



**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**27 JULY 2016**





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**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

*The Chairman, Cr Neil Grinham opened the meeting at 10.16 am.*

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Present:

Chairman	Cr Neil Grinham
Deputy Chairman	Cr Jason Homewood
Member	Cr Les Price
Member	Cr Kerry Kay
Member	Cr Carol Hodshon
Member	Cr Ross Pigdon

Apologies:

Member	Cr Robert Grinham
Member	Cr Harvey Nichols

Leave of Absence:

Nil

In Attendance:

A/CEO	Mr Dominic Carbone (via Telephone Link)
Administration Supervisor	Ms Ronella Kelly

Members of the Public:

Nil

**3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil.

**4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**5. REPORTS**

The Chairman in accordance with Section 5.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 on 25 July 2016 in a notice to the Acting Chief Executive Officer called a special meeting of Council for the following purpose.

1. Consider the engagement of the Consultant Jon Grant for a Cost Benefit analysis for the Vermin Cell.
2. To re-affirm the resolutions from the previous ordinary meeting held on Tuesday the 28 June 2016.

In relation to the above matters members are requested to give consideration to the following reports:

The Acting Chief Executive Officer at 10.23 am joined the meeting via a telephone link.

### **5.1 Economic Feasibility Analysis – Murchison Regional Vermin Cell Fence**

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone, A/CEO
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	25 July 2016
Attachment	Nil

#### **Matter for consideration**

That Council give consideration to engaging the Services of Grant Consultants to undertake an economic feasibility analysis on the implementation of the Murchison Regional Vermin Cell Fence.

#### **Background**

The Council is in the process of finalizing its business plan in relation to the Vermin Cell Fence.

#### **Statutory Environment**

Local Government Act 1995

6.8 Expenditure from municipal fund not included in annual budget.

- (1) A local government is not to incur expenditure from its municipal fund for additional purposes except where expenditure –
  - (a) is incurred in an financial year before the adoption of the annual budget by the local government; or
  - (b) is authorized in advance by resolution
  - (c) is authorized in advance by the mayor or president in an emergency.

Absolute majority required.

#### **Consultation**

Nil

#### **Comment**

The business plan prepared for the Vermin Cell Fence details the cost/benefit analysis of the fence. The preparation of an economic feasibility analysis would provide additional analysis to support the business plan.

The analysis will include:

- Comparative analysis of individual fencing to cell fencing concept, demonstrating economic benefits of economies of scale in the region.
- Private payback period assessment (broad) from project implementation, factoring in improvements to agricultural practice profitability and productivity.
- Broad economic feasibility of project implementation to individual and industry profitability.
- Sensitivity analysis on the abovementioned attributes to demonstrate potential variability of project.

The report to include an overall analysis and summarized information.

A quotation obtained from Grant Consultants estimates the cost of preparing the economic feasibility analysis at \$6,500. If Council requires Grant Consultants to present the report and findings to the MRVC and Ministers in Geraldton WA an additional cost of \$3,250 will be charged.

### **Voting Requirements**

Absolute Majority

<b>COUNCIL RESOLUTION</b>	
<b>Moved: Cr Jason Homewood</b>	<b>Seconded: Cr Les Price</b>
<i>That Council</i>	
(1) <i>Engage the Services of Grant Consultants to prepare an Economic Feasibility Analysis on the Implementation of the Murchison Regional Vermin Cell Fence at a cost of \$6,500.</i>	
(2) <i>Subject to (1) above, if required that Council engage the services of Grant Consultants to deliver the report and findings to the MRVC and Ministers in Geraldton for an additional cost of \$3,250.</i>	
(3) <i>Authorises the expenditure including travel and accommodation expenses for elected members , staff and Ms . Karen Cosgrove meeting with Ministers and relevant departments including the Midwest Development Commission.</i>	
(4) <i>Authorises the expenditure detailed in (1), (2) and (3) above in accordance with Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995.</i>	
<b>CARRIED:6/0</b>	

## **5.2 Resolutions of Council for the Ordinary Meeting held on the 28 June 2016**

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone, A/CEO
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	25 July 2016
Attachment	Nil

### **Matter for Consideration**

That Council re-affirm the resolutions passed at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 June 2016.

### **Background**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 June 2016 incorrect advice was provided as to whether a person who is not physically present at the meeting of council is to be taken to be present at the meeting if the person is simultaneously in audio contact by telephone with each other person present at the meeting and the person is in a suitable place. Cr R. Grinham was permitted to be present at the meeting via the telephone.

### **Statutory Environment**

#### **Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996**

14A. Attendance by telephone etc. (Act s. 5.25(1)(ba))

- (1) A person who is not physically present at a meeting of council or committee is to be taken to be present at the meeting if –
- (a) The person is simultaneously in audio contact, by telephone or other means of instantaneous communication, with each other person present at the meeting; and
  - (b) the person is in a suitable place; and
  - (c) the council has approved\* of the arrangement

\* Absolute Majority required

### **Comment**

What was omitted from the advice is that Council needs to approve of the arrangement, that is attendance by telephone. Such arrangement requires approval of an absolute majority of members. At the time Cr R. Grinham joined the meeting an absolute majority of members (6) were not in attendance. Therefore no formal approval could be given. Council is therefore requested to re-affirm the following resolution passed at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 June 2016.

**7.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 12 March 2016**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood                      **Seconded:** Cr Ross Pigdon  
*That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 March 2016 as circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

**7.2 Minutes of Special Meeting held on 2 May 2016**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood                      **Seconded:** Cr Harvey Nichols  
*That the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 2 May 2016 as circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

**12.1 Financial Activity Statement for the Period 1 July 2015 to 31 May 2016**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Ross Pigdon                      **Seconded:** Cr Jason Homewood  
*That Council adopts the Financial Activity Statement for the period ending 31 May 2016.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

**12.2 Accounts for Payment 1 February 2016 to 31 May 2016**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:**

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood                      **Seconded:** Cr Harvey Nichols  
*That Council approve the list of accounts paid for the period 1 February 2016 to 31 May 2016 amounting to \$213,132.61 and the list be recorded in the minutes.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

### 12.3 Debtors – Outstanding as at 31 May 2016

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood

**Seconded:** Cr Les Price

*That Council receive the Outstanding Debtors Report as at 31 May 2016.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

### 12.4 Permit to Use Vermin Fence Access Track

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood

**Seconded:** Cr Harvey Nichols

*That Council.*

- 1. Grant a permit to use the portion of the MRVC vermin fence access track as detailed on the map attached to Report No. 12.4 to Mr Peter Hayden, Consultant Geologist.*
- 2. Subject to (1) above that the permit be valid for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2019.*
- 3. Subject to (1) and/or (2) above Mr Peter Hayden be advised accordingly.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

### 12.5 Draft Establishment Agreement

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

**Moved:** Cr Les Price

**Seconded:** Cr Harvey Nichols

*That Council refer the Draft Establishment Agreement to the participant local governments comprising of the Shires of Cue, Meekatharra, Mt. Magnet, Sandstone and Yalgoo for consideration and acceptance.*

**CARRIED:5/0**



## 12.6 Investments as at 31 May 2016

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood                      **Seconded:** Cr Ross Pigdon

That the Investment Report as at 31 May 2016 be received.

**CARRIED/5/0**

## 12.7 MRVC Vermin Control Cell R4R Business Case

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood                      **Seconded:** Cr Ross Pigdon

*That the Acting CEO meet with representatives from Core Business Australia to align the MRVC Vermin Control Cell Royalties for Regions Business Case with the MRVC Business Plan Vermin Proof Fence.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

## 12.8 Amounts Outstanding – Core Business Australia

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood                      **Seconded:** Cr Ross Pigdon

*That Council*

- (1) Pursuant to Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995 authorises the following expenditure.
  - Business Case Murchison Region Control Cell Royalties for Regions \$51,210 (including variations)*
- (2) Pursuant to Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 authorises payment of the following.
  - Core Business Australia \$22,595.10 (incl. GST)*
- (3) That the payment to Core Business Australia for \$5,280 (incl. GST) be withheld and the Acting CEO and/or the Chairman be authorized to obtain further clarification in relation to the amount invoiced.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

**12.9 Presentation of Business Plan inclusive of Revitalisation Program for the Murchison Region Vermin Cell Fence**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:**

**Moved:** Cr Ross Pigdon

**Seconded:** Cr Les Price

*That Council receive the presentation of the Business Plan – Murchison Regional Cell Fence inclusive of the Revitalisation Program.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

**12.10 Provision of Accounting Services by RSM**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:**

**Moved:** Cr Jason Homewood

**Seconded:** Cr Les Price

*That Council*

*(1) Undertake its financial and budgeting obligation inhouse from the 1 July 2016.*

*(2) That RSM prepare the 2015-16 Annual Financial Statements.*

*(3) That RSM be thanked for the services provided to the MRVC.*

**CARRIED:5/0**

**Voting Requirement**

Absolute Majority

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Ross Pigdon

**Seconded:** Cr Carol Hodshon

That Council re-affirms the resolutions passed at its Ordinary Meeting held on 28 June 2016 as detailed in the Report above.

**CARRIED:6/0**

The Acting Chief Executive Officer Mr Dominic Carbone left the meeting at 10.39am.

**6. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

*There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.39am.*