



AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

on

Thursday, 18 September 2025 at 01:30pm

at the

**Shire of Morawa Council Chambers,
26 Winfield Street, Morawa**



WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S
WILDFLOWER COUNTRY

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DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL/ IMPARTIALITY/ PROXIMITY INTERESTS

*Local Government Act 1995 – Section 5.65, 5.70 and 5.71 Local
Government (Administration) Regulation 34C*

<i>This form is provided to enable members and officers to disclose an Interest in a matter in accordance with the regulations of Section 5.65, 5.70 and 5.71 of the Local Government Act and Local Government (Administration) Regulation 34C</i>			
Name of person declaring the interest			
Position			
Date of Meeting			
Type of Meeting (Please circle one)	Council Meeting/ Committee Meeting/ Special Council Meeting Workshop/ Public Agenda Briefing/ Confidential Briefing		
Interest Disclosed			
Item Number and Title			
Nature of Interest			
Type of Interest (please circle one)	Financial	Proximity	Impartiality
Interest Disclosed			
Item Number and Title			
Nature of Interest			
Type of Interest (please circle one)	Financial	Proximity	Impartiality
Interest Disclosed			
Item Number and Title			
Nature of Interest			
Type of Interest (please circle one)	Financial	Proximity	Impartiality

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Important Note:

Should you declare a **Financial** or **Proximity** Interest, in accordance with the Act and Regulations noted above, you are required to leave the room while the item is being considered.

For an **Impartiality** Interest, you must state the following prior to the consideration of the item:

“With regard to agenda item (read item number and title), I disclose that I have an impartiality interest because (read your reason for interest). As a consequence, there may be a perception that my impartiality on the matter may be affected. I declare that I will consider this matter on its merits and vote accordingly.”

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Item 1 Opening of Meeting

The President to declare the meeting open at 1:30pm.

Item 2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Dignitaries

The President acknowledges the traditional custodians, the Yamatji people, and recognises the contribution of Yamatji Elder's past, present and future, in working together for the future of Morawa.

Item 3 Recording of Attendance**3.1 Attendance****Council – In Person Attendance**

President (Presiding Member) Councillor Karen Chappel

Deputy President Councillor Ken Stokes

Councillor Grant Chadwick

Councillor Dean Clemson

Councillor Mark Coaker

Councillor Debbie Collins

Council – Electronic Attendance**Staff – Attendance**

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

Marty Symmons

Brad Douglas

Members of the Public**3.2 Apologies****3.4 Approved Leave of Absence**

Councillor Diana North

3.5 Disclosure of Interests**Item 4 Applications for Leave of Absence****Item 5 Response to Previous Questions**

Item 6 Public Question Time**Item 7 Questions from Members without Notice****Item 8 Announcements by Presiding Member without Discussion**

President's Meetings for the month of August 2025.

Date	Details of Meeting
06 August 2025	WALGA- State Council Information Session
07 August 2025	Meeting with Hon. Jackie Jarvis MLC (Minister of Agriculture and Food and Mid-West)
08 August 2025	LGIS- RISK Committee Meeting
08 August 2025	Attended the Perenjori Supermarket Grand Opening
11 August 2025	Rural West Board Meeting
13 August 2025	Meeting Hon Hannah Beazley MLA (Minister for Local Government)
15 August 2025	Regional Road Group Chairs Meeting
15 August 2025	Meeting with Senator Matt O'Sullivan (Senator for Western Australia)
18 August 2025	Presenter for the WALGA 2025 Local Government Elections Candidate Information Webinar
20 August 2025	Local Heritage Group for Housing Tomorrow Meeting
20 August 2025	WALGA- Finance & Services Meeting
21 August 2025	Shire of Morawa- Ordinary Council Meeting
22 August 2025	LGIS- Board Meeting
23 August 2025	Local Government Election Nominations WA Campaign Launch
25 August 2025	Northern Country Zone Meeting in Perenjori
27 August 2025	Meeting Hon Hannah Beazley MLA (Minister for Local Government)
29 August 2025	Shire of Morawa- Special Council Meeting

Item 9 Declaration by all Members to have given due consideration to All Matters Contained in the Business Paper before the Meeting

The Elected Members to declare that they had given due consideration to all matters contained in the agenda.

Item 10 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 21 August 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting were provided under separate cover via the Shire of Morawa's secure portal to all Councillors on 04 September 2025.

The Minutes of the 29 August 2025 Special Council Meeting were provided under separate cover via the Shire of Morawa's secure portal to all Councillors on 01 September 2025.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm that:

1. the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 21 August 2025 are a true and correct record.
2. the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on the 29 August 2025 are a true and correct record.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

Disclaimer

Members of the public are cautioned against taking any action on Council decisions, on items in this agenda in which they may have an interest, until formal notification in writing from the Shire has been received. Decisions made at this meeting can be revoked pursuant to the Local Government Act 1995.

Item 11 Reports of Officers**11.1 Chief Executive Officer****11.1.1 Actions Performed under Delegated Authority for August 2025**

Author: Executive Assistant

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author/Authorising Officer declares that they do not have any conflict of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That with respect to Actions Performed under Delegated Authority for August 2025, that Council:

1. Accept the Report.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

To report back to Council, actions performed under delegated authority from the period 01 August 2025 to 31 August 2025.

DETAIL

To increase transparency this report has been prepared for Council and includes all actions performed under delegated authority for –

- Development Approvals;
- Building Permits;
- Health Approvals;
- One off delegations to the Chief Executive Officer;
- Dangerous Goods;
- Affixing of Common Seal;
- Other Delegations as provided for in the Delegations Register.

The following outlines the actions performed within the Shire relative to Delegated Authority from the period 01 August 2025 to 31 August 2025. ('the period') and are submitted to Council for information.

Bushfire

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to bushfire matters during the period.

Caravan parks and campgrounds

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to caravan parks and camping grounds during the period.

Common Seal

No Common Seal actions were undertaken by the Shire during the period.

Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to Dangerous Goods Safety matters during the period.

Food Act 2008

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to the Food Act matters during the period.

Hawkers, traders, and stall holders

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to hawkers, traders, and stall holders during this period.

Liquor Control Act 1988

<i>Date of decision</i>	<i>Decision Ref.</i>	<i>Decision details</i>	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Other affected person(s)</i>
19.08.2025		Extended Trading Permit - Cabaret 2025	Morawa Tigers Sports Club	Nil

Lodging houses

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to lodging house matters during the period.

Public Buildings

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to public buildings matters during the period.

Septic Tank Approvals

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to the Health Act 1911 and Health (Treatment of Sewage and Disposal of Effluent Waste) Regulations 1974 during the period.

Planning Approval

No delegated decisions were undertaken by Shire pursuant to planning approvals during this period.

Other Delegations

No other delegated decision was undertaken by Shire pursuant to this category during the period

Building Permits

Date of decision	Decision Ref.	Decision details	Applicant	Other affected person(s)
19.08.2025		Front Patio	NuSteel Patio & Sheds	Nil

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low – report provided to Council for information purposes.

CONSULTATION

Nil

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Building Act 2011

Bushfire Act 1954

Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007

Health Act 1991

Health Act 1911

Health (Public Buildings) Regulations 1992

Liquor Control Act 1988

Local Government Act 1995

Planning & Development Act 2005

Shire of Morawa Local Planning Scheme No. 2

Shire of Morawa Cemeteries 2018 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Dogs 2018 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Extractive Industries 2018 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Fencing 2018 Local Law

Shire of Morawa Health 2004 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Public Places and Local Government Property 2018 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Meeting Procedures 2012 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Waste 2018 - Local Law

Shire of Morawa Delegations Register (2025)

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no known financial implications relating to this Item.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There are no known risk management implications relating to this Item.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

11.2 Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

11.2.1 Monthly Financial Report – August 2025

Author:	Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services
Authorising Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest:	The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive:

1. The Monthly Financial Report including the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 31 August 2025.
2. The Bank Reconciliation Report for period ending 31 August 2025.
3. The attached List of Payments for the period ending 31 August 2025.
4. With respect to the Chief Executive Officer authorisations and reporting to Council;
- Reimbursement applications made by the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 31 August 2025.

SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

The Monthly Financial Report is prepared to provide Council with a comprehensive report on the financial position on a monthly basis.

The Monthly Financial Report includes the Statement of Financial Activity Report, Bank Reconciliation Report and the List of Payments made during the reporting month.

DETAIL

In accordance with the provisions of Section 6.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 34(1) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, a local government is to prepare each month a Statement of Financial Activity (Attachment 1) reporting on the revenue and expenditure as set out in the Annual Budget each month.

Under the regulations the report must include the following items:

- Annual Budget estimates
- Budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates,
- Actual amounts of expenditure, revenue, and income.

- Material variances between budget and actual
- Net current assets
- The report is to be accompanied by documents containing an explanation of the net current assets, material variances and other relevant supporting documentation.

As part of the monthly report a bank reconciliation report will be completed and included as **Attachment 2**. The summary of the report for 31 August 2025 is as follows:

Account	Balance
Municipal Account	1,060,066.30
Municipal Online Account	1,150,233.56
Trust Account	1,525.11
Reserve Account	5,673,608.01
Term Deposits (Reserves)	2,100,000.00
Total Cash & Investments	9,985,432.98

Pursuant to Section 5.42 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council has resolved to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make payments from the municipal and trust funds.

As a result of this delegation there is a requirement under the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* – Reg 13(3) for a list of payments to be prepared and presented to Council.

The list of accounts paid for the period 1 August to 31 August 2025 is presented as an attachment to this report (**Attachment 3**) and is summarised in the table below.

Bank	Payment Description	Amount
Municipal	Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)	578,263.54
Municipal	Cheques No:	0
Municipal	Direct Debit Transactions	45,342.18
Municipal	Bank Transfers / Payroll / Other Payments	160,237.94
Municipal	Corporate Credit Cards / Fuel Cards	2419.50
Trust	Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT)	0.00
	TOTAL	786,263.16

Reimbursement Applications

There have been no reimbursements claimed during the month of August 2025.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Low significance – report is presented to Council for information purposes only.

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

1. Data gathering for Annual Financial Reporting is in progress.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Section 5.42 Local Government Act 1995 Delegation of some powers and duties to the CEO.

Section 2.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 states:

Role of council

- (1) The council —
 - (a) governs the local government's affairs; and
 - (b) is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the council is to —
 - (a) oversee the allocation of the local government's finances and resources; and
 - (b) determine the local government's policies.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Regulation 34(1)

- (1) A local Government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d) for each month.

Regulation 13

- (1) If the local government has delegated authority to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month.
- (3) A list prepared under sub regulation (1) or (2) is to be –
 - a. presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and
 - b. recorded in the minutes of that meeting

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

Be future focused in all we do:

1. Ensure the Shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

As presented.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The risks identified as part of this report being inaccurate information is mitigated by Council receiving financial statements on a monthly basis and in the form that is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 and associated regulations in the format called Statutory Reporting and is considered Low Risk.

CONCLUSION

Council is requested to receive the attached Monthly Financial Report that contains the Statement of Financial Activity, the Bank Reconciliation Report, the list of accounts paid by the Chief Executive Officer and the list of any work-related expenses/reimbursements submitted by the Chief Executive Officer.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.2.1a Monthly Financial Report as on 31 August 2025

Attachment 2 – 11.2.1b Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 August 2025

Attachment 3 – 11.2.1c List of Accounts Paid for the period ending 31 August 2025

11.2.2 Morawa Community Resource Centre – Exemption from Rates

Author: Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: The Author and Authorising Officer declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. In accordance with Section 6.47 of the Local Government Act 1995 grants an exemption from local government rates for the Morawa Community Resource Centre property, located at Lot 2 (36) Winfield Street Morawa, under section 6.26(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1995 as the property is being used for charitable purposes, effective from 1 July 2025.

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

PURPOSE

For Council to consider a request from the Morawa Community Resource Centre (CRC) for a rate exemption.

DETAIL

The Morawa CRC has applied to Council for an exemption from local government rates on the basis the organisation uses the property for charitable purposes.

In accordance with Section 6.26(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act), land used exclusively for charitable purposes is not rateable.

While "charitable" is not defined in the Act, Courts have relied on common law definitions, drawing from the preamble of the Statute of Elizabeth 1601. Under this statute, what counts as a "Charitable Purpose" is interpreted in line with the four principal categories under common law:

1. Relief of poverty (e.g., trusts for the poor)
2. Advancement of education
3. Advancement of religion
4. Other purposes beneficial to the community.

Importantly, it's not a charity in name only and it must actually serve the public benefit, meaning the use of the land must benefit the general community or at least a sufficiently broad section.

In the case of the Morawa CRC, the benefit to the general community is demonstrated in the Mission Statement contained in the Morawa CRC Annual Report as follows:

Extract from Morawa CRC 2023-24 Annual Report

“Our Mission

The Morawa Community Resource Centre works in partnership with the residents of Morawa and our stakeholders to support community capacity building, bring resources and expertise into the community, and develop innovative ideas and projects, for the long-term benefit of the community. Whilst also promoting Morawa as a welcoming and inclusive community that embraces what makes it unique, offering liveability, variety, and opportunity for all.”

In summary, the Morawa CRC does this by providing:

- Access to government services
- Access to local and state information and services
- Economic and business development support
- Social development and support
- Services and products
- Building community connections

In determining whether a use of land is charitable, the Courts have ruled that the land must serve a broader community good, ie educational, religious, poverty relief, or similar even if it generates modest income or charges fees.

Accordingly, the request from the Morawa CRC for a rates exemption is supported.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Medium significance – will result in a loss of rate revenue.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management, CEO

LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Section 6.26(1) and (2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1995 states:

6.26. Rateable land

- (1) Except as provided in this section all land within a district is rateable land.
- (2) The following land is not rateable land —
 - (g) land used exclusively for charitable purposes

Section 6.47 of the Local Government Act 1995 states:

6.47 Concessions

Subject to the Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferments) Act 1992, a local government may at the time of imposing a rate or service charge or at a later date resolve to waive* a rate or service charge or resolve to grant other concessions in relation to a rate or service charge.

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

Be future focused in all we do:

1. Ensure the Shire and its assets are well resourced and sustainable.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

Should Council endorse this recommendation, the effect would be a reduction in rates in 2025/26 of \$1,317.69.

The Morawa CRC would still be levied Sewerage Charges, Refuse Charges and ESL.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There are no known risk management implications in relation to this item.

CONCLUSION

The request from Morawa CRC for a rates exemption has been reviewed and is supported.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – 11.2.2a Morawa CRC Annual Report 2023-24

Attachment 2 – 11.2.2b Morawa CRC Financial Report 2023-24

Attachment 3 – 11.2.2c Morawa CRC Charitable Registration

Item 12 Reports from Committees

Nil

Item 13 Motions of Which Previous Notice Has Been Given

Nil

Item 14 New Business of an Urgent Nature

Nil

Item 15 Matters for Which the Meeting May Be Closed (Confidential Items)

Nil

Item 16 Closure**16.1 Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next ordinary meeting of Council will be on Monday 20 October 2025 commencing at 5.30pm, in the Council Chambers.

16.2 Closure

There being no further business, the Presiding Member to declare the meeting closed.