

Shire of Lake Grace

Special Council Meeting

MINUTES

30 July 2025

Meeting Commencing at 10:00am

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In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for license, any statement or limitation or approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Lake Grace during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Lake Grace. The Shire of Lake Grace warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Lake Grace must obtain and only should rely on WRITTEN CONFIRMATION of the outcome of the application and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Lake Grace in respect of the application.

Acknowledgement of Country

I wish to acknowledge the traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects.

I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.



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SHIRE OF LAKE GRACE

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held at the Council Chambers, 1 Bishop Street, Lake Grace, WA on Wednesday 30 July 2025 commencing at 10.00am.

1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

President Len Armstrong opened the meeting at 10.03am.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I wish to acknowledge the traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects.

I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

3.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

3.1 PRESENT

Cr LW Armstrong	Shire President
Cr R Chappell	
Cr RA Lloyd	
Cr BJ Hyde	
Cr AJ Kuchling	
Cr DS Clarke	

3.2 APOLOGIES

Cr SG Hunt	Deputy Shire President
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3.3 IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Alan George	Chief Executive Officer
Mr A Wooldridge	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mrs T Hall	Manager Corporate Services
Mrs A Adams	Executive Assistant

3.4 OBSERVERS / VISITORS

Nil

3.5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY GRANTED
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Nil

4.0 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE
--

Nil

5.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

6.0 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS
--

Nil

7.0 NOTATIONS OF INTEREST

7.1 DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995 SECTION 5.60A

Nil

7.2 DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL PROXIMITY INTEREST – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995 SECTION 5.60B

Nil

7.3 DECLARATIONS OF IMPARTIALITY INTEREST – ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS 1996 SECTION 34C
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Nil

8.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

9.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

9.1 FINANCE

9.1.1 2025/2026 SHIRE OF LAKE GRACE – BUDGET ADOPTION

Applicant	Internal Report
File No.	0781
Attachments	• 2025/2026 Statutory Budget • Schedules • Fees and Charges
Author	Tegan Hall Manager Corporate Services
Disclosure of Interest	Nil
Date of Report	28 July 2025
Senior Officer	Mr Alan George Chief Executive Officer

Summary

To consider and adopt the Shire of Lake Grace Budget for the 2025/2026 financial year together with supporting schedules, including striking of the municipal fund rates and other consequential matters arising from the budget papers.

Background

The 2025/2026 Budget has been compiled based on the parameters established in the Council integrated planning documents including Long Term Financial Plan, Corporate Business Plan and Strategic Community Plan.

Council gave consideration to the detail within the budget after working through three budget workshops in May, June and July 2025.

Comment

Further to the Budget Workshops and Ordinary Council Meetings all changes have been incorporated into this document along with all committed projects not complete as at 30 June 2025.

General Rates

The budget has been formulated with an increase of 3% on rate in the dollar for GRV (within town site) rate revenue and 3% on rate revenue for UV properties. The UV valuations carried out by Landgate substantially increased the value of these properties (on average by 20.31%) which has had a bearing on the setting of rates. This has led to the rate increase being formulated off total revenue which will reduce the rate in the dollar.

Borrowings

The outstanding loan principal at 1 July 2025 is \$1,617,248. The principal repayments for 2025/26 amount to \$202,299 and interest payable of \$69,731 leaving a balance of \$1,414,949 at 30 June 2026.

Reserve Transfers

Council commences the new financial year with \$7,376,704 in its reserve accounts. The budget proposal includes transfers to and from reserves and interest with a predicted increase overall in reserve funds of \$76,697.

Transfers to Reserves:

• Lake Grace Sewerage Scheme	\$68,121
• Swimming Pool	\$200,000
• Recreation (Lake King Pavilion Project)	\$300,000
• Centenary (Lake King/Varley)	\$20,000
• Interest	\$277,441

Transfers from Reserves:

• Housing - WACHS	\$65,865
• Land Development – Industrial Land	\$200,000
• Plant Replacement	\$423,000
• Essential Medical – offset part cost of medical services	\$100,000

The above transfers and interest earned will budget to give Council a closing balance of \$7,453,401 at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

Infrastructure – Roads, Footpaths, Drainage and Cemetery Upgrades

An amount of \$5,279,111 has been set aside for road renewal and upgrades to cover works on:

• Dykes Road Resheet SLK 5.90 - 13.48	\$345,081
• Bairstow Road Resheet SLK 3.76 - 8.72	\$265,514
• Lake King-Norseman Road Reseal SLK 4.00 - 11.00 (RRG)	\$485,988
• Old Ravensthorpe Road Resheet SLK 32.00 - 37.00 (RRG)	\$326,023
• Haig Road Resheet SLK 0.00 – 5.00	\$268,684
• Biddy Camm Road Resheet SLK 127.20 - 133.71	\$330,795
• Biddy Camm Road (Hogan East) Resheet 3 Sections	\$163,684
• West Kuender Road Reseal SLK 6.40 – 11.40 (R2R)	\$508,205
• Biddy Camm Road Reseal SLK 58.32 - 62.83 (R2R)	\$242,662
• Aylmore Road Reseal SLK 8.80 - 13.80	\$543,000
• Naisbitt Road Resheet SLK 0.00 - 3.10	\$101,201
• Mt Sheridan Road Resheet SLK 27.00 - 32.96	\$323,200
• Mallee Road Resheet SLK 0.00 - 5.00	\$269,000
• Biddy Camm Road Reseal SLS 4.25 - 12.70 (R2R)	\$964,020
• Witham Road Resheet SLK 0.00 - 2.80	\$106,862
• Kean Road Resheet & Culvert Upgrades	\$35,192

The following urban infrastructure allocations were provided for:

• Lake Grace & Newdegate Recycling Stations	\$4,500
• Lake King Cemetery New Fence	\$53,300
• Lake Grace Footpaths	\$50,000
• Newdegate Footpaths	\$50,000
• Newdegate Airstrip Dam (CWSP)	\$53,057

Infrastructure – Parks, Gardens and Recreation Facilities

A total of \$540,584 has been allocated for capital parks and garden works which include:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • Lake Grace Sporting Complex Entry | \$15,750 |
| • Lake King Park Upgrade | \$87,300 |
| • Jam Patch Upgrades including New Walkway | \$345,750 |
| • Newdegate Bowling Club Reconstruction & Resurfacing Project | \$82,455 |

Property, Plant & Equipment

An amount of \$1,232,663 has been allocated to Shire Building refurbishment and upgrades including Shire houses, Lake Grace Community Bus Shed, Lake Grace/Newdegate/Varley Hall Refurbishment, Lakes Village Hall, Lake King Sports Pavilion, Lake Grace Sporting Precinct, Newdegate Recreation Centre, Lot 352 Stubbs St (Pink Building), AIM Building, Lake Grace RSL Hall, Lake Grace/Newdegate Depot Upgrades, Lake Grace Visitor Centre and Hainesworth Museum Shed.

The Shire is currently in the process of applying for grant funding to release of some more residential land. An amount of \$300,000 has been included to purchase Industrial Land in Lake Grace which will in turn be subdivided at a later date.

An amount of \$1,544,000 has been allocated to purchase plant and equipment which includes:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| • CEO Vehicle | \$110,000 |
| • Doctors Vehicle | \$55,000 |
| • Skid Steer Plant Trailer | \$68,000 |
| • Newdegate Community Bus | \$275,000 |
| • 6 Wheel Tip Truck | \$380,000 |
| • CAT CS16 Roller | \$215,000 |
| • Infrastructure/Works Supervisor Ute | \$56,000 |
| • Loader | \$340,000 |
| • Variable Message Sign Trailers | \$45,000 |

Legal Implications

Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires that not later than 31 August in each financial year, or such extended time as the Minister allows, each local government is to prepare and adopt, (Absolute Majority required) in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending 30 June of the next year.

Divisions 5 and 6 of the Local Government Act 1995 refer to the setting of budgets and the raising of rates and charges. The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 details the form and content of the budget. The budget as presented is considered to meet statutory requirements.

- Cemeteries Act 1986
- Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960

Policy Implications

Policy 3.3 - Specified Area Rating is used for consideration of rating levied for the Lake Grace Sewerage Scheme.

Consultation

Internal Staff members and Council
External Community groups have had the opportunity to submit budget requests

Financial Implications

The Budget document establishes activities which the Shire will pursue during the 2025/2026 financial year taking into account the Shire of Lake Grace Corporate Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan.

Strategic Implications

This item aligns with Aspire 2033 – Shire of Lake Grace Strategic Community Plan

Leadership Objective - Strong governance and leadership, demonstrating fair and equitable community values		
Outcome	9	An efficient and effective organisation
Strategies	9.1	Maintain accountability and financial responsibility through effective planning
	9.2	Comply with statutory and legislative requirements

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ADOPTION

PART A - BUDGET FOR 2025/2026

That Council, pursuant to the provisions of section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, adopt the Shire of Lake Grace Budget for the 2025/2026 financial year.

PART B – GENERAL AND MINIMUM RATES, INSTALMENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. That Council, for the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget adopted at Part A above, pursuant to sections 6.32, 6.33, 6.34 and 6.35 of the Local Government Act 1995 impose the following general and minimum rates on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values.

General Rates

Gross Rental Valuations (GRV)	12.5211 cents in the dollar
Unimproved Valuations (UV)	0.5857 cents in the dollar

Minimum Payments

Gross Rental Valuations (GRV)	\$550.00
Unimproved Valuations (UV)	\$550.00

2. That Council, pursuant to section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, offers a one, two and four instalment payment option, and nominates the following due dates for payment in full or by instalments:

Option One – 1 instalment

Full payment due date	19 September 2025
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Option Two – 2 instalments

First half instalment due date	19 September 2025
Second half and final instalment due date	21 November 2025

Options Three – 4 instalments

First quarterly instalment due date	19 September 2025
Second quarterly instalment due date	21 November 2025
Third quarterly instalment due date	28 January 2026
Fourth quarterly and final instalment due date	31 March 2026

3. That Council, pursuant to section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 67 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, adopts an instalment administration charge where the owner has elected to pay rates (and service charges) through an instalment option of \$11 for each instalment after the initial instalment is paid.
4. That Council, pursuant to section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 68 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, adopts an interest rate of 5.5% where the owner has elected to pay rates and service charges through an instalment option.
5. That Council, pursuant to section 6.51(1) and section 6.51(4) of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 70 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, adopt a rate of interest of 7% applicable to any amount owing (other than rates or service charges) with interest calculated from the due date, which is 35 days from the date of issue shown on the account for payment.
6. That Council, pursuant to section 6.37 of the Local Government Act 1995 and the Water Services Act 2012, adopt the following charges for the Lake Grace Sewerage Scheme:

Specified Area Rates – Sewerage

Gross Rental Valuations (GRV)	4.1254 cents in the dollar
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Sewerage Fixture Charges

First Major Fixture	\$284.00
Additional Fixtures	\$126.00

PART C – GENERAL FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2025/2026

That Council, pursuant to section 6.16 of the Local Government Act 1995, adopts the fees and charges included in the 2025/2026 budget as attached to this agenda.

PART D – OTHER STATUTORY FEES FOR 2025/2026

1. That Council, pursuant to Part 7 Local Government Planning Charges of the Planning and Development Regulations 2009 adopts the Fees and Charges for Planning Services within the Shire of Lake Grace as included in the 2025/2026 budget as attached to this agenda.
2. That Council, pursuant to section 53 of the Cemeteries Act 1986 adopts the Fees and Charges for Cemeteries within the Shire of Lake Grace as included in the 2025/2026 budget as attached to this agenda.
3. That Council, pursuant to section 245A(8) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960 adopts the swimming pool inspection fee included in the 2025/2026 budget as attached to this agenda.
4. That Council, pursuant to section 67 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, adopt the charges for the removal and deposit of domestic and commercial waste as included in the 2025/2026 budget as attached to this agenda.

PART E – ELECTED MEMBERS FEES AND ALLOWANCES FOR 2025/2026

That Council, pursuant to section 5.98 and section 5.99 of the Local Government Act 1995 and within the range determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal, adopt the following annual attendance fees for elected members:

President's Allowance	\$22,470
Deputy President's Allowance	\$5,618

Meeting Attendance Fees

President	\$9,136
Elected Members	\$4,568

Information and Technology Allowance of \$3,900 to each Elected Member.

PART F – MATERIAL VARIANCE REPORTING FOR 2025/2026

That Council, in accordance with regulation 34(5) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, and AASB 1031 Materiality, the level to be used in statements of financial activity in 2025/2026 for reporting material variances shall be a percentage of ten (10) or \$10,000, whichever is the greater.

Voting Requirements

Absolute majority

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 14074

Moved: Cr Chappell
Seconded: Cr Clarke

That Council suspend Standing Orders at 10.05am.

CARRIED: 6/0

For: Cr Armstrong, Cr Chappell, Cr Lloyd, Cr Kuchling, Cr Hyde, Cr Clarke
Against: Nil

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 14075

Moved: Cr Clarke
Seconded: Cr Chappell

That Council resume Standing Orders at 10.13am

CARRIED: 6/0

For: Cr Armstrong, Cr Chappell, Cr Lloyd, Cr Kuchling, Cr Hyde, Cr Clarke
Against: Nil

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION **14076**

Moved: **Cr Chappell**
Seconded **Cr Hyde**

That pursuant to the provisions of section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Council adopts the 2025/2026 Shire of Lake Grace Budget, Fees and Charges, Rates and Instalment Arrangements, Elected Member Fees and Allowances, and Material Variance Reporting threshold as presented in this report.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6/0

For: **Cr Armstrong, Cr Chappell, Cr Lloyd, Cr Kuchling, Cr Hyde, Cr Clarke**
Against: **Nil**

10.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Shire President closed the meeting at 10.15am.

11.0 CERTIFICATION

I, Leonard William Armstrong, certify that the minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 30 July 2025 as shown were confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

Signature

Date

RECOMMENDATION / RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION **14076**

Moved: **Cr Chappell**
Seconded **Cr Hyde**

That pursuant to the provisions of section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Council adopts the 2025/2026 Shire of Lake Grace Budget, Fees and Charges, Rates and Instalment Arrangements, Elected Member Fees and Allowances, and Material Variance Reporting threshold as presented in this report.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY **6/0**

For: **Cr Armstrong, Cr Chappell, Cr Lloyd, Cr Kuchling, Cr Hyde, Cr Clarke**
Against: **Nil**

10.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Shire President closed the meeting at 10.15am.

11.0 CERTIFICATION

I, Leonard William Armstrong, certify that the minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 30 July 2025 as shown were confirmed as a true record of the meeting.



Signature

27 Aug 25
Date