



SHIRE OF MORAWA

2023 ANNUAL ELECTORS

MEETING

ATTACHMENTS

Wednesday, 25 January 2023



WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S
WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

Agenda Attachments

Shire of Morawa

Annual Electors Meeting

25 January 2023

List of Attachments

3 Annual Report

Attachment 1 – 3a Annual Report 2021-2022

Annual Electors Meeting 25 January 2023

Attachment 1- 3a Annual Report 2021-2022

Item 3- Annual Report

A photograph of a stone archway with the word 'MORAWA' in blue letters. In the background, there are trees and a traditional windmill under a clear sky.

MORAWA

SHIRE OF MORAWA

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S

WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

2023 Annual General Meeting - Attachment 1 - 3a Annual Report 2021-2022



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Shire of Morawa acknowledges the Traditional Custodians, the Yamatji people, and recognises the contribution of Yamatji Elders past, present and future, in working together for the future of Morawa.





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A MESSAGE FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to present the Shire of Morawa's Annual Report for the 2021-2022 financial year. It has been another huge year as we have navigated several large projects and initiatives, while continuing to manage the impacts of COVID-19.

A huge thanks to all of the Councillors and community volunteers who continue to give their time and energy to make our community so great and make all visitors feel welcome to the Shire and the Mid-West.

This year we successfully drafted a new ten year Strategic Community Plan with the help of our community. This endeavours to be a plan for all and moves away from operational or goals specific to the local government and looks more holistically at what the community aspires to be. The community vision has been revised to emphasise the uniqueness of Morawa. Council and I look forward to working with the whole community to ensure that in 10 years' time:

“Morawa is a welcoming and inclusive community that embraces what makes it unique, offering livability, variety, and opportunity for all.”

The year ahead will bring more planning and ideas for our future, along with a suite of infrastructure upgrades to support our community.

We were pleased to see major upgrades this year to the Morawa Golf and Bowling Club and Old Roads Board Building thanks to Federal Grant Funding under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. These are both great community assets which are much loved by our Town.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT

A large part of our annual budget is spent on road infrastructure and Council has maintained this important focus to ensure that our major assets are kept at an appropriate standard for our community. This year most notably significant upgrades were made to sections of Morawa Yalgoo Road, Nanekine Road, and Koolanooka South Road.

The Shire is proud to support the provision of medical, dental and childcare services as part of its strategy to retain population and to continually improve the wellbeing of our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Scott Wildgoose as CEO and his Executive team Paul Devcic and Jacqueline Hawkins for their outstanding leadership and support over the year, and also thanks to the whole operational team at the Shire of Mowara.

CR KAREN CHAPPEL JP
SHIRE PRESIDENT





A WORD FROM THE CEO

As CEO, I would like to thank Shire staff, Council, volunteers, residents and visitors for their participation and community support over the last year.

The Shire has successfully continued to deliver key services despite increased construction costs and some service interruptions with the COVID-19 illness arriving in the community earlier this year.

The Shire remained focused on recovery efforts following Cyclone Seroja which greatly impacted our community in April 2021, with repairs undertaken and construction in many areas adapted for future proofing of key infrastructure.

Major upgrades were completed this year to the Morawa Golf and Bowling Club and Old Roads Board Building, thanks to Federal grant funding of \$283,699 from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. The works resulted in significant interior renovations to the Club and increased accessibility of the Old Roads Board Building. The Shire is thrilled to be improving these special places which make our community so great.

Drainage rectification works were also completed adjacent to the Morawa Netball Courts, following issues after resurfacing last year. This was successfully implemented in time for the 2022 season.

The following road program was undertaken to maintain and improve the roads in the Shire. Funding for the roads program comes from Shire rates, the Federal Government Department of Infrastructure, the State Department of Transport, the Grants Commission and Main Roads. The Shire's Road management program is where the largest amount (approx. 35%) of Shire funds is expended. The major expenditure in 2021-2022 occurred in the following areas:

• Morawa Yalgoo Road	\$ 451,082
• Nanekine Road	\$ 145,229
• Koolanooka South Road	\$ 106,566
• Canna North East Road	\$ 14,431
• West Gutha Road	\$ 116,583
• Maintenance of Rural Roads	<u>\$ 715,281</u>
	\$1,549,172

As part of its footpath program to increase the safety of pedestrians and improve liveability throughout the town, the Shire spent \$128,084 to install a dual-use footpath on Manning Road with the co-contribution assistance of grant funding from the Department of Transport.

The Youth Centre remains well activated, with an average weekly attendance of 20 kids during 2021 - 2022. The Morawa Swimming Pool and Community Gym also continued to be well utilised. Council will continue investing in creative activities and implementing community programs where demand is higher than normal.

A WORD FROM THE CEO

This year we also completed community engagement and drafting of the Shire's new Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032, with drafting of a new Corporate Business Plan now underway. This gives Council and community a distinct vision for the future and a suite of aspirations and focus areas to help us get there together. Alongside this, we also engaged and developed a Strategic Resource Plan, Arts and Culture Plan and Tourism Plan which were adopted early in the 2022 – 2023 financial year.

Looking ahead to 2022-2023, planning and concept design has been scheduled for:

- Evaside Road
- Winfield Street Drainage
- Caravan park
- Townsite Greening
- Critical assets including roads sewerage and landfill

Major infrastructure projects will include:

- Replacement of the Recreation Centre Roof
- Revitalisation of Wildflower Park
- Town Hall storage unit
- Cemetery entry and landscaping
- Solar street lighting

It has been a privilege to be part of the Morawa team and work alongside the community, Council, and stakeholders of the Shire of Morawa over the 2021 - 2022 financial year. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Shire President and Councillors for their ongoing support.

In terms of our finances our annual audit, conducted by Nexia on behalf of the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), was carried out in October and came through as unqualified. This means that in accordance with the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996: All required information and explanations were provided. All audit procedures were satisfactorily completed.

SCOTT WILDGOOSE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SHIRE SERVICES

Council provides a variety of services for the community under a wide range of legislation, including:

Community buildings
Community development
Environmental Health
Library services
Playgrounds
Parks and gardens
Recreation facilities and gym
Swimming pool
Youth Centre

Bushfire control and prevention
Building approvals
Cemetaries
Dog control
Planning approvals
Roads, footpaths and kerbs
Street lighting
Waste management

599

Properties in the
Shire of Morawa

\$650,000

Annual cost for operation
of Community Facilities
including the pool and
sporting grounds

14

Major capital works
projects completed
over 2021-2022

PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

The Shire's Strategic Community Plan 2022-2023 commenced development on January 2022. It is a long-term planning document that sets out the community's vision and aspirations for the future, and an overview of the key strategies to be focused on to achieve these aspirations



STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

- Provides a vision for the future state we all want to achieve.
- Includes a clear direction for Council to use in decision making.
- Identifies the risks and opportunities for Council.

OUR STRATEGIES

Create a sense of place for visitors

- Factor the visitor experience into planning and design decisions
- Develop and Implement a Tourism Plan
- Embrace a commitment to excellent service
- Ensure the townsite and its services are accessible to all

Activate a vibrant small business sector

- Facilitate and support small business
- Encourage variety and competition
- Maintain strong support systems and services

Take pride in our community and an aesthetically appealing townsite

- Develop and implement a townsite greening plan
- Enhance the appearance of homes, gardens, businesses, public buildings, and open spaces
- Utilise public art
- Celebrate our wins

Embrace cultural and social diversity

- Develop and implement an Arts and Culture plan
- Champion inclusion and engagement
- Invest in socialisation and belonging
- Promote positive aging in place across the community

Cement strong foundations for growth and prosperity

- Safe and suitable road and other transport networks
- Ready to go commercial and industrial facilities
- Enhance partnerships and alliances

Occupy a Safe and Healthy living space

- Build safer neighbourhoods
- Occupy fit for purpose housing
- Increase active living
- Enhance health service provisions

Be future focussed in all we do

- Ensure the shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable
- Embrace recycling and renewable energy
- Foster passion and belief in younger residents

GOVERNANCE & STATUTORY REPORTING STANDARDS



Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP)

The *Disability Services Act* WA 1993 (amended 2004) requires all local governments to develop, maintain and implement a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) each year. DAIP's benefit everyone in the community especially people with disability, the elderly, families and carers, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The Act also requires annual reporting on DAIP progress to the Department of Communities and to provide details of activity in annual reports.

The following DAIP strategies have been implemented during the 2021-2022 year.

The Shire of Morawa has held a number of inclusive community events during the 2021-2022 year including:

- Mid-West NAIDOC Week Celebration in July 2021
- Seniors Week with the CRC and Hospital in November 2021
- The Australia Day event including the Auspire Community Citizen of the Year in January 2022
- Tom Curtin Community Day in March 2022
- Astrotourism open days in April 2022
- Thank a Volunteer Day in May 2022
- Reconciliation Breakfast in June 2022
- Preparation for the Bi-annual Community Art show for August 2022, and
- Ngala Parenting workshops

Infrastructure upgrades to improve access to community buildings included:

- The Shire completed safe footpath construction and upgrades, including Manning Road in 2021-2022.

GOVERNANCE & STATUTORY REPORTING STANDARDS



- Sealing and pothole repair on the football/netball oval carpark and other Shire roads providing a safer and smoother area for people of all abilities to traverse.
- The Roads Board building was renovated to include an access ramp and disabled toilet, with walls removed to widen access.
- The Golf and Bowling Club had a major renovation with new commercial kitchen.

Our Strategic Community Plan was completed in early 2022, where the community were invited to submit feedback through a range of mechanisms including in person discussions.

Our Disability and Inclusion Plan is due for renewal prior to 30 June 2023 and planning has commenced to ensure robust engagement with our community.

Equitable complaints mechanisms are in place to effectively receive and address complaints from all members of the community. The Shire has received no complaints in relation to access and inclusion in the reporting period.

The Shire of Morawa uses a variety of communication methods to provide information to the community, and ensures all information provided can be made available in alternative formats. To promote community events and services the Shire used communication methods including:

- Shire's website and social media channels
- Printed posters and flyers
- Letters to residents
- Morawa Snippets newsletter and
- Media releases to local newspapers & radio stations.

The Shire website has been developed to meet W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 Level AA. There is a notice on the website with a link to the guidelines and a link to the 'contact us' page should the user encounter any access issues.

All Shire employment advertisement material and employee contracts include an Equal Employment Opportunity statement.

GOVERNANCE & STATUTORY REPORTING STANDARDS

Record Keeping Plan

The Shire of Morawa is committed to accessible and efficient record keeping practices and complies with relevant legislation including the *State Records Act 2000*.

The Shire has an established Record Keeping Plan. This plan includes a Records Management Procedure Manual which is designed to adequately address all records management issues and identifies staff roles and responsibilities.

The Shire is committed in maintaining a high standard of record keeping and will continue to review and improve processes.



Public Interest Disclosure

The *Public Interest Disclosure Code* was established by the Commissioner for Public Sector Standards under Section 20 of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*.

One of the principles of the Code is not just to provide protection to those who make disclosures, but also to encourage a system of transparency and accountability in the way government officials act and utilise public monies.

Matters that relate to the Shire of Morawa should be referred to the Shire of Morawa's Public Interest Disclosure officer.

Disclosures to the officer can be made not just about officers of the Shire of Morawa but also its elected members.

There is an obligation of the Public Interest Disclosure Officer in the *Public Interest Disclosure Act* to ensure that the disclosure is confidential and that the person making a disclosure is provided adequate protection from reprisals, civil and criminal liability or breach of confidentiality.

The Shire of Morawa had no Public Interest Disclosures during the 2021-2022 reporting year.

GOVERNANCE & STATUTORY REPORTING STANDARDS



Freedom of Information Act 1992

The Shire's affairs are governed by seven (7) elected members who represent all sections of the community. The Council meets on the Third Thursday of each month - excluding January. These meetings are open to the public and the dates and times are advertised on Council's website and noticeboards as Public information.

The Council is a legislative body that establishes policies and makes decisions within the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1995* on a wide range of issues affecting the community, and in keeping with the legislative requirements.

The Council governs the Shire's affairs including decisions regarding its activities and functions. Such decisions include the approval of services and facilities to be undertaken, and the allocation of resources and funding to these services and facilities.

Nominated documents can be inspected upon application and payment of a small fee at the Shire office located at 26 Winfield Street, Morawa during normal business hours.

During the year of review any applications received are considered on the basis of not contravening the privacy rights of any individual and are subject to an administrative charge in accordance with the ACT.

The Shire of Morawa has had no Freedom of Information requests during the 2021-2022 reporting year.

GOVERNANCE & STATUTORY REPORTING STANDARDS

National Competition Policy

In 1995, the Council of Australian Government entered into agreements known as the National Competition Policy. The Policy is a whole of government approach to bring about reform in the public sector to encourage government to become more competitive.

Local government will mainly be affected where it operates significant business activities (defined as one that generates an annual income from fees and charges exceeding \$200,000) that compete or could compete with private sector business. The Shire of Morawa does not operate any such businesses

A review of the Local Laws found that they had no impact on the competition across the Shire.

Employee Payments

For the purpose of Regulation 19B of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* the following information is required to be included in Council's Annual Report:

The number of employees of the Shire of Morawa (excluding the CEO) entitled to an annual salary:

- Of \$130,000 or more; and
- That falls within each band of \$10,000 over \$130,000

There were no employees entitled to an annual salary of \$130,000 or more during 2021-2022.

The total remuneration paid to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) during 2021-2022 was \$ 184,603.21.



GOVERNANCE & STATUTORY REPORTING STANDARDS

Councillor Information

For the purpose of Regulation 19B (f)(g)(h)(i) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* the following Councillor information is required to be included in Council's Annual Report:

- the number of council and committee meetings attended by each council member during the year
- if available, the gender, linguistic background and country of birth of council members
- if available, the number of council members who are aged -
 - 1) between 18 and 24 years; and
 - 2) between 25 and 34 years; and
 - 3) between 35 and 44 years; and
 - 4) between 45 and 54 years; and
 - 5) between 55 and 64 years; and
 - 6) over the age of 64 years.
- if available, the number of council members who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Councillor Information	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Aged between 18 & 24 years							
Aged between 25 & 34 years							
Aged between 35 & 44 years							
Aged between 45 & 54 years				X		X	X
Aged between 55 & 64 years	X	X					
Aged over 64 years			X				
Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	No	No	No	No		No	No
Gender	M	F	F	F	F	M	F
Linguistic background	E	E	E	E		E	E
Country of birth	A	A	A	A		A	A
Council Meetings Attended	17/17	17/17	14/17	17/17	14/17	14/17	15/17
Committee Meetings Attended	3/3	3/3	2/3	3/3	2/3	3/3	0/3

Linguistic Background : E – English

Country of Birth: A - Australia

Morawa Golf and Bowling Club

The Shire successfully completed a major renovation of the clubhouse which featured:

- New carpets and blinds
- Internal and external painting
- New commercial grade kitchen
- New air conditioning

BEFORE



Morawa Golf and Bowling Club

These works complimented the major rebuild of the bowling greens also completed this year, following damage from Cyclone Seroja

AFTER

*Funded by the LRCIP
and the
Shire of Morawa
Total cost: \$154,003*



Old Roads Board Building

The Shire completed a renovation in early 2022 to include an access ramp and disabled toilet, with walls removed to widen access.

Other upgrades included a new kitchen, internal painting, lighting and flooring, featuring restoration of the old floorboards.

BEFORE



PROJECTS 2021-2022

Old Roads Board Building

*The next steps include
activation of the
building and surrounds.*

AFTER

*Funded by the LRCIP
and the
Shire of Morawa
Total cost: \$158,922*



TOM CURTIN COMMUNITY DAY WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2022

*More than 350
community members
came together to
acknowledge the
1 year anniversary of
Cyclone Seroja*

PROJECTS 2021-2022

\$1,549,172

Total spend on Shire roads this year of which 45% was from grant funding

\$128,084

Total cost of upgrade to Manning Road footpath with \$32,792 of grant funding

\$715,281

Maintenance works on the Shire's rural roads carried out during the year.

\$240,334

Grant funding received during the year from the Federal Government under LRCIP for Morawa-Yalgoo Road.

\$451,082

Total project cost for 3km widening and sealing of Morawa-Yalgoo Road

PROJECTS 2021-2022



\$36,360

Was spent on rectification of drainage issues as part of the Netball Courts Redevelopment

\$74,819

Was spent on upgrade of the Caravan Park Ablution Block including fresh paint, and updated plumbing, tiling and painting inside.



\$86,860

Was spent on sealing of the Aerodrome Apron



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT 2021-2022



