



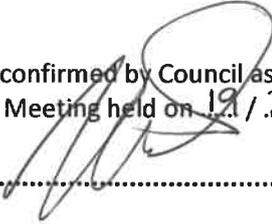
MINUTES

Annual Electors Meeting

Held Tuesday 10th February 2026

WB Eva Pavilion, Brookton

These minutes were confirmed by Council as a true and correct record of proceedings by the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 / 2 / 26

Presiding Member:  Date: 19 February 2026

Disclaimer

Please read the following important disclaimer before proceeding:

Statements or decisions made at this meeting should not be relied or acted on by any applicant or any other person until they have received written notification from the Shire. Notice of all approvals, include planning and building approvals, will be given to applicants in writing. The Shire of Brookton expressly disclaims liability for any loss or damages suffered by a person who relies or acts on statements or decisions made at a Council or Committee meeting before receiving written notification from the Shire.



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1.02.26 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 6:00pm and welcomed all those in attendance.

On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Nyoongar People and pay respect to all Elders, past, present, and emerging. I wish to acknowledge and respect local people's continuing culture and the contribution they make to Country and its life.

Elected Members (Voting)

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Cr RJ Wallis | President |
| Cr BJ Copping | |
| Cr G Crouch | |
| Cr TD de Lange | |
| Cr PL Harben | |
| Cr KA Toop | |

Staff (Non-Voting)

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Gary Sherry | Chief Executive Officer |
| Deanne Sweeney | Manager Corporate and Community |
| Kevin D'Alton | Acting Manager Infrastructure Works |
| Sandie Spencer | Executive Governance Officer |

Apologies

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Cr L McCabe | Deputy President |
| Mrs Jan Eva | |
| Mrs Sue Pike | |
| Mrs Theresa Fancote | |

Members of the Public

Mrs Katrina Crute
Mrs Lynne Bassett
Mr Ash Hobbs
Mr Eric Pech
Mrs Angela Wallis
Mrs Kathleen Sweeney
Mrs Karel Rankin
Mrs Rosalie Pech-Eva
Mrs Louise Price
Mr Stephen Price
Mr David Challenor
Mr Greg Lynch

2.02.26 BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

In accordance with Regulation 15 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, the matters to be discussed at a General Electors' Meeting are, firstly, the contents of the annual report for the previous financial year and then any other general business.

2.02.26.01 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

| | |
|--|--|
| File No: | FIN007A |
| Date of Meeting: | 10 February 2026 |
| Author and Authorising Officer: | Deanne Sweeney – Manager Corporate and Community |
| Declaration of Interest: | Nil. |

Summary of Item:

Council is to present the Shire of Brookton 2024/2025 Annual Report.

Matters to be Considered:

Attendees of the meeting are welcome to request clarification or further information in relation to the following components of the Shire of Brookton's 2024/2025 Annual Report including:

- Shire President's Report;
- Chief Executive Officer's Report;
- Other statutory reporting;
- Financial Report and Statements; and
- Audit Report.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Shire of Brookton 2024/25 Annual Report be received.

(Simple majority vote required)

AEM 02.26-01

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED Cr Copping SECONDED Cr de Lange

That the Shire of Brookton 2024/25 Annual Report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachment – Provided under separate cover
Attachment 2.02.26.01A – 2024/2025 Annual Report.

3.02.26 GENERAL BUSINESS

Questions from members of the public should be directed to the Presiding Member.

3.02.26.01 RAILWAY STATION - ROOF

Mr Erich Pech asked for a report could be provided as to what is happening with the station and specifically why the removal of the roof had taken place and the building is now exposed to weather.

Response

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D'Alton reported that:

- In order to commence construction, it was necessary for the roof to be removed first.
- The Station's structural posts showed active termite activity. Damage has currently been identified in six exposed posts.
- Penetrometer tests have been completed to determine the suitability of the platform as a structural base for the Station.
- A structural engineer has advised that excavation of the foundations for the structural posts must extend to virgin ground under the Station. The posts will then be installed on concrete piers, with the posts connected to the piers with stirrups.
- in general, the 8 month building program has only been delayed by several weeks.

3.02.26.02 RAILWAY STATION - BUDGET

Mrs Katrina Crute asked if there is an indication of how much will be added to the \$2.2 million dollar cost.

Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D'Alton answered that there is no final cost amount. The Scope of Works allowed for supporting of 17 structural posts, but with the recently identified damage, this work will now occur to all 28 posts. This additional work will be a variation to the original contract.

3.02.26.03 RAILWAY STATION - CONTINGENCY

Ms Rosalie Pech-Eva asked if a contingency allowance had been in place for the works and why there is no management around the management of the contract.

Response

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry, explained Council had been presented with costs. The expectation from the community was for Council to get in and get the project done. Given this approach, no specific contingency had been identified.

3.02.26.04 RAILWAY STATION – ALTERNATIVE CONSTRUCTION

Mr Greg Lynch suggested for the Council to reduce the cost of the Railway Station, a concrete floor with a covering carpet could be installed.

3.02.26.05 ROAD MAINTENANCE PLAN

Mr Ashley Hobbs asked if the Shire's Road Maintenance Plan will be available to the public.

Manager of Corporate and Community, Mrs Deanne Sweeney explained these documents are available in the agendas, minutes and on the Shire website approximately around May/June with the budget is adopted by Council.

3.02.26.06 ROAD CONDITIONS

Ms Lynne Bassett asked questions regarding Road Maintenance in the Shire.

1. Why has the state of the sealed road surface on the Moorumbine Road, between 1696 Moorumbine Road & 1611 Moorumbine Road been allowed to deteriorate to such a sub-standard, dangerous condition and when is it going to be repaired?

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D'Alton, explained that further repairs will commence after the York/Williams Road construction is completed. The full reconstruction of sections of Moorumbine Road is scheduled in the 2029/30 year maintenance plan.

2. There are a large number of small potholes on the Moorumbine Road, running in a line appearing where there was widening done many years ago. This is toward the northern end, after the speed changes to 'end of 80'. When will they be repaired?

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D'Alton, explained the repair will commence after the York/Williams Road construction is completed.

3. On Yeo Road, near one of the entrances to Timm Langes' paddock, the sealed road surface is failing. When will this be repaired?

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry, explained that further discussions will occur as the damage to the road is linked to business vehicles accessing the property beside the road.

4. There is a sealed section of the Boyagarra road on the flat in the hollow, not far east of 275 Boyagarra road, that is also full of potholes. A half-hearted attempt (and half-hearted is being very generous), was made and a few holes patched quite some time ago but it was never finished and no one has ever come back and finished the job. The same with the broken edges of the seal, particularly toward the Great Southern end of the Boyagarra. A half-hearted attempt was made and a few holes filled and but never completed. When are these repairs going to be finished? The seal is disappearing through lack of maintenance.

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D'Alton, explained repairs will continue until a permanent solution is put in place in the 10 year maintenance plan.

5. There is a lack of guideposts on many roads. The few posts that are in place lack effective reflectors or have no reflectors. Near on 100% of the little round reflectors are useless and don't reflect.

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D'Alton, advised that the Shire had replaced over 500 guideposts and reflectors within the Shire and that maintenance of these is ongoing.

6. Is there a Maintenance schedule for our road network or do repairs only get made when complaints are made?

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D’Alton, confirmed there is a 10 year road maintenance plan and this will be presented in March Ordinary Meeting of Council.

7. Who is supposed to oversee the road network and ensure that jobs are completed to a satisfactory standard and regular maintenance is carried out?

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry, explained that several staff report to the Manager of Infrastructure and Works and that the Manager of Infrastructure and Works reports to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible the road network and ensure that jobs are completed to a satisfactory standard and regular maintenance is carried out.

8. Do any Shire employees ever drive the road network to inspect the state of the roads? If so, how regularly? If not, why not? They are a huge asset of the Shire.

Yes

3.02.26.07 SHIRE DEPOT RECYCLING BINS

Ms Lynne Bassett asked why those of us that bring our recycling to town and use the bins provided at the Shire Depot, expected to sort our recycling when those in town with yellow recycling bins, put everything that is recyclable in just the one bin? What is the point of sorting at the depot bins? As far as I’m aware, just the one truck picks all the bins up, including the Shire Depot ones, and tips all bins in together into the same truck, therefore mixing up all the recyclable items.

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry explained the recycle bins at the depot are old and reflect the practices of that time. Those recycle bins at the depot are collected like all other recycle bins in the one truck.

All the material collected from all the recycling bins is then sorted in Narrogin for later processing.

3.02.26.08 ROAD CONDITIONS

Ms Lynne Bassett noted that the garden in front of the Brookton Entry Statement on the western approach to Brookton is full of weeds and as the entry statement was not designed to have the garden, the garden blocks the view of the entry statement. Why doesn’t the Shire remove the garden and the weeds?

The Manager of Works and Infrastructure, Mr Kevin D’Alton, noted this comment and removing the garden at this will be considered when future works are undertaken in the area.

3.02.26.09 RURAL ROADS

Mr Eric Pech commented on the grading of rural roads, noting that vegetation is being pushed up along residents’ fences and is blocking drains. He also stated that, historically, a bus tour used to take place for all councillors to inspect the rural roads, is this something that can take place?

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry, noted that the increasing requirements for Shire roads to carry increased loads and wider, larger vehicles of Councils. This on occasion has resulted in material being pushed to the sides of roads.

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry, noted that previous Councils had completed an annual road inspection and that provided a valuable learning experience. However, the annual road inspection had fallen away with a change in the demographic of Councillors where more Councillors were working full time making an inspection much harder to organise.

3.02.26.10 RATES NOTICE

Mrs Lynne Bassett asked why the chart of Council expenses included in the Council information notice included with Council rates mailout, did not identify the amount of wages paid by Council.

The Manager of Corporate and Community, Mrs Deanne Sweeney noted that Council displays cost information in two formats:

- by program where costs are shown in activity categories including governance, roads, community amenities and recreation. In this format, the cost of wages and purchases are shown as one cost for each program.
- by type and nature, where the costs are identified by type including employment costs, contracts and materials, utilities and insurance.

The chart included with Council rates mailout was prepared showing Shire of Brookton costs by program and did not separate out employment costs. Mrs Sweeney would consider alternatives in future rates mailouts.

3.02.26.11 RABBIT PLAGUE

Ms Karel Rankin asked about the Shire undertaking rabbit control, which appears to be getting worse. Ms Rankin is unable to use commercial baits because she has 2 dogs and a pest controller had advised to fumigate a burrow under her shed with gas from a car engine.

Ms Rankin would be willing to cooperate with the Shire of Brookton in whatever can be done to reduce the number of rabbits.

The Shire President, Cr Rod Wallis, advised the meeting that Mrs Jan Eva had submitted a written question of a similar nature.

Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Sherry explained the Shire did release the calicivirus in Brookton late in 2025. This release did not have spectacular results. The Shire is currently considering another release in Autumn 2026. The Shire cannot use control methods in public areas that include a secondary kill and this precludes the Shire from using many of the popular baits now commercially available. The Shire is also not able to shoot or trap rabbits in public areas.

3.02.26.12 BROOKTON RAILWAY STATION – FUTURE PURPOSE AND USE.

Discussions and contributions are welcome from the Brookton Community.

What is the community's expectation of activities able to be operated from the railway station building:

- Similar to the Narrogin Visitors centre operating from the Narrogin Train Station. This visitors centre is staffed by volunteers.
- community groups could access the Railway Station for activities like farmers markets, rotating exhibitions.
- The future use of the railway station should consider the park space in front of the station. The station needs to join in with activities on Robinson Road;
- Historical interpretation can be displayed on the railway station showing history on European settlement, Indigenous history and migrant camps linked to the station.
- Council could hold public events on or near the station. Australia Day and a community Christmas Party could be held in front of and/or on the railway station. The railway station platform could be used as a stage for presentations to people in the park/street.

4.02.26 CLOSURE OF MEETING

With no further business the Shire President Cr Rod Wallis, closed the meeting at 7:30pm.