



Shire of  
Serpentine  
Jarrahdale

# General Meeting of Electors

## Minutes

6.30pm

Monday, 20 January 2020

---

### Contact Us

#### Enquiries

Call: (08) 9526 1111  
Fax: (08) 9525 5441  
Email: [info@sjshire.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@sjshire.wa.gov.au)

#### In Person

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale  
6 Paterson Street, Mundijong WA 6123  
Open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm (closed public holidays)



[www.sjshire.wa.gov.au](http://www.sjshire.wa.gov.au)



**Minutes of the General Meeting of Electors of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale held on Monday, 20 January 2020 in the Council Chambers, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Civic Centre, 6 Paterson Street, Mundijong commencing at 6.30pm.**

**Minutes**

**1. Attendances and apologies (including leave of absence):**

**In Attendance:**

**Councillors:** M Rich ..... Presiding Member  
D Atwell  
M Byas  
M Dagostino  
B Denholm (arrived at 6.35pm)  
K McConkey  
L Strange  
D Strautins

**Officers:** Mr P Martin.....Chief Executive Officer  
Ms H Sarcich ... Deputy CEO / Director Community Services  
Mr F Sullivan ..... Director Corporate Services  
Mr A Trosic.....Director Development Services  
Mr S Harding .....Director Infrastructure Services  
Dr K Parker ..... Manager Governance  
Ms A Liersch .....Agendas and Minutes Officer (Minute Taker)  
Mrs A Sealy ..... PA to Director Corporate Services  
Mr B Oliver ..... Coordinator Corporate Communications

**Apologies:** Councillor R Coales

**Media:** 1

**Members of the Public: 33**

Councillor Rich declared the meeting open at 6.30pm and welcomed members of the Public, Councillors, and Staff to the 2018 - 2019 General Meeting of Electors.

Councillor Rich acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Noongar People, and paid her respects to their Elders, both past and present.

Councillor Rich acknowledged Freeman Jan Star and John Kirkpatrick, Mr Athol Wigg, JP.



## **2. Annual Report, incorporating Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2019:**

### **2.1 Shire President's Report:**

Shire President, Councillor Rich read the 2018 - 2019 Shire President's message.

#### **Tonkin Highway extension**

The extension of Tonkin Highway from Thomas Road in Byford to South Western Highway in Mundijong is a step closer after the State and Federal Governments committed a combined \$505 million for the project in April.

This marks a significant milestone in our efforts to secure funding for the extension which will improve road safety and provide strategic linkages within the Shire and the wider Peel region.

The 13.7km extension will provide a direct connection for residents and businesses to Perth's major transport hubs, including Perth International and Domestic airports, Fremantle Harbour and the future Westport facility.

The Shire will continue to seek support for the extension to include grade separations at Thomas Road and Mundijong Road, which will reduce congestion and deliver the best planning outcomes.

#### **Major projects**

The past year saw the commencement of key projects for our community, specifically the \$19 million Abernethy Road upgrade and the \$4.5 million Briggs Park lower oval upgrade.

In December, the Council appointed Wormal Civil as the head contractor to carry out the upgrade of Abernethy Road between Kardan Boulevard and South Western Highway.

This project will reduce congestion considerably through the addition of roundabouts and new turning lanes, making it far easier for drivers to enter and exit Abernethy Road.

It will bring more people into the Byford town centre, supporting new and existing business and helping the area grow into a vibrant, modern community precinct.

The Shire acknowledges funding contributions from the National Stronger Regions Fund and Main Roads WA for the project.

Briggs Park is currently home to Byford Bushrangers Tee-ball Club, Mundijong Centrals Junior Football Club and Serpentine Jarrahdale Cricket Club, who combined have more than 1000 members.

The Briggs Park lower oval upgrade includes repairs and improvements to aging drainage infrastructure, as well as the installation of new floodlights and facilities for the local sporting clubs.

The project is due for completion in October and will allow the park's two ovals to be used year-round, and create a facility capable of hosting much larger competitions and events.



Thank you to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the Local Projects, Local Jobs program who have contributed funds for the delivery of this project.

### **Collaborating with our community**

It has been an exciting year for the Shire collaborating with our community, with many exciting events and projects delivered in 2018/19.

Highlights include:

- Installation of a community cricket pitch at Kalimna Oval in Byford
- Improved facilities at Byford Community Kindergarten
- Inaugural Seniors Expo at Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Recreation Centre
- Christmas Concert at Jarrahdale Oval
- Australia Day Citizenship and Awards ceremony
- Multi-use courts installed at Clem Kentish Hall and Oval precinct to cater for basketball and netball, as well as tennis across four courts
- Opera at the Mill event at Jarrahdale Heritage Mill
- Free Youth Week WA event

### **Looking forward**

In April, Kenn Donohoe announced his resignation as Chief Executive Officer to take on a new challenge with Whitsunday Regional Council.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank Kenn for his hard work and dedication during his time with the Shire.

The Council is excited for Paul Martin to join the organisation in September as our new Chief Executive Officer.

With the Shire experiencing significant growth and key infrastructure projects on the horizon, we can't wait to work with him to ensure the Shire continues to go from strength to strength in this exciting period.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the staff for the work they have undertaken throughout the year.

Their commitment, enthusiasm and work ethic throughout the 2018/19 year is evident in the achievements contained in this report.

**Cr Michelle Rich**  
**Shire President**



**2.2 Chief Executive Officer's Report:**

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Paul Martin, advised that the Chief Executive Officer's Report for 2018-2019 is as published in the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Annual Report for 2018-2019.

**2.3 Auditor's Report:**

Mr Frazer Sullivan, Director Corporate Services read the Opinion from the 2018 - 2019 Independent Auditor's Report.

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

**Opinion**

I have audited the annual financial report of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2019, the Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature or Type, Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Rate Setting Statement for the year then ended, and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Statement by the Chief Executive Officer.

In my opinion the annual financial report of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale:

- (i) is based on proper accounts and records; and
- (ii) fairly represents, in all material respects, the results of the operations of the Shire for the year ended 30 June 2019 and its financial position at the end of that period in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) and, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the Act, Australian Accounting Standards.

**Don Cunninghame**  
**Assistant Auditor General Financial Audit**



---

The Director Corporate Services explained the Financial Health Indicator Charts.

## **Audit Findings**

**The Office of the Auditor General did not identify any management control issues.**

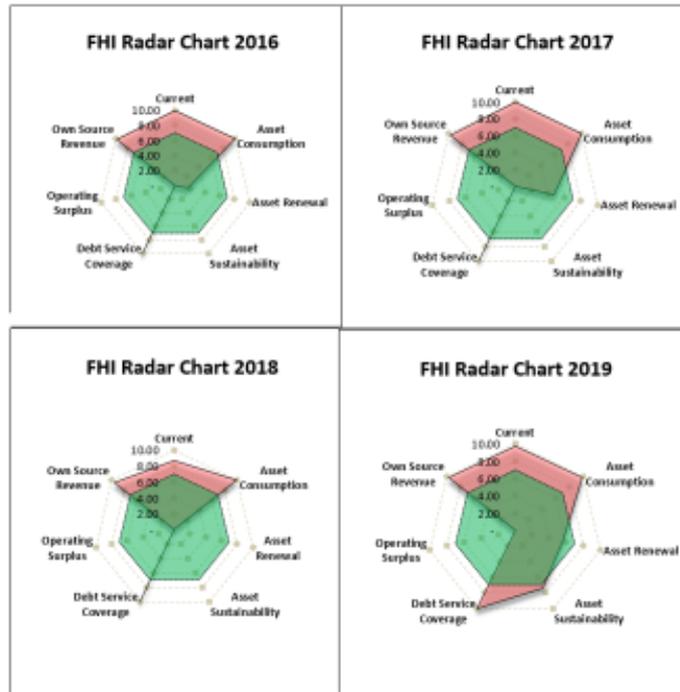


## **Audit Findings**

Last year's audit report included a significant adverse trend in the financial position of the Shire.

**In the current period, there was no such issue and we now enjoy an improved financial position.**





Financial Health Indicator Charts



## Audit Findings

This improved position has been achieved by:

- internal operational savings;
- increased grant funding;
- drawing down of reserves; and
- increased borrowings





## For the Future

As can be seen from the Financial Health Indicator charts, Council still needs to continue its focus on developing its own source revenues and planned asset renewal spending.

This work is already underway, with a key focus on identifying structural improvements in our revenue planning, and aligning it with the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan outcomes specified for the future.



The Shire President asked if there were any questions regarding the Shire President's report, the Chief Executive Officer's report or the Auditor's Report. No questions were asked.

### 2.4 Receiving of Annual Report, incorporating Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2019:

Copies of the Annual Report containing the Financial Report were available at the meeting and have been available for inspection on Council's website, and at the Administration Centre and the Mundijong Public Library.

#### **GME001/01/20**

**GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS RESOLUTION / Recommendation to Electors**

**Moved Mr John Kirkpatrick, seconded Mr Barry Urban**

**That the Annual Report for the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale for the year 2018 - 2019 incorporating the 2018 - 2019 Annual Financial Statements and the 2018 - 2019 Auditor's Report be RECEIVED.**

**CARRIED**



### 3. General Business:

#### 3.1 Public Questions of which prior notice has been given:

##### **John Kirkpatrick, 77 Mead Street, Byford**

###### Question 1

It has recently been established in the Legal System of the United States of America that the Herbicide Glyphosate contains known Carcinogen's and has been responsible for a number of fatalities. As a result, a number of Local Governments in Western Australia have declined to use any herbicide that contains Glyphosate. I am led to believe this includes the City of Subiaco.

My question is, will the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale take similar steps and stop using this product on our Public Open Spaces to the potential detriment, possibly fatal of our residents?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*The Federal Government assessed comprehensively and determined that products containing glyphosate can continue to be used safely according to label directions. The Shire, guided by the Federal Government approval, continues to use glyphosate-based products strictly according to directions.*

*The Shire's chosen Glyphosate-based product is deemed "frog friendly". It is a non-selective, foliar absorbed herbicide approved for use on publicly trafficked land. Once dry it cannot be trafficked on the feet of pets or humans. The signs alert pedestrians so that they can avoid the affected area.*

###### Question 2

One of the possible causes of the series of fatal bushfires has been described as the lack of hazard reduction. There are a number of water retention basins in the location known as the Glades Byford which are full of tinder dry material and pose a serious fire hazard close to dwellings.

Will the Shire undertake to deal with this issue and remove the hazard as soon as is practicable?

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*The specific drainage areas of concern raised by Mr Kirkpatrick are near the juncture of Mead Street and Doley Road. A request will be presented to the Infrastructure team to look at whether maintenance is appropriate in this area by way of reserve management and slashing.*



**Mary Plant, 37 Alice Road, Cardup 6123**

Question 1

Cardup Siding Road, coming from South Western Highway is a disgrace.

Are you aware of the weed problem along Cardup Siding Road facing Wormall Civil?

Mowing was done last week but the other area is not maintained and very messy with high weeds which is a fire hazard.

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*We will look into that, thank you for bringing it to our attention. An action request will be raised for our Operations Team to inspect.*

**3.2 Public Questions received from the floor:**

**Jan Star, 230 Jarrahdale Road, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

Question 1

What expertise and investigation did the Shire use to make the decision to prune all vegetation up to 2 metres on Medulla Road? This included any naturally occurring native trees that hadn't yet become tall trees.

Question 2

Were they aware that many of the shrubs were given to residents as part of the verge plant scheme funded by the Shire?

Question 3

Were they aware that the acacia floribunda was a firebreak as well as a grass suppressant and a windbreak established in consultation with the CFO because of the then problem of grasses, especially lovegrass, which remained flammable over summer?

Question 4

The low flammable wattles have effectively fulfilled these functions for over 20 years. Is the Shire now going to keep the grasses down over the fire season?

Question 5

Can the Shire use the mulch, from chipping the prunings on the cleared verge to help suppress grass growth?



Question 6

Has there been a change of objectives of the Shire away from encouraging beautification of verges?

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*These questions will be taken on notice, and a response provided to Ms Star.*

**Ann Dyer, 254 Soldiers Road, Cardup WA 6122**

Question 1

Coming out of George Street into Abernethy Road, Byford, the no right turn doesn't seem to be working as I have seen many people turning left then right into Abernethy Road.

My question is, is the Shire looking into this dangerous hazard problem that is causing problems?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*The authority for signage and line marking lies with Main Roads WA. To improve safety in the interim, the Shire has installed temporary no right turn signs until permanent signs are put in place. Discussions are underway with Main Roads to come to a final determination on some points they have raised and this is progressing as quickly as possible.*

**Coralie Parkin, 3069 South Western Highway, Keysbrook WA 6126**

Question 1

Can some money be spent in the southern end of the Shire, particularly Gobby Road and Elliot Road, from Westcott Road to Hopeland Road?

Some sections of Gobby Road were sealed many years ago, and these sections don't need ongoing maintenance. Therefore, if some further sections could be sealed and prioritised each year, over a period of time, the road would be completed. In case of a fire, there is no access in some sections on Gobby Road. Two vehicles would not be able to pass each other – there are a few blind bends.

Elliot Road was re-sheeted and widened from Elliot to Westcott Road, it now needs to continue to Hopeland Road urgently.

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*We are currently undertaking a full review of our assets and developing maintenance schedules for re-sheeting of gravel roads. In the past re-sheeting works have typically been reactive works but will now be more proactive.*



**Lee Bond, PO Box 44, Armadale WA 6112**

**Question 1**

Are the ratepayers going to pay for the disgrace that is Abernethy Road? What are the brick things on the side of the road?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*Abernethy Road has been funded primarily through Developer Contributions, two State Government grants, one Federal Government grant and a small percentage Shire funding.*

*The brick structures on the side of the road are rain gardens which are used for nutrient stripping as part of water management. The Shire is currently looking at planting them with visually more appealing, low maintenance plants.*

**Question 2**

What about bumps in the road?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*The project is still in practical completion stage and any issues will be identified and rectification made by the contractor prior to final handover.*

**Question 3**

Why has the line marking been done prior to completion?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*The lines have been marked as a matter of safety. The Shire is anticipating limited damage to the line marking as a result of rectification works.*

**Question 4**

Where is the money for our static water supply?

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*The Shire is still investigating this issue, and this question will be taken on notice and a response provided to Mrs Bond.*



Question 5

Can we get rid of some of the big horrible signs that have been in the Shire for a long period of time? There are too many.

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*The signs are given planning approval which coincides with the length of time that it takes for the Estate to be completed. The Glades signage would remain while land is still being developed. The Director Development Services will speak to the developers to ask them to keep signage clean and presentable.*

Question 6

Can the signs be made smaller and less of them?

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*Signage is approved during the development application process. The signs cannot be retrospectively removed, once approvals are granted.*

**The Shire President, Councillor Rich asked if there were any further public questions.**

**No further questions were asked.**

**3.3 Public Statements of which prior notice has been given:**

Nil.

**3.4 Public Statements received from the floor:**

**Councillor Dave Atwell, 52 Adams Street, Mundijong**

I wish to publicly apologise for the way I spoke on Election night.

I let the Community, the Shire and myself down by letting myself become frustrated to a point where I spoke inappropriately.

**Coralie Parkin, 3069 South Western Highway, Keysbrook WA 6126**

Thank you to Councillor Rich and staff for the work that has been done since being Shire President. More work is needed from Gobby Road from South Western Highway to Scarp Road. Thank you to Councillor Rich for getting the Shire back on track.



**Lee Bond, PO Box 44, Armadale WA 6112**

I have noticed that the Jarrahdale Entry Statement was going to cost \$13,000, and is now going to cost \$18,000.

Why does the sign need to be replaced? The money should go into things that are needed in the Shire. How did the price jump from \$13,000 to \$18,000? What about the netball courts? Why are they not being upgraded? You should be working for the community; not individual goals. The money should be going towards the static water supply; not a new sign post.

Roundup kills frogs and asthma sufferers. My asthma has become uncontrolled because of roundup being sprayed by my neighbour. Wildlife / birdlife are dying because of the spraying. When spraying near the water, it kills all the frogs. You can't allow people to put glyphosate on the Council verges or in public places. I agree with John Kirkpatrick on this topic. 14 birds were found dead on our property because of the spraying. They were poisoned.

**The Shire President, Councillor Rich asked if there were any further public statements.**

**No further statements were presented.**

**3.5 Motions of which prior notice has been given:**

Nil.

**3.6 Motions received from the floor:**

**GME002/01/20**

**GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS RESOLUTION**

**Moved Mr Thomas Dyer, seconded Mrs Coralie Parkin**

**That a motion of confidence in the Council be passed under the guidance of Councillor Rich and the Executive, in listening to the people and working for the people.**

**CARRIED**

**The Shire President, Councillor Rich asked if there were any further motions from the floor.**

**No further motions were presented.**



**4. Closure:**

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7.21pm.

The Shire President, Councillor Rich, invited everyone to join the Councillors and herself in the Council Dining Room for some light refreshments.

I certify that these minutes were received at the  
Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 17 February 2020.

  
.....  
Presiding Member – Councillor Rich

27/02/2020  
.....  
Date