

SHIRE OF SHARK BAY  
**ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING**

Wednesday 25 March 2026 at 5.00 pm

Shark Bay Recreation Centre

**MINUTES**



D Chapman  
Chief Executive Officer

25 March 2026

1. **Declaration Of Opening**

The President declared the meeting open at 5pm

2. **Acknowledgement of Country**

I would like to acknowledge the Malgana People as the traditional custodians of the land and sea in and around the Shire of Shark Bay.

I pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

3. **Attendances And Apologies**

ATTENDANCES

Cr P Stubberfield	President
Cr M Smith	Deputy President
Cr C Cowell	

Mr D Chapman	Chief Executive Officer
Mis R Ironside	Minute Taker

Electors / Residents

Mr G Ridgley  
Mr S Thomson  
Ms F Castling

Resident

Ms L Russell, Knight Tce, Denham

**APOLOGIES**

Cr L Bellottie  
Cr A Johns  
Cr E Fenny

Ms M Fanali	Executive Manager
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4. **Receiving Of The Annual Report Of The Shire Of Shark Bay For The Year Ending 30 June 2025.**

Moved Mr Shayne Thomson  
Seconded Mr Greg Ridgely

**Officer Recommendation**

**That the Annual Report, including the Annual Financial Statements, Presidents Report and Auditors Report of the Shire of Shark Bay for the Year ending 30 June 2025 be received.**

*CARRIED 3/0*

5. **General Business**

<b>QUESTION FROM ELECTOR</b>	<b>SHIRE RESPONSE</b>
<p><b>Q1. Due to the current world affairs, that will likely have a large negative impact on tourism in Western Australia, what planning is the Shire undertaking to ensure we have a resilient community?</b></p> <p><b>Shayne Tomson 17/23 Hughes Street Denham</b></p> <p><b>Drop in tourism – bonding with local community – is there projects like community gardens being planned.</b></p> <p><b>Community News – Hall meeting once a month.</b></p>	<p><b>The Shire is proactively working with the Western Australian State Government to ensure continuity of essential services, including water, diesel, power and supply chains, in response to current global conditions. The Shire has been recognised as an Essential Services community, enabling prioritisation in emergency and resilience planning.</b></p> <p><b>The Shire is also monitoring potential impacts on tourism and the local economy and will continue to explore and implement strategies to support community resilience and sustainability</b></p> <p><b>The Shire acknowledges the importance of strengthening community connection, particularly in light of potential impacts from a downturn in tourism. Initiatives such as community-based projects, including community gardens, will be given consideration over the next 12 months.</b></p> <p><b>The CEO advised the forum that this matter has been recognised, and additional resourcing has been allocated to the Shire’s Community Team in the current financial year to support increased community engagement. Opportunities such as regular community meetings, including a monthly hall forum, will also be explored as part of this approach</b></p>
<p><b>Q2. 2029 Swan River Colony Established. Bicentennial Celebrations 200 years. Has the Council any plans to celebrate? May I suggest</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. add to flags outside Council Office The States WA Flag</b></li><li><b>2. Time capsule</b></li></ol> <p><b>Fay Castling Knight Tce Denham</b></p>	<p><b>The Shire will be guided by the Western Australian State Government in relation to any bicentennial commemorations of the Swan River Colony in 2029. Further consideration of local initiatives will be undertaken once State-led direction and planning are established.</b></p>

**6. Closure Of Meeting**

There is no further general business, the President will close the Annual Electors meeting at 5.17pm