



MINUTES

ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING



12 February 2026

Commencing 6.00 pm in the
Shire of Wyalkatchem Council Chambers
27 Flint Street Wyalkatchem

ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report for 2024/2025 was approved by the Shire of Wyalkatchem Audit Risk and Improvement Committee 18 December 2025; and by Council at its ordinary meeting 18 December 2025, absolute majority resolution 172 / 2025. The report is available from the Shire of Wyalkatchem website or may be viewed at the shire offices, 27 Flint Street, or the public library at The Bushel Railway Terrace Wyalkatchem.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes are unconfirmed until considered at the next ordinary meeting of council, subject to any amendments made and endorsed by the Presiding Member.

These unconfirmed minutes were approved for distribution 17 February 2026.

Ian McCabe

Acting CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DISCLAIMER

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Wyalkatchem for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during this meeting. It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of Council's decisions, which will be provided at the next ordinary meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillors and staff are reminded of the requirements of section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, to disclose any interest or perceived interest in any matter to be discussed during a meeting, and also the requirement to disclose any item affecting impartiality.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Shire President, Cr Christy Petchell, Presiding Member, opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

2. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2.1. Attendance

Cr's Petchell, Stratford, Dickson, Loton, Begley, Lawson Kerr;

Messer's D. Greenhalgh, S. Wemm, K. Jones, P. Jones, T. Loton (electors);

Mr I. McCabe (Acting CEO); Mr A. Lamas (Manager of Works).

2.2. Apologies

Cr S. Gamble

Ms C. Trenorden, Manager of Corporate Services

3. CONFIRMATION AND RECEIPT OF MINUTES

3.1. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1.1. Annual General Electors Meeting – 6 February 2025

Minutes of the Shire of Wyalkatchem Annual General Electors Meeting held on Thursday 6 February 2025 (Attachment 3.1.1)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Cr Loton

Seconded: Cr Lawson Kerr

That the Minutes of the Shire of Wyalkatchem Annual General Electors Meeting held on Thursday 6 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 11/0

For: Cr's Petchell, Stratford, Dickson, Loton, Begley, Lawson Kerr;

Messer's D. Greenhalgh, S. Wemm, K. Jones, P. Jones, T. Loton (electors).

4. AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2024/2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The Acting Chief Executive Officer, Ian McCabe, tableD the 2024/25 Annual Report, incorporating the Shire President's Report, Chief Executive Officer's Report, 2024/25 Annual Financial Statements and the 2024/25 Auditor's Report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Cr Stratford

Seconded: Cr Dickson

That the Shire of Wyalkatchem Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2025, incorporating the:

- a. Shire President's Report,*
- b. Chief Executive Officer's Report,*
- c. Annual Financial Statements and*
- d. Auditor's Report, as presented, be accepted.*

Carried 11/0

For: Cr's Petchell, Stratford, Dickson, Loton, Begley, Lawson Kerr;

Messer's D. Greenhalgh, S. Wemm, K. Jones, P. Jones, T. Loton (electors).

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1. QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE

Mr Robert Waller (via Shire website contact form):

'I cannot be at the AGM on 12 Feb 2026. But I would like to know what (is) happening in relation to council negotiating a new contract with the doctor to obtain more hours at the Wyalkatchem medical centre for (patient) appointments'.

'Next I would like to ask what is to be done to assist the chemist to move into the old NAB'.

The Acting CEO provided a response on behalf of the Council:

Thank you, Mr Waller, for the question. The Council doesn't have a contract directly with the doctor(s). The general practitioners are independent contractors engaged by the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu. The Shire of Wyalkatchem has a contract with the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu – as does the Shire of Koorda – and these separate contracts are managed by the local governments alone. The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu is the provider of the service and invoices the Shire of Wyalkatchem.

The current arrangement preserves the service in place since 2012 and provides a GP service at least two days per week. In addition, the doctors provide Telehealth appointments wherever they may be and provide visiting services to our hospital – a vitally important part of maintaining hospital services.

Your Council has met with the doctors and medical practice manager and is exploring how additional services can be delivered. In addition, your council is preparing a local health plan and actively engaging WA Country Health Service to examine how nurses can be accommodated in Wyalkatchem.

Your Council and the shire staff know how greatly this community values health services and we work hard to maintain and improve services whenever possible. It is gratifying that the current GP service has reduced the burden to ratepayers while maintaining historic service levels. I note the average wait time to see a doctor in Perth exceeds that of Wyalkatchem and we're grateful for the high standard of care available to our community.

In regard to the chemist, there is no commitment at this time to move the chemist into any shire facility. The chemist currently has a lease for a shop in Railway Terrace and operates from that site.

A written response will also be provided to Mr Waller.

5.2. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

All electors are tanked in advance for attending and for raising the following important matters.

Mr Kevin Jones asked why the garden crew seem to work in the main street and not other areas such as Slocum Street?

Mr Lamas and the Acting CEO summarised in response: scheduling of work will be reviewed; new team members have been recruited in the past year.

Ms Shery Wemm raised several matters:

Wild oats, whipper snipping and spraying early; why a particular spraying contractor was rejected: the Acting CEO acknowledged the untimely passing of Mr Danny Dunlop; advised the recruitment of staff and the purchase of spray equipment later than ideal but is now being used by staff; the contractor Ms Wemm alluded to did not meet shire requirements for insurance or accreditation.

When will a new community bus be purchased - need for hoist and improved access: the Acting CEO advised that a letter reflecting concerns be submitted for consideration as part of the budget process. The purchase of any large capital investment is subject to long term planning for vehicle replacement – there will be competing interests such as other large plant, the capacity of ratepayers to pay and all other projects. However, due consideration will be given to possible options and timing (such as the availability of private bus operators). A new bus without modifications such as those requested will cost approximately \$170,000 (approximately 11% of rates revenue).

Works required at the Town Hall (including) wall vents are broken, needs heating and cooling, curtains and paint need attention: the Acting CEO and Manager of Works committed to examining the building and interior and to prioritise small works as detailed by Ms Wemm.

As Community Resource Centre Chair, melting bitumen emulsion at entry to the building (in hot weather) and west end door is ineffective. The Manager of Works committed to examining the bitumen and consider what options were available; the west end door has been inspected and no issue was identified.

Mr Kevin Jones asked if a small street sweeper will be considered for purchase by the shire. The Acting CEO is unable to commit to a large unfunded purchase but would review the shire's need and capacity to purchase such an item.

6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Presiding Member Cr Petchell thanked all attendees and invited electors to join Councillors for refreshments. The meeting closed at 6.32pm.