

PYRENEES
— S H I R E —



MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6:00pm Tuesday 12 November 2019

**Council Chambers
BEAUFORT**



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PRESENT **Mayor:** Cr Tanya Kehoe
Councillors: Ron Eason, David Clark, Robert Vance, Damian Ferrari

IN ATTENDANCE **Chief Executive Officer:** Jim Nolan
Director Asset and Development Services: Douglas Gowans
Director Corporate and Community Services: Kathy Bramwell
EA to CEO and Councillors: Jane Bowker (Minute Taker)

Mayor Cr Tanya Kehoe welcomed the gallery and press, read the opening prayer and indigenous acknowledgement.

APOLOGIES
Nil

NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS
Nil

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

CR CLARK / CR EASON

That the Minutes of the:

- Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 15 October 2019;
- Statutory Meeting of Council held on 29 October 2019

as previously circulated to Councillors be confirmed as required under Section 93 (2) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Responses to questions taken on notice at the previous ordinary Council meeting on 15 October 2019

1. Mr Gollop

Question: Can the sign directing drivers to St Arnaud be moved to the western side of the Sunraysia Highway in Avoca?

Response by CEO: The matter which was taken on notice has been reported to Regional Roads Victoria for assessment.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Trevor Davey

Mr Davey advised that in 2017 Pyrenees Shire Council won the Siltforce Environment Betterment Action Award and has won the award for 2019. Mr Davey presented the CEO with the award and commented that the staff at Pyrenees Shire Council are fantastic to deal with. The Mayor advised that the announcement will be advertised on social media.

Mr Davey asked what is Council going to do in terms of transparency of expenditure of the \$1M drought funding. Mr Davey also asked whether there is a cost to Council to use prisoner labour? Mr Davey asked a further question around slashing. Mr Davey noted he thinks the current slashing is fairly poor.

CEO Jim Nolan responded that in respect to how Council will spend the drought funding, Council considered a report at the last Council meeting and resolved to receive a report to bring forward some projects/opportunities at the December Council meeting. Mr Nolan advised that in addition to the \$1M announced by the Prime Minister in September, a further \$1M funding has been announced last week. Council is now in a position to expect \$2M to support drought affected communities for projects to benefit the local economy. In addition to the \$2M there has been an addition annual allocation under the Roads 2 Recovery Program which is approximately \$1.3M. This is still to be confirmed to Council.

Douglas Gowans responded to Mr Davey's question around the use of labour supplied by the Langi Kal Kal Prison. In the past Council was able to obtain labour for community projects at no cost however there is now a cost incurred for the service. Council has utilised this service which benefits the community and also the prison community. It is an avenue for skill development and rehabilitation. Council is conscious that there are commercial operators who do similar work so Council balances the work between both contractors and the Langi Kal Kal service. In relation to the question on slashing, the slashing budget is in the order of a couple of hundred thousand dollars but it is a difficult issue in the timing of slashing program. Council only has enough budget to do one single slash per season on roadsides throughout the entire municipality. On most occasions the slashing is left until the grass has stopped growing. Council has just commenced slashing in the northern part of the municipality and due to weather conditions slashing may be undertaken twice in the southern part. The main purpose of the slashing program is to reduce the fire risk.

Mr Davey asked one further question around what is Council's position on line marking as there are some bad corners. Mr Gowans responded that there were some recent issues with the line marking and there is a number of outstanding line marking jobs to be undertaken. Mr Gowans advised he will be in contact with Mr Davey about the locations of where the line marking is required.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development

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

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on activities within Planning, Development and Regulatory Services, during September 2019.

This report includes four parts:

- Part A: Planning
- Part B: Building
- Part C: Environmental Health
- Part D: Community Safety and Amenities

PART A: PLANNING

The planning activity statistics for September and October 2019 are summarised in the table below:-

Activity	September 2019	October 2019	Financial Year to date
Applications received	5	7	36
Applications completed	12	11	42
Number of referrals	7	3	16
Requests for further information	8	5	26
Estimated cost of works	\$644,296	\$724,070	\$5,312,391

General Enquiries for October 2019		
Enquiry Type	October	Year to date (financial)
Pre-purchase enquiry	47	207
Pre-application enquiry	97	327
Existing permit enquiry	33	95
Current application enquiry	36	171
All other enquiries	38	201
Total Enquiries	251	1,001

Strategic Planning

Pyrenees Futures – Avoca Streetscape

In light of Council’s October resolution to retain 2 lanes in each direction, planning officers have met with the landscape architect consultants to discuss amendments to the Avoca Streetscape Plans. Officers will continue to work with Regional Roads Victoria and other stakeholders, to finalise plans for Council’s consideration at an upcoming meeting.

PART B: BUILDING

Activity

The building activity statistics as at 31/10/2019 are summarised in the table below:

CATEGORY	NUMBER	COMMENT
Permits issued by private Building Surveyor	9	
‘Property Information Certificates’ prepared and issued	19	
‘Report and Consent’ issued	5	
Notices and orders issued	1	
Building permit inspections undertaken	5	
Council issued permits finalised	0	** Council have not issued building permits since June 2018

Key projects & compliance

Three Places of Public Entertainment (PoPE) permits were issued this month which included the Avoca Races, Avoca Comedy Festival & November Sun events.

Assessment of documentation for the 2020 Rainbow Serpent Festival is underway. Officers continue to liaise with the event organisers to ensure that the required approvals can be considered a granted in a timely manner.

The Building Department has developed a program of ‘follow up’ inspections to ensure that Building Notices and Orders have been complied with. Property owners who have not yet complied with outstanding notices and orders are urged to do so.

Council plan / legislative requirements

- Council Plan 2013-2017
- *Building Act* 1993
- Building Regulations 2018

Financial / risk implications

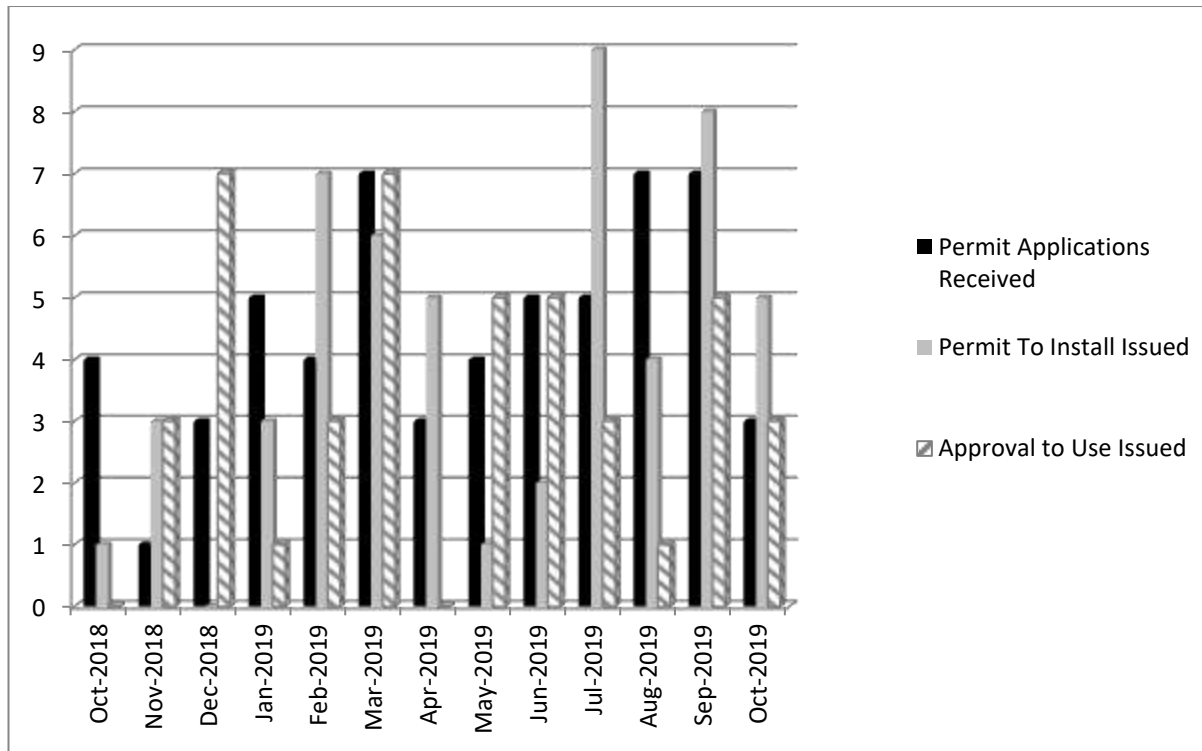
The Municipal Building Surveyor must have regard to any relevant guidelines under the *Building Act* 1993 or subordinate regulations. The building services department must ensure that a responsive service is provided that meets the demand of the building industry within the municipality.

PART C: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Activity: Wastewater

Period	Applications to Install or Alter Septic Tanks Received	Permits to Install or Alter Issued	Approval to Use Issued	Fees Paid
1st – 31st October 2019	3	5	3	\$780

Wastewater activity statistics for October 2019



Monthly wastewater activity (October 2018 to October 2019)

Wastewater related tasks for October 2019	
Septic Tank Inspections	7
Domestic Wastewater Management Plan Inspections	11
Domestic Waste Water Service Agent Reports	19

Activity: Food, Health & Accommodation Premises

Food Act 1984 and Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 Premises activity

Period	New Premises & Renewals	Routine Inspections and Assessments	Follow Up Inspections	Complaints Received about Registered Premises	Food Recalls	Fees Paid
1–31October 2019	4	17	1	0	2	\$2,677

Mobile and Temporary Food Premises in the Shire (Stretrader)

Period	New Applications	New Class 4 Notifications	Routine Inspections and Assessments	New Statements of Trade (SOT)	Fees Paid
1–31October 2019	3	1	0	24	\$0

At 31st October 2019, Pyrenees Shire had 40 current registrations with 43 premises registered, 76 low risk notifications and 220 current Statements of Trade (SOT).

Activity: immunisations

Immunisation sessions were conducted in Beaufort and Avoca whilst the opportunistic immunisations performed by the Maternal Health nurses continued.

Session Type	Number of Clients & Vaccines	2 Month - 4+ Yr Old	Secondary School	Adult
MCHN Opportunistic	Clients	27	0	0
	Vaccines	57	0	0
Beaufort Sessions	Clients	8	0	0
	Vaccines	19	0	0
Avoca Session	Clients	2	0	0
	Vaccines	7	0	0

Immunisation activity statistics for October 2019

Food, Health and Accommodation Renewals

Renewal notices have been sent to all registered food, health and accommodation premises. The current registration period expires on 31st December 2019. Any business that fails to renew their registration prior to expiry and continues to trade unregistered will receive a Penalty Infringement Notice.

Domestic Wastewater Management

Inspections of septic systems at properties in Redbank and Moonambel continued throughout October. Follow up letters and maintenance information is being sent to properties that have been inspected throughout the year. Work continues create a register of all septic tank systems in the Shire.

Compliance issues

- Officers received 12 Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 complaints during October.
- A food premises was issued with a Penalty Infringement Notice for an offence under the Food Act 1984.
- Officers received a complaint from a neighbouring council in relation to a health premises operating from within Pyrenees Shire without a relevant registration.
- Work continues to identify prescribed accommodation businesses operating without registration.

Council plan / legislative requirements

- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2015-2018
- Food Act 1984

- Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008
- Public Health & Wellbeing Regulations 2009
- Tobacco Act 1987
- Environment Protection Act 1970
- EPA Code of practice – onsite wastewater management

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*), Tobacco (*Tobacco Act 1987*) 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 meets the demands of residents within the municipality and complies with legislation.

PART D: LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL

ACTIVITY - Animals

	October 2019	Total Year to date
Cats Registered	609	-
Dogs registered	2491	-
Cats impounded	9	30
Cats reclaimed	0	3
Cats Euthanised	9	25
Dogs impounded	2	16
Dogs Reclaimed	2	13
Dogs Euthanised/surrendered	2	3
Stock impounded	3	9

Registration and impoundment statistics

ACTIVITY - Infringements

Infringement Type	October 2019	Total YTD (2019/20)
Domestic Animals Act	0	53
Local Laws	2	11
Road Safety Act	6	23
Environment Protection Act	0	0
Impounding of Livestock Act	0	0
Other	0	0
Total Infringements Issues	11	88
Prosecutions	2	5

Infringement statistics

Other business

The following two matters were heard in the Magistrates Court this month:

- Unregistered Dog & Dog at large – The accused was fined for not registering a dog and for a dog being at large. The fines remained unpaid and were withdrawn and lodged in the Magistrates Court. There was no appearance from the accused. The matter was found proven and an aggregate fine given of \$806.00 without conviction. The accused was ordered to pay Council costs of \$204.80.



- Dog Attack on neighbour's sheep - The matter was heard and found proven with an aggregate fine of \$2,200.00 with conviction. The accused was also ordered to pay compensation to the victim of \$520.00.

Council plan / legislative requirements

- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Domestic Animals Act 1994
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021
- Environment Protection Act 1970
- Infringements Act 2006
- Impounding of Livestock Act 1994
- Road Safety Act 1986 / Road Safety Road Rules 2017
- Council General Local Law 2019

Local laws and animal control summary

1. A review of existing operational procedures is underway to strengthen the administration of Council's Local Law. The review seeks to achieve fairness and consistency for residents of the shire, whilst ensuring that compliance is effectively achieved.
2. Council continues to investigate matters of non-compliance across the Shire across the Shire



2. PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK – SMART PLANNING REFORM UPDATE

Ed Riley – Strategic Planning Officer

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

File No: 66/18/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council regarding the policy-neutral Smart Planning Reform in respect of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has led the Smart Planning Reform program, which aims to simplify Planning Schemes across the State. Pyrenees Shire Council has been selected as a forerunner for the current stage in the process, known as the 'Planning Policy Framework Translation'. This stage is limited to changes in wording and no changes are being made to the intent or outcome of policies.

Officers have worked in association with Tract Consultants to amend the sections of our Planning Scheme called 'Local Planning Policy Framework' and 'Municipal Strategic Statement'. These sections will be replaced with a 'Planning Policy Framework' and 'Municipal Planning Strategy'. At the current draft stage, the policies subject to review in the Scheme have been simplified either through reducing the number of words or by moving clauses into different places. Such work is periodically required as a good housekeeping measure to ensure changes to State and Regional policies do not duplicate or conflict with local policies.

The changes will require a Planning Scheme Amendment, which will be led by DELWP and will not require formal exhibition.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The wording changes are policy-neutral and therefore have no effect on the decision-making guidelines in the Pyrenees Planning Scheme. The project has reviewed our Planning Scheme in the context of against other recent reforms and the Ministerial Direction on the form and content of Planning Schemes, and redundant text has been edited and deleted as necessary.

In June, Officers reviewed the first draft of the affected Clauses, and in October were given a second opportunity to review subsequent amendments. The changes are considered to meet the brief of the review inasmuch as no changes to policies have been identified.

The Planning Scheme Amendment will be undertaken by the Minister for Planning. As there will be no landowner or other party who may be affected by the changes, no public exhibition will be undertaken and Council will not be responsible for the Planning Scheme Amendment process.

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

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

No financial / risk implications.

CONCLUSION

The planning scheme amendment associated with this project will be led by the Minister for Planning and exempt from public exhibition under section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the progress made on the Planning Policy Framework Translation, and
2. Notes that the Minister for Planning will undertake a Planning Scheme Amendment to formally implement the changes of the Planning Policy Framework Translation into the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

3. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS – OCTOBER 2019

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 16/08/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on requests made through the Customer Action Request System (CARS) for the month of October 2019.

BACKGROUND

Council has operated an electronic Customer Action 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 smart phone “Snap Send Solve” application.

Service requests are received for operational issues regarding maintenance, pools, local laws, building maintenance and compliance matters. The system is also used for internal telephone messaging and case management of some matters.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

237 CARS were received in October 2019, 114 of which related to telephone messages. 186 requests were closed during the month resulting in 254 outstanding. As at the 31st October 2019 the status of CARS was as follows:

- No change in 2017 outstanding CARS – currently at 2
- No change in 2018 outstanding CARS – currently at 13
- 2% increase in total CARS outstanding (from 211 to 219)

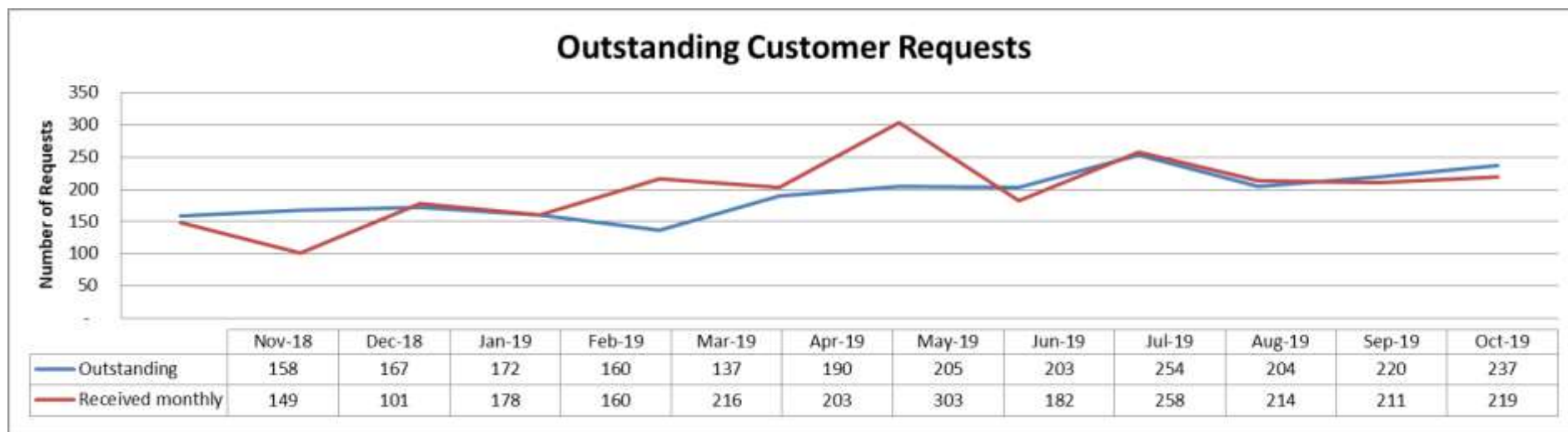
The following table shows an overview of requests received and outstanding by Ward. Requests received over and above these numbers relate to telephone messages which are not allocated by Ward. As at the end of October 2019 43 telephone messages remained open, with 69 being addressed and closed during the month.

	Avoca Ward	Beaufort Ward	De Cameron Ward	Ercildoune Ward	Mount Emu Ward
Number of Requests received in October 2019	38	48	8	17	12
Requests received in October still outstanding	19	23	8	10	7
Outstanding requests older than 1 month	36	44	17	19	29
Total outstanding requests (last month)	55 (46)	67 (54)	35 (21)	29 (22)	36 (34)



Outstanding Requests

Year	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	% Change
2016	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
2017	12	10	6	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0%
2018	143	155	105	65	36	22	17	15	16	14	13	13	-7%
2019			60	90	98	166	186	186	236	188	205	222	18%
Total	158	167	172	160	137	190	205	203	254	204	220	237	16%
Total Received	149	101	178	160	216	203	303	182	258	214	211	219	2%



30 September 2019 - Open Requests - Type			
	Sep-19	Oct-19	Change
Roads	36	41	5
Streetlights	2	2	0
Drainage	21	24	3
Footpaths	11	10	-1
Roadside Vegetation	17	24	7
Environmental Health	0	0	0
Planning	0	2	2
Bld maintenance	11	15	4
Park & Reserves	7	9	2
Local Laws	22	23	1
Fire Hazard	0	1	1
Bld Compliance	1	0	-1
Road Maintenance	23	25	2
Waste Management	1	6	5
Roads Unsealed	4	6	2
Road Maintenance Unsea	9	10	1
Cats	2	2	0
Natural Disasters	0	0	0
Pools	0	0	0
Council Cleaning	1	1	0
EPA - Litter	0	0	0
Design & Assets	0	0	0
GIS	0	0	0
Community Wellbeing	0	0	0
Dogs	10	9	-1
Livestock Act	1	1	0
Parking	0	0	0
Telephone messages	41	43	2
Total	220	254	-34

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Roads and Townships. We will plan, manage, maintain and renew infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

1.1 - Ensure local roads are maintained and renewed in line with adopted plans and strategy to provide a safe transport network and meet community needs.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The Customer Action Request System remains an integral part of Council's reactive identification of issues that need attention, as well as case management of more complex matters. Ongoing focus and effort continues with regard to resolution of customer requests in a timely and effective manner.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the above report.

4. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Cr David Clark – Ercildoune Ward		
October		
Mon 07	In the Loop Session – Economic Development Strategy	Brewster
Tue 08	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing	Avoca
Tue 15	Council meeting	Avoca
Wed 16	Local Government Rating Review Panel Meeting	Ballarat
Thu 17	MAV State Conference	Melbourne
Fri 18	MAV State Council	Melbourne
Fri 25	Waubra Wind Farm 10 Year Celebration	Waubra
Tue 29	Councillor Briefing	Lexton
Tue 29	Statutory Meeting of Council	Lexton
Thu 31	Mediation Session – Planning Application	Beaufort

Cr Robert Vance – De Cameron Ward		
October		
Tue 08	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 08	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Wed 09	RCV Special Meeting	Teleconference
Fri 11	RCV Meeting	Melbourne
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing	Avoca
Tue 15	Council meeting	Avoca
Wed 16	RCV Mayors, Councillors and CEOs Forum	Melbourne
Wed 16	RCV October Committee Meeting	Melbourne
Sat 19	Avoca Races	Avoca

Cr Ron Eason – Avoca Ward		
October		
Tue 08	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 08	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing	Avoca
Tue 15	Council meeting	Avoca
Sat 19	Avoca Races	Avoca
Tue 29	Councillor Briefing	Lexton
Tue 29	Statutory Meeting of Council	Lexton
Thu 31	New Residents Event	Beaufort

Cr Damian Ferrari - Beaufort Ward		
October		
Tue 08	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 08	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing	Avoca
Tue 15	Council meeting	Avoca
Tue 29	Councillor Briefing	Lexton
Tue 29	Statutory Meeting of Council	Lexton

Cr Tanya Kehoe - Mount Emu Ward		
October		
Fri 04	Snake Valley Recreation Reserve Meeting	Snake Valley
Mon 07	In the Loop Session – Economic Development Strategy	Brewster
Tue 08	Councillor Cuppa	Carranballac
Tue 08	Councillor Briefing Session	Beaufort
Tue 15	Councillor Briefing	Avoca
Tue 15	Council meeting	Avoca
Tue 29	Councillor Briefing	Lexton
Tue 29	Statutory Meeting of Council	Lexton
Thu 31	Linear Park Consultation	Snake Valley
Thu 31	New Residents Welcome	Beaufort

5. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	8 October 2019 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 6.00pm		
Meeting Location	Beaufort Council Chambers - 5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort		
Matters Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary Community Care Review Project 2. Avoca Streetscape 3. Fines Victoria 4. Major Projects Update 5. Drought Funding 6. Working Capital Surplus 7. Wind Farms 8. Agenda Review 		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Robert Vance Cr Ron Eason Cr Tanya Kehoe	Cr Damian Ferrari Cr David Clark	
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Asset and Development Services) Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services) Katie Gleisner (Manager Planning and Development) – Items 2 and 3		
Visitors	Craig Kenny – Item 1		
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting
Nil			

MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	15 October 2019 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.45pm		
Meeting Location	Avoca Rural Transaction Centre, 102 High St, Avoca		
Matters Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire Permits 2. Avoca Streetscape 3. Site Inspection for Various Avoca Assets 4. Annual Report 5. Agenda Review 		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Mayor Cr Robert Vance		Cr Tanya Kehoe (4.45pm)
	Cr David Clark		Cr Damian Ferrari
	Cr Ron Eason		
Apologies	Nil		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services) Douglas Gowans (Director Asset and Development Services) Katie Gleisner (Manager Planning and Development) – Item 2 Shana Johnny (Manager Finance) – Item 4		
Visitors			
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting



MEETING INFORMATION			
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session		
Meeting Date	29 October 2019 commenced at 12.30pm and closed at 5.45pm		
Meeting Location	Lexton Community Centre, Lexton		
Matters Discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Onsite Visit of Lexton Community Hub 2. ArtTrax 3. Beaufort Golf Club 4. Old Beaufort Primary School 5. Community Grants 6. Projects for Funding 7. Project Update 8. Vehicles 9. Agenda Review 		
ATTENDEES			
Councillors	Cr David Clark	Cr Tanya Kehoe	
	Cr Ron Eason	Cr Damian Ferrari	
Apologies	Mayor Cr Robert Vance		
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services) Douglas Gowans (Director Asset and Development Services) Ray Davies (Manager Economic Development and Tourism)		
Visitors			
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES			
Matter No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting

CR EASON / CR VANCE

That the items for noting be received.

CARRIED

ITEMS FOR DECISION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

6. LAKE GOLDSMITH STEAM RALLY – SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

Ray Davies – Manager Economic Development and Tourism

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

File No: 32/13/06

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek council's consideration of a revised sponsorship arrangement for the Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally

BACKGROUND

The Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally commenced in the late 1950's and since then has established an international reputation with guests arriving from around the world and some members of the club residing in New Zealand.

The event is run by the Lake Goldsmith Steam Preservation Association and generally attracts between 2,000 and 3,000 patrons per event.

A number of the patrons from around the country use the rallies as a holiday opportunity and in some cases spend a week or more within the region.

This event is managed by a committee of volunteers who are running a significant regional event. Like many community organisations there are a number of committee members running their own small businesses and are often time poor due to the event coordination and logistics involved.

The volunteer committee have been preparing traffic management plans and applications for the required Memorandum of Agreement approvals by Council for some time. In 2015 Council provided a written agreement with LGSPA to install and remove signage following each rally as an in kind contribution. The agreement was subject to review by Council at its discretion.

More recently there have been a number of concerns raised about traffic management and in order to improve the safety of patrons to the event the time has come where the services of a professional traffic management firm are required to assist with preparing traffic management plans in a timely and professional manner as well as having the signs installed by appropriately qualified staff so as to reduce the impost on core duties of Council's works team.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

This proposal would see council underwrite the costs of professional traffic management companies preparing the necessary applications for traffic management controls and having their suitably qualified staff install and remove the signs for each steam rally.

Two written quotes were obtained from reputable traffic management companies for the November 2019 event, the least costly being \$1,684- plus GST. The CEO has authorised sponsorship of this amount for this rally within the delegations allowed under Councils' sponsorship approval policy.

This proposal seeks to put in place a three year sponsorship agreement of up to \$3,500- plus GST per year to cover the associated traffic management approvals and installations for the two rallies per year.

The reasons for supporting the rally with this level of sponsorship include:-

- The event has established a global reputation with steam enthusiasts since it commenced in the late 1950's. It draws international visitors and supporters from around Australia and therefore makes a positive contribution to the profile of the Pyrenees Shire
- Interstate and intrastate visitors often remain in the region for around one week at the time of the event. Some of these are taking advantage of the Beaufort Caravan Park and the recently developed free camp site and therefore contribute to the Beaufort economy
- The attendance at the rallies (while weather dependant) is generally around three thousand people per event
- The members of LGSPA get great satisfaction from the interaction with other steam enthusiasts which has a positive impact on men's health in a similar way that men's sheds do
- The event provides fund raising for local community groups such as the CFA, Apex, Rotary and others

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.

5.4 - Increase the visitor economy by implementing the Pyrenees Shire Council Tourism Strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

This sponsorship proposal of \$3,500- per annum (plus GST) falls within the allocated 2019-20 council budget. Provisions will need to be made in future budgets to cater for this commitment in the following three financial years at which time the agreement should be reviewed.

Providing this support will mitigate the risks to patrons of the rally and road users in the vicinity of the rally by providing traffic controls planned for and installed by reputable traffic management companies.

CONCLUSION

Providing the Lake Goldsmith Steam Preservation Association with the support outlined in this report will assist a time poor volunteer group with the professional expertise to facilitate essential traffic controls required by VicRoads and Council that support safe traffic conditions for patrons of this event and passing traffic.

It is therefore recommended that Council endorse support of up to \$3,500- plus GST per annum for the next three years to ameliorate the costs of professional services of traffic management companies.

The agreement would then be reviewed following the November 2022 steam rally.

CR VANCE / CR CLARK

That Council approves a sponsorship commitment for the Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally as recommended in this report.

CARRIED

7. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Ray Davies – Manager Economic Development and Tourism

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

File No: 22/18/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the preliminary draft of the economic development strategy and update on progress of this project

BACKGROUND

Work commenced in mid-August on updating Council's economic development strategy following the expiry of the 2015-18 Growth Strategy.

To date the following activities have been undertaken to assist with developing the new strategy:-

- Reviewing the 2015-18 Growth Strategy
- Research into the latest available (Remplan) economic and (ABS) demographic and other data
- Reviewing economic development and tourism strategies at a state, regional and local government level, including those municipalities within the Grampians Region that share common industries with the Shires key propulsive sectors. In particular these include the sheep, grains, cattle, wine, construction and tourism sectors.
- Holding "Keep Me in the Loop" community engagement forums during October at Brewster, Beaufort, Moonambel and Avoca. Options were provided at each location to attend either an afternoon session or an evening session. Approximately 60 people attended these sessions.
- Conducting a survey of local businesses and community members throughout the month of October. These were promoted at the Keep Me in the Loop events, Council's public notices, Councils Facebook and web pages as well as by face to face contact and by direct email to eighty five businesses.

The focus of the new economic development strategy will be to build on the foundations of economic development work in recent years, to capitalise on new opportunities and identify strategies to overcome challenges that are likely to present obstacles to growth of the businesses sector.

The projects during recent years include improved road networks, water infrastructure, telecommunications, residential and industrial land development, natural gas in Avoca, and the straw to energy project.

There has also been a significant body of work completed with the Grampians Pyrenees Wine and Culinary Tourism Marketing Plan and the Grampians Region Cycle Strategy which identified a number of desirable cycle experiences in the Pyrenees that are yet to be developed.

The three key objectives identified in the 2015-18 Growth Strategy are still considered relevant today. These are:-

1. Attract new residents, visitors and investment
2. Foster the capability of key economic sectors
3. Develop local business and employee capacity

The new strategy will explore the trend in the Shire's population as it increases towards 10,000- people and what actions council needs to consider with a population of this magnitude.

Workforce expansion in Ararat and Stawell combined with significant population growth in the western suburbs of Ballarat will have flow on effects for the population in the Pyrenees. Victoria in the Future estimates circulated by the Victorian government project that the population of Ballarat will grow by 38,600 people by 2036. This growth will predominantly occur in the western growth zone in Lucas and Delacombe which is a short distance to commute from a number of towns in the Pyrenees, a trend which has already commenced.

Consequently there are a range of jobs in primary production, manufacturing, food processing, public administrating and safety, health and education either within the Shire or in these neighbouring municipalities that will contribute to residential housing demand in the Pyrenees. The development by Council of residential land at Correa Park has already provided an indication of the level of demand that exists.

In terms of business numbers there were 816 businesses operating in the Shire as at June 2018. Of these 478 do not have any employees, 328 have up to 19 employees and only 10 with more than twenty employees.

The major private sector industries within the economy are the sheep, grains, cattle, wine, construction and tourism sectors. Initiatives that build the resilience of the businesses within these sectors will support further growth in employment and population.

Of those businesses which provided responses to the business survey 26% advised they anticipated increasing their staff levels within the next three years while the remainder predicted no change. Supporting those businesses with aspirations for growth will result in new employment opportunities.

Growing the population will also come with its challenges such as with increased demand for the health and education sectors, and the capacity of existing schools and health service providers to accommodate this demand.

Project work will continue to deliver the priority tourism actions identified in the Grampians Pyrenees Wine and Culinary Tourism Marketing Plan and the Pyrenees projects identified in the Grampians Region Cycle Strategy.

Council has also been invited to participate in the UNESCO bid for world heritage status of the Victorian Goldfields Region.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The strategy provided with this report is a preliminary draft only.

It is being presented to council for its feedback so that further refinement can be made to the document including formatting and design, prior to being made available to the public for their comment.

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.

5.3 - Grow the economy by implementing the Pyrenees Shire Council Growth Strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

7.1 Preliminary Draft Economic Development Strategy - *circulated separately*



FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The development of this strategy has been completed by officers employed by Council with a nominal amount of costs associated with the community engagement phase and design work for the final strategy.

Council has also engaged an Industry Placement Program student from Federation University to assist with the development of this strategy. The cost of the IPP program to Council is \$20,000-.

The student is undertaking his final studies in accountancy and during the placement will also be supporting Council's Finance Department.

CONCLUSION

The document provided with this report is a preliminary draft only for feedback from council.

Further refinement of the document will then be undertaken to take into account councillor feedback which, once completed, will be presented to Council in draft form prior to being released to the community for their feedback.

CR CLARK / CR FERRARI

That Council:

1. Receives the preliminary draft strategy.
2. Seeks that the revised draft version of the Economic Development Strategy be presented to the December Council Meeting prior to being made available to the community for feedback.

CARRIED

ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

8. UNUSED ROAD LICENCE CANCELLATION – PARISH OF EVERSLEY

Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development Services

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

File No: 66/22/06

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's determination that a 600m section of unused government road license, in the parish of Eversley, be cancelled to facilitate access for the Crowlands Wind Farm power transmission site.

BACKGROUND

Pacific Hydro is the owner and developer of the Crowlands Wind Farm and has requested to have a 600 meter section of unused government road reopened for public access.

The section of government roads runs north-west off Spring Flat Road and exists between lot 1 and lot 2 of TP966073.

The power transmission site is located on an allotment that is owned by Pacific Hydro (lot 1 PS811585). The allotment was subdivided from a larger property, and currently does not have unrestricted legal access.

The road has been constructed to a standard that satisfies the *Infrastructure Design Manual* and will be managed and maintained by Pacific Hydro.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Section 408(1) of the Land Act 1958, provides that:

If a municipal council considers that it is desirable in the public interest that a licence under Division 8 of Part I or section 138 of this Act in respect of any unused road in the municipal district of that municipal council should be varied or cancelled it shall so inform the Minister or any person authorized to grant licences and the Minister or that person, may, after three months' notice has been given to the licensee, vary or cancel the licence.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Roads and Townships. We will plan, manage, maintain and renew infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

ATTACHMENTS

- 8.1 Tenure Map
- 8.2 Aerial site map

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The ongoing management and maintenance of this road asset will be undertaken by Pacific Hydro. The cancellation of this section of licenced road will not result in the road being included on Council's Road Register.

CONCLUSION

The described section of unused government road licence should be cancelled to allow unrestricted legal access to the freehold allotment that hosts the Crowlands Windfarm power transmission facility.

CR VANCE / CR FERRARI

That Council:

1. Determines that the described section of unused government road is required for public access.
2. Resolves to inform the Minister (or any person authorised to grant licenses) that the described section of government road should be cancelled in accordance with section 407(1) of the Land Act 1958.

CARRIED

9. PYRENEES BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

Ed Riley – Strategic Planning Officer

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

File No: 66/19/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of the Future Landscapes - Pyrenees Biodiversity Action Plan 2016.

BACKGROUND

The Pyrenees Biodiversity Action Plan [BAP] was prepared as part of the Future Landscapes project and published in 2016 under the banner 'Regional Agricultural and Biodiversity Climate Adaptation and Opportunities', aims to strengthen the capacity of the people of the Pyrenees to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity across the Shire, under the significant threats of land use change and climate change.

The Strategy was developed based on local environmental context, evaluated biodiversity assets, and modelled climate-change impacts on key ecosystems. Community and stakeholder engagement was undertaken in its preparation. The BAP identified some 733 species of native plants and a further 285 native animals species in the Shire.

The BAP was prepared in association with Hepburn Shire, Golden Plains Shire, Pyrenees Shire, Moorabool Shire, City of Ballarat Councils, and also Cultivate Agribusiness Central Highlands Inc. The authors of the BAP were employed by the Deakin University School of Life and Environmental Sciences. The BAP sets out a strategy to respond to the identified biodiversity challenges. This strategy has informed the Pyrenees Futures work in the development of the Framework Plans that Council has adopted for Snake Valley, Waubra and Lexton. The BAP will also provide evidence for the Framework Plans that remain to be prepared across the Shire.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Biodiversity Action Plan was authored by experts in biodiversity management, who relied on stakeholder and community engagement. Colleagues in the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning have advised that formal adoption of the BAP by Council is required as the Pyrenees Futures Framework Plans will provide controls in the Pyrenees Planning Scheme.

The BAP identifies threats to existing biodiversity and sets out a mitigation strategy. The strategy outlines methods for the protection and revival of existing and historic ecosystems in the Shire, with continued community engagement. Such an outcome will ensure a good balance between human and natural activities without unduly impacting on residents or business operations. This balance will enable protection of productive land and help contribute to the continuation and rebirth of natural environments that our communities enjoy and benefit from, and which makes the Shire attractive to visitors and new residents alike.

The BAP will inform Council's planning practices and support the development of tools to optimise food and fibre production, landscapes and biodiversity protection.

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.



ATTACHMENTS

9.1 Pyrenees Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications.

CONCLUSION

By adopting the BAP, Council will strengthen its capacity to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity across the Shire. The BAP will inform Council’s strategic planning and economic development directions.

CR CLARK / CR FERRARI

That Council adopts the Pyrenees Biodiversity Action Plan 2016.

CARRIED

10. PA 2871/19 – TWO LOT SUBDIVISION

Katie Gleisner – Manager Planning and Development

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

File No: 508007770

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the state and local planning policy that is relevant to making a decision on Planning permit application PA2871/19 for a Two (2) Lot Subdivision at Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 647866A (Vol: 11503, Fol:030), 12 Church Road, Trawalla 3373.

BACKGROUND

The planning permit application seeks planning permission to subdivide the 8.216 hectare (“Ha”) lot into two (2) lots. The two (2) proposed lots will be made up as follows:

- Lot 1 is 6.17 Ha and contains a power supply (overhead) and transmission of electricity easement. This lot is to contain the existing single dwelling.
- Lot 2 is 2.046 Ha and proposes to contain an electricity easement. Access to the site is via Dunstan Court to the north.

The land is zoned for Rural Living and is partially subject to the Public Acquisition Overlay (“PAO1”) for ‘Road construction or road widening’ in association with the Western Highway duplication project. The site is adjacent to Dunstan Court which is a Road Category 1 Zone (managed by VicRoads).

A permit is required under:

- Clause 35.03 – Rural Living Zone,
- Clause 45.01 – Public Acquisition Overlay; and
- Clause 52.29 – Land adjacent to a road zone, Category 1, or a Public Acquisition Overlay for a Category 1 Road

to subdivide land.

SITE CONTEXT

Location: Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 647866A (Vol: 11503, Fol:030), 12 Church Road, Trawalla

Area: 8.216 hectares

Zone: Rural Living Zone (“RLZ”)

Overlays: Public Acquisition Overlay (“PAO1”)

Current Use: Residential

Existing Structures/features: Single dwelling

Access: Church Road which adjoins the site to the west.

Other: Abuts Road Category 1 Zone, contains an area of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity and contains a waterway which runs parallel to the northern boundary.

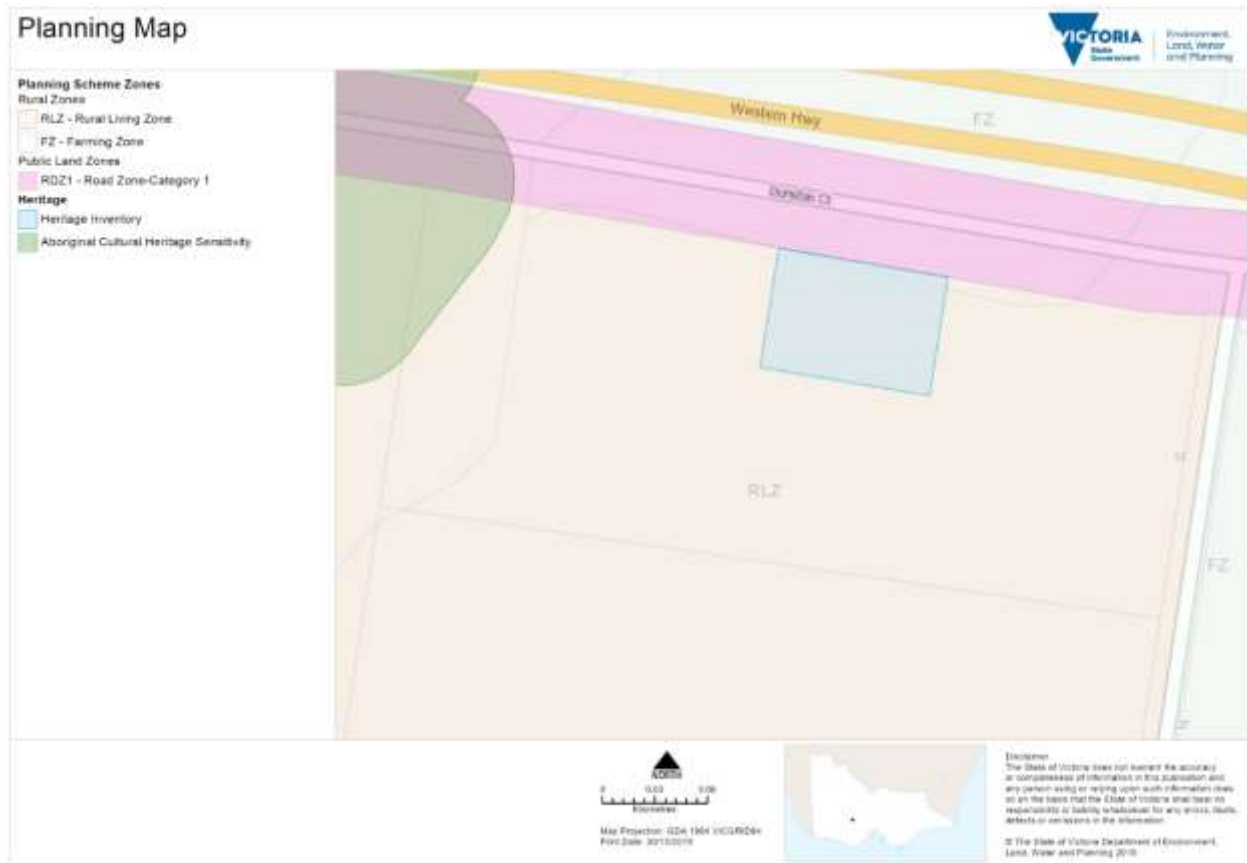


Figure 1: The proposed site

The site contains an area of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity to the northwest and a Heritage Inventory site. The Heritage Inventory site (Heritage Inventory (HI) Number: H7523-0084) is an Amazon Mine consisting of:

“Two adjacent mine shafts with the lower sections of the mine-heads still intact above ground, formed by thick wooden beams. Machinery has been forced into the shafts to block them up. Iron machinery lies in the vicinity including the drum of a boiler and a small brick feature. Mullock heaps of spoil lie to the south.”

Victorian Heritage Database Report – Amazon Mine at Western Highway, Trawalla (H7523-00840)
(Bannear, D 2019)

The history place is described as:

“The site lies in the centre of the Mount Emu Creek floodplain west of Trawalla, an area of gold mining activity during the first half of the 20th century. The present site can be identified as the Amazon mine, a reef mine that operated in 1937-8 (Cayley and McDonald 1995,95). The mine was not particularly successful, and only remained operational thanks to government support (Nunan 1971, 12). After the initial gold rushes of the 1850s, there followed further phases of mining activity in the 1880s; the period 1913-1918; and to a limited extent in the 1930s, during the depression (Nunan 1971, 11). Most mining activity in the region occurred northeast of Beaufort, though there were also operations close to Trawalla (Nunan 1971, 11). Four alluvial mines dating from the first half of the 20th century are depicted on a map of mines in the Trawalla area: Unity, Trawalla Leads, Amazon and Southern Hope.”

Victorian Heritage Database Report – Amazon Mine at Western Highway, Trawalla (H7523-00840)
(Bannear, D 2019)

The Amazon Mine is interpreted to encompass:

“Historical records indicate that the Amazon mine was in operation from 1937-8. The remains of Report generated 23/10/19 the mine shafts and associated equipment probably date from these years. They are indicative of the mining work that took place at the site, which is the main function represented. At a broader spatial scale, the site can be related with two other mines on the Mount Emu Creek plain: Trawalla Leads, which is 300 m to the southwest and Unity Mine, 550 m to the southwest. A fourth mine - Southern Hope - is 875 m to the southeast. It is unlikely that there were further activities at the site after the mine's closure at the end of the 1930s.”

Victorian Heritage Database Report – Amazon Mine at Western Highway, Trawalla (H7523-00840)
(Bannear, D 2019)

An assessment of archaeological significance of the site shows:

“The main archaeological features are situated above ground and there may be few subsurface features and artefacts. The site's significance is that it is a relic of the latest phase of gold mining that occurred in the region, and so it has significance from an industrial archaeological perspective. The site therefore has moderate local significance, though the potential for investigation might be limited.”

Victorian Heritage Database Report – Amazon Mine at Western Highway, Trawalla (H7523-00840)
(Bannear, D 2019)

REFERRALS AND NOTICE

Under Section 52 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987* (The **Act**), notice was sent to four (4) adjoining landowners directly abutting the site in accordance with the scheme. A single submission was received and is summarised within this report. Public notice was also provided through Council's website.

The application was also referred to Heritage Victoria, who responded that they do not object to the proposed subdivision.

Under Section 55 of the Act, the application was referred to the Roads Corporation (VicRoads), in their capacity as a determining authority. VicRoads have provided conditional consent to the granting of a planning permit.

The application was also subject to internal to Council's Engineering Department, who do not oppose the proposed development subject to a range of conditions.

Submissions

One submission was received in relation to the application during the notice period. The grounds of the submission have been summarised below:

1. *The only access point to enter the proposed 2ha block would be through [my] crossover on Dunstan Court and down [my] nature strip (as I live next door).*

2. *There is no access via Dunstan Court due to the Vic Roads barrier, even if VicRoads removes this barrier, the nature strip along the whole block floods.*
3. *Unsuitable as a future block to build on as it floods every winter.*
4. *People using [my] driveway to access the land subdivided*
5. *Due to the block flooding the only higher point to future build is right on the boundary fence next to our dam affecting our property.*

In response to the above objections, the assessing officer provides the following:

1. In accordance with the Section 55 referral response from the Roads Corporation (VicRoads) and Council's Engineering Department, the issue of access to the site has been considered and will not require the use of a private and adjoining driveway, as suggested in the objecting submission. A new access will be conditionally required prior to the issuing of the Statement of Compliance under the *Subdivision Act 1988*, and the access must be constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Any new access can be accommodated within the existing road reserve.
2. Further to the above point, the Roads Corporation (VicRoads) did not object to the granting of a planning permit subject to the following condition:
"Any future creation of access to Lot 2 will require a break in the Wire Rope Barrier and new terminals installed to the satisfaction of and at no cost to the Roads Corporation."
The construction of any new crossover will be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and may require the installation of culverts.
3. The site is not subject to a Design and Development Overlay (Potential flood prone areas), the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and Floodway Overlay. Anecdotal evidence of previous flooding at the site has been noted, however cannot be substantiated. Further, the location of any future dwelling will need to satisfy the Building Act 1993, at which time flooding will be considered by the Building Surveyor.
4. As per 1 and 2 above.
5. Any future development must consider the requirements of the Environment Protection Authority's ("EPA") – Code of Practice for Onsite Wastewater Management. The minimum setback distance from a waterway or dam (stock and domestic, non-potable) is 30m for a secondary and 60m for a primary sewage and greywater system. Further, in accordance with the Schedule 1 to the Rural Living Zone, minimum setbacks from boundaries, roads and dwellings not in the same ownership is not specified. The siting of the dwelling will be determined by a Building Permit and the relevant testing and requirements as specified under the *Building Act 1993*.

Planning Considerations

Under Section 60 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the below planning matters must be taken into consideration by Council when assessing the application.

Table 1: Relevant State Planning Policy Framework which must be considered in the context of this application.

STATE PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK	
Settlement (Clause 11)	
Anticipate and respond to the needs of existing and future communities through provision of zoned and serviced land for housing, employment, recreation and open space, commercial and community facilities and infrastructure.	
Clause 11.02-1S – Supply of urban land	<p><u>Objectives</u> To ensure a sufficient supply of land is available for residential, commercial, retail, industrial, recreational, institutional and other community uses.</p> <p><u>Strategies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the ongoing provision of land and supporting infrastructure to support sustainable urban development. • Planning for urban growth should consider: • Opportunities for the consolidation, redevelopment and intensification of existing urban areas. • Neighbourhood character and landscape considerations.
Environmental and Landscape Values (Clause 12)	
Protect, restore and enhance sites and features of nature conservation, biodiversity, geological or landscape value.	
Clause 12.03-1S River corridors, waterways, lakes and wetlands	<p><u>Objective</u> To protect and enhance river corridors, waterways, lakes and wetland</p> <p><u>Strategies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure development does not compromise bank stability, increase erosion or impact on a water body or wetland's natural capacity to manage flood flow. • Facilitate growth in established settlements where water and wastewater can be managed.
Environmental Risks and Amenity (Clause 13)	
Aim to avoid or minimise natural and human-made environmental hazards, environmental degradation and amenity conflicts	
Natural Resource Management (Clause 14)	
Must assist in the conservation and wise use of natural resources including energy, land, stone and minerals to support both environmental quality and sustainable development and that planning should ensure agricultural land is managed sustainably, while acknowledging the economic importance of agricultural production.	



<p>Built Environment and Heritage (Clause 15)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring all land use and development appropriately responds to its surrounding landscape and character, valued built form and cultural context Supporting the establishment and maintenance of communities by delivering functional, accessible, safe and diverse physical and social environments, through the appropriate location of use and development and through high quality buildings and urban design. 	
<p>Clause 15.01-3S Subdivision design</p>	<p><u>Objective</u> To ensure the design of subdivisions achieves attractive, safe, accessible, diverse and sustainable neighbourhoods.</p> <p><i>Strategies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the development of new residential areas and in the redevelopment of existing areas, subdivision should be designed to create liveable and sustainable communities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing a range of lot sizes to suit a variety of dwelling and household types to meet the needs and aspirations of different groups of people. Creating an urban structure and providing utilities and services that enable energy efficiency, resource conservation, integrated water management and minimisation of waste and air pollution.
<p>Clause 15.01-5S Neighbourhood character</p>	<p><u>Objective</u> To recognise, support and protect neighbourhood character, cultural identity, and sense of place.</p> <p><i>Strategies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure development responds to its context and reinforces a sense of place and the valued features and characteristics of the local environment and place by emphasising the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pattern of local urban structure and subdivision. Underlying natural landscape character and significant vegetation. Heritage values and built form that reflect community identity
<p>Clause 15.03-1S Heritage conservation</p>	<p><u>Objective</u> To ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance.</p> <p><i>Strategies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide for the protection of natural heritage sites and man-made resources. Provide for the conservation and enhancement of those places that are of aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, scientific or social significance. Encourage appropriate development that respects places with identified heritage values.
<p>Clause 15.03-2S Aboriginal cultural heritage</p>	<p><u>Objective</u> To ensure the protection and conservation of places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.</p> <p><i>Strategies</i> Provide for the protection and conservation of pre-contact and post-contact Aboriginal cultural heritage places.</p>

Table 2: Relevant Local Planning Policy Framework which must be considered in the context of this application.

LOCAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK	
<p>Clause 21.03 Settlement, Built Environment and Heritage</p>	<p>Clause 21.03-1 Settlement The settlement policies for the Shire are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage the consolidation and enhancement of existing urban centres, through the provision of the widest possible range of services and facilities and the provision of a diverse range of housing types and lifestyle opportunities. • To encourage new urban development which makes efficient use of existing physical and servicing infrastructure. • To allow for urban expansion only in areas which have a suitability for specified uses and which represents an orderly extension of existing settlements and infrastructure. <p>Clause 21.03-3 Heritage</p> <p><u>Objective 1</u> To conserve and enhance individual places and precincts of cultural heritage significance in relation to 19th and 20th century settlement and associated development.</p> <p><i>Strategies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and retain physical evidence of the Shire’s important gold history in the mining sites, mullock heaps and related workings. • Assess proposed developments in heritage areas to have regard and respect for the character, integrity and composition of the areas. <p><u>Objective 2</u> To promote respectful and sympathetic new work for sites and buildings in heritage areas.</p> <p><i>Strategies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and facilitate development in heritage areas that responds to the character, form, scale and context of its surrounding environment and makes a positive contribution to the heritage area through innovative design <p><u>Objective 3</u> To conserve individual places of known Aboriginal cultural heritage significance</p> <p><i>Strategies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish appropriate planning guidelines and provisions to protect known Aboriginal heritage places from inappropriate development and ensure where appropriate that proposals respond to the character, form, scale and context of these places.



<p>Clause 21.04 Environmental and Landscape Values & Risks</p>	<p>Clause 21.04-1 Natural environment The environmental policies for the Shire are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To minimise the potential of new development and land use causing pollution of waterways, water storages and ground water resources, land degradation, fire hazards or other adverse environmental impacts.
<p>Clause 21.05 Rural Development</p>	<p>Clause 21.05-3 – Rural living areas <u>Objective</u> To provide for appropriately located rural residential development.</p> <p><u>Strategies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that opportunities for rural residential development continue to be provided in intrinsically attractive areas on the periphery of existing townships and settlements so that residents may take advantage of the facilities and services available in these communities.

Table 3: Relevant Zones and Overlays which must be considered in the context of this application.

<p>ZONE</p>	
<p>Clause 35.03 Rural Living Zone</p>	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for residential use in a rural environment. To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision. <p>Clause 35.03-5 Decision Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework The capability of the land to accommodate the proposed use or development. Whether the site is suitable for the use or development and whether the proposal is compatible with adjoining and nearby land uses. The impact on the natural physical features and resources of the area and in particular any impact caused by the proposal on soil and water quality and by the emission of noise, dust and odours The location of on-site effluent disposal areas to minimise the impact of nutrient loads on waterways and native vegetation. The impact on the character and appearance of the area or features of architectural, historic or scientific significance or of natural scenic beauty or importance
<p>OVERLAY</p>	
<p>Clause 45.01 Public Acquisition Overlay</p>	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify land which is proposed to be acquired by a Minister, public authority or municipal council. To reserve land for a public purpose and to ensure that changes to the use or development of the land do

	<p>not prejudice the purpose for which the land is to be acquired.</p> <p>Clause 45.01-4 Decision guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect of the proposed use or development on the purpose for which the land is to be acquired as specified in the schedule to this overlay. • The Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
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Table 4: Relevant Particular and General Provisions which must be considered in the context of this application.

PARTICULAR PROVISIONS	
<p>Clause 52.29 – Land adjacent to a road zone, Category 1, or a Public Acquisition Overlay for a Category 1 Road</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure appropriate access to identified roads. To ensure appropriate subdivision of land adjacent to identified roads. <p>Clause 52.29-6 Decision guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework. • The views of the relevant road authority. • The effect of the proposal on the operation of the road and on public safety.
GENERAL PROVISIONS	
<p>Clause 65.02 Approval of an application to subdivide land</p>	<p>Before deciding on an application to subdivide land, the responsible authority must also consider, as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suitability of the land for subdivision. • The existing use and possible future development of the land and nearby land. • The availability of subdivided land in the locality, and the need for the creation of further lots. • The effect of development on the use or development of other land which has a common means of drainage. • The subdivision pattern having regard to the physical characteristics of the land including existing vegetation. • The density of the proposed development. • The area and dimensions of each lot in the subdivision. • The layout of roads having regard to their function and relationship to existing roads. • The availability and provision of utility services, including water, sewerage, drainage, electricity and gas. • If the land is not sewered and no provision has been made for the land to be sewered, the capacity of the land to treat and retain all sewage and sullage within the boundaries of each lot

DISCUSSION

The Local and State Planning Policy Framework provides for and supports the diversification of subdivision design and rural living opportunities. It also seeks to ensure that planning permit applications for the use and development of land does not compromise the environmental values of an area or create potential for conflict between different land uses. Whilst this application does not include any proposed development works, the application must be considered in this context as an additional planning permission for the future development of a dwelling may not be required given the proposed lot size.

The proposed subdivision allows for suitably located rural residential growth, particularly within the Rural Living Zone of Trawalla. In particular, this zone is typically applied to the outskirts of settlements and township areas to allow for residential living in the rural environment without impacting on agricultural land uses. The zone provides for a primarily residential function with urban residential amenity expectations. Further, the area is serviced by the Western Highway, providing transport links to major centres such as Ballarat and Ararat, as well as into Beaufort, which functions as a “service and community centre to the surrounding rural area” (Clause 21.06-1 Beaufort, Pyrenees Planning Scheme). The proposed subdivision is a suitable and good planning outcome for the area, and is compatible with adjoining and nearby land uses. The proposed lot size is considered to be capable of accommodating future developments, including a wastewater system.

The objection made against the application has been considered, and whilst made on planning grounds and in line with the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, is not considered to provide a sufficient basis to refuse the application.

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

- 10.1 Planning Permit application PA2871/19 including referral response from VicRoads – *circulated separately*
- 10.2 Copy of objection – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

An application determined by council or under delegation of council and which is subject to appeal rights at VCAT, may incur costs in the form of representation (consultant) fees and staff resources.

CONCLUSION

The application for a two lot subdivision meets the requirements of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme, including the requirements of the Rural Living Zone and applicable State and Local Planning Policies.

One objection was received, however not deemed sufficient to refuse the application. Conditions on the permit respond to a number of issues including matters raised in the objection.

The application has been assessed against the Decision Guidelines at Clause 65 and is shown to be compliant.

Accordingly it is recommended that Council issues a notice of decision to grant a permit, subject to appropriate conditions.

CR CLARK / CR EASON

That Council, having considered all matters required under Section 60 of the Act 1987 and the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme determines to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit under the provisions of the Pyrenees Planning Scheme for a Two (2) Lot Subdivision at Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 647866A (Vol: 11503, Fol:030), 12 Church Road, Trawalla 3373, subject to the following conditions:

Plans

1. The subdivision allowed by this permit and shown on the endorsed plans must not be amended for any reason without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.

Mandatory conditions

Provision of Services

2. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage, sewerage facilities, electricity, gas and telecommunication services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.

Easements

3. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing or required utility services and roads on the land must be set aside in the plan of subdivision submitted for certification in favour of the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created.

Referral of Plan of Subdivision

4. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the *Subdivision Act* 1988 must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of that Act.

VicRoads conditions

5. Any future creation of access to Lot 2 will require a break in the Wire Rope Barrier and new terminals installed to the satisfaction of and at no cost to the Roads Corporation.

Note: Separate consent for works within the road reserve is required under the Road Management Act.

Vehicle Access

6. A Road Excavation Permit will be required for any works to install or upgrade a driveway.
7. Prior to the Statement of Compliance under the Subdivision Act 1988, the applicant must construct any vehicle works in accordance with the endorsed plans or as specified by this permit to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and the Infrastructure Design Manual.
8. Construction works as required by this permit must not result in excavated or construction materials being placed or stored outside the site area or on the adjoining road reserves, except where the materials are required in connection with any road or footpath construction works in such reserves that are required as part of this permit.
9. Care must be taken to preserve the condition of existing infrastructure adjacent to the site. If any damage to existing infrastructure occurs as a result of this development, the affected infrastructure must be replaced, and the full cost met, by the developer, to the specification and satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

10. No polluted and/or sediment laden run-off is to be discharged from construction works directly or indirectly into Pyrenees Shire Council's drains or watercourses. To this end, gross pollutant or litter traps must be provided on site during construction of required works.

11. All vehicle access works shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority prior to the development hereby approved commencing

Note: Please contact Council's Engineering Department as the construction or altering of a vehicle crossing, footpath and/or any other works or alterations within a road reserve or any other Council asset may require either a Road Excavation Permit (which includes a driveway and new crossover), or other approval to be obtained from the Pyrenees Shire Council. This Planning Permit does not constitute such approval. Failure to obtain an appropriate permit or damaging Council infrastructure, including footpaths, kerbs, drains, street trees, nature strips etc. or failing to remove redundant crossings and reinstate the kerb, drain, footpath, nature strip or other part of the road is a breach of the Pyrenees Shire Council development requirements

Time for starting and completion

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

- a. The plan of subdivision is not certified within two (2) years of the date of this permit.
- b. The plan of subdivision is not registered at Land Registry within five (5) years of the certification of the subdivision.

The plan of subdivision must be certified within two (2) years of the date of issue of this Permit unless the Responsible Authority grants an extension of the Permit upon application in writing by the developer within six (6) months of the prescribed expiry date. Once the plan of subdivision is certified, the Permit will expire five (5) years from the date of certification of the plan of subdivision. There is no provision to grant an extension of time for a Certified Plan

Permit Notes:

Heritage Victoria

- In accordance with Section 123 of the Heritage Act 2017, any proposed works which may impact a historical archaeological site are likely to require approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, in the form of a Heritage Act Consent.

CARRIED

11. FIRE PERMITS

Douglas Gowans – Director Asset and Development Services

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

File No: 28/08/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's support to transition from Council issued Schedule 13 Permits to Burn to wholly undertaken by the CFA.

BACKGROUND

- CFA Act provides provision for a number of agencies and personnel to undertake Permits to Burn during the Fire Restriction period.
- There are a number of types of permits that can be issued including Schedule 13 and 14 Permits
- Other Councils have transitioned to purely CFA issued permits.
- The EMV is also undertaking a program looking at whether this should be a CFA only activity.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Schedule 13 Permits are requested by the agricultural sector within Pyrenees Shire typically between February and the end of the fire restriction period (typically May). Over the past few years the amount of permits provided each year is approximately 300.

Officers provide details of the lead time required to assess and issue a permit, this is normally a five day period but has extended to ten days in peak times. The individuals seeking permits often wish to undertake the burning activity either on the day that they come in to seek the permit or within the next 24-48 hours. This leads to anger and disappointment in that the customer's request can often not be accommodated and puts strain on Council staff to try to accommodate these requests. There are also questions around liability relating to the issuing of permits. Council officers have diligently reviewed each permit to ensure that adequate breaks, appropriate resources and strict conditions are placed on each permit. This often involves an inspection of the breaks or photographic evidence and a review of how well managed each individual burning activity has occurred in the past. These checks are resource hungry and create delays in being able to provide a permit. The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer has been assisted with additional personnel during these peak periods but the strain on the organisation is felt across many departments including customer service, records and the environment and sustainability department.

The period at which permits to burn occur is also at the time that follow-up inspections of breaches of fire notices are at their peak. This often leads to a prioritisation of the permits to burn which can lead to not taking action for non-compliance of fire notices. This is detrimental to ensuring that our community is compliant with their obligations for fire management.

The CEO and the MFPO have had discussions with the Operations Manager of the CFA regarding the matter and the following options are prescribed for Council consideration:

Options

Option 1 – continue issuing permits

Option 2 – discontinue issuing permits immediately

Option 3 – transition to not issuing permits after the 2019/20 fire season



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.

5.7 - Develop and enforce appropriate Local Laws and policies to protect amenity and environmental values which are reflective of community expectations.

CFA Act 1958

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are liability risks associated with issuing permits. These risks can be associated where a permit has been issued, the conditions followed but the fire still gets away and has impacts on neighbouring properties. Council could be implicated in any damages resulting from such an incident.

Costs associated with issuing fire permits have been estimated at approximately \$100 per permit. Council does not currently charge for permits and would potentially be unpalatable for the community if such a charge were implemented. The cost incurred includes officer time to assess applications and undertake site visits to ensure that fire breaks are in place. This cost is a hidden cost and is distributed across the community through rates charges. If Council were to withdraw from issuing permits Council officer time could be redirected to other hazard follow-ups including enforcement of fire notice breaches, and community safety and amenity duties.

CONCLUSION

The ability to burn stubbles is an important part of agricultural management within the Pyrenees Shire. The resources required to issue permits are not currently meeting community expectations. There are also issues regarding liability associated with the issuing of permits.

CR FERRARI / CR EASON

That Council:

1. Withdraws from issuing Permits to Burn starting at the 2019/20 fire season.
2. Notifies the CFA of Council's position.
3. Works with the CFA to ensure that there are easily accessible permit application options for the 2019/20 fire season.

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

12. RATE CAP 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 52/04/20

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's determination as to whether an increase should be sought on the rate cap for 2020-2021 financial year.

BACKGROUND

The Victorian Government introduced rate capping effective from the 2015-2016 financial year. In previous years, the rate cap set ranged between 2.0% and 2.5%.

Where appropriate, councils may apply for higher rate cap consideration under the "Fair Go Rates" system subject to meeting certain criteria. Pyrenees Shire Council successfully applied for increases in the rate cap in 2015/16 (additional 1.33% making a total rate cap of 3.83%) and the two years of 2016/17 (additional 1.5% making a total rate cap of 3.5%) and 2017/18 (additional 1.25% making a total rate cap of 3.5%). All of the additional revenue raised in these years was quarantined for road renewal works.

Financial sustainability has been the key driver for Council seeking a higher rate above the rate cap imposed. The significant infrastructure renewal gap (difference between the rate at which infrastructure assets are depleted on the one hand, and the amount of works afforded to be undertaken on the other hand) has been the key driver for Council seeking a higher rate cap in the past. Another key driver has been Council's limited ability to raise other revenue to meet the service and asset demands. The additional revenue raised over the three financial years from 2015 to 2018 enabled the infrastructure gap to be reduced.

Pyrenees Shire Council determined, at its meeting in November 2018, not to apply for a higher rate cap for the 2019/20 financial year.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Essential Services Commission published a guidance document for councils seeking to make a higher cap application, which states:

"The Fair Go Rates system allows Victorian councils to apply to us for a higher cap above the cap set by the Minister. In considering whether to approve a higher cap, we must have regard to six matters set out in the legislation ('legislative matters'):

- *the proposed higher cap and the specified year(s) in which it would apply*
- *the reasons for which the council seeks the higher cap*
- *how the views of ratepayers and the community have been taken into account in proposing the higher cap*
- *how the higher cap is an efficient use of council resources and represents value for money*
- *whether consideration has been given to reprioritising proposed expenditures and alternative funding options and why the council does not consider those options to be adequate*

- *that the assumptions and proposals in the application are consistent with the council's long-term strategy and financial management policies set out in the council's planning documents and annual budget.*

A council seeking to increase rates above the Minister's cap has to demonstrate a long-term funding need supported by good long-term financial planning. Establishing a long-term funding need is particularly important. This is because an approval can allow up to four annual higher caps in succession, each increasing the rate base permanently."

An important consideration for Council in deciding whether to seek a higher rate cap in the past has been the financial impact on the community, and the ability of ratepayers to pay.

Specifically the cost of living pressures need to be considered, along with the impact of drought, frost, cost of inputs, commodity prices and other impacts on the farming economy.

While the assessment of council's assets identifies an ongoing infrastructure gap, and other project opportunities can be identified that would need considerable capital investment, Council's Long Term Financial Plan provides for additional anticipated revenue through Payment in Lieu of Rates (PiLOR) from wind farm investments currently under construction in the shire.

While Council has the ability to make an application for a higher rate cap for the 2020/21 financial year, the range of issues raised above need consideration.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Strategic Objective 1 - Roads and Townships. We will plan, manage, maintain and renew infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

1.1 – Ensure local roads are maintained and renewed in line with adopted plans and strategy to provide a safe transport network and meeting community needs.

1.2 – Maintain and renew Council's facilities and built assets in line with community service needs.

1.3 – Develop and implement a rolling three-year capital works program.

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.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council's long-term financial sustainability has been identified as a high risk for Pyrenees Shire Council.

CONCLUSION

Should Council choose to make an application to the Essential Services Commission for a higher rate cap for the 2020/21 financial year, Council must notify the Commission of its intention to apply by 31 January 2020.

CR EASON / CR CLARK

That Council, having considered the relevant reasons for raising additional revenue to meet the service and asset needs of the community, the requirements set by the Essential Services Commission, and other issues raised in this report, not make application to the Essential Services Commission for a higher rate cap for 2020/21 financial year.

CARRIED

13. COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 INITIATIVES PROGRESS REPORT Q1 – JULY-SEPT 2019

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 16/20/06

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a progress report on actions taken in relation to the initiatives identified in the Council Plan as at 30 September 2019.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 125 (1) of the *Local Government Act (1989)* (the Act), Council is required to prepare a Council Plan within 6 months of a Council election.

Council adopted the current Council Plan 2017-2021 at its Ordinary Meeting on the 13th June 2017. Council reviewed and adopted a revised Council Plan 2017-2021 at its Special Meeting on the 26th June 2019.

The Council Plan 2017-2021 is framed around five Strategic Objectives:

1. Roads and Townships

We will plan, manage, maintain and review infrastructure in a sustainable way that responds to the needs of the community.

2. Relationships and Advocacy

We will build and maintain effective relationships with community, government and strategic partners, and advocate on key issues.

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.

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.











5. Development and Environment

We will undertake forward planning, and facilitate growth in our local economy while protecting key natural and build environmental values.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

This report provides an update on progress made, during the first quarter of the 2019-2020 financial year, against the strategic initiatives included in the 2017-2021 Council Plan.

The report has been structured for clarity, utilising symbols and brief commentary to provide a snapshot of progress. The status of the initiatives scheduled for the 2019-2020 financial year is identified against each individual item in the attached report, with a summary of performance provided below. It should be noted that some items cross multiple years.

Symbol	Progress	
	0%	8
	25%	30
	50%	8
	75%	7
	Complete	3
	Funding Required	0
	Information Required	0
	Ongoing	28
	On Hold	0
	Cancelled	0
Total		84

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

In accordance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council adopted its revised 2017-2021 Council Plan at its June 2019 Special Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

13.1 Council Plan Progress Report – Q1 Jul-Sep 2019 – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risks associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The Council Plan progress report describes the range and status of initiatives being undertaken by the Pyrenees Shire Council during the 2019/20 financial year, as directed by the revised 2017-2021 Council Plan. The report continues to reinforce the importance of good working relationships and joint partnerships between community, Council and other levels of government.

CR FERRARI / CR VANCE

That Council receives the Council Plan Program Report Q1 Jul-Sep 2019.

CARRIED

14. QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT Q1 – 1 JULY 2019 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 32/08/18

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of the operating and capital financial performance for the three months from 1 July to 30 September 2019. The report compares the current budget against year-to-date actuals for each operating program and for all capital works in the 2019/20 financial year to-date.

BACKGROUND

Council at its special meeting of 25 June 2019 adopted the budget for the 2019/20 financial year. The budget was adopted based on projected completion of projects and capital works at 30 June 2019 and information available at that time.

Council, at the 17th September 2019 Council meeting, considered a report on the 2018/19 year-end financial position. At this meeting Council approved the carryover of certain projects that remained incomplete as at 30 June 2019. These projects have now been added to the original budget amounts to form the current budget. It is the current budget amounts that this report, and future reports, will be using for comparison purposes.

Victoria Grants Commission – grants 2019/20

The Victoria Grants Commission determines and allocates general purpose grants and local roads grants for each Victorian Council on an annual basis. Detailed allocation calculations are included in the *Victorian Grants Commission's Annual Report* for the year to 31 August 2019. These grants are untied, meaning that the Victoria Grants Commission is unable to direct councils as to how the allocated funds are to be spent.

- **General purpose grants:** General purpose grants are allocated between Australian states and territories on a population basis. In 2019/20, Victoria will receive 25.8% of the total funds made available by the Commonwealth Government for this purpose. This amounts to \$455.581 million, an increase of 4.9% on 2018/29.

The estimated allocation to the Pyrenees Shire Council in 2019/20 is approx. \$3.451 million.

- **Local roads grants:** Local roads grants are allocated on the basis of the relative needs of each council for roads expenditure. Victoria receives a fixed proportion of 20.6% of the total funds made available each year by the Commonwealth Government for this purpose. In 2019/20 the estimated amount allocated to Victoria is \$155.712 million.

The estimated allocation to the Pyrenees Shire Council in 2019/20 is approx. \$2.177 million.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The financial reports are prepared in consultation with the senior leadership team.

The attached financial report comprises of the following sections:

- Summary operating results by area
- Working capital report
- Detailed operating results by area



- Capital works report
- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement

The operating results show variations against the current budget.

Working capital result

At this stage of the financial year Council's overall financial result is showing a projected working capital surplus of \$1.195m as at 30 June 2020.

From this surplus, it is usual practice to reserve \$639,000 in case of a call from the defined benefits superannuation scheme or in the event of unexpected expenditure such as a natural disaster, leaving a projected surplus of \$556,000 for the 2019/20 financial year.

The net working capital (working capital surplus) carried forward from 2017/18 and 2018/19 is \$554,000.

Income Statement

Total YTD income is \$424,000 lower than YTD budget. This variance is driven primarily by timing differences in the receipt of grants.

Total YTD expenditure is \$738,000 lower than YTD budget. This variance is primarily due to timing differences in the payment of expenditure.

The Original Budget shows a surplus of \$485,000 and the Current Budget shows a deficit of \$2,614,000. The movement primarily relates to the early payment of the Victoria Grants Commission allocation for 2019/20 in June 2019 (\$2.874 million). Carryover of grants and related expenditure from 2018/19 has also been taken into account in the Current Budget.

Major (Capital) projects

Capital expenditure YTD is 6.24% of the full year budget. This variance is driven by:

- Seasonal spend patterns
- Projects pending government grants

Balance Sheet

Assets:

- Cash and investments at 30 September 2019 total \$12.25 million which include \$2.2 million for the Long Service Leave and Annual Leave provisions.
- Trade debtors (receivables) are \$9.08 million which includes outstanding rates from prior years, current year rates and other miscellaneous debtors. Rates are invoiced in August but not generally received as lump sums.

Liabilities:

- Creditors balance is \$725,000
- Loan Liability at 30 September is nil
- Employee provisions are \$2.2 million



Cash Flow

- Cash and investments at 30 September 2019 total \$12.25 million which include \$2.2 million for the Long Service Leave and Annual Leave provisions.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

In accordance with the Section 125 of the *Local Government Act (1989)*, Council adopted its 2017-2021 Council Plan at its June 2019 Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

14.1 Q1 Jul-Sep 2019 Quarterly Finance Report – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications have been dealt with in the report.

CONCLUSION

The finance report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2019 was developed in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team. At this stage of the financial year Council's overall financial result is projected to be a net working capital surplus of \$556,000 as at 30 June 2020.

CR CLARK / CR EASON

That Council receives the Finance Report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2019.

CARRIED

15. COMMUNITY GRANTS ALLOCATION – ROUND 1 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR

Kathy Bramwell – Director Corporate and Community Services

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

File No: 32/14/35

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider allocation of Round 1 of the 2019/20 Community and Community Capital Grants Programs.

BACKGROUND

Council provides grants to the community in recognition and support for the work undertaken by community groups, services and organisations located or operating within the Pyrenees Shire. These grants are designed to enable the provision of activities and events which promote community activity, achievement, participation and wellbeing. Grants are allocated under the following streams:

- Community Grants
 - Grants of up to \$1,500 for programs and equipment
 - Grants of up to \$750 for community events
- Community Capital Grants
 - Grants of up to \$5,000 for projects involving capital works or infrastructure improvements

Council allocated \$93,000 in the 2019/20 budget to fund the community grants program. This was split between the two grants programs as follows:

- Community Grants – \$40,000 for the year
- Community Capital Grants - \$53,000 for the year

At its meeting in May 2019, Council approved the deferred allocation of \$22,383.48 against the 2019/20 allocation for Community Capital Grants, leaving an allocation in the 2019/20 financial year of \$30,616.52.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Round 1 of the Community Grants Programs was opened in October 2019 with applications received as follows:

Community Grants:

Community Group	Township	Purpose	Amount
Amphitheatre Mechanics Institute	Amphitheatre	Purchase of equipment to improve garden care and building maintenance	\$1500
Advance Avoca	Avoca	Avoca Christmas Street Party	\$750
Beaufort Football Netball Club	Beaufort	Paddock to Plate Community Dinner and entertainment	\$750
Pyrenees Beaufort Food Pantry	Beaufort	Towards start up running costs relating to purchase of new delivery van	\$1500
Beaufort Agricultural Society	Beaufort	Production of reusable, educational signage for use at the Beaufort Show	\$810

Community grants cont.

Community Group	Township	Purpose	Amount
Carngham Recreation Reserve/Cricket Club/ Football Netball Club	Snake Valley	Furniture upgrade to install permanent outside furniture for spectators and guests at the Carngham Recreation Reserve function centre.	\$1500
Landsborough Bowls Club	Landsborough	Men's Night Community Events to promote social interaction and support.	\$750
Total requested			\$7560

Community Capital Grants:

Community Group	Township	Purpose	Amount
Beaufort Cricket Club	Beaufort	Contribute to the construction of new cricket practice nets and storage shed	\$5000
Ripon / Beaufort RSL Sub-branch	Beaufort	Provide a storage area for equipment, outdoor covered area and an indoor seating area for patrons.	\$3650
Beaufort Golf Club	Beaufort	To purchase reconditioned replacement mower for golf greens.	\$5000
Bendigo Community Bank Complex	Beaufort	Installation of external fixed seating in front of the main building.	\$5000
Carngham Recreation Reserve	Snake Valley	Turf renovation of the reserve oval	\$5000
Carranballac Cricket Club	Carranballac	Install a water bore and water tank at the recreation reserve – watering of the ground and other water supply	\$5000
Total requested			\$28650

The above applications were assessed against documented criteria and reviewed by Council at its briefing sessions on 29th October and 10th November 2019.

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

The budget provides for a financial allocation for community grants in two rounds per year, across two streams. Grants are allocated to community grant applications that meet documented criteria.

CONCLUSION

Grant applications were received for Round 1 of the 2019/20 financial year community grants programs and recommendations have been made for Council to consider.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to allocate funding to successful community groups, as assessed and considered by Council, applying through Round 1 of the 2019/20 financial year community grants programs.

CR VANCE / CR FERRARI

1. Community Grants - That Council resolves to allocate total funding of \$6,060 to applications for community grants as detailed below:
 - Amphitheatre Mechanics Institute - for the purchase of equipment to improve garden care and building maintenance - \$1500.
 - Advance Avoca – funding towards the Avoca Christmas Street Party - \$750.
 - Beaufort Football Netball Club – funding towards a Paddock to Plate Community Dinner and entertainment event - \$750.
 - Beaufort Agricultural Society – for the production of reusable, educational signage for use at the Beaufort Show - \$810.
 - Carngham Recreation Reserve / Cricket Club / Football Netball Club – Furniture upgrade to install permanent outside furniture for spectators and guests at the Carngham Recreation Reserve function centre - \$1500.
 - Landsborough Bowls Club - Men’s Night Community Events to promote social interaction and support - \$750.
2. That Council resolves not to allocate funding to the Pyrenees Beaufort Food Pantry towards ongoing running costs for a new mobile delivery van as the application does not meet eligibility criteria, but that Council Officers should work further with the Food Pantry on how Council can otherwise support them with increasing the sustainability of their activities.
3. Community Capital Grants – That Council resolves to allocate total funding of \$23,650 to applications for community capital grants as detailed below:
 - Beaufort Cricket Club – contribution to the construction of new cricket practice nets and storage shed - \$5,000.
 - Ripon / Beaufort RSL – provision of a storage area for equipment, outdoor covered area and an indoor seating area for patrons of the Community Garden - \$3,650.
 - Beaufort Golf Club – purchase of a reconditioned replacement mower for the golf greens - \$5,000.
 - Carngham Recreation Snake Valley Reserve – Turf renovation of the reserve oval - \$5,000.
 - Carranballac Cricket Club – installation of water bore and water tank at the recreation reserve - \$5,000.
4. That Council resolves not to allocate funding to the Beaufort Community Bank Complex Management Committee for the installation of external fixed seating in front of the main building as the application does not meet eligibility criteria and assessment requirements.

CARRIED

CR FERRARI / CR EASON

That the grant application process be reviewed to streamline the process.

CARRIED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

16. PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCIL BRAND

Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer

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

File No: 16/02/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council support to refresh material used for marketing of the Pyrenees Shire Council.

BACKGROUND

Some work has been undertaken to look at a refresh of marketing material used by Council including stationery such as letterhead, envelopes, business cards and the corporate logo. This refresh has come about for a variety of reasons:

- The desire to remove printing letterhead on specialist paper (a costly exercise);
- The introduction of an electronic newsletter;
- Increasing efforts to connect with the community in a consistent manner – having a contemporary brand that is recognised; Keeping in mind the logo and style guide hasn't been updated for a number of years.

Included in the initial sample of documents prepared is the Council corporate logo with modified text and alternative placement. These samples are designed to retain the integrity of the symbol but give it a contemporary look for today's audience.

The letterhead is proposed to be printed on white paper on an as-needs basis which will save Council money in the long run, and Council will continue to utilize a digital first approach with correspondence. Business cards are proposed to be refreshed to showcase our region with photographs on the reverse and will be an additional marketing tool for Council.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council has been briefed on a range of variations to the marketing material and it is intended, with Council support, to continue to experiment with material that reflects a contemporary image whilst retaining the key elements of our logo.

It is also intended to seek further support from Council on the preferred material as the designs are fine-tuned.

The desire to ensure Council's image is contemporary and forward looking is consistent with its Council plan mission and to meet changing community expectations.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Mission: To operate an efficient, forward-looking organisation

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.

4.2 - Promote learning and growth that will facilitate change, continuous improvement, innovation and efficiency.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk that Council's image will not meet changing community expectations unless Council invests effort in refreshing its marketing material.

CONCLUSION

Some work has been undertaken to look at a refresh of marketing material used by Council to ensure Council's image continues to meet contemporary and changing community expectations. Council's support is sought to experiment with a range of marketing designs which are outside the current Pyrenees Shire Council Style Guide.

CR EASON / CR CLARK

That Council:

1. Supports the investigation, design and use of marketing material which reflects a refreshed and contemporary image of the Pyrenees Shire Council.
2. Considers a further report on the Pyrenees Shire Council brand once a range of design options for marketing material have been considered and refined.

CARRIED

17. NAIDOC WEEK 2020 SCHOOL INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Jane Bowker – Executive Assistant to CEO and Councillors

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

File No: 04/08/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the 2020 NAIDOC Week School Initiatives Program and to seek Council's support for the Program.

BACKGROUND

Koori Kids is a community organisation that engages young people in a range of school initiatives to promote education and awareness of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander culture. The Program is coordinated in partnership with Department of Education & Training, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Justice, Catholic Education Commission Victoria and Catholic Education Offices.

The initiatives are designed to educate all students on cultural diversity and involve a whole community approach in the spirit of reconciliation and bring us 'all together as one community'.

Each year Koori Kids conducts the NAIDOC Week School Initiative Competitions for school aged children. This is broken up into primary and secondary school categories being; colouring-in, short story writing and creative/essay writing. The competitions reflect Aboriginal ancestry and promote the growth of positive attitude in all students towards Aboriginal people.

As in 2018, another student from Waubra Primary School received a NAIDOC Medal of Excellence in the short story category.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Last year Council participated in the Program and Koori Kids is again seeking Council's support to be an associate partner with sponsoring \$500 towards the Program.

Koori Kids has provided a proposal for the 2020 initiatives and the contribution sought will be utilised towards the costs for printing and distribution of information packs, posters and entry forms to schools across Council's LGA.

Council is acknowledged through logo inclusion as an associate partner on information packs sent to schools throughout councils LGA. If there is a winner from a school within council LGA, an invitation for the Mayor and or a representative is invited to attend the school, along with Executive Director, NAIDOC Week Initiatives, Director, Social Wellbeing and other dignitaries to make special presentation of the NAIDOC Medal of Excellence and the student's prize. A media release for the winning school is prepared in consultation with Council's media officer. Council is also forwarded a final report.

Initiatives such as this complement actions identified in Council's Reconciliation Action Plan.

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

- 17.1 Local Government Area Statistics - Pyrenees
- 17.2 Proposal
- 17.3 Final Report – *circulated separately*

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Provision has been made in the 2019/20 budget for the support.

CONCLUSION

This worthwhile cross-cultural initiative has been operating very successfully since 2001 and is aligned with NAIDOC Week, celebrated in July each year. Hundreds of entries are received each year from schools within councils LGA, and the success of the program is due to the support of councils and partner organisations.

CR CLARK / CR EASON

That Council approves to support the Koori Kids 2020 School Initiatives Program to the amount of \$500.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Eason

CR EASON / CR VANCE

That a quarterly report be presented to Council for the progress of projects funded to \$50K or more in the current year and the next year on a rolling basis. The report to show the start date, end date and any change in project details from the last report.

CARRIED

- Attended the Avoca Races. It was a pleasant day and those who attended seemed to enjoy it.
- Congratulated Cr Tanya Kehoe on being elected as Mayor.
- The New Residents Evening was a great evening. The community groups gathered was terrific and good conversation was had.
- Attended the Remembrance Day Commemoration in Avoca. It was wonderful to see the students from the local school attend. Inspector Dan Davidson (VicPol) also gave a talk on officers who fought in the wars.
- The Avoca RSL has made mention publically about an appeal to raise additional funds to restore the cenotaph to its original form.

Cr Clark

- Attended the 'In The Loop Session' in Brewster.
- Attended the rating review panel session with Council Officers. It was a really useful session.
- Attended the MAV State Conference and State Council meeting.
- Attended Council's Statutory Meeting.

Cr Ferrari

- Attended the Beaufort and Skipton Health Service Foundation AGM.
- Attended the Avoca Races and despite the cooler weather it was a great day.
- Attended the Western Highway Action Committee (WHAC) meeting. One of Council's priorities is to have a fixed red light camera installed at the intersection of Neill St and Lawrence St. It is a vulnerable intersection being a school crossing and will continue to follow this up.
- Continue to help out at the Beaufort Secondary College and again very pleased with the direction the school is headed in.
- Congratulated Cr Kehoe on becoming Mayor and also thanked Cr Vance for his previous 12 months as Mayor.

Cr Kehoe

- Thanked Cr Vance for his commitment to Council, his local community, the wider community and the global community. His dedication is inspirational and his contribution has made the municipality what it is today. Cr Kehoe presented Cr Vance with a gift for his term as Mayor. Cr Kehoe also presented Cr Vance with some flowers for his wife Jan.

- Attended a meeting with Council's Project Manager in Snake Valley to discuss the linear park project. It was a very productive meeting and the group is looking at locations for the park. Community members of Snake Valley are very keen to see the park come to fruition.
- Attended the New Resident's Welcome evening. It was fantastic to see our community groups come out in great numbers. Looking for ways to have more people attend the evening and a thank you to Council's Events Officer for organising the event.
- Attended the Beaufort Skipton Health Service Foundation meeting. Ian Courtney of Goldwind gave a speech on the night.
- Attended the Remembrance Day Service at the Woody Yallock / Snake Valley school campus. The whole school attended and the students were very respectful. It was a beautiful service recognising the men and women who were involved in the wars.
- It was a wonderful day at the Avoca Races. It was so well organised.
- Looking forward to attending the MAV Financial Workshop in Ballarat on Friday.
- Will also be attending the Mayoral Induction Day.

Cr Vance

- Attended the Mayors and CEOs Forum hosted by Rural Councils Victoria.
- Also attended the Municipal Association Victoria conference.
- Attended the funding announcement by the Victorian Premier in Moonambel for the playground at the school. Advocated to the Premier for the Moonambel Water Project. Cr Eason thanked Cr Vance to making the trip to Moonambel at such short notice.
- Attended Ararat 90th Legacy dinner. The new President is Gary Hutton from Moonambel. It was a wonderful night.
- I was privileged to officially launch a book called 'A Life Filled on Love'. The book was about a pioneering family in Landsborough.
- Attended the Remembrance Day service in Landsborough. George Franton was honoured at the service.
- Cr Vance provided a report on his recent trade mission visit to China – *circulated separately*

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

18. 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 a contractual and personnel matters.

CR EASON / CR FERRARI

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:-

- 19. Skipton Hospital Straw Fuelled Boiler Tender
- 20. Debt Recovery Action for Outstanding Rates
- 21. Update on Debt Recovery Action

CARRIED



22. RE-OPENING OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

CR EASON / CR FERRARI

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

CARRIED

CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closed at 8.31pm

Minutes of the meeting confirmed

2019

Mayor