



Shire of  
Serpentine  
Jarrahdale

# General Meeting of Electors Minutes

**6:30pm**

**Wednesday, 14 June 2023**

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## Contact Us

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### In Person

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



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## Minutes - General Meeting of Electors - Wednesday, 14 June 2023

Minutes of the General Meeting of Electors of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale held on Wednesday, 14 June 2023 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):

##### Attendees:

**Councillors:** M Rich.....Presiding Member  
D Atwell  
R Coales  
T Duggin  
S Mack  
L Strange

**Officers:** Mr P Martin.....Chief Executive Officer  
Mr R Najafzadeh.....Director Infrastructure Services  
Mr B Oliver.....Director Community Engagement  
Mr F Sullivan .....Director Corporate Services  
Mr A Trosic .....Director Development Services  
Dr K Parker .....Manager Governance and Strategy  
Ms M Gibson.....Governance Officer – Council and Committees  
(Minute Taker)

**Apologies:** Councillor M Byas  
Councillor M Dagostino  
Councillor D Strautins

**Members of the Public:** 32



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The Presiding Member, Councillor Rich declared the meeting open at 6:30pm and welcomed members of the Public, Councillors, and Staff to the 2021 / 2022 General Meeting of Electors.

The Presiding Member, Councillor Rich acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Noongar People, and paid her respects to the Traditional Owners, Elders Past, Present and Emerging.

The procedures for the meeting are as specified in the Act and the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*. The legislation states that the procedure to be followed at the meeting is to be determined by the person presiding at the meeting.

The Presiding Member, Councillor Rich advised that the meeting will be conducted generally in a manner consistent with the Shire's Standing Orders.

Regulation 18 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* states that:

1. Each elector who is present at a general or special meeting of electors is entitled to one vote on each matter to be decided at the meeting but does not have to vote.
2. All decisions at a general or special meeting of electors are to be made by a simple majority of votes.
3. Voting at a general or special meeting of electors is to be conducted so that no voter's vote is secret.

The structure of the meeting shall be:

- Public Questions of which prior notice has been given.
- Public Questions received from the floor.
- Public Statements of which prior notice has been given.
- Public Statements received from the floor.
- Motions of which prior notice has been given.
- Motions received from the floor.

Each elector wishing to ask a question may ask a maximum of three questions related to the purpose of the meeting.

Public statements must be not greater than three minutes in length.

Motions may be debated with speakers for and against the motion. No speaker may speak for greater than 5 minutes regarding a motion.

The provisions related to conduct that operate in the Standing Orders are to apply. This means that each person present is to extend due courtesy and respect to all in attendance.

Electors were provided with a voting card. When a motion is called for a vote electors are to raise the card to determine if the motion is carried or lost.

Decisions made at the electors' meeting will be considered at a future Council Meeting, in accordance with legislation.

In accordance with the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's Standing Orders, it is not permitted to record the meeting.



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### 2. Annual Report, incorporating Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022:

#### 2.1 Shire President's Report:

It is my pleasure to present the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's 2021/22 Annual Report.

As both an organisation and a community, we have made significant progress throughout the past financial year.

Our rapid population growth presents unique and complex challenges, but over the past year we have continued our planning for the future, as well as providing contemporary community assets and delivering events that connect our residents to their neighbours.

Key achievements over the past year include:

- Relocation of the SJ Library Services from Mundijong to Byford
- Establishment of the Mobile Library Service
- Resealing nine local roads
- Completion of the Abernethy Road Level Crossing
- Adoption of the Byford Town Centre Civic Site Master Plan

Planning has also continued on other key projects, including the Keirnan Park Sporting and Recreation Precinct, Byford Health Hub and planning and design of three hyper growth road upgrades for Soldiers, Orton and Kargotich roads.

Our annual events calendar also provided opportunities for our community to come together, highlighted by our Food Truck Fiesta Series, Christmas Street Party, Australia Day Awards and Anzac Day.

On behalf of the Shire, I would like to thank you, our community who make Serpentine Jarrahdale the wonderful place it is.

I look forward to a successful year ahead as we continue to make Serpentine Jarrahdale the best place to live, work and play.

**Cr Michelle Rich**

**Shire President**

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

The 2021/22 financial year was a successful period for the Shire, as we continued to deliver on the aims and aspirations of our Strategic Community Plan.

Like all sectors and industries, we have faced the challenges of cost escalations for infrastructure projects, a competitive labour market, COVID-19 and staff turnover.

These factors have presented unique and challenging times for all in the Local Government sector, and as a result we have been unable to deliver upon all of the Shire's capital and operating projects across the 2021/22 financial year.

Despite these challenges, however, we have been able to deliver positive outcomes for Serpentine Jarrahdale.



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This was also highlighted in the Shire reaching a Financial Health Indicator score of 73 for the first time since 2019. This score shows the Shire has been able to significantly improve its financial sustainability in the 2021-22 financial year despite facing increasing inflationary pressures.

We have continued to work in partnership with State Government departments and agencies to support the planning and delivery of major community infrastructure projects, including:

- Tonkin Highway extension
- Byford Metronet extension
- Byford Health Hub

Our investment in facilities was highlighted with the refurbishment of Byford Hall to accommodate the SJ Library Services, a major community project funded through the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant Program.

The next stage in this investment is the refurbishment of the Shire's Road Board Building to accommodate the Council Chambers, as well as staff amenity upgrades at our Administration Centre and Operations Centre.

Completion of Byford Town Centre Civic Site Master Plan, which provides a location for important future facilities such as the Byford Health Hub, heralded a major step forward for our Shire's busiest suburb.

A major milestone we reached was the establishment of the Shire's Project Management Framework, which will significantly improve how the Shire plans for and manages the construction of major projects.

I'd like to close by thanking our community, Council and Shire staff for all of their efforts in making these past 12 months such a successful period.

I look forward to seeing what we can achieve for Serpentine Jarrahdale in the next financial year.

**Paul Martin**

**Chief Executive Officer**

### 2.3 Auditor's Report:

Mr Frazer Sullivan, Director Corporate Services read the Opinion from the 2021 / 2022 Independent Auditor's Report.

Independent Auditors Report 2022 to the Councillors of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### **Opinion**

I have audited the financial report of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale (Shire) which comprises:

- the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2022, the Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature or Type, Statement of Changes in Equity, and Statement of Cash Flows and Rate Setting Statement for the year then ended



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- Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the financial report is:

- based on proper accounts and records
- presents fairly, in all material respects, the results of the operations of the Shire for the year ended 30 June 2022 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.

### **Basis for opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report section below.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Other information**

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for the preparation and the Council for overseeing the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but not the financial report and my auditor's report.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and, accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to the CEO and Council and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

### **Responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer and Council for the financial report**

The Chief Executive Officer of the Shire is responsible for:

- preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Act, the Regulations and Australian Accounting Standards
- managing internal control as required by the CEO to ensure the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the CEO is responsible for:



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- assessing the Shire's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the State Government has made decisions affecting the continued existence of the Shire.

The Council is responsible for overseeing the Shire's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at [https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf). My independence and quality control relating to the report on the financial report.

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQC 1 Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

### **Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial report**

This auditor's report relates to the financial report of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale for the year ended 30 June 2022 included in the annual report on the Shire's website. The Shire's management is responsible for the integrity of the Shire's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Shire's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial report. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the Shire to confirm the information contained in the website version.

**Mark Ambrose**

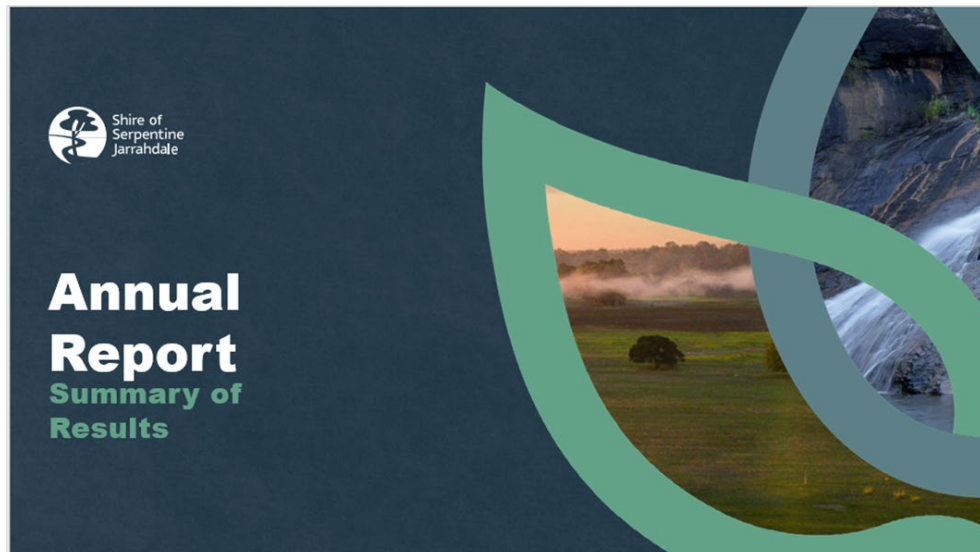
**Senior Director Financial Audit**



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The Director Corporate Services explained the Annual Report – Summary of Results:



### Net Result

- The Shire's Net Result for the year ended 30 June 2022 was \$21,602,621 compared to the Net Result for the year ended 30 June 2021 of \$11,661,923.
- This included recognition of gifted assets in the current year of \$14,151,928 compared to an amount of \$4,717,742 in the previous year.



### Financial Health Indicators

- The Financial Health Indicator is a measurement of a Local Government's overall financial health and is calculated based on allocating a score for each ratio against which all local governments are measured.
- The Shire's Financial Health Indicator Score for the year end 30 June 2022 is 73, which is an improvement from last year which was 69.







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### Financial Health Indicator

The FHI Score of 73 is greater than the FHI benchmark.

Description	Benchmark	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Current Ratio	1.00	1.80	2.72	1.45	1.46	1.28
Asset Consumption Ratio	0.45	0.75	0.75	0.73	0.74	0.77
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio	0.60	0.71	1.02	0.93	0.70	0.46
Asset Sustainability Ratio	0.80	0.95	0.55	0.85	0.94	0.66
Debt Service Cover Ratio	1.90	6.21	5.92	10.61	9.94	7.18
Operating Surplus Ratio	0.00	(0.12)	(0.11)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.10)
Own Source Revenue Coverage Ratio	0.35	0.80	0.82	0.85	0.86	0.82
Financial Health Indicator Score		73	69	72	73	60



### Operating Surplus Ratio

The Operating Surplus Ratio has remained under the Department's standard for the past five years as indicated in the extract below:

Financial Year Ended 30 June	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Operating Surplus Ratio	(0.12)	(0.11)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.10)



### Operating Surplus Ratio

Officers have been working at improving the Shire's operating position through management of operating cash costs and budget initiatives however in accordance with above the issue of financial sustainability is a significant one the Shire continues to face.





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### Operating Surplus Ratio

The table below demonstrates the impact of these items from a financial reporting point of view over the past four financial years:

Item	FY21-22 (\$)	FY20-21 (\$)	FY19-20 (\$)	FY18-19 (\$)	% Change
Operating Expenditure excluding Depreciation - Actuals	31,971,852	30,264,431	28,606,201	28,399,322	12.6%
Depreciation Expenditure – Actuals	10,581,149	9,844,544	8,683,236	7,877,094	34.3%
Total Operating Expenditure - Actuals	42,553,001	40,108,975	37,289,437	36,276,416	17.3%
Rates Revenue - Actuals	25,429,868	24,457,638	24,052,373	23,169,149	9.8%
Rateable Properties	12,395	11,995	11,769	11,574	7.1%

Officers will continue to put forward initiatives to address these issues through the upcoming annual budget process.



**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.**

#### **Ms Jan Star, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

##### Question 1

Is the negative operating surplus ratio a reflection of our very high growth rate (of Mandurah)?

*Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*No. It's more a reflection of not being able to include capital grants in the calculation even though depreciation of assets is included.*

#### **Ms Lisa Brazier, Mundijong WA 6123**

##### Question 1

In relation to the balance sheet, your Quick ratio or current is good, however, I am wondering if you could please give me more detail on what the make-up of the Current Asset – other financial assets is and more specifically the \$11 million increase from the previous year on that line item?

*Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*Essentially, this is a result of a change in accounting standards. Term deposits greater than 90 days now need to be disclosed on the "other financial assets" line rather than in the cash and cash equivalent lines interestingly the 90 day rule is determined by the time to maturity of the original deposit not the remain term to deposit.*

##### Question 2

Also on the balance sheet, line item Other liabilities in both the Current and non-current liabilities representing \$2.496 million and \$6.2 million – which developments do these relate to?



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### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The Director Corporate Services advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

### Question 3

In relation to the Comprehensive income statement line item – other expenditure – the \$1.8 million dollars of repayment of DCP credits. Which development/s does this relate to and why was there a credit needing to be distributed?

### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The Director Corporate Services advised the first part of the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

*In relation to the second part of the question, that is the nature of DCPs. The local government collects money on behalf of developers and then refunds developers when the appropriate infrastructure is constructed, e.g. Roads and Parks.*

### Question 4

Capital grants, subsidies and contributions. Note 2(a) shows operating capital grant / contributions of \$4.36 million and non -operating capital grants / contributions of \$25.597 million – what do each of these figures mean?

### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The Director Corporate Services advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

### **Mr Garry Tomlinson, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

#### Question 1

What happens if outstanding rates aren't paid?

#### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The debt associated with rates are rarely written off. Even if rates aren't paid they remain a debt over the land. Interest and legal fees are payable, which we have a process for collecting.*

#### Question 2

How does the Shire deal with outstanding rates?

#### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*We have a Debt Collection Process which is followed each year.*

## **2.4 Receiving of Annual Report, incorporating Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2022**

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



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**GME001/06/23**

**MOTION / Recommendation to Electors**

**Moved Mr Hoyer, seconded Ms Star**

**That the Annual Report for the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale for the year 2021 / 2022 incorporating the 2021 / 2022 Annual Financial Statements and the 2021 / 2022 Auditor's Report be RECEIVED.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 3. Business:

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

**Mr Christopher Jacobs**

Question 1

At the May Council Meeting on the night the President stated she wasn't aware of the court proceedings relating to her unpaid rates.

Now in The Examiner article dated May 25th she said she first learned of it in the May meeting.

This is incredulous for several reasons in my view and I ask you Madam President to demonstrate that you have not misled the Council and ratepayers about your knowledge of the unpaid rates.

By way of background:

The Shire goes through quite a process before a writ is issued including .....Pursuant to public document council policy 3.2.9, the notification of payment of rates involves the following steps:

1. A rates notice is posted to the resident from the Shire.
2. A reminder marked "final notice" is posted to the resident from the Shire.
3. If monies still owing, a "Letter of Demand" is posted to the resident.
4. If still no satisfactory repayment plan has been organised, court proceedings are commenced with the bailiff HAND-DELIVERING notification of a General Procedures Claim to the rate payer and the rate payer has to acknowledge service of the writ.
5. If payment isn't made or a defence not lodged within 14 days of the Writ being served on the rate payer then a Default Judgement is obtained.
6. The means inquiries are generally only arranged when the debtor has contacted the creditor or the court and advised that they don't have capacity to pay and so they've asked for a payment plan and the means inquiry examines their financial capacity to make the payment plan.

The Means Inquiry was set for June 27th, 2023.

So to clarify the Shire President is asking us to believe that:

1. She did not receive any of the 3 letters posted to her about the rates and that they were owing.



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2. She did not accept service of the writ by the bailiff - the writ is normally served on a person and they must sign for it.
3. She did not sign for and accept the writ - and normally default judgement cannot be entered without proof of service, thus without the debtor signing, acknowledging receipt of the writ from the bailiff.

I ask the President prove that she has not misled ratepayers about the non-payment of her rates.

Specifically, I ask her to provide within 14 days of this meeting for public record:

a) a statutory declaration certifying that:

1. She did not receive any (at least three) letters reminding her that her rates were unpaid.
2. She did not receive a notice of Demand about the unpaid rates.
3. She did not accept service of the writ from the bailiff.
4. She did not receive notification by way of letter or otherwise - that judgement was entered against her - once judgement is entered this is also advised to the defendant by mail.
5. The means Inquiry is also served by a bailiff - can she confirm that she did not receive service of the means inquiry hearing?
6. She did not contact the Court or the Shire's lawyers requesting payment leniency and a means inquiry - once judgement is entered against the debtor - normally the only reason it goes to a means inquiry (as happened on this occasion and as was set down for 26 June).

b) a copy of Court records of service of the writ - she can obtain from the court a copy of the Service by the bailiff.

In this case she is saying that she did not accept service which can only mean that the court deemed constructive service which can sometimes occur when a bailiff has attended at a property on three occasions and not been able to serve the defendant.

So I ask Madam President to provide a copy of the court record showing that service was not effected personally on her.

So Madam Present can, by providing a statutory declaration certifying the issues detailed and also by providing the court record that she didn't get served personally, restore our faith in her and support her claims that she didn't know about her unpaid rates.

If not, I believe there is a good case Madam President should resign.

*Response (Shire President)*

*The Shire President advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*



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### Question 2

On Thursday, 18 May 2023, authorities were notified of a bushfire near the Whitby Estate at 4:45am. This fire was approx. 300m away from residential homes and was declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services as an emergency level bushfire. This fire saw approximately 70 volunteer firefighters, from six different brigades, battle a blaze for roughly 5 hours before it was declared, by DFES, as being under control. During these 5 hours, nearby residents from the Whitby estate waited with bated and scrambled to organise themselves and decide what their next moves were.

As the Shire would be aware, the residents of this estate only have one egress point to enter and exit the area. In the event of a bushfire this is not acceptable and is a disaster waiting to happen.

At this point the Shire are washing their hands of this issue stating that the original planning approval for the estate met WAPC conditions with one egress point.

When exactly will the Shire ensure the future safety of residents in the area and enforce the requirement of an additional entry/exit to be built and what egress path would the Shire plan?

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*This matter was a key issue that the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale advocated to be solved back in 2019. In response to concerns identified by Shire Officers and the community in 2019, regarding legacy issues that were associated with access to Whitby Estate, Shire Officers proactively contacted the developer to seek an interim solution in the form of a (temporary) second access to be available in times of an emergency. Shire Officers requested for this to be immediately constructed, given that a permanent second access was likely to be some time away according to the developer's timeframes.*

*The Shire reached agreement with the Whitby Developers to install a temporary emergency access to South Western Hwy, via Reilly Road, and for this to be constructed and maintained by the developer until the permanent connection is made. These works were completed prior to the 2020 fire season, and have remained in place since then.*

*The temporary second emergency access is a 6m wide compacted limestone access, which gives two way vehicle movement to all vehicles in times of an Emergency. The access has an emergency gate installed to ensure it is secured and not used unless for an emergency.*

*In this regard, the Mundijong Bushfire Brigade appliance will be a first responder to a fire incident, and would unlock the gate if such was required for evacuation. The brigade station is 3 minutes from Whitby.*

*The Shire also worked with the developers to undertake community education for residents on the function and use of the Emergency access.*

*The following image depicts the route of the access. This will be maintained as a secured emergency only access, until a permanent second road connection is secured for the Estate.*



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*Shire Officers have been advised by the developer that they are advancing their second access connection to SW Highway, as a matter of priority.*

*Following the Whitby fire last month, the Shire's Emergency Services Team will be undertaking the following actions to improve emergency information within the Whitby Estate:*

- *Installing directional Fire Exit signage on Haywire Avenue to make the exit identifiable if the gate is open;*
- *Installing a sign on the road adjacent to Whitby Playground to clearly identify exit routes in case of an emergency; and*
- *Hosting a sundowner BBQ event at Whitby Playground to answer questions regarding the recent fire, and hand out Bushfire Action Plans.*

*The above information regarding emergency exit routes and emergency preparedness will be sent to Whitby Estate residents via a hardcopy letter in the coming weeks.*



### Question 3

What is the understanding the Shire has regarding the timing of the building of the shopping / commercial precinct in the Whitby Estate?

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*Shire Officers recently met with the developer, who confirmed that their current focus includes delivery of the second permanent access from South Western Highway. The developer is also considering delivery timeframes for the Town Centre, following the creation of better connectivity into the estate. No date is yet to be locked in with respect of the first commercial developments taking place, however.*

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

**Presiding Member, Councillor Rich asked if there were any public questions from the floor.**



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### **Mr Garry Tomlinson, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

#### Question 1

Why did you meaningfully deny knowing about your court case listed for the 27/06/23 when you were asked about it at the 15/05/23 OCM by a Councillor, then call a recess break?

*Response (Shire President)*

*The Shire President advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

#### Question 2

What is the Shire doing about the lithium mining which has been all over Facebook and a meeting was held?

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*Officers were invited to make a submission on the impacts such a development would have and we advised them of the Council's planning framework. A formal objection to the licence has been made.*

*I will ask the Director Development Services to provide further details.*

*Response (Director Development Services)*

*In February 2023 a formal objection was made to an Extractive Industry Licence application, based on the inconsistency of such with the Shire's adopted 2022 Local Planning Strategy. The Shire has formerly objected to the application, with proceedings currently being on foot.*

#### Question 3

Can I have a copy?

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*Yes, Mr Tomlinson, we are happy to provide you with a copy.*

### **Ms Margaret Cala, Mardella WA 6125**

#### Question 1

What is the Shire doing to arrest and treat the spread of dieback in the Jarrah and Banksia trees along the Eastern side of Paterson Street in Mundijong?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*The Director Infrastructure Services advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

#### Question 2

Is the increase in charges for street lighting going ahead, and if it is, what steps will the Shire take to minimise the increase? For example, switching off lights at similar / alternate areas.





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*Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The initial news was a 43%. More recently advised 7.5% will be the increase at this time and no strategies to reduce street lighting are being considered at this time.*

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*The Shire hasn't considered options including switching off lights in certain areas. Increasing street lighting was an issue identified in the Shire's recent community survey. However, this is something that Council could consider.*

**Ms Vicky Kerfoot, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

Question 1

What progress has been made on Lot 814 – Old Mill site?

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*Feasibility was undertaken of site to assess suitability for caravan park / information centre. The outcome went to Council in December 2022, which recommended the first stage of development should be a visitor centre, and if this was done it would attract interest in from the private sector to develop a caravan park. Council resolved to wait to see if this project would be a 2025 election priority. There is an item going to Council this month identifying it as an advocacy priority for Council to consider. We are happy to provide you with a copy of feasibility report if you like.*

Question 2

What has the Shire done to improve water supply for town to progress and encourage new enterprise?

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*Residents of Jarrahdale have met with the Shire President and the CEO about the Jarrahdale water supply. As a result of this, Officers have met with Water Corporation representatives. The Water Corporation has advised the pipe has been inspected and is in OK working order. The Water Corporation has acknowledged that water will be an issue for any development in the area and any upgrades will need to be funded by developers.*

**Mr Athol Wigg, Byford WA 6122**

Question 1

In the event of a motion of no confidence in the Shire President being moved, and if it is successful, what will be the effect on the good governance of the Shire?

*Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*Essentially, motions of no confidence in the Shire President do not require any further action than that. The Motion in itself is not enough to remove the Shire President from office.*

**Ms Jan Star, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

Question 1

Given the importance of our unique Jarrah Forrest, given the latest IPCC statements and Biodiversity Convention Australia signed, does the Shire acknowledge this in any way, e.g. a Shire 'Biodiversity and or Climate Change Policy'?



Continued

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### *Response (Director Development Services)*

*The Shire has an approved 2022 Local Planning Strategy. This designates where future land use change is planned for, and alternatively where the natural landscape needs to be protected and enhanced. In this regard, the State Forest area and Darling Scarp landscape is seen as needing to be protected and preserved for the environmental and biodiversity values it comprises. This is acknowledged within the Local Planning Strategy, and the Shire seeks to ensure only activities consistent with preserving and enhancing the environment are supported.*

### Question 2

If there is a reduction in Councillor numbers, how will the Shire ensure the significant rate base of rural land owners still have a voice?

### *Response (Shire President)*

*The current Council put forward a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board recommending a configuration of six Councillors and a popularly elected Shire President.*

### *Response (Chief Executive Officer)*

*Council resolved to undertake a ward and representative review following the ordinary local government election in October 2023, which will look at all those issues and representation across the Shire.*

### **Mrs Lee Bond, Box 44 Armadale WA 6122**

### Question 1

How much money has the Jarrahdale Community Collective received from the Ratepayers of Serpentine Jarrahdale since the 20/02/21 and what reason were these funds granted?

### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The Director Corporate Services advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

### Question 2

When was the last date Serpentine Jarrahdale Council Strategic Risk Register was reviewed and what risks were identified and their causes and what action has been taken regarding those risks? If no action has been taken, why not?

### *Response (Director Corporate Services)*

*The Director Corporate Services advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

### Question 3

Did the President of Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire Council fail to attend a hearing listed in the Magistrates Court in 2022 regarding her rate arrears and as a result the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale made application for a default judgement against her



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and her failure to attend that hearing resulted in a means enquiry hearing being listed for the 27/06/2023?

*Response (Shire President)*

*The Shire President advised the question will be taken on notice. In accordance with Council Policy 1.1.3 – Public Question and Public Statement Time – Ordinary Council Meeting, a written response will be provided.*

### **Mr Bill Denholm, Karrakup WA 6122**

#### Question 1

Regarding Keirnan Street sporting and community precinct, could we have a quick review re progress or lack thereof? Especially water sourcing problems, as the land was gifted, plus \$20 million by the Labor Government and yet no first sod of earth has been turned after 3 years. The need is apparent and urgent. We the community need Stage 1A to proceed to allow the other stages to progress, i.e. 1B - BMX track, 1C - netball courts, men's shed, etc.

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*Progress on project – Detailed design and tender documentation for Stage 1A (AFL ovals and pavilion) will be issued by the consultant in next two weeks. Detailed design and tender documentation for Stage 1B (BMX) will be issued by the consultant at the end of June 2023.*

*Officers are working with DWER in undertaking an H2 hydrological assessment as requested by DWER to determine viability of drawing water from the deep aquifer. This will include drilling a second bore into the deep aquifer for monitoring purposes. According to advice received from DWER, it is estimated that this investigation process will take 6 months to complete.*

#### Question 2

Is there going to be a second bore in the deep aquifer?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*Yes, refer to response to question 1 above.*

#### Question 3

Is this a monitoring bore?

*Response (Director Infrastructure Services)*

*Yes, refer to response to question 1 above.*

**Presiding Member, Councillor Rich asked if there were any further public questions from the floor. No further public questions were asked.**

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

Nil.

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

**Presiding Member, Councillor Rich asked if there were any public statements from the floor.**



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### **Mr Tom Hoyer, Byford WA 6122**

Made a statement objecting to lithium mining in the Jarrahdale area.

### **Ms Kelly Berry, Byford WA 6122**

Made a statement regarding the recent ward and representation review.

### **Ms Kelly Berry, Byford WA 6122**

Made a statement regarding Councillor training.

### **Mr Garry Tomlinson, Jarrahdale WA 6124**

Made a statement regarding the role of Councillors.

### **Mrs Lee Bond, Box 44 Armadale WA 6122**

Made a statement regarding street lighting and road signs.

### **Mrs Lee Bond, Box 44 Armadale WA 6122**

Made a statement regarding Councillor conduct.

**Presiding Member, Councillor Rich asked if there were any further public statements from the floor. No further public statements were made.**

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

Nil.

### **3.6 Motions received from the floor:**

**Presiding Member, Councillor Rich asked if there were any motions from the floor.**

**GME002/06/23**

#### **MOTION**

**Moved Mr Hoyer, seconded Ms Star**

**That the Shire and Councillors support the advocacy approach being progressed by the Peel local governments and partners.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**GME003/06/23**

#### **MOTION**

**Moved Ms Berry, seconded Ms Plant**

**That Council requests the CEO progress the process of recouping \$7,235 plus interest from Councillor Coales, if proven not completing the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course.**

**MOTION CARRIED**



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**GME004/06/23****MOTION****Moved Mr Tomlinson, seconded Ms May****That Michelle Rich be voted out of her position on the SJ Shire due to her constant lying and lack of transparency.****MOTION LOST****Presiding Member, Councillor Rich asked if there were any further motions from the floor. No further motions were received.****4. Closure:**

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7:55pm.