

**WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL**

**Draft Minutes**

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**13<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

**Present:** Peter Clee (President), Darryl Withnall, Karen Duncan (Vice President), Trish McIntyre, Geoff Handicott (CEO), Ian Crawshaw

Visitor: Kate When (Local Government Liaison Officer)

**1. MEETING OPENED 6.03pm, by Pres. Clee**

**Suspended Orders (Moved: Peter Clee, Seconded: Trish McIntyre)**

**Introduction of new Councillor** – Peter Clee welcomed, and introduced, Ian Crawshaw, who will be filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Vera Lamont. Ian gave a brief summary of himself.

**Resumption of Orders (Moved: Peter Clee, Seconded: Darryl Withnall)**

**1.1 APOLOGIES**

Rocky Magnoli

**Resolution No. 211/63**  
**That the apology of Cr Rocky Magnoli be accepted.**  
**Moved: Cr Peter Clee**  
**Seconded: Cr Karen Duncan**  
**Vote: AIF**

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- NIL

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolution No. 211/64**  
**That the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 15 November 2011 be confirmed.**  
**Moved: Cr Trish McIntyre**  
**Seconded: Cr Darryl Withnall**  
**Vote: AIF**

**3.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

- NIL

**4. INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE**  
**Refer to Attached List (Inward Correspondence November 2011)**

Letter from Jane Carrigan was tabled – No action to be taken.

**5. OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE**  
**Refer to Attached List ( Outwards Correspondence November 2011.)**  
**More detailed information on inwards and outwards correspondence**  
**will be provided at the Council meeting.**

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>Resolution No. 211/65</b><br/><b>That the Correspondence for the Month of November 2011 be confirmed.</b><br/><b>Moved: Cr Peter Clee</b><br/><b>Seconded: Cr Darryl Whithnall</b><br/><b>Vote: AIF</b></p> |
|---|

**6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT (Incorporating Work Supervisors Report)**

Another busy month with the LGANT Conference taking up 3 days, and the December meeting bought forward one week.

**1. HR** – Russell Thurston finished work on 30<sup>th</sup> November. I have been conducting interviews over the past 2 weeks, and have appointed Rowan Roberts as Works Labourer. Rowan will commence work on Monday 12 December.

**2. Wood Chipper** – The Special Purpose Grant for the purchase of a wood chipper has been expended. The Chipper arrived last week, and training for the works staff in it's operations and maintenance will commence shortly.

**3. Amalgamation** – A meeting was held between WSC and DCC on 6<sup>th</sup> December. A report will be given in General Business.

**4. LGANT Conference** – This Conference was attended by President Clee and myself. This was a very informative few days, and covered many of the issues/concerns experienced by many Shires. Some of the more notable being:

- Upcoming Shire Elections
- Statehood
- Member training
- Container Collection Scheme
- OH&S

*Pres. Clee gave a further report on the contents of the Conference at this time.*

**5. Sport & Rec Program** – It has been difficult to find a Sport and Recreation Officer willing to work part-time for the low wages offered for this position. I have been in touch with Charles Darwin University, and am currently trying to negotiate some paid work

experience for some of the Outdoor Ed, and Sport & Recreation students to conduct a School Holiday program through the January holidays.

*Pres. Clee suggested following up with Belyuen, with regard to perhaps sharing resources.*

## **WORKS UPDATE**

Work continues in the following areas:

Verge mowing – the first rains have caused rapid growth, necessitating more frequent mowing than past months.

Working closely with 'Weeds & Seeds' Dept, concentrating on Gamba grass at the moment. Council is now holding poison for the Department, and any residents who believe they have Gamba Grass issues can contact Department to gain permission to use the poison, and accompanying knapsack.

Excuse the brevity of this report. It has been a short month, with one staff member down.

|  |
|--|
| <p><b>Resolution No. 211/66</b><br/><b>That the Officers' reports be received and accepted.</b><br/><b>Moved: Cr Darryl Withnall</b><br/><b>Seconded: Cr Trish McIntyre</b><br/><b>Vote: AIF</b></p> |
|--|

## **7. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### **7.1 Financial Reports**

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>Resolution No 211/67</b><br/><b>That the November 2011 Financial Reports be accepted.</b><br/><b>Moved: Cr Peter Clee</b><br/><b>Seconded: Cr Ian Crawshaw</b><br/><b>Vote: AIF</b></p> |
|---|

**Bike Track Funding** – Cr Karen Duncan queried whether the current stage of bike track construction could be encroaching on Kenbi land. CEO to investigate. Cr Duncan also asked whether there was any formal plan for this stage of construction. Pres. Clee stated that there was no plan, but it would be a good idea if Council developed one.

## **8. AGENDA ITEMS**

### **8.1 Change to elected members term of office from 4 years to 2 years –**

Pres. Clee advised that he had spoken to the appropriate Ministers, and they would take the issue on board for future consideration.

**8.2 Container Deposit Scheme** – CEO outlined the current stage of planning. It was suggested that Council approach the Department requesting that a representative come out and address Council on the Scheme.

**8.3 Amalgamation meeting, 6<sup>th</sup> December. – Update** – This meeting, held at Darwin City Council, was attended by Crs. Darryl Withnall and Trish McIntyre, along with the CEO.

Cr. Withnall spoke on behalf of those Wagait residents who do not want to amalgamate. Discussions centred around ‘What’s in it for us/them?’ DCC wants to increase their boundaries, and believes that WSC wouldn’t have the resources to cover an enlargement of it’s present boundaries. While Cr. Withnall believes it is not convenient for one Council to cover both sides of the Harbour, he suggested that perhaps amalgamation between Belyuen and WSC would be more appropriate.

Cr. McIntyre felt that Darwin presented good arguments for expansion, given that WSC doesn’t have the resources to cover expansion.

Cr. Duncan expressed concern that local residents would lose control over their own destiny.

Cr. Clee sees advantage in maintaining an open dialogue, as there are advantages in sharing of resources eg, dog handling and, waste management handling. Once our population reaches 1,000 residents, we won’t be able to use our existing dump site.

## **9. LATE ITEMS and GENERAL BUSINESS.**

Kate Wheen (Local Government Liaison Officer) spoke briefly regarding changes to the Electoral Act. The \$100 deposit for intending Council nominees has gone (brief copy of changes circulated to Councillors). There is a workshop available for new Council members at a cost of \$500 per participant.

## **10 IN-CAMERA ITEMS**

1 item.

## **11. MEETING CLOSE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Cr. Clee closed the meeting at 7.05pm .  
The next monthly Council Meeting is to be held on 17 January 2012 at 7.00pm.