



Published Minutes

Annual General Electors Meeting

Tuesday, 18 March 2025

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| Date: | Tuesday 18 March 2025 |
| Time: | 4:00 PM |
| Location: | Council Chambers, Onslow Shire Complex, Second Avenue, Onslow |
| Distribution Date: | Friday 21 March 2025 |



**Shire of Ashburton
Annual General Electors Meeting**

The Chief Executive Officer recommends the endorsement of these minutes at the next Annual General Electors Meeting.

Dr Garry Hunt PSM
Chief Executive Officer (Temporary)
21 March 2025

These minutes were confirmed by Council as a true and accurate record of proceedings at the Annual General Electors Meeting held on Tuesday, 18 March 2025.

Presiding Member

Date

15/4/25

Disclaimer

The Shire of Ashburton warns anyone who has an application lodged with Council must obtain, and should only rely on, written confirmation of the outcomes of the application following the Council meeting, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by Council in respect of the application. No responsibility whatsoever is implied, or accepted, by the Shire of Ashburton for any act, omission, statement, or intimation occurring during a Council meeting.

Contents

| | | |
|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | Declaration of Opening | 4 |
| 1.1 | Acknowledgement of Country | 4 |
| 2 | Attendance..... | 4 |
| 2.1 | Present | 4 |
| 2.2 | Apologies | 4 |
| 2.3 | Approved Leave of Absence..... | 4 |
| 3 | Shire President's Report..... | 5 |
| 4 | Receipt of the Annual Report | 6 |
| 5 | General Business | 6 |
| 5.1 | Public Questions..... | 6 |
| 5.2 | Elector Motions | 6 |
| 6 | Closure of Meeting | 6 |

1 Declaration of Opening

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 4:00pm.

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

As representatives of the Shire of Ashburton Council, we respectfully acknowledge the local Indigenous people, the traditional custodians of this land where we are meeting upon today and pay our respects to them and all their elders past, present and emerging.

2 Attendance

2.1 Present

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Elected Members: | Cr A Smith Cr L Rumble JP | Shire President Paraburdoo Ward |
| Employees: | Dr G Hunt PSM J Sangster C McGurk D Kennedy G Harris A Johnston J Bray R Marlborough | Chief Executive Officer (Temporary) Deputy Chief Executive Officer Director Community Development Director Corporate Services Director Infrastructure Services Manager Media and Communications Manager Governance Senior Governance Officer |
| Guests | Nil | |
| Members of Public: | There were no members of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting. | |
| Members of media: | There were no members of the media in attendance at the commencement of the meeting. | |

2.2 Apologies

Cr Kerry White (Deputy Shire President) Onslow Ward

2.3 Approved Leave of Absence

Cr R de Pledge Ashburton-Tablelands Ward From 18 March 2025 to 18 March 2025

Cr A Sullivan Paraburdoo Ward From 18 March 2025 to 18 March 2025

3 Shire President's Report

Good afternoon, and thank you all for attending the Annual General Electors Meeting for the Shire of Ashburton. It's my privilege to present this report and reflect on the achievements and milestone of the past 12 months in the Shire of Ashburton - a year marked by growth, collaboration, and community spirit.

In my first year as Shire President, I have seen firsthand the commitment of our Council, staff, and community making the Shire of Ashburton a welcoming, sustainable, and socially active Shire. Guided by our Strategic Community Plan 2022-2023, we have continued to deliver significant outcomes across the region.

In 2023/2024, we invested over \$83.3 million in capital works, supporting vital infrastructure projects that benefit our communities. Major achievements include:

- Completion of the new Cenotaph in Paraburdoo, a meaningful investments in civic infrastructure and cultural recognition.
- Upgrades to the Onslow Skate Park, and the Completion of the Paraburdoo Bike Park, improving recreational spaces for residents and visitors.
- Bringing the Onslow Waste Management Facility in-house, ensuring better delivery and environmental outcomes.

Over the last five years, capital investment in the Shire has exceeded \$200 million, reflecting our ongoing commitment to upgrading infrastructure to support liveability and future growths in our towns.

Events like ANZAC Day, Reconciliation Week, and NAIDOC Week brought our communities together in a spirit of unity and respect. These events were especially meaningful, with record participation during NAIDOC Week and a memorable unveiling of the Cenotaph in Paraburdoo.

In June 2023, we launched the inaugural Ashburton Arts AWARDS in Tom Price, celebrating local talent in photography, painting, and sculpture. This three-week exhibition was a cultural highlight and drew community support.

In March 2024, the Shire led Bandages Won't Fix Broken Promises campaign, calling for improved regional healthcare - in Tom Price and Paraburdoo. This initiative gained state wide attention and highlighted the urgent healthcare needs of Pilbara communities. I am proud of how the Shire stood at the forefront of this vital issue, advocating strongly for local residents.

We continue to work closely with Industry, including Rio Tinto, Chevron, Mineral Resources, and government partners to support the delivery of projects, and services, that support economic growth and local jobs.

Our focus remains on seizing opportunities for development while maintaining strong governance, transparency, and community consultation.

I would like to sincerely thank my fellow Councillors, the CEO and staff, and most importantly, the residents of Ashburton for their ongoing support, engagement, and resilience. Your contributions are valued and together we make our region strong, vibrant, and full of opportunity.

As we look to the future, the Shire remains committed to innovation, sustainability, and community wellbeing. We will continue to build on our achievements and ensure that Ashburton remains a great place to live, work, play and visit.

4 Receipt of the Annual Report

The Shire of Ashburton Annual Report for the financial year 2023/2024 was received.

5 General Business

5.1 Public Questions

Cr L Rumble JP

Question 1

Can I have an update on the Onslow Jetty?

Officer response

The Director Community Development advised that the Onslow Jetty design has been finalised and is ready to go out to tender however, funding is not currently available for this project.

Question 2

Can I have an update on the Onslow Airport?

Officer response

The Chief Executive Officer advised he has had a number of meetings with the Manager Airport Services and proposals will be put to Council, as part of the Annual Budget process.

5.2 Elector Motions

Nil

6 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Presiding Member closed the meeting at 4:04pm.