



## Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting to be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023, at the Wyalkatchem Shire Council Chambers.

**Opening 10.31am**

### Attendees:

#### NEWTRAVEL MEMBER

Koorda CRC

Mukinbudin CRC  
Shire of Mukinbudin  
Shire of Dowerin  
Shire of Mt Marshall  
Shire of Nungarin  
Shire of Trayning  
Shire of Wyalkatchem

#### Apologies:

Shire of Westonia

Nungarin CRC  
AGO  
Shire of Mt Marshall

#### MEMBER VOTING DELEGATE

Kim Storer (NEWTRAVEL Chair)

Kerry Walker  
Linley Dreghorn  
Cr Tanya Gibson (Deputy Delegate)  
Cr Kerry Dayman  
Leanne Parola (CEO)  
Stephanie Elvidge

Cr. Bill Huxtable

Marcus Falconer  
Cr Megan Beagly

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS & OTHERS

Linda Vernon (NEWTRAVEL TO)

Jessica McCartney

Phoebe Sachse  
Georgina McKay

Cr Christy Petchell

Stacey Geier

Lani Hale

Tanya Stobie

### 1. Declarations of Interest

Nil

## 2. Membership Applications

Nil

## 3. Previous Minutes

1.1 Confirmation (Previous Meeting Minutes click [Here](#))

**RESOLUTION:**

**That the Minutes of the NEWTRAVEL Annual General Meeting held in Bencubbin on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.**

**Moved: Cr Tanya Gibson**

**Seconded: Stephanie Elvidge**

**CARRIED**

1.2 Business arising from previous minutes

Nil

## 4. Chairperson's Report

Kim Storer verbally presented the following:

After six years I have decided to step down from my position as the chair. However, I will remain part of the working group that has made the Wheatbelt Way project the success it is.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Linda, your collective expertise, strategic vision, and passion for tourism, have been instrumental in shaping the direction of the Wheatbelt Way. Through your guidance we have been able to navigate the complexities of travel and tourism, adapt to evolving trends, and deliver exceptional experiences to our visitors. Your insightful advice and professional decision making have not only help us sustain the Wheatbelt Way but also propelled it and us towards new heights of growth and success.

As we have all witnessed over the past three years, tourism trends can change rapidly and can also be influenced by a wide range of factors, including economic conditions and environmental changes. Through attending these meetings and staying informed about the latest attractions, events and initiatives throughout the greater region keeps us all up-to-date and provides insights on tourism trends, developments, and opportunities.

The building of a strong collaboration is essential for achieving the common goal and fostering productive relationships. Together we have built a working group that has clear objectives, effective communication, trust and respect, diversity and inclusion and shared resources. We have all been recipients of the rewards the Wheatbelt Way project has brought and have a lot to celebrate and be proud of.

My thanks to all the Shires, CRC's, Visitors centres, Tourism operators, individuals, groups, and organisations that have been, and continue to be an integral part of the Wheatbelt Way Self-Drive Trail.

In closing I thank you all for your continued support and once again would like to express my thanks to Linda, the tremendous amount of work and dedication you have put into your role, your tireless efforts, strategic insight, and unwavering commitment have not only transformed the Wheatbelt Way but has also set a standard of excellence for all of us to aspire to.

Thank you

## 5. Financial Report

### North Eastern Wheatbelt Travel Association General Cheque Account

Financial Report 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023

**Bendigo Bank Cheque Account Opening Balance 1 October 2022** **\$16,382.76**

#### Income

Memberships	\$68,364.00
Grant Funding	\$31,777.00
Other Income	\$26,739.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$126,880.00</b>

#### Expenses

App	\$480.00
Brochure and Guidebook Reprints	\$6,990.50
Consumer Shows	\$1,610.20
Content - Images	\$60.00
Insurance	\$539.04
Internet Marketing	\$5,485.00
Meeting Expenses	\$90.00
Postage	\$521.09
Press Advertising	\$8,319.50
Promotional Material	-
Signs	\$264.00
Storytowns Podcast	\$16,500.00
Tourism Association Memberships	\$350.00
Tourism Officer & Support Services	\$52,685.59
Training & Workshops	-
Website	\$697.21
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$94,592.13</b>

**Bendigo Bank Cheque Account Closing Balance 30 September 2023** **\$48,670.63**

**Ending Financial Position on 30 September 2023** **\$48,670.63**

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**That the Annual Financial Report as presented from 1 October 2022 – 30 September 2023 be accepted.**

**Moved: Leanne Parola Seconded: Cr Christy Petchell**

**CARRIED**

## 6. Election of Office Bearers

- **Chairman**

Discussion held. Stacey Geier is the current Deputy Chairman, unfortunately she was unable to make the AGM but is willing to step up as Chairperson for NEWTRAVEL. With no other nominations forthcoming, Stacey Geier was nominated and elected unopposed.

- **Deputy Chairman**

Cr Christy Petchell was nominated as Deputy Chairperson. Accepted and elected unopposed.

- **Administrator/Treasurer**

NEWTRAVEL appointed Linda Vernon in her role as Tourism Officer as the Administrator/Treasurer.

Cr Christy Petchell to be added as a signatory to the NEWTRAVEL bank accounts.

## 7. General Business

Discussion was held around the membership fees. Concerns raised around the Business membership being set at \$500 (perceived high cost) and including voting rights. The following was resolved:

### a. Review Membership Fees for 2023-2024

Ordinary Membership – Council	\$2,000.00
Ordinary Membership – Business	\$500.00
Associate Membership – Business	100.00
Associate Membership – Not-For-Profit	\$50.00

### b. 2023-2024 Additional Council Support

Request for additional financial support for the 2023-2024 financial year from Local Government members of:

\$3,900.00 towards the Tourism Officer & Support Services

\$500.00 towards specific Wheatbelt Way marketing activities

\$1,500.00 towards the Regional Marketing Initiatives with WEROC and RoeTourism

The above is no change from the 2022-2023 additional Council Support request.

Depending on the outcome of the upcoming NEWROC meeting, consideration to be given towards additional funding request for the [Events Support Project](#) – of up to \$1000.00 contribution per Council member towards the Event Support Project.

## **ACTIONS:**

- Linda to create a membership flyer to provide to Council members to assist with circulating in their local business community.
- That at the February 2024 NEWTAVEL Meeting review of the budget 2024-2025 and memberships.

## 8. Other Business – Nil

## 9. Next Annual General Meeting: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 in Westonia

## 10. AGM Close: 10.56am