



MINUTES

Annual Electors Meeting
10 February 2025





NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Elected Members and Members of the Public,

In accordance with the provisions of Section 5.5 of the Local Government Act, you are hereby notified that the Annual Electors Meeting has been convened for:

Date: Monday 10 February 2025

At: Shire of Narembeen Council Chambers
1 Longhurst Street, Narembeen

Commencing: 5.30pm

Rebecca McCall
Chief Executive Officer

30 January 2025

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In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for license, any statement or limitation or approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Narembeen during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Narembeen. The Shire of Narembeen warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Narembeen must obtain and only should rely on WRITTEN CONFIRMATION of the outcome of the application and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Narembeen in respect of the application.

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1. Official Opening and Welcome

The presiding person welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

It was noted that the meeting was being recorded, in accordance with r14J of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies / Leave of Absence

Councillors:

Cr SW Stirrat	President
Cr HA Cusack	Deputy President
Cr TW Cole	
Cr MJ Currie	
Cr HJ Bald	
Cr CD Bray	
Cr AM Hardham	

Staff:

Ms R McCall	Chief Executive Officer
Mr B Forbes	Executive Manager Corporate Services
Mr K Markham	Executive Manager Infrastructure Services
Ms K Conopo	Executive Governance Officer

Member of Public:

Stephen Padfield

Apologies:

Nil

3. Confirmation of Previous Meetings

3.1 Annual Electors Meeting 6 February 2024

Attachment 3.1A

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation – 3.1

That the minutes of the Shire of Narembeen Annual Electors Meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2024, as presented, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

MIN 7936/25

MOTION - Moved Cr. Cole

Seconded Cr. Hardham

CARRIED 7 / 0

For: Cr Stirrat, Cr Cusack, Cr Bray, Cr Hardham, Cr Cole, Cr Bald, Cr Currie. Against: Nil

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Mt Arrowsmith Road Sealing

An update was provided from the Executive Manager Corporate Services and Executive Manager Infrastructure Services.

B Forbes advised that there would be an estimated \$2.3 million received from Ramelius for heavy haulage at 30 June 2025, including ~\$740,000 specifically for Mt Arrowsmith Road.

S Stirrat queried when this income would be received

B Forbes advised that the unpaid portion of the \$740,000 has been invoiced and it was agreed to be paid once haulage has been completed in February/March 2025.

K Markham advised the section of sealed road will be reviewed and a scope of works created which will include the budget year that works will take place.

R McCall noted that this would be taken to the Plant and Works committee to discuss.

Power Outage & Communications

R McCall advised that post event a Communication and Power Outage Response Plan was created, presented and adopted by Council. The Plan includes comprehensive preparedness action list which management are working through with the Local Emergency Management Committee.

The Plan included identifying critical infrastructure, with the Recreation Centre, Administration Building and CRC identified. A budget was included for a generator at the Recreation Centre, which has been installed. Submissions for funding for generators at the CRC and admin building were unsuccessful, however, Council agreed to proceed with purchasing a generator for the administration building. Procurement has been completed and the installation is pending. Council agreed to the purchase of a generator for the CRC in the 2026 budget.

Cr Stirrat noted that Boyd Brown from Telstra will provide an update regarding Telstra's use of generators at the next Great Eastern Country Zone meeting.

Cr Bray questioned whether Telstra will also address the 3G to 4G changeover issues to which Cr Stirrat replied in the affirmative

Shoulders on Roads

K Markham advised that the Roads Strategy informs the maintenance schedule, which has works on shoulders scheduled every 2 years. Four roads have been completed in the last year.

School Bus Route

K Markham advised that should bus routes are a priority 1 within the construction and maintenance schedule.

5. Officers Reports – Corporate Services

5.1 Annual Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

Date:	22 January 2025
Location:	Not Applicable
Responsible Officer:	Ben Forbes, Executive Manager Corporate Services
Author:	Ben Forbes, Executive Manager Corporate Services
File Reference	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT\AUDIT\2024\Interim
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	6.1A 2024 Annual Report 6.1B 2024 Financial Management Letter 6.1C 2024 Independent Auditor's Report

Purpose of Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Summary

In accordance with statutory requirements, the annual report is presented to the Electors for review and comment

Background

A Local Government is to prepare an annual report each financial year containing such information as prescribed by the Local Government Act 1995 Section 5.53(2) and Part 5, Division 2 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996.

Throughout the audit process each year, areas of non-compliance or matters of concern are raised by the Shire's auditors, which is conducted by the Office of the Auditor General and their contract auditors. Each year there are two audits (interim and final) that focus on different aspects of the accounting records, administrative practices and pertinent areas of risk, the findings for which are noted in the attached management letter.

Comment

The 2024 Annual Report consists of the following:

1. Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024
2. Statutory Reports
3. Independent Auditor's Report
4. President's Report
5. CEO's Report.

In addition, un-audited reports on the activities and events undertaken by the Shire for the financial year are included.

Consultation

Council
Chief Executive Officer
Office of the Auditor General
Pitcher Partners (contract auditors)

Statutory Implications

Local Government Act 1995

Part 5, Section 5.53

- (1) The local government is to prepare an annual report for each financial year.
- (2) The annual report is to contain —
 - a) a report from the mayor or president; and
 - b) a report from the CEO; and
 - e) an overview of the plan for the future of the district made in accordance with section 5.56, including major initiatives that are proposed to commence or to continue in the next financial year; and
 - f) the financial report for the financial year; and
 - g) such information as may be prescribed in relation to the payments made to employees; and
 - h) the auditor's report prepared under section 7.9(1) or 7.12AD(1) for the financial year; and
 - ha) a matter on which a report must be made under section 29(2) of the Disability Services Act 1993; and
 - hb) details of entries made under section 5.121 during the financial year in the register of complaints, including —
 - i. the number of complaints recorded in the register of complaints; and
 - ii. how the recorded complaints were dealt with; and
 - iii. any other details that the regulations may require; and
 - iv. and such other information as may be prescribed.

7.12A. Duties of local government with respect to audits

- (1) A local government is to do everything in its power to —
 - (a) assist the auditor of the local government to conduct an audit and carry out the auditor's other duties under this Act in respect of the local government; and
 - (b) ensure that audits are conducted successfully and expeditiously.
- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), a local government is to meet with the auditor of the local government at least once in every year.
- (3) A local government must —
 - (aa) examine an audit report received by the local government; and
 - (a) determine if any matters raised by the audit report, require action to be taken by the local government; and
 - (b) ensure that appropriate action is taken in respect of those Matters
- (4) A local government must —
 - (a) prepare a report addressing any matters identified as significant by the auditor in the audit report, and stating what action the local government has taken or intends to take with respect to each of those matters; and

- (b) give a copy of that report to the Minister within 3 months after the audit report is received by the local government.
- (5) Within 14 days after a local government gives a report to the Minister under subsection (4)(b), the CEO must publish a copy of the report on the local government's official website.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Part 4 Financial Reports

Regulations 36 to 49 prescribe the contents and disclosures required in the financial statements and accompanying notes.

Regulation 51 prescribes that the Local Government's CEO provide a copy of the audited financial report to the CEO of the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries within 30 days of the receipt of the audit report.

Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996, Regulation 10

- (1) An auditor's report is to be forwarded to the persons specified in section 7.9(1) within 30 days of completing the audit.
- (2) The report is to give the auditor's opinion on —
 - a. the financial position of the local government; and
 - b. the results of the operations of the local government.
- (3) The report must include a report on the conduct of the audit.
- (4) Where it is considered by the auditor to be appropriate to do so, the auditor is to prepare a management report to accompany the auditor's report and to forward a copy of the management report to the persons specified in section 7.9(1) with the auditor's report.

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, Regulation 10

19B. Information to be included in annual report

- (2) For the purposes of section 5.53(2)(g) and (i), the annual report for a financial year beginning on or after 1 July 2020 must contain the following —
- (a) the number of employees of the local government entitled to an annual salary of \$130,000 or more;
 - (b) the number of employees of the local government entitled to an annual salary that falls within each band of \$10 000 over \$130 000;
 - (c) any remuneration and allowances paid by the local government under Schedule 5.1 clause 9 during the financial year;
 - (d) any amount ordered under section 5.110(6)(b)(iv) to be paid by a person against whom a complaint was made under section 5.107(1), 5.109(1) or 5.114(1) to the local government during the financial year;
 - (e) the remuneration paid or provided to the CEO during the financial year;
 - (f) the number of council and committee meetings attended by each council member during the financial year;
 - (g) if available, the gender, linguistic background and country of birth of council members;
 - (h) if available, the number of council members who are aged —
 - i. between 18 years and 24 years; and
 - ii. between 25 years and 34 years; and
 - iii. between 35 years and 44 years; and
 - iv. between 45 years and 54 years; and
 - v. between 55 years and 64 years; and
 - vi. over the age of 64 years;

- (i) if available, the number of council members who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
- (j) details of any modification made to a local government's strategic community plan during the financial year;
- (k) details of any significant modification made to a local government's corporate business plan during the financial year.

Policy Implications

Risk Management Policy

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Strategic Priority: 4. Civic Leadership
 Objective: Well governed and efficiently managed Local Government
 Strategy: 4.2 Compliant and resourced Local Government

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Failure to Fulfill Statutory, Regulatory or Compliance Requirements
Risk Category	Compliance
Consequence Description	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
Consequence Rating	Minor (2)
Likelihood Rating	Likely (4)
Risk Matrix Rating	Moderate (8)
Key Controls in Place	Governance Calendar, Risk Management Policy
Action / Treatment	Nil
Risk Rating After Treatment	Adequate

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officers Recommendation – Item 5.1

That the 2024 Annual Report, as attached, be received.

MIN 7937/25

MOTION - Moved Cr. Cusack

Seconded Cr. Currie

CARRIED 7 / 0

For: Cr Stirrat, Cr Cusack, Cr Bray, Cr Hardham, Cr Cole, Cr Bald, Cr Currie. Against: Nil

6. General Business

S Padfield raised concerns on the condition of Narembreen South Road, particularly the 5km section between the airfield and Hedges East Road. The 3.6m seal has clay shoulders which become slippery when wet, and the types of vehicles utilising the road are increasing the risk of an accident.

K Markham provided an update, noting that road forms part of the Shire's Regional Road Group Road submission for 2026. Initial feedback provided is that it should be funded and, based on concerns raised, has scope to be a priority for construction in the new financial year. K Markham also noted that the funding would be split over two years for the initial reconstruction and subsequent second coat seal.

S Padfield raised concerns that the Clock Tower Garden at the beginning of the main street requires an upgrade, as it is the main focal point for visitors entering the town.

R McCall advised that the Shire has a design for the area and has received two quotes, both of which were over budget. This will go before the budget review, with works scheduled to be completed by May.

7. Closure of Meeting

The next meeting will be advised.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.47pm