assist Council in the sustainable delivery of infrastructure and ensure adequate matching financial resources are available.

POLICY
The following should be considered before acceptance of Grant Funding:
- Councils Corporate Business Plan, Risk Management Plan and Long Term Financial Plans;
- The amount of matching funds required if any;
- The ongoing operational costs associated with the new asset;
- The whole of Life costing associated with preservation of new asset;
- The value of the asset to the community; and
- The level of community consultation required.”

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
If the initial application proceeds to Stage 2 the Shire of Kojonup will experience unprecedented levels of sustained capital projects for at least the next 5 – 7 financial years. The appointment of a dedicated Project Manager will be required with supporting resource support from team members to form the Development Action Team. Costs of same will form part of the Cost/Benefit/Business Plans.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS
If Council does not prepare and lodged a RGF application it will be ‘business as usual’ on a project by project basis as presently occurs. Preparation of the RGF application will bring a vast number of major projects under one umbrella and clearly demonstrate employment opportunities, economic growth and regional community capacity that is underpinned by the Community Strategic Plan.

The saying “Nothing ventured, nothing gained!” is pertinent to the Regional Growth Fund application so why not lodge an application and clearly demonstrate that our projects do meet the program guidelines and can be measured.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS
Access to $15 million from State and Commonwealth sources would be of enormous benefit to Kojonup and the Great Southern Region by not only retiring old assets but extending our asset base for recognised and needed infrastructure that presently inhibits growth. The RGF is a funding source that allows Kojonup to ‘bundle’ together a vast number of capital improvement projects.
SOUTHERN LINK VROC (VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS) IMPLICATIONS
Goal 1
Stimulate economic growth and business opportunity.

Goal 5
Build capacity to enable communities to achieve.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS
Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
That Council endorse the priority projects contained within the ‘Kojonup SMART Renewal’ application for competitive assessment in accordance with the Regional Growth Fund guidelines which recognises the financial, economic, social, environmental, heritage and cultural aspects contained within the submission.

COUNCIL DECISION
42/18 Moved Cr Benn, seconded Cr Warland that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 5.23 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995 to discuss:
(e) a matter that if disclosed, would reveal —
(i) a trade secret; or
(ii) information that has a commercial value to a person; or
(iii) information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the trade secret or information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government.
CARRIED 7/0
COUNCIL DECISION

43/18 Moved Cr I Pedler, seconded Cr Mathwin that,
1. Council endorse the priority projects contained within the ‘Kojonup SMART Futures’ Stage 1 application for competitive assessment in accordance with the Regional Growth Fund guidelines which recognises the financial, economic, social, environmental, heritage and cultural aspects contained within the submission.
2. Authorise the CEO to adjust the priorities as necessary to meet the funding criteria.
3. Council, as part of the Long Term Financial Plan, Treasury borrowing limits and annual budget considerations, be prepared to allocate a maximum sum of $5.03 million over 5 years as the Shire of Kojonup’s contribution towards Stage 1 and actively source a minimum of $5 million from state and other sources.

CARRIED 7/0

44/18 Moved Cr S Pedler, seconded Cr Mathwin that the meeting return to open session 7.28pm.

CARRIED 7/0
6 **KEY PILLAR 2 – ‘CONNECTED’ REPORTS**

Nil

7 **KEY PILLAR 3 – ‘PERFORMANCE’ REPORTS**

Nil

8 **KEY PILLAR 4 – ‘PROSPERITY’ REPORTS**

Nil

9 **KEY PILLAR 5 – ‘DIGITAL’ REPORTS**

Nil.

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

Nil

11 **NEW BUSINESS**

Nil

12 **CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

Nil.

13 **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, the Shire President thanked the members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 7.29pm.