



## Shire Presidents Monthly Message

Hello everyone,

This week we held a strategic planning session to chart our course for the next 12 months. I want to extend my gratitude to our dedicated council team and executive staff for their tireless efforts during this productive session. I often get asked what council does, and this is a good question. We have a lot of statutory responsibilities to follow, however our most important role is to listen to our community and plan accordingly. This is what we were able to do this week and all councillors enjoyed the opportunity and the challenge.

Communication has emerged as a pressing issue for our community. We recognise the need for a shire-wide platform that ensures all members can access important news and information in a timely and professional manner. In the coming weeks, we'll unveil a communication action plan aimed at enhancing the speed and quality of information dissemination throughout the shire.

Ensuring continued access to first rate medical services remains a priority for the shire. We understand the concerns surrounding Dr. Wole's resignation, but rest assured, securing GP services for our community is at the forefront of our agenda. We're actively working to address this issue and will keep you updated as developments unfold. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Wole and Kemi for their invaluable service to the Shire of Gnowangerup over the past 13 years. This is a considerable tenure for a country GP and we have been very fortunate to have enjoyed such a long period of time with Dr Wole caring for our community and hospital. Dr Wole has kindly offered to stay with us until the end of June, and then in a locum capacity until the years end if needed. This is a wonderful offer and it allows us to make a plan for the future of the practice that is sustainable and effective.

Housing is another critical issue, and we're collaborating with the state government to address it. While progress may seem slow, rest assured, we're diligently working with government agencies to expedite the process.

We recently visited the Shire of Kojonup windfarm to gain insights into its operations and impact. This visit underscores our commitment to making informed decisions about the proposed windfarm in our shire for the benefit of our community and ratepayers. We still have a lot of learning to do, and we welcome community engagement at all times.

Exciting news for our younger residents – the Shire has engaged a staff member to advance plans for a skate park in the Gnowangerup townsite. Community involvement will be crucial, so if you're able to contribute, please reach out. More information and plans will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

I invite members of the Ongerup community to join us for a public meeting on April 16th 2024 to discuss the future of Lot 75 (Old Playgroup) as well as other community matters. Your input is invaluable, so mark your calendars and be sure to attend.

As always, I encourage everyone to stay engaged and reach out to us with any concerns or suggestions. Your feedback is essential, and we're here to listen and support you, and find solutions where possible.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me in the past few weeks to discuss issues, concerns and ideas, I really value and enjoy hearing from you.

# Gnowangerup Shire News

April 2024



Department of Local Government,  
Sport and Cultural Industries  
WA Local Government Grants Commission

## Extraordinary Election Results

Congratulations to Shelley Hmeljak who was elected as Councillor and will hold office until October 2025.

The swearing in ceremony was conducted on Wednesday the 13th March 2024 by our Shire President Kate O'Keefe

We look forward to having Shelley back as a representative of council in the community



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To be held at the:

**Shire of Gnowangerup  
Gnowangerup Community Resource Centre  
47 Yougenup Road, Gnowangerup**

**Tuesday 16 April 2024**

**Commencing at 12:30pm and concluding at 2:30pm**

Order of Proceedings:

1. Shire to open the hearing
2. Introduction by the Chair of the Commission
3. Presentation by the Commission on its role, function and the process it uses to determine Financial Assistance Grants
4. Discussion on Shire submission (if submitted)
5. Close of hearing

The WA Local Government Grants Commission makes annual recommendations to the State Minister for Local Government on the allocation of Financial Assistance Grants to local governments in Western Australia.

In accordance with the Commonwealth Act, the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, the Commission is required to conduct public hearings with local governments in connection with the Financial Assistance Grant recommendations and also to discuss any submissions made to the Commission by local governments.

Organisations or persons wishing to make a submission, in connection with the Financial Assistance Grant recommendations of the Commission, at the above hearing, are requested to register their interest with:

Mrs Leah Horton  
WA Local Government Grants Commission  
Tel: (08) 6552 1673  
Email: [grants.commission@dlgsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:grants.commission@dlgsc.wa.gov.au)



## Community Assistance Grants

The Shire's Community Financial Assistance Program is now open and available for projects taking place in the 2024/25 financial year

If you're a community group who is interested in applying for assistance please contact the Shire on 98271007 or [gnpshire@gnowangerup.wa.gov.au](mailto:gnpshire@gnowangerup.wa.gov.au)



28 Yougenup Road  
Gnowangerup WA 6335  
Email: [gnpshire@gnowangerup.wa.gov.au](mailto:gnpshire@gnowangerup.wa.gov.au)  
Phone: 08 9827 1007  
Website: [www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au](http://www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au)

 Find us on  
**Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/ShireofGnowangerup](http://www.facebook.com/ShireofGnowangerup)



[@shireofgnowangerup007](https://www.instagram.com/shireofgnowangerup007)



## Caravan Park Chalet Project

This project is in its final stages of completion with the parking and footpaths installed this month. The next stage is to complete soft landscaping.

The Shire is also creating an online booking website to streamline the booking process for the chalets.

This project will aim to increase short term accommodation options for the Shire.

We are looking forward to having this project up and running



## Gnowangerup Playground Resurface

On the 20th of March the Gnowangerup Playground resurface was completed. This project was one of the initiatives that came from community consultation when the Shire developed its Strategic Community Plan

This project involved removing the old damaged soft fall and replacing the entire surface.



## Ongerup Community Consultation

Discussion for

- Possible use or sale of Lot 75 Lamont Street (old playgroup)
- Traffic calming of Jaekel Street
- Any other issues the community would like to raise

All interested residents are invited to attend. An onsite inspection of old playgroup building will be available @ 4:30pm

**16th April 2024**  
**@ 5:30pm**  
**Ongerup Town Hall**

### Hawaiian Ride For Youth

Between the 19th—23rd March 2024 140 cyclists rode 700km between Albany and Perth to raise money for youth suicide and mental health. The ride raised over \$32 million.

On Wednesday 20th March 2024 the riders stopped along the horsepower highway to meet with community members and Shire representatives to raise awareness for their charity.



Left: Kate O'Keefe

Right: Cassy Beeck

### Ordinary Meeting of Council

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the Shire Council Chambers, 3:00pm Wednesday 24 April 2024

### Community Engagement

Come and have a cuppa & a chat with our CEO between 10am—12pm on the following dates within our Shire

Borden NSPNR Building—First Thursday of the month

Ongerup CRC—Second & Third Thursday of the Month

Gnowangerup CRC—Fourth Thursday of the month

## HERITAGE HALL FAIR

Join us for a family fun day to celebrate the Gnowangerup Town Hall turning 100 years old

Market Stalls      Family Games  
Military Display      High Tea  
Gnowangerup Star

Date - 10am Sunday 14th April 2024

Location - Gnowangerup Town Hall  
51 Yougenup Road



## Shire Capital Works

### Bitumen Sealing

A bitumen services request for tender (RFT) has been advertised through the WALGA portal for a contractor to undertake sealing works as part of the Shire's capital roads projects. The RFT closes in the first week of April. Roads scheduled for reseal are, Kwobrup, Chillinup, Buncle St and Ongerup Rec Centre carpark.

### Gravel Road Maintenance Grading.

The Shires grader operators achieved some good network coverage over the past two weeks. Some of the grading coincided with recent rain which provided moisture to the road material and allowed the operator a greater ability to provide better shape and finish to the road. Roads recently graded include: Corackerup Rd, Holden Rd, Toompup South Rd, Boxwood Hill/Ongerup Rd, O'Neil Rd, Parker Rd, Hinkley Rd, Stutley Rd, Jackitup Rd

### Other Works

- "T" junction signage and chevron board erected at the Kwobrup Nth/Tieline Rd intersection.
- Repair works to Airport dam.
- Diversion works to Gnowangerup Sporting Facility irrigation dam.
- Turf renovations completed at the Gnowangerup football oval.

Assisted the removal of the playground soft fall at Nobarach Community Park



## Blessing of the Roads

On Thursday 28 March the Community Resource Center hosted the annual Blessing of the Roads. This event was supported by local Emergency Services the Community and Shire.

The Blessing of the Roads is an amazing initiative to thank the tireless work all of our local emergency service volunteers and bless our community for a safe and happy easter break.





## Snap Send Solve

Did you know you can report an incident to the Shire using your phone?

Snap, Send Solve is an app where community members can take photos of incidents as they happen and report them directly to the Shire in a few easy steps



### Join Our Team!

Newly Listed Employment Opportunities

- Plant operator/General Hands
- Executive Assistant

For further information visit our website

[www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au](http://www.gnowangerup.wa.gov.au)

Snap  
Send  
Solve

## See something, Snap something



### Snap a photo

Open the app, select 'Snap' and add your photo.



### Confirm Snap location

Confirm your Snap's location either using the map pin or address bar.



### Select incident type

Select the relevant incident type for your Snap.



### Send your Snap

Select 'Send Snap' to send your Snap off to be solved.



### Solve

The relevant Solver will receive your Snap, so that it can be solved.



Download to Snap!

Find it on

[snapsendsolve.com](http://snapsendsolve.com)



### Justice Services

Gnowangerup Resident and Shire President Kate O'Keeffe volunteer's her services as a certified Justice of The Peace. This service provides the community with a registered witness for formal documentation.

Kate will be in the Shire Office and able to witness documents every last Wednesday of the month from 12pm—1pm

