

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 17 February 2015

To be held Piangil Community Centre
8 Beveridge Street, Piangil
Commencing at 2:00 PM

COUNCIL:

Cr CM Adamson – Mayor

Cr JN Katis

Cr GW Norton

Cr GI Cruickshank

Cr JA Kiley

Cr LT McPhee

Cr JB Crowe

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SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- **Open**

- **Acknowledgement to Country**

- **Prayer**

- **Apologies**

- **Confirmation of Minutes**
 - 1) Statutory Meeting held on 11 November 2014
 - 2) Ordinary Meeting held on 16 December 2014

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

- **Receptions and Reading of Petitions, Memorials, Joint Letters and Deputations**

- **Public Question Time**

SECTION B – REPORTS

B.15.2 PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION 2014/107 PROPOSED TWO LOT SUBDIVISION OF THE LAND AT 4 RIVER OAKS DRIVE, SWAN HILL

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: 2014/107
Attachments: 1 Proposed plan of subdivision

Declarations of Interest:

Brett Luxford - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This report seeks Council resolution to grant a Notice of Decision to issue a planning permit for the proposed two lot subdivision of land at No: 4 River Oaks Drive, Swan Hill (Lot 20 PS 430924).

Discussion

This application has been referred to Council as one objection to the proposal has been lodged.

The subject land

The subject land is a part of the River Oaks Estate which was created in 2000. The subject site is approximately 4022 square metres in size, is relatively flat and contains a single dwelling and a shed.

As per the requirements of the previous Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ), the average lot size within the River Oaks Estate is approximately 4000 square metres. The area is used for residential development and all lots are serviced with town water, rural water, sewer and electricity.

The proposal

The application seeks approval to subdivide the subject land into two lots of 2000 (Lot 1) and 2022 (Lot 2) square metres.

Lot 1 will have a frontage of approximately 21 metres and Lot 2 will have an approximate frontage of 33 metres.

Lot 1 will contain the shed with space for a future dwelling and Lot 2 will contain the existing dwelling.

The objection

An objection was lodged on the 17 December 2014 by the resident at No: 7 River Oaks Drive, Swan Hill. The concerns raised in the objection are:

- Local amenity provided by the size of the lots
- Neighbourhood character of the estate is unique

It is noted that since July 2013, the minimum lot size requirement for Low Density Residential Zone has been reduced to 2000 square meters where land can be serviced by reticulated sewerage. The proposed subdivision meets the minimum lot size requirements. Further, it provides frontage and setbacks to both lots similar to existing properties within the estate. As such it does not affect the character of the area.

State and Local Policy

Both State and Local Policy do not provide specific guidance in relation to minor subdivisions but do encourage urban infill development and the growth of regional centres including Swan Hill.

Zone and the purpose of the zone

The subject site is located within a Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ). The purpose of the zone is as follows:

- To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and Local Planning Policies.
- To provide for low-density residential development on lots which, in the absence of reticulated sewerage, can treat and retain all wastewater.

Decision Guidelines - Subdivision

- No vegetation or waterways will be affected through the subdivision of the subject land.
- Sewer, town and rural water, electricity, drainage and telecommunications are all currently provided to existing lots within River Oaks.
- Reticulated sewerage is provided within the estate.
- See Clause 56.07-1 to 56.07-4 assessment below.

Overlays

Due to a mapping anomaly a narrow strip of the western boundary of the subject land is affected by the Design and Development Overlay 5 (DDO5), it cannot be considered for the assessment of this application. The overlay relates to the former Swan Hill Technical School oval which was to the west of this site and is not relevant to this property.

Relevant Provisions

Clause 56.07-1 – Drinking water supply objectives

The newly created lot can be serviced with urban water provided by Lower Murray Water.

Clause 56.07-2 – Reused and recycled water objective

Reused and recycled water is not relevant to this application as it is for a subdivision of land only.

Clause 56.07-3 – Waste water management objective

The subject site is located in a residential estate where reticulated sewerage is present. A condition has been included that the new lot created to be connected to the reticulated sewer to the satisfaction of Lower Murray Water.

Clause 56.07-4 – Urban run-off management objectives

River Oaks Estate already has an established stormwater runoff system. The newly created lot would be required to connect to the existing drainage infrastructure as a per the condition of the permit.

Consultation

Public Notification

The application was notified to adjoining properties via letter and a sign placed on site for 14 days. The application received one objection.

Mediation was not held because it was considered unlikely for the objection to be withdrawn as a result of this process.

Financial Implications

There are no known adverse financial implications.

Social Implications

There are no known social implications as a result of the proposal.

Economic Implications

There are no known economic implications of the proposed development.

Environmental Implications

There are no known environmental implications of the proposed development.

Risk Management Implications

There are no known risks management implications of the proposed development.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Infrastructure - We seek to ensure appropriate infrastructure is available to continue our economic growth.

Concluding Remarks

The State wide changes to the LDRZ allows 2000 square meter lots to be created where the land can be connected to reticulate sewer. Conditions listed in the attached Notice of Decision will ensure the connection to the reticulated sewer and the compliance with other requirements of LDRZ. The lot frontage and the setbacks are consistent with the existing character of the surrounding area. The approval of the proposal will add an additional fully serviced residential lot in close proximity to the Swan Hill CBD. For these reasons the proposed subdivision should be approved subject to conditions.

Recommendation

That Council:

That Council issue a Notice of Decision to grant a planning permit for the subdivision of land into two lots at No. 4 River Oaks Drive, Swan Hill in accordance with the endorsed plan.

Draft permit conditions

1. The subdivision allowed by this permit and shown on the plans endorsed to accompany the permit shall not be amended for any reason without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.
2. Prior to the issue of the Statement of Compliance the owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage, sewerage facilities, electricity, gas and telecommunication services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.
3. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing or required utility services and roads on the land must be set aside in the plan of subdivision submitted for certification in favour of the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created.

4. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the *Subdivision Act 1988* must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of that Act.
5. The shed located on the proposed Lot 1 must only be used in association with a dwelling on the same land.
6. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance all crossover driveways shall be constructed to the Infrastructure Design Manual Clause 12 and Standard Drawing requirements and to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
7. Prior to the issue of the Statement of Compliance arrangement must be made to ensure stormwater from each lot to be conveyed to the legal point of discharge by underground pipe to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
8. Each lot must be independently drained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
9. The overall discharge of both lots shall be limited to the current rate of discharge of the entire area.

Telecommunication Conditions

10. The owner of the land (the permit holder) must enter into an agreement with:
 - a) A telecommunications network or service provider for the provision of telecommunication services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the provider's requirements and relevant legislation at the time; and
 - b) A suitably qualified person for the provision of fibre ready telecommunication facilities to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with any industry specifications or any standards set by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the land is in an area where the National Broadband Network will not be provided by optical fibre.
11. Prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance for the subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the owner of the land (permit holder) must provide written confirmation from:

- a) A telecommunications network or service provider that all lots are connected to or are ready for connection to telecommunications services in accordance with the provider's requirements and relevant legislation at the time; and
- b) A suitably qualified person that fibre ready telecommunication facilities have been provided in accordance with any industry specifications or any standards set by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the land is in an area where the National Broadband Network will not be provided by optical fibre.

Lower Murray Water Conditions

12. The requirements of Lower Murray Water must be met, in regard to the provision of water supply and sewerage services to the land, including payment of all associated costs prior to the Corporation agreeing to the Statement of Compliance.

Expiry

13. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

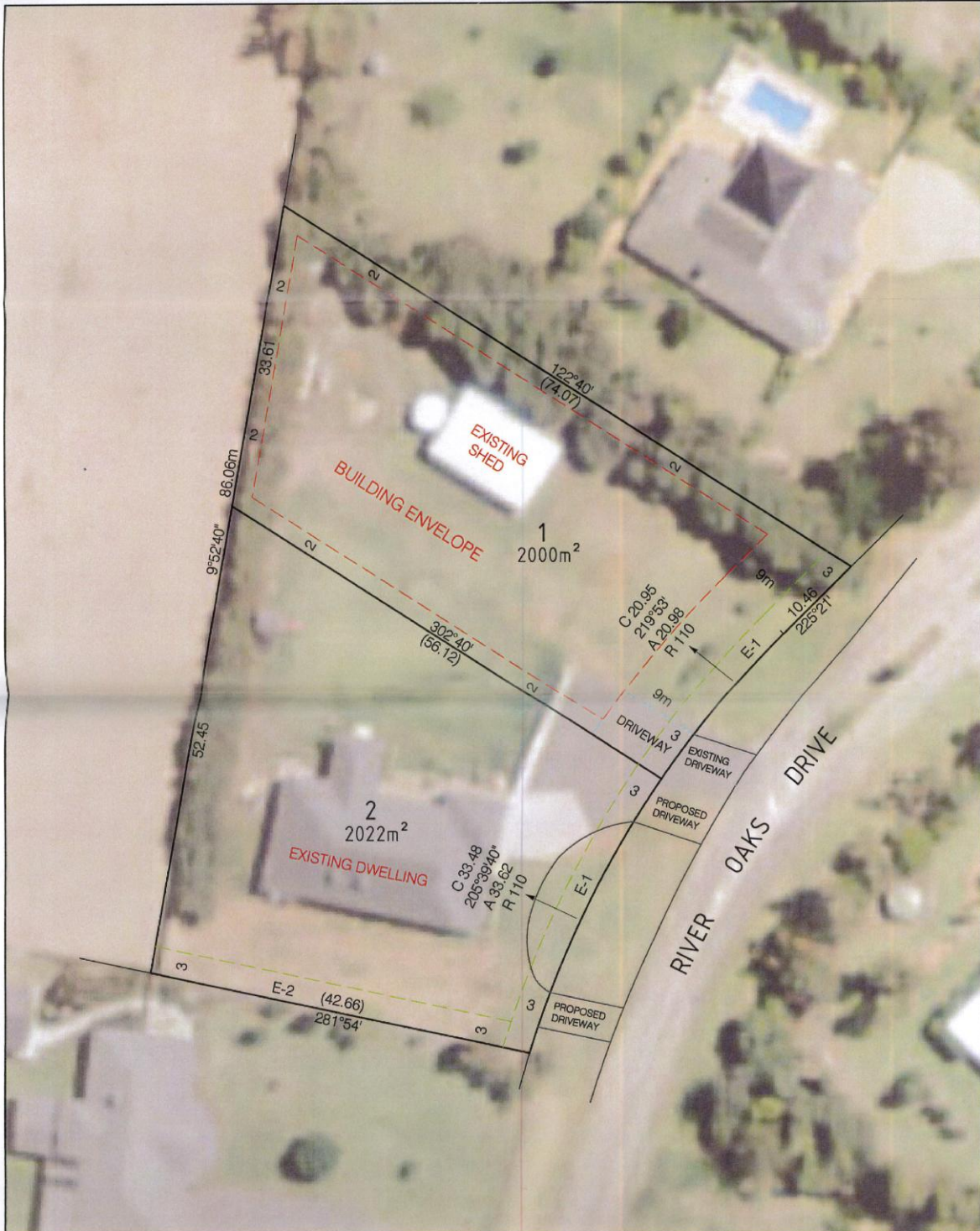
- a) The plan of subdivision is not certified **within two years** of the date of this permit.
- b) The plan of subdivision is not registered at Land Registry **within five years** of the certification of the subdivision.

The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within six months afterwards.

If a request is made outside of the above time, the responsible authority cannot consider the request and the holder of this permit cannot apply to VCAT for a review of this matter.

Notes

For the construction of crossovers a works within roads permit will be required from the Swan Hill Rural City Council.



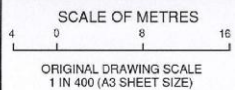
E-1 & E-2 SEWERAGE 3m WIDE.

1. PLAN IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATUTORY AUTHORITIES
2. PLAN IS SUBJECT TO FINAL SURVEY
3. DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY



TIM AND GEORGIA STYLES
PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
 4 RIVER OAKS DRIVE, SWAN HILL

JOB DETAILS
 DRAWN :G. DUNSTONE
 DATE : 24/11/2014
 SHEET No. 1 OF 1
 REFERENCE No. F7747



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Parish of CASTLE DONNINGTON
 Section A
 Crown Allotment 17 (Part)
 Lot 20 on PS430924X

B.15.3 ROBINVALE EUSTON MEMORIAL PARK

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: 79-79-43
Attachments: 1 Memorial Park Plan

Declarations of Interest:

Brett Luxford - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The Robinvale Euston Memorial Park Committee (REMPC) has developed a plan to construct a park on the western side of Bromley Road (Murray Valley Highway) near the bridge across the Murray River. This report recommends Council provide in-principal and in-kind support for the committee to implement the park generally in accordance with the attached plans.

Discussion

The REMPC have been working since 2007 on concept plans to develop a park on a vacant parcel of Council owned land located on the western side of the Bromley Road on the approach to the bridge across the Murray River. The objective of the park is to commemorate Australia's and Robinvale's military past. The land is bordered by Bromley Road to the east, Moore Street to the South and Johnson Street to the west. (See figure 1)



Figure 1 – Proposed Robinvale Euston Memorial Park

The REMPC is an incorporated association which was registered in February 2014. The group has recently been successful in securing funding to commence work on site. This funding came from the Australian Government and is a contribution towards the construction of a paved Courtyard and First World War Memorial Wall.

The committee has also finalised plans for the park. (See attachment 1). These plans include the installation of a non operational Howitzer cannon, a memorial

courtyard, a space to commemorate Robinvale's link with Villers-Bretonneux and trees that link to Australia's role in various conflicts across our history.

Council to date has provided in-kind support to the group to undertake work. This has included providing some soil to build up low lying areas of the site and a surveyed plan identifying the boundaries of the site. The committee have highlighted that they do not require funding support from Council to develop the park however they will require in-kind support throughout the implementation phase.

The REMPC have also approached VicRoads who have viewed the site and approve the construction of the park with the following conditions:

- "All activity is proposed to be on public land and not on (the) arterial road reserve"
- "No direct access to arterial road and;"
- "No parking activity (promotion of) to be along the arterial."

Council has expressed to the committee our concerns about the construction of an additional war memorial in Robinvale and that if constructed the park should not become the focus of either Anzac Day or Remembrance Day services and that the park should not diminish the role of the cenotaph in George Street.

The committee have highlighted that they have the support of the Robinvale RSL and without that support they would not have been able to access the cannon which has been secured to go within the park. The committee have reinforced to Council that the role of the park is for quiet reflection and the park will help beautify the entrance to Robinvale and Victoria.

Consultation

The memorial park has been identified as a project in the Robinvale District Community Plan and the group have been seeking local support for a number of years. Council has met with the committee on a number of occasions.

Financial Implications

As previously highlighted the REMPC are not seeking funding support from Council for the construction of the memorial park. Council will need to remain involved with the group to ensure that any construction on site meets Council's requirements. Once constructed and landscaped, Council will be required to regularly maintain the site.

Social Implications

The memorial park is a project that has been developed by local community members and is seeking to be implemented by local community members. The

project will help reinforce Robinvale's role in past conflicts and will help build community pride.

Economic Implications

The development of the park in the proposed location will improve the entrance to the township of Robinvale and may encourage further visitation however the actual economic benefits may be difficult to quantify.

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Should Council support the development of the park by the Robinvale/Euston Memorial Park Committee, Council will need to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the group to ensure they are undertaking the work in a safe manner and with all the necessary insurances in place.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Building community capacity - We seek to connect members of our community and to provide leadership to bring people together to find solutions to community problems.

Options

Council has a number of options that it could consider in relation to this issue. Council could choose to support the REMPC to implement the park and provide the in-kind support requested. Council could choose to support the REMPC by providing permission to use the site and provide no further support. Council could choose not to support the proposal as outlined in the attached plans and request further plans to be developed. Council could choose not to provide support for the park and refuse permission for the REMPC to use the site.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Provide permission for the Robinvale Euston Memorial Park Committee to use the Council-controlled land as described in this report for the establishment of a memorial park that is generally in accordance with the**

attached plan.

- 2. Request the Robinvale Euston Memorial Park Committee to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Council prior to the commencement of any construction at the park that outlines the roles and responsibilities of both parties.**
- 3. Provide reasonable in-kind support to the Robinvale Euston Memorial Park Committee to establish the park.**

Attachment

- Memorial Park Plan

B.15.4 SWAN HILL REPLACEMENT BRIDGE

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: 84-02-03
Attachments: 1 New Swan Hill Bridge - Legal Advice

Declarations of Interest:

Brett Luxford - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the legal advice that Council has received in relation to the process required to remove the existing public acquisition overlay for the Swan Hill replacement bridge and have another overlay included in the Swan Hill Planning Scheme reflecting an alternative alignment for the bridge. The report also recommends a way forward to progress the issues surrounding a replacement bridge across the Murray River in Swan Hill.

Discussion

In April 2014 Council adopted the following motion:

1. That Council endorse Option 4B or a 4B variation as its preferred bridge option.
2. That Council officers prepare a report outlining the process to be followed to put in place a planning overlay in relation to the 4B option, including an estimate of the costs involved.
3. That Council officers prepare a report outlining the process to be followed to remove the existing overlay in relation to the 9A option, including the costs involved.
4. That Council write to VicRoads, NSW Roads and Maritime Services, Wakool Shire, Victorian and NSW Ministers for Roads, local members of Parliament (State and Federal), and the Wamba Wamba community making them aware of Council's position.

In December 2014 Council received advice from Russell Kennedy Lawyers in relation to the steps required to enact the motion as listed above. The report was authored by Ian Pridgeon who is extremely experienced in Planning Law and a Principal at Russell Kennedy Lawyers. In undertaking the report the author considered the history of the bridge and what process was undertaken in implementation of the current Public Acquisition Overlay.

The report highlighted that the formal planning for a replacement bridge first started around the mid-1960 when the alignment utilising Hastings Street and Pye Street was first identified. The proposal at that time however did not proceed.

The report also highlights that VicRoads and the Roads and Maritime Services formerly the Road Traffic Authority (NSW) have worked collaboratively in relation to the current proposed location for more than seven years and that the current proposed location is based around 14 technical reports (that were commissioned from around 2007 covering a number of matters) and nine stated objectives (which are outlined in the report).

The report outlines the activities that lead to the final approval by the Planning Minister in August 2012 of the PAO3 Planning Scheme Amendment. The report also notes that VicRoads was the proponent and the planning authority for the amendment (C41).

A key finding of the report as outlined on page 5 is that “an amendment to the Swan Hill Planning Scheme is necessary to remove the current PAO3” and a planning scheme “amendment is also required to include a new PAO...to accommodate the approaches to a differently located bridge.”

The report highlights the statutory steps that are required for a planning scheme amendment which includes gaining authorisation from the Victorian Government. The report also goes on to say “in practical terms, for a new location to have a chance of being adopted, VicRoads would need to be convinced that the proposed location was better...than the current proposal.” (p.6)

The report estimates that the cost of preparing the background reports, developing the proposal reports, undertaking the project management and implementing the planning scheme amendment would be in excess of \$300,000. The report concludes by stating that “in practical terms Council would be unable to achieve an alternative bridge location, without the full support of VicRoads and Road and Maritime Services NSW.” (p.9)

To gain the necessary support to further the investigations around the most appropriate site for a replacement bridge across the Murray River at Swan Hill it is considered that Council will need to first of all prove the need for a bridge and the likely timing for a replacement. Once this need has been established Council can work with VicRoads and Roads and Maritime Services NSW to determine the best location.

Information that would need to be gathered includes:

- Establishing a legitimate economic argument for investment
- Establishing a legitimate social argument for investment
- Updating traffic figures and providing projections based on known developments both residential and commercial
- Providing information on Higher Mass Limit (HPV) vehicle movements, information on A-Double access to livestock exchange
- Provide information on strategic road links to upgraded rail freight networks
- Gain an understanding of the potential impact improved passenger transport infrastructure may have as Swan Hill gets increased services.

- Provide up to date figures on tourist traffic movements likely following recent developments (Ports of the Murray, Heartbeat of the Murray, Chisholm Reserve etc).
- Understanding any likely changes to the economic climate that will result in changes to the business mix or role that Swan Hill plays in a regional context

This report recommends that a “Coordination Committee” be developed as a Swan Hill City Council working group to gather data, review information in the current bridge study documents and liaise with other stakeholders as information is gathered. The committee would report regularly to Council and would include senior officers and technical officers from Swan Hill Rural City Council, Councillors and representatives from Wakool Shire Council including officers and Councillor(s).

To assist with the process it is anticipated that the proposed coordination committee will be tasked with accumulating the required data and a final report will be collated by an independent source.

Consultation

Significant consultation has occurred in relation to a replacement bridge across the Murray River for Swan Hill. This report recommends further work be undertaken.

Financial Implications

It is anticipated that the process as outlined in this report is the first step in seeking support from both State Government agencies that further work is required to determine the most appropriate location for a river crossing in Swan Hill. The coordination committee will determine reports that need to be undertaken to achieve this outcome. Much of the work will be able to be undertaken ‘in-house’ however there may be the need for external peer reviewing of the work or experts in certain fields to undertake work.

Social Implications

It is incumbent on Council to determine the most appropriate location for a replacement bridge in Swan Hill that maximises the social outcomes for the local community.

Economic Implications

It is incumbent on Council to determine the most appropriate location for a replacement bridge in Swan Hill that maximises the economic outcomes for the local community.

Environmental Implications

Environmental outcomes are a key consideration in selecting the most appropriate location for a replacement bridge.

Risk Management Implications

As outlined in the legal advice received there are no apparent grounds upon which VicRoads or another entity could sue the Council as a result Council investigating a potential new bridge location.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Infrastructure - We seek to ensure appropriate infrastructure is available to continue our economic growth.

Options

The legal advice that has been received provides Council with an opinion as to the process of implementing the adopted resolution. Council can accept the legal advice or alternatively ask for another opinion. In relation to the best way forward Council can choose to either implement a committee to undertake further work, engage consultants to undertake further work or abandon the process altogether.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Receive the legal advice as provide by Ian Pridgeon from Russell Kennedy Lawyers.**
- 2. Develop and implement a Swan Hill Replacement Bridge Coordination Committee to undertake further work to develop a case for VicRoads and Roads and Maritime Services NSW to revisit the proposed replacement bridge location.**
- 3. Write to Wakool Shire Council advising it of Swan Hill Rural City Council's position and inviting a Councillor and Officer representative to be part of the Swan Hill Replacement Bridge Coordination Committee.**

Attachment

- New Swan Hill Bridge – Legal Advice

B.15.5 SWAN HILL REGION FARMERS' MARKET FEASIBILITY STUDY

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: 42-52-245
Attachments: 1 Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study

Declarations of Interest:

Brett Luxford - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This report seeks Council's support for the recently completed Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study.

Discussion

In July 2014 Swan Hill Rural City Council received funding (\$8,500) from Regional Development Victoria (RDV) to undertake a feasibility study for a potential Farmers' Market in the Swan Hill region.

Under the auspice of Council's Economic Development Unit, a Farmers' Market Working Group was formed to oversee the development of the Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study.

The feasibility study, undertaken by the Victoria Farmers Market Association, was completed under the following four main pillars;

- Demand Analysis
- Community Consultation
- Produce availability
- Market Management advice

The project objectives were to provide an overview of the strength and weaknesses around the development of a genuine, accredited Farmers Market in the Swan Hill region. The study also examined and outlined the resources required to plan and develop a regular and ongoing farmers market for the Swan Hill region.

On completion of the feasibility report, funding of up to \$20,000 through the Victorian Government's "*Farmers' Market Support Program - establish a new farmers market*" may become accessible.

The study found that holding a monthly farmers market in Swan Hill was feasible with a likely attendance of around 1600 people. The study also identified that "there are plenty of producers within the area which is very encouraging and should allow for a viable market with a good diversity of produce."

Consultation

The consultant interviewed over twenty five local farmers and or producers, local organisations and key stakeholders.

A public information session was also held at the Swan Hill Region Information Centre and a site visit was undertaken at the monthly Swan Hill Rotary Market.

A further fifteen to twenty identified stakeholders were contacted by the Victoria Farmers Market Association by phone.

The draft strategy was reviewed by Farmers' Market Working Group, which included local producers, Council staff and a Council representative, local community organisations and a Regional Development Victoria representative.

Financial Implications

The Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study provides the opportunity for further external funding to be sourced. It is anticipated that the development of a regular farmers market will be coordinated by the Farmers' Market Steering Committee, under the auspice of Swan Hill Rural City Council, through the Economic Development Unit.

Once established, the Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market will become incorporated and operate independently under their own guidelines and regulations.

Ongoing in-kind support may be required by Council for this Steering Committee. This may include assisting with access to water, waste bins, permits and power once the site is determined.

Social Implications

The development of the Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market will have a positive social impact on the community as a key focus of the market is to involve local community groups, organisations and schools.

Economic Implications

The development of a regular Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market will:

- Create a new income stream for local food growers and producers
- Preserve sustainable farming and local food production
- Encourage regional biodiversity
- Raise the regions profile as a key production area within the Northern Victoria and the Swan Hill region
- Increase tourism numbers, yield and visitor nights in the region
- Engage young people in developing food skills

Increase local community's understanding of how purchasing locally grown food strengthens the local economy.

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Existing business support - We will support existing businesses and encourage expansion through building business capacity.

Options

Council can choose to endorse the Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study as a guide to assist future decision making around the development of an authentic farmers' market for the Swan Hill region.

If the report is endorsed, Council can proceed to seek funding to set up a farmers market under the RDV Farmers' Market Support Program

Council could choose not to accept the report or request further research to be undertaken.

Recommendation

That Council endorse the Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study and seek to access external funding programs that will assist with the implementation of an authentic farmers' market for the Swan Hill region.

Attachment

- Swan Hill Region Farmers' Market Feasibility Study

B.15.6 S5 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: 74-00-23
Attachments:
1 Maddocks Letter 3-12-2014
2 S5 Instrument of Delegation CEO

Declarations of Interest: Officer

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

Section 98 of the Local Government Act (1989) enables council to delegate to a member of council staff, with specified exemptions, 'any power, duty or function of a council under this Act or any other Act' and delegate the Chief Executive Officer the power to delegate a power of the council, other than power of delegation, to another member of council staff.

Maddocks, in their attached letter, has recommended that council should refresh the Chief Executive Officer's delegations as a matter of course.

Discussion

In order to comply with the various legislative requirements, Council delegates a range of powers to the Chief Executive Officer. These delegations are made in accordance with section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989.

As per letter attached from Maddocks dated 3 December 2014 it has been advised that all Instruments of Delegation should be updated, or refreshed, on a regular basis to ensure that they incorporate all recent legislative developments. This includes the Instrument of Delegation to Council's Chief Executive Officer, even though it is expressed in general terms.

Section 94A of the Act states:

- (1) A Council's Chief Executive Officer is responsible for -
 - (a) Establishing and maintaining an appropriate organisational structure for the Council; and
 - (b) Ensuring that the decisions of the Council are implemented without undue delay; and
 - (c) The day to day management of the Council's operations in accordance with the Council's Corporate Plan; and
 - (d) Providing timely advice to the Council.
- (2) The Chief Executive Officer may appoint as many members of Council staff as are required to enable the functions of the Council under this Act or any

other Act to be carried out and to enable the Chief Executive Officer to carry out his or her functions.

- (3) The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for appointing, directing, managing and dismissing Council staff and for all other issues that relate to Council staff.

The delegation to the Chief Executive Officer is a 'delegation by exception'.

Consultation

This is a statutory requirement of Council and as such consultation is not part of the process.

Financial Implications

Nil

Social Implications

Nil

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Responsible management of resources - We will continually improve the management of our finances, assets, systems and technology to achieve and maintain Best Value in our operations.

Options

Council can choose to vary the level of delegations however the efficiency of day to day management of Council would be affected.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Exercise the powers conferred by section 98(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 and the other legislation referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer as attached.**
- 2. Delegate to the person holding the position of Chief Executive Officer, or Acting Chief Executive Officer, the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer as attached to the report, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.**
- 3. Affix the common seal of the Council to the Instrument.**

Maddocks Delegations and Authorisations

S5. Instrument of Delegation to Chief Executive Officer

Swan Hill Rural City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

The Chief Executive Officer

Instrument of Delegation

In exercise of the power conferred by section 98(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989 (the Act)* and all other powers enabling it, the Swan Hill Rural City Council (**Council**) delegates to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the position of Chief Executive Officer, the powers, duties and functions set out in the Schedule to this Instrument of Delegation,

AND declares that

- 1. this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a Resolution of Council passed on ##[#date#];
- 2. the delegation
 - 2.1 comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Delegation;
 - 2.2 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in the Schedule;
 - 2.3 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
 - 2.4 remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it.
- 3. The member of Council staff occupying the position or title of or acting in the position of Chief Executive Officer may delegate to a member of Council staff any of the powers (other than the power of delegation conferred by section 98(3) of the Act or any other powers not capable of sub-delegation) which this Instrument of Delegation delegates to him or her.

The COMMON SEAL OF THE SWAN HILL)
 RURAL CITY COUNCIL was hereunto)
 affixed in the presence of:)

.....
Chief Executive Officer

.....
(Print Name)

.....
Councillor

.....
(Print Name)

.....
Councillor

.....
(Print Name)

SCHEDULE

The power to

1. determine any issue;
2. take any action; or
3. do any act or thing

arising out of or connected with any duty imposed, or function or power conferred on Council by or under any Act.

Conditions and Limitations

The delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing

4. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which involves
 - 4.1 awarding a contract exceeding the value of \$1,000,000
 - 4.2 making a local law under Part 5 of the Act;
 - 4.3 approval of the Council Plan under s.125 of the Act;
 - 4.4 adoption of the Strategic Resource Plan under s.126 of the Act;
 - 4.5 preparation or adoption of the Budget or a Revised Budget under Part 6 of the Act;
 - 4.6 adoption of the Auditor's report, Annual Financial Statements, Standard Statements and Performance Statement under Part 6 of the Act;
 - 4.7 determining pursuant to s.37 of the Act that an extraordinary vacancy on Council not be filled;
 - 4.8 exempting a member of a special committee who is not a Councillor from submitting a return under s.81 of the Act;
 - 4.9 appointment of councillor or community delegates or representatives to external organisations; or
 - 4.10 the return of the general valuation and any supplementary valuations;
5. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which is required by law to be done by Council resolution;
6. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;
7. if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a
 - 7.1 policy; or
 - 7.2 strategy
adopted by Council; or

8. if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation, whether on account of section 98(1)(a)-(f) (inclusive) of the Act or otherwise; or
9. the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff.

B.15.7 S6 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION TO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL STAFF

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: 74-00-23
Attachments:
1 Maddocks letter 3-12-14
2 S6 Delegations Members of Council Staff

Declarations of Interest: Officer

David Lenton- as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

In order to deliver services to the community and discharge obligations placed on Council by legislation in an efficient and effective manner, Council has in place a range of delegations to members of Council staff. Periodically these delegations need to be reviewed and, if appropriate, updated. This report recommends changes to some delegations made by Council to members of Council staff.

The changes are the result of legislative changes to the relevant Acts, changes to position titles and organisational structure.

The vast majority of the delegations have not changed.

Some new Acts have come into force. Delegations of power for these Acts are also included in the attached document.

Discussion

In order to comply with the various legislative requirements, Council delegates a range of powers and accountabilities to appropriately qualified and experienced members of Council staff. These delegations are made in accordance with section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989. A delegation may be made subject to limitations on these powers, such as the need to inform Council of a determination.

The powers and obligations delegated are mostly procedural in nature, allowing the delivery of services in accordance with Council policy, adopted strategies and plans, the authorised budget, and discharging Council obligations in accordance with legislative requirements.

The delegation of powers and obligations to Council staff by Council is managed by the Maddocks 'delegations and authorisations service'. Maddocks monitors changes to state legislation, and every six months provides a listing of the sections of legislation that a municipality could delegate to enable efficient and effective delivery of services.

The six monthly review of legislative changes has resulted in the recommended amendments in the attached document which are summarised in the attached letter from Maddocks.

Council delegations are made to positions in the organisation rather than to individual members of staff to avoid the need to change the delegation upon the departure of a staff member or the staff member taking up a different position in the Council.

Consultation

Community consultation is not appropriate for the subject of this report.

Financial Implications

Nil

Social Implications

Nil

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Responsible management of resources - We will continually improve the management of our finances, assets, systems and technology to achieve and maintain Best Value in our operations.

Options

Council can choose to vary the delegations however the efficiency of Council operations would be affected.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Amend the schedule of delegated authorities, duties and functions of the various officers as detailed in the attached document.**
- 2a) Delegate to the members of Council staff holding or acting in the officer's position referred to in the *Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff*, the powers, duties and functions once amended by the attached changes, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that amended Instrument effective from the date that the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.**
- b) Revoke all the previous delegations related to the amended instrument on the coming into force of the amended instrument.**

Attachment

- S6 Delegations Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff

B.15.8 KEY STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2014/15 STATUS REPORT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: 22-23-08
Attachments: 1 KSI 2014/15 SECOND QUARTER

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

This is the second quarterly report identifying the status of the Key Strategic Initiatives from the Council Plan for the 2014/15 financial year.

Discussion

The Council Plan 2013/17 includes 77 initiatives and 237 actions, through which the achievement of the Council Plan may be measured over its four-year term.

There are 27 actions in total identified for the 2014/15 period and each action has a nominated responsible officer. In each case, the responsible officer is a member of the Leadership Team, reflecting the importance placed on achieving targets.

Twelve actions were completed during the second quarter of the 2014/15 financial year.

Of the 18 outstanding actions from 2013/14, 7 are reliant on external funding or parties outside of Council.

Since the adoption of the Council Plan in 2013, nine actions have been deemed as no longer applicable.

The progress of all actions is outlined in the table below and the comments section of the attachment to this report.

Year	No. of Actions	Completed this ¼	Total completed	No longer applicable	Outstanding
Rolled over from previous Council Plan	6	-	3	-	3
2013/14	76	8	52	6	18
2014/15	27	2	5	-	22
Future years	134	2	22	3	109
Total	243	12	82	9	152

Consultation

Council consulted the community during the development of the Council Plan 2013/17. The Council Plan was adopted at the June Council Meeting 2013.

Financial Implications

The implementation of the 2014/15 Key Strategic Initiatives was included in the budget.

Social Implications

Not applicable for this item.

Economic Implications

Not applicable for this item.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable for this item.

Risk Management Implications

Monitoring of Council's progress to implement the Council Plan helps to reduce risks associated with governance and reputation.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Councillor and Staff accountability - We will represent the interests of our community and will conduct our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting high levels of good governance.

Options

Not applicable for this report.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Key Strategic Initiatives status report for the second quarter 2014/15.

Attachment

- KSI 2014/15 Second Quarter

B.15.9 QUARTERLY REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL POSITION TO 31 DECEMBER 2014

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: 42-20-00
Attachments: 1 Statement of Income & Expenditure 6 months ending 31-12-14
 2 Summarised Balance Sheet as at 31-12-14

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

A review of Council's Financial Performance (income and expenditure) and Financial Position (balance sheet) to the adopted Budget for the six months to 31 December 2014 has been conducted and the results are summarised in this report.

Discussion

A summarised Statement of Income and Expenditure and a summarised Balance Sheet for the six months ended 31 December 2014 are included with this report.

Major variations to budget as at 31 December 2014 are explained by way of notes on the attached report.

The forecast result is expected to be better than budget. The predicted surplus assumes that Major Projects and Capital Works during the last six months of the financial year will be within budget.

Significant forecast variations to budget include:

	Previous Forecast Variances		Current Forecast Variances	
Rates	\$48,500	Favourable	\$48,500	Favourable
Grants Commission	\$25,600	Favourable	\$25,600	Favourable
Grants expected 2013/14, received 2014/15	\$193,700	Favourable	\$193,700	Favourable
Loans Budgeted 2013/14, taken-up 2014/15	\$3,500,000	Favourable	\$3,500,000	Favourable
Rates Discount	\$30,000	Favourable	\$21,200	Favourable
Interest on Rates and Investments	\$25,000	Unfavourable	\$35,000	Unfavourable
Loan Interest and Repayment	\$30,000	Favourable	\$40,000	Favourable
Pioneer Settlement Results (net)	\$19,000	Unfavourable	\$51,000	Unfavourable
Maternal & Child Health Grant	\$45,000	Unfavourable	\$20,000	Unfavourable
Insurance (net)	\$79,700	Favourable	\$90,300	Favourable

SECTION B - REPORTS

17 February 2015

Livestock Exchange Income (Net)	\$70,000	Favourable	\$74,000	Favourable
Public Lighting conversion to L.E.D.'s	\$86,000	Unfavourable	\$86,000	Unfavourable
Workcover	\$26,900	Unfavourable	\$26,900	Unfavourable
New Scout Hall	-	-	\$27,000	Unfavourable
Employee Costs	-	-	\$131,500	Favourable
Electricity Costs	-	-	\$15,800	Favourable
Caravan Park Lease fees	-	-	\$15,000	Favourable
Fire Services Levy	-	-	\$15,900	Unfavourable
Parking Fines Income	-	-	\$15,000	Unfavourable
Planning Permit Income	-	-	\$20,000	Favourable
Infringement Income – Animal Control	-	-	\$10,000	Favourable
Upgrade Dog Pound	-	-	\$50,200	Unfavourable
Grant for administration officer of Fire Services Levy	\$21,900	Unfavourable	\$21,900	Unfavourable
Fuel Tax Credits	\$10,000	Favourable	\$10,000	Favourable
Other Items (net)	-	-	\$18,200	Unfavourable
	\$3,763,700	Favourable	\$3,828,500	Favourable
Less: Income/Loans owing from 2013/14	\$3,693,700	Unfavourable	\$3,693,700	Unfavourable
Net Variation to 2014/15 Budget	\$70,000	Favourable	\$134,800	Favourable

Consultation

Consultation occurred as part of the Budget preparation process.

Financial Implications

The report shows a predicted rates determination surplus \$134,800 better than budget for the 2014/15 financial year.

Social Implications

Not relevant to this item.

Economic Implications

Not relevant to this item.

Environmental Implications

Not relevant to this item.

Risk Management Implications

The anticipated surplus is subject to income and costs trending as expected over the final six months of the year.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Responsible management of resources - We will continually improve the management of our finances, assets, systems and technology to achieve and maintain Best Value in our operations.

Options

Nil

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of this report.

**SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR THE 6 MONTHS ENDING 31/12/2014**

	Actual Year To Date 31/12/2014 \$000	Budget Year To Date 31/12/2014 \$000	\$ Variance To Budget \$000	% Variance To Budget	Original Annual Budget 2014/15 \$000	Notes
OPERATING INCOME :-						
Rates, garbage charges and marketing levy	24,134	24,146	(12)	0.0%	24,146	
Statutory fees & fines	583	510	73	14.3%	1,019	1
User fees	2,223	2,500	(277)	-11.1%	5,000	
Grants - operating (recurrent)	6,743	6,628	115	1.7%	13,256	
Grants - operating (non-recurrent)	661	200	461	230.5%	399	2
Grants - capital (recurrent)	1,000	990	10	1.0%	1,980	
Grants - capital (non-recurrent)	1,735	2,649	(914)	-34.5%	5,297	3
Contributions - cash non recurrent	169	112	57	50.9%	224	4
Reimbursements	148	128	20	15.6%	255	
Interest income	173	360	(187)	-51.9%	720	5
Proceeds from disposal of assets	71	376	(305)	-81.1%	752	6
Other revenue	868	616	252	40.9%	1,231	7
TOTAL INCOME	38,508	39,215	(707)	-1.8%	54,279	
OPERATING EXPENSES (Excluding Depreciation) :-						
Employee benefits	9,922	9,886	36	0.4%	19,771	
Contract payments materials & services	6,033	6,268	(235)	-3.7%	12,535	
Agency payments and community grants	2,486	2,854	(368)	-12.9%	5,708	8
Bad & doubtful debts	1	2	(1)	-50.0%	4	
Finance costs	126	250	(124)	-49.6%	499	9
Other expenses	579	511	68	13.3%	1,022	10
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (Excl. Depn.)	19,147	19,771	(624)	-3.2%	39,539	
OPERATING RESULT (Excl. Depn.)	19,361	19,444	(83)	-0.4%	14,740	
CAPITAL ITEMS :-						
Capital works/asset purchases - funding sourced	4,981	5,846	(865)	-15%	11,692	
Capital works/asset purchases - funding not sourced	66	-	66	0.0%	4,337	
	5,047	5,846	(799)	-14%	16,029	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER CAPITAL ITEMS	14,314	13,598	716	5.3%	(1,289)	
ADD FINANCING TRANSACTIONS						
Loan principal redemption	(493)	(564)	71	-12.6%	(1,128)	
Transfers to/from reserves	10	-	10	0.0%	1,180	
Proceeds from loans	-	-	-	0.0%	1,295	
TOTAL FINANCING TRANSACTIONS	(483)	(564)	81	-14.4%	1,347	
BUDGET RESULT SURPLUS	13,831	13,034	797	6.1%	58	

- 1 Food and Health premises registrations for the 2014/15 year were raised in August. The forecast allows for the recognition of these funds over the financial year. An additional \$91,000 for valuation data fees has been received which had been forecast to be received over the financial year.
- 2 Grants for the Community Plan program of \$179,545 have been received, but these funds were forecast to be received last financial year. A number of other grants forecast to be received over the financial year have already been received in full.
- 3 Grants - capital (non-recurrent) includes funding for the Chisholm Reserve Upgrade (\$2.0M) and Pioneer Settlement Heartbeat of the Murray project (\$2.5M). The forecast allows for these to be received throughout the year, but these grants are yet to be received.
- 4 Contributions - cash (non-recurrent) is currently \$57K above forecast due to the contribution from the Nyah West Senior Citizens for the purchase of a new bus.
- 5 As at 31 December 2014 Council had accrued \$80K of interest income in addition to the \$173K already received.
- 6 Proceeds from the sale of plant and equipment are \$252K below forecast due to a number of vehicle replacements yet to take place in 2014/15. It is anticipated that the majority of plant and equipment replacement will occur in the second half of the year.
- 7 Tower Hill land sales are currently \$254K above forecast.
- 8 The payments to the CACP and EACH consortium members for December were yet to be paid.
- 9 The loan budgeted to be borrowed in June 2014 was deferred until November 2014, resulting in a lower than forecast interest.
- 10 Licence fees for computer software were paid upfront at the beginning of the year.

**SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31/12/2014**

	This Year Actual As At 31/12/2014 \$000	Last Year Actual As At 31/12/2013 \$000	\$ Movement Y.T.D. \$000	% Movement Y.T.D.	Budget As At End 2014/15 \$000
CURRENT ASSETS:-					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	19,064	14,372	4,692	32.6%	8,667
Trade & Other Receivables	10,929	9,345	1,584	17.0%	1,821
Inventories	67	91	(24)	-26.4%	39
Non Current Assets Classified as held for sale	89	102	(13)	-12.7%	110
Other Assets	148	201	(53)	-26.4%	270
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	30,297	24,111	6,186	25.7%	10,907
CURRENT LIABILITIES:-					
Trade & Other Payables	815	559	256	45.8%	2,871
Trust Funds & Deposits	399	391	8	2.0%	0
Provisions	4,575	4,657	(82)	-1.8%	5,058
Interest Bearing Loans & Borrowings	799	2,415	(1,616)	-66.9%	1,143
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,588	8,022	(1,434)	-17.9%	9,072
NET CURRENT ASSETS	23,709	16,089	7,620	47.4%	1,835
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:-					
Trade & Other Receivables	131	118	13	11.0%	118
Property, Plant, Equipment & Infrastructure	405,673	406,544	(871)	-0.2%	439,196
Intangible Assets	726	768	(42)	-5.5%	768
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	406,530	407,430	(900)	-0.2%	440,082
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:-					
Interest Bearing Loans & Borrowings	8,188	2,841	5,347	188.2%	7,117
Provisions	1,661	1,735	(74)	-4.3%	1,718
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	9,849	4,576	5,273	115.2%	8,835
TOTAL NET ASSETS	420,390	418,943	1,447	0.3%	433,082
EQUITY:-					
Accumulated Surplus & Reserves	283,748	281,362	2,386	0.8%	278,116
Asset Revaluation Reserve	136,642	137,581	(939)	-0.7%	154,966
TOTAL EQUITY	420,390	418,943	1,447	0.3%	433,082

B.15.10 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Responsible Officer: **Director Corporate Services**
File Number: **42-02-03**
Attachments: 1 Confidential Audit Committee Minutes 5-2-15

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

Council's Audit Committee met on 5 February 2015 and this report summarises the items that were discussed at the meeting.

Discussion

The Audit Committee met on 5 February 2015 and as well as the usual procedural items the Agenda items included:-

1. Presentation from Mr David Leahy, Director Infrastructure on the progress of Chisholm Reserve.
2. Internal Audit Update on IT Security which was completed prior to Christmas. The IT Disaster Recovery Review will be presented at the next Audit Committee meeting.
3. Internal Audit on Fleet Management. A more detailed review will be scheduled once GPS Systems have been installed in Council plant and pool cars.
4. Risk Management Report update. As a result of an independent review Councils Disaster Recovery Plan is being refined. Councils Risk Register is being progressed and reviewed.
6. Quarterly Review of Financial Performance and Financial Position to 31 December 2014.

Consultation

Not relevant to this item.

Financial Implications

The recommendation in the report will not affect existing resource allocations.

Social Implications

Nil

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

The Audit Committee helps to oversee Council's Risk Management Practices. Internal and other Audits are routinely done to reduce the risk to Council.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Councillor and Staff accountability - We will represent the interests of our community and will conduct our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting high levels of good governance.

Options

Nil

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of this report.

Attachment

- Confidential Audit Committee Minutes
5 February 2015

B.15.11 COUNCIL PLAN 2013-17 (2014 REVIEW)

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: 69-99-00
Attachments: 1 Council Plan 2013-17

Declarations of Interest:

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

Under section 125 of the Local Government Act, a Council must consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan, at least once in each financial year.

Discussion

The Council Plan was reviewed during the Councillor retreat in January 2014, and again at a Councillor workshop in July 2014. Direction was given to the Executive Leadership Team to incorporate changes resulting from these meetings into the Council Plan. This plan was then brought to a Council Assembly in December resulting in further changes being made.

These changes resulted in a number of initiatives being moved to more appropriate Key Result Areas.

The Key Result Area of Environmental Management was renamed Built and Natural Environment.

The importance of Agriculture to our Municipality has been highlighted in the Our Place Our Region section and with additional strategic initiatives added.

A number of new initiatives have been included. These are as follows:

Governance and Leadership

Initiatives included under strategic objective 2:

- Review Rating Strategy
- Review Municipal Office Layout to improve efficiency and customer service outcomes
- Implement a Project Management system
- Implement a program of "Lean Thinking" across Council operations

Community Wellbeing

Initiative included under strategic objective 1:

- Implement actions from the adopted Cultural Plan. The following actions will be incorporated with this initiative:
 - Promote the development of a strategy to enable communication of emergency management plans and activities to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.
 - Support for new citizens to our municipality to increase awareness of local customs and practice.
 - Pursue funding to develop a Diversity Plan and investigate the potential to develop a multicultural hub.

Initiatives included under strategic objective 2:

- Investigate and implement Council's ongoing role regarding the community - based Aged Care reforms.
- Implement actions from the Youth Strategy 2015-2016.
- Implement actions from Early Years Plan 2014-2018.

The following programs will be included under our ongoing responsibilities for Maintaining Council's level of support and explore opportunities to strengthen the following services:

- Performing Arts program.
- Visual Arts programs via the Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

Initiative included under strategic objective 3:

- Encourage community harmony, cultural understanding and tolerance.

Economic Growth

Initiative included under strategic objective 1:

- Encourage the growth of Agriculture through appropriate advocacy and strategic planning.

Initiative included under strategic objective 2:

- Support local efforts to prevent fruit fly outbreaks by advocating on behalf of the fruit growing industry and providing education and other in-kind support in urban areas.

Initiative included under strategic objective 3:

- Coordinate the establishment of an Agri-business Advisory Committee.

Built and Natural Environment

Initiative included under strategic objective 1:

Determine the process of redevelopment of the Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

Consultation

All councillors have had input into the Council Plan review.
All members of the Executive Leadership Team have reviewed the plan.

The reviewed Council Plan will be advertised in accordance with the Section 125 of the Local Government Act inviting submissions from members of the public.

Financial Implications

Initiatives in the Council Plan will be referred to the annual Budget process and Major Projects Plan.

Social Implications

The Council Plan will impact on the social, economic and environment aspects of our municipality, as set out in the Council Plan. The initiatives have been grouped under Sustainable Communities (social), Economic Growth (economic), Environmental Management (environment) and Governance and Leadership (the way Council operates).

Economic Implications

See above.

Environmental Implications

See above.

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Councillor and Staff accountability - We will represent the interests of our community and will conduct our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting high levels of good governance.

Options

Council can:

1. Accept the revised version of the Plan and progress it to the February Council meeting seeking approval to advertise the Plan.
2. Make further changes for the Plan.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the reviewed Council Plan 2013-17.**
- 2. Advertise the reviewed Council Plan and call for submissions in accordance with the Local Government Act.**

Attachment

- Council Plan 2013-17

SECTION C – DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

C.15.1 COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES - RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA ITEMS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: 22-13-12
Attachments: 1 Councillor Assemblies Attendance and Agenda

Declarations of Interest:

Dean Miller - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

The Local Government Act 1989 requires that the details of Councillor Assemblies be reported to Council meetings on a monthly basis.

Discussion

The State Government has amended the Local Government Act 1989 which requires Council to report on Councillor Assemblies.

Whilst Minutes do not have to be recorded, Agenda items and those in attendance must be, and a report presented to Council.

An assembly of Councillors is defined as a meeting that is planned or scheduled at which at least half of the Council and one Officer are in attendance, and where the matters being considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

No formal decisions can be made at an assembly but rather direction can be given that is likely to lead to a formal decision of Council.

Details of the most recent assemblies of Council are attached.

Consultation

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Social Implications

Nil

Economic Implications

Nil

Environmental Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

Nil

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Councillor and Staff accountability - We will represent the interests of our community and will conduct our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting high levels of good governance.

Options

Council must comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989.

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of the report.

COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
20 January 2015 at 1pm
SWAN HILL INFORMATION CENTRE, SWAN HILL

AGENDA ITEMS

- Heartbeat of the Murray – Presentation from Laser Vision
- Swan Hill Farmers Market Feasibility Study
- Big 4 Riverside Caravan Park (request for a longer lease)
- Strategic Land Acquisitions
- KSI (second quarter)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Jessie Kiley
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Jim Crowe
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Gary Norton
- Cr Michael Adamson
- Greg Cruickshank

Apologies

-

Officers

- Dean Miller, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Brett Luxford, Director Development and Planning
- David Leahy, Director Infrastructure
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Steve Matthews, Economic & Community Development Manager
- Tony Jenkins, General Manager Pioneer Settlement

Other

-

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
27 January 2015 at 1pm
SWAN HILL INFORMATION CENTRE, SWAN HILL

AGENDA ITEMS

- IT training session
- McCallum Street, Swan Hill – intersection signage
- Planning Mediation Process
- Swan Hill Library building sale proposal
- HACCC Reform Update
- Bromely Road and Memorial Park Updates
- Lake Boga Land and Onwater Development Group

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Jessie Kiley
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Jim Crowe
- Cr Gary Norton
- Greg Cruickshank
- Cr Les McPhee

Apologies

- Cr Michael Adamson

Officers

- Dean Miller, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Brett Luxford, Director Development and Planning
- David Leahy, Director Infrastructure
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services

Other

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
3 February 2015 at 1pm
SWAN HILL INFORMATION CENTRE, SWAN HILL**

AGENDA ITEMS

- Councillors review changes to 10 year Major Projects Plan
- Swan Hill Bridge - Way forward discussion
- Robinvale/Euston Memorial Park Committee project
- Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance
- Advancing Country Towns

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Jessie Kiley
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Jim Crowe
- Cr Gary Norton
- Cr Michael Adamson
- Greg Cruickshank

Apologies

- Cr Les McPhee

Officers

- Dean Miller, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Brett Luxford, Director Development and Planning
- David Leahy, Director Infrastructure
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Warren Snyder, Finance Manager

Other

- Glenn Stewart (Advancing Country Towns)
- Neil Tolley and Len O'Brien (Robinvale/Euston Memorial Park Committee)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
10 February 2015 at 1pm
TOWN HALL (COUNCIL CHAMBERS), SWAN HILL**

AGENDA ITEMS

- Councillor only session
- Planning Application 2014/107 4 River Oaks Drive – Lot 2 Subdivision
- Swan Hill Inc Update to Council on progress and work to date
- Finalise changes to 10 Year Major Projects Plan
- RM Consulting Group – Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan (seeking Council approval of the plan)
- Quarterly Review of Financial Performance & Financial Position to 31 December 2015
- Council Plan Review
- S5, S6 & S7 Delegations

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Jessie Kiley
- Cr John Katis
- Cr Jim Crowe
- Cr Gary Norton
- Cr Michael Adamson
- Greg Cruickshank
- Cr Les McPhee

Apologies

-

Officers

- Dean Miller, Chief Executive Officer
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Services
- Brett Luxford, Director Development and Planning
- David Leahy, Director Infrastructure
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Vige Satkunarajah, Development Manager
- Helen Morris, Human Resources Manager

Other

- Claire Flanagan-Smith (Senior Consultant) RM Consulting Group – Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Plan
- Murray Ray (Swan Hill Inc)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

SECTION D – NOTICES OF MOTION

SECTION E – URGENT ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN AGENDA

SECTION F – TO CONSIDER & ORDER ON COUNCILLOR REPORTS

SECTION G – IN CAMERA ITEMS