



Minutes

Annual General Meeting of Electors

5 February 2026

SNAPSHOT

Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033



Your Choice. Our Future.

VISION

A globally recognised community of guardians for our unique environment and culture as we pursue innovations for sustainable growth.

GOALS

The goals are organised in five strategic pillars: Social, Natural Environment, Built Environment, Economy, and Governance and Leadership.

SOCIAL

Nurture a friendly, safe and inclusive community spirit.

- Improve local community and visitor experiences.
- Ensure a full suite of services to meet the needs of families and individuals at all ages and stages of life.
- Build community cohesion and connectedness.



GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

Foster open, transparent & accountable leadership, working collaboratively & in partnership with our community & stakeholders.

- Forward-thinking leadership for efficient & sustainable operations.
- Continued focus on transparent, accountable leadership & community & stakeholder engagement.
- Council & administration plan & lead with good governance.



ECONOMY

Enhance a robust, resilient & diversified economy that champions innovation.

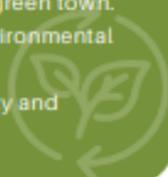
- Increase opportunities for smart and sustainable business ideas.
- Establish Exmouth as a vibrant, welcoming and environmentally aware destination.
- Promote Exmouth as a thriving economy based on its regional strength as a global environmental hotspot.



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Embrace natural sensitivities and promote positive change.

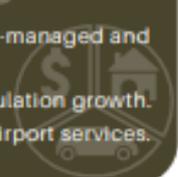
- Establish Exmouth as a clean and green town.
- Prepare Exmouth for changing environmental conditions.
- Increase awareness of sustainability and environmental issues.



BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Enable sustainable development and infrastructure that meets the needs of the community, visitors and industry.

- Infrastructure and assets are well-managed and maintained.
- Plan and cater for increased population growth.
- Revitalisation and expansion of airport services.



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1. Declaration of Opening and Announcements

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 6.00 pm and welcomed the gallery.

The Shire President acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet, and paid respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.

2. Attendance and Apologies

Shire President M (Matthew) Niikkula
Deputy Shire President J (Jackie) Brooks
Councillor K (Kristy) Devereux
Councillor J (Jacqueline) Hine
Councillor A (Amanda) Kailis
Councillor G (Gary) Mounsey
Councillor M (Matthew) Thorburn

Ben Lewis Chief Executive Officer
Michelle Head Minute Taker

Gallery R. Todd, R. Koelbel, K. Gordon

3. Presentation of the 2024/2025 Annual Report

In accordance with Section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a general meeting of electors is to be held once every financial year, not more than 56 days after the local government has accepted the annual report.

Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* specifies that the matters to be discussed at a general electors' meeting are, firstly, the contents of the Annual Report for the previous financial year and then any other general business.

The 2024/25 Annual Report was adopted by Council at its latest Ordinary Council meeting held on the 11 December 2025 incorporating the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer messages, Annual Financial Report and Auditor's report.

The Annual Report is available on the Shire of Exmouth website via the following link: [Annual Reports » Shire of Exmouth, WA](#)

MOVED R. Todd
SECONDED K. Gordon

CARRIED

4. General Business

Public Questions

Question received from Robert Todd

1. To see Exmouth growing at a rapid rate gives me a feeling of pride and joy, being a resident of over 50 years.

Have the relevant authorities put or plan to put in place the infrastructure to accommodate the large increase in population ie water, sewage, electricity, health, education and social services?

Shire Response:

Large developments, such as SuperLot D in the Marina and the Nimitz Street subdivision, are included in long-term planning by relevant service providers like Water Corporation

and Horizon Power. This planning is based on expected land release and development timeframes.

Smaller development proposals are referred to the relevant service providers as part of the statutory approval process. This enables agencies to assess their capacity to supply services.

Health and education services are planned based on projected permanent population growth.

The Shire maintains regular communication with State Government agencies to ensure they are aware of anticipated development timeframes and can begin essential planning accordingly.

Question received from Ruth Kennedy

1. *When were Exmouth's existing playgrounds last audited for health and safety, and were these audits conducted by an independent body such as Kidsafe WA or a similar accredited organisation?*

Shire Response: The Shires existing playground infrastructure is visually inspected by internal staff for hazards and addressed as required. There have been no recent independent audits undertaken.

2. *Are there plans to publicly release or summarise the outcomes of any such audits so families can be assured that current facilities meet best-practice safety standards?*

Shire Response:

The Shire has recently prepared a Sporting Precinct Master Plan, which will be released for public consultation in early March. After this consultation, the next step will be a review of all public open spaces and playground equipment across the town.

This review will look at the condition of existing facilities and identify where playgrounds should be upgraded or where new equipment may be needed, to ensure our open spaces continue to meet the community's needs into the future.

3. *Are there any further developments proposed for this area that support children and families, beyond the recently installed yellow concrete table tennis table? If so, what are they, and what is the timeline? If not, why has family-focused infrastructure not been prioritised in one of Exmouth's most prominent community spaces?*

Shire Response:

The Shire is in the final stages of the development of a Coastal Hazard Risk Management & Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP) which will be released for public consultation in the coming months.

The plan considers risks from coastal hazards such as inundation and erosion, and evaluates the consequence and likelihood of such scenarios. This includes the vulnerability of specific assets identified within the study area.

Once the study is finalised, the Shire can make informed planning decisions regarding consideration for new infrastructure in this area, as well as the management of existing

infrastructure. As such, there are no short-term plans for any further development of this space.

Other – Shire President Update

- On behalf of the Gascoyne Shires, the Shire President along with the Shire President of Shark Bay, Cr Peter Stubberfield met with the Hon Hannah Beazley, Minister for Local Government; Disability Services; Volunteering; Youth; Gascoyne and Hon Jackie Jarvis MLC Minister for Agriculture and Food; Fisheries; Forestry; Small Business; Mid West. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss protecting the Gascoyne bioregion from overfishing, following fishing bans which took effect in December 2025.
- The recent Federal government announcement regarding the sale of defence assets and the potential for increased defence presence in the North West were highlighted, emphasizing the importance of having shovel-ready plans to leverage these investments.

5. Meeting Closure

The Shire President thanked the gallery for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6.27pm.

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on 26 February 2026 commencing at 4.00 pm.