

CITY OF WANNEROO

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON TUESDAY 20 JANUARY 1998

ATTENDANCES

Commissioners:

C T ANSELL - Chairman
H MORGAN AM - Deputy Chairman
R M ROWELL
W BUCKLEY

Officers:

Chief Executive Officer:	L O DELAHAUNTY
Director, Corporate Services:	R E DYMOCK
Director, Strategic Planning:	R FISCHER
Director, Resource Management:	J B TURKINGTON
Director, Technical Services:	R McNALLY
Director, Development Services:	O G DRESCHER
Director, Community Services:	C HALL
Marketing Manager:	M BARCLAY
Committee Clerk:	J AUSTIN

In attendance

Mr G K McHarrie

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence was tendered by Crs Cooper, Hancock, Bombak and Lynn.

There were 35 members of the Public and 1 member of the Press in attendance.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 1930 hrs.

THE RECEIVING OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE 1996/97 FINANCIAL YEAR

MOVED V Harman, SECONDED A Bryant that the Financial Statements for the 1996/1997 Financial Year be received.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

THE RECEIVING OF THE AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1997

MOVED P Healy, SECONDED V Harman that the Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 1997 be received.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

THE RECEIVING OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Mayor's Report was read by the Chief Executive Officer.

MOVED B Higgins, SECONDED V Harman that the Annual Report be received.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mrs G Monks, Wanneroo:

Q1 When was Wanneroo Road designated to become a six lane dual carriageway?

A1 A Main Roads Technical Paper in May 1991 noted that Wanneroo Road could require six lanes as far as Burns Beach Road, depending on development in the area and the staging of other north-south roads. Supporting documentation to the North West Corridor Structure Plan released for public comment by the then Department of Planning and Urban Development in 1991 showed Wanneroo Road as a six lane road as far north as Burns Beach Road.

Q2 When Council were notified by Main Road Department, were the residents of Wanneroo Townsite made Aware of this decision?

A2 As 1. above. These documents are public documents and attracted considerable public debate at the time. There was no attempt to notify any section of the community of any particular aspect of this report.

Q3. If not, when did Council approve of the amendment by Main Roads Department to consent to this decision?

A3 It is not Council's role to approve or give its consent to the Main Roads plans for Wanneroo Road. The planning, maintenance and control of Wanneroo Road is the responsibility of Main Roads WA (MRWA)

Q4 *Has Council been given a time frame for when the six lane carriageway will eventuate?*

A4 There is no provision for the upgrading of Wanneroo Road to six lanes in MRWA five and ten year programmes but their traffic estimates indicate that there will be a need for the upgrading prior to 2021. Naturally, any upgrading would be subject to the availability of funding.

As a result of the responses to the re-advertising of the Wanneroo Town Centre Structure Plan, the City will be holding a public workshop to discuss the results of the submissions received. The City also intends holding a series of meetings with selected groups of landowners within the Town Centre to focus on the issues and identify steps necessary to progress the structure to the next level of detail.

Mr V Harman, Ocean Reef:

Q1 *Were any funds transferred from the Reserves to General Revenue or for any other purpose?*

A1 Yes.

If so,

Q(a) *Which reserves were funds transferred from?*

A(a)

- Golf Course Facilities Reserve Account - \$1,097,440**

To be used for the following works:-

	\$
Joondalup Lotteries House	335,500
Warwick Sports Club	330,000
Computer Irrigation System - Various Parks	150,000
Median/Verge Reticulation Program	250,000
Wanneroo Townsite Redevelopment (Part Only)	31,940

- Historic Village - Perry’s Paddock Reserve Account - \$782,600**

To be used for the following works:-

	\$
Dry Park Development Program - Stage 1	500,000
Yellagonga Stormwater Drainage Outfall Upgrade	120,000
Koondoola Regional Bushland	75,000
Foreshore Management	
- Limestone Cliff Face Protection Works	30,000
- Ocean Reef Limestone Cliff Face Protection Works	12,000
- Burns Beach Groyne Restoration	20,000
Chichester Park Conservation	25,600

- Asset Replacement Reserve Account - \$728,000**

To be used for the following works:-

	\$
Joondalup Administration Centre - Refurbishment (Part Funding)	728,000

- Office Equipment Reserve Account - \$400,000**

To be used for the following works:-

	\$
Joondalup Administration Centre - Refurbishment (Part Funding)	400,000

- Badgerup Ocean Reef Road Construction Reserve Account - \$36,500**

To be used for the following works:-

	\$
Hodges Drive Heathridge Construction (Part Funding)	36,500

- **Ocean Reef Road Construction Reserve Account - \$112,200**

To be used for the following works:-

\$

Hodges Drive Heathridge Construction (Part Funding)	112,200
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- **Domestic Carts - Refuse Collection Account - \$255,350**
- **Domestic Carts - Refuse Collection - Plant Replacement Account - \$882,590**
- **Heavy Vehicle Replacement Account - \$1,492,490**
- **Light Vehicles Replacement Account - \$1,196,040**
- **Plant Replacement Account - \$3,567,150**
- **Private Swimming Pool Account - \$45,240**
- **Refuse Disposal Account - \$1,224,620**
- **Trade/Industrial/Commercial Refuse Collection Account - \$415,720**
- **Trade/Industrial/Commercial Refuse Collection - Plant Replacement Account \$12,500**
- **Wanneroo Bicentennial Trust Account \$12,000**
- **Welfare Facility Account \$67,000**

Q(b) How much was transferred to General Revenue?

A(b) \$12,361,140 with \$2,059,300 for the changes of purpose mentioned above.

Q(c) Did the transfer of reserve funds impact on Council's Rates Struck for the 1997/98 Rating year?

A(c) Yes to the extent of \$2,059,300 or approximately 4% of rates. It is to be recognised that Council could have chosen not to undertake the works detailed, or increased the rate in the \$, or raised loans to cover the works.

Q(d) If so were the City of Wanneroo Ratepayers informed that Rates were artificially low?

A(d) It is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1995 that any change in the use of funds held in reserve accounts if changed as part of the budgetary process are shown in the Annual Budget notes.

Councils 1997/98 Budget at page 1.3 to page 1.5 under "Budget Strategies" details the changes of purpose shown above.

The ratepayers were advised through the budgetary process as the Annual Budget is a public document.

Section 6.11 of the Local Government Act 1995 only requires one months local public notice to be given if changes are made to funds held in Reserve accounts, throughout the year (i.e. other than at Budget time).

Q(e) Should an Electors meeting have been called to endorse any transfers?

A(e) There is no requirement under the Local Government Act 1995 or the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 for an Electors Meeting to be called to endorse any transfers. If the funds in a reserve account are to be changed as part of the budgetary process it is sufficient for the change to be shown in the budget notes (refer Regulation 27 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996).

If changes of purpose are to be made to funds in reserve accounts at any other time of the year other than while formulating the budget, one months local public notice of the proposed change is required.

Q(f) If not, why not?

A(f) Under the Local Government Act 1960 it was a requirement to seek endorsement of Electors when changing the purpose of funds in reserve accounts. Under the Local Government Act 1995 it is no longer a requirement to seek that endorsement.

Q(g) Was the transfer of any funds from any reserves taken against the advice of Treasury?

A(g) A Local Government has the power to change the use of funds if it considers it appropriate and it is in the best interest of ratepayers and electors. During the budget workshops it was agreed to maximise community facilities through the astute use of funds held in Council's Reserve Accounts.

Mr Alan Blencowe, Koondoola.

Q1 My question is regarding the Memorandum of Agreement which was agreed to last month between Council and Homeswest. I had a look at the document and I've been trying to find out for some time exactly what is being agreed to. As far as I can see from the document, you are just going to sit down and talk about it. Is there anything concrete, are there any plans that we can see?

A1 *Chief Executive Officer's response:* The agreement is with Homeswest, which has recently appointed private companies to undertake the design work. Homeswest will then meet with representatives of the Council and, under the Memorandum, Council will be required to meet Homeswest on a dollar for dollar basis where there is development work agreed to for the upgrading of road reserves or public open space areas. Council will, providing it has the funding resources available to it and it can organise that into its normal works programme, agree to work with Homeswest to upgrade those areas.

Mr Bruce Grasso, Wanneroo, Chairperson of Eastern Perimeter Arterial Road Action Group (EPARAG):

- Q1 Community opposition to a major road through East Wanneroo has been well known since 1990, yet Wanneroo Council continues to put their own agenda forward and then seeks comments in the name of consultation. Why was the proposed road network design, based on known community opposition?*
- Q2 A close inspection of the proposed road reserves for Lenore/Franklin Roads shows inequitable land resumptions, in particular, why is it that the proposed road reserve does not encroach upon land which is set aside for Urban development?*
- Q3 The proposed road 'upgrades' are designed as a through road network to carry large volumes of traffic from the south eastern suburbs through to Joondalup and beyond. How will this benefit the Wanneroo Community and the shopping precinct?*
- Q4 The road will reduce Special Rural and Rural building setbacks, which makes a mockery of the original design criteria that set the minimum setback to protect and govern visual pollution of the landscape, the associated lifestyle and reduce health risks. Under Common Law, is the Council able to be 'more equal' than landowners who have been forced to adhere to the minimum building set backs?*
- Q5 Special Rural landowners are not permitted to clear bush land and trees of significance, in fact, some land holders have been held accountable and penalised for doing so. Here we have a question of equality, how is it that Council in its proposal is able to clear land and destroy trees of significance.*
- Q6 In the USA and some European countries, a proposal such as the Strategic Plan, requires a comprehensive Social Impact Study for areas subject to major change. Has the City of Wanneroo commissioned a Social Impact Study? If so, is it completed and what were the findings?*
- Q7 In the Wanneroo Times, January 6 1998, page 3, Oscar Drescher said 'that the planning for the road had been in progress for about two years. During this time building licences have been processed for construction of homes and additions, in fact at this time, the latest is constructed up to plate height. Was this landowner and others told of the possibility of the upgrade of the road so that they could include the road as part of the design brief? If not, why were they not informed?*
- Q8 Since the 18th of December 1997, the City of Wanneroo has treated its ratepayers in what has been described as 'unprofessional' and 'inequitable'. Initially selected residents were informed and an unreasonable time frame was set for responses, then after EPARAG's intervention, information was extended to other residents and the deadline extended. The latest information is sketchy and inaccurate, serving little useful purpose. The attached map shows a different road configuration from the letter. None of the information showed nor told residents that they would be directly effected by land resumptions. Why was this whole saga handled so badly?*

- A1-8 *Cmr Ansell's response:* This matter will be taken on notice and a detailed answer to those questions provided to you, but I would emphasise that there is nothing set in concrete for the development of East Wanneroo. It is all up for discussion and for input.

Mr Alan Bryant, Craigie:

- Q1 *If the government of Western Australia suspended current Councillors of the City of Wanneroo through its Minister for Local Government, Paul Omodei, and appointed five Commissioners to run the Council, why must the ratepayers of the City of Wanneroo bear the total costs? The Commissioners are virtually Government appointees and their emoluments should rightfully be met by the Government and not the ratepayers. After all the ratepayers elected the Council and now they do not have their representatives to plead their case.*
- A1 *Cmr Ansell's response:* Regarding the reason City of Wanneroo has to pay for our expenses. I don't really know the answer to that question, I think the position is that the government decided that Commissioners' expenses will be met in this way. But I understand that the Local Government Act sets this procedure for a suspended Council.
- Q2 *How long will the Commissioners be responsible for running the City of Wanneroo? If the Minister for Local Government eventually dismisses all Councillors, the peoples' elected representatives, for how long will the Commissioners continue to be in charge of the City of Wanneroo?*
- Q3 *When will the ratepayers then be able to re-elect their representatives (to a new Council). In other words, when will the next election be held for all Wards of the City of Wanneroo?*
- A2 & 3 *Cmr Ansell's response:* Commissioners may leave by mid February, depending on the outcome of the Inquiry, or could stay for up to two years depending on how long the government appoints us. We're as much in the dark as you are at this stage. Because of that I'm not able to answer your next question which queried when the election will be held.
- Q4 *Why was \$50,000 of ratepayers funds spent on Christmas illuminations and decorations in the Joondalup area? If these are necessary at Christmas, why not have the business proprietors contribute a share of the expense, as they must in some way benefit. This expenditure could be more beneficially used on improvements in older suburbs of the City of Wanneroo.*
- A4 *Cmr Ansell's response:* Commissioners believe, and I think the previous Councillors believed, that this was money well spent in making the area attractive for the people of Wanneroo. In comparison, \$1 million was spent by the City of Perth, which has a much smaller ratepayer base than here. In terms of getting businesses to pay, I believe they do pay because they pay their rates. One point I would like to make is that I don't want extra imposts on business in Wanneroo. I think that it is very important to Wanneroo that business is encouraged so that we don't have anyone leaving the City of Wanneroo and going into the City every day.

It is important to have enough business here to be self sustaining so that people live and work in the same area and if Commissioners do stay here any longer than the middle of February, I think that will be one of the things that we'll be working towards.

- Q5 How does a ratepayer obtain a new recycling bag? Does the Council issue to every ratepayer or residence a recycling calendar each year? I did not receive one last year in my area. I recently telephoned the Council's recycling section and asked for a new bag to be delivered by the refuse truck and was informed that Council had a service to individually deliver new bags to ratepayers' residences. On the back of the calendar I received last week it advises that a shopping bag be placed outside, and a new bag will then be supplied. I followed these instructions and received a new bag.*
- Q6 Does the Council have a separate delivery for bags or does the recycling truck do it? I was informed that there was a separate delivery for the bags, which I think would be a waste of money.*
- A6 Director Technical Services' response: My belief is that the truck drivers deliver the bags, but if this is incorrect I will advise Mr Bryant.*
- Q7 In view of the proposed extensions to the Mitchell Freeway from Ocean Reef Road to Burns Beach Road, is it the intention of Council and for Main Roads WA to complete Eddystone Avenue by construction of the necessary bridge to cross the freeway and railway line?*
- A7 Director Technical Services' response: The recent proposal certainly was that the Eddystone bridge be included in the project. Funds are very short and the latest information we have from Main Roads WA is that it has insufficient funds. Council is pressing that point at the moment, however Main Roads' advice is that there is a distinct possibility the project will not fit within the budget constraints.*
- Q8 What progress has been made by the City in planning a clean up of street verges in the older suburbs such as Craigie, Padbury, Beldon and Heathridge?*
- Q9 What is the present situation with the replacement of old slab footpaths with continuous concrete and dual use pathways where applicable?*
- A9 Director Technical Services' response: Council has a ten year project to replace all slab footpaths within the City of Wanneroo, and I believe is currently in the third year of that programme. Council has budgeted something in the order of \$600,000 this current year, and work is carried out on the basis that each suburb basically gets a path or paths, but it will take some time to cover the whole area.*
- Q10 Is priority given to slabs in a bad condition?*
- A10 Director Technical Services' response: That is taken into consideration but slab paths are subject to damage, and repairs need to be approached on a programmed basis.*

- Q11 Regarding underground power and street lighting - are there any forward plans to place electricity powerlines underground, where this is not already so, within the City of Wanneroo boundaries?*
- A11 Director Technical Services' response:* The State Government is currently undertaking trials with several local authorities and subsidising the undergrounding of power in local authorities, such as Melville, to ascertain the difficulties involved and the likely cost to individual ratepayers. I believe the cost is something in the order of \$3,000 per lot to underground the power within the road reserve, and the individual ratepayer is responsible for the connection. I believe that the government is now going through the second phase of this programme and encouraging local government to participate. The financial parameters are unknown at this time.
- Q12 What steps are being undertaken to replace mercury vapour luminaires with the lower consumption sodium vapour luminaires in street lighting?*
- A12 Director Technical Services' response:* That is a matter for Western Power, which controls the type of lamps placed. Generally speaking sodium vapour is installed on the major roads as a priority because of its superior lighting qualities. To replace every mercury vapour lamp in the Perth metropolitan region would be an expensive task and that would fall almost entirely on Western Power.
- Q13 When is Council going to use a greater portion of rates collected in the Craigie area and other older areas on improving the amenity of these suburbs instead of concentrating on the Joondalup regional area?*
- A13 Cmr Ansell's response:* I'll take that question on notice. I think that you will find that most of Joondalup was not developed by using the Council funds. We will advise you of the percentage of money that has been spent and will be spent in coming years in Craigie as a percentage of the rates that are collected there.

Mr Mike Charuga:

- Q1 Regarding the Koondoola regional bushland. Council spent money on the paths and fencing there. A bush fire burnt down some of the railings and posts over 6 weeks ago and they haven't been replaced. Why isn't there a proper fire break there? It is a regional bushland, with a lot of houses close by. We really should have a fire break which is maintained. I have some property in the Shire of Northam for which I have to maintain fire breaks, so I can't see why we shouldn't have decent fire breaks in a residential area.*
- Q2 Regarding the Rendell Way petition presented to the Council, which has apparently not been accepted. We want to know why it wasn't accepted and, if there were any objections, were those objections in writing? Over 200 people signed this petition. Parks Department wrote to us and sent another petition through which seems to be very obscure at the best. We really want to know what's happening there. I was advised about a year ago that we were going to have bollards around Rendell Park to stop cars driving on it and to protect the young ones that play in the park. Now it looks like this offer has been used as a sweetener if we go along with accepting whatever else is going to go in the dry*

park. We want to know what's happened to those bollards. They were on last year's agenda. We want to know when they'll be put in.

Q3 When the CEO was telling us where the money was spent, there was \$1.1m spent on the refurbishment of the Joondalup centre. We're battling to get \$70,000 spent in Koondoola. It might not be as important but I would like to see some of that money come our way.

A1-3 Director Technical Services' response: I will take on notice the questions regarding fire breaks. In terms of the petition, my understanding is that there were some conflicting statements in the original petition. We are currently gauging the community attitude in the area, the community opinion to the requests that were made in the petition, and that will be re-addressed back through Council. The matter has been deferred until we can get a true reflection of the total community opinion.

Q4 Were there any written complaints about the petition?

A4 Director Technical Services' response: I will take that on notice as well in order to give an accurate answer.

Cmr Morgan: Regarding the Rendell Park petition, there was conflicting information provided in the petition from various parties. The result was that the Council then sent out a questionnaire; that questionnaire has been returned and is being analysed and a report will be issued to the Commissioners and we'll be considering it possibly at, or prior to, the February meeting.

Q5 What points were of a conflicting nature?

A5 Cmr Morgan's response: I can't give you the detail, but that was the report given to Commissioners and at the same time the report was given a questionnaire was sent out. I have seen the questionnaire because I was contacted by a resident querying certain information. I understand that those questionnaires have now been returned, or the date has expired, and they are now being analysed for a report to the Commissioners.

Mr Don Hooper, Alexander Heights:

Q1 Last year I raised the issue of wood heaters. I think that chimneys are too low on houses, and when the wind blows on the leeward side of the roof it causes a vacuum, sucking the smoke down and into the neighbouring houses. I want the Council to make a by-law to have the chimneys 60 centimetres above the highest part of the roof. The Council told me to contact the Government but I do not believe the Government would take any action as too many people have wood heaters.

A1 Cmr Ansell's response: I think the answer is Council could probably create a by-law. We can include it in our Building Codes.

Q2 *When is the Council going to have a retirement village and hostel for the aged people like other Shires? Council retirement villages are the cheapest ones to go into because the others are there to make a profit.*

A2 *Cmr Ansell's response:* There is no immediate plan for that, however we will put your question on notice and consider it.

Q3 *Regarding a retirement village and hostel and why the Council should get involved. It costs about \$174,000 to go into a hostel in a private retirement village and over 5 years interest is collected on that. After 5 years they take 20% of that \$174,000 and then they pay about \$50 maintenance and charging \$380 a week and I'm sure that the Council could put people into these retirement villages cheaper than that.*

A3 *Cmr Ansell's response:* Yes, your suggestion has been noted regarding Council being involved in retirement villages. But I'm not sure really if that's part of our brief.

Chief Executive Officer's response: Belgrade Village in Wanneroo was in fact commenced by the Council and is run independently now, but the funding and the land was made available originally by the City. Councillors served on the management committee and the Mayor was the Chairman of the Belgrade Village Management Committee.

Cmr Ansell's response: The Council has to obtain its money from somewhere and you know that it means - that the rates will have to go up.

Mr Barry Higgins, Carabooda:

Q1 Last year Mrs Hine raised the problem of the publication of the City News Extra not being distributed thoroughly throughout the City. In Carabooda we haven't received one since the edition in September 1997. I note from perusing the library that there has been a subsequent issue but it was not distributed in my area. I was able to obtain a number of copies from the library to pass on to adjoining properties in the Carabooda area. There was a response by the Mayor at last year's annual meeting that he would investigate the problem of the distribution not going right throughout the City. I was wondering what the results of his investigation were and if a further investigation can be undertaken as to why it has not been thoroughly distributed throughout the City.

A1 *Chief Executive Officer's response:* The matter was looked at last year by the Council and the method of hand distribution to letter boxes was changed to using Australia Post, with the inclusion of outlying areas. To the best of my knowledge, there has been no further complaint, however if the last distribution failed to go to Carabooda I will make further investigations.

Q2 *On the front page of that edition of News Extra which is called 'Summer of 1997 98', last paragraph under the heading states: 'It is business as usual at the City of Wanneroo', and, I quote: "please read on to find out what activities the City will be involved in during the festive season and the new timetable of meetings". I have not been able to locate the time table and I believe this is important to interested electors and ratepayers of the City.*

A2 *Cmr Ansell's response:* This issue will be followed up.

Mrs Audrey Hines, Wanneroo:

Q1 *How much did the Annual Report cost to print?*

A1 *Director Resource Management's response:* The total cost to produce the Annual Report was \$17,640 and I believe four or five hundred copies were printed.

Q2 *How much did it cost in the past year to produce the News Extra?. I live two houses out of the townsite and since September I've not had a delivery, the last one I had was hand delivered to me at a committee meeting. I suggest the use of a two page lift-out in the Wanneroo Times would be more suitable.*

Q3 *Has an EPA report been carried out on the land at Edgewater owned by Karinya Nominees? I have been told that many of the trees there are between 500 and 1,000 years old, and also there are black boys and zamia palms, plus animals in the area. Is there anything that this Council can do to stop the clearing of the land? Would the Commissioners do something to save any large trees in Craigie Open Space before they hack them down. Have any studies been done of that area?*

A3 *Cmr Ansell's response:* I think we can answer all those questions in a report to Mrs Hine on what the Council policy is in terms of retaining trees, the EPA report and the Craigie area as well.

Q4 *How long will it take to stop large houses being built in settled areas? What can the Council do, what power does it have? Can the Commissioners get through to the government and say what havoc it is costing people in the community.*

Q5 *Can the Commissioners look at the policy again to allow gifts to be given to staff members as a thank-you from the community. Why are so many staff leaving and the morale so low? Is it because they're not being paid properly or what?*

A5 *Chief Executive Officer's response:* Since the Commissioners have been here they have passed on a 2% increase across the board to the Council administration staff. An Enterprise Bargaining Agreement was agreed for the Parks staff by the suspended Council in February 1997, however the Union would not agree to sign the contract. Another agreement has been under consideration and hopefully this will be agreed to and will go before the Commissioners next month.

I realise that the Council is losing staff, and this was also experienced at the City of Perth. Where there is an air of uncertainty, this causes some uncertainty with staff, and those that can find employment elsewhere or decide to move on will choose that rather than stay, and that is most unfortunate. This happens when a Council is going through flux as we are at the moment. The other point that I think is worth making is that the staff do work very hard. Our staff structure is sized on what the Council should normally be able to perform, but for at least the last 18 months the Council has had to answer to many side issues, such as answering the requirements of a Royal Commission and also an Inquiry Board looking into the possible splitting of the Council. The amount of workload that has been put on staff, on top of their normal duties, has obviously strained things considerably. But I think that we can look forward to issues settling soon, which will allow staff to get on with the jobs that they are paid to do.

Mr G Parker, Koondoola:

Q1 Regarding Rendell Way Park. I was definitely told that the bollards in question were already listed in the 1997 budget. I now have received a letter which says that the bollards will be listed for consideration in the 98/99 financial year. I see that the BMX has been taken out now. Regarding the business of 100 metres from the roadway, it is not very clear which roadway they measure from. Is it measured from Alexander Drive, Beach Road or is it measured from Rendell Way because there is no way you can measure 100 metres from Rendell Way. The whole thing is only about 50 metres wide. With reference to the pipes to be restored, which pipes? Most of the people that I spoke to apparently didn't get this letter. We can't just keep on going round in circles like this because we're not getting anywhere. How many letters have been sent out this time? Most of the people I spoke to did not receive one.

A1 Cmr Ansell's response: At the end of tonight's meeting we will make a time that's convenient for you and other representatives of the residents of the area to meet and discuss the problem.

Mrs Julie Blencowe:

Q1 Are there any by-laws regarding the maintenance of verges throughout the City of Wanneroo, and also for the cleaning up of front yards of residences? In our Koondoola area we have some really nice homes and many people are making an effort to improve the quality of their life in the area, yet others don't bother about the verges and front yards. Has there ever been a by-law to enforce people to put all their rubbish behind their fence and to make sure that they maintain their verges. I come from the eastern states where it is a requirement to maintain a front verge. If not, can it be put in place by the Council?

A1 Cmr Morgan's response: I'm not aware whether it is possible to control this through a by-law but it is a problem that all areas face. As you know, I've just retired as a Councillor of the City of Perth and during the period I was there the Council spent a considerable amount of money in upgrading Mount Street because Mount Street is used by overseas visitors, local residents to walk up to Kings Park. And that was upgraded and notwithstanding that, probably 10% of the verges in

Mount Street are not maintained and are an absolute disgrace. I agree with you that it is something that we should look at and I give you that undertaking that we will give it consideration. The Chairman and I made a visit through Koondoola only a few weeks ago. We saw what you're referring to and we said at the time if only we could get people to look after their verges, clean up their front yards, what a more attractive area it would be. So we certainly will take on board your comments and see if it is really possible to do something. Maybe there can be some incentives but we'll certainly look at it.

Chief Executive Officer's response: All of the Koondoola/Girrawheen/Alexander Heights area is under consideration, with the arrangements that were mentioned earlier with Homeswest. There will be a set programme to move through the area and undertake a considerable amount of work. There is no by-law at this stage to enforce people to look after their front verge. Unfortunately if people neglect it, it falls into disrepair or the Council must undertake to do something but there is provision under the new Local Government Act in relation to front yards for the issue of an order. I do believe that the work that we're going to do with Homeswest will improve that area considerably.

Mr Bill Duncanson, Edgewater:

- *I've listened to the way this meeting has been conducted since the Commissioners have been here, and I attend quite a lot of Council meetings as well and one major difference in the way you're conducting your affairs is up to the time that Mrs Hine asked a question, the word policy was not used. When you're not here, it's very common for the Council, when a question is asked to say that it is policy. Following meetings in the past, I've contacted the departments concerned, and the people answering the question don't know what the policy is. I would suggest to you very strongly that the word policy is abused when you're not here and that when you leave you should make a policy that if they use the word policy they should be prepared to put it up in writing and say, that is the policy.*

Mr Alan Bryant, Craigie:

- *I was pleased to hear the gentleman speak about News Extra. I think the last time I received one was June 1997 in Craigie, so they are not being distributed as you would think they are.*

Q1 I was talking to someone who was trying to get some plans of a building and they were told that a certain number of your files of building plans had been eaten with white ants. Is that correct?

A1 Director, Strategic Planning's response: Yes

Mr Vic Harman, Ocean Reef:

- *Regarding the query on Eddystone Avenue. I'm on the Community Liaison Committee which is discussing the extension of the freeway and at its meeting last week the continuation of Eddystone Avenue was discussed. The stumbling block is that another \$7.5 million is required in order to be able to construct a bridge, and it is very unlikely funds will be available in the foreseeable future.*

Q1 In regard to the last written question I put, was the transfer of any funds from any reserves taken against the advice of Council's treasury department?

A1 Director Resource Management's response: At the budget meeting, there was discussion regarding the transfer of funds from the reserves that we currently have to the works that were proposed. There was some willing debate but at the end of the day it was a unanimous decision of the Council to do so. We are advisers to the Council and if the Council chooses not to take some of that advice, so be it. That is certainly the prerogative of the Council. We were somewhat concerned with one account, I think it was the Perry's Paddock Reserve Account, but we came to a compromise there and I think you'll find there was some funds left in that particular reserve.

Mr M Rothstein, Joondalup Business Park:

- I was heartened by the words spoken about the business community. This is something that the Northwest Metro Business Association has been raising for a very long time, that being the creation of new jobs and opportunities in the area and also ensuring that money is spent in, and not outside, of the area. I'm heartened by that and the Northwest Metro Business Association wishes to place on record that we look forward to working with the Council, or rather with the Commissioners, in ensuring that this continues from strength to strength in the future.*
- Chief Executive Officer's response:* It may be worthwhile mentioning that regular meetings are held with the business people. Council has recently agreed to contribute towards a project currently being undertaken by both the City and LandCorp, for research on employment opportunities within the region. We are looking across the spectrum, from large business right down to small business and looking at ways and means to encourage more employment within the region.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 2047 hrs, the following Commissioners being present at that time:

COMMISSIONERS: ANSELL
 MORGAN
 ROWELL
 BUCKLEY