



Murrindindi
Shire Council

Scheduled Meeting of Council

Minutes

Wednesday 24 August 2022
Alexandra Council Chambers
Perkins Street
6:00 PM

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCILLORS' PLEDGE

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The meeting was opened with the Mayor reading the following on behalf of the Murrindindi Shire Council:

“Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.”

1.2 Councillors' Pledge

“The Councillors, democratically elected to represent our community as the Murrindindi Shire Council, are committed to working together in the best interests of the people who live in our municipality, those who conduct business here and those who visit.”

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Privacy Note

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on its website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

2.2 Apologies and Request for Leave of Absence

Cr McAulay requested leave of absence from 17 September 2022 to 24 September 2022.

RESOLUTION

Cr I Gerencser / Cr K Haslam

That Council accept the request for planned leave by Cr McAulay for the period of 17 to 24 September 2022.

CARRIED

Present:

Councillors S Carpenter (Chair), D Gallagher, K Haslam, I Gerencser, E Lording, S McAulay, J Walsh

In attendance:

Chief Executive Officer: Livia Bonazzi
Acting Director Corporate and Shared Services: Michael Chesworth
Director Community Engagement: Shivaun Murphy
Director Assets and Development: Vito Albicini
Manager Governance and Risk: Tara Carter
Manager Business Services: Cheryl Nickels -Beattie

2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest

Cr K Haslam declared a general conflict of interest in Agenda item 5.3 being the Grants and Contributions Program - August Allocations due to being a member of Eildon Action Inc.

2.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of Council held on 27 July 2022.

RESOLUTION

Cr S McAulay / Cr E Lording
That Council confirm the minutes of the 27 July 2022 Scheduled Meeting of Council.

CARRIED

2.5 Petitions

Nil.

2.6 Community Recognition

Nil.

2.7 Matters Deferred from Previous Meeting

Nil.

2.8 Urgent Business

Nil.

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

3.1 Open Forum

Dr Sean Mulcahy spoke to the Victorian Pride Lobby's submission regarding the Draft Governance Rules (item 6.1 on the Agenda).

Ms Livia Bonazzi, CEO read a submission on behalf of Jack Russell regarding the Yea Pool Liner procurement process and associated works.

3.2 Questions of Council

Nil.

4 REPORTS - ASSETS AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

4.1 Contract 22/7 - Panel Contract Builders 2022-2025

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Confidential Attachment 1 – Contract 22/7 Panel Contract Builders 2022-2025 |
| Presenter | V Albicini, Director Assets & Development |
| Approved by | Director Assets & Development |
| Purpose | For decision |

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to appoint CONT 22/7 Panel - Contract Builders for a three-year contract not exceeding a total of five years including all optional extensions.

A detailed evaluation process was undertaken in line with Council's Procurement Policy and against the tender evaluation criteria by a Tender Evaluation Committee.

Based on the analysis undertaken, the Committee recommended that all three tenderers be appointed to the panel CONT22/7 Panel – Contract Builders for a three year contract with an option of a two-year extension, not exceeding a total of five years including all optional extensions commencing 15 September 2022 and ending no later than 14 September 2027 executing all available extensions. The Contract being a panel contract will not exceed a total spend of \$2,500,000 over the five year term if all options are exercised.

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr D Gallagher

That Council:

- 1. appoint the following suppliers to Contract 22/7 - Panel Contract Building Services:**

- AWS Services VIC Pty Ltd**
- M & A Dean Builders**
- Melbourne Master Painting and Maintenance Pty Ltd.**

for an initial period of three years commencing 15 September 2022 and ending 14 September 2025 with an option for a two-year extension;

- 2. approve a total contract amount of \$2,500,000 over the five-year contract period;**
- 3. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to extend Contract 22/7 - Panel Contract Building Services for the optional two-year period subject to satisfactory performance: and**
- 4. release the name of awarded Tenderers into the Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of the 24 August 2022.**

CARRIED

4.2 End of Year Report Capital Works 2021-22

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Nil |
| Presenter | V Albicini, Director Assets & Development |
| Approved by | Director Assets & Development |
| Purpose | For decision |

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the end of year result of the delivery of the 2021/22 Capital Works Program and to recommend carry forward projects for the inclusion into the 2022/23 Capital Works Program.

RESOLUTION

Cr K Haslam / Cr I Gerencser

That Council:

- 1. note the End of Year Report – Capital Works Program 2021/22**
- 2. endorse the reallocation of residual funds of \$470,314 (to be confirmed through external audit) to the relevant reserves as outlined in Table 1 within this report; and**
- 3. endorse the projects and total funds of \$7,806,419 as listed in Table 2 to be carry forward to the 2022/23 year as outlined in the report.**

CARRIED

5 REPORTS - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

5.1 Library Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2026

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Attachment(s) | Attachment 1 - Library Strategy [5.1.1 - 26 pages] |
| Presenter | S Murphy, Director Community Engagement |
| Approved by | Director Community Engagement |
| Purpose | For decision |

Executive Summary

This report presents the Library Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2026 to Councillors for adoption.

RESOLUTION

Cr D Gallagher / Cr J Walsh
That Council adopt the Library Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2026 as contained in Attachment 5.1.1.

CARRIED

5.2 Eildon Community Plan

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Attachment 1 - Eildon Community Plan - Final [5.2.1 - 16 pages] |
| Presenter | S Murphy, Director Community Engagement |
| Approved by | Director Community Engagement |
| Purpose | For acknowledgement |

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is for the Eildon Community Plan to be presented to Council for acknowledgment.

RESOLUTION

Cr K Haslam / Cr D Gallagher
That Council acknowledge the Eildon Community Plan as contained in Attachment 5.2.1.

CARRIED

Cr Haslam left the meeting at 6:28 pm.

5.3 Grants and Contributions Program - August Allocations

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Nil |
| Presenter | S Murphy, Director Community Engagement |
| Approved by | Director Assets & Development |
| Purpose | For decision |

Executive Summary

This purpose of this report is to present Council with the July 2022 Grants and Contributions Program applications and variations for noting and endorsement.

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr J Walsh

That Council:

1. Endorse the following variations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:

| Application | Original Grant Awarded | Variation Request |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| BGE20/21008 – Relax and Unwind Massage Therapy | \$10,000 | Timing change |

2. Endorse the following allocations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:

| Application | Amount |
|--|------------|
| FR-22/23-001 – Buxton Progress Association – Making our Fire Station Better for Volunteers | \$1,602.80 |
| CPE-21/22-034 - Eildon Action Inc. - Eildon Community Stage | \$5,000 |

3. Note the grants allocated by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel under delegation:

| Application | Amount |
|--|--------|
| FR-22/23-003 – Yea Primary School – Junklandia | \$225 |

4. Request officers to review the Grants and Contribution Policy and Guidelines to clarify the process for applications that propose works which create new or modify existing Council infrastructure.

CARRIED

Cr Haslam returned to the meeting at 6:35 pm.

6 REPORTS - CORPORATE & SHARED SERVICES DIRECTORATE

6.1 Governance Rules Review

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Attachment 1 - Murrindindi Shire Council Governance Rules (including Election Period Policy) [6.1.1 - 72 pages] |
| Presenter | T Carter, Manager Governance & Risk |
| Approved by | Director Corporate & Shared Services |
| Purpose | For decision |

Executive Summary

The Governance Rules 2020 were adopted by Council to ensure there are rules in place to guide Council decision making, ensure meetings are open to the public and encourage engagement, and to set the standards for conduct expected during a meeting of Council.

COVID-19 restrictions led to the introduction of virtual meetings under the *COVID-19 Omnibus (Emergency Measure) Act 2020*. The provisions of this Act have been extended to allow for virtual meeting attendance until 1 September 2022. After this date for Council to continue to conduct meetings using virtual means or virtual attendance then its Governance Rules must be revised to accommodate this.

The Governance Rules have been reviewed and new provisions for in-person, hybrid and virtual meetings have been added and other minor updates have been made. The Draft Governance Rules were released for community consultation.

RESOLUTION

Cr I Gerencser / Cr E Lording

That Council adopt the revised Governance Rules as contained in Attachment 6.1 effective 25 August 2022 with the addition of “(where applicable)” at point 8.30.5.

CARRIED

6.2 Quarterly Finance Report June 2022

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Attachment 1 - Management Statement June 2022 [6.2.1 - 4 pages] |
| Presenter | C Nickels-Beattie, Manager Business Services |
| Approved by | Director Corporate & Shared Services |
| Purpose | For noting |

Executive Summary

This report provides the quarterly financial report for the period ending 30 June 2022. It should be noted that the figures included in the report are the interim, pre-audited results, and may differ from the final audited annual financial results included in the 2021/22 Annual Report.

RESOLUTION

**Cr J Walsh / Cr D Gallagher
That Council receive the Quarterly Financial Report to 30 June 2022.**

CARRIED

6.3 Audit and Risk Committee - Independent Member Appointment

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment(s) | Nil |
| Presenter | M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services |
| Approved by | Director Corporate & Shared Services |
| Purpose | For decision |

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to recommend to Council the appointment of an external independent member to Council's Audit and Risk Committee in accordance with the requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RESOLUTION

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr K Haslam
That Council appoint Mr Steve Schinck as an Audit and Risk Committee independent member for a three year term ending 30 June 2025.**

CARRIED

7 COUNCILLOR AND CEO REPORTS

7.1 Notices of Motions

Nil.

7.2 Cr Karine Haslam

It has certainly been a busy time during the last month in Eildon. There are many things going on.

As we have heard in the meeting tonight the Eildon Community Plan has been developed. After many meet ups and conversations, the community in Eildon have come together under the guidance of Anna and her team, to create a Community Plan for Eildon. This vision includes ideas, dreams, desires and basic needs that will help Eildon to become the thriving, vibrant, destination to both live and visit. There is much excitement, and enthusiasm within the various different action groups.

Thornton, it's your turn, take advantage of the opportunity to meet with your community and share ideas of what you, would like to achieve. The next drop-in session, is tomorrow at the Rubicon Hotel in Thornton at 5pm. YOU, can make things happen!

Blue Gums – Eildon Recreational Trail

After all the delays, it's great, to see this project is now underway.

The 2.6km walking/cycling trail – will link Eildon town centre, Eildon Pondage and Blue Gums Caravan Park now known as the Breeze Caravan Park.

5 trees will need to be removed, these were assessed by Council's arborist as being in poor condition and suitable for removal. New trees will be planted along the trail.

There will be rest areas – the final locations were influenced by community feedback. There will be 4 seating benches along the trail – roughly every 650mtrs – these will be made from composite / recycled timber, which is low maintenance and environmentally friendly. Drinking fountains will also be installed at the beginning and end of the trail. If all goes well, the project should be completed, by the end of this year.

You may have noticed a new addition at the Village Green. It is a Bike Repair station, this allows you to carry out minor bike repairs, there are a range of tools available, you can also pump up your tyres if they are low on air.

You will also find these in Alexandra, Yea, Marysville and Kinglake.

We are grateful for the funding we've received from the Victorian Govt 's COVIDSafe Outdoor Activation Fund.

Snobs Creek Hatchery is set to receive its first, major upgrade, since 2000, through a \$1.2 million revamp.

The upgrade will see the old buildings demolished and the remaining core renovated, to a modern workplace.

The works will allow for an increase in fish production at the hatchery. The increase in capacity, will mean more fish are stocked across the state, as the Government strives to stock 10-million fish annually.

This upgrade, will mean the Snobs Creek hatchery will be in a better position, to service demands for cold-water species such as, rainbow and brown trout as well as chinook salmon and trout. It's also great news for native fishers, the upgrades will allow the hatchery to have a much greater focus, and increase production of, Macquarie perch and trout cod. This will play an important role in the recovery of these beloved, cold-water native species. The VFA will also increase production of the iconic Murray Cod at Snobs Creek, which will be stocked across the state.

Waste

We know the community are keen, and want to do the right thing with regard to recycling and managing their waste better, but there is a lot of confusion, as to WHAT GOES WHERE. The more we understand, the better we can recycle, and reduce the amount of unnecessary waste going into landfill. There will be a Waste Wise Workshop on Saturday 17 September from 10 - 11.00 am at the Eildon Community Centre.

No bookings required, just turn up on the day!

Bring along any materials from home, that you are not sure if you can recycle or not. We are also hoping to introduce a Tera Cycle drop off area, for all those funny things, like Toothpaste tubes, medicine & tablet packaging, disposable razors. The finer details are still being worked.

I will be there, along with Grace who is the Waste and Education Officer from the shire. Come along to learn more. Tea and Coffee will be provided.

We are looking for **10** young people, to lead the way as part of our **Youth Climate Action Group**. You do not need any experience, but a passion for the future is a must! If you are aged between 12 – 17 and are interested in driving climate change action, Get in touch, register your interest, visit the Youth Hub page, on the Loop, at the loop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/youth

EVENTS

Goulburn Fishing Festival

Opening of the Trout season in Rivers is the 3rd September. Come and celebrate the opening at the Eildon Community Centre, there will be free activities for the whole family.

- Try your luck at catching a trophy trout, at one, or more spots, on, this year's, stonker trout trail
- Help Fisheries team, stock the Pondage
- There will be Guided fishing, on the Eildon Pondage – bait and tackle is provided
- Enjoy a tour of the Snobs Creek hatchery. Tours depart from the Eildon Community Centre hourly, from 10am
- DIY lure design, face painting and fishing games for the kids also prize draws
- Prize draws.

This is a free event put on by Vic Fisheries, come along and enjoy.

Last but not least – A new experience for Eildon.

OPERA at the PONDAGE

This will be on Saturday the 29th October which is Melbourne Cup weekend.

There will be 3 International Opera singers including Breanna Stillman who has connection to Alexandra.

Food and drinks will be available / Roaming Poppy will be catering on the night – pre bookings are essential - information is available when booking your tickets which will be available from the 1st September through Try Bookings.

It's shaping up to be a great night.

Very exciting times, lots of new and interesting things happening.

Keep safe till next time.

7.3 Cr Ilona Gerencser

Great ARTdoors

All artists have now received their contracts and are currently working on their designs for engineering sign off.

A company was appointed last week to document the works of the artists over the coming months.

A series of short and longer piece videos and photos stills will be produced to promote the Trail and keep the community updated. These will be kept to enable Council to have a permanent record of what was done and by whom.

Bike Repair Stations

As mentioned by Cr Haslam, we are pleased to announce that a Bike Repair Station has been installed in Kinglake near the public toilets in town – Marysville still to come. If you'd like more information about this facility, please visit The Loop.

Great Victorian Rail Trail Industry Forum

Was held on 27 July to update stakeholders on current works and activities on the GVRT – including signage, Great ARTdoors, visitation and marketing.

Strath Creek Visitor Information Board

A new information board for Strath Creek has now been installed with work on new boards for Kinglake and surrounding areas in progress.

Bushfire Memorials – Kinglake, Kinglake West, Flowerdale

Council is now progressing works on all our memorials throughout these areas. This is important for all members of our community, and we understand the angst this has caused. We are working with our arborist to find more suitable trees/shrubs for all these areas and particularly the memorial at Frank Thompson Reserve, where the trees are not suitable for the high winds and extreme weather conditions.

There will be a brief period of consultation to find more suited species to ensure each memorial maintains its peace and tranquillity and is easier to maintain. We are also looking for community members who would like to be involved in this project on an ongoing basis.

If you do have a suggestion or can assist in any way, please email igerencser@murrindindi.vic.gov.au and I will pass on your information.

7.4 Cr Eric Lording

I am really enjoying my new portfolio of Planning. I am finding that this fits in with my experience as did my previous years as the Roads portfolio holder.

The pinnacle of this month was meeting and welcoming the new Council Strategic Planner. This was a badly needed appointment but has taken some time to find a suitable candidate. It will ensure that our planning takes into account all aspects of the release of farmland and other areas for sale to the many new arrivals to our beautiful shire. By looking at our shire in a strategic manner it will ensure that sensible development endures for the betterment of our shire and our people.

7.5 Cr John Walsh

This month I had the pleasure of joining the Fawcett Hall Committee of Management for their AGM. I congratulate the outgoing Committee for the work they have done in maintaining the Hall and successfully pursuing grants especially during the COVID lockdown period which curtailed their fundraising activities and presentation of community events. The Committee has already started on an ambitious program for the coming year to again make the Hall a vibrant centre of support for their local community.

It was a pleasure to be joined by Cr Gallagher on the night so that he could witness the drive, commitment and pleasure that local groups enjoy when taking ownership of, and actively supporting, their community facilities. I am sure he will now make every endeavor to give residents of Redgate Ward the same opportunities to gain similar fulfilment from providing direct support to their Council facilities.

The Yarck Fire Brigade are strongly advocating for a new fire shed. The building has for some time been deemed as less than adequate and with the expansion of the township residences and industries the need for better facilities is undeniable. Compounding the problems is the greatly increased number of tourists stopping in the town to sample the excellent dining opportunities. There are increased risks to visitors and problems with parking when firefighters are rushing to respond to emergencies. Land for a new Fire Station near the recreation reserve was purchased many years ago and is an ideal site off the main highway. Building costs could be offset through the sale of the existing site, located in a prime position amongst the other thriving businesses.

I thank the CEO for the recent letter of support for the proposal and trust CFA and State Government will agree to get the work done.

7.6 Cr Sandice McAulay

Emergency management

A new national biosecurity strategy has been released outlining current and future biosecurity risks.

More than ever before as highlighted by foot-and-mouth disease and lumpy skin disease outbreaks on our doorstep, we are dealing with multiple risks, on multiple fronts, at the same time.

Should an outbreak of FMD be declared in Australia, the response by all levels of government would be immediate, and on-ground actions would be led by the Victorian Government and

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. In this scenario, new biosecurity measures are likely to be put in place by the relevant authorities. Council will respond as appropriate.

Yea Saleyards has developed a “standstill policy” regarding Foot and Mouth requirements, meaning that if the Victorian Government and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry declares an outbreak there will be no animals in or out of the saleyards until an authorised officer declares it safe.

We encourage our community to not panic, stay alert and informed about the risk of FMD. Farmers and livestock owners across the country should maintain or implement strong biosecurity practices on their properties to protect their animals and the agriculture and food industries against the spread of FMD, including by preparing a biosecurity plan. Travellers who are visiting countries where FMD is present, and not just Indonesia, are required to wash their footwear before departing, and wash clothes that may have been in contact with livestock or livestock products. If a visitor has been to a country where FMD is present, they should not enter a farm in Australia for at least seven days.

Reconciliation Action Plan

It's been my pleasure to be part of the internal working group creating the draft of the Reconciliation Action Plan, or RAP, that has been submitted to Reconciliation Australia for feedback.

This first RAP is called 'Reflect' and it is designed for us to look hard internally, really scoping our own capacity for reconciliation, and setting out the steps we should take to prepare our organisation for reconciliation initiatives in successive RAPs. Organisations who participate in developing RAPs create four, the first is **Reflect**, the second is **Innovate**, third, **Stretch** and fourth **Elevate**.

The conversations with the Working Group have been rich, deep and educational, and my own understanding of Reconciliation with the first nations people of Murrindindi, and more broadly, have been greatly enhanced. We've talked at length about how we currently work, the discomfort of not knowing what the right thing to do is, how to say words in traditional language and whether it matters (just have a crack and do your wholehearted best) and so much more, and I've been privileged to be a part of those conversations. We've delivered training to the organisation, had guest speakers come along to the group and grappled with some big issues about how to get from where we are today, to where we want to be – where our Traditional Owners are respected for their knowledge, custodianship and long connection to Country. We've consulted with both Taungurung Land and Waters Council and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Corporation to make sure that we're not headed blindly down the wrong path, and they have been generous in their patience with us as we strive to respectfully encapsulate what needs to be done.

Of course, there are many ways that Council is already working alongside our Traditional Owners in delivering projects and services on Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Land. We will continue to do so and will allow what we've learnt to inform our activity going forward. Our RAP helps us to tease out sticky issues and brings them into the light where we can work together to resolve.

We look forward to hearing back from Reconciliation Australia. We'll then finalise the draft and hope to have the final document at our November Meeting for the consideration of Council.

7.7 Cr Damien Gallagher

AGM season is upon us and I embraced the opportunity to see new committees appointed to set the direction for Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum, Alexandra District Traders and Tourism Association, and Fawcett Hall. Volunteer commitment to these vital community groups is essential and continues to inspire.

Congratulations to Gordon Simpson and to your new ADTTA committee. Very best wishes to Bryan Slader who will continue to lead the ATTM executive, and to Sam Hicks who leads the very active, very passionate Fawcett Hall Committee of Management.

Council was fortunate this month be invited by local member Cindy McLeish MP, to address its concerns and ambitions to herself as Shadow Assistant Treasurer and alternate Economic Development, Regional Recovery, Government Services, and Sports Minister; and to Richard Riordan MP, Shadow Spokesperson for Local Government, for Housing, and for Resources. Council outlined Murrindindi's housing availability and housing affordability difficulties and the real community concerns around general and mental health services. Council also outlined its need for a review of the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission funding model and/or rating strategy to deliver a more equitable outcome for small rural Councils – to help meet the service demands of our community. Speaking of which, we discussed the state and safety of our major roads.

The St. Mary's Student Art Show is on this week in Alexandra. The show is a credit to the staff and families hosting the event. It was a treat, alongside our Mayor, Cr. Carpenter, to attend opening night, to see the work of the talented students, and to meet some of the budding artists themselves.

To portfolio and external committee matters:

This month, there is something for everyone.

- Community Planning is under way in [Glenburn](#) and [Thornton](#). A drop-in session was convened this morning at Thornton General Store as Council officers look to assemble a Core Team to lead the Community Plan. There will be another opportunity to drop-in at the Rubicon Hotel tomorrow afternoon from 5:00PM to 6:00PM.
- Council is hosting a free, 2 day [Youth Mental Health First Aid Course](#) in Kinglake on 3 and 10 September
- [Foster Care Week 2022](#) runs from 11-17 September and is an annual week of celebration recognising and celebrating foster carers and the invaluable contribution they make to the lives of children, young people and families in our community.

For school students:

- Council is now seeking participants in the [Youth Climate Action Group](#), Council's 2022 initiative for supporting emerging leaders.
- These school holidays, Yea and Kinglake skate parks will be the place to be for the free [Gnarly Neighbours](#) skate coaching program on 22 and 29 September
- Planning is underway for Children's Week celebrations 22-30 October.

For our youngest citizens:

- Elf Reading Day returns to Alexandra on 16 September.

For the young-at-heart:

- Seniors Week is 17-23 October. Plans are being developed with local volunteer groups and service providers for expo-style events in Alex and in Kinglake. Stay tuned.

To learn more about any of these community wellbeing initiatives, please contact Council on 5772 0333, try the [website](#), or join the conversation at [The Loop](#).

It was a few years in the making, but this month, it was great to be there with students and staff from Alexandra Secondary College for a careers immersion tour at the Houseboat Factory in Eildon. Students were the guests of [Lake Eildon Houseboat Industry Association](#) President, Mike Dalmau and many association member companies, with support from [Murrindindi Youth Services](#) and [Central Ranges Local Learning and Employment Network](#)

Students met and engaged with many tradies and apprentices working in the industry, and learned how many distinct trades and technologies it takes to construct, repair, transport, and service Lake Eildon's world-renowned vessels.

They saw the abundant opportunities for young people to work, but also to live, to thrive, and to contemplate an idyllic future and lifestyle in our special part of Victoria.

Finally:

For the first half of this Council term, I've been most fortunate to have been appointed to the portfolio of Community Engagement and Wellbeing. This evening marks the last Council meeting of the Director of Community Engagement and I'd like to take the opportunity to extend my thanks to Ms. Murphy for her service, her guidance, and her counsel. Most of all, I'd like to thank Ms. Murphy for her unwavering commitment to our community; to her community.

7.8 Cr Sue Carpenter - Mayoral Report

Winter is nearing its end and we are looking forwards to the gentle spring weather that is not too far away.

I continue to speak to UGFM radio listeners every Saturday morning and enjoy the opportunity to inform our community of council matters, events, projects and other topics of interest.

This month I have had several occasions to meet with Councillors from other shires. Particularly interesting was a meeting with our CEO and the Mayor and CEO of Nillumbik shire. This neighboring shire shares many similar issues to Murrindindi, and it was beneficial for us to discuss the various options available to address these common issues.

Another meeting with a large group of local government areas discussed what can be done to get better funding from the state government towards the ever increasing costs of providing services to our communities.

Virtual meetings are a very useful way for being able to meet without the time taken and inconvenience of having to travel sometimes great distances.

I was able to attend the Yea memorial hospital and Rosebank Auxiliary AGM and had the chance to meet and thank the community members that do so much to support the hospital auxiliary.

Another opportunity to meet with community members was at the opening of the St. Mary's Primary School in Alexandra. It was lovely to see younger residents and how enthusiastically they were showing their artistic endeavours to their families.

I continue to meet monthly with members of our business communities and Council officers at the Murrindindi Shire Council Business Advisory Council. We have discussions relevant to the business communities and their interactions with the shire. Being informed of the important issues is valuable

I was invited by the Victoria Day council to their 171st Separation Anniversary dinner and Latrobe Lecture in Melbourne. This celebrates the separation of Victoria from NSW.....171 years ago. I was able to meet a wide mix of dignitaries and community leaders and of course spoke about our part of the world with pride.

I do believe we are very fortunate to reside in such a beautiful shire and I will continue to promote what we have to offer visitors and our residents.

7.9 Chief Executive Officer Report

The organisation is focused on finalising the **end of year accounting and performance reporting** processes in preparation for Council's annual external audit by the Victorian Auditor General's Office over the next few weeks.

Council Rates notices are being prepared and will be mailed out in the next two weeks - We understand that it's a difficult time financially for many – I would like to remind our community that if you experience difficulty paying your rates, please get in touch with our Rates team as early as possible. There is a range of options available to support you so please do reach out.

The **Enterprise Agreement** process is reaching a point where the proposed agreement will be made available for staff to vote on in the near future, and submitted to the Fair Work Commission for certification in coming weeks.

We are working with the funding body for the **Rural Councils Transformation project**. This is a collaboration in partnership with Mansfield, Strathbogie and Benalla Councils, to enhance our technology and IT architecture and pursue opportunities for shared services. Officers are establishing the principles for the governance and delivery of the project. The recruitment of a Project Manager to drive the project's implementation has been advertised.

Earlier this month I attended a CEO level **briefing by Recycling Vic**, the recently established government agency which among other responsibilities, delivers the function of the now dismantled Waste and Resource Recovery Groups. Work is progressing on the preparation of the first service standard and associated regulations under the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021. Indicative timing for these is mid-2023. Two Advisory Committees have been established:

- The Recycling Victoria Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Minister and the Head of Recycling Victoria to support implementation of its legislative functions. It is anticipated that the first meeting will be held in October 2022.
- The Local Government Advisory Committee will inform and advise the Minister and the Head of Recycling Vic on priorities from a local government perspective. Expressions of interest for this committee have already been sought.

The recent wild weather has led to a slight **increase in requests for potholes and tree maintenance**. We are prioritising resources to act on these requests as quickly as possible. At this time I'd like to encourage drivers to take care and drive to the conditions. The road grading program is due to start next month.

People might have noticed 4 **bike repair stations and pumps** that have recently been installed in the townships of Alexandra, Eildon, Kinglake and Yea. The 5th and final repair station and bike pump are being installed in Marysville soon. These are all being installed near current bike racks or infrastructure and in the vicinity of local businesses to encourage more people to stop and spend more time in our towns. This initiative was funded through the State Gov COVID-Safe Outdoor Activation Fund.

And finally a couple of reminders:

- public comment for the **Climate Policy** closes next week we invite feedback
- and we are hosting an **Open Community Meeting in Eildon** to enable residents to talk directly to Murrindindi Shire Councillors about issues or ideas that may be important to locals or the Eildon community.

The meeting will take place next Wednesday 31 August from 5.00 - 7.00 pm at the Eildon Primary School. We encourage people to register and attend and they can have up to five minutes to present to Council or ask questions.

8 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

Purpose

For noting.

Executive Summary

This report presents the records of assemblies of Councillors for 25 July 2022 to 17 August 2022, for Council to note.

The following summary details are for 27 July 2022 to 17 August 2022:

| Meeting Name/Type | | Council Pre-Meet (Virtual meeting) | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Meeting Date: | | 27 July 2022 | | |
| Matters Discussed: | | 1. Climate Change Policy 2. Contract 22/4 Street Sweeping Services 2022-2025 3. Blue Gums to Eildon Recreational Trail Contract Award 4. Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy 5. Grants and Contributions Program - July Allocations 6. S6. Instrument of Delegation to Staff | | |
| Councillor Attendees: | | Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser | | |
| Council Officer Attendees: | | M Chesworth, S Murphy, V Albicini, D Echeverry | | |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Yes | | | | |
| Matter No. | Councillor making disclosure | Was a vote taken? | Did the Councillor leave the room? | When? Before or after discussion? |
| 5 | Cr S McAulay | No | Yes | Before |
| 5 | Cr J Walsh | No | Yes | Before |
| 5 | Cr K Haslam | No | Yes | Before |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Name/Type | Briefing Session |
| Meeting Date: | 3 August 2022 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Youth Leadership Program 2. Unsealed Roads Condition and Potholes |
| Councillor Attendees: | Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser (V) |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi (V), M Chesworth, S Murphy, V Albicini, N Carter (V), S Coller (V), S Russell (V) |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Name/Type | Briefing Session |
| Meeting Date: | 10 August 2022 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocacy Priorities - Cindy McLeish & Shadow Minister Riordian 2. External Presentation from Nick Soloczynskij - Ukrainian Youth Association 3. Eildon Reserves Redevelopment update 4. Contract 22/7 - Panel Contract Builders 2022-2025 5. Development Services - Planning Report July 2022 6. Planning - facts about planning #4 |
| Councillor Attendees: | Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam (V), Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, S Murphy, V Albicini, P Bain (V), S Coller (V), J Carns (V), S Russell (V), M Spinks (V), C Fraser (V), N Stewart (V) |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Name/Type | Briefing Session |
| Meeting Date: | 17 August 2022 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CEO Remuneration Committee 2. Governance Rules Review 3. External Guests – Eildon Community Plan – Presentation from Core Group 4. Reconciliation Action Plan – Draft 5. Grants and Contributions Program – August Allocations 6. End of Year Report Capital Works 2021-22 7. Finance – Annual Carry Forwards 8. Eildon Funding Model and Communication Plan Update 9. External Guest – Housing & Settlement Strategy – Presentation from Tom Harrington |
| Councillor Attendees: | Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, S Murphy, N Stewart, T Carter (V), A Paix, C Fraser, J Carns (V), P Bain (V), C Nickels-Beattie (V), E Kubeil |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

RESOLUTION

Cr I Gerencser / Cr J Walsh

That Council receive and note the records of assembly of Councillors for 27 July 2022 to 19 August 2022.

CARRIED

9 SEALING REGISTER

| File Reference | Date Seal Affixed | Description of Documents | Signatures of Persons Sealing |
|----------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| CONT21/33 | 28 July 2022 | Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Warrandale Industries PL | Michael Chesworth Cr Sue Carpenter |
| SF/993 | 4 August 2022 | Lease - Pavilion & Courts Leckie Park - MSC & Alexandra Lawn Tennis Club - Section 17D | Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter |
| SF/3307 | 8 August 2022 | Victorian Truck Driver Memorial Lease July 2022 | Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter |
| SF/2650 | 11 August 2022 | Planning - S173 Amendment - 81 Halls Flat Road ALEXANDRA - Deed of Amendment - for signing | Livia Bonazzi |
| SF/2650 | 12 August 2022 | Planning - S173 Amendment - 259 Killingworth Road KILLINGWORTH - Deed of Amended - for signing | Livia Bonazzi |

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr J Walsh

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

CARRIED

10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The Local Government Act 2020 section 66(2)(a) allows Council to resolve to close a meeting to the public to consider confidential information. This is defined under section 3 of the *Local Government Act*, which includes information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Where possible Council will resolve to make public any decision it makes in a closed meeting where the resolution does not disclose confidential information. There may be occasions where Council cannot make its decision public.

The report on the CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee is being considered in the closed part of this meeting because it is considered confidential under section 3 of *the Local Government Act 2020* as it relates to '*personal information*'.

RECOMMENDATION

Cr J Walsh / Cr D Gallagher

That Council, in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* resolve that the meeting be closed to members of the public for the consideration of items:

- **CEO Employment & Remuneration Committee.**

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the public at 7.18 pm.

The meeting was closed at 7:25 pm.

CONFIRMED THIS



CHAIRPERSON

Cr S Carpenter