

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

Vision:

Indigo Shire - leading sustainable growth, community and cultural diversity, and climate action

HELD: Tuesday, 14 May 2024 at 6.30pm

LOCATION: Council Chambers, 2 Kurrajong Way, Beechworth, and livestreamed on Council's website

ATTENDEES:	NAME	TITLE
	Cr Sophie Price	Mayor
	Cr Bernard Gaffney	Deputy Mayor
	Cr Peter Croucher	Councillor
	Cr Sue Gold	Councillor
	Cr Roberta Horne	Councillor
	Cr Diane Shephard	Councillor
	Cr Emmerick Teissl	Councillor
	Trevor Ierino	Chief Executive Officer
	Ian Ellett	Director Infrastructure Services
	Greg Pinkerton	Director Planning & Corporate Services
	Sally Rice	Director Community & Economic Development
	Annabel Harding	Governance Coordinator

These Minutes were confirmed at the Council meeting held on 25 June 2024.



Cr Sophie Price
Mayor

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

The Mayor welcomed all to the meeting of Council and noted that it would be live streamed and recorded, and the voices and images of those participating in the meeting, and in the gallery, captured as part of the recording.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

The Mayor acknowledged on behalf of the Council the original custodians of these lands. The people of the rivers and the hills have walked these lands for thousands of years as well as today, and we pay respect to the elders of the past and present.

The Mayor noted that Councillors have all taken an oath to carry out their 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

5. OPEN FORUM

Elizabeth Kingdon

Question 1:

In light of the continued desire by local communities within the Indigo Shire for an indoor heated pool at Beechworth, will the Indigo Store Council be undertaking the construction of said indoor heated pool as per the recommendations of the report BEECHWORTH SWIMMING POOL FEASIBILITY STUDY commissioned by the Indigo Shire Council and released October 2021.

Response provided by Trevor Ierino, Chief Executive Officer:

Council has already received and considered the feasibility study with a series of options for the pools. The Council resolution acknowledges community support for an indoor pool but this option is not currently financially feasible. Heated indoor pools are extremely expensive and grant programs rarely provide funding for pools. State government support may provide partial funding - up to \$2m, however it would be up to Council to raise the remaining \$8m, which is not currently feasible.

Robin McLiesh

Question 1:

In 2009 Council acknowledged responsibility for rehabilitation of the four closed garbage tips in the shire and began collecting cash from ratepayers to carry out the work. This entailed capping the sites to prevent the escape of methane generated by the decomposing garbage.

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Over ten years have now passed, and council has done none of the work required but have collected around \$7.5 million from ratepayers.

When will council commence the rehabilitation work on the closed tips to eliminate the environmental, damage caused by the escape of methane?

Response provided by Director Infrastructure Services, Ian Ellet

Council will continue to conduct environmental monitoring and working with the EPA at each of the sites. There are no rehabilitation works currently planned.

Question 2:

Tourism North East has allocated responsibility to Indigo Shire Council to formulate a Master Plan for the Beechworth Goods Shed Precinct including art, landscaping and detailed designs of the Rail Shed and connection to the existing heritage railway station.

Will TNE and Indigo shire council provide ratepayers with details of their intentions for this project and any grant applications, or will it be kept secret as have previous TNE projects.

Response provided by Director Community and Economic Development, Sally Rice

Information to the community about this project will start in the next few weeks. This will include:

- Tourism North East have secured \$8.5M of Murray to Mountains Rail Trail Enhancement grant funding. This funding is delivering enhancement projects across the 3 LGAs through which the Rail Trail runs.
- Council has put forward the Beechworth Railway Precinct as an enhancement project recognising community interest in appropriate activation of the site and Goods Shed. Enhancement grant funding will enable the development of a Masterplan for the precinct, deliver landscaping of the Public Park and Recreation area, including integrated artwork. In addition it will fund detailed architectural design work for bringing the Goods Shed up to code.

Question 3:

Tourism North East is seeking approval for an \$11.5 million grant application for the Rutherglen Silo Art Project. The Business Case for the project identifies repairs and maintenance costs of \$2.4 million over the life of the project. Repeated requests for access to the grant application details to ascertain responsibility for these costs have been denied by TNE and Indigo Shire Council

Will the Indigo Shire ratepayers be required to provide the \$2.4 million for the repairs and maintenance for this project?

Response provided by Trevor Ierino, Chief Executive Officer

Council is always required to maintain and repair its assets, noting that any grant application always applies to the capital costs of the project, and not ongoing maintenance.

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Charles Mitchell

Question 1:

Introduction: The Annual Victorian Government Community Satisfaction Survey has shown an overall downward trend for 5 years and this report is due for release in June/July this year, with early survey result provided to management. Unfortunately, many Victorian Councils defer releasing poor results to age and dilute transparency for several months.

Question: When will Council release to the public the survey they contributed to and paid for?

Response provided by Trevor Ierino, Chief Executive Officer

The survey has not yet been released to Council yet, so there is no clear timeline at this stage. Once the survey is received by Council, we will meet with the survey provider to understand the results and state wide trends, and then Councillors will be briefed. Once this process is completed Council publish results on the website. As the survey has not been released to Council yet, the timeline has not been established.

Question 2:

Introduction: In August 2023 the Community satisfaction survey results for Indigo Shire Council were released and questioned at the Council meeting. All indicators except the contracted garbage services have fallen since 2018. In December 2023 Mayor price identified that Indigo Shire strived for the highest level of accountability.

Question: Who is accountable for the decline in performance, Councillors, CEO ?

Response provided by Trevor Ierino, Chief Executive Officer

As CEO, I have a performance based contract and annual performance reviews. One of the indicators relates to the Community Satisfaction Survey, and through this process the Councillors hold me to account. As to who holds the Councillors to account, this is up to the public and not for me to answer.

Question 3:

Introduction: In 2024/25 Council's budget identifies the continuation of the tip rehabilitation special charge called the Environmental Management Contribution (EMC) which is proposed at \$88.15 per ratepayer. This EMC special charge goes to general rate revenue as does the Victorian rate cap of 2.75%. The result of the total general revenue results in an average of 7.53%.

Question: Can Council please explain why ratepayers will be required to pay over two and a half times more general revenue to Council?

Response provided by Greg Pinkerton, Director Planning & Corporate Services

The proposition that there has been an increase of over 7.5% is just not correct. The budget does address the underlying question – page 31 of the draft budget – sets out rates, municipal charge and rubbish recycling and environmental contribution amounts. The total increase from this financial year to the proposed next financial year is 2.70%. The Essential Services Commission is charged with monitoring and reporting to the community on Council's compliance with the rate cap.

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6. COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Cr Gold acknowledged the recent LGPro Awards – Ella Cheeseman (previous Youth Services Officer) and the Epic Rail Trail project – both were highly commended.
- Cr Gold also recognised Beechworth as the winner of the National Tidy Towns of the Year 2024 Sustainable Communities award and the team (led by Iris Mannick and Anne Wilson). There were also individual category winners, including recognised (Indigo Youth Advisory Group, Beechworth Honey Bee School and the Burke Museum. Congratulations to all.
- Cr Croucher recognised the community contribution and achievements of Gwen Gray, who recently resigned from the Indigo Shire Grants & Awards Advisory Committee that she has been a member of since 2012.
- Cr Croucher also recognised the Milk Run event at Tangambalanga which is a fun run to raise money for childhood cancer.

7. CONDOLENCES

Nil

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 April 2024, as published on Council's website, be confirmed.

Moved: Cr Gaffney

Seconded: Cr Teissl

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shephard and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

At the 26 March 2024 Council meeting, Council resolved that the Privacy Policy 2024 (Item 14.2) be placed on public exhibition for 30 days (ending on 26 April 2024), and if no submissions were received, that the policy be automatically adopted on 27 April 2024.

The policy received no submissions, therefore it is adopted as per the Council resolution.

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10. PETITIONS

Nil reports

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11. PLANNING & CORPORATE SERVICES

11.1 2024/25 DRAFT BUDGET

File No: 2024/335

Sharon Phillips - Acting Manager Finance

Planning & Corporate Services

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

That Council;

1. Notes
 - a. That the Draft 2024/25 Budget proposes a rate increase within the 2.75% cap.
 - b. The Draft Budget proposes a total of \$18.657 million of capital works, made up of \$7.067 million of new works for 2024/25 and \$11.590 million of carry-forward capital works.
 - c. That Council will work with the Essential Services Commission to transition the Environmental Management Levy income to General Rates, and that it is anticipated that this will be achieved for the 2025/26 financial year.
2. Endorses the attached documents for public exhibition:
 - a. *2024/25 Draft Budget.*
 - b. *2024/25 Draft Ten Year Financial Plan.*
 - c. *2024/25 Draft Revenue and Rating Plan.*
 - d. *2024/25 Draft Operating Income and Expense by Service.*
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of the preparation of the draft budget.
4. Places the endorsed documents on public exhibition for a period of 21 days from Wednesday 15 May 2023 to close of business Tuesday 4 June, 2024.
5. Invites any person wishing to provide feedback on the exhibited documents to do so prior to 5pm, 4 June 2024.
6. Considers a recommendation to adopt the 2024/25 Budget at the June Ordinary Meeting of Council on 25 June 2024.

RESOLUTION

That Council;

1. Notes
 - a. That the Draft 2024/25 Budget proposes a rate increase within the 2.75% cap.
 - b. The Draft Budget proposes a total of \$18.657 million of capital works, made up of \$7.067 million of new works for 2024/25 and \$11.590 million of carry-forward capital works.
 - c. That Council will work with the Essential Services Commission to transition the Environmental Management Levy income to General Rates, and that it is

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anticipated that this will be achieved for the 2025/26 financial year.

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5. Invites any person wishing to provide feedback on the exhibited documents to do so prior to 5pm, 4 June 2024.
6. Considers a recommendation to adopt the 2024/25 Budget at the June Ordinary Meeting of Council on 25 June 2024.

Moved: Cr Gold

Seconded: Cr Teissl

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shepherd and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present the attached draft 2024/25 budget documents and seek Council's endorsement to proceed to community consultation.

BACKGROUND

The 2024/25 draft budget, along with its supporting documents, is the product of extensive collaboration between Councillors and staff. The process includes an extensive community consultation period (outlined below). Input from the community, gathered through formal budget consultations as well as ongoing feedback throughout the year, serves as a central factor in shaping the budget. This feedback is carefully considered by the organisation, with each Service Manager incorporating it into their 2024/25 draft budget and associated project proposals.

The initial draft budget is developed by the organisation before undergoing a series of workshops and briefing meetings where Council's management team and Councillors review the community feedback and proposed budget to ensure it strikes an appropriate balance. This process is challenging due to the constraints placed on Council's ability to respond to all demands, limiting its capacity to address every new request or pressure identified. Nonetheless, the attached draft budget is deemed to represent an appropriate balance of these considerations for the 2024/25 financial year.

This budget has been crafted to ensure that Council can continue delivering the array and calibre of services expected by the community, spanning road construction, maternal and child health services, libraries, town planning, environmental conservation efforts, provision of leisure facilities, waste

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services, and more. Furthermore, it outlines the necessary expenditure to sustain and maintain critical assets and infrastructure.

DISCUSSION

The budget build commenced with management reviewing the budget principles for the upcoming budget that included a number of key financial objectives, including:

- No rate cap variation
- Cash to align with long term financial plan expectations.
- No new borrowings proposed in 2024/25.
- Low / Medium risk (as measured by the Victorian Auditor General's Office indicators).
- Maintain a level of own sourced expenditure on roads.
- Capital renewal expenditure aligned with Council's renewal needs.
- Total capital expenditure greater than total depreciation.
- Capital expenditure & income based on current 10-year Capital works program.
- Capital net cost to Council to be stable.
- No additional 'contingency' included in the capital budget.

Over the course of the last six months Council has built the attached draft budget based on the financial principles shown above. The draft budget has the following highlights:

- A total of \$18.657 million of capital works, made up of \$7.067 million of new works for 2024/25 and \$11.590 million of carry-forward capital works.
- \$465K to improve urban and rural drains.
- No new borrowings.
- Council maintains its low-medium risk, as assessed by the Victorian Auditor General's standardised measures.
- No rate cap variation. Council rates will be increased in line with the Minister's rate cap of 2.75%.

On 7/5/24 the Finance Committee passed a unanimous motion of support for the Draft Budget documents.

Attached to this report are the following documents:

- 2024/25 Draft Budget.
 - This is the main budget document that contains the key information.
- 2024/25 Draft Ten Year Financial Plan.
 - A document that sets out Council's long-term financial strategy.
- 2024/25 Draft Revenue and Rating Plan.
 - Containing important information about how Council raised revenue and rates.

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- 2024/25 Draft Operating Income and Expense by Service.
 - Income and expense details of each service area in Council.

The first three of these documents are required from all Victorian Councils as part of the budget process. Together they cover the full budget position of Council, with associated policy and strategy statements and acquit council's responsibilities under the Local Government Act and associated Regulations. The main budget document is created from the Victorian model budget, as published by the State Government. Whilst some additional information is added by Indigo Shire Council to improve project information, the core of the document is very close to that of the Victorian model. This is to assist with consistency between councils and ease of comparison between organisations and between years.

The budget documents are structured in a spreadsheet format, where many of the larger numbers are truncated or rounded for clarity. Consequently, some of the totals may not appear to add up accurately at first glance. This occasionally leads to feedback from the community questioning the precision of the budget papers. This discrepancy is a recognised and accepted limitation of the standard model utilized by Victorian Councils.

The attached document titled "Operating Income and Expense by Service" is voluntarily disclosed by the Indigo Shire Council to enhance transparency and comprehension of the budget details. This comprehensive data surpasses the set of documents mandated by the Local Government Act, showcasing Council's commitment to full transparency with the Indigo Shire Community.

Waste Management Charges

Indigo Shire sets its waste charges based on modelling that aims to recover only its projected costs over the long term. In any one year the financial result will vary depending on a number of factors including the estimated cost of landfill rehabilitation calculations. Council monitors this over several years to ensure an appropriate long-term position is maintained. Annual fluctuations can occur, therefore any one year may result in a surplus or a deficit position.

The Draft Budget proposes a number of adjustments to the waste fees. These changes are a result of a number of factors including the tendering and awarding of a new 10-year kerbside waste contract.

Charges for kerbside services in Council's budget align with the Local Government Minister's Good Practice Guidelines (the Guidelines) relating to waste service charges. For 2024/25 Budget a \$9.45 reduction per urban property, and an \$23.75 per property reduction per rural property is proposed. Indigo Shire also charges an "Environment Management Levy". This covers the cost of waste management other than kerbside waste collection. This includes activities such as landfill rehabilitation, transfer station costs, street sweeping, street litter bins, event waste management. This levy has also been modelled to only cover the cost of these activities without making a surplus in the long run. It predates the inception of the "Rate Cap" by many years.

The Guidelines make other recommendations about linking waste management charges directly with those services provided directly to the property. It recommends that other waste related charges should be included in General Rates rather than waste management charges. In Indigo Shire's case this means that the costs currently recovered by the Environment Management Levy should instead be included in General Rates.

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Full compliance with the Guidelines will require the discontinuing of the current Environmental Management Levy and a transfer of this charge to the General Rates. Under the current Rate Capping system employed in Victoria this change will require an application to the Essential Services Commission (ESC) to ensure that the transition is appropriate and does not negatively impact ratepayers or Council. Also, under the Rate Capping system it is not possible to secure an approval by the ESC in time for inclusion in this 2024/25 Budget.

It is therefore proposed that an application be made to the ESC to transfer the Environmental Management Levy to General Rates, with no net change in revenue overall, in other words, no additional cost to ratepayers overall. It is also proposed that this transfer occur in 12 months' time commencing with the 2025/26 Budget, at which point the Shire will be fully compliant with the Guidelines.

Rates and Valuations

The attached draft budget contains estimates for some property details that are not available at the time that the draft budget was published. For example, property valuations are not yet in their final form, and the Council's end-of-financial-year figures needed for the detailed rate calculations are currently early estimates. These variables are important to the calculation of the rate in the dollar charge and cannot be precisely determined at this draft stage.

Council will finalise these calculations once the inputs are confirmed and will utilise the process prescribed by the Essential Services Commission to ensure compliance with the state government's rate cap. Updated figures will be provided for the final budget adoption, with the final Essential Services Commission calculation contingent upon the Council's receipt of end-of-financial-year inputs.

Options

As part of the draft budget build a number of different options have been considered by management, as well as through a series of budget workshops with Councillors. The draft budget is now ready to be presented to the community to gain feedback before Council considers final adoption of the 2024/25 budget at the June meeting.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	5. Accountability
Strategic Objective	5.1 Our financial management is sound, responsible and effective.

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The annual budget provides funding for a wide range of programs and services that provide significant social and community benefits throughout Indigo Shire.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The annual budget provides funding for several of Council's environmental programs and services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of Council's draft Budget is one of the most fundamental financial decision that the Council must make on an annual basis. It sets in place the framework by which officers can implement Council's strategic direction contained within the Council Plan, with Council having allocated appropriate resources.

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In summary, the attached budget document details;

- Total income of \$43,745 million.
- Rates increasing by the 2.75% cap to a total rates and charges of \$20,292 million.
- Total expenses of \$44,450 million.
- The Draft Budget proposes a total of \$18.657 million of capital works, made up of \$7.067 million of new works for 2024/25 and \$11.590 million of carry-forward capital works.
- No new borrowings in 2024/25 and total borrowings at the end of 2024/25 of \$1.661 million.

On 7/5/24 the Finance Committee passed a unanimous motion of support for the Draft Budget documents.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The preparation of Council's budget is guided by a strict and prescriptive set of rules including the *Local Government Act (2020)* and associated Finance and Reporting Regulations. This act ensures that Council's draft budget is provided to the community for a period of time and allows members of the community to make representations to Council on any particular area.

Local Government Act 2020. Requires for a *Revenue and Rating Plan* takes key information from the budget and presents it alongside the policy information from Council's Rating Strategy.

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
Failure to meet legislative requirements of budget preparation	Unlikely	Minor	Low	The budget is prepared using a set process that complies with the Local Government Act requirements. Council use the standard budget
The adopted budget does not anticipate and provide for future demands.	Unlikely	Minor	Low	An extensive process has been used to develop this budget. Council also maintains ample cash reserves for unanticipated expenditure.
Failure to achieve budget throughout the year, or at the end of the year	Possible	Minor	Low	Monthly monitoring of all service budgets. Cash reserve.

Active management of Council's financial performance will include:

- Daily management of receivables and payables.
- Weekly oversight of cash and investments.

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- Monthly management oversight at cost centre and account level.
- Reporting to Council's Finance Committee.
- Monthly reporting to Council's Ordinary Meeting.
- Quarterly reporting to Council's Audit Committee.
- Quarterly exception reporting to Council.
- Mid-year budget review and forecasting for 2nd half of the year.
- Annual close process and audit by VAGO.

The attached budget has been built to balance the needs of the community with the need to reduce operating costs. This has been achieved whilst keeping Council in the low risk category for financial sustainability.

Council has undertaken a 10-year financial plan which will inform and guide Council in addressing financial sustainability in the medium and long-term.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement undertaken

An online survey seeking community input into the development of Council's 2024/25 draft budget opened on 17 October 2023 and closed on 20 December 2023.

Using Council's new engagement platform, ENGAGED INDIGO, respondents were asked to prioritise the services they most value and believe contribute to a thriving community. They were also asked to prioritise capital investment and where Council should focus its advocacy efforts.

In addition, respondents were given the opportunity to share their thoughts/ideas on the key community issues or trends they think Indigo Shire should be paying attention to, as well as what projects and investment could make a difference to their town's livability and future prosperity.

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Survey promotion & engagement



65

days survey open



9

Editions promoting
survey



87

surveys completed



69,134

Impressions from 31-
day Facebook
advertising campaign*

*the number of times the ad was
seen on a screen

Promotion and advertising

- Facebook – organic and paid posts
- Website – Have your say page and banner on home page
- YOUR INDIGO - nine editions
- Posters – displayed in Customer Service Centres and Libraries
- Advisory Committee meetings
- Active Indigo EDM
- CEO Message to staff and posts to TONY
- Community forum – posters on tables at Wahgunyah

Engagement outcomes

There was a significant drop in the number of survey respondents, with 87 participating in the engagement, compared with 315 the previous year.

The feedback was collated into themes and a report presented to Councillors and budget mangers for review and consideration into the development of the 2024/25 draft budget.

Engagement proposed

The draft budget documents will be placed on public exhibition from Wednesday 15 May until close of business on Tuesday 4 June (21 days). Promotion will be via Council's website www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au, Facebook, a media release, newspaper advertising, and displayed at Customer Services Centres.

Any person wishing to give feedback on the draft budget can do so online (links will be provided) or can address an email or letter to the CEO. Feedback must be received by 5 pm on Tuesday 4 June.

Budget feedback will be provided to Councillors for their information and the overall feedback will be summarised in the June Council report.

CONCLUSION

This report presents the draft budget documents to Council and explains the process by which the budget and accompanying 10-year Financial Plan projections are prepared. This process has included extensive community consultation as well as the work of Council staff and Councillors.

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Governance Rule 24, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Sharon Phillips - Acting Manager Finance
- Greg Pinkerton - Director Planning and Corporate Services
- Ian Ellett – Director Infrastructure Services
- Nathan Mullane– Manager Capital Projects and Waste
- Adam Kimball – Manager Assets and Property

Attachments

1. Draft Budget - 2024-25
2. Draft Operating Income and Expense by Service Plan - 2024-2025
3. Draft Revenue and Rating Plan - 2024-2025
4. Draft Ten-Year Financial Plan - 2024-2032

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12. COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

12.1 GET ACTIVE INDIGO GRANTS 2024

File No: 2024/360

Mark De Campo - Acting Manager Community Development

Community & Economic Development

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- Receives the Get Active Indigo Grants 2024 Assessment Panel Recommendation Report; and
- Endorses the distribution of funds as recommended by the Assessment Panel as follows:

Applicant	Project	Amount
Kiewa Sandy Creek Football Netball Club	Junior Netball equipment	\$1000
Rutherglen Golf Club	Par 3 golf course	\$3100
Indigo North Health	Dancing and yoga program	\$3000
Chiltern Tennis Club	Junior coaching program	\$1900
Beechworth Health Service	Come and try sport expo	\$3250
Beechworth Pickleball Club	Beechworth Pickleball competition	\$2000
Balance Beechworth	All ages yoga program	\$2300
Yackandandah Bowls Club	Junior and Female bowls sets	\$1500
Stanley Rural Community Incorporated	Community Basketball rings	\$2200
Rutherglen Football Club	Temporary female change upgrades	\$5000
Yack Tracks	Maintenance equipment storage	\$4000
	Total	\$30,000

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RESOLUTION

That Council:

- Receives the Get Active Indigo Grants 2024 Assessment Panel Recommendation Report; and
- Endorses the distribution of funds as recommended by the Assessment Panel as follows:

Applicant	Project	Amount
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Stanley Rural Community Incorporated	Community Basketball rings	\$2200
Rutherglen Football Club	Temporary female change upgrades	\$5000
Yack Tracks	Maintenance equipment storage	\$4000
	Total	\$30,000

Moved: Cr Croucher

Seconded: Cr Teissl

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shephard and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the recommendations from the Get Active Indigo Grants 2024 Assessment Panel for the distribution of funds.

BACKGROUND

As part of the implementation of Indigo Shire Councils Active Indigo Recreation Plan 2018 –2026 a community focussed grants program was established to encourage and enable residents of Indigo Shire to be more active more often.

The program objectives are to:

- Get more people moving more often;
- Provide access to funding for community groups who may be unable to generate their own revenue or secure funding through other grant streams and sources;
- Increase Indigo Shire residents' participation in physical activity;
- Improve Indigo Shire residents' access to physical activity opportunities;

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- Support local clubs, groups, committees and service providers in their efforts to improve residents' participation in physical activity;
- Trial innovative and localised project ideas by responding to place-based needs;
- Fund a diverse range of physical activity project ideas across the Shire; and
- Increase residents' awareness of opportunities to be physically active via targeted communications and promotion.

\$30,000 in funding is available through the Get Active Indigo Grants Program with a maximum grant amount of \$5,000 per application.

Council encourages applications from Indigo Shire based incorporated bodies as well as projects auspiced by an Indigo Shire based incorporated body. Council utilises the Smartygrants software to administer the Get Active Indigo Grants.

The Get Active Indigo Grants program opened on Monday 26 February and closed on Monday 25 March. A total of 20 applications were received.

Applications were assessed by the Get Active Indigo Grants Panel on Monday 8 April. The Get Active Indigo Grants Assessment Panel is an independent group comprised of the following:

- Indigo Shire Council Councilor (Chair – non-voting)
- Indigo Shire Council Community Development staff
- A representative from each of Beechworth Health Service and Indigo North Health
- A representative from Sport North East.

The Get Active Indigo Grants Assessment Panel assess the merits of applications against the criteria before providing an independent recommendation to Council on how to distribute the funding. Conflicts of interest from panel members are declared at the start of the meeting and managed; for details see 'declaration of conflict of interest section' later in this report.

DISCUSSION

The 20 applications represented a total funding request of \$62,323.99.

The Get Active Indigo Grants Assessment Panel recommends that Council provide funding to 11 of the 20 applicants. Of the 9 applications not recommended for funding, alternative funding streams and supports are available to progress project ideas and Council Officers along with other assessment panel members will assist with this.

The following projects have been recommended for funding:

Applicant	Project	Amount
Kiewa Sandy Creek Football Netball Club	Junior Netball equipment	\$1000
Rutherglen Golf Club	Par 3 golf course	\$3100
Indigo North Health	Dancing and yoga program	\$3000
Chiltern Tennis Club	Junior coaching program	\$1900
Beechworth Health Service	Come and try sport expo	\$3250
Beechworth Pickleball Club	Beechworth Pickleball competition	\$2000
Balance Beechworth	All ages yoga program	\$2300

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Applicant	Project	Amount
Yackandandah Bowls Club	Junior and Female bowls sets	\$1500
Stanley Rural Community Incorporated	Community Basketball rings	\$2200
Rutherglen Football Club	Temporary female change upgrades	\$5000
Yack Tracks	Maintenance equipment storage	\$4000
	Total	\$30,000

Three of the 11 recommended projects received their full amount. The remaining projects were partially funded with consideration given to their capacity to complete their project with reduced funding.

A summary of project applications are contained in a Confidential Attachment to this report.

STRATEGIC

CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	1. Communities
Strategic Objective	1.1 Our community members have access to support services to help them achieve and sustain physical and emotional health and wellbeing.
Strategic Action	1.1.3 Progress the key priorities of the Active Indigo Plan

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The Get Active Indigo Grants Program assists Council in achieving a number of actions in strategic documents including the Council Plan, Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan, Active Indigo Recreation Plan, Early Years and Youth Strategies.

In their decision making the assessment panel consider project location, target audience and sporting code to ensure participation can be maximised for people across Indigo Shire Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

	Approved Budget \$	This Proposal \$	Variance to Approved Budget \$	Comments
Revenue	30,000	30,000	0	
Expense	30,000	30,000	0	
Net Result	(30,000)	(30,000)	0	

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Liability insurance will be maintained by each group separately to ensure coverage against injury for participants.

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
Project is not completed by group	Possible	Minor	Low	Council staff provide appropriate levels of support and capacity building where required.

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Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
Group rejects funding offer	Possible	Minor	Low	Panel reconsiders funding to projects not initially recommended or partially funded.
Criticism from unsuccessful applicants	Possible	Minor	Low	Unsuccessful letters sent to applicants offering additional feedback, alternative funding sources and support if required.
Assessment panel conflict of interest	Likely	Minor	Low	Identified and declared before meeting. Panel member leaves meeting when conflicted project assessed.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement undertaken

The Get Active Indigo Grants Program was promoted through various Council platforms including: social media, weekly update, website and electronic direct mail marketing (EDM).

Engagement outcomes

A total of 20 applications were received in 2024 up from 16 in 2023 and 17 in 2022.

Engagement proposed

Council Officers will prepare letters to all applicants advising them of the outcome of their applications. Unsuccessful applicants will be offered additional support to identify and source alternative funding streams or further assistance to progress their project ideas. Where required successful applicants will also be offered additional support to ensure their projects are delivered on time and to budget.

CONCLUSION

The Get Active Indigo Grants Assessment Panel has rigorously assessed applications against the criteria and provided an independent recommendation to Council on how to distribute the funding available through the Get Active Indigo Grants Program.

The recommended projects represent a strong geographical spread that improves access across the Shire as well as a diverse range of project activities to cater for a range of interests.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Governance Rule 24, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Sally Rice – Director Community and Economic Development
- Justin Forrester – Manager Community Development
- Mark De Campo – Community Development Coordinator
- An Indigo Shire Council staff member submitted an application on behalf of a community group they are involved with. The staff member had no involvement with the assessment process.

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While assessing the applications two Conflicts of Interest were declared by members of the panel. These were as follows:

1. The representative of Indigo North Health for the Indigo North Health application “dancing and yoga”
2. The representative of Beechworth Health Service for the Beechworth Health Service “coma and try sport expo”

When the Panel were assessing these two projects the representatives with the conflict of interest removed themselves from the room and were not involved in any discussion or recommendation about the relevant application.

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

The attachment is confidential under section 3(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as it deals with personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about a person or their personal affairs.

This section applies because the information contains details of proposed grant contributions and scoring/comments on applications, both successful and unsuccessful, submitted by community members on behalf of their community organisations and it would unreasonably expose persons. The confidential attachment has been provided to Councillors under separate cover.

Attachments

1. Assessment - Get Active Indigo Grants 2024 (Confidential)

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12.2 FAIR ACCESS POLICY

File No: 2024/369

Mark De Campo - Acting Manager Community Development Community & Economic Development

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council endorses the draft Fair Access (for women and girls to participate in sport) Policy for public exhibition for a period of 14 days, from 14 May to 28 May 2024;
2. If no submissions are received during the public exhibition period, the policy is adopted from 29 May 2024; and
3. If submissions are received during public exhibition, the policy is to be brought to a future Council meeting for adoption.

RESOLUTION

1. That Council endorses the draft Fair Access (for women and girls to participate in sport) Policy for public exhibition for a period of 14 days, from 14 May to 28 May 2024;
2. If no submissions are received during the public exhibition period, the policy is adopted from 29 May 2024; and
3. If submissions are received during public exhibition, the policy is to be brought to a future Council meeting for adoption.

Moved: Cr Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Croucher

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shepherd and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to introduce and present information about the draft Fair Access (for women and girls to participate in sport) Policy, (Policy). It provides details of the State Government's initiative to ensure a future where there is a level playing field for women and girls in sport and active recreation.

BACKGROUND

The Victorian Government is taking steps to ensure a future where there is a level playing field for women and girls in sport and active recreation, so they can fully participate in and enjoy the benefits of community sport right through to senior leadership roles.

The Fair Access Policy Roadmap is an Australia-first policy that aims to give women and girls better and fairer access to community sports infrastructure. Developed by the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation in partnership with VicHealth and Sport and Recreation Victoria, the policy requires all Victorian Councils to have in place a gender equitable access and use policy (or equivalent) by 1 July 2024 to remain eligible for state government community sports infrastructure funding.

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DISCUSSION

The following four criteria aims to provide Council with guidance in developing an acceptable Fair Access Policy to meet the aforementioned funding eligibility requirement.

1. The policy will be adopted by Council.

The Fair Access Policy must be formally adopted by Council to ensure the governance, management, and integrity of its implementation. From 1 July 2024, any council without an adopted Policy will be considered ineligible for Victorian Government community sports Infrastructure funding.

2. The policy aligns with the intent of the Fair Access Policy Roadmap.

The Fair Access Policy Roadmap aims to ensure community sporting environments are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive for everyone. How women and girls can access and use community sports infrastructure impacts their ability to fully participate and have a positive experience in community sport. A Fair Access Policy must demonstrate how Council will effectively drive gender equitable access and use of community sports infrastructure to improve the outcomes for women and girls.

3. The Policy is measurable.

Once the Policy is adopted a Fair Access Policy Roadmap will be developed. This will focus on a target that by 1 July 2027, more women and girls report gender equitable access to community sports infrastructure, and improved experiences when participating in community sport.

The Road Map will articulate specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (S.M.A.R.T.) goals or targets as part of the implementation of the Policy, and then measure progress towards the goals or targets identified. The roadmap is critical to direct prioritisation efforts, and to understand the Fair Access Policy.

Local clubs and committees will be encouraged to participate in the development of this Roadmap.

4. The policy will be reviewed at regular intervals and amended (if required).

It is expected the Policy will be reviewed and amended (if required) on a regular basis (for example, at least every four years). This is to ensure the Policy will continue to achieve the best outcomes for the community, and future generations. It is expected that any amendments or reviews made to the Policy are approved in the same manner as the initial Policy was approved, including sharing with the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation for review.

Six Fair Access Principles have been developed to provide clear and defined lanes for Councils to build a gender equitable access and use policy. The principles reflect that there are both cultural and administrative elements that will drive the strongest, most sustained outcomes, as well as the opportunity to magnify and incentivise change by engaging community sporting clubs. The Principles are:

1. Community sports infrastructure and environments are genuinely welcoming, safe and inclusive.

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2. Women and girls can fully participate in all aspects of community sport and active recreation, including as a player, coach, administrator, official, volunteer and spectator.
3. Women and girls will have equitable access to and use of community sport infrastructure:
 - a. of the highest quality available and most convenient
 - b. at the best and most popular competition and training times and locations
 - c. to support existing and new participation opportunities, and a variety of sports
4. Women and girls should be equitably represented in leadership and governance roles.
5. Encourage and support all user groups who access and use community sport infrastructure to understand, adopt and implement gender equitable access and use practices.
6. Prioritise access, use and support to all user groups who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to gender equitable access and use of allocated community sport infrastructure.

Indigo Shire Councils draft Fair Access (for women and girls to participate in sport) Policy is attached to this report.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	1. Communities
Strategic Objective	1.2 Our community members have access to the services, activities and infrastructure that make it easy for them to stay connected and get involved in community life.
Strategic Action	1.2.4 Progress the key priorities of and review and update Council's Ageing Well Strategy, Youth Strategy, Tourism Strategy, Economic Development Strategy, Library Strategy and Early Years Strategy

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Gender equitable access and use policies and processes will be a key driver for procedural and cultural change to ensure the full benefits of sport and recreation are available to all. With sport and active recreation being one of our most visible sectors, advancing gender equality here is a key lever to driving gender equality more broadly in our society.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Gender Equality Act 2020 requires Local Councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality. It also requires these organisations to consider and promote gender equality in their policies, programs, and services, and to conduct Gender Impact Assessments on policies, programs and services that have a direct and significant impact on the public.

The Fair Access Policy Roadmap links the requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020 with steps shaped by extensive consultation to support local governments, other public land management groups and sport and recreation bodies to work together to progress gender equitable access and use of community sports infrastructure across Victoria through both procedural and cultural levers for change.

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
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Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
Policy not adopted by Council by 1 July 2024.	Possible	Minor	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officers proposed timeline will meet the 1 July 2024 deadline. Can be rescheduled to a future Council meeting if unavailable by deadline.
Local sports clubs / committees of management reject policy actions.	Unlikely	Minor	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs and committees are involved in the development of the Road Map to ensure actions are achievable which will occur once the Policy is adopted. Clubs and committees are provided with ongoing support to implement their policy.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement undertaken

To date there has been no community consultation. Having a Policy will become a mandatory requirement for Councils to be eligible for State Government Funding for sporting facilities. The content of the Draft Policy is closely aligned to the resources provided by the Office of Women and Girls in Sport.

Engagement proposed

The Policy is available for public exhibition for a period of 14 days. Following the period of exhibition, the Policy will be recommended for adoption.

As mentioned above, once the Policy is adopted a Fair Access Policy Roadmap will be developed. Local clubs and committees will be encouraged to participate in the development of this Roadmap.

CONCLUSION

Sport is a highly visible and valued feature of Indigo Shire Council and our community's culture and identity. The sport and active recreation sector provide opportunities for enriching our communities through the promotion of respect, fair mindedness, and inclusion for all people, while also supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of all Victorians. As the closest level of Government to the community, Indigo Shire Council is well positioned to design and implement place-based, integrated action plans that progress gender equality in community sport.

This Policy establishes the expectation that gender equality is considered and prioritised in all current and future Indigo Shire Council's planning, policy, service delivery and practice as they relate to community sports infrastructure.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Governance Rule 24, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Sally Rice – Director Community & Economic Development

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- Mark De Campo – Community Development Coordinator
- Kellie Sutherland – Access & Inclusion Officer

Attachments

1. Fair Access Policy (Draft)

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13. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

13.1 RUTHERGLEN CARAVAN PARK - PROPOSED LEASE

File No: 2024/263

Adam Kimball - Manager Assets & Property

Infrastructure Services

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes that no submissions were received by the advertised deadline in response to the public notice advising of the proposed Rutherglen Caravan and Tourist Park lease;
2. Accepts the Expression of Interest and subsequent negotiations of lease terms and approves that a lease be put in place with HPM Australia Pty Ltd (The Trustee for Getaway Parks Group Unit Trust) for the operation of Rutherglen Caravan and Tourist Park at 72 Murray Street Rutherglen, commencing on 1 July 2024 and for a period of 21 years and with the following terms (with details provided in the confidential attachment):
 - a) The annual rental amount payable will be based on a percentage of the Caravan Park's annual revenue determined by the competitive EOI process including a minimum rent guarantee set at 70% of the predicted gross annual income;
 - b) The lessee will be required to invest into developing the park in line with the adopted Masterplan; and
 - c) Council commits to funding its share of capital works to support the implementation of Stage 1 of the Masterplan;
3. Notes that a Funding Agreement between both parties to the Lease detailing Council's financial commitment to implementing Stage 1 of the Masterplan will be developed and be an attachment to the final lease; and
4. Delegates authority to the CEO to finalise the details and execute lease documents (including the Funding Agreement) on its behalf.

MOTION

That agenda item 13.1 be deferred until the 25 June 2024 Council meeting.

Moved: Cr Horne

Seconded: Cr Gaffney

For: Crs Bernard Gaffney and Roberta Horne

Against: Crs Peter Croucher, Sue Gold, Sophie Price, Diane Shephard and Emmerick Teissl

Lost

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RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Notes that no submissions were received by the advertised deadline in response to the public notice advising of the proposed Rutherglen Caravan and Tourist Park lease;
2. Accepts the Expression of Interest and subsequent negotiations of lease terms and approves that a lease be put in place with HPM Australia Pty Ltd (The Trustee for Getaway Parks Group Unit Trust) for the operation of Rutherglen Caravan and Tourist Park at 72 Murray Street Rutherglen, commencing on 1 July 2024 and for a period of 21 years and with the following terms (with details provided in the confidential attachment):
 - a) The annual rental amount payable will be based on a percentage of the Caravan Park's annual revenue determined by the competitive EOI process including a minimum rent guarantee set at 70% of the predicted gross annual income;
 - b) The lessee will be required to invest into developing the park in line with the adopted Masterplan; and
 - c) Council commits to funding its share of capital works to support the implementation of Stage 1 of the Masterplan;
3. Notes that a Funding Agreement between both parties to the Lease detailing Council's financial commitment to implementing Stage 1 of the Masterplan will be developed and be an attachment to the final lease; and
4. Delegates authority to the CEO to finalise the details and execute lease documents (including the Funding Agreement) on its behalf.

Moved: Cr Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Gold

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Sue Gold, Sophie Price and Diane Shepherd

Against: Crs Bernard Gaffney, Roberta Horne and Emmerick Teissl

CARRIED

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for a lease for the Rutherglen Caravan and Tourist Park following a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process to identify a suitable operator.

BACKGROUND

Indigo Shire is the appointed land manager for four caravan parks that are situated on crown land in Rutherglen, Yackandandah, Beechworth and Chiltern.

On 13 December 2022, Council adopted the Caravan Park Masterplans for each of the parks which included a 10-year aspirational plan and identified opportunities and options for the management, infrastructure, investment and economic/tourism benefits for each of the parks.

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The Rutherglen Caravan Park lease is due to expire on 30 June 2024. An Expression of Interest (EOI) process to identify a new lessee has been conducted by council officers as per Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) guidelines. The EOI process sought to identify experienced and suitable operators with a vision for improving the park and investing capital funds to develop it in line with the adopted masterplan.

DISCUSSION

The Expression of Interest (EOI) process to identify a new lessee for the park was publicly advertised in November 2023. This was open for a period of six weeks and closed on 21 December 2023.

As part of the competitive EOI process, applicants were required to specify the annual rental they proposed to pay for the lease, along with the proposed investment for park development in line with the Masterplan (by both the park operator and Council). They were also required to outline their experience in managing similar parks and their vision for park development and improved occupancy rates.

The proposal is for a percentage rent model, where the tenant will pay a percentage of the gross revenue from accommodation and site sales. This percentage will be calculated directly from the park's reservation system and independently audited as necessary. The proposed rent rate has been established through a competitive process and subsequent negotiation and was nominated in the EOI documentation as preferably in the range of 12 – 20% of annual gross revenue. To safeguard the interests of the council, a portion of the rent will be guaranteed, with the minimum rent being established at 70% of the anticipated rent (based on nominated revenue targets). The negotiated contractual detail is *Commercial in Confidence* and is provided separately in the confidential attachment

A review panel comprising the *Director Infrastructure Services*, the *Director Community & Economic Development*, the *Manager Tourism*, and the *Manager Assets & Property* evaluated the submissions received in response to the advertised EOI.

Expressions of Interest were evaluated on the following criteria as advertised in the EOI documentation:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Relevant Management Experience and Operating Model | 25% |
| • Financial Benefit to Council | 25% |
| • Completion of Masterplan | 40% |
| • Support of Park Vision | 10% |

The Panel evaluated each of the submissions received and shortlisted those that best responded to the above criteria. Shortlisted companies were invited to a follow-up interview where they were able to expand on their relevant experience and their commitment to investment into the Park and growing the Park's offering.

The Panel recommended that HPM Australia's submission was the best option and scored the highest when assessed against the evaluation criteria.

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Holiday Park Management Australia (HPM Australia) was established in 2019 and currently owns and manages two holiday parks (Wilsons Prom Holiday Park and Long Jetty caravan Park, both in Gippsland) along with a luxurious glamping retreat (Koondrook Retreat in northern Victoria). While HPMA is a relatively young entity, its directors all have substantial experience in owning, developing and managing holiday parks.

An Evaluation Report by the review panel is provided as a confidential attachment.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	3. Prosperity
Strategic Objective	3.2 Tourism is a major economic driver, critical to the long term sustainability of the Shire and leading the way in the post COVID-19 recovery phase and beyond
Strategic Action	3.2.4 Develop and implement the Caravan Park Masterplan

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

A focus of the EOI process is to attract an operator that will work with local businesses, the tourism sector and local community to maximise the benefits to the local economy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of Masterplans for the four parks (in December 2022) provided a platform for a significant shift in the financial performance of each of the parks moving forward as each lease renewal came up in turn. Rutherglen is the first of the four parks to have a lease expiry since the masterplans were adopted.

As outlined above, the EOI process and the draft lease have sought to identify Operators willing to invest in the park and increase turnover. The annual rental will be based on a nominated percentage of annual revenue, significantly increasing the annual rental payable.

The proposed lease also requires capital investment by both the Operator and Council. Council's estimated contribution will presumably be funded from borrowings (although not in Year 1). A Funding Agreement detailing the terms of this contribution will need to be developed and will be an attachment to the final lease.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Terms of the lease will be checked by Legal representatives of both parties and submitted to DEECA for its approval before being signed.

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
Inability to secure a lessee for the Park	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	The EOI process conducted has provided the best opportunity to identify a suitable tenant.

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Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
This is a significant opportunity to see investment in the Rutherglen Caravan Park and to boost economic benefits	Likely	Moderate	High	Controls to be built into lease contract.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement undertaken

The process in developing the Caravan Park Masterplans involved significant community engagement. Through this process, residents, stakeholders, and interested parties were provided with a platform to voice their opinions, concerns, and ideas, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the diverse needs of the community.

Prior to presenting this report, a public notice has been placed informing the community of the intention to enter into a new lease in accordance with the Community Engagement Policy. No submissions were received by the advertised deadline.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council accepts the expression of Interest and subsequent negotiations of lease terms and approves that a lease be put in place with HPM Australia Pty Ltd (The Trustee for Getaway Parks Group Unit Trust) for the operation of Rutherglen Caravan and Tourist Park at 72 Murray Street Rutherglen, commencing on 1 July 2024 and for a period of 21 years.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

During the course of the process, there has been some declarations of Conflict of Interest which have required management actions to be taken.

- Council's Buildings & Property Officer declared a conflict in relation to one of the companies who submitted an Expression of Interest. As a consequence, the officer removed themselves from having any involvement in the EOI process and lease negotiation and has had no involvement in the production of this report or any of the recommendations contained in it.
- Council's consultant, ODIN360 also declared a general conflict. ODIN360 was engaged in separate pieces of work over the journey of this project. The company was originally engaged to develop the Caravan Park Masterplans and also produced an Economic Modelling report for Council prior to the adoption of the Masterplans in 2022. More recently, ODIN360 was engaged to develop an EOI process and Draft lease for the operation of Rutherglen Caravan Park.

ODIN360's Lead Consultant declared a general conflict of interest when Expressions of Interest were open and he became aware of the potential of a company who had business dealings with ODIN360 to put in a submission.

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Consequently the consultant was not included on the evaluation panel and played no part in the production of this report or any of the recommendations contained in it. He continued to provide Council officers with general industry advice and assisted with the financial modelling but did not make any recommendations to staff in relation to the proposed lease.

- The recommended Operator (or lessee) HPM Australia Pty Ltd declared a potential conflict of Interest in their submission. They declared that they had previously had some involvement (as a sub consultant to ODIN360). This included giving feedback on the potential costs of the masterplan, and conducting an audit of the park that was presented to Council as part of the masterplan process and informing some aspects of the lease documents.

To ensure confidence in the management of the potential conflict of interest, legal advice was sought from Maddocks. The advice from Maddocks recognised that while HPMA were involved in the development of the masterplan and proposed lease, the processes conducted by Council in developing the masterplans and EOI documentation were appropriate as they accurately reflected Council's intentions with respect to improvements to the Park, and that HPMA were not materially advantaged. Consequently they found no reason to not support Council granting the lease to HPMA.

The advice has been provided confidentially to Councillors.

The advice from Maddocks also suggested that Council engage a different consultant to undertake a peer review of the EOI documents including the relevant Masterplan and the terms of the proposed lease to assess whether the documents were reasonable and consistent with expected industry practice. A "peer review" report was subsequently received from Urban Enterprise which concluded that the Masterplan development and EOI documents were reflective of common industry practice and that the proposed lease terms were reasonable.

The report from Urban Enterprise has also been provided confidentially to Councillors.

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Governance Rule 24, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Ian Ellett – Director Infrastructure Services
- Sally Rice – Director Community and Economic Development
- Nathan Mullane – Acting Director Infrastructure Services
- Adam Kimball – Manager Assets and Property
- Susannah Doyle – Manager Tourism

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS

The attachment is confidential under section 3(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it contains the private commercial information provided by tender applicants that, if released, would unreasonably expose the financial institutions to disadvantage.

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- *3(a) Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.*

This section applies because the matter concerns commercial contracts around which negotiations have not been finalised, and it would prejudice the Council's position in the negotiations.

- g. private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—*

- (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage*

This section applies because the information contains commercial details of applicants and it would unreasonably expose the business through providing an unfair advantage to their competitors. The confidential attachment has been provided to Councillors under separate cover.

Attachments

1. Tender Recommendation & Appendices - Leasehold Rutherglen Caravan Tourist Park (Confidential)

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

14. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

14.1 COUNCIL PLAN AND MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025 (YEAR 4)

File No: 2024/343

Melinda Collis - Executive Manager Customer Experience & Engagement Executive Management

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorses the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4); and
2. Places both documents on public exhibition for 21 days from 15 May 2024 and invites submissions.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Endorses the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4); and
2. Places both documents on public exhibition for 21 days from 15 May 2024 and invites submissions.

Moved: Cr Teissl

Seconded: Cr Shephard

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shephard and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the final year of both the Council Plan 2021-2025 and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHW) Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Council Plan 2021-2025 which includes the MPHW Plan was adopted by Council on 29 June, 2021.

It is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 2020* that a Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least four financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.

The Council Plan sets out the key priorities for Council to focus on over its term and guides decision making and prioritisation through the annual budget. The plan is reviewed annually to help inform capital works planning, service planning as well as budget and resource allocations.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

The plan was developed in consultation with the community as well as the following:

- Current priorities identified by Councillors.
- Previous Council priorities and decisions, including adopted plans and strategies.
- Council's 10-Year Financial Plan.
- Opportunities and challenges and other influences.
- State and Federal Government Legislation.

DISCUSSION

There are no proposed changes to the Council Plan, with around 98% of actions either 'on track' or 'completed'.

A significant number of projects, strategies, plans and capital investment has been achieved in the first three years of the Council Plan. These include:

- Rutherglen Place Plan
- Rutherglen Destination Management Plan
- Indigo Creative Arts Strategy
- Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan
- Chiltern Land Precinct Plan
- Review of Local Laws 2 and 4
- Rutherglen Silos Art Precinct Master plan
- Chiltern Destination Playground concepts
- Beechworth Courthouse Kelly Trials Project
- Beechworth Historic Precinct Master Plan
- Caravan Park Master Plans x Four
- EV charging stations
- Progress emissions reduction plan
- New Community engagement Strategy
- Gender Equity Action Plan
- Recreation Master Plans – Allans Flat, Barkly Park, Yackandandah Sports Park, Coulston Park
- Indigo Epic Trail
- Chiltern Community Hub
- Beechworth to Yackandandah Rail Trail
- Kiewa Multipurpose Pavilion
- Wahgunyah Multipurpose hardcourts and lighting upgrade
- Beechworth Tennis Courts at Baarmutha Park
- Butson Park lighting upgrade

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

- Beechworth netball courts resurfacing
- Lake Moodemere Rowing Shed
- Barkly park lighting upgrade
- Wooragee Tennis Courts
- Indigo Creek Road upgrade
- Kiewa River Community Park masterplan
- Lake Sambell Precinct revitalisation
- Queen Victoria Park beautification
- Chiltern Athenaeum upgrades
- Bells Flat Road upgrade
- Barnawartha Netball and Tennis Courts
- Traton Street footpath
- Changing Places facility Yackandandah
- Baarmutha Park toilets
- Kiewa Valley Bowling Club resurfacing
- Rutherglen Skate Park extension

Four actions, due to be started in Year 4, are either subject to funding, or will be included as part of a broader strategy. These are:

Communities

1.1.2 - Review way-finding signage, street lighting, seating, shade and pedestrian crossings across the Shire to encourage outdoor gatherings in town centres

1.1.7 - Undertake a feasibility study for a multi-purpose synthetic sports ground in Beechworth for hockey, soccer and general sports training

1.1.13 - Review town and Shire entry signage and develop an appropriate Upgrade Action Plan

Liveability

2.2.1 - Develop laneways and streetscapes with permanent seating options, shade and water bubblers, that encourages interaction across all age groups

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Achievements

Preventing Family Violence

- Council staff participated in Gender Impact Assessment Training conducted by Women's Health Goulburn North East
- Council supported the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence through interactive workshops held at our libraries that focused on consent
- Staff participated in online Gender Equity training

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Improving Healthy Eating

- Infant (healthy eating and active play) and Respond (place based approach to improving wellbeing of children) programs delivered through MCH team and local health service providers.

Championing Active Living

- Facilitated the Get Active Indigo Grants program which aims to get more people, more active, more often.
- Secured grant funding to improve community sports infrastructure that will lead to improved participation in physical activity.
- Delivered the swimming pools contract and explore opportunities for programming i.e. learn to swim, Aqua Aerobics and Bush Nippers.

Improving Mental Health

- Delivered the Creative Lands Festival that aims to improve the resilience of school aged children in our community.
- Delivered Sport and Life Training sessions that aim to improve awareness of mental health and simple strategies for self help.

Options

1. Endorse the Council Plan and MPHWP Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4) with no proposed amendments. (recommended)
2. Not endorse the Council Plan and MPHWP Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4) and propose further amendments.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	5. Accountability
Strategic Objective	5.5 Our Councillors and organisation are committed to the highest level of governance practices and conduct.
Strategic Action	5.5.1 Develop and deliver an ongoing internal Integrity Program to ensure both staff and Councillors are aware of and carrying out their responsibilities with the highest levels of governance

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The Council Plan reflects what the community expressed to Council it wants for Indigo Shire, both in the long term and immediate future. In developing the plan, community input and involvement was strongly encouraged. Through drop-in sessions, online feedback, submissions and surveys, Council received constructive and well considered feedback from almost 250 individuals and organisations which was used to shape the document.

Overwhelmingly, the community expressed the importance of a Shire united by a desire for sustainable living, care for the environment, action to address climate change along with progress, prosperity and community pride, but also for the Shire's towns and villages to be recognised for their individual character and charm and unique sense of identity.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council Plan has a strong focus on addressing climate change. Theme 4 Environment, has a number of strategic objectives and actions that reinforce Council's commitment to ensuring that it considers mitigation and planning for climate change risks in any decisions that affect the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the Shire.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council Plan is a central part of Council's integrated planning framework and the items in the action plan are identified for priority funding in each budget cycle. Year four actions in this plan have been included in the draft 2024/25 budget.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Council Plan

Under section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

1. *A Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next 4 financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.*
2. *A Council Plan must include the following:*
 - a. *the strategic direction of the Council;*
 - b. *strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction;*
 - c. *strategies for achieving the objectives for a period of at least the next 4 financial years;*
 - d. *strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives;*
 - e. *a description of the Council's initiatives and priorities for services, infrastructure and amenity;*
 - f. *any other matters prescribed by the regulations.*
3. *A Council must develop or review the Council Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and adopt the Council Plan by 31 October in the year following a general election. Authorised by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel*
4. *The Council Plan adopted under subsection (3) has effect from 1 July in the year following a general election.*

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
The Council Plan does not reflect the requirements of the Local Government Act	Unlikely	Minor	Low	The plan has been guided by the requirements of the Act

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement undertaken

Extensive community and stakeholder engagement was undertaken in 2021 to help inform the Council Plan 2021-2025. Feedback from pre-budget surveys and other engagement opportunities has also been considered when undertaking annual reviews of the Council Plan.

Engagement proposed

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

It is proposed that following endorsement by Council, the Council Plan (including the MPHWP Plan) will be placed on public exhibition for 21 days from 15 May 2024 and submissions invited.

CONCLUSION

The Council Plan reflects both Council and community aspirations and guides the work Council does over its four-year term. Community feedback has been vital to ensure alignment between the services Council provides for residents and community aspirations.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Governance Rule 24, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Trevor Ierino – Chief Executive Officer
- Melinda Collis – Executive Manager Customer Experience and Engagement
- Mark De Campo – Coordinator Community Development

Attachments

1. Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4)
2. Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

14.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

File No: 2024/321

Carla Hanlon - Executive Manager People & Governance

Executive Management

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the attached unconfirmed meeting minutes for the following Advisory Committees:

1. Indigo Community Access Committee
2. Indigo Environment Advisory Committee

RESOLUTION

That Council receives the attached unconfirmed meeting minutes for the following Advisory Committees:

1. Indigo Community Access Committee
2. Indigo Environment Advisory Committee

Moved: Cr Teissl

Seconded: Cr Croucher

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shephard and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides the minutes, recommendations and accompanying officer comments from Council's advisory committees for Council noting and endorsement of Management Recommended Actions.

BACKGROUND

Council currently has seven advisory committees. The role of an advisory committee is to provide information and advice on issues relating to the committee's specific area of expertise (i.e., the Environment Committee provides advice on environmental issues).

Each advisory committee meets regularly (the frequency of which depends on the committee) and records minutes and resolutions for Council decision. Each resolution reported to this month's meeting is highlighted in the table below and has an accompanying officer comment.

DISCUSSION

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

COMMITTEE	DATE OF MEETING	RECOMMENDATION	MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION
Indigo Environment Advisory Committee	3 April 2024	Nil	
Indigo Community Access Committee	8 April 2024	Nil	

Note: Minutes of Advisory Committee meetings may not be available at the time the agenda is published. Any Minutes not included will be reported in the following month.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	5. Accountability
Strategic Objective	5.5 Our Councillors and organisation are committed to the highest level of governance practices and conduct.

The provision of advisory committee minutes and resolutions to Council at the monthly meeting ensures that Council considers the advice of the committees. This allows transparent decision-making and highest level of governance practices and conduct.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications with this report.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Council's advisory committees are established by Council but do not have any delegated decision-making powers. Instead, they work under terms of reference and provide advice to Council. The advice occurs in a variety of forms, including advice to relevant Council departments, as well as advice contained within resolutions that are reported to Council.

Some advisory committee meetings are open to the public and some are closed, however all minutes are reported to Council (apart from the Audit & Risk Committee - these meetings are held 'in camera' and the minutes are not available to the public – reporting to Council occurs as per the requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020*).

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

That advisory committee minutes and recommendations are not duly reported to Council, and the utility and confidence of the committees are undermined.	Unlikely	Insignificant	Low	Governance team follow up with officer secretariats to ensure that all meetings are reported to Council as soon as practicable.
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CONCLUSION

The advisory committee minutes included in this report are presented to Council for noting.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Governance Rule 24*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Carla Hanlon - Executive Manager People and Governance
- Annabel Harding - Governance Coordinator
- Emma O'Donnell – Governance Officer

Attachments

1. Minutes -Indigo Environment Advisory Committee - 03 April 2024
2. Minutes - Indigo Community Access Committee - 08 April 2024

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

14.3 INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS RECORDS

File No: 2024/320

Carla Hanlon - Executive Manager People & Governance

Executive Management

For Decision

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accepts the attached Informal Meetings of Councillors records.

RESOLUTION

That Council accepts the attached Informal Meetings of Councillors records.

Moved: Cr Gaffney

Seconded: Cr Gold

For: Crs Peter Croucher, Bernard Gaffney, Sue Gold, Roberta Horne, Sophie Price, Diane Shephard and Emmerick Teissl

Against: Nil

CARRIED

This report tables the Informal Meetings of Councillors as required under Council's governance rules. Informal Meetings of Councillors Records are only required for meetings closed to the public.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report presents Informal Meetings of Councillors records to Council for recording in the minutes in accordance with Governance Rule 72(b)(iii).

BACKGROUND

Governance Rule 70 defines an Informal Meeting of Councillors as:

1. a meeting of an advisory committee of Council, if at least one Councillor is present, or
2. a planned or scheduled meeting of at least half the Councillors and one member of Council staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be:
 - a. the subject of a decision of the Council; or
 - b. subject to the exercise of a function, duty or power of the Council that has been delegated to a person or a committee.

The Governance Rules specifically excludes the following meetings:

- Council Meetings
- Delegated Committee Meetings
- Community Asset Committee Meetings

Informal meetings of Councillors do not include meetings which are open to the public.

DISCUSSION

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

Under Governance Rule 72(b)(iii), the CEO is required to provide a summary of matters discussed at Informal meetings of Councillors, which is to be tabled at the next Scheduled Council meeting and is to be recorded in the minutes.

The attached Informal Meetings of Councillors records are presented to Council for acceptance as summarised in the following table.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

MEETING	DATE
Councillor Budget Workshop	9 April 2024
CEO Remuneration and Employment Committee	16 April 2024
Council Briefing	16 April 2024
Council Briefing	23 April 2024

NOTE:

The timing of the agenda distribution will sometimes make it difficult to provide a complete month. Please note that any items not included will carry forward to the following month.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	5. Accountability
Strategic Objective	5.5 Our Councillors and organisation are committed to the highest level of governance practices and conduct.

An Informal Meeting of Councillors record is a mechanism for Councillors and officers to openly declare and report any conflicts that may have arisen during a defined informal meeting of Councillors. This demonstrates to Council and the community that the meetings are conducted with transparency and good governance.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications with this report.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Informal Meetings of Councillors are dealt with under the Governance Rules.

RISK & OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

Description	Likelihood	Consequence	Final Risk Rating	Controls, treatments
That a defined Informal Meeting of Councillors is not reported to Council, and public confidence in transparency is undermined.	Likely	Insignificant	Medium	Regular reminders to officers about the requirement to report defined meetings. Follow up of missing records for known meetings.

CONCLUSION

The Informal Meetings of Councillors records attached to this report are a true and accurate record of all defined meetings reported since the last report to Council.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020 and Governance Rule 24*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

- Carla Hanlon – Executive Manager People & Governance
- Annabel Harding - Governance Coordinator
- Emma O'Donnell – Governance Officer

Attachments

1. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - Councillor Budget Workshop - 9 April 2024
2. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - CEO Remuneration and Employment Committee - 16 April 2024
 3. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - Council Briefing -16 April 2024
 4. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - Council Briefing - 23 April 2024

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

14.4 CONTRACTS AWARDED UNDER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DELEGATION - APRIL 2024

File No: 2024/346

Trevor Ierino - Chief Executive Officer

Executive Management

For Information

The following contract was awarded by the CEO under delegation, between the values \$250,000 and \$500,000, for the month of April 2024.

Date	Tenderer	Title	Project	Amount
3/4/24 (contract agreement dated 29/1/24)	Longford Civil	Supply and delivery of gravel road re-sheeting in the western area		\$278,430.23 (ex GST)

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021 – 2025	
Theme	5. Accountability
Strategic Objective	5.5 Our Councillors and organisation are committed to the highest level of governance practices and conduct.
Strategic Action	5.5.2 Develop and maintain a Governance Schedule to give Council and Community visibility of future legislative requirements

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Governance Rule 24, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Trevor Ierino – Chief Executive Officer
- Kathryn Baldock – Executive Assistant CEO & Councillors

Attachments
Nil

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil reports

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

16. COUNCILLORS REPORT

16.1 MAYOR'S DIARY - APRIL 2024

For Information

Mayor Price attended the following functions/events/meetings in April 2024.

DATE	TIME	FUNCTION / EVENT / MEETING	LOCATION
2 April	10.00am	Meeting with CEO	Beechworth
6 April	9.30am	Opening of Main Stage at Off Grid Living Festival	Chiltern
8 April	10.00am	Meeting with CEO	Beechworth
8 April	1.00pm	Indigo Community Advisory Committee	Online
9 April	All day	Councillor Budget Workshop	Beechworth
15 April	11.00am	Meeting with CEO	Beechworth
16 April	9.30am	Preview of Courthouse Kelly Trials	Beechworth
16 April	11.00am	Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Working Group Meeting	Beechworth
16 April	1.00pm	CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee	Beechworth
16 April	2.30pm	Council Briefing	Beechworth
16 April	6.00pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Beechworth
19 April	9.30am	Opening of Dementia Friendly Sensory Garden	Chiltern
21 April	1.00pm	Barney Festival	Barnawartha
22 April	10.00am	Meeting with CEO	Beechworth
23 April	4.00pm	Council Briefing	Beechworth
23 April	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Beechworth
25 April	6.00am	ANZAC Day Dawn Service	Chiltern
25 April	10.00am	ANZAC Day Memorial Service	Barnawartha
25 April	11.00am	ANZAC Day Memorial Service	Chiltern
26 April	9.00am	Media – Interview with Radio 2AY	Phone
29 April	7.40am	Media – Interview with Radio ABC Goulburn Murray	Phone
29 April	10.00am	Meeting with CEO	Beechworth
29 April	10.45am	Meeting with CEO and the Hon Melissa Horne MP	Online
29 April	11.20am	Media – Interview with Prime	Beechworth Courthouse
29 April	11.30am	Official Opening – Beechworth Courthouse Kelly Trials Exhibition	Beechworth

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

DATE	TIME	FUNCTION / EVENT / MEETING	LOCATION
29 April	12.30pm	Media – Interview with Win News	Beechworth Courthouse
30 April	11.30am	Meeting with Executive Manager, Ovens & Murray Business Banking, Regional and Agribusiness - Commonwealth Bank	Beechworth
30 April	12.30pm	Meeting with Governance Coordinator	Online
30 April	2.30pm	Council Briefing	Beechworth
30 April	4.00pm	Meeting with CEO and representative from Minister Jaclyn Symes' Office	Online

- Cr Teissl commented that swift parrots have been sited in the Chiltern area.
- Cr Shepherd commented on the recent Aurora Australis.

Attachments

Nil

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

17. DECISIONS REGISTER

17.1 DECISIONS REGISTER

File No: 2024/359

Trevor Ierino - Chief Executive Officer

Executive Management

For Information

The report outlines actions from Council Resolutions as at 23 April 2024, including those not previously listed as completed, but not including resolutions to note a report.

Meeting date	Item	Name	Resolution	Status
28 Nov 23	12.4	Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) - Indigo Shire	That Indigo Shire Council purchase two CCTV cameras in the 2024/2025 budget at a cost of no more than \$5,000 per camera. These cameras will be available for installation by Victoria Police Local Area Command across the Shire to keep our communities safe.	Not yet able to be implemented. Hold in register until 24/25 Budget submitted to May 2024 Council meeting
23 April 2024	8	Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)	That the following Minutes be confirmed: 1. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 March 2024, as published on Council's website; and 2. Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 March 2024, as provided to Councillors under separate cover.	Completed
23 April 2024	11.1	March Finance Report	That Council accepts the YTD March Finance Report noting the progress against Council's quarter 2 forecast.	Completed
23 April 2024	11.2	Draft Revenue and Rating Strategy	That Council; 1. Thanks the community for its input into the revenue and rating survey; 2. Thanks the community working group for its careful consideration and active	Completed

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

Meeting date	Item	Name	Resolution	Status
			<p>participation; and</p> <p>3. Endorses the attached <i>Draft Revenue and Rating Strategy</i> (2024) for the purpose of public exhibition until 28 June 2024.</p>	
23 April 2024	11.3	Draft Financial Hardship Policy	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thanks the community for its input into the Draft Hardship Policy; 2. Thanks the community working group for its careful consideration and active participation; and 3. Endorses the attached <i>Draft Hardship Policy</i> (2024) for the purpose of public exhibition until 28 June 2024. 	Completed
23 April 2024	11.4	Planning Permit Application PP23-0089 - 645 Hellhole Creek Road, Kergunyah	<p>That Council issues a notice of decision to refuse planning permit application PP23-0089 for a 2 lot re-subdivision at 645 Hellhole Creek Road, Kergunyah on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposal is contrary to the purpose and decision guidelines of the Farming Zone; 2. The proposal is contrary to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Planning Policy Framework, in particular clauses: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 02-03-4 Natural resource management b. 14.01-1S Protection of agricultural land c. 14.01-1L-02 Subdivision in rural 	Completed

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

Meeting date	Item	Name	Resolution	Status
			<p>areas</p> <p>d. 14.01-2S Sustainable agricultural land use</p> <p>e. 14.01-2R Agricultural productivity – Hume;</p> <p>3. The proposal is not supported by the decision guidelines at clause 65.01 and 65.02 of the <i>Indigo Planning Scheme</i>.</p>	
23 April 2024	12.1	Indigo Shire Council Public Art Policy	<p>That Council endorses the draft Public Art Policy for public exhibition for a period of 30 days, from 24 April to 24 May 2024;</p> <p>2. If no submissions are received during the public exhibition period, the policy is adopted from 25 May 2024; and</p> <p>3. If submissions are received during public exhibition, the policy is to be brought to a future Council meeting for adoption.</p>	Completed
23 April 2024	13.1	March Capital Works Report	<p>That Council notes the March Capital Works Report and year to date progress in the delivery of the Capital Works Program.</p>	Completed
23 April 2024	13.2	Award Contract - Design and Construction of Indigo Creek Road Bridge and Associated Works 22/23-060-03 Cottage and Former Beechworth Railway Station	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Award a contract to Nelmac Pty Ltd, for a contract value of \$1,270,091 (excluding GST); 2. Authorise the CEO to execute the contract documentation; and 3. Authorise the CEO the financial delegation to 	Completed

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

Meeting date	Item	Name	Resolution	Status
			approve contract variations up to a total of 10 per cent of the signed contract value.	
23 April 2024	14.1	Audit & Risk Committee - Biannual Report - March 2024	The Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receives the Biannual Report of the Audit and Risk Committee; and 2. Thanks the Committee for its work. 	Completed
23 April 2024	14.2	Council Plan 2023/2024 - Quarter 3 Progress Report	That Council notes the Quarter 3 2023/2024 Council Plan Progress Report.	Completed
23 April 2024	14.3	Advisory Committee Minutes	That Council receives the attached unconfirmed meeting minutes for the following Advisory Committees: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Finance Committee b) Indigrow Advisory Committee 	Completed
23 April 2024	14.4	Informal Meetings of Councillors Records	That Council accepts the attached Informal Meetings of Councillors records.	Completed

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 14 MAY 2024

18. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Teissl raised recent engagement with local communities regarding the impact of solar farms. Control of planning processes for solar farms has been largely returned to the State government. This topic is coming up in discussions with agencies/ministers. Trevor Ierino, Chief Executive Officer suggested that this item be added to Council's advocacy report.

Meeting Concluded: 7.48PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 25 June 2024 at 6.30pm