

June | Winter 2019

# Kindness is the social glue that connects individuals within a community - kindness is contagious!

# - RAKtivist

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# Request for submissions for 2019/2020 Budget

We are in the process of preparing the Budget for the 2019/2020 financial year.

If you have any submissions or requests to be considered for inclusion in the budget, they must be submitted in writing to <a href="mailto:goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au">goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au</a> or PO Box 118, Goomalling WA 6460, and must be received by COB **Friday 7 June 2019**.

#### **Pensioner rebates**

In order to receive the rebate for 2018/19, pensioners are required to pay *their portion* of the rates by 30 June 2019.

Please ensure that when you receive a **new** pensioner or seniors card, you bring it into the office for us to update our records so you can continue to receive your rebate.

If you have any further questions or concerns regarding your rates rebate please contact our Rates Officer Trudi Manera, or the Office of State Revenue on (08) 9262 1373 or pensionerconcessions@finance.wa.gov.au.



#### A few words from our CEO



In March I wrote of how there are some significant challenges ahead for us and I will provide more detail in this issue with regard to our ongoing financial challenges that we now face in particular with our debt levels. I am taking this extraordinary

measure to ensure that all ratepayers and residents have a full understanding of our position, and as a result of our auditors making comment to management and the Shire President through the last audit regarding an adverse financial trend over the three years preceding my appointment as the CEO. The Auditor's comments, while not of high significance, are an indicator that we need to change the way that we do things.

The Shire of Goomalling is currently carrying loan debt of nearly \$3.4M which does not include the self-supporting loan to the Mortlock Sports Council which is around \$300K in total. The debt relates to various activities and construction projects over the years, however after lengthy investigation some of this debt relates to an underlying deficit which has been carried for a number of years. This deficit is represented in the interest only loan in the table below and the Advance Capital Loan. The debt is split as follows:

Loan Details	Amount	
Loan 114, Aged IL Units Koomal	200,000	
Loan 113, Recreation Ground Retic	70,478	
Loan 112, Interest Only	945,000	
Loan 111, Community & Sports	1,210,901	
Loan 109, C/P Ablution	21,566	
Loan 108, Advance Capital Loan	559,420	
Loan 106, Community Centre	409,196	
Loan 105, Slater Homestead	48,002	
Loan 104, Community Centre	160,022	
Total Current Loans	3,624,585	
Loans that were proposed in 2018/19 Budget		
Loan 115, Slater Homestead Reno's	85,000	
Loan 116, Court Resurface	60,000	
Loan 117, CRC Roof	60,000	
Loan 118, Aged IL Units	200,000	
	4,029,585	

Purpose of Loan	Amount
Community Resource Centre	569,218
Recreation & Community Centre	1,210,901
Caravan Park Ablutions	21,566
Independent Living Units Koomal	200,000
Slater Homestead	48,002
Reticulation Ground – Rec Ground	70,478
Underlying Deficit from Previous Years	1,504,420
Total Current Loans	3,624,585

The 2018/2019 Budget was framed with proposed new loans totalling over \$400K to finance other construction and renovation works during this financial year. Following frank discussions with the Council, it has been decided to withdraw from the Aged Independent Living Unit project and the other new loans will not be drawn down meaning that alternative measures will be taken to facilitate these projects.

When the current budget was framed there was an underlying \$300K shortfall in funds that was not evident in the documentation put forward to the Council. In addition, Council's closing position in 2018 was \$75K worse off than predicted. The effective accumulated deficit is in the order of \$2M most of which has been put into loans of one type or another. This will also mean that our operation will likely have a further deficit for this year as per above of around \$375K due to incorrect budgeting.

The reliance on debt to fund our infrastructure spending in the past and to mask ongoing deficits has brought us to a point where a line needs to be drawn. The deficits have come about through the development of the subdivisions and other budgeting problems over many years. Loan repayments for the next few years are well over \$0.5M per year before they move to around \$300K - \$400K for the ensuing 5 or 6 years. These high repayments will restrict our ability to maintain our roads, buildings and plant in a reasonable condition for the next few years. We are in the process of renegotiating our loans to reduce the repayments to a reasonable level to free up operating capital to improve our asset management.

At risk of being seen as hard-nosed or mean, I am in a position now where there is significant budget repair that needs to be undertaken. With high debt, poor asset management, and poor expectation management in the past, we are in an extremely tight financial position. Council will need to go into further overdraft to complete this year until rates are levied. The budgets over the next two or three years will be no different in that we will need to tighten our belts to turn around or financial position.

It is not all doom and gloom though, we have some amazing assets accumulated over the years through the hard work and dedication of your Council, Staff and the Community and we need to maintain these assets in a way that sees them in good condition for the generations that follow us. The Council is highly committed to rectifying this situation and is working hard behind the scenes to help me turn around our financial position and effect the changes needed to the way that we do things here. I hope that you as the wider community will understand that the directions we take from here on are about building a better future for all of us and our children who will inherit the business that is the Shire of Goomalling.

Peter Bentley, CEO

#### From our Shire President



It has been a very dry summer and autumn this year and an equally dry start to the cropping season.

The paddocks, bushland and gardens in the district are all hanging out for some

moisture, which we are now expecting to receive later this week and hopefully will continue throughout the upcoming winter months.

The Councillors and myself wish to congratulate our primary Customer Service Officer Kristina on her recent engagement and wish her all the very best in the lead up to their wedding.

Kristina is also continuing to rise in the Karate

world rankings as she is bidding for a spot in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. So well done Tina, keep up the hard work, we are very proud to have a champion in our office and in our community!



Cr Barry Haywood, Shire President

# Goomalling Standpipes closed to the public

Water is a valuable resource and regulated charges are set by the State Government based on its use.

From the **1 July 2019** the Water Corporation will implement a new charging system for Local Government owned fixed standpipes. The new charges will be prohibitive for Council to continue to supply potable water to residents through this system.

The new pricing structure is linked to the size of the standpipe meter, as this determines the flow rate. Sale of water from a standpipe with an outlet diameter of greater than 25mm (high flow) will incur a service charge of up to many thousands of dollars and a base rate of more than \$8/KL, which is not feasible for Council to charge out to its ratepayers.

As a result of these changes the Council has resolved for all 6 standpipes within the Shire of Goomalling to **be closed to the public**. Therefore, they will be locked and only be accessible for Council usage and for firefighting purposes.

## **Koomal Village rentals**

One unit is still available at **36-38 Wollyam Street, Koomal Village, Goomalling**.

These newly built 3 bedroom, 1 ½ bathroom units are available for persons aged 55+.

Rental is \$300 p/wk, which includes regular gardening and maintenance. A copy of the Tenancy Agreement is available for perusal.



For more information or to apply for a unit please contact Property Management Officer Jo Bywaters at the Shire Office during office hours Monday – Friday 8.30 to 4.00pm or email <a href="mailto:property@goomalling.wa.gov.au">property@goomalling.wa.gov.au</a>



# For Lease - 39B Railway Terrace Goomalling

Centrally located commercial property available for lease; rent is negotiable.

- Prime location on the main street of Goomalling
- 44m² open space, 39m² tiled area
- outdoor alfresco area with toilets

For more information, applications or proposals please contact our Property Management Officer Jo Bywaters via <a href="mailto:property@goomalling.wa.gov.au">property@goomalling.wa.gov.au</a> or at the Shire office on (08) 9629 1101 during opening hours. Proposals are to be received by COB **12 June 2019**.





#### **Local Government Elections**

Voting in a local government election is not compulsory in Western Australia. However, all electors are strongly encouraged to vote.

#### **Enrolling to vote**

You may be eligible to be enrolled to vote in the upcoming in-person Local Government elections if you live in or are an owner or occupier of rateable property in the district of the Shire of Goomalling.

Electoral rolls close at 5.00 pm on 30 August 2019. All electors should check their enrolment details are up to date before rolls close. More information on enrolling to vote has recently been published in the Endeavour and on our shire website.

#### Nominating to become a Councillor

2019 is the expiry of the elected term of 4 of our current Councillors, so if you want to make a difference in Goomalling and have a say in local decision-making, consider standing for election.

To find out about **nominating and running for a position as a Shire Councillor**, read "Standing for Council: Information for Candidates" by the Department of Local Government or contact the Shire of Goomalling on (08) 9629 1101 or goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au.

Training is available to newly elected members.

Nominations need to be received between 5 September and 12 September 2019. If the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies, the candidates are elected unopposed. If there are more candidates than vacancies, the election will proceed on Saturday 19 October 2019.

#### More information

The WA Electoral Commission also has more information about elections and enrolling to vote. [www.elections.wa.gov.au]

# Community Strategic Plan - Request for Public Comment

During the course of 2018 the Shire of Goomalling produced a Draft Update of our Community Strategic Plan which was the result of several public and Council workshops earlier in the year. The plan represents the community aspirations and expectations for longer term issues in terms of social, economic, environmental and civic leadership outcomes.

A copy of the plan is available for public comment and the Council will take these comments into consideration prior to adopting the plan in at their June Meeting.

With Local Government elections due later this year, the Council will further review the plan then to ensure that there is still an alignment of the Councils expectations should there be significant

change. This will then synchronise the plan with the electoral cycle to ensure that the plan, in its current form, is aligned to the expectations of the council of the day at any given time.

A copy of the plan can be viewed on our website, <a href="www.goomalling.wa.gov.au">www.goomalling.wa.gov.au</a> or a hard copy can be obtained from the administration office. Any comments can be submitted through the administration office during normal office hours, per post to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 118, Goomalling WA 6460 or via email to <a href="mailto:goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au">goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au</a>.

Submissions close **12 June 2019** and if you would like to discuss the plan prior to making comment please don't hesitate to contact Peter Bentley during normal office hours on 9629 1101

#### **National Reconciliation Week**

Each year from 27 May to 3 June, National Reconciliation Week celebrates and builds on the relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. The week-long celebration is an ideal opportunity for all Australians to explore ways to join the national reconciliation effort.

#### What is reconciliation?

Reconciliation means *coming together*. It means knowing this country's history and acknowledging the bad as well as the good. It means understanding and embracing difference, of language, of culture, of law.

#### What is the significance of 27 May and 3 June?

May 27 marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The day before National Reconciliation Week, 26 May, is National Sorry Day, which was first held in Sydney in 1998 and is now commemorated nationally to remember and honour the Stolen Generations.

June 3 marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title—the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights over their lands did survive British colonisation.



#### Youth Zone

Youth Zone has started again this term. Every Thursday we hang out, have a bite to eat and get inspired. The 2019 sessions kicked off with a few creative projects:

- We handcrafted cards and gift bags for Mother's Day which were filled with homemade gifts.
- It was finger licking madness while making chocolate and a sensory overload with the array of colours and smells creating bath bombs. (Youth learnt the value of precision and the importance of following recipes with a few bath bomb explosions!)
- Introduction to weaving with simple macramé knots to create a feather bag tag.

#### Still to come:

Thu 6 June Cooking with Mandy – cheesy muffins & mini cheesecakes

Thu 13 June Community Garden creations
Thu 4 July Cooking with Mandy – lasagne

Other sessions TBC

#### **Donations**

We are looking for old lockers or lockable storage, age appropriate movies (DVD's), outdoor paint and craft (paper, glue, stamps). Please contact CDO Tahnee Bird on <a href="mailto:cdo@goomalling.wa.gov.au">cdo@goomalling.wa.gov.au</a> if you have any of these items available and are willing to donate them.

#### **Safer Communities Fund**

The provision of services and process to enhance public safety is considered a high priority for the Shire of Goomalling with a number of outcomes in Council's Community Strategic Plan highlighting this. The Council has developed this project to achieve those outcomes and mitigate the risk of crime-related incidents at the recreation hub.

The multipurpose precinct is the nucleus of the community and a venue for civic activity, structured and unstructured recreation and is a potential target for opportunistic crime.

Increasing provision of security lighting and CCTV at this location will:

- Deter crime and anti-social behaviour
- Promote a welcoming, inclusive and healthy community

- Protect personal property and equipment
- Protect of public assets
- Foster a sense of safety amongst users
- Increase visibility for users at night/early morning enhancing sense of security

An additional benefit of the project is the enhanced visibility for users which will reduce risk of injury when navigating pathways and carparks.

The project will deliver 19 solar LED security lights and 14 CCTV cameras to pathways, buildings and carparks within the recreation hub precinct to foster an enhanced sense of safety amongst users.

Council was granted \$108,500 (excluding GST) under the Australian Government's Safer Communities Fund Round 3 Infrastructure Grants to carry out the project.

## **Change of opening times Goomalling Rubbish Tip**

Due to the earliness of dusk and darkness this time of year it has been decided to amend the opening hours of the Goomalling Refuse Disposal Facility (rubbish tip), effective immediately, to be as follows:

Wednesdays: 8.00am – 1.00pm (unchanged)

Fridays: 12.30pm – 5.30pm (brought forward by 30 minutes)

**Sundays: 10.00am – 5.00pm** (*unchanged*)

As this is only a minor adjustment we trust this should not cause too much inconvenience or affect operations in any major way.

# **Recycling in Goomalling**

The Shire of Goomalling encourages you to separate your waste to facilitate the reuse and recycling of eligible materials, and hence reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Please dispose of waste into the allocated areas at the tip, including the tip shop for usable items, and make use of the recycling services provided by the Goomalling Lions Club.

Recyclables such as plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, aluminium cans, steel cans, paper and cardboard can be dropped off at the Lions Recycling Depot located on White Street at any time. The Lions Club volunteers also organise a monthly kerbside pick up service within the Goomalling townsite on the second Sunday of each month.

More info on waste and recycling: www.goomalling.wa.gov.au/services/waste-management-and-recycling.aspx

# **Works Summary**

#### **Town Streets**

Town streets maintenance has been carried out to alleviate some of the bitumen pavement failures. This will be an ongoing schedule to try and maintain the integrity of the existing pavement until such a time a renewal and regular maintenance program can be started.





#### **Parks and Gardens**

General maintenance has been completed across all parks and gardens over the last few months. Including a heavy watering schedule with the long dry summer period.

A regular schedule of pruning, cleaning and removing leaves, limbs and debris has been implemented to try and maintain a good street scape and parks appeal.

#### **Road works**

There have been several projects completed with Robert, Beecroft and Smith Roads having reconstruction, gravel sheeting and drainage improvement carried out on them.



All signage and guide posts were upgraded as well on the sections completed. There has been ongoing maintenance carried out on drainage areas and any areas that have degraded with harvest and the dry weather.

Maintenance grading has been occurring on a regular basis with most roads receiving at least one grade since the end of harvest. The dry conditions however are having effect on the quality of the road surfaces over the last month or so.

#### **Building maintenance**

There has been ongoing regular maintenance of Slaters Homestead along with renovations and repairs of the accommodation and sitting room.

Some of our rental properties have also had renovation works done.

#### **Ovals**

General maintenance has been carried out on the ovals, including fertilising, aerating and weed control.

The hockey oval has had sanding and levelling undertaken to try and even out the surface to a suitable playing surface.

The cricket pitch has been re-grassed in areas that required it, to get a more uniform playing surface prior to next season.

Watering of the ovals unfortunately has been on a marginal schedule due to having low water supplies, this started in February to keep enough water in reserve in event of a late finish to summer.





#### **Town Maintenance**

Grab rails have been installed to highlight drainage areas to pedestrians and traffic.

A regular schedule has been implemented to tidy the verges, footpaths and streets of leaves, limbs and rubbish. It will take considerable time to work through the whole town site within this schedule.

#### **Footpath repairs**

Minor footpath repairs have been scheduled to occur on a regular basis to even out raised and fatiguing areas.

This again will only be temporary repairs until a more detailed renewal/reconstruction schedule can be implemented.



## Wendy Williams receives WA Volunteering Award

Wendy Williams was one of the worthy recipients of this year's **WA Volunteer of the Year Awards** winning the category "Lifetime Contribution to Volunteering".



Wendy has been volunteering in the Shire of Goomalling for over three decades in a wide array of local and regional organisations since the early eighties.

She was a Member of the Goomalling Shire Council for 12 years and currently manages the historic Slater Homestead for which she has been volunteering for many years before. Wendy has been a great advocate for tourism in Goomalling and the Avon Valley.

Councillors and staff of the Shire of Goomalling congratulate Wendy on this prestigious and well deserved accolade and thank her for her contributions through volunteering and for her commitment to our community, our region and beyond.

#### **Farmer of the Year Awards**

Kondinin Group is encouraging all farmers and rural community members to nominate for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Australian Farmer of the Year Awards.

The Australian Farmer of the Year Awards are an opportunity for people across the country to tell their story about farming and life in rural Australia. To celebrate their success, resilience, innovation and commitment, and share the integrity and enduring nature of our agriculture industry.

All category winners will get the opportunity to part in a one-day leadership program held in Canberra the day before the announcement ceremony. Supported by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, this workshop will assist award recipients to clarify and guide their leadership journey.

#### The 2019 award categories include:

- The Kondinin Group and ABC Rural 2019
   Australian Farmer of the Year
- Young Farmer of the Year, sponsored by McDonalds

- · Farming Legend of the Year
- Community Leader of the Year, sponsored by Market Check
- Rural Consultant of the Year, sponsored by Corteva Agriscience
- · Agricultural Student of the Year
- Award for Excellence in Innovation, sponsored by Telstra
- Award for Excellence in Technology, sponsored by New Holland
- Award for Excellence in Diversification, sponsored by Decipher
- Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research, sponsored by Corteva Agriscience

Nominations are open until 30 June and can be made at <a href="https://www.farmeroftheyear.com.au">www.farmeroftheyear.com.au</a>.

Winners will be announced at a special ceremony on 16 October 2019 at Parliament House, Canberra.

Follow on Twitter @ausfarmerawards and Facebook /ausfarmerawards

#### **Annual rubbish collection**

The annual rubbish collection carried out by the Shire will take a slightly different format this year. There will be two pick up days, two weeks apart.

The first collection day will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August and will be for green waste only. A second collection will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September for general waste, including white goods, furniture, e-waste, metal etc. Please refer to the guide below for more detailed specifications.

# Tuesday 20th August 2019

#### **GREEN WASTE ONLY**

#### The following items will be collected

- Only 2 cubic metres will be collected
- Tree and shrub prunings up to:
  - ◆ 1.5 metres in length
  - ◆ 350mm in diameter

#### The following will not be collected

- Leaves or lawn clippings
- Bags or boxes of leaves or grass clipping
- Dug out lawn
- Branches exceeding 1.5m length and 350mm diameter
- General waste, junk or whitegoods

# Tuesday 3rd September 2019

#### **GENERAL WASTE ONLY**

#### The following items will be collected

- Only 2 cubic metres will be collected
- Metals and white goods (fridges, stoves, electrical items)
- Bulk general waste
- Old furniture
- Mattresses
- TV screens and computer equipment

#### The following will *not* be collected

- Green waste
- Food waste
- Car bodies, vehicle parts, batteries, tyres, paint, chemicals or gas bottles
- Bricks, sand, cement or building rubble
- Asbestos or super six products

#### Other guidelines

- Only rubbish **on the verge** will be collected. Our staff will not be entering your property.
- Place your waste neatly on your own verge prior to the collection date.
- Keep an eye on your waste pile as it is your responsibility throughout the collection.
- Please have your waste on the verge by 7am the day of collection.
- Please do not put your waste out longer than 3 days prior to rubbish collection dates.
- Any waste that is too good for landfill will be given to the Goomalling Tip Shop for repurposing. Please leave these in separate pile.

# Dates for your diary: everyone is welcome!

Sun 9 June	Lions recycling pick up		
Wed 19 June	Council Meeting, 1pm		
Sun 23 June	Goomalling v Calingiri (Football, Hockey & Netball), Rec grounds.		
Sat 6 July	Goomalling Ladies Hockey Club 20-year Reunion to celebrate the club's success from 1998-2018. 11.30am, GSCC.		
Sat 6 July	Goomalling v Wongan-Ballidu (Football, Hockey & Netball), Rec grounds.		
Sun 7 July	NAIDOC Week celebrations, details TBC		
Sun 14 July	Lions recycling pick up		
Wed 17 July	Council Meeting, 1pm		
Fri 26 July	National Tree Day planting, details TBC		
Sun 4 August	Goomalling v Dowerin/Wylie (Football, Hockey & Netball), Rec grounds.		
Sun 11 August	Lions recycling pick up		
Sun 11 August	Goomalling v Gingin (Football, Hockey & Netball), Rec grounds.		
Tue 20 August	Green Waste Rubbish Collection		
Wed 21 August	Council Meeting, 1pm		
Sun 1 Sept	Fathers' Day		
Sun 1 Sept	Semi Finals (Football, Hockey & Netball), Goomalling Rec grounds.		
Tue 3 Sept	General Waste Rubbish Collection		
Sun 15 Sept	Grand Finals (Football, Hockey & Netball), Goomalling Rec grounds.		



32 Quinlan St / PO Box 118
Goomalling WA 6460
T: 9629 1101 F: 9629 1017
E: goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au

Open 8.30am-4pm, Monday-Friday

www.goomalling.wa.gov.au & www.visitgoomalling.com.au

facebook.com/ Shire-of-Goomalling-125250970960245/

# **Contact details for Shire of Goomalling staff**

Got a question about	Then contact	Contact Details
Admin and Finance	Shire staff	(08) 9629 1101
Caravan Park	Keith & Kathy Allen	(08) 9629 1183
		caravanpark@goomalling.wa.gov.au
Community Development	Tahnee Bird	cdo@goomalling.wa.gov.au 0400 495 173
Community Emergency Services	Robert Koch	cesm@toodyay.wa.gov.au 0458 042 104
Environmental Health and Building	Linton Thomas	buildinghealthwa@gmail.com 0427 413 060
Gym Instructor	Monique Broekman	0428 772 014
Gym administration	Shire staff	(08) 9629 1101
Ranger	Gloria Robinson	0408 909 356
Shire Website	Karen Mannaerts	eaceo@goomalling.wa.gov.au
Works	David Long	0436 813 959 worksmgr@goomalling.wa.gov.au