



MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 21 May 2019

Held at the Robinvale Community
Centre, McLennan Drive,
Robinvale
Commenced at 6:00 PM

COUNCIL:
Cr A Young – Mayor

Cr LT McPhee
Cr J Benham
Cr C Jeffery
Cr L Johnson
Cr B Moar
Cr N McKay

Confirmed 25 June 2019

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SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- **Open**

Mayor, Councillor Ann Young assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 6.04pm.

- **Acknowledgement of Country**

Mayor, Councillor Ann Young read the Acknowledgement of Country.

- **Prayer**

Cr Nicole McKay read the prayer.

- **Apologies**

Nil

Recommendations

That the apologies be accepted.

- **Confirmation of Minutes**

- 1) Ordinary Meeting held on 16 April 2019

53/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Benham

That the minutes be confirmed.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Nil

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

Nil

- **Public Question Time**

Nil

SECTION B – REPORTS

B.19.41 QUARTERLY REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL POSITION TO 31 MARCH 2019

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: 42-20-00
Attachments: 1 Balance Sheet
2 Income and Expenditure Statement

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 nine months to 31 March 2019 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 9 months ended 31 March 2019 are included with this report.

Major variations to budget as at 31 March 2019 are explained by way of notes on the attached report.

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

Significant forecast variations to budget include:

	Current Forecast Variances		Previous Forecast Variances	
Additional Rates (inc Supp Rates)	\$52,000	Favourable	\$49,000	Favourable
Grants Commission (inc T'fer from Res)	\$188,000	Favourable	\$188,000	Favourable
Roads Grants Commission (inc T'fer from Res)	\$76,000	Favourable	\$76,000	Favourable
Additional Road Works	\$76,000	Unfavourable	\$76,000	Unfavourable
Grants expected 2017/18 Rec'd 2018/19	\$760,000	Favourable	\$741,000	Favourable
Employee Costs (net)	\$93,000	Favourable	\$78,000	Favourable
Workcover Premiums	\$80,000	Favourable	\$80,000	Favourable
Building Permit Income	\$20,000	Favourable	\$20,000	Favourable
Insurance	\$30,000	Unfavourable	\$30,000	Unfavourable
Interest Expense	\$52,000	Favourable	\$50,000	Favourable
Livestock Exchange Redevelopment	\$320,000	Unfavourable	\$320,000	Unfavourable
School Crossing Grant	\$17,000	Favourable	\$17,000	Favourable
Maternal & Child Health Grant (net)	\$34,000	Favourable	\$34,000	Favourable

REPORTS

21 May 2019

Community Care net result	\$31,000	Favourable	\$50,000	Favourable
Reimbursement Valuation costs	\$44,000	Favourable	\$44,000	Favourable
Grant Children's Services – Out of school hours	\$17,000	Favourable	-	-
Community Development Program (net savings)	\$39,000	Favourable	-	-
Investment Facilitation Grants	\$25,000	Favourable	-	-
Engineering Inspection Fee Income	\$11,000	Unfavourable	-	-
Engineering/Planning Equipment	\$25,000	Unfavourable	-	-
Electricity costs	\$20,000	Favourable	-	-
Engineering Works Supervision Plant Hire	\$42,000	Unfavourable	-	-
Grants & Contributions	\$24,000	Unfavourable	\$29,000	Unfavourable
Election Costs	\$55,000	Unfavourable	\$55,000	Unfavourable
Councillor Allowances	\$6,000	Favourable	\$6,000	Favourable
Interest Income	\$100,000	Favourable	\$40,000	Favourable
Livestock Exchange Income	\$51,000	Favourable	\$30,000	Favourable
Marketing & Information Centre sales	\$10,000	Unfavourable	\$10,000	Unfavourable
Marketing & Information Subscription	\$10,000	Unfavourable	\$10,000	Unfavourable
Pioneer Settlement Net result	\$107,000	Unfavourable	\$93,000	Unfavourable
Planning Permit Income	\$10,000	Favourable	\$10,000	Favourable
Swan Hill Town Hall Costs (net)	\$34,000	Unfavourable	\$30,000	Unfavourable
Tree Maintenance	\$129,000	Unfavourable	\$22,000	Unfavourable
Other Minor Variances (net)	\$23,000	Favourable	\$6,000	Unfavourable
Sub Total	\$865,000	Favourable	\$832,000	Favourable
Less: Income owing from 2017/18	\$821,000	Unfavourable	\$821,000	Unfavourable
Net Variation to 2018/19 Budget	\$44,000	Favourable	\$11,000	Favourable

A number of these variances have been previously report to Council including the grants owed to last years Capital Projects, the livestock exchange redevelopment where Council allocated additional funds to the project and the additional grant Commission Income, reduced income for the PS Pyap and additional costs for Council bi-election. Newly reported large variances are tree maintenance costs due to a tri-annual inspection of all tree being identified as required and extra interest income.

Consultation

Consultation occurred as part of the Budget preparation process.

Financial Implications

The report shows a predicted rates determination surplus \$44,000 better than budget for the 2018/19 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 three months of the year. In particular the anticipated surplus relies on the Pioneer Settlement income continuing its current trend and completion of Major Projects within budget.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Effective and efficient utilisation of resources. - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

Options

Nil

Recommendation

That Council note that the anticipated end of financial year result is \$44,000 better than budget at this stage.

54/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council note that the anticipated end of financial year result is \$44,000 better than budget at this stage.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

**SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31/03/2019**

	This Year Actual As At 31/03/2019 \$000	Last Year Actual As At 31/03/2018 \$000	\$ Movement Y.T.D. \$000	% Movement 2018/19	Budget As At End 2018/19 \$000
CURRENT ASSETS:-					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	30,985	24,828	6,157	24.8%	16,879
Trade & Other Receivables	5,734	6,180	(446)	-7.2%	2,099
Inventories	121	138	(17)	-12.3%	82
Other Assets	194	149	45	30.2%	415
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	37,034	31,295	5,739	18.3%	19,475
CURRENT LIABILITIES:-					
Trade & Other Payables	1,028	1,293	(265)	-20.5%	2,286
Trust Funds & Deposits	272	563	(291)	-51.7%	324
Provisions	4,945	5,062	(117)	-2.3%	5,132
Interest Bearing Loans & Borrowings	359	786	(427)	-54.3%	457
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,604	7,704	(1,100)	-14.3%	8,199
NET CURRENT ASSETS	30,430	23,591	6,839	29.0%	11,276
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:-					
Trade & Other Receivables	122	146	(24)	-16.4%	130
Property, Plant, Equipment & Infrastructure	449,519	441,519	8,000	1.8%	467,429
Intangible Assets	1,843	1,485	358	24.1%	1,485
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	451,484	443,150	8,334	1.9%	469,044
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:-					
Interest Bearing Loans & Borrowings	7,745	6,195	1,550	25.0%	7,421
Provisions	1,346	1,588	(242)	-15.2%	1,717
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	9,091	7,783	1,308	16.8%	9,138
TOTAL NET ASSETS	472,823	458,958	13,865	3.0%	471,182
EQUITY:-					
Accumulated Surplus & Reserves	302,063	294,586	7,477	2.5%	286,333
Asset Revaluation Reserve	170,760	164,372	6,388	3.9%	184,849
TOTAL EQUITY	472,823	458,958	13,865	3.0%	471,182

**SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR THE 9 MONTHS ENDING 31/03/2019**

	Actual Year To Date 31/03/2019 \$000	Budget Year To Date 31/03/2019 \$000	\$ Variance To Budget \$000	% Variance To Budget	Original Annual Budget 2018/19 \$000	Notes
OPERATING INCOME :-						
Rates, garbage charges and marketing levy	27,600	27,624	(24)	-0.1%	27,624	
Statutory fees & fines	822	680	142	20.8%	907	1
User fees	3,173	3,521	(348)	-9.9%	4,694	
Grants - Operating (recurrent)	4,790	6,763	(1,973)	-29.2%	9,017	2
Grants - operating (non-recurrent)	638	1,838	(1,200)	-65.3%	2,450	3
Grants - capital (recurrent)	698	881	(183)	-20.8%	1,175	4
Grants - capital (non-recurrent)	1,337	1,637	(300)	-18.3%	2,183	5
Contributions - cash non recurrent	126	161	(35)	-21.9%	215	
Interest income	379	509	(130)	-25.6%	679	6
Proceeds from disposal of assets	1,232	1,107	125	11.3%	1,476	7
Other revenue	1,527	2,257	(730)	-32.3%	3,009	8
TOTAL INCOME	42,322	46,978	(4,656)	-9.9%	53,429	
OPERATING EXPENSES (Excluding Depreciation) :-						
Employee benefits	13,950	15,184	(1,234)	-8.1%	19,739	
Contract payments materials & services	9,812	12,391	(2,579)	-20.8%	16,521	9
Bad & doubtful debts	0	0	0	0.0%	2	
Finance costs	144	272	(128)	-47.0%	362	10
Other expenses	772	818	(46)	-5.6%	1,090	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (Excl. Deprn.)	24,678	28,664	(3,986)	-13.9%	37,714	
OPERATING RESULT (Excl. Deprn.)	17,644	18,314	(670)	-3.7%	15,715	
CAPITAL ITEMS :-						
Capital works/asset purchases - funding sourced	7,388	11,042	(3,654)	-33%	14,722	11
Capital works/asset purchases - funding not sourced	0	0	0	0%	2,871	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER CAPITAL ITEMS	10,256	7,273	2,983	41%	(1,878)	
ADD FINANCING TRANSACTIONS						
Loan principal redemption	(340)	(343)	3	-0.8%	(457)	
Transfers to/from reserves	2,362	2,362	0	0.0%	1,888	
Proceeds from loans	0	0	0	0.0%	500	
TOTAL FINANCING TRANSACTIONS	2,022	2,019	3	0.1%	1,931	
BUDGET RESULT SURPLUS	12,278	9,292	2,986	32.1%	53	

- 1 Food Premises and Public Health registrations of \$108K have been raised but the forecast allows for them to be raised throughout the year. Valuation data fees of \$84K had been forecast to be received in 2017/18 but have been received this year.
- 2 Fifty per cent of Council's 2017/18 Victoria Grants Commission allocation was received in June 2018. This variance will remain for the year and is offset by increased cash holdings on the balance sheet.
- 3 Blackspot funding for McCallum St Black Length project of \$1.604M had been budgeted but this project will no longer be managed by Council.
- 4 Roads to Recovery claims of \$698K have been processed to 31 March. The budgeted amount of \$1.175M will be claimed by the end of the financial year.
- 5 Grants are yet to be received for a number of significant capital works projects budgeted to occur in 2018/19. Some of these grant funded projects are the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan, Bromley Road beautification and the Ken Harrison Soccer Pavillion.
- 6 Timing issue. Current term deposits have accrued \$258K in interest income and will be recognised at maturity.
- 7 Sale of land at the Swan Hill Livestock Exchange had been forecast to be received over the financial year. This variance will reduce as the year progresses and the year end result should be in line with budget.
- 8 Tower Hill land sales are \$1.03M below forecast. Seven lots have settled to 31 March. Four other lots have been sold and will settle over the next few months.
- 9 Major operational projects expenditure is currently \$1.96M below forecast. The majority of this variance relates to the McCallum St Black Length project (\$1.6M) that Council is no longer managing. A number of other projects are underway or scheduled to be completed by year end.
- 10 Council's interest only loans have accrued \$93K in interest costs which will be booked when the instalments are due in May and June.
- 13 A number of major capital works projects have only just begun or have only recently been successful in attracting funding. It is expected that this variance will reduce as projects are completed towards the end of the year.

B.19.42 AUDIT COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: S15-28-01
Attachments: 1 Confidential Minutes 11-04-19

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 11 April, 2019 and this report summarises the items that were discussed at the meeting.

Discussion

The Audit Committee met on 11 April 2019 and as well as the usual procedural items the agenda items included:

1. The Swan Hill Regional Library department tour and presentation.
2. A report on the Drag Strip repairs (works completed and scheduled).
3. Grant application update on Our Region Our Rivers.
4. Internal Audit - Fees and Charges.
5. Internal Audit–Awareness & Compliance Council Policy & Procedure.
6. External Audit Strategy.
7. Quarterly Reviews Financial Performance & Position 31December 2018.
8. Legislative Changes affecting Council were reported in regards to the Local Government Minister's visit and his commitment to continue with the Local Government Bill, although he has some changes in mind that he had not yet taken to the Cabinet. The Minister commented that there may be changes made surrounding recycling programs.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

The sitting fees paid to independent members on the Audit Committee is adjusted annually by CPI. Sitting fees are included in Council's Budget.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

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

Governance and leadership - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

Options

Not applicable.

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of this report.

55/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council note the contents of this report.

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

Attachment

- Audit Committee Confidential Minutes
11 April 2019

B.19.43 VICSES VOLUNTEER UNIT PREMISES

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
File Number: AST-BU-37435-03 & AST-BU-36501-03
Attachments: Nil

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

As a result of changes at the State level, Councils are no longer required to provide an operational subsidy to Vic State Emergency Service Units (VicSES). The changes also allow for premises, currently provided by Councils to VicSES units, to be leased or sold to those units rather than being provided free of charge.

Council officers have been corresponding with VicSES over the last 9 months in relation to the two VicSES premises that are located on Council controlled land within our Municipality. One in Swan Hill (freehold land) and the other in Robinvale (Crown land managed by Council).

VicSES have considered their requirements in relation to these premises and this report outlines their requests and a recommended course of action.

Discussion

Council has two VicSES Volunteer Units within its municipal district as follows:-

1. Swan Hill Unit is located on Council freehold land at 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill. Council has an Occupancy Lease with VicSES for a period of ten (10) years which expires on 30 June 2019 at a rental of \$1.00 per annum.
2. Robinvale Unit is located on Crown Land for which Council is the Committee of Management, at 63 McLennan Drive Robinvale. Council has a Crown Land 17B Licence with the Robinvale State Emergency Services for a period of three (3) years with a three (3) year option at a rental of \$104.00 per annum. The initial three (3) year period expires on 28 February 2019. The SES building is attached to the Robinvale Rowing Club building.

As a result of changes to the way VicSES units are funded and operated Council officers have been in discussions with VicSES regarding the two premises currently provided to local VicSES units free of charge. The result of these discussions is that VicSES has requested:-

In regards to Swan Hill volunteer unit. VicSES is open to ownership being transferred to VicSES at a peppercorn amount as their first preference, or entering into a long term lease (20 + 20) as their second preference.

In regards to Robinvale volunteer unit. VicSES's preference is for a 5 year lease which would enable VICSES and Council sufficient time to further investigate and advocate to State Government for funding for a new location next to the CFA or Police Station.

The transfer of the Swan Hill facility to VicSES is beneficial both to Council and VicSES. It provides more certainty and direct control of the site to VicSES and removes Council from any potential maintenance cost, insurance, valuation and the cost of administering both the building and the peppercorn annual rental. A long term lease does not offer these benefits.

The Robinvale facility is attached to the Robinvale Rowing Club building which is in poor condition. The Rowing Club building is constructed on the river bank which is subject to erosion. The Rowing Club appears to be barely operating, if at all, although some gym equipment appears to be regularly used despite being in disrepair. Council has previously identified the need to relocate the VicSES unit to a more appropriate site and decommission the buildings. The VicSES preferred option of a short term lease suits both the VicSES and the Council's objectives.

Consultation

VicSES and Swan Hill Rural City Council have been in correspondence regarding both VicSES Swan Hill & Robinvale units.

Financial Implications

Transfer of the facilities to VicSES is expected to generate savings in maintenance administrative and other costs. These savings will increase once the future location of the Robinvale facility has been finalised.

Social Implications

More certainty for SES may result in additional investment by the State Government in the facilities over time.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

The recommendation actions will remove two assets and the associated risks from Council responsibility.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective and efficient utilisation of resources.

Options

Swan Hill Volunteer Unit

- Sell the freehold land situated at 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill, to VicSES for \$1 and therefore remove the property from Council's Assets. This option being VicSES's first preference.

OR

- In accordance with the MOU implemented by MAV/State Government & VicSES on 20 December 2017 - Enter into a forty (40) year lease with VicSES for the use of the premises at 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill.

Robinvale Volunteer Unit

- Enter into a five (5) year lease with VicSES for the use of the premises on Crown Land situated at 63 McLennan Drive Robinvale, which would enable VicSES and Council sufficient time to further investigate and advocate to State Government for funding for a new location next to the CFA and Police Station. This being VicSES's first preference.

OR

- In accordance with the MOU implemented by MAV/State Government & VicSES on 20 December 2017 - Enter into a forty (40) year lease with VicSES for the use of the premises at 63 McLennan Drive Robinvale.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Enter into a five (5) year lease with VICSES for the use of the premises on Crown Land situated at 63 McLennan Drive Robinvale, which would enable VICSES and Council sufficient time to further investigate and advocate to the State Government for funding for a new location next to the CFA and Police Station, Bromley Road Robinvale.**
- 2. Declare the land situated at 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill as surplus to requirements and advertise Council's intention to sell the land by Private Treaty to VicSES seeking submissions in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 3. If no submissions are received in relation to 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill proceed to sell the land to VicSES.**
- 4. If submissions are received, formally receive, hear and consider the submissions at the June 2019 Ordinary Meeting of Council.**

56/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council:

- 1. Enter into a five (5) year lease with VICSES for the use of the premises on Crown Land situated at 63 McLennan Drive Robinvale, which would enable VICSES and Council sufficient time to further investigate and advocate to the State Government for funding for a new location next to the CFA and Police Station, Bromley Road Robinvale.**
- 2. Declare the land situated at 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill as surplus to requirements and advertise Council's intention to sell the land by Private Treaty to VicSES seeking submissions in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 3. If no submissions are received in relation to 1 McAllister Road, Swan Hill proceed to sell the land to VicSES.**
- 4. If submissions are received, formally receive, hear and consider the submissions at the June 2019 Ordinary Meeting of Council.**

SECONDED Cr McKay

The Motion was put and CARRIED

B.19.44 ADVOCACY STRATEGY

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S03-24-06
Attachments: 1 Advocacy Strategy

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

A draft advocacy strategy is presented to Council for adoption.

Discussion

One of the central roles of Local Government is to advocate on behalf of and in the interests of its community. Council's day-to-day business at both officer and elected member level provides opportunities from time to time through meetings with government staff local members and ministers to raise issues on behalf of our community.

Council's advocacy efforts can be enhanced if a strategic approach is taken to this work. The attached strategy outlines a set of actions crafted in response to the Council Plan. In the main these advocacy actions align with Council's five key result areas of economic growth, community enrichment, infrastructure, governance and leadership, and environment.

It is suggested that by focusing our advocacy efforts through the use of this strategy that our work will be more effective and will bring the attention of decision-makers more clearly on the needs of our community.

Consultation

No external consultation has been undertaken in the preparation of the strategy.

Financial Implications

There will be no direct financial costs to Council in the implementation of this strategy. However, its effective implementation may bring financial resources to Council in the form of grant funding for specific projects.

Social Implications

If implemented effectively, this strategy will improve social outcomes for all in our community.

Economic Implications

There are number of actions within this strategy aimed at improving the business environment and the agricultural economy of the Swan Hill region.

Environmental Implications

This strategy includes a number of actions aimed at improving environmental outcomes within the municipality.

Risk Management Implications

There are no risk management implications in relation to this strategy.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

Council can choose to adopt or make any changes to the recommendation.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Swan Hill Rural City Council Advocacy Strategy May 2019.

57/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Benham

That Council adopts the Swan Hill Rural City Council Advocacy Strategy May 2019.

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED



Advocacy Strategy

May 2019



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Introduction

One of the key roles of any Local Government organisation is to advocate on behalf of its community. Local Governments, through their relationships with their State and Federal members and other governmental agencies and service providers, are in a privileged position to be able to advocate on behalf of the community.

Local Governments have access to decision makers and stakeholders and these opportunities are not always afforded to individual community members. Council has identified in its Council Plan 2017-21, the need to develop and implement an advocacy strategy.

Council believes by taking a strategic approach to advocacy that its efforts will be better focused and will be much more effective.

What are we trying to achieve?

Our Vision: A prosperous and healthy community enjoying quality facilities and services.

Our Mission: We will lead, advocate, partner and provide efficient services and opportunities for growth and the wellbeing of our community and environment.

What we focus on

Our key result areas

To achieve our Mission, Council has identified five Key Result Areas.



Economic growth

We will encourage new business development, provide support for business expansion and will continuously seek to help our existing businesses to prosper.



Community enrichment

We will provide a range of services to individuals and to the broader community that assist all in our community to live healthy, fulfilling lives. We will embrace our role as a regional centre by providing a range of cultural opportunities.



Infrastructure

We will provide and maintain publicly accessible infrastructure that is appropriate for the community's needs in the most effective and efficient manner possible.



Governance and leadership

We will represent our community's interests, conduct our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting the high levels of governance our community expects. We will plan for our municipality's long term growth and development by committing to a robust program of strategic planning.



Environment

We will adopt work practices and implement policies that reduce our environmental impact, advocate for the protection of our environment and fulfil our regulatory obligations.

The Advocacy Plan

ISSUE	REFERENCE (where did this issue arise from)	ACTION (What mechanism will we employ to progress this issue and when)	OUTCOME
<p>Increase the availability of appropriate housing to support growth of industry and agriculture</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Economic growth Strategic objective: 1 Encourage and attract new business to our region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively pursue decentralisation of State and Federal government services to establish in the local area Facilitate a private sector housing forum in Robinvale Encourage State Government support to increase housing stock in Robinvale Enlist MAV support to see a fairer share of public housing in small rural communities through a State Council Motion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased housing availability in Swan Hill Rural City Council area. Job vacancies are more easily filled.
<p>Encourage the growth of agriculture through appropriate advocacy and strategic planning</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Economic growth Strategic objective: 2 Assist existing businesses to expand and increase their efficiency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for improved transport links. Meet with State and Federal Roads Ministers. Ensure that Council has an approved list of Strategic Road Investment Projects. 	<p>A stronger regional economy.</p>
<p>Assist local businesses to up-skill and retrain their workforce</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Economic growth Strategic objective: 3 Have a region with an equipped and productive workforce</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for regional and local training opportunities Participate in the Mallee Regional Skills Taskforce 	<p>A strong and prosperous regional economy.</p>

ISSUE	REFERENCE (where did this issue arise from)	ACTION (What mechanism will we employ to progress this issue and when)	OUTCOME
<p>Service Woorinen with a low cost sewerage scheme</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Economic growth Strategic objective: 4 Provide land use planning that is responsive and which proactively encourages appropriate development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby State Water Minister, Shadow spokespersons and local members on the need for a sewerage scheme for Woorinen South. Lobby Lower Murray Water to include this project in its five year Water Plan. 	<p>The Woorinen South township is seweraged.</p>
<p>An Active Trail linking Lake Boga and Swan Hill</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Infrastructure Strategic objective: 1 Infrastructure that appropriately services community needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby local members and RDV decision makers. 	<p>An Active Trail linking Lake Boga and Swan Hill is completed.</p>
<p>A replacement bridge over the Murray River at Swan Hill</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Governance and Leadership Strategic objective: 3 Effective partnerships and relationships with key stakeholders and staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead the conversation on the bridge replacement with the Swan Hill community. Work with VicRoads and RMS to explore avenues to resolve the deadlock over the preferred bridge alignment. 	<p>A new bridge for Swan Hill is completed and open.</p>
<p>Improved health service for our community</p>	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Governance and Leadership Strategic objective: 4 Effective advocacy and strategic planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an Advocacy Plan for improved health services in partnership with SHDH and RDHS. 	<p>A healthy community.</p>

ISSUE	REFERENCE (where did this issue arise from)	ACTION (What mechanism will we employ to progress this issue and when)	OUTCOME
Improve the control of feral pests and weeds	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Environment Strategic objective: 1 Sound policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare press releases and encourage local press to run articles on the benefits of controlling feral pests and weeds • Promote Council's annual roadside weed control program. • Partner with Landcare groups 	<p>Better pest and weed controlled outcomes. A healthier environment. Stronger Agriculture production.</p>
A reduction in roadside litter	<p>Council Plan Key result area: Environment Strategic objective: 2 A waste management program that is environmentally and financially sustainable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby State members for the introduction of a container deposit scheme • Seek to have a container deposit scheme as a priority in the Loddon Mallee Waste Resource Recovery Forum 	<p>Less litter in our parks and on our roadsides.</p>
A new Hospital for Swan Hill	<p>Participate in the community-based Swan Hill Needs a New Hospital Committee at Councillor and senior officer level.</p>	<p>Raise awareness of the need to fund a new hospital with State and Federal members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the Mayoral column to add strength to the community committee's voice. 	<p>A funding announcement to provide a new Hospital for Swan Hill.</p>
Get a fair deal for the Swan Hill community from the Murray Darling Basin Plan.	<p>Chief Executive Officer's Performance Review.</p>	<p>Prepare and have Council adopt a position paper with respect to the Murray Darling Basin Plan. This position paper should include a discussion on issues such as:</p>	<p>The implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan maximises benefits to the Swan Hill community and minimises the impact on the socio-economic wellbeing of</p>

ISSUE	REFERENCE (where did this issue arise from)	ACTION (What mechanism will we employ to progress this issue and when)	OUTCOME
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The indiscriminant buyback of water. • The effect of removing water from the consumptive pool. • The use of environmental flows and how to maximise their benefit. • How to mitigate socio-economic impacts of the implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan on the Swan Hill community. <p>Seek to influence the Murray River Group of Councils so that their stated position with respect to the Murray Darling Basin Plan aligns with the Swan Hill Rural City Council's adopted position.</p> <p>Influence the views of our local Federal members by using Council's adopted position on the implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan when meeting with these members.</p>	<p>our community.</p>
<p>Improved passenger rail service to Swan Hill</p>	<p>Chief Executive Officer's Performance Review.</p>	<p>Write letters of support to the State Government congratulating them on their commitment to provide improved passenger rail services to Swan Hill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to the Minister for Public Transport, seeking clarification around the Government's proposal and timelines for implementation. • Use the Mayoral column to provide an opinion piece supporting improved 	<p>Council has a clear understanding of the State Government's intentions in relation to the future passenger rail services for Swan Hill and a more regular and speedy service from Swan Hill to Bendigo connecting with Melbourne trains is provided.</p>

ISSUE	REFERENCE (where did this issue arise from)	ACTION (What mechanism will we employ to progress this issue and when)	OUTCOME
		passenger rail services to Swan Hill.	
Completion of the Murray Basin Rail Project	Council Meeting	Prepare a Council position in relation to the completion of the Murray Basin Rail Project. Advocate to the Victorian Minister for Transport Infrastructure and to our local members to see the completion of the Murray Basin Rail Project in accordance with Council's stated position.	An upgraded Manangatang rail line to carry 21 ton axle loads at a minimum 80kmh speed connecting this region with the ports of Melbourne, Geelong and Portland.
Reactivating abandoned and dewatered land	Chief Executive Officer's Performance Review	Lobby the State Government planning officers and local members and the Minister for Planning on the benefits of rezoning dewatered and abandoned land, where appropriate, to create additional development opportunities.	Abandoned and dewatered land is returned to productive use.
Address the unreasonable burden placed on Service Providers in Border Communities where no financial or other resources are provided in relation to interstate residents.	Council Meeting	Advocate to the Victorian Cross Border Commissioner.	Victorian Service Providers are recognised for the services provided to inter-state residents and supported accordingly

Appendices

A snapshot of the opportunities for effective advocacy

It is the strength of our relationships and the quality and consistency of our advocacy messages that creates the foundation for an effective advocacy campaign.

Discipline in delivering our message and the maintenance of our relationships strengthens our reputation as a reliable partner in business with both the private sector and with Government.

The following is a grab bag of opportunities available to Council to pursue our advocacy agenda:

Local, State and Federal members

- Schedule meetings with members in their electorate offices
- Attend local and regional openings and events where Local Members will be present
- Schedule visits to Local Members at Parliament (both in Melbourne and in Canberra)

Letter writing

Memberships of appropriate regional groups

- North West Municipalities Association
- Murray River Group of Councils
- Municipal Association of Victoria

Use our State Local Government Association (Municipal Association of Victoria) to prosecute our advocacy messages

- Encourage participation in the MAV board and MAV special-interest committees
- Use the State Council to get our motions supported

Use the Australian Local Government Association to elevate Council's advocacy agenda to the national stage

- Attend the Annual National General Assembly, and;
- Where appropriate, seek to have the Municipal Association of Victoria elevate Swan Hill Rural City Council motions to the national stage.

Local and state media

- Produce press releases complementing Governments when they invest in local and regional priorities supported by Council.
- Use local and regional media to consistently push for a limited number of long-term Council objectives.

MAV State Council dates 2019

- MAV State Council – Friday, 17 May 2019
- MAV Annual Conference and Dinner – Thursday, 17 October 2019
- MAV State Council Meeting – Friday, 18 October 2019

ALGA NGA dates 2019

- National General Assembly – 16-19 June 2019

Local State Member contact details

Hon. Peter Walsh MP

Member for Murray Plains, Leader of the Nationals
Shadow Minister for Regional Victoria and Decentralisation
Shadow Minister for Agriculture
Address: 496 High Street, Echuca VIC 3564
peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au
Phone: (03) 5482 2039
www.parliament.vic.gov.au

Ms Ali Cupper MP

MLA Member for Mildura
Independent
35 Deakin Avenue,
MILDURA VIC 3500
Ali.Cupper@parliament.vic.gov.au
Phone: (03) 5021 2828
www.parliament.vic.gov.au

Local Federal Member contact details

Mr Andrew Broad

Federal Member for Mallee
The Nationals
Address: 146 Eighth Street, (PO Box 1133)
MILDURA VIC 3502
mallee@aph.gov.au
Phone: (03) 5032 4510
www.andrewbroad.com.au

Council Meeting Dates 2019

- 19 February 2019
- 19 March 2019
- 16 April 2019
- 21 May 2019
- 25 June 2019
- 16 July 2019
- 20 August 2019
- 17 September 2019
- 15 October 2019
- 19 November 2019
- 17 December 2019

Federal Parliament sitting dates 2019

PARLIAMENTARY SITTINGS 2019

(29 November 2018)

MONTH	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun	School Holidays
	21	22	23	24	25	26/27	
January	28 <i>Australia Day</i>	29	30	31	1	2/3	ACT, TAS, WA, NSW(W)
	4	5	6	7	8	9/10	
February	11	12	13 ><	14	15	16/17	
	18 H/AE	19 H/AE	20 H/AE	21 H/AE	22 AE	23/24	
	25	26	27	28	1	2/3	
March	4 <i>WA</i>	5	6	7	8	9/10	
	11 <i>ACT, SA, TAS, VIC</i>	12	13	14	15	16/17	
	18	19	20	21	22	23/24	
	25	26	27	28	29	30/31	
April	1	2 Budget	3 ><	4 BE	5 BE	6/7	
	8 BE	9 BE	10 BE	11 BE	12 BE	13/14	VIC, QLD
	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Good Friday</i>	20/21	ACT, SA, TAS, VIC, NT, NSW, QLD, WA
	22 <i>Easter Monday</i>	23	24	25 <i>Anzac Day</i>	26	27/28	ACT, SA, TAS, WA, NSW
	29	30	1	2	3	4/5	
May	6 <i>NT, QLD</i>	7	8	9	10	11/12	
	13	14	15	16	17	18/19	
	20	21	22	23	24	25/26	
	27 <i>ACT</i>	28	29	30	31	1/2	
June	3 <i>WA</i>	4	5	6	7	8/9	
	10 <i>ACT, SA, TAS, VIC, NT, NSW</i>	11	12	13	14	15/16	
	17	18 ><	19	20	21	22/23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29/30	
July	1	2	3	4	5	6/7	VIC, NT, QLD
	8	9	10	11	12 <i>NT</i>	13/14	ACT, SA, TAS, VIC, NT, NSW, QLD, WA
	15	16	17	18	19	20/21	ACT, SA, TAS, NT, NSW, WA
	22	23	24	25	26 <i>NT</i>	27/28	
August	5 <i>NT</i>	6	7	8	9	10/11	
	12	13	14	15	16	17/18	
	19	20	21	22	23	24/25	
	26	27	28	29	30	31/1	
	2	3	4	5	6	7/8	
	9	10	11 ><	12	13	14/15	
	16	17	18	19	20	21/22	
	23	24	25	26	27 <i>Vic</i>	28/29	VIC, QLD
30 <i>WA</i>	1	2	3	4	5/6	ACT, SA, TAS, VIC, NT, NSW, QLD, WA	
October	7 <i>ACT, NSW, SA, QLD</i>	8	9	10	11	12/13	ACT, SA, TAS, NT, NSW, WA
	14	15	16 ><	17	18	19/20	
	21 H/SBE	22 H/SBE	23 H/SBE	24 H/SBE	25 SBE	26/27	
	28	29	30	31	1	2/3	
November	4 <i>TAS</i>	5 <i>VIC</i>	6	7	8	9/10	
	11 S	12 S	13 S	14 S	15	16/17	
	18	19	20	21	22	23/24	
December	25	26	27	28 ><	29	30/1	
	2	3	4	5	6	7/8	
	9	10	11	12	13	14/15	

Both Houses H = House of Representatives only S = Senate Only Public Holiday

AE = Additional Estimates BE = Budget Estimates SBE = Supplementary Budget Estimates >< = date of Senate 2/3 cut-off

B.19.45 QUARTERLY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS – 1ST QUARTER 2019

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S28-28-01 & S31-28-01
Attachments: Nil

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to note development trends for the first quarter of 2019.

Discussion

The following statistics indicate an increase in development activity across the municipality in terms of both type and number of applications that are significantly higher than same time last year.

Planning comparisons – 1st Quarter

Type	2019		2018	
	No. of 1 st QTR	No. Of YTD	No. Of 1 st QTR	No. Of YTD
Planning Permit Applications Received	41	41	35	35
Approvals under delegation	42	42	23	23
Total number of decisions (includes lapsed or withdrawn applications and Notices of Decision)	43	43	23	23

	Financial year to date 2019	Financial year to date 2018
Rural Council average – percentage of permits issued within 60 days	69%	72%
Council's – Percentage of permits issued within 60 days	84%	71%

The first table above shows the comparison between the first quarters of 2019 and 2018. It shows a 17% increase in application numbers but a 39% increase in approvals for the 2019 first quarter. Both these increases are significant and if maintained over the year show positive growth and development confidence.

The second table compares Swan Hill Rural City Council with the average of all rural councils in Victoria, and it shows that in terms of timelines Council is currently

performing above the rural average and the issuing of permits is quicker compared to last year. This is mostly due to adequate staff resourcing along with process improvements. Officers will continue to work to improve permit issuing timeframes.

Quarterly decision breakdown by town

	Approved 1 st 2019	Approved QTR YTD	Refused 1 st 2019	Refused QTR YTD
Swan Hill	12	12	0	0
Robinvale	18	18	0	0
Lake Boga	0	0	0	0
Nyah	0	0	0	0
Nyah West	0	0	0	0

The above table shows that most of the applications were lodged within the Robinvale area with Swan Hill only slightly behind.

Quarterly breakdown of notable application types

Application description	No. of applications
Warehouse	2
Boundary realignment	2
Subdivision 1 – 9 lots	6
Native vegetation removal	3
Service industry	1

The above table provides a breakdown of the most notable application types received during the first quarter of 2019. Subdivisions are located in residential and rural areas primarily in Swan Hill and Robinvale.

Building comparisons – 1st Quarter

TYPE	QUARTERLY 1/01/2019 to 31/03/2019		QUARTERLY 1/01/2018 to 31/03/2018	
	NO.OF	VALUE	NO.OF	VALUE
Dwelling	9	3,553,015.00	14	4,555,529.00
Dwelling additions	6	1,097,418.00	20	896,928.00
Unit Developments	1*(2)	400,000.00	0*()	0.00
Shops	1	41,425.00	1	30,000.00
Offices	0	0.00	1	884,950.00
Warehouses	4	1,368,000.00	3	465,000.00
Factories	0	0.00	4	1,270,710.00
Public Buildings	2	511,614.00	3	174,198.00
OutBuildings	25	775,178.00	35	1,066,572.00
Other	6	175,348.00	13	388,746.00
Total	54	\$7,921,998.00	94	\$9,732,633.00

New Dwellings				
	2019		2018	
Swan Hill		6	Swan Hill	10
Robinvale		2	Robinvale	2
Natya		1	Nyah	2

Notes:

- The number of dwellings for the first quarter of 2019 are down by 5 and approx. \$1M in comparison to the first quarter of 2018;
- Whilst the dwelling addition permit numbers are down for the first quarter of 2019, the value of building works are up by approx. \$200,000;
- A unit development valued at \$400,000 was issued during the first quarter of 2019 as opposed to no unit developments during the first quarter for 2018;
- Warehouse permits are up in value by approx. \$900,000 for the first quarter of 2019 in comparison to 2018;
- It is expected that the building permits will increase over the year based on the planning approvals.

Consultation

The planning enquiry level increased during the first quarter of the year. This is evident in the increased number of planning applications received and the good numbers is reflective of steady growth and confidence in development across the municipality.

Financial Implications

Currently there are less building applications as last year. However, it is still early in the year and building activity should pick up as the year progresses. Income is likely to be on target with budget predictions.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Development as indicated by the enquiry level, number of planning applications and then the number of building applications indicates continued steady growth in our municipality.

It is anticipated however if the drought is ongoing a drop in on farm investment may occur that may impact across the whole of the municipality. The release of the next stage of land at Tower Hill is likely to result in an increase in building development later in this financial year.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Economic growth - Encourage and attract new business to our region.

Options

Not applicable.

Recommendation

That Council notes the continued development across the municipality.

58/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council notes the continued development across the municipality.

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

**B.19.46 PROPOSED SALE OF 71-77 BROMLEY ROAD ROBINVALE -
CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS**

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S32-27-16
Attachments: 1 Heritage Overlay

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

Council has undertaken the required Public Notice and has received and heard all submissions in relation to the sale of 71-77 Bromley Road Robinvale (in accordance with the Local Government Act). Council must now determine whether to sell the land and if so under to what conditions. It is recommended that Council proceed with the sale of the land by tender.

Discussion

In 2018 Council was asked if it would consider selling 71-77 Bromley Road Robinvale to allow for a commercial development. The two properties were purchased by Council to enable it to manage the future use of the land due to its strategic location in Robinvale. Both properties had derelict houses on them when purchased and these have since been demolished.



Following targeted consultation with some key community groups in Robinvale (Robinvale Improvement Group, Robinvale and Euston Business Association and the Friends of Bromley Road) Council resolved to declare its intention to sell the land by commencing the process as required under the Local Government Act (the Act).

At its January 2019 meeting Council resolved to:

1. *Determine the land 71 - 77 Bromley Road Robinvale to be surplus to requirements and commence the process of disposing of the land in accordance with the Local Government Act.*
2. *That the Community Consultation goes until the end of February 2019.*

Calling for submissions

The Act required Council to give notice of its intent to sell land and allow submissions to be made. The Public Notice was advertised in local newspapers and detailed that anyone requesting to be heard in support of their submission could appear before a meeting of Council or be represented by a person acting on their behalf.

A total of 99 written submissions were received consisting of:

- 20 submissions that support the sale of the land
- 79 submissions that object to the sale of the land

Nine submitters requested to be heard and this occurred at a Special meeting of Council on 8 April this year.

In addition a Petition objecting to the sale of the land consisting of 499 signatures was tabled at the April Special Council meeting.

Consideration of submissions, the petition and other information

The following is a summary of the issues raised in all submissions and the petition together with a comment in response to the points raised.

The following points were made by some of the submitters in supporting the sale of the land. Some submissions just advised that the submitter supported the sale of the land.

1. Potential of a major national franchise to be established in town
Response – the initial enquiry for the sale of the land was from a national franchise – take away food establishment combined with a car wash. Should Council proceed to sell the land it would be proposed that the process is by tender where Council would have the ability to control any proposed uses to ensure they are compatible with the location and be of benefit to the future of Robinvale.

2. Significant investment in town

Response – Most significant development in Robinvale is occurring on farm with large sheds for packing or for other food related processing. Commercial development in Robinvale has been limited in recent years. It is possible that a commercial development on this site from a national company may trigger further commercial investment in Robinvale.

3. Creation of new jobs

Response – With any new food venue that proposes to be open long hours it is likely that there will be new ongoing jobs together with jobs in the construction phase.

4. May create impetus for other development in the town

Response – As mentioned previously other investment may follow as confidence is created by external investment in the town.

5. Land is zoned Residential and not parkland

Response - This assertion by submitters is correct. The most recent updated Master Plan for Bromley roads indicates the use of the two lots to be for car parking.

6. Encourage services 24hours a day – for travellers and workers

Response – The interested party in the land indicated that extended hours would be offered to support both local workers (early starts and late finishes) as well as the travelling public however the nature of the services offered would depend on the intentions of the ultimate purchaser if any.

7. No more park land needed

Response – It is considered that there is adequate parkland in Robinvale. Some existing parkland needs improvement to ensure it is better used. A balance between suitability, location and ability to adequately maintain parkland is always considered.

8. Will not impact on existing business

Response – This will not be known until a use is established. It is likely that any new commercial use will have some impact on individual businesses and on the Robinvale economy.

9. Must be for a commercial business

Response – It is agreed that if Council determines to sell the land then the new use should be a commercial use. This would be a requirement in the tender process.

Other

1. If the land is sold it should be invested back into the town – improve McGinty park and the entry to Robinvale
Response – If land is sold anywhere in the municipality the funds raised become general revenue. It is worth noting the purchase of the two lots was funded by general revenue.
2. Proponent would need to contribute to any changes to Bromley Road to accommodate any development
Response – a planning permit will be required for any use proposed on the site and due to its abutment to an arterial road Vicroads will require the developer to carry out works for ingress and egress to ensure safety to both pedestrians and users of the road – this will be at the developer’s expense.

The following points were made by some of the submitters in support of their view objecting to the sale of the land. Many submissions just advised that the submitter objected to the sale of the land.

1. Land should be kept in public ownership and used for community purposes, eg; parking for trucks and caravans, other tourism and recreational related uses to complement the museum and visitor info centre, McGinty Park and Memorial Park.
Response – the land on the western side of Bromley road in the vicinity of the sites is used for a variety of uses – large vehicle parking, CFA, Police, children’s playground, old railway station heritage building, visitor information, museum, McGinty Park, bus stop, public toilets and to the north the new Memorial Park. All of these uses provide services to both local residents and the travelling public. Many submitters had ideas for additional use for the site, all of which are valid suggestions. None of these suggestions are listed in Councils Ten Year Major Projects Plan. If the land was developed into a food service business this would complement the museum, visitor information centre and park.
2. A commercial use would impact on the amenity of the area and is inappropriate
Response – Councils Planning Scheme allows for commercial uses in residential zones where the site abuts an arterial road. The amenity of the area is managed through the planning process and any development of this site may add to the amenity. Tenderers would be required to submit concept plans as part of any land sale process.
3. Detrimental to the existing businesses in town
Response – At this time no use is known. It is always hoped that new businesses will complement existing businesses but at times they may create competition. It is unknown whether this would be detrimental or positive to existing businesses.

4. Short sighted to sell public land

Response – The land has only recently become publicly owned land. Council always tries to use land and resources for the benefit of the whole community. Council needs to make a value judgement on the best use of the sites.

5. Historic significance of the land

Response - An assessment of the cultural heritage of the property has been carried out and it indicates that the location of 71-77 Bromley Road is within a built up area and is also positioned on a linear dune sub-dominant system. This means it is within an area of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity but there are no recorded sites at that location. Any development of the site will have to consider the requirements of the Cultural Heritage legislation, although due to the disturbance of the land by previous development this may not be an issue.

Councils Planning Scheme also identifies a heritage Overlay over the public land surrounding the two lots in recognition of the railway precinct – it is of local significance – Attachment 1 is the citation for the site and indicates it is the railway station building that is of local significance rather than the whole site.

6. Land was purchased for public purposes

Response – the land was purchased by Council to enable the removal of the houses to improve the appearance of the entry to the town. Both sites were strategic purchases and no future use was determined at the time of purchase.

7. Foot traffic through the commercial area will cease

Response – it is unclear why this submitter has suggested that this will occur. It is likely a development would increase the use of the area.

8. A new commercial use will add to existing traffic problems in the vicinity of Latje Road

Response - Regional Roads Victoria (Vic Roads) has been consulted and advises that, as the site is on an arterial road, treatment for entrance and egress will be needed and the exact nature will be dependent on the type of development. The planning process ensures safety and traffic movements are considered.

9. Will create a precedent for further commercial development of McGinty park

Response – McGinty Park is zoned Public Park and Recreation zone and cannot have commercial uses under this zone.

10. Commercial and Industrial Zone review indicated adequate commercial zoned land in Robinvale so no new land needed.

Response – Whilst the review indicated on a purely floor space assessment that there is adequate commercial land it also is known that none of the

available land or buildings met the needs of the interested party or potentially other uses that rely on arterial road frontage.

11. Bad planning to put commercial uses in a community area

Response – Traditionally, town planning recommended separating various uses on a very strict basis. It is now accepted that a mix of uses in some areas is a better use of land and is more conducive to how people use places and have their needs met. Some examples of this are restaurants/cafes in hospitals, libraries, museums, and housing in commercial areas. The mix of uses on the western side of Bromley road is everything from tourism uses, passive parks and community services. Having a commercial use mixed in with these is good planning.

12. Safety of children and visitors crossing Bromley road

Response – the uses either side of Bromley Road already encourage pedestrians to cross the road. A new commercial use on the western side may encourage more travellers to stop and then explore the area. The planned improvements for Bromley Road should improve safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Other

Some submitters raised the concern that the consultation carried out with the three community groups was poor in the initial stages

Copies of the submissions and the petition were provided at the Special Council Meeting in April. At this meeting nine people presented their submissions to Council.

Additional Information

o **Zoning**

The properties are zoned General Residential (GRZ). This zoning allows for a range of Commercial uses, due to the land fronting an arterial road. Commercial uses will require a Planning permit.

o **Bromley Road Masterplan**

Council endorsed the Bromley Road Streetscape Masterplan in November 2013. Following Council's endorsement of the plan, a group called the "Friends of Bromley Road" (FoBR) formed.

The most recently revised Bromley Road Masterplan identifies the subject area as a car park. Councillors may recall that members of the Robinvale Improvement Group identified the area as being suitable for truck and car parking last year.

Should Council proceed to sell the two lots an amendment to the Masterplan should occur to recognise the change. It should be noted that the Masterplan is not a statutory document but rather a guide for the future development of the Bromley Road Precinct.

Conclusion

Council needs to consider the submissions and petition and then determine whether or not to proceed to sell the land based on what is best for the whole community. If the sale proceeds officers recommend a tender process with specific requirements around the type of development and associated timeframes.

Consultation

Consultation was carried out in accordance with the Act. Submissions and a petition were received and must be considered by Council when making a decision.

Financial Implications

The sale of 71-77 Bromley Road will enable some of the costs associated with purchasing and clearing the sites to be recouped. The land will become rateable.

Social Implications

Positive social outcomes could be achieved through appropriate development of the sites due to increasing the range and availability of products available to the community. An appropriate development would also encourage increased use of the surrounding facilities such as the Information Centre, playground and Museum. Potential negative outcomes could be loss of the ability to extend parkland in the future.

Economic Implications

The use of the land for a commercial use has the potential to inject confidence in investment in the town and encourage both local and external investors to carry out other development that are desirable. The injection of investment not only improves the local economy but could also broaden the range of services available in the town.

Environmental Implications

If the sale were to proceed there would be a loss of potential parkland however many of the submitters were arguing for a Car Park on the land which would also remove a potential parkland.

Risk Management Implications

To minimize risks associated with the sale of the land it is recommended that a public tender process should be used. This option allows Council to consider both the offer as well as the proposed use. Council can also condition any sale to ensure the development is completed and operational by a certain date and have greater control over design elements.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Community enrichment - Provide services and support initiatives that create a Healthy and Safe Community.

Options

1. That Council after considering all the submissions and petition not proceed to sell 71-77 Bromley Road Robinvale.

OR

2. That Council after considering all the submissions and petition commence the process to sell 71-77 Bromley Road Robinvale by public tender.

Recommendations

That Council:

1. **Consider all submissions and the petition received in relation to the proposed sale of 71-77 Bromley Road, Robinvale.**
2. **Having considered the submissions and petition proceed to sell 71-77 Bromley Road Robinvale via a public tender process.**
3. **Include conditions in the tender documents and Contract of Sale that ensure any development is Commercial, is visually consistent with the amenity of the area and is commenced within 2 years of the date of sale.**

59/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Benham

That Council:

1. **Consider all submissions and the petition received in relation to the proposed sale of 71-77 Bromley Road, Robinvale.**
2. **Having considered the submissions and petition proceed to sell 71-77 Bromley Road Robinvale via a public tender process.**
3. **Include conditions in the tender documents and Contract of Sale that ensure any development is Commercial, is visually consistent with the amenity of the area and is commenced within 2 years of the date of sale.**

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED

Rural City of Swan Hill Heritage Review: Datasheets

Current Name	Ceramic workshop	Reference No.	HO96 (R4)
Former Name	Robinvale Railway Station	Grade	B
Address	Bromley Road, Robinvale	Construction Date	1924
Map Reference	622.715 Robinvale	Ownership	Vic Track



Survey Date August 2000

Intactness Good Fair Poor **Condition** Good Fair Poor

Heritage Listings

	Existing	Recommended
VHR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RNE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planning Scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
National Trust (Vic)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Curtilage

Sufficient curtilage should be maintained to preserve the setting of the station and its associated structures. The station building forms part of the Robinvale Railway Station HO precinct (see Volume 3 of this study).

*Rural City of Swan Hill Heritage Review: Datasheets***History**

The railway was opened in stages between Bendigo and Robinvale between 18 November 1876 and 1924. The final stage of the line was the 20 mile [30-kilometre] section between Annuello and Robinvale on 5 June 1924. It was constructed largely for the movement of wheat and livestock and therefore assisting significantly in the economic development of the Mallee region, especially primary industry. Lines like this constructed during the 1920s were essentially the finale of Victoria's railway expansion before the onset of the 1930s Depression and the increasing reliance on road transport ever since.

Between 1910 and 1930 many minor stations were constructed fairly simply and in timber because of budget constraints. The platform and timber station building were erected in 1924 when the line opened. The builder was R W Scammell but the architect was unknown and the building is constructed in the 'Manangatang' style. Over thirty stations were constructed in this style, mostly in the rural areas such as the Mallee and the Wimmera. There were eight different design variations of the 'Manangatang' style. Robinvale station is the sole member of the '1919 Standard Type C'.

The provision of rail services often triggered off the development of townships like Robinvale to serve the surrounding land-holders. On 23 October 1924 a special train was chartered from Bendigo in connection with the auction sales for lots occupying the square mile [2.5 square kilometres] of land Herbert Cuttle Snr had purchased when planning the Robinvale township. Passenger train services were discontinued on 5 June 1978 between Bendigo and Robinvale, and passengers now travel by road coaches running between Mildura and Swan Hill or Bendigo connecting with trains to Melbourne.

Description

The former railway station is a single-storey weatherboard building with a gabled roof clad in corrugated galvanised steel, penetrated by a red brick chimney. A return verandah extends across the west (platform) and south sides, having a concave roof supported on stop-chamfered timber posts with a timber plank fringe at one end. The platform side has a pair of doorways with moulded timber architraves and panelled timber doors. There are timber-framed double-hung sash windows to the west and south sides, the latter being the original ticket sales point, with a wide shelf-like timber sill on brackets. A lean-to addition to the north has a vehicular doorway to each side, with pairs of ledged-and-braced timber doors. Internally, the former railway station retains its timber lining boards to walls and ceilings. The fireplace has been infilled.

Thematic Context*Thematic Environmental History*

- 5.3 Closer Settlement
- 7.4 Railways
- 9.1 Development of towns

Australian Heritage Commission

- 3.6 Establishing lines and networks of communication
- 3.7 Moving goods and people

Significance

The former Robinvale Railway Station, in Bromley Road, Robinvale, is of considerable historic and aesthetic significance. Erected in 1924, it is associated with the first phase of urban development of the town, and also represented the final stage in the laying out of the railway from Bendigo to Robinvale, which had begun almost fifty years earlier. Aesthetically, the station is an intact example of the so-called 'Manangatang style', of which over thirty examples were built in Victoria in the early twentieth century. It is the only surviving example of the '1919 Standard Type C' design variation.

*Rural City of Swan Hill Heritage Review: Datasheets***References**

Back to Robinvale for the Fiftieth Anniversary Committee. *Robinvale the First Fifty Years*.

L Harrigan. *Victorian Railways to '62*. pp.283-84.

Victorian Railways Board. *Annual Report 1977-1978*. p.11

A Ward. *Victorian Railway Stations: A architectural Survey*, Vol. 3, p.121

Recommendations

Retain original elements, including verandah.

Identified By

Andrew Ward.

B.19.47 RV FRIENDLY POLICY REVIEW 2019

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S16-25P-08-814
Attachments: 1 Recreational Vehicle (RV) Policy Swan Hill
Rural City Council

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

The Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly Policy is due for review, as part of Council's practice to review policies on a regular basis. The intention of the policy remains unchanged in which Council would support in principle an application to become RV Friendly Town in communities where there are no commercial tourist camping facilities or where it can be demonstrated that the development will provide significant economic benefit to the municipality and will not be detrimental to existing commercial operators.

However, further detail has been included to improve Council's position to respond to changes in the tourism market; but not to the detriment of commercial operators within the municipality.

The RV Friendly program was established by the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) to represent the interests of its 60,000 members by providing free or low cost camping with access to potable water and a dump point within the vicinity of a town centre. In determining support for an RV Friendly site in the municipality, it is necessary to balance the interests of existing business and the community that underwrites public infrastructure, against the economic benefits that can be obtained by increased tourism visitation. This policy is not applicable to free camping options on land under the management of other authorities.

Discussion

At the end of 2017, there were 647,319 registered recreational vehicles (RVs) in Australia with approximately 20,000 new vehicles manufactured each year. Whilst the RV market has generally been associated with retirees or backpackers, there is a significant increase in the 30-54 year age group now accounting for 47 per cent of caravanning and camping trips. To cater for this increasing market segment, the RV Friendly Towns program was established by the CMCA.

The RV Friendly program encourages visitation based on the provision of free or low cost 24/48 hour short term RV parking that provides access to potable water and access to a free dump point at an appropriate location.

Legislation constraints

Competitive Neutrality

The Competitive Neutrality Policy is administered by the Victorian Office of Better Regulation to ensure that government business competes fairly in the market. The objective of competitive neutrality principles is to account for advantages arising from public ownership therefore where a private business, or other affected party, considers a government entity has not correctly applied the CN Policy, they can complain to the Office of Better Regulation, which can lead to a public investigation.

Local laws

Local Laws No 2, Section 57 on Caravans and Camping on Council Land details: *'A person must not without a permit, camp on Council managed land or a public place in a tent, caravan or other temporary or makeshift structure unless within a Caravan Park registered under the Residential Tenancies (Caravan and Parks and Movable Dwellings Registrations and Standards) Regulations 2010 or an area determined by Council to be available for camping purposes. **Penalty: 5 Penalty units**'.*

The local context

Within Swan Hill municipality, local commercial operators have objected to the provision of RV Friendly sites within proximity of their businesses. Based on the fixed and regulatory costs borne by commercial operators, the offer of free or low cost sites are seen as competition that they cannot bear.

Currently the municipality's low cost options include Lake Boga Foreshore Area 4 and 5, and the Nyah Recreation Reserve. Lake Boga Foreshore Caravan Park is responsible for the issuing of permits for Area 4 and 5 which provides a low cost option (\$7.50 per person off peak, \$30 per site for 2 people peak season plus \$10 per additional person) for lakeside camping that broadly meets the CMCA criteria.

Amendments to the current policy are intended to clarify the decision making process for Council support of applications to the CMCA RV Friendly Towns program and to emphasize the need to clarify areas of responsibility within the MoU, license or contract with a third party site manager. Council has a difficult position due to real or perceived interests of leasing three commercial sites and the need to adhere to the competitive neutrality principles.

Consultation and References

- Swan Hill Rural City Council (Staff interviews)
- Swan Hill Region Commercial Parks operators

- Swan Hill Rural City Council RV Friendly Policy 2017
- Review of Victorian and interstate LGA policy positions (Gannawarra, Echuca Moama, Rockhampton, Byron Bay)
- Caravan Industry Association of Australia (CIAA), 2018, State of the Industry
- Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA), 2018, Low Cost, Self-contained RV accommodation – Position Paper
- Calidicott, 2017, Freedom camping politics and policy: a case study of Four Australian Local communities

Financial Implications

There are no immediate financial implications associated with this report. The capital expenditure and ongoing operational costs associated with becoming an RV Friendly Town is difficult to ascertain; but it can reasonably be expected that capital funding will be required for items such as dump point connection, signage. Ongoing costs will be applicable for maintenance and rubbish removal. Competitive neutrality has previously been discussed and remains applicable.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Development of RV Friendly Towns in the Swan Hill municipality has the potential to attract tourists, but also has the potential to apply a negative impact on the functions of commercial operators in township with existing operators.

RV Friendly Towns have demonstrated to provide some economic stimulus to small towns; however, these communities need to offer some commercial service such as a shop or a hospitality provider to capture visitor expenditure.

Environmental Implications

An RV Friendly site may have the potential to manage waste that may otherwise be left in illegal free camps. Lower Murray Water has advised that it is supportive of the installation of dump point to manage tourism waste and do not have restrictive policies in place to encourage installation.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Economic growth - Provide land use planning that is responsive and which proactively encourages appropriate development.

RV Friendly Towns in appropriate locations within the municipality can provide economic stimulus for that community.

Criteria for supporting an RV Friendly application:

- Proximity to other commercial tourist camping facilities
- Potential impact on any nearby tourist camping facilities
- Economic benefit to the community and municipality
- Perceived need of RV Friendly site within nominated location
- Adherence to the Competitive Neutrality Policy
- Ability to meet 'Essential' and potential to meet 'Desirable' criteria requirements of CMCA RV Friendly Program
- Ability of applicant to carry out specified ongoing 'Roles and Responsibilities' as outlined within the MoU, license or contract
- Community consultation undertaken with the relevant Community/Town

Options

1. Adopt the revised RV Friendly policy
2. Delay the adoption of the policy pending further information
3. Not adopt the reviewed policy

Recommendation

That Council adopt the RV Friendly policy as presented.

60/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council adopt the RV Friendly policy as presented.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

POLICY TITLE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) FRIENDLY POLICY

POLICY NUMBER POL/COMM814

PURPOSE

To outline Swan Hill Rural City Council's position for providing in principle support regarding the establishment of a Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly Town or Destination as per the Caravan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) definition.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to Council, Community organisations and/or third parties involved in management of RV Friendly sites. An RV Friendly site is land identified for the purpose in which Swan Hill Rural City Council may be the land owner or responsible under agreement with the land owner. This policy is not applicable to free camping sites under the management of other authorities.

POLICY

Council aims to find the correct balance between capturing the economic opportunities available through the RV Friendly market, and supporting the needs of local businesses in the region including accommodation providers, in particular Caravan Parks.

Council will undertake the following approach when considering RV Friendly Towns and Destination applications in the municipality:

- Provide support in principle of an application to become RV Friendly Town or Destination as per the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) guidelines in communities where there are no commercial tourist camping facilities. This support is subject to this type of development being identified within the relevant Community Plan and the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), license or contract clearly stating the management responsibilities of the site.
- In communities with a commercial tourist camping facility, Council will not support the development of an RV Friendly Town or Destination, unless it can be demonstrated that the development will provide significant economic benefit to the municipality and will not be detrimental to existing commercial operators.

Council will provide in principle support to endorse an application to the CMCA for RV Friendly status only if it meets the above criteria, deems the location suitable and meets the CMCA guidelines.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), license or contract will be developed between Council and the community group/s or third party managing the RV Friendly site.

RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

- Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) RV Friendly Town Program
- CMCA (Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia), 2018, Low Cost, Self-contained RV accommodation – Position Paper

RELATED LEGISLATION

Competitive Neutrality Legislation - Office of the Commissioner for Better Regulation (OCBR).

Signed: Ann Young **Mayor** **Date:** _____

B.19.48 DUMPING OF SOIL/FILL IN RURAL AREAS

Responsible Officer: Director Development and Planning
File Number: S16-22-05
Attachments: 1 Yarra Ranges Council's letter to the Minister

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

This report seeks a Council resolution to prepare a letter to the Minister for Planning in support of the Yarra Ranges Council's proposal to improve the definitions, and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions to address soil/fill dumping.

Discussion

Recently, Yarra Ranges Council wrote to Council expressing concern regarding soil/fill dumping in rural areas.

The letter seeks Council's support for improving the definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions to address the growing issue of soil/fill dumping.

In February 2019, Yarra Ranges Council wrote to the Minister for Planning, requesting the Minister's assistance to improve planning controls to better regulate this practice. A copy of the letter is attached.

Council officers are not aware of this activity occurring in our municipality; however, following a recent meeting with the EPA, it was advised that soil and hazardous waste dumping have in fact occurred in our neighbouring municipalities. It seems it is just a matter of time before it becomes a problem in this municipality as well. As explained in the attached letter, there is limited planning control to prevent this from occurring, and as a result very difficult to obtain a positive enforcement outcome once it happens.

In view of the above, it is recommended that Council support the Yarra Ranges Council by requesting the Minister implement appropriate planning controls to manage and control this activity.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

Financial implications could include costs associated with enforcement proceedings as well as officer time and significant costs associated with clean up operations.

Social Implications

No foreseeable social implications.

Economic Implications

No foreseeable economic implications.

Environmental Implications

Environmental implications associated with soil or hazardous waste dumping could include the pollution of water bodies, loss of habitats and productive agricultural land.

Risk Management Implications

No foreseeable risk management implications.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Environment - Sound policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.

Options

1. That Council write to the Minister for Planning Hon Richard Wynne in support of Yarra Ranges Council's request to improve the definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions to manage the dumping of soil/fill.

Or

2. That Council not support Yarra Ranges Councils to improve the definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions to manage the dumping of soil/fill.

Recommendation

That Council write to the Minister for Planning Hon Richard Wynne in support of Yarra Ranges Council's request to improve the definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions to manage the dumping of soil/fill.

61/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Benham

That Council write to the Minister for Planning Hon Richard Wynne in support of Yarra Ranges Council's request to improve the definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions to manage the dumping of soil/fill.

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED

Enquiries: Damian Closs
Phone: (03) 9294 6164

6 February 2019

Hon Richard Wynne MP
Minister for Planning
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
PO Box 500
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8002

Via email: planning.systems@delwp.vic.gov.au,
planning.amendments@delwp.vic.gov.au

Yarra Ranges Council
PO Box 105
Lilydale Vic 3140
DX 34051
Call 1300 368 333
Fax 03 9735 4249
mail@yarraranges.vic.gov.au
www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au



Dear Minister

DUMPING OF SOIL/FILL IN RURAL AREAS

Tens of thousands of cubic metres of soil/fill are being dumped in the rural areas of Yarra Ranges as a bi-product of development. The fill includes building waste and overburden and is being dumped on agricultural land in the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges. Council seeks your assistance to improve the planning controls to regulate this practice.

In Yarra Ranges, soil dumping occurs in Green Wedge areas that make a significant contribution to liveability and prosperity of the region. Professional companies engage in this activity on a large scale, enter into agreements with land owners who profit from allowing landfill on their land. Despite being a commercial use of the land, existing planning controls fail to address soil dumping/ fill sites or protect these areas.

Under the Ministerial Direction – The Form and Content of Planning Schemes, the schedules to the various rural zones prescribe the following permit triggers for earthworks:

- *Earthworks which change the rate of flow or the discharge point of water across a property boundary*
- *Earthworks which increase the discharge of saline groundwater*

In Yarra Ranges the Green Wedge and Rural Conservation Zones require a permit for earthworks over one metre in height if rates of flow or discharge points are changed or if the discharge of saline groundwater is increased. In practice, these triggers are difficult, impractical and costly for Council to monitor, regulate and prosecute in cases of illegal dumping as extensive studies are required to determine existing site conditions. There are often significant levels of ambiguity surrounding whether a permit is required or not.

To understand the extent of the issue, Yarra Ranges Council hosted a roundtable discussion in October 2018 with representatives from ten local councils, Melbourne Water, the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The roundtable overwhelmingly concluded this issue is not unique to Yarra Ranges and is prevalent across metropolitan and peri-urban areas. To illustrate the scale, the

development of one residential subdivision in Melbourne's outer north generated 1.5 million cubic metres of fill between 2010 and 2018.

Other councils are facing similar issues regarding uncontrolled soil dumping. Impacts include the pollution of water bodies, loss of habitats and loss of productive agricultural land. There is concern about associated impacts such as the inappropriate number of large trucks using rural roads, which can significantly affect the condition of roads and create amenity and safety issues for residents.

For councils with similar planning controls to Yarra Ranges, taking compliance action is a burden with many councils not resourced to take action for every case. Some councils have attempted to manage this issue by using existing overlays, such as the Erosion Management Overlay and the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. However, this approach is not effective as the overlays do not apply to all rural land.

The roundtable agreed that a standardised approach is required to address the policy gap and considered some broad solutions, including:

- A volumetric trigger could apply in all rural zones, such as the 100 cubic metre threshold in the Hume Planning Scheme, which is considered an enforceable, measurable permit trigger; and
- The Particular Provisions in the Victoria Planning Provisions being used to require a permit for this activity. The use could then be included in the schedules to the zones.

Managing this activity should also consider the source, transport and receipt of the material, to create an effective and holistic policy response. Such approaches respond to the Tribunal's advice in *Yarra Ranges SC v Bibiano (Red Dot) [2016] VCAT 1881* that:

... it would be desirable for the EPA, Minister for Planning, and metropolitan fringe councils ...to formulate a more sophisticated policy response to dealing with the increased disposal of clean fill on rural land...

Council now seeks the Minister's immediate attention to the proposal to improve definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victoria Planning Provisions and would welcome an opportunity to discuss this important matter in person.

Should you require any further information, please contact Damian Closs, Manager Development Services on (03) 9294 6164 or via email d.closs@yarraranges.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Cr Tony Stevenson
Mayor

B.19.49 SWAN HILL INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Responsible Officer:	Director Development and Planning
File Number:	S09-03-01
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management AGM Minutes, 10 October 2018 and Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management Meeting, 28 November 20182 Nomination Form

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

This report is to appoint members of the Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management.

Discussion

The Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre (Stadium) is currently managed by the Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management (COM), under a delegated authority of Council. This arrangement is governed by Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989.

The COM outsourced the management responsibilities for the Stadium to AFL Central Murray, a third party. The COM consists of six representatives. Each representative has a voting right.

At the COM Annual General Meeting, held 10 October 2018, the following members were nominated by the respective sporting associates to become members on the committee.

- Swan Hill Rural City Council, Councillor Jeffery, Chairman (appointed by Council);
- Swan Hill Basketball Association - (1) Blake Anderson - (2) vacant;
- Swan Hill Badminton Association - Jeff Stewart;
- Swan Hill Soccer League - (1) vacant;
- Swan Hill Squash Club - Cameron Whitlock, Secretary.

The Swan Hill Soccer Club did not nominate a member for the COM and therefore the position remains vacant.

At a COM meeting, held 28 November 2018, Swan Hill Basketball Association nominated two new representatives Stephen Davies and Dale McMillan.

Nominated members are:

- Swan Hill Rural City Council Councillor Jeffery, Chairman;
- Swan Hill Basketball Association Stephen Davies and Dale McMillan;
- Swan Hill Badminton Association Jeff Stewart;
- Swan Hill Soccer League, Vacant;
- Swan Hill Squash Cameron Whitlock, Secretary.

Attached is a nomination form which provides details on all current committee members and has been signed by Cameron Whitlock, COM Secretary.

Chelsea Casey Centre Manager AFL Central Murray attends meetings; as does Meagan Monk, Development Officer Recreation, Swan Hill Rural City Council, in an advisory role.

Consultation

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Social Implications

The continued operation of sporting and recreational facilities provides opportunities for community members to connect socially and become more physically active.

Economic Implications

Sporting and recreational facilities may attract sporting events to the region resulting in increased economic development benefits, such as overnight stays, repeated visitation, retail and hospitality spend.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Section 86 Special Committees may not possess adequate skills and knowledge to manage a community facility which could result in risk exposure (financial, reputational, compliance, operational) to Council.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Community enrichment - Provide services and support initiatives that create a Healthy and Safe Community.

Options

1. That Council appoint to the Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management the following members:
Swan Hill Basketball Association - Stephen Davies and Dale McMillan;
Swan Hill Badminton Association - Jeff Stewart;
Swan Hill Squash - Cameron Whitlock, Secretary.
2. That Council do not appoint elected members to Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management.

Recommendations

That Council appoint to the Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management the following members:

**Swan Hill Basketball Association - Stephen Davies and Dale McMillan;
Swan Hill Badminton Association - Jeff Stewart;
Swan Hill Squash - Cameron Whitlock, Secretary.**

62/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Moar

That Council appoint to the Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Committee of Management the following members:

**Swan Hill Basketball Association - Stephen Davies and Dale McMillan;
Swan Hill Badminton Association - Jeff Stewart;
Swan Hill Squash - Cameron Whitlock, Secretary.**

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

Minutes – Annual General Meeting - Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre Special Committee
Page | 2

Election of office bearers.

Chairman	Chris Jeffery	Moved J. Stewart	Seconded S. Davies	CARRIED
Secretary	Cameron Whitlock	Moved J. Stewart	Seconded C. Jeffery	CARRIED
Treasure	Stadium Manager	Chelsea Casey (AFL)		

User Groups Nominated representatives:-

Swan Hill Basketball Association (2)	Blake Anderson and To Be Advised
Swan Hill Badminton Association (1)	Cameron Whitlock
Swan Hill Squash Association (1)	Jeff Stewart with Elaine McDonald as proxy
Swan Hill Junior Futsal-Soccer (1)	None Nominated
Swan Hill Council Representative (0)	Meagan Monk

Court Hire Fees for 2018/2019

MOTION That the court hires fees for 2018/2019 as presented in the budget be adopted (No change on 2017/2018)

Moved J.Stewart Seconded S.Davies CARRIED

Budget 2018/2019

MOTION That the BUDGET for 2018/2019 as presented in the Annual Report be adopted.

Moved J.Stewart Seconded E.McDonald CARRIED

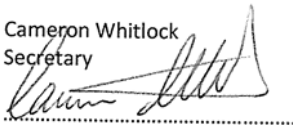
Meeting Dates 2018/2019

Meetings will be on a Bi Monthly Monday with extra meetings as required.

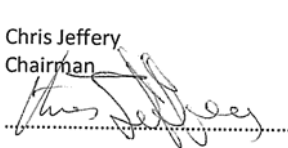
Meeting closed at 7:49 pm

Minutes confirmed on 28/11/18

Cameron Whitlock
Secretary



Chris Jeffery
Chairman



Meeting Date 28th November 2018
Meeting Opened 7.10pm
Venue Meeting Room - Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre, Gray Street

Welcome

Present Chris Jeffery (Councillor), Cameron Whitlock (Badminton),
Elaine McDonald (Squash), Stephen Davies (SHBA), Blake Anderson (SHBA),
Meagan Monk (SHRC).

Apologies Chelsea Casey (AFL), Jeff Stewart (Squash)

General Business:

Meagan spoke about the Swan Hill Recreation Reserves Master Plan Study and indicated that she could assist develop a Master Plan for the Stadium. Council is in the process of writing the project brief for an Indoor Recreation Feasibility Study that will include the Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre, Swan Hill Leisure Centre and Robinvale Leisure Centre. The study will consider the feasibility of a new Stadium versus a redevelopment/upgrade of the existing facility.

The outcomes on the study will be added to the Recreation Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan includes all Key Projects from the Recreation Reserves Master Plan, with cost estimates and timelines of when they may be able to be achieved. Key Projects from the Aquatics Strategic Plan will be added and Meagan would like the Stadium to be included in the document also. The Plan will be used as a tool to assist determine funds to be identified in Council's Major Projects Budget.

Meagan spoke about the Pick My Project grant. This grant has been awarded to a value of \$200,000 and council may inject up to an additional \$100,000 to the project. Meagan requested a prioritised list of items for the Pick My Project build and after much discussion the following list in preference order was agreed upon as a starting point :-

1. Accessibility Ramp to court 3, with either external or built in internal option (extending outside of the court 3 wall with the ramp to be enclosed with in the building)
2. Remove air lock double doors in main entry.
3. Update front entrance to existing air lock – new external doors etc.
4. Install viewing window along wall between manages office to double entry doors to enable viewing of court 2
5. Repair/replace seating on court 2 taking into account the need to increase playing area of court 2 if possible to meet playing run off regulations for court 2
6. – Café Furniture
 - New Carpet in Café area
 - Painting of Café area
7. - Squash Court Lighting upgrade to LED with consideration of LUX light requirements for squash
 - Upgraded P.A. System for all courts

8. Others:-

- Landscaping back area behind and adjacent to ALF offices with seats and grass and watering
- Refurbish Mens showers off court 2 (Has no privacy between showers)
- Renew Squash Walls
- Small storage at the end of court 1 seating to store Badminton nets and poles

Also, Meagan noted that some of the \$300,000 budget has to be ear marked for

- Project Management
- Architectural and Engineering plans and costs

7:40pm - Stephen Davies joined the meeting.

Meagan asked for a project control team that should consist of 2 COM members and 2 Council members. This smaller group would meet more often and push the project, reporting back to the main COM as required.

After discussion on who would have the time to put into the role, Stephen Davies and Cameron Whitlock accepted the role on behalf of the COM.

Meagan said that as part of the process, council would call for tenders for a project manager which the steering committee will be consulted on.

Meagan then presented the area boundaries of the stadium. These boundaries may need to be further examined. The stadium is on Council managed crown land. The remaining land is all Jockey Club managed crown land. The rough maps that Meagan was able to get hold of indicate that the stadium building is over its boundaries.

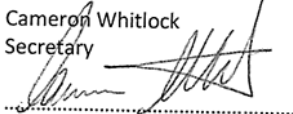
Meagan reported that the asphalt areas are scheduled to be re-sheeted by council with a cost to be negotiated between council and the Jockey Club. Re-lining of the parking spaces may also be a part of that project. This will possibly happen in March 2019.

Basketball reported that Stephen Davies and Dale McMillian will be their reps to COM for 2018/2019

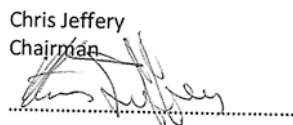
Meeting closed at 8:06pm

Minutes confirmed on / /

Cameron Whitlock
Secretary



Chris Jeffery
Chairman





PO Box 488, Swan Hill VIC 3585 | DX 30166
 45 Splatt Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585
 68-72 Herbert Street, Robinvale VIC 3549
 Tel: 03 5036 2333 | Fax: 03 5036 2340
 Email: council@swanhill.vic.gov.au

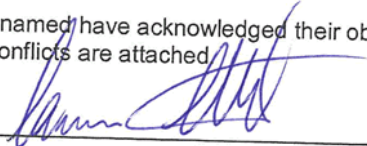
Nomination form – Public Facility

Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre

President/Chairperson	
Name	Cr Chris Jeffery (voting)
Address	42 Donnington Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585
Email	cjeffery@swanhill.vic.gov.au
Contact number	0429 447 802
Nominating organisation (if required)	Swan Hill Councillor
Secretary/Public Officer	
Name	Cameron Whitlock (voting)
Address	7 Connell Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585
Email	Warp10@inet.net.au
Contact number	0429 859 151
Nominating organisation (if required)	Swan Hill Badminton Club
Contract Manger	
Name	Chelsea Casey (non voting)
Address	4 Hawdon Court, Swan Hill VIC 3585
Email	admin@afldm.com.au
Contact number	(03) 5033 0176
Nominating organisation (if required)	AFL Central Murray
Council Delegate	
Name	Meagan Monk (non voting)
Address	10 Kidman Reid Drive, Murray Downs NSW 2734
Email	mmonk@swanhill.vic.gov.au
Contact number	0429418221
Nominating organisation (if required)	Swan Hill Rural City Council

Other committee members	
Position	Committee Member (voting)
Name	Stephen Davies
Address	11 Sandalwood Avenue, Swan Hill VIC 3585
Email	sdavies@dahlsens.com.au
Contact number	0488 091 314
Nominating organisation (if required)	Swan Hill Basketball Association
Position	Committee Member (voting)
Name	Dale McMillan
Address	7 Kennon Court, Swan Hill VIC 3585
Email	dale@northvicelectricity.com.au
Contact number	0407 505 226
Nominating organisation (if required)	Swan Hill Basketball Association
Position	Committee Member (voting)
Name	Jeff Stewart
Address	25 Donnington Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585
Email	Jeffmeg69@gmail.com
Contact number	03 5033 1969
Nominating organisation (if required)	Swan Hill Squash Club
Position	
Name	
Address	
Email	
Contact number	
Nominating organisation (if required)	

The above named have acknowledged their obligation to disclose any relevant conflicts of interest. Any disclosed conflicts are attached

Signed: 
 (Secretary)

Dated: 10/10/18 (AGM)

B.19.50 ROBINVALE LEVEE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Responsible Officer:	Director Infrastructure
File Number:	AST- PR-42415-06
Attachments:	1 Levee Location Plan 2 "Artificial Wetland" Footprint Plan

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

This report seeks a Council resolution to assume management and maintenance responsibility for the proposed reconstructed Robinvale Township Levee Bank and the associated artificial wetland.

Discussion

A planning permit application has been made for the reconstruction of the Robinvale Township Levee Bank and was referred to the relevant authorities for comment and/or approval. The main referral authority was the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

Other than the short section that is located on an unused road reserve, the levee bank is situated across a number of crown allotments under the original ownership of DELWP and management by Parks Victoria. Recently, the ownership has changed from DELWP to Parks Victoria.

The realigned section at the southern extremity and the proposed borrow pit to supply the bank fill material is located on and takes up the majority of the area of a small Crown Allotment 75, adjacent to Smythe Road.

An initial planning application was made in December 2018. It included the removal of a number of trees to enable the works, for which Council must either purchase or provide offset native vegetation credits.

The application was made under the previous 2013 DELWP modeling guidelines for the assessment of native vegetation removal. Under these guidelines, offset credits are required for very specific species that are found on the site. These species credits are not available for purchase within Victoria.

After review and discussions with DELWP, it was determined to withdraw the initial application and reapply under the modified 2017 guidelines. These modified guidelines require that the vegetation loss credits are for general species only. These general species credits can be purchased from a number of vegetation brokers.

DELWP requested additional information when the initial applications for Public Land Manager Consent (PLMC) and Land Owner Consent were made. Through this process it was agreed that PLMC and Land Owner Consent would be addressed through the Planning Permit process, therefore the application was received and lodged through Council at DELWP's request to ensure the transitional provisions for native vegetation removal were met.

As a consequence, of the land ownership and land management responsibilities changing from DELWP to Parks Victoria during this time, Parks Victoria are requesting that Land Owner Consent and PLMC be approved prior to the Planning Application being lodged. Although DELWP and Parks Victoria have previously given in principal support for the project, a requirement of the approval being provided from Parks Victoria is that Council accepts responsibility for the management of the bank. This is consistent with the requirements of the Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy 2016, as referenced by the following policies in the Strategy.

Policy 17c - The maintenance and management of existing flood mitigation infrastructure under formal arrangements will be funded by beneficiaries through relevant LGAs.

Policy 17b – LGAs (outside Melbourne Water's region) are accountable for the ongoing maintenance and management of existing infrastructure under formal management arrangements.

The management of the levee bank will be by an ongoing lease or licence from Parks Victoria under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1975*.

DELWP/Parks Victoria requires that as the bank and borrow pit will take up the bulk of the area of Crown Allotment 75, Council is to assume the management of that allotment by becoming Committee of Management of the allotment.

There would be a significant cost difference, estimated at more than \$200,000, to import the fill material from off-site as compared to obtaining it on-site. Therefore, it is proposed to source suitable material from the site on crown allotment (CA75) adjacent to Smythe Road.

It is a requirement of Parks Victoria that a new borrow pit is not permissible on crown land unless that borrow pit serves an additional ongoing purpose. So, the intention is to develop the borrow pit into a constructed "artificial wetland" through which the stormwater from the adjacent road reserves will pass for primary treatment before discharge into the Murray River. The adjacent Lower Murray Water stormwater pipeline serving the farming land to the south of the Golf Course also is able to connect through this "artificial wetland".

Agreement to assume the management and maintenance responsibility for the levee bank requires formal Council resolution.

The DELWP/ Parks Victoria consent requires Council to pay for the costs associated with the land transfer. These are estimated to be minimal and less than \$1,000.

The annual cost to maintain the levee bank is considered to be less than \$3,000, consisting mainly of removal of regrowth and rabbit control that can later jeopardise the integrity of the bank when floodwater is against it.

The DELWP/Parks Victoria requirements to consent include that the constructed “artificial wetland” be managed to provide environmental outcomes as required by DELWP.

A preliminary design of the artificial wetland has been provided to DELWP, which generally meets their requirements. It is accepted that this will not be a permanent wetland but one that dries out during periods of no rain and will provide retention and pre-treatment of the initial flows from any storm event.

This report is based on advice given that the above requirements will need to be obtained prior to gaining Public Land Manager Consent (PLMC) and Land Owner Consent (LOC) from DELWP/Parks Victoria.

A Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) has been prepared and has identified scar trees adjacent to the work site. Conditions to protect those scar trees during works have been included in the CHMP and will become part of the contract requirements. The CHMP has had initial Aboriginal Victoria (AV) review and final revisions are made to gain AV approval.

The works tender will be advertised upon the issue of the planning permit. The scale of the proposed contract will require a minimum of 4 weeks advertising and careful assessment before the tenders are put before the Council for decision.

It is anticipated the tender report will be put before the August Council meeting, with the intention of completion of works by the end of 2019.

Consultation

Council has consulted extensively with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and with Parks Victoria regarding the design and approvals for the works, including the proposed artificial wetland and the required ongoing management in accordance with the state strategy.

Consultation has occurred and is ongoing with the adjacent landowners regarding the impact on their irrigation infrastructure by the works.

Financial Implications

The initial cost to transfer the management to Council is considered to be minimal, in regard to the works proposed.

Ongoing maintenance of the levee bank by Council will be required, at an estimated cost of \$3,000 per annum.

Social Implications

The formalisation of management and maintenance of the levee bank will provide improved security against flooding of the lands behind the levee bank, creating less uncertainty for the community during flood events.

Economic Implications

The project will provide improved security against flooding of a section of the township by Murray River flood events.

The formalised flood protection in accordance with the Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy provides the opportunity to review the land zoning of the protected area of the township.

Environmental Implications

The artificial wetland will improve the quality of that stormwater outflow into the Murray River by providing initial treatment of stormwater flow from the horticultural area and the roadways adjacent to the golf course.

Risk Management Implications

Formalisation of management and maintenance of the levee bank consistent with the requirements of the Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy will ensure ongoing 1 in 100-year flood protection for the relevant section of the Robinvale Township.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Infrastructure - Infrastructure that is provided and appropriately maintained in accordance with agreed standards.

Options

Council may determine to not accept responsibility for the management and maintenance of the levee bank and artificial wetland. However the Australian and Victorian Governments financial contribution to the works is contingent upon a formalised management and maintenance arrangement being in place for the reconstructed levee bank.

The DELWP and Parks Victoria requirements for consent are consistent with the Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy 2016. Hence DELWP consent and the issue of the planning permit are contingent on Council's agreement to the proposed management arrangement.

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1. Commit to own and maintain the proposed Robinvale township levee bank by an ongoing lease or licence from Parks Victoria under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1975* until it is commissioned or transferred.**
- 2. Agree to become Committee of Management in perpetuity of crown allotment 75, Parish of Bumbang for the purpose of management of the constructed artificial wetland for the purpose of environmental outcomes as required by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Parks Victoria.**
- 3. Pay all relevant costs associated with the development of the lease or licence and the creation of the Committee of Management of crown allotment 75.**

63/19 Motion

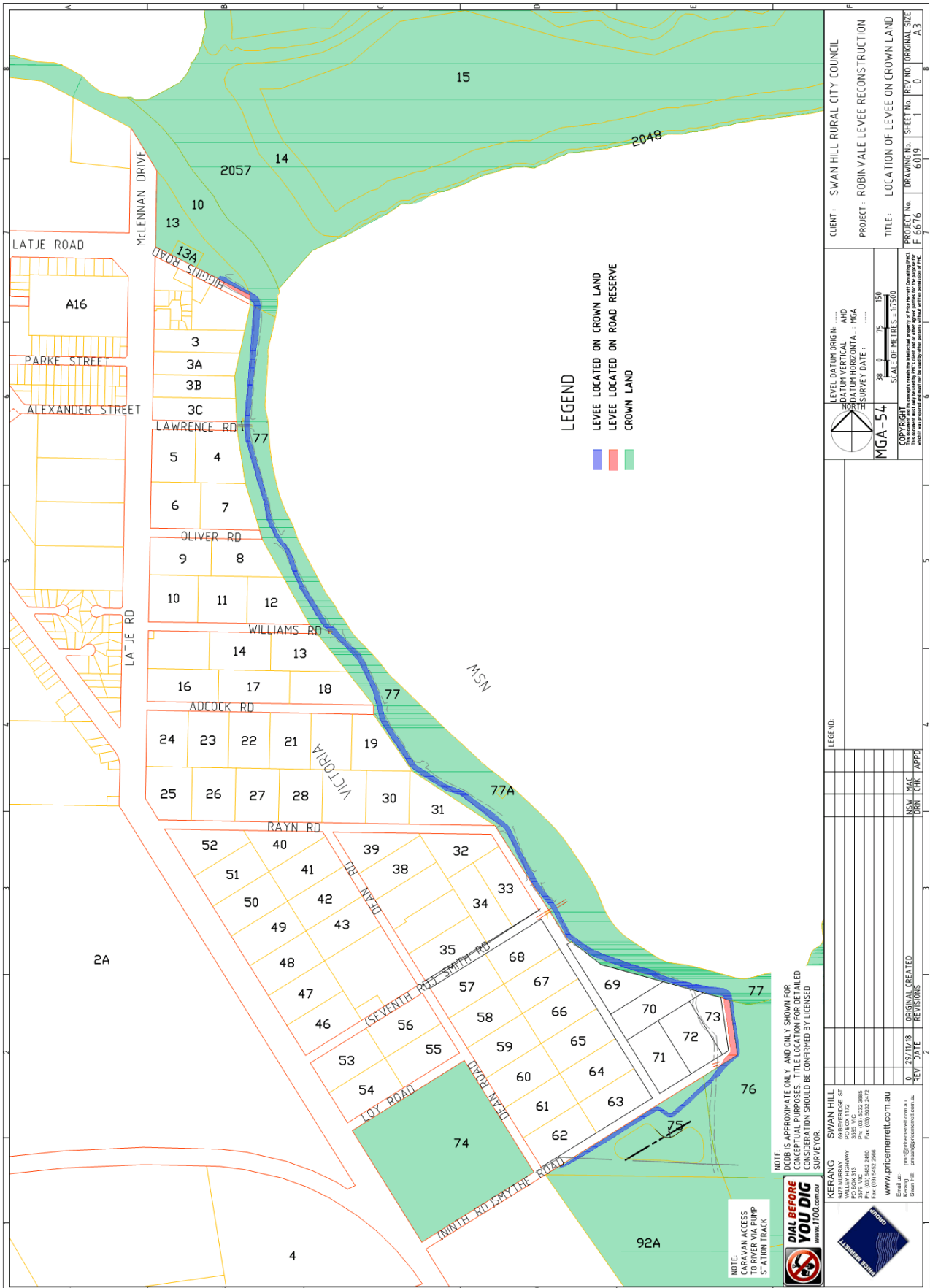
MOVED Cr Moar

That Council:

- 1. Commit to own and maintain the proposed Robinvale township levee bank by an ongoing lease or licence from Parks Victoria under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1975* until it is decommissioned or transferred.**
- 2. Agree to become Committee of Management in perpetuity of crown allotment 75, Parish of Bumbang for the purpose of management of the constructed artificial wetland for the purpose of environmental outcomes as required by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Parks Victoria.**
- 3. Pay all relevant costs associated with the development of the lease or licence and the creation of the Committee of Management of crown allotment 75.**

SECONDED Cr McKay

The Motion was put and CARRIED



SECTION C – DECISIONS WHICH NEED ACTION/RATIFICATION

C.19.7 SIGN & SEAL REPORT

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil.

Declarations of Interest:

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

Summary

The following documents and agreements have been signed and sealed by the Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer on the respective dates. Those actions require the ratification of the Council.

Discussion

During the course of any month Council is required to sign and seal a range of documents arising from decisions made on a previous occasion(s). Examples include sale of land, entering into funding arrangements for Council programs etc.

As the decision to enter into these agreements has already been made, these documents are signed and sealed when received, with Council ratifying the signing and sealing at the next Council meeting.

Consultation

Not applicable

Financial Implications

Not applicable

Social Implications

Not applicable

Economic Implications

Not applicable

Environmental Implications

Not applicable

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable

Background

During the course of any month Council is required to sign and seal a range of documents arising from decisions made on a previous occasion(s). Examples include sale of land, entering into funding arrangements for Council programs etc.

As the decision to enter into these agreements has already been made, these documents are signed and sealed when received, with Council ratifying the signing and sealing at the next Council meeting.

Issues

The following documents were signed and sealed since the last Council meeting:

No.	Document Type	Document Description	Date signed/ sealed
925	Section 173 Agreement – ownership and ongoing maintenance for pipeline “Tol Tol Pty Ltd of lot 1 Leslie Road, Bannerton”	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and Tol Tol Pty Ltd	30/0/19
926	Section 173 Agreement – 243 Cumnock Road – Tresco West (subdivision of land-boundary realignment)	Between Swan Hill Rural City Council and K.M.Free and D.M.Free and C.J.Free and E.A.Free	7/05/19

Conclusion

Council authorise the signing and sealing of the above documents.

Recommendation

That Council notes the actions of signing and sealing the documents under delegation as scheduled.

64/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council notes the actions of signing and sealing the documents under delegation as scheduled.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

C.19.8 COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES - RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA ITEMS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S15-05-06
Attachments: 1 Councillor Attendance

Declarations of Interest:

John McLinden - 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

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Risk Management Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

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

Recommendation

That Council note the contents of the report.

65/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council note the contents of the report.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
23 April 2019 at 11.30am, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

AGENDA ITEMS

- CEO Performance review
- Councillor Only Session
- Presentation of the Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group (LMWRRG) strategy
- RV Friendly Policy review
- 2019 General Revaluation Update
- Discussion on Rate Models for 2019/20 Budget
- Representation Review – Outstanding Arrangements
- VicSES Volunteer Unit Leases
- Council Plan Review

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Nil

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Bill Moar
- Jade Benham
- Nicole McKay

Apologies

- Nil

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Service
- Muriel Scholz, Senior Economic Development Officer
- Teresa Lever, Economic Development Officer
- Tony Heffer, Customer Service & Revenue Co-ordinator
- Ben Sawyer, Contract Valuer

Other

- Karren Fazzani, Lorraine Learmonth from LMWRRG

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

**COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA
7 May 2019 at 1pm, Swan Hill Town Hall, Council Chambers**

AGENDA ITEMS

- Rural Councils Victoria
- Councillor Only Session
- SuniTAFE
- 3 Year Old Kindergarten
- Proposed Honour Board Recognising Swan Hill Citizens of the Year
- Electoral Representation Review
- What we learnt from the DELWP Planning visit and where to from here?

ADDITIONAL ITEMS DISCUSSED

- 8 May NSW Heritage Council
- Robinvale Levee

ATTENDANCE

Councillors

- Cr Ann Young
- Cr Les McPhee
- Cr Chris Jeffery
- Cr Lea Johnson
- Cr Bill Moar
- Nicole McKay

Apologies

- Jade Benham

OFFICERS

- John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
- Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
- David Lenton, Director Corporate Service
- Bruce Myers, Director Community & Cultural Services
- Jan McEwan, Family Youth & Children's Services Manager
- Felicity O'Rourke, Community Planning Officer
- Stefan Louw, Development Manager

Other

- Michael Bailey and Rob Gersch, Rural Council Victoria
- Geoff Dea, Robin Kuhne, Brendan Barry, Jacinta Sutton and Terry Jennings, SuniTAFE

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Nil

SECTION D – NOTICES OF MOTION

D.19.2 VARIOUS ROAD MATTERS

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**

Council writes to Regional Roads Victoria, with copies to the Minister & Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and our Local State MP seeking:

- 1. An urgent assessment of the following intersections and request that a response on the feasibility and funding commitment for traffic improvements be presented;**
 - a. Roundabout for Murlong and McCallum Streets, Swan Hill**
 - b. Extending the existing nature strip island south between Werril & Pental Island Road, splitting the North & South lanes between Werril Street, Pental Island Road and Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill**
 - c. That any assessment at the intersection be done during a school term and focus on the peak congestion times where schoolchildren school buses, parents and workers are travelling to and from their destinations.**
- 2. An assessment, report and meeting with their representatives to discuss the following roads and intersections:**
 - a. Murray Valley Highway – From Boundary Bend to Robinvale**
 - b. Robinvale – Sea Lake Road from Manangatang to Robinvale**
 - c. Hattah – Robinvale Road from Hattah through Wemen to Robinvale.**
 - d. Haysdale – Kooloonong Road and Murray Valley Highway, Haysdale.**
 - e. Intersections of Waitchie Road and Sea Lake – Swan Hill Road**
 - f. McDonalds intersection – Corners of Gray & Campbell Streets, Swan Hill**
- 3. The CBD traffic lights at the intersection of McCallum Street and**

Campbell Streets, Swan Hill be:

- a. upgraded to enable automated pedestrian phases between 7am and 7pm,**
- b. investigated for extending the length of time required for pedestrians to cross the intersections North to South along Campbell Street, with the purpose of allowing longer time for elderly and less able-bodied citizens sufficient time to cross in one go.**

Preamble

1. **a)** *The intersection at Murlong and McCallum Streets has a long history of vehicle accidents, near misses and is a serious accident waiting to happen. This intersection desperately needs a roundabout installed to ease the congestion, likelihood and consequences of a serious accident occurring. With the decommissioning of the No. 9 Channel by GMW, there is now sufficient land available to build a roundabout in this location.*

Unfortunately under Regional Roads Victoria (Vic Roads) assessment guidelines, there haven't been sufficient injuries, accidents or deaths for this intersection to be classified as a blackspot intersection and thus attract funding.

We need a better outcome for our community and it shouldn't come after someone has died.

- b)** *Accessing the Murray Valley Highway at the intersection of Werril Street and Pental Island Road is a lengthy and dangerous task for commuters. With the confirmed development of a car dealership and childcare centre on the vacant block north of Pental Island Road (opposite Swan Hill Toyota), this intersection will be increasingly congested and dangerous for our community.*

The recent announcement from Regional Roads Victoria's Round 2 of Fixing Country Roads grant to seal Dead Horse Lane Road as an identified bypass around Swan Hill, this will likely add further congestion to this area.

We need to take a pro-active approach to this intersection for the protection of our community.

2. **a, b, c & d)** *These four stretches of roads have for almost two years, had reduced speed limits and road warning signs alerting drivers of road hazards ahead, majority being uneven surfaces. What are the time frames for Regional Roads Victoria to repair these stretches of roads?*

- e) *This intersection is difficult to navigate and requires squaring up the intersection on to Sea Lake Swan Hill Road.*
 - f) *The intersection at McDonalds is both a hazardous trip for vehicles and pedestrians to cross. While I understand VicRoads have undertaken visibility improvements for traffic at the intersection by pushing parking bays away from the intersection. We need a plan and commitment to increase safety at the intersection for vehicle and pedestrians. This could likely only be achieved with traffic lights.*
3. *Melbourne City pedestrian crossings are automated and assist pedestrians crossing the road in sync with traffic flows.*

I often experience and witness other pedestrian crossing users, miss pushing the pedestrian crossing button by a few seconds resulting in them not being able to legally cross. This often means they illegally cross because the green pedestrian light isn't flashing, or they wait a whole traffic cycle to cross.

Automated pedestrian crossings would be a welcome benefit to this intersection. If it's good enough for Melbourne it's good enough for us.

66/19

MOVED Cr Jeffery

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**

Council writes to Regional Roads Victoria, with copies to the Minister & Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and our Local State MP seeking:

1. **An urgent assessment of the following intersections and request that a response on the feasibility and funding commitment for traffic improvements be presented;**
 - a. **Roundabout for Murlong and McCallum Streets, Swan Hill**
 - b. **Extending the existing nature strip island south between Werril & Pental Island Road, splitting the North & South lanes between Werril Street, Pental Island Road and Murray Valley Highway, Swan Hill**
 - c. **That any assessment at the intersection be done during a school**

term and focus on the peak congestion times where schoolchildren school buses, parents and workers are travelling to and from their destinations.

- 2. An assessment, report and meeting with their representatives to discuss the following roads and intersections:**
 - a. Murray Valley Highway – From Boundary Bend to Robinvale**
 - b. Robinvale – Sea Lake Road from Manangatang to Robinvale**
 - c. Hattah – Robinvale Road from Hattah through Wemen to Robinvale.**
 - d. Haysdale – Kooloonong Road and Murray Valley Highway, Haysdale.**
 - e. Intersections of Waitchie Road and Sea Lake – Swan Hill Road**
 - f. McDonalds intersection – Corners of Gray & Campbell Streets, Swan Hill**

- 3. The CBD traffic lights at the intersection of McCallum Street and Campbell Streets, Swan Hill be:**
 - a. upgraded to enable automated pedestrian phases between 7am and 7pm,**
 - b. investigated for extending the length of time required for pedestrians to cross the intersections North to South along Campbell Street, with the purpose of allowing longer time for elderly and less able-bodied citizens sufficient time to cross in one go.**

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

D.19.3 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OVER THE RAILWAY LINE FROM CURLEWIS STREET TO NARETHA STREET, SWAN HILL

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**

Council writes to V/Line, with copies to the Minister and Shadow Minister for Transport Infrastructure, our Local State MP requesting a review and action on a pedestrian crossing over the railway line from Curlewis Street to Naretha Street, Swan Hill, also known as Federal Square.

Preamble

I have recently been informed by our CEO that Council have received a quote from V/Line with an estimated cost of \$250,000 to establish a pedestrian crossing over the railway line at Naretha Street. This is an astronomical cost for a railway line that would be lucky to have five trains a year cross, at a speed of less than 20 km/h.

Federal Square is a well-populated area that is segregated from the CBD by a railway line. The only possible way for parents with children, elderly residents and those less able to travel in to the CBD other than by car, is to walk on the road with or against traffic.

67/19

MOVED Cr Jeffery

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**

Council writes to V/Line, with copies to the Minister and Shadow Minister for Transport Infrastructure, our Local State MP requesting a review and action on a pedestrian crossing over the railway line from Curlewis Street to Naretha Street, Swan Hill, also known as Federal Square.

SECONDED Cr Moar

The Motion was put and CARRIED

D.19.4 RAILWAY CROSSING ON WOORINEN ROAD BETWEEN LAKE AND BULGA ROADS

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**

Council inspect the railway crossing on Woorinen Road between Lake and Bulga Roads assessing:

- 1. The appropriateness of a 100km/h speed limit through the crossing.**
- 2. Safety measures that can be implemented to improve safety for vehicles approaching the railway crossing.**

Preamble

This intersection would be one of a very few left in our municipality and certainly Victoria that allows 100km/h traffic through an S bend, over a railway crossing with no signaling or boom gates. Just give way sign, railway crossing signs. Locals know the intersection is ahead and so slow down. For the unfamiliar or impeded drivers, this intersection poses many risks and should be reviewed.

68/19

MOVED Cr Jeffery

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**

Council inspect the railway crossing on Woorinen Road between Lake and Bulga Roads assessing:

- 1. The appropriateness of a 100km/h speed limit through the crossing.**
- 2. Safety measures that can be implemented to improve safety for vehicles approaching the railway crossing.**

SECONDED Cr Moar

The Motion was put and CARRIED

D.19.5 REMOVAL OF BRIDGE - MCCALLUM STREET

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**
Council writes to Regional Roads Victoria and Goulburn Murray Water requesting the removal of the McCallum Street, Swan Hill bridge over the former No. 9 Channel.

Preamble

Since GMW decommissioned the No 9 Channel, the bridge on McCallum Street has been left in limbo with no direction on the future of the bridge. The bridge, having served its purpose, should be removed.

69/19

MOVED Cr Jeffery

Having given due notice, **Councillor Chris Jeffery MOVED that:**
Council writes to Regional Roads Victoria and Goulburn Murray Water requesting the removal of the McCallum Street, Swan Hill bridge over the former No. 9 Channel and the associated approaches.

SECONDED Cr Moar

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION E – URGENT ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN AGENDA

70/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council write a letter of congratulations to the Federal Member Anne Webster and the coalition on their recent success in the election.

SECONDED Cr Johnson

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION F – TO CONSIDER & ORDER ON COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cr Chris Jeffery

IDAHOBIT - (International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia)
ANZAC Day Dawn Service

Cr Jade Benham

ANZAC Day – Dawn Service and Full Service
Lunch with Ali Cupper to discuss regional advocacy
Discussion with Fijian Ag-workers in Fiji
Meeting with Callum Doody (Robinvale Medical Centre)

Cr Bill Moar

Leisure Centre Meeting
Agribusiness Committee
Organics Forum - Mildura

Cr Nicole McKay

Manangatang Improvement Group
Nyah District Action Group
Water Forum
IDAHOBIT - (International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia)

Cr Lea Johnson

CEO Performance Review
Boys in the Band Performance
Coffee with a Councillor session

Cr Les McPhee

RCV Forum – Melbourne
CEO Performance Review
Ultima Progress Association
Meeting with BPAC on bridge update
ANZAC Dawn Service

ANZAC service in Lake Boga
CEO Performance review
Makayla Rust, farewell morning tea - *Cr McPhee acknowledged all the work and help that Makayla Rust did over the years for Councillors both past and present and assisting the Mayor of the day, which was greatly appreciated by all.*
Swan Hill Council Budget Presentation in Swan Hill
MAV State Council - Melbourne

Cr Ann Young

Anzac Day Dawn Service – Swan Hill
Anzac Day Service - Piangil
Drag Club Meeting
Guardian – talk about budget
Boys in Band event Town Hall
Open Bowls Swan Hill Bowling Club
Dinner at night
Things with strings – Lake Boga
Budget Information Session - Robinvale
Meeting with a ratepayer - concerns
Budget Information Session
Biggest Morning Tea – Cancer fundraiser
Pre-Election Forum – Healthy Rivers
Meeting Rex Prabhu – Medical Officer at Hospital re accommodation issues
Guardian Election Forum – Candidates Speeches
Swan Hill District Hospital Master Plan
Education and Skills Forum
Central Murray Regional Transport Forum
Assistance with training Costs – 45 – 72 YO
Rec Veh F R (Rotary) – Muster Welcoming Address
IDAHOBIT Day Address
Coffee with a Councillor

SECTION G – IN CAMERA ITEMS

71/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That Council close the meeting to the public on the grounds that the report(s) include may prejudice the Council or any person and contractual matters at 7.22pm.

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

**B.19.51 IN CAMERA CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT
B.19.52 IN CAMERA CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

72/19 Motion

MOVED Cr McPhee

That the meeting move out of closed session at 7.30pm.

SECONDED Cr Jeffery

The Motion was put and CARRIED

SECTION H – DECISIONS MADE IN CAMERA

B.19.51 SWAN HILL LEISURE CENTRE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Recommendations

That Council

- 1. Appoint Kendall Atkinson as a member of the Swan Hill Leisure Centre Committee of Management.**
- 2. Advise Kendall Atkinson of his appointment to the Committee of Management.**
- 3. Thank both Claire Billing and Graham Lewis for their expressions of interest in the role.**

73/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council

- 1. Appoint Kendall Atkinson as a member of the Swan Hill Leisure Centre Committee of Management.**
- 2. Advise Kendall Atkinson of his appointment to the Committee of Management.**
- 3. Thank both Claire Billing and Graham Lewis for their expressions of interest in the role.**

SECONDED Cr McKay

The Motion was put and CARRIED

B.19.52 PROPOSAL TO SELL SURPLUS COUNCIL LAND IN BOUNDARY BEND

Recommendations

That Council :-

- 1. Determine the land – 9 William Street and the rear portion of 8885 Murray Valley Highway (as shown on the attached plan) Boundary Bend to be surplus to requirements and commences the process of disposing the land in accordance with the Local Government Act.**
- 2. Advertises its intention to sell the land by Private Treaty and calls for submissions in accordance with S223 of the Local Government Act.**
- 3. Receives, hears and considers any submissions at the June 2019 Ordinary Council meeting.**
- 4. If no submissions are received authorise officers to negotiate the sale of the land to Mr Westmore or his nominee.**

74/19 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council :-

- 1. Determine the land – 9 William Street and the rear portion of 8885 Murray Valley Highway (as shown on the attached plan) Boundary Bend to be surplus to requirements and commences the process of disposing the land in accordance with the Local Government Act.**
- 2. Advertises its intention to sell the land by Private Treaty and calls for submissions in accordance with S223 of the Local Government Act.**
- 3. Receives, hears and considers any submissions at the June 2019 Ordinary Council meeting.**
- 4. If no submissions are received authorise officers to negotiate the sale of the land to Mr Westmore or his nominee.**

SECONDED Cr Benham

The Motion was put and CARRIED

There being no further business the Mayor, Councillor Ann Young closed the meeting at 7.30pm.