

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 17TH APRIL 2018 AT 6.00PM AT THE TOWN HALL IN AVOCA

Present: **Mayor:** Cr. David Clark
 Councillors: Ron Eason, Robert Vance, Tanya Kehoe, Michael O'Connor

In Attendance: **Chief Executive Officer**– Jim Nolan
 Director Asset and Development Services – Douglas Gowans
 Director Corporate and Community Services – Evan King
 Minute Taker – Jane Bowker

Apologies: Nil

Mayor Cr. David Clark welcomed the gallery and press, read the opening prayer and indigenous acknowledgement.

MINUTES:

CRS VANCE / KEHOE

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on March 20th, 2018 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Public Question Time and Submissions on Agenda Items:

Margaret Pilgrim

Will the Shire be preparing a submission to the AEC around federal electoral boundaries and the moving of the northern boundary to the Mallee electorate? If so, will Council be seeking community input?

Jim Nolan, Chief Executive Officer responded that at a previous Council meeting Council considered a report on the federal election boundary review. It was resolved that in the event that the draft proposal for electoral boundaries redistribution from the AEC determines that Pyrenees Shire will be split, then Council will make a submission. Any member of the community can make a submission on the draft proposal. Council hasn't resolved to go out for public comment to inform its submission however will be happy to receive any input from the community if a submission is to undertaken.

Johann Westin

The Pyrenees Shire Council sponsored the Pyrenees Unearthed Wine and Food Festival. There are quite a few events coming up this weekend and was disappointed when a recent brochure delivered only stipulated one event. As Council has put money into sponsoring events shouldn't the brochure have include more events that are occurring in the Shire this weekend in particular around Avoca as there are 4 or 5 events?

Jim Nolan, Chief Executive Officer advised that he would take on notice some of the details. Council has provided sponsorship for the Unearthed event as has been done in past years. Council also provides an acquisition to the arts show however not sure of exact amount. Jim noted he was not aware of any other support that is provided and not fully aware of brochure referred to by Jo however he suspects the brochure is alerting people to the Unearthed event.

Jim noted that the brochure doesn't refer to the other events and will take it on notice. Council is very happy to be supportive of the other events through social media and other means and will undertake event promotion over the next couple of days.

Trevor Davey – Silt Force

In a previous meeting Cr O'Connor mentioned that VicRoads was going to re-erect a sign on the Western Highway that was previously taken down. Has there been any progress?

Douglas Gowans, Director Asset and Development Services responded that re-erecting the sign is still to be completed by Council. Douglas has received a verbal commitment from VicRoads that they will support the replacement of the sign on the Ballarat side of the Shire travelling in a westerly direction.

Trevor Davey enquired about the rusted car bodies laying on properties around the Shire. Is Council able to do anything about these?

Douglas Gowans, Director Asset and Development Services responded that Council is aware that rusted car bodies on properties create amenity issues along with environmental issues over time. Currently, Council's Local Law doesn't provide the mechanisms in terms of the ability to enforce people to take action to remove rusted car bodies. Council is currently reviewing the Local Law specifically around the amenity of car bodies and being able to take enforcement action. It is anticipated the reviewed Local Law will be in place in the coming months.

Trevor Davey in the capacity of the owner of Silt Force, took the opportunity to make a \$300 donation to the Pyrenees Shire to be put towards rejuvenating the Rotary signs around the Shire. In addition for information, Silt Force has contributed to the community over the last 4 years spending \$109,600 in the Pyrenees Shire.

Mayor Cr David Clark responded that it is a very generous gesture appreciated by Council and the Rotary Club.

ITEMS FOR NOTING	4
ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – PLANNING	4
1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT	4
ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	12
2. WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRES – E-WASTE	12
CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	14
3. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS – MARCH 2018	14
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	18
4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BILL	18
5. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS	21
6. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS	23
ITEMS FOR DECISION	25
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM	25
7. AVOCA INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY CENTRE proposed LEASE	25
ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	29
8. SUBMISSION FOR FAST TRACKED GOVERNMENT LAND SERVICES – THREE BEAUFORT SITES	29
9. PA2679/17 - USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND ANIMAL KEEPING (20 GREYHOUNDS)	32
CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	51
10. APPOINTMENTS TO S.86 COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT	51
11. PROPOSED BUDGETS 2018/19	52
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	55
12. CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP	55
13. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS	57
CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	59
14. CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	59
16. RE-OPENING OF MEETING TO PUBLIC	59
17. CLOSE OF MEETING	59

ITEMS FOR NOTING

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – PLANNING

1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Shannon Meadows – Manager Planning and Development

File No: 66/02/02 – 08/02/02 – 50/24/02 – 46/02/02

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on activities, project and compliance issues in Regulatory Services during March 2018. This report includes four parts:

- Part A: Planning
- Part B: Building
- Part C: Environmental Health
- Part D: Local Laws

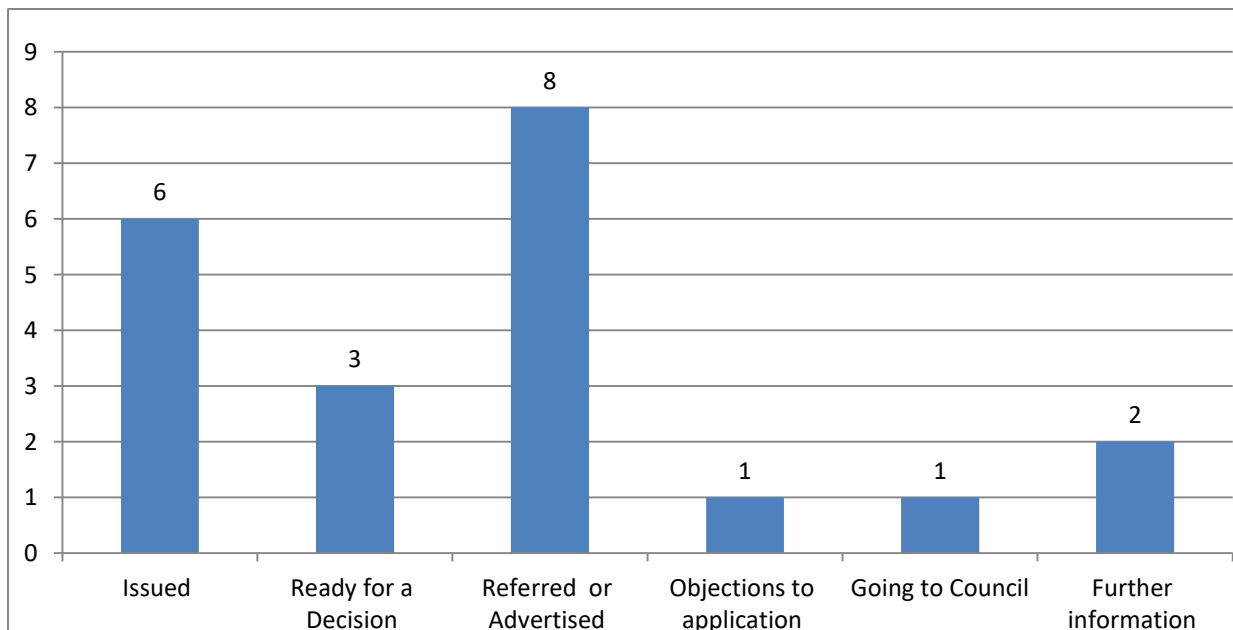
PART A: PLANNING

The planning activity statistics for February and March 2018 are summarized in the table below:

Month	Applications received	Applications determined
February 2018	2	10
March 2018	10	6

The following chart identifies the total number and phase of permit applications within Council's planning system including applications received in March 2018 and where in the planning system each application sits:

STATUS OF PLANNING PERMITS MARCH 2018



KEY PROJECTS

During March, Council achieved two important outcomes regarding long-running planning compliance matters.

The first matter is a conviction obtained in the Magistrates Court against a landowner in Beaufort for sustained breaches of conditions in a planning permit and requirements of the Planning and Environment Act, and for breaching a VCAT Enforcement Order. Along with a conviction, the landowner was fined \$7500 by the Court and ordered to pay Council's legal costs, which exceed \$10,000.

The second matter relates to an application made by Council for an Enforcement Order against a landowner on a separate property in Beaufort who has committed significant breaches of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme and refused to abide by conditions contained in a Planning Infringement Notice.

VCAT issued an Enforcement Order requiring the landowner to cease the illegal land use and submit technical reports to Council to ensure the land, which has been significantly modified, is safe. Council has made application for a costs order, which will be determined by VCAT in May.

These two compliance matters have consumed Council's resources for an extended period of time, and the outcomes reflect both the extent and gravity of each breach, and also the detailed nature of the investigations undertaken by the Planning team.

STATUTORY PLANNING

Council has recently issued a Planning Permit for a telecommunications facility (monopole tower) Greenhill Creek Road, Amphitheatre, 1.5km east of the town centre. The project was exempt from public notice requirements and third-party appeal rights under the Planning Scheme because it was funded through the Federal Government Black Spot Program.

STRATEGIC ISSUES

Council has been working with DELWP to facilitate community involvement and awareness of a proposal by the Department of Treasury and Finance to rezone three sites of State-owned land considered to be surplus to Government requirements. This matter is addressed in a separate report in this Council agenda.

It is important to note that Council is not the Planning Authority for this process, and is not responsible for determining whether the land is rezoned. Council's Planning team has been consulted and provided technical advice on a number of matters, and Council has been given formal notice of the process and rezonings. A detailed submission is to be lodged by Council; community members and organisations with an interest in these rezonings are strongly encouraged to make separate and direct submissions.

Planning staff are also finalising draft Framework Plans for six towns as part of the Pyrenees Futures project. These plans will be placed on public exhibition in coming months.

PLANNING SUMMARY

1. Council has successfully prosecuted a long-running Planning breach in the Magistrates Court, and has separately obtained a VCAT Enforcement Order for breaches of the Planning Scheme.

2. Council continues to receive increasingly complex planning permit applications. Despite this, Council continues to perform above the state regional local government average for permit application turn-around times.
3. Council is working with DELWP to ensure community views are heard in relation to a government process to rezone three government-owned sites in Beaufort. A draft submission to this process is being tabled for consideration at tonight’s meeting.

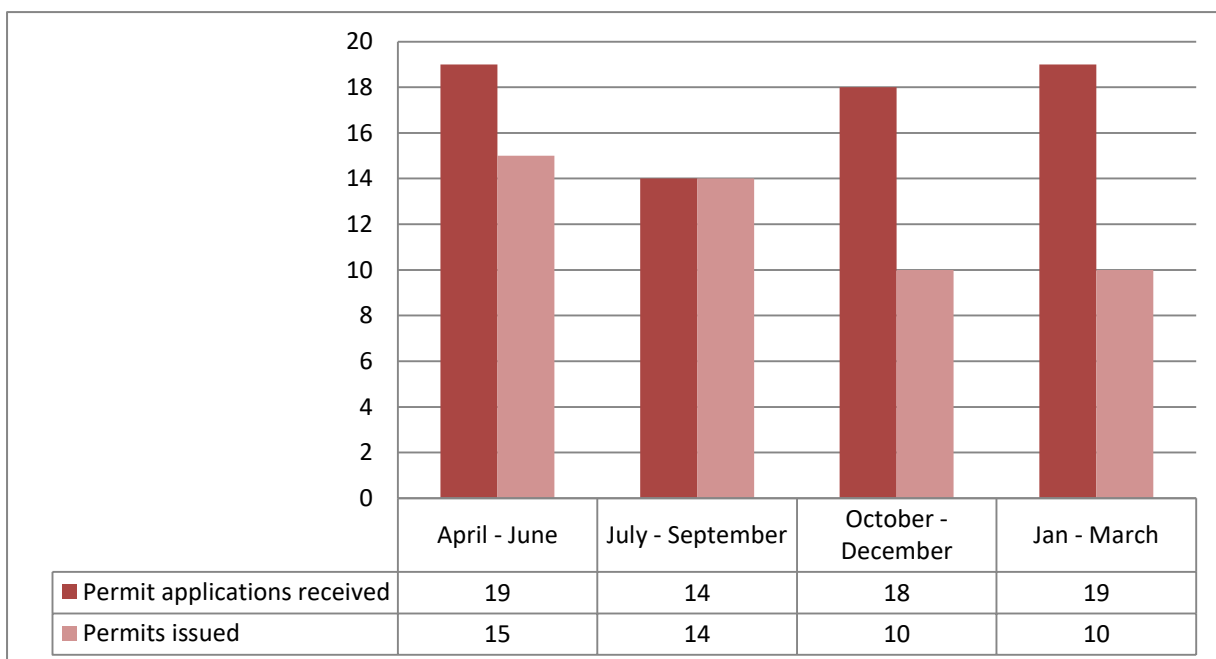
PART B: BUILDING

ACTIVITY

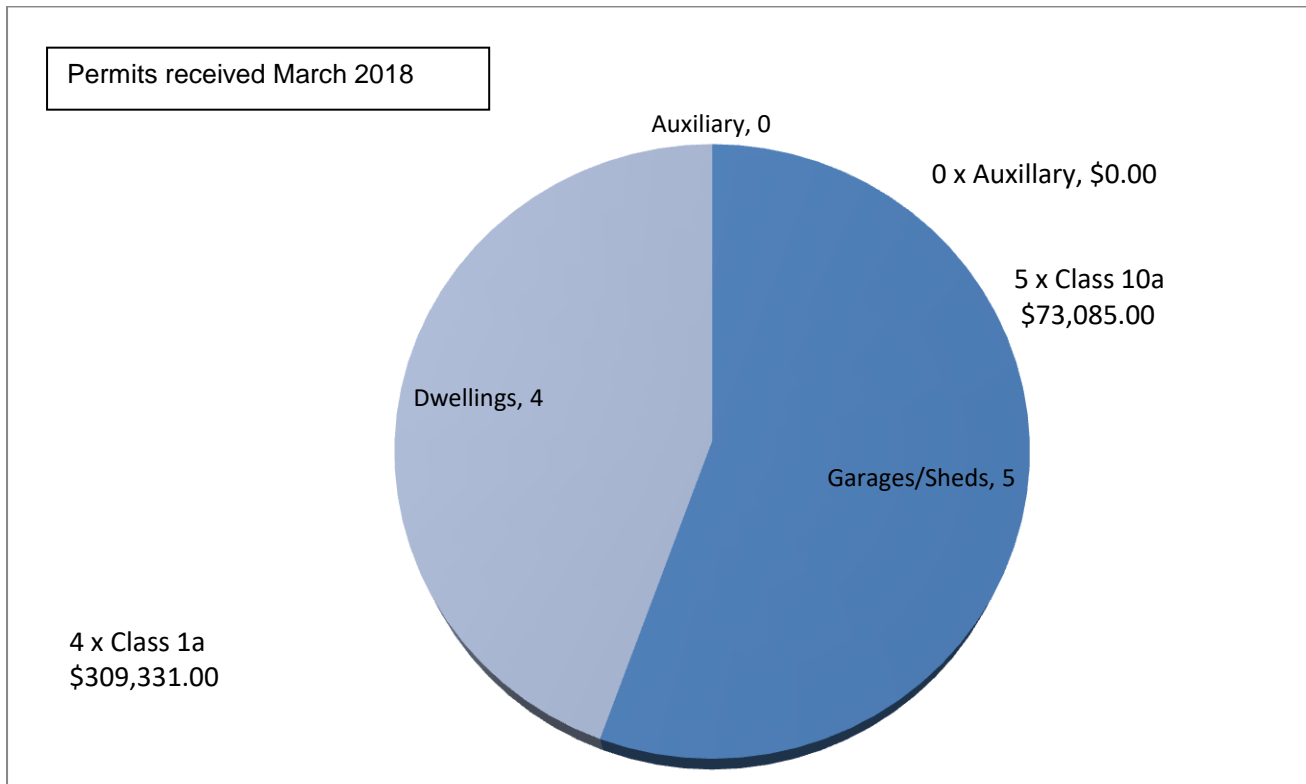
The building activity statistics as at 31 March 2018 are summarised in the table below:

CATEGORY	NUMBER	COMMENT
Permits issued by Council	1	Total value \$55,000.00
Permits issued by private Building Surveyor	7	Total value \$579,712.00
New applications made to Council	9	Total value \$382,416.00
In process	34	These applications (inclusive of new March applications) are pending receipt of further information requested from the applicants to achieve a NCC compliant application for full assessment by the Municipal Building Surveyor.

The following graph represents monthly building activity (applications received by and issued by Council) over the last 12 months.



A more in depth look at the past month's issued/received permit can be seen below.



KEY PROJECTS & COMPLIANCE

Court proceedings continue in relation to non-compliance with Notices and Orders issued by Council.

New Building Regulations 2018 are due to come into force on 2 June 2018, replacing the Building Interim Regulations 2017.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- *Building Act 1993*
- Building Interim Regulations 2017

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Municipal Building Surveyor must have regard to any relevant guidelines under the *Building Act 1993* or subordinate regulations. The building services department must ensure that a responsive service is provided that meets the demand of the building industry within the municipality.

BUILDING SUMMARY

1. In March, 2018 Council received nine applications and issued one permit.

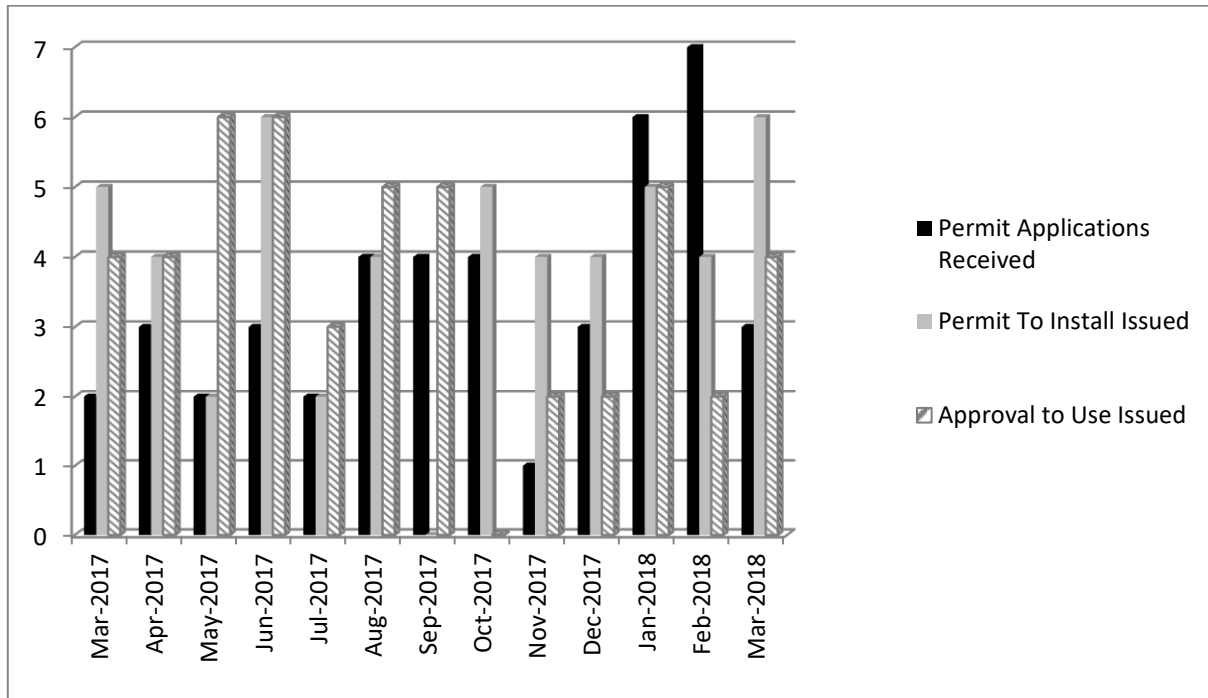
PART C: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ACTIVITY: WASTEWATER

Wastewater activity statistics for March 2018 are summarised in the tables below:

Period	Applications to Install New or Alter Existing Septic Tanks Received	Permits to Install Issued	Approval to Use Issued	Fees Paid
1st - 31st March 2018	3	6	4	\$2,660

The following graph displays the monthly wastewater activity (applications received, permits to install and approval to use issued) over the last 12 months (March 2017 to March 2018).



The following table shows inspection data for Wastewater related Inspections conducted by the Environmental Health Officer in March 2018.

Period	Septic Tank Inspections	Domestic Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) Inspections
1st - 31st March 2018	9	0

Domestic Wastewater Service Agent's Reports received (below).

Period	Service Reports Received
1st - 31st March 2018	10

All of the Domestic Wastewater Service Agent's reports received in March were in relation to service conducted in February 2018.

ACTIVITY: FOOD & HEALTH PREMISES

Food Act 1984 and Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 Premises activity statistics for March 2018 are summarised in the table below.

Period	New Premises Registered /Transferred	Inspections/ Assessments Conducted	Complaints Received about Registered Premises	Food Recalls	Fees Paid
1st – 31st March 2018	4	7	1	0	\$450

Mobile and Temporary Food Premises in the Shire (Streatrader)

At 31st March 2018, Pyrenees Shire had 35 premises registered, 67 low risk notifications and 166 current Statements of Trade (SOT).

ACTIVITY: IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisation sessions were run in March at Beaufort Early Childhood Centre, Avoca Aged Care Hostel and Beaufort Secondary School. Opportunistic immunisation services were performed by the Shire’s Maternal Child Health Nurse (MCHN) throughout the month. The Immunisation activity statistics for March 2018 are summarised below.

Session Type	Number of Clients & Vaccines	2 Month -4 Yr Old	Secondary School	Adult
MCHN Opportunistic	Number of Clients	11	0	0
	Number of Vaccines	22	0	0
Beaufort Session	Number of Clients	2	0	0
	Number of Vaccines	4	0	0
Avoca Session	Number of Clients	1	0	0
	Number of Vaccines	2	0	0
Beaufort Secondary School	Number of Clients	0	25	0
	Number of Vaccines	0	50	0

KEY PROJECTS

The implementation of the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan continues with a review of existing records and the setup of electronic records on our Health software for all properties within declared potable water catchment areas. Letters and surveys have been sent out to 26 High and Medium Risk Properties in the Landsborough and Evansford areas that require inspection under the DWMP, with inspections to commence in April 2018.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Compliance action was taken on two Food and Accommodation Premises that failed to renew their registration for 2018 but continued to trade.

Other minor issues are being monitored with registered food premises with current non-compliance issues in regard to not keeping regular temperature records, ongoing cleaning issues and not having an accredited Food Safety Supervisor.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2015-2018
- Food Act 1984
- Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008
- Environment Protection Act 1970
- Code of Practice for Septic Tanks

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Environmental Health Officer (EHO) must work with regard to various legislative requirements with respect to Food Safety (*Food Act 1984*), Public Health (*Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008*, *Environment Protection Act 1970*) and Wastewater (*Environment Protection Act 1970*, *Domestic Wastewater Management Plan*, *Code of Practice for Septic Tanks*).

It is necessary for the EHO to adapt to any changes in regulations whilst still providing a service that both meets the demands of residents within the municipality and complies with legislation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SUMMARY

1. Council initiated compliance action against two Food and Accommodation Premises for trading without current registration.
2. Council responded to a complaint that was received about a registered Food Premise; action has been taken to ensure the premise complies with food safety requirements.
3. Council received two other complaints from residents during March, one relating to nuisance complaint about smoke/odour from a neighbouring property, and another about a possible failing septic system on a property.

PART D: LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL

KEY PROJECTS

Council's Local Law Review project is progressing, with briefing material and instructions provided to Council's legal team.

- A number of business improvement projects are underway to strengthen local law administration.
- Fees for Local Law Permits are being reviewed, with likely increases in the 2018-19 budget across all application types.
- Council is partnering with the RSPCA on a range of complex animal keeping matters.

STATISTICS

As of 31 March 2018:

	March 2018
Cats impounded (month)	2
Dogs impounded (month)	1
Stock impounded (month)	2
Domestic animal registrations	625 cats 2546 dogs
Infringements issued (month)	1
Prosecutions	0

LOCAL LAW REVIEW PROJECT

Council's Local Law team has received a draft of its new General Local Law and Operating Procedure from Beck Legal. The General Law has been drafted following an extensive review of the existing Laws by an internal project team, and following engagement with Councillors and Council employees.

Once the draft General Local Law has been reviewed and refined, Council will commence a period of community consultation; this will include a one-month informal consultation period, and then a formal notification process under section 223 of the Local Government Act.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Council's Ranger has visited a dog breeding property in Crowlands in conjunction with the RSPCA. It is anticipated that the property will seek registration as a Domestic Animal Business.

OTHER PROJECTS

Council's annual animal registration renewal process has been rolled-out; registrations are due by 10 April 2018.

New administrative processes are currently being developed to support the implementation of the General Local Law in late 2018. This process includes the development of new permit application forms and checklists; fact sheets that identify application requirements for all permit matters; internal referrals; standard conditions; and a new Fee Schedule for all permit types.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- *Domestic Animals Act 1994*
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2012-2016
- Council Local Laws No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4

LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL SUMMARY

1. The review of Council's Local Laws is progressing, with a new (draft) General Local Law and Operating Procedure currently under review by an internal project team.
2. New internal processes are being developed to strengthen Council's administration of its Local Laws.
3. Council continues to investigate a number of complex compliance matters across the Shire relating to public safety, roadside signage and unregistered domestic animals, and is cooperating with RSPCA on various issues.

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

2. WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRES – E-WASTE

Philip Diprose. Project Management Officer

File No: 68/10/10

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the Victorian Government's banning of E-Waste to landfill.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, the Victorian Government committed to reduce landfill by redirecting E-Waste to resource recovery centres so hazardous materials can be safely collected and valuable materials can be removed for reuse in other products. Acknowledging the risks and opportunities associated with E-Waste, the Victorian Government has committed to banning E-Waste from landfills in Victoria with the aim to improve outcomes for E-Waste recovery and recycling and to reduce the risk of negative impacts on the environment.

E-Waste is described as anything that is powered from a power cord or battery that has reached the end of its useful life. E-Waste is growing three times faster than municipal waste and is putting pressure on waste management facilities, infrastructure and the environment.

E-Waste will no longer be disposed of through landfills after the 1st July 2018.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Sustainability Victoria (SV) recently appointed consultants to undertake a detailed assessment of Victoria's current E-Waste collection and storage sites. The assessment methodology identified primary, secondary and tertiary sites within our region and their onsite infrastructure to comply with the new regulatory requirements.

If the infrastructure assessment is approved by the Minister it will allow funding for primary and secondary sites for the implementation of infrastructure solutions to handle the E-Waste stream. This is once off funding for infrastructure and will not continue to offset the cost of separating and storing the E-Waste material nor the transportation of this material to the end processor.

The Beaufort and Avoca Transfer Stations were identified for 'secondary' status and are included in the first round funding available through Sustainability Victoria. The Snake Valley Transfer Station was designated as 'tertiary' but in consultation with SV's consultant, this site will be included in the first round funding that is available. The Landsborough Transfer Station was be classified as 'tertiary' and Council staff will endeavour to secure funding for this site during the second round of funding.

The funding available for secondary sites will be between \$57,804 and \$94,050 and will be to install appropriate shedding to store the E-Waste material. It can also be used in part to provide services to the site such as electricity. Funding for the tertiary site is between \$12,590 and \$25,095.

Ongoing consultation with the Regional Waste & Resource Recovery Groups and Sustainability Victoria will determine the storage standards and quantities. Transportation from the smaller transfer stations to Avoca and Beaufort collection hubs, including the safe handling methods of the E-Waste either through truck based fork lifts or site based fork lifts, will need to be determined.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 5 - Development and Environment. We will undertake forward planning, and facilitate growth in our local economy while protecting key natural and built environmental values.

5.5 - Protect our environment by providing efficient and effective waste management.

ATTACHMENTS

2.1 Victorian E-Waste Infrastructure Network Assessment Report – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Early indications show that banning E-Waste to landfill may result in substantial costs to Council. Figures are unknown at this stage however costs associated with the following will need to be taken into consideration:-

- updating waste management plans;
- renegotiating and entering into new contracts;
- upgrading waste infrastructure and its ongoing maintenance;
- increasing staff at the transfer stations and collection points;
- additional safe transportation of the E-Waste material from collection points to the processor; and preparing council waste information and education materials for the communities.

CONCLUSION

Council needs to be prepared to receive E-waste at our current facilities and will continue to work with the relevant stakeholders to enable the changes to the community's waste streams.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note this report

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

3. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS – MARCH 2018

Evan King – Director Corporate and Community Services

File No: 16/08/04

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on our Customer Action Request System (CARS) for the month of March 2018.

BACKGROUND

Council has operated an electronic Customer Action Service Request system (CARS) for a number of years enabling residents to lodge service requests. Requests can be lodged in person, via telephone, via Council's website or by using a smartphone "Snap Send Solve" application.

Since December 2012, CARS has been promoted on a regular basis in Council's Public Notices published in the Pyrenees Advocate.

Predominantly, service requests have been for maintenance issues – potholes, road condition, drainage, signage, slashing and overhanging branches. Council receives between 400 and 700 service requests per annum.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

As at the 31st March 2018 the status of CARS was as follows:

- 6% decrease in 2016 Outstanding CARS
- 13% decrease in 2017 Outstanding CARS
- 31% increase in 2018 Outstanding CARS
- 11% decrease on total CARS outstanding
- Of the 146 outstanding CARS 51 relate to natural disasters
- For the month of March 46 CARS were closed

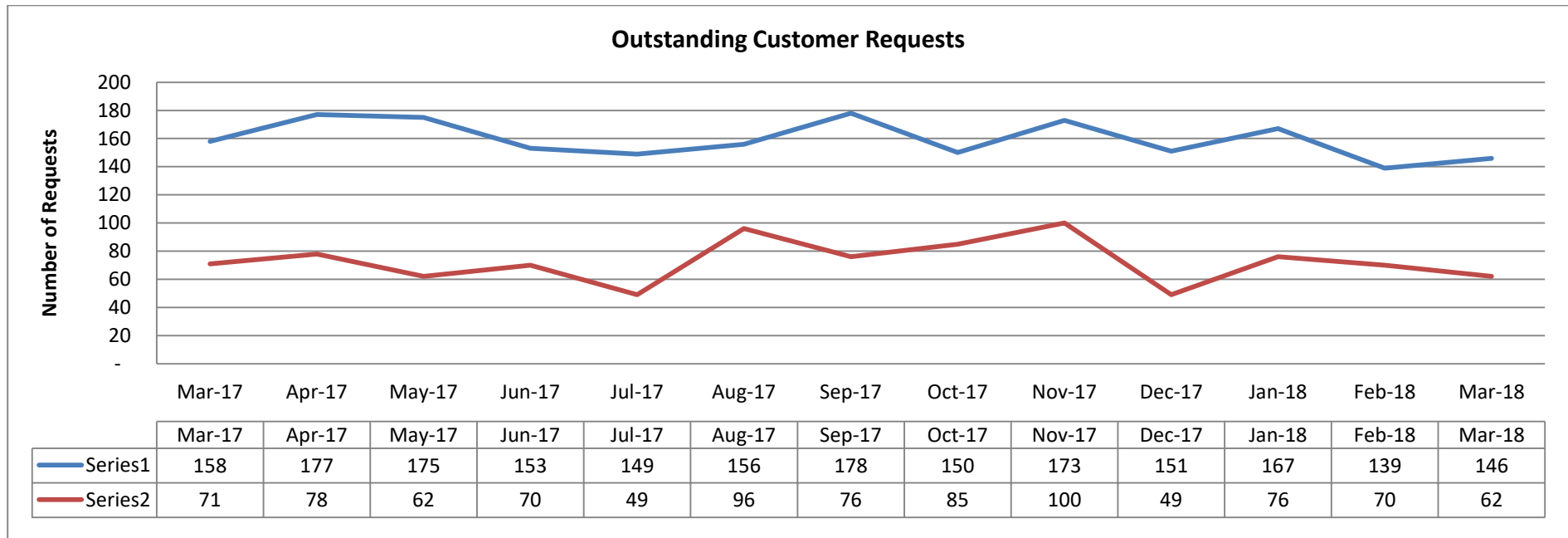
A CARS working group has been set up to undertake a complete review of the CARS system. Three meetings have been held with a number of recommendations in the process of being implemented.

Additional services have been added to the CARS system including pools, local laws, building maintenance and compliance.

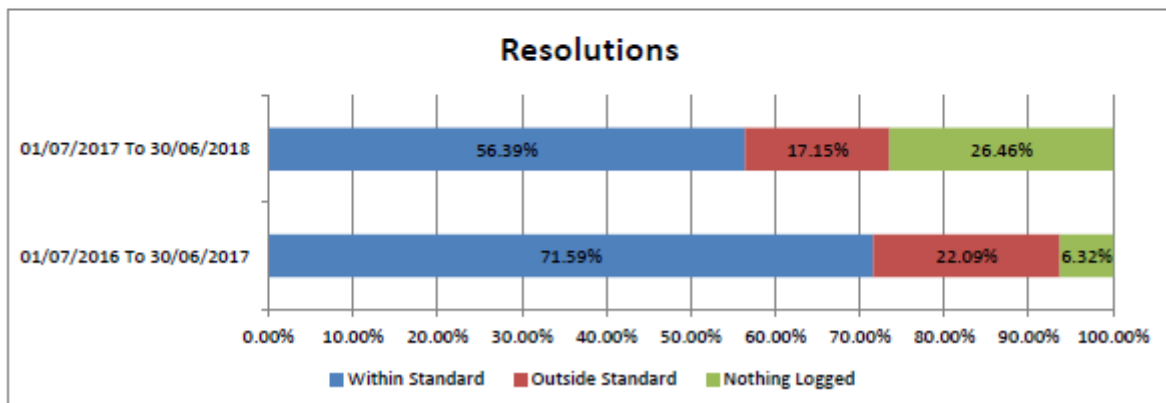
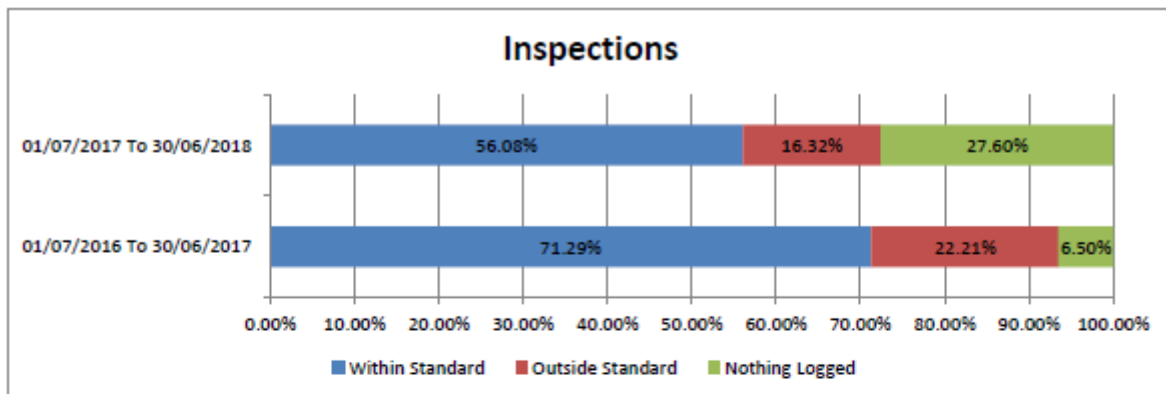
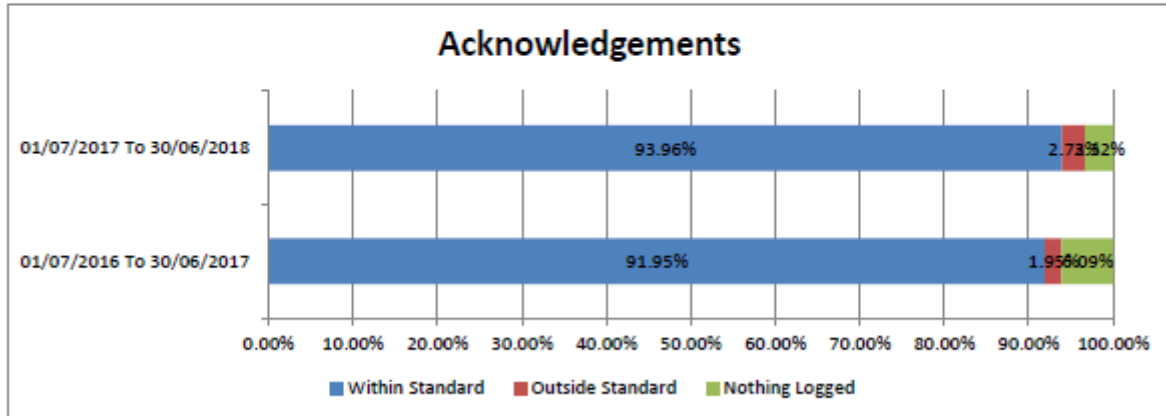
To enable better analysis of outstanding CARS and the ability to identify CARS related to natural disaster a report has been created that categorises CARS by request type.



Total Outstanding Cars Requests															
Year	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	% Change
2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2016	114	98	86	78	64	59	57	54	53	53	38	38	31	29	-6%
2017	44	60	91	97	89	90	99	124	97	120	113	90	56	49	-13%
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	52	68	31%
Total	158	158	177	175	153	149	156	178	150	173	151	167	139	146	5%
Total Received	56	71	78	62	70	49	96	76	85	100	49	76	70	62	-11%



	Within Standard	Outside Standard	Nothing Logged	
Acknowledgement:				
01/07/2016 To 30/06/2017	91.95%	1.95%	6.09%	
01/07/2017 To 30/06/2018	93.96%	2.72%	3.32%	
Inspection:				
01/07/2016 To 30/06/2017	71.29%	22.21%	6.50%	
01/07/2017 To 30/06/2018	56.08%	16.32%	27.60%	
Resolution:				
01/07/2016 To 30/06/2017	71.59%	22.09%	6.32%	
01/07/2017 To 30/06/2018	56.39%	17.15%	26.46%	



Open Requests – Type	
Roads	15
Streetlights	2
Drainage	7
Footpaths/K&C/PL(VR)	2
Roadside Vegetation	10
Planning	1
Building Maintenance	23
Parks & Reserves	2
Local Laws	8
Building Compliance	2
Road Maintenance	13
Roads – Unsealed	1
Road Maintenance – Unsealed	8
Natural Disasters	51
Dogs	1
Total	146

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Leadership

1.1 - Communicate the Council's decisions, policies and activities and the reasons behind them, in a form relevant to ratepayer needs and expectations in accordance to Council's communication strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

3.1 CARS Analysis – March 2018

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report

CONCLUSION

There has been continued improvement demonstrated in resolution, inspection and acknowledgement of customer requests. Further focus and effort is required to reduce the level of outstanding requests.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the Customer Action Request update for March 2018

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BILL

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

File No: 28/06/08

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about a Bill before Parliament that, when passed will introduce changes for Councils in respect of emergency management.

BACKGROUND

The Emergency Management Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 has been developed following an extensive consultation and reform program over several years lead by Emergency Management Victoria (EMV).

The State Government's Emergency Management Reform White Paper (PDF - 837KB) were informed by the *Final Report of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission*, the *Final Report of the Review of the 2010-11 Flood Warnings and Response*, submissions on the Towards a More Disaster Resilience and Safer Victoria Green Paper and the Fire Services Reform Action Plan.

This activity has been done in parallel to the Local Government Victoria (LGV) Councils and Emergencies project which has sought to engage with local government and enhance the capacity of Local Government in Emergency management. Pyrenees Shire Council made a submission into the Directions Paper by LGV which formed part of the project process which can be viewed on the Department website at:

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/councils-and-emergencies-consultation>

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has represented the local government sector and has been very active in ensuring an outcome for local government that is sustainable and in the best interests of communities.

Council's emergency management team, and in particular our EM Coordinator David Draffin has been proactive with input into the process.

This Bill substantially alters the emergency management landscape in Victoria by creating a quite clearly defined State-Region-Municipal structure that guides both planning and governance. There is an explicit focus on ensuring that plans are aligned between the three tiers, that plans address the key area of mitigation, response and recovery, and that emergency planning is both collaborative and community focused.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The following is a summary of key changes that has been prepared by local government officers working collaboratively with government.

The legislation implements the 'all communities – all emergencies' approach to emergency management, and allows for the phased implementation of the new emergency management planning arrangements, commencing at State level and filtering down through Region to Municipal level over the next eighteen months to ensure consistency across the planning process.

The key implications for Council are:

1. There is a slight change in roles:

- Council must nominate a chairperson for the MEMPC. The chair is to be the CEO or a staff member appointed by the CEO. This is intended to promote chairing of the MEMPC at a senior level.
- The composition of the MEMPC is prescribed as a nominated representative from VicPol, VICSES, MFB, CFA, DHHS and Red Cross. The committee is also to invite a community representative and a representative from an agency with a role in emergency recovery.
- The key obligation of the MEMPC is arranging for the preparation of a MEMP for its municipal district.
- There is no requirement for a Councillor to be a member of the MEMPC.
- Council must appoint a Municipal Emergency Management Officer (MEMO). This is a new role that provides a contact point within the municipal council for liaising with other agencies in relation to emergency management activities generally. The MEMO is also responsible for assisting in coordinating emergency management activities internally within the municipal council. This includes activities relating to mitigation, response and recovery.
- Council must appoint a Municipal Recovery Manager – this is now a statutory position.
- The Regional Fire Prevention Committee and Municipal Fire Prevention Committee are no longer required and their planning roles are brought within the MEMPC.
- The tabling of this legislation means that the accompanying issue of an updated Emergency Management Manual Victoria – which contains much more specific detail about council's roles and responsibilities – is anticipated to be available by the middle of 2018.

2. There is a change in emphasis for the planning – a shift from a council-owned plan to a municipal plan

- Section 59 states that it is no longer the role of a municipal council to prepare an emergency management plan for a municipal district. The development and the preparation of the plan is the shared responsibility of the MEMPC.
- Council retains a lead role in facilitating that planning process by establishing a MEMPC for its municipal district.
- There is a strong emphasis on consulting with the community and acknowledging the importance of community emergency management planning.

3. There is a change of emphasis on planning to encompass mitigation, response and recovery and to place an emphasis on community engagement and community emergency management planning

- The MEMPlan is to be an integrated, coordinated and comprehensive approach to emergency planning.
- The Plan must be published on both Council website and Emergency Management Victoria website.

4. There is a change in the governance arrangements of the plan

- The audit of the MEMPlan will no longer be conducted by the VICSES. The MEMPC will prepare and submit a statement of assurance, stating the extent to which the plan complies with the Act.
- The MEMPlan will be submitted to the Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee for endorsement, rather than to Council.

The Bill, which was tabled and debated in the Victorian Parliament in March 2018, will be reintroduced into Parliament during 2018 before becoming legislation. The Bill can be found at the following link:

http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubPDocs.nsf/ee665e366dcb6cb0ca256da400837f6b/c8907db5d350657dca25823a007830c8!OpenDocument

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 3 - Community Connection and Wellbeing. We will engage with communities to provide responsive, efficient services that enhance the quality of life of residents and promote connected, active and resilient communities.

3.3 - Community Development - Supporting communities to build connections, capacity and resilience.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

While the proposed Bill will introduce a number of changes for Councils as outlined above, the impacts have been well considered and LGV is working with the local government sector to assist in continuing to build capacity through a range of tool including officer training and funding.

CONCLUSION

The Emergency Management Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 will introduce a number of changes in how emergencies are managed including for Councils. It will be important for Councils to monitor the progress of the Bill through Parliament, and to continue to work with MAV and LGV to ensure the interests of Councils and communities at a local level are well understood and protected.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the report

5. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Cr David Clark – Ercildoune Ward		
March		
Thu 1 st	Launch of Radio 88	Beaufort
Thu 1 st	VicRoads Consultation, Beaufort Bypass	
Fri 2 nd	MAV Board Meeting	Melbourne
Tue 6 th	CVGA and MASH Program Transfer	Clunes
Thu 8 th	Constituent Meeting Trawalla Hall	Trawalla
Tue 13 th	Councillor Briefing	Moonambel
Tue 13 th	CVGA / MASH Program Transfer	Castlemaine
Wed 14 th	ALGA Board Teleconference	
Thu 15 th	ALGA Board Meeting	Canberra
Sun 18 th	CFA West Region Demonstration	Waubra
Sun 18 th	MAV Technology Conference	Geelong
Mon 19 th	Highlands LLEN Executive Meeting	Ballarat
Tue 20 th	Central Highlands Regional Partnership Briefing	Beaufort
Tue 20 th	Councillor Briefing and Council Meeting	Beaufort
Wed 21 st	Council Budget Presentation	Waubra
Thu 22 nd	Council Budget Presentation	Raglan
Thu 22 nd	VicRoads VREC meeting	
Fri 23 rd	CVGA Board Teleconference, MAN Board Meeting	
Mon 26 th	MAV Audit Committee Meeting	Melbourne
Tue 27 th	Farewell for Pam Burns	Ballarat
Wed 28 th	CHCV Politicians Meeting	Melbourne
Thu 29 th	District School Sports	Ballarat
April		
Sun 1 st	Moonambel Arts and History Event	Monambel
Cr Robert Vance – DeCameron Ward		
March		
Fri 9 th	Executive Committee RCV	Melbourne
Tue 13 th	Councillor Briefing	Moonambel
Fri 16 th	RCV Meeting	Melbourne
Tue 20 th	Councillor Briefing and Council Meeting	Beaufort
Wed 21 st	Council Budget Presentation	Waubra
Thu 22 nd	Council Budget Presentation	Raglan
Fri 23 rd	Crowlands Windfarm	Crowlands
Tue 27 th	Crowlands Windfarm Road Inspection	Crowlands
Tue 27 th	Farewell for Pam Burns	Ballarat
April		
Tue 10 th	Councillor Briefing	Evansford
Wed 11 th & Thu 12 th	RCV - Mayors, Councillors and CEOs Forum	Melbourne

Cr Ron Eason – Avoca Ward		
March		
Tue 13 th	Briefing	Moonambel
Tue 20 th	Op-Shop AGM	Avoca
Tue 20 th	Councillor Briefing and Council Meeting	Beaufort
Wed 21 st	Budget Meeting	Waubra
Thu 22 nd	Budget Meeting	Raglan
Cr Tanya Kehoe - Mount Emu Ward		
March		
Tue 20 th	Council Meeting	Beaufort
Mon 26 th	Snake Valley Progress Meeting	Snake Valley
Tue 27 th	Council Dinner	Ballarat
April		
Sun 1 st	Community Easter Breakfast	Snake Valley
Tue 10 th	Councillor Briefing Session	Evansford
Tue 17 th	Council Meeting	Beaufort

6. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Meeting Information			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing		
Meeting Date	13 th March 2018 commenced at 1.00pm and closed at 6.40pm		
Meeting Location	Moonambel Pavilion		
Presentation	1. Budget Workshop 2. Art Installation Concept for Beaufort 3. Procurement Policy Review		
General Business	4. Bendigo Bank Proposal for Lease of Part of Avoca Resource Centre Building 5. Avoca Rail Precinct Masterplan 6. Reconciliation Action Plan and Woptjobaluk RSA 7. Agenda Review		
Attendees			
Councillors	Mayor David Clark Cr Michael O'Connor Cr Ron Eason Cr Robert Vance		
Apologies	Cr Tanya Kehoe		
Staff	Mr Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer Mr Evan King – Director Corporate and Community Services Mr Douglas Gowans – Director Asset and Development Services		
Visitors			
Conflict of Interest Disclosures			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
N/A			

Meeting Information			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing		
Meeting Date	20 th March 2018 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.50pm		
Meeting Location	Council Chambers Beaufort		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Avoca Railway Station Precinct Masterplan 2. Budget Workshop 3. Pyrenees Futures 4. Beaufort Public Land 5. Snake Valley Planning Application 6. Frost Event 7. Rainbow Serpent Festival 8. Agenda Review 		
Attendees			
Councillors	Mayor David Clark Cr Michael O'Connor Cr Tanya Kehoe Cr Ron Eason Cr Robert Vance		
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Mr Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer Mr Evan King – Director Corporate and Community Services Mr Douglas Gowans – Director Asset and Development Services Mr Matthew Novacevski – Senior Planner Strategy and Place – Item 3, 4 and Item 5 Mr Ray Davies - Manager Economic Development and Tourism – Item 7		
Visitors	Mr Hugh Forster - Item 1 Mr Robert and Ms Pamela Sandlant – Item 7		
Conflict of Interest Disclosures			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
N/A			

CRS CR KEHOE / EASON

That the items for noting be received.

CARRIED

ITEMS FOR DECISION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

7. AVOCA INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY CENTRE PROPOSED LEASE

Ray Davies – Manager Economic Development and Tourism

File No: 62/20/04

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about a proposed lease agreement of part of the Avoca Information and Community Centre building with the Avoca Community Bank Branch of the Bendigo Bank, and seek a resolution to give public notice of the proposal.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Management for the Avoca Community Bank Branch of the Bendigo Bank has approached Council to consider co-location of services within the visitor information centre space at the Avoca Information and Community Centre (AICC).

The AICC is a Council facility which currently provides a range of services to the community and in particular library services and visitor information services. The building also provides community access to computers for internet access, and other civic and community use.

The space within the building is considered to be generous for the range of services currently provided, and an opportunity exists for part of the space to be utilised for community access to other services, and in particular banking services.

Following the initial approach by the Bank Board, Council officers and Community Bank officers have explored the possibility and developed a concept layout plan which would accommodate the needs of the Community Bank, without significantly impacting on Council service provision.

A copy of the concept layout plan is attached to this report. It should be noted that Bank staff will share existing kitchen and toilet facilities with council staff. The proposed Community Bank footprint covers an area of seventy eight square meters (not including shared staff facilities).

Some building alterations internally will be necessary to accommodate the range of services to be provided.

Management arrangements have been considered by both Council and Bank officers and no barriers have been identified that would prevent a co-location arrangement.

The building alterations and occupancy of the site would be subject to a formal lease agreement, the details of which are still being developed, and a rental valuation has been obtained to assist in the negotiation between the parties.

Prior to deciding to formally enter into a lease agreement, Council must consider the following provisions of the Local Government Act 1989.

Section 190- Restriction on power to lease land

- (1) A Council's power to lease any land to any person is limited to leases for a term of 50 years or less.
- (2) Subject to any other Act, if a Council leases any land to any person subject to any exceptions, reservations, covenants and conditions, it must comply with this section.
- (3) If the lease is to be—
 - (a) for 1 year or more and—
 - (i) the rent for any period of the lease is \$50 000 or more a year; or
 - (ii) the current market rental value of the land is \$50 000 or more a year; or
 - (b) for 10 years or more; or
 - (c) a building or improving lease—the Council must at least 4 weeks before the lease is made publish a public notice of the proposed lease.
- (4) A person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on the proposed lease.

Section 192 - Use of land for another purpose

- (1) If a Council has acquired any land for a particular purpose the Council may use the land or part of the land for another purpose if the Council is satisfied that—
 - (a) the land or part of the land is not required by the Council for the purpose for which it was acquired; or
 - (b) it is no longer necessary or desirable to use the land or part of the land for the purpose for which it was acquired.
- (2) A person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on the use of any land for another purpose.

Having regard to the above provisions which provide capacity for Council to enter into the proposed lease with the Avoca Community Bank, Council must give public notice and invite submissions from the community in respect of the proposed lease.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

In consideration of the proposal, there are a number of reciprocal benefits to Council and the Avoca Community Bank (ACB) which include:

- Bank Customers that do not currently use the library or visitor centre will become more familiar with the range of services offered there. This will allow AICC staff to engage ACB clients in programs that may lead to lifelong learning outcomes as offered through the library and/or to gather local tourism literature that local residents can share with visiting friends and relatives (VFR). VFR visitation represents around half of the tourism visitation in the Grampians and Goldfields tourism regions.

- Customers of the AICC will likewise be exposed to the services of ACB if they are not customers currently. This is an opportunity for the Community Bank to build on support of the local community.
- Shared services are likely to deliver cost efficiencies for both organisations enhancing financial viability.
- Rental income derived by Council will assist in offsetting the operation of the centre. It is acknowledged however that some cost will be incurred to modify the building internally to accommodate the range of services to be provided.
- The building is currently an accessible building in a prominent location in the main street of Avoca which will provide a benefit to members of the community looking to do banking in Avoca.

The Community Bank has expressed the requirement for signage internally and external to the building and the external signage will be subject to a planning permit as required by the Pyrenees Planning Scheme. The co-location of bank signage and library and visitor information signage is to be agreed.

Council would recall that the hours of operation of the centre were amended from September 2016 following a lengthy period of consideration and engagement with the community. It is not proposed that the co-location agreement will alter the hours that the Council services will be provided, though the hours for banking service may vary slightly and these are subject to further discussion.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 4 - Financially Sustainable, High-performing Organisation. Our organisation will respond to community needs, attend to our core business, and strive for excellence in service delivery in an ethical and financially responsible manner.

Local Government Act 1989 – Sect 190 Restriction on power to lease land

ATTACHMENTS

7.1 Avoca Information Centre CB Concept Design - *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The risks associated with the Community Bank lease proposal include:-

- Reduction of space within the community building for community use
- Safety of staff and volunteers operating the CRC outside of the ACB business hours
- Budgetary risks associated with costs to refurbish premises as outlined in this report. Quotes for works are outstanding at the time of completing this report. It is proposed that grant opportunities be explored to assist in the building works needed.

CONCLUSION

The Avoca Community Bank Branch of the Bendigo Bank has sought to lease space within the Avoca Resource Centre building.

The proposal is considered to provide a range of benefits to Council and the community without significantly impacting on current service delivery.

Prior to entering into a lease agreement however Council must give public notice in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 and invite submissions from the community.

CR O’CONNOR / KEHOE

That Council

1. having considered the requirements of Section 190 and 192 of the Local Government Act 1989, provides in principle support to lease part of the building space in the Avoca Resource Centre building to the Avoca Community Bank Branch of the Bendigo Bank
2. gives public notice in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 of its intention to enter into a lease agreement with the Avoca Community Bank Branch of the Bendigo Bank and invite submissions
3. subject to the above, authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the conditions of the lease and sign the lease agreement.

CARRIED

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

8. SUBMISSION FOR FAST TRACKED GOVERNMENT LAND SERVICES – THREE BEAUFORT SITES

Douglas Gowans – Director Assets and Development

File No: 58/06/02

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a submission responding to the Government Land Standing Advisory Committee's consideration of future planning provisions for three Government owned sites in Beaufort including the former primary school site.

BACKGROUND

The Minister for Planning has referred three Government owned sites in Beaufort to the Government Land Standing Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) for advice on the future planning provisions.

The Victorian Government is planning to sell the former Beaufort Primary School site and two other Victorian Government-owned sites in Beaufort. DELWP is facilitating a planning process regarding the zoning of this land that the State is planning to sell. This process is of significant community interest.

The process is being run through the "Fast Track Government Land Service" - a planning process that the Victorian Government can use to rezone publicly-owned land for sale. DELWP has undertaken a six-week public exhibition period for the rezoning of properties at:

- 7-25 Hill Street, Beaufort (the former Primary School site)
- 6 Lawrence Street, Beaufort (a former DELWP depot/office on the corner of Willoby Street)
- 31 Camp Hill Road in Beaufort (a former DELWP works depot)

As part of the process, the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) is the proponent, and the Minister for Planning acts as the planning authority (through DELWP). Council has no formal role as a planning authority in this process. Council does retain the right to make a submission regarding the proposals.

Council has a strong interest in ensuring the community is engaged in the discussion and that people with a particular interest can be heard. Following discussions with Council, officers have prepared a submission. The DELWP website states that submissions are due by 5pm on 22 May 2018.

Submissions are to be directed to the Advisory Committee and will be treated as public documents. There is the opportunity to make a presentation at the public hearing scheduled to be held during May 2018.

DELWP ran a community information session at the Beeripmo Centre on Tuesday 27 March, 2018. The session was well attended with local reports suggesting 30 community members attending.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The submission, prepared by Council officers, overall position is that the each parcel of land included in this process should be rezoned to enable land use change and new local investment. To that extent, the submission supports the broad strategic ambitions of the Program, and emphasises that, with the most appropriate Planning controls in place, these sites could be redeveloped in ways that will positively contribute to Beaufort’s vibrancy, character, prosperity, and sense of community.

Council’s submission has been informed by community consultation it conducted in 2017 as part of its settlement planning project, Pyrenees Futures; direct approaches from community members and also by the draft Beaufort Framework Plan that is being finalised for public exhibition as part of the Pyrenees Futures process.

7-25 Hill Street, Beaufort (Former Primary School Site)

The submission acknowledges the sense of attachment and community interest around the former Beaufort Primary School site. Accordingly, the submission seeks new planning controls that enable a sensitive, respectful level of development that recognises the site’s community value and importance.

The submission agrees with the Government view that the majority of the site is developable and should be rezoned to General Residential. However, the submission’s states that is the land currently mapped in the LSIO and FO should be placed in the Urban Floodway Zone.

The submission seeks that no rezoning proceed until such time as a heritage assessment of the former Beaufort Primary School buildings has been completed, particularly the initial school building. Should the land be rezoned prior to an assessment being completed, the submission requests that an Interim Heritage Overlay be applied to the main building.

The submission encourages the Committee to consider whether a Development Plan Overlay should be applied to the site.

6 Lawrence Street, Beaufort

Given the prominence and importance of this site and existing pattern of development along Lawrence Street, the submission’s preference is that the zone and planning controls be set to enable incremental expansion of the town centre with a retail-type development that maintains active frontages, contributes further to a walkable town centre and helps connect the town centre with the Railway precinct.

A Commercial zoning would be appropriate to ensure this, but there is concern about the potential for the Commercial 2 zoning to bring about an inappropriate bulk of development or an inactive frontage at a key site.

The submission recognises that the current policy framework (including the precinct-based Heritage Overlay) can be applied along with decision guidelines in both the Commercial 1 and Commercial 2 Zones to limit the bulk of development on the site.

On balance, the submission takes the position to apply the Commercial 1 Zone to provide consistency with existing zoning and policy settings in Beaufort’s commercial core.

31 Camp Hill Road, Beaufort

The submission takes the view that the site has a number of constraints – namely proximity to residential land, and access – that will limit the type and intensity of future land use. The existing depot suggests an appropriate future use is also industrial; however, the site is not entirely appropriate for intensive industrial land use and development.

The Industrial zone 3 is considered an appropriate option as it imposes permit requirements for a number of uses and introduces decision guidelines that limit the potential for noxious activity and elevates the importance of interfaces with surrounding land uses. More intensive industrial activity on the site would not be appropriate due to access constraints and sensitive interfaces.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 5 - Development and Environment. We will undertake forward planning, and facilitate growth in our local economy while protecting key natural and built environmental values.

5.1 - Provide efficient and effective land use planning, ensuring local policies within the Pyrenees Planning Scheme remain relevant and forward looking.

ATTACHMENTS

8.1 Submission – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The risk of poorly applied zones to the sites in question could have the effect of poor planning outcomes or inappropriate development. There is also the risk of issue of loss of heritage, if a rezoning of the primary school site does not include provision for heritage protection.

CONCLUSION

It is appropriate that Council provides its view on the proposed rezoning of the three Government land sites to ensure appropriate zones and protections are applied.

CRS O’CONNOR / EASON

That Council:

1. Endorse the submission to the Government Land Standing Advisory Committee relating to the proposed rezoning of Government land at:-
 - 7-25 Hill Street, Beaufort (the former Primary School site)
 - 6 Lawrence Street, Beaufort (a former DELWP depot/office on the corner of Willoby Street)
 - 31 Camp Hill Road in Beaufort (a former DELWP works depot)

CARRIED

9. PA2679/17 - USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND ANIMAL KEEPING (20 GREYHOUNDS)

Douglas Gowans – Director Assets and Development

File No: 106052100P

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to determine a planning permit application for the use and development of the land for the purposes of greyhound keeping and training at 53 Hudswell Road, Landsborough.

BACKGROUND

The application seeks approval for the use and development of the land for the purpose of greyhound keeping and training, more specifically involving the keeping of up to 20 greyhounds at 53 Hudswell Road Landsborough. The land is formally known as Crown Allotment 9, Section 2, Parish of Landsborough.

It is proposed that an existing building located within the property boundaries will be modified and new structures erected to accommodate the use. It is proposed that an existing shed which is 12.26 metres in width and 9 metres in length will be altered to provide for a kennel block to house the greyhounds within 20 individual pens. The shed is located near the existing dwelling, and is setback 64 metres from the eastern boundary and 62 metres from the southern boundary.

In addition, two 'long' 80 metre dog runs will be provided for to the west of the property, which will be setback 30 metres from the southern boundary and 28 metres from the western boundary.

A galloping paddock will also be established 69 metres from the northern boundary and 54 metres from the western boundary, a galloping paddock is also to be positioned between the bullring and the long runs. The enclosure will encompass an area of 30 by 40 metres and will be used to for socialisation, chase training as well as other exercise activities which do not utilise a lure.

A bull ring (also known as a circular training facility) is to be located 89 metres from the northern boundary and 87 metres from the eastern boundary.

The application states that the owner intends to train greyhounds in the immediate future rather than breed. As such, the development does not incorporate a whelping room or puppy run as would otherwise be expected in a greyhound facility.

The application indicates that the operators will keep a small number of dogs initially to train, as well as allowing other owners to bring greyhounds in to be trained at the facility.

It is proposed that the business will be conducted by the residents of the property, requiring only two persons to manage the operations associated with cleaning, training and caring for the greyhounds.

SITE CONTEXT

The 4 hectare allotment, is located approximately 700 south west of the Landsborough township. The property is square in shape and features a frontage to Hudswell Road of 201 metres and a depth of 204 metres. Contained within the site is a single storey dwelling to the south east of the property together with a number of domestic outbuildings.

The land is flat and is generally clear of vegetation with the exception of scattered trees and shrubs around the dwelling as well as along the east, south and western boundaries. The property contains a number of rows olive trees.



The surrounding landholdings are of a similar size and are used for rural living and agricultural pursuits.

In particular the surrounding land is characterised as follows:

- To the north the land has been planted with rows of trees. A dwelling and outbuildings are located to the north east corner of the property adjacent to Landsborough Road.
- To the east is a vacant allotment which features cleared grazing areas, scattered trees at the south west corner and a dam adjacent to the eastern boundary. Access to the property is from Hudswell Road.
- To the south is a vineyard and a large dam.
- To the west is a rural living allotment which is cleared grazing land. A dwelling and associated buildings are located at the south west corner of the lot and are accessible from Hudswell Road. This is the closest dwelling to the subject property and exhibits a 180 metre separation from the closest boundary.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

State Planning Policy Framework

There are a number of planning policies contained within the State Planning Policy Framework which need to be considered in the context of this application and include the following:

SETTLEMENT (Clause 11)

- Clause 11 requires planning to be forward thinking in its approach to ensure that there are sufficient opportunities to respond to the needs of both existing and future communities and as far as practicable contribute towards supporting economic viability and protecting environmentally sensitive areas and natural resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS (Clause 13)

Floodplain Management (Clause 13.01-2)

- This policy seeks to assist in the protection of life and property from flood hazards, and that the movement of the flow of flood water is not compromised as a result of development and changes to landscape.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (Clause 14)

- Clause 14 requires that planning assist in the conservation and wise use of natural resources including energy, land, stone, and minerals to support both environmental quality and sustainable development.

Protection of Agriculture (Clause 14.01-1)

- Clause 14.01-1 holds the objective to protect farmland which is of strategic significance in the local or regional context. In particular the policy seeks to ensure that productive agricultural land is not lost as a consequence of permanent land use changes; and that changes to use and new development do not create the potential for land use conflict.

Sustainable Agricultural Land Use (Clause 14.01-2)

- Clause 14.01-1 seeks to encourage sustainable agricultural land use. The policy seeks to achieve this by encouraging sustainable agricultural and associated rural land use; and though supporting effective agricultural production and processing infrastructure.

Local Planning Policy Framework

Clause 21.04 in relation to ‘Environmental and Landscape Values and Risks’ provides further support to Clauses 12, 13, 14 and 19 of the State Planning Policy Framework.

In particular, it notes that the environmental policies for the Shire are:

- *To minimize the potential for new developments and land use causing pollution of waterways, water storages and ground water resources, land degradation, fire hazards or other adverse environmental impacts.*
- *To promote the effective and responsible management of flood plains and other low lying areas which are subject to drainage difficulties.*
- *To give effect to policies and guidelines which have been prepared by the Environmental Protection Authority for the protection of the environment.*

Clause 21.04-3 in relation to Waterways and water resources that ‘Rivers and streams and designated water supply areas in the Shire are relied upon extensively for urban water supply and/or agriculture.

The protection of these resources is of paramount importance. Special attention is to be given to those areas within 200 metres of the major rivers and streams in the rural areas of the Shire, and 100 metres within townships as otherwise defined by flooding and other detailed development information. These include the Avoca River, Wimmera River, Mt Emu Creek, Baillies Creek, Fiery Creek, and other streams designated as ‘Streams of Regional Significance’ on the Strategic Framework Plan.’

Strategies listed to achieve this include

Objective 1 To conserve water resources and protect water quality.

Strategy 1.1 Protect water quality from possible contamination by urban, industrial and agricultural land use.

Strategy 1.2 Provide for appropriate land use and development control in areas adjacent to designated rivers and streams and within designated water supply areas.

Strategy 1.3 Protect and conserve water quality and quantity in rivers, streams and designated water supply areas.

Strategy 1.4 Prevent riparian vegetation removal in sensitive locations other than as required to maintain or promote more effective management of streamways and floodplains.

Strategy 1.5 Ensure that land use activities are sited and managed to minimise potentially contaminated run-off into waterways and designated water supply areas.

Policy direction is provided for each settlement within the Shire through Clause 21.06. Within Clause 21.06-2, Landsborough is recognised as being ‘small township with associated rural-residential development on the western side of the Pyrenees Range. The township, which sits on a narrow spur dividing Malakoff Creek from Native Creek, contains a substantial range of services and facilities including a school, police station, hotel, two general stores, post office, community swimming pool, public hall and a recreation reserve’.

Constraints which have been identified for the township include:

- *‘The potential for flooding - the extent of which is to be confirmed by the relevant floodplain management authority.*
- *The lack of sewerage.’*

Objectives and strategies listed to address these matters include:

Objective 1: To provide for growth of the township and adjacent rural residential areas.

Strategy 1.3 Recognise the suitability of areas to the east and west of the township for rural residential development, with the exception of those lots at the western extremity which comprise steep land in the Metamorphics Land System.

Strategy 1.4 Consider the potential for flooding and possible implications on development when assessing applications for development and use.

Objective 2 To achieve consolidation of rural lots surrounding the township.

Strategy 2.1 Apply restructuring controls to the surrounding rural land to encourage consolidation of lots into larger holdings.

Zoning Provisions

The land is located within the Rural Living Zone (Schedule 1) and is affected by a Design and Development (Schedule 1) overlay.

The purpose of the Rural Living Zone as outlined at Clause 32.08 is:

- *‘To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.*
- *To provide for residential use in a rural environment.*
- *To provide for agricultural land uses which do not adversely affect the amenity of surrounding land uses.*
- *To protect and enhance the natural resources, biodiversity and landscape and heritage values of the area. To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision’*

Pursuant to Clause 35.03-1, a planning permit is required for the use of animal keeping where the number of animals on the land exceeds two; and for the use of racing dog training. It also specifies that a development must meet the requirements of Clause 52.40.

Pursuant to Clause 35.03-4 a planning permit is required for buildings and works associated with a section 2 use, and within 100 metres of a waterway, wetlands or designated floodplain.

The subject land is also partially covered by a Design and Development Overlay. The purpose of the overlay is

- *‘To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.*
- *To identify areas which are affected by specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development.’*

The purpose of the Schedule to the Design and Development Overlay as outlined at Section 1.0 is:

- *‘To define areas of urban and rural land which are known or reasonably suspected to be affected by flooding or drainage problems.*
- *To provide a discretionary control mechanism for preventing inappropriate development from occurring on land affected by flooding or drainage problems.*
- *To set design and development parameters which will regulate development and help safeguard life and property, pending the determination of appropriate flood plain management strategies.*
- *To ensure that development maintains the free passage of any likely flood waters and is compatible with local drainage conditions.’*

Pursuant to Clause 43.02-2 a planning permit is required to construct a building or carry out works.

Particular Provisions

Clause 52.40 – Racing Dog Keeping and Training

Clause 52.40 pertaining to Racing Dog Keeping and Training is relevant to the consideration of this application.

The purpose of this clause is:

‘To ensure the use and development of land for racing dog keeping and racing dog training is consistent with orderly and proper planning.’

Clause 52.40-1 outlines the requirements for an application for animal keeping and specifies that *‘An application to use land, or construct a building or construct or carry out works, for racing dog keeping or racing dog training under a provision of a rural zone must comply with Planning requirements for racing dog keeping and training (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, August 2017). This requirement does not apply to an application to construct a building or construct or carry out works associated with a use that is a Section 1 use in the Table of uses of the zone’.*

REFERRALS AND NOTICE

The application was referred to Greyhound Racing Victoria pursuant to Section 52 of the Act.

Greyhound Racing Victoria advised that the applicant is a registered public trainer and breeding with the organisation. The correspondence further states that the property has been inspected twice in the past twelve months, for the purpose of a welfare inspection and a full audit against the code. No concerns were identified following either of these attendances.

The application was referred internally to Council’s Local Laws Department and Environmental Health Officer who raised no concerns subject to conditions. Council’s Local Laws Department advised that they had no concerns and that the facility would be monitored by Greyhound Racing Victoria. Council’s Environmental Health Officer raised no concerns subject to conditions being included on a permit, if issued.

The application was advertised with a notice being sent to adjoining property owners and occupiers.

Four (4) objections were received in response to the application. The grounds of these objections included:

- *Detriment to amenity caused by odour, noise and waste.*
- *Proximity to town*
- *Impact on property values*
- *Impact on agricultural activities*

A response to the objections is provided within the planning assessment further in the report.

PLANNING SCHEME ASSESSMENT

State and Local Planning Policy Framework

The State Planning Policy Framework is relatively silent on greyhound keeping and training proposals. Generally agricultural uses are encouraged and supported and each region is encouraged to build on their economic strengths. State Planning Policy also seeks to control the impact of noise on sensitive land uses.

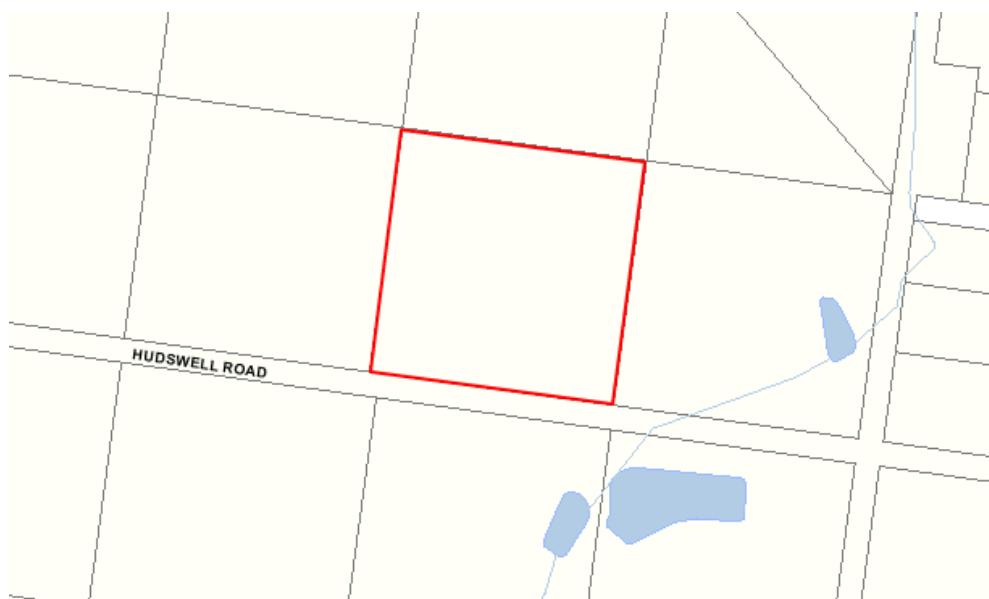
Both the State Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy Framework stress the importance of protecting viable agricultural land from fragmentation and inappropriate development. It also seeks to ensure that any applications for use or development do not compromise environmental values of an area or create the potential for conflict between other land uses.

While the use of greyhound keeping is not traditionally associated with the use of the land for agriculture, rural zonings do provide opportunity for the required separation buffers as established as per Clause 52.40.

The proposed use will require the establishment of infrastructure such as kennels, exercise yards and a circular training facility. The structures proposed are generally clustered towards the centre of the property which maximised opportunities for reasonable separation and which reduces visual impact associated with linear lines of buildings across the rural landscape. Additional plantings along the boundary will also assist in screening the infrastructure from the road and adjoining properties.

The use can generate issues not that dissimilar to those which can arise from other forms of rural activities, but managed appropriately can sit amicably within the rural context. This is consistent with the purpose and objectives contained within Clause 14 of the State Planning Policy Framework.

The proposed use will provide employment for the two residents of the property, who will train and care for the greyhounds. This is consistent with Clause 11 and 17 of the State Planning Policy Framework, as well as the Local Planning Policy Framework which recognises the importance of creating employment opportunities within the municipality, while still maintaining the integrity of the natural environment.



The subject land is located approximately 120 metres from a waterway which trails from Landsborough towards the south west. The application states that waste will be collected and retained within toileting yards. There are no details provided outlining how the waste will be disposed of beyond its collection. This can be resolved though the inclusion of a condition requiring the submission of a waste management plan which specifies how liquid and solid waste is to be treated and disposed of. This approach is consistent with the intent and objectives of objectives of Clause 13.01-2 of the State Planning Policy Framework and Clauses 21.06 and 21.07 of the Local Planning Policy Framework.

Purpose of Rural Living Zone

The use of greyhound keeping and training within the Rural Living Zone is one which needs to be considered in the context of the surrounding land use and the potential for the operation to generate create land use conflict. Animal keeping is not always a right, and in this instance due consideration needs to be given to the appropriateness of the use for the site and the potential implications which could flow from such a use.

Whilst there are examples of where applications for greyhound breeding and keeping have been refused at VCAT, it needs to be said that these cases were generally defined by periods of non-compliance and the decisions were handed down prior to the adoption of the '*Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training*' (DWLWP, August 2017). The introduction and application of these guidelines are considered to provide more definitive standards in relation to managing noise, visual amenity and scale of the use.

While the Rural Living Zone contemplates residential uses within a rural area, it also provides for a range of agricultural, tourism and commercial uses. As such, it provides scope for smaller operations to be considered within the Rural Living Zone, recognising that the expectations of residents living within the area are different in relation to the amenity than those who reside in the Farming Zone. While the amenity expectations of residents can be high, there also needs to be acknowledgement that from time to time they are likely to experience noise and other impacts from non-residential uses.

Unlike other agricultural uses however, greyhound keeping and training is highly regulated under the auspices of Greyhound Racing Victoria and its Code of Practice.

The purposes of the zone and the associated guidelines sets out the tests that greyhound establishments need to satisfy if they wish to locate in the Rural Living Zone. These include minimising impacts on the amenity of neighbours through installing noise mitigation measures, management practices and appropriate buffers.

The balance which needs to be achieved between residential purposes and animal keeping within this zone is addressed within the '*Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training*' (DWLWP, August 2017) which sets a maximum limit of 20 racing dogs. The document further outlines buffer distances which need to be achieved between infrastructure associated with greyhound keeping and training and boundaries and dwellings not in the same ownership. The additional regulation which is provided through the Code of Practice and other related controls also provide greater certainty that the use of greyhound keeping and training should not impact or pose a risk to other activities which are occurring on adjoining land.

The subject land is located approximately 120 metres from a watercourse located to the east and south east of the property. As such, consideration needs to be given to the potential for any runoff to impact on the quality of the water way.

Due to the nature of the use, there is the potential for polluted runoff to be generated from the use of the land, and impact on the waterway. As previously discussed, there is a need for a waste management plan to be submitted in order to ensure that any liquid or solid waste is appropriately managed and disposed of. This can form a condition of a planning permit and will be necessary in order to comply with the current requirements for the operation of the use. This is also consistent with the objectives of the Design and Development Overlay (Schedule 1).

Clause 52.40 - Racing Dog Keeping and Training'

The proposed use seeks approval to have 20 greyhounds on the land. This is consistent with the requirements which allows for ten racing dogs per hectare to a maximum number of 20 greyhounds on Rural Living Zoned land.

The use also provides for a buffer which is in excess of between 50 and 100 metres from a dwelling not in the same ownership; as well as the all of setbacks required between the infrastructure and boundary fence line.

Specifically the kennels, exercise yards and circular training facility all meet the setback requirements of 10 to 50 metres as per the *'Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training'* (DWLWP, August 2017) and all buildings and infrastructure associated with the use are also to be located in excess of 100 metres from the closest dwelling located at No. 21 Hudswell Road.

The application states that the kennel block will be established within an existing outbuilding which is located to the north east of the dwelling. In order to comply with the noise and acoustic guidelines within *'Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training'* (DWLWP, August 2017), alterations will need to be made to the building in relation to the wall and ceiling construction and cavity installation. Further works will also need to be undertaken to ensure that the building complies with the requirements in terms of external doors, glazing and ventilation. These requirements can be achieved through conditions on a permit.

Response to objections

Four objections were received in response to this application, which include a number of planning issues.

While mediation was conducted between the parties, the matters raised within the objections were addressed but were not resolved. A response to each of the issues raised in objections is provided as follows:

- *Detriment to amenity caused by odour, noise and waste.*

The impact of the proposed use on the amenity by virtue of noise, odour and waste are valid grounds for concern. The potential for amenity impacts also needs to be appropriately weighted against the intent of the Rural Living Zone to provide residential uses as well as agricultural and commercial uses which pose only a light footprint on the landscape.

The surrounding area comprises of allotments of approximately one hectare in area to the north, east and west. While this zone extends to the south, it is noted that this area is extensively used for cropping activities.

The application outlines the proposed use and this has been assessed against the new guidelines for the *'Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training'* (DWLWP, August 2017) and through conditions can meet the standards set in relation to mitigating against noise.

- *Proximity to town*

While the site is located within close proximity of the township, it is highly improbable that any detriment or off site impacts which could be created by the use would extend that far. Of primary importance is whether the use will have an impact on the immediate surrounds and whether these can be adequately managed and mitigated through conditions being applied to a planning permit? The proximity of the use to the town centre would only be a consideration if it was likely to be impacted on by the use or if there were any plans to extend the residential boundaries closer to the subject site, which is not applicable in this instance. On this basis, it is not considered that this ground be given weight in the assessment of this application.

- *Impact on property values*

Property values are not a matter which can be considered or given weight in the assessment of a planning application.

- *Impact on agricultural activities*

The use of greyhound keeping and training are predominantly viewed as uses which can comfortably occur alongside other agricultural pursuits. It is recognised that there are impacts which can occur from both forms of land use, however it is unlikely that the use of greyhound keeping and training would impinge on the surrounding cropping and grazing activities currently taking place in the immediate surrounds.

CLAUSE 65 – DECISION GUIDELINES

Clause 65 of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme outlines the decision guidelines to be considered by the Responsible Authority when making decisions on applications. Some of these relevant to this application include:

- The matters set out in Section 60 of the Act.
- The SPPF, LPPF & the MSS
- The purpose of the zone, overlay or other provision.
- Any matter required to be considered in the zone, overlay or other provision.
- The orderly planning of the area.
- The effect on the amenity of the area.

Council has assessed this application against each requirement of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, and has managed the planning process and its decision making in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

The application is considered to comply with the provisions of the State and Local Planning Policy Framework, the purpose of the Rural Living Zone, Design and Development Overlay (Schedule 1), Clause 52.40 of the Particular Provisions.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Council Plan 2017-2021:

This application meets Council's obligations as Responsible Authority for assessing applications under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

ATTACHMENTS

9.1 Copy of permit application – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

A planning determination made by Council may be the subject to an appeal for review at VCAT. Should Council's decision be appealed, it may incur costs in the preparation and presentation of its case at the Tribunal.

CONCLUSION

The application to develop and use the land for of greyhound keeping and training is considered to meet the requirements of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, including the requirements of the applicable State and Local Planning Policies, Rural Living Zone, Design and Development Overlay and Particular Provisions relating to the use of greyhound keeping and training.

Accordingly it is recommended that Council issues a notice of decision to grant a permit, on the basis that the use and development of land for the purpose of greyhound keeping and training is considered suitable for the subject site and with appropriate conditions will be unlikely to cause detriment to adjoining property owners or the amenity of the area. .

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council, having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, decides to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit under the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme for the use and development of the land for racing dog keeping and training subject to the following conditions:

1. Amended Plans

Before the development starts amended plans which have been professionally drawn to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and three copies must be provided. The plans must be substantially in accordance with the plans submitted to Council on 8 November 2017, but modified to show:

- a. Location of the kennels bullring, galloping paddock and dog runs;
- b. Location of waste disposal areas;
- c. Elevations of kennels and ancillary infrastructure including height and external colours and materials.
- d. Location of new and existing dog proof fencing.

Once endorsed, the plans will form part of the permit.

2. Landscaping Plans

Before the development commences, a landscape plan for the property prepared by a person suitably qualified or experienced in landscape design to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plan must be drawn to scale on A1 paper size with dimensions and three (3) copies must be provided. The landscape plan must show:

- (a) Details of surface finishes of pathways and driveways.
- (b) A planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and ground covers, including botanical names, common names, pot sizes, sizes at maturity, and quantities of each plant.
- (c) Landscaping and planting along the boundaries and adjacent to buildings and infrastructure associated with the use to provide screening and enhance the visual amenity from adjoining properties and Husdwell Road.
- (d) Landscaped areas must be planted with shrub and groundcover species capable of achieving a minimum density of at least 80% coverage 12 months after planting.
- (e) All species selected must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Landscaping must demonstrate the use of sustainable practices and if irrigation is to be provided it must not use potable water. Any planting within an easement must utilise species suitable for planting within easements and must have a natural growing height of no more than 2 metres

Once endorsed, the plans will form part of the permit.

3. Buildings and works

The layout of the site and size of the development hereby permitted must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application and endorsed by the Responsible Authority.

4. Layout not to be altered

The proposed use and development as shown on the endorsed plan must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

5. Easements

All buildings and works must be located clear of any easements or water and sewer mains unless written approval is provided by the relevant authority.

6. External Materials and Colours

The exterior colour and cladding of the building/s must be of a non-reflective nature and/or either painted or have a pre-painted finish in natural, muted toning to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

7. Erection of Fencing

Within 30 days of this permit, the permit holder must erect greyhound proof fencing around the kennels, dog runs, galloping paddocks and any other areas associated with the use whereby dogs could potential escape. The fences and gates must have capacity to be closed at times to limit access and prevent escaping by dogs from the property and must meet the requirements or any relevant Code of Practice associated with the operation of greyhound establishments.

8. Maintenance of Fencing

The new and existing fence (including access gates) within the property and the fences enclosing the greyhound pens, greyhound runs and other training areas must be maintained in a condition satisfactory to the Responsible Authority.

9. Site Management Plan

Within two months of the date of this permit, a Site Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority for the use hereby permitted must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must address, but not limited to, the following matters:

- (a) General management of the facility and details of how the facility complies with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments (as amended from time to time) prepared by the Department of Economic Development Jobs, Transport and Resources, or equivalent Code of Practice under Section 63(AC) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.
- (b) Details of how noise emission from the facility will be managed so as to achieve compliance with Noise from Industry in Regional Victoria ('NIRV' – EPA Publication 1411).
- (c) Details of how the facility will address complaints about noise including:
- (d) Telephone contact numbers for the person responsible for the management and control of the greyhound keeping and training facility for out of hours contact.
 - i. A complaint resolution mechanism to effectively manage any complaints received from neighbours. This must include a telephone number with 24 hour access to the onsite manager to be provided to identified neighbouring properties, details of a Complaints Register to be kept at the premises that must include details of the complaint received, any action taken and the response provided to the complainant. This Complaints Register shall be shall be maintained by the permit holder and available for inspection by the Responsible Authority at all times.

10. Noise Management

Prior to the use commencing or within two months of this permit applicant must provide evidence that any alterations to transform the existing outbuilding into a kennel block meet the building and acoustic requirements as specified within section 4.8 of the '*Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training*' (DWLWP, August 2017).

11. Waste Management Plan

Prior to the use commencing or within two months of this permit, a waste management plan must be submitted to the Responsible Authority for endorsement. The plan must address how solid and liquid waste generate by the use is to be managed and disposed of to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

12. Effluent Disposal

All solid dog waste generate by the use and development hereby approved must be treated on site within a suitable waste disposal system that has been design and maintained to EPA approved specifications in accordance with the requirements of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

Liquid waste must be connected to an onsite septic system to the satisfaction Council's Environmental Health Officer. Should the existing system be deemed to be inadequate to accommodate the waste generated by the use, a new system must be installed within two months of the problem being identified to the satisfaction of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

13. Stormwater Management

Storm water drainage from the proposed buildings and impervious surfaces must be retained and disposed of within the boundaries of the subject land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Suitable drainage systems are required to be installed to divert stormwater run-off from the roof of kennel structures away from the pens and any areas set aside for wastewater disposal. The use hereby permitted must not cause any nuisance or loss of amenity in any adjacent or nearby land by reason of discharge of drainage.

14. Landscaping Completion

The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be completed within twelve months of the permit being issued to the satisfaction of the responsible authority unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

15. Landscaping Maintenance

The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, including that any dead, diseased or damaged plants are to be replaced.

16. Animal Numbers

Not more than 20 greyhound dogs can be kept on the site at any one time.

17. Registration

The landowner or holder of this planning permit must hold and maintain registration with Greyhound Racing Victoria and comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Greyhound Industry March 2008 (or as may be amended). In the event of difference between any permit condition and the Code of Practice, the requirements of this permit shall prevail.

18. Dog Management

The dogs must be contained within the acoustically baffled kennels between the hours of 9pm and 7am each day.

19. Feeding

Feeding times must be managed and supervised to minimise noise emissions from the site. Feeding must be undertaken within the confines of the acoustically baffled kennels.

20. Fencing

Areas in which greyhounds are to be kept must be fenced to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and maintained thereafter in good order to prevent the escape of animals.

21. Noise

Noise levels emanating from the land must comply with the requirements of the Environment Protection Authority's Information Bulletin No. N3/89 Interim Guidelines for the Control of Noise in Country Victoria.

22. Attendance

There must be a responsible person on the premises 24 hours a day.

23. Management of Escaped Dogs

If any greyhounds escape the permit holder or nominated responsible person must ensure they are brought back to the subject land without delay once the escape is known.

24. General Amenity

The use and development must be managed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority so that the amenity of the area is not detrimentally affected, through the:

- a. Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.
- b. Appearance of any building, works or materials.
- c. Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.
- d. Presence of vermin.
- e. Presence of animal waste.
- f. Presence of dogs off site.

25. Management of Use and Site

The management of the site and use must be in accordance with the requirements set out in this permit, the '*Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training*' (DWLWP, August 2017), Department of Primary Industries' *Code of Practice for the operation of Greyhound Establishments* (October 2006), EPA Noise Control '*Guidelines for Dog Kennels*' and, the *Greyhound Racing Victoria Code of Practice (A Code of Practice for Greyhound Establishments)* March 2008.

26. Time for starting and completion

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

- The development and use is/are not started within two years of the date of this permit
- The development is not completed within four years of the date of this permit

The Responsible Authority may extend the period for starting the development if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within 6 months afterwards. The timeframe for completing the development (or any stage of it) may be extended by the Responsible Authority provided the development has been lawfully started before the permit expires, and the request for an extension is made within 12 months after the permit expires.

Notes:

Building approval

1. Buildings & works hereby permitted shall accord with the requirements of the Building Act 1993, Building Regulations 2006, National Construction Code 2015 and all other relevant acts, regulations & codes.

CRS EASON / O'CONNOR

That Council, having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, decides to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit under the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme for the use and development of the land for racing dog keeping and training subject to the following conditions:

1. Amended Plans

Before the development starts amended plans which have been professionally drawn to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and three copies must be provided. The plans must be substantially in accordance with the plans submitted to Council on 8 November 2017, but modified to show:

- e. Location of the kennels bullring, galloping paddock and dog runs;
- f. Location of waste disposal areas;
- g. Elevations of kennels and ancillary infrastructure including height and external colours and materials.
- h. Location of new and existing dog proof fencing.

Once endorsed, the plans will form part of the permit.

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Before the development commences, a landscape plan for the property prepared by a person suitably qualified or experienced in landscape design to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plan must be drawn to scale on A1 paper size with dimensions and three (3) copies must be provided. The landscape plan must show:

- (f) Details of surface finishes of pathways and driveways.
- (g) A planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and ground covers, including botanical names, common names, pot sizes, sizes at maturity, and quantities of each plant.
- (h) Landscaping and planting along the boundaries and adjacent to buildings and infrastructure associated with the use to provide screening and enhance the visual amenity from adjoining properties and Husdwell Road.
- (i) Landscaped areas must be planted with shrub and groundcover species capable of achieving a minimum density of at least 80% coverage 12 months after planting.
- (j) All species selected must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Landscaping must demonstrate the use of sustainable practices and if irrigation is to be provided it must not use potable water. Any planting within an easement must utilise species suitable for planting within easements and must have a natural growing height of no more than 2 metres

Once endorsed, the plans will form part of the permit.

3. Buildings and works

The layout of the site and size of the development hereby permitted must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application and endorsed by the Responsible Authority.

4. Layout not to be altered

The proposed use and development as shown on the endorsed plan must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

5. Easements

All buildings and works must be located clear of any easements or water and sewer mains unless written approval is provided by the relevant authority.

6. External Materials and Colours

The exterior colour and cladding of the building/s must be of a non-reflective nature and/or either painted or have a pre-painted finish in natural, muted toning to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

7. Erection of Fencing

Within 30 days of this permit, the permit holder must erect greyhound proof fencing around the kennels, dog runs, galloping paddocks and any other areas associated with the use whereby dogs could potential escape. The fences and gates must have capacity to be closed at times to limit access and prevent escaping by dogs from the property and must meet the requirements or any relevant Code of Practice associated with the operation of greyhound establishments.

8. Maintenance of Fencing

The new and existing fence (including access gates) within the property and the fences enclosing the greyhound pens, greyhound runs and other training areas must be maintained in a condition satisfactory to the Responsible Authority.

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Within two months of the date of this permit, a Site Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority for the use hereby permitted must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must address, but not limited to, the following matters:

- (e) General management of the facility and details of how the facility complies with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments (as amended from time to time) prepared by the Department of Economic Development Jobs, Transport and Resources, or equivalent Code of Practice under Section 63(AC) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.
- (f) Details of how noise emission from the facility will be managed so as to achieve compliance with Noise from Industry in Regional Victoria ('NIRV' – EPA Publication 1411).
- (g) Details of how the facility will address complaints about noise including:
- (h) Telephone contact numbers for the person responsible for the management and control of the greyhound keeping and training facility for out of hours contact.
 - i. A complaint resolution mechanism to effectively manage any complaints received from neighbours. This must include a telephone number with 24 hour access to the onsite manager to be provided to identified neighbouring properties, details of a Complaints Register to be kept at the premises that must include details of the complaint received, any action taken and the response provided to the complainant. This Complaints Register shall be shall be maintained by the permit holder and available for inspection by the Responsible Authority at all times.

10. Noise Management

Prior to the use commencing or within two months of this permit applicant must provide evidence that any alterations to transform the existing outbuilding into a kennel block meet the building and acoustic requirements as specified within section 4.8 of the '*Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training*' (DWLWP, August 2017).

11. Waste Management Plan

Prior to the use commencing or within two months of this permit, a waste management plan must be submitted to the Responsible Authority for endorsement. The plan must address how solid and liquid waste generate by the use is to be managed and disposed of to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

12. Effluent Disposal

All solid dog waste generate by the use and development hereby approved must be treated on site within a suitable waste disposal system that has been design and maintained to EPA approved specifications in accordance with the requirements of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

Liquid waste must be connected to an onsite septic system to the satisfaction Council's Environmental Health Officer. Should the existing system be deemed to be inadequate to accommodate the waste generated by the use, a new system must be installed within two months of the problem being identified to the satisfaction of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

13. Stormwater Management

Storm water drainage from the proposed buildings and impervious surfaces must be retained and disposed of within the boundaries of the subject land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Suitable drainage systems are required to be installed to divert stormwater run-off from the roof of kennel structures away from the pens and any areas set aside for wastewater disposal. The use hereby permitted must not cause any nuisance or loss of amenity in any adjacent or nearby land by reason of discharge of drainage.

14. Landscaping Completion

The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be completed within twelve months of the permit being issued to the satisfaction of the responsible authority unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

15. Landscaping Maintenance

The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, including that any dead, diseased or damaged plants are to be replaced.

16. Animal Numbers

Not more than 20 greyhound dogs can be kept on the site at any one time.

17. Registration

The landowner or holder of this planning permit must hold and maintain registration with Greyhound Racing Victoria and comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Greyhound Industry March 2008 (or as may be amended). In the event of difference between any permit condition and the Code of Practice, the requirements of this permit shall prevail.

18. Dog Management

The dogs must be contained within the acoustically baffled kennels between the hours of 9pm and 7am each day.

19. Feeding

Feeding times must be managed and supervised to minimise noise emissions from the site. Feeding must be undertaken within the confines of the acoustically baffled kennels.

20. Fencing

Areas in which greyhounds are to be kept must be fenced to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and maintained thereafter in good order to prevent the escape of animals.

21. Noise

Noise levels emanating from the land must comply with the requirements of the Environment Protection Authority's Information Bulletin No. N3/89 Interim Guidelines for the Control of Noise in Country Victoria.

22. Attendance

There must be a responsible person on the premises 24 hours a day when more than 5 animals are present.

23. Management of Escaped Dogs

That the permit holder must ensure that no dog/s escape beyond the property boundaries at any time while being kept or trained at the property to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

24. General Amenity

The use and development must be managed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority so that the amenity of the area is not detrimentally affected, through the:

- a. Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land.
- b. Appearance of any building, works or materials.
- c. Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil.
- d. Presence of vermin.
- e. Presence of animal waste.
- f. Presence of dogs off site.

25. Management of Use and Site

The management of the site and use must be in accordance with the requirements set out in this permit, the *'Planning Requirements for Racing Dog Keeping and Training'* (DWLWP, August 2017), Department of Primary Industries' *Code of Practice for the operation of Greyhound Establishments (October 2006)*, EPA Noise Control *'Guidelines for Dog Kennels'* and, the *Greyhound Racing Victoria Code of Practice (A Code of Practice for Greyhound Establishments)* March 2008.

26. Time for starting and completion

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

- The development and use is/are not started within two years of the date of this permit
- The development is not completed within four years of the date of this permit

The Responsible Authority may extend the period for starting the development if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within 6 months afterwards. The timeframe for completing the development (or any stage of it) may be extended by the Responsible Authority provided the development has been lawfully started before the permit expires, and the request for an extension is made within 12 months after the permit expires.

Notes:

Building approval

1. Buildings & works hereby permitted shall accord with the requirements of the Building Act 1993, Building Regulations 2006, National Construction Code 2015 and all other relevant acts, regulations & codes.

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

10. APPOINTMENTS TO S.86 COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT

Kathy Bramwell - Manager Governance, Risk and Compliance

File No: 16/16/02

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider an amendment to the formal appointment of community representatives to its s.86 Committee of Management for the Beaufort Community Bank Complex.

BACKGROUND

Under s.86 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council can appoint Special Committees with the delegated authority to manage council assets. This authority is set out in the Instrument of Delegation which describes the Committee function, duties and powers.

One of Council's s.86 Committees of Management is the Beaufort Community Bank Complex. In December 2017, Council formally appointed members of this Committee of Management.

At the Committee's Annual General Meeting in February 2018, additional members were included within the Committee. This report seeks to formalise additional appointments to the s.86 Committee of Management of the Beaufort Community Bank Complex.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The following appointments are recommended by the Beaufort Community Bank Complex s.86 Committee of Management:

Jim Mahony; Michael O'Connor; Trish Collins; Heather Biddle McCracken; Brett Chamings; Jenny Trengove; Lynelle Day; Brad Foster; Sean Broadbent; Kathie Pitt; James Ackland.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Legislative Compliance: Pursuant to the Victorian *Local Government Act 1989*:

- Under s.86 (2) Council may appoint members to a special committee and may at any time remove a member from a special committee.
- Under s.86 (6) Council must review any delegations to a special committee in force under this section within the period of 12 months after a general election.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CRS KEHOE / O'CONNOR

That Council:

1. Formally appoint the following community representatives to the Beaufort Community Bank Complex s.86 Committee of Management:

Jim Mahony; Michael O'Connor; Trish Collins; Heather Biddle McCracken; Brett Chamings; Jenny Trengove; Lynelle Day; Brad Foster; Sean Broadbent; Kathie Pitt; James Ackland.

CARRIED

11. PROPOSED BUDGETS 2018/19

Director Corporate & Community Services

File No: 32/08/31

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the Proposed Budget for 2018/19.

BACKGROUND

Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) requires Council to prepare a budget for each financial year and provide the opportunity for people to make a submission under section 223 of the Act on any proposal contained in the budget.

The Proposed Budget for 2018/19 has been prepared by Councillors and Council Officers and guided by Community Action Plans and Strategies.

Council is required to give public notice that copies of the Proposed Budget are available for inspection for a minimum period of 28 days and invite submissions.

The Council Budget is the tool which guides Council's operations throughout a twelve month period. The Proposed Budget has been drawn up after significant discussion with Council staff and Councillors and contains information as to how Council will direct its financial resources during the next twelve months.

The Proposed Budget document sets out the reasoning behind the many decisions Council has made in order to arrive at this point of its Budget. Council must now seek further community input before determining its Budget.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Budget for 2018/19 has been prepared by Councillors and Council officers. As part of the budget process the community was invited to community workshops held in Waubra and Raglan. Council also undertook an online engagement process using OurSay. The community was asked to complete a survey on priority services and indicate where they would invest an additional \$50,000 if it was available.

The budget includes a rate increase of 3.50%, which is 1.25% above the maximum rate increase allowed under the rate cap set by the Minister for Local Government under the Fair Go Rates System.

Of the 3.5% rate increase 1.5% of rate revenue has been quarantined specifically for capital expenditure on renewing Council's road infrastructure assets.

In order to balance the remainder of the budget, council has continued to pursue operational savings and efficiencies which has enabled it to deliver high quality, responsive and accessible services to the community.

Budgeted Capital Works expenditure will decrease from \$7.162 million in 2017/18 to \$5.585 million in 2018/19, predominantly as a result of a reduction in capital grant income of \$2.51 million.

The Capital Works Program will be funded by \$1.103 million of external grants, \$710,000 from asset sales and the balance of \$3.772 million from Council rates.

It is worth noting that ratepayer funded capital expenditure has increased by \$784,000.

Highlights of the Capital Works Program include:

- Gravel Road Resheets \$1.014 million, an increase of \$240,000 or 31.1%
- Reseals at various locations \$853,000
- Raglan-Elmhurst Road 1.5km Reconstruction \$450,000
- Moonambel -Natte Yallock Road 2km Reconstruction \$450,000
- Additional Dust Suppression Graded Aggregate Total Treatment (GATT) Seals \$22,000
- Drainage Project 2018-19 \$50,000
- Solar Lighting Of Township Entrances \$10,000

Expenditure on the following project included in the Capital Works Program will be recouped in future budget periods as the land is sold:

- Residential Land Development - Beaufort Stage 4 - \$334,000

Council's waste management service is fully funded by waste service and user charges. The Landsborough transfer station is currently uncontrolled and people from anywhere are able to deposit waste of all types there without charge. In order to improve the level of service for waste management at Landsborough, Council will actively manage the Landsborough transfer station in the same way it manages other transfer stations across the Shire.

Waste service charges will increase on average by 9.2% in order to meet the increased costs of actively managing the Landsborough transfer station and the additional cost associated in managing recyclables that has arisen as a result of China's ban on the importation of waste materials from countries such as Australia.

The focus for the next year is to continue to deliver on the projects and services that make the Shire a great place to live, work and invest in, and respond to the challenges we are currently facing.

These challenges include:

- Rate capping
- State Government cost shifting
- Maintaining our road infrastructure

Whilst council has obtained approval for a rate increase that is 1.25% above the 2.25% rate cap, the actual rate increases experienced by individual ratepayers will be different due to this being a municipal revaluation year.

In a revaluation year, rate increases are impacted by the average rate increase (3.50%) and the property valuation increases of individual properties relative to the average valuation increase of 25.1% across the municipality. If your property value increased by more than the 25.1% average property value increase for the shire, then your rates will increase by more than 3.50%. However, if your property value increased by less than the 25.1% average property value increase for the shire, your rates will increase by less than 3.50% and may in fact reduce from the previous year.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Under Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council must prepare a Budget for each financial year. There are stipulations as to what must be included in the Budget and the Budget document meets those requirements. Any person has the right to make a submission on any proposal contained in the Budget. Following completion of the statutory obligations Council may adopt the Budget.

ATTACHMENTS

11.1 Proposed Budget 2018-19 – 3.50% rate rise – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications associated with this report have been accounted for within the 2018/19 Proposed Budget.

CONCLUSION

The Proposed Budget 2018/19 has been developed in alignment with the Council Plan 2018 to 2021. The proposed 2018/19 budget as tabled provides guidance on how Council intends to deliver its strategic objectives over the next twelvemonths.

CRS VANCE / EASON

That Council:

1. Endorses the 2018/19 Proposed Budget for advertising and that Council gives public notice of its preparation and asks for public submissions to be received up until 5.00pm Friday 18th May 2018.
2. Releases the Proposed Budget documents to the public on Wednesday 18th April 2018.
3. At its Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday, 12th June 2018, meets to hear and consider any submissions received on the proposed 2018/19 Budget.
4. At its Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday, 12th June 2018, resolves to adopt with or without amendments, the 2018/19 Budget.

CARRIED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12. CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

File No: 22/16/38

Declaration of Interest: As author of this report I have no disclosable interest in this item.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about Central Highlands Regional Partnership activity, and to raise awareness in the Pyrenees shire community about the 2018 Regional Assembly.

BACKGROUND

The Central Highlands Regional Partnership spans the east-west transport corridor connecting Melbourne, western Victoria and Adelaide. It comprises the local government areas of Ararat Rural City, City of Ballarat, Golden Plains, Hepburn Moorabool and Pyrenees shires. The region has a population of 186,500 and Gross Regional Product of \$7.5 billion

The Central Highlands region forms part of the larger Grampians region.

The partnership was formed in 2016 as an initiative of the Andrews government forming partnerships across rural and regional Victoria. Membership of the Central Highlands Partnership comprises seven appointed community members, one Regional Development Australia representative, one Victorian Government Deputy Secretary and the CEOs of the six councils. The chair of the Partnership is Mr George Fong.

The role of the partnership is to engage with the community and develop regional priorities making recommendations to the Victorian Government for budget and regional development that will help shape the future of the Central Highlands.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

In 2016 and in 2017 the partnership held Regional Assemblies in Ballarat and Creswick to enable input from stakeholders and the community to inform the regional priorities, and the partnership has continued to develop these priorities through consultation, research and analysis of recent past planning.

The third Regional Assembly is to be conducted in Ballarat on **14 June 2018**, and interested members of the community will be able to register to attend the Assembly, and further information on the assembly is to follow.

Topics that emerged from the 2017 Assembly included:

- The importance of investing in health and strengthening prevention efforts in the region;
- Continued lobbying for improved transport connectivity, including delivering the Ballarat – Melbourne rail line upgrades and funding for a business case for the extension of passenger rail services beyond Ararat;
- Simplify land use & planning;
- Attract, retain and ensure appropriate training is available to maintain & develop our skilled workforce;
- Developing an energy roadmap for the region that maximises the economic and community benefits of investment and innovation in new and renewable energy initiatives in the region; continue to advocate improving mobile and digital connectivity.

Some of the current activity of the Partnership listed below has focussed on developing, implementing or advocating for priorities and projects including:

- Prevention Lab project focussed on preventative health
- Ballarat Innovation and Research Collaborative for Health (BIRCH)
- Development of a 10 year Regional Sport and Recreation, Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- The Centre for New Energy Future
- Hub for Premium Produce
- Transport Forums – pilots in Pyrenees and Hepburn shires
- Digital Mapping initiative and Multifunction Hubs
- Eastern Grampians Water Supply Project
- Homelessness initiative
- Support for Visitor Economy project development
- Economic Development Jobs and Training advocacy including the Opportunities Pyrenees Ararat and Northern Grampians Shires (OPAN) project
- Advanced Manufacturing cluster support
- Youth education and training

Further detail about the Partnership activity, to have a say, and to keep up to date about the partnership can be found at:

<http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/regional-partnerships/central-highlands>

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 2 - Relationships and Advocacy. We will build and maintain effective relationships with community, government and strategic partners, and advocate on key issues.

2.3 - Maintain strategic partnerships, and participate with peak bodies for support and to enhance advocacy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There is no financial or other risk implication.

CONCLUSION

This report provides an update on the activities of the Central Highlands Regional Partnership and the next Regional Assembly to be held in Ballarat on 14 June 2018.

CRS KEHOE / O'CONNOR

That Council :

1. notes the activity of the Central Highlands Regional Partnership and continues to encourage the communities of the Pyrenees shire to participate and have a say in shaping and advocating for the priorities of the region; and
2. seeks to participate in the next Regional Assembly to be held on 14 June 2018.

CARRIED

13. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Tanya Kehoe

- Over the Easter period a fantastic Easter gathering was held in Snake Valley which brought a lot of people together from around the area. There were games, activities and an Easter hunt organised by the Snake Valley Progress Network, Snake Valley CFA and a number other volunteers. It was a really lovely opportunity which was well attended.
- A local committee is looking at the process around the reserve project on the Pittong-Snake Valley Road. The committee is very appreciative of the information received and are working through the process.
- The Snake Valley Network had a very productive meeting and thanks to Council staff who attended. The progress of projects and opportunities around the Snake Valley area is very much appreciated by residents.
- The local Football Club and Cricket Club are investigating the installation of lighting at the Recreation Reserve and also looking at options in partnership with the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm to resolve some concerns which is very promising.
- There was a fundraiser dance held on the 5th May hosted by the Hall Committee. There were lots of activities and a great function which brought the community together.
- Will be attending the ANZAC Day service which is one of many services being held around the Shire.
- Farmers are busy preparing paddocks for cropping and have required permits at short notice. This has placed pressure on busy Council staff so a thank you goes to Council officers for assisting farmers.

Cr Robert Vance

- Had the pleasure in attending the launch of the Crowlands Wind Farm on 23rd March which was a wonderful event.
- Had the opportunity to attend the Stawell Gift.
- Attended the RCV's Mayors and CEOs forum which had some very interesting guest speakers. One item to note is the proposal to introduce a Minister for Rural Victoria. It is alarming that the growth in Victoria is happening at such a rapid rate. Metropolitan and regional cities in Victoria are growth at 92%. The growth in rural Victoria is still behind compared to Victoria's metropolitan and regional areas.

The CEO from East Gippsland and Wellington discussed the IT sharing concept which is a concept being promoted by the State Government. The costing behind the concept is expensive.

- The Australian Centre for Rural Enterprise (ACRE) is running programs around promoting young people with entrepreneurial ideas giving them some direction as to where they can go to pursue their ideas. Council could consider promoting ACRE and possibly sponsoring young people to attend in the future.
- It would be good to see the last ANZAC Day races supported.

Cr Ron Eason

- Had opportunity to attend the AGM of the local Op Shop with a fantastic group of volunteers. Volunteers do such a wonderful job in local clubs around the Shire and without volunteers events, functions and facilities etc would not go ahead. The Op Shop does a wonderful job in selling unwanted good and then to pass on funds that they raise to the hospital. We can't thank organisations such as this enough.
- Pyrenees Unearthed is being held in Avoca over the weekend. People are encouraged to attend and support these wonderful events.
- The races in Avoca on ANZAC Day will be moved to March next year therefore this will be the last ANZAC Day races.

Cr Michael O'Connor

- Received an email from Pam Weller mentioning both Jenny Trengove and Pam Burns. Both Jenny and Pam have gone out of their way to assist Pam with a recent enquiry. Pam also expressed thank you to Council staff for repairing the footpath in Havelock Street across from Finn Street outside Mechanics Institute in Beaufort.
- The Oddie Family Celebrations was held on Saturday. The Oddie Family presented to Council two photographs; one being of Thomas Oddie, President of the Ripon Shire in the late 1800s and the other was of Marjory Oddie, OAM, who was the first lady President for the Ripon Shire.
- A morning tea was held at Lexton hosted by the Rainbow Serpent Culture and Arts Foundation. There was a wonderful presentation on a particular sculpture. The Foundation is looking to work with Council and local artists to establish a transportable set of artwork and sculptures to display in public spaces within our communities.
- The RCV forum was held in Melbourne. The forum had a great range of speakers and material relevant to Local Government. The presentations were excellent.
- There has been some positive feedback raised around the Western Bulldogs Leadership Program which Council is involved with. Two local young people who attended a 2 day camp and both had a great time and found the program valuable.
- Congratulations is expressed to Evan King for running in a Stawell Gift event again this year and in his representation in this event over the years.

Mayor Cr David Clark

- Meeting with Shadow Cabinet next week.
- A good meeting was held with the VFF discussing topics such as rates, budget etc. Farmers are significant portion of our rates base so it was appreciated to have the opportunity to speak with them.
- Attended an exhibition in Moonambel over the Easter weekend. It was really great to see many displays and an event such as this encompassing many people from across the region.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil



CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

That pursuant to the provisions of Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider commercially sensitive and contractual matters that may prejudice the Council.

CRS KEHOE / EASON

15. That the meeting be closed to members of the public under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, to consider a report on the Moonambel water supply and the Moonambel water concept design document which contains commercially sensitive and contractual information.

CARRIED

16. RE-OPENING OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

CRS EASON / O'CONNOR

That Council, having considered the confidential item, re-opens the meeting to members of the public.

CARRIED

The gallery had left the Council meeting however the Mayor chose to report on the matter discussed in Closed Council and is noted below:

That Council has received a report on the Moonambel Water Concept Design which has helped significantly to quantify both the project design and the costs associated with the project and Council will now proceed with a business case and looks forward to working with program partners on the project.

17. CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Minutes of the meeting confirmed

2018

Mayor