



Pyrenees
Shire Council

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6:00 pm Tuesday 21 February 2023

Council Chambers

Beaufort Council Offices,
5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort

Wadawurrung Country

Members of the public may view the meeting virtually via the livestream

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. WELCOME	3
2. STREAMING PREAMBLE	3
3. OPENING PRAYER	3
4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	3
5. APOLOGIES.....	3
6. NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS	3
7. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES.....	3
8. BUSINESS ARISING	4
9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.....	4
10. ITEMS FOR NOTING	5
10.1. Corporate and Community Services	5
10.1.1. Customer Action Requests Update - January 2023.....	5
10.1.2. Quarterly Financial Report December 2022.....	10
10.1.3. Report from Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.....	12
11. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS	14
11.1. Councillor Activity Reports - January.....	14
12. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS.....	15
12.1. Assembly of Councillors - January 2023	15
13. ITEMS FOR DECISION	16
13.1. Economic Development and Tourism	16
13.1.1. Regional Tourism Review.....	16
13.2. Asset and Development Services.....	20
13.2.1. Road Register Inclusions.....	20
13.2.2. Petition - Avoca Free Camping	24
13.3. Corporate and Community Services	27
13.3.1. Risk Management	27
13.3.2. Flood Recovery Update	31
13.3.3. Delegations	36
13.3.4. Rural Addressing and Road Naming	38
13.3.5. Lexton Community Hub Community Asset Committee	44
14. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS	47
15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	49
16. CLOSE OF MEETING	49

1. WELCOME

Mayor Cr Ron Eason welcomed all to the meeting.

PRESENT

Mayor: Cr Ron Eason

Councillors: Tanya Kehoe, David Clark, Robert Vance, Damian Ferrari

Chief Executive Officer: Jim Nolan

Director Asset and Development Services: Douglas Gowans

Director of Corporate and Community Services: Kathy Bramwell

EA to CEO and Councillors: Chantelle Sandlant (minutes)

Senior Communications Officer: Noel McKeegan

Communications Officer: Rebecca Stewart

2. STREAMING PREAMBLE

Mayor Cr Ron Eason read the livestream preamble.

3. OPENING PRAYER

The Mayor read the Opening Prayer.

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the people past and present of the Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Eastern Maar and Wotjobaluk tribes, whose land forms the Pyrenees Shire. We pay our respect to the customs, traditions and stewardship of the land by the elders and people of these tribes on whose land we meet today.

5. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

6. NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

Cr David Clark declared a conflict of interest (direct or indirect or pecuniary or non-pecuniary) being a landowner in the vicinity of the WRL project in the event that it may be discussed during the ordinary meeting. The matter was not specifically listed in the agenda for consideration.

Mr. Jim Nolan declared of conflict of interest (direct or indirect or pecuniary or non-pecuniary) in relation to confidential item 15.2 - CEO Performance Review 2022.

7. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cr Damian Ferrari / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That the Minutes of the:

- Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17 January 2023 as previously circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS ARISING

Cr Clark queried if the presentation from AEMO at the December Council Meeting was broadcast via Council's website.

Mr Jim Nolan confirmed that the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 13 December 2022 was livestreamed, including the presentation from AEMO, and is available via the YouTube channel accessible from Council's website.

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Trevor Davey of Lexton

Question one:

Is it possible that the Council will consider some way of putting communication out, perhaps attached to our rates or somehow to clarify what the procedure and the law is around slashing or cutting in front of your property on the roadside, we call them nature strips in some urban areas. Some sort of way that people will not get confused by the message that needs to go out there, particularly pre-fire season.

Response:

Mr Jim Nolan thanked Mr Davey for the question and provided the following response:

That's an excellent suggestion and happy to take that on board and look to get some communication out around that, we are always open to provide some education around some of these activities to the community.

10. ITEMS FOR NOTING

10.1. CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.1.1. CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS UPDATE - JANUARY 2023

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: 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

This report gives the Council an update on requests made through the Customer Action Request System (CARS) for January 2023.

BACKGROUND

The Council has operated an electronic Customer Action Request System (CARS) for many 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, roads maintenance, pools, local laws, building maintenance and compliance matters.

Work continued identifying complaints that may be entered as a customer action request and processing them in accordance with the Council's complaints management framework, and to ensure appropriate and timely responses to our community.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION – CUSTOMER ACTION REQUESTS UPDATE FOR NOVEMBER 2022

441 CARs (Customer Action Requests) were logged in January, 10 more than the previous month. Of these, 233 related to telephone messages.

630 requests were closed during the month, demonstrating the ongoing effort officers are making to maintain focus on addressing and closing requests. This leaves 222 outstanding (a decrease of 189 from last month) of which 28 are telephone messages. The total number of CARs outstanding, including telephone calls, is once again below the Council's target of 300 per month.

Of the non-telephone call requests received, the following represents those received and still outstanding at the of the last month by Ward:

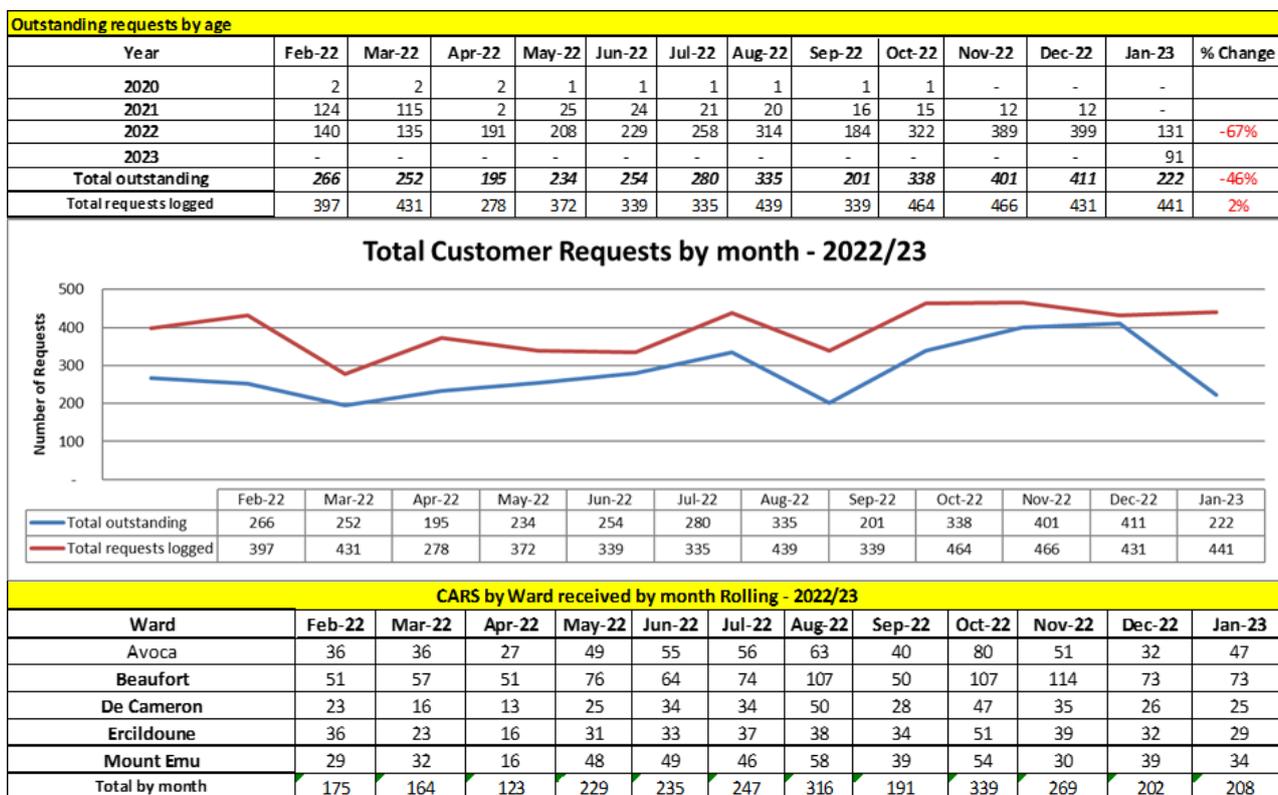
	Avoca Ward	Beaufort Ward	DeCameron Ward	Ercildoune Ward	Mt Emu Ward
Number of requests received in January 2023 (previous month)	47 (32)	73 (73)	25 (26)	29 (32)	34 (39)
Requests received in January and closed in the same month (% of total received)	31 (66%)	55 (75%)	17 (68%)	19 (66%)	16 (49%)
Requests received in January outstanding	16	18	8	10	18
Outstanding requests from	23	45	27	33	36

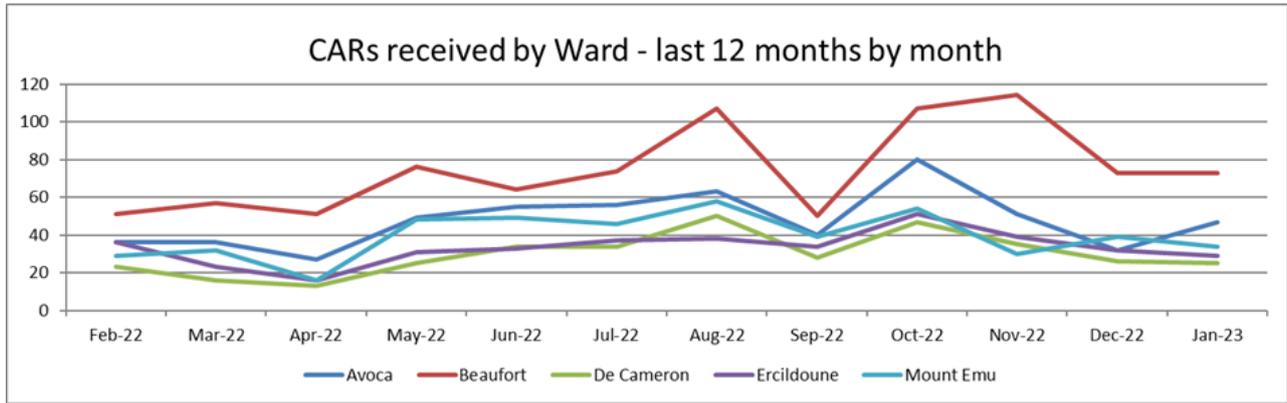
2022					
Total outstanding requests as at the end of December 2022 (previous month)	39 (77)	45 (104)	27 (55)	33 (70)	36 (58)

Analysis:

- All requests received prior to 2022 are now closed and 131 remain from 2022.
- 91 CARs lodged in January remain open, 28 of which relate to telephone messages, from a total of 441 received.
- The number of outstanding telephone calls was reduced in January by 39% from the previous month.
-
- The percentage of requests received and resolved in the same month continues to increase, following the low percentages seen in October (impacted by floods), again reflecting officer commitment to resolving issues at the earliest possible stage.
- Checks of requests made during December identified three reports that need to be followed up as complaints:
 - Avoca Ward – dissatisfaction expressed with grading quality along Kruss Road, Amphitheatre.
 - Ercildoune Ward – complaint about a lack of response regarding grading scheduling for Jones Road, Waterloo.

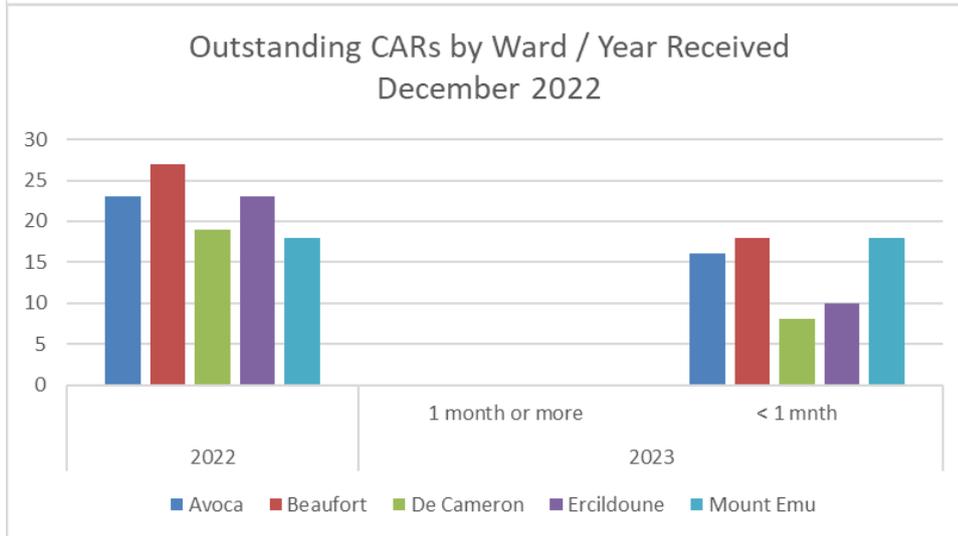
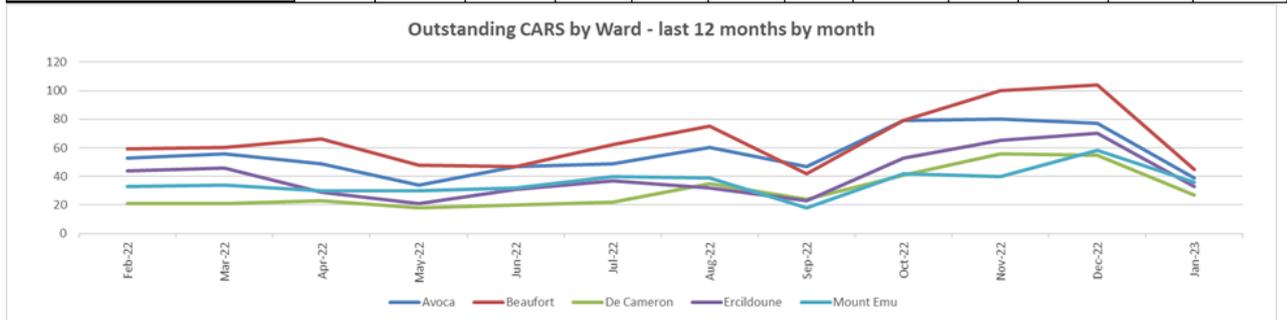
The following charts show the request numbers received by month and totals received for the past 12 months.





The following charts display outstanding CARs and the trend lines of outstanding CARs numbers over the last 12 months (requests received by Ward).

Outstanding CARs by Ward - 2022/23												
Ward	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23
Avoca	53	56	49	34	47	49	60	47	79	80	77	39
Beaufort	59	60	66	48	47	62	75	42	79	100	104	45
De Cameron	21	21	23	18	20	22	35	24	41	56	55	27
Ercildoune	44	46	29	21	31	37	32	23	53	65	70	33
Mount Emu	33	34	30	30	32	40	39	18	42	40	58	36
Total by month	210	217	197	151	177	210	241	154	294	341	364	180



The following table provides greater detail of the areas where outstanding requests remain, showing the functional areas and numbers of requests still outstanding as at the end of the last month.

Open Requests Type			
	Dec-22	Jan-23	Change
Roads & Rd Maint.	193	98	-95
Streetlights	1	0	-1
Drainage	67	26	-41
Footpaths / Kerb&Channel	15	11	-4
Park & Reserves	6	9	3
Roadside Veg	42	19	-23
Environmental Health	1	7	6
Planning	0	0	0
Bld maint	7	2	-5
Local Laws	2	12	10
Cats	0	0	0
Dogs	4	4	0
Livestock	0	0	0
Parking	0	0	0
Fire Hazard	10	1	-9
Bld Compliance	0	0	0
Waste Management	0	0	0
Local Government Act	1	0	-1
Rates	4	1	-3
Natural Disasters	1	2	1
Pools	1	0	-1
Council cleaning	7	1	-6
Litter	2	1	-1
Design & Assets	1	0	-1
GIS	0	0	0
Community Wellbeing	0	0	0
Rural Addressing	0	0	0
Road Naming	0	0	0
Telephone messages	46	28	-18
Total	411	222	-189

ISSUE / DISCUSSION – IT TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

Each month a progress update will be provided to Council on the IT Rural Councils Transformation, a collaborative project with Central Goldfields Shire Council as the Lead to develop and implement updated systems to manage financial and revenue management, plus a new customer relationship management system.

Deliverable	Evidence	Due / Status
Governance Structure	Governance structure established and regular project meetings / communication commenced.	Complete
IT Systems Architecture Plan	Development of the Architecture & Project Implementation Plan and provision to the Department.	Due Dec 2022 Complete and approved by Department
External Resource Engagement	Subject to successful up-front funding variation agreement – appointment of external resources: Project Manager and Business Analyst through appointment of consultant expertise.	Due Feb 2023 In progress Specification prepared and consultant appointment underway by C/Goldfields
Full funding allocation	\$50,000 allocated in November 2022. \$450,000 allocation subject to appointment of external resources.	\$50k complete Balance due end Jan 2023
Develop Project	Develop project brief and product definition.	Due May 2023

Brief		
Tender	Specifications and Tender document developed and provided to Department.	Due Jun 2023
Tender procurement	Issue tender to market for systems procurement and award contract.	Due Oct 2023
Finalise project plan	Agreed project plan and implementation commencement.	Due Nov 2023
Systems implemented	CSRM and Finance systems implemented at two councils.	Due Jun 2024
Final report	Outcomes report approved by Department	Due Jun 2025

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.

Priority 4 - Economy

4b. Invest in road infrastructure to improve connectivity for commerce and community.

Enabling Principles

- a. Motivate and inspire community involvement
- b. Provide transparency and accountability
- c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

This report did not require any community engagement or consultation, other than that provided via this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Officers remain committed to resolving CARs received as early as possible but there remains a risk in coming months that community expectations will not be met due to constraints on Council resources, and the ongoing recovery works in response to the flood events in 2022.

CONCLUSION

The customer action request system remains an integral part of Council's reactive identification of issues that need attention. A large focus was committed in January and February 2023 to closing or rescheduling outstanding CARs to enable realistic reporting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes this report.

10.1.2. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT DECEMBER 2022

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Glenn Kallio – Manager Finance

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 the Council with an update on the financial performance for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.

BACKGROUND

The provision of regular reports of Council's financial performance ensures that Council's financial management and associated processes are accountable, transparent, and responsible.

The attached financial report for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022, is a component of ensuring the accountability of the Council's operations. In line with good governance, it forms part of the public accountability process and reporting and includes the following Financial Statements.

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Statement of Capital Works
- Capital Works Program

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

1. The table below indicates that all the major financial KPI's are positive as of 31 December 2022.

	Year to Date		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
	2023	2023	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Comprehensive Income Statement	1,864	4,692 ↑	2,828
Net Capital Works	8,517	2,896 ↑	5,621
Cash and Investments	3,173	9,774 ↑	6,602
Rate Receivables	8,135	8,094 ↑	41
Working Capital	7,009	14,314 ↑	7,305
Working Capital %	235%	411% ↑	176%

2. The table below shows the current forecast results as of 30 June 2023. These forecasts will continue to be reviewed over the coming months in preparation for the 2023/24 budget.

	Full Year		
	Amended Budget	Forecast	Variance
	2023	2023	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Comprehensive Income Statement	(1,492)	(2,081) ↓	(589)
Net Capital Works	9,815	9,642 ↑	173
Cash and Investments	5,995	6,352 ↑	357
Rate Receivables	349	349 →	0
Working Capital	14	371 ↑	358
Working Capital %	100%	105% ↑	5%

3. It is considered that there are no significant financial issues as at 31 December 2023.
4. Following the mid-year review, pursuant to section 97(3) of the Local Government Act 2020, there is no requirement to prepare a revised budget.

Statement by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to s97(3) of Local Government Act 2020.

Following the mid-year review, pursuant to section 97(3) of the Local Government Act 2020, there is no requirement to prepare a revised budget.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Enabling Principles

- b. Provide transparency and accountability
- c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Enter community engagement / consultation activities (community cuppas, engagement hub activities etc.)

ATTACHMENTS

1. Finance Report Dec 2022 - Council [10.1.2.1 - 19 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Enter Financial/Risk Implications

CONCLUSION

The review of financials for the period ending 31 December 2022, there is no requirement for Council to prepare a revised budget. The review has ascertained that the financials for the 2022/23 year are operating within Council's 10-year financial plan.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Financial Performance report for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022, and the projected forecasts for the year, and
2. Notes the CEO declaration that pursuant to section 97(3) of the Local Government Act 2020, there is no requirement that the Pyrenees Shire Council prepare a revised budget.

10.1.3. REPORT FROM CHAIR OF THE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: 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: 32/04/04

PURPOSE

This report provides Council with the biennial report on the performance of the Council's Audit & Risk Committee, prepared by the Chair of that advisory committee.

BACKGROUND

Section 54 (5) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Audit & Risk Committee Charter require the Chair of Council's Audit & Risk Committee to report to Council twice each year on the performance and activities of the committee.

The Audit & Risk Committee provides an integral function to monitor the Council's efforts to maintain integrity, accountability, and transparency in its operations.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Chair of Council's Audit & Risk Committee provided the first report for 2023, covering the latter part of the 2022 calendar year.

During the reporting period, one face-to-face meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee was held on 29 November 2022.

Overall, the Committee Chair reported that the Committee has undertaken its duties in a responsible and effective manner and acknowledged the contributions of members of the Audit & Risk Committee and Council officers during the reporting period. The report included the following areas:

1. Committee

The Annual Committee Work Plan for 2022 was completed except for two reports scheduled for November – *Outstanding Internal Audit Recommendations* and the *Policy Framework Review*, which were delayed due to resources and personnel diverted to flood response activities in the latter part of the year. A work plan for 2023 was agreed.

2. CEO (Chief Executive Officer) Reports

Throughout the year, the CEO provided reports on significant concerns and activities of the Pyrenees Shire Council. Matters discussed with the CEO included government funding for projects and flood recovery activities, indexation of the Federal Assistance Grants to local government, the continuation of the Roads to Recovery Program for the next financial year, and a comprehensive update on the impacts of the October/November 2022 floods.

3. Internal Audit Services

AFS & Associates Pty Ltd presented a report following an internal review of the Council's Contract Management processes, recognising several strengths, and making recommendations on framework and process improvements which were accepted by management.

4. Performance and Governance Monitoring

Statutory reporting and publishing deadlines are met, information provided to the community is easy to read and understand.

The Committee receives a governance, risk and compliance report at each meeting outlining and updating the activities of this business unit. The Committee is satisfied that the performance areas reported are being managed appropriately.

In response to a concern raised earlier in the year regarding higher than usual staff turnover, a more in-depth analysis of the statistics was provided showing a similar trend in similar sized councils. The Senior Leadership Team is addressing the identified issues.

5. Financial Monitoring

The VAGO (Victorian Auditor General's Office) audit of the Annual Financial and Performance reports of the Pyrenees Shire Council were presented by Crowe Australasia, confirming that the Council received an unqualified Audit Opinion for both reports.

Budget and Finance Reports continue to be prepared in a timely and professional manner. Explanations are given and additional information requested by Committee members is always provided. The reports and responses to its questions have given the Committee confidence that the Pyrenees Shire Council is operating in a stable and sustainable manner.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Enabling Principles

b. Provide transparency and accountability

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

The Community is kept informed of the functions and activities of the Council's advisory Audit & Risk Committee by reporting at Ordinary Council Meetings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Report by Chair - Feb 2023 [10.1.3.1 - 4 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Councils must maintain the highest standards of integrity, service quality, and financial performance in providing essential services to their communities and managing public monies and infrastructure. An effective Audit & Risk Committee is an integral part of monitoring performance and internal controls that minimise risk, in particular the risks of fraud and public mismanagement.

CONCLUSION

This report provides the Council with the first report of 2023 from the Chair of Council's Audit & Risk Committee on the performance and operations of that Committee.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes this report.

11. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS**11.1. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS - JANUARY**

Cr Damian Ferrari – Beaufort Ward		
17/01/2023	Council Briefing	Beaufort
17/01/2023	Council Meeting	Beaufort
26/01/2023	Australia Day Celebrations	Beaufort

Cr David Clark – Ercildoune Ward		
17/01/2023	Council Briefing	Beaufort
17/01/2023	Council Meeting	Beaufort
20/01/2023	MAV Meeting	Melbourne
26/01/2023	Australia Day Celebrations	Beaufort

Cr Robert Vance – De Cameron Ward		
17/01/2023	Council Briefing	Beaufort
17/01/2023	Council Meeting	Beaufort
26/01/2023	Australia Day Celebrations	Beaufort
31/01/2023	Rural Councils Victoria Meeting	Virtual

Cr Ron Eason – Avoca Ward		
17/01/2023	Council Briefing	Beaufort
17/01/2023	Council Meeting	Beaufort
26/01/2023	Australia Day Breakfast	Avoca
26/01/2023	Australia Day Celebrations	Beaufort

Cr Tanya Kehoe – Mount Emu Ward		
17/01/2023	Council Briefing	Beaufort
17/01/2023	Council Meeting	Beaufort
26/01/2023	Australia Day Celebrations	Beaufort

12. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS - JANUARY 2023

MEETING INFORMATION				
Meeting Name	Councillor Briefing Session			
Meeting Date	Tuesday 17 January 2023 commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 5.45pm			
Meeting Location	Council Chamber, Beaufort			
Items Discussed	1. CEO Review 2. Introductions of New Staff 3. Rate Cap / Financial Sustainability / Advocacy 4. National General Assembly – Call for Motions 5. Flood Impacted Infrastructure 6. Agenda Review			
ATTENDEES				
Councillors	Mayor Cr Ron Eason Cr Damian Ferrari Cr Tanya Kehoe		Cr David Clark Cr Robert Vance	
Apologies	Nil.			
Staff	Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer) Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services) Kathy Bramwell (Director Corporate and Community Services)			
Visitors	Nil			
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES				
Item No:	Councillor making disclosure	Particulars of disclosure	Councillor left meeting	Councillor returned
Nil.				

Cr David Clark / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That the items for noting in Sections 10, 11 and 12, be received.

CARRIED

13. ITEMS FOR DECISION

13.1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

13.1.1. REGIONAL TOURISM REVIEW

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer

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

Report Author: 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: 62/10/04

PURPOSE

To seek a council decision on becoming a member of the Visitor Economy Partnership that is being formed to represent the interests of the Central Highlands region tourism industry.

BACKGROUND

In March 2019, the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events, Martin Pakula, and the then Minister for Regional Development, Jaclyn Symes, commissioned the Regional Tourism Review (the **review**). The review's goal was to identify challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed to grow the regional tourism market.

The review identified five key themes that present opportunities for regional tourism:

- (a) *Strengthening our tourism offering*
- (b) *Making the most of our marketing spending*
- (c) *Supporting industry*
- (d) *Enhancing Regional Tourism Boards*
- (e) *Better coordinating efforts*

In response to these five key themes, the review made five recommendations for reforms.

The fifth recommendation is:

Improve enabling supports for regional tourism

Regional Tourism Boards will be reformed to enhance their capacity and capabilities and clarify their remit. Businesses will be supported to strengthen their resilience and ability to grow. The government is progressing reform activities to enable all regions to be included in the board network. Additionally, it will support vital industry development activities, including crisis management support, digital capability, and workforce skills planning.

VISITOR ECONOMY RECOVERY & REFORM PLAN

The findings of the review provided the basis for the State's Visitor Economy Recovery and Reform Plan (**VERRP**). The VERRP outlines the key action areas and further initiatives required to implement the recommendations of the review.

The action areas that were identified in the VERRP and which are relevant to this report are:

Action 1. Transition Regional Tourism Boards to Visitor Economy Partnerships (VEPs).

The VERRP outlined plans for a transition from the existing network of Regional Tourism Boards (RTBs) into a new network of VEPs.

Action 2. Industry Strengthening

The Department of Jobs, Precincts & Regions (DJPR) will deliver a range of tourism-specific digital capability building and business capability development programs. These programs will advise and mentor in the use of digital platforms, digital marketing, business sustainability, crisis management and experience/product Development. New VEPs will also be supported with funding to deliver tailored, localised industry strengthening programs.

Action 3. Skills and workforce planning

The DJPR will collaborate with industry in a strategic and coordinated way to undertake a Workforce Planning and Skills Audit, to identify critical gaps and potential opportunities in the workforce as we recover from the pandemic. Based on the recommendations of the Workforce and Skills Audit, funding will be available for VEPs to develop and implement tailored local workforce plans.

Ballarat Regional Tourism in partnership with City of Ballarat, Moorabool and Pyrenees Shire Councils have been operating under Memorandums of Understanding for tourism matters until such time as the VEP has been established.

Golden Plains Shire Council and Hepburn Shire Council have also been actively involved in the VEP working group throughout the past seven months, and the proposal for each council in the Central Highlands region to become members of the new partnership is currently being proposed to each municipality for their consideration.

The new transition to the new VEP must be concluded by 30 June 2023.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council has maintained an affiliation with regional tourism bodies over many years to capitalize on the industry specific skills and resources these organisations provide through working collaboratively and enabling Council to maximize use of limited resources and achieving better value for money via:

- Leveraging collective expenditure of partner organisations for intrastate, interstate and international marketing programs to attract visitors to the Pyrenees
- Industry strengthening programs (training and development) delivered in partnership with regional organisations who initiated and facilitated these programs,
- Support for product development (private and public investment),
- Strategic tourism development and
- Representation to the Victorian Government.

More recently Council has held a tourism MOU with both City of Ballarat and Ballarat Regional Tourism pending the outcomes of the review of RTB's in Victoria.

The VEP being established for the Central Highlands region will become the new peak body representing the region's tourism industry.

Council received a report about the proposed Visitor Economy Partnerships in July last year and passed the following resolution:

That Council: 1. Endorses the execution of the MOU with Ballarat Regional Tourism pending the formation of the regions Visitor Economy Partnerships (VEP).

2. Receives a further report in due course once the framework for the Central Highlands VEP has been drafted.

VEP Partnership proposal

A working group comprising each of the Central Highlands councils and representatives of the Victorian Government under the direction of an independent facilitator have been working on establishing a mutually agreed governance framework for the VEP since June 2022. The framework of the new organization was discussed in consultation with industry at a workshop held late last year and a draft of the proposed constitution subsequently completed has been circulated to councilors separately to this agenda.

In summary a new independent board is being formed to govern the new tourism body (VEP) with membership of the board proposed to include:

- An independent Chair
- Up to five Local Government representatives/delegates including Pyrenees. This is dependent on each council proceeding with membership. Each council will have a single member on the board to contribute to the strategic direction of the organization
- Five skills based industry representatives

The board will be responsible for developing a tourism strategy from which operational plans will be developed and implemented in due course.

The constitutional framework provides for a four-year membership period for local government members. Should a council wish to withdraw from the partnership then at least twelve months' notice in writing is required by the board.

The cost of base level membership for Pyrenees Shire Council is \$30,000- with buy in options to be presented to councils for their consideration. These include activities such as marketing, product and industry development.

In recent years up until 2019/20 council has afforded around \$40,000- annually to retain membership of regional tourism organisations and has continued to make annual budget provisions of this amount pending the outcome of the Victorian government's 2019 regional tourism review.

Membership of the VEP is aimed at maximizing the benefits of joint investment by industry, local and state government organisations and working collaboratively in order to grow the regions tourism industry.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 4 - Economy

4a. Support our local businesses and help to strengthen key industries.

Enabling Principles

c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

The risks of not becoming a member of the VEP include:-

- Duplication of marketing effort with other tourism networks and lack of visibility in a crowded visitor economy market
- Limited capacity to impact regional, metropolitan and interstate markets with marketing programs. i.e. by sharing resources of five local governments, industry stakeholders and the Victorian government Council is likely to make greater impact into target visitor markets to attract visitors to the Pyrenees

- Lack of representation to advocate to the state governments peak tourism organisations such as Visit Victoria
- Limited access to industry development programs for tourism businesses
- No ability to participate at regional board level in matters of tourism strategy and advocacy
- Little access to the regions tourism professionals for the purposes of professional development and growth of councils own officers

Council has continued to make annual budget provisions of \$40,000- for membership of a regional tourism industry organization. Membership costs for Council to be a member of the VEP are \$30,000- p.a. with additional buy in costs to be presented to each of the councils for activities including marketing, product and industry development. An annual budget allowance of \$40,000 provides a level of buy in capacity with the overall contribution similar in amount to previous years.

Officer time is an additional cost to council which is anticipated to be consistent with recent years involvement with Ballarat Regional Tourism and subsequently MOU arrangements with City of Ballarat. The board is to meet at least quarterly and is envisaged to be every second month in the formative stages. The BRT board previously met monthly and monthly meetings with City of Ballarat have continued.

CONCLUSION

Membership of the VEP will assist Council to maximize the benefits of its tourism expenditure through joint investment with the regions industry, local and state government organisations and working collaboratively in order to grow the tourism sector. i.e. the VEP provides better value for money to Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Becomes a member of the Visitor Economy Partnership being formed to represent the regions tourism industry
2. Approves the CEO to negotiate the terms and conditions of council's membership and
3. Maintains a provision in the 2023/24 budget of \$40,000- to cover the base level membership and allow some capacity for buy in to programs

AN ALTERNATIVE MOTION WAS PUT FORWARD

Cr David Clark / Cr Damian Ferrari

That Council:

1. Becomes a member of the Visitor Economy Partnership being formed to represent the regions tourism industry
2. Approves the CEO to negotiate the terms and conditions of council's membership and
3. Maintains a provision in the 2023/24 budget of \$40,000- to cover the base level membership and allow some capacity for buy in to programs
4. That a further report be provided to Council as to the allocation of these funds for 2023-24 and the measures that Council will use to assess the work of the Visitor Economy Partnership.

CARRIED

13.2. ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

13.2.1. ROAD REGISTER INCLUSIONS

Presenter: Douglas Gowans - Director Asset and Development Services

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

Report Author: Tim Day, Manager Assets

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

File No: 58/02/02

PURPOSE

Council is requested to consider the inclusion of the roads identified in this report on its Register of Public Roads.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a number of requests to add roads to Council's Register of Public Roads.

All properties within the municipality should have legal access to the road network. However, not all road reserves have constructed roads. A road reserve without a road is sometimes referred to as a "paper road". These road reserves may be impassable to a vehicle due to terrain, vegetation or surface conditions but equally may already have a track that can be traversed by a vehicle. The use of existing tracks through road reserves to access property is perfectly legal even where Council has not registered the track as a public road.

Where a dwelling is proposed to be constructed, a driveway connection to the road network will be approved by Council. The location of the driveway and naming of the road (where required) enables a property address to be allocated. Where there is not an existing road, it is generally a requirement of the development process to construct an all-weather road from the property to the existing road network. Council then takes responsibility for maintenance of the road in accordance with its Road Management Plan.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

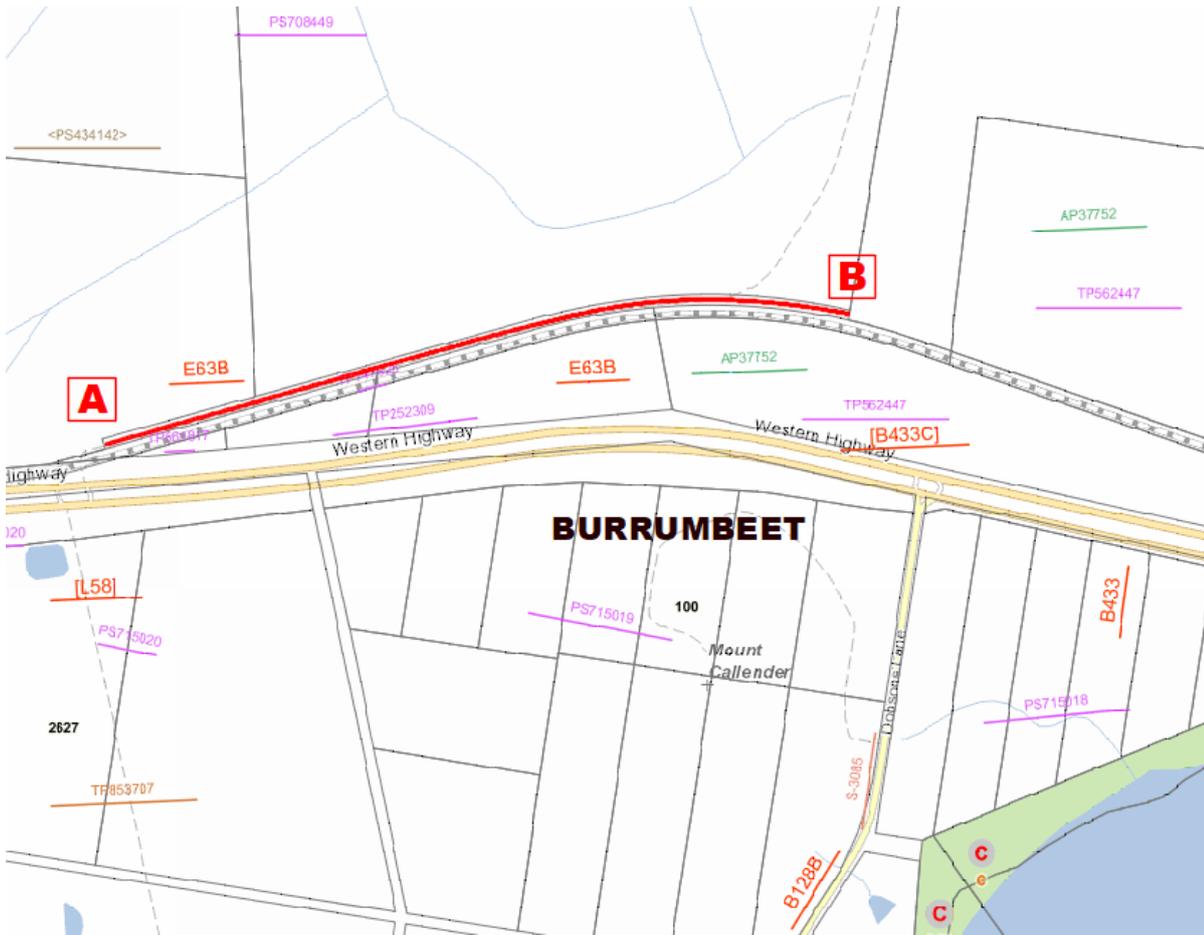
The cases identified in this report are proposed to bring roads onto Council's register of public roads to enable the process of road naming to commence and maintenance to be undertaken in accordance with Council's Road Management Plan.

2605 & 2626 Western Highway, Ercildoune

These two properties are addressed to the Western Highway. Access to their properties is via a parcel of land dedicated as a road being Crown Allotment 2003 Parish of Ercildoune, Crown Folio Statement Volume 11733 of Folio 850.

This road is unnamed and has not been entered into Council's register of public roads. It has been used as property access for over 20 years.

It is proposed that this be registered as a public road with a classification of Local Access 2. The length of road is approximately 1260 metres. The process of naming this road would then be undertaken with subsequent amendment to property addressing.



UNNAMED ROADS BARKLY

Seven properties to the east of Marshall Lane and Frenchmans-St Arnaud Road require road access. These properties abut existing road reserves. There are existing unformed tracks within the road reserves but these tracks are not on Council’s register of public roads. The existing tracks enabling vehicle access to the properties. It is proposed to add two sections of road to Council’s register of public roads.

Section 1 is approximately 530 metres long and is identified by the letters “A” and “B” on the map below. This continues through to the Kara Kara National Park becoming Barkly Track. Section 2 is approximately 560 metres long and identified by letters “B” and “C”.

It is proposed to classify the roads as Local Access 3 roads. This is the lowest class of road on Council’s asset register and includes unformed natural surface roads. Local Access 3 roads do not fall under Council’s regular maintenance and inspection program and will only be maintained at its discretion. If property owners seek to build dwellings on the land, they would be required, under planning approval, to upgrade the road to Local Access 2 standard – namely an all-weather road suitable for emergency vehicle access.

Once adopted onto the register of public roads these roads would be subject to the standard road naming process.



COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1c. Improve accessibility and inclusivity.

Priority 2 - Place

2b. Enhance the liveability and resilience of our communities.

Under the *Road Management Act 2004 s19 a* road authority is required to keep a register of public roads which defines those roads for which they are the coordinating road authority. The register must include amongst other things: (a) the name of the public road, or if unnamed, a description which enables the particular road to be easily identified; (b) the date on which the road became a public road; and (c) the classification of the public road.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

When a road is added to Councils Road Register it is assigned a road hierarchy type which determines the service level, maintenance inspection frequency and construction standard. For a Local Access 3 road the service level is natural surface without formation and there would be no obligation on Council to maintain

the road. For a Local Access 2 road the service level would be all-weather access suitable for emergency and waste management vehicles. Construction would typically involve the grading and compaction of 100mm depth of approved gravel with associated roadside drainage. Ongoing maintenance would entail ensuring the standards of the Road Management Plan are met.

CONCLUSION

Council is asked to consider adding these roads to its register of public roads and approve the commencement of the road naming process.

Cr Robert Vance / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That Council:

1. Includes Unnamed Road Ercildoune (“A” to “B”) in its register of public roads with a classification of Local Access 2.
2. Includes Unnamed Road Barkly (“A” to “B”) in its register of public roads with a classification of Local Access 3.
3. Includes Unnamed Road Barkly (“B” to “C”) in its register of public roads with a classification of Local Access 3.
4. Approves commencement of the process of road naming.

CARRIED

13.2.2. PETITION - AVOCA FREE CAMPING

Presenter: Douglas Gowans - Director Asset and Development Services

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

Report Author: Douglas Gowans – Director Assets and Development

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

File No: 62/22/02

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information for Council to consider a response to the two petitions that have been received over the previous months relating to the Avoca River Flats and their current and future use.

BACKGROUND

Two petitions were received by Pyrenees Shire Council, both of which were formally received by Council in the December 2022 and January 2023 Council meetings respectively.

Petition One, was addressed to DELWP and Pyrenees Shire requesting the following:

- DELWP enforce their 'Land (Regulated Watercourse Land) Regulations 2021' and stop camping along the Avoca River in Avoca within 20m of the river or 200m of a dwelling.
- DELWP repair and restore the Riparian zone along the Avoca River in Avoca.
- The Pyrenees Shire investigate and select an alternate more suitable site in Avoca to cater to the increasing numbers of RV Campers seeking free camping. They must apply the same selection process that was applied when choosing a site in Beaufort (Pyrenees Shire Minutes 17 November 2015) being:
 - A site that is not in a flood zone and liable to become unsightly.
 - Not on full view of residents.
 - Not highly visible to visitors, passing traffic and residents.
 - Is in a more discreet location.
- Pyrenees Shire put a stop camping at the Dundas Street Public Reserve, an area that has never been designated for Camping.

This petition contained 91 signatures and was presented to Council at the December 2022 Council meeting.

Petition Two, was addressed to Pyrenees Shire Council stating the following:

"We the undersigned support continued free camping on the Avoca River Flat area from North Street to the Lions Park inclusive."

This petition contained 763 signatures and was presented to Council at the January 2023 Council meeting. An additional 30 signatures were received on 03 February 2023.

The largest parcel of land located north of the Pyrenees Highway between Faraday and Dundas Streets Avoca is crown land directly managed by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA formerly known as DELWP) with Pyrenees Shire Council listed as the land manager of three individual parcels within this overall area. The land south of the Pyrenees Highway, known as the Avoca Lions Park Reserve, is crown land where Council has been designated as land manager. *(Refer to attached Owner and Land Manager map)*

Council reconsidered the issue of RV camping in 2016, whereby Council resolved to continue to promote Avoca as an RV friendly town with the formal designation of the RV camp site which had already been informally established at the Lions Park.

Council currently undertakes mowing maintenance of all the above-mentioned sites through its mowing program including the land managed by DECCA.

In 2021 Council sought to undertake a consultation process to understand how the community values and uses the Avoca River Flat Reserve. There were 73 respondents with the following demographic breakdown:

- 28% work or manage a business in the Avoca township;
- 15% were residents who live on Dundas or Faraday Streets between Bridport and Duke Streets;
- 18% camp at the Avoca River Frontage Reserve between Bridport and Duke Streets and;
- 43% residing elsewhere in Avoca.

The majority of respondents were supportive of retaining the current use of the land at the Avoca River Flats with some responses seeking improvements such as accessible walking trails, picnic tables, barbecue areas, fire pits and signage to encourage camping in the area.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Avoca River and surrounds provide Avoca residents and visitors with opportunities for quiet enjoyment and passive recreation activities such as walking, picnicking and enjoying the natural environment. The river links key areas of the town such as the main street business precinct, Avoca Recreation Reserve, the Chinese Gardens and the Skate Park. This further demonstrates the importance of the area to the social, environmental and economic fabric of Avoca.

In response to the first petition where the petition requests Council to consider an alternative site for RV camping based on selection criteria used to inform the site in Beaufort, it is worthwhile referring to the factors reported to Council at the time of selection of the Beaufort site. Ultimately the Beaufort site was chosen due to:

1. The more discreet location in comparison to the other proposed options. There were at the time very few neighbouring properties all of which had good screening via fencing at the rear of the property.
2. The proximity to the town retail centre and walking tracks.
3. The proximity to the existing RV dump point at the caravan park (now duplicated on Park Rd).
4. Council currently owns and maintains the property.

Several other locations were considered prior to Council choosing the site in Audas Lane Beaufort. None offered better advantages than those at the Audas Lane site.

Council understands that there has been a long continuous history of camping on the site in Avoca. Beaufort did not have an existing area used for camping, therefore there was more flexibility in determining the parameters that would help determine an appropriate site for Beaufort. The topography of the River Flats in Avoca is quite different from the creek topography in Beaufort. The factors that were considered in choosing an RV site in Beaufort were specific to Beaufort.

Given the long history of camping at the Avoca River Flats the question regarding the appropriateness of the location needs to be considered independently.

The land that is in Council control is currently being used in the same way that the adjoining land managed directly by DEECA is. Therefore, it may be appropriate for Council to designate this land for camping purposes, with the exception of the Avoca Skate Park. Alternatively, Council may wish to relinquish control of the two parcels directly north of the Pyrenees Highway back to DEECA to avoid any confusion around land management responsibility.

The consultation that occurred in 2021 showed that the majority of respondents, when asked what their hopes are for this site in the future, wished for the land to continue to be used for camping and public purposes with comments like “it’s perfect as it is” and “hopefully it doesn’t change”.

Of the 73 respondents in this consultation the breakdown of responses to this question was as follows:

- 62% of respondents hoped for no future changes to the use of this land.
- 7% of respondents expressed a clear view for restrictions on existing camping practices.

The remaining respondents wished to see improvements or enhancements to the area without specific views on the continuation of camping.

DEECA representatives have stated that the land they are responsible for is regularly monitored and they have reiterated that there are no changes planned for the use of the land in this area.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 2 - Place

2a. Sustain and enhance unique character of our communities.

Enabling Principles

c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

The response to these petitions and consultation is noted above.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Owner and Land Manager Map [**13.2.2.1** - 1 page]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

If Council were to formalise its intent for the two parcels of land immediately north of the Pyrenees Highway to be designated for use for camping, Council will need to ensure that camping is regulated to the same conditions that DEECA expects eg. self-contained camping and no discharge of grey or black water to land. Alternatively, Council could consider converting the management of these two parcels of land back to DEECA management. If Council did relinquish control of the parcels of land, Council would need to apply to DEECA for public use events.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that the majority of respondents across the three surveys and petitions wish to see camping and current usages of the Avoca River Flats continue. There are a percentage of the community who are aggrieved by the camping and are of the view that there are inappropriate practices occurring, Council will continue to work with the management authorities to monitor the Avoca River Flats to mitigate any inappropriate usage.

Cr Robert Vance / Cr David Clark

That Council:

1. Continues to support camping on the Avoca River Flats including on land that Council actively manages.
2. Council designates the two parcels of land directly north of the Pyrenees Highway for public use including for camping purposes.

CARRIED

13.3. CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

13.3.1. RISK MANAGEMENT

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: 16/24/06

PURPOSE

This report is provided to the Council as part of its bi-annual reporting obligations on risk management. Council is requested to note the information provided on global risk trends and VBI updates; and to consider and adopt the updated strategic risk register for 2023.

BACKGROUND

Effective risk identification and management is an integral part of business management and good governance. Risk management comprises of several elements, including enterprise risk management, OHS (Occupational Health and Safety), business continuity and prevention of fraud & corruption.

The Council maintains two risk registers:

- The Strategic Risk Register, monitored by Council and reviewed as a minimum every 12 months, and
- The Enterprise Risk Register detailing operational risks across the organisation.

Under the Local Government performance Reporting Framework, risk management reports must be provided to the Council at least every six months including the monitoring and update of the Strategic Risks faced by the organisation. The last report to the Council on risk management was provided in August 2022.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Strategic Risk Register

Council adopted the former Enterprise Risk Register of risks rated as High or Extreme in August 2022. A subsequent review of these risks, including an assessment of emerging risks and risk trends, has been conducted and an updated register provided for the Council's approval.

The strategic risks faced by the organisation have again been separated into a separate register, for ease of monitoring by the Council. Strategic risks include those with a potential for impact across the organisation and over which Council may have limited control.

The risks, and controls to mitigate those risks where possible, were reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team and the 2023 Strategic Risk Register is attached for the Council's consideration and adoption.

The register includes:

- 1 risk rated as Extreme – relating to financial sustainability. This risk was formerly assessed as High but has been re-assessed for 2023 to allow for recent long-term financial modelling; highlighting a need to reduce costs in the immediate future; and global risk trends analysis identifying a likely move into a low growth, low investment period that might result in a lack of growth or reduction in government funding.
- 6 risks are rated as High, reflecting global trends and internal assessment of risks faced by the Pyrenees Shire Council in particular. These risks include:
 - Cyber and Data Insecurity – considering both the widespread global growth of cybercrime and cyber insecurity, and the increased internal focus on cyber security potentially impacting focus on IT (Information Technology) development and transformation.

- Climate Change and Environment Sustainability – two risks have been included within this category:
 - Environmental damage and extreme weather impacts – the increased likelihood of which are being seen – combined with the possibility of future recovery cost reimbursement becoming more difficult.
 - Failure to adapt to climate change – identifying the impact on local government and their communities as governments globally fail to act to mitigate climate change as political pressures and priorities continue to take precedence.
- Health, Safety & Wellbeing – the potential failure to reverse a downward trend in community satisfaction.
- Customer Experience – a failure to reverse the downward trend in community satisfaction.
- Service Quality – a potential failure to monitor quality of service delivery and guidance to staff. This risk has arisen due to the ongoing workload pressures on officers making it difficult to include a focus on updating policies and procedures that guide staff in providing quality services.
- 3 risks are identified as moderate including:
 - Fraud & Corruption – failure to effectively identify and prevent fraud or corruption.
 - Human Capital, Diversity and Talent Management – ineffective work planning, recruitment, and retention processes.
 - Critical and Community Infrastructure – failure to provide and maintain infrastructure that meets current and future needs.

An update on current controls and planned actions to further reduce the risks are provided within the register.

Emerging Risks and Risk Trends

Officers have perused a range of global risk reports for 2023, identifying the following key risk trends that could have impact on Council operations.

1. **Cost of living crisis** – reports indicate that the risks arising from inflation are likely to have a short-term impact in Australia and globally, likely to stabilise again in 2024. However, rising interest rates and reducing consumer purchasing power could impact our communities' ability to meet their rates payment obligations. The economic after-effects of COVID-19 and current inflation are likely to result in a low-growth, low-investment era potentially impacting discretionary funding available for local government. 2023 sees Council entering Enterprise Bargaining negotiations in an economic environment where wages growth continues at a rate less than the cost of living.
2. **Natural disasters and extreme weather events / climate change** – impact from this is already being seen globally and within Australia; and this risk is forecast to remain within the top 3 risks over the next 10 years. This risk is compounded by the associated risk of governments' failure to mitigate climate change – likely to dominate risk trends over the next decade.
3. **Cyber security** – this risk can no longer be considered the responsibility of our IT departments but is a real financial and reputation risk for organisations. Ransomware was a major threat in 2022 and recent incidents highlight the difficulties in maintaining effective defences against persistent cyber criminals, and the diversion of resources that our internal operations face in meeting the everyday demands in maintaining those defences. Cyber and data breaches impact the quality and availability of our services, our trustworthiness and reputation, and our financial stability.
4. **Digital disruption and innovative technologies** – a growing risk, met by Council during pandemic with the need to rapidly virtualise and enable the workforce to work from home, but likely to meet pressure from competing financial priorities in the future as Council struggles to juggle limited resources between inflation, pay increases and supply chain disruption against the need to use new technologies to cut costs in the face of rising prices, increase efficiencies, and plug growing skill shortages.

5. **Macro-economic / geo-political confrontation** – although the full brunt of conflict between global ‘superpowers’ is more directly felt in the Northern Hemisphere, the fall-out of the conflict between Russian and Ukraine (and subsequent sanctions imposed), and the growing tensions between the US and China (notwithstanding Australia’s own tensions with China), have impacted Australia (and Council) through supply chain failures and significant cost increases.
6. **Human capital, diversity, and talent management** – the risks being identified with our valued people assets are numerous: the gradual loss of corporate knowledge and experience as Baby Boomers exit the workforce, the shorter-term migration following COVID-19, and the need for more robust succession planning and training. The pandemic accelerated skills shortages as mature workers retired and younger people favoured education or alternative career routes. Organisations must now tackle wage inflation, skill shortages and the need to offer better psychological support to staff, creating a need to shift organisational culture to meet needs for hybrid working and inclusion while remaining highly operational, productive, and functional however people choose to work.

In summary, major themes for the next 12 months identify a high level of uncertainty, with the economy, human capital, and advancing technology forecast to present the most challenges to organisations.

Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Defined Benefit Plan – Vested Benefit Index (VBI) Update

Under the superannuation prudential standards, VBIs (Vested Benefit Index) must generally be kept above a fund’s nominated shortfall threshold, currently 97%. When an actuarial review/investigation is in progress, a fund’s VBI must be at least 100%.

In the event the VBI falls below the shortfall threshold, the fund’s Trustee is required under the superannuation prudential standards (SPS 160) to formulate a restoration plan to restore the VBI to 100% within three years.

1. **EOFY Update 30 June 2022:** Since the last update as of March 2022, equity markets declined and finished the 2021/22 year in a weaker position relative to the prior financial year end. The 30 June 2022 VBI results were finalised as:

As at	30 Jun 2021 (actual)	30 Sept 2021 (est)	31 Dec 2021 (est)	30 March 2022 (est.)	30 June 2022 (actual)
LASF DB	109.7%	109.9%	111.2%	108.5%	102.2%

The end of financial year VBI decreased compared to the previous quarter, due to:

- Negative investment returns for the quarter of –6.06% which have decreased the asset pool supporting the defined benefit liabilities of the sub-plan, and
 - Salary increases of 0.4% advised to Vision Super during the quarter, which have increased the value of the active member benefit liabilities.
2. **Update 30 September 2022:** Since the 30 June 2022 update, financial markets experienced a minor decline up until 30 September 2022. The 30 September 2022 VBI results were finalised as:

As at	30 Jun 2020 (actual)	30 Jun 2021 (actual)	30 Jun 2022 (actual)	30 Sept 2022 (est.)
LASF DB	104.6%	109.7%	102.2%	101.50%

The 30 September 2022 VBI decreased compared to that at 30 June 2022, due to:

- Negative investment returns for the quarter of -0.38% which have decreased the asset pool supporting the defined benefit liabilities of the sub-plan, and
- Salary increases of 0.87% advised to Vision Super during the quarter which have increased the value of the active member benefit liabilities.

The VBI of 101.50% as at 30 September 2022 satisfies APRA's Superannuation Prudential Standard 160 (SPS 160)

The next VBI review is scheduled as at 31 December 2022, with results expected to be distributed shortly. At this stage, no action is required by Council.

Internal audit services

The existing contract for internal audit services expires on 30 June 2023. The total estimated value of this contract is less than the threshold adopted by Council in its Procurement Policy, above which contract renewal must be done via tender. Requests for quotation are being sought in February 2023, to start a new contract in July 2023.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

- 1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.
- 1d. Promote health, wellbeing, engagement, and connection.

Priority 2 - Place

- 2b. Enhance the liveability and resilience of our communities.

Enabling Principles

- b. Provide transparency and accountability
- c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

ATTACHMENTS

1. PSC Council Strategic Risk Register Overview 2023 [**13.3.1.1** - 5 pages]

Cr Tanya Kehoe / Cr Damian Ferrari

That Council:

1. Notes the information provided on global risk trends and the VBI updates; and
2. Considers and adopts the updated Strategic Risk Register for 2023.

CARRIED

13.3.2. FLOOD RECOVERY UPDATE

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Jane Bowker – Flood Recovery Coordinator

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

File No: 28/14/50

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on recovery activities arising from the October and November 2022 flood events and to seek Council's approval for the Flood Recovery Plan which outlines ongoing recovery actions

BACKGROUND

Recurring heavy rainfall were experienced across the Pyrenees municipality starting 6 October 2022 resulting in flood events. Further rain events occurred in November 2022 adding to already soaked waterways and catchments, causing further flooding.

The communities of Avoca, Lexton, Natta Yallock, Beaufort and Amphitheatre were the most significantly impacted with many homes, farming properties, roads, bridges and community facilities damaged.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

A report was presented to the 15 November 2022 Council meeting providing an update on the flood impacts up until that date. More accurate data has been gathered as SIAs have been mostly completed with the assistance of other agencies. There is likely to be further impacts emerge as time goes when residents are either contacted or reach out for assistance, or when primary producers are able to access their land.

Council's ability to conduct secondary impact assessments and move into recovery mode has been hindered by the initial lack of initial Rapid Impact Assessments (RIA) meant to be carried out by emergency services. The official transition to recovery has not occurred primarily due to the lack of RIA data. Unfortunately, the lack of RIA has slowed the recovery efforts somewhat and Council has had to seek additional resources to conduct secondary impact assessments.

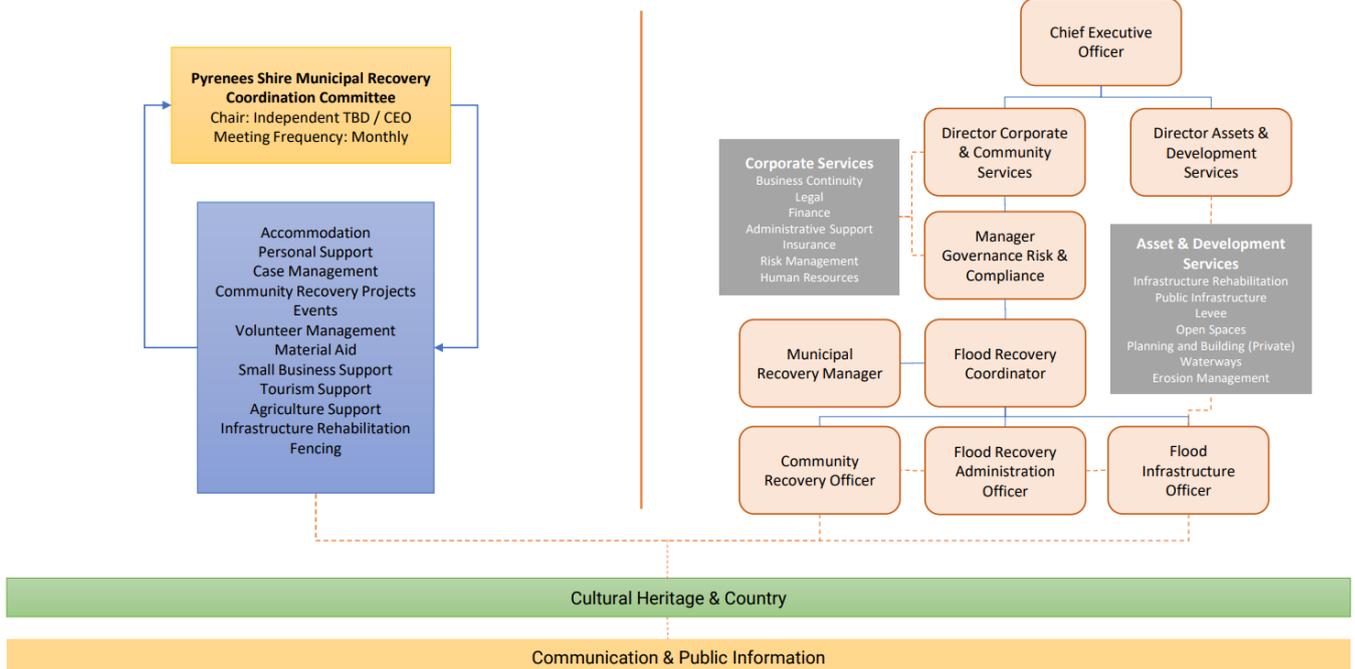
Recovery Planning

Recovery planning is now well underway with the development of the coordination structure, flood recovery team and draft flood recovery plan. A strong focus for Council is to support community recovery which will be community-led and incorporate the needs and desires of the broad and diverse communities. Some needs have been arranged earlier in the recovery process (such as relief, material aid, temporary accommodation, clean-up and financial assistance) but others (such as physical reconstruction, community development, economic development and environmental rehabilitation) will take a much longer time to deliver.

Coordination Structure

A municipal recovery coordination structure has been developed to effectively manage normal business services with recovery functions. The structure provides reporting arrangements and links between the Municipal Recovery Coordination Committee (MRCC) and Council's Flood Recovery Team.

Pyrenees Municipal Recovery Coordination Structure



Flood Recovery Team

Council’s Flood Recovery Team, consisting of four positions, is now in place for the next 12 months or so funded by the relevant funding agencies. The Team will support Council, the Municipal Recovery Coordination Committee (MRCC) and the community in recovery activities such as immediate and longer-term help for flood affected residents, community-led initiatives and restoration of public assets. The Team will minimise the otherwise substantial impact on Council’s Business as Usual (BAU) activity by allowing staff to move back to their normal roles and emergency management staff to plan for future events.

The team is made up of the following positions:

- Flood Recovery Coordinator – Jane Bowker
- Community Recovery Officer – Tony Grimme
- Flood Infrastructure Officer – Kim Whytcross
- Administration Officer – Gillian Matthews

The team can be contacted by calling Council on 1300 797 363 or recovery@pyrenees.vic.gov.au. A flood recovery newsletter will be issued each month to keep the community informed with up-to-date information and support.

Municipal Recovery Coordination Committee (MRCC)

Pyrenees Shire Council is in the process of establishing a Municipal Recovery Coordination Committee (MRCC) to oversee the recovery activities detailed in the Flood Recovery Plan. This committee will be formed with partner organisations from a range of government agencies, community groups and non-government organisations to ensure a multi-agency, integrated approach to recovery is undertaken.

More importantly, community members from flood affected areas will be invited to be a member on the MRCC to ensure that the community's views and needs are actively integrated across all recovery activities. The purpose will be two-fold by tapping into the knowledge of local residents about their local area and in turn support the work of recovery agencies.

Expressions of interest for community members to join the Committee will be advertised in the coming weeks.

Flood Recovery Plan

The draft Flood Recovery Plan has been developed to coordinate the flood recovery operation and provide an implementation framework and reporting mechanism for the Municipal Recovery Coordination Committee (MRCC). It has been designed to evolve over time and has the community at its core. Implementation of the plan, once approved, will be the responsibility of the MRCC and Council working in close partnership other recovery agencies. The draft plan is being presented for approval at this meeting.

Impacts and Recovery Actions

The following is a brief snapshot of known impacts as at the time this report was written, and the recovery actions being undertaken to date. More comprehensive data can be found in the Flood Recovery Plan.

Private property (commercial, farming, residential or a combination):

- 199 confirmed as impacted
- 6 houses uninhabitable

Agriculture:

- 226kms of internal fences
- 89.8kms of external fences
- 230 livestock loss
- 39,440ha of total farms surveyed with 14,324ha flood affected

Residents and primary producers have been either contacted by Council or Windermere Services to see how they are going and if any referrals to support agencies are required. Assessors have been engaged to coordinate more thorough building/home assessments should residents request them. BlaizeAid and Landmate teams have been working hard on repairing fences.

Assets & Infrastructure:

Twenty seven roads were closed across the municipality. Immediate works to roads were undertaken and re-opened when they were safe enough to do so. A thorough assessment of roads, bridges, major culverts, drainage and floodways has now been completed by Driscoll Engineering. 1373 inspections were completed, and 953 assets were identified as needing rehabilitation works. Rehabilitation works are currently being planned and the community should start to see some activity in the coming weeks.

Council's Road Management Plan is still suspended, as per section 5.3 of our Road Management Plan. The suspension was put into place as Council does not have the financial capacity or resources to ensure the minimum service standards can be delivered within the timeframes set out in the Plan because of the flood events. Once the rehabilitation works are finished being planned and now that the full assessment has been completed, the CEO will receive advice and consider lifting the suspension.

Public Property/Community Assets:

Inundation, at varying degrees, has been confirmed at the following public property/community assets:

- Avoca Recreation Reserve
- Avoca Men's Shed
- Natte Yallock Recreation Reserve
- Avoca Golf Club
- Lexton Golf Club
- Lions Park Toilet Block, BBQ, Playground
- Beaufort Men's Shed
- Beaufort Scout/Guides Hall

- Waterloo Community Centre
- Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally site
- Begg Street Playground, Beaufort
- Tollbar Park, Lexton

Council staff have been working with community representatives, government departments and insurers to help reinstate the assets and/or consider mitigation options to reduce future flooding. Some assets require more significant repair works than others. Those not insured will require external funding to undertake repair works. Unfortunately, repair work is going to be quite a long process and it is acknowledged there is disruption to those community groups that are affected.

Funding and financial support programs claims for reimbursement

The Victorian Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) scheme is available to councils to relieve some of the burden that may be experienced following a disaster and in accordance with the Australian Government's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA). The DRFA is a cost sharing arrangement between the commonwealth and state and territory governments. The Pyrenees Shire Council has been confirmed as eligible to claim for reimbursements through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and Council has submitted an estimate of \$15.5 million. This is the primary source of funding available to Council for the restoration of essential public assets including the damaged road network.

The Victorian Government has provided a Council Flood Support Fund comprising \$500,000 to Pyrenees Shire Council as one of several eligible councils to undertake clean up and eligible restoration activities which are ineligible under the DRFA. This funding has been very welcome and has assisted Council greatly to clean-up debris deposited on council parks, reserves and community assets, provide transportation and staffing costs, and help restore community services.

Community assets that are covered as part of Council's property insurance policy have been inspected by the insurance assessor. Restoration works are underway on some of the assets, and we are awaiting reports on the remaining.

There have been a range of other Commonwealth and State funding programs announced and in place to support impacted residents, businesses, farmers, and sporting clubs. Many of these funds require individual registration, and part of Council's recovery effort has been and will continue to be in the support to our residents and businesses in accessing the funding available.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Residents, farmers, sporting/recreation groups and business owners have contacted either by Council or Windermere Services (on behalf of Council) as part of providing recovery support. There has been ongoing engagement with Government Agencies and organisations in planning and coordinating the response, relief and recovery efforts. Consultation and engagement will continue for however long it requires to ensure the community is fully supported in their recovery.

ATTACHMENTS

1. PSC 2022 Flood Recovery Plan DRAFT 2023.02.07 [**13.3.2.1** - 30 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

There has been a significant risk to public safety caused by the October and November flood event. In addition, there has been widespread damage to public and private assets, and substantial personal hardship caused to individuals and businesses.

There is a significant financial risk to Council if the recovery effort is not managed carefully.

The suspension of the Road Management Plan has been necessary in response to the minimise councils' liability.

CONCLUSION

This report seeks to provide a summary of the widespread impact of the October Flood event and outlines the recovery arrangements in place and planned for the coming months.

Council would like to thank all the community members, businesses and organisations who have helped with the recovery efforts so far, and often at short notice. Flood recovery is a big job and takes time, and efforts have been really appreciated.

Cr David Clark / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the significant and widespread impact of flooding across the shire due to the October and November events.
2. Continues to support the recovery actions outlined in this report.
3. Seeks to continue to resource the recovery effort in order to achieve the best outcomes for our communities.
4. Continues to advocate to State and Commonwealth Governments, where required, to ensure Council and our communities are not disadvantaged by the natural disaster.
5. Approves the draft Flood Recovery Plan.
6. That a status update on the Flood Recovery Plan be brought to a Council meeting in 3 months' time.

CARRIED

13.3.3. DELEGATIONS

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Michelle Richards – Manager Governance, Risk and Compliance

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

File No: 16/20/08

PURPOSE

This report is provided for Council to adopt revised Delegations from Council.

BACKGROUND

Section 11 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides Council with the power to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, via Instrument of Delegation, any power, duty, or function of a Council under the Act other than one prohibited by section 11 (2).

Section 11 (7) requires Council to review all delegations made under the *Local Government Act 2020* within 12 months of a general election and section 11 (8) requires Council to maintain a public register of delegations made.

A range of other legislation also allows Council to delegate powers, duties, and functions under those Acts or Regulations to Council staff.

It is the Council's practice to review its delegations to the Chief Executive Officer and other Council staff members regularly.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The following Instruments of Delegation were reviewed in February 2023, using information provided by Council's in-house compliance system – RelianSys. This system monitors legislative change and provides updates on changes relevant to local government to support maintaining compliance; and provides a comprehensive service in producing relevant Instruments of Delegation.

- S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Authorised Officers)
- S5 Instrument of Delegation – Council to Chief Executive Officer
- S6 – Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Council Staff.

This review included changes required through:

- Introduction of new legislation or amendment of existing legislation
- Changes in officers responsible for authorised powers, duties, or functions

Documents have been provided to the Council for adoption. Following adoption, the documents will be sealed with the Council Seal.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.

Enabling Principles

b. Provide transparency and accountability

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Management and review of Instruments of Delegation is a matter of compliance and does not require community engagement. The review was completed in collaboration with relevant members of staff.

ATTACHMENTS

1. S5 Instrument of Delegation to Chief Executive Officer Feb23 [**13.3.3.1** - 6 pages]
2. S6 Instrument of Delegation Members of Staff [**13.3.3.2** - 147 pages]
3. S11 Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation Council to Officers Feb 2023 [**13.3.3.3** - 9 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020* and other legislation to accurately record any delegations of powers, duties, or functions to the Chief Executive Officer and members of Council staff to allow for proper and lawful administration of Council's functions and operations, without which all functions and operations would require daily resolution of the Council.

CONCLUSION

Lawful operation of Council administration requires delegations of authority to be authorised by the Council. It is good practice to review delegations at regular intervals or when significant changes occur.

Amended Instruments, once approved by the Council, will remain in force until further reviews are conducted in the future.

Cr Damian Ferrari / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That Council:

1. In the exercise of the powers conferred by Section 11 of the *Local Government act 2020* and other legislation referenced in the attached Instruments, resolves that:
 - a. The members of Council staff referenced in the Instruments S5, S6, and S11 as attached, be appointed and authorised as set out in the Instruments, and
 - b. The Instruments come into force immediately the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the Instruments, and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke them, and
2. Affixes the Common Seal to the Instruments.

CARRIED

13.3.4. RURAL ADDRESSING AND ROAD NAMING

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Diane Daniell – Rural Addressing and Road Naming Project Officer

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

File No: 06/04/02

PURPOSE

This report brings to the Council's attention legacy issues around street numbering and rural addressing, and the actions being implemented to rectify these issues over time.

BACKGROUND

In August 2021, with many properties in the Pyrenees Shire lacking street numbers or rural addresses, Council officers identified a need to ensure any properties in the Shire where activities and occupation were occurring had a proper address compliant with the Australian Standard AS/NZS 4819:2011 – Rural and Urban Addressing.

To prevent future issues arising, Council has implemented an additional step in existing internal procedures – such as Planning, Building and Environmental Health permit applications, and the creation of new properties when land is sub-divided or multi-parcel properties are split – to include a referral to the Rural Addressing Project Officer so that correct addresses can be generated.

To create addresses that comply with the above Standard, road names must also be considered in line with the Naming Rules for Places requirements of Geographic Names Victoria. As part of the above addressing processes, anomalies in road names across the Shire are also being identified, prioritised for attention, and resolved as resources allow. Also, staff and the public raise road naming anomalies that can be included in the project, some of which have been around for some time.

At the very least these anomalies cause confusion and inconvenience, at worst they can be a risk to public safety and detrimental to the Council's image of competently managing crucial information. Pyrenees Shire is one of many rural municipalities that have historically not had the resources to manage this area of data maintenance and public safety and therefore have taken a minimal approach to addressing and correcting past errors. The current project is designed to address the issues over time.

The benefits to our residents and ratepayers are many, as once the address is created and registered in Vicmap Address, this is where the 000 call centre validates its addresses for dispatch of emergency services; and provides a single source of truth for government agencies, Electoral Commissions, Australia Post, Energy Providers, NBN, Telstra, Council officers, and members of the public during general searches for properties and addresses.

Since August 2021 the project has consistently increased the number of existing addresses in the Pyrenees shire with over 200 new and existing properties being addressed, as well as pre-addressing almost 70 lots, spread over 23 subdivisions, supporting efficient processing for any activity one the blocks are sold.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION - ISSUES

Types of issue:

The types of issues arising include:

- Duplicated road names and therefore duplicated addresses, causing confusion and potential emergency response delays.

- Non-contiguous roads – roads and streets with the same name on either side of a physical object or barrier preventing driving through from one end to the other
- Unnamed roads - resulting in an inability to create proper addresses and easily locate a property.
- Mismatch between Council data sets – e.g., where the road name is not the same in asses, records, or property systems and/or does not match Vicmap Transport. This can cause problems for residents in getting services connected or delivered to their property, including emergency response.
- Origin-Destination Road names – these are often reversed, or one part of the name is discontinued in common use. Where 2 or more similar names exist (e.g., Snake Valley-Chepstowe, Snake Valley-Mortchup, and Pittong-Snake Valley roads) this further compounds the problem. This type of road name is no longer allowed when allocating new road names.
- Non-matching road signage, spelt incorrectly, or missing.

To work towards improving these legacy issues, a list of road names has been compiled and some priorities identified where issues are more likely to cause problems. This list is a dynamic document, likely to be regularly updated as more naming issues are identified or brought to the Council's attention.

Ongoing project focus:

As part of the project, over the past year, many new addresses were created and many minor road name anomalies and signage issues were fixed. The project will now focus on rectifying more involved projects as resources allow.

Existing issues are identified below. None of these road naming issues are easy to rectify, however over time effort will be made to deal with those that present the most risk to public safety.

1. Duplicated road names, in proximity, with multiple homes or businesses:

- a. Landsborough Road – two roads less than 1.5km apart (one from Stawell to Landsborough and another from Landsborough to the Stawell-Avoca Road).
- b. Blackney Drive and Blackney Lane, Avoca – less than 2 km apart and duplicate addresses.
- c. Two roads each named Modesty Lane – the numbering in one of these does not conform to Standards indicating that it is 5 km from where it would logically be.
- d. Andersons Lane – Avoca and Percydale – 7.5km apart with only houses in one.

2. Non-contiguous roads

Roads where there is a physical break in the road, however the numbering treats the road as contiguous (or continuous without a break). In these circumstances, one section needs to be renamed and sometimes renumbered. This is of particular concern to emergency services. They may be broken by a creek, a section where no trafficable road exists, or it shares a section of road with a differently named road.

- a. Lexton-Ararat Road – a short section at the Amphitheatre end is broken by the Amphitheatre Road. There is one duplicated address and the two sections are 5km apart.
- b. Willoby Street, Beaufort – this is broken by a drain, the addressing at the eastern end does not comply with the current Standard and may cause issues with emergency services.
- c. Thompsons Road, Amphitheatre – this has had the railway crossing closed so the house at no.37 is not accessible down this road. The existing house faces an unnamed road which needs to be named.

3. Unnamed roads

- a. 2(c) above sits within this section also.
- b. Unnamed road between Jimmy Smith Road and Jenny Clayton Track that services two non-resident farms.

4. Mismatch between Council Data Sets

This is an ongoing correction activity where the naming below must be the same for every road in the shire to avoid administrative and emergency services problems. Many of these have already been resolved as errors are detected:

- a. Road name in Council Property and Address records
- b. Road name in Council Records files
- c. Road name in Council Asset listings
- d. Road name in Council Public Road Register
- e. Road name in Vicmap Transport (000)
- f. Road name on signage

5. Origin-Destination Roads

Unless impacted by one of the other problem types, this is outside the current scope of resources at Pyrenees to rectify.

6. Road signage

A review is needed of what level of street and road signage is acceptable for easy location, navigation, and public safety within the Pyrenees Shire.

For example, some municipalities have a standard in built-up areas where there is street signage on every intersection in a town; and rural signage may have a minimum of at least a sign on each end of every through-road and start of every no-through road. Some others have street blade signage with the property number ranges listed under the road name; and in rural areas each major intersection is signed with number ranges indicating which way the rural addressing runs.

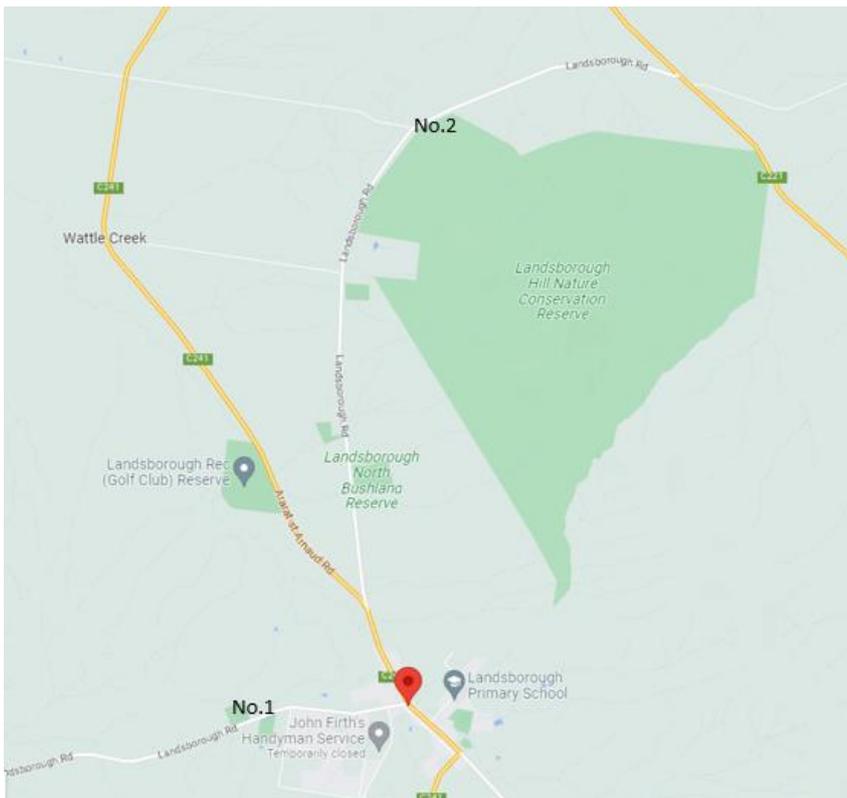
Council does not currently fund this level of signage with minimal budget allocated for replacing missing or damaged signage, or signage on newly created roads.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION – RECTIFICATION

It is proposed that correction of the first more complex issue on the above list be progressed.

Two roads named 'Landsborough Road' create a risk that emergency services may look for an address on the wrong Landsborough Road; especially as one is long in distance, and both are less than 1.5km apart but run in different directions. Both roads (where within the Pyrenees Shire) are Council-maintained roads.

1. No.1 Landsborough Road - runs east-west from the edge of Stawell in Northern Grampians Shire to Landsborough.
2. No.2 Landsborough Road - runs north-south from the intersection with the Stawell-Avoca Road to the intersection of Ararat-St Arnaud Road in Landsborough.



In this instance, it is suggested that the second (No.2) Landsborough Road above be renamed because:

- It is much easier to rename a road that falls entirely within the Pyrenees municipal boundary as otherwise two councils would have to agree to both rename it and on the actual name. No.2 Landsborough Road is entirely within the Pyrenees Shire.
- The aim should be to impact as few residential or business addresses as possible with the need for re-addressing. In this case, No.2 has far less properties impacted.

No.1 runs for 3km in the Pyrenees Shire and 30km in the Northern Grampians Shire. In total there are 12 properties within the Pyrenees Shire that would be impacted – five are residences and use this road as their postal address within the Pyrenees Shire. In Northern Grampians, 37 properties would be impacted making a total of 49 properties with about half having residences and most using Landsborough Road as their postal address.

No.2 runs for 8km within the Pyrenees Shire and has 19 properties addressed along it – 10 with numbered addresses and 9 with no number. None of those living along this road have their postal address using Landsborough Road so a change in name would impact only their actual residential address. Those with a number would not need to change their number, and those without an existing number would be allocated a new number.

It is proposed that the following steps be taken to change the name of No.2 Landsborough Road:

1. Engage with all landholders in No.2 Landsborough Road, explaining the existing safety issue, process to be followed, and offering an opportunity to suggest a new road name (noting that the Geographic Name Rules support renaming a road for public safety reasons).
2. Consult with the local Registered Aboriginal Party seeking suggestions for a possible new name relating to this run. The road runs along the north of a bushland area that is the Landsborough Hill Conservation Park so there might be a local name for that geographic area or the feature that is Landsborough Hill.

3. Publish an advertisement in relevant print and digital media with similar timeframes to actions 1 and 2 above, seeking road name suggestions.
4. Compile and consider all responses from the above, vet all suggestions for compliance with the Rules, and seek Council consideration of a preferred name or names to be part of further community engagement.
5. Consult again on the proposed name or selection of names to impacted landholders, local community, and the Registered Aboriginal Party.
6. Prepare a final report for Council on final name selection, ensuring compliance with the criteria in Geographic Naming Rules, Council Naming Policy, and any other policies that should be applied.
7. Submit to Geographic Names for approval and registration.
8. Advise property owners, notifiable agencies, and Vicmap Address of the change of road naming.
9. Order and install new signage.
10. Advise all internal business units of changes to road name and addresses.

Council is now requested to note the issues detailed in this report and the activities underway to correct the issues as time and resources permit; and to approve the proposal to re-name the duplicate Landsborough Road in Landsborough as detailed above.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 1 - People

1a. Prepare for emergencies and ensure community safety.

Priority 2 - Place

2c. Promote responsible development.

Priority 4 - Economy

4b. Invest in road infrastructure to improve connectivity for commerce and community.

Enabling Principles

c. Use resources efficiently and effectively

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Community and employee engagement will take place as detailed in the body of this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Public safety risk implications are inherent in any duplicate road naming within a close proximity. Steps are in place legislatively to prevent future duplication, but legacy naming of roads has led to some anomalies within the Pyrenees Shire. This report provides an update on the issues identified and proposed a correction of one of the duplicate named roads.

CONCLUSION

This report provides an update on a project underway to correct road naming and property addressing anomalies that could cause public safety issues. This is an ongoing project and none of the issues are easy to rectify, however it is important to deal with these issues where time and resources permit.

Over the past 12 months, many new addresses have been created and many minor road name anomalies and signage issues have been rectified. Council officers now feel it is time to start addressing some of the more involved issues as resources allow.

Cr Robert Vance / Cr Damian Ferrari

That Council:

1. Notes the achievements of the project to rectify minor road name anomalies and addressing issues as detailed in the body of the report,
2. Approves the start of addressing more complex road naming and addressing issues as part of the project, and
3. Approves the sub-project to remove the duplication of two roads named Landsborough Road within 1.5km of each other, taking the steps as detailed within this report.

CARRIED

13.3.5. LEXTON COMMUNITY HUB COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE

Presenter: Kathy Bramwell - Director Corporate and Community Services

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

Report Author: Michelle Richards – Manager Governance, Risk and Compliance

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

File No: 16/16/28

PURPOSE

To appoint the Committee Members of the Lexton Community Hub Community Asset Committee to manage and maintain the newly constructed Lexton Community Hub at 1 Prince Street, Lexton.

To consider the allocation of a seeding grant to assist in the operational establishment of committee functions.

BACKGROUND

Section 65(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) allows Council to establish Community Asset Committees and appoint members to those Committees as necessary to enable a Committee to manage a community asset within the municipal district. Section 47(1)(b) of the Act allows the Chief Executive Officer, by Instrument of Delegation, to delegate any power, duty or function of the Council that has been delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to the members of a Community Asset Committee. Delegations must include:

- Specified limit on any financial delegation and the specified purpose for which the financial delegation may be used,
- Compliance with specified governance requirements to ensure appropriate standards of probity are met, and
- Specified monitoring and reporting of the activities and performance of the Community Asset Committee.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Pyrenees Shire Council recently completed the construction of the Lexton Community Hub at 1 Prince Street, Lexton. It is proposed that activities and management of this facility will be undertaken, on behalf of Council, by members of a Community Asset Committee comprising of equal representation from the Lexton Football Netball Club, The Lexton Cricket Club, the Lexton Golf Club and community representatives.

In October and December 2022 Council ran an expression of interest process for prospective Committee Members. In total 11 applications were received. An assessment of the applications received was conducted to reduce duplication of representation across the community groups and it is recommended that all 12 applications be accepted.

Council is requested to approve appointment of membership to the Community Asset Committee as follows:

- Greg Fisher
- Brad Sandlandt
- Bryce Karlake
- Ed Bradley
- Fiona Fisher
- Hugh Briody

- Katrina Lee
- Kerrie Lee
- Paul Karlake
- Rob Hopcroft
- Susan Driscoll
- Adrian Smith

An Instrument of Delegation is under preparation for authorisation by the Chief Executive Officer, together with a governance manual similar to that provided to other committees recently.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Priority 4 - Economy

4c. Encourage and invest in assets and infrastructure for commerce and community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk implications arising by community use of a Council-owned community facility are managed by implementation of a governance structure in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 for the management and maintenance of the facility.

CONCLUSION

The Local Government Act 2020 allows Councils to establish Community Asset Committees to manage community assets within the Pyrenees Shire. It is proposed that a newly constructed facility at 1 Prince Street Lexton, be managed and maintained, in accordance with Council's governance structure, by the appointment of a Community Asset Committee.

Cr David Clark / Cr Damian Ferrari

That Council:

1. Establishes a new Community Asset Committee to manage the newly constructed premises at 1 Prince Street Lexton to be known as the Lexton Community Hub Community Asset Committee.
2. Formally appoints the following community representatives to the Community Asset Committee:
 - Greg Fisher
 - Brad Sandlant
 - Bryce Karlake
 - Ed Bradley
 - Fiona Fisher
 - Hugh Briody
 - Katrina Lee
 - Kerrie Lee
 - Paul Karlake
 - Rob Hopcroft
 - Susan Driscoll
 - Adrian Smith

3. Requires, in accordance with section 47(6) of the Local Government Act 2020, Council Officers to appropriately guide and monitor activities of the Community Asset Committee established under section 65 of the Act, and report annually on committee activities to Council.
3. To allocate a seeding grant of \$8,000 to assist in the operational establishment of committee functions.

CARRIED

14. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Robert Vance

- Attended the Australia Day Celebrations that went off magnificently. It was pleasing to see that we had recipients in all categories.
- Attended a site inspection in Redbank and passed details onto our engineer.
- Attended a Timber Towns meeting on the 16th, there was disappointment from the Gippsland people regarding the closing of the Heyfield Mill that will result in 260 jobs lost. White paper will no longer be produced at the mill and believe that they will still produce cardboard. China is back on board and taking blue gum timber in big parcels and exporting to India and Thailand.

Cr David Clark

- The Councillor Cuppa and Chat at Waubra was really well attended and covered a range of issues. Concerns were raised about the Western Renewables Project and awaiting further information relating to VNI West.
- The Australia Day event was great day, well done to all involved.
- Represented Council at CVGA and Highlands LLEN meetings.
- Attended a number of small road meetings in patch.
- In relation to MAV, have been attending meetings with politicians.

Cr Tanya Kehoe

- Attended the Australia Day event, shout out to Chantelle and all of the others who made it fantastic day.
- Attended a Carngham Recreation Reserve meeting, huge shout out to the Nunn family who have been a big part of that committee for a number of years, a couple who have been there for decades and have now retired, it is great looking at what that committee has been doing and the projects they have been working on.
- Attended the Pyrenees Hideout festival, it was a fantastic day with amazing artists. The artists recognised what a beautiful community have here. There were a number of children's activities and it was a fantastic day for all. Looking forward to hopefully seeing more family friendly events.
- A shout out to the Park Run event held on Saturdays in Beaufort, this another great family fun event.
- Attended the Snake Valley Swap Meet it was a fantastic event and attracted many people.
- Snake Valley ran a horse trail ride which attracted a good amount of people, it was really well run and the organiser let everyone know where and when it was happening. This has become an annual event that Council has been supporting.
- Will be attending a MEMPC meeting tomorrow.
- On Wednesday 8th March I will be attending an International Women's Day event in Skipton, it will be a get together and celebration of women and sure to be a great day. Tickets for the event can be purchased online.

Cr Damian Ferrari

- Attended the Australia Day event, it was fantastic to have the event in Beaufort. The event was and was a really pleasant day. It was pleasing to see people choosing to become Australian Citizens which

is always great to see. Congratulations to all involved in the organising of the event, there is a great deal of work goes into that.

- Attended a meeting with Martha Haylett and discussed a number of local issues. Martha is fairly aware of a lot of our local issues and is quite sympathetic to them.
- Attended a number of constituent meetings and discussions, a number of these discussions were around roads.
- Attended the Pyrenees Hideout festival, it was a fantastic day and well attended. The event was well run, and the lineup was fantastic, a fantastic day with great music. Hopefully we can continue these types of events, it is good for the community and good socially. Congratulations to those people who managed, coordinated and ran the event.

Cr Ron Eason

- Attended the Pyrenees Hideout festival and agree that it was a wonderful and well organised day. It opened my eyes as to what can happen on a sports ground and it was really pleasant to see the community support it received. I have not heard a single negative comment about the day.
- Attended the Australia Day event, it was a great day and thank you to all of those involved in organising the event.

15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4.1.1(c) of Council's Governance Rules, and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider confidential items.

Cr Damian Ferrari / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That the meeting be closed to members of the public in accordance with Section 4.1.1(c) of Council's Governance Rules, and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, in order to discuss the confidential reports listed below:

Item 15.1 - Sale of Property for Payment of Rates

Item 15.2 - CEO Performance Review 2022

CARRIED

The live streaming of Ordinary Meeting of Council 21 February 2023 stopped at 7:22 pm to consider confidential items.

RE-OPENING OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Cr Tanya Kehoe / Cr Robert Vance

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

CARRIED

The live stream re-commenced at 7:43 pm and the Mayor chose to report on confidential items discussed in closed Council which are noted below:

Item 15.1 – Sale of Property for Payment of Rates
Council considered the sale of a property for payment of rates.

Item 15.2 – CEO Performance Review 2022
Council considered the CEO Performance Review.

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council 21 February 2023 closed at 7.46pm.

Minutes of the Meeting confirmed _____

2023

Mayor Cr Ron Eason