

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS - BUDGET 2013-2014

Date Received	Corro Number	Date of Reply	Town	State	Postcode	Précis of Corro	Related Department
06/06/13	4651	14/06/13	Taggerty	Vic	3714	The government has placed Council in a situation that has burdened ratepayers. Larger organisations such as DSE, Goulburn Water and Lake Mountain do not pay rates which is distorting the rate base. Small ratepayers are carrying these larger businesses. These businesses should be made to pay rates. Lake Eildon is a valuable asset and Council should demand that they (users) contribute to rates. Ratepayers have given up trying to have input with rate rises as the consultation process is seen to be a sham, with the outcome predetermined.	
19/06/13	4983	20/06/13 Phoned	Alexandra	Vic	3714	Proposal for development of a multi-purpose community building at the Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve. Overseen by a DSE Committee of Management. User Groups include Alexandra Football Club, Alexandra P and A Society and Alexandra Poultry Club. Buildings are currently maintained by user groups. The main building on the reserve is run down and requires replacement. Proposal is for a new building to be built that will be self sustaining to be available to the wider community for sporting, social, educational, agricultural and cultural purposes. Preparatory work has been undertaken including a reserve master plan, feasibility study, design/initial building plan and business plan. Council support is sought on an in kind basis i.e. which may include sourcing of grants, project management services. A meeting is also sought with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO to progress this initiative.	
19/06/13	4984	20/06/13 Phoned				Group of largest businesses in the district with the intent to be proactive in identifying what and how to support community growth and investment in Alexandra area. Working with Murrindindi Shire Council (MSC) staff to identify how to support MSC in achieving some key community projects. A key project identified is development of Alexandra Recreation Reserve facility. Ageing club room buildings and facilities require replacement to better serve the community. Request Council consider further in kind support to progress this project.	

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS - BUDGET 2013-2014

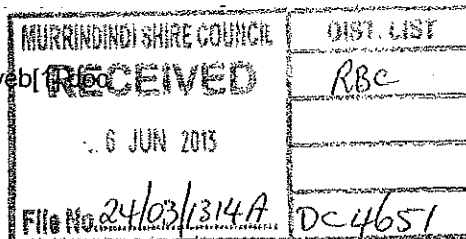
Date Received	Corro Number	Date of Reply	Town	State	Postcode	Précis of Corro	Related Department
19/06/13	4995	20/06/13 Phoned	Alexandra	Vic	3714	Disagrees with the increase in commercial waste rates (increase from \$52.00 pcm to \$84.00 pcm). Growing problem of others using or dumping beside businesses bins out of work hours and this is compounded by increase in tip fees. Increased prices do not correlate to any increase in tip opening hours. Access transfer station for only 7 hours over 3 days over working week is most frustrating. The current price rise may jeopardise a local contractor who services removal of building waste. With general increases in fees associated with building submissions, option of cheaper private Building Surveyor costs may need to be factored into the business. Request a review of these fees prior to budget being adopted.	
20/06/13	5019	20/06/13 Phoned	Alexandra	Vic	3714	As a small family owned and operated business, concerned at the significant increase in fees for disposal of commercial waste. The previous large increase saw the loss of many small builders who could no longer afford to have skip bins on site. Passing on the current significant increases to major clients make the hiring of skip bins unfeasible.	
20/06/13	5030	20/06/13 Phoned	Hazeldene	Vic	3658	Overall Budget looks better than predicted but Income and Expenditure is still not healthy and is being assessed by the State Government for assistance. Congratulations to Council and staff for a paper surplus of \$39k and Deficit is \$4.81 m against forecast \$7m. Overall staff numbers appear not to have been reduced but a rollback of bushfire staffing. Query on Capital works \$10.25 - where does it come from? Operating income is \$31.16 m which is \$100 k more than Budget income. Pie graphs - request for more detail of income and expenditure. Query re Contractors \$7.48 m - administrative or operational? Query on \$4.92 m for buildings - is it for upgrades or capital works? No amount in buget for contribution for Campaign on vote Yes for Referendum - where does this come from?	

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS - BUDGET 2013-2014

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19/06/13	4983	20/06/13 Phoned	Alexandra	Vic	3714	<p>Proposal for development of a multi-purpose community building at the Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve. Overseen by a DSE Committee of Management. User Groups include Alexandra Football Club, Alexandra P and A Society and Alexandra Poultry Club. Buildings are currently maintained by user groups. The main building on the reserve is run down and requires replacement. Proposal is for a new building to be built that will be self sustaining to be available to the wider community for sporting, social, educational, agricultural and cultural purposes. Preparatory work has been undertaken including a reserve master plan, feasibility study, design/initial building plan and business plan. Council support is sought on an in kind basis i.e. which may include sourcing of grants, project management services. A meeting is also sought with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO to progress this initiative.</p>	
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Barbara Mollard

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 5 June 2013 9:56 PM
To: _Records
Subject: Draft_budget_submission_form_2013_-_for_web



Draft Budget 2013-14 and Council Plan 2013-17 Submission Form

Thankyou for participating in the 2013/14 draft Budget and Council Plan process. Please make your comments below.

I want to make comment on:
The unsustainable rate rises

My reasons being:

The financial model created but government legislation has place council in the position where ratepayers are given a heavy burden which is creating financial stress. The largest "business" in the shire Goulburn water, DSE and lake mountain alpine commission pay no rates, this is distorting the rate base. Whilst this situation continues I see little hope in a satisfactory end to the rate rise saga. Why should small rate payers carry these large business. They should be made to include rates in there charges just as every other business has to allow for. Lake Eildon is an asset worth hundreds of millions of dollars council should demand that they contribute rates to same value as every other rate payer does, but of coarse this will never happen while the issue is not addressed.

Most rate payers have given up trying to have an input in the issue of rate rise as the consultation process is seen to be just a sham with the out come pre determined. Rate payers are helpless minnows in the authoritarian system. I don't see council as being the problem but state and federal governments who have created an unsustainable system.

Name _____

Address _____ 3714 _____

Contact phone _____

Email _____

This form can also be posted to Murrindindi Shire Council, PO Box 138, Alexandra 3714.
Written submissions can also be emailed to msc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au.

Submissions will be accepted until 5pm Thursday 20 June 2013.

Draft Budget 2013-14 and Council Plan 2013-17 Submission Form

Thankyou for participating in the 2013/14 draft Budget and Council Plan process.
Please make your comments below.

I want to make comment on:

**Proposed development of a multi-purpose community building at the
Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve.**

Context

The Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve, encompassing the football oval, netball court and shelter, clubrooms and toilets, timekeepers tower and associated outbuildings, carparks and grounds, is managed/overseen by a DSE Committee of Management (CoM) and the key tenants.

The CoM is made up of representatives from the users groups including the Alexandra Football Netball Club (AFNC), the Alexandra Cricket Club (ACC), the P and A Society and the Alexandra Poultry Club, as well as two community representatives and the Redgate riding Councillor.

The buildings and grounds are maintained by the user groups (mainly funded by the AFNC) and all utility costs are covered by the AFNC.

The reserve and buildings are utilised on a regular basis by over three hundred people involved in two senior football and four netball teams on Saturdays, three junior football and three junior netball teams on Sundays, Auskick on Sunday mornings and NetSetGo on Friday afternoons. These activities attract people from all over the district including Eildon, Thornton, Alexandra, Marysville, Narbethong, Buxton, Taggerty, Yarck and Molesworth. The Reserve and the clubroom buildings have been home to the annual show for over 100 years and often provide a venue for celebrations such as 21st birthdays and engagement parties as well as for larger funerals. The Alexandra cricket club also use the reserve for junior and senior matches.

The Reserve has also been utilised by the community for product launches (Rodwells and OneSteel), holiday programs (YMCA), fitness programs (Vita Nova), auctions and displays (Landmark). Educational programs have also been run at the facility by DSE, boat licence sessions, Coach the Coach program relating to mental health, WYLD (Whenever You are Likely to Drink) program run by Nexus Health.

As Council would be aware, the Reserve is also used in times of disaster to house and feed emergency response staff as seen with the Black Saturday bushfires when over 500 tents were set up on the oval and all catering, shower and toilet facilities established around the Reserve for nearly three months.

Background

Despite the application of considerable effort and funds over the years by the various stakeholders to maintain it, the current main building on the reserve that includes football changing rooms, toilets, showers, umpires room, cafeteria and bar is in a very poor state and has run its race. Many issues exist with the building and spending any more of the available funds on that building would be an exercise in futility.

Since 2000 the AFNC has, with the support of the other stakeholders and the recreation reserve CoM, been pursuing a plan to replace the existing building which is over 40 years old, originally built from two relocated primary school buildings, with a community multi-purpose facility. It is the intent of the AFNC and the recreation reserve committee to construct a quality facility that will be self sustaining and available to the wider Murrindindi community for sporting, social, educational, agricultural and cultural purposes into the future.

For over a decade, the AFNC has been investing the profits raised each year by the Club's Ladies Committee into various term deposits with these monies to be used as the Club's contribution towards the new facility. These monies currently are around \$250,000 in total. Our current facilities and Reserve are kept clean and tidy by Club volunteers. Going forward, our community needs new facilities to cater for current and prospective activities in the years ahead.

The plan includes a space/building that would be appropriate for larger functions such as the Alexandra Secondary College Deb Ball and would generate income through hire for weddings, balls/dances and other larger scale social occasions. It would be accessible by design and provide a commercial kitchen and bar facilities as well as far more adequate facilities for displays at the annual show, netballers, footballers, cricketers and umpires than currently exist.

With the help of a range of local business people, volunteers and Council, a considerable amount of preparatory work has already been undertaken to move towards construction of this facility. That work includes development of:

- A recreation reserve master plan
- A feasibility study
- A design/initial building plan
- A business plan

Add to this a number of informal approaches to potential funding bodies that have been received very well and we are seeing the future of the multi-purpose community facility start to look very positive.

The recreation reserve committee and user groups appreciate the support provided by Council to date with the Master Plan and Feasibility Study as well as mowing of the ground and surrounding reserve. The CoM also understands and appreciates the situation Council finds itself in with regard to budget constraints.

At this point in time we request that Council consider further in kind support to the CoM (ie. grant seeking, project management advice, engineering input, feedback on design and layout of the building and surrounds etc) in the coming 12 months to continue to pursue this goal with a view to a discussion regarding other inputs relating to construction in the 2014 – 15 year.

The CoM would appreciate the opportunity for a meeting with the Mayor John Walsh, Riding Councillor Margaret Rae and CEO Margaret Abbey at the earliest opportunity to discuss the way forward for this exciting development for Alexandra and surrounding towns.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for support.

Ray Steyger

Chairman

Committee of Management

Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve

P.O. Box 345, Alexandra, 3714

Phone - (03) 5772 2627

Email – alexfootball@virtual.net.au

This form can also be posted to Murrindindi Shire Council, PO Box 138, Alexandra 3714.

Written submissions can also be emailed to msc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au.

Submissions will be accepted until 5pm Thursday 20 June 2013.

Barbara Mollard

From:]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2013 10:26 AM
To: _Records
Subject: support for multi purpose faciity development
Attachments: Submission for Council support for a Recreation Facility Development.docx

Dear Madam / Sir

Please find attached a letter of support for the consideration of council into the development of the recreation reserve facility in Alexandra. The letter will explain that we are a group of interested residents and large business owners and operators in the Alexandra area that has formed to support the council and community projects that will improve, strengthen and grow our community.

We are more than happy to catch up and chat about this further

Cheers
Cofl Group

Contact :

MURRUMBIDGI SHIRE COUNCIL	DIST. LIST
RECEIVED	RBC
19 JUN 2013	
File No. 24403/13/4A	DC 4984

Submission to Council for the 2013-14 Budget and Council Plan

Support for a Multi-Purpose Facility Development

The *"Cofl Group"*

14th June 2013

Dear Margaret

Firstly to introduce ourselves, we are a group of local business people, not incorporated, that have formed because we share a common belief that the Murrindindi Shire, more specifically Alexandra and immediate surrounds, has the potential to be a thriving community that can attract tourism and future investment. The evidence shows that there has been a decline in our population and large business operations that has been caused by natural disasters or changes in government policy or business operational decisions.

This Group is not of the opinion that something is broken or needs to be fixed because we recognise all of the great facilities and assets that we have are part of the attraction for future growth. Our intent is to support how it can be better. We see this approach will support our current and future investment into the area in providing a rich diverse environment that will attract new future potential skilled employees and families to the area.

The Collective is made up of people involved with some of the largest businesses in the district; Koala Cherries, HG Turf, Snow Composites, YMCA Victoria, Anvil Angus and Hedger Constructions. We have formed with the intent to be proactive in identifying what and how we can support community growth and investment in the local Alexandra area. To initiate this we have engaged with Ann Leadbeater (supported by Murrindindi Shire Council), who has facilitated a process that has supported the development of our purpose and focus areas. We have engaged with Bob Elkington to help identify what is happening within the shire and how we can support the Murrindindi Shire Council in achieving some key community projects.

Based on the above introduction a key project that has captured the attention of this group is the development of the Alexandra Recreation Reserve facility. It is undisputed that football netball clubs in rural towns are the community hub for many local residents. In Alexandra this is no exception. There is strong membership and community involvement that includes Saturday senior's football and netball that includes players and supporters from local and surrounding communities. Sunday Auskick followed by junior under 12, 14 and 16's football and Netball. There is mid-week training on Tuesday and Thursday nights with dinners for players and families for juniors and seniors.

We acknowledge and support the use of the reserve and clubrooms being utilised and sourced by other community groups including the Alexandra P&A society, Alexandra Cricket Club and others. With careful design the utilisation of the reserve and facilities would enable greater access to more community clubs / groups / agencies (eg. emergency services and government departments) / and businesses.

The current issues with the existing club rooms include;

- Aging construction
- Aging fixtures, fittings and décor
- The need for capital investment to maintain existing site
- The design is not inviting for new families it is dark and cold and lacks natural light
- Size of building is too small to provide larger function space
- Not a wet weather option for spectators to watch football.
- Lack of universal design that considers access for disabled or elderly
- A small kitchen to prepare food for the thousands of meals served

The benefits of a new building would include;

- Increased membership and community involvement
- First impressions from the thousands of new families and families and players from competing clubs
- A facility that provides spaces for community functions that includes dinners, weddings, reunions, etc
- Community fitness facilities for mid-week training
- Access for disabled and elderly to watch and observe football matches from an accessible dry and warm environment
- A space that is inviting, clean and modern that is built to capture the community sporting hub spirit
- A community building that supports positive influences and experiences for all involved

The football Netball club from a philosophical perspective is already providing the spirit of the community hub with the people, the management and the community overseeing the positive values and the provision of a safe, supportive and "do your best" environment. It shows our youth the value of goodwill, of volunteerism and the positives about supporting a cause all of which are great values for our youth today. It also provides the environment for our youth and children and families to be physical and active and feeling connected to a positive environment.

It has also been recognised that within the Murrindindi Shire Yea, Marysville and Kinglake have had considerable works undertaken to rebuild or improve their Recreation Reserve facilities. It is noted that this work was through extensive funds from bushfire or grants from the pipeline. We appreciate these circumstances but also identify that for the same reasons why money was granted for these developments are the same reasons why Alexandra needs to generate the funds to upgrade the current facilities. Good facilities attract participation and are important hubs in rural communities.

Along with the above we have identified the diverse role of community assets perform when confronted with natural disaster like the 2009 Fires. The Recreation Reserve transformed into the

host of the imported emergency services and the oval and surrounds provided the camping spaces for hundreds of paid and volunteer fire fighters. The design and key features of the proposed new facilities can incorporate features that would support the potential of future needs that would make these grounds more useful. This could include kitchen design and layout, toilets, power, water etc,

It is based on this that this collective have identified this project to support the Alexandra Recreation Reserve Committee in their pursuit to build a new complex that will be better suited to our immediate and future community sporting needs. We understand that the club has raised substantial amounts of dollars through club fundraising over the past decade. We also acknowledge the Shire has already contributed in the preparatory work that includes the feasibility study and master planning processes.

At this point in time we request that Council consider further in kind support to see this much needed project progress..

We look forward to chatting about this further into the future.

Yours Sincerely

The *"Cofl Group"*

Mick and Simon Rouget, Steven Hedger, Steven Handbury, Carl Snow, Brendan Smith, Gavin Sutherland

MURCHING AND SHIRE COUNCIL	DIST LIST
19/05/13	RBC
1-9 JUN 2013	
File No. 24/03/134A	DC-4995

File out-RBC

Draft Budget 2013-14 and Council Plan 2013-17 Submission Form

Thankyou for participating in the 2013/14 draft Budget and Council Plan process. Please make your comments below.

I want to make comment on:

The increase in commercial waste rates that is proposed to rise from \$52.00 pcm to \$84.00 pcm.

This is also coupled with an across the board rise in general fees associated with the building industry across the shire.

My reasons being:

In the first instance we estimate that for our business at Hedger Constructions, this will be an additional cost of at least \$15,000.00 per annum. We can be operating up to 20 sites at any time so the cost is significant.

This comes on top of the growing problem we have of people other than our workers or clients coming to sites and dumping in or beside our bins during out of work hours. We noticed that this is an increasing problem and is compounded every time there is an increase in tip fees.

Coupled with continuing price rises across all aspects of the building sector, it continues to make our sustainability in the market all the more difficult. We also find that the issue of price rises does not correlate to any increase to opening hours which is a massive bug bear for us. The fact that we are unable to access the transfer station for only 7 hours over 3 days across the working week is most frustrating and can at times cause for significant problems on our sites in regard to trailer loads or truck loads of rubbish being stored. Whilst at times we are given some out of hours access the fact remains that we are having another increase with no change to service hours.

We understand that this current rise may place in jeopardy a local contractor who looks after this side of our business. If this is the case, not only is there the

possibility of the shire losing another local business, but it will mean that we would have to further outsource our sub trade, meaning even greater price increases.

Similarly, while the general increases in fees associated with building submissions is not great, it is still another cost. We have just finished working closely with Matt Parsons and Rob Skinner to return our permit applications to the Shire Building Department. If private Building Surveyor costs are cheaper, then this is something that we need to factor into our overall business.

We trust that these fees can be reviewed prior to the budget being adopted.

Name Steven Hedger (Hedger Constructions Pty. Ltd.)

Address PO Box 343 Alexandra 3714

Contact phone _____

Email info@hedgerconstructions.com.au

This form can also be posted to Murrindindi Shire Council, PO Box 138, Alexandra 3714.

Written submissions can also be emailed to msc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au. Submissions will be accepted until 5pm Thursday 20 June 2013.

Alexandra Skip Bins

ALEXANDRA 3714

18 June 2013

General Manager Corporate and Community Services
Murrindindi Shire Council
PO Box 138
Alexandra 3714

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL	DIST. LIST
RECEIVED	RBC
20 JUN 2013	
File No. 24/03/13/14A	DC 5019

Dear Sir

RE: 2013 PROPOSED WASTE DISPOSAL FEE INCREASE

I am writing to express my concern at the significant increase proposed in the disposal of commercial waste in the draft budget for 2013-14 for the Alexandra Waste Management facility.

I own and operate a small family business providing skip bins to builders, businesses and the general public within the Murrindindi Shire for the past nine years.

With the previous major increase our business suffered with the loss of many small builders who could no longer afford to have skip bins on site, with this proposed increase I could see the viability of our business put in danger.

I have had discussions with some of our major clients and been advised that passing on such a significant increase would make the hiring of skip bins not a feasible option.

We ask that Councillors please reconsider these charges and acknowledge us as a small family owned and operated business.

Yours sincerely



SIMON GOODMAN

6

Rachael Creighton

From: [u]
Sent: Thursday, 20 June 2013 2:48 PM
To: _Records
Subject: Murrindindi Ratepayers Group Submission
Attachments: Submission 20-06-2013.pdf

Please find attached a Submission to Council on behalf of the Murrindindi Ratepayers Group Inc.

Best Regards,

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL	DIST. LIST
RECEIVED	RBC 8
20 JUN 2013	
File No. 24/03/13/14A	DC 5030

PO Box 2035,
Hazeldene,
Victoria, 3658.

MURRINDINDI RATEPAYERS GROUP inc.

20 June, 2013

Dear Mayor, Councillors and CEO,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and ask question on the Budget.

"The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome will become bankrupt.

People must again learn to work instead of living on public assistance."

- Cicero , 55 BC

So, we appear to have learnt little over the past 2,067 years.

Submission

We ask that the following points are noted as part of our submission –

While the overall Budget is looking better than predicted last year when you compare the figures of Income and Expenditure it is still not healthy and is as per the Introduction being evaluated by the State Government for assistance (later part of paragraph 4). Paragraph 5 continues with the comments of support required in the overall recovery.

There is no further Rates assistance package from the State Government.

While there appears to be a \$39 k paper surplus the overall Deficit is \$4.81m which is better than the forecast \$7m. Council and staff are to be complimented on the reduction.

While there appears to be a reduction in staff it appears the majority of the reductions are due to the rollback of staffing requirements as a result of the impact of February 7th 2009 Bushfires.

The reduction of staff specifically in the Library sector has caused a great deal of grievance to the community with staff who are greatly missed and the programs they were implementing.

It appears Council has not reduced the overall staff numbers as the redundancy positions have been reallocated to other positions.

We believe the recent advertisement for the position as Governance Manager is the role of the CEO and a waste of ratepayer's money.

Rate income quoted includes Garbage and recycling which is a user pay system with Household Rate income being \$ 13,360,971, Garbage & Recycling \$2,285,415

TEL :

FAX : 03 9008 5624

MOBILE :

EMAIL : murrindindiratepayers@gmail.com

June 20, 2013

Page 2

Referendum – Federal Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

We believe councils do not require this to undertake their role on behalf of the community. They have every opportunity to gain information. Liaise with Federal Ministers etc., receive and apply for grants in their own right. Another layer of reporting compliance and ongoing costs which would be another additional costs to ratepayers and tax payers cannot be justified for what is already being recognized that Local Government are the closest to the community.

Budget Questions

In the opening comments from the Mayor & CEO it states total Budget income is \$31.15 Rate income (includes user pay garbage & recycling) \$15.64 with Recurrent and non-recurrent income of \$11.85 leaving a shortfall of accountable income of \$3.66 m. Where does this money come from? We cannot see any comments on this difference in the document.

Overall Expenditure is \$41.37 m with Capital works of \$10.25 being added. Once again no comment on where this \$10.25 m is from and we can only assume it is carried forward from the previous year's budget or new Capital Works programs?

Operating income is \$31.16 which is \$100,000 more than the initial Budget income above. How can this be?

The pie graphs are on pages 20 & 21 of the document and a further analysis of this should provide the major shares of the income & expenditure sectors. Can this please be provided thank you?

Employee Costs \$11,513,000 m
Rates (only rates) income \$ 13,350,971 m Garbage & Recycling \$2,285,415
Contractors \$7,480,000

We could not see a breakdown of the Contractors if it was administrative or operational.

If you add the Employee and Contractors together = \$18,993,000 which equates to approximately 60% of the Budget.

A breakdown of the administrative staff and operational staff is requested please.

Budget for Buildings is 4,920
Roads & Paths 2,732
Bridges 863
Storm water 452

We take these to be \$4 + m for buildings & \$2 + m for roads and paths.

When so many new buildings have been built the question is why such a high budget for buildings is it for upgrades or capital works?

We cannot see any amount in the Budget for the contribution to the Campaign on vote Yes for the Referendum. Where is the money coming from?

Yours Sincerely,

Michael Pointer, John Griffiths, Lyn Gunter, Roma Guerin, Joe Milbourne

For the Murrindindi Ratepayers Group inc.