



Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers, Wolfram Street Westonia

Thursday 18th December 2025

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

These minutes were confirmed by the Council on 18th December 2025 as a true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 10th February 2026 .

.....
Cr RM Crees
Shire President

All attachment items referred to in these minutes are available for public perusal at the Shire Office



Disclaimer

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Westonia for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council meetings.

The Shire of Westonia disclaims and liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused by arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during the Council Meetings.

Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or committee meeting does that persons or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the board disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, any statement or intimation made by any member or Officer of the Shire of Westonia during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Westonia.

The Shire of Westonia warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Westonia must obtain and should only rely on **WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Westonia in respect of the application.



CORE DRIVERS

1. Relationships that bring us tangible benefits (to the Shire and our community)
2. Our lifestyle and strong sense of community.
3. We are prepared for opportunities and we are innovative to ensure our relevancy and destiny.

OUR VALUES

Respect – We value people and places and the contribution they make to the Shire.

Inclusiveness – Be receptive, proactive, and responsive.

Fairness and Equity – Provide services for a variety of ages and needs.

Communication – Create opportunities for consultation with the broad community.

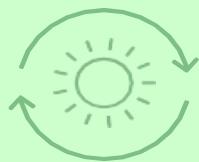
OUR VISION

A vibrant community lifestyle

MISSION

Provide leadership and direction for the community.

ECONOMIC



Support growth and progress, locally and regionally...

Efficient transport connectivity in and around our Shire.

- Continue to utilise our Road Management Plan, which incorporates a road hierarchy, minimum service levels and maintenance policy.
- RAV Ratings and Shire boundaries are consistent across local government boundaries.
- Lobby and build enduring partnerships with key Government Departments to improve Great Eastern Hwy.
- Actively participate in the Secondary Freight Network group.
- Develop and implement a Road Asset Plan highlighting key funder and strategic partnerships to support sustainability.
- Develop a Gravel Reserve Policy which identifies future gravel reserves and recognises cost to local government.
- Educate road users about road safety and driving on gravel roads.
- Optimal and safe use of our plants and equipment assets.
- Ensure that appropriate RAV vehicles traverse correct RAV routes.
- Maintain our airport with a view to improvements to meet commercial and recreational aviation needs.

Facilitate local business retention and growth.

- Council recognises the opportunity of partnering with Westonia Progress Association, works closely and supports them to help achieve their economic development projects and our strategic goals.
- Council continue to have a role in facilitating the presence of a Co-op in our community.
- Enhance local economic activity by supporting the growth of tourism in our Shire and region including applying for funding to improve tourist facilities.
- Improve our online tourism presence.
- We forward plan to improve the economic diversity in our community.
- In partnership with Council, the mine develops long term business plans for current mine assets.
- Investigate options for multipurpose accommodation if vacancies arise in mine accommodation.

SOCIAL



Provide community facilities and promote social interaction...

Plan for community growth and changing demographics.

- Develop the Town Planning Scheme.
- Plan and develop residential and industrial land.
- Community safety and ease of access around town is a priority.
- Our lifestyle, facilities and sense of community is promoted.
- The CEACA project continues to expand the number of universally designed dwellings in our town.
- We support our emergency services.
- We enable visiting health professionals to our community.
- The Community Resource Centre receives external funding to provide preventative health and community development initiatives to the community.
- We facilitate healthy and active ageing in place
- Our cemetery is well presented.

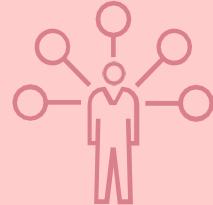
Our community has the opportunity to be active, socialised and connected.

- We collaborate and encourage active engagement in local clubs and community initiatives that support a healthy lifestyle.
- Investigate motor sport opportunities around the Shire.
- Preserve and celebrate our local history.
- Support our volunteers and clubs to remain strong, dynamic, and inclusive.
- Encourage lifelong learning.
- Children and youth have active and social opportunities.
- Continue to provide high standard and accessible shire facilities.
- Retain and expand Westonia's unique tourism experience.

Natural spaces are preserved and bring us value.

- Sustainably manage our reserves and open spaces.
- Participate in best practice waste management.
- Work collaboratively to meet legislative compliance with managing weeds and pests as well as our environmental health standards.
- Investigate renewable energy generation technologies.

GOVERNANCE



Continually enhance the Shire's organisational capacity to service the needs of a growing community...

Be progressive and capture opportunities.

- Be open to local productivity/ best practice and cost saving opportunities locally and regionally.
- Investigate joint resourcing and tendering
- Advocate and develop strong partnerships to benefit our community.
- Be prepared by forward planning our resources and focusing on continuous improvement.
- Identify risks and opportunities after the life of the mine.

The community receives services in a timely manner.

- Meet our legislative and compliance requirements.
- Work towards optimal management of our assets.
- Work to develop Councillor and staff skills and experience to provide career and succession opportunities within the Shire.
- Inside and outside staff are multi skilled to understand the business of local government and provide a seamless service to the community.
- Communicate and engage with our community regularly.

Financial resources meet the ongoing needs of the community.

- Seek external funding for significant capital improvements that deliver upon our strategic objectives.
- Investigate ways to reduce reliance on operational grants given the current State and Federal Government priorities.

**Shire of Westonia: -
A vibrant community lifestyle.**



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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President, Cr Crees welcomed Councillors and staff and declared the meeting open at 4.00pm.

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillors:

Cr RM Crees
Cr RA Della Bosca
Cr DL Geier
Cr A Faithfull
Cr DL Simmonds
Cr MJ Crews

Staff:

Mr AW Price *Chief Executive Officer*
Mrs JL Geier *Deputy Chief Executive Officer*

Members of the Public:

Apologies:

Approved Leave of Absence:

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (4.10PM – 4.25PM)

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20th November 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Simmonds

Seconded: Cr Faithfull

01/12-25 That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20th November 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED 6/0

6. RECEIVAL OF MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone Minutes held on 13 November 2025 be accepted.

That the minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27 November 2025 be accepted.

That the minutes of the WEROC Inc. Board Meeting held on Thursday 27 November 2025 be accepted.

That the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025 be accepted.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

02/12-25 That the minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone Minutes held on 13 November 2025 be accepted.

That the minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27 November 2025 be accepted.

That the minutes of the WEROC Inc. Board Meeting held on Thursday 27 November 2025 be accepted.

That the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025 be accepted

CARRIED 6/0

7. PRESIDENT/COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

President, Cr Crees advised having attended the following meetings:

WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27 November 2025

WEROC Inc. Board Meeting held on Thursday 27 November 2025

Audit Exit Meeting held on the 2nd December 2025

Seniors Sundowner Xmas Dinner 3rd December 2025

Ramelius Resources Dinner on 15th December 2025

Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Deputy President, Cr Della Bosca advised having attended the following meetings:

CEACA Board meeting held in on Monday 1 December 2025.

Ramelius Resources Dinner on 15th December 2025

Audit Exit Meeting held on the 2nd December 2025

Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Councillor Geier advised having attended the following meetings:

Doctors Xmas Diner 8th December 2025

Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Councillor Simmonds advised having attended the following meetings:

Audit Exit Meeting held on the 2nd December 2025

Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Councillor Faithfull advised having attended the following meetings:

Seniors Sundowner Xmas Dinner 3rd December 2025

Audit Exit Meeting held on the 2nd December 2025

Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Councillor Crews advised having attended the following meetings:

Audit Exit Meeting held on the 2nd December 2025

Doctors Xmas Dinner 8th December 2025

Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

8. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of Financial interest were made at the Council meeting held on **18th December 2025**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of Closely Association Person and Impartiality interest were made at the Council meeting held on **18th December 2025**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

In accordance with Section 5.60B and 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of Proximity. interest were made at the Council meeting held on **18th December 2025**

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

9. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

9.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

9.1.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – NOVEMBER 2025

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.1 List of Accounts
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of, and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits July be obtained.

Comment

Attached is a copy of Accounts for Payment for the month of November 2025 the credit card/ Fuel Card statements currently show: -

MasterCard Transactions

CEO **November 2025 \$6,909.17** associated with the purchase of 1038203 Office 365 Exchange online Plan Monthly Recurring, Starlink - CEO Internet – October, Active8me internet service, Fuel, Dropbox Subscription, Invarion Rapin Plan, Police Clearance, Bowser Signs, Bunnings, Plant Fert, Tape, Repco Sml Parts, Crown Gifts, Benigo Bank Card Fee

DCEO **November 2025 \$ 2,307.10** associated with the purchase of Laptop HP – Chantelle Pedrotti, BigW Main Street Christmas Decorations, Kmart – Poster Fram, Catering Musuem Opening, Melbourne Cup Luncheon, Benigo Bank Card Fee

Fuel Card Transactions Totalling October 2025

CEO **\$91.75** associated with the Fuel Card Purchases - CEO 0WT

DCEO **Nil**

Construction Supervisor **\$562.41** associated with the Fuel Card Purchases - Works Super - WT111

Statutory Environment

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulations 12 & 13 requires the list of accounts to be presented to Council. Payments are made by staff under delegated authority from the CEO and Council.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to payment of accounts.

Strategic Implications

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Financial Implications

Expenditure in accordance with the 2025/2026 Annual Budget.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That November 2025 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4760 to DD4796 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7956 to EFT8033 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$676,860.81 be passed for payment.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Faithfull

Seconded: Cr Crews

03/12-25 That November 2025 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4760 to DD4796 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7956 to EFT8033 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$676,860.81 be passed for payment

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY– NOVEMBER 2025

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.2 Monthly Statement of Financial Activity
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council's activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Comment

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending November 2025 is attached for Councillor information, and consists of:

1. Statement of Financial Activity
2. Statement of Financial Position
3. Note 1 Basis of Preparation
4. Note 2 Statement of Financial Activity Information
5. Note 3 Explanation of Material Variances
6. Supplementary information

Statutory Environment

General Financial Management of Council
Council 2025/2026 Budget
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 1996
Local Government Act 1995 section 6.4

Policy Implications

Council is required annually to adopt a policy on what it considers to be material as far as variances that require to be reported for Council. Council policy is that the material variation be set at \$10,000 and 15%.

Strategic Implications

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council's activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending November 2025 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Della Bosca

Seconded: Cr Faithfull

04/12-25 That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending November 2025 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.3 GST RECONCILIATION REPORT – NOVEMBER 2025

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	F1.4.4 Audit Report
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.3 GST Report
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council's current GST liability, which has an impact on Council's cash-flow.

Background

The Reconciled Balance of the GST Ledger to the General Ledger as reported as at October 2025 provided to Council on a monthly basis as a means of keeping Council informed of its current GST liability.

Comment

The GST Reconciliation Report is attached for Councillor consideration.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in regard to Goods and Services Tax.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council's current GST liability, which has an impact on Council's cash-flow.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the GST Reconciliation totalling \$31,316.00 for the period ending November 2025 adopted.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Crews

05/12-25 **That the GST Reconciliation totalling \$31,316.00 for the period ending November 2025 adopted.**

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.4 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, DCEO
File Reference:	CA1.3.2
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council adoption of the Audit Report and Management Letter for the 2024/25 financial year as per recommendation from the Audit Committee.

Background

Council adoption of the Annual Report for the 2024/2025 financial year is required as per recommendation from the Audit Committee.

The Shire of Westonia auditors have completed the Annual Audit for the financial year ending 30th June 2025 as per the Local Government Act 1995 as amended and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Comment

The 2024/25 audit timeline included field work from the 15th to 18th September 25. An exit meeting was held on the 2nd December 2025. The Auditor's Opinion was subsequently issued on 5th December 2025. The Council Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee Meeting was held on Monday 15th December with minutes having been attached.

Part 7 of the *Local Government Act 1995* deals with matters specific to the conduct of local government audit. Section 7.12A requires that a local government do the following amongst other things:

- Examine the audit report;
- Determine if any matters raised by the audit report, require action to be taken;
- Ensure that appropriate action is taken in respect of those matters;
- 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;
- Provide a copy of that report to the Minister within 3 months after the audit report is received by the local government; and
- Within 14 days after a local government gives a report to the Minister, the CEO must publish a copy of the report on the local government's official website.

Following acceptance of the Annual Report by Council, Council is required to hold a general meeting of electors within 56 days. At least 14 days local public notice must be given of an electors meeting. The Annual Electors Meeting must be held prior to 12th February 2026, noting that the February Council meeting is Tuesday 10th February 2026.

Statutory Environment

Part 7 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* applies to audit in local government.

After the annual financial report has been audited, the CEO is to sign and append to the report a declaration. A copy of the annual financial report is then to be submitted to the Departmental CEO within 30 days of the receipt by the local government's CEO of the auditor's report on that financial report.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council accepts the recommendation from the Audit Committee, being:

1. Adopts the Annual Financial Report for the Financial Year 2024/25;
2. Adopts the Annual Report for the 2024/25 Financial Year inclusive of the above as presented.
3. Adopts the Audit Report for 2024/25 Financial Year.
4. Adopts the Management Report for the 2024/25 Financial Year; and
5. Advertises Annual Elector's Meeting be held on (Tuesday 10th February 2026) commencing at (6.30pm) in the Old Miner Hall.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Crews

06/12-25 That Council accepts the recommendation from the Audit Committee, being:

1. Adopts the Annual Financial Report for the Financial Year 2024/25;
2. Adopts the Annual Report for the 2024/25 Financial Year inclusive of the above as presented.
3. Adopts the Audit Report for 2024/25 Financial Year.
4. Adopts the Management Report for the 2024/25 Financial Year; and
5. Advertises Annual Elector's Meeting be held on (Tuesday 10th February 2026) commencing at (6.30pm) in the Old Miner Hall.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.5 2026 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	A2.4.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil
Signature:	Officer
	CEO

Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is to set Council meeting dates for the 2026 calendar year and provide public notice as per *Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*

Background

Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 requires a local government to at least once a year give local public notice of the dates, time and place of:

- a) Ordinary Council meetings; and
- b) Committee meetings that are required under the Act to be open to members of the public or that are proposed to be open to members of the public; that are to be held in the next twelve months.

Comment

Council's current policy on Council Meetings states that, "A Councillors forum will be held at 2.30pm before each Ordinary Council Meeting and Ordinary Meetings of Council will be held on the third Thursday of each month not including January, commencing at 4.00pm in the Shire of Westonia Council Chambers."

In accordance with the current policy ordinary meetings of Council are to be held in 2026 as follows:-

Ordinary Council meetings:

February – Tuesday 10 th	March – Thursday 19 th
April - Thursday 23 rd	May – Thursday 21 th
June - Thursday 18 th	July – Thursday 23 rd
August - Thursday 20 th	September – Thursday 17 th
October - Thursday 15 th	November – Thursday 19 th
December - Thursday 17 th	

with all meetings commencing at 4.00pm in the Council Chamber, Wolfram Street, Westonia.

The Audit Committee meetings is at this stage proposed to be determined as required and will be duly advertised.

Statutory Environment

Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.

Policy Implications

Council Policy 1.1



Strategic Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

Nil



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the following meeting schedule for 2026 be advertised in accordance with the requirements of legislation:-

Ordinary Council meetings:

February – Tuesday 10 th	March – Thursday 19 th
April - Thursday 23 rd	May – Thursday 21 th
June - Thursday 18 th	July – Thursday 23 rd
August - Thursday 20 th	September–Thursday 17 th
October - Thursday 15 th	November–Thursday 19 th
December - Thursday 17 th	

with all meetings commencing at 4.00pm in the Council Chamber, Wolfram Street, Westonia.

The Audit Committee meeting is at this stage proposed to be determined as required and will be duly advertised.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Simmonds

Seconded: Cr Faithfull

07/12/25 That the following meeting schedule for 2026 be advertised in accordance with the requirements of legislation:-

Ordinary Council meetings:

February – Tuesday 10 th	March – Thursday 19 th
April - Thursday 23 rd	May – Thursday 21 th
June - Thursday 18 th	July – Thursday 23 rd
August - Thursday 20 th	September–Thursday 17 th
October - Thursday 15 th	November–Thursday 19 th
December - Thursday 17 th	

with all meetings commencing at 4.00pm in the Council Chamber, Wolfram Street, Westonia.

The Audit Committee meeting is at this stage proposed to be determined as required and will be duly advertised

9.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATIONS

9.2.1 APPLICATION FOR EXPLORATION LICENCE 77/3372

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	ES1.6.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Location Map EL 77/3372
Signature:	Officer CEO

Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

This report seeks Council's comment on an Exploration license in the central part of the shire.

Background

The Shire has been advised of an application for an Exploration license lodged by McMahon Mining Title Services on behalf of EE V PTY LTD (E77/3372).

The application relates to land in the central portion of the Shire adjacent Town Common and just North of Walgoolan (See Attached)

Comment

I could not find any information on this listed company EEV PTY LTD.

Previous exploration approvals have been granted with the following conditions:

- 1) That dust suppression is carried out so that others are not adversely affected.
- 2) That any saline ground water found is contained by pumping it into a water trailer and disposed of through normal mining practices under the terms of the company's mining conditions.
- 3) Any ground water that escapes onto the ground around the drill site is to be bunded so that it does not spread.
- 4) All plastic bags used for soil samples are to be removed from the site and disposed of in a suitable manner.
- 5) All rubbish is to be disposed of at the local landfill site in the appropriate manner.
- 6) A firefighting unit is to be always available, and drilling is to cease if a total fire and harvest ban is called.
- 7) No drill holes are to extend under any public railway line or any roadways. Drilling being carried out is not to interfere with road drainage and must be beyond the batter line (this is to minimise damage to capped drill holes during maintenance grading) – refer to Typical Cross Section of Road Formation diagram.
- 8) Safety signs are to be erected in accordance with Australian Standards – to warn both mining staff, contractors, and the public/visitors.
- 9) All drill holes are to be capped as soon as possible/practical after drilling.
- 10) If working within 100m from a residence, all noise generated is to be limited in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997, when working between 7:00 pm. and 7:00 am.
- 11) That the proposed drilling work is advertised in the local newsletter "Westonian" prior to any work commencing to notify the general public of this work; and

12) That no drilling is to occur within any Shire Road Surface and gravel pits, and that no drilling operation is to affect any part Historical Rabbit Proof Fence in any way.

Statutory Environment

The Mining Act prevails in this matter.

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council grants approval to EE V PTY LTD (E77/3372) to carry out drilling along sections of Council controlled road reserves with this respective Exploration Lease as shown on the attached maps with the following conditions: -

- 1) That dust suppression is carried out so that others are not adversely affected.
- 2) That any saline ground water found is contained by pumping it into a water trailer and disposed of through normal mining practices under the terms of the company's mining conditions.
- 3) Any ground water that escapes onto the ground around the drill site is to be bunded so that it does not spread.
- 4) All plastic bags used for soil samples are to be removed from the site and disposed of in a suitable manner.
- 5) All rubbish is to be disposed of at the local landfill site in the appropriate manner.
- 6) A firefighting unit is to be always available, and drilling is to cease if a total fire and harvest ban is called.
- 7) No drill holes are to extend under any public railway line or any roadways. Drilling being carried out is not to interfere with road drainage and must be beyond the batter line (this is to minimise damage to capped drill holes during maintenance grading) – refer to Typical Cross Section of Road Formation diagram.
- 8) Safety signs are to be erected in accordance with Australian Standards – to warn both mining staff, contractors, and the public/ visitors.
- 9) All drill holes are to be capped as soon as possible/practical after drilling.
- 10) If working within 100m from a residence, all noise generated is to be limited in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997, when working between 7:00 pm. and 7:00 am.
- 11) That the proposed drilling work is advertised in the local newsletter "Westonian" prior to any work commencing to notify the general public of this work; and
- 12) That no drilling is to occur within any Shire Road Surface and gravel pits, and that no drilling operation is to affect any part historical Rabbit Proof Fence in any way.

RESOLUTION

Moved:	Cr Crews	Seconded:	Cr DellaBosca
08/12-25			
<p>That Council grants approval to EE V PTY LTD (E77/3372) to carry out drilling along sections of Council controlled road reserves with this respective Exploration Lease as shown on the attached maps with the following conditions: -</p>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) That dust suppression is carried out so that others are not adversely affected.2) That any saline ground water found is contained by pumping it into a water trailer and disposed of through normal mining practices under the terms of the company's mining conditions.3) Any ground water that escapes onto the ground around the drill site is to be bunded so that it does not spread.4) All plastic bags used for soil samples are to be removed from the site and disposed of in a suitable manner.5) All rubbish is to be disposed of at the local landfill site in the appropriate manner.6) A firefighting unit is to be always available, and drilling is to cease if a total fire and harvest ban is called.7) No drill holes are to extend under any public railway line or any roadways. Drilling being carried out is not to interfere with road drainage and must be beyond the batter line (this is to minimise damage to capped drill holes during maintenance grading) – refer to Typical Cross Section of Road Formation diagram.8) Safety signs are to be erected in accordance with Australian Standards – to warn both mining staff, contractors, and the public/ visitors.9) All drill holes are to be capped as soon as possible/practical after drilling.10) If working within 100m from a residence, all noise generated is to be limited in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997, when working between 7:00 pm. and 7:00 am.11) That the proposed drilling work is advertised in the local newsletter "Westonian" prior to any work commencing to notify the general public of this work; and12) That no drilling is to occur within any Shire Road Surface and gravel pits, and that no drilling operation is to affect any part historical Rabbit Proof Fence in any way.			

CARRIED 6/0

9.2.2 NEWTRAVEL MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION REASSESSMENT

Responsible Officer: Bill Price, CEO
Author: Bill Price, CEO
File Reference: Es1.7.2
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Attachments:

Signature: **Officer** **CEO**



Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider reassessing the 25/26 annual financial contribution to NEWTRAVEL and the new MOU document.

Background

Council would be aware that they have been inaugural members of NEWTRAVEL since the mid-nineties and have entered into several MOU's providing financial and in-kind support to their operations.

NEWTRAVEL has been an extremely successful and beneficial vehicle for promoting tourism and events to this region.

Linda Vernon attended the April Council meeting to present a draft MOU setting out the parameters for the 2025 – 2030 five-year period and seeking a further 5-year financial commitment from the Council.

The Council at the April ordinary meeting made the following decision.

Moved: Cr Huxtable

Seconded: Cr Geier

07/04/25 **That Council resolve to enter into a further 5-year MOU with NEWTRAVEL for the period 2025 – 2030 supporting Option 2 funding scenario of \$10,000/annum.**

CARRIED 4/0

Comment

Council has received correspondence from Linda who would like to begin by acknowledging and apologising for the poor consultation with the Shire of Westonia leading up to the recent NEWTRAVEL Annual General Meeting and the subsequent decision regarding membership fees, whereby the goal posts shifted firmly towards a \$15,000 Council commitment to NEWTRAVEL. This was never the intent and appreciate the Council understanding as they continue to improve how they communicate and engage with their member Councils on important matters.

The Shire of Westonia is a highly valued member of NEWTRAVEL, and your long-standing support has been integral to our collective efforts in strengthening tourism across the Wheatbelt Way. Your commitment, both financial and practical, ensures the Wheatbelt Way continues to grow as a recognised destination for visitors and an important regional economic driver.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 30 October 2025, members formally adopted the NEWTRAVEL Strategic Plan 2026–2031 and endorsed a revised membership fee structure for the 2025/26 financial year. This decision follows 12 months of consultation with NEWROC and member Councils about future governance, financial sustainability, and the need to resource NEWTRAVEL appropriately to deliver on the new Strategic Plan.

2025/26 Membership Fees – Shire of Westonia

As discussed on the phone, Westonia's annual membership will be \$15,000, less the \$1,500 regional marketing contribution already provided through WERO, resulting in a total membership fee of \$13,500 payable to NEWTRAVEL.

This funding will enable NEWTRAVEL to establish a 1.2FTE staffing level and implement key priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan, including:

- Regional marketing through the Wheatbelt Way brand and partnership campaigns with Australia's Golden Outback and others.
- Supporting destination development and new visitor experiences aligned to local governments Strategic Community Plans and communities' aspirations.
- Strengthening internal capacity, financial resilience, and advocacy for tourism investment across our region.

Please note: This membership fee is all-inclusive, and there will be no additional funding requests going forward, unless they relate to specific identified projects, which will always involve prior consultation with member Councils.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Membership of NEWTRAVEL has had enormous benefits for the growth of tourism locally and into our region.

Financial Implications

An increase of \$ 3,500 towards the annual NEWTRAVEL 25/26 contribution

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council resolve to increase their 25/26 annual financial contribution from \$ 10,000 to \$ 13,500 to NEWTRAVEL and agree to enter into the new revised MOU as presented.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier Seconded: Cr Simmonds

09/12-25 **That Council resolve to increase their 25/26 annual financial contribution from \$ 10,000 to \$ 13,500 to NEWTRAVEL and agree to enter into the new revised MOU as presented.**

CARRIED 6/0

9.3 WORKS AND SERVICES

9.3.1 TENDER – SALE OF JD 624K LOADER

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	ES1.7.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil

Signature: Officer CEO



Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is to consider accepting a tender for the outright purchase of the JD 624K loader which is surplus to Council needs.

Background

Since the last meeting Council sought tenders for the Outright Purchase of the 2017 JD 624K Loader which is now surplus to Council needs since the purchase of the replacement CAT 950 Loader. The trade given during the purchase process was only \$ 70,000, which was rejected by the Council at the time.

Tenders were accepted until 4pm Tuesday 16th December 2025.

Comment

At the close of tender only one submissions was received

1. Stampalia Enterprises - \$ 121,000 inc GST

Statutory Environment

Tender regulations

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Plant Replacement Program

Financial Implications

Trade value for the sale of the JD 624K Loader

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council accept the tender received from Stampalia Enterprises for the sum of \$ 121,000 inc GST for the outright purchase of the JD 624K which is surplus to Council requirements.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Crews

Seconded: Cr DellaBosca

10/12-25 **That Council accept the tender received from Stampalia Enterprises for the sum of \$ 121,000 inc GST for the outright purchase of the JD 624K which is surplus to Council requirements**

CARRIED 6/0

9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

9.4.1 SALE OF LAND LOTS 365 & 366 WOLFRAM STREET – USE OF COMMON SEAL

Responsible Officer: Bill Price, CEO
Author: Bill Price, CEO
File Reference: T.1.1.3
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Attachments:

Signature: **Officer** **CEO**



Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider selling Lots 365 & 366 Wolfram Street to Bob & Joyce Hood-Penn.

Background

Council have been selling land via a Conditional Land Release arrangement to help promote population growth and development within the townsite.

Council has received an application from a Bob & Joyce Hood-Penn who wishes to purchase lots 355 & 356 Wolfram Street Westonia (half lots) with the intention to construct 10m x 9m shed with a verandah on the street front, with doors similar to barn doors, opening inwards and windows either side of the doors.

The style would be a Blacksmith and Farrier Business, with signage to suit the current styles of the street facades.

The 5m on the right of the front, we propose putting a dummy forge with a metal cut out of a blacksmith with his anvil. Also using some back lighting to bring it to life.

On the left front, a horse yard with a metal cut out of a horse waiting to be shod and a trough.

Both these areas would have landscaped gardens with native plants, in a similar style as those around the stadium.

As discussed, with the windows at the front, we would perhaps have a viewing area into blacksmithing tools and associated items, similar to the front bar in the Hood-Penn museum. This would be after completion of the facade and verge displays.

We would submit a more detailed impression with plans etc. prior to construction.

Below is a map illustrating the lot in question.



Comment

This particular lot is fully serviced

Should Council approve the sale the President and the CEO will be required to sign the Transfer of Landform and affix the Common Seal.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Economic – Support & Growth & Progress Locally.

Financial Implications

\$ 10,000 land sale

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the sale of Lot 365 & 366 Wolfram Street to Bob & Joyce Hood-Penn and authorise the President and CEO in affixing the common seal on the Transfer of Land Ownership form.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Della Bosca

Seconded: Cr Geier

11/12-25 That Council approve the sale of Lot 365 & 366 Wolfram Street to Bob & Joyce Hood-Penn and authorise the President and CEO in affixing the common seal on the Transfer of Land Ownership form.

CARRIED 6/0

9.4.2 PLANNING APPROVAL QUARTZ EXTRACTION QUARRY

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	ES1.7.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Proposal Document

Signature: **Officer** **CEO**



Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for the Council to approve the Development Application for the proposed Quartz Extraction Quarry Project located at Lot 325 Daddow Road, Warralakin.

Background

Q Stone Pty Ltd extracts quartz and other stone materials used in the manufacture of various concrete and stone products for the building industry.

To secure long term supplies, the company actively searches for suitable stone deposits throughout the wheatbelt. It has identified a potential long term quartz supply source in Warralakin on Lot 325 Daddow Road.

Land Insights Planning, Design & Environment consultants have been engaged to facilitate the Planning and Environmental process on behalf of Q Stone and have provided the Council with a prospectus document providing an overview of the project.

Comment

Council does not have a formal Town Planning Scheme that can regulate this type of development within its boundaries.

Council's Local Planning Strategy states that '*Rural use of land should be protected to support agricultural activity while facilitating a wide variety of complimentary land uses*'. This particular operation does not impinge greatly on farming land as the majority of the operation will be located in uncleared bushland.

This proposal does support the long term sustainability of mining operations being important for long term economic growth for the district.

Statutory Environment

Local Planning Strategy

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Economic – support growth and progress, locally and regionally.

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the Development Application for the proposed Quartz Extraction Quarry Project located at Lot 325 Daddow Road, Warralakin.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr DellaBosca Seconded: Cr Crews

12/12-25 That Council approve the Development Application for the proposed Quartz Extraction Quarry Project located at Lot 325 Daddow Road, Warralakin.

CARRIED 6/0

10. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Simmonds

13/12-25 That Council introduces the following One item of an urgent nature to the meeting for discussion

CARRIED 6/0

11.1 RAMELIUS RESOURCES DONATION

Responsible Officer: Bill Price, CEO

Author: Bill Price, CEO

File Reference: ES1.7.1

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachments: Nil

Signature: Officer CEO



Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to accept the generous donation of \$ 5,415 recently made by Ramelius Resources to assist in the purchase of additional Museum items.

Background

Senior staff from Ramelius Resources recently visited Westonia making a generous donation of \$ 5,415 from the proceeds collected for the sale of furniture items from their storage to the community.

They were suitably impressed with the Museum tours and were more than happy for the Council to utilise the funds on some additional museum items.

Comment

The following items would be great additions to the museum display

1. Cast Golden Fleece (Market Value between \$ 2200 - \$ 2600) cost \$ 1,000



2. Pedal Car on Loan from Dave Hendriks cost \$2,200



3. Interactive Bowser Cost \$ 5,800 -\$2,215 Part contribution.



Statutory Environment

Nil



Policy Implications

Nil



Strategic Implications



Financial Implications

Nil



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council gratefully accept the generous cash donation made by Ramelius Resources utilizing the funds to purchase additional Museum items as identified with a letter of gratitude being sent to the company.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Faithfull

Seconded: Cr Crews

14/12-25 That Council gratefully accept the generous cash donation made by Ramelius Resources utilizing the funds to purchase additional Museum items as identified with a letter of gratitude being sent to the company.

CARRIED 6/0

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday schedule 10th February 2026 commencing at 4.00pm.

13. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the Shire President, Cr Mark Crees declared the meeting closed at 4.31pm