

**MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue Horsham on 4 December, 2017 at 5.30pm.**

PRESENT: Cr Pam Clarke, Mayor; Cr Alethea Gulvin, Cr Josh Koenig, Cr Les Power, Cr John Robinson (left at 8.27pm), Cr David Grimble, Cr Mark Radford

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Peter Brown, Chief Executive; Graeme Harrison, Director Corporate Services; Angela Murphy, Director Planning & Economic; Kevin O'Brien, Director Community Services; John Martin, Director Technical Services; Fiona Kelly, Executive Assistant.

**1. Reading of prayer and the acknowledgement of country statement**

The Prayer and Acknowledge of Country Statement were read by the Chairman, Cr P Clarke.

**2. Welcome to distinguished guests or persons in the public gallery**

Chairman, Cr Clarke welcomed those in attendance to the Council Meeting.

David Bowe	Jeff Pekin	Jan Tucker	Helen Hill
Ian Flux	Tony Sleep	Gareth Hiscock	Dianna Blake
Cheryl Linke	Owen Hughan	Rhonda McNeil	Mandy Kirsopp
Kerrie Bell	Kath Dumesny	Bev Bell	Sue Exell
Di Bell	Chris Warrick		

**3. Apologies and request for Leave of Absence**

NIL

**4. Confirmation of minutes and signing thereof**

**Moved Cr Radford, seconded Cr Koenig that the Minutes emanating from the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 20 November, 2017 be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

**5. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Sec 79, Local Government Act, 1989 (As Amended)**

Cr Clarke declared a Conflict of Interest, under Section 79(2)(C) at Item No. 10.5.1 (in open Council) relating to the Wimmera Sports Stadium. Cr Clarke's husband is a part owner of the Horsham Squash Courts.

**6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

NIL

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

### 7.1 RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE MOTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

At the Council meeting of Monday 20 November, 2017 the following motion was laid on the table from Item No. 10.2.1 of the Director Corporate Services report.

#### ***Recommendation***

*That Council approve the proposed allocations from the 2016-17 Financial Year Final cash Surplus.*

***Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Koenig that the recommendation be adopted.***

It is recommended that Council resolve –

1. To raise the motion from the table.
2. Further information having been provided to Councillors, that the motion be considered again and a new debate commence.

**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Gulvin that the report be received.**

**CARRIED**

Cr Grimble foreshadowed a motion that the report “lay on the table” until a report is presented to Council on the Pedestrian Bridge.

**Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Gulvin that the motion to approve the proposed allocations from the 2016-17 Financial Year Final Cash Surplus be “lifted from the table”.**

**CARRIED**

#### **Cr Grimble called for a Division of Council**

##### For the Motion

Cr Power, Cr Radford, Cr Gulvin, Cr Clarke, Cr Koenig

##### Against the Motion

Cr Robinson, Cr Grimble

**Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Koenig that Council approve the proposed allocations from the 2016-17 Financial Year Final Cash Surplus.**

**CARRIED**

**Cr Grimble gave notice that he intends to rescind the motion**

**7.2 RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, JOINT LETTERS AND DEPUTATIONS**

NIL

**7.3 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

NIL

**7.4 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

NIL

**7.5 ORDERS OF THE DAY**

NIL

## **8. OTHER REPORTS**

### **8.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – RECORD OF MEETINGS**

Council Briefing Meeting held on Monday 27 November, 2017 at 5.00pm in the Reception Room followed by a community meeting at Quantong at 7.30pm.

Meeting with the Motorcycle Club held on Tuesday 28 November, 2017 at 6.15pm in the Council Chamber.

Refer to **Appendix “8.1A”**.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council note the Assembly of Councillors’ – Record of Meetings.

**Moved Cr Robinson, Seconded Cr Radford that the recommendation be adopted with a correction to be made to the Council Briefing meeting held on Monday 27 November to delete the words “and submissions received” under item no. 3.4.**

**CARRIED**

### **8.2 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

Nil

### **8.3 INWARD CORRESPONDENCE**

NIL

**8.4 COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**8.4.1 Horsham Tidy Towns Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 November, 2017 at 12.30pm in the Middle Meeting Room, Council Offices.**

**8.4.2 Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16 November, 2017 at 10.30am in the Reception Room, Council Offices.**

Refer to **Appendix "8.4A"**.

**Moved Cr Power, Seconded Cr Radford that Item No. 8.4.1 be received.**

**CARRIED**

## 9. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

### Cr Grimble

- 22 November – Chaired the Wimmera Intermodal Freight Terminal meeting. The throughput looks good but the harvest will bring their numbers down.
- 26 November - Unveiling of Don Johns Memorial Seat dedicated to Don Johns, former Mayor and astute business leader. It is good to see the Tidy Towns Committee recognise Don Johns. It is fitting that the seat is in Menadue Street, but also along the Wimmera River.
- 1 December - Rail Freight Alliance meeting in Melbourne. Spoke about a number of rail issues and the need to attract councils to the group that aren't part of the Alliance. The group need councils to attend.
- 30 November - Audit Committee meeting. Chair Geoff Price has been appointed for another term. A report was tabled on the sacking of the Central Goldfields Shire Council. It was described from the local government perspective that it was a very good response. This is a wakeup call to Council's governance The Auditor General is looking at changing the way processes are done. There are some strategic risks involving staff and volunteers with regard to safety and cyber security and the IT digital era. Also addressing some of our building safety compliance issues. The audit review brought up purchasing cards and said maybe the CEO shouldn't have one. This has come out of the Central Goldfields issue.
- Cr Grimble was requested to raise an issue about the lighting of Firebrace Street. Someone should look at this for safety and to be able to view CCTV footage. The lighting after dark is not as light as it should be.
- Cameron Oval change room. Ben Peucker raised funds and are past the half way of \$150,000 contribution. They will continue to raise funds.

### Cr Gulvin

- 25 November – Tidy Towns Awards. Cr Gulvin received an award. It was great to see Horsham receive so many awards.
- 25 November - Listening Post at the Horsham Plaza with Angela Murphy. There were quite a few people who came to talk to us. It is good for people to see Council's presence in the community.
- 26 November - Tidy Towns breakfast at the Wimmera River.
- Pool party at the Aquatic Centre with Cr Radford. This was a good event to be part of.
- 28 November - Motocross meeting.

### Cr Koenig

- 24 November - White Ribbon walk spreading the word about family violence followed by a ceremony at May Park. Cr Koenig spoke on behalf of the Mayor and was asked to be the local ambassador for this year.



- 24 November - Kanamaroo Festival. It rained a bit but was still a successful night. Saturday the numbers were down a bit which could be put down to the weather. The children and families that were there had a good time. Cr Koenig thanked all the committee members for their unpaid volunteer hours and working through the mechanics that go into getting everything in the right spot. The fireworks Saturday night were good too.
- 30 November - Tri State Games afternoon tea at Council. There was a really good turnout. It was great to hear how the athletes won their medals.

### **Cr Radford**

- 23 November - Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce meeting. There are a lot of people doing great work in our community. There is an issue with a lack of counsellors in the region.
- 24 November - NWMA meeting at Warracknabeal. Cr Radford is sceptical of the future of this group which was reinforced attending this meeting. There was a vote taken about the future of the group and they will continue next year but will look into why the group isn't working so well. It will be interesting to see how this group goes next year.
- Christmas is a great time of sharing. The motorcycle toy run was very successful with over \$1500 cash and toys donated.
- Kanamaroo Festival. Congratulations to the people who spend a lot of time organising this event. Attended the launch of the alcohol change at the festival. The most encouraging thing was that it was set up around the cenotaph area where a lot of youth were, so that concept worked well.
- WRIC Christmas break up. Cr Power made a short presentation.
- Two sessions of the Carols By Candlelight at the Town Hall using the theatre and the Town Hall. There was a pleasant happy vibe in the building and showcased our local talent.

### **Cr Robinson**

- Cr Robinson commented on the recent weather events.
- Climate Change Action Plan. Recently WCMA produced weather maps.
- Multi Use Sports Stadium discussions with community.
- Fire dam discussions and one onsite visit
- Ken French, nearly 60 aust blade shearing champion. One of our community
- Dustin Cross national apprentice of the year. This is a fantastic effort. A future community leader.
- White Ribbon march. Congratulations to Cr Koenig as White Ribbon ambassador and Cr Gulvin for receiving a Tidy Town award. Our neighbours of Dimboola and Stawell also did well at the Tidy Towns awards.
- Motocross meeting.
- 27 November - Community meeting at Quantong. We had a great attendance from the community.
- Kannamaroo festival was fantastic.

- Council recently approved another liquor establishment in the community.

### **Cr Power**

- 21 November – Tidy Towns meeting at Council to organise the events of the following weekend.
- Two WRIC presentations to Cr Gulvin and Gary Aitken.
- 22 November – Horsham Performing Arts Committee meeting.
- 23 November - Horsham Parking Consultative meeting at Council. It was pleasing to see how well the parking worked around the Town Hall for the Carols by Candlelight on Sunday.
- Wimmera Health Care Group AGM. Angela Murphy was presented an award for 5 years of work with the group.
- 24 November. White Ribbon march. It was fantastic to see men, women and school children in the march. Congratulations to Cr Koenig on his speech. The march puts Horsham on the map in regard to standing up against domestic violence and violence against women.
- Kanamaroo festival. Cr Power walked up and down the street talking to people. Received complaints that Firebrace Street is too dark. This was the only complaint that was received at the festival.
- Kanamaroo festival on Saturday along the Wimmera River. Cr Power was disappointed on the amount of people that turned out but impressed with the duck race.
- Community action group pool party at the Aquatic Centre. The pool parties just get bigger and better every year. This is one of those events that we do really well in Horsham.
- SES Christmas party.
- 27 November - Council briefing meeting followed by a community meeting at Quantong.
- 28 November - Motocross meeting at Council.
- 29 November - Presentation at the Wimmera River in relation to environmental sustainability award.
- Natimuk meeting with Billy Lovel in relation to a possible petrol station at Natimuk.
- Tri State Games afternoon tea. It was very special to see all the people who won medals at the games.
- Carols by Candlelight.
- We have had community losses recently. Gwen Templar passed away at 87 years of age. She participated at the Homers Football Club and did a lot for the club. Also Senior Sargent Trevor Elsom passed away. These are two very sad losses for Horsham.

### **Cr Clarke, Mayor**

- Congratulations to Dustin Cross. What a wonderful leader for our youth. You don't have to go to university to achieve great things. He's a wonderful example of a young leader.

- 22 November - Performing Arts Company meeting
- 23 November - Stakeholders meeting with Uniting Wimmera
- 23 November - Wimmera Southern Mallee Community Transport Service Launch. The group provide a bus from Kaniva, Nhill, Dimboola and Pimpinio to Horsham to do whatever they need to do. Jacinta Allan is really impressed with this service. The next step is to have the bus go to Yarriambiack.
- 3WM Weekly Advertiser Christmas party.
- Wimmera Health Care Group AGM. Dr Stephen Brown from Ballarat Health Service talked about the cancer statistics in this region which have a high mortality rate. The Cancer Centre in Horsham will be a great advantage.
- 24 November – Took part in the White Ribbon march.
- 24 November - Opened the Axis Employment building. It is now a beautiful looking building. Cr Clarke started with them in 1991. The business is going ahead in leaps and bounds.
- Kannamaroo festival. Congratulations to the committee, it was a terrific event.
- 25 November - Salvation Army charity ride.
- Judged the riding for the disabled hobby horse show at the Kannamaroo festival.
- The great duck race. We had about 40 unsold tickets before the race but were about to sell them. In total sold 2000 tickets. This is an amazing outcome.
- 25 November – Launched the Youth CAN @ Kannamaroo - Alcohol Cultural Change Project. Talked about the culture of alcohol, it's about responsible drinking of alcohol.
- Tidy Towns dinner. Congratulations to Cr Gulvin for receiving a youth leader award.
- Tidy Towns awards breakfast.
- Legacy annual dinner
- 29 November – Met with Minister Jacinta Allan to talk about the return of passenger rail. This was a productive meeting. We have a lot of support.
- 30 November - Briefing with Geoff Lord from Fed Uni.
- Audit Committee meeting.
- Tri State Games afternoon tea at Council. It was fabulous to see their faces as they stood in front of everyone and told us about their medals and achievements.
- 3 December - Carols by candlelight. Well done to the organisers of this event. Cr Clarke thanked the committee and all participants. Many of our staff volunteered their time to ensure the carols went ahead. It was very well run. Our talents are amazing. The gentleman that sang at the end was incredible.

**Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Koenig that the Councillors' Reports be received.**

**CARRIED**

## 10. OFFICERS REPORTS

### 10.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### 10.1.1 COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2018

PF Brown

File Ref: F06/A02/000001

#### Purpose

To adopt Council meeting dates for 2018.

#### Background

Under the Local Government Act Council is required to give notice of and advertise Council meetings. Adoption of Council meeting dates for 2018 will allow planning of Councillor and senior officers diaries.

MONTH	DATE	DAY	MEETING	VENUE	TIME
February	5	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
February	19	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
March	5	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
March	19	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
April	3	<b>Tuesday</b>	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
April	16	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
May	7	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
May	21	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
June	4	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
June	18	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
July	2	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
July	16	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
August	6	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
August	20	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
September	3	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
September	17	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
October	1	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
October	15	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm

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November	5	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
<b>November</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Statutory Meeting</b>	<b>Horsham</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
November	19	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
December	3	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm
December	17	Monday	Council Meeting	Horsham	5.30pm

**Recommendation**

**Moved Cr Grimble, seconded Cr Robinson that the above Council meeting dates for the Horsham Rural City Council for 2018 be adopted and advertised accordingly in the Wimmera Mail Times newspaper with an alteration to the June meetings, that there be only one Council Meeting in June (12 June) to allow Councillors and staff to attend the ALGA National Conference in Canberra which will be held 17 to 20 June, 2018.**

**CARRIED**

**10.1.2 GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL**

P F Brown

File Ref: F20/A06/000001

**Recommendation**

That Council refer this item to the confidential briefing part of the meeting to consider the report from the Chief Executive in accordance with Section 89(2) (d) contractual matters of the Local Government Act, 1989.

**Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Koenig that this item be considered in Closed Council ("Committee").**

**CARRIED**

**10.1.3 WESTERN RAIL ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN**

PF Brown

File Ref: F10/A04/000001

**Purpose**

To provide an update on the Western Rail Advocacy Campaign, including a deputation to the Hon Jacinta Allen, MP, Minister for Public Transport on 29 November 2017.

## Background

The Grampians and Barwon South West Region Passenger Services Cost and Feasibility Study was launched in April 2017. It was commissioned by eight Western Victorian Councils and covers the area from Ararat to the South Australian border, and from Yarriambiack in the north, to the Glenelg Shire in the south. Funding was provided by the State and Federal Governments.

The first goal of the project – *to increase Ararat to Melbourne train services from three to four services daily* – was announced in July 2017 and took effect on 27 August 2017. The connecting coach services for the new rail services have not yet been implemented.

The next goal is to see additional coach services to create better linkages between regional towns and cities in the south-west and Ballarat line upgrades to allow for reduced travel times between Ararat and Melbourne.

Stage 2 of the project will look to reinstate passenger rail services to Horsham and Hamilton, and convert tracks between Ballarat and Ararat from broad to standard gauge. The total cost of Stage 2 is \$369 million.

## Issues

The eight Western Victorian Councils have continued to collect information and speak to various politicians and bureaucrats at the Federal and State level in relation to the return of passenger rail to Western Victoria.

Attached as **Appendix “10.1A”** is a copy of a deputation outline and letters that have been written to the Hon Jacinta Allen, MP, Minister for Public Transport, together with correspondence from the Hon Darren Chester, MP, Federal Minister for Transport to Mr Andrew Broad, MP, Federal Member for Mallee. Of particular interest, is the letter from Darren Chester, where he outlines a willingness from the Commonwealth Government to assist in funding the investigation of a business case by the Victorian State Government into a return of passenger rail to Western Victoria.

Also attached as **Appendix “10.1B”** is an extract from The Weekly Advertiser newspaper outlining comments made by Andrew Broad and the launch of a campaign by Ms Emma Kealy, MP, State Member for Lowan, to increase community awareness of improvements to passenger services in Western Victoria.

The deputation to the Hon Jacinta Allan as referred to earlier was attended by the Mayor Cr Pam Clarke and Chief Executive of Horsham Rural City Council together with the Mayors of Southern Grampians and Northern Grampians Shire Councils and the Chief executives from Southern Grampians Shire Council and Ararat Rural City.

The primary purpose of the deputation was to advance our request to Minister Jacinta Allan to submit a funding application under the National Rail Program for a detailed business case.

Minister Allan was receptive to the request and has had some preliminary conversations with the Federal Minister for Transport the Hon Darren Chester and with our local Federal Member for Mallee, Andrew Broad.

Minister Allan agreed to have a further conversation with the Federal Transport Minister seeking to know particularly what Federal support would look like (ie. how much funding is available). The deputation remains confident that the request for a detailed business case is seriously on the agenda for consideration and we're hopeful there will be a positive response to our request.

Following the meeting with the Minister we again raised our request for a business case with our local State Member for Lowan, Emma Kealy. Representations have previously been made to Matthew Guy the Opposition Leader and to Peter Walsh the State Leader of the National Party.

It is proposed that the alliance of the Western Victorian Councils will write to the Premier, the Opposition Leader and the Leader of the National Party seeking a commitment to undertake a business case into the return of passenger rail to Western Victoria.

The meeting with the Minister for Transport also raised the other issues. Firstly that we seek improved coach services, particularly some additional services and better connections by coach services to existing rail services. A detailed outline of the requests that have been made is attached as **Appendix "10.1C"** and this was also presented to Minister Allan.

The Minister advised the deputation that hopefully legislation would soon pass through the Upper House of Parliament enabling a much more flexible passenger service delivery in regional Victoria and that she should be writing to Councils encouraging Councils and other community organisations and private providers to look at how passenger services might be provided into the future, particularly in small towns where taxi services are not viable.

Another issue for Western Victorian Rail is the more rail services to Ararat. The importance of the increased passenger rail services to Ararat has been outlined in the Barwon South West Passenger Services costs and feasibility study. In August 19 new services commenced each week.

The second iteration of improvements to Ararat services is dependent on the current capital works which are about to be undertaken between Ballarat and Melbourne. The Minister undertook to make Transport for Victoria aware of the need to have an earlier service arriving in Ararat from Melbourne and Ballarat which would allow workers to live in Ballarat and access jobs in Ararat.

### **Consultation/Communication**

The campaign has a website [www.westernrail.com.au](http://www.westernrail.com.au), and a dedicated Facebook page and Twitter handle providing details of the campaign and opportunities for people to tell their story.

The Western Rail Advocacy Project Steering Group met in Warracknabeal on Tuesday 28 November. The minutes will be tabled at the next Council meeting.

### **Financial**

The Western Rail Advocacy Campaign has been jointly funded by the eight Western Victorian Councils participating in the project.

Continued advocacy in 2017/18 is estimated to cost \$16,000 in total.

### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2017-2020 Council Plan

- Advocacy – Return of passenger rail

**Provided for information of Council.**

**RECEIVED**



## **10.2 DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **10.2.1 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT (JULY-SEPTEMBER 2017)**

G Harrison / H Proctor

File Ref: F18/A10/000001

#### **Purpose**

To provide Council with the quarterly financial report for the quarter ended 30 September 2017.

#### **Background**

Under Section 138 (1) of the Local Government Act 1989, a quarterly financial statement is to be provided to open Council comparing actual to budget for revenue and expenditure.

The September quarterly report was produced in October and presented to Council at the October Finance and Performance Committee meeting but was then not reported to open Council.

#### **Issues**

The attached report has been prepared to provide Council with an overview of finances year-to-date and comparisons to budget.

This report has been developed to provide a simple easy to read snapshot of how council is performing against budget. **Appendix "10.2A"**.

#### **Consultation/Communication**

This report together with more extensive analysis and detail is provided to Council each month as part of the Finance and Performance Committee agenda and to the Audit Committee on a quarterly basis.

#### **Financial**

Staff time to compile and prepare this report is included in the 2017-18 budget.

#### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

Goal 4 – Governance and Business excellence

Four Year priority - 4.4.5 Improve performance reporting and regular management reporting across all areas of Council

**Provided for information of Council.**

**RECEIVED**

## **10.2.2 APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION OF AUTHORISED OFFICER UNDER THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987**

G Harrison

File Ref: F19/A02/000001

### **Purpose**

To appoint Lauren Coman as an authorised officer for the enforcement of various general provisions of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and to authorise this officer to institute proceedings for any offences.

### **Background**

Council periodically endorses various new delegations of certain of its duties to staff. Included amongst these delegations is the power for the Chief Executive to independently appoint authorised officers under those Acts which provide for such appointment to assist with enforcement.

### **Issues**

Most Acts allow Council to delegate to a member of staff the responsibility for appointment of an authorised officer. Council has delegated these responsibilities to the Chief Executive and he has previously exercised his authority with the separate appointment of authorised officers under various Acts. Section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, however, specifically prohibits Council from delegating this power, which means that Council itself must directly appoint authorised officers under that Act.

The instrument of appointment and authorisation proposed for adoption by Council, and as provided under the Maddocks Delegation service is attached as **Appendix "10.2B"** for Ms Lauren Coman who is Regulatory Services Manager. Appointment is by name rather than by position. Ms Coman commenced in this position on 22 June 2017.

### **Consultation/Communication**

Ms Coman and the staff who administer delegation arrangements are all aware of this change.

### **Financial**

There are no financial impacts as a result of this authorisation.

### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

**Recommendation**

That Council appoint Lauren Coman as an authorised officer under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, in accordance with the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation as attached, and sign and seal the document.

**Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Koenig that the recommendation be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

## **10.3 DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC**

### **10.3.1 MUNICIPAL PARKING STRATEGY**

A Murphy      File Ref: F25/A02/000001

#### **Purpose**

To adopt the Municipal Parking Strategy.

#### **Background**

Horsham is a vibrant and diverse regional centre and plays an important role as the largest centre in the Wimmera with key community services, education, retail and business services supporting a residential population of 19,691 and a regional population of 47,156.

The objective of this project was to review car parking occupancy surveys, identify opportunities to create amenable and welcoming places, seek community feedback, conduct background review of strategic documentation and identify strategies to assist Council to manage car parking within and in proximity to the Central Activity District.

#### **Issues**

Car parking surveys have been conducted in Horsham on an annual basis since 2012, on the second Friday in December each year when car parking demands are likely to be at peak levels.

An analysis of the survey results indicates that there have been no significant changes in car parking occupancy levels over the period of 5 years, with the 2016 result showing 62% occupancy level. The best practice benchmark level in regional settings is 75% occupancy.

The project also presents an opportunity for Council to plan and develop the Central Activity District for and around people and pedestrians and not cars. Provided that the Central Activity District is attractive, accessible, active and interesting, it will create an environment for people to walk and to meet, and at the same time present opportunities for traders to engage with and provide enticing shopfronts for pedestrians resulting in incidental sales and economic activity. There is a direct relationship between the review of the Municipal Parking Strategy and the Horsham CBD Revitalisation Strategy.

A key policy position of Council has been that funds generated through parking meters and fines are set aside specifically to upgrade and improve the Central Activity District. Collection of fees through parking meters and fines are important to leveraging funding support from other levels of government and implementing the CBD revitalisation strategy project actions recently endorsed by Council.

Key recommendations in the strategy:

- Generally retain current paid parking rates and locations
- Commit to strategies and initiatives to reduce car dependence in Horsham while supporting the aspiration of making Horsham a leader in regional walkable communities
- Analyse and review of car parking occupancy
- Regular monitoring of parking conditions
- Horsham Parking Advisory and Consultative Committee to remain operational
- Enable the development of residential dwelling and or reuse of CBD buildings for residential use to improve activity
- Improve signage and wayfinding for off street car parks to enable strong utilisation of peripheral parking and longer term parking.

### **Financial**

Development of the Municipal Parking Strategy is being funded from the CBD and Carpark Development Reserve.

### **Consultation/communication**

Development of the strategy has been informed by:

- Parking occupancy survey conducted in December 2016.
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement workshops during June 2016 including the Horsham Parking Advisory and Consultative Committee.

The consultation process following Council adopting the draft plan for consultation on 16 October 2017 included issuing a media release, notification via social media and website and having the plan available at the listening post on 29 October 2017 with submissions closing on 10 November, 2017.

The plan was also circulated to Business Horsham.

Four submissions were received in response to the draft Strategy consultation phase and are attached as **Appendix "10.3A"** for Council's information:-

- (1) Business Horsham
- (2) Robin Barber
- (3) Ronald Pannan
- (4) Community Development Team

The Horsham Parking Consultative and Advisory Committee considered the submissions at its meeting on 23 November, 2017, and have recommended the following additions to the strategy:

-Consider covered walkways and incentives to encourage staff to park on the outer of the CAD and walk to work

-Consider covered walkways and incentives to encourage aged community to park and shop

-Improve amenity by increasing shade through street planting, verandahs and shade in Council owned car parks

-Undertake an audit of accessible (disability) parks to ensure location meets the needs of users, and that the parking spaces meet the requirements of accessibility.

-Improve and streamline signage and wayfinding

-Identify charge point locations for mobility scooters and e-cars

A copy of the Municipal Parking Strategy Final Report including the proposed additions is attached as **Appendix "10.3B"**.

### **Links to Council Plan**

Sustaining the Economy – Lead in sustainable growth and economic development.  
Horsham CBD Revitalisation Strategy (2017)  
2.2.05 Review Municipal Parking Strategy  
Health and Wellbeing Plan  
2013 CAD Strategy

### **Recommendation**

That Council adopt the Municipal Parking Strategy Final Report with the addition of the following recommendations included in the Executive Summary being:-

- Consider covered walkways and incentives to encourage staff to park on the outer of the CAD and walk to work.
- Consider covered walkways and incentives to encourage aged community to park and shop.
- Improve amenity by increasing shade through street planting, verandahs and shade in Council owned car parks.
- Undertake an audit of accessible (disability) parks to ensure location meets the needs of users, and that the parking spaces meet the requirements of accessibility.
- Improve and streamline signage and wayfinding.
- Identify charge point locations for mobility scooters and e-cars.

**Moved Cr Power, Seconded Cr Radford that the recommendation be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

## **10.4 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **10.4.1 KALKEE ROAD CHILDREN'S AND COMMUNITY HUB**

K O'Brien

File Ref: F08/A09/000002

#### **Purpose**

To provide an update on the Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub Development.

#### **Background**

The Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub is a children's facility including kindergarten, Maternal and Child Health, supported playgroup, early intervention services and visiting specialist consulting rooms.

The new 1,130 square metre facility is being constructed on a green field site providing a central community hub that combines a range of education, health, care, support and community services.

In September 2016, Council awarded a contract to Locks Constructions to construct the facility. Construction commenced in November 2016. A Project Control Group has been established to oversee project delivery.

#### **Issues**

Construction is on track with completion expected as per the project program. Below is a summary of progress of works and other matters.

- Vinyl flooring is approximately 50% complete.
- Carpet laying will commence in December.
- Toilet partitions to be completed in late November.
- Pin boards are to be installed in the first week of December.
- Power connection testing is still to be completed.
- Trims around the exterior of the building are continuing.
- Plumbing fit-off underway.
- Site huts have been removed to enable landscaping to commence.
- Tiles both inside and out are near completion.
- Kalkee Road access improvement works have commenced.
- The route for the footpath through Dudley Cornell Reserve to Albert Street has been finalised and final costings are now being prepared.
- Public Art works will be installed in February 2018 with final designs to be completed in the coming weeks.
- Liaison is occurring with Department of Education and Training in regards to the licensing of the space.
- Negotiations are still occurring with prospective tenants with interest from several agencies.

It is expected that the remaining construction works and fit-off will be completed in the first two weeks of December and that construction will be completed by the end of December. Occupancy of the facility is expected to occur in February 2018, subject to Council's building department issuing the certificate of occupancy.

### **Consultation/Communication**

- Updates are provided to Council from the Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub Project Control Group, which meets monthly. Mayor Cr Pam Clarke and Cr Les Power are members of the Project Control Group.
- An Internal Working Group meets monthly. Staff with responsibilities in relation to the Children's Hub (construction and operations) attend these meetings.
- Liaison is occurring with a number of key stakeholders in relation to construction and operations.
- A Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub parents reference group has been established.
- A regular newsletter has been produced and distributed.
- Tours of the Children's Hub were conducted as part of Northfest on Saturday 11 November 2017. There were approximately 60 community members shown through the facility.

### **Financial**

The overall cost of the project is estimated to be \$4.395 million. \$3.5 million has been secured through grants from State and Federal government.

The construction contingency amount for the project is \$311,805. The remaining contingency as at 28 November 2017 is \$109,623.00. Variations in November were:

- Upgrade of crossover to commercial standard.
- Joinery changes.
- Lighting changes to ensure they can be suspended.
- Installation of dishwasher in the staff room.

### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

#### **Municipal Early Years Plan (2014-2017)**

One of the key outcomes of the Municipal Early Years Plan is the progressive development of three early years' centres throughout Horsham over the next 10 to 15 years.

#### **Council Plan (2017-2021)**

1.1.05 Complete construction of the Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub and commence operations.

### **Provided for information of Council.**



**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Power that the report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**10.4.2 KALKEE ROAD CHILDREN'S AND COMMUNITY HUB**

K O'Brien

File Ref: F08/A09/000002

**Recommendation**

That Council refer this item to the confidential briefing part of the meeting to consider the report from the Director Community Services in accordance with Section 89(2) (d) contractual matters of the Local Government Act, 1989.

**Moved Cr Koenig, Seconded Cr Robinson that this item be considered in Closed Council ("Committee").**

**CARRIED**

## 10.5 DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

Cr Clarke declared a Conflict of Interest, pursuant to Section 79 of the Local Government Act, 1989 in respect of item 10.5.1 and left the Council Chamber at 7.08pm.

Cr Radford took the Chair as Acting Chairman.

### 10.5.1 WIMMERA SPORTS STADIUM

John Martin / Rhonda McNeil

File Ref: F20/A07/000002

#### Purpose

To provide a briefing to Councillors on the outputs of the Wimmera Sports Stadium, Phase Two: Business Case and Concept Design project in accordance with previous resolutions of Council.

#### Background

Council adopted a report on the Phase One: Feasibility Study for an Indoor Stadium and made the following resolutions at its 5 December 2016 meeting.

- **Resolution 1:**
  1. Council endorses the recommendations contained within the Horsham Multi-Use Indoor Sports Stadium Plan – Phase One: Feasibility Study.
  2. The Horsham Multi-Use Indoor Sports Stadium Plan – Phase Two: Location and Design study proceed, including consideration of a staged development option.
  3. A Project Control Group be established, including Councillor and Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee and key stakeholder representation, to guide the subsequent phases of the project.
  
- **Resolution 2:** Council continue planning for the development and provision of alternative indoor sports capacity that:
  1. Meets the needs of the various local sporting bodies.
  2. Takes account of use of existing facilities where able including facility upgrade assessment.
  3. Meets the needs of the wider community in terms of best value for cost.
  4. Meets the governance standards as articulated in the HRCC Council Plan 2016 – 2020 which includes the requirement to “Evaluate refurbishment of appropriate Council assets before construction of new facilities”.

Regular updates have been provided to Council during the second phase of development of the Wimmera Sports Stadium project. The outcomes of an extensive engagement process with key stakeholders, user groups and the broader community were presented in the Community Engagement Report of June 2017.

A report presented to Council on 3 July 2017 then resolved the following regarding the location of the proposed facility:

*Council endorses the project control group's recommendation for any new indoor sports stadium facility to be located in McBryde Street adjoining the existing basketball stadium.*

Engagement with the PCG, many key stakeholders and user groups has continued. Further detailed financial modelling has been conducted to develop practical arrangements to ensure affordable operation of the proposed Stadium.

The Business Case and Concept Design report (the Architect's report) is included as **Appendix "10.5A"**. The report brings together the design work of the architects, Williams Ross, and the business case developed by Community Vibe, as one consolidated report.

### **Concept Design**

The Architect's report presents detailed plans of the proposed layout of the new stadium, incorporating:

- A sports hall with three new fully compliant multi-sport courts.
- One of these courts designated as the show court, with seating for 400, and the ability for additional temporary seating to be installed on the opposite side of that court subject to demand.
- An area for 12 table tennis tables in part of the existing stadium space.
- Ability to use the existing stadium in a number of ways, including training for several sports, or it can provide 1 fully code compliant court space for basketball to complement the 3 new courts, 2 further volleyball courts and 3 further badminton courts. One badminton and one volleyball court will be available for competition whilst the table tennis tables are in place.
- Six squash courts, including two with removable walls to allow for doubles, expansion of squash programs, and for other activities such as yoga and strength classes.
- Five outdoor netball courts.
- Office space that can be hired out for complementary industries such as visiting development coaches, state sporting association regional representatives, West Vic Academy rep or others.
- Environmentally sustainable design (ESD) and universal design principles, incorporating all abilities access and female friendly principles.
- Administration space, café/kitchen.
- Modern and compliant toilets / change rooms that allow for interchangeable use by all.

A range of options were considered by the PCG in developing its preference for the layout, including its presentation to both McPherson St and the Showgrounds. The PCG considered strongly the inclusion and the re-purposing of the existing basketball stadium that has served our community well for many generations.

## **Capital Costs**

The project Architect commissioned a Quantity Surveyor to provide a cost estimate of the planned works, based on the design that had been developed. The estimate was for \$25.9 M (ex GST).

This estimate was well beyond the preliminary advice provided in the Phase 1 report, and greater than the PCG's expectations for the project. Comparisons had been made with a range of other facilities across the country, with an indicative price of \$3.5 M per new court being anticipated.

In addition to the three new courts, the Wimmera Sports Stadium proposal includes:

- 5 outdoor courts
- squash courts with moveable walls
- consulting suites
- an office / kiosk area
- car parking area
- deeper foundations to cater to Horsham's poor soils
- extra amenities to cater for regional level competitions/ tournaments.

These additional features only partly explain the Quantity Surveyor's cost estimate being well above the earlier estimate, hence the PCG sought a second estimate.

The estimate of the second Quantity Surveyor was \$17 M. This second estimate was assessed as being low in some areas, in particular the provision for contingency that was cited as only 4% of the build cost. An assessment of the two Quantity Surveyor's estimates, and comparison with costing of other recently completed stadiums, suggests that the project should be described as a \$20 M build.

This project will require three tiers of government funding as is appropriate for such a significant piece of infrastructure that represents a key investment in the health and wellbeing of a regional area. The anticipated maximum contribution from Council is \$4 million. Detailed funding arrangements will need to be developed in consultation with Government representatives.

## **Operating Costs / Business Case**

The table on page 36 of the Architect's report includes the estimated recurrent expenditure and income for the new facility. In summary, Council's annual investment into the community's health and wellbeing through the stadium and its various programs would be in the order of \$230,000 annually, subject to usage levels.

The initial operational costs are based on information received from similar facilities in Victoria. Income levels are based on the proposed fees outlined in a following section in the report (p 37) and current levels of usage. A key objective of the stadium project is to encourage increased participation through additional programs

targeting in particular people who are not participating in the traditional models of indoor sports currently available. These would lead to increased income – but it is difficult to project the likely levels of extra participation at this stage.

It is common for Council facilities to require a recurrent investment for programs to be delivered. For example, the indicative nett cost to Council of the Aquatic Centre and Town Hall is around \$500,000 per year for each facility.

Concerns raised by the PCG and the Horsham Amateur Basketball Association (HABA) executive have led to further financial modelling being conducted internally, beyond that presented in the Architect's report, to review the affordability of the new stadium for all users. The HABA executive provided financial information to assist in understanding the costs of running basketball.

### **Governance**

Four options for governance / management models for the new facility were considered by the Project Control Group. These options are the most common utilised at a range of facilities across Victoria and NSW.

- Option 1 – Council run.
- Option 2 – External organisation – e.g. Horsham Aquatic Centre
- Option 3 – An incorporated association, made up of reps of various user groups.
- Option 4 – The facility being managed by an existing sports club, - e.g. HABA or Volleyball.

The pros and cons of each option were discussed by the PCG, with some of the relevant comments being:

- The incorporated or individual club management options are not models that operate at regional level facilities at other locations. A regional facility carries an additional burden of management, which may not be within the capacity of the various existing groups under an incorporated clubs model.
- Ballarat and Macedon Ranges Council have recently taken back full management of their facilities from contractors.
- Any contractor would need to show how they would meet the social aspects of the operation rather than just profit making.
- Council could run a new facility initially, for say 2-3 years, while the relationships between the various groups mature, to allow a review of whether other options might be better suited to the new facility.

The report reflects the PCG's preference for a Council managed facility, with input from existing user groups via an advisory group, with an opportunity to review this management arrangement after several years to determine whether or not one of the other models may be better in the future, e.g. contracted out to a third party.

### **Additional Consultation - Horsham Amateur Basketball Association (HABA) Executive**

A series of meetings have been held with the HABA executive over the past months since HABA's resignation from the PCG. The HABA executive's position is that it does not support the Wimmera Sports Stadium proposal as it currently stands. In contrast, Basketball Victoria which has continued to be engaged in the project, supports the new Stadium proposal.

The HABA executive has expressed the following key areas of concern as being fundamental for HABA's continued operation:

- Autonomy
- Affordability
- Governance

Autonomy - This relates to the ability for HABA to have flexibility in scheduling activities, including major events and informal training. An element of this is also appropriate rostering during the regular program. In particular, Thursday nights during the football season are problematic as juniors with high athletic potential are likely to participate in a number of activities per week, and HABA considers that any scheduling of the current forms of basketball on a Thursday in winter would be detrimental to basketball's ongoing viability. HABA has recently provided its suggestions of a roster that suits its needs. This roster has been incorporated into the final "indicative" scheduling as presented in Section 9 of the Architect's report (pp 32-35). This indicative scheduling includes future models for basketball such as "walk in" and "3 on 3" competition which will target other age groups not currently committed to football and netball. The other key users of a new stadium are willing to look at different nights from their traditional competition nights to facilitate scheduling for the stadium.

Affordability - This is central to the concerns of HABA and all our current and future user groups. The initial preliminary business case assumed a flat hourly rate for court hire. In consideration of feedback from PCG members and the HABA executive, a tiered pricing structure was developed that better reflects the key principle of affordability for all.

Further analysis of the updated pricing structure suggests that overall HABA as an association could be about \$5,000 better off under the newer pricing structure for the Stadium. It is proposed that this latest analysis be reviewed with the HABA executive for their review.

Governance - The governance concern largely relates to the HABA executive's preference for autonomy. The HABA executive attribute their past success of individuals and squad teams to autonomy of the current facility and strongly believe that any changed governance structure would be detrimental to their on-court success. The PCG and officers' discussions with other basketball leagues and Basketball Victoria does not support this view. The Architect's report recommends an advisory committee be established to work with the council management in a similar way as the current Aquatic Centre Arrangement.

### **Consultation**

As indicated earlier, extensive community engagement was conducted by Community Vibe and reported in the Community Engagement Report of June 2017.

The tenth, and final meeting of the PCG (held 29 November 2017) resolved as follows:

1. To recommend to Council that Council adopt the Wimmera Sports Stadium Business Case and Concept Design report.
2. To recommend to Council that the report be made a public document.

it is proposed that the Business Case and Concept design report, and summaries of that, should be made available for public discussion, prior to formal consideration by Council.

However, given that HABA does not accept the proposed changes, based on the information they have seen to date, it is proposed that HABA, and the community should be given the opportunity to review the report, and HABA should be given an opportunity to present to Council on its position prior to final consideration of this matter by Council.

### **Financial**

The Phase One: Feasibility Study cost \$24,200.

The Phase Two: Location, Business case and concept design cost \$60,742, including some supporting detailed site assessments.

Funding for this project has been in part sourced from a grant from Sport and Recreation Victoria (\$30,000) and remainder from council.

Funding for the construction will be the subject of further investigation and liaison with federal and state governments in the months ahead. The Director Corporate Services advises that provision of up to \$4 million for the stadium will be considered by Council in its upcoming budget planning, which will include development of an updated Long Term Financial Plan.

### Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

- **Council Plan 1.2.4** Complete a detailed feasibility study for a multipurpose/indoor sports and community facility.
- **Sports and Recreation Strategy Nov 2013:** A detailed indoor sports centre strategy and feasibility study be commissioned.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receive the Business Case and Concept Design Report for the Wimmera Sports Stadium.
2. Make the Business Case and Concept Design Report available to the public.
3. Invite representatives of the Project Control Group and Horsham Amateur Basketball Association to discuss their views on the report with Council.
4. Further consider this matter no later than the first Council meeting in March 2018.

**Moved Cr Robinson, Seconded Cr Power that the report be received.**

**CARRIED**

Cr Robinson foreshadowed a motion that Council:

1. Receive the Business Case and Concept Design Report for the Wimmera Sports Stadium.
2. Invite the Horsham Amateur Basketball Association to advise their position to Council.
3. Further consider the matter following the response of the Horsham Amateur Basketball Association.

**Moved Cr Robinson, Seconded Cr Grimble that Council:**

1. **Receive the Business Case and Concept Design Report for the Wimmera Sports Stadium.**
2. **Invite the Horsham Amateur Basketball Association to advise their position to Council.**
3. **Further consider the matter following the response of the Horsham Amateur Basketball Association.**
4. **That the Business Case and Concept Design Report be released to the Horsham Amateur Basketball Association.**

**MOTION LOST**



**Moved Cr Koenig, seconded Cr Power that Council:**

1. **Receive the Business Case and Concept Design Report for the Wimmera Sports Stadium.**
2. **Make the Business Case and Concept Design Report available to the public.**
3. **Invite representatives of the Project Control Group and Horsham Amateur Basketball Association to discuss their views on the report with Council.**
4. **Further consider this matter no later than the first Council meeting in March 2018.**

**CARRIED**

Cr Clarke then returned to the Council Chamber at 7.58pm after the vote was taken.  
Cr Radford vacated the Chair as Acting Chairman  
Cr Clarke resumed as Chairman.

**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Power that the Council Meeting close for a dinner break.**

**CARRIED**

The time being 8.00pm the Council meeting closed.

Cr Robinson left the Council meeting at 8.27pm.

**Moved Cr Koenig, Seconded Cr Power that the Council meeting resume.**

**CARRIED**

The time being 8.28pm the Council meeting resumed.

## **10.5.2 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

John Martin

File Ref: F16/A05/000001

### **Purpose**

To propose Council endorsement of updated versions of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan and the Municipal Fire Management Plan, and endorsement of a new plan, the Emergency Animal Welfare Support Sub-Plan.

### **Background**

Horsham Rural City Council is a partner in the Wimmera Emergency Management Resource Sharing Partnership, with our neighbours Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack Shire Councils.

Funding from the State Government enables the Partnership to employ a small team of emergency management professionals who are able to assist the four Councils with the development and maintenance of emergency management plans and related systems, to ensure they retain their currency with relevant legislation and changing government policy. In particular, the Emergency Management Manual Victoria (EMMV) is a key driver of the management approach to emergencies, and the required supporting documentation. The EMMV document is progressively updated, hence the need to ensure our plans are also updated.

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEM Plan) is the over-arching emergency management document for the municipality. Essentially all other emergency management plans for the municipality are sub-plans to this document.

Council is subject to Audit on its MEM Plan, the last such audit was conducted earlier in 2017, by VicSES. The result of the audit was that the Plan was found to comply with requirements.

### **Issues**

One of the many benefits of our Emergency Management Partnership is the efficiency it delivers by enabling common development of emergency plans. The shared experiences of the four municipalities also allow better refinement of the approaches developed in these plans.

The MEM Plan and the Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) have both been recently updated by our Partnership staff, for presentation through the relevant committees. The MEM Plan has been reviewed by the MEM Planning Committee and the MFMP by the MFM Planning Committee (MFMPC). The update of both plans involved drafts being circulated to the individual agency representatives on each Committee for detailed review and comment. The collection of these comments, and updated versions of the drafts were then presented at the respective Committee meetings for further review and subsequent endorsement.

While generally common in content between the four municipalities, the Plans are tailored to provide specific details of relevance to each municipality.

The Emergency Animal Welfare Support Sub-Plan is a new plan. Its development has followed the preparation of a state level plan on this subject, primarily by the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR). The plan addresses arrangements for management of domestic animals, livestock and wildlife in emergency events. Of note, a key issue in recent emergency events has been the importance to people of ensuring that their animals, including pets, are appropriately cared for in these events. In some cases, people have been reluctant to evacuate their homes if they could not be assured that their pets were being cared for.

The engagement process for development of this plan has been similar to that described for the other plans above.

### **Consultation/Communication**

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) and Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) were both endorsed and recommended for adoption by Council at the MEMPC meeting held on 16 November 2017.

The Emergency Animal Welfare Support Sub-Plan (EAWS) was endorsed and recommended for adoption by Council at the MEMPC meeting held on 20 July 2017.

The endorsed plans are included as **Appendix "10.5B" - MEMP, Appendix "10.5C" - MFMP** and **Appendix "10.5D" - EAWS** to this report.

### **Financial**

The Plans were prepared by staff of the Wimmera Emergency Management Resource Sharing Partnership, within the funding available for that partnership.

### **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

The MEMP and MFMP are both recognise as plans that support Goal 1, Community and Cultural Development of the Council Plan.

### **Recommendation**

That Council adopt the Municipal Emergency Management Plan, the Municipal Fire Management Plan and the Emergency Animal Welfare Support Sub-Plan as recommended by the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee.

**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Radford that the recommendation be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

### **10.5.3 HORSHAM BYPASS**

John Martin      File Ref: F24/A05/000004

### **Purpose**

To present information relating to the following resolution from Council's 20 November 2017 meeting.

*That a report be provided to the next Council meeting to be held on Monday 4 December 2017 advising on the current status of the Planning Scheme Amendment C72 Horsham Bypass.*

## **Background**

The last formal correspondence received by Council on the status of the bypass was a letter from the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Luke Donnellan, dated 5 September 2017. This letter noted Council's advice of its updated position on the bypass, and declined a request for Council to meet with him at that time.

The Chief Executive and this Director have been liaising with representatives of the Roads and Planning Ministers, the Planning Department of DELWP and VicRoads regularly, and typically weekly seeking updates on the status of the Bypass since that time. Further requests have been made since the Council resolution.

Informal responses suggest that there are some administrative processes between VicRoads and the Department, which are still required to be completed. A substantive response on the nature of these processes has not been received.

## **Issues**

The discussion relating to the recent Council resolution also sought further information on the status of related Council-led work on the Horsham Integrated Transport Strategy (HITS) and the Aerodrome Master Plan.

A proposal for advancing work on Stages 1, 2 and 3 of HITS was presented at a Councillor briefing session on 31 January 2017. Further discussion at a subsequent Councillor briefing session on 14 February 2017 developed an informal position that it would be difficult to advance work on the HITS until a bypass route was known. No further work has been done on that strategy since then.

A previous Council resolution has called for an independent review of some aspects of the Aerodrome Master Plan. A consultants brief for this review was presented at the 28 August 2017 Councillor briefing. Comments from that meeting have been used to update the brief ready for issue to potential consultants, but it has not yet been issued, on the same basis as the further HITS work.

## **Discussion**

It has been difficult obtaining a definitive response on the status of the Bypass through Departmental and Ministerial Advisor sources.

It is suggested that letters be written to both relevant Ministers formally requesting advice on this status.

### Recommendation

That Council request advice from both the Minister for Planning and the Minister for Roads and Road Safety on the status of the Planning Scheme Amendment C72 relating to Horsham Bypass.

**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Koenig that the report be received.**

*Cr Gulvin advised Council that her and her husband have bought land in Haven and wanted to know whether this is a conflict of interest. Mr Brown advised Cr Gulvin to formally notify Council.*

**CARRIED**

**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Radford that Council request advice from both the Minister for Planning and the Minister for Roads and Road Safety on the status of the Planning Scheme Amendment C72 relating to Horsham Bypass.**

**CARRIED**

### **10.5.4 CONTRACT 18/007 - RESTORATION OF FLOOD DAMAGED ASSETS - PACKAGE 1**

Ram Upadhyaya

File Ref: F13/A02

#### **Purpose**

This report is to advise the Council of the tender process for restoration of assets damaged by flooding during September 2016. It recommends awarding the contract to the preferred tenderer J&KD Earthmoving, trading as Grampians Excavation and Soil Yard, for the amount of \$1,088,632.45 (excluding GST).

#### **Background**

The September 2016 storm event was estimated as a 1-in-20 year event and caused a moderate level of damage in parts of Council's road network.

Initially, Council was able to restore some sections of damaged roads where there was a hazard. However, the main recovery works have not been able to commence until a detailed inventory of damage was prepared, specifications developed and the sites reviewed by a VicRoads assessor, who has oversight of the Government flood recovery funding.

Driscoll Engineering Services was employed to assess the damage and prepare a tender specification for these restoration works. The majority of damage was found in the unsealed road network. Typical damage caused by this storm event included:

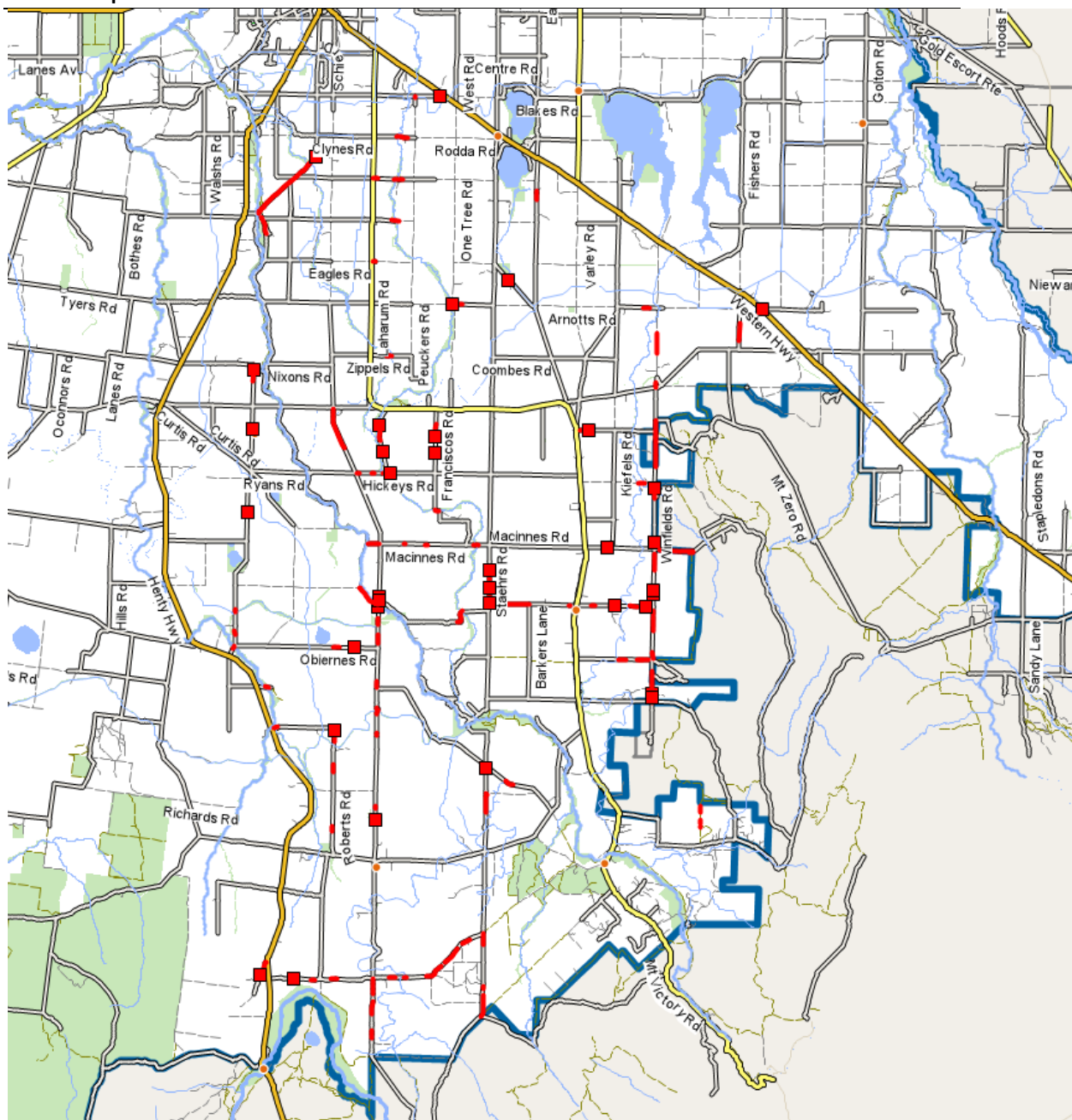
- Gravel washing away in unsealed road pavement;
- Shoulder material washed away;
- Table drains silted and clogged;
- Culverts washed away, silted or clogged;
- Culvert end walls washed away;
- Scouring at the culverts or beaching washed away.

For simplicity, the restoration works have been divided into three different packages

- Package 1: Between Henty Highway (towards Hamilton) and Western Highway (toward Melbourne)
- Package 2: Between Western Highway (towards Melbourne) and Wimmera Highway (towards Edenhope)
- Package 3: Between Wimmera Highway (towards Edenhope) and Henty Highway (towards Hamilton)

This contract is for the restoration of assets in Package 1.

The location of the works are shown marked red in the map below.



Typical restoration works are as follows:

- 100 mm thick gravel resheet;
- 50 mm thick gravel resheet;
- 100 mm thick shoulder resheet;
- Formation grading and reshaping;
- Reshaping table drains;
- Installation of culverts (various sizes);
- Installation of end walls (various sizes);
- Installation of rock beaching;
- Installation of 300 mm x 450 mm edge beams on floodway to prevent future damage.

## **Tender Process**

Tenders were invited via advertisements in the Wimmera Mail-Times and Council's website e-tender portal. Tender invitations were advertised from 27 October 2017 and closed on 23 November 2017.

At the close of tenders four offers were received from the following companies:

1. Grampians Excavations, Stawell
2. MF & JL Willmore Pty Ltd, Horsham
3. Quality Roads Pty Ltd, Lilydale
4. Glover Earthmoving Pty Ltd, Longerenong

Tendered sums are included in the ***Confidential Briefing Paper***.

The tender evaluation panel consisted of Jared Hammond (Senior Project Engineer), Ram Upadhyaya (Asset Engineer) and Andy Van (Engineering Assistant).

The panel determined that all the tenders were conforming. The panel then evaluated them in line with the tender invitation documents, against the nominated criteria, being:

- Appreciation of the work, methodology and challenges – 15%
- Commercial and financial capacity – 15%
- Project experience and delivery capability – 10%
- Project team and experience – 10%
- Safety, quality and environmental – 15%
- Local content – 5%
- Price – 30%

The panel concluded:

- That all of the contractors would be able to complete the works to the required standards.
- The highest scoring tender of Grampians Excavation would provide the best value for money.

This tender is also the lowest price.

## **Consultation/Communication**

The eligibility of sites for restoration is subject to close review by a VicRoads officer. This officer has been continuously informed and consulted during data collection and specification development.



## **Financial**

The works are entirely funded under Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) provisions, in accordance with Commonwealth – State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA). Hence there is no financial impact on Council.

## **Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

The Council Plan 2014-18 includes under Goal 3 – Asset Management the following aim:

- 3.4 Deliver works to develop and maintain Council’s physical assets for long term sustainability, amenity and safety

## **Recommendation**

1. That Council refer this item to the confidential briefing part of the meeting to consider the report from the Director Technical Services in accordance with Section 89(2) (d) of the Local Government Act, 1989, as the report refers to contractual matters.
2. That Council award Contract No 18/007 Restoration of Flood Damaged Assets – Package 1 to Grampians Excavations and Soil Yard, Stawell for the tendered price of \$1,088,632.45 (ex. GST).

**Moved Cr Radford, Seconded Cr Koenig that the recommendation be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

## **10.5.5 TRANSPORT STRATEGIES**

John Martin

File Ref: F02/A07/000001

### **Purpose**

To consider submissions relating to two recently released discussion papers on State Government transport strategies, being:

- Victoria’s Freight Advantage
- Regional Roads Strategy.

### **Background**

The discussion papers listed above are presented as **Appendix “10.5E” and Appendix “10.5F”** to this report.

Included with these discussion papers were question sheets to facilitate provision of responses to the papers.

### **Issues**

Responses to the two discussion papers are provided as attachments **Appendix "10.5G" and Appendix "10.5H"** to this report. These responses have been prepared by this author with a view to providing (or starting to provide) a regional response to the issues in the discussion papers.

The labelling of the responses reflects that they are also being drafted on behalf of the Western Highway Action Committee and Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Transport Group. Some responses have been received from other Councils to update the initial drafts.

Some questions in the Freight Advantage document have not been addressed as they are essentially metropolitan Melbourne issues.

Responses on the Freight Advantage were sought by Government by 30 November, hence this submission was reviewed at a Council briefing meeting and has been submitted.

The response on the Regional Roads Strategy is required by 15 December, hence further comments from Councillors are welcomed on this draft response prior to that deadline.

### **Consultation/Communication**

This consultation process is being undertaken by the State Government through Transport for Victoria.

### **Financial**

Nil

**Provided for information of Council.**

**Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Radford that the report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**11. URGENT BUSINESS**

NIL

**Moved Cr Power, Seconded Cr Koenig that the Council Meeting close to consider item number 10.1.2 of the Chief Executive Report, item number 10.4.2 of the Director Community Services and item number 10.5.4 of the Director Technical Services deemed to be of a Confidential nature in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act, 1989.**

**CARRIED**

The time being 8.48pm the Council meeting closed.

**Moved Cr Power, Seconded Cr Koenig that the Council meeting open.**

**CARRIED**

The Council Chamber doors were opened at 8.55pm.

**Moved Cr Gulvin, Seconded Cr Koenig that the recommendations in the closed Council meeting be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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The Mayor, Cr P Clarke  
Chairperson