



MINUTES
of the
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
held on
WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2015
in the
ALEXANDRA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
commencing at
6.00 pm

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1. PRAYER, OATH & RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

The meeting was opened with Prayer and reading of the Oath and Reconciliation Statement.

2. APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

REF: SF/306

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence tendered.

Present:

Crs M Rae (Chair), A Derwent, C Challen, J Kennedy, B Magner, C Ruhr, J Walsh

In attendance:

Chief Executive Officer: Margaret Abbey

General Manager Corporate and Community Services: Michael Chesworth

General Manager Infrastructure and Development Services: Elaine Wyatt

Manager Infrastructure Assets: John Canny

Manager Business Services: Andrew Bond

Manager Communications Library & Customer Service: Jacqui Rabel

Manager Development and Environmental Services: Matt Parsons

Strategic Planning Officer: Grant Scale

Statutory Planning Co-ordinator: Karen Girvan

Governance Officer: Kenneil Martin

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 25 March 2015 be confirmed with the deletion of the word "an" after "Cr J Walsh, having declared".

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 25 March 2015 be confirmed with the deletion of the word "an" after "Cr J Walsh, having declared".

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr J Kennedy

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 25 March 2015 be confirmed with the deletion of the word "an" after "Cr J Walsh, having declared" and the word "CARRIED" at the top of page 20 (Item 6.4)

CARRIED

- The minutes of the Special meeting of Council held on 8 April 2015.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Special meeting of Council held on 8 April 2015 be confirmed.

RESOLUTION:

Cr C Challen / Cr A Derwent

That the minutes of the Special meeting of Council held on 8 April 2015 be confirmed.

CARRIED**4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

REF: SF/783

Cr C Challen declared a conflict of interest in item 6.1.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**5.1 QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL**

No questions of Council.

5.2 OPEN FORUM

REF: SF/130

Gavan Rice, of the Motor Cycle Racing Club of Victoria (MCRCV), spoke on behalf of Damien Milton, Club President of the MCRCV in support of a motorcycle event in Taggerty in June (Item 6.1 on the agenda).

Jacqui McLean, spoke in support of a motorcycle event in Taggerty (Item 6.1 on the agenda).

The Chairperson closed Public Participation Time.**5.3 PETITIONERS SPEAKING TO PETITIONS**

REF: SF/132

No petitions.

Having declared a conflict of interest, Cr Challen left the meeting at 6.15pm prior to consideration of Item 6.1.**6. OFFICER REPORTS****6.1 2015/20 – OFF ROAD MOTORCYCLE EVENT, TAGGERTY**

REF: 2015/20

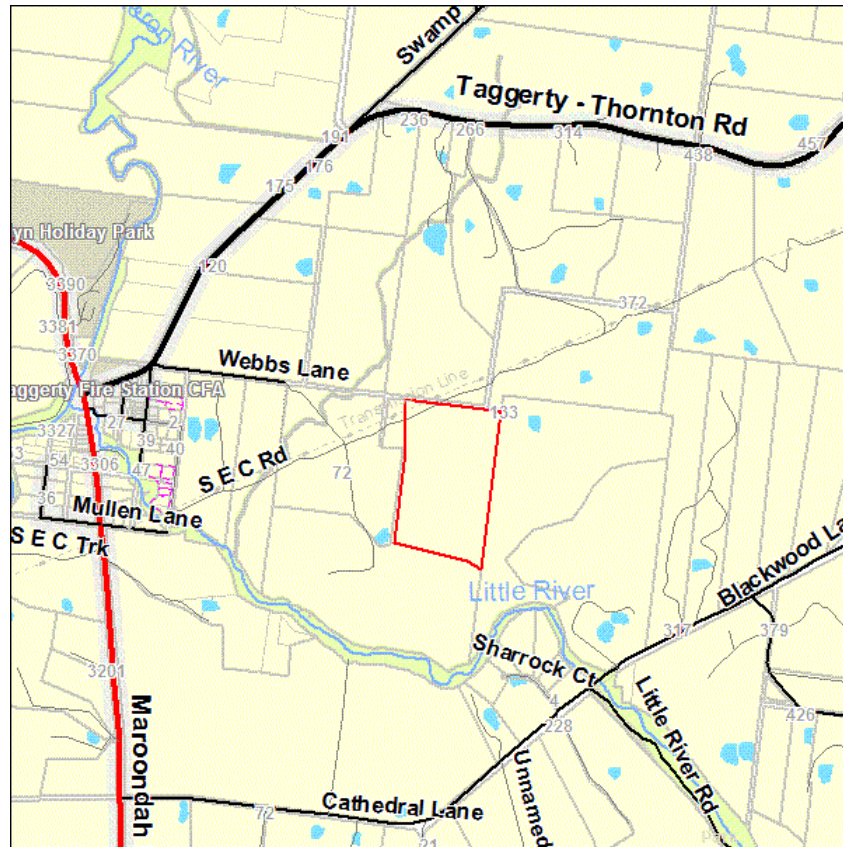
Land: 131 Webbs Lane TAGGERTY 3714

Proposal: One off road motorcycle event

Applicant: Motorcycle Racing Club of Victoria

Zoning: Farming
Overlays: None
Attachments: Encl 6.1a Application details
Encl 6.1b More information and submission response summary
(Aerial photograph and submissions distributed separately)

Locality Plan



Purpose:

This report recommends that a notice of decision to grant a permit be issued for an off road motorcycle event at 131 Webbs Lane, Taggerty.

Recommendation:

That Council issue a notice of decision to grant a permit for an off road motorcycle event at 131 Webbs Lane, Taggerty 3714 (Lot: 1 PS: 501716, Parish of Taggerty), subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The event hereby permitted is to take place on 14 June 2015 only, between the hours of 9.30am and 4.00pm.
- (2) At least 7 days prior to the event a Traffic Management Plan shall be provided showing the location of directional and warning signs that take into consideration a requirement for a low speed environment along Webbs Lane from the adjoining VicRoad network to the entry point to the event to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Signage must not remain in place after completion of the event.
- (3) The event management plan, as endorsed shall not be altered or modified without the consent in writing of the Responsible Authority.

- (4) **All food providers are to comply with relevant Food Act legislation requirements to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**
- (5) **All activities carried out on the site, with the exception of management activities required for securing and making good the site, must be completed within one hour of the last scheduled event.**
- (6) **A water truck must be operating along Webbs Lane to ensure that any dust created by traffic is minimised.**
- (7) **Any promotional or directional signage must be removed at the completion of the event to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**
- (8) **All refuse and rubbish associated with the use allowed must be removed from the area within 24 hours of the completion of the event to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**
- (9) **Competition motorbikes are not to be operated on the site outside of the hours of operation.**
- (10) **The subject land must be kept neat and tidy at all times and its appearance must not, in the opinion of the Responsible Authority, adversely affect the amenity of the locality.**
- (11) **Prior to the event taking place, photographic evidence of the existing conditions of the site without the track must be provided to the Responsible Authority.**
- (12) **Within 3 months of the event being held, the environmental remediation works to return the site to its original state must be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Evidence of this remediation must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority.**

Proposal:

An application has been received for an off road motorcycle event to be held on 14 June 2015 at 131 Webbs Lane, Taggerty. The event is to be set up on the 13 June 2015, with the actual racing taking place on the Sunday from 9.30am till 4.00pm. It is anticipated that there will be 100 people on site, inclusive of both riders and support crews.

The track will be pegged out on the previous day and will be located over much of the 35 hectare property. No bikes will be permitted to be ridden on the property on the Saturday and marking the track will be done using a four wheel bike.

The route will be put together in a way that reduces noise by using the treed areas to slow the bikes down, removing the hill climb and utilising land to the east of the property which will then form a natural noise buffer for part of the track. The land affected by the track will be rehabilitated by dragging mesh or something similar behind a vehicle and reseeding to minimise any long term impact.

The racing will be done in an enduro format as sprints with riders starting at 20 second intervals. It is expected that 80 riders will be competing half of which will be junior riders aged from 6 to 16. Bikes will be tested for maximum noise levels prior to and during the proposed Taggerty event with the maximum permitted noise being 112dB(A) at 2 metres on full throttle in neutral or 94dB(A) on a flyby taken at 30 metres.

There will be a qualified first aid person on site and the ambulance service will be notified.

The Land & Surroundings:

The subject land is a 35 hectare parcel of land (approximately), with scattered trees and existing access tracks. The property contains two dams, and the nearest accommodation is caretakers quarters in a shed at 72 Webbs Lane. The property is accessed via an existing gravel road, Webbs Lane, Taggerty.

Participants would travel approximately 1.4 kilometres from the Taggerty-Thornton Road to access the site.

Referrals:

The application was referred internally to council's Environmental Programs, Environmental Health and Building Units, as well as the Economic Development and Infrastructure Assets departments. No objections were received.

Consultation:

The application was notified to nearby and adjoining owners and with a notice in the Alexandra Standard. At the time of writing this council report, 9 submissions had been received. The submissions can be summarised as follows:

Noise

- General impact of motorbike noise (9 submitters)
- Location of the property on hill exacerbates noise issues (1 submitter)
- Disregard for quiet after 8.00pm (2 submitters)
- Event goes on all day (2 submitter)
- Ran last year and went for 2 days (1 submitter)
- Ran last year and went for up to 3 days (1 submitter)
- Noise not managed appropriately (1 submitter)
- Noise impacts on sheep (1 submitter)

Environmental

- Destruction of hillside by track (4 submitters)
- Rubbish left behind on previous occasions (2 submitters)

Webbs Lane

- Speed of vehicles up and down Webbs Lane (3 submitters)
- Dust on Webbs Lane (3 submitters)
- Potential damage to Webbs Lane (1 submitter)

Other

- Will become an annual event

The submissions were sent to the applicant who provided the following response:

- The course has been altered to make it tighter with portions of the track on the eastern side of the property which has less noise impact due to the hill and will slow down the riders
- The format of the race will be modified for single starts with 20 seconds between riders
- Motorcycles will be checked for compliance with noise controls prior to riding
- No motorcycles will be permitted to operate outside of the event hours
- A water truck will be used on Webbs Lane to minimise dust
- No motorcycles will be allowed off the property
- An environmental specialist has been engaged to assist with course remediation

Newspaper / Other	Publishing/Consultation Date(s)
Newspaper: Alexandra and Eildon Standard	25 March 2015
Mail out: Nearby and adjoining owners	17 March 2015

Planning Considerations:

The site has been illegally used in the past to run an off road motorcycle event. The events run in the past have been much more extensive than the one proposed in this application, and are unable to be considered in context of this application. In the Murrindindi Planning Scheme, tourism is a supported industry. The zone allows the consideration of the use of the land for an event such as proposed.

With the limitations outlined in the application, being 9.30am until 4.00pm on one day only, the noise generated by the event can be considered to be appropriate. The applicant has advised that the bikes will be tested by an appropriately qualified person, and they will be required to be under the maximum permitted noise being 112dB(A) at 2 metres on full throttle in neutral or 94dB(A) on a flyby taken at 30 metres. The nearest objecting property is 1km away from the proposed site and there would be a significant reduction in noise with that distance of separation. Motorbike use will be limited to the day and hours of the event only ensuring that the duration of noise is limited to the specified hours.

This event will have some local economic advantages with camping being directed to the local caravan park and a local community group being invited to provide food.

Webbs Lane is a public road maintained by Council for the first 700 metres. Although formed and unlicensed the balance of the access to the event is not considered to be a public road under the Road Management Act. From discussions with the owner of 131 Webbs Lane, officers have been informed that he has carried out substantial upgrading of this road recently which is apparent on site. The road appears to be in good condition and suitable for the expected traffic conditions. While the numbers proposed are small at approximately 100 people, it is significant on a road of this standard particularly with the expected use of trailers.

Events such as this have been supported by Council in the past, and permits have been issued subject to various conditions aimed at minimising the impact on the broader amenity of the area. Conditions not allowing the site to be used for motorcycles outside of the hours in the application have been applied, and there will also be conditions in relation to a water truck on the road to minimise dust and ensuring the property is reinstated after the event.

It is the opinion of Council officers that the previous illegal use is impacting on the issues raised by the objectors. Support of this application will give the applicants the opportunity to run an event that minimises offsite impacts, creating the possibility of future events on this property.

While the noise from this event will be heard within the township of Taggerty, the impact should be minor and for a limited period of time.

Conclusion:

The use of the land for an off road motorcycle event can be managed in a manner that will ameliorate the impact on the surrounding area, and can be supported in line with the decision guidelines of the Murrindindi Planning Scheme.

Legal/Policy Issues:**State Planning Policy Framework**

11.10 Hume Regional Growth

Objective: To develop a more diverse regional economy while managing and enhancing key regional economic assets.

Strategies:

- Support tourism activities, including nature-based tourism, that take advantage of environment and cultural heritage assets and the rural environment without compromising their future.

13.04-1 Noise abatement

Objective: To assist the control of noise effects on sensitive land uses.

Strategy: Ensure that development is not prejudiced and community amenity is not reduced by noise emissions, using a range of building design, urban design and land use separation techniques as appropriate to the land use functions and character of the area.

17.03-1 Facilitating tourism

Objective: To encourage tourism development to maximise the employment and long-term economic, social and cultural benefits of developing the State as a competitive domestic and international tourist destination.

Local Planning Policy Framework

21.06 Tourism and heritage strategies

Strategies and objectives:

- Protection of water quality and environmental degradation in relation to new developments.
- Facilitate recreational and tourism activities that attract tourist year round.

Zoning

35.07 Farming Zone

Purpose:

- To ensure that non-agricultural uses do not adversely affect the use of the land for agriculture
- To encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities

Decision Guidelines:

General Issues

- The capability of the site to accommodate the proposed use or development, including the disposal of effluent.
- Whether the site is suitable for the use or development and whether the proposal is compatible with adjoining and nearby land uses.
- How the use and development makes use of existing infrastructure and assets.

Agricultural issues and the impact from non-agricultural uses

- Whether the use or development will adversely affect soil quality or permanently remove land from agricultural production.

Environmental Issues

- The impact of the proposal in the natural physical features and resources of the area, in particular soil and water quality.

RESOLUTION:

Cr B Wagner / Cr C Ruhr

That Standing Orders be suspended.

CARRIED**Standing orders were suspended at 6.22pm.****RESOLUTION:**

Cr B Wagner / Cr C Ruhr

That Standing Orders be resumed.

Standing orders were resumed at 6.29pm**RESOLUTION:**

Cr J Walsh / Cr C Ruhr

That Council issue a notice of decision to grant a permit for an off road motorcycle event at 131 Webbs Lane, Taggerty 3714 (Lot: 1 PS: 501716, Parish of Taggerty), subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The event hereby permitted is to take place on 14 June 2015 only, between the hours of 9.30am and 4.00pm.
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- (4) The event management plan, as endorsed shall not be altered or modified without the consent in writing of the Responsible Authority.
- (4) All food providers are to comply with relevant Food Act legislation requirements to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- (5) All activities carried out on the site, with the exception of management activities required for securing and making good the site, must be completed within one hour of the last scheduled event.
- (6) A water truck must be operating along Webbs Lane to ensure that any dust created by traffic is minimised.
- (7) Any promotional or directional signage must be removed at the completion of the event to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- (8) All refuse and rubbish associated with the use allowed must be removed from the area within 24 hours of the completion of the event to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- (9) Competition motorbikes are not to be operated on the site outside of the hours of operation.
- (10) The subject land must be kept neat and tidy at all times and its appearance must not, in the opinion of the Responsible Authority, adversely affect the amenity of the locality.

- (11) Prior to the event taking place, photographic evidence of the existing conditions of the site without the track must be provided to the Responsible Authority.
- (12) Within 3 months of the event being held, the environmental remediation works to return the site to its original state must be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Evidence of this remediation must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority.
- (13) Any bike suspected of not meeting the required noise levels must be tested at the property prior to use to show compliance with the noise level requirements to not exceed 112dB(A) at 2 metres on full throttle in neutral or 94dB(A) on a flyby taken at 30 metres and evidence of that testing provided to Council within 7 days of the date of the event.

CARRIED

Cr C Challen returned to the meeting at 6.30pm.

6.2 CASTELLA – TOOLANGI LOCALITY BOUNDARY

REF: SF/125

(Refer Encl 6.2 Proposed Castella – Toolangi Boundary Change)

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council resolution to endorse and lodge with the Office of Geographic Names the formal proposal to alter the Castella – Toolangi eastern locality boundary as per the State Government Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. Endorses the proposal to alter the Castella – Toolangi eastern locality boundary as per the State Government Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010 as shown in Enclosure 6.2; and**
- 2. Lodges the proposal with the Office of Geographic Names using the online Notification and Editing Service.**

Background:

Council at its meeting on 28 January 2015 initiated the formal proposal process to alter the Castella – Toolangi eastern locality boundary as per the State Government Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010.

That process initiated the following steps:

- Step 1 – Check all necessary information is provided in the proposal;
- Step 2 – Check that the proposal conforms with all of the principles of Sections 1 and 3 of the guidelines;
- Step 3 – Consult with indigenous communities (only required for name changes);
- Step 4 – Consult with emergency response and service providers
- Step 5 – Consult with the public
- Step 6 – Re-consult with directly affected property owners

The above steps have now been undertaken and Council is required to undertake a report on the proposal that includes;

- A discussion of how the proposal conforms to the principles in Sections 1 and 3 of the guidelines; and
- Discussion of and response to any objections/submissions received during the consultation period.

No objections/submissions were received during the 30 day submission period and as such lodging of the proposal with the Office of Geographic Names can now occur.

Council Plan/Strategies:

This report is consistent with the following strategy in the Council Plan 2013/17:

Our Community – support and promote health and well being, social connectedness and community involvement.

Legal/Policy Issues:

The formal process involves the following steps:

Step 1

The Principles in Section 1 of the State Government Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010, relate to naming and renaming and as such are not relevant to this proposal.

Step 2

The proposal complies with the following principles of Section 3 of the guidelines; namely

- 3(A) Boundary location – aligns with the cadastral fabric;
- 3(B) Estate and subdivision names – not relevant;
- 3(C) Size – will make sense to local residents, businesses as well as visitors;
- 3(D) Hyphens – not relevant;
- 3(E) Local government area boundary review – not relevant;
- 3(F) Locality signage – local signage can be displayed on major roads; and
- 3(G) Locality names unique to Australia – not relevant.

Step 3

Not required

Step 4

Copy of Public Notice inviting submissions, distributed to relevant district police stations, ambulance stations, country fire authority stations, post offices and power, water, etc service providers.

Step 5

Public notice given in newspapers distributed throughout the district.

Step 6

Letters sent to directly affected property holders, inviting submissions.

Financial/Resources/Risk

Essentially the formal proposal process will involve a considerable amount of staff time in preparing and lodging a proposal with the Office of Geographic Names and some possible signage requirements.

Discussion:

Council has now satisfactorily completed the requirements of the State Government Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010 and is in a position to endorse and lodge the locality boundary change between Castella and Toolangi with the Office of Geographic Names.

Consultation:

An initial survey was distributed to thirty two (32) residents in the affected areas of the proposed locality boundary change with twenty two (22) responses received, being 70%.

All respondents supported the proposed change to the Castella – Toolangi boundary as per the attached plan.

Further consultation has now occurred with the general public, directly affected property holders, emergency response and service providers.

Conclusion:

The relocation of the eastern locality boundary between Castella and Toolangi has the support of the local community, affected land holders, emergency response and service providers and addresses a number of issues and abnormalities that presently exist.

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr A Derwent

That Council:

1. Endorses the proposal to alter the Castella – Toolangi eastern locality boundary as per the State Government Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010 as shown in Enclosure 6.2; and
2. Lodges the proposal with the Office of Geographic Names using the online Notification and Editing Service.

CARRIED

7. SEALING REGISTER

File: 13/6325

<i>File Reference</i>	<i>Date Seal Affixed</i>	<i>Description of Documents</i>	<i>Signatures of Persons Sealing</i>
CONT14/10	25 March 2015	Formal Instrument of Agreement for Topsisie Gully Quarry - Transfer of Operations and Delivery of Quarry Products between Murrindindi Shire Council and Lima South Quarry Pty Ltd	Margaret Abbey Margaret Rae
SF/1929	14 April 2015	Transfer of Extractive Industry Work Authority from Murrindindi Shire Council to Lima South Quarry Pty Ltd fro Topsisie Gully Quarry	Margaret Abbey

Recommendation:

That the list of items to which the Council seal has been affixed be noted.

RESOLUTION:

Cr C Ruhr / Cr J Kennedy

That the list of items to which the Council seal has been affixed be noted.

CARRIED**8. COUNCILLOR PORTFOLIO REPORTS****8.1 LAND USE PLANNING PORTFOLIO**

Cr J Walsh had no further portfolio report, but advised:

That the Annual General Meeting of CRLLEN is approaching, noting that there are two vacancies (Murrindindi Shire Council) on the CRLLEN board. All are encouraged to be involved and come on board.

8.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO

Cr Challen provided the following report:

- I attended the monthly Economic Development catch up meeting with the CEO and Manager for Economic Development on the 8th of this month.
- Workspace had its Board Meeting in Donald on the 9th but I unfortunately had to send my apologies
- There was a Living Well in the Ranges Expo at Kinglake last Sunday, 19 April.
- Vibe had their official opening last night. There were several hundred guests, including the former Deputy Premier of Victoria, Peter Ryan and his wife, the Minister for Regional Development, Jaala Pulford, Member for Eildon, Cindy McLeish, Federal Member for Indi, Cathy McGowan, Regional Development Victoria executives, other government officials, the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, the CEO, Cr Walsh and myself and many, many locals from the Triangle and across the Shire.
- A Victorian Tourism Industry Council networking evening is arranged at the Y Centre next Tuesday at 5pm. GRVT is co-sponsoring the event.
- The 2015 Regional Victoria Living Expo is on again at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre from Friday 1 May to Sunday 3 May. The Mayor is attending the Expo Lunch on Friday. I am rostered on our stand for the Saturday. The Chair of GRVT will be showcasing our regional produce on the main stage at 10.30am also on Saturday.
- Building our Business Community Expo and Dinner is on Wednesday, 13 May at the Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre. All businesses and interested parties are invited to attend. Workspace is one of the sponsors.
- Congratulations to Council and local tourism businesses as Council received the Bronze Award at the National Tourism Awards recently held in Adelaide.

8.3 INFRASTRUCTURE AND WASTE PORTFOLIO

Cr C Ruhr thanked Cr C Challen for attending the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GVWRRG) and Group Forum on his behalf and asked her speak to the report of that meeting.

Cr C Challen attended the GV Waste & Resource Recovery Group Forum on behalf of Cr Ruhr and provided the following report:

Last Thursday and Friday, 16 and 17 April, Cr Challen attended on my behalf the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group Forum and Board Tour to Echuca and Moama with Murrindindi Shire Officers, Mark Leitinger and Josh Russell.

It was an action packed itinerary with the first visit to Ellwaste Material Recovery Facility in Echuca, where waste is sorted and palletised for recycling. Ellwaste have invested several million dollars in infrastructure and service 4 Victorian neighbouring councils, including Campaspe. They are providing 145 jobs, saving the Shire of Campaspe \$280,000+ a year with this strategy and value adding enormous funds to discarded material.

This visit included a presentation from the Waste and Environment Coordinator for the Shire of Campaspe on the benefits of a local material recovery facility such as Ellwaste and he also talked about them running a successful education campaign throughout Echuca called WICKED: Waste in Campaspe - Know, Educate, Do.

The next call was to the Shire of Campaspe's purpose built \$1.8m Echuca Environment Centre which opened in Feb 2009. This is a shredded resource recovery, resale and waste transfer facility. Management of the facility is outsourced to a Not for Profit organisation. (The Shire received a grant from Sustainability Victoria to build the Centre).

The subsequent Forum meeting took place and discussed the topics of:

- Purpose of GVWRRG and Group Forum
- Expectations of service and relationship in view of legislative functions
- Feedback in form of survey and face to face discussion
- Council contribution methodology and usage
- Workshopping of project ideas and priorities

(The Forum comprises Councillor and Council Officer representatives, a rep from Sustainability Victoria, the GVWRRG Executive Officer, Operations Manager and staff, sub-committee members and invited guests, such as the 3 independent skills based Board Directors.)

The Forum has established two subcommittees: Education and Technical.

Friday commenced with an early Board meeting at 8am where the previous day's forum meeting and its influence on the 15/16 Business Plan was considered, as well as the Governance Framework and a Cost and Capability review update. (Murrindindi and Mitchell Councillors, as Chair and Deputy Chair of the Forum, are invited guests at the Board meetings.) At the same time as the Board meeting, the Forum's sub-committees met.

Later everyone re-grouped on the bus for a tour to Moama re-processors which included:

- Drums go Round (an accredited drummuster drum processor with on site shredding and granulation of plastic drums. They provide services to 60 councils in southeastern NSW.) They have also invented an extrusion process for plastic film and wrapping, which up until now has had to be dumped in landfill.

- Nullarbor Sustainable Timber, who reclaim timber from the natural and built environment for structural and decorative purposes. (They're always interested in discarded timbers, as well as demolition timber from old bridges, etc. from all over Australia. Transfer stations can potentially stockpile the timber until there is a viable load for transportation.)
- Recycled Plastic Technology, who are a major supplier to both the rural and forestry industries of drainage pipe and crossings as well as stormwater pipe and fittings. (Their major concern presently is sourcing enough plastic milk bottles. There are international buyers competing for this waste product.)

Other re-processor facilities in Moama include a food waste facility, however the tour couldn't include them on this round.

In summing up, it seems virtually everything can be extruded, recycled and reprocessed.

Campaspe Shire is excelling in their waste management through infrastructure, expertise, willingness and relationships with other Councils and businesses. This has also benefited their economic development.

Reprocessing comes in all shapes and sizes. There is considerable innovation that exists within the local reprocessing sector.

On the right scale, trash is treasure!

8.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Cr Kennedy provided the following report:

It has been quite a busy month where I represented the Council at a number of functions both within my Portfolio responsibilities and on other issues.

I also attended two local Landcare functions that were complementary to my membership of the Murrindindi Environmental Advisory Committee which meets again later this month.

I attended the meeting at Thornton on Preserving the Natural Environment of the Rubicon Ranges which had Senator Janet Rice of the Greens as Guest Speaker.

Although relatively poorly attended (about 25 people) it did draw attendees from quite a wide area including Mt Waverly, Mansfield and Strathbogie.

Instead of a consideration of the Royston Range it developed into a pro Great Forest National Park promotion.

Several speakers from the audience were keen to make the point that the words 'National Park' were usually thought to mean locking up an area and denying use to traditional users including four wheel drivers, off road motor bike rallying or bush motor biking as well as walkers, naturalists, horse riders etc.

The speakers including Steve Meacher were all keen to make the point that traditional users passive or active should not be denied access.

I think we are likely to see further promotion of the Great Forest National Park which could potentially embrace a large section of the southern end of Murrindindi Shire emerge over coming months.

I also represented the Mayor at the Flowerdale dinner organised by the Flowerdale Community House and Men's Shed where Tim Fischer was the guest speaker.

Booked out at some 90 guests including our Federal and State Parliamentarians Tim delivered a brilliant presentation on his new book on Sir John Monash and his belief that he should be elevated to General on his first World War campaigns.

His presentation attracted numerous questions and was an excellent evening so congratulations to the Flowerdale community on its initiative.

I also presented the Shire's Certificate reflecting the recent award of a \$5,000 community Grant Program awarded to the Flowerdale Men's Shed to assist 20 members of the Murrindindi Men's Shed Cluster to attend a major group function in Newcastle later this year.

The Flowerdale Men's Shed Choir newly formed also delivered another strong musical performance.

I also looked in this afternoon on the Freeza Muso Magic event being held today in the Yea Shire Hall which seemed well supported.

The two Landcare functions were a presentation and site inspection at Limestone on Mistletoe, it's place in the natural environment, the damage and loss it causes to many established trees as a effectively a parasitic growth and the responses which emerge from treatment programs.

It was well attended by farmers and local landowners and well worthwhile in advancing knowledge on an ever present problem in the Shire.

The second Landcare visit last weekend was to John Woodley's farm at Taggerty where he has developed an exceptional agri-forestry project on what was formerly a 40 hectare run down grazing property.

His work on establishing a variety of lots of different types of trees with the aim of producing cabinet or veneer timbers is very impressive.

We also witnessed a demonstration of portable sawmilling of a Blackwood log destined to be built into a dining table.

John has also consulted widely to local tree growing ventures on farms and smaller properties and has a wealth of information on appropriate site selection and the best tree choices to be grown out as a landscape feature or as a superannuation investment over say a twenty year time frame.

He believes the trend may have turned in favour of agri-forestry following the collapse of the MIS tree planting schemes which favoured the lowest economic value trees - blue gums for the lowest value use – woodchips and the economic cycle may be changing to move back to potentially high value use timbers.

8.5 CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Cr B Magner provided the following report:

- The Information Technology (IT) project is 90% completed and should soon be before council.
- Business Continuity Plan (BCP) work is underway to set up IT backup at the Yea office. Staff will undergo a dry run of testing systems in May to test procedures.

- Audit from Public Records Office on information management was positive with acknowledgment that there is still work to be done on archived documents.
- The new procurement policy has been rolled out to delegated officers having trained 70 staff and has received excellent feedback.
- Rating strategy - system work is being carried out to identify differential properties.
- Work is underway to improve customer responses.
- A project has been commenced to manage different groups on the Alexandra Tramways site.
- Congratulations are in order to our LGMA Challenge team who won the State Challenge Day. As the top team in the state, they have gained automatic selection to attend the Local Government National Congress in Darwin during May to present their video and value proposition statement as well as competing at the LGMA Australasian Championships that are to be held in Melbourne in June. An excellent outcome for the team!

8.6 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE PORTFOLIO

Cr A Derwent had no further report.

8.7 MAYOR AND DELEGATED COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cr M Rae provided the following report:

Owing to a period of ill health this is a shorter report than usual. My thanks to those who stepped in for me when necessary.

I had the pleasure of representing Council by:

- opening Harmony Day at Leckie Park;
- opening the resurfaced tennis courts at Terip Terip;
- opening the Rotary Art Show in Alexandra;
- participating in a media call to promote the opening of the Vibe Hotel;
- attending the formal opening of the Vibe Hotel;
- and meeting with the Minister for Regional Development, Jaala Pulford, and RDV, with the CEO.

8.8 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr J Walsh requested a change in venues for the August and September 2015 Council meetings so he could attend the meeting to be held in his riding (Yarck).

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr J Kennedy

That the following changes be made Council meeting venues:

<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Wednesday 26 August 2015	Yarck Community Hall
Wednesday 23 September 2015	Alexandra Council Chambers

CARRIED

The Lake Eildon Boat Owners have requested Council support their letter to the Minister on the grey water regulations for Lake Eildon.

RESOLUTION:

Cr C Challen / Cr B Magner

That a general letter of support be provided to the Lake Eildon Boat Owners regarding their submission to the Minister seeking a review of grey water regulations.

CARRIED**9. MATTERS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING****9.1 PETITION SEEKING GUIDELINE FOR PLACE OF ASSEMBLY**

REF: SF/1444

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a petition received regarding 'place of assembly', and recommend that Council does not prepare a planning guideline for this use at municipal level and advise the petitioner of an opportunity to make an approach for this matter to be considered at the state level.

Recommendation:**That:**

- Council does not approve the preparation of a planning guideline for 'place of assembly' at municipal level for inclusion in the Murrindindi Planning Scheme.
- Council does not approve the request from the submitter to forward a request to amend the Victoria Planning Provisions for 'place of assembly' at state level, to the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP).
- Council officers advise the submitter of their opportunity to make a direct request to DELWP to consider changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions for 'place of assembly' at state level.

Background:

A letter and petition (with 135 signatories) have been received outlining concerns with the use of 'place of assembly' in the municipality. Main concerns raised in the letter and petition are:

- Disappointed that Council would consider approving large, noisy, non-family events for land zoned Farming. Supporting events only invites more of them, both 'legal' and

'illegal'. The petition requests that Council reconsider the planning approval process for 'place of assembly' in the local planning scheme by preparing a policy guideline. The letter requests that Council not approve applications until policy guidelines are developed.

- Asks that this request also be presented to DELWP to amend the Victorian Planning Scheme for this use.
- Residents and visitors to the municipality oppose the use of the Farming Zone for large, noisy, outdoor music, arts and camping festivals.
- These non-family friendly events are inappropriate for isolated farming areas that have insufficient infrastructure and are remote from emergency services. Roads cannot handle events or potential evacuations from them. Potential drug and alcohol problems.
- Events disrupt the amenity and safety of residents and wildlife and are unlikely to provide direct economic benefits to towns and communities.
- Large community events are causing significant community division across surrounding shires, breaking trust, friendship and respect.
- Greater strategic consideration as a region-wide issue is required.

Under all Victorian planning schemes, 'place of assembly' is defined as *Land where people congregate for religious or cultural activities, entertainment, or meetings*. Outdoor music festivals have been considered under the definition of 'place of assembly', which requires a planning permit under the Farming Zone, a zone that applies to most of the rural areas of the municipality.

The main petitioner is also submitter to Amendment C54 (revised local planning policy framework) to the Murrindindi Planning Scheme, the submission also raising a series of concerns with 'place of assembly' and seeking the preparation of guidelines for the conduct of these activities. In the summary of submissions for Amendment C54, which Council resolved to use as its position at the upcoming panel hearing, it is noted that it is not possible to prohibit 'place of assembly' in the Farming Zone and that Council does not propose to prepare any local policy for the use.

Council Plan/Strategies:

The petition is relevant to the Our Environment goal in the Murrindindi Shire Council Plan 2013-2017, specifically in relation to the strategic objectives and directions relating to implementing ongoing changes to the Murrindindi Planning Scheme.

Legal/Policy Issues:

'Place of assembly' is a use that can be legally applied for in the Farming Zone in the Murrindindi Planning Scheme. Council has an option to prepare a planning policy to guide this use, which could be included in the Murrindindi Planning Scheme through an amendment that would be legally exhibited, adopted by Council and approved by the Minister for Planning.

Financial/Resources/Risk

The preparation of a local planning policy for 'place of assembly' would place financial and / or resource burdens on Council that cannot be met at this stage.

Discussion:

The MAV and many rural municipalities, including Murrindindi Shire Council, have argued for more flexibility in rural areas to consider a wide range of uses. This increased flexibility was a core component of new rural zones and the application of the Farming Zone in 2013. 'Place of assembly' is considered to be a reasonable 'consent' use that requires a planning permit under the Farming Zone. The use also required a planning permit under the previous Rural Zone that applied to rural areas of the municipality.

As 'place of assembly' is a use that may be legally applied for under the Farming Zone, Council does not have the legal ability to refuse proposals outright. Although there have been several 'place of assembly' proposals in Murrindindi Shire in recent years, it is considered that there are not enough proposals to warrant the preparation of a specific guideline for the potential inclusion in the planning scheme.

Neither the current Murrindindi Planning Scheme nor the exhibited Amendment C54 include any specific reference or guidance for the use of 'place of assembly'. Although Council has an option to specifically include the preparation of a guideline for 'place of assembly' as a further work item in Amendment C54, this action is not considered to be warranted or required. Rather than the preparation of a guideline for this use, it is considered more appropriate that each proposal and site be considered on its merits in accordance with the Murrindindi Planning Scheme.

As the petition specifically requests that 'place of assembly' be considered more generally at state level by amending the Victoria Planning Provisions, the petition request is relevant to DELWP for their consideration. 'Place of assembly' issues may apply to other rural municipalities in picturesque settings and with access to metropolitan Melbourne. However if Council does not support this request at the local level it is not appropriate for Council to forward the request to DELWP. This request for potential consideration at state level should be made directly by the petitioner to DELWP.

Consultation:

No action is proposed at local level, therefore no consultation is proposed.

If an issue is considered in detail at state government level for potential change in the Victoria Planning Provisions, DELWP usually undertake some form of consultation, mostly consultation with the MAV and relevant municipalities.

Conclusion:

Although there have been several 'place of assembly' proposals in Murrindindi Shire in recent years, it is considered that there are not enough proposals to warrant the preparation of a specific local guideline for the potential inclusion in the planning scheme. Rather than Council making a direct request to DELWP for potential consideration of 'place of assembly' at state level, the petitioner should be advised to make this request directly to DELWP.

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr C Ruhr

That:

- Council does not support the preparation of a planning guideline for 'place of assembly' at municipal level for inclusion in the Murrindindi Planning Scheme.
- Council does not support the request from the submitter for Council to forward the request to amend the Victoria Planning Provisions for 'place of assembly' at state level, to the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP).
- Council officers advise the submitter of their opportunity to make a direct request to DELWP to consider changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions for 'place of assembly' at state level.

CARRIED

10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN GIVEN

No motions for which notice has previously been given.

11. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

REF: CY15/110

Purpose:

This report presents the records of assemblies of Councillors for the 18 March 2015 to 8 April 2015, for Council to note in accordance with Section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989 (the Act)*.

Recommendation:

That Council receives and notes the record of assemblies of Councillors for 18 March 2015 to 8 April 2015.

Background:

In accordance with Section 80A of *the Act*, written assemblies of Councillors are to be reported at an Ordinary Council Meeting of the Council.

An assembly of Councillors includes advisory committees, where one or more Councillors were present, along with planned or scheduled meetings involving at least half of the Councillors and a Council Officer.

A Councillor who has a conflict of interest at an assembly of Councillors, must disclose the conflict of interest, and leave the meeting while the matter is being discussed.

A written record is required to be kept of every assembly of Councillors, including the names of all Councillors and staff at the meeting, a list of the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosed by a Councillor, and whether a Councillor who disclosed a conflict left the meeting.

Summary:

Meeting Name / Type	Councillor Briefing Session
Meeting Date	18 March 2015
Matters discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Rating Strategy 2. Land in Marysville 3. Kinglake Arts History Walk 4. Strategic Resource Plan Scenarios
Attendees: Councillors - Cr Rae, Cr Derwent, Cr Walsh, Cr Kennedy, Cr Challen	Staff – M Abbey, M Chesworth, E Wyatt, J Canny, M Crane
Conflict of Interest disclosures - Nil	

Meeting Name / Type	Pre Council Meeting Discussion
Meeting Date	25 March 2015
Matters discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Petition – Recreational Vehicle Dumpsite 2. Rating Strategy 3. Castella Quarry Extension of Hours 4. Pop Up Restaurant 5. Community Grants Round 6. Murrindindi Environment Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Attendees: Councillors – Cr Rae, Cr Walsh, Cr Derwent, Cr Magner, Cr Kennedy, Cr Challen, Cr Ruhr	Staff – M Abbey, E Wyatt, M Chesworth, J Rabel, M Parsons, K Girvan

Conflict of Interest disclosures -				
Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Was a vote taken?	Did Councillor leave the room?	When? Before / after discussion / vote?
Agenda Item 6.1	Cr Walsh	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Before discussion
Agenda Item 6.5	Cr Ruhr	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Before discussion

Meeting Name / Type	Councillor Briefing Session
Meeting Date	1 April 2015
Matters discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RV Dumpsite 2. 2015-16 Annual Budget 3. Review of Strategic Resource Plan
Attendees: Councillors - Cr Rae, Cr Walsh, Cr Kennedy, Cr Magner	Staff – M Abbey, M Chesworth, J Rabel, A Bond, E Wyatt, J Canny
Conflict of Interest disclosures - Nil	

Meeting Name / Type	Councillor Briefing Session
Meeting Date	8 April 2015
Matters discussed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Goulburn River Valley Tourism 2. Gaming Strategy Workshop 3. Draft Budget & Strategic Resource Plan 4. Retail Fuel Procurement 5. Castella Quarry 6. Petition – Planning Scheme 7. Motorcycle Racing Event
Attendees: Councillors - Cr Rae, Cr Kennedy, Cr Challen, Cr Walsh, Cr Derwent, Cr Magner	Staff – M Abbey, E Wyatt, B Elkington, G Scale, M Chesworth, A Bond, M Leitinger, K Girvan
Conflict of Interest disclosures -	

Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Was a vote taken?	Did Councillor leave the room?	When? Before / after discussion / vote?
Item 7	Cr Challen	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Before discussion

RESOLUTION:

Cr C Ruhr / Cr J Kennedy

That Council receives and notes the record of assemblies of Councillors for 18 March 2015 to 8 April 2015.

CARRIED

12. URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business.

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr C Ruhr

That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to s.89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989* due to matters which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

CARRIED

The meeting closed to the public at 7.01 pm.

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr C Ruhr

That the meeting re-open to the public.

CARRIED

The meeting re-opened to the public at 7.04pm.

In accordance with the confidential Council resolutions the Chair, Mayor Margaret Rae, released the following resolutions:

13.3 MUNICIPAL VALUATION SERVICES – GENERAL VALUATION 2016, 2018 & 2020

REF: SF/2076 & CONT 15/9

RESOLUTION:

Cr J Walsh / Cr J Kennedy

1. That the Council awards CONT 15/9 – Municipal Valuation Services, to LG Valuation Services as follows;
 - for the 2016 General Valuation fixed sum of \$174,358 (incl. GST) together with pricing of \$45 per supplementary valuation and hourly and daily rates for other valuation services as tendered.
 - and the following (fixed fee) options at Councils discretion subject to agreement by both parties and contract performance.
 - for the 2018 General Valuation fixed sum of \$183,055 (incl. GST) together with pricing of \$50 per supplementary valuation and hourly and daily rates for other valuation services as tendered.
 - for the 2020 General Valuation fixed sum of \$192,239 (incl. GST) together with pricing of \$55 per supplementary valuation and hourly and daily rates for other valuation services as tendered.
2. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal CONT 15/9 on its behalf.

CARRIED

13.4 RETAIL SUPPLY OF FUEL CONTRACT

REF: CONT14/15

RESOLUTION:

Cr A Derwent / Cr C Challen

That Council notifies Procurement Australia of its intention to participate in the Retail Supply of Fuels Contract No 1802/0104 through Procurement Australia's supplier Business Cards Australia Pty Ltd (Fleetcor), including the offer of waiver of fuel cards fees.

CARRIED

There being no further items of Business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 7.05 pm.

CONFIRMED THIS

27 May 2015

CHAIRPERSON

R. L. Rag