



17 Queen Street, Pingelly
Western Australia 6308
Telephone: 9887 1066
admin@pingelly.wa.gov.au

General Electors Meeting Minutes

Shire of Pingelly

General Electors Meeting

Wednesday 18 February 2026

7:00 pm

Pingelly, positive by nature. Let's grow together!

Risk Framework

Consequence Rating

Impact	Health	Financial	Service Interruption	Compliance	Reputational	Property	Environment
Insignificant	Negligible injuries	Less than \$2,000	No material service interruption	No noticeable regulatory / statutory impact	Low impact, single complaint, low profile or 'no news' item	Inconsequential or no damage	Contained, reversible impact managed on site response
Minor	First aid injuries	\$2,001 - \$10,000	Short term temporary interruption – backlog cleared < 1 day	Some temporary non-compliance	Low impact, a small number of complaints	Localised damage rectified by routine internal procedures	Contained, reversible impact managed by internal response
Moderate	Medical type injuries <5 days	\$10,001 - \$50,000	Medium term temporary interruption – backlog cleared by additional resources < 1 week	Short term non-compliance but with significant regulatory requirements imposed	Public embarrassment, moderate impact, low or moderate news profile	Localised damage requiring external resources to rectify	Contained, reversible impact managed by external agencies
Major	Lost time injury >5 days	\$50,001 - \$200,000	Prolonged interruption of services – additional resources; performance affected < 1 month	Non-compliance results in termination of services or imposed penalties	Public embarrassment, high impact, high news profile, third party actions	Significant damage requiring internal & external resources to rectify	Uncontained, reversible impact managed by a coordinated response from external agencies
Catastrophic	Fatality, permanent disability	More than \$200,000	Indeterminate prolonged interruption – non-performance > 1 month	Non-compliance results in litigation, criminal charges or significant damages	Public embarrassment, very high multiple impacts, high widespread multiple news profile, third party actions	Extensive damage requiring prolonged period of restitution. Complete loss of property	Uncontained, irreversible impact

Likelihood Rating

	Description
Almost Certain	The event is expected to occur in most circumstances > once per year > 90% chance of occurring
Likely	The event will probably occur in most circumstances At least once per year 60% - 90% chance of occurring
Possible	The event should occur at some time At least once in 3 years 40% - 60% chance of occurring
Unlikely	The event could occur at some time At least once in 3 years 10% - 40% chance of occurring
Rare	The event may only occur in exceptional circumstances Less than once in 15 years < 10% chance of occurring

Risk Matrix

Consequence Likelihood	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Almost Certain	M (5)	H (10)	H (15)	E (20)	E (25)
Likely	L (4)	M (8)	H (12)	H (16)	E (20)
Possible	L (3)	M (6)	M (9)	H (12)	H (15)
Unlikely	L (2)	L (4)	M (6)	M (8)	H (10)
Rare	L (1)	L (2)	L (4)	L (4)	M (5)

Risk Acceptance Criteria

	Description	Criteria	Responsibility
Low (L)	Acceptable	Acceptable with adequate controls, managed by routine procedures and subject to annual monitoring	Staff Member
Moderate (M)	Monitor	Acceptable with adequate controls, managed by specific procedures, subject to semi-annual monitoring	Senior Manager
High (H)	Urgent action	Acceptable with effective controls, managed by senior management, subject to monthly monitoring	Senior Manager
Extreme (E)	Unacceptable	Only acceptable with excellent controls and all treatment plans to be explored and implemented where possible, managed by the CEO and subject to continuous monitoring	CEO

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 07.05pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Willman Noongar people of this area and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER

Please turn your mobile phones to silent, any calls are to be taken outside of the Chambers. Thank you.

4. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Members Present

Cr J McBurney	President
Cr P Wood	Deputy President
Cr C Cheney	
Cr B Hotham	
Cr R Howell	
Cr D Summers	
Cr A Trethewey	

Staff in Attendance

Mr A Dover	Chief Executive Officer
Mr M Hudson	Executive Manager Works
Mr L Beretta	Manager Finance
Mrs S Nyssen	Governance and Executive Officer

Public Members

Mr Ron O'Brien
Ms Lee Steel
Mr Evan Hodges
Ms Anne Goldsmith
Mr Rene Vitos
Mr Allan Lansdell
Mrs Rennie Howell
Ms Essie Howell
Ms Loretta Howell
Mrs Elizabeth Tetlow
Mr Barry Hastings

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings – 22 January 2025

Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act* provides that minutes of all meetings are to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council or the committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

13718 Cr Clinton Cheney moved, Cr Bryan Hotham seconded

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Recommendation and Council Decision:

That the Minutes of the General Electors Meeting of the Council of the Shire of Pingelly held in the Council Chambers on 22 January 2025 be confirmed.

Carried Unanimously 7 votes to 0

For:	President Jackie McBurney, Deputy Peter Wood, Cr Clinton Cheney, Cr Bryan Hotham, Cr Robert Howell, Cr Danielle Summers & Cr Angela Tretheway
Against:	Nil

6. ANNUAL REPORT 2024 / 2025

The Shire President to call for questions on the Annual Report, including the Annual Financial Report and Auditors Report.

13719 Deputy President Peter Wood moved, Cr Clinton Cheney seconded

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Recommendation and Council Decision:

That the Annual Report, inclusive of the Shire Presidents Report, Annual Financial Report and Auditors Report of the Shire of Pingelly for the year ending 30 June 2025, be received.

Carried Unanimously 7 votes to 0

For:	President Jackie McBurney, Deputy Peter Wood, Cr Clinton Cheney, Cr Bryan Hotham, Cr Robert Howell, Cr Danielle Summers & Cr Angela Tretheway
Against:	Nil

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Shire President to call for any questions from Electors concerning matters under the jurisdiction of the Shire of Pingelly. The Shire President requested that a copy of the questions are provided to the Shire in writing to prepare the minutes.

Council welcomes Ms Lee Steel to the podium.

Ms. Lee Steel:

Q1: I would like to ask a repeat question from previous years. Is there an update on the work that has to be done on the Pitt Street between Quadrant and Parade Street, the maintenance. Is there any proposal to do any work?

R: That's emanating from the compilation of all the facts and figures that we spoke about in Council today.

Q2: This is my fourth year of coming to an Annual Meeting to ask. You said last time you were going to have a plan, don't you? Last year and the year before you said you have a plan. Not you personally.

R: We have a plan. It's a very complex Excel sheet. Today we voted around the criteria on how we spend the limited funding on the roads. We prioritised roads in order of merit and importance based on main roads, hierarchy, visual inspections and a set of criteria. Access roads, which is your road going from a main road to a house without further connections unlike Sharrow Street, are low priority. We have identified percentages of the annual spend that we can spend in town on routine maintenance, on specified maintenance and foot paths. Out of the pot of money that we get, we've identified now percentages that we will spend on those, and we've got a set of criteria on how we pick those roads every year.

Q3: So really my question is, and my question for years ago, do you have a plan to update between Pitt Street. I really want to know is there a decision made to do any work on that road at this moment?

R: As I said, any roads that go from a main road through to another connecting road, called access roads, are low priority within the funding, so no.

Q4: The answer is there is no plan to do that?

R: We'll do normal routine maintenance. Nothing specified.

Q5: My question is in regard to the Shire's decision to permanently withdraw from the Department of Transport services. One of the comments in the agenda item for the day, or the minutes, was that you knew your staff member was retiring and it would not be prudent to commence process to replace them. I want to ask the question is, can you explain how a time another person would make a business decide to seize delivering the service?

R: That was part of an ongoing decision that we made and as it stands, the situation is mute because the Bendigo Bank are not taking it on. So those services remain with the Shire, and they will continue as normal.

Q6: However, my question was why would the retirement of the staff member make the Council make a decision to withdraw a service?

R: And I reiterate, that was not the total decision-making process. It was part of the decision.

Q7: I would like to propose the following motion:

Moved: Ms Lee Steel

Seconded: Mr Evan Hodges

Motion:

- 1. That Council repeals the motion 13684 which was passed on 21/01/2026; and**
- 2. That the Council instructs the CEO to notify the DTMI of this resolution; and**
- 3. that the CEO notify the DTMI that the shire will be seeking a continuation of the formal agreement to provide Driver and Vehicle Licencing Services in Pingelly.**

Carried by majority of electors

Q8: Final question is, can you tell me why Council made the decision to change the comments in the CEO's notes to the decision that said that you *will* continue to, you *may* continue in the recommendation? What was the rationale around changing that? The CEO said:

'it should be noted that the Shire will continue to provide licensing services to community until suitable provider is identified and commences providing these services. Should a suitable provider not be identified the shire will continue to provide licensing services on the current reduced hours of 8:30am to 4:00 pm, Wednesday to Friday.'

Your motion changed the word to the May consider.

R: I don't recall an active decision to change that wording. I'm sorry.

Q9: Am I asking the wrong question? Should I ask the CEO why he said two different things then?

R: No. Because the motion, I'm assuming that we have just switched out one word for the other word, *will* as *may*. I don't recall having a conversation or changing from *Will* to *May*.

Council Thanks Ms. Lee Steel. Ms. Lee Steel returns to her seat.

Council welcomes Mr. Ron Obrien to the podium.

Mr. Ron O'Brien:

Q10: It might be immature, but I don't, the interest, the money put aside from last year to the key roads of the Alderside, the Pingelly-Wandering and the Yealering, Wickepin Road. Now its \$40,000 just according to page 36 of the Minutes here. Now the \$40,000 allocated to the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network used for.

What switch roads does it service and how many groups are involved? Now \$40,000 is not going to go anywhere when it comes to realignment of reason like that on particularly the Wickepin Road because it's got a not a very good history in this last 12 months with the fatality quite recently and a few other narrow escapes. And they're all rather difficult S-beds and some difficult country to work through. Has the Council got any priorities, or I mean, with \$40,000 what are we going to get anyway?

I'd like some guidance on that there, because we're doing the property and we were close by the thing the other day.

R: Just to clarify, are you talking about Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network?

Mr O'Brien: Yes.

R: The principle of the Secondary Freight Network is to build a standard of road set by the federal government, of which they pay 80%. Now currently we're doing the section to the horrible intersection back to town. Now they've given us \$160,000 or \$180,000 just to do the design alone. Naturally the Shire can't afford that sort of money to do the design. So, we're doing full Geotech. We've done an initial survey just to define our boundaries. We're now doing 12D survey to make sure that the bends, the elevations of the road are to current standards to take out all the whoops, and as you drive along the Wiki Road which originally was for 8-tone axle, the elevations are incorrect so you're always counter steering because the shape of the road wants to take you to the edge. Under the Secondary Freight Network, it will be either 9 on 9, so 9m seal or 9m shoulder or 9 on 10. So that gives plenty of runoff room, full construction to current standards. So, the \$40,000 at the moment, the Federal Government pays 80%, the State Government are coughing up 16% or 14% and the Shire is only got to cough up 6%. There's a slight hiccup at the moment which will hit the papers very shortly. Because the State Government is refusing to fund their proportion which Woodsy tells me is about 4.7 million. So, they're putting a spoke in the wheel to stop Secondary Freight Network over. 4.7 million to divert that money to hospitals or racing around the casino or whatever.

In our Asset Management Plan, obviously we can't afford to rebuild the Wicki Road, we can't afford to rebuild the Wandering Road, and we certainly can't afford to rebuild the Alderside Road which is the identified Secondary Freight. The Bulyee Road which is desperately needed was on the Secondary Freight Route, and someone in the wisdom took it off. So, we've got to now fight to get that back on to get the funding because again we cannot afford to rebuild those roads to current standards. All we can do is put a band-aid on.

Q11: So really the answer to that is, we've got to suck it, and see?

R: No, you've got to complain a lot to the politician. Let's not sit there and be quiet, because Pingelly cannot afford to maintain those roads to a standard. I'm spending a minimum of \$40,000 this year to hold together the Wandering Road where we've literally repaired it to try and get five years out of it before goes to nothing. So again, I'm wasting money just trying to hold it together, waiting for these people to fund the road.

Q12: So, would we say its indebted at this stage?

R: I hope not because we are really, really need that money. We really cannot do it without it. And if you want roads, especially heavy haulage, even the travelling public have got to be safe, they're not safe roads.

Council Thanks Mr. Ron Obrien. Mr. Ron O'Brien returns to his seat.
Council welcomes Mr. Barry Hastings to the podium.

Mr. Barry Hastings:

Q13: Did the Shire of Pingelly have a written contract with the spraying contractor that sprayed the bitumen roads?

R: The contracts formed by issue of a purchase order. There is a contract formed just by the issue of purchase order, offer and acceptance of work to be done.

Q14: I'd like to see it.

R: Well, there's nothing to see, it's purchase order.

Q15: So you're telling me, so this is relevant to the question I've just asked Madam President, you Councillors sanctioned a contractor to spray the weeds on the bitumen roads, is that correct?

R: Under our (staff) instructions, yes.

Q16: Well, now I'm asking you, how are you going to reimburse the rate payers that you blew 19 grand to spray dead weeds?

R: We are not reimbursing the rate payers. Thank you very much for your question.

Q17: I sent a tax invoice to the Shire, for damage to a crop. I had a covering letter with it, that I expected it to be an amicable settlement. I asked you to put photos up on the screen tonight. Where are the photos, Madam President?

R: We were advised that that email had been received, but there was no photos attached. I have no photos attached, So the photos have not been received.

Mr Hastings: Well, you'll have to ask Mike about that, because Mike text back and said they've received the photographs and what particular road was it on?

R: True, but I think your son sent them via messenger, MMS.

Q18: Where there photographs?

R: Yes (Interrupted by Mr Hastings)

Q19: Where there photographs?

R: Well, in the sense of it, yeah, but (interrupted by Mr Hastings) Hang on hang on, don't interrupt. They weren't emailed, they were just sent via text, and I sent back, email, can you tell me where these are. Because there was no geotechnical information, there's no GPS. So out of my interest I need to know where they were.

Mr Hastings: He told you where they were.

R: Yes, and we are not denying that. But I do not have, I've searched both your number and your son's number on my phone and they're not there. They certainly weren't emailed in.

Mr Hastings: No, not email. They were done with a phone.

R: Yes, and I don't have copies of it. So, I would have assumed that you still had copies on your phone that you took.

Q20: Definitely have, definitely have. Madam President, can I get you to read out a letter for me? Is that in order? It's to do with the same issue.

R: Mr. Hastings, I'm not sure that this is relevant at this meeting and I would much rather that you take this up with the CEO after the meeting because this is totally inappropriate. I'm sorry but I'm not reading this letter. That is an issue that is being dealt with between you and the CEO, and it does not need to be aired publicly. I'm sorry.

Mr Hastings: Well, I'm putting it as motion to the meeting tonight.

Moved: Mr Barry Hastings

Seconded: Nil

Motion:

Council compensate Greenlaw Farm for crop loss due to drowning from Council's neglect, as per the tax invoice submitted.

Motion lapsed for want of a seconder

Shire President: I'm sorry Mr Hastings; at this stage you don't have a seconder for that. But we will certainly take your concerns on board, and I really want you to follow this up with the CEO. Please make an appointment to see him and follow that up.

Q21: Last year I asked the same question, so that's a bit of a relief, I asked you what you've got planned for the hospital block and you excitedly said we've got big plans for that.

R: And we still have.

Q22: Would you like to enlighten us on what your big plans are?

R: Absolutely. In our agenda today that has just been passed, there is an accommodation strategy. And as part of that accommodation strategy is an outline for the plan for the hospital block. The plan at this stage is for that block to be sub-divided and made into residential blocks. It is out for consultation. What we passed today was that that accommodation strategy goes out to the community for community consultation and then we will then receive that feedback and then we can make decision from there.

Council thanks Mr. Barry Hastings. Mr. Barry Hastings returns to his seat.
Mr Evan Hodges addresses the Council.

Mr. Evan Hodges:

Q23: Is this meeting being recorded?

R: Yes, it is.

Ms. Lee Steel:

Q24: Can a community member make the recommendation for your next annual meeting that you clearly say this is public question time and not general business because I didn't realise that was public questions time. Rules came in and that limited the amount of question. Just the next time it would be good for clarity to think about that.

R: Thank you for that. I will take that on board.

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

The Shire President welcomed everyone to have a drink and thanked them for their attendance.

<p>These minutes were confirmed at the General Electors Meeting held on</p> <p>Signed..... Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed.</p>
