



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT NHILL MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTRE, 77-79 NELSON ST, NHILL, ON WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2018, COMMENCING AT 6:00PM.

AGENDA

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| 1. Appointment of Temporary Chair |
| 2. Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community and Opening Prayer |
| 3. Apologies |
| 4. Mayoral Report 2019 |
| 5. Election of Mayor 2019/20 |
| 6. Congratulatory Remarks to the Mayor |
| 7. Mayoral Response |
| 8. Election of Deputy Mayor |
| 9. Appointment of Delegates to Council Committees and External Organisations |
| 10. Date of next Annual Meeting |
| 11. Meeting Close |
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Present: Crs R Ismay, R Gersch, T Schneider, D Colbert, D Nelson, R Lowe

In attendance: Greg Wood (Chief Executive Officer), Monica Revell (Director Corporate and Community Services), Sarah Dickinson (Executive Assistant), Wayne Schulze (Manager Operations), Janelle Reichelt (Manager Finance and Customer Services), Janette Fritsch (Manager Strategic Assets and Planning), Gabriela Castro (Community Development Officer), Matthew Sherwell (Community Development Officer), Simon Landrigan (Coordinator Community Development)

1. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIR

The Chief Executive Officer will call the meeting to order. The office of the previous Mayor expired at 6:00am on the morning of the Statutory Meeting. It is necessary to appoint a Councillor to be temporary chair. Clause 6(2) of Part 2 of Hindmarsh Meeting Procedure and Local Law No 1 of 2014 provides that:

“At any meeting to elect the Mayor, any Councillor may be appointed as a temporary chair to deal with:

- (a) the receipt of nominations for the election of Mayor; and*
- (b) the election of the Mayor.”*

Chief Executive Officer to seek nomination for temporary chair.

Cr T Schneider nominated Cr R Lowe. No further nominations received.

CEO Mr G Wood declared Cr R Lowe elected as the temporary chair.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY AND OPENING PRAYER

Cr R Lowe opened the meeting at 6:05pm by acknowledging the Indigenous Community and offering the opening prayer.

3. APOLOGIES

Cr R Lowe called for apologies.

No apologies.

4. MAYORAL REPORT 2019

Cr Ron Ismay presented the Mayor's report for 2018/19.

MAYORAL REPORT 2019

I will begin this report with an acknowledgment of my fellow Councillors, as I did last year. Respect, amicable, compassionate and pleasure are some of the terms I used. Well nothing's changed in that regard in the last twelve months and I am of the belief that we have worked well together as a council.

Our customer satisfaction is above the state average in most areas, but I believe we can do better still. Party politics that, in my view degrades some of the metro councils, does not exist at our meetings and nor it should as we are there to represent our ratepayers.

Greg Wood, Chief Executive Officer, Monica Revell, director corporate and community services, Angela Hoy, director infrastructure services and Sarah Dickinson, executive assistant have been great to work with and fulfil their duties in a very professional, articulate and efficient manner.

The year has been absolutely wonderful although at times hectic, I have attended 260 plus meetings for the year with March (33) the busiest.

Four of these events were the Australia day celebrations with Alice Pung the ambassador, what a wonderful woman. Alice gave four different presentations about her family and their plight, as refugees. I am sure most found her story very humbling.

We have conducted community consultations across the shire again this year and whilst not as well attended as past years, the feedback has been taken on board. These consultations may work better combined with other community events in future.

Our council is about to embark on the Wimmera River Discovery Trail, a \$1.2 million project which will link Dimboola with Jeparit and enable us to develop amenities along the trail and at both ends.

Minister for local government, Adem Somyurek visited our shire during the year and turned the first sod for the new Dimboola library which is now under construction, a great new asset for the community. While on Dimboola, well where to begin, Tidy Town of the year, new netball change rooms, a new rowing pontoon and extensive curbing and channelling in High St which has made a great entrance to town. A special thank you to Jan Ballard who has, and continues to be, the driving force for Tidy Towns.

After the HPV event in Dimboola several staff and myself ventured, at the invitation of the HPV CEO, to Murray Bridge for their 24-hour race. It attracts around 3000 people and is worth \$1.3 million to their economy. There is interest in running, on a smaller scale, a HPV race in

Dimboola. Their CEO was very impressed with the amenities at the recreation reserve.

The roll out of three-year-old kinder started in our shire this year, we were fortunate to be one of those chosen to begin this program.

Receiving a grant, Hindmarsh now has E Waste sheds in Dimboola and Nhill. This will make us compliant with keeping electronic waste out of landfill.

Waste or the disposal of waste is a monumental issue not only in Victoria but worldwide. Hindmarsh and other Rural and remote shires have the added disadvantage of tyranny of distance, transport of waste often makes it nonviable. Somehow we collectively as a region, need to overcome this.

Nhill Aerodrome very recently had a new front gateway entrance constructed by a pair of musicians, friends of mine from Rainbow, well Dave is actually a stone mason by trade. I think everyone attending the Air Show in November will be impressed. The Air show, while a tremendous amount of work for the organising committee will be a great boost for Nhill and bring in the foreign dollars that all our communities need to continue to prosper.

Rainbow was chosen as the site for the latest Bureau of Meteorology radar installation which is now in place and operational but will come online early next year after extensive testing and hook up to the system. This will be of benefit not only to the farmers in our shire but to all farmers in an approximately 200km radius. Also completed recently was a new widened bridge at the outlet of Lake Hindmarsh, along with road renewal and widening has made this a much safer road.

The national off road Rainbow Desert Enduro was held again, in very wet conditions held in town and will be expanded next year with a round to be held in Kalgoorlie WA. This is an event that also brings in foreign dollars from nearly every state in Australia.

In closing, as I said last year, Hindmarsh Shire is a great place to live. I believe it is even getting better, evolving and being recognised far and wide.

With the enthusiasm, passion and hard work by all in our Shire it can only get better. Thank you one and all for your efforts.

Ron Ismay
Mayor, Hindmarsh Shire 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accepts the outgoing Mayor's report.

MOVED: Crs R Gersch/T Schneider

That Council accepts the outgoing Mayor's report.

CARRIED

5. ELECTION OF MAYOR 2019/20

Local Government Act 1989

71. Election of Mayor

- (1) *At a meeting of the Council that is open to the public, the Councillors must elect a Councillor to be the Mayor of the Council.*
- (2) *Before a Mayor is elected under this section, the Council may resolve to elect a mayor for a term of two years.*
- (3) *The Mayor is to be elected—*
 - (a) *after the fourth Saturday in October but no later than 30 November in each year; or*
 - (b) *as soon as possible after any vacancy in the office of Mayor occurs.*

72. Term of office

- (1) *The office of Mayor becomes vacant—*
 - (a) *at 6 a.m. on the day of the election of the Mayor; or*
 - (b) *if he or she dies or ceases to be a Councillor; or*
 - (ba) *if his or her office as a Councillor is suspended for any period under this Act; or*
 - (c) *if he or she resigns in writing which is given at a Council meeting or to the Chief Executive Officer;*
 - (ca) *if he or she becomes ineligible to hold office under section 81K; or*
 - (d) *if he or she is ousted from office.*
- (3) *Any Councillor is eligible for election or re-election to the office of Mayor.*

73. Precedence of Mayor

- (1) *The Mayor of a Council takes precedence at all municipal proceedings within the municipal district.*
- (2) *The Mayor must take the chair at all meetings of the Council at which he or she is present.*
- (3) *If there is a vacancy in the office of Mayor or the Mayor is absent, incapable of acting or refusing to act, the Council must appoint one of the Councillors to be the acting Mayor.*
- (4) *An acting Mayor may perform any function or exercise any power conferred on the Mayor.*

Hindmarsh Shire Council Local Law 'Hindmarsh Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law'

"6. Election of Mayor and Chairs

- (3) *The election of the Mayor will be carried out by show of hands.*
- (4) *In determining the election of the Mayor, the following will apply:*
- a) *where only one nomination is received, that councillor must be declared elected;*
 - b) *where two nominations are received, the councillor with the majority of votes cast will be declared elected;*
 - c) *where there are two or more nominations and all votes cast are equally divided between two or more nominees, the election must be determined by lot;*
 - d) *where there are two or more nominations received and the result has not been determined under paragraphs (b) or (c) the nominee with the fewest number of votes cast must be eliminated (and if more than one of them, the nominee determined by lot) and the names of the remaining nominees must be put to the vote again;*
 - e) *the procedure in paragraph (d) must be repeated until the circumstances in paragraph (c) apply or until there are only two nominees remaining in which case a further vote must be taken and the nominee with a majority will be declared elected or, if there is an equal division of votes, the election must be determined by lot.”*

Cr R Lowe called for nominations.

Cr D Colbert nominated Cr R Gersch.

Cr D Nelson nominated herself.

Cr R Ismay nominated himself.

**Chairperson Cr R Lowe called for a show of hands in favour of Cr R Gersch.
3 Councillors voted in favour.**

**Chairperson Cr R Lowe called for a show of hands in favour of Cr D Nelson.
1 Councillor voted in favour.**

**Chairperson Cr R Lowe called for a show of hands in favour of Cr R Ismay.
2 Councillors voted in favour.**

Chairperson Cr R Lowe declared that the Councillor with the lowest number of votes is eliminated. Cr D Nelson is eliminated.

**Chairperson Cr R Lowe called for a show of hands in favour of Cr R Gersch.
4 Councillors voted in favour.**

Chairperson Cr R Lowe called for a show of hands in favour of Cr R Ismay.

2 Councillors voted in favour.

Chairperson Cr R Lowe declared Cr R Gersch elected Mayor for 2019/2020 and asks if any of the Councillors would like to speak.

6. CONGRATULATORY REMARKS TO THE MAYOR

Cr T Schneider congratulated Cr R Gersch and said that he is an experienced hand to the role, with years of experience and knowledge. Cr T Schneider also spoke to Cr R Ismay saying he has great respect for him and thanked him for his term as Mayor, for bringing a fresh dynamism, energy and enthusiasm.

Cr R Ismay congratulated Cr R Gersch and referred to their friendship saying they are good mates.

Cr D Colbert congratulated Cr R Gersch as a friend and colleague of 35 years, also saying in good humour in 35 years of experience how many meetings he's attended. Cr D Colbert also congratulated Cr R Ismay for his previous term.

Cr R Lowe congratulated Cr R Gersch on achieving this goal and thanks Ismay Cr R Ismay for working together and looks forward to continuing to work together.

7. MAYORAL RESPONSE

Cr R Gersch assumed the position of Chairperson. He responded to all the Councillors as his fellow colleagues and thanked them for their comments. Also commenting that they work well together as a Council and he looks forward to the next 12 months together.

8. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Local Government Act does not contain any provisions relating to the position of Deputy Mayor. However, the position of Deputy Mayor is referred to in the Council's Local Law 'Processes of Municipal Government'. If the Mayor is unable to attend a Council meeting for any reason a Deputy Mayor will be acting Chair, or if no Deputy Mayor has been elected, an acting Chair may be elected. An election by Council of a Deputy Mayor will follow the same procedure as that for an election of the Mayor. There is no provision in the Act for a separate allowance for Deputy Mayor. The question for the Council is whether it wants to create a position of Deputy Mayor.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council considers electing a Deputy Mayor for the 2019/2020 year.

MOVED: Crs T Schneider/R Lowe

That Council elects a Deputy Mayor for the 2019/2020 year.

CARRIED

Cr T Schneider nominated Cr D Colbert as Deputy Mayor.

As there were no other nominations, Cr D Colbert was duly elected as Deputy Mayor.

9. APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

The following Council organisations and external committees require the appointment of Council delegates for the period 2019/2020.

It is important that this list of Council appointments to external organisations is as complete as possible, as Council policy provides that travelling expenses and out of pocket expenses are payable for attendance at meetings of these organisations.

A Councillors role with these organisations is to provide strategic input, influencing outcomes that are consistent with goals in Council's Plan, and be a communication conduit between the organisation and Council.

Previous delegates, and appointments, are listed for convenience.

No.	COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEES	2018/19 DELEGATE	2019/20 DELEGATE
1	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) <i>Sub-committees</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP) • Municipal Recovery Planning Committee (MRPC) 	Cr D Colbert Substitute: Cr R Gersch	Cr D Colbert Substitute: Cr R Gersch
2	Audit Committee	Cr T Schneider Cr D Nelson	Cr T Schneider Cr D Nelson
3	Nhill Aerodrome Master Plan Advisory Committee	Cr D Colbert	Cr D Colbert
4	Wimmera River Advisory Committee	Cr D Nelson	Cr D Nelson

	SECTION 86 COMMITTEES	2018/19 DELEGATE	2019/20 DELEGATE
5	Nhill Town Committee	Cr D Colbert	Cr D Colbert
6	Dimboola Town Committee	Cr T Schneider	Cr T Schneider
7	Jeparit Town Committee	Cr R Ismay	R Lowe
8	Rainbow Town Committee	Cr R Ismay	Cr R Ismay
9	Rainbow Civic Centre Committee	Cr R Lowe	Cr R Lowe
10	Yanac Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee	Cr R Lowe	Cr R Lowe
11	Rainbow Recreation Reserve Committee	Cr R Ismay	Cr R Ismay
12	Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee	Cr R Lowe	Cr R Lowe
13	Yurunga Homestead Committee	Cr R Ismay	No Delegate

	EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	2018/19 DELEGATE	2019/20 DELEGATE
14	Municipal Association of Victoria	Cr R Ismay Substitute: Cr R Gersch	Cr R Gersch
15	Rural Councils Victoria	Cr R Gersch	Cr R Gersch

16	North West Municipalities Association	Cr R Gersch Substitute: Cr R Ismay	Cr R Gersch
17	Wimmera Development Association	Cr D Nelson	Cr D Nelson
18	Wimmera Regional Transport Group	Cr R Gersch	Cr T Schneider
19	Western Highway Action Committee	Cr R Ismay	Cr R Ismay
20	Rail Freight Alliance	Cr R Ismay	Cr R Ismay
21	Wimmera Regional Library Corporation	Cr T Schneider	Cr R Gersch
22	Wimmera Mallee Tourism Association	Cr R Ismay	Cr R Ismay
23	Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group	Cr R Gersch Substitute: Cr R Ismay	Cr R Gersch
24	Hindmarsh Landcare Network	Cr R Ismay	Cr D Colbert
25	Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance	Cr R Ismay	Cr D Colbert
26	Local Learning and Employment Network	Cr D Nelson	Cr D Nelson

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council's delegates for 2019/20 as proposed be adopted.

MOVED: Crs T Schneider/D Nelson

That the Council's delegates for 2019/20 as proposed be adopted.

CARRIED

10. DATE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

The date of the next Annual Meeting must be after the fourth Saturday in October and prior to 30 November 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That a Special Meeting to elect a Mayor and appoint delegates be held at 6pm Wednesday 11 November 2020 at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre, 77-79 Nelson Street, Nhill.

MOVED: Crs R Lowe/D Colbert

That a Special Meeting to elect a Mayor and appoint delegates be held at 6pm Wednesday 11 November 2020 at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre, 77-79 Nelson Street, Nhill.

CARRIED

11. MEETING CLOSE

As there was no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 6:33pm and all those present were invited to stay for presentation of long term serving staff awards, presentation of 2020 Youth Councillors and participate in refreshments.
