

SHIRE OF WILLIAMS

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 19TH
JUNE 2006

OPENING:

The President declared the meeting open at 6.02pm

ATTENDANCE:

Cr John Cowcher	President
Cr Ashley Stone	Deputy President
Cr Gary Cowcher	
Cr Graham Prowse	
Cr Robert Bowden	
Cr Richard Johnstone	
Cr Moya Carne	
Cr David Earnshaw	
Cr Greg Cavanagh	
V. Epiro	Chief Executive Officer
IR Ball	Deputy Chief Executive Officer

BUSINESS:

1. CPI (CONSUMER PRICE INDEX) AND INFLATION

The CPI for the 12 months to the 31st March 2006 for WA was 4.2%. However the Local Government Cost Index was 7% and is estimated to increase by 4.45% in 06/07 whilst CPI is estimated to increase by 3%.

2. RATES (GST EXEMPT)

Rate increases over the past five years have been as follows with discount for early payment being reduced from 7% to 5% for 2005/06.

	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Townsite</i>	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Rural</i>
2001/2002	250	3%	5%	3%
2002/2003	300	3%	3%	3%
2003/2004	310	3%	3%	3%
2004/2005	320	3%	3%	3%
2005/2006	350	1%	1%	1%

Section 6.35 of the Local Government Act limits the imposition of a minimum to no more than 50% of the total rate assessments.

The reduction in discount and increase in rates resulted in a net increase in rate revenue of \$26,037 or 2.73% for 2005/2006.

Bowden / Stone

That general rates be increased by 3.5%, the minimum rate increased to the maximum allowable under section 6.36 of the Local Government Act and the discount for early payment reduced to 2.5%.

Carried 8/1
Resolution 254/06

3. REFUSE CHARGES (GST EXEMPT)

Refuse charges over the past five years have increased as follows;

2001/2002	\$145
2002/2003	\$150
2003/2004	\$155
2004/2005	\$160
2005/2006	\$165

There are currently around 175 residential and 73 commercial services which in 2005/2006 will result in around \$41,000 revenue. With the Refuse Site to be maned the maintenance cost will increase quite considerably and Council will need to determine an appropriate removal charge.

It was decided to defer this item to the June Ordinary Meeting.

4. PHOTOCOPYING AND FACSIMILE (GST INC)

Recommended that charges remain the same as 2005/2006.

Photocopies	1 side A4 & A3	First 10 copies @	0.20
		Thereafter @	0.10
	2 side A4 & A3	First 10 copies @	0.30
		Thereafter @	0.10
Facsimile	Transmission	Intrastate @	1.10/page
		Interstate @	2.20/page
		Receivals @	0.55/page

Stone / Earnshaw

That the photocopying and facsimile charges remain the same.

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 255/06**

5. RATE ENQUIRY FEE (GST INC)

Recommended increase from \$16.50 to \$20.

Bowden / Johnstone

That the rate enquiry fee be increased to \$20

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 256/06**

6. COUNCIL HOUSING RENTALS (GST EXEMPT)

Recommended increase of 5% to the nearest dollar.

Occupant	Address	Current	Recommended Rent
*CEO House	4 Brooking St	180.00	180.00
*Tradesperson	8 Fry St	180.00	180.00
*Plant Operator	16 Piesse St	98.00	103.00
Plant Operator	1 Growse St	50.00	53.00
Gardener	Recreation Reserve	50.00	53.00
Plant Operator	14 Adam St	50.00	53.00
Caretaker	23 Fry St	50.00	53.00
Works Supervisor	13 Fry St	59.00	62.00
Deputy C.E.O.	6 Richardson St	67.00	70.00
Gardener	18 Richardson St	67.00	70.00

* *These residences are currently privately let*

Bowden / Cavanagh

That Council housing rentals be increased by 5% to the nearest dollar, as follows;

Occupant	Address	Rent
*CEO House	4 Brooking St	180.00
*Tradesperson	8 Fry St	180.00
*Plant Operator	16 Piesse St	103.00
Plant Operator	1 Growse St	53.00
Gardener	Recreation Reserve	53.00
Plant Operator	14 Adam St	53.00
Caretaker	23 Fry St	53.00
Works Supervisor	13 Fry St	62.00
Deputy C.E.O.	6 Richardson St	85.00
Gardener	18 Richardson St	70.00

* *These residences are currently privately let*

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 257/06**

6.1 JOINT VENTURE HOUSING RENTALS***Carne / Prowse***

That Joint Venture Housing and Community Homes weekly rentals be increased as follows;

Sandalwood Court	\$90 minimum \$120 maximum
Wandoo Cottages	\$90 single \$120 couple
Community Homes	\$60

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 258/06**

7. SWIMMING POOL (GST INC)

Charges were last raised in 2003/2004. Current charges following;

	Child	Adult	Family
Daily	1.30	2.40	
Season	33.00	66.00	132.00
Spectator		0.70	

It is recommended that charges be increased as follows;

	Child	Adult	Family
Daily	1.40	2.50	
Season	35.00	70.00	140.00
Spectator		0.80	

G Cowcher / Earnshaw

That swimming pool charges be increased as follows;

	Child	Adult	Family
Daily	1.40	2.50	
Season	35.00	70.00	140.00
Spectator		0.80	

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 259/06**

8. HALL & PAVILION (GST INC)

Recommended that charges be increased by 5% to the nearest dollar. (NB current and recommended include GST)

Halls

Function	Main		RSL	
	Current	Recommended	Current	Recommended
Function	125.40	132.00	61.60	65.00
Meeting	38.50	40.00	27.50	29.00
Passing Shows	125.40	132.00	61.60	65.00
Rehearsals	15.40	16.00	15.40	16.00

Indoor Sports / Instructional Classes	188.10/season or 22.00/day/night	197.00/season or 23.00/day/night
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Kitchen

	Current	Recommended
Major (Full use of equipment)	60.50	65.00
Minor (Crockery, cutlery, microwave, urns and fridge)	14.30	15.00

Other Hire

	Current	Recommended
Chairs and Trestles	2.20 and 11.00/day (No charge for non-profit)	2.50 and 11.00/day (No charge for non-profit)
Crockery & Cutlery (per item)	Crockery 0.15 Cutlery 0.05	Crockery 0.20 Cutlery 0.10

Pavilion

	Sporting Clubs / Community Organisations		Others	
	Current	Recommended	Current	Recommended
Meeting	27.50	29.00		
Function	88.00	92.00	249.70	262.00
Kitchen <i>Major</i>	38.50	40.00	38.50	40.00
<i>Minor</i>	15.40	16.00	15.40	16.00

Williams Football Club (Season) 808.50 *842.00

**Increase as per agreement: CPI to 31/03/2006 (4.2%)*

Seniors Organizations 50% off current charges

Johnstone / Stone

That hall and pavilion hire charges be increased by 5% to the nearest dollar including GST.

Halls

	Main	RSL
Function	132.00	65.00
Meeting	40.00	29.00
Passing Shows	132.00	65.00
Rehearsals	16.00	16.00

Indoor Sports / Instructional Classes 197.00/season or
23.00/day/night

Kitchen

Major (Full use of equipment) 65.00
Minor (Crockery, cutlery, microwave, urns and fridge) 15.00

Other Hire

Chairs and Trestles 2.50 and 11.00/day
(No charge for non-profit)

Crockery & Cutlery (per item)* Crockery 0.20
*Minimum charge \$20 Cutlery 0.10

Pavilion

	Sporting Clubs / Community Organisations		Others
Meeting	29.00		
Function	92.00		262.00
Kitchen <i>Major</i>	40.00		40.00
<i>Minor</i>	16.00		16.00

Williams Football Club (Season) *842.00

**Increase as per agreement: CPI to 31/03/2006 (4.2%)*

Seniors Organizations 50% off current charges

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 260/06**

9. COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE**Tenant Rentals (GST Inc)**

These were set by Council in 2005 and remain current as follows ;

Williams Telecentre	\$55/wk (Council provides up to 16hrs/wk office staff time and contributes for 10hrs/wk Telecentre staff time)
Department of Agriculture	\$110/wk
Williams/Narrogin Landcare	\$110/wk
The Williams	\$16.50/wk

Recommended that the above rents be increased by 5% for 2006/2007.

Meeting Room Hire (GST Inc)

Recommended that charges be increased by 5%.

	Current	Recommended
Half Day/Evening	55.00	58.00
Full Day	110.00	116.00 Plus penalty of \$20 after 10pm
Local Organizations (non-profit)	11.00	12.00

Cavanagh / Prowse

That Community Resource Centre rentals and meeting room hire be increased by 5% to the nearest dollar as follows (inc GST);

Tenant Rentals:

Williams Telecentre	\$58/wk (Council provides up to 16hrs/wk office staff time and contributes for 10hrs/wk Telecentre staff time)
Department of Agriculture	\$115/wk
Williams/Narrogin Landcare	\$115/wk
The Williams	\$17/wk

Meeting Room Hire:

Half Day/Evening	\$58.00
Full Day	\$116.00*plus penalty of \$20 after 10pm
Local Organizations (non-profit)	\$12.00

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 261/06**

10. WILLIAMS ARTS AND CRAFT CENTRE (GST INC)

Recommended that the annual rental be increased by 5% from \$377.30 to \$396.00.

Stone / Earnshaw

That the annual rental be increased by 5% from \$377.30 to \$396.00.

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 262/06**

11. RECREATION GROUND (GST INC)

Recommended that fees be increased by 5%

	Current	Recommended
*Bowling Club	325.60	342.00
Campdraft	182.60	192.00
Cricket Association	500.50	525.00
Football Club	825.00	866.00
Gateway Expo	182.60	192.00
Hockey Club	325.60	342.00
Junior Basketball (not active)	69.30	73.00
Netball Club	93.50	98.00
Swimming Club	99.00	104.00
Tennis Club	325.60	342.00
Touch Association	434.50	456.00
Trotting Club (per meeting)	93.50	98.00

**Council contributes \$2,000 towards water charges and pays sewerage rates.*

Cavanagh / Johnstone

That fees be increased by 5% as follows;

*Bowling Club	342.00
Campdraft	192.00
Cricket Association	525.00
Football Club	866.00
Gateway Expo	192.00
Hockey Club	342.00
Junior Basketball (not active)	73.00
Netball Club	98.00
Swimming Club	104.00
Tennis Club	342.00
Touch Association	456.00
Trotting Club (per meeting)	98.00

**Council contributes \$2,000 towards water charges and pays sewerage rates*

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 263/06**

12. WILLIAMS AND MARLING CEMETERIES (GST EXEMPT)

Fees were increased by 10% in 2004/2005. Recommended that fees be increased by 5%.

	Recommended
1. On application for an order for burial the following fees shall be paid in advance:	
a) For internment in a grave 1.8 metres deep	\$346.00
b) For 'Grant of Right of Burial' land 2.4 x 1.2m	\$58.00
c) Transfer of 'grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial'	\$32.00
2. Reopening of ordinary grave	\$231.00
(Additional charges if applicable as provided in clause 36 Local Law)	

3. Permit to erect a headstone / monument or kerbing	\$32.00
4. Funeral Directors License	\$58.00
5. Single Funeral Permit	\$32.00
6. Fee for Late Arrival	\$58.00
7. Niche Wall	
a) Single Compartment*	\$32.00
b) Double Compartment*	\$58.00
8. Reservation of Site	\$16.00

*Tablet and inscription at cost.

G Cowcher / Bowden

That fees be increased by 5% as follows;

1. On application for an order for burial the following fees shall be paid in advance:	
a) For interment in a grave 1.8 metres deep	\$346.00
b) For 'Grant of Right of Burial' land 2.4 x 1.2m	\$58.00
c) Transfer of 'grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial'	\$32.00
2. Reopening of ordinary grave	\$231.00
(Additional charges if applicable as provided in clause 36 Local Law)	
3. Permit to erect a headstone / monument or kerbing	\$32.00
4. Funeral Directors License	\$58.00
5. Single Funeral Permit	\$32.00
6. Fee for Late Arrival	\$58.00
7. Niche Wall	
a) Single Compartment*	\$32.00
b) Double Compartment*	\$58.00
8. Reservation of Site	\$16.00

*Tablet and inscription at cost.

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 264/06**

13. PLANT, MATERIAL AND LABOUR (GST INC)

Charges are for normal working hours (Monday – Friday 7am – 4.30pm) outside normal working hours varying charges apply. Fees were increased by 5% in 2005/2006. Recommended that fees be increased by 10% to the nearest dollar.

Plant (Including Operator) cost per hour

	Current	Recommended
Truck (6 wheel)	93.50	103.00
Mercedes Prime Mover/Tipper	132.00	145.00
JCB Loader	93.50	103.00
Samsung Loader	121.00	133.00
JD 670CH Grader	135.30	149.00
Cat 12H Grader	135.30	149.00
JCB Backhoe	93.50	103.00
Vibromax Roller	127.60	140.00
Multi-tyred Roller	73.70	81.00
Tractors (JD&Ford)	73.70	81.00
Road Broom	35.20	39.00
Labour or Operator (Normal Hours)	39.60	44.00

Equipment (No Operator) cost per day

Wacker Packer	40.70	45.00
Concrete Mixer	40.70	45.00
Jack Hammer	40.70	45.00

Materials

Sand	5.50/m ³	6.00/m ³
Gravel	5.50/m ³	6.00/m ³
Aggregate	44.00/m ³	48.00/m ³
Premix	220.00/m ³	242.00/m ³
Catamul	5.50/m ³	6.00/m ³
Grader Blades	5.50 each	6.00 each
Woodchips / trailer or ute load (If available)	13.20	14.50
<u>Weed Spraying</u> (up to 1000m ² lot)	41.80	46.00

Stone / Johnstone

Recommended that fees be increased by 10% to the nearest dollar.

Plant (Including Operator) cost per hour

Truck (6 wheel)	103.00
Mercedes Prime Mover/Tipper	145.00
JCB Loader	125.00
Samsung Loader	133.00
JD 670CH Grader	149.00
Cat 12H Grader	149.00
JCB Backhoe	103.00
Vibromax Roller	140.00
Multi-tyred Roller	81.00
John Deere Tractor	81.00
Road Broom / Slasher	39.00
Labour or Operator (Normal Hours)	44.00

Equipment (No Operator) cost per day

Wacker Packer	45.00
Concrete Mixer	45.00
Jack Hammer	45.00

Materials

Sand	6.00/m ³
Gravel	6.00/m ³
Aggregate	48.00/m ³
Premix	242.00/m ³
Catmul	6.00/m ³
Grader Blades	6.00 each

Woodchips / trailer or ute load (If available)	14.50
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<u>Weed Spraying</u> (up to 1000m² lot)	46.00
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**Carried 9/0
Resolution 265/06**

14. HEALTH LOCAL LAWS

Recommended that fees be increased by 5% to the nearest dollar.

	Current	Recommended
Lodging Houses	193.60	203.00
Itinerant Vendors	149.60	165.00
Cattery	149.60	165.00
Offensive Trade	149.60	165.00

Earnshaw / Cavanagh

That fees be increased by 5% to the nearest dollar as follows;

Lodging Houses	203.00
Itinerant Vendors	165.00
Cattery	165.00
Offensive Trade	165.00

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 266/06**

15. DOG ACT 1976 – POUND FEES (GST INC)

Fees for impounding of dogs are set under the Dog Act 1976. Recommended that fees be increased 5%.

	Current	Recommended
1. Seizure and impounding of a dog	27.50	29.00
2. Maintenance of a dog in a pound (per day or part thereof)	7.70	8.00

Johnstone / Eanshaw

That fees be increased 5% as follows.

1 .Seizure and impounding of a dog	29.00
2. Maintenance of a dog in a pound (per day or part thereof)	8.00

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 267/06**

16. MEMBERS MEETING FEES AND EXPENSES (GST EXEMPT)

Fees were increased by around 15% in 2005/2006 (the first since 2002) except for the Presidential Allowance which was only increased by 5%. Recommended that fees be increased by 5%.

		Current	Recommended
Council Meeting	<i>Councillor</i>	100.00	105.00
	<i>President</i>	200.00	210.00
Committee Meeting	<i>Councillor</i>	50.00	52.50
	<i>President</i>	100.00	105.00
Presidential Allowance		2400.00pa	2520.00pa

Traveling as per the Local Government Officers Award

Carne / Prowse

That members meeting fees and expenses not be increased in 2006/2007.

**Carried 8/1
Resolution 268/06**

17. SALARIES AND WAGES

All Council employees are currently employed under Federal Government Awards with the exception of designated senior employees listed below whose salaries are reviewed annually. There still seems to be some confusion regarding the impact of the Federal Governments Industrial Relations Act, however it would appear that local governments are regarded as corporations and are therefore bound under the Act.

Prior to the IR Legislation employees were granted an annual wage increase (generally in line with CPI) each May, however this task is now to be undertaken by the Australian Fair Pay Commission who are not expected to hand down a decision until the coming spring at the earliest. Therefore it is being left to the discretion of employers to determine if employees should be granted a wage rise which would come into effect from the 1st pay in July 2006.

I would recommend that Council consider granting an award increase of between 4-5% for all employees listed on the attached appendix (excluding senior employees). In addition to award rates and conditions Council provides the following;

- MEU Award employees 5% over award (1st July 2004)
- Rental subsidy (50% of commercial rent) to employees occupying Council housing.
- Housing allowance of \$50 per week to employees in private housing.
- Clothing allowance of \$250 pa to office employees.
- Annual allocation of clothing and footwear to outside employees.

Following is a list of designated senior employees and current award entitlements which were increased by 5% in 2005/2006.

M.R. Willcocks – Works Supervisor

Salary	\$55,004
Super @ 12%	\$6,600
Rental Subsidy	\$3,068
Leave Loading	\$740
	<u>\$65,412</u>

Private vehicle use, home phone rental and mobile phone.

I.R. Ball (Deputy Chief Executive Officer)

Salary	\$63,609
Super @ 12%	\$7,633
Rental Subsidy	\$3,484
Leave Loading	\$1,070
	<u>\$75,796</u>

Home Phone rental, five weeks annual leave

V.Epiro (Chief Executive Officer)

Salary	\$79,512
Super @ 12%	\$9,541
Housing Allowance	\$2,600
	<u>\$91,653</u>

Private vehicle use, 5 weeks Annual Leave (in lieu of overtime), Mobile Phone.

Bowden / Earnshaw

That a decision on the Works Supervisors salary be deferred to the June meeting.

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 269/06**

Bowden / Johnstone

That the Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer salaries be increased by 3% as, as follows, from the first pay period in 2006/2007.

I.R. Ball (Deputy Chief Executive Officer)

Salary	\$65,517
Super @ 12%	\$7,862
Rental Subsidy	\$4,420
Leave Loading	\$1,102
	<u>\$78,901</u>

Home Phone rental, five weeks annual leave

V.Epiro (Chief Executive Officer)

Salary	\$81,897
Super @ 12%	\$9,828
Housing Allowance	\$2,600
	<u>\$94,325</u>

Private vehicle use, 5 weeks Annual Leave (in lieu of overtime), Mobile Phone.

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 270/06**

LGO and MEU Staff Wages

Cr J Cowcher declared an interest in this item and left the meeting at 6.46pm. Cr Stone assumed the chair and presided over the meeting.

Bowden / Cavanagh

That wage rates be increased by 5% from the first pay period in 2006/2007.

**Carried 8/0
Resolution 271/06**

Cr J Cowcher returned to the meeting at 7.00pm

18 WORKS PROGRAM 2006/2007

Road funding from State and Federal Governments is expected to only increase marginally for 2006/2007. In addition to the construction works listed below Council completed two major projects for Main Roads during the year, these being;

- Widening the Pinjarra-Williams Road from Collie turn off to Quindanning.
- Construction of a passing lane on Albany Highway south of Crossman.

In 2005/2006 Council completed the following construction projects;

<i>Direct Grant</i>	Various road maintenance
<i>Project Grant</i>	Collie-Williams Rd widen 10km section to Collie boundary to 7m.
<i>Roads to Recovery</i>	Clearing, widening and gravelling Carne Road.
<i>Black Spot Funding</i>	Narrakine Road priming of 1km section to hay plant
<i>Bates Road</i>	Installation of new culvert.
<i>RSL Carpark</i>	Hotmix parking area and renew kerbing.
<i>Richardson / Fry Street</i>	Construction of new dual use path.

Proposal for 2006/2007

Funding for most of the projects below is received from Federal and State Government Sources. Following is a summary of the construction proposals and recommendations;

1. Local Road Funding

This untied grant is received as part of Council's Financial Assistance Grant (FAGS) and is calculated on the Asset Preservation needs based on Council's road inventory. In 2005/2006 Council received \$217,320, an increase of 6.01% on the previous year's grant of \$204,997. Council is required to spend the funds on local roads, however no program has to be submitted.

2. Direct Grant

No program is required for this grant, however it is preferable to allocate the grant (\$37,360 in 2005/2006) to a specific project/s. Recommended projects for 2006/2007 are;

<i>Narrakine Road</i>	Sealing of section to hay plant (Black Spot Funding was insufficient to complete sealing in 2005/2006)
<i>Curteis Road</i>	Reseal 410m section.
<i>Top End Road</i>	Reseal 300m section.

Whilst the above works are expected to cost between \$16,000 - \$20,000 (dependant on bitumen pricing), the balance of funds can be expended on maintenance.

Crs J Cowcher and Prowse declared a proximity interest in this item and left the meeting at 7.22pm. Cr Stone assumed the chair and presided over the meeting.

Cavanagh / Eanshaw

That the following works be carried out from Direct Grant funding;

Narrakine Road – seal section from Albany Highway to the hay plant.

Curties Road – reseal 410m section.

Top End Road – Reseal 300m section.

**Carried 7/0
Resolution 272/06**

Crs J Cowcher and Prowse returned to the meeting at 7.32pm.

Prowse / G Cowcher

That the section of the laneway between Elders and Telstra be sealed from the Albany Highway to Growse Street utilizing Direct Grant Funding.

**Carried 5/4
Resolution 273/06**

Dinner Adjournment – Council adjourned for dinner at 7.35pm and resumed the meeting at 8.05pm.

3. Road Project Grants

Cr Stone declared a proximity interest in this item and left the meeting at 8.44pm.

Prior to the addition of Fourteen Mile Brook, Congelin-Narrogin, Quindanning-Darkan, York-Williams and Marradong Roads to the Roads 2025 Network, Council was committed to an ongoing program of widening on the Collie-Williams Road which will still apply for 2006/2007. Funding for 2006/2007 has not yet been finalized but the allocation was initially \$60,000 for priming and sealing of widenings on the Collie-Williams Road. With resealing costs running about \$20,000 per km it will be possible to do about 4km to spend the total cost of \$90,000 (\$60,000 Project Grant, \$30,000 Council).

The recent meeting of the Works and Plant Committee (See Committee Minutes 1st June 2006) recommended that a submission be forwarded to re-allocate the funding for 2007-2011 from the Collie-Williams Road to the Marradong and Quindanning-Darkan Roads.

Cr Stone returned to the meeting at 8.47pm.

4. Roads to Recovery

Crs J Cowcher, Carne, Prowse and Johnstone declared a proximity interest in this matter and left the meeting at 8.47pm. Cr Stone assumed the chair and presided over the meeting.

As Council is aware Williams was allocated \$509,950 (\$127,488 per annum) for the current Roads to Recovery Program which runs from 2005/06 – 2008/09. Agreement was finally reached on allocating the funds to sealing of Carne and Narrakine Roads with work on Carne Road commenced in 2005/2006. Spiraling construction costs, particularly with bitumen, have resulted in the cost of the projects exceeding what was originally estimated. It is hoped to complete Carne Road in 2006/2007 for a total cost as follows;

2005/2006	Clearing, gravelling etc...	\$153,000
2006/2007	Water bind, prime and seal	\$134,000
		\$287,000

This leaves a balance of \$222,950 to complete Narrakine Road which is estimated will cost around \$360,000 to complete. Council will need to fund the balance (\$137,050) from its own resources or reduce the section, to say, the junction of Carne Road.

Notwithstanding the above, the Federal Government encourages Council to spend money from their own resources on projects, in addition to funding received.

In addition to the above allocation there is an additional grant of \$127,488 allocated for the program. The Works and Plant Committee have recommended that the following projects be considered;

1. Piesse Street – Drainage improvement
Culbin-Boraning Road – Realignment of sections adjoining Rose and Higham.
2. Wangelling Gully Road – sealing 2/3kms from Albany Highway.

Crs J Cowhcer, Carne, Prowse and Johnstone returned to the meeting at 8.51pm.

5. Council Works

During the year Council recommended the realignment of two sections on the northern section of the Quindanning-Darkan Road for which an allocation of around \$50,000 would suffice. There may be other projects that Councillors may consider worthy of inclusion which should be raised prior to adoption of the Budget.

Carne / Earnshaw

That realignment of two sections on the northern section of the Quindanning-Darkan Road be carried out in the Council Works Program in the 2006/2007 Budget.

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 274/06**

If possible Black Spot funding allocated for realignment works on the southern section of Quindanning-Darkan Road is to be transferred to realignment works on the northern section of the Quindanning-Darkan Road.

19. BUDGET ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Major Budget items are generally considered in the review of the Plan for the Future, however the following are put forward for consideration in the 2006/2007 Budget;

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. RSL Hall | Renewal of carpet | \$8,640 new underlay
\$7,500 existing underlay |
| 2. Resource Centre | Blinds for verandah | \$4,000 |
| 3. Pavilion Barbeque | Barbeque to be installed adjoining kitchen | \$3,100 |
| (This item was agreed to using funds from the Gala Day and Bicentennial Committee) | | |
| 4. Other Items | Council may have other items for consideration | |

Stone / Johnstone

That the following items be included in the 2006/2007 Budget.

RSL Hall – renewal of carpet	\$8,640
Pavilion Barbeque	\$3,100

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 275/06**

20. COMPUTER SYSTEM

Council commenced computerised accounting in 1992 using a software program called 'Logis' that was developed by a company called Collier Knyn specifically for Local Government. The program covered general ledger, payroll, job costing, asset register, and rates. It proved to be an adequate system although very much local government specific and difficult for people outside the industry to master.

With the advent of the Emergency Services Levy Collier Knyn decided to develop a new rates system called 'Prospect'. The system was developed in a limited time span with many problems. Collier Knyn eventually sold out to Stennings who promised to develop the Prospect Rating System. They also embarked on the development of a new local government accounting solution 'Navision' using Microsoft products. Stennings joined with PSU International however they have not been able to deliver on any of their promises to upgrade to a world class financial application.

It has now reached the stage where the company cannot offer any real backup support with most of their experienced staff leaving. As a consequence Local Governments in a similar situation to ours have had to seek an alternative accounting solution.

Haines Norton have developed a very sound package that is user friendly for local government. To date surrounding Councils (Narrogin Shire, West Arthur, Wagin, Cuballing etc...) have converted to the Haines Norton solution.

Administration Officer Sharon Wilkie and myself attended a demonstration of the Haines Norton accounting package covering general ledger, job costing, payroll, debtors, creditors, asset register and rating. Specific strengths of this solution include:

- Initial software installations and data upload through to staff training and follow up support is carried out by experienced local government accountants – not programmers.
- No hardware upgrades are required.
- Cost effective.
- Software is intuitive and user friendly.
- General ledger software is used extensively in business in Australia and worldwide.
- Reports for financials, payroll, rates, assets and job allocations can be run at anytime for any period.
- Continued support for staff absences. Some aspects can be outsourced during periods of staff absences.
- Immediate database updating. No end-of-day, month or year update procedures.
- Powerful search facility
- Ability to sort search results on an array of options.

Haines Norton have supplied a quotation for the supply, installation and commissioning of their stand alone local government accounting solution (see attachment).

The initial costs would be;

Software	\$14,500
Implementation, training, assistance with data conversion, general ledger, payroll, assets and rate book	\$14,500
	\$29,000

Annual ongoing costs:

Software maintenance and support	\$12,000
Fixed assets online	\$600
ASP Australian Fees	\$600
	\$13,200

The annual ongoing support fee is slightly higher than we are paying to PSU International at the moment however this support also includes access to local government accounting queries.

Recommendation:

That Council accept the quotation from Haines Norton for the supply, installation and commissioning of their local government accounting solution as follows;

Rate book online	\$12,000
Quickbooks (general ledger and payroll)	\$2,000
Fixed assets online	\$0.00
Job costing solution	\$0.00
ASP sign up fee	\$500
	\$14,500

Cavanagh / Stone

That the following local government accounting software program be purchased from UHY Haines Norton to replace the defunct Logis and Prospect programs;

Ratebook Online	\$12,000
ASP sign up fee	\$500
Quickbooks and Payroll	\$2,000
Fixed Assets Online	\$0
Implementation and Training	\$14,500
TOTAL	\$29,000

**Carried 9/0
Resolution 276/06**

21. COUNCILLOR PROXIMITY INTEREST DECLARATIONS

Cr Prowse wished to protest in the strongest possible terms at the continual declaring of interest by Councillors over issues mainly concerning roads. If the ratepayers in the Williams Shire who voted and elected the present Councillors do not have faith in the honesty and integrity of Councillors to make informed decisions on all Council matters concerning the Shire then our position on Council is being wasted. At the moment decision making has become very tedious and almost insulting at the continual vacating of Councillors declaring and interest in various matters resulting in, at times nearly half the Councillors out of the chamber.

CLOSURE

There being no further business for consideration the President declared the meeting closed at 9.58pm