

# SHIRE SNIPPETS

News and updates from the Shire of Morawa



## Council News

**Cr Karen Chappel  
elected as Morawa  
Shire President**

**Cr Ken Stokes  
elected as Deputy  
Shire President**

## COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

**Cessation of Ausco  
Lease – White Ave**

**2022 Council  
Meeting Dates**

**2022 Art Show  
Underwriting**

**November 2021  
Budget Review**

**Application  
received for  
Exploration Licence**

**Consultant for CEO  
Performance Review  
appointed**

## A message from the President

CR. KAREN CHAPPEL

### Election of Councillors, President and Deputy President

I wish to extend congratulations to all Councillors re-elected unopposed, Cr Carslake, Cr Collins, Cr Stokes, and myself.

I look forward to working with Cr Stokes as Deputy President and I wish to thank Cr Carslake for his contribution and commitment to the Shire of Morawa as Deputy President since 2013.

Cr Carslake has supported myself and the Shire through some challenging periods and I look forward to his continued contribution to Council.

I thank the Councillors for their continued trust in me as your President, I look forward to working with a strong united Council to achieve great outcomes for our community

### Congratulations to Morawa District High School

I would like to congratulate the Morawa District High School who were finalists in the 2021 Insurance Commission of WA Regional Safety Awards. I had the privilege of attending the awards dinner to support the High School students and teachers on their wonderful work.

Together the students under the guidance of Paula Hart, helped to design and paint the wonderful artwork promoting road safety. The colourful art work is on display on Winfield Street, on both entrances into town. We hope the artwork will remind people of the dangers of country driving and to take more care when behind the wheel, reducing the number of accidents on our roads.

### Road Safety

As we all know harvest has begun and with this means more heavy vehicles and machinery on our roads. Please remember to be courteous and patient on the roads when driving as we want everyone travelling on our roads to be safe.

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## **Council News**

### **Morawa Shire Council President and Deputy President Elected**

At the Special Council Meeting on 18 October 2021, Cr Karen Chappel and Cr Ken Stokes were elected unopposed to the positions of Shire President and Deputy Shire President respectively for the Shire of Morawa Council.

### **Local Government Minister Announces Reform Package**

On 10 November 2021, Minister for Local Government, Hon John Carey BA MLA, announced that sweeping reforms to the Local Government Act have been released for consultation. These are the most significant reforms to the Act in the 25 years since it was passed. The reforms are open for comment until 4 February 2022 via [www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/lgactreform](http://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/lgactreform). There are definitely a few areas that will impact how the Shire of Morawa operates.

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## **COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS – 21 OCTOBER 2021**

### **Cessation of Ausco Lease**

Council confirmed the termination of the Lease between the Shire and Ausco Modular Pty Ltd of a Portion of Lot 511, White Avenue, Morawa and accept that Ausco Modular Pty Ltd have met all their obligations in terms of removal of property and site make good provisions.

### **Council Representatives of Morawa Shire Audit Committee, Northern Country Zone and North Midlands Regional Road Group**

Council appointed Cr Chappel as the voting delegate for Northern Country Zone with Cr Stokes as the proxy delegate. Cr Stokes was appointed as the Council delegate for the Regional Road Group – North Midlands Subgroup with Cr Collins as the proxy delegate. The whole Council was appointed as delegates to the Audit Committee.

### **Superannuation for Elected Members**

Council did not support the proposed WALGA recommendation that the Local Government Act 1995 be amended to require Local Governments to pay Elected Members a superannuation amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee.

### **Application for Exploration Licence**

With respect to Application for Exploration Licence – No.70/5912 & No.70/5913 on Various Lots and reserves, Council raised no objection in principle to the Application subject to the conditions outlined.

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## **COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS – 16 NOVEMBER 2021**

### **2022 Art Show Underwriting**

Council confirmed that the deliver of the Morawa Art Show in 2022 was a priority and that the Shire would underwrite the whole event if an alternate sponsor could not be found, given Karara Mining have withdrawn their sponsorship. The overall event budget is approximately \$70,000 including \$20,000 of prize money.

### **2022 Council Meeting Dates**

Council resolved to continue to hold Council meetings on the third Thursday of each month (no meeting in January) at 5:30pm. Although next year the meeting in September will be held at the earlier time of 1:30pm and representatives from the Morawa District High School will be invited to attend the meeting as part of their civic governance education.

### **November 2021 Budget Review**

Council adopted to amend a variety of budget lines given the financial year is now over a quarter of the way through and the Shire can respond to actual events. Of specific note: A \$30,000 increase in expenditure on the Sport Precinct Clubhouse (Golf/Bowling Club) project – offset by an unbudgeted contribution from the golf and bowling club of \$30,000, repainting of doctor's surgery building, air con and other building renovations at various houses, income from youth grant, reduced loss on sale of plant assets, various depreciation adjustments, \$20,000 community benefit income from Egan Rothsay mining – set to be used to introduce a BBQ and water fountain in the town centre, reduced expenditure on the election, increase in standpipe income and expenditure.

### **CEO Performance Review Process**

Council is required to review the CEO's performance annually and to facilitate this process in an independent manner, Council have resolved to appoint Strategic Leadership Consulting to lead the process.

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NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**16 DECEMBER 2021**

View full details of all Council Meetings at: [www.morawa.wa.gov.au/council-meetings](http://www.morawa.wa.gov.au/council-meetings)

## Shire Project Updates

### Resealing of the Airport Apron - Complete

The Shire has completed the sealing of the apron to improve the safety of the facility, alleviating the issue of loose stones being thrown up behind planes on the previously deteriorated surface. to improve CASA compliance. This project was made possible through Department of Transports, Regional Airport Development Scheme grant contributions.



### Old Road Board Building

Works are progressing well at trying to bring the old facility back to life. Painting has made the building look fresher, new flooring in the foyer and old chambers has been installed and a new kitchenette area is almost ready to be used. A few more finishing touches are to be completed such as a Universal Access Toilet and timber floor sanding and sealing. The Shire is pleased to announce that an arrangement is being worked through with DFES, Department of Communities and other Cyclone recover operators for them to make use of a portion of the facility over the next 12-18 months whilst they continue to provide essential services to our community.

### Golf and Bowling Club

The works repainting the outside of the building encountered a few delays, but the end result looks fantastic and adds a fresh new face to the exterior of the building. Internal repaints are close to completion and the new commercial kitchen benches have been installed. New flooring is ready for install and the new air-conditioning has been well used and appreciated by the contractors and will be invaluable to keep the facility cool during the hot summer months.

### Roads Update – Yalgoo Road

Clearing of the Morawa-Yalgoo Road has been completed ready for the gravel sheeting of edges.



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## Community News

### Morawa Swimming Pool Update

The Shire would like to welcome Allee and Aimee who are running the Morawa swimming pool this season as well as opening the Morawa Youth Centre. If you haven't met them yet, come down and visit the Swimming pool during opening hours and say hello, they are doing a fantastic job providing this service so all our community members can enjoy our awesome swimming facility.



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### Prohibited Burning Period

The Shire of Morawa is now in the Prohibited Burning Period so be careful when doing anything that could potentially start a fire as we need to work together and keep our community safe. Inspections of properties will be carried out to ensure they comply with appropriate fire hazard reduction and fire break requirements.

Keep an eye on [emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au) for information on the latest Total Fire Bans or Bushfire Warnings. To sign up for the Shire of Morawa Total Fire Ban text messaging service, visit the Shire of Morawa, or contact us via email to [admin@morawa.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@morawa.wa.gov.au) with your name and mobile phone number to be added to the Total Fire Ban text service list.

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### Christmas Opening Hours

The Shire Office and Depot will be closed from 4pm on Friday 24 December 2021 to 9am on Wednesday 5 January 2022.

The Jones Lake Landfill will be closed Saturday 25 December, Sunday 26 December and Saturday 1 January, normal hours will apply the rest of the Christmas/New Year period.

The Morawa Swimming Pool will be closed Saturday 25 December, Sunday 26 December and Saturday 1 January, but will be open on the public holidays on 27 December and 3 January, normal hours will apply the rest of the Christmas/New Year period.

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### Road Closure for Christmas Festival

The Morawa CRC has been busy organizing the Morawa Christmas street festival and late-night shopping in conjunction with our local businesses. Please be aware that there will be road closure on Winfield street between the intersections of Davis Street and White Ave from 3:30pm to 10pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

## Cyclone News



### Cyclone Seroja Recovery Hub

Did you know that the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) has a web page dedicated to Cyclone Seroja recovery? Take a look and visit it at [www.dfes.wa.gov.au/emergencywa/recovery.html](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/emergencywa/recovery.html) They provide information about how to get support, financial assistance useful links and ways to stay up to date with latest news.

If you would like to speak to someone in person, you can visit the Welfare Hub at the Morawa CRC on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am to 3pm.

### Asbestos Clean Up

In the interests of public health and safety the Shire has worked with the disaster recovery management team to facilitate a clean up of the asbestos that was evident on the road verge and in public places.

It is the responsibility of homeowners and insurers to ensure that asbestos is disposed of in a safe and efficient manner. It is not acceptable for asbestos to be placed or stored in the public domain. The Local Recovery Group acknowledged that asbestos that was evident was likely an instant response to the wide scale damage caused by the cyclone, however now that this initial debris is gone the Shire will be taking a much harder stance on any properties where debris appears on the road verge or other public places.

Insurers should know better. If you aren't insured and are having difficulties managing your asbestos debris please reach out to Deb (SerojaMorawa@dfes.wa.gov.au), as part of the DFES cyclone recovery team, to see what assistance may be available to you.

### Recovery and Resilience Grants

If your insured home was damaged by the Cyclone then you may be eligible for a reimbursement grant of up to \$20,000 under the Recovery and Resilience Grants Program. The DFES Grants team will be in the Morawa CRC from 2:30pm to 6pm on Thursday 25 November to answer any questions and assist with this grant.

Call the grants team on 1800 490 678 to book in for a chat or for more information on this or any cyclone related grant .

Information about the Cyclone Seroja Recovery and Resilience Grants can be found at: [www.dfes.wa.gov.au/recoveryandresiliencegrants](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/recoveryandresiliencegrants)