

***Purpose:***

***We will provide leadership, good governance and engage with the community to grow the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of Indigo Shire.***

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**HELD:** Tuesday, 15 June 2021 at 6.30pm

**LOCATION:** Online via Zoom and livestreamed on Council's website

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| <b>ATTENDEES:</b> | <b>NAME</b>          | <b>TITLE</b>                              |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
|                   | Cr Jenny O'Connor    | Mayor                                     |
|                   | Cr Peter Croucher    | Deputy Mayor                              |
|                   | Cr Bernard Gaffney   | Councillor                                |
|                   | Cr Larry Goldsworthy | Councillor                                |
|                   | Cr Roberta Horne     | Councillor                                |
|                   | Cr Sophie Price      | Councillor                                |
|                   | Cr Diane Shephard    | Councillor                                |
|                   | Trevor Ierino        | Chief Executive Officer                   |
|                   | Mark Florence        | Director Community & Economic Development |
|                   | Greg Pinkerton       | Director Planning & Corporate Services    |
|                   | Ian Ellett           | Director Infrastructure Services          |
|                   | Jane Still           | Senior Governance Advisor                 |

***Vision:***

***INDIGO: Heritage Shire - Bold Future.***

*These Minutes are not a verbatim transcript of the discussions in the Council meeting; a recording of this meeting can be found on Council's webpage.*

*Responses given by Councillors and Council Staff are the opinion of the individual responders, and accurate at the time of response, to the best of their knowledge.*

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**1. WELCOME**

Mayor O'Connor welcomed all to this meeting of Council and noted that this meeting will be live streamed and recorded, and the voices and images of those participating in the meeting, and in the gallery, may be captured as part of this recording.

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND**

Mayor O'Connor acknowledged the original owners of the land on which the meeting was held and paid respects to their elders past and present and welcomed any descendants who may be there on behalf of all Councillors and those present.

Mayor O'Connor noted that as Councillors they have all taken an oath to carry out our duties in the best interests of the people of Indigo Shire and to do this in a fair and impartial manner. They are all committed to exercising the Council's powers and functions to the best of their skills and judgement.

**3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

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**5. SUBMITTERS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

File No: 2021/444

Greg Pinkerton - Director Planning & Corporate Services Planning & Corporate Services

**For Information**

It is noted the following persons made submissions to the Council.

| Time   | Submission Number       | Name of Submitter                   | Speaker          | Speaking to Submission(s) |
|--------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 6:30pm | WELCOME & PRELIMINARIES |                                     |                  |                           |
| 6:45pm | 1                       | Into Our Hands Community Foundation | Sarah Thompson   | Budget                    |
| 6:50pm | 6                       | William McCall                      | William McCall   | Budget                    |
| 6:55pm | 4                       | Karen van Huizen                    | Karen van Huizen | Council Plan              |
| 7:00pm | 9                       | Anna Nielson                        | Anna Nielson     | Budget / Council Plan     |
| 7:05pm | 18                      | Robin McLiesh                       | Robin McLiesh    | Budget                    |

Written submissions which submitters addressed are attached to the minutes.

**INTRODUCTION**

At the meeting on 18 May Council endorsed a number of draft documents for community consultation.

- Draft 10-Year Community Vision
- Draft Council Plan 2021-2025
- Draft 2021/22 Strategic Resource Plan – including 10 year financial plan
- Draft 2021/22 Budget
- Draft 2021/22 Revenue and Rating Plan
- Draft 2021/22 Operating Income and Expense by Service
- Draft Procurement Policy 2021

Council’s Engagement Policy (2021) outlines the processes used for community consultation and, individually, each of these documents would normally have slightly different consultation methods. However, to save confusion with so many draft documents all published at once, it was determined that all documents would undergo the same consultation process. This is a higher standard than required for some of these documents, but this saved complexity and was the most pragmatic decision.

Therefore, all documents have been on exhibition since the 18 May meeting and all are progressing together to the June Council meeting for decision. As part of this process, this 15 June meeting has been scheduled to allow an opportunity for anyone who has made a submission (by the cut-off date

of COB Friday 11 June) to be heard by Council in support of their submission. Again, some of these documents would not normally go through this full process, however there was an opportunity to do this and therefore it was decided to use the same process for all seven draft documents.

The purpose of this report is to provide context to this process in preparation for the meeting.

### BACKGROUND

Since the 18 May meeting a number of submissions and suggestions have been received on this suite of draft documents. Council thanks all the submitters for their contribution and all of the suggestions will be considered when the documents are being reviewed and prepared for the 29 June meeting.

This meeting is specifically focussed on only those submissions where the author has requested to be heard by Council in support of their submission.

Importantly, at the time that this report was written for the meeting agenda the submission period had not closed. It is therefore not possible in this report to provide details of the submitters that have requested to be heard on the night. Instead;

1. A list of people speaking to their submissions will be tabled on the night of the meeting and recorded in the minutes.
2. A copy of the submissions that will be spoken to at the 15 June meeting will be circulated separately to Councillors prior to the meeting.
3. All submissions that were received by the 11 June cut-off date (including those that were spoken to at this meeting as well as the submissions that were not spoken to) will be included as attachments to the 29 June Council meeting agenda. Note that, in accordance with usual protocol, these attachments will have personal information redacted.

Each submitter will be allocated five minutes to speak in support of their submission. The role of Councillors in this meeting is to hear the submitters and there is an opportunity to ask clarifying questions as required.

Council will not be considering the merits of any submissions at this meeting, this is done at the 29 June meeting.

### KEY IMPLICATIONS

Submissions to Council's draft documents is an important part of the consultation process and the right to speak in support of their submission allows members of the public to further elaborate or highlight a particular point or aspect of their submission.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no significant risks associated with the hearing of submissions to the budget and Council Plan.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budget, Council Plan, and associated documents are a key part of Council's planning and control cycle. Whilst hearing submissions has no financial impact to council, the process of preparing the budget and Council Plan and inviting community input is a very important part of Council's good governance and public responsibility.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The opportunity for members of the community to make submissions was promoted throughout May and June through a number of channels including newspaper advertising, regular inclusion in Indigo Shire's Weekly Update e-newsletter, through social media channels and Council's website.

LEGAL/COUNCIL PLAN/POLICY IMPACT

The preparation of many of these documents is governed by a prescriptive process set out in the Local Government Act. Consultation is set out in Council's Community Engagement Policy (2021) and allows members of the community to make representations to Council on any area of the budget and Council Plan that they choose to. As discussed above, this process has, this year, been opened up to all seven documents that are included in this tranche of consultation.

CONCLUSION

Council has received several submissions with some submitters having already requested to be heard in support.

A copy of all submissions requesting to be heard at this meeting will be circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and a list of submitters speaking at the meeting will be tabled on the night.

Council will hear the submitters at this meeting, with formal consideration of all submissions scheduled for the Council meeting on Tuesday 29 June 2021, prior to decisions being made on each draft document.

**Attachments**  
Nil

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**Meeting Concluded: 7.23pm**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, 29 June 2021 at 6.30pm**

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