



South Coast Alliance Inc.

Leading sustainable economic development through collaboration.

MINUTES

**City of Albany
Shire of Denmark
Shire of Plantagenet
Shire of Jerramungup**

Friday 3 September 2021
West Cape Howe Winery
Shire of Plantagenet
Commencing at 10am

Chair opened the meeting at 10:08am.

Welcome to Cr Ken Clements from the Shire of Plantagenet who is attending today as an observer. Also, welcome to new staff member, Gina McPharlin, Director of Corporate and Community Services at the Shire of Denmark.

Apologies

Cr Jo Iffla, Shire of Jerramungup
Cr Julie Leenhouders, Shire of Jerramungup
Natasha Monks, Great Southern Development Commission

Gina McPharlin, Shire of Denmark was introduced to the members of the Alliance.

Declaration of Interest – Nil

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2021 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Moved by Cr Gearon and seconded by Gr Stocks.

Correspondence

Juliet Grist advised that she had been asked to present, on behalf of the Alliance, at a Blue Growth Investment Forum in Fremantle, 23 September 2021, regarding the criteria used by the Alliance. As this will put the Alliance in a public space, Juliet asked for support in making the presentation.

Cr Gearon moved that the alliance support Juliet speaking at the forum. Cr Thomson seconded this. Unanimously supported.

Progress against actions from previous meeting:

Juliet advised that she had received her contract, thank you.

Executive Officer Report

Juliet advised that as some representatives from the Shire of Jerramungup were unable to attend, she had asked them to complete a Menti Survey to indicate their preference on items that require a decision. All in attendance were supportive of accepting the results.

Items for information and decision:

Climate

Juliet advised that the original priority for the alliance was Energy and this has branched into being climate specific.

Juliet ran through the proposal and ideas. Noting that the climate dashboard has an ongoing management cost attached. Table provided outlining the costs involved. There is \$55,000 for the climate coordinator role.

General discussion was held.

An amendment to the proposed recommendation was moved by Cr. Pavolovich and seconded by Cr Jon Oldfield that point a. be supported (climate focus to continue), but items b-g be deferred at this point. This was lost 6/5 with the Chair utilising his casting vote.

The amendment being lost, the recommendation was put again to the Committee, moved by Cr Gearon, Seconded by Cr Lewis:

A Climate Focus to Continue

B Roadmap to zero to be commissioned

C Climate Conference application confirmation

D Lotterywest application to be lodged

E EO Confirmed to continue to build partnerships for Lighthouse projects, including identifying suitable funding streams.

F Youth Budget to be allocated to Climate Conference

G If FRRR Grant is not successful, back up plan to be presented at the November meeting

Acknowledging that there will be ongoing costs for the dashboard, further discussions will be held regarding this if the funding application is successful

Passed 8 in support and 4 against.

The WALGA Contract requires the appointment of an Alliance Coordinator. This will be an additional \$55,000 to staff salaries, which is provided for from the WALGA funding.

It is agreed that the recruitment panel will be arranged between the CEOs and Juliet.

The position will be based at whichever local government office is closest to the successful candidate.

It is recommended that the Chair and Treasurer are provided with delegated authority to enter into the WALGA Contract. That the South Coast Alliance Executive Officer, together with CEOs of the various local governments will agree on the job description and advertise, initially, internally. The successful candidate will be based within the local government offices closest to their home and the recruitment panel will be agreed between the CEOs and Juliet.

This is moved by Cr Gearon and seconded by Cr Lewis, passed unanimously, with no objections.

Finance Report

Mark Allen advised that at the AGM to be held in November, each local government will be asked to confirm their contribution to the alliance.

City of Albany agreed to continue the same level of funding for a further two years. Shire of Plantagenet, advised that they would not be able to commit beyond this financial year until a decision had been made by Council.

It is noted that there were some adjustments made to the working budget for 2021/22 (detailed in the papers provided with the agenda) approval for these amendments was sought.

It is moved that the proposed budget reallocation be supported. This was is was moved by Cr Mark Allen and seconded by Cr Ceinwen Gearon. Unanimously supported.

Workshop – Blue Green Economic Development Opportunity Review

Andrew Outhwaite and Richard Ball joined the meeting and provided an overview of the projects that they had identified as possibilities for the Alliance. After 47 opportunities were identified, four were being presented, with an aim to eliminate one.

Those are:

Energy Project
Timber – cross laminated
Value added – food
Seaweed – Aquaculture.

These four ideas were discussed at length. It is agreed to remove Timber from the list and Juliet will liaise with other stakeholders about possibly funding a business case for the Cross Laminated Timber project.

Mayor/Presidents update

Shire of Plantagenet.

Cr Chris Pavlovich advised that they had been working with Development WA on renewal of a local park.

Are continuing to have issues with housing, and a shortage.
They also have a shortage of reliable labour in the town.

Shire of Jerramungup:

Cr Rob Lester advised that a Doctor had finally arrive in town after an alternative service provide had been employed and the pool is progressing very nicely.

Shire of Denmark

Cr Ceinwen Gearon reminded everyone that the final housing forum would be held next week. There had been damage at Ocean Beach.

The Shire would be meeting with the Minister and Bush Fire Mitigation work will be on the agenda for discussion.

Was very disappointed that there was no electric vehicle charging station allocation received, however, would like to look at delivering this independently.

Cr Mark Allen confirmed that there was lots of work to be undertaken in the bush fire space.

The Shires of Jerramungup and Ravenshorpe would be trial sites for the next 2 years to have officer focused on Bush Fire Mitigation.

City of Albany

Mayor, Dennis Wellington advised that the Strategic Community Plan had been launched. FOGO had commenced.

Cinefest OZ was a great success and it hoped that it will continue to grow in Albany, Rio Tinto had agreed to fund this for a further 3 years. It is possible that this program will develop into a school program (the same as that offered in Busselton).

There was a shortage of Dentists (in addition to Doctors) in Albany

The Regional Motor Sports Park was continuing and a development application was expected very soon.

There had been a development application approved for 6 units to be developed at Middleton Beach.

The Hilton Hotel will open the first week of November 2021.

Harvest Road was approved by council, there was some push back from the local community.

Infrastructure WA – Great Southern Strategy

The State Infrastructure Strategy had been released for public comment. Juliet would like to know if the Alliance would like to make a written submission. It is agreed not to make a submission however Juliet to work with Andrew Sharpe to draft a letter to be signed by all Mayors and Presidents expressing concerns with the Strategy. Comments due by 26 September 2021.

Spendmapp Presentation

Presentations were given by each local government on Spendmapp. It is agreed that the data was very interesting, however, if there was not a direct use for the data or a specific reason for extracting the information it was not considered value for money.

Data Purchase Efficiencies (for information)

Update on activities

General Business

There was a general discussion regarding housing in the region. It was noted that AYSWA, who currently employ 36 staff are in desperate need for additional accommodation.

The Chair advised that the University Hub would be official opened shortly. The aim was for 22 students, currently have 82 students using the space and are looking for additional room.

November Meeting

Juliet asked each local government to provide their three top priorities (using the City of Albany template which will be distributed). These can then be raised at the November meeting with a view to using this ideas to request support from the Federal Government prior to the next election.

Juliet suggested two possible speakers at the next meeting, Colin Stonehouse or Terry Mann. It is agreed to ask Terry Mann to present at the November Meeting.

Closure – the formal meeting closed at 3:09pm.

Industry Tour to be held following the meeting at West Cape Howe Wines