



MANSFIELD SHIRE

High Country, Lakes and Rivers

COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2020

**Notice and Agenda of meeting
to be held at the Bonnie Doon
Community Centre
75 Arnot Street, Bonnie Doon**

Commencing at 5.00pm

Our aspiration for our Shire and its community

We live, work and play in an inclusive, dynamic and prosperous place where community spirit is strong and people are empowered to engage in issues that affect their lives.

Councillors:

Tolmie Ward:	Cr Marg Attley (Mayor)
Mansfield Ward:	Cr Peter Olver (Deputy Mayor)
Bonnie Doon Ward:	Cr Paul Sladdin
Mansfield Ward:	Cr Paul Volkering
Jamieson Ward:	Cr Harry Westendorp

Officers:

<i>Interim Chief Executive Officer:</i>	<i>Peter Reeve</i>
<i>Community Services Manager:</i>	<i>Melanie Hotton</i>
<i>Corporate and Organisational Development Manager:</i>	<i>Sharon Scott</i>
<i>Development Services Manager:</i>	<i>Ben McKay</i>
<i>Finance Manager:</i>	<i>Mandy Kynnersley</i>
<i>Infrastructure Manager (Interim):</i>	<i>Andre Kompler</i>



MANSFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL

Order of Business

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Mayor, who chairs the meeting, will formally open the meeting and welcome all present.

2. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

The Council affirms its commitment to ensuring its behaviour meets the standards set by the Mansfield Shire Councillor Code of Conduct and Councillor Charter.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Council affirms its recognition of the Taungurung people being traditional owners of this area, and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

4. APOLOGIES

Where a Councillor is not present, his/her absence is noted in the Minutes of the meeting.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting are placed before Council to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the record.

6. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, a Councillor must declare any Conflict of Interest or Personal Interests pursuant to Sections 77A, 77B, 78, 79 and 79B of the Act in any items on this Agenda. (Note that Section 79(2)(a)(i) of the Act requires Councillors to disclose the nature of a Conflict of Interest or a Personal Interest immediately before the relevant consideration or discussion). Section 79B also requires that the Councillor declaring a Personal Interest must seek consent from Council to be exempt from voting on the item.

Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to any items listed on this Agenda must declare a Conflict of Interest or Personal Interest regarding the specific item.

7. REPRESENTATIONS

Council receives or presents acknowledgements to the general public. Deputations may also be heard by members of the general public who have made submission on any matter or requested to address the Council. Council may also receive petitions from residents and ratepayers on various issues. Any petitions received since the previous Council meeting are tabled at the meeting and the matter referred to the appropriate Council officer for consideration.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

A Motion is a request (Notice of Motion) that may be made by a Councillor for an issue not listed on the Agenda to be discussed at a Council meeting and for a decision to be made.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provides a report on his/her activities.

10. OFFICER REPORTS

10.1 Departmental Reports

Monthly Departmental reports will be presented to the Council as follows:

- Community Services
- Corporate and Organisational Development
- Development Services
- Executive Services
- Finance
- Infrastructure



10.2 Finance Department

Detailed reports prepared by officers from the Finance Department are considered by the Council. A Council position is adopted on the matters considered.

10.3 Development Services

All planning and development applications and strategic planning items will be considered by the Council. Reports also considered will be Building, Environment, Environmental Health and Local Laws. A Council position is adopted on the matters considered.

10.4 Community Services

Detailed reports prepared by the Community Services Department reports and are considered by Councillors. A Council position is adopted on the matters considered.

10.5 Infrastructure

Detailed reports prepared by officers from the Infrastructure Department are considered by the Council. A Council position is adopted on the matters considered. *No reports for consideration this month.*

10.6 Executive Services

Detailed reports prepared by officers from Executive Services Department will be considered by the Council. A Council position is adopted on the matters considered. *No reports for consideration this month.*

10.7 Corporate and Organisational Development

Detailed reports prepared by officers from Corporate and Organisational Development Department will be considered by the Council. A Council position is adopted on the matters considered. *No reports for consideration this month.*

11. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

In accordance with section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council must keep a written record of all assemblies of Councillors. An Assembly of Councillors is defined as a planned or scheduled meeting, comprising at least three Councillors and one member of Council staff, that consider matters that are intended or likely to be the subject of a decision of the Council or subject to the exercise of a function; duty or power of a Council that has been delegated to a person or committee [s.76AA].

12. ADVISORY AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council considers reports from Advisory Committees that Councillors represent Council on.

13. AUTHORISATION OF SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Any documents that are required to be endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer under delegated authority and sealed by the Council are presented to the Council.

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

This is an opportunity (usually 30 minutes), for members of the Gallery to raise questions with Councillors. Question Time generally takes place at around 6.30pm.

15. CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Whilst all Council meetings are open to members of the public, Council has the power under the *Local Government Act 1989* to close its meeting to the general public in certain circumstances which are noted where appropriate on the Council Agenda. Where this occurs, members of the public leave the Council Chamber while the matter is being discussed.

16. PRESENTATION OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

17. REOPEN MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Mayor will reopen the meeting to members of the public.

18. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Mayor will formally close the meeting and thank all present for attending.

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MANSFIELD SHIRE

MANSFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting of Council

AGENDA

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2020
BONNIE DOON COMMUNITY CENTRE
75 Arnot Street, Bonnie Doon
5.00pm

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AGENDA

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2020
BONNIE DOON COMMUNITY CENTRE
75 Arnot Street, Bonnie Doon
5.00pm

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

2. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

“As Councillors of Mansfield Shire we are committed to ensuring our behaviour meets the standards set by the Mansfield Shire Councillor Code of Conduct and Councillor Charter. We will, at all times, faithfully represent and uphold the trust placed in us by the community.”

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

“Our meeting is being held on the lands of the Taungurung people and we wish to acknowledge them as Traditional Owners. We would also like to pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and Aboriginal Elders of other communities who may be here today.”

4. APOLOGIES

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation:

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Mansfield Shire Council, held on 21 January 2020, will be confirmed as an accurate record.

6. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

7. REPRESENTATIONS

7.1 Certification of Appreciation from Tolmie Sports Association Inc.

The Tolmie Sports Association Inc. have provided Council with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of its generous support and involvement for the 134th Tolmie Sports 2020 event.

Recommendation:

That Council receive the Certificate of Appreciation from the Tolmie Sports Association Inc. in recognition of its support for the 134th Tolmie Sports 2020 event.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Cr Marg Attley will present the monthly Mayor's report to the Council as follows:

Since the beginning of this year, weather events have had an impact on our communities. It has been extremely difficult for our businesses, especially the recent 24 hour power outage across most parts of Shire. It is a challenging time as our visitor numbers are still low.

I have listened to community experiences, issues and needs and when possible, have passed information to appropriate agencies.

BUSINESS COUNCIL AUSTRALIA COMMUNITY REBUILDING INITIATIVE

On 29 January, I attended a Bushfire Roundtable in Canberra, facilitated Sir Peter Cosgrove, leading the Business Council Australia (BCA) Community Rebuilding Initiative. This session provided the opportunity for local governments to explain the local impact the recent events have had on their communities. Members of the BCA are already providing in-kind support to affected communities. Every member of the Roundtable has since been contacted to clarify their own needs.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mansfield Bushmarket – 25 January

All Councillors attended this community market and held strong conversations with residents and visitors. Council's Project Officer, Dean De Santis, was also on-site and engaged on the plans for the Mansfield Dual-Court Stadium. It was interesting to hear from so many community members on a wide range of topics.

Café Conversations

It is pleasing to meet with so many residents in the relaxing environment of our local cafés. An average of 8 people have joined me to discuss subjects such as:

- *Footpath accessibility*
- *Walking tracks*
- *Resource Recovery Centre Vouchers for use after storm damage*
- *Resource Recovery Centre Vouchers for local thrift shops*
- *Concern for elderly people living in their own homes,*
- *Dead trees on lake beds*
- *Roadside vegetation*
- *Roadside timber collection*
- *Strategic plan for the Great Victorian Rail Trail*
- *Issues with NBN and Broadband*

The next Café Conversation is to be held on Thursday, 20 January at 10.30am at the Mansfield Coffee Merchant.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT CONT.

Economic Development Strategy

Workshops were conducted on 29 and 30 January which provided a great opportunity for businesses/industry to comment on this strategy. Approximately 40 people took part in the sessions, and some of the topics included:

- Mansfield Shire's vision and aspiration
- Helicopter leadership
- Planning and commercial land availability
- Diversification of sectors
- Disaster planning
- Environmental sustainability

Dual Court Stadium

A 'drop in' session was held on 1 February at the Mansfield Secondary College, and was well attended by neighbouring residents to make comment and clarify the plans for the development.

Australia Day 2020

This year's event was well supported and assisted by our community, and we were honoured to welcome Dr Nouria Salehi OAM, to be our Australia Day Ambassador. Dr Salehi is an inspirational Australian with an amazing life of experience and dedication to her country of birth, Afghanistan, and her resident country, Australia.

During the festivities, we welcomed two new Australian citizens – Hannah Blondell and Jiaqi Zhu.

Our Australia Day Award winners were introduced and presented with their Awards in front of family, friends and members of the public:

- Citizen of the Year: Peter Coffey
- Young Citizen of the Year: Rory Jenkins
- Senior Citizen of the Year: Noel Willaton
- Community Event of the Year: Merrijig Anzac Day Service 2019

On Australia Day I also attended the Jamieson community's special celebration by the river. This enjoyable event demonstrated just how important it is for communities to get together.

2020-21 Budget

Officers and Councillors are commencing the 2020-21 budget process, following on from community sessions held last year.

We look forward to working through all ideas.

The draft Budget will be presented to the community for comment in April and I look forward to the community's interest and input in this process.



9. MAYOR'S REPORT CONT.

Staff Awards

This month we will acknowledge and congratulate the following Council staff for their achievement, commitment and service to Mansfield Shire Council.

Congratulations to:

- 10 year – Rochelle Klavins and Sally Taylor
- 15 year – Lisa Fricke, Heather Mahoney and Margaret Valcich
- 35 year – Kevin Murphy

Finally, on behalf of Councillors, staff and our community, I offer sincere thanks to Peter Reeve for his role of Interim Chief Executive Officer from September 2019. I also wish to acknowledge our staff who have accepted acting positions until the commencement of incoming CEO, Kaylene Conrick, on 27 February 2020.

Cr Marg Attley, OAM
Mayor

Recommendation:

THAT the Mayor's report for the period 18 January to 7 February 2020 be received.



10. OFFICER REPORTS

10.1 DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

File Number: E103
Responsible Officer: Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mel Hotton

Introduction

Departmental reporting allows a short briefing to be provided to Council on the current operations, tasks and projects undertaken within each Department over the past month.

The Interim Chief Executive Officer will present the monthly Departmental reports to Council, as follows:

- Community Services
- Corporate and Organisational
- Development Services
- Executive Services
- Finance
- Infrastructure

Attachment

10.1.1 Departmental reports

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive and note the Departmental reports for the period 18 January to 7 February 2020.

10.2 FINANCE

10.2.1 Naming of a Feature; Mount Battery – Proposed Dual Name – Mount Battery / Beolite

File Number: E429
Responsible Officer: Finance Manager, Mandy Kynnersley

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

This report asks Council to consider incorporating an indigenous name to the geographic feature currently known as Mount Battery. The proposal would create a dual name to recognise the landmark as **Mount Battery / Beolite**. The name would not be sign posted, but would show on VICMAP's database.

Background

In response to a community request, Council officers have facilitated a proposal to incorporate an indigenous name to Mount Battery.

Mount Battery is a geographical feature located in Mansfield, Victoria (see the map at attachment 1). The proposed name for this geographical feature is a dual name: Mount Battery / Beolite.

There is early mapping evidence that the mountain is known to the Taungurung people as *Beolite* which was the name of a local Chief in Daung Wurrung language.

The naming proposal has been considered by Officers in accordance with Council's Naming of Roads, Features or Localities Policy.

Statutory Requirements

Section 5 (1) to Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989* states that a Council may:

- (a) approve, assign or change the name of a road (or feature); and
- (b) erect signs on a road;

Section 5 (2) requires Council to comply with the *Naming rules for places in Victoria – Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities – 2016* (the Naming Rules).

The Office of Geographic Names (OGN) provides state-wide advice to Victorian naming authorities and the public about appropriate and compliant naming practices. The Registrar of Geographic Names oversees the gazettal and registration of place names in Victoria. Road names and features must be approved by OGN and once gazetted are placed on the public VICNAMES database.



10.2.1 Naming of a Feature; Mount Battery – Proposed Dual Name - Mount Battery / Beolite cont.

The naming process undertaken in accordance with Council Policy, the statutory requirements under the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Naming Rules*, is performed by the Revenue Coordinator under delegation by the CEO.

Council Plan

Strategic Direction Four: Enhanced Liveability.

Strategic Objective 4.4: We have a strong policy and decision making framework in place to protect and enhance the unique character of our Shire for future generations.

Financial

There will be no financial impact to Council.

Social

Naming this feature with a dual name, recognising traditional owners and European settlers provides recognition that can bring the community together, respectfully honoring the culture and beliefs of both our First Nations peoples and our European pioneers.

Environmental

There is no environmental impact associated with this proposal

Economic

There is no economic impact associated with this proposal

Risk Management

There are no significant risks arising from this proposal

Community Engagement

Community consultation has been conducted in accordance with the statutory requirements under the section 7 of the *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria*.

The naming proposal for the dual name **Mount Battery / Beolite** was issued by Council officers for public consultation in November 2019. A public notice was placed on Facebook and on the Council Website (1 November 2019) and in the Mansfield Courier (20 November 2019) requesting submissions and objections.

Property owners on and adjacent to Mount Battery have been contacted by email and letter and encouraged to provide feedback.

The consultation period was open for a period of 30 days, closing on 30 November 2019.

10.2.1 Naming of a Feature; Mount Battery – Proposed Dual Name - Mount Battery / Beolite cont.

A total of 56 Submissions were received, and are attached for Council's consideration (see attachment 4). Of the 56 submissions, there were 31 in support, 24 against and 1 unclear position.

Officer's Comments

The proposed name, Mount Battery / Beolite is compliant with the Naming Rules and has a historic link to the area. Consultation of the traditional owners was sought and approval has been granted by the Taungurung Land and Waters Council with support shown by the Gadhaba Local Aboriginal Network.

The community consultation process has also received some negative feedback. A summary of these comments includes:

- The change is unwarranted.
- The change process is a waste of Council resources and unnecessary.
- Beolite is already used as the name of a Parish and a Retirement Village.
- Mount Battery was founded by early European pioneers.

This is a contentious and passionate issue for some in our community.

Given the outcome of the community engagement process shows more in favour than against the proposal, officers recommend the dual name be implemented by Council.

A change would not impact any addressing of properties, or signage requirements. The name would be updated in the VICNAMES database.

Attachments

- 1 Map showing the location of the feature to be named
- 2 Map showing the Parish of Beolite
- 3 Photo of Mount Battery
- 4 Submissions

Recommendation:

THAT Council:

- 1. resolve to incorporate an indigenous name to the feature currently known as Mount Battery with a dual name - Mount Battery / Beolite;**
- 2. authorise officers to lodge the name "Mount Battery / Beolite" with the Office of Geographic Names to be approved by the Registrar, gazetted and added to VICNAMES; and**
- 3. authorise Officers to issue a public notice to announce the new feature name once it has been gazetted.**



10.2 FINANCE CONT.

10.2.2 Council Plan Performance Reporting Q2 2020

File Number: E4397
Responsible Officer: Finance Manager, Mandy Kynnersley

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

This report presents an update on performance against the Mansfield Shire Council Plan 2017-21.

Background

Item 5.3.2 of the Council Plan 2017-2021 requires management to provide quarterly updates on the delivery of the Council Plan and its performance measures.

Statutory Requirements

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework requires councils to indicate publically (in the annual report) whether they have received:

- Council Plan reporting - A report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year; and
- Performance reporting - six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the results against financial and non-financial performance, including performance indicators referred to in section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the LGPRF indicators).

Council Plan

Strategic Direction Five: Responsible Leadership

Strategic Objective 5.3: Our organisation transparently reports on its performance through a comprehensive reporting and audit framework.

Financial

Financial and Human resources are determined annually via the Budget (short term outlook – 12 months), Strategic Resource Plan (medium term outlook – 4 years) and Long Term Financial Plan (long term outlook – 10 years). These plans are designed around delivery of the Council Plan.



10.2.2 Council Plan Performance Reporting Q2 2020 cont.

Social

There are no direct social impacts.

Environmental

There are no direct environmental impacts.

Economic

There are no direct economic impacts.

Risk Management

There are no inherent risks in relation to this matter.

Community Engagement

The Council Plan is subject to community consultation under s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The Plan must be reviewed annually (s125(7)). If changes are made, the Plan must be made available for public submissions pursuant to s223.

Council typically review the Council Plan in June of each year, together with the Strategic Resource Plan and the Annual Budget. The revised Council Plan was made available for public engagement on 17 April 2019, closing 14 May 2019.

Council adopted the revised Council Plan on 25 June 2019.

Officer's Comments

See the attached report for details of performance against the Mansfield Shire Council Plan as at 31 December 2019 (quarter two of the 2019-20 financial year).

Attachments

- 1 Council Plan Performance Report Q2 2020

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive and note the Council Plan Performance Report as at 31 December 2019.



10.2 FINANCE CONT.

10.2.3 Finance Report: 1 July 2019 to 31 January 2020

File Number: E39
Responsible Officer: Finance Manager, Mandy Kynnersley

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

This report provides information on Council's financial performance against the 2019-20 budget.

This report is for noting only and no decision is required.

Background

Council, at its Special meeting of 25 June 2019, adopted the budget for the 2019-20 financial year. Subsequently Council approved carry forward projects from the 2018-19 year, which have now been included and form part of the Revised Budget 2019-20.

This report explains material variances between the year to date actual financial results and the Revised Budget 2019-20. Favourable variances are reported as positive values, while unfavourable variances are shown as negative values.

Statutory Requirements

Section 138 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, requires a report comparing expenses and revenue to budget presented to the Council at least quarterly.

Council Plan

Strategic Direction Five: Responsible leadership

Financial

There is no direct financial impact in relation to this report. The financial reports attached provide the opportunity for regular monitoring of Council's financial position to ensure compliance with budgets.

Social

Nil.

Environmental

Nil.

10.2.3 Finance Report: 1 July 2019 to 31 January 2020 cont.

Economic

Nil.

Risk Management

Regular financial reporting is part of Council's financial strategy to ensure budgets are complied with and the short to medium term financial sustainability of Council is maintained.

Community Engagement

The 2019-20 budget engagement process facilitated opportunities for community feedback on Council's budget. There has been no community engagement around the actual results against the budget.

Officer's Comments

Operating Finance Report

Operating Income & Expenditure Actual against Budget

The year to date operating result is favourable against the 2019-20 budget by \$546k (7%). Major variances are summarised below.

Favourable Variances

- \$43k Aged & Disability Services – Timing only. Quarterly income paid in advance.
- \$60k Emergency Management – \$30k grant income received in advance of budget (timing only) and staff costs under budget due to staff vacancy for a period of time.
- \$43k Family Services & Partnerships – Savings in wages due to integrated family services team currently being understaffed.
- \$54k Information Technology – Timing of the IT strategy, which is currently out for tender.
- \$41k Development Services Management – savings in wages due to staff leave which was not backfilled for some time.
- \$56k Health – Timing only in relation to Environmental Health income and the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.
- \$74k Statutory Planning – Staff vacancies have resulted in wages under budget. Consultants are also under budget YTD (planning strategy consulting has been appointed but not yet commenced).

10.2.3 Finance Report: 1 July 2019 to 31 January 2020 cont.

- \$339k Engineering Services - Wages under budget in both engineering and GIS areas due to various staff vacancies. Income from developer contributions and inspection and permit fees have also exceeded budget by \$91k YTD. GIS aerial photography is not yet completed resulting in a timing variance of \$50k.
- \$114k Parks & Gardens – Wages under budget YTD due to staff vacancy which has now been filled. Plant also under budget (however is an internal charge only).
- \$203k Road Network Maintenance – Predominately relates to wages as a result of significant periods of staff leave taken which have not been backfilled (2 FTE). Materials are also underspent YTD which is timing only as works are expected to increase over the following months.
- \$58k Corporate Services – Budgeted Communications Officer position remains unfilled.
- \$100k Strategic Planning – Federal funding has been received in relation to Station Precinct Master Plan (\$37k budgeted in 2018/19). Also relates to timing of consulting for to the Station Master Precinct Plan (funding variation), Commercial Strategy (currently underway) & Open Space Strategy (request for quote to be released in February).

Unfavourable Variances

- \$57k Tourism & Events – predominately relates to timing of Tourism North East payments.
- \$119k Waste Management – Council bought back the management of the Resource Recovery Centre and is now operating it internally. Additional costs are currently being offset by additional income and reduced waste disposal costs.
- \$55k Executive Services – wages and associated costs.
- \$705k Salaries & Wages Clearing - timing of leave accruals, which are updated at year end.

Capital Works Report

Capital Income & Expenditure Actual against Budget

The net year to date capital works variance (net of capital income) is \$3.962m (85%) favourable to the 2019-20 budget. Major variances are summarised below.

Favourable Variances

- \$190k New Footpath Mt Buller Rd – timing only. Construction plans are currently being reviewed by TAC. Expected to advertise tender shortly and award contract by April 2020.



10.2.3 Finance Report: 1 July 2019 to 31 January 2020 cont.

- \$498k Botanic Park Playground – Design of playground has commenced and expected to cost approx. \$50k. Remaining funds will be carried forward to deliver the project in 2020-21.
- \$279k Plant Purchases – Timing only. New roller delivered and paid for in February. Full plant budget is expected to be spent during 2019-20.
- \$595k Reseal Preparation Program – Timing only. Works have been scoped and will be tendered shortly.
- \$466k Heavy Vehicle Bypass – Withers Lane sealing (550m only) is nearing completion. Council endorsed additional budget of \$88k when the tender was awarded. Works are expected to exceed the revised budget by \$55k for ancillary costs.
- \$100k Alpine Ridge Road Reconstruction – Timing only. Survey and design currently in progress. Works expected to be complete May 2020.
- \$120k Barwite Road Reconstruction – Timing only. Remedial works are expected to be complete by April.
- \$240k Fixing Country Roads Income – Income received in advance for View Street reconstruction. Design will commence this financial year, however works will be completed in 2020-21.
- \$80k Kerb & Channel Reconstruction – Timing only. Works have been scoped and ready to be advertised for quote.
- \$2.913m Dual Court Basketball Stadium – Contract for works have now been signed in conjunction with the VSBA. No payments have been made at this stage. \$1.7m expected to be paid this year, with remainder carried forward to 2020-21.

Unfavourable Variances

- \$1.789m Dual Court Basketball Stadium Income - 1st instalment funding of \$680k is expected in the next month (following the signed contract). Remainder of the federal funding is expected to be received in 2020-21.

Overall Position

Operating Variance Favourable/(Unfavourable)	\$546,350
Capital Variance Favourable/(Unfavourable)	<u>\$3,962,623</u>
Total Variance Favourable/(Unfavourable)	\$4,508,973

Working Capital Ratio

The working capital ratio (WCR) compares current assets to current liabilities and is an indicator of Council's capacity to meet its immediate debts when they fall due. A WCR of more than 1:1 (or 100%) is considered healthy.

WCR = 7.4:1 (740%)



10.2.3 Finance Report: 1 July 2019 to 31 January 2020 cont.

Attachments

January 2020 Year to Date Financial Report, comprising:

- 1 Income and Expenditure Summary
- 2 Operating Report – income and expenditure by business unit
- 3 Capital Works Report – income and expenditure
- 4 Balance Sheet
- 5 Statement of Cash Flows
- 6 Capital Works Status Report

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive the Year to Date Finance Report for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 January 2020.



10.3 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

10.3.1 Local Laws – Designated Mobile Trading Area (Barbeques Only)

File Number: E5235

Responsible Officer: Development Services Manager, Ben McKay

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to consider designating specific areas for those people undertaking mobile trading (barbeques) within High Street, Mansfield, in accordance with the Council's Community Local Law No 1 – Amenity, Environment and Community Protection 2018 (Local Law).

Background

Historically the pedestrian node outside the IGA supermarket has been utilised for fundraising barbeques. In accordance with the Local Law, these types of activities are defined as Mobile Trading and as such a Local Laws permit is required. As a result of that process, concerns relating to pedestrian and vehicle interactions have been highlighted.

Statutory Requirements

The Local Laws is made under section 111(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989*. This report will further enforce the purpose and considerations established as part of the Local Law.

Council Plan

Strategic Objective 4.4 We have strong policy and decision making frameworks in place to protect and enhance the unique character of our Shire for future generations.

The Local Law is a key means through which protecting the amenity, environment and enjoyment of the Shire by all that live, work and visit the municipality is achieved by Council.

Financial

There are no financial impacts related to this proposal.

Social

There are no social impacts in relation to this report.

10.3.1 Local Laws – Designated Mobile Trading Area (Barbeques Only) cont.

Environmental

There are no direct environmental considerations as part of this report.

Economic

It is considered that there is no economic impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management

There are no risk management impacts in relation to this matter.

Community Engagement

Community engagement is not required and has not occurred given the safety concerns that have been raised in the relation to this matter.

Officer's Comments

As a result of the increased population and visitor numbers being encountered in the main street, concerns have been raised relating to pedestrian access and vehicle movements. The location of the mobile trading (barbeques) within the pedestrian node results in a bottle neck and restriction of pedestrian access through the main thoroughfare. Compounding this is the safety concern with increased vehicle movements in close proximity to the area.

In determining whether or not a permit under the Local Law should be issued, Council must consider the following:

- 9.5.1 Whether appropriate and safe pedestrian access can be maintained;
- 9.5.3 Whether the safety of road users, passage of vehicles or the safe ingress or egress of vehicles will be adversely affected.

With this in mind it is proposed to designate an area within the median strip for those applicants wishing to apply for a mobile trading (barbeques) permit within High Street (Attachment 1). This will allow the community to capitalise on the natural landscape and picturesque streetscape whilst ensuring safe pedestrian and vehicle movements are maintained.

Attachments

- 1 Locality plan highlighting the designated mobile trading area (Barbeques only)

Recommendation:

THAT Council endorse the designated areas within High Street for mobile trading (barbeques), in accordance with Attachment 1 – Locality Plan.

10.3 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONT.

10.3.2 Statutory Planning Applications – Referral to Council Policy

File Number: E3328

Responsible Officer: Development Services Manager, Ben McKay

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

The current Statutory Planning Applications – Referral to Council Policy was first adopted by Council at its October 2015 meeting and subsequently at the May Ordinary meeting of Council in 2017. Following a further review, the report asks Council to endorse the policy.

Background

The Policy has been reviewed by the Senior Leadership Group, and aside from minor amendments the intent and purpose of the policy remains unchanged.

Statutory Requirements

Council, as a Responsible Authority, has powers under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to grant, refuse or amend applications for planning permits under the Mansfield Planning Scheme. In accordance with *Planning and Environment Act 1987* Council can delegate all or part of its statutory planning powers.

Council Plan

Strategic Direction 5: Responsible Leadership

Strategic Objective 5.5 – We have a strong framework in place to proactively mitigate risk

Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Social

The adoption of a policy has provided greater certainty for applicants and openness and transparency for the community about which application types will be referred to Council for determination

Environmental

There are no significant environmental implications.

10.3.2 Statutory Planning Applications – Referral to Council Policy cont.

Economic

There are no significant economic considerations.

Risk Management

It is important that Council has a clear position on what matters should be referred to it for determination to provide certainty of the process for applicants, the community and Council officers.

Community Engagement

No consultation has occurred or is required for Council to consider the proposed variations to this existing policy.

Officer's Comments

Delegation is an essential tool utilised by councils to ensure that decision making occurs in a timely fashion, while still allowing for direct involvement of the Council where matters of significant community interest or major policy implications are raised. Consistent with many other municipalities, Council has delegated the majority of its statutory planning powers under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to grant, refuse or amend applications for planning permits under the Mansfield Planning Scheme to Council officers.

The intent of this policy is to identify those planning application types which require determination by Council, and, to include a limited range of additional application types which can be delegated to officers for a decision.

Attachments

- 1 Statutory Planning Applications – Referral to Council Policy 2020

<p><u>Recommendation:</u></p> <p>THAT Council endorse the Statutory Planning Applications – Referral to Council Policy 2020.</p>
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10.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES

10.4.1 Developing a Community Vision and the Community Engagement Requirements Associated with the New Local Government Bill

File Number: E6418

Responsible Officer: Acting Community Services Manager, Jenny Lovick

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

A Community Vision is an aspirational description of what our residents and ratepayers want for the future of Mansfield.

A Community Vision captures what community members most value about their community. It sets out the future vision and aspirations for the community for at least a ten-year period. It is developed in conjunction with the community and will identify and describe a vision for Mansfield as well as priorities that define future success.

The new Local Government Bill, if enacted, will require Council to develop with its municipal community a Community Vision in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices by 31 October in the year following a general election.

This report seeks Council's endorsement for an additional \$50,000 to fund the development of the Community Vision and build the capacity of the organisation to deliver deliberative engagement practices and community engagement requirements proposed by the *Local Government Bill 2019*.

Background

On 13 November 2019 the *Local Government Bill 2019* was introduced to Parliament. The Bill is the result of four years' work on the Local Government Act Review. The new Bill has a number of reforms proposed. For the first time community engagement has been included, with the Bill emphasising communities at the centre of local decisions.

The new Bill defines the community engagement principles for Local Government as well as outlining the requirement for a community engagement policy and when the policy needs to be applied.

Under the new Bill, Council must develop a Community Vision, and the community engagement policy must include deliberative engagement practices capable of being applied to the development of Council's

- Community Vision
- Four-year Council Plan
- Ten-year Financial Plan
- Ten-year Asset Plan

10.4.1 Developing a Community Vision and the Community Engagement Requirements Associated with the New Local Government Bill cont.

Deliberative engagement is a distinctive approach to involving people in decision-making. It is different from other forms of engagement in that it is about giving participants time to consider and discuss an issue in depth before they come to a considered view.

Deliberative processes are built around five key principles including:

1. The group responds to a clear remit - a plain English question that goes to the heart of the dilemma being shared.
2. Participants will have access to the information they need to have an in-depth conversation and information will be neutral, balanced and from a range of different sources.
3. The process is representative. Participants are selected randomly via a random, stratified selection process. A random and representative sample of participants is necessary to achieve integrity with the process.
4. Participants are given the time they need to deliberate, which allows them to consider complex information, grapple with trade-offs and impacts and weigh up options and ideas
5. The deliberative group is given a high level of influence over outcomes or decisions.
6. The group starts with a 'blank page' report - detailing their own thinking and developing their recommendations 'from scratch'.

Mansfield Shire Council already regularly facilitates engagement processes with the community for a range of projects and plans. Council has not previously and does not have any experience in facilitating a deliberative engagement process.

There are number of resource implications for Council in facilitating a deliberative engagement process.

- Deliberative engagement is at the collaborate level on the International Association of Public Participation spectrum (an international framework for community engagement). Very few councils have engaged at the collaborate level. Collaboration requires allocating more time to engagement activities – a two-hour workshop, a survey, evening public meeting or brief discussion group will not be enough.
- Collaboration and deliberation demands in-depth information inputs, Council will need to provide high quality information to the community about a range of issues, including its budget. Balancing the provision of clear, easy to digest information with sufficient detail is time consuming.
- Including those that are less likely to participate in regular engagement activities and random sampling techniques to ensure the people involved truly represent citizens from across their municipality is both time consuming and costly.

The new Bill requires councils to adopt their Community Vision, four-year Council Plan and ten-year Financial Plan by 31 October 2021, and the ten-year Asset Plan by 30 June 2022.

Given the time and resource requirements of a deliberative process, it is proposed the engagement process for the development of the Community Vision commences immediately, to ensure completion in early 2021 prior to and to inform the development of the four-year Council Plan and ten-year Financial Plan and Asset Plan.

10.4.1 Developing a Community Vision and the Community Engagement Requirements Associated with the New Local Government Bill cont.

Statutory Requirements

On 13 November 2019 the new Local Government Bill was introduced to Parliament. Once enacted this will replace the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The following sections of the Bill are relevant:

Section 55

- Council must adopt and maintain a community engagement policy

Section 56

- Community engagement principles

Section 60

- Council must ensure that a process of community engagement is followed in developing or amending its Governance Rules

Section 73

- The Council must make a local law in accordance with its community engagement policy

Section 96

- Council must develop the budget and revised budget in accordance with its community engagement policy

Section 88

- A Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices

Section 90

- A Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan.... in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices

Section 91

- A Council must develop or review the Financial Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices

Section 82

- A Council must develop, adopt and keep in force and Asset plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices

Section 112, 114, 115

- Acquisition of land, selling or exchanging land, lease of land..... Must undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy

10.4.1 Developing a Community Vision and the Community Engagement Requirements Associated with the New Local Government Bill cont.

Council Plan

Strategic Objective 1.1 - Our Community has a say in matters of interest to them.

- Reflect community expectations for communication and collaboration by developing and implementing a Community Engagement Strategy.

Strategic Objective 1.2 - Council is an effective advocate on behalf of its community

- Develop a Community Vision in partnership with the community to help articulate long term goals of the Shire.

Financial

The \$50,000 sought under this report would be additional to the 2019-20 Budget adopted by Council on 26 June 2019.

The funds are requested to enable Council to meet an expected future statutory requirement, and are not of a magnitude that is considered material. As such, this request does not meet the definition of a “revised budget” for the purposes of s128 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Any funds of the \$50,000 allocation not spent by 30 June 2020 would be carried over to 2020-21 to ensure completion of the project.

Social

The Community Vision is a document produced by the community and owned by the community. It will be used to guide strategic planning and decision making for the future of Mansfield.

The development of a Community Vision is based on community development principles and a systematic approach to building social capital, sustainable communities, community networking, business and community partnerships. A community development framework aims to inspire vibrant communities, building on their inherent strengths to increase social connectedness and community involvement in local governance, giving more people the opportunity to have a say, and actively participate in shaping the community in which they live.

Environmental

The development of a Community Vision provides the community the opportunity to have a say and actively participate in shaping the social, economic, environmental, cultural and political conditions, which maximise the potential for individuals, communities and societies to flourish and fulfil their potential.

10.4.1 Developing a Community Vision and the Community Engagement Requirements Associated with the New Local Government Bill cont.

Economic

The development of a Community Vision provides the community the opportunity to have a say, and actively participate in shaping the social, economic, environmental, cultural and political conditions, which maximise the potential for individuals, communities and societies to flourish and fulfil their potential.

Risk Management

The new Bill requires councils to adopt their Community Vision, four-year Council Plan and ten-year Financial Plan by 31 October 2021 and the ten-year Asset Plan by 30 June 2022. Given the time and resource requirements of a deliberative process, planning for and commencing this work immediately will ensure that Council is compliant with the new Act when it is enacted.

Community Engagement

Community engagement plans will be developed to guide the development of the Community Vision as well as for the other community engagement requirements under the proposed new Local Government Bill.

Officer's Comments

Nil.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation:

THAT Council endorse additional funding of \$50,000 in 2019-2020 budget toward the development of the Community Vision as well as building the capacity of the organisation to deliver deliberative engagement practices and community engagement requirements under the proposed new Local Government Bill.

10.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES CONT.

10.4.2 Community and Home Care Strategic Service Review

File Number: E3900
Responsible Officer: Acting Community Services Manager, Jenny Lovick

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

This report seeks Council's endorsement to undertake a strategic and independent review of its current and future role in the provision of community and home-based aged and disability services. Consideration will be given to the broader role of local government, empowering residents as consumers of community care services and supporting the development of a sustainable local service system, in light of the changes being made at a State and Commonwealth level.

Background

Council's changing role in aged and disability services is in response to the Commonwealth Government's Aged Care Reforms and the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), which have fundamentally changed the operating and funding environment for this service sector, particularly through increased market contestability and client choice.

Progressing a review acknowledges that Aged and Disability Services is a very important part of our community support system. To ensure services can operate sustainably, Council need to make considered, informed decisions. Council also want to ensure the Aged and Disability Services clients, carers, volunteers, staff and the full network of people also have the time they need to move to any new system or adjust to any changes – should that eventuate.

An assessment of current service provision would include:

- Monitoring and implementing ongoing changes to the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) funding and reporting.
- Consultation and benchmarking of other local LGA's and their response to Aged and Disability service provision and reviews.
- Future risks to service quality, access and issues impacting the financial sustainability of service provision.
- Market sounding to understand and explore current local organisations interest in community care service provision in Mansfield.

Statutory Requirements

Nil.

10.4.2 Community and Home Care Strategic Service Review cont.

Council Plan

Strategic Object 4 – Enhanced Liveability

- Liveability will be improved by focussing on increased access to key health and social services and the community satisfaction with these services.

Financial

Currently this service receives its revenue from the following sources:

- Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) as per grant agreement
- Home and Community Care – Program for Young People (HACC PYP) a grant agreement with the State Government.
- Various organisation to whom we provide brokerage services
- Client co-contributions
- Veterans Home Care (VHC)
- Council contribution. 2018-19 \$36,000

Council's current CHSP funding grant agreement, has been extended from June 2020 to 2022. The funding received is block funding which enables some flexibility of demand and delivery of services. Following 2022, it is anticipated that the funding will be "fee for service". There remains uncertainty about the model the Commonwealth and State will adopt.

To undertake a strategic and independent review, a discretionary budget request has been developed identifying \$65,000 for consideration by Council.

Social

Social impacts will be an outcome of the report recommendations.

Environmental

There are no anticipated environmental impacts.

Economic

Nil.

Risk Management

Ensuring economic viability and sustainability of the service to Council and stakeholders post 2022 and identifying actions to be implemented to mitigate these risk.

10.4.2 Community and Home Care Strategic Service Review cont.

Community Engagement

As part of the review a number of workshops and direct meetings will be held with, but not limited to, the following stakeholders:

- Community stakeholders
- Home and Community Care staff
- Volunteers
- Clients
- Benchmarking other similar sized Local Government organisations

Officer's Comments

The value and importance of this service to the community now and into the future is undisputed. As our population ages and the number of people relocating to Mansfield that are eligible for these services is increasing rather than declining, it is important that the strategic review is undertaken so that, as an organisation, Council is best placed to make informed decisions regarding its future. This can be achieved by identifying the most appropriate way to ensure the sustainability and ongoing options for service delivery to the community and having a transition plan in place to do so.

Attachments

Nil.

Recommendation:

THAT Council:

- 1. endorse the proposal to undertake an independent strategic service review of Home and Community Care services; and**
- 2. note the discretionary budget request for consideration during the 2020-21 budget process.**



10.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES CONT.

10.4.3 Early Years Preparation and Capacity Review

File Number: E4945

Responsible Officer: Acitng Community Services Manager, Jenny Lovick

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest in this matter, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Introduction

This report seeks Council's endorsement to undertake an evaluation of the capacity within the Mansfield Shire to ensure that all preschool aged children have equal access to early learning opportunities. This evaluation is required to be undertaken by a specialist advisory service with knowledge and expertise in strategic, operational and financial management in the Early Years space and is conversant with the objectives of the State Government.

The evaluation needs to address the following objectives;

- a. Ensure that equal access to kindergarten and long day care facilities are available for all preschool children in Mansfield especially for our most vulnerable children who are eligible to access a funded place;
- b. Ensure an accurate, detailed understanding of Mansfield's Early Years Services' capacity. To clarify their physical facility and current workforce capacity in preparation for two years of funded early education pre starting school.
- c. Explore the feasibility, system research and costing to establish central enrolment/registration for Mansfield Early Years education.

Background

While all children benefit from quality early years programs, children experiencing disadvantage have the most to gain and can improve lifelong social, learning and development outcomes.

The Department of Education and Training provides Early Start Kindergarten (ESK) funding to support children to access free or low cost kindergarten in the two years before school.

ESK provides eligible three year old children with access to up to 15 hours of kindergarten per week (or 600 hours per year) for free. This grant is available in all settings where the kindergarten program is delivered by a qualified teacher, including in a three year old kindergarten program, a mixed age program or where Early Start enrolments are incorporated into a four year old program.

10.4.3 Early Years Preparation and Capacity Review cont.

Eligibility for ESK is children who are either:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, or
- Known to Child Protection or have been referred by Child Protection to Child FIRST.

Service providers must offer children eligible for ESK a kindergarten program free of charge, and are strongly encouraged to waive any refundable deposit.

Despite having children in Mansfield who meet the eligibility criteria, none of these children have received ESK funding.

Suspected reasons include:

- Identification of children, either by Early Years education services or Child protection.
- Kindergarten groups fully subscribed with 4 year old children (in their year before school)
- Parents' capacity to negotiate a place and/or funding entitlement.
- Qualifications of the Early Years educators

The Victorian Government has committed to implementing, over the next 10 years, access to a subsidised kindergarten program for every three-year-old child in Victoria. This will mean an extra year of subsidised play-based learning for Victorian children, led by a degree-qualified teacher.

Mansfield is in the third tranche for the commencement of the funded 3 year old kindergarten. In 2022 all 3 year old children in Mansfield will be entitled to 5 hours of kindergarten and by 2029 will need to be able to access 15 hours per week.

Mansfield has a relatively stable birth rate;

2014/15	85
2015/16	70
2016/17	85
2017/18	71
2018/19	72

With the movement of young families into the Mansfield Shire there is an increasing demand on places at our current early year's services.

Due to fully subscribed groups, in 2018, eight children were unable to secure a place for 4 year old funded kindergarten.

With the addition of 15 hours of 3 year old funded kindergarten Mansfield potentially have infrastructure and workforce gaps to address in order for families in Mansfield to access this entitlement.

Central registration, a centralised kindergarten registration process for families, operates within a given municipality. It allows state funded kindergarten places to be allocated equitably to eligible children across all service providers.

10.4.3 Early Years Preparation and Capacity Review cont.

The vision for Central Enrolment/registration, developed in consultation with key stakeholders,

- Planning and consideration for Central Enrolment/Registration has expanded to most LGAs in the Ovens Murray region. Mansfield is yet to consider this feasibility. It allows vulnerable families (including eligible ESK children) early identification, engagement and enrolment in funded kindergarten programs, through our Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services
- Central Enrolment/registration, includes Priority of Access Guidelines, which then can be implemented consistently and transparently across all Early Years services in Mansfield, with the aid of a 'model' central enrolment scheme (including system requirements, processes, business rules, documentation etc.)
- Accurate, consistent and timely kindergarten demand data (current and future) is collected across Mansfield. The data is used to monitor and manage capacity and utilisation of services.

Statutory Requirements

There are no anticipated policy implications and/or legal ramifications for the implementation of a strategic capacity review. Having clear, informed and accurate data in which placed to make decisions and have a positive outcomes for Early Years Services across the Mansfield Shire.

Council Plan

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Strategic Objective 1.3 | Explore opportunities for integrated and shared service delivery with other local service providers. |
| Strategic Objective 2.6 | Our population continues to steadily grow, supported by the provision of sustainable community infrastructure and services. |
| Strategic Objective 4 | Enhanced Liveability |

Liveability will be improved by focussing on increased access to key health and social services and the community satisfaction with these services.

Financial

To engage a specialist advisory service with knowledge and expertise in strategic, operational and financial management in the Early Years space and is conversant with the objectives of the State Government, a discretionary budget request has been developed identifying \$30,000 for consideration by Council.

Social

Early childhood matters for every child and the foundations for a child's long term development are laid in their early childhood. In these informative years, children develop crucial cognitive and emotional skills. Early childhood is particularly significant for children who start from a position of disadvantage.

10.4.3 Early Years Preparation and Capacity Review cont.

Children who have positive early childhood experiences grow up to contribute to a healthy and prosperous society. Conversely, there are strong links between poor development in early years, and poor outcomes in adult life, which increase the economic and social burden across our society and community. Hence, the social implications of this project have the potential of far reaching consequences now and into the future.

Environmental

There are no anticipated environmental impacts in relation to this report

Economic

There are no economic impacts in relation to this report

Risk Management

Community liveability relies on families in our communities having access to preschool education.

If families in Mansfield are unable to access the entitled, two years of funded preschool from 2022; this in turn creates a less desirable place to live.

Community Engagement

The development of the review will include a number of workshops and direct meetings but not limited to the following stakeholders;

- Council family services staff
- All Early Childhood services within the Mansfield Shire
- Community stakeholders,
- Department of Education and Training (DET)
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Client consultation sessions
- Benchmarking other Local Government organisations in our region

Council currently facilitate an Early Years Educators Network which meets quarterly; this will be a valuable platform for engagement and consultation.

Officer's Comments

The value and importance of preschool education as the foundation for a child's long-term development is clearly evidenced. The State Government's Early Years Reform ensures increased funding so that all children in our community will benefit. In Mansfield, from 2022, the funding of Three-Year-Old kindergarten will enable our children to access two years of preschool. An evaluation of Mansfield's current infrastructure, capacity and workforce capability will enable Council to prepare for the future needs in our community.

Attachments

Nil.

10.4.3 Early Years Preparation and Capacity Review cont.

Recommendation:

THAT:

1. Council endorse the proposal to undertake an evaluation of the capacity for the Mansfield Shire to deliver equal access to Early Years Services to all preschool aged children across the Shire. This evaluation needs to consider all facets of capacity including built infrastructure workforce capacity, capability and availability and make recommendations. It will also explore Central enrolment/registration options, project establishment, system research and costing of implementation.
2. note the discretionary budget request for consideration during the 2020/21 budget process.

11. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

Under section 76AA of the *Local Government Act 1989* an Assembly of Councillors (however titled) is defined as a planned or scheduled meeting, comprising at least three Councillors and one member of Council staff, that consider matters that are intended or likely to be:

- The subject of a decision of the Council; or
- Subject to the exercise of a function; duty or power of a Council that has been delegated to a person or committee [s.76AA].

An assembly of Councillors does not include a meeting of the Council, a special committee of the Council, or any club, association, peak body, political party of other organisation.

A written record of each assembly is held by Council and is available for public inspection.

The following is a list for the past month of assemblies held and the issues discussed.

DATE	TYPE OF ASSEMBLY	ISSUES DISCUSSED
13 January 2020	<p>Community meeting – bushfire update</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Marg Attley · Cr Harry Westendorp · Cr Paul Volkering · Cr Paul Sladdin · Cr Harry Westendorp <p>External Attendees:</p> <p>Victoria Police</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Sen. Sergeant, Municipal Emergency Response Co-Ordinator (MERC), Damian Keegan <p>DELWP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Incident Controller, Brendon Purcell · Public Liaison Officer, Tammy Garnet <p>Country Fire Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Rob Gardiner <p>Mansfield District Hospital</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · CEO, Cameron Butler <p>Regional Development Victoria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Helen Tobin-King <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Interim Chief Executive Officer, Peter Reeve · Community Services Manager, Melanie Hotton · Community Development Officer, Keira McDonagh · Economic Development Officer, Tourism & Events, Nicole Nye · Economic Development Assistant, Danielle Roberts · Community Development Team Leader, Kirsten Lingard · Community Health and Wellbeing Team Leader, Jenny Lovick · Community Development Officer, Emergency Management, Tracy Stolman 	<p><i>Conflicts of Interest:</i> NIL</p> <p><i>Issues Discussed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Update provided by each agency on the bushfire situation



11. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS CONT.

DATE	TYPE OF ASSEMBLY	ISSUES DISCUSSED
16 January 2020	<p>Afternoon Tea - Citizen Awards Announcement</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Marg Attley • Cr Harry Westendorp • Cr Paul Volkering • Cr Harry Westendorp <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Paul Sladdin <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Chief Executive Officer, Peter Reeve • Executive Assistant, Lisa Fricke 	<p><i>Conflicts of Interest:</i> NIL</p> <p><i>Issues Discussed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 Citizen Award winners announced
20 January 2020	<p>Meeting between Business Operators and Minister for Small Business, The Hon. Adem Somyurek to discuss impact of bushfires</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Marg Attley • Cr Harry Westendorp • Cr Paul Volkering <p>External Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hon. Adem Somyurek MP, Minister for Small Business and his advisors/staff • Mansfield District Business Association, John Lazarov, President • Quentin Thomson, Vice President • Mt Buller Chamber of Commerce, John Perks, Treasurer • Socrates (Socs) Pilpasidiss, Chair • Tourism North East, Gillian Dobson, Marketing Manager • Mt. Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management Board, Mark Bennett, Chief Executive Officer • Amanda Vogt, Manager Property and Contracts, Municipal Recovery Manager • Regional Development Victoria Helen Tobin-King, Manager Investment and Trade, Hume Region • McCormack's Mountain Valley Trail Rides Bruce and Debra McCormack, President of Cattleman's Association of Victoria • Bushfire Recovery Victoria, Mary Reid, Regional Manager <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Chief Executive Officer, Peter Reeve • Community Services Manager, Melanie Hotton • Economic Development Officer, Business & Industry, Derek Beautyman • Economic Development Officer, Tourism & Events, Nicole Nye 	<p><i>Conflicts of Interest:</i> NIL</p> <p><i>Issues Discussed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on local business • Saving lives, structures and extinguishing bushfires • State of Disaster • Closure of Parks • Opening of Parks issues • Smaller approach to calling Disaster areas – perhaps not all municipality • Effect on Mt Buller • State of Disaster, effect no childcare facilities and impact • Resources of smaller municipalities to respond • Excellent job of all agencies under incredible conditions and very long hours • Review called by Inspector General for Emergency Services – all encouraged to respond • Statistics on effects on businesses not directly impacted by fires.

11. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS CONT.

DATE	TYPE OF ASSEMBLY	ISSUES DISCUSSED
21 January 2020	<p>Councillors' Briefing Session</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Marg Attley · Cr Peter Olver · Cr Harry Westendorp · Cr. Paul Volkering · Cr Paul Sladdin <p>External Attendees:</p> <p>VicForest Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Liz Langford, Regional Engagement Officer · Monique Dawson, CEO · Andy McGuire, Regional Manager or Peter Scales, Operational Forester <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Interim Chief Executive Officer, Peter Reeve · Acting Infrastructure Manager, Andre Kompler · Parks and Gardens Supervisor, Heath Aromataris · Community Services Manager, Melanie Hotton · Economic Development Officer, Derek Beautyman · Community Development Officer, Volunteers, Arts and Culture, Keira McDonagh · Community Development Team Leader, Kirsten Lingard · Finance Manager, Mandy Kynnerslay · Waste Management Officer, Rebecca Kirley · Development Services Manager, Ben McKay · Corporate and Organisational Development Manager, Sharon Scott · Works Co-ordinator, Mark Osborne · Project Officer, Dean De Santis 	<p>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</p> <p>Issues Discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · VicForests · Replacement of Trees, Hightett Street · Lords Pavilion · Community Matching Fund · Recovery Centre/Waste Strategy Engagement Plan · Free Entry to Sovereign Hill, Ballarat for Bushfire Effectuated Communities · Establishment of Bushfire Recovery Victoria Committee · Inspector General Inquiry into Emergency Services · Beolite/Mt Battery renaming · Convenience Store Planning Application · Heavy Vehicle By-pass · Update on Barwite Road and Withers Lane roadworks · Social Media During Emergency · Budget Allocation for Media Training · Major Projects Document · Kennedy's Point Upgrade · Dog issue, Strathbogie Road, Merton · Bonnie Doon Recreation Reserve Maintenance · Caretaker Policy · Music Festival Proposal · Trees Along Easement Tolmie Whitfield Road · Obscured Vision, Kitchen Street · Staff Assistance to Bushfire Affected Councils · Businesses and Farmers to Factor Longer Term Planning for Bushfires/Weather Events/Drought into Business Plans · Botanic Park Land · Reinstatement of Roadworks, Grandview Drive · Improved Access to Dual Court Stadium
25 January 2020	<p>Mansfield Bush Market</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Marg Attley · Cr Peter Olver · Cr Paul Volkering · Cr Paul Sladdin · Cr Harry Westendorp <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Interim Chief Executive Officer, Peter Reeve · Project Officer, Dean De Santis 	<p>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</p> <p>Issues Discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Response to queries as raised by the general public.
26 January 2020	<p>Australia Day Celebrations</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Marg Attley · Cr Peter Olver · Cr Paul Volkering · Cr Paul Sladdin <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Harry Westendorp <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Interim Chief Executive Officer, Peter Reeve · Executive Assistant, Lisa Fricke · Governance Administration Officer, Moira Wells · Planning Administration Officer, Lynn Plummer 	<p>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</p> <p>Issues Discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Australia Day Service and Celebration

11. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS CONT.

DATE	TYPE OF ASSEMBLY	ISSUES DISCUSSED
30 January 2020	<p>Economic Development Strategy meeting</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Peter Olver · Cr. Paul Volkering · Cr Harry Westendorp <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Marg Attley · Cr Paul Sladdin <p>External Attendees: Urban Enterprises Representatives: Director, Mike Ruzzene Consultant, Agathy Patsouris</p> <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Economic Development Officer – Business and Industry, Derek Beautyman · Economic Development Officer – Tourism and Events, Nicole Nye 	<p>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</p> <p>Issues Discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Update and Overview of Economic Development Strategy
4 February 2020	<p>Councillors' Briefing Session</p> <p>Councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Marg Attley · Cr Peter Olver · Cr Harry Westendorp · Cr. Paul Volkering <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cr Paul Sladdin <p>External Attendees: Mansfield Autism Statewide Services representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Director, Simone Reeves · Paul Valente, Infrastructure Manager · Judy Dixon, Strategic Projects <p>Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Acting Chief Executive Officer, Melanie Hotton · Acting Infrastructure Manager, Andre Kompler · Acting Community Services Manager, Jenny Lovick · Acting Corporate and Organisational Manager, Julie Dolling · Finance Manager, Mandy Kynnersley · Development Services Manager, Ben McKay · Acting Community Health and Wellbeing Team Leader, Amanda Lovick · Community Development Team Leader, Kirsten Lingard · Community Development Officer – VA&C, Keira McDonagh · Governance and Risk Co-Ordinator, Michelle Kain · Project Officer, Dean De Santis 	<p>Conflicts of Interest: Cr. Volkering declared a Conflict of Interest and left the Chamber during discussion the Mansfield Autism Statewide Services.</p> <p>Issues Discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Aged Care Services Review · Early Years Report · Mansfield Autism Statewide Services Masterplan · Lords Pavilion · Community Vision Community Engagement Policy and impact of new Local Government Act · Station Precinct Master Plan · Draft Activating Lake Eildon Masterplan · Bushfire Recovery Committee · Ausnet Lease – Lakins Road · Victorian Electoral Commission Representation Review · Retrospective approval for Magnolia Tree Signage · Mansfield Primary School Bus Pickup/Drop Off Zone · Bushfire – Impact on Local Businesses · Scheduling of Reseeding Median Strip · Barwite Roadworks · Mansfield Public Toilet Upgrade · Assetic Report · Smoking in Main Street · Sandwich Board to Promote Council Meetings · Music Festival · Truck Signage, Ogilvies Road · Signage Cnr. Graves and Mt. Buller Roads · Business Council Australia Bushfire Roundtable in Canberra

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive and note the Assembly of Councillors report for the period 13 January to 4 February 2020.



12. ADVISORY AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

13. AUTHORISATION OF SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Nil.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Recommendation:

THAT Council suspend standing orders to facilitate public question time.

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

Recommendation:

THAT Council resume standing orders.

15. CLOSE OF MEETING