



GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

Date & Means of Public Notification: Public Notices published weekly in the City Update column *Bunbury Mail* from 5 to 26 November 2008. Notices (large) published in general news sections of *Bunbury Herald* on 11 November 2008 and *South Western Times* on 6, 13 and 20 November 2008. Community announcements forwarded to local television/radio stations. Notices also on notice boards at the Customer Service Centre, City Libraries and City of Bunbury website.

NOTICE OF MEETING

TO: *His Worship the Mayor and Councillors*
City of Bunbury Electors

The City of Bunbury has called a *General Meeting of Electors* pursuant to Section 5.27 of the Local Government Act 1995, to review the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the City for the year 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008.

The meeting will be held in the City of Bunbury Council Chambers Building, corner Stephen and Wittenoom Streets, Bunbury, at 7.00pm on **Thursday, 27 November 2008**.

Greg Trevaskis
Chief Executive Officer
(Issued: 20/11/2008)

AGENDA

1. **OPEN MEETING**
2. **REGISTER OF ATTENDANCES & APOLOGIES**
3. **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007**
- 3.1 **Mayor's Report 2007/08**

The Mayor to read aloud his report for the year 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 (as printed in the Annual Report).

3.2 Annual Report 2007/08

At this point, the Mayor will receive questions from electors concerning the Annual Report, following which electors will be called on to move the following motion:

Motion: *Moved* _____ *Seconded* _____

The Annual Report of the City of Bunbury for the year ending 30 June 2008, be received.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Questions on Notice

Dr E C Manea, Haydock Street, Bunbury

Question 1: What was the Council debt as at June 30 in years 2006, 2007, 2008?

Response 1: Council's debt as at 30 June was as follows:

2005	\$12,837,494
2006	\$11,916,733
2007	\$11,075,816
2008	\$ 9,602,948

Budgeted borrowings for the 2008/2009 financial year totalling \$3.74M includes: storm water drainage, public open space, road works and paths \$800,000; car parking \$1.3M and self-supporting loan for underground power \$1.64M

Debt Management

Council places a strong management focus on maintaining debt ratio and debt service levels within an established target range. The 2008/2009 budget and Corporate Financial Plan 2008/09 – 2012/13 complies with the debt ratio target of less than 10% and debt service ratio target range of 4%-8%.

As at 30 June 2008, Council's debt ratio was 7.9% and the debt service ratio 6.9%. Council's outstanding debt at 30 June 2007 was \$11.07M and at 30 June 2008 \$9.6M. Interest paid on outstanding debt for 2007 was \$691,000 reducing to \$630,000 at 30 June 2008. Council held Reserve Funds of \$7.6M as at 30 June 2008.

Question 2: What is the total cost of the use of consultants for the financial year ending June 30, 2008 and what was the purpose of the consultants?

Response 2: Please refer to Appendix 1.

Question 3: What was the total income for the City for the 2007/2008 financial year and what were the total expenses for the same period of time?

Response 3:	Total Income	\$46,923,838
	Less Operating Expenditure	<u>\$26,356,302</u> (Excl. Depreciation
	Surplus (allocated to Capital Exp.)	\$20,567,536 (\$7.1M)
	Less Capital Expenditure	<u>\$19,844,291</u>
	Committed amount c/fwd	
	to 2008/09	<u>\$ 723,245</u>

Question 4: What action has been taken on a functional review of the Council as per motions passed at the last electors meeting?

Response 4: The Australian Institute of Management ("AIM") was engaged to undertake a Functional Review of the City's operations in August 2008. The review has commenced and should be finalised in December 2008 with a report ready for consideration by Council in February 2009.

Question 5: What was the cost of cricket wickets placed at Hands Oval – in the oval and on the periphery?

The cost of installing a turf and practice wicket block on Hands Oval was \$11,100 for materials. Labour costs were in the order of \$9,000 although a portion of this was sourced from the annual maintenance budget for work at Hands Oval.

The Western Australian Cricket Association provided the specialised clay material for \$6,597 to the City. The WACA also contributed (at no cost) its expertise, supervision and support for installation of the wicket area.

Funding for the project was received from the Department of Sport & Recreation (\$10,000) and South West Development Commission (\$4,800). Council's specialist turf staff also contributed time and effort.

Question 6: Is there a development plan for Hands Oval?

Council's Corporate Financial Plan 2008–2013 provides for improvements to facilities at Hands Oval in 2013 at an estimated cost of \$2M.

The recently elected Liberal/National State Government has also committed \$1.34M to assist with development plans for Hands Oval but has not advised when such funds will be available.

Discussions have been held with the Department of Sport & Recreation in relation to preparing a Master Plan with funding assistance from the Department, as a joint initiative with the City. Preliminary advice is that the brief for a Master Plan should be prepared once funding parameters have been clarified in terms of timing and available funds. It is expected that a Master Plan will be completed 12 months prior to major works at Hands Oval and will incorporate key stakeholder priorities along with an assessment of what can be achieved with the resources allocated/available.

Initial discussions have been held with the representatives of the Hands Oval tenants i.e., South Bunbury Football Club and South West Football League.

Question 7: Are there plans for the City to sell any of the existing recreational areas?

Response 7: There are no plans to sell any of the existing recreational areas.

Question 8: Are there plans to change the use of Hay Park?

Response 8: In August 2008, the City of Bunbury commissioned a feasibility study to determine infrastructure needs for Hay Park (and other active reserves) and develop an appropriate facility development strategy. The study will examine the feasibility of a number of sports facility developments at Hay Park including those identified in the City's Recreation Plan. The report will be finalised by 30 January 2009. The expectation is that, subject to Council review and acceptance, the study recommendations will guide the allocation of Council resources in relation to the future provision and management of sporting facilities.

4.2 Motions from Electors

At this point in proceedings, electors are to move/second motions.

The Mayor will then call on the mover, seconder and any other speakers to speak to the motion. At the end of discussion, the motion will be put to the vote.

Decisions made by electors at an Annual Electors Meeting are presented to a meeting of Council for consideration per Section 5.33 of the Local Government Act 1995, which reads: *"All decisions made at an electors' meeting are to be considered at the next ordinary council meeting or, if that is not practicable, at the first ordinary council meeting after that meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, whichever happens first."*

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

