Pyrenees Shire Council

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6:00 pm Monday 15 June 2026
Council Chambers
Beaufort Council Offices,
5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort

Wadawurrung Country

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

Photo Location: Snake Valley

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. WELCOME

Mayor Cr Damian Ferrari welcomed all to the meeting.

PRESENT
Mayor: Cr Damian Ferrari
Councillors: Megan Phelan, Simon Tol, Rebecca Wardlaw, Tanya Kehoe (virtual)
Chief Executive Officer: Jim Nolan
Director Asset and Development Services: Douglas Gowans
Director of Corporate and Community Services: Jacinta Erdody
EA to CEO and Councillors: Chantelle Sandlant (minutes)
Senior Communications Officer: Fiona Henderson
Communications Officer: Helen D'Costa

2. STREAMING PREAMBLE

Mayor Cr Damian Ferrari read the livestream preamble.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the people past and present of the Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung, Eastern Maar, Wotjabaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk Nations, whose lands and waters the Pyrenees Shire operates on. We pay our respects to their Ancestors and Elders, and recognise and respect their customs, stewardship and continuing connection to Country.

4. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

5. NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cr Megan Phelan / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That the Minutes of the:

- Special Meeting of Council held on 11 May 2026;
- Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 18 May 2026; and
- Closed Meeting of Council held 18 May 2026,

as previously circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING

Mr Douglas Gowans:
There was a submission from Ms Jenny Hill of Willoby Street Beaufort at the May Ordinary Council Meeting. The submission was focused on a planned disruption to vehicle access to Ms Hill's property due to sewer augmentation works. As a result of the submission negotiations with the civil contractors and the water authority were enacted which resulted in an adjustment to the planned works to minimise the impact to Ms Hill's property access. I can report that there has been no access disruption to Ms Hill's property with the works now substantially completed.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions submitted for public participation question time.

9. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

9.1. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS - MAY 2026

Cr Damian Ferrari – Beaufort Ward		
4 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
7 May 2026	MAV Delegates Pre-State Council Meeting	Online
11 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
11 May 2026	Special Council Meeting	Beaufort
13 May 2026	Minister Meetings	Melbourne
17 May 2026	BlazeAid Celebration	Bradvale
18 May 2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Meeting	Beaufort
22 May 2026	Western Highway Action Committee Meeting	Online
23 May 2026	Elmhurst Fire Brigade Awards Dinner	Elmhurst
25 May 2026	GBAC State Election Advocacy Launch	Natte Yallock
28 May 2026	Streatham Skipton Fire Recovery Network Meeting	Stoneleigh
29 May 2026	MAV State Council Meeting	Melbourne

Cr Rebecca Wardlaw – Avoca Ward		
4 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
8 May 2026	Victoria Goldfields World Heritage Summit	Bendigo
9 May 2026	Football / Netball Matches - Avoca Football and Netball Club	Avoca
11 May 2026	Council Briefing	Online
11 May 2026	Special Council Meeting	Online
13 May 2026	Minister Meetings	Melbourne
18 May 2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Meeting	Beaufort
21 May 2026	CVGA Board Meeting	Online
24 May 2026	Avoca Market – Volunteers Week Celebration	Avoca
25 May 2026	GBAC State Election Advocacy Launch	Natte Yallock

Cr Tanya Kehoe – Mount Emu Ward		
4 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
11 May 2026	Council Briefing	Online
11 May 2026	Special Council Meeting	Online
17 May 2026	BlazeAid Celebration	Bradvale
18 May 2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Meeting	Beaufort
19 May 2026	Pre-Meeting for Minister Settle	Online
21 May 2026	Michaela Settle MP meeting with Rural Councils Victoria	Ballarat
28 May 2026	Streatham Skipton Fire Recovery Network Meeting	Stoneleigh
28 May 2026	RCV Committee Meeting	Online

Cr Simon Tol – Ercildoune Ward		
4 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
11 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
11 May 2026	Special Council Meeting	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort

18 May 2026	Council Meeting	Beaufort
21 May 2026	Langi Kal Kal Community Advisory Group Meeting	Langi Kal Kal

Cr Megan Phelan – De Cameron Ward		
4 May 2026	Council Briefing	Online
11 May 2026	Council Briefing	Online
11 May 2026	Special Council Meeting	Online
18 May 2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Briefing	Beaufort
18 May 2026	Council Meeting	Beaufort
23 May 2026	Landsborough Hub Meeting	Landsborough
24 May 2026	Avoca Market – Volunteers Week Celebration	Avoca
25 May 2026	Barkly Hall Committee of Management Meeting	Barkly

Cr Megan Phelan / Cr Simon Tol

That Council notes this report.

CARRIED

10. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

10.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS - MAY 2026

<table>
<tr><th colspan="4">MEETING INFORMATION</th></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Name</td><td colspan="3">Council Briefing – 4 May 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Date</td><td colspan="3">4 May 2026 commenced at 5.00pm and closed at 6.57pm</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Location</td><td colspan="3">Council Chamber</td></tr>
<tr><td>Items Discussed</td><td colspan="3">1. Economic Development & Investment Attraction Strategy
2. Central Highlands Resilient Agriculture Project
3. BMX Track Beaufort
4. Roadside Trees impacted by Streatham-Yalla-Y-Poora Fire
5. Strategic Issues Raised by Councillors</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="4">ATTENDEES</th></tr>
<tr><td>Councillors</td><td colspan="3">Cr Rebecca Wardlaw
Cr Simon Tol
Cr Megan Phelan (virtual)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Apologies</td><td colspan="3">Mayor Cr Damian Ferrari
Cr Tanya Kehoe</td></tr>
<tr><td>Staff</td><td colspan="3">Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer)
Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services)
Jacinta Erdody (Director Corporate and Community Services)
Ray Davies (Manager Economic Development) – item 1 and 2</td></tr>
<tr><td>Visitors</td><td colspan="3">John Stevens (Dench Mclean Carlson) – item 1</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="4">CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES</th></tr>
<tr><td>Item No:</td><td>Councillor making disclosure</td><td>Particulars of disclosure</td><td>Councillor left meeting</td></tr>
<tr><td>Nil.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
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<table>
<tr><th colspan="4">MEETING INFORMATION</th></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Name</td><td colspan="3">Council Briefing – 11 May 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Date</td><td colspan="3">11 May 2026 commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 6.00pm</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Location</td><td colspan="3">Council Chamber</td></tr>
<tr><td>Items Discussed</td><td colspan="3">1. Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2026-2029
2. Amendment C52pyrn Pyrenees Planning Scheme
3. Draft Budget & Ten Year Financial Plan
4. Draft Lease & License Policy
5. Strategic Issues Raised by Councillors</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="4">ATTENDEES</th></tr>
<tr><td>Councillors</td><td colspan="3">Mayor Cr Damian Ferrari
Cr Rebecca Wardlaw (virtual)
Cr Simon Tol
Cr Megan Phelan (virtual from 4.50pm)
Cr Tanya Kehoe (virtual)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Apologies</td><td colspan="3">Nil.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Staff</td><td colspan="3">Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer)
Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services)
Jacinta Erdody (Director Corporate and Community Services)
Rachel Blackwell (Manager Planning and Development Services) – items 1 & 2
Dennis Nikoltsis (Team Leader Community Safety & Amenity) – item 1
Jacinda Perry (Community Safety & Amenity Officer)– item 1
Glenn Kallio (Manager Finance) – item 3</td></tr>
<tr><td>Visitors</td><td colspan="3">Camille White (NCCMA) – item 2
Amy Bell (NCCMA) – item 2</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="4">CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES</th></tr>
<tr><td>Item No:</td><td>Councillor making disclosure</td><td>Particulars of disclosure</td><td>Councillor left meeting</td></tr>
<tr><td>Nil.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
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<table>
<tr><th colspan="4">MEETING INFORMATION</th></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Name</td><td colspan="3">Council Briefing – 18 May 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Date</td><td colspan="3">18 May 2026 commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 5.45pm</td></tr>
<tr><td>Meeting Location</td><td colspan="3">Council Chamber</td></tr>
<tr><td>Items Discussed</td><td colspan="3">1. Cultural Awareness
2. Advocacy Program
3. Councillor Question Time</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="4">ATTENDEES</th></tr>
<tr><td>Councillors</td><td colspan="3">Mayor Cr Damian Ferrari
Cr Rebecca Wardlaw
Cr Simon Tol
Cr Megan Phelan
Cr Tanya Kehoe</td></tr>
<tr><td>Apologies</td><td colspan="3">Nil.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Staff</td><td colspan="3">Jim Nolan (Chief Executive Officer)
Douglas Gowans (Director Assets and Development Services)
Jacinta Erdody (Director Corporate and Community Services)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Visitors</td><td colspan="3">Bonnie Chew (Mirriyu Cultural Consulting) – item 1</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="4">CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES</th></tr>
<tr><td>Item No:</td><td>Councillor making disclosure</td><td>Particulars of disclosure</td><td>Councillor left meeting</td></tr>
<tr><td>Nil.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table>

Cr Megan Phelan / Cr Rebecca Wardlaw

That Council notes this report.

CARRIED

11. ITEMS FOR DECISION

11.1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

11.1.1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT ATTRACTION STRATEGY

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: -

PURPOSE
To seek council endorsement of the 2026 Economic Development and Investment Attraction Strategy after being on public exhibition for a period of three weeks to seek community feedback.

BACKGROUND
The 2020 "Towards 10,000" Economic Development Strategy is due to be updated to take into account more recent data on the local economy and emerging trends.

Following the development of the strategy through research and stakeholder consultation, the draft strategy was placed on public exhibition for a period of three weeks closing at 9.00 a.m. on 9 June.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION
The 2020 Economic Development Strategy was based on data that has now become outdated and does not reflect recent emerging economic trends including the growth of agriculture, the construction industry, renewable energy generation and the latest data on workforce, unemployment, visitor expenditure and a range of other information outlined in the consultants' background report.

The draft 2026 strategy has been developed from various sources of more recent data, and thorough levels of consultation of key industry, community, and council stakeholders.

The draft Strategy was placed on public exhibit from 19 May and was still available for submissions at the time of developing this report.

A copy of the submissions and revised version of the strategy has therefore been circulated to councilors separately to the agenda.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE
Pillar 2 – Economy
2a Support growth and diversification of new and existing businesses.
2b. Coordinated and facilitated planning fostering business and tourism growth.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
The consultation phase of the project has included

- Three meetings with the ETF
- 11 Community sessions at locations across the Pyrenees Shire
- Twenty, one on one conversations with owners/managers of businesses, schools and health organisations
- Consultation of traditional owners
- Discussion with State Government agencies
- A workshop with council staff
- Three councilor briefings
- The draft strategy being placed on public exhibit for a period of three weeks

ATTACHMENTS
Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS
The cost of developing the 2026 Economic Development Strategy has been $56,500- (plus GST).

The costs associated with delivering the actions outlined in the new strategy will be considered within annual budget allocations and available staff resources.

CONCLUSION
The 2020 Economic Development Strategy is now out of date, and a new strategy developed through detailed research and consultation.

The draft strategy encompasses more recent economic data and feedback from consultation of the Economic Task Force, industry, community, and council stakeholders.

The draft strategy has been placed on public exhibition to provide the community with a further opportunity to provide feedback.

As the draft Strategy was still open for comment at the time of developing this report, copies of the submissions and revised strategy have been circulated to councilors separately from the council meeting agenda.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:
1. Endorses the 2026 Economic Development and Investment Attraction Strategy.

Cr Rebecca Wardlaw / Cr Megan Phelan

That Council:
1. Defer this item so that further consideration can be given to feedback from community and tangible actions that will support economic development with more Councillor input.

CARRIED

11.2. ASSET AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

11.2.1. RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONE SUBMISSION UPDATE

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: 30/04/04

PURPOSE
The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council on the recently published final Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) declaration.

BACKGROUND
At the Council Meeting held on 16 June 2025, Council adopted the Pyrenees Shire Council Position Statement on New Energy Development to guide its advocacy, negotiations and engagement regarding renewable energy projects within the municipality. Since its adoption, Council has successfully advocated on behalf of the community with a submission to the Victorian Governments Transmission Plan to reduce the affected area, resulting in a lesser overall impact and greater certainty for the Pyrenees Shire community and region.

At its Ordinary Meeting held on 08 December 2025, Council recommitted to its Position Statement on new Energy Development further committing to ensuring renewable energy proposals demonstrate a clear positive benefit for the Pyrenees Shire community.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION
On 29 May 2026, the Minister for Energy and Resources formally declared five (5) renewable energy zones in regional Victoria. The Central Highlands REZ is now the only one that impacts the Pyrenees Shire.

Central Highlands Renewable Energy Zone

South West Renewable Energy Zone

North West Renewable Energy Zone

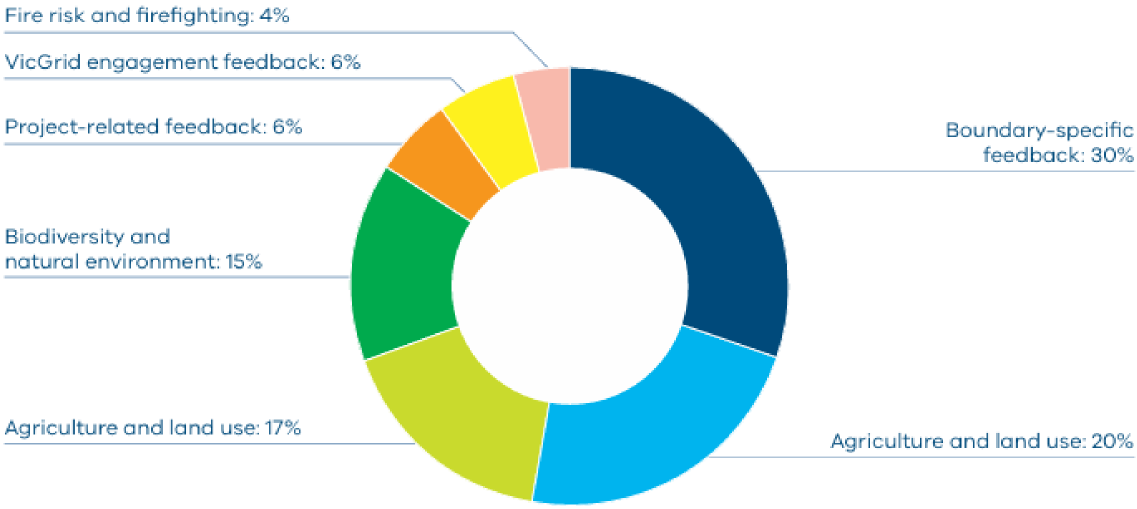

Western Renewable Energy Zone

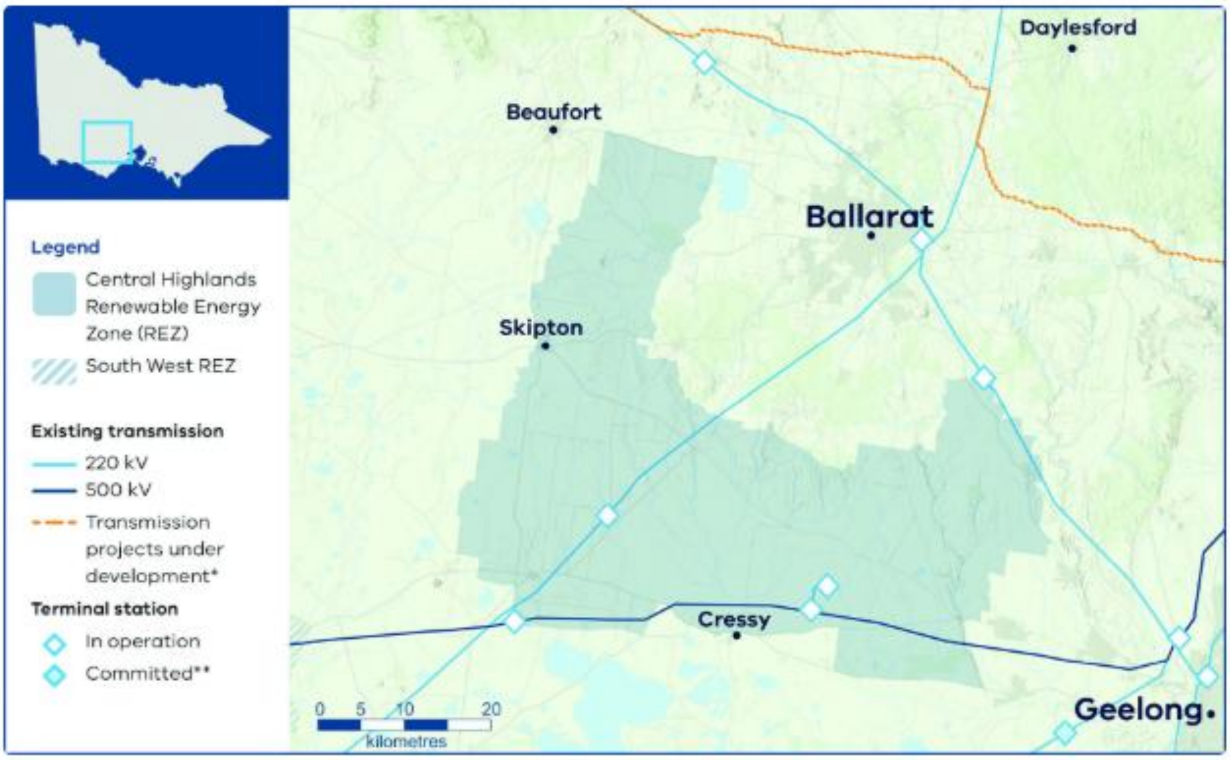
Gippsland Renewable Energy Zone


Gippsland Shoreline Renewable Energy Zone

For each of the declared zones, the Minister for Energy and Resources has published a statement of reasons for the decisions, including information about how feedback relevant to the renewable energy zone orders was considered.

40 submissions were received regarding the Central Highlands Renewable Energy Zone, provided by community members, local government, industry, and Traditional Owners. The following graph summarises the themes of the submissions.





The declaration of these Renewable Energy Zones enables VicGrid to begin detailing and coordinating development within the zones, including putting in place new rules to manage how projects gain access to the transmissions network and ensure adherence to standards of engagement and economic benefits.

Proponents who are seeking to undertake renewable energy projects will in the future be encouraged towards the Renewable Energy Zones. However, there are proposals for renewable energy outside of the zones that, going forward, will have a higher bar to meet to demonstrate how they won't be taking away priority capacity from transmission.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE
Pillar 3 - Nature Environment
3a. Preserve and manage biodiversity and natural assets.
3c. Support local industries and communities in adapting to climate change.

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure
4c. Support and facilitate appropriate land use.
4d. Advocate for fair renewable energy development.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
Feedback from Pyrenees Shire residents, landholders and community groups informed Council's advocacy and confirmed the importance of ensuring community benefits from all renewable energy proposals.

ATTACHMENTS
1. Central- Highlands- Renewable- Energy- Zone-and- Statement-of- Reasons [**11.2.1.1** - 13 pages]
2. planning-renewable-energy-zones-factsheet [**11.2.1.2** - 4 pages]
3. Draft-renewable-energy-zone-declaration-engagement-report- What-we-heard [**11.2.1.3** - 56 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS
Ongoing engagement with VicGrid developers and government agencies will be required to ensure community interests are represented and potential impacts are appropriately managed. Failure to do so may increase the risk of adverse environmental and infrastructure impacts resulting in a reduction in community confidence and missed opportunities.

CONCLUSION
Council's advocacy has contributed to reducing the extent of the Renewable Energy Zone affecting the Pyrenees Shire.

Cr Simon Tol / Cr Megan Phelan

That Council:

1. Notes this report.
2. Continues to advocate for more meaningful community benefits associated with renewable energy proposals within Pyrenees Shire.

CARRIED

11.2.2. REGIONAL WORKER ACCOMMODATION PROJECT UPDATE

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: -

PURPOSE
The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the progress of the Regional Worker Accommodation project at Burke Street Beaufort.

BACKGROUND
Pyrenees Shire Council received grant funding to build 10 houses to provide accommodation for key workers. The houses are being built on land owned by Council at 26 Burke Street, Beaufort. The project required the provision of site services and the sub-division of the land.

In late 2024, Council commenced procurement for the Burke Street Housing Project issuing an Expression of Interest to suitably qualified builders for the construction of 10 dwellings. Following a shortlisting process, a Request for Tender was issued with submissions closing in March 2025.

Council subsequently obtained a planning permit for the first eight dwellings in April 2025, with endorsed plans received in July 2025. Site preparation works, including earthworks and the placement of compacted fill were undertaken during August and September 2025.

Construction commenced in October 2025, with footing and subfloor plumbing works, alongside the extension of sewer infrastructure and the installation of stormwater services.

The funding support from the Victorian Government required full project completion by 30 September 2026.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION
Significant progress has been achieved across the development of the Burke Street Housing Project. However, challenges associated with utility connections, subdivision requirements, and construction sequencing have impacted project delivery.

The project is progressing well, with the majority of houses on track to obtain practical completion prior to 30 June 2026.

Currently, four (4) dwellings have obtained practical completion with a further three (3) dwellings expected to achieve practical completion by 30 June 2026. These addresses are listed below:

- 30 Burke Street - 2 bedroom house
- 32 Burke Street – 2 bedroom house with separate living room or 3rd bedroom
- 34 Burke Street – 3 bedroom house
- 42 Burke Street – 2 bedroom house
- 44 Burke Street – 2 bedroom house
- 46 Burke Street – 2 bedroom house
- 48 Burke Street – 3 bedroom house

The seven (7) dwellings that will obtain practical completion by 30 June 2026 are scheduled to have electricity connected by the first week of July 2026, subject to Powercor electrical services being established. A further 8th house located at 40 Burke Street will achieve practical completion in the first week of July. This will ensure that these dwellings will progress towards occupancy permits subject to the completion of handover and compliance requirements.

30 Burke Street
Due to Stage 2 subdivision works, 30 Burke Street is currently unable to receive a low-voltage electrical connection. Stage 2 works include the relocation of an existing high-voltage powerline that currently passes over part of the allotment. Practical completion of this dwelling is dependent on the completion of these enabling works.

36 & 38 Burke Street
Two (2) dwellings are associated with Stage 2 subdivision works, which have experienced delays related to completion of the design of the stage 2 civil works and subsequently the issuing of the stage 2 planning permit. Site commencement was further delayed by service authority permits relating to the permission to connect to the sewer network. One of the concerns raised that prevented commencement was that site 38 Burke Street was to be constructed in the road reserve. This was true for the original titles but was corrected for the Stage 2 subdivision. After many discussions and correspondence with the utility authority, this was ultimately agreed to but caused significant delays. Site 38 Burke Street was also delayed due to sequencing of the bricking of a shared boundary wall on site 36 Burke Street.

Despite these delays, current projections indicate:

- 36 Burke Street will achieve practical completion by mid-July 2026.
- 38 Burke Street will achieve practical completion by the end of September 2026.

The timing of electrical connections has been one of the primary factors affecting practical completion and occupancy readiness.

The Victorian Government funding agreement originally required practical completion of all ten (10) dwellings by 30 June 2026, with the project completion to be achieved by 30 September 2026. Following discussions with the funding body, a variation was sought to amend an interim project milestone relating to the practical completion of two (2) of the ten (10) dwellings to align with the overall project completion date of 30 September 2026.

The variation was approved based on project delivery challenges associated with utility connections, subdivision requirements, and construction sequencing. Formal confirmation of the approved variation has been received and is attached to this report.

The ultimate aim of the project is to have completed houses occupied to provide accommodation opportunities for workers. A key step in the project is to engage an experienced property manager to market and manage the tenancy agreements. An initial step in this process was to seek market responses through a formal tender process to undertake property management. The initial formal tender approach did not result in any responses, however, a more direct market approach is now planned.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE
Pillar 4 - Infrastructure
4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
Council officers continue to engage with neighbouring landowners, utility providers, and project stakeholders throughout project delivery. Future engagement will focus on project completion, tenancy arrangements, and the communication of housing outcomes.

ATTACHMENTS
1. Attachment 3 - RDV Letter of Variation SIGNED [**11.2.2.1** - 6 pages]
2. 2025.05 - RWA Risk Report - May 2026 [**11.2.2.2** - 1 page]
3. Burke Street Housing Development Progress Photos [**11.2.2.3** - 4 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS
The approved timing variation reduces the risk of non-compliance while maintaining the original project completion date of 30 September 2026.

Key project risks relating to the Stage 2 subdivision works continue to be actively monitored by Council Officers through risk management planning. Utility connections, contractor availability, and the completion of electrical infrastructure works remain critical to achieving project completion.

Financial monitoring of the project is ongoing with no significant variance to the original project budget. The project is expected to be delivered within the project budget.

CONCLUSION
The Regional Worker Accommodation Project at Burke Street Beaufort remains a complex multi-stage development involving residential construction, subdivision works, utility connection, funding body compliance and future tenancy agreements.

While several project milestones have required adjustment, the Burke Street Housing Project remains on track to achieve completion within the approved funding timeframe.

Council Officers will continue to work with subcontractors, utility providers and project stakeholders to bring the project to completion.

Cr Rebecca Wardlaw / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That Council:

1. Notes this report.
2. Notes the approved variation to the practical completion project milestone to 30 September 2026.
3. Endorses the next steps in preparation for project completion and tenancy arrangements.
4. Continues to receive project updates as key milestones are achieved.

CARRIED

11.3. CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

11.3.1. LEASE AND LICENSE POLICY

Presenter: Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services
Declaration of Interest: As presenter of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.
Report Author: Jacinta Erdody – Director Corporate and Community Services
Declaration of Interest: As author of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.
File No: 16/24/17

PURPOSE
The purpose of this report is for Council to consider and adopt the newly developed Lease and License Policy.

BACKGROUND
Council is the custodian of land on behalf and for the benefit of its community. This land includes property owned by Council, Crown Land where Council is the Committee of Management (CoM) and land leased or licensed by Council for identified purposes.

This Policy has been developed to provide a framework for leasing and licensing of Council owned and managed land and buildings across the municipality. Through the Policy development, significant benchmarking against other Council Lease and License Policies has been conducted to ensure a framework is adopted and applied that recognizes the valuable public asset and ensure appropriate management which maximises social, environmental and economic benefits to the community. The Policy has been in draft form for several months whilst officers have undertaken a range of operational validation against the document to minimize any unforeseen implications.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION
The policy provides a foundation for the negotiation, establishment and administration of leases and licenses. Enabling exclusive possession and utilisation of a facility is not always necessary and may not deliver the greatest benefit of the facility for our community. To ensure that Council managed property is used to its greatest potential and to optimize access for all community groups, Council will offer both leases and licenses to the range of Council managed land to ensure highest utilization and return.

The policy defines a range of lease/license categories to recognize:
- the primary purpose of the lessee/licensee;
- community access and benefit; and
- revenue raising opportunity of the group which are proposing to lease/license the land.

The policy groups how fees will be applied depending on the type of group utilising the facility and includes:
- Full community use with a fee scale between $300 to $499 per annum;
- Mixed community use with a fee scale between $500 to $2,499 per annum;
- For profit community use with a fee scale between $2,500 and $5,000 per annum;
- Commercial use which will look to property valuation and market fee and conditions being applied;
- Residential tenancy which will look to market advice to ensure appropriate fees are applied; and
- Peppercorn agreements for groups which would not function without the support of Council and a fee scale of $1 to $299 per annum will apply.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE
Pillar 5 - Community-Centric
5a. Foster values driven inclusive culture, which is responsive, accountable and aligned to priority.
5b. Work constructively and in partnership to solve issues early and deliver outcomes building trust.
5d. Deliver high quality services with continuous improvement focus.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
In accordance with our legislative obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 Section 115 and the Lease and License Policy, all community engagement will be in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Framework, Policies and Procedures.

ATTACHMENTS
1. Policy Lease and License V1 0 [**11.3.1.1** - 9 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS
Through the adoption of this Policy, officers will be provided with a clear framework inclusive of potential fees to be levied under the various lease/license categories defined within the Policy.

CONCLUSION
The development and formal adoption of the Lease and License Policy will provide a clear framework for officers to confidently progress forward with clarity for Leases and Licenses of Council managed land.

Cr Megan Phelan / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That Council:
1. Adopts the Lease and Licence Policy as attached to this report.

CARRIED

11.3.2. COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY

Presenter: Jacinta Erdody - Director Corporate and Community Services
Declaration of Interest: As presenter of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.
Report Author: Jacinta Erdody – Director Corporate and Community Services
Declaration of Interest: As author of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.
File No: 44/10/04

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey report and to consider key findings.

BACKGROUND

Each year Local Government Victoria (LGV) coordinates and auspices a state-wide local government community satisfaction survey throughout Victorian local government areas.

Although participation is optional, questions are relevant to the mandatory local government performance reporting obligations and information gained informs Council's Annual Report and some Council Plan Performance Measures. Ongoing utilization of the same survey format year on year also allows for monitoring of trend analysis of our community's perceptions of the Council's performance.

Key objectives of the survey are to assess the performance of the Pyrenees Shire Council as perceived by its community across a range of measures and to seek insight into ways to provide improved or more effective service delivery. When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable source of the community's views dating back over many years.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The survey was conducted in February/March 2026 and the Pyrenees Shire Council's results are benchmarked against the state-wide average and the average for small rural councils. The survey collated a total of 413 responses, 317 via telephone and 96 via online social media.

The attached report contains detailed survey outcomes with results shown as scores out of 100. A summary of Pyrenees Shire Council performance, as perceived by our community is provided below:

LGV Core Summary

	Pyrenees SC 2026	Chg vs 2025	State 2026	Chg vs 2025	Small Shire 2026	Chg vs 2025
Overall Performance *Overall Performance of Council*	58	-	58	+4	53	-
Spending Public Funds* *Spending public funds... in ways that benefit the community*	52	+2	51	+4	47	-1
General Direction *Views on direction of council's performance*	46	-	48	+2	46	-
Customer Service *...on most recent contact, rate Council for Customer Service*	64	-	68	+2	65	-
Opportunities to Give Feedback* *Opportunities offered by Council to give your feedback on key local issues*	55	+3	55	+5	54	+2
Waste management* *Waste Management including garbage, recyclables and green waste*	74	+2	72	+6	71	+5
Making decisions* *Making decisions in the interest of the community*	53	-	52	+3	51	+1
Sealed local streets* *Condition of sealed local streets*	48	+3	54	+9	45	+1

Performance of Council Services – Summary by Service Area

Governance, Engagement & Advocacy

Service	2026	vs LY
Opportunities to give feedback*	55	+3
Making decisions in the interest of the community*	53	-

Infrastructure & Maintenance

Service	2026	vs LY
The appearance of public areas	67	-3
Condition of sealed local streets*	48	+3
Maintenance of unsealed roads	41	+2

Community Services & Support

Service	2026	vs LY
Waste management*	74	+2
Family support services	62	-2

Planning & Development

Service	2026	vs 2025
Emergency and disaster management	65	-1
Enforcement of local laws and regulations*	63	+6
Business and community development and tourism	61	-

Community Facilities & Recreation

Service	2026	vs LY
Libraries*	73	NA
Recreational facilities	65	-1
Arts Centres*	63	NA

At the time of writing this report, a detailed analysis of the findings has not been undertaken, however observations made in the report are summarized below:

- Overall performance (58) from the 2025 year has remained unchanged, aligning with State average and remaining higher than the small shire result (53);
- Top performing areas include:
  - Waste management (74) an increase of 2; and
  - Libraries (73) with an increase of 3;
- Lowest performing areas include:
  - Maintenance of unsealed roads (41) which has increased 2 from 2025; and
  - Sealed local streets (48) which is an increase of 3 from 2025;
- Council Services by service area
  - the most significant increase was the Enforcement of local laws and regulations (63) which is an increase of 6 from 2025;
  - the most significant decrease was the appearance of public areas (67) which had a decrease of 3 from 2025.

Interestingly, the community feedback in relation to rate increases versus cuts in service when taking into account probably and definitely prefer cuts in service, 46% of respondents preference was cuts in service:

Column %	Pyrenees SC
Definitely prefer rates to rise	5%
Probably prefer rates to rise	21%
Don't know	29%
Probably prefer cuts in services	29%
Definitely prefer cuts in services	17%

The report indicates that some of the opportunities and recommendations for the year ahead include:

- Invest in sealed local roads; a visible program with communicated priorities and progress milestones may address both the service level perception and the linked concerns around transparency and decision-making;
- Broaden feedback channels; opportunities to give feedback is a high influence opportunity. Targeted online and in-person channels with a feedback loop would life this measure and support the engagement and consultation themes in open-ended feedback;

- Strengthen decision transparency; Decisions in the interest of the community and Direction of Council are linked, highly influential measures. Communicating the rationale, trade-offs and community input behind major decisions would directly address both;
- Lift customer service experience; Customer service rated 64 (no change from 2025), below the state average of 68 and down 1 point compared to small shires. Contrastingly customer service was also the most mentioned positive in open ended feedback. Targeted service-standard improvements and staff capability investment may be required.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE
Pillar 5 - Community-Centric
5c. Ensure timely, clear and consistent communication underpinned by transparency.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
The survey results will be published on Council's website and publicised via a media release.

ATTACHMENTS
1. 5683 - CSS Pyrenees SC 2026 Report (002) [**11.3.2.1** - 77 pages]

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS
There are no outside of scope budget implications for the Council to undertake and receive this report.

CONCLUSION
The 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey Report provides insights into community perceptions regarding the relative importance of council services as perceived by the community. This report provides opportunities for the Council to better understand expectations and to focus on areas where improvement is required.

Cr Rebecca Wardlaw / Cr Tanya Kehoe

That Council:

1. Publishes the 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey Report on its website.
2. Uses the results of the survey to review Council Plan performance measures, where appropriate.
3. Uses the results of the survey to review specific areas for continued improvement effort.
4. Uses the results of the survey relating to the local road network as evidence to support ongoing advocacy on the need for increased critical infrastructure funding.

CARRIED

11.4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

11.4.1. CARRANBALLAC RECREATION RESERVE

Presenter: Jim Nolan - Chief Executive Officer
Declaration of Interest: As presenter of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.
Report Author: Jim Nolan – Chief Executive Officer
Declaration of Interest: As author of this report, I have no disclosable interest in this item.
File No: 619018520

PURPOSE
The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Carranballac Recreation Reserve following the Streatham - Yalla-Y-Poora Road Fire and to seek direction from Council in respect of the use of insurance funds for the restoration of the community facilities destroyed by the January 2026 fires.

BACKGROUND
A detailed report on the fire event was provided to Council in February 2026, and a Recovery Plan was approved by Council in May 2026.

The fire caused extensive damage to the Carranballac Recreation Reserve including destruction of the community hall, cricket clubrooms and more than 150 large old trees. Carranballac recreation reserve is located on crown land under DEECA control. DEECA has previously appointed a local community Committee of Management for the reserve.

A Project Working Group was established soon after the event to enable the Committee of Management / Progress Association and Council officers to work together to progress the restoration of the reserve assets.

An application was made and approved to have funds made available through the Council Support Fund for reserve restoration activities including the engagement of a Coordinator.

The clean-up of the damaged buildings was arranged by Council with the approval of DEECA and the local Committee representatives.

Facilitation of the removal of the hazardous trees from the reserve by the community committee has been completed and supported by DEECA. Early tree work was also undertaken by Disaster Relief Australia.

Revegetation planting has been undertaken by the community volunteers with support from Landcare.

Early preparation of a Masterplan for the reserve has been undertaken by the committee to capture key aspects of the redevelopment and inform future planning.

In respect of the community buildings that were destroyed, Council's Insurance policy with JLT provides for the replacement of "like for like" restoration of the building assets. The Community Committee and Council officers provided input to the insurer about the pre-existing assets to enable the insurer to determine the replacement value. The insurer has been to the market and tenders to the replacement have achieved a replacement value in the order of $1.1M. Negotiations have continued with the insurer in respect of the pre-existing assets and to ensure the replacement is not undervalued. JLT has advised that, and an alternative to them facilitating a "like for like" rebuild on site, they will provide a lump sum cash settlement to the same value.

Announced on 10 June, the community has been successful with a Tiny Towns grant of $50,000 for an interim clubroom rebuild at the Carranballac Recreation Reserve for the Eel Skinners & Duck Pluckers BNS Ball. This will enable a short-term facility on the site until the primary community facility is established. The application was supported with a letter of support from Council.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION
Moving forward, a decision is to be made by Council in respect of the Insurance claim.
Outlined below are the advantages and disadvantages of each of the options.

Option 1 – Insurer to rebuild Like for like

Under this option, the Insurer would be responsible to engage a suitable builder to plan design and build an equivalent facility. This would include building to current design standards, compliant with relevant regulations, including obtaining the relevant approvals.

Advantages include:

- Insurer takes all risks associated with the rebuild.
- All costs associated with design, tender/procurement, coordination, supervision, approvals and compliance certificates included to achieve occupancy permit are included.
- Commencement of the rebuild would be generally within six months, and completion within one year approximately.
- Enables early community access to a facility to assist in the community recovery and events.
- No additional funding would be required in this phase of the recovery. Subject to the community's needs, and further funding, a subsequent project may be required to modify, add to the building to make it fit for community purposes.

Disadvantages include:

- Like-for-like replacement doesn’t reflect changing community needs since the original building was built.
- The community will have very little input into any design elements. The insurer would be open to minor design changes that don’t affect the total cost or add to the overall footprint, and where there is willingness for the builder to accommodate these.

Option 2A – Lump sum payment – Council Managed Project

Under this option, the Insurer would pay Council the value of the rebuild, currently estimated at \$1.1M, and the funds to be used to build an appropriate community facility at Carranballac. Council would hold these funds in Trust until required.

The mechanism for achieving the build would be managed directly by Council in collaboration with the community and local Committee of Management.

Before the building construction, a community engagement process would be undertaken to ensure community needs are well understood.
An architect would be engaged to prepare concept plans and then detailed design plans.
Approvals would need to be obtained, and a procurement process entered into to secure a builder.
The build would need to be supervised by an appropriately skilled contract supervisor.
Additional funding would need to be secured as it is likely the estimated cost for a new facility would be above \$2.5M.
Until / unless additional funds are received, the build would need to be staged to match available funds.

Advantages include:

- Community needs can be well understood and accommodated through a community engagement process

- Council has previous experience in delivering similar community facilities.
- Can be seen as an opportunity for Council and Community collaboration.
- The community would feel supported in recovery.
- Council has access to funding programs (not available to other entities) to seek additional funding.
- Community Support Fund used to fund coordinator, architect, procurement costs and site supervision.

Disadvantages include:
- Timeframe for completion estimated at 3-5years
- Estimated cost exceeds available funds.
- There is no guarantee that the necessary additional funding will be obtained within a suitable time.
- Risks borne by Council include:
  - Financial risks if tenders exceed available funds, or if construction costs are not managed within agreed tender amounts.
  - Reputational risk if the facility fails to meet community needs / expectations
  - Time risks if works cannot be completed within expectations
  - A full risk assessment would need to be undertaken to ensure project is managed effectively
- Additional in-kind council officer time over the life of the project estimated above $150,000
- Utilising available funding streams to prioritise Carranballac would disadvantage other community priority projects.

<u>Option 2B – Lump sum payment – Community Managed Project</u>

Under this option, the Insurer would pay Council the value of the rebuild, currently estimated at $1.1M. Council would hold these funds in Trust until required by the community.

The mechanism for achieving the build would be by an appropriate community entity, supported by Council utlising Council Support Fund to fund aspects including coordination, architect services, concept and detailed design and supervision.

Council officers would support the community to provide advice and assist in project planning and coordination where required. This project plan would include:
- A community engagement process would be undertaken to ensure community needs are well understood.
- An architect would be engaged to prepare concept plans and then detailed design plans.
- Approvals would need to be obtained, and a procurement process entered into to secure a builder.
- The build would need to be supervised by an appropriately skilled contract supervisor.
- Staging the build to match available funding.
- Risk assessment and management

Clear lines of responsibility would need to be established / formalised between the entity.

Advantages include:
- Community needs can be well understood and accommodated through a community engagement process.
- Can be seen as an opportunity for Council and Community collaboration.
- The community would have control of their project
- The community, including the Carranballac Progress Association, has a range of skills to contribute to a successful project
- Community Support Fund used to fund coordinator, and other appropriate costs.

Disadvantages include:

- Timeframe for completion estimated at 3+years
- Estimated cost ($2.2M +) exceeds available funds.
- There is no guarantee that the necessary additional funding will be obtained within a suitable time.
- Significant drain on community volunteers over the period of the project.
- Risks borne by the community entity include:
    - Financial risks if tenders exceed available funds, or if construction costs are not managed within agreed tender amounts.
    - Reputational risk if the facility fails to meet community needs / expectations
    - Time risks if works cannot be completed within expectations
    - A full risk assessment would need to be undertaken to ensure project is managed effectively
    - Burn out by community volunteers
    - Volunteers without sufficient skills to manage a project of this scale.
- Additional in-kind council officer time over the life of the project estimated around $100,000
- Should Council need to utilise available funding streams to prioritise Carranballac, this would disadvantage other community priority projects.

Other relevant matters

At a meeting of the Carranballac Progress Association (representing the Committee of Management) on 4 June, the CPA resolved as follows:

> *PWG all in agreement to take lump-sum payout from Insurance and for a Community Rebuild.*
> *PWG agreed for Council to manage the funds, and to request use of the Council Support Fund for*
> *employment of a Project Manager/Coordinator & funding for clean up/ site levelling/ plan Development. (draft Meeting minutes)*

Since that time, Alex Fay on behalf of the CPA, has advised that the CPA has prepared a brief for an Architect and proposes to commence a process to secure an Architect within a short period of time to enable a design concept to be determined early and in order to commence securing additional funding and/or election commitments.

Approval has been obtained from the relevant agency for Council to utilise up to $450,000 from the Council Support Fund for various aspects of the coordination, engagement, master planning, architectural services etc. Subject to appropriate controls and acquittal.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Pillar 1 - People
1b. Community safety and wellbeing.

Pillar 4 - Infrastructure
4a. Plan, build and maintain essential infrastructure.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Council engagement on the matter has primarily been through the Project Working Group comprising representatives of the user groups and Committee of Management.

The CPA has undertaken initial broader community engagement to inform an early master plan concept.

The Fire Recovery Network has been a forum for engagement on aspects of the Carranballac recovery.

ATTACHMENTS
Nil

FINANCIAL / RISK IMPLICATIONS
There are a range of financial and other risks outlined in the body of this report.
Option 1 provides Council with the least risk and preferred option given Council's constraints over the foreseeable future.

Should Council choose option 2A or 2B, it is suggested that this be provided "in principle" and subject to a formal agreement being entered into with the relevant community entity that sets out clear responsibilities and expectations to be reported back to a future Council Meeting.

CONCLUSION
Community facilities at the Carranballac Recreation Reserve were destroyed in January 2026 fires. Council's insurance policy provides for a replacement on like-for-like basis or a lump sum payment to Council to be used towards a replacement facility. If the lump sum option is chosen (2A or 2B), this will require collaboration between Council and the Community, and a formal agreement to be entered into with the relevant community entity to enable a rebuild over 3-5year timeframe. Council will also need to provide within budget sufficient resources to support the activity in addition to any Council Support Fund amount utilised.

This report sets out the advantages and disadvantages of each option and Council direction is sought.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Provides direction in respect of the options outlined in this report.

Cr Tanya Kehoe / Cr Rebecca Wardlaw

That Council:

1. Provides in principle support for a lump sum insurance payment for the damaged community facilities at the Carranballac Recreation Reserve, and retains the funds in trust until required for use towards a new community facility at the Reserve, and
2. Enters into an Agreement with the appropriate legal community entity which sets out the respective responsibilities and expectations for a community managed project - Option 2B, having regard to the issues identified in this report, and
3. Appoints a suitable person to support and coordinate aspects of the project in conjunction with the community using funding from the Council Support Fund.

CARRIED

12. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Wardlaw

- We've all been busy attending different things and working hard for the communities.
- Met with Ministers to advocate for Pyrenees Shire priorities, with discussions focused on seeking support and progressing key issues over the coming months.
- Noted the recent wet weather and adequate rainfall, with crops looking strong.
- Reported favourable seasonal conditions at home, including strong lambing results with the majority of sheep having twins due conditions and improved feed availability.
- Attended the Avoca Market to celebrate Volunteers week and acknowledged the contribution of volunteers, including around 12 school-aged children that help.
- Recognised the value of young volunteers gaining confidence and life skills through community involvement.
- Attended a meeting with the CEO and Mayor to advocate with GBAC regarding the inadequacy of bridges and the need for funding support.
- Will travel to Canberra next week with Jim and Damian to advocate to the Federal Government and raise the profile of Pyrenees Shire.
- Acknowledged that this was the final ordinary Council meeting with current CEO Mr Jim Nolan, thanking him for his hard work, support and assistance throughout the councillor journey, and wishing him all the best.

Cr Kehoe

- Thanked CEO Mr Jim Nolan for his leadership, dedication to Pyrenees Shire, support for councillors, and commitment to the community.
- Wished Jim all the best for the future, including time with family and other projects.
- Noted favourable seasonal conditions, with strong growth across the landscape following recent rain and recovery after fires in some areas.
- Attended a number of Rural Councils Victoria meetings, with meetings to occur more regularly in the lead-up to the November election.
- Advocated to Ministers on key priorities, including roads and bridges, housing and development, community wellbeing, economic development, and the ongoing impact of the ESVF.
- Recognised the ongoing work of the Caranballac Recreation Reserve community and volunteers, noting their focus on future projects, events and community connection.
- Attended a recent fire recovery meeting where matters discussed included tree removal, insurance claims, works still to be completed, and ongoing mental health support.
- Promoted the Streatham, Carranballac and Skipton fire photo and art exhibition at Skipton Hall on Friday 19 June from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. It will be beautiful evening reflecting on what has happened.
- Acknowledged the tragic loss of local young person Cody Breen who was only 17, recognising his active community involvement and extending condolences to the Breen and Nunn families and to Cody's immediate family, Dani, Shaun and little Indi, Cody will always be remembered.

Cr Tol

- Thanked CEO Mr Jim Nolan for his support and guidance to councillors, and wished him well for retirement and future plans.
- Attended the Langi Kal Kal Prison Advisory group meeting with Jim.
- Attended the opening of the Waubra Playground, a terrific event. The project was jointly funded by Ausnet, Tiny Towns, CWA and local fundraising efforts and managed by Council.
- Recognised the strong turnout of children and families at the Waubra Playground event and welcomed the benefit the project will bring to the community.
- Apology for Sunraysia Highway Committee meeting but noted the impact of the construction camp on the Sunraysia Highway and surrounding roads.
- Commented on recent travel between Cairns and Port Douglas and observed the absence of potholes as a contrast to local road conditions.
- Met with locals in Lexton regarding the proposed relocation of the gun from the shop area to the park, noting it as an exciting project.
- Was unable to attend the book launch at Cave Hill Creek as was actively engaged with Jess Wilson, Bev McArthur, CFA volunteers, famers and community members at a rally in Bendigo regarding the ESVF.

Cr Phelan

- Attended the book launch at Cave Hill Creek with the Mayor, celebrating the Strength of Women and acknowledging the large number of women profiled in the publication.
- Noted the strong community turnout at the book launch event, with close to 300 people in attendance and a number of excellent speeches.
- Attended the annual Pyrenees Art Exhibition and commended the range and quality of artworks on display.
- Purchased a joyful painting by Maggie from Moonambel that depicted the local hamlet and roads connected to Councillor Phelan’s area.
- Participated in official Council meetings and a citizenship ceremony.
- Continued to maintain a presence at the Landsborough hub.
- Thanked CEO Mr Jim Nolan for his guidance and support to councillors, particularly standing by staff during challenging matters, and wished him well for retirement or whatever comes next.

Cr Ferrari

- Attended the CFA awards dinner, where two recipients received 60-year service medals, recognising a combined 120 years of volunteer service.
- Congratulated the award recipients and acknowledged their exceptional dedication and commitment to the community.
- Attended the GBAC advocacy launch with the Deputy Mayor and CEO, making statements on country roads and bridges.
- Will be attending Melbourne again this week with GBAC meeting with Ministers to continue advocacy.
- Attended the MAV State Council meeting in Melbourne, where Pyrenees Shire’s submission on DEECA funding insurance for their facilities instead of Council which was unanimously approved (97% approval).

- Attended the Pyrenees Art Exhibition with Cr Phelan and commended the creativity and talent of local artists.
- Thanked the organisers of the Pyrenees Art Exhibition for their significant behind-the-scenes work in preparing and presenting the event.
- Attended the opening of the Waubra Playground and acknowledged the community's dedication in delivering the project.
- Noted the strong turnout at the playground opening, with many children using and enjoying the new play space.
- Attended the launch of the Strength of Women at Cave Hill Creek and congratulated Dean and Rochelle Morris for their outstanding efforts in producing another book, focused on local women.
- Noted the importance of recognising the stories and contributions of local women featured in the publication.

13. 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 Megan Phelan / Cr Rebecca Wardlaw

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:

15.1 - Annual Insurance Renewal
15.2 - Beaufort Swimming Pool - Shell condition assessment and liner replacement.

CARRIED

The live streaming of Ordinary Meeting of Council - 15 June 2026 stopped at 7.33pm to consider confidential items.

The live stream re-commenced at 8.21pm and the Mayor chose to report on confidential items discussed in closed Council which are noted below.

Council discussed insurance renewal and the Beaufort Swimming Pool.

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 15 June 2026 closed at 8.23pm.

Minutes of the Meeting confirmed ______________________________

Mayor Cr Damian Ferrari