

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

to be held on

Thursday, 10 August 2023 at 6:30pm

at the

Shire of Morawa Council Chambers, 26 Winfield Street, Morawa



WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

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DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL/ IMPARTIALITY/ PROXIMITY INTERESTS Local Government Act 1995 – Section 5.65, 5.70 and 5.71 Local Government (Administration) Regulation 34C

This form is provided to enable members and officers to disclose an Interest in a matter in accordance with the regulations of Section 5.65, 5.70 and 5.71 of the Local Government Act and Local Government (Administration) Regulation 34C				
Name of person				
declaring the interest				
Position				
Date of Meeting				
Type of Meeting (Please circle one)	5	ommittee Meeting/ Sp genda Briefing/ Conf	pecial Council Meeting idential Briefing	
Interest Disclosed	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		
Item Number and Title				
Nature of Interest				
Type of Interest (please circle one)	Financial	Proximity	Impartiality	
Interest Disclosed				
Item Number and Title				
Nature of Interest				
Type of Interest (please circle one)	Financial	Proximity	Impartiality	
Interest Disclosed				
Item Number and Title				
Nature of Interest				
Type of Interest (please circle one)	Financial	Proximity	Impartiality	

Signature: _____

Date:

Important Note:

Should you declare a **Financial** or **Proximity** Interest, in accordance with the Act and Regulations noted above, you are required to leave the room while the item is being considered.

For an **Impartiality** Interest, you must state the following prior to the consideration of the item:

"With regard to agenda item (read item number and title), I disclose that I have an impartiality interest because (read your reason for interest). As a consequence, there may be a perception that my impartiality on the matter may be affected. I declare that I will consider this matter on its merits and vote accordingly."

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Item 1 Opening of Meeting

The President to declare the meeting open at 6:30pm.

Item 2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Dignitaries

The President acknowledges the traditional custodians, the Yamatji people, and recognises the contribution of Yamatji elder's past, present and future, in working together for the future of Morawa.

Item 3 Recording of Attendance

3.1 Attendance

Council

President (Presiding Member) Councillor Karen Chappel Deputy President Councillor Ken Stokes Councillor Debbie Collins Councillor Yvette Harris Councillor Shirley Katona

Staff

Chief Executive Officer Scot Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services Jack

Scott Wildgoose Jackie Hawkins

Members of the Public

- 3.2 Apologies Councillor Jane Coaker
- 3.4 Approved Leave of Absence Councillor Mark Coaker

3.5 Disclosure of Interests

Item 4 Applications for Leave of Absence

Item 5 Response to Previous Questions

Item 6 Public Question Time

Item 7 Questions from Members without Notice

Item 8 Announcements by Presiding Member without Discussion

President's Meetings for the month of July 2023.

Date	Details of Meeting	
5 July 2023	WALGA State Council meeting (incl. budget adoption)	
6 July 2023	LGIS Board meeting	
7 July 2023	ECEC Meeting with REED	
19 July 2023	Midwest NAIDOC 2023	
20 July 2023	Shire of Morawa – Ordinary Council Meeting	
27 July 2023	ALGA Post NGA brief	

Item 9 Declaration by all Members to have given due consideration to All Matters Contained in the Business Paper before the Meeting

The Elected Members to declare that they had given due consideration to all matters contained in the agenda.

Item 10 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 20 July 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting were provided under separate cover via the Shire of Morawa's secure portal to all Councillors on 25 July 2023.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm that:

1. the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 July 2023 are a true and correct record.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

Disclaimer

Members of the public are cautioned against taking any action on Council decisions, on items in this agenda in which they may have an interest, until formal notification in writing from the Shire has been received. Decisions made at this meeting can be revoked pursuant to the Local Government Act 1995.

Item 11 Reports of Officers

11.1 Chief Executive Officer

11.1.1	Actions Performed under Delegated Authority for June & July 2023

Author: Executive Assistant

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author/Authorising Officer declares that they do not have any conflict of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That with respect to Actions Performed under Delegated Authority for June & July 2023, Council:

1. Accept the Report.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

To report back to Council, actions performed under delegated authority from the period 01 June 2023 to 31 July 2023.

DETAIL

To increase transparency this report has been prepared for Council and includes all actions performed under delegated authority for –

- Development Approvals;
- Building Permits;
- Health Approvals;
- One off delegations to the Chief Executive Officer;
- Dangerous Goods;
- Affixing of Common Seal;
- Other Delegations as provided for in the Delegations Register.

The following outlines the actions performed within the Shire relative to Delegated Authority from the period 01 June 2023 to 31 July 2023 ('the period') and are submitted to Council for information.

Bushfire

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to bushfire matters during the period.

Caravan parks and campgrounds

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to caravan parks and camping grounds during the period.

Common Seal

No Common Seal actions were undertaken by the Shire during the period.

Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to Dangerous Goods Safety matters during the period.

Food Act 2008

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to the Food Act matters during the period.

Hawkers, traders, and stall holders

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to hawkers, traders, and stall holders during this period.

Liquor Control Act 1988

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to liquor matters during the period.

Lodging houses

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to lodging house matters during the period.

Public Buildings

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to public buildings matters during the period.

Septic Tank Approvals

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to the Health Act 1911 and Health (Treatment of Sewage and Disposal of Effluent Waste) Regulations 1974 during the period.

Planning Approval

Date of decision	Decision Ref.	Decision details	Applicant	Other affected person(s)
16/06/2023	23/13	Patio	47 Dreghorn St Morawa	

Building Permits

Date of decision	Decision Ref.	Decision details	Applicant	Other affected person(s)
01/06/2023	23/11	Demolition Application	Bellaluca Construction And Stone Pty Ltd	

7/06/2023	230448	Shade Sails	Wildflower Park	
20/06/2023	23/13	Patio	47 Dreghorn St Morawa	
11/07/2023	TP02/23	Outbuilding	Lot 94, 11 Evans Street Morawa	

Other Delegations

No other delegated decision was undertaken by Shire pursuant to this category during the period.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low – report provided to Council for information purposes.

CONSULTATION

Nil

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Building Act 2011 Bushfire Act 1954 Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007 Health Act 1991 Health Act 1911 Health (Public Buildings) Regulations 1992 Liquor Control Act 1988 Local Government Act 1995 Planning & Development Act 2005 Shire of Morawa Local Planning Scheme No. 2 Shire of Morawa Cemeteries 2018 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Dogs 2018 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Extractive Industries 2018 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Fencing 2018 Local Law Shire of Morawa Health 2004 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Public Places and Local Government Property 2018 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Meeting Procedures 2012 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Waste 2018 - Local Law Shire of Morawa Delegations Register (2020)

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no known financial implications relating to this Item.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There are no known risk management implications relating to this Item.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

11.1.2 WAEC Proposed Amended Boundaries Position Paper

Author: Chief Executive Officer

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author/Authorising Officer declares that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That with respect to the WAEC Electoral Distribution Commissioners proposed changes to WA electoral boundaries, Council resolve that:

- 1. The Proposed changes do not represent the best interest of the Shire or country WA.
- 2. If the proposed changes are to go ahead then the State Government must invest in more regional electoral offices and Ministerial outreach to regional WA
- 3. Holistically the State's electoral methodology needs to be reviewed with a terms of reference to focus on equality of representation and services based on more than just population, to account for the value proposition of regional WA
- 4. Direct the CEO to provide the Shire's endorsed position as a submission to the WAEC Electoral Distribution Commissioners prior to 21 August 2023.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

To form a Council opinion on the Electoral Distribution Commissioners proposed significant changes to Western Australia's State electoral boundaries.

DETAIL

The Electoral Distribution Commissioners have proposed significant changes to Western Australia's State electoral boundaries. The most significant changes proposed by the Commissioners are the creation of a new district in the south metropolitan area, and the merging of the regional districts of Moore and North West Central. This change directly impacts the effective representation of the Shire of Morawa, as the Shire sits in the Moore electorate.

A notice for Objections Invited was distributed on 21 July 2023, which calls for written objections, comments or suggestions in response to the proposals to be lodged no later than 5:00pm on 21 August 2023.

The WA Electoral Commission (WAEC) generally reviews electoral boundaries based on population distribution, which in itself will favour representation towards areas with population mass or growth.

In 2021, the Shire of Morawa opposed the Electoral Equality Bill that implemented a one-vote, one-value electoral system to the upper house. The bill abolished metro and regional upper house tickets in favour of a statewide ticket. At the time it was claimed by the State Government that under the old system a vote from some regions was worth six times one from a metro counterpart.

At the time the review was aligned to a report into electoral reform headed by former WA Governor Malcolm McCusker, however the terms of reference of the review centered around equality of votes as a determinant of electoral equality. The counter argument was made across regional areas that this mathematical view of equality ignored the vast gap between the regional and metropolitan areas in terms of healthcare, education, transport, telecommunications, welfare, and other support services. It was argued that the increased regional weighting to votes ensured some form of advocacy and representation for the underpopulated and underserviced areas of the State.

In terms of the lower house, effective on 20 May 2005, the Electoral Amendment and Repeal Act 2005 (No.1 of 2005) abolished the country-metropolitan distinction for the Legislative Assembly, but all seats then in place remained until the following election on 6 September 2008. A redistribution of seats announced by the Western Australian Electoral Commission on 29 October 2007 placed 42 seats in the Perth metropolitan area and 17 in the country area, with a variation of $\pm 10\%$ from the average population normally permitted. The only distinction for rural seats is that any seat with an area of 100,000 square kilometres or greater (that is, 4% of the State's land area) may have a variation of $\pm 10\%$ from the seat's area in square kilometres.

The current WAEC proposal will essentially reduce the number of seats in country areas further and add an extra metropolitan seat.

This change combined with previous one-vote, one-voice changes represents a reduction in country representation in both State houses of parliament.

On a principal basis, the Shire should object/challenge the proposal regardless of the fact that the modification affects the local Moore electorate, although that makes the stance even more important, given the change will reduce country representation and this representation is required to implement strong advocacy and outcomes for regional areas across the State.

Any reduction of regional seats, would only exacerbate the existing challenges faced by regional communities, making it harder for their voices to be heard and their issues addressed. Regional areas require strong and effective representation to ensure that their unique needs and challenges are adequately addressed. A reduction in regional seats would result in fewer representatives with a thorough understanding of the issues and challenges faced by regional communities, leading to a lack of effective advocacy and representation.

Furthermore, the merging of regional seats will result in larger electorates, making it more difficult for constituents to access their local Member and for Members to engage effectively with their communities. The larger the electorate, the more difficult it becomes for Members to provide the necessary support and advocacy that their constituents require.

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – AGENDA

The state economy is dominated by its resources and services sector and largely driven by the export of iron-ore, gold, liquefied natural gas and agricultural commodities such as wheat and it is these resources that generate much of the State's income and strong financial position.

Interestingly, the State government continues to argue at a Federal level for a fair share of GST, even though the WA population size maybe does not warrant the investment, the State government argues that it is only fair that the State receive a fair share of the income it generates back. If this argument is applied to WA as a State, then potentially the regional areas should be demanding a fair investment and representation based on the fact that much of the State Governments income from exports and royalties is generated from the regions not where the populous areas are.

The above stands as an example of how a value proposition based holistically around population may not ensure appropriate representation and equality for the State, and potentially a continuation of the population driven electoral reform will lead to decision making that hinders the economic prosperity of regional WA and the State as a whole. It will not be easy to place an appropriate value on the contribution of regional WA to the State prosperity but potentially a review with a terms of reference around equality of living and the value of access to members on the State's economic output.

Whilst the author does not believe that objecting or challenging the WAEC review outcome will in any way alter the outcome, it is important that the Shire acts out of civic responsibility.

Retaining the current number of regional seats is critical for ensuring that regional communities have adequate representation and support in the Western Australian Parliament. By doing so, we can ensure that our regional communities receive the attention and resources they need to thrive, and that their voices are heard at the highest levels of government.

If the change goes through as expected then it is important that the State Government review the electoral districts and the travel distances between regional offices and consider implementing a maximum distance or travel time. This would likely trigger the investment in more electoral offices and at least provide a conduit by which regional residents can access their local member or at least one of their representatives.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Medium – Morawa's views will be considered with all other submissions which reduces the significance of the resolution but it is still important to respond and be heard on this matter.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team Shire President

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

Be future focused in all we do: 1. Ensure the Shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The Shire risks potential reputational damage with the State or WAEC if it objects to the review, however not objecting will likely have negative local reputational consequences.

CONCLUSION

That Morawa states strongly that its preference is for the current electoral boundaries remain in effect as the proposed changes will further reduce the country representation in State parliament and diminish the inputs of the Midwest region and Morawa Shire residents.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.1.2a Electoral Distribution Commissioners Explanatory Statement Attachment 2 – 11.1.2b Objections Invited Notice Attachment 3 – 11.1.2c Proposed District Boundaries Map

11.1.3 Adoption of the Shire of Morawa Caravan Park Masterplan 2023

Author: Chief Executive Officer

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author/Authorising Officer declares that he does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the Shire of Morawa Caravan Park Masterplan 2023 (as attached).

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

For Council to review and adopt the Shire of Morawa Caravan Park Masterplan 2023 as presented.

DETAIL

Background

In September 2022, Council adopted the Shire of Morawa Tourism Plan with an action plan centred around leveraging, enriching, and supporting tourism in Morawa.

The Support goal centred around providing supporting infrastructure to maximise social and economic benefits from tourism. One of the key actions under this area was to develop a Masterplan for the Morawa Caravan Park expansion. The desired outcomes associated with this action were:

- More accommodation available for tourists and a larger range on offer, including chalets, powered and unpowered sites.
- Ensure family visitor groups are catered for in both accommodation and complementary facilities (such as ablutions, playgrounds, safety etc).
- Investing in both RV/Caravan facilities and chalet style accommodation ensure that different types of tourists are accommodated for.

Caravan Park Masterplan 2023

In December 2022 the Shire Council implemented a CEO KPI to develop a Caravan Park Masterplan for the Shire (KRA 6).

A thorough analysis of strategic plans, regional offerings, and community and stakeholder engagements inputs formed the basis of the strategic goals and action areas identified in the Tourism Plan. The Shire CEO worked with Element Advisory Pty Ltd. to further analyse and contextualise documents and offerings with a more specific focus on caravan parks.

The Shire of Morawa Caravan Park Masterplan (the Masterplan) attached includes contextual analysis, competitor information, as well as an overview of market trends. This information has then informed the development of the Masterplan along with feedback from both users and managers of the caravan park.

This qualitive information was combined with site analysis around vehicle paths, levels, and general site opportunities and constraints, to develop the Masterplan.

Key to the successful delivery of the Masterplan was the development of a vision statement and design objectives:

Vision Statement: The future of Morawa Caravan Park is to become the caravan park of choice to stay at when travelling along the Wildflower Way and beyond to the Murchison Region. It will be a welcoming destination offering modern comfort, exceptional service, contemporary facilities and affordability to many travellers all year round. Guests will return time and time again for its convenience and the rural bush experience, and, for its rural charm and hospitality that is reflective of the warmth of Morawa Town.

Design Objectives:

- 1. Zoning and land use: define and organise different zones within the caravan park to create a logical and functional layout for guests, services and infrastructure
- 2. Connectivity and circulation: a well-connected network of sealed roads with clear traffic flow and adequate spaces for caravan movement. Ease of access to camp sites for caravans. Safe and defined pedestrian pathways connecting to communal areas
- 3. Communal gathering areas and facilities: create attractive and well-designed communal areas and public spaces that are easy to get to. These areas should engage guests to relax, socialise and engage with recreational activities providing a sense of community and for opportunities for interaction.
- 4. Trees and native landscaping: Retain large trees on site and incorporate native landscaping for privacy, zoning, shade, and enhancing the rural aesthetics
- 5. Onsite attractions through art and play: integrate public art for enhance visual appeal and overall visitor experience, local sense of place and connection with the community
- 6. Visual identity and branding: create a caravan park that reflect the rural character and sense of place. Buildings, landscaping, signage and wayfinding should create a cohesive and memorable identity for the caravan park
- Cross pollination with the local community and businesses: establish relationships with local businesses and operators in Morawa. Enhance guest experience through local collaborations such as online ordering and delivery services, on site art workshops and cultural tours – Astro tourism.

With the vision and design objectives in mind the Masterplan document was developed with a staged development approach in mind. Some of the key development aspects of the Masterplan are the addition of a designated entrance point with administration facility, approximately six extra family cabins, ten single units, additional caravan bays, children's play spaces, a secondary ablution/kitchen facility to accommodate a site expansion, and a dedicated Astro viewing space.

The Masterplan is designed to guide the expansion with the staged delivery of more refined smaller project components to be developed as funding or other drivers arise.

At a high level the full Masterplan delivery is estimated to have a gross project cost of \$10.5m. The full expansion is likely to have a 15-20 year timeframe and be driven by tourist trends and

other factors such as the growth in private offerings etc. However, the existence of a masterplan will provide the basis from which future projects can develop.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low significance – Appropriate supporting strategies will be key to the success of the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan and other supporting Strategic Plans – the CEO KRA to develop the Caravan Park Masterplan was set with an August 2023 timeframe, however this timeframe was set by Council and can be amended if further plan revisions are required.

CONSULTATION

Plan based on previous engagement with: Councillors Shire Staff MEEDAC Morawa Visitor Centre and Museum Volunteers Community members Tourism WA MWDC North Midlands Project DLGSCI Yamatji Aboriginal Corporation Australia's Golden Outback Element Advisory Pty Ltd

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The following section of the *Local Government Act 1995* applies:

Section 5.56 Planning for the Future

(1) A local government is to plan for the future of the district

The council, community and administration each has a unique role and responsibilities for the development of effective and sustainable integrated plans for the local area, and reporting on the progress of those plans. Whilst only the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan are legislated, the Department's Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines place an expectation on local governments to develop various informing plans and strategies to inform their strategic direction and resource allocation.

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

- Take pride in our community and an aesthetically appealing townsite
- 2. Enhance the appearance of homes, gardens, businesses, and public buildings and spaces

Create a sense of place for visitors: 1. Factor the visitor experience into planning and design decisions. Be future focused in all we do: 1. Ensure the Shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated the adoption of the plan but any projects associated with the plan will need to be costed and budgeted for when they are scheduled for delivery.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The main risk is associated with adopting a plan that is unachievable and the reputational impacts. As such the administration and consultant have worked to keep the plan realistic and achievable for the size and resources of the Shire.

CONCLUSION

After consultation, analysis, and development, the administration recommends that Council adopt the Caravan Park Masterplan as presented.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.1.3a Shire of Morawa Caravan Park Masterplan

11.1.4 Adoption of the Shire of Morawa Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023

- Author: Chief Executive Officer
- Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer
- **Disclosure of Interest:** The Author/Authorising Officer declares that he does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the Shire of Morawa Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023 (as attached).
- 2. Acknowledge Element Advisory Pty Ltd. for their community engagement, document drafting and support with this plan.
- 3. Direct the CEO to submit components of the Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan for funding under Phase 4 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Part A.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

For Council to review and adopt the Shire of Morawa Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023, as presented.

DETAIL

The distribution of land uses within Morawa follows a traditional small country town format, with commercial and retail uses clustered along a Main Street in the Centre of town. Historically, the commercial centre was divided into two distinct precincts, as a result of the freight rail corridor running through the town centre, with one being located on Winfield Street and the other commercial area on Solomon Terrace. However, due to the gradual decline of population, accessibility between the two centres and other factors, the commercial area on Solomon Terrace has failed, with only the town pub remaining. As a result, the town's commercial and retail uses are consolidated along Winfield Street, which is the functional Main Street of town. Winfield Street is a one sided Main Street and is acknowledged and celebrated as being a core part of Morawa's character with significant investment in the landscape emphasising the streets role as the retail and civic heart of the town. There is little relationship between the pub and the surviving Main Street as it is divided by the rail reserve. There are two at grade vehicular crossings over the railway (Stokes Road and Solomon Terrace) however, these are located on the northern and southern periphery of the core activity areas.

The Morawa SuperTown Growth and Implementation Plan 2012 set a clear spatial principle to support the sustainable and functionable growth of the townsite to "Connect between the two hemispheres of town".

Essentially the plan proposes to develop quality landscaped pedestrian crossing and anchor point on the east side of town to overcome the divide created by the railway line.

The plan proposed the following strategies to improve the attractiveness of the Central Pedestrian link in town:

- 1. Identify a Community anchor on the east side, such as a native play area or public art.
- 2. Provide opportunities for rest, including shade shelters and seating to reduce the perceived walkable distance.
- 3. Create a sequence of varied experiences along the pedestrian link.
- 4. Utilise existing attractors along the link, such as the historic rail station.
- 5. Use built form as a way finding marker, such as the hotel frontage to Solomon Terrace.

Since 2012 no major work had been done in this area but with the adoption of the new Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032 setting a clear vision for improved liveability and inclusivity, as well as the development of the Tourism Plan and Arts and Culture Plan identifying the Solomon terrace space as a missed opportunity, it was deemed appropriate for a masterplan to be developed to enhance the area.

The draft Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023 was developed from community and key stakeholder engagement with a public consultation event held in February 2023, with Element Advisory Pty Ltd. Working with the Shire team. A refined draft Masterplan, incorporating feedback from the February 2023 consultation, was available for community comment via survey for 3 weeks in June 2023. Shire employees also sought further feedback from local youth through workshops at Morawa District High School and the Youth Centre. Holistically, the community feedback has been very positive.

The rigorous consultation process has enabled the Shire to receive a variety of inputs that have informed the strategic goals and actions of the final Masterplan. These strategic goals and actions echo previous consultation outcomes and the general desire for an enhanced community space.

A clear vision for the Solomon Terrace Community Precinct was developed:

"To create a vibrant and engaging place in the heart of Morawa for the people of Morawa. A central place where people from all ages can connect, hang out and enjoy the many experiences on offer. A safe place for everyone to come to and enjoy time and time again."

With the vision and community engagement in mind Element have utilised design elements and themes to create three clear zones within the precinct that aim to meet the broad spectrum of needs.

- Zone 1 Naturescape a reflective and tranquil space amongst nature
- Zone 2 Meeting Point the central heart and gathering space for year round activation
- Zone 3 Active Zone active recreation and play for the community

The masterplan seeks to enhance the public space with play spaces designed for young and old, nature play, seating and other amenities, more gathering and connection spaces, and the utilisation of natural elements to retain a rural feel.

Overall the masterplan has been costed as a gross \$10.5m investment, however the consultants have recommended phased implementation with a focus on the meeting point and active zones as high priorities.

The Masterplan emphasises that the Shire can't undertake installation of all zones concurrently and highlights the importance of partnership/funding opportunities in achieving the goals of the plan.

The Masterplan is a strategic high level document and will be refined in phases as specific projects develop.

Under Phase 4 of the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program the Shire of Morawa has \$398,927 allocated under Part A that can be allocated towards community infrastructure projects. It is suggested that this funding be allocated towards achieving some components of the Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan and sending a signal to other funding bodies that the Shire is committed to delivering the Masterplan outcomes over the next decade.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low significance – Appropriate supporting strategies will be key to the success of the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan and other supporting Strategic Plans – but the Shire no set timeframe to adopt the Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023 and as such, a decision to adopt or not to adopt is of low significance at this time.

CONSULTATION

Plan based on engagement with: Councillors Shire Staff MEEDAC Community members DLGSCI Morawa District High School Students Element Advisory Pty Ltd

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The following section of the *Local Government Act* 1995 applies:

Section 5.56 Planning for the Future

(2) A local government is to plan for the future of the district

The council, community and administration each has a unique role and responsibilities for the development of effective and sustainable integrated plans for the local area, and reporting on the progress of those plans. Whilst only the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan are legislated, the Department's Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines place an expectation on local governments to develop various informing plans and strategies to inform their strategic direction and resource allocation.

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

Take pride in our community and an aesthetically appealing
townsite
3. Enhance the appearance of homes, gardens, businesses, and public buildings and spaces
3. Utilise public art
Create a sense of place for visitors: 1. Factor the visitor experience into planning and design
decisions.
Be future focused in all we do:

1. Ensure the Shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated the adoption of the plan but the actions within the plan will have budget impacts in future years, this will be factored into the Shire's Business Plan if above current budgetary allocations.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The main risk is associated with adopting a plan that is unachievable and the reputational impacts. As such, the administration and consultant have worked to keep the plan realistic and achievable for the size and resources of the Shire.

CONCLUSION

After an extensive consultation, analysis, and development period the administration recommends that Council adopt the Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023, as presented.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.1.4a Shire of Morawa Solomon Terrace Community Precinct Masterplan 2023

11.1.5 Adoption of the 10 Year Footpath Plan

Author: Chief Executive Officer

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author/Authorising Officer declares that he does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the redeveloped Shire of Morawa 10 Year Footpath Plan (as attached), noting that the delivery of the plan is aligned to successfully obtaining co-funding for all new footpath construction.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

For Council to review changes made to the 10 Year Footpath Plan as presented.

DETAIL

At the July 2020 Special Council Meeting, Council adopted a 10 year footpath program on a conditional basis where funding opportunities are available and opportune. The original July 2020 10 Year Footpath Plan is available for review in Attachment 1.

Due to funding being available through the Department of Transport and cost savings being made, the Shire has been able to complete works designated for 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2026/2027, 2028/2029, and 2029/2030, with the completion of 2023/2024 works budgeted for and schedule for this financial year.

Given the success with the current plan and the ongoing availability of joint funding for shared footpath construction, the administration deemed it appropriate to review the 10 year footpath plan. The revised plan with illustrative map is included as Attachment 2.

The 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 components of the footpath plan are already funded and scheduled to occur in line with Council Resolution 221006 from October 2022.

The subsequent eight years of the plan have been developed with a prioritisation placed on creating an interconnected network, linking destinations with a focus on accessibility and safety. The primary objective of an integrated footpath network, and this plan is to provide safe passage for community members to access key destinations such as the school, agricultural college, hospital, medical centre, shopping precinct, and recreational venues.

An enhanced shared footpath network aligns with the Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032, specifically it enhances the visitor experience, ensures the townsite and its services are accessible to all, and contributes to more active living by supporting walking and cycling options.

In terms of the new plan:

- Stokes Road has been retained as a 2025/2026 priority, as per the previous plan, with an extension proposed to ensure the path network extends all the way to the new cemetery entrance roadway. Stokes Road acts as a southern perimeter to the east side of town and as such is a key connector for the interconnected plan.
- Prater Street has received a more prominent role in the new plan with the intention to extend a footpath from Dreghorn Street to Waddilove Road. A number of families with children now live between Croot Street and Waddilove Road, and it is important to enhance the school access for these families. Prater Street is one of the Shire's most utilised areas as it contains the school, town hall, youth centre, museum, church, and is the proposed location for a potential child care facility.
- Neagle Street has been added to the footpath plan in 2028/2029. Whilst not a heavily populated street, it is the eastern boundary of the eastern interconnected path network and provides a direct link between the town oval, and Stokes Road which has a crossing point to the west side of town.

With the completion of Prater St and Stokes Rd the Shire will have enhanced east west linkages and Neagle St will begin to firm up the north south linkages. The final three years of the plan propose works on Dreghorn, Grove, and Milloy Street, all of which begin to add north south linkages to the existing interconnected network.

The proposed 10 year footpath plan runs from 2023 to 2033, and reflects the construction of 5,300 sqm of concrete footpath, or 2,650 lineal metres of 2m wide path. It is predicted the 10 year plan will cost approximately \$950,000. Some years will require slightly more investment than others but this is predominantly for Stokes Rd and Neagle St where the costs of mobilisation associated with sections under 200m, and no natural existing north south connector as an end point makes a better outcome through a larger project outcome.

The idea of the footpath plan is to allow the administration to continue to seek part funding through the Department of Transport (DoT) – WA Bike Network (WABN) Program. The program delivers funding in two year blocks and improved scoring is given to projects that show linkages into a longer term plan.

The delivery of the footpath plan will be dependent on co-funding and with 50% funding, the Shire's contribution would be \$425,000 over the 10 year period.

The new plan looks to create important community connections in an equitable manner with 1,340 lineal metres of path scheduled for the east side of the railway tracks and 1,310 lineal metres of path scheduled for the west side of the railway tracks.

Upon adoption of this plan it will be incorporated within the Shire's corporate business plan for improved future year resource considerations.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low significance – Appropriate supporting strategies will be key to the success of the Strategic Community Plan – but the Shire does not have any imminent grant opportunities aligned to this

plan so minimal urgency for adoption. Council did request in October 2022 that a redeveloped plan be adopted in February 2023, however due to staff changeover this has been delayed until now.

CONSULTATION

Councillors Senior Management Team Youth Centre attendees

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The following section of the Local Government Act 1995 applies:

Section 5.56 Planning for the Future

(3) A local government is to plan for the future of the district

The council, community and administration each has a unique role and responsibilities for the development of effective and sustainable integrated plans for the local area, and reporting on the progress of those plans. Whilst only the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan are legislated, the Department's Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines place an expectation on local governments to develop various informing plans and strategies to inform their strategic direction and resource allocation.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated the adoption of the plan but the projects within the plan will have budget impacts in future years, this will be factored into the Shire's corporate business plan, noting the projects will be grant dependent.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The main risk is associated with adopting a plan that is unachievable and the reputational impacts. However, it would be argued that without a clear plan it makes obtaining funding to deliver upon community aspirations difficult.

CONCLUSION

The redeveloped 10 year footpath plan does not reflect a major deviation from the current plan with the majority of projects remaining, and a few new projects added to provide improved connections and accessibility. It is expected that the plan be reviewed every two years in line with the WABN funding blocks.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.1.5a July 2020 10 Year Footpath Plan Attachment 2 – 11.1.5b 2023 Shared Path Network – 10 Year Plan

11.1.6 Request from Main Roads Western Australia to assess the suitability of Winfield Street to modify the Restricted Access Vehicle Network (RAV) rating

Author:	Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest:	The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That with respect to the request from Main Roads Western Australia (Heavy Vehicle Section) to assess the suitability of Winfield Street to modify the Restricted Access Vehicle Network (RAV) rating, Council:

- 1. Does not object to Winfield Street from White Avenue SLK 0.50 to End of the Road SLK 0.63 being added to the Tandem Drive Network 4.
- 2. Does not object to Winfield Street from White Avenue SLK 0.50 to End of the Road SLK 0.63 being approved for a Restricted Local Access Permit.
- 3. Directs the CEO to ensure appropriate safety assessments are conducted by Main Roads WA before access permits are granted but encourages Main Roads WA to work with key local businesses and their suppliers to ensure appropriate access routes are provided.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

Council is requested to consider the request by Main Roads WA for an assessment of Winfield Street to determine whether road owner support would be supplied for their addition to the Tandem Drive Network 4 category and/or approval for the issue of a Restricted Local Access Permit (RLAP).

DETAIL

DGL Warehousing & Distribution, through Main roads Heavy Vehicle Services (HVS), are seeking to modify the access approval on Winfield Street as per the below table:

	Dimension Requirements				
Road No.	Road Name	From Location (SLK)	To Location (SLK)	Current Network	Requested Network
5119001	Winfield St	White Av (0.50)	End of the Road (0.63)	Nil	Tandem Drive Network 4

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – AGENDA

Under Main Roads Western Australia (WA) RAV networks conditions, there is a need to seek approval by users to travel on roads controlled by the Shire of Morawa.

The application also requests the RAV 4 rating for Winfield Street to complete their requested travel route as per *Attachment 1*. Further, they are seeking, at minimum a RLAP be approved.

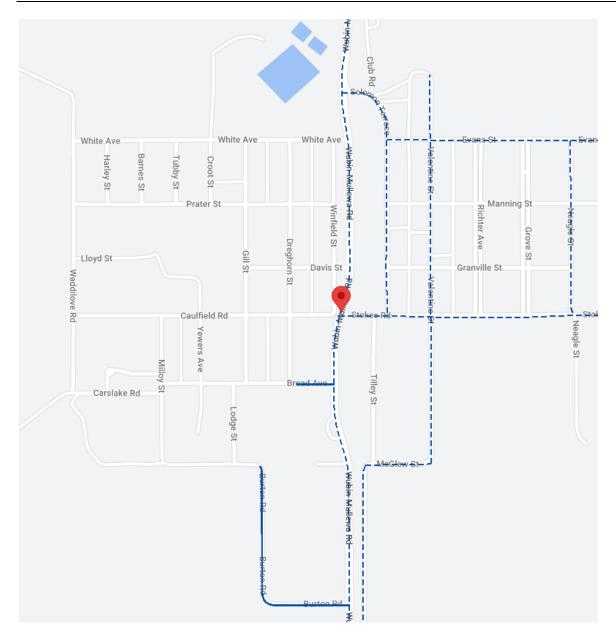
HVS has requested that the Shire provide any comments relating to road condition, road user safety, suitability, planning conflicts, development issues and any other factors which may be impacted by adding the above road(s) to the RAV 4 Network or by the issue of an RLAP.

The Shire administration has contacted Main Roads WA to highlight the strange nature of this road owner request given DGL Warehousing and Distribution submitted a request in February 2023 to have the connecting section of White Avenue from Wubin-Mullewa Road added to the RAV Network. A report on this request was presented to Council in March 2023 with Council not objecting to the request on the basis that it connected the existing RAV 4 rated parts of White Avenue to the main highway in and out of town. The Shire administration provided this advice and road assessment to Main Roads WA.

On the 30 June 2023, Main Roads WA responded to DGL stating that they had conducted an assessment of White Avenue and found the road unsuitable for RAV 4 vehicles due to non-compliant swept paths in and out of Wubin-Mullewa Road from White Avenue.

Subsequently, Main Roads suggested that DGL apply for a Restricted Local Access Permit with conditions related to vehicle size and mass.

Interestingly, after performing this review for DGL, Main Roads then proceeded to remove all of the West Side of Morawa from the RAV 4 network due to a lack of viable connections.



The Shire CEO responded to Main Roads and suggested they make contact with the Ag College, IGA, and Hardware Store who all indicated that vehicles on the RAV 4 network have accessed the West Side of town to perform deliveries to their sites in the past.

It was suggested to Main Roads that White Ave, Prater St, Dreghorn St, Broad Ave, Milloy St, Carslake Rd, and Waddilove Rd all needed RAV assessment with a review of the White Ave and Broad Ave intersections of Wubin-Mullewa Rd needed to ensure appropriate access points. To date no further advice has been received from Main Roads on this matter, and the HVS Network Map still appears as above showing no RAV access for the West Side of the townsite other than to the CBH site.

Main Roads have now sent this Road Owner request to the Shire for the part of Winfield St from White Ave to the Nutrien Ag Solutions car park, to be added to the RAV 4 network. The Shire has not undertaken an assessment related to this request as RAV 4 access to this road if no access to White Ave is permitted seems redundant. In essence companies such as DGL will have been using this cul de sac to make deliveries to Nutrien for years and from a road engineering point of view it is highly unlikely that the swept path analysis for the turn on to White

Avenue would be compliant, however Main Roads should determine this as they have with White Avenue already.

The part of Winfield Street requested does not allow through access and as such all access would be for delivery or pick up purposes.

It makes logical sense for Main Roads to manage access to this site with a Restricted Local Access Permit given the haulage operator will need this permit to enter White Avenue anyway.

It is proposed that the Shire raise no objections to RAV 4 or Restricted Local Access Permit use of the road, subject to main roads undertaking the necessary road safety assessments. From a townsite operational point of view, not allowing RAV access to Nutrien would be counter to the Agricultural economy of the community.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Medium significance – response required to be provided back to HVS before the end of August 2023. Main Roads are the ultimate decision maker in this area but generally take Local Government safety concerns on board.

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer Roads Team

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 1995 Road Traffic Act 1972 Road Traffic (Vehicles) Act 2012 Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 2002 Main Roads Act 1930

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

The are no known financial and resource implications associated with this Report.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Primary risks relate to road user safety, network upgrades, and increased road maintenance costs, however the request generally aligns to a continuation of road use in line with historical use not a significant shift such as a move to RAV 7.

CONCLUSION

This report recommends that Council do not object to the route (as defined above) being added to the RAV 4 Network and the request for a Restricted Local Access Permit be supported, subject to Main Roads review of safety considerations based on vehicle swept path analysis.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.1.6a DLG Application to Main Roads

11.1.7 Signage Application for Lot 2 - 30 Winfield Street, Morawa

Author: Planning Officer

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the application for two (2) new business signs upon Lot 2 No.30 Winfield Street, Morawa subject to the following conditions;

- Development/land use shall be in accordance with the attached plan(s) and subject to any modifications required as a consequence of any condition(s) of this approval. The endorsed plans shall not be modified or altered without the prior written approval of the local government.
- 2. This development approval is valid for a period of 12 months from the date of determination, after which if the development has not occurred a new application must be submitted.
- 3. Illuminated sign panels are not permitted
- 4. The use of second hand materials is not permitted.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

New business signage application for Lot 2, No. 30 Winfield Street, Morawa.

DETAIL

The applicant is seeking to instal two (2) new signs on the east and southern elevation of the subject property as depicted in *Attachment 1*.

The subject property is zoned commercial under Town Planning Scheme No.3, *Schedule 3* signage and advertisements for which development approval is not required states;

Land Use and/or Development		Exempted Sign Type and Number	Maximum Area
Shops,	Showrooms,	All advertisements affixed	Not applicable.
Office commerc		to the building below the top of the awning or, in the	
		absence of an awning, below a line measured at 5 metres from the ground	

floor level of the building subject to compliance with the requirements of the Signs Hoarding and Bill	
 Posting Local Laws.	<u> </u>

The subject property is listed on the Shire of Morawa Heritage Register place number 49 - *Attachment 2.* The property has a heritage classification of 'Category B' meaning consideration should be given with any alterations or extensions to ensure they reinforce or do not detract from the significance of the place.

Located within the Winfield Street heritage precinct area *Attachment 3*. The precinct area comprises all lots on the west side of Winfield Street facing the railway, for two street blocks from White Avenue to Davis Street. The majority of the existing buildings were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s.

30 Winfield Street, Morawa is known as the 'former Rural and Industries (R &I) Bank' *it is of historical significance in its development from the Agricultural Bank of WA in Morawa in 1915. It is a fine representative example of Post-war modernism that represents the positive development in Morawa in 1960, making a substantial contribution to the Winfield Street Group and the historic townscape of Morawa*'.

Development within the precinct area is to consider any potential impact to retain the history, original fabric, scale and the assessed heritage value of each place, and its context in the streetscape of the group.

The Winfield Street heritage Development guidelines (2022) identify the important qualities of the Winfield Street Heritage Area and are intended to assist property owners and the Shire of Morawa to achieve good development outcomes in an important heritage context.

The objectives of the development guidelines are;

- Encourage the conservation and protection of the cultural heritage significance of the Winfield Street Heritage Area;
- Ensure that that new buildings, alterations and additions can be accommodated within the Heritage Area without adversely affecting the Heritage Area's significance;
- Encourage the retention of original form, fabric and functions of the heritage places; and,
- Provide improved guidance to landowners and the community about the expectations and planning processes for development within the Heritage Area.

Places that are valued for their historic character convey a sense of continuity with the past. All built environments have their own special character and the Winfield Street Heritage Area is defined by the consistent scale, form and fabric of the commercial, retail and residential buildings dating from c.1914.

The following headings discuss the design criteria that make up character. The five principle design criteria are:

- Scale or Size
- Form
- Siting
- Materials and colours

Detailing

Signage is addressed within the development guidelines, it is generally understood that signage shall be attached to buildings and that signs shall be visually subservient to the building to which they are attached. The buildings and general streetscape must be the dominant element and signage must play a minor role.

Considerations of signage needs to:

- permit adequate identification and business advertising
- recognise that advertising signs can help to express the character of the heritage precinct, creating an attractive daytime and evening atmosphere
- limit the number, scale and positioning of advertising signs, and to ensure that signs do not crowd the advertiser's message
- ensure that advertising signs are in keeping with the scale and character of the building upon which they will be attached, and do not detract from the architecture of the building
- ensure that signage is designed and located in a manner that responds to and enhances the heritage place with which it is associated.

The Shire's signage policy – *Attachment 4* - Signage is to include all or some of the following and shall be incorporated into either (i) a single sign of not more than 600mm x 400mm in size, or (ii), a minimal number of signs located on awnings, fascia's, doors, windows or walls, or slung under verandas.

- historic signs may be repainted or conserved
- respects and doesn't cover important architectural detail on historic buildings
- the maximum size of a street front sign be limited to 10% of principal frontage
- painted signs are kept to a simple design with simple graphics
- painted signage on historic buildings is not permitted
- the siting and form of advertising on new buildings should be considered an integral part of the building design process

Although the two (2) proposed business signs are larger in size then 600mm x 400mm the primary street front sign is less than 10% of the principal frontage. The proposed signs are not considered to detract from the design or built form of the historic building and townscape. Consideration has been given to the material, texture, shape and overall design with a sympathetic signage proposal. The eastern elevation is the primary street frontage onto Winfield Street. The sign is proposed to be 1.0m in diameter and constructed of metal.



The southern elevation is visible from Prater Street and Winfield Street. The sign is proposed to be 800mm in diameter and constructed of metal.



The subject property in recent years has been home to Bankwest, it has closed its Morawa branch and the property now has a new owner. Delve Aesthetics is one of Morawa newest small businesses, it has taken up a private lease with the new owner. Due to the size of the property the owner has granted permission to sublet the space, given the buildings its own name 'Lot Sixty-Eight' recognized through signage to promote the space as a site being occupied by more than one business.

It is proposed that this site be given the name "Lot Sixty-Eight' to pay homage to the original lot number when R&I Bank was transferred ownership of the site in 1947. At present, two local businesses are operating form this location. Delve Aesthetics and Align Studio: Pilates by Hayley Pettit.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Medium significance – the property owner and key tenant which to ensure the property is appropriately advertised and see approval in line with statutory timeframes.

CONSULTATION

N/A

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – AGENDA

Shire of Morawa Town Planning Scheme No.3 Shire of Morawa Local Heritage Survey 2022 Development guidelines (2022) - Winfield street heritage area Morawa Shire of Morawa Policy Manual - Signage Policy

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

Relevant focus areas: Facilitate and support small business

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no known financial or resource implications in relation to this item.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There are no known risk management implications in relation to this item – signage can be removed with minimal impact to the building.

CONCLUSION

That Council support the proposed business signage at Lot 2 No.30 Winfield Street, Morawa.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.1.7a Application Attachment 2 – 11.1.7b Local Heritage Survey – Page 9 Attachment 3 – 11.1.7c Development guidelines (2022) - Winfield Street Heritage Area Attachment 4 – 11.1.7d RTED03 Signage Policy

11.2 Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

11.2.1	Statement of Financial Activity – July 2023
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Author: Corporate & Community Services Officer

Authorising Officer: Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

Disclosure of Interest: The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive;

- 1. the Monthly Financial Report including the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 31 July 2023.
- 2. the Bank Reconciliation Report for period ending 31 July 2023.
- 3. the attached List of Payments for the period ending 31 July 2023.
- 4. with respect to the Chief Executive Officer authorisations and reporting to Council;
 4.1. Reimbursement applications made by the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 31 July 2023

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

The Monthly Financial Report is prepared to provide Council with a comprehensive report on the financial position on a monthly basis.

The Monthly Financial Report includes the Statement of Financial Activity Report, Bank Reconciliation Report and the List of Payments made during the reporting month.

DETAIL

In accordance with the provisions of Section 6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 34(1) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, a local government is to prepare each month a Statement of Financial Activity (*Attachment 1*) reporting on the revenue and expenditure as set out in the Annual Budget each month.

Under the regulations the report must include the following items,

- Annual Budget estimates
- Budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates,
- Actual amounts of expenditure, revenue, and income.

- Material variances between budget and actual
- Net current assets
- The report is to be accompanied by documents containing an explanation of the net current assets, material variances and other relevant supporting documentation.

As part of the monthly report a bank reconciliation report will be completed and included as *Attachment 2.* The summary of the report for 31 July 2023 is as follows:

Account	Balance
Municipal Account	2,458,328.42
Municipal Online Account	543,249.75
Trust Account	1,525.11
Reserve Account	4,632,381.06
Term Deposits (Reserves)	2,100,000.00
Total Cash & Investments	\$9,735,484.34

Pursuant to Section 5.42 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council has resolved to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make payments from the municipal and trust funds.

As a result of this delegation there is a requirement under the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* – Reg 13(3) for a list of payments to be prepared and presented to Council.

The list of accounts paid for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 July 2023 is presented as an attachment to this report *(Attachment 3)* and is summarised in the table below.

Bank	Bank Payment Description		
Municipal	Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)	266,932.09	
Municipal	Cheques No:	27,272.18	
Municipal	Direct Debit Transactions	20,751.19	
Municipal	Bank Transfers / Payroll / Other Payments	151,561.03	
Municipal	Corporate Credit Cards	1,272.80	
Trust	Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)	0.00	
	TOTAL	\$467,789.29	

Reimbursement Applications

There have been \$0 of reimbursements claimed and 0 days of leave taken by the Chief Executive Officer during the month of July 2023.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low significance - report is presented to Council for information purposes only.

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – AGENDA

The administration has placed a considerable focus on managing rates debts over the last 12 months, uncollected rates continue to reduce as Debt Recovery procedures are implemented and adhered to. At the end of September 2022 the balance of outstanding rates was \$1,1152,486 and now currently sits at \$442,234. At 30 June 2023 the outstanding balance was \$520,882, a decrease of \$78,648 in the first month of the 2023/2024 financial year.

The overall bank balance has increased by \$248,348 since the end of June 2023 due to the receipt of the RRG funding for 2023-24 and the reduced spending during July due to not yet adopting the budget for 2023-2024.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Section 5.42 Local Government Act 1995 Delegation of some powers and duties to the CEO.

Section 2.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 states:

Role of council

- (1) The council
 - (a) governs the local government's affairs; and
 - (b) is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the council is to
 - (a) oversee the allocation of the local government's finances and resources; and
 - (b) determine the local government's policies.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

- Regulations 34(1)
 - (1) A local Government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d) for each month.

Regulation 13

(1) If the local government has delegated authority to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month.

(3) A list prepared under sub regulation (1) or (2) is to be –

- (a) presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and
- (b) recorded in the minutes of that meeting

Procurement Policy

Use of Corporate Credit Card Policy CEO Leave Authorisations and Other Approvals Policy

Strategic Community Plan 2023 - 2032

Be future focused in all we do: 1. Ensure the Shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

As presented.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The risks identified as part of this report being inaccurate information is mitigated by Council receiving financial statements on a monthly basis and in the form that is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 and associated regulations in the format called Statutory Reporting and is considered Low Risk.

CONCLUSION

Council is requested to receive the attached Statement of Financial Activity, the Bank Reconciliation report, the list of accounts paid by the Chief Executive Officer and the list of any work-related expenses/reimbursements submitted by the Chief Executive Officer.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.2.1a Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 31 July 2023. Attachment 2 – 11.2.1b Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 July 2023. Attachment 3 – 11.2.1c List of Accounts Paid for the period ending 31 July 2023.

11.2.2 Adoption of the 2023-2024 Budget

Author: Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council with respect to the adoption of the 2023-2024 Budget, Council considers the following:

1. Budget Adoption

That Council adopts the 2023-2024 Budget as presented in Attachment 1 and in accordance with Section 6.2(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 and associated *Financial Management Regulation 1997*, with the following decision on specific elements of the budget:

a) Setting of Rates

Adopt a 4.5% increase to the Rate in the \$ for the rates and charges for GRV properties, decrease of 7% to UV Rural properties and 0% increase to UV Mining for the 2023-2024 year in accordance with Section 6.32 of the *Local Government Act 1995*:

General Rates

 GRV Residential/Commercial UV Rural 	0.088342 0.022728
UV Mining	0.301974
Minimum Rates	
 GRV Residential Commercial Rural 	\$339.00
 UV Rural 	\$339.00
 UV Mining 	\$683.00

b) Discount for Payment by Due Date

That in accordance with section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995,* a discount of 1.5% is to be offered if rates are paid in full by 4.30pm (Western Australian time) on the 30 September 2023.

c) <u>Rates Instalments, Payment Options and Penalty Interest</u> Apply an interest rate of 5.5% per annum to Rates and/or Charges that remain unpaid after becoming due and payable. Impose an administration charge of \$6.00 per instalment and 5.5% simple interest to the amount on the rate notice where payment of the rates are made via the instalment option.

In accordance with Sections 6.50(2) and 6.50(3) the *Local Government Act* 1995, offer the following payment options:

Option 1

Pay the total amount of rates and charges included in the rate notice in full, less a 1.5% on time payment discount, by the 30 September 2023 or

Option 2

Pay by four instalments as detailed on the rates notices with the following instalment dates:

4.30pm, Friday 30 September 2023 – First instalment 4.30pm, Friday 1 December 2023 – Second instalment 4.30pm, Friday 16 February 2024 – Third instalment 4.30pm, Friday 19 April 2024 – Final instalment

d) <u>Concession – Assessment A315 – Morawa CWA</u>

That Council allow a concession to be applied for the Sewerage fees on Assessment A315 – Dreghorn Street Morawa for the amount of \$1,076.00.

e) <u>Concession – Assessment A185 – Morawa Craft Group</u>

That Council allow a concession to be applied for the Sewerage fees on Assessment A185 – Valentine Street Morawa for the amount of \$1,076.00.

f) <u>Reserve Funds</u>

That Council allocate funds to and from the Reserve Accounts for the Financial Year Ending 30 June 2024 as specified in Note 9(a) Reserve Accounts on page 25 of the 2023-2024 Budget.

That Council endorse the creation of an Insurance Works Reserve Account with the purpose of reserving funds for the Shire to allocate towards the repairs to assets that have received an insurance payout, but the rectification work has not been completed within the financial year the payout was received. Noting that the administration has allocated the \$250,000 insurance payout for uncompleted Cyclone rectification works to this reserve, and proposes to utilise \$175,000 towards 2023/2024 financial year rectification works.

All reserve transfers have been allocated in accordance with the adopted Cash Reserves Management Policy – FIN10.

g) <u>CEO Authorisations</u>

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the necessary and prescribed activities relating to the publication of the budget to members of the community, businesses and statutory government bodies.

h) Elected Members Remuneration

In accordance with sections 5.98, 5.98A, and 5.99 of the Local Government Act 1995 Council endorse the provision of the 2023-2024 Elected Member Meeting Attendance allowance at \$8,200 per annum, the Shire President Meeting Attendance allowance at \$16,400 per annum, the Shire President Office holder Allowance at \$17,428 per annum, and the Deputy President Office holder Allowance at \$4,357 per annum. Noting all allowances remain within thresholds prescribed under State Administration Tribunal Determinations, and that the Shire has not increased the allowances from those implemented in the 2022-2023 financial year.

i) Schedule of Fees of Charges

That Council Adopts the Schedule of Fees and Charges as presented with the 2023-2024 Annual Budget.

Noting nil or minor increases to most charges, Plant Hire and Material Sales charges have been increased to reflect the increased cost of service provision.

Sewerage and Rubbish Removal Charges are to be included on Rates Notices as an annual charge for the provision of a core Shire service. Council acknowledge the significant increase in Rubbish Removal Charges, however charge rates are aligned to costs attributed to service provisions in this area, which have seen increases.

That Council directs the CEO to allow a transition and notice period relating to the new fees and charges, with new 2023-2024 fees and charges coming in to effect from 21 August 2023.

2. Material Variances

That Council in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* 34(5) adopt a variance percentage of plus or minus 10% or with a minimum value of \$10,000 for reporting on material variances for the 2023-2024 financial year.

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the Shire of Morawa 2023-2024 Annual Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges as detailed in the presented format (*Attachment 1*).

DETAIL

It is a requirement of the Local Government Act and the LG Financial Management Regulations that a Budget be adopted in the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS) format prior to 31 August each year. A copy must be submitted to the Executive Director of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries within 30 days of its adoption.

Council adopted its Rates Model in June 2023 with a 4.5% increase to the Rate in the \$ for the rates and charges for GRV properties, decrease of 7% to UV Rural properties and 0% increase to UV Mining for the 2023-2024 year. Subsequent to this the UV Mining Differential Rate has been advertised and accepted by the Minister.

There are several components to the Budget to be adopted by Council and these are detailed below:

Reporting Material Variances

In accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, regulation 34(5), Council is required to adopt a percentage or value calculated in accordance with AAS5 to be used in statements of financial activity for reporting material variances.

The percentage or value that is adopted will require any variances over this figure to be reported in the Monthly Statement of Financial Activity.

It is proposed that Council adopt the percentage of 10% with a minimum value of \$10,000 for reporting material variances.

Rate Modelling

2 RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

The overall yield from rates is expected to increase from the 2022-2023 budgeted figure by \$341,347 as shown in the table below.

	Infield And Service on								
(a)	Rating Information					2023/24	2023/24	2022/23	2022/23
				Number		Budgeted	Budgeted	Actual	Budget
				of	Rateable	rate	total	total	total
	Rate Description	Basis of valuation	Rate in	properties	value	revenue	revenue	revenue	revenue
			\$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
(i)	General rates								
	GRV - Residential/Commercial	Gross Rental Valuations	0.088342	268	2,799,272	247,293	247,293	236,645	236,645
	UV Rural	Unimproved Valuations	0.022728	209	105,039,500	2,387,338	2,387,338	2,088,362	2,088,313
	UV Mining	Unimproved Valuations	0.301974	30	873,066	263,643	263,643	249,906	231,376
	Total general rates			507	108,711,838	2,898,274	2,898,274	2,574,913	2,556,334
			Minimum						
(ii)	Minimum payment		\$						
	GRV - Residential/Commercial	Gross Rental Valuations	339	46	27,993	15,594	15,594	14,927	14,927
	UV Rural	Unimproved Valuations	339	7	47,900	2,373	2,373	2,920	2,920
	UV Mining	Unimproved Valuations	683	12	13,674	8,196	8,196	6,147	6,147
	Total minimum payments			65	89,567	26,163	26,163	23,994	23,994
	Total general rates and minimu	um payments		572	108,801,405	2,924,437	2,924,437	2,598,907	2,580,328
	Total ex-gratia rates			0	0	10,206	10,206	9,766	6,668
					1	2,934,643	2,934,643	2,608,673	2,586,996
	Discounts (Refer note 2(g))						(35,000)	(31,610)	(29,200)
	Waivers or Concessions (Refer r	note 2(h))					(1,500)	(8,654)	(1,000)
	Total rates				1	2,934,643	2,898,143	2,568,409	2,556,796

The Shire of Morawa did not raise specified area rates for the year ended 30th June

All rateable properties within the district used predominately for non-rural purposes are rated according to their Gross Rental Valuation (GRV), all other properties are rated according to their Unimproved Valuation (UV).

The general rates detailed for the 2023/24 financial year have been determined by Council on the basis of raising the revenue required to meet the estimated deficiency between the total estimated expenditure proposed in the budget and the estimated revenue to be received from all sources other than general rates and also considering the extent of any increase in rating over the level adopted in the previous year.

The minimum rates have been determined by Council on the basis that all ratepayers must make a reasonable contribution to the cost of local government services/facilities.

Differential Rates

The Shire advertised the intention to impose a differential rate of 0.301974 cents in the \$ of Unimproved Value (UV) for Mining. No submissions were received and accordingly, Council

submitted a request to the Minister seeking approval for the Differential rate to be applied to the UV Mining Category.

Ministerial approval was subsequently received on Wednesday 26 July 2023 (Attachment 2).

Other Rates Items

The following interest rates and administration charges be considered:

- The full payment discount of 1.5%.
- The interest rate on all rates and charges that are overdue be set at 5.5%.
- Instalment plans to comprise of interest charged at 5.5% pa, calculated from the due date the first instalment is due, together with and administration fee of \$6.00 for each instalment notice.

Due Dates

The due date for payment of rates needs to be set at 35 days after the date of issue in accordance with Section 6.5(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995.* The instalment due dates are then at intervals of 2 months with the first falling due 35 days after the date of issue of the rates notice in accordance with Section 62(2) of the *Financial Management Regulations 1996.*

Due dates for instalment options:

4.30pm, Friday 30 September 2023 – Payment in full less discount or first instalment

- 4.30pm, Friday 1 December 2023 Second instalment
- 4.30pm, Friday 16 February 2024 Third instalment
- 4.30pm, Friday 19 April 2023 Final instalment

Annual Charges

In accordance with Section 67 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 (WARR Act)* the refuse collection service Council provides to ratepayers has increased by 22% from \$423.00 to \$516.00 per annum for residential services, based on a once a week pick-up and \$1,032.00 per annum for commercial properties based on twice weekly pick-up.

All sewerage levies have increased by 4.5% for 2023-2024 and are as follows:

Class 1 Properties

1 st Major fixture	\$1,076.00			
Each Additional Fixture	\$463.00			
Class 2 Properties	\$1,276.00			
Vacant Land	\$288.00 per assessment			
GRV Residential	8.4473 cents in the dollar			
GRV Commercial	8.4473 cents in the dollar			
Minimum Charges – residential	\$389.58			
Minimum Charge – Commercial	\$916.78			

Loan Fund/Debt Servicing

Loan 136 – 24 Harley Street – is currently active and being repaid as scheduled. The budgeted repayments for the 2023-2024 year are \$27,232 with the principal repayment of \$15,789.00 and a \$11,443.00 interest payment.

Loan 139 – Netball Court Redevelopment – This loan was taken out during 2020-2021 and still has an unspent balance of \$101,640, which will be spent on the replacement of the shed this year. The budgeted repayments for the 2023-2024 year are \$16,677 with the principal repayment of \$12,367.00 and a \$3,910.00 interest payment.

Elected Members Meeting Fees and Allowances

As per the Shire's historical practice, it has once again been proposed that Council adopt an annual fee for Council Members in lieu of fees for attending meetings as per 5.99 of the Local Government Act.

The annual fee for Council Members has been set at \$8,200, with the Shire President annual fee in lieu of fees for attending meetings set at \$16,400, these payments have remained the same as 2022-2023 and are in accordance with the parameters of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

Under sections 5.98(5) and 5.98A, Council pays an annual allowance for Councillors who hold the officer of Shire President and Deputy President. The Shire President office holder allowance is \$17,428, and the Shire Deputy President office holder allowance is \$4,357 – set at 25% of the President allowance as per the State Administrative Tribunal Determination aligned to section 5.98A of the Local Government Act 1995. The Shire President office holder allowance has not increased and the Deputy President Office Holder allowance is at the limit for statutory compliance.

Full details can be found on page 31 of the Budget document.

Reserves

The full list of reserve balances and budgeted movements can be found on page 25 of the Budget document. The budget allows for spending of \$316,640 from the reserve with transfers in of \$258,520 which will increase the total reserve balance to \$6,669,100.

The changes to the purposes of the Reserves have been changed to reflect the adopted Cash Reserves Management Policy – FIN 10 and funds reallocated accordingly.

A new reserve has been added for Insurance Works – driven by the large payout received from Cyclone Seroja and the inability for the Shire to complete works in the same year funds were received. The use of a reserve account will ensure insurance related funds are utilised for their intended purpose.

The Shire administration intends to submit to the first budget review that the funds in the Covid-19 Reserve be transferred to the Community and Economic Development Reserve as per the Cash Reserve Management Policy and the intention to close the Covid-19 Emergency Response Reserve after 30 June 2023.

Capital Works and Major Projects

The Shire of Morawa would like to acknowledge the Federal Government for its ongoing support through the Financial Assistance Grants (FAG), the Roads to Recovery Grants (R2R), and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP). Without these funding opportunities supporting our budget each year, the Shire would not be able to meet the aspirations of our community, as set out in the Shire of Morawa's Strategic Community Plan.

The Shire would also like to thank the Western Australia Government which annually provides support through its Regional Roads Group (RRG) contributions which support Council in providing essential roads infrastructure for the Shire residents and businesses and also makes other Ad Hoc grants available throughout the year for Shire applications.

Below is a list of some of the major projects and works for the 2023-2024 financial year.

Projects		Budget 2023-2024		Grants/ Conributions		Municipal Funds	
Buildings & Recreation	Τ						
Allocation for all Staff Housing Renewals	\$	70,000			\$	70,000	
Caravan Park - Disabled Ablution	\$	152,357	\$	146,470	\$	5,887	
Old Roads Board Building	\$	221,430	\$	221,430	\$	-	
Roof Replacement - Admin Building	\$	100,000			\$	100,000	
Fence Behind Main Street Toilets	\$	50,000			\$	50,000	
Recreation Centre Roof Repair	\$	700,000	\$	500,000	\$	200,000	
Electric Vehicle Charging Station	\$	50,000	\$	19,000	\$	31,000	
Netball Courts - Shed Replacement	\$	101,640		•	\$	101,640	
Depot Renewals	\$	20,000			\$	20,000	
Museum Footpath	\$	8,000			\$	8,000	
Playground Equipment - Wildflower Park	\$	12,318			\$	12,318	
	\$	1,485,745	\$	886,900	Ş	598,845	
Infrastructure	-						
Morawa-Yalgoo Road	\$	750,000	\$	500,000	\$	250,000	
RRG Nanekine Rd - Widen and Seal	\$	450,000	\$	300,000	\$	1 50,000	
Norton Road	\$	100,000	\$	100,000	\$	-	
Gutha West Rd	\$	100,000	\$	100,000	\$	-	
White Road - Gravel Resheeting	\$	100,000	\$	100,000	\$	-	
Collins Road	\$	100,000	\$	100,000	\$	-	
Morawa South Road	\$	1,000,000	\$	1,000,000	\$	-	
Signage Renewals	\$	20,000			\$	20,000	
Townsite Construction	\$	50,000			\$	50,000	
Kerbing Construction - Townsite Roads	\$	50,000			\$	50,000	
Main Street Lighting Upgrade	\$	110,000			\$	110,000	
Drainage Construction	\$	30,000			\$	30,000	
Sewerage Upgrade	\$	30,000			\$	30,000	
Granville Street Footpath	\$	74,650	\$	37,325	\$	37,325	
Airport Vermin Fencing	\$	163,356	\$	81,678	\$	81,678	
Cemetery Entrance & Landscaping	\$	96,857	\$	96,857	\$	-	
General Road Maintenance	\$	675,000			\$	675,000	
	\$	3,899,863	\$	2,415,860	\$	809,003	

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Very High – Adoption of the budget will enable Council to provide the necessary services and facilities to ratepayers and residents, delaying adoption may cause regulatory non-compliance.

CONSULTATION

This year has seen several workshops and consultation to ensure adequate endorsement by Council. The following engagement has taken place in the development of the 2023-2024 financial year budget:

- Various management team meetings in May, June and July 2023;
- Council workshops;
- Presentation of the Statement of Objective and Reasons and Budget Efficiency and setting of the Differential Rates presented to Council in a Special Council Meeting in June 2023 with the adoption of a 4.5% Increase in the rate in the \$ for GRV and minus 7% for UV categories excluding Mining which had a 0% increase to the rate in the \$

Based on the extensive level of consultation undertaken, the administration hopes Council is comfortable to commit to the projects and services delivery as presented in the statutory budget.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 1995:

• s 6.2(1), 6.12(1), 6.16, 6.32, 6.45(3), 6.50 & 6.51

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996:

• Regulations 68 and 70

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

The statutory budget contains the expected expenditure, revenue, capital projects and services delivery by Shire staff to the community. The details can be found in the attached Budget document and forms the basis of the operations for the 2023-2024 financial year.

The Shire administration undertakes three budget reviews each year to review the accuracy of budgeting and account for known changes, this practice works to ensure financial information remains current as the financial year progresses.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The ability for the Shire to undertake the work identified in this budget will rely on effective and successful collection of rates and revenue levied and identified; and the allocation of suitable resources with which to achieve the programs outlined in both the Operational and Capital sections of the Budget document. A significant risk to the Shire achieving the budget expectations in the current economic climate is the ongoing availability of contractors and workforce to deliver both operational and capital outputs within planned timeframes at a reasonable cost. At this stage, this is a risk to most organisations when adopting their budgets under current economic and labour market constraints.

CONCLUSION

That after due consideration to all areas of Council's operations and services, that the Annual

Budget including statutory statements and schedule of fees and charges (*Attachment 1*) suitably reflects Council's financial commitments for the financial year 2023-2024 for the Shire of Morawa.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.2.2a Statutory Annual Budget 2023-2024 Attachment 2 – 11.2.2b Ministerial Approval Letter for Differential Rates

Item 12 Reports from Committees

Item 13 Motions of Which Previous Notice Has Been Given

Item 14 New Business of an Urgent Nature

Item 15 Matters for Which the Meeting May Be Closed (Confidential Items)

Item 16 Closure

16.1 Date of Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Thursday, 14 September 2023 commencing at 1.30pm.

16.2 Closure

There being no further business, the President to declare the meeting closed.