

# Wheatbelt Way Rail Trail Project – Steering Committee Meeting Notes

**Date:** 30 June 2025

**Time:** 1:00 PM

**Location:** Shire of Trayning Council Chambers

## Attendees:

- David Nayda, Shire of Nungarin CEO
- Cr Gary Coumbe, Shire of Nungarin
- Peter Naylor, Shire of Trayning CEO
- Cr Dale Naughton, Shire of Trayning
- Cr Christy Petchell, Shire of Wyalkatchem
- Linda Vernon, NEWTRAVEL

## Apologies:

- Sabine Taylor, Shire of Wyalkatchem CEO

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## Key Discussion Points & Actions:

David thanked everyone for attending this Steering Committee Meeting. Background of the project was provided and now with the resignation of Sabine Taylor, the Shire of Wyalkatchem has challenges with human resource capacity to continue being the lead in delivering this project going forward. Purpose of today's meeting was to agree upon a path forward to see the successful implementation of the project.

Confirmation sort from all stakeholders that they were supportive to continue with the implementation of the Wheatbelt Way Rail Trail project from Wyalkatchem to Nungarin as proposed. All were in agreeance to commit to the project.

### 1. Project Proponent Change

- **Action:** David (with support from Linda) to update the project proponent or key contact with the Department of Transport to the *Shire of Nungarin*.

### 2. Project Funding Status

- David had spoken with Claire Trenordan at the Shire of Wyalkatchem and confirmed that part of the grant funds had been received and noted she had mentioned that she had also completed an acquittal. Query raised regarding to why the Shire of Wyalkatchem has completed an acquittal – as far as all present were aware no funds had been spent to date. **Action:** David to seek clarification of funds received and expenses and reporting to date from the Shire of Wyalkatchem.

### 3. Committee Roles

- **Chair Role:** Cr Christy Petchell nominated as interim Steering Committee Chair until October Council elections have been completed and then this reviewed.

#### 4. Project Management

Concerns raised that each of the three Council stakeholders do not have the capacity within their current staffing structures to adequately manage this project.

- **Independent Project Manager:**
  - Recommendation made to appoint Dylan Copeland.
  - Role includes consultation with Arc Infrastructure, other stakeholders, Indigenous engagement and project implementation, management and reporting responsibilities.

**Action:** David and Linda to develop a contract with KPIs for the project.

#### **Motion:**

*To endorse the appointment of Dylan Copeland as Project Manager and to circulate the project contract/deed to all participating councils.*

Moved: Cr Gary Coumbe

Seconded: Cr Dale Naughton

#### 4. Upcoming Meetings

- Next **in-person meeting** scheduled for **August**, with **Tuesday 5th** suggested (to be confirmed).
- Continue **monthly online meetings** of the Steering Committee to occur beyond that.

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#### **Meeting Close**

**Time:** 1:35 PM