



SHIRE OF MT MARSHALL

MINUTES

**Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting
of Council was held Electronically on
Wednesday, 6 May 2020 at 3:06pm for the
purpose of:**

**Consider Expenditure of COVID-19 Budget
Funds**

Cr ARC Sachse

President

**This page has
been left blank
intentionally**

DISCLAIMER

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED TO READ THROUGH AND FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE DISCLAIMER

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Mt Marshall for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings. The Shire of Mt Marshall disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee 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 so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or intimation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Mt Marshall during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Mt Marshall. The Shire of Mt Marshall warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Mt Marshall 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 Mt Marshall in respect of the application.

John Nuttall
Chief Executive Officer

Chairperson Initial

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council
held on Wednesday 6 May 2020

1.0 Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to consider expenditure of COVID-19 Budget Funds.

2.0 Declaration of Opening / Announcement of Visitors

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 3:06pm and welcomed all those present.

3.0 Record of Attendance / Apologies / Approved Leave of Absence

In Attendance

Cr ARC Sachse	President	
Cr NR Gillett	Deputy President	3.06-3.09pm, 3.23-3.24pm
Cr LN Gobbart	Councillor	
Cr SR Putt	Councillor	
Cr BC Geraghty	Councillor	
Cr TM Gibson	Councillor	
Cr IC Sanders	Councillor	

Mr John Nuttall	Chief Executive Officer
Ms Nadine Richmond	Executive Assistant
Miss Rebecca Watson	Community Development Officer

Apologies

Nil

4.0 Standing Orders

2020/5 - 001 COUNCIL DECISION:

That Standing Order numbers 6 – Public Conduct and 9.2 - Limitation of Number of Speeches be suspended for the duration of the meeting to allow for greater debate on items in the agenda.

Moved Cr IC Sanders

Seconded Cr TM Gibson

Carried 7/0

5.0 Public Questions

5.1 Response to Public Questions Taken on Notice

Nil

5.2 Public Question Time

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council
held on Wednesday 6 May 2020

The Presiding Member declared Public Question Time open and closed at 3:07pm

6.0 Declarations of Interest

Cr NR Gillett declared a financial interest in item 7.1 being that he possibly will apply for the COVID-19 business online presence funding.

Cr NR Gillett left the meeting at 3.09pm.

7.0 Reports of Officers

Cr NR Gillett declared a financial interest in item 7.1 being that he possibly will apply for the COVID-19 business online presence funding.

7.1 COVID-19 Community Assistance

File No:	4.0204
Location/Address:	N/A
Name of Applicant:	N/A
Name of Owner:	N/A
Author:	John Nuttall – Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Absolute Majority
Previously Considered:	Nil

Background:

Australia, like all countries around the world has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This has had serious health and economic implications on the country. Shire staff have been practicing required social distancing for some time, along with implementing necessary decisions such as the closing of facilities such as libraries, recreation centres, day care services, caravan parks and play parks.

The Shire has also changed its focus to concentrate as much as possible upon community welfare and staff have been actively engaged (and continue to be so) in obtaining information regarding what services and assistance may be required now and over the next few months for the elderly, vulnerable and businesses.

The economic effect caused by the pandemic also affects the Shire. Some businesses have already been forced to close due to Federal or State Government requirements, whilst others will undoubtedly be feeling the effect of the nationwide situation upon their business profit. Further there has been a request from the State Government that Local Government play its part in the situation both in considering current and future rates and by attempting to bring forward spending in order to boost local economies.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council
held on Wednesday 6 May 2020

On the basis of the above, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 April 2020, there was a repurposing of some of the current budget to assist the community with these issues. A total of \$85,000 was set aside. This item requests that Council agree to some funding that the community can apply for to assist with the financial issues identified.

Consultation:

There has been discussion between Shire staff regarding what financial assistance could be provided.

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Relevant Plans and Policy:

Council adopted a new policy at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020 designed to assist with financial difficulties relating to payments owed to the Shire.

Financial Implications:

Council has already budgeted to provide financial assistance relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Risk Assessment:

There is a risk that a number of community and sporting groups will struggle financially given the current pandemic.

Community & Strategic Objectives:

Outcome 4.1 Collaborative and transparent leadership

4.1.3 Engage the community in decision making and shared responsibility in achieving our goals

Outcome 4.3 A local government that is highly respected, professional, trustworthy and accountable

4.3.3 Ensure compliance with all relevant legislation

4.3.5 Use resources efficiently and effectively

4.3.6 Operate in a financially sustainable manner

Comment:

By way of assistance to the community with the money which Council set aside for the COVID-19 pandemic, the following ideas are put forward:

1. Community Sporting and Not For Profit Group Funding - In order to assist the community groups and sporting groups who will undoubtedly have been unable to undertake any money raising over the last few weeks a scheme is proposed whereby any sporting group or not for profit group can make a simple application for funding. That funding can be for up to \$1500 per group for a specific item or items. There is no contribution necessary. However they will not be given a cash payment, instead they will be provided with a voucher which means they can only make the purchase of the item(s) locally. In this way the local businesses will also benefit from this funding.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council
held on Wednesday 6 May 2020

2. Business On Line Presence Funding - Any business situated in the Shire can make an application to be provided with assistance with making their business on-line friendly. This can range from having their inventory digitised for online sales, having a revamp of a website or a new website created, or having a sale feature designed into their website. This funding would be for up to \$1000 per business, and along with the funding (if external assistance is required) we will also provide assistance from Shire staff where possible.

Other ideas to assist the community are also being considered and will be rolled out when fully considered and costed.

2020/5-002 OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION:

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Shire providing a grant scheme for community sporting groups and not for profit groups as outlined above up to a maximum of \$1500 per group***
- 2. Endorse the Shire providing Business on line presence funding as outlined above up to a maximum of \$1000 per business***
- 3. Resolve to refund facility hire costs invoiced to the Bencubbin winter sports groups (Bencubbin Football Club, Bencubbin Hockey Club and Bencubbin Netball Club) up to 30 June 2020***
- 4. Resolve to pay to the Beacon Community Recreation Council the power costs associated with the Beacon Recreation Centre for the period 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020 on condition that those power costs are not passed onto the Beacon Winter Sports groups by the Beacon Community Recreation Council, or those groups are refunded the power costs should they already have been passed onto the sporting clubs***
- 5. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to assess and administer the above funding opportunities***

***Moved Cr TM Gibson
Absolute Majority***

Seconded Cr SR Putt

Carried 6/0

Cr NR Gillet re-entered the meeting at 3.23pm

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council
held on Wednesday 6 May 2020

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 3:24pm.

These Minutes were confirmed by Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on

Date

Cr ARC Sachse President