

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, 29 MAY 2017



MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

held in the Council Chambers, 20 Siding Avenue, Officer on Monday, 29 May 2017 The meeting commenced at 7pm

PRESENT: Mayor, Brett Owen, Chairman

Councillors Michael Schilling, Collin Ross, Jodie Owen, Graeme Moore, Ray

Brown, Jeff Springfield, Leticia Wilmot

Messrs Garry McQuillan (CEO), Mike Ellis (GMAS), Derek Madden

(GMCS), Andrew Paxton (GMPD), Jenny Scicluna (GMCWB), Doug Evans (MG)

APOLOGIES: Cr Carol Ryan

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

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1 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL PLAN

FILE REFERENCE INT1734300

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER Derek Madden

AUTHOR Peter Philp

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- Council adopt the draft Council Plan for the period 2017-2021, subject to the deletion of Activity 3.3.2, 'Review existing and set new greenhouse gas emissions targets as part of Council's greenhouse gas reduction strategy', as this activity is no longer relevant, and
- Mr. Rob Castelow be thanked for his submission and a written response be forwarded to him advising the modified draft plan has been adopted and responding to the matters raised in his submission.
- 3. Council adopt the attached Council Plan Action items.

Attachments

Draft Council Plan
 Submission by Mr Rob Castelow
 Council Plan Actions
 Pages
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To consider adoption of the draft Council Plan, with the modifications noted in the recommendation above, following the public notification process undertaken in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1989.

BACKGROUND

Council, at a Special Meeting held on Monday 3 April 2017 resolved to release the draft Council Plan 2017-2021 for public comment.

Internal review of the draft Council Plan resulted in a recommendation to remove Activity 3.3.2, as mentioned above. The content of Activity 3.3.2 is covered by other Council Plan Activities, and, therefore, is redundant.

A detailed set of Council Plan actions have been drafted to deliver on the Council Plan priorities, these actions are attached and are recommended for adoption.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil



RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN

The adoption of the Council Plan provides guidance to the organisational directions for the forthcoming four financial years.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

The appropriate public notices have appeared in local newspapers advising that the draft Council Plan was available for inspection and the Plan and supporting information was placed on the Council's website.

Copies were also available for inspection at the Shire Office and at the Pakenham, Emerald and mobile libraries and on the Council's website.

Although no submissions were lodged specifically on the Council Plan Mr Rob Castelow provided a detailed presentation at the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 May when he spoke to his submission lodged, a copy of this presentation is attached.

A response will be forwarded to Mr Castelow thanking his for his presentation and advising that the Council Plan has been adopted.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

Having complied with the Local Government Act provisions, Council is now in a position to adopt the draft Council Plan, subject to the abovementioned modifications, for the period 2017-2021.



1 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL PLAN

Moved Cr L Wilmot Seconded Cr M Schilling

That;

- 1. Council adopt the draft Council Plan for the period 2017-2021, subject to the deletion of Activity 3.3.2, 'Review existing and set new greenhouse gas emissions targets as part of Council's greenhouse gas reduction strategy', as this activity is no longer relevant, and
- 2. Mr. Rob Castelow be thanked for his submission and a written response be forwarded to him advising the modified draft plan has been adopted and responding to the matters raised in his submission.
- 3. Council adopt the attached Council Plan Action items.

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2 ADOPTION OF BUDGET 2017-2018

FILE REFERENCE INT1734210

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER Derek Madden

AUTHOR Richard Williams

RECOMMENDATION

That Council having advertised the Budget for the financial year 2017-18 and considered the submissions received resolves as follows;

- 1. The Budget as presented for the financial year 2017-18 be adopted, without amendment;
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to give public notice of the adoption of such budget;
- 3. All person that lodged submissions be thanked for their interest and a written response be forwarded to all submitters advising that the budget has been adopted without amendment and responding to the matters raised in their individual submissions;
- 4. The amount which Council intends to raise by general rates and the annual service charges be declared as \$81,763,700 and calculated as follows:

General Rates \$70,110,700 Garbage Charge \$9,050,900 Green Waste Charge \$2,602,100

or such further amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution;

- 5. A general rate be declared in respect of the 2017-18 financial year and that the general rate be raised by the application of differential rates;
- 6. Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the capital improved value of each rateable land (categorised by the characteristics described in the Budget document) by the relevant cents in the dollar of the Capital Improved Value of each property indicated in the following table:

Туре	\$/CIV
Base Rate	0.003431
Agricultural Land	0.002573
Urban Rate	0.003637
Urban Vacant Land	0.007892
Urban Commercial and Industrial	0.004976
Urban Agricultural Land	0.002916
Lakeside Residential	0.003706
Lakeside Vacant Land	0.007995

- 7. In accordance with section 4(4) of the Recreational Lands Act 1963, the amount of rates payable in respect of each of the rateable land to which that Act applies be determined by multiplying the capital improved value of that rateable land by .2573% (or 0.2573 cents in the dollar of capital improved value);
- 8. That council adopt the fees and charges for 2017-18 included within the budget;
- 9. An annual service charge be declared in respect of 2017-18 financial year for the collection and disposal of refuse and that this charge be set at of \$235.05 for land (or part) in respect of which any annual service charge may be levied, and be based on the criterion of location within council's municipal district;
- An annual service charge be declared in respect of 2017-18 financial year for the collection of green waste and that this charge be in the sum of \$132.85 for land (or part) supplied with a green waste collection service;



- 11. All rates and charges be paid in four instalments, in accordance with section 167(1) of the Local Government Act 1989;
- 12. If any rates and charges are not paid by the date on which they are due, interest be paid by the person liable to pay them in accordance with section 172 of the Local Government Act 1989:
- 13. The General Manager Corporate Services be authorised to levy and recover the general rates, annual service charges and interest in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

Attachments

Draft Budget
 Submissions received
 Pages

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To formally consider the Budget for the 2017-18 financial year and to resolve on the submissions received.

BACKGROUND

Council at a Special Meeting held on Monday 3 April 2017 resolved to give public notice of the preparation of the budget for the forthcoming financial year and the advertising undertaken indicated that the Council would consider a recommendation to adopt the Budget at this meeting.

Any persons that lodged a submission regarding the Draft Budget or Council Plan were given the opportunity to speak to their submission at a Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 May.

Council is therefore now in a position to formally resolve on the budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN

The budget for the forthcoming financial year has been prepared on the basis of delivering the Council Plan activities.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

The appropriate public notice has appeared advising that the draft budget was available for inspection at the Shire Offices and at the Pakenham, Emerald and mobile libraries as well as on the Council's website seeking comment and submissions.

At the closing date for the lodgement of submissions on the Proposed Budget 2017-18 and Amended Council Plan, 18 submissions had been received. In addition, approximately 158 anonymous submissions had been received, these being postcards produced by the Property Council of Australia, titled 'Stop Penalising Retirement Village Residents'. Those persons who



wished to speak in support of their submission were provided with this opportunity at a Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 May 2017.

Community information sessions were held at the Officer Civic Centre, Gembrook Community Centre and Koo Wee Rup Community Centre during April 2017.

Written submissions were received from:

Name	Date	Details
Emerald Museum and	22/7/16	Breakdown of annual maintenance grant plus request for
Nobelius Heritage Park		a Council funded Museum Officer for one day a week.
Committee of		•
Management		

Response:

The Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum committee budget submission consisted of:

- 1. An increase in the annual maintenance budget from \$16,870 to \$19,400 to cover current operating costs such as internet and phone, insurances, utility costs, cleaning and security. This budget request has been supported.
- 2. The second request is for a Museum Officer 1 day per week at a cost of \$15,000 to provide professional assistance to the volunteers. This request was not funded for the following reason. In line with the now outdated museum strategic plan, Council funded and employed a Museum Officer three days per week for a 15-month period from April 2014 to June 2015. During this time the outcomes of the strategic plan were achieved. This fulfilled Council's obligation to this action of the strategic plan (Action 1.1.1)

It is recommended that the Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum committee revisit the now outdated strategic plan with a view to updating it (including outlining actions and resources required for the next 3 years).

Cockatoo Township	3/2/17	Submission of a list of 7 maintenance works projects in
Committee		order of priority.

Item 1 – Township Signage: The majority of the identified items are within the Alma Treloar reserve. Connecting the pedestrians in and around the reserve as well as directing them from McBride streets would require some targeted signage. There are currently no provisions in the draft 17/18 budget for installation of new township signage. Similar requests have previously been made by other townships who have also been informed that there is no budget available. Information board and associated directional signage could be included within the reserve and McBride Streets (wouldn't meet VicRoads standards for roadside signage on Pakenham Road). A minor signage requirements review for the township would be required to identified the required signs and their best locations as well as a design for the new information board. It is estimated that this would be in the order of \$25,000 for the review, design and implementation.

Item 2 - Seaview Avenue upgrade: To reduce some of the maintenance issues experienced on Seaview Road, Council sealed the intersection of Seaview and Lowen Roads. These works have significantly improved the safety and driveability of this road. Sealing of the remainder of Seaview Road would need to be completed under a Special Charge Scheme. Council will continue to proactively inspect and maintain Seaview Road in accordance with its Road Management Plan as well as explore alternative treatments to maintain its vast unsealed road network.

Item 3 – Puffing Billy Station Upgrade: Council officers are in support of this action and are already advocating to the Puffing Billy Railway regarding this matter. The upgrade of the Cockatoo station is within their masterplan, however is listed as a lower priority. Council officers will continue to advocate to have this particular project brought forward.



Name	Date	Details

Item 4 – Township Art- As part of Councils commitment to Public Art, an allocation is included in the Capital Works Program for the Bi Annual Public Art works. Funds are included in the 2017/18 financial year to identify a location, engage with the community and agree on a proposed work. \$80,000 is included in the 2018/19 financial year for the delivery of the work. The next Public Art project is to be delivered in Ranges Ward.

Item 5 – Alma Treloar Playground: The Alma Treloar playground was one of the 6 playgrounds successful in receiving funding under the Growing Suburbs Fund. \$150,000 has been allocated to the upgrade of the playground. Consultation is already underway with the playground scheduled to be completed early 2018.

Item 6: Additional Bin Pickup post-Christmas period: The garbage charge is a fee-for-service provision based on a weekly pick up of the general rubbish and fortnightly pick up of recycling. Should additional services be offered or increased, this would lead to an increase in the garbage charge.

Item 7: Upgrade of Allan Bailey Hall Facilities – Council sets aside funds each year for rectification works across Council facilities. In 2017/18 \$540,000 is allocated in the budget to address building facility items across the shire. Minor maintenance has already been identified for the Allan Bailey Hall Facilities, however this will not address the issues raised. In consultation with the relevant representative/s of the Committee, Council endeavours to review the works required as part of 2017/18 financial year and prioritise works based on a comparison of other requirements across the shire.

	Postcard produced by the Property Council of Australia
	titled 'Stop Penalising Retirement Village Residents'.
	Approximately 158 of these have been received
	anonymously.
21/4/17	Postcard produced by the Property Council of Australia
	titled 'Stop Penalising Retirement Village Residents'.
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	titled 'Stop Penalising Retirement Village Residents'.
4/4/17	The fifty-five residents of the village should be entitled to a
	discount off their Council rates due to Council not called
	upon to provide any services.
	21/4/17 21/4/17 21/4/17 21/4/17 21/4/17

Response:

Approximate cost of giving a 5% discount to residents of retirement villages is \$20,000. This is unbudgeted at this point and should council decide to proceed it can be treated as a shortfall with savings to be found or the rate burden can be shifted to the remainder of the rate population.

Max Hobson	4/4/17	Requests steps be taken to eliminate the health hazard
		being generated by dust from Council's gravel roads.



Name	Date	Details		
Council maintain approximately 865 kilometres of unsealed roads within the shire. To assist in minimising dust emissions, Council currently applies a road stabilising product to selected roads which is designed to bind the pavement surface which in turn minimises dust emissions. The current criteria for roads to be eligible for this program is based on road hierarchy as defined in Councils Road Management Plan. Only Local Arterial and Local Collector unsealed roads are treated. The density of abutting development, only medium and high density abutting developments are treated and impact on industry/agriculture or places of interest where the presence of an abutting establishment that may be impacted by dust generation (e.g. school, sporting facility etc). Outside of this program, Council offer a residential funded dust suppressant program, which uses a Magnesium Chloride product known as DustMag, which is specifically designed to suppress dust emissions for a temporary period, ranging anywhere between 6 to 12 weeks depending on traffic and weather conditions that may affect the longevity of this product. Expressions of interest for this program are advertised in December and February each year. Details of this program can be found on Councils website.				
Village Residents	4/4/17	Amazed and disappointed at the huge increase and		
Association, Hillview Bunyip Aged Care	, ,	glaring inequity in the rating policy for retirement villages. Requests that Council considers setting a differential rate that adequately reflects the concerns of residents of all retirement villages within the Shire.		
Response:				
unbudgeted at this point	Approximate cost of giving a 5% discount to residents of retirement villages is \$20,000. This is unbudgeted at this point and should council decide to proceed it can be treated as a shortfall with savings to be found or the rate burden can be shifted to the remainder of the rate			
Nar Nar Goon Progress	12/4/17	Submission is on behalf of the Nar Nar Goon Progress		
Association	, ,	Association, Nar Nar Goon Primary School and Nar Nar Goon Recreation Reserve Committee and requests that the gravel car park at the Nar Nar Goon Soldiers Memorial Community Centre be sealed.		
Response:				
Council currently maintains a car park resealing budget aimed at maintaining the current standard of facilities. Similarly, to the management of Councils unsealed road network, the budget does not have capacity to provide for the upgrade of these types of facilities at this stage. This request has however been noted for consideration at further capital works budget developments along with other car parks identified. The estimated cost for the upgrade of this particular car park is \$35,000.				
Cardinia Art Society	22/4/17	Support the proposed development of the Cardinia		
		Cultural Centre, stating the project has been well considered and is very exciting. A petition demonstrating the support from the community has been included in the submission.		
Response:				
Funds for the project have been included in the 2017/18 and 2018/19 Capital Works Program for this project. External funds will also be sought to potentially reduce the cost of the project to Cardinia.				
A planning permit for the project has recently been received and detailed design will be				
completed by mid-2017.		,		
Jillian Henderson	28/4/17	Refers to Property Council of Australia postcard and the unfairness of the Council rating system for retirement village residents across Australia.		



Name	Date	Details	
Response: Approximate cost of giving a 5% discount to residents of retirement villages is \$20,000. This is unbudgeted at this point and should council decide to proceed it can be treated as a shortfall with savings to be found or the rate burden can be shifted to the remainder of the rate population.			
Cardinia Waters Village Services Association	1/5/17	Seek consideration for a rate differential or rate rebate scheme that acknowledges the fact that retirement villages do not use or place strain on the general infrastructure expenditure that Council collects on rateable properties.	
Response: Approximate cost of giving a 5% discount to residents of retirement villages is \$20,000. This is unbudgeted at this point and should council decide to proceed it can be treated as a shortfall with savings to be found or the rate burden can be shifted to the remainder of the rate population.			
Shoheli Sunjida	3/5/17	Things we can do and achieve – social cohesion by involving community, schools and businesses.	

Response:

The Australian Human Rights Commission describes the importance of Local Government's role in enabling social cohesion as follows:

"Social cohesion refers to positive social relationships – it is the bond or 'glue' that binds people.[1] A socially cohesive society is one which works towards the wellbeing of all its members, fights exclusion and marginalisation, creates a sense of belonging, promotes trust and offers its members the opportunity of upward mobility.[2]

Compared to other countries, Australia has a remarkable degree of social cohesion given its diversity. However, maintaining this cohesion can be a challenge.

Rapid social change, particularly in growth areas, can result in disharmony between newly arrived groups and established communities. Social tensions in the wider community can also play out at the local level.

Local governments are at the centre of this ever-changing environment. They know and understand their communities better than any other level of government. They deliver economic, environmental and social outcomes across a range of areas which affect community cohesion. As such, they are well placed to implement initiatives to reap the benefits of stronger, more resilient and productive communities."

From our Community Strengthening perspective we are working in partnership with our community to deliver the following initiatives:

- Providing opportunities for residents to meaningfully participate in decision making processes that affect their community.
- Supporting individuals and communities through the provision of resources, building community capacity and fostering of partnerships.
- Assisting with the development of strong and resilient communities that have the ability to identify and meet the communities' needs, achieve self-reliance, contribute to solutions and support their own advocacy efforts.

These portfolio responsibility areas demonstrate the various programs and grants supporting social cohesion. This is a snapshot of the diverse work Council undertakes:

 Community Engagement opportunities that inform and add value to all aspects of Council business



Name	Date	Details
Hame	Date	Details
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- Neighbourhood House annual funding, programing and facility provision
- Placed based projects & initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Project enabling community groups to determine their own priority areas
- Events & awards including Australia Day celebrations, Anzac Day services (financial support), Stan Henwood and National Volunteer Week Reception and recognition.
- Community grants including Community Wellbeing & Festival & Events grants
- Facility development including design, engagement building and activation e.g. Toomah community centre and the Hills Hub
- Community Leadership initiatives. Partnering with Leadership Victoria to Deliver a comprehensive leadership program to twelve Cardinia Shire residents
- Section 86 liaison and support / governance for Township committees, halls and Progress Associations
- General community support and conduit between Council business units and community groups and individuals
- Addressing social issues with initiatives such as Together We Can to address Family Violence, Bless Food Collective to support homelessness and Food Circle Project increase food security
- Attracting new services or programs into the Shire through our Service for Success Model
- Designing and maintaining Council facility that are inclusive /accessible for residents to meet and use for activities, programs or services
- Cultural Diversity through the establishment of information referral hub, celebration of a diverse range of cultural events, with a focus on Harmony Week celebrations
- Access & Inclusion policy and action plan
- Council Reconciliation Action Plan and our partnership with various Indigenous organisations
- Ageing Well Strategy, initiatives and partnerships
- Creating a safer community through community safety strategies and actions
- Facilitating the Interfaith network
- Established a program which allows young people to tour various places of worship to understand the differences in religions
- Delivering community resilience programs and initiatives to ensure communities are more resilient to shocks and stresses in emergencies

In order to achieve social cohesion between young people and community youth services deliver a range of programs in schools. These include; GLBTI programs, respectful relationships programs, positive mental health workshops, resilience workshops and activities that support young people to be connected to their peers, school and community.

Council Youth Services are a conduit between schools, community and the service sector.

Cardinia Ratepayers &	3/5/17	Submission includes comments in regards to the Council
Residents Association		Plan as well as recommending items needing Council
		attention which should be noted and included in the
		Budget allocation.

Response:

Plan/Budget is prepared on a conservative basis and accurately reflects the view of the organisation at this time.

In accordance with its Road Management Plan. Council proactively and reactively inspects its underground and surface drainage network. Maintenance works identified as a result of these inspections are programmed to be rectified based on priority. Council is not aware of any specific drainage points requiring urgent attention north of the highway and suggests that these issues



Name	Date	Details	
be reported to Council to enable an inspection to occur. Council is not aware of any issues regarding the drainage on Latta Road, Nar Nar Goon, however will complete an inspection of this road to determine any maintenance requirements. The damaged metal bollard on the corner of John and Main Streets, Pakenham will be inspected as a result of this submission. Rob Castelow 2/5/17 Submission relates to the draft 'Pedestrian and Bicycle			
NOD Castellow	2/3/11	Submission relates to the draft 'Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy 2017', which is still to be finalised and adopted by Council. By not including the draft strategy, the budget estimates beyond the current year or so are likely to be seriously understated.	
Response: The Pedestrian and Cycle Strategy, when adopted will be used by Council to advocate to State and Federal Governments to assist with the cost of delivering projects. Council has recently received \$1mill from the Federal Government and \$545,000 from the State Government for the Cockatoo to Gembrook Link of the Emerald to Gembrook Multi Use Trail. Council will include matching funding, as required in subsequent Capital Works Programs.			



All persons who lodged submissions will be thanked for their interest and a written response will be forwarded advising that the Budget has been adopted without amendment and responding to the matters raised in their individual submissions.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Council must prepare and adopt a budget for the forthcoming financial year to be able to fund the various services and programs required. Any reduction in revenue or increase in expenditure would require corrections to be made to the 2017-18 Budget document.

CONCLUSION

Having complied with the Local Government Act provisions and considered the submissions received Council is in a position to formally resolve on the Budget for the 2017-18 financial year and resolve on the submissions received.



2 ADOPTION OF BUDGET 2017-2018

Moved Cr J Owen Seconded Cr L Wilmot

That Council having advertised the Budget for the financial year 2017-18 and considered the submissions received resolves as follows;

- 1. The Budget as presented for the financial year 2017-18 be adopted, without amendment;
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to give public notice of the adoption of such budget;
- 3. All person that lodged submissions be thanked for their interest and a written response be forwarded to all submitters advising that the budget has been adopted without amendment and responding to the matters raised in their individual submissions;
- 4. The amount which Council intends to raise by general rates and the annual service charges be declared as \$81,763,700 and calculated as follows:

General Rates \$70,110,700 Garbage Charge \$9,050,900 Green Waste Charge \$2,602,100

or such further amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution;

- 5. A general rate be declared in respect of the 2017-18 financial year and that the general rate be raised by the application of differential rates;
- 6. Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the capital improved value of each rateable land (categorised by the characteristics described in the Budget document) by the relevant cents in the dollar of the Capital Improved Value of each property indicated in the following table:

Туре	\$/CIV
Base Rate	0.003431
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Urban Vacant Land	0.007892
Urban Commercial and Industrial	0.004976
Urban Agricultural Land	0.002916
Lakeside Residential	0.003706
Lakeside Vacant Land	0.007995

- 7. In accordance with section 4(4) of the Recreational Lands Act 1963, the amount of rates payable in respect of each of the rateable land to which that Act applies be determined by multiplying the capital improved value of that rateable land by .2573% (or 0.2573 cents in the dollar of capital improved value);
- 8. That council adopt the fees and charges for 2017-18 included within the budget;
- 9. An annual service charge be declared in respect of 2017-18 financial year for the collection and disposal of refuse and that this charge be set at of \$235.05 for land (or part) in respect of which any annual service charge may be levied, and be based on the criterion of location within council's municipal district;
- 10. An annual service charge be declared in respect of 2017-18 financial year for the collection of green waste and that this charge be in the sum of \$132.85 for land (or part) supplied with a green waste collection service;
- 11. All rates and charges be paid in four instalments, in accordance with section 167(1) of the Local Government Act 1989;



- 12. If any rates and charges are not paid by the date on which they are due, interest be paid by the person liable to pay them in accordance with section 172 of the Local Government Act 1989;
- 13. The General Manager Corporate Services be authorised to levy and recover the general rates, annual service charges and interest in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

Cd.

Meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Minutes Confirmed Chairman