



Unconfirmed Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, 19th of May 2026

Ravensthorpe Council Chambers

Commencing at 6.00pm

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NOTICE OF MEETING



Notice is hereby given that the

Shire of Ravensthorpe

Ordinary Council

Meeting

Will be held on

Tuesday, 19 May 2026

Commencing at

6.00pm

Located in the

Ravensthorpe Council Chambers

Nicole O'Neill JP
Chief Executive Officer

Disclaimer

The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to the Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

Please note this agenda contains recommendations which have not yet been adopted by Council

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Ravensthorpe for any act, omission, statement or intimation occurring during the Council/Committee meetings or during formal/informal conversations with staff. The Shire of Ravensthorpe disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and however caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission, statement or intimation. Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement does so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broader disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, any statement or limitation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Ravensthorpe during the course of any meetings is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Ravensthorpe. The Shire of Ravensthorpe warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Ravensthorpe must obtain and should only rely on written confirmation of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attached to the decision made by the Shire of Ravensthorpe in respect of the application. **In accordance with Regulation 14I of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, this meeting was intended to be recorded and made publicly available. Due to an unforeseen technical failure, the recording of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 May 2026 is unavailable.**

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MINUTES

Mission Statement *To grow our community through the provision of leadership, services and infrastructure.*

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 6:00pm.

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

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Rachel Gibson (Shire President)
Cr Benno Sutherland (Deputy Shire President)
Cr Sue Leighton
Cr Bill Auburn
Cr Helen Burton
Cr Geoff Fyfe

OFFICERS

Nicole O'Neill JP (Chief Executive Officer)
Paul Spencer (Executive Manager Infrastructure Services)
Les Mainwaring (Executive Manager Corporate Services)
Rod McGrath (Manager Community and Governance)
Michelle Grobler (Executive Assistant)

PUBLIC GALERY

Grahame Richardson

APOLOGIES

Cr Robert Miloskeski

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Rachel Gibson

Report Item No 12.1.2 – Community Development Fund Applications for 2026/2027

- Member of the Munglinup Community Group – Impartiality Interest

Report Item No 12.1.3 – National General Assembly of Local Government

- Elected member going to the LGA – Financial Interest

Cr Benno Sutherland

Report Item No 12.1.2 – Community Development Fund Applications for 2026/2027

- Member of the Ravensthorpe Car Club – Impartiality Interest

Cr Sue Leighton

Report Item No 12.1.2 – Community Development Fund Applications for 2026/2027

- Member of the Munglinup Community Group – Impartiality Interest
- Member of the Hopetoun CRC – Impartiality Interest
- Member of the Ravensthorpe Wildflower show – Financial Interest

Cr Bill Auburn

Report Item No 12.1.2 – Community Development Fund Applications for 2026/2027

- Member of the Saint John’s Ambulance Ravensthorpe Sub-Branch – Impartiality interest

Cr Helen Burton

Report Item No 12.1.2 – Community Development Fund Applications for 2026/2027

- Committee Member of the Saint John’s Ambulance Ravensthorpe Sub-Branch – Impartiality interest
- President of the Ravensthorpe Tennis Club – Impartiality interest

Cr Geoff Fyfe

Report Item No 12.1.2 – Community Development Fund Applications for 2026/2027

- Member of the Saint John’s Ambulance Ravensthorpe Sub-Branch – Impartiality interest

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

7.1. ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 21 APRIL 2026

(Attachment: 7.1) Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that minutes of all meetings are to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council or Committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

That the minutes and associated attachments of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2026 be CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.

Moved: Cr Fyfe

Seconded: Cr Sutherland

Resolution #45/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

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7.2. AUDIT, RISK & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 15 DECEMBER 2025

(Attachment: 7.1) Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that minutes of all meetings are to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council or Committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee held on 15 December 2025 as published on the Shire Website be confirmed as true and correct records of proceedings.

Moved: Cr Auburn

Seconded: Cr Leighton

Resolution #46/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS BY ELECTED MEMBERS

CR RACHEL GIBSON (SHIRE PRESIDENT)

- 3 May 2026 – LG Health Funding Alliance Online Presentation / Public Hearing
 - Attended the LG Health Funding Alliance Online Presentation and Public Hearing. The LG Health Alliance Group consists of six Local Governments:
 - Shire of Ravensthorpe
 - Shire of Gnowangerup
 - Shire of Lake Grace
 - Shire of Jerramungup
 - Shire of Narembeen
 - Shire of Kojonup

- WALGA stood as a witness at the Inquiry's Public Hearing.

The support provided by Local Government became a significant focus of the Hearing, with other witnesses, including Rural Health West and WA Country Health Service, referencing the role of Local Government.

The Committee asked a number of questions relating to Local Government support and regional health service delivery.

As part of WALGA's evidence, reference was made to the work of the LG Alliance Group and the "up to 16% of rates" figure contained within the Position Paper.

The Shire was not specifically identified during the Hearing; however, the Alliance's work received valuable additional exposure and awareness.

- 5 May 2026 – Corporate Discussion Online
 - 12 May 2026 – KBCCI Goldfields-Esperance Showcase at Parliament House
 - Represented the Goldfields-Esperance Region and the Shire at the event.
 - Participated in networking opportunities with the Premier, Ministers, Shadow Ministers, politicians, and regional business representatives.
 - Discussed issues and opportunities impacting the Shire and broader Goldfields-Esperance Region.
- Met directly with:
- Shane Love
 - Peter Rundle

- David Michael

The event provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the region and advocate for regional priorities and opportunities.

Acknowledged and thanked FBN for inviting Shire representatives and including the region in the showcase event.

- Emails and Phone Calls

Responded to numerous emails and phone enquiries from community members regarding sporting grounds within the Shire.

CR BENNO SUTHERLAND (DEPUTY SHIRE PRESIDENT)

- Attended Great Southern Roads Group meeting
- Attended councillor training held at the Shire offices.
- Attended an additional Fuel Roundtable meeting in Perth.
- Community engagement on various occasions.

CR SUE LEIGHTON

- 25 April 2026 Attended the ANZAC Service and photographed the event. There was a great turnout, the service was well organised, and positive feedback was received from both the community and attendees.
- 29 April 2026 Met with Nicole Hodgson and Nicole O'Neill regarding the Heartland's Journey Project and the GeneStreams sculpture.
- 2 May 2026 Attended the Ravensthorpe Historical Society meeting. Members were pleased to hear that the tourism trainee/employee position has been filled. Discussion also included the Kuldip poppet head and its proposed relocation.
- 5-6 May 2026 Attended WALGA training in Ravensthorpe.
- 12 May 2026 Attended Parliament House as part of the KBCC FBN expo. I think it was a very good way to present the region and to catch up and chat to ministers etc, but also to mingle and engage with businesses in the Goldfields region. Thanks to FBN for organising.
- 15 May 2026 – Attended Australia's Biggest Morning Tea hosted in the Red Room by the Ravensthorpe Community Resource Centre group. Approximately \$2,300 was raised for the event, with attendees transported from Hopetoun via the community bus.

CR ROBERT MILOSESKI

- Attended the ANZAC Day commemoration in Ravensthorpe, which was well received and had a strong community turnout.
- Attended the two-day WALGA training event for Councillors.

CR BILL AUBURN

- Attended Regional Roads Group meeting.
- Attended markets on market day.
- Attended Councillor training held at the Shire.

CR HELEN BURTON

- 28th April - RCRC Cuppa Chronicles, where Paul Metz shared his life story which is a very interesting snippet of local history. These events are well attended and a great initiative by the RCRC.
- 1st May -Attended Governor Dawson's reception in Ravensthorpe. The Governor paid tribute to the courage, character and resilience of our community.
- 5/6th May - WALGA Mandatory Training.
- 5th - May Corporate Discussion.

CR GEOFF FYFE

- Nil

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Les Mainwaring first joined the Shire in April 2019 on what was initially a 4-week temporary contract and has since dedicated the past seven years to the organisation.

Throughout his tenure, he has been a steady and reliable presence, providing stability and leadership during a period marked by both significant achievements and considerable challenges.

Working alongside three permanent CEOs and three Acting CEOs, he has successfully managed the Shire's finances through the peaks and downturns of operating in a turbulent mining town, while also guiding the organisation through floods, fires, ongoing operational pressures, and demanding audit and governance scrutiny during particularly challenging periods for the Shire.

His resilience, professionalism and commitment to both the organisation and his team have been greatly valued by both Council and staff alike.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Les for his service to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, and to the Local Government Sector, at this is his last Ordinary Council Meeting. Les we wish you well in Retirement.

10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

12.1.1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND APPROVED SUBMISSIONS FOR 2025/2026 – CARRIED OVER INTO THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/2027

File Reference:	GS.AP.6
Location:	N/A
Applicant:	N/A
Author:	Manager Community and Governance
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date	11 May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Previous Reference:	OCM 20 May 2025, Item 12.1.2.; Res No.34/25

PURPOSE

1. The report seeks Council consideration and approval for two groups that were successfully awarded Community Development Fund monies for the 2025-2026 financial year for their funds to be carried over to the next financial year, 2026/2027.

BACKGROUND

2. The Shire has been approached by two groups that were successful in being awarded monies under the 2025/2026 Community Development Fund for these funds to be used in the next financial year.
3. The Ravensthorpe Car Club Inc was awarded \$10,000 under the CDF Major Event Category for a Street to Strip motor sport event.
4. The Car Club are seeking an extension of time to be able to undertake their proposed car event, which includes a ¼ mile drag racing, show and shine.
5. The Munglinup Golf Club Inc was awarded \$3,500 under the General Community Category for the purchase of a replacement commercial fridge.
6. The Golf Club is seeking to repurpose their approved grant funding in order to purchase and install a new commercial dishwasher as they had been awarded funding from an insurance claim to replace their older commercial fridge and freezer due to a power surge.
7. Neither of these two clubs above have yet received their approved CDF funding for the applications they submitted for the 2025-2026 financial year.

COMMENT

8. As per the Shire of Ravensthorpe Council Policy – G20 Community Development Fund, in the section relating to Acquittal of funds:

“Should the project not be completed by within the agreed timeframes the organisation can apply to Council for an extension for the funds to be carried over to the next financial year (an application must be made prior to consideration of the next year’s funding round). Prior approval must be sought for any substantial change of proposal. If no request is made the funds will not be carried forward and any funds already provided are to be returned to the Shire of Ravensthorpe.

9. Both the Ravensthorpe Car Club Inc and the Munglinup Golf Club Inc did apply within agreed timeframes for an extension of time and/or change of proposal for their 2025/2026 Community Development Fund applications as per the Shire of Ravensthorpe Council Policy – G20 Community Development Fund.

10. Both Clubs as per their submissions to the Shire are seeking approval from Council for the Community Development Funds that they were successful in being awarded for the 2025-2026 financial year to be carried over to the next financial year (2026-2027).

CONSULTATION

11. Councillors, Executive team and applicants where further information was requested by Council.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

12. Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

13. The Community Development Fund is administered as per Council Policy G20 – Community Development Fund.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. As per Council's Budget for the financial year 2025-2026 for the Community Development Fund program, the Ravensthorpe Car Club Inc was awarded \$10,000 and the Munglinup Golf Club Inc was awarded \$3,500.
15. If Council approved an extension of time and/or repurposing of these funds as per each Clubs application, then the intention is to carry these funds over into the Shire's financial budget for 2026-2027.

RISK MANAGEMENT

16. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report:

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational & Financial; The awarding of the CDF program and budget allocation is not formally endorsed by Council.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	The CDF is an annual funding program expected from the local community groups. Council to consider application and endorse awarding.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

17. Council may endorse the officer recommendation or elect to not support.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

18. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

Outcome 1: Economy - The population is growing, in tandem with a thriving, resilient local economy

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

Outcome 2: Community - This is a safe and family-friendly community where people of all ages have access to services and facilities, and there is plenty to blow your socks off

Item	Objectives and Strategies
2.1	Social services and facilities are designed and delivered in a way that fits community needs and aspirations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
2.2	Community groups function well with strong volunteer effort and feel supported by the community
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life
2.5	Young people, older people and people with disability feel valued and have access to resources which provide opportunities for their development and enjoyment

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.1	The Shire's community is engaged and involved
5.3	The Council, with the support of the community, is an effective advocate for resources and facilities which support the vision for the future
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained

VOTING REQUIREMENT

19. Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council ENDORSE:

- 1. The Community Development Funds awarded within the Shire's 2025-2026 financial year's budget for the Ravensthorpe Car Club Inc (awarded \$10,000) and the Munglinup Car Club Inc (awarded \$3,500) to be carried over to the financial year 2026-2027 subject to budget adoption.**
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer to advise each group of the outcome of their submission for an extension of time and/or repurposing of their awarded 2025-2026 Community Development Funds.**

Moved: Cr Auburn

Seconded: Cr Burton

Resolution #47/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

12.1.2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATIONS FOR 2026/2027

File Reference:	GS.AP.6
Location:	N/A
Applicant:	N/A
Author:	Manager Community and Governance
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	11 May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments	Nil
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. The report seeks Council consideration for the awarding of grants under the 2026/2027 Community Development Fund.

BACKGROUND

2. Each year the Shire of Ravensthorpe makes available a local community grant scheme called the Community Development Fund (CDF) as per Council Policy G20.
3. At the February 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed a revised CDF Policy G20 as per Resolution number 02/23.
4. The revised policy included an increase in funds allocation equivalent to up to 1.5% of the rate revenue of the previous year. Other amendments included the creation of four categories for funding with each category having a specific community focus, maximum funding level, and application and acquittal requirements. The categories considered as part of this annual funding round include;
 - a. **General Community Grants:** local community groups and not for profit organisations may apply for funding for projects and activities that benefit communities within the Shire up to a maximum of \$3,500.
 - b. **Community Events:** local community groups may apply for up to a maximum of \$5,000 for events that are targeted primarily at a local audience. Community events may create increased vibrancy, activate local places, and/or target specific groups within the local community.
 - c. **Major Events:** event organisers may apply for up to a maximum of \$10,000 for events that are delivered within the Shire and have significant economic benefit to the Ravensthorpe community during non-peak visitor periods to encourage additional economic visitor spend during shoulder and low seasons. Eligible events include, but not limited to sporting, recreational, music, cultural, food and wine, special interest, and business meetings that have the potential to attract visitation from outside the region.
5. In addition, under the **Shire President Donations** category, local community groups may apply for up to \$750 at any time of the year which assists to cover any applications that may not qualify for the other CDF categories.
6. At the August 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed a further revision to the CDF G20 Policy as per Resolution number 67/24, to allow multiple applications from the one entity in a given year, however no more than one per each category (General Community, Community Event, Major Event).
7. All applications received will be considered by Council as part of the competitive assessment process, however, applicants should be aware that if the CDF is over-subscribed in a given year then multiple applications may not be successful.

8. The CDF program was open to receive applications in March 2026. The CDF program was promoted via Shire communication channels, Community Spirit newsletter and shared to local Facebook media.

COMMENT

9. A total of 25 applications were received from eligible local community groups as per the below Table 1 with twelve (12) applications in the General Community category, twelve (12) applications in the Community Event category and one (1) application in the Major Event category application.

TABLE 1 – 2026/2027 CDF GRANT APPLICATIONS SUMMARY

GENERAL COMMUNITY CATEGORY – APPLICANT ORGANISATION	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$) Submitted	PRIORITY NO (for 2 applications submitted)
Attachment Part One – Applications Submitted			
Ravensthorpe Playgroup	Playgroup supplies	1,000	
St John Ambulance Ravensthorpe	Security Camera installation	1,649.85	
Ravensthorpe District Art Group	Air conditioner purchase	2,600	
Windspray Arts	Windspray Arts Shire Rates, Public liability Insurance, Website Development and Internet Access	3,148	
Hopetoun Community Resource Centre	Hopetoun Library STEM Equipment	3,500	
Hopetoun Clay Target Club	Kitchen Upgrade	3,500	2
Attachment Part Two – Applications Submitted			
Jerdacuttup Community Association	Subsidy to partially help defray electricity and insurance costs for the community hall	3,500	
Lakes Equestrian Riding Club	Day Yards for Lake Equestrian Riding Club	3,500	1
North Ravensthorpe Community Association	Introduce Reformer Pilates	3,500	
Rave About Arts	Youth Jams music program for teenagers	3,500	2
Ravensthorpe District High School P&C	Kindy and Pre-Primary playground upgrade at RDHS	3,500	
Ravensthorpe Tennis Club	Tennis Coaching and pickleball Initiative	3,500	
TOTAL		\$36,397.85	
COMMUNITY EVENT CATEGORY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$) Submitted	PRIORITY NO (for 2 applications submitted)

			submitted)
Attachment Part One – Applications Submitted			
Ravensthorpe Equestrian Club	10 th Annual Gymkhana	600	
Hopetoun Everett Country Golf Club	South East Ladies Golf Association (SELGA – Singles Championships)	1,900	
Readers & Writers Reef to Range Festival	2026 Readers and Writers Festival	2,800	
Hopetoun Clay Target Club	Hopetoun Clay Target Club's Annual Zone Weekend Shoot	5,000	1
Hopetoun Primary School P&C Assoc	Hopey's Got Talent & Comedy Bingo	5,000	
Hopetoun Progress Association	Marine Week 2026	5,000	
Attachment Part Two – Applications Submitted			
Lakes Equestrian Riding Club	Youth Horsemanship Camp	5,000	2
Munglinup Community Group	2026 Munglinup Football Exhibition Match	5,000	
Rave About Arts	Drip Drop Play – a nationally touring immersive sensory performance for children and their families	5,000	1
Ravensthorpe C.R.C.	Connect, Create and Gather at the Ravensthorpe CRC – a diverse series of events	5,000	
Southerners Sporting Club	2027 Southerners 33 rd Annual Fishing Classic	5,000	1
Southerners Sporting Club	Southerners Sporting Club – The Big Freeze 12	5,000	2
TOTAL		\$50,300	

MAJOR EVENT CATEGORY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$) Submitted	PRIORITY NO (for 2 applications submitted)
Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show	2026 Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show	10,000	
TOTAL		\$10,000	

10. Once approved by Council, Shire officers will publish details of the applications received, inform applicants on the outcome of their applications, and budget for the 2026/2027 period accordingly.

CONSULTATION

11. Councillors, Executive team and applicants where further information was requested by Council.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

12. Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

13. The Community Development Fund is administered as per Council Policy G20 – Community Development Fund.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. As per Council Policy G20 up to 1.5% of the rate revenue of the previous financial year (2025/2026) is to be made available under the Community Development Fund. For the 2026/2027 financial period this equates to a notional maximum of \$94,400 ex GST less the amount allocated to the adhoc Shire President's Donation grants category which is set as \$10,000 allocated for the financial year.
15. Therefore, about \$84,400 would be available for allocation for the 2026-2027 financial year for the three CDF categories of (1) General Community, (2) Community Event and (3) Major Event. A total of \$96,697.85 in funds was requested under the 2026/2027 CDF grant application process.
16. Council may award up to more or less than the total amount of \$84,400 as part of the adoption of the annual budget process.

RISK MANAGEMENT

17. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report:

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational & Financial; The awarding of the CDF program and budget allocation is not formally endorsed by Council.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	CDF is an annual funding program expected from the local community groups. Council to consider application and endorse awarding.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

18. Council may endorse the officer recommendation or elect to support or not support its own selections.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

19. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

Outcome 1: Economy - The population is growing, in tandem with a thriving, resilient local economy

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

Outcome 2: Community - This is a safe and family-friendly community where people of all ages have access to services and facilities, and there is plenty to blow your socks off

Item	Objectives and Strategies
2.1	Social services and facilities are designed and delivered in a way that fits community needs and aspirations
2.2	Community groups function well with strong volunteer effort and feel supported by the community
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life
2.5	Young people, older people and people with disability feel valued and have access to resources which provide opportunities for their development and enjoyment

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.1	The Shire's community is engaged and involved
5.3	The Council, with the support of the community, is an effective advocate for resources and facilities which support the vision for the future
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained

VOTING REQUIREMENT

20. Simple Majority

Cr Sue Leighton declared a financial interest in Item 12.1.2 and left the meeting at 6:12 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council APPROVE:

- The Community Group Organisations' Community Development Funding (CDF) applications in the 2026/2027 Financial Budget as per Table 1 below subject to budget adoption.**

TABLE 1 – OFFICER RECOMMENDED CDF 2026/2027 APPLICATIONS FOR SUPPORT

GENERAL COMMUNITY CATEGORY – APPLICANT ORGANISATION	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$) Submitted	PRIORITY NO (for 2 applications submitted)	OFFICER RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (\$)
Attachment Part One – Applications Submitted				
Ravensthorpe Playgroup	Playgroup supplies	1,000		1,000
St John Ambulance Ravensthorpe	Security Camera installation	1,649.85		1,649.85
Ravensthorpe District Art Group	Air conditioner purchase	2,600		2,600
Windspray Arts	Windspray Arts Shire Rates, Public liability Insurance, Website Development and	3,148		3,148

	Internet Access			
Hopetoun Community Resource Centre	Hopetoun Library STEM Equipment	3,500		3,500
Hopetoun Clay Target Club	Kitchen Upgrade	3,500	2	3,500
Attachment Part Two – Applications Submitted				
Jerdacuttup Community Association	Subsidy to partially help defray electricity and insurance costs for the community hall	3,500		3,500
Lakes Equestrian Riding Club	Day Yards for Lake Equestrian Riding Club	3,500	1	0
North Ravensthorpe Community Association	Introduce Reformer Pilates	3,500		3,500
Rave About Arts	Youth Jams music program for teenagers	3,500	2	3,500
Ravensthorpe District High School P&C	Kindy and Pre-Primary playground upgrade at RDHS	3,500		3,500
Ravensthorpe Tennis Club	Tennis Coaching and pickleball Initiative	3,500		3,500
TOTAL		\$36,397.85		\$32,897.85

COMMUNITY EVENT CATEGORY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$) Submitted	PRIORITY NO (for 2 applications submitted)	OFFICER RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (\$)
Attachment Part One – Applications Submitted				
Ravensthorpe Equestrian Club	10 th Annual Gymkhana	600		600
Hopetoun Everett Country Golf Club	South East Ladies Golf Association (SELGA – Singles Championships)	1,900		1,900
Readers & Writers Reef to Range Festival	2026 Readers and Writers Festival	2,800		2,800
Hopetoun Clay Target Club	Hopetoun Clay Target Club's Annual Zone Weekend Shoot	5,000	1	5,000
Hopetoun Primary School P&C Assoc	Hopey's Got Talent & Comedy Bingo	5,000		5,000
Hopetoun Progress Association	Marine Week 2026	5,000		5,000
Attachment Part Two – Applications Submitted				
Lakes Equestrian Riding Club	Youth Horsemanship Camp	5,000	2	0
Munglinup Community Group	2026 Munglinup Football Exhibition Match	5,000		5,000
Rave About Arts	Drip Drop Play – a nationally touring immersive sensory performance for children	5,000	1	5,000

	and their families			
Ravensthorpe C.R.C.	Connect, Create and Gather at the Ravensthorpe CRC – a diverse series of events	5,000		5,000
Southerners Sporting Club	2027 Southerners 33 rd Annual Fishing Classic	5,000	1	5,000
Southerners Sporting Club	Southerners Sporting Club – The Big Freeze 12	5,000	2	0
TOTAL		\$50,300		\$40,300

MAJOR EVENT CATEGORY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$) Submitted	PRIORITY NO (for 2 applications submitted)	OFFICER RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (\$)
Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show	2026 Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show	10,000		10,000
TOTAL		\$10,000		\$10,000

Note: Adding the amounts in the Officer Recommended column for each of the CDF categories: \$32,897.85 plus \$40,300 plus \$10,000 equals a total of \$83,167.85.

2. **That council note the 2026/2027 Community Development Fund Budget be proposed as \$93,167.85 which incorporates \$83,167.85 being the total of the successful applications for the three categories (General Community, Community Event and Major Event) that were submitted and approved plus \$10,000 being allocated towards the Shire President Donations account for inclusion in the 2026/2027 draft financial budget as per approved policy and guidelines; and**
3. **The Chief Executive Officer to advise each group of the status of their application to enable effective budgeting for the 2026/2027 financial period.**

Moved: Cr Sutherland

Seconded: Cr Auburn

Resolution #48/26

Carried: 5/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

Cr Sue Leighton returned to the meeting at 6:15 pm following consideration of the matter.

12.1.3. NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (NGA)

File Reference:	Nil.
Location:	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Applicant:	.
Author:	Nicole O'Neill
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil.
Previous Reference:	N/A

PURPOSE

1. To seek approval for the Shire President Rachel Gibson and CEO Nicole O'Neill to attend the 2026 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA).

COMMENT

2. The National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) is the largest annual gathering of local government leaders in Australia.
3. Since 1994, council leaders have converged in Canberra for the NGA to advocate for better federal funding, policy reforms and effective partnerships.
4. The national event regularly attracts more than 1000 delegates from around Australia and overseas, and provides an exciting opportunity for mayors, shire presidents and councillors to come together, network and consider the big issues for communities.
5. In the face of evolving challenges and opportunities, local governments around Australia stand at the forefront of driving resilience and productivity. Local governments know we are stronger together and the importance of unity across all levels of government. The theme for this year's NGA, Stronger Together: Resilient. Productive. United, underscores the pivotal role councils play in shaping the nation's future and delivering national priorities.
6. As the backbone of local communities, councils are uniquely positioned to implement place-based solutions that address both local needs and national priorities. This year's NGA encourages debate on how councils can enhance their resilience, contribute meaningfully to the nation's productivity agenda, and present a cohesive voice to the federal government on critical issues.
7. By fostering collaboration and innovation, local governments can lead the way in creating sustainable and thriving communities.
8. This year's call for motion focusses on ten priority areas:
 - Financial sustainability
 - Emergency management
 - Housing and planning
 - Roads and infrastructure
 - Closing the Gap
 - Jobs and skills
 - Environment
 - Cyber security
 - Climate change
 - Intergovernmental relations.
9. Debate on motions was introduced to the NGA as a vehicle for councils from across the nation to canvas ideas. Outcomes of these debates (NGA Resolutions) can be used by councils to inform their own policies and priorities, as well as their advocacy when dealing with federal politicians.

10. The resolutions of the NGA will be referred to the relevant federal Minister as an outcome of the NGA.
11. As the host of the NGA, ALGA will communicate resolutions to the relevant Australian Government Minister and publish Ministerial responses as they are received on the ALGA website.
12. The Shire representatives will also attend the Rural Local Government Doctor Attraction & Retention Advocacy Session on the 22 June 2026.
13. Many rural, remote and very remote local governments are spending significant amounts of ratepayer funds to attract and retain doctors to their communities. This includes providing cash incentives, housing, vehicles, medical facilities, and ongoing operational support.
14. The Local Government Rural Health Funding Alliance was formed in Western Australia in late 2024 by six founding local governments. These councils collectively represent around 8,000 residents in the Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions and contribute more than \$1.48m annually to attract and retain GPs, for some this is up to 16% of their annual rates income. The Alliance was formed to address the growing challenge of funding general practice and primary healthcare services in thin markets.

CONSULTATION

15. Shire councillors
16. CEO

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

17. Local Government Act

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

18. G3 Council Member Training and Development

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

19. The Shire has allocated a budget for Councillor Training and Seminars, no additional budget is required.,

RISK MANAGEMENT

20. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational.	Possible	Moderate	Low	Ensure clear understanding of benefits to attend the national General Assembly of Local Government.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

21. Request alternative
22. Defer the item and request further information.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

23. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan.

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.2	The Council ensures its decisions are well informed and considered
5.3	The Council, with the support of the community, is an effective advocate for resources and facilities which support the vision for the future

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

24. Simple Majority

Cr Rachel Gibson declared a financial interest in item 12.1.3 and left the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Deputy Shire President Cr Benno Sutherland assumed the Chair for consideration of the item.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council,

- 1. APPROVES the attendance of Shire President Rachel Gibson and CEO Nicole O'Neill at the 2026 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) in Canberra from 23 June to 25 June 2026.**

Item discussion:

Cr Sue Leighton spoke in support of the motion, noting that it was a great opportunity to represent the Shire at a federal level.

Moved: Cr Leighton

Seconded: Cr Burton

Resolution #49/26

Carried: 5/0

(In favour: Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

Cr Rachel Gibson returned to the meeting at 6:17 pm following consideration of the matter and resumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

12.2. CORPORATE SERVICES

12.2.1. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNT PAYMENTS – APRIL 2026

File Reference:	GR.ME.8
Location:	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Applicant:	Nil
Author:	Accounting Manager
Authorising Officer	Executive Manager Corporate Services
Date:	12 May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments: 12.1.1	Schedule of Paid Accounts April 2026 Purchase Cards March 2026
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. Council is presented the list of payments made from the Municipal and Trust Accounts under delegation since the last Ordinary Council Meeting in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13 and Regulation 13A).

BACKGROUND

2. Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer annually through Delegation 1.2.12 Payments from the Municipal or Trust Funds.
3. Trade Creditors are subject to strict monitoring and control procedures. In accordance with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13), reporting on payments made from Municipal Fund and Trust Funds must occur monthly.
4. Effective from 1 September 2023 under Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13A), if a local government has authorised an employee to use a credit, debit or other purchasing card, a list of payments made using the card must be prepared each month.

COMMENT

5. The schedule of accounts as presented have been checked and are fully supported by vouchers and invoices which are submitted herewith, and which have been duly certified as to the receipt of goods, the performance of services, to prices computation, costings and the amounts that have been paid.

CONSULTATION

6. Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

7. Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations
8. Regulation 13A of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9. Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. This item discloses Council's expenditure from Municipal funds which have been paid under delegated authority.

RISK MANAGEMENT

11. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational That Council does not receive the schedule of account payments.	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	That Council receives the schedule of account payments.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

12. Nil

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

13. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan.

Outcome 1: Economy - The population is growing, in tandem with a thriving, resilient local economy

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.2	The Council ensures its decisions are well informed and considered
5.3	The Council, with the support of the community, is an effective advocate for resources and facilities which support the vision for the future
5.4	The Shire of Ravensthorpe is known as a good employer, and staff have the capacity and skills to deliver identified services and strategies

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

14. Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council:

- RECEIVE the monthly lists of payments made from the Municipal Accounts, including by employees via purchasing cards for the month of April 2026 (Attachments 1) totalling \$1,447,108 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13 and Regulation 13A).
- RECEIVE the list of transactions for the purchasing cards for the month of March 2026 (Attachments 2) totalling \$7,323.94.

Moved: Cr Leighton

Seconded: Cr Sutherland

Resolution #50/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

12.2.2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – APRIL 2026

File Reference:	N/A
Location:	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Applicant:	Nil
Author:	Accounting Manager
Authorising Officer	Executive Manager Corporate Services
Date:	12 May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments: 12.2.1	Monthly Financial Reports for 30 April 2026
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

3. This report presents the monthly Financial Statements for the period from the 1 July 2025 to the 30 April 2026 for Council endorsement.

BACKGROUND

4. The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 r. 34 s. 6.4. The purpose of the report is to provide Council and the community with a reporting statement of year-to-date revenues and expenses as set out in the Annual Budget, which were incurred by the Shire of Ravensthorpe during the reporting period.

COMMENT

5. The Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 30 April 2026 is contained in the Attachments.

Statement of Financial Activity

This report shows the expenditure and revenue from financing and investing activities and compares the actual results with the adopted budget and revised budget.

The current surplus YTD is \$4.2m which is lower than the March surplus of \$5.4m. The revised budget surplus is \$1.2m by the end of June 26 which is significantly lower than the current YTD amount. This is due to reduced spend on capital expenditure assets YTD, with an increase in spend expected over the next few months which may carry forward into 2026/2027. The increase in expenditure in April was due to work being carried out on roads during the month.

Report on Significant Variances

This report contains explanations for items with a material variance. Actual values for the year to date are compared to the year to date budget to present a percentage variance as well as the variance amount.

The variances to date are primarily due to timing differences between the budget and the actual being spent. There is a favourable permanent variance of \$1.01m where we have received grants that were not budgeted for.

CONSULTATION

6. Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

7. Section 6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 apply.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8. Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. All expenditure has been approved via adoption of the 2025/2026 Annual Budget, 2025/2026 Budget Revision or resulting from a Council Motion for a budget amendment.

RISK MANAGEMENT

10. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational – That Council does not receive the Financial Activity Statements as required by S6.4 of the <i>LG Act 1995</i> .	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	That council receives the Financial Activity Statements as required by legislation.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

11. Council may adopt the recommendations; or
12. Defer consideration and seek further information.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

13. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030, Corporate Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan 2025.

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.5.1	Assets renewals and upgrades are funded to the level required to maintain asset value and agreed service levels
5.5.2	Projects are well-planned planned and delivered on time and on budget, with effective and thorough risk management and reporting
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed
5..6.1	Financial management and reporting systems are able to deliver on all administrative and management functions (including reporting), and long-term financial planning requirements

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

14. Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council:

RECEIVE the April 2026 Monthly Financial Reports as presented.

Moved: Cr Auburn

Seconded: Cr Burton

Resolution #51/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

12.2.3. RATING STRATEGY POLICY AND DIFFERENTIAL RATES 2026-2027

File Reference:	RV.RC.001
Location:	Not Applicable
Applicant:	Not Applicable
Author:	Executive Manager Corporate Services
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	08 May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments: 12.1.1	Objects and Reasons 2026-2027
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. This report recommends that Council adopt the 2026/2027 differential rates for the purpose of advertising.

BACKGROUND

2. Council adopted a system of differential rating for the first time in the 2015/2016 financial year.
3. As part of the budget setting process for 2026/2027 council will consider a continuation of differential rating, noting that as part of the differential rating process as it stands, ministerial approval will be required prior to rates being struck for the year.

COMMENT

4. Section 6.33 of the Local Government Act 1995 provides the ability to differentially rate properties based on zoning and/or land use as determined by the Shire of Ravensthorpe. The application of differential rating maintains equity of contribution in the rating of properties across the Shire, enabling the Council to provide facilities, infrastructure and services to the entire community and visitors.
5. Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act (1995) allows Council to implement a system of differential rating subject to public advertising, adoption by Council, and approval from the Minister for Local Government; Disability Services; Volunteering; Youth; and Gascoyne before being applied.
6. The Act allows for differential rates to be applied to help overcome issues where the land use within a rating category has a differing contributory cost to Council and therefore rates in the dollar applied are varied. The use of differential rating helps to ensure equity of contribution within the rating system.
7. In past years the Shire had been experiencing a growing local economy with strong mining activity from two operational mines, however in mid-2024 the nickel mine closed operations with a loss of almost 500 jobs and the lithium mine was soon to follow moving into care and maintenance by early 2025. This downturn had an immediate impact on local government services such as airport passenger numbers and commercial waste volumes resulting in a loss of net revenue to the shire from the airport of at least \$1.7M representing a drop in total revenues of about 14% going into the 2025/26 financial year.
8. It was indicated in the Draft Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) adopted in May 2025 that shire needed to make some significant cut backs during the next two years, if rates rises were not to exceed 5% and the shire was to avoid significant financial difficulties affecting operations. In 2026/27 a proposed 5% rates increase would yield \$269,000 in additional revenue.
9. The 2026/27 budget year was planned to be another year of restraint, however emerging risks of Diesel fuel prices increasing by at least 50% would cost the shire an additional \$250,000. There is also pressure from union wage negotiators of a 6% to 7% increase which would have a potential budget impact of between \$340,000 to \$400,000.

10. The annual 2026 revaluation of Unimproved Values by the Valuer Generals Office has revealed an increase in land values of rural +19.74% (LY +20.28%) and mining +2.3% (LY +3.6%). Whilst a general rating yield increase will be set for rural at 5% it is envisaged that some amount of variation will occur across different rural sectors due to non-uniform valuation increases. That is, whilst the aggregate of valuations has risen by 19.74%, some land areas will rise in value more than others therefore the rural rate burden will shift according to those relativities. With the rise in UV rural land values, rural rates in the dollar have fallen from \$0.003375 to \$0.002960.
11. The objects and reasons for the differential rating model remains consistent from 2025/2026 where Ministerial Approval was last granted.
12. The proposed model attached delivers an overall increase in rate income for 2026/2027 of approximately 4.95%. This position is unchanged, notwithstanding the significant increases expected in Diesel and the pressure on wage rises. There may be some community objection if services need revision over the next 12 months, however the alternative to maintaining all existing operations would be a significant increase in rates above acceptable levels in this community.
13. The year on year overall rate yield has increased by 5% (\$6.317M to \$6.590M) or \$273,000 compared to last year.
14. The proposed rates in the dollar for 2026/2027 are outlined below and in the attached model:

RATING CATEGORY	2025/26 RATE Cent in \$	2026/27 RATE Cent in \$
GRV Residential	12.9672	13.6156
GRV Commercial	16.1048	16.9100
GRV Industrial	16.1048	16.9100
GRV Transient Workforce / Short Stay	33.2050	34.8653
Unimproved Valuation	0.003375	0.002960
UV Mining Tenements	0.243628	0.249965
<u>Minimum Rates</u>		
GRV Residential/Commercial/Industrial	\$1,077	\$1,131
GRV Transient Workforce / Short Stay	\$1,077	\$1,131
Unimproved Valuation	\$1,077	\$1,131
UV Mining Tenements	\$1,077	\$1,131

CONSULTATION

15. Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

16. Local Government Act 1995 - Sections 6.33, 6.35 and 6.36.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

17. Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

18. It is estimated the overall rate yield, based on the proposed rates in the dollar, in 2026/2027 will be \$6.590 million (LY \$6.317M +5%).

RISK MANAGEMENT

19. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Financial	Likely	Major	High	Ongoing review of budget
Reputational	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Insufficient rating increase lead to future rating shocks

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

20. To defer this item.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

21. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan.

Outcome 1: Economy - The population is growing, in tandem with a thriving, resilient local economy

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

Outcome 2: Community - This is a safe and family-friendly community where people of all ages have access to services and facilities, and there is plenty to blow your socks off

Item	Objectives and Strategies
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life

Outcome 3: Built Environment - The built environment is accessible, honours history and provides for the economic and social needs of residents, industry and visitors

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.3	towns of the Shire have attractive streetscapes in keeping with local character

Outcome 4: Natural Environment - Our unique world class biosphere is valued and protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
4.4	Energy is used efficiently and there is an increased use of renewable energy in the Shire

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.2	The Council ensures its decisions are well informed and considered
5.4	The Shire of Ravensthorpe is known as a good employer, and staff have the capacity and skills to deliver identified services and strategies
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

22. Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Endorse the following differential rates across all categories to form the basis of the proposed rate setting for the 2026/2027 budget.

	Cost in \$	Minimum
GRV Residential	0.136156	\$1,131.00
GRV Commercial	0.169100	\$1,131.00
GRV Industrial	0.169100	\$1,131.00
GRV – Transient Workforce Camps / Short Stay Accommodation	0.348653	\$1,131.00
UV - Rural	0.002960	\$1,131.00
UV – Mining	0.249965	\$1,131.00

2. Adopt the Objectives and Reasons for the Proposed Differential rates for 2026/2027 for the purposes of public advertising.
3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to advertise the differential rates and call for public submissions in accordance with Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act 1995 for a minimum of 21 days
4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make application to seek Ministerial approval under Section 6.33 of the Local Government Act 1995 to impose differential rates that are more than twice the lowest differential rate being imposed.

Moved: Cr Auburn

Seconded: Cr Sutherland

Resolution #52/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

12.3. PROJECTS AND REGULATORY SERVICES

12.3.1. VARIATION TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR OUTBUILDING (SHED) – EXCEEDING PERMITTED WALL HEIGHT - LOT 617 (2) CALADENIA PLACE, HOPETOUN

File Reference:	P26-10
Location:	Lot 617, 2 Caladenia Place, Hopetoun
Applicant:	Robertson Family Trust (D and J Robertson)
Author:	Planning Officer
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	22 April 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	None
Attachments:	Planning Application P26-10 (V2); Proposed Shed Plans; Neighbour Referral Correspondence
Previous Reference:	N/A

PURPOSE

1. For Council to consider a development application seeking approval for an outbuilding (shed) at Lot 617,2 Caladenia Place, Hopetoun, which exceeds the maximum wall height permitted under Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Outbuildings.

BACKGROUND

2. The Shire of Ravensthorpe received a revised planning application (P26-10 Version 2, dated 17 March 2026) for a detached outbuilding (shed) at 2 Caladenia Place, Hopetoun. The proposal seeks approval to construct a steel-framed shed with a footprint of approximately 38.2m², a wall height of 3.5m and a ridge height of approximately 3.9m.
3. The property is zoned Residential under Local Planning Scheme No. 6 and is developed with an existing single dwelling. The proposed outbuilding is intended for domestic storage purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling and is not proposed to contain any habitable space.
4. Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Outbuildings has been adopted by Council to provide guidance for the siting, scale and appearance of outbuildings, with the objective of balancing the reasonable needs of landowners with the protection of residential amenity and streetscape character. The policy prescribes a maximum wall height of 3m and a maximum ridge height of 4.5m for outbuildings on residential land.
5. In this instance, the proposed wall height exceeds the maximum specified under the policy. Accordingly, the application has been assessed as a variation to Local Planning Policy No. 3 and was referred to adjoining landowners for comment in accordance with Clause 64 of the deemed provisions of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015.

COMMENT

6. Height Variation
7. While the proposed outbuilding exceeds the maximum wall, height prescribed under Local Planning Policy No. 3, it is considered the proposal satisfies the broader objectives of the policy and can be supported on planning grounds. The revised planning application provides justification for the increased height, noting the shed is required to accommodate the storage of a boat, including sufficient clearance for the roller door mechanism.

8. The outbuilding is located toward the rear of the lot, positioned well away from the primary streetscape. This siting minimises visual prominence when viewed from Caladenia Place and adjoining properties. The scale and bulk of the structure is further moderated by the presence of established remnant vegetation within the property, which provides effective visual screening and assists in integrating the development into its surroundings.
9. Council's Local Planning Policy recognises a variation to development standards may be considered where the intent of the policy is achieved, and no unreasonable amenity impacts arise. In this case, the increased wall height does not result in overshadowing, loss of privacy or visual dominance, and no adverse impacts are anticipated.
10. Setbacks and Compliance with the R-Codes
11. Local Planning Policy No. 3 requires setback distances for outbuildings to be in accordance with Table 2a of the Residential Design Codes of Western Australia, unless otherwise specified or varied.
12. In assessing the proposal against Table 2a of the R-Codes, the outbuilding has a wall height of 3.5m and an overall height of less than 9m. As such, the applicable setback requirements are those prescribed by Table 2a for outbuildings with a wall height exceeding 3m but not exceeding 6m and an overall height below 9m.
13. Based on the information submitted with the revised planning application (P26-10 V2) and the accompanying site plans, the proposed shed is setback in accordance with the minimum side and rear setback requirements of the R-Codes. No variation to the setback provisions of Table 2a is proposed or required, and the outbuilding complies with both the Residential Design Codes and Local Planning Policy No. 3 in this regard.
14. Accordingly, while a variation is sought to the height provisions of the policy, the proposal fully complies with the prescribed setback standards, further supporting the conclusion that the development will not adversely impact adjoining properties or the streetscape.
15. Appearance, Colours and Materials
16. The walls and roof are proposed to be finished in Colorbond Dune, which is a dark grey tone considered appropriate for the subject residential area and consistent with the natural and built character of the locality.
17. The guttering and door are proposed to be finished in Colorbond Woodland Grey, a darker colour. The use of these non-reflective colours is consistent with the intent of Local Planning Policy No. 3, which discourages visually prominent or highly reflective materials. The selected colour palette will assist in reducing the visual impact of the structure, particularly when viewed through existing vegetation.
18. Vegetation and Screening
19. The subject lot contains established areas of remnant vegetation, particularly along boundary areas and within the rear portion of the property where the shed is proposed to be located. This vegetation will provide effective ongoing screening of the outbuilding when viewed from neighbouring properties. The retention of this vegetation significantly mitigates any potential visual impact arising from the increased wall height.

CONSULTATION

20. Due to the variation to the height provisions of Local Planning Policy No. 3, the application was referred to adjoining landowners for comment. Correspondence was issued to neighbouring owners on 19 March 2026- refer correspondence, with no submissions received by the closing date. The absence of objections is a relevant planning consideration and indicates that the proposal is not perceived by adjoining landowners as resulting in unreasonable amenity impacts.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

21. Local Planning Scheme No. 6
22. Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Outbuildings
23. Residential Design Codes of Western Australia
24. Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015
25. The applicant has a right of review to the State Administrative Tribunal if aggrieved by Council's determination.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

26. The proposal represents a variation to the maximum wall height specified under Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Outbuildings. No variation to setback standards is required, as the proposal complies with Table 2a of the Residential Design Codes.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

27. Planning application fees were received in accordance with the Shire's adopted schedule of fees and charges.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Environmental	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	The proposal is considered low risk due to its rear siting, compliance with setback standards, appropriate colour selection and effective vegetation screening.
Reputational	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	Consistency with decision making.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

28. Council may resolve to refuse the application on the basis of non-compliance with the height provisions of Local Planning Policy No. 3; however, this is not recommended given the planning merits outlined in this report.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

29. The proposal aligns with Council's Strategic Community Plan by supporting appropriate residential development that respects local character and amenity.

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.2	New development (including commercial) is of a high quality and contributes positively to the character and appearance of the town
3.3	The towns of the Shire have attractive streetscapes in keeping with local character

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

30. Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council approve Development Application P26-10 for an outbuilding (shed) at Lot 617, 2 Caladenia Place, Hopetoun, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and details submitted with the application.**
- 2. The approved outbuilding shall be used for purposes incidental and ancillary to the dwelling only and shall not be used for human habitation, commercial or industrial purposes.**
- 3. All stormwater runoff from roofed and impervious areas shall be retained and disposed of on-site to the satisfaction of the Shire of Ravensthorpe.**
- 4. The development shall not adversely affect the amenity of the locality by reason of noise, dust, vibration or visual impact.**

And the following advice notes:

- 1. THIS IS NOT A BUILDING PERMIT. An application for a building permit is required to be submitted and approved by the Shire of Ravensthorpe prior to any works commencing on-site.**
- 2. The development is to comply with the Building Code of Australia, Building Act 2011, Building Regulations 2012 and the Local Government Act 1995.**
- 3. It is the responsibility of the developer to search the title of the property to ascertain the presence of any easements and/or restrictive covenants that may apply.**
- 4. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that building setbacks correspond with the legal description of the land. This may necessitate re-surveying and re-pegging the site. The Shire of Ravensthorpe will take no responsibility for incorrectly located buildings.**

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Leighton

Resolution #53/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

12.3.2. OUTBUILDING DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION – LOT 252 MORGANS STREET, RAVENSTHORPE

File Reference:	P26-09
Location:	Lot 252 Morgans Street, Ravensthorpe
Applicant:	Ross and Terri English
Author:	Planning Officer
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	14 May 2026
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Submitted Plans and Documentation Landowner Supporting Justification Correspondence
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. For Council to consider an application for development approval for the construction of a machinery and storage shed (outbuilding) on Lot 252 Morgans Street, Ravensthorpe.

BACKGROUND

2. The Shire has received an application from Ross and Terri English for the construction of an outbuilding on a Rural zoned property. The subject site contains existing dilapidated structures and is not currently associated with an approved dwelling or lawful rural use.
3. The applicants intend to utilise the land as a future retirement and hobby farm, with staged improvements and rehabilitation works. Due to their remote place of residence from the property, the applicants require secure infrastructure to facilitate ongoing site clean-up and management.

COMMENT

4. The land is zoned Rural under Local Planning Scheme No. 6. Local Planning Policy No. 3 (Outbuildings) provides outbuildings should be ancillary to an approved dwelling, or and are not normally supported on vacant land, unless supporting an approval rural use.
5. The proposal does not strictly comply with this policy. However, the policy allows for discretion, and the Officer considers sufficient justification exists. The outbuilding will facilitate orderly land management, enable secure storage of equipment, support site rehabilitation, and assist future lawful development- refer applicant correspondence.
6. The proposal is not considered to adversely impact the character of the locality and represents a reasonable interim use of the site subject to appropriate conditions restricting habitable use and duration.

CONSULTATION

7. No external referrals were required.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

8. Planning and Development Act 2005
Local Planning Scheme No. 6
Local Planning Policy No. 3 – Outbuildings

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9. The proposal represents a variation to Local Planning Policy No. 3. Officer support is based on site-specific circumstances and planning merit consistent with the objectives of the Scheme.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT

11. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Performance (Operational)	Possible	Moderate	Low	Strict use restrictions ensuring no habitation of outbuilding and timed approval
Reputational	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Strict development approval conditions
Environmental	Rare	Significant	Very Low	Advice Note regarding relevant approvals that may be required.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

12. Refuse the application on strict policy grounds.
13. Approve the application with conditions (recommended).
14. Defer the item and request further information from Officers.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

15. This item is relevant to the Council's approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

Outcome 3: Built Environment - The built environment is accessible, honours history and provides for the economic and social needs of residents, industry and visitors

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.2	New development (including commercial) is of a high quality and contributes positively to the character and appearance of the town

Outcome 4: Natural Environment - Our unique world class biosphere is valued and protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
4.2	Water conservation and water harvesting opportunities are maximised
4.3	The Shire's valued natural areas and systems are protected and enhanced

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.2	The Council ensures its decisions are well informed and considered

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

16. Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council **APPROVE** the development application for an outbuilding at Lot 252 Morgans Street, Ravensthorpe subject to the following conditions:

1. **Only the approved outbuilding as shown on the endorsed plans may be constructed. No additional outbuildings or extensions shall be erected without prior approval of the local government.**
2. **The outbuilding shall be setback from all property boundaries in accordance with the approved plans and to the satisfaction of the local government.**
3. **The materials, colours and finishes of the outbuilding shall be non-reflective and compatible with the rural character of the locality to the satisfaction of the local government.**
4. **All stormwater shall be retained and disposed of on-site to the satisfaction of the local government, with no discharge onto adjoining land or road reserves.**
5. **The outbuilding shall not be used for any commercial, industrial, or trade purposes unless separately approved by the local government.**
6. **The use of the outbuilding shall be limited to the storage of vehicles, tools, machinery and associated rural or domestic equipment only.**
7. **The outbuilding shall not be occupied on a permanent, temporary or intermittent basis for residential or habitable purposes.**
8. **In the event that no dwelling or approved primary land use is established on the land within three (3) years, the local government may require the removal or modification of the outbuilding at the owner's cost.**
9. **The development shall comply with any applicable bushfire management requirements to the satisfaction of the local government.**
10. **No materials, waste, or equipment shall be stored outside the outbuilding in a manner that detrimentally affects the amenity of the locality.**
11. **Vehicle access to the site shall be provided to the satisfaction of the local government, and any crossover works shall be constructed to Shire standards where required.**

Advice Notes

1. **This approval relates to planning matters only and does not remove the need to obtain a Building Permit under the Building Act 2011.**
2. **The applicant is responsible for complying with all other relevant legislation, including environmental and biosecurity obligations.**
3. **Any variations to the approved plans may require further development approval.**
4. **The landowner should ensure that all activities on the site do not result in land degradation, erosion, or weed spread.**
5. **The applicant is encouraged to undertake rehabilitation and revegetation of disturbed areas where practicable.**
6. **No services are approved for habitable purposes under this development approval.**
7. **The Shire may undertake compliance inspections to ensure conditions of approval are being met.**

8. **The landowner is responsible for compliance with the Shire Fire Control Notice and any applicable bushfire mitigation requirements.**
9. **Any installation of effluent disposal systems requires separate health approval from the local government.**

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Fyfe

Resolution #54/26

Carried: 6/0

(In favour: Cr Gibson, Cr Sutherland, Cr Leighton, Cr Auburn, Cr Burton, Cr Fyfe)

12.4. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil.

13. MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil.

14. BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

Nil.

15. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil.

16. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Shire President, Cr Rachel Gibson, declared the meeting closed.

The meeting closed at: 6:23 pm