

SHIRE OF KOJONUP E-NEWS

Edition 177 – 17 April 2020

COUNCIL MEETING OUTCOMES

A Special Meeting of Council was held on 7 April 2020. Outcomes from the meeting are outlined below.

12.1 WATER STANDPIPES – ACTION PLAN

31/20 Moved Cr Radford, seconded Cr Fleay that the:

- *Muradup town site standpipe be opened for the sale of water;*
- *Katanning Road (Kojonup town site) standpipe remain locked to general use in accordance with decision 116/18; and*
- *Carlecatup Road (Cherry Tree Pool) standpipe remain locked to general use in accordance with decision 116/18.*

COVID-19 UPDATES

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE CLOSURE

Residents are advised that the front doors of the Administration Office is now closed to customers.

ESSENTIAL business only, can be conducted via appointment, for example:

- Transport licensing that cannot be done on-line – e.g. photo for driver's license and registration of new vehicles;
- Purchase of water standpipe fobs; and
- Appointments made in advance with individual Officer's

To arrange an appointment, please contact Stacey on 9831 2400 or by emailing cso@kojonup.wa.gov.au. Appointments will be limited to one person at a time. Upon arriving at the Shire Administration Centre, customers will need to ring 9831 2400 to be let inside the door.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN ELECTRONIC COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings will now be held via electronic communication in light of the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

Social Distancing measures require that members of the public are NOT encouraged to attend.

Questions may be submitted using the special email address for **Council Meeting Public Question Time** being cmpqt@kojonup.wa.gov.au .

Minutes and agenda for this meeting will be available on the Shire's website www.kojonup.wa.gov.au

LEMC

The Shire of Kojonup LEMC is currently meeting regularly to assist in the management of the current pandemic, share information and ensure all community issues are considered.

Please stay safe and self-isolate.



Shire President
John Benn

Chief Executive Officer
Rick Mitchell-Collins

TRAVEL EXEMPTIONS

Strict border controls are in place to limit the spread of COVID-19. Travel outside of your regional boundary is now restricted (from 1 April 2020).

Western Australia Regional travel restrictions

From 11:59pm Tuesday 31 March 2020, Western Australians are not permitted to travel outside their designated region without an exemption.

Western Australian intrastate travel is defined as movement through the boundaries of the regions of Western Australia.

These regions are:

- Perth and Peel
- South West
- Great Southern
- Goldfields-Esperance ([stronger restrictions](#) apply)
- Mid-West
- Wheatbelt
- Gascoyne
- Pilbara ([stronger restrictions](#) apply)
- Kimberley ([stronger restrictions](#) apply).

Exemptions apply for:

- people travelling to work
- attending medical appointments
- transporting freight
- those who do not have access to groceries or supplies within their region
- returning to a place of residence
- attending school or an educational institution where necessary
- caring for family members
- compassionate grounds.

Check points and mobile police patrols are in place to monitor travel across boundaries and ensure people are doing the right thing. Police have the power to enforce these restrictions, and issue fines of up to \$50,000.

If you believe you fall under an exemption category AND are required to travel between these regions you will need to prepare documentation to present to police at the regional check points. This documentation can be a letter/email/SMS from an employer that supports the legitimate travel.

Statutory Declarations must be signed by Authorised Officers which include a **Local government CEO or Deputy CEO or Local government Councillor**. It is unnecessary for you to increase foot traffic into the Pharmacy, increasing the COVID-19 risk for the Pharmacist and his staff.

For more information view the [Prohibition on Regional Travel Directions](#).



COVID-19 – Government Support

For Individuals

<p>Mental Health Get help to cope with life's changes.</p> 	<p>Visit headtohealth.gov.au for links to online counselling or call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lifeline 13 11 14 (24 hours) ✓ Kids helpline 1800 55 1800 <p>Visit thinkmentalhealthwa.com.au</p>
<p>Superannuation Individuals can access up to \$10,000 of their super in 2019-20 and a further \$10,000 in 2020-21.</p>	<p>Apply to the ATO through MyGov (my.gov.au) from mid-April Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Retirees Temporary reduction to minimum drawdown requirements for account-based pension.</p>	<p>Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Financial Support Expanded eligibility for some payments and moves to make them easier to claim.</p>	<p>Claim online at servicesaustralia.gov Or over the phone on 132 850</p>
<p>Economic Support Payment \$750 payments for people on certain government payments.</p>	<p>Will be paid automatically to people who are eligible. Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Job Keeper A subsidy of \$1,500/fortnight per employee for up to six months. Available to businesses, not-for-profits and sole traders. Support payments exempt from paying payroll tax.</p>	<p>Your employer will notify you if they intend to claim the payment on your behalf. Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Relief Services Expanding access to the No Interest Loans Scheme.</p>	<p>Find out more on at moneysmart.gov.au (search 'No Interest Loans Scheme')</p>
<p>Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Fee relief while supporting child care services to keep their doors open and employees in their job.</p>	<p>For more information visit australia.gov.au and scroll down to 'Education & child care information'</p>
<p>Renting Evictions will be put on hold over the next six months, for those in financial distress.</p>	<p>New arrangements announced 30 March. Further details to come. Visit business.gov.au (click on for 'COVID-19 information')</p>
<p>WA government support - Household fees & charges A freeze will be placed on household fees and charges, including electricity, water, motor vehicle charges, the emergency services levy and public transport fares. No disconnection for power and water.</p>	<p>Visit wa.gov.au (search 'COVID-19 Western Australian Government Response')</p>
<p>WA government support - Energy Assistance Package Payment will increase from \$300 to \$600 for eligible concession card-holders</p>	<p>Visit wa.gov.au (search 'COVID-19 Western Australian Government Response')</p>
<p>WA Shopping hours Coles and Woolworths to be granted temporary extended trading hours. Special arrangements for pensioners, the elderly and people with disabilities to shop from 7am to 8am Monday to Saturday and between 10am to 11am on Sunday</p>	<p>Visit wa.gov.au (search 'COVID-19 Western Australian Government Response')</p>

Support for small business and not-for-profits

<p>Job Keeper A subsidy of \$1,500/fortnight per employee for up to six months. Available to businesses, not-for-profits and sole traders.</p>	<p>Your employer will notify you if they intend to claim the payment on your behalf. Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Boosting cash flow for employers Up to \$100,000 to eligible small and medium-sized businesses and not for-profits that employ people, with a minimum payment of \$20,000.</p>	<p>Automatically applied to the accounts of eligible businesses when they lodge their activity statement for the relevant periods. Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Supporting apprentices and trainees Wage subsidy of up to \$21,000 per apprentice or trainee.</p>	<p>Talk to the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) in your area. Search for your local AASN at australianapprenticeships.gov.au Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Loan Support Government will provide lenders with a guarantee for loans, to increase their willingness and ability to provide credit. Loans of up to \$250,000 up to three years, with an initial six-month repayment holiday.</p>	<p>For more information visit: business.gov.au (select 'coronavirus information') Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Renting Evictions will be on hold for six months by the states and territories, for those in financial distress. The WA Government will waive rental payments for small businesses and not-for-profit groups in Government-owned buildings for six months</p>	<p>See mandatory code of conduct for commercial tenancies For more information visit business.gov.au (select 'coronavirus information')</p>
<p>Temporary relief for financial distress Increase to threshold at which creditors can issue statutory demand, extra time to respond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relief from personal liability for trading while insolvent. • Temporary flexibility in Corporations Act 2001. 	<p>You don't need to apply. These relief measures will be in place for six months. For more information visit: business.gov.au (select Coronavirus information) Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>Backing businesses to invest Instant asset write-off threshold has been increased to \$150,000. Now includes larger businesses. A time limited 15-month investment incentive to support business investment and economic growth over the short-term, by accelerating depreciation deduction</p>	<p>Check your eligibility for the instant asset write-off with the Australian Taxation Office For information visit: business.gov.au (select 'Coronavirus information') Find out more at Treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>WA Government support for businesses Payroll tax paying businesses with a payroll between \$1 million and \$4 million will receive a one-off grant of \$17,500. \$1 million payroll tax threshold brought forward by six months to July 1, 2020. Businesses can now apply to defer payment of their 2019-20 payroll tax until July 21, 2020.</p>	<p>Visit wa.gov.au (Search Payroll Tax Employer Guide)</p>
<p>Small business support services The Small Business Development Corporation has created a COVID-19 assistance center to provide dedicated guidance on available support options.</p>	<p>To access the service, contact 133 140 or email info@smallbusiness.wa.gov.au Find out more at smallbusiness.wa.gov.au/coronavirus</p>
<p>COVID-19 relief fund Grants are available for eligible not for-profit and community organisations that are experiencing financial hardship related directly to COVID-19.</p>	<p>Apply for grant support by visiting lotterywest.wa.gov.au or by calling 131 777.</p>

WORKS AND SERVICES

The reseal and kerbing renewal is progressing well. Looking at finalizing works during week ending 17 April 2020.

The Shire of Kojonup would like to thank residents living along the road and local traffic for their politeness and abiding by the traffic control signage.



CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

LIBRARY NEWS

Mystery Reading Bags

Are you time poor? Are you not confident in using online reservations? Do you just need some help finding something new to read?

Our doors might be closed, but we're standing by to help with [Select & Collect!](#)



How does it work?

1. You call Kojonup Public Library on 08 9831 2412
2. One of our amazing library staff works with you to fill out a reading profile - basically figuring out what kind of books/DVDs/Audiobooks/Jigsaws you enjoy
3. We select 10 items you'll love, based on the profile you have provided
4. You collect the ten items from the library (we have no-contact pickup!) and keep them for 6 weeks

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can anyone use this service?

A. Yes!

Q. I am homebound, am I able to access this service?

A. Yes, but we will deliver the books to you instead.

Q. I have a relative/friend who doesn't have a computer and won't see this, can they use the service?

A. Yes! Please encourage them to call us on 08 9831 2412, thank you.

I will be adding new books to our library and to share them with you all, please like the 'kojonup library' facebook page, see new books and reviews.



RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

Noticed something different outside of the fire station?

The Shire of Kojonup, including the Town site, is still in the **Restricted Burning Period** until at least the end of April. This means that **NO burning can take place without a permit to do so**. At this stage, permits will not be granted for Town site burning.



SPRINGHAVEN NEWS

Hello All, I hope you are all keeping well in your bubbles, we have been busy trying to come up with new ways to keep our residents spirits up during this crazy time. We have managed to get our Reverend Lindy Rookyard connected through Facetime (video call) and have that running through a projector up on a big screen on Wednesdays, and have Alex orchestrating fitness on Thursdays.

We are doing our best to have outdoor time while the weather is good, and spend our indoor time listening to music, doing brain games and all sorts of other activities.



Outdoor Morning tea.

A good dose of vitamin D and a history lesson on our residents. We had hot cross buns with our cuppa, which everyone was very impressed with

Today we watched Youtube videos of the Modern Waltz and reminisced on the Dances we used to go to back in the day.



Easter Crafts



Alex and I have been trying to connect all of the residents with family through Video call, if you haven't been contacted yet please reach out and we will organise a day and time to suit you.



We miss our regular visitors and look forward to having you back when this is all over.

From all the staff and residents at Springhaven

COMMUNITY/PUBLIC NOTICES



Media statement

Water Corporation crews are asking you to do your bit – think before you flush

Water Corporation is asking the community to make our wastewater crew's work-day easier, by ensuring they only flush the 3P's – pee, poo and (toilet) paper.

Items such as wet wipes, paper kitchen towel and sanitary products should be disposed of in a bin, as this material does not break down in wastewater pipes and can cause blockages.

Water Corporation Great Southern Regional Manager, Adrian Stewart, said crews had stepped up their planned maintenance to clear potential blockages before they happen, but the community needed to do its bit.

"Across Western Australia, our crews are on-the-ground ensuring our essential water and wastewater services continue to be provided to our 1.3 million customers," Mr Stewart said.

"If a blockage occurs in Water Corporation's wastewater network, then our crews have the unenviable job of clearing these blockages, and since the start of this year they have cleared 1,965 blockages (as at 7 April 2020) in the wastewater system.

"Over the past five years, we've spent nearly \$20.4 million clearing blockages from wastewater systems across the State.

"I'm asking the community to do their bit to ensure our crews are only being called out to essential work, and not to clear blockages caused by incorrect things such as wet wipes, paper towels and newspaper being flushed down the toilet.

"Even items that are marketed as flushable cannot be flushed down the toilet. The only things that should be flushed are the 3Ps – pee, poo and (toilet) paper – everything else goes in the bin.

"Thank you to the Western Australian community in advance from our crews who are on the ground each day performing essential work to ensure you continue to receive safe and reliable water and wastewater services."

Blockages can also occur in the internal plumbing of a home, and householders are then responsible for any plumbing repair costs.

To report a fault with the wastewater system, phone Water Corporation's 24 hour Faults, Emergencies and Security line on 13 13 75.

Did you know?

- Water Corporation manages 17,193km of wastewater mains, 1,178 wastewater pump stations and 112 wastewater treatment plants across Western Australia
- In 2018-19, around 165 billion litres of wastewater was treated and safely returned to the environment or recycled
- Read the Water Services Association of Australia's *Fact Sheet: Only Flush the 3P's* <https://www.wsaq.asn.au/publication/flushable-products-fact-sheet>