



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NHILL ON WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017, COMMENCING AT 3.00PM.

AGENDA

1. Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community and Opening Prayer

2. Apologies

3. Confirmation of Minutes

4. Declaration of Interests

5. Public Question Time

6. Correspondence

7. Assembly of Councillors

7.1 Record of Assembly

8. Planning Permit Reports

No report

9. Reports Requiring a Decision

9.1 Jeparit Anglers Club – Funding Consideration

10. Special Committees

10.1 Jeparit Town Committee

10.2 Yurunga Homestead Committee

10.3 Rainbow Town Committee

11. Late Reports

11.1 Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan

12. Other Business

No report

13. Confidential Matters

No report

14. Meeting Close

Present: Crs. D. Nelson (Mayor), R. Lowe (Deputy Mayor), D. Colbert, T. Schneider, R. Gersch, R. Ismay

In Attendance:

Greg Wood, (Chief Executive Officer), Ms. Anne Champness (Director Corporate and Community Services), Mr. Adrian Gasperoni (Director Infrastructure Services), Miss Taegan Salt (Executive Assistant).

Apology:

Nil

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY AND OPENING PRAYER

Cr Nelson opened the meeting at 3:00pm by acknowledging the Indigenous Community and offering the opening prayer.

2. APOLOGIES

Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15 February 2017 in the Council Chamber, Jeparit and the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Thursday 23 February 2017 in the Council Chamber, Nhill as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: CRS R. Lowe/D. Colbert

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15 February 2017 in the Council Chamber, Jeparit and the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Thursday 23 February 2017 in the Council Chamber, Nhill as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

Attachment: 1

4. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS OR OFFICERS OF ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA.

- Direct; or
- Indirect interest
 - a) by close association;
 - b) that is an indirect financial interest;
 - c) because of conflicting duties;
 - d) because of receipt of an applicable gift;
 - e) as a consequence of becoming an interested party; or
 - f) because of an impact on residential amenity.

Declaration of direct or indirect interest must also be advised by Councillors at the commencement of discussion of the specific item.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence

7. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment: 2

Introduction:

The attached Assembly of Councillors Record is presented as an attachment to the Council agenda for the information of Councillors and recorded at the Council meeting as required under s80A Local Government Act 1989.

Options:

1. That Council accept the Assembly of Councillors Records as presented.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accept the Assembly of Councillors Records as presented.

MOVED: CRS R. Gersch/D. Colbert

That Council accept the Assembly of Councillors Records as presented.

CARRIED

Attachment: 2

8. PLANNING PERMITS

No report

9. REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

9.1 JEPARIT ANGLERS CLUB – FUNDING CONSIDERATION

Responsible Officer: Director of Corporate and Community Services

Attachment: 3-5

Introduction:

The Jeparit Anglers Clubs seeks Council's consideration of annual funding to support the Easter Saturday Fishing Competition in Jeparit.

Discussion:

The Jeparit Anglers Club has written to Council seeking to obtain annual funding to assist in the facilitation of their Annual Easter Fishing Competition. As Community Action Grants are only available to community groups on a bi-annual basis the Jeparit Anglers Club is ineligible for funding this financial year, however, the club will be eligible to apply for funds again in 2017/18 for the 2018 Easter Fishing Competition. The club received \$500.00 funding from the Regional Community Events (Art and Culture) budget in 2014/2015 and had a successful Community Action Grant of \$500.00 in the 2015/16 financial year.

The Jeparit Anglers Club requests that Council reconsider the criteria for the Community Action Grants (CAG) and separate annual events from one-off events. The Club argues that the Jeparit Community Plan refers to the "continued support of the Jeparit Annual Fishing Competition" and requests Council to support the event annually.

Community Action Grants were established to support communities and to provide financial support to groups meeting the outlined criteria and eligible to apply for a grant. Given that Hindmarsh Shire has more than 100 clubs and community groups and a Community Action Grants budget of \$30,000.00 it is not possible to support all these groups financially. However, Council officers forward information about external funding opportunities to clubs and community groups on our Clubs and Organisations register when and as they become available.

The issue of funding for recurring events is one encountered regularly not only by community groups but Council itself. State and Federal Governments as well as other funding bodies have restrictions similar to those on Council's CAG and limit the funding available for annual events. One of the most recent of these is the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Program which under the *Community Investments Stream* notes:

"Local events and activities will only be eligible for funding under the program once. Funding under the program is intended as seed-funding to support an inaugural event or funding for a one-off expansion of an existing activity. Applicants will need to clearly outline in their

applications their strategy to fund future and expanded events without Australian Government funding.”

Council's Events Sponsorship is similarly intended as seed-funding to allow community events to get off the ground. While most community events would benefit from an ongoing "operational subsidy", this is not the intent of the CAG, nor would it be within Council's financial capacity to provide such support for the large number of recurring community events. It is worth noting, however, that the Jeparit Fishing Competition stands out as a comparatively large and very successful regional event, attracting more than 1,000 people to the area.

Options:

Council can choose to review the Community Action Grants Program's eligibility criteria and categories, could provide one-off support from its Regional Community Events account, or decline to support the Easter Fishing Competition financially in 2016/17.

Link to Council Plan:

Jeparit Community Plan – Built and Natural Environment

- Increase and improved visitor experience through development of existing assets, e.g. Wimmera River/Lake Hindmarsh and Heritage based attractions e.g. WMPM and Menzies Square (p.12)

Jeparit Community Plan – Competitive and Innovative Economy

- Increased visitor numbers through better utilization and promotion of existing natural assets, e.g. Wimmera River/ Lake Hindmarsh, and heritage based attractions, e.g. WMPM and Menzies Square (p. 22)

Financial Implications:

Council's Community Action Grants Program budget currently has \$20,309.00 remaining, with round 3 applications to be considered at the Council meeting on 15 March 2017. Council's 2016/17 Budget contains a currently unspent allocation of \$2,000 under Regional Community Events Arts & Culture (ledger 10910).

Risk Management Implications:

Council's decision carries reputational and financial risks. To decline to support the Jeparit Anglers Club may lead to reputational damage but so may support for the event in the eyes of community groups unsuccessful with similar requests in the past. To support the event may also result in a substantial increase in similar requests that cannot be funded in Council's current financial environment. Risks of the event itself would be managed by the s Club.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80c of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Anne Champness, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Michelle Farinha, Community Development Officer

In providing this advice as the author, I have no disclosable interests in this report

Communications Strategy:

Notify the Jeparit Angler Club of Council's decision.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council decline to support the Jeparit Anglers Club's Easter Fishing Competition financially in 2016/17, as the event does not meet the intent of Council's Community Action Grants Program - Events Sponsorship category to provide seed-funding for the establishment of community events.

MOVED: CRS D. Colbert/R. Gersch

That Council support the Jeparit Anglers Club's Easter Fishing Competition 2017 by allocating \$500 from 2016/17 Regional Community Events (Arts/Culture) budget.

CARRIED

Attachment: 3-5

MOVED: CRS T. Schneider/R. Lowe

That Council review the Community Grants Program guidelines and develop criteria for the Regional Community Events (Arts/Culture) Program.

CARRIED

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

10.1 JEPARIT TOWN COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Attachment: 6

Introduction:

The Jeparit Town Committee held its Meeting on 14 November 2016. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the notes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the minutes of the Jeparit Town Committee Meeting on 14 November 2016.

MOVED: CRS T. Schneider/R. Lowe

That Council note the minutes of the Jeparit Town Committee Meeting on 14 November 2016.

CARRIED

Attachment: 6

10.2 YURUNGA HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Attachment: 7

Introduction:

The Yurunga Homestead Committee held its Meeting on 17 November 2016. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the notes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the minutes of the Yurunga Homestead Committee Meeting on 17 November 2016.

MOVED: CRS D. Colbert/T. Schneider

That Council note the minutes of the Yurunga Homestead Committee Meeting on 17 November 2016.

CARRIED

Attachment: 7

10.3 RAINBOW TOWN COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Attachment: 8

Introduction:

The Rainbow Town Committee held its Meeting on 23 January 2017. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the notes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the minutes of the Rainbow Town Committee Meeting on 23 January 2017.

MOVED: CRS R. Lowe/R. Ismay

That Council note the minutes of the Rainbow Town Committee Meeting on 23 January 2017.

CARRIED

Attachment: 8

11. LATE REPORTS

11.1 WIMMERA MALLEE PIONEER MUSEUM MASTER PLAN

Responsible Officer: Anne Champness, Director Corporate and Community Services

File: Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan, December 2016

Attachment Number:

Introduction:

This report proposes Council's adoption of the *Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan, December 2016*.

The *Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan* was prepared by consultants Lilford Smith Design following site visits and discussion with Council officers, members of the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum (WMPM) S86 Committee of Management, and WMPM volunteers. The final masterplan was delivered in December following a number of drafts and feedback from both Council and WMPM.

Discussion:

The *Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan, December 2016* is a professionally developed document presenting an assessment of the current situation and providing a clear achievable vision for redevelopment of the WMPM into a relevant and competitive tourism destination reflecting present-day visitor markets and expectations. It represents a guiding document for short term and longer term site and display development. The report recognises that it is imperative for the long term future of the WMPM that visitor numbers are increased and maintained, and presents a re-imagining of the visitor experience through site redevelopment.

The key recommendations of the plan are summarised as follows:

- Develop a new entry and museum office spaces in Brierly House.
- Apply a consistent and professionally appropriate level of interpretation across the site.
- Develop local history displays in Werrap and Tarranyurk Halls.
- Develop the current 'Transport Shed' into an exhibition space called 'Making a Life on the Land'.
- Develop the current Grain and Hay Shed into a space that displays icons of the collection.
- Implement management policies and procedures relating to the operations of the site, including collections.

The plan proposes a staged implementation of redevelopment:

- Development of a detailed Interpretative Plan (*note: Lilford Smith Design has been contracted to deliver this by the end of May 2017, within the original project budget).
- Interpretive graphics package: graphic design, sign production and installation – estimated budget \$75,000
- Indoor exhibit fit out: includes design following Interpretive Plan – estimated budget \$50,000
- Organise exhibits in relation to Interpretive Plan – work done in-house by WMPM committee and volunteers
- Improvements to path infrastructure and landscaping – estimated budget \$50,000 (*note: this cost may be reduced through some work being done as part of general maintenance and utilising volunteer labour)

- Further initiatives – costing subject to further development:
 - Forecourt entry
 - Picnic facilities within the museum

Options

Council can choose whether to adopt the *Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan, December 2016*, partly or with amendments.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 2.1 Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs.

Strategic Objective 3.1 A strong rural economy and thriving towns

Strategic Objective 3.2 A thriving tourism industry

Strategic Objective 3.2.2 Appealing tourism facilities that promote visitation and meet visitor needs

Financial Implications:

The Plan has been prepared within Council's 2016/17 Budget allocation of \$40,000. Future financial implications will be reported as/when initiatives from the Plan progress.

Risk Management Implications:

Appropriate Risk Assessments will be prepared in accordance with Council procedures and policies prior to the implementation of any initiatives.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80c of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Anne Champness, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Jeff Woodward, Tourism Officer

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no other disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

To be established.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan, December 2016.

MOVEDS: CRS D. Colbert/T. Schneider

That Council adopt the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan, December 2016.

CARRIED

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Cr David Colbert:

- Raised discussion regarding Pink Lake as a tourism point for Hindmarsh.
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13. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

In accordance with Section 89 (2) of the *Local Government Act* 1989, Council may close the meeting to the public if items to be discussed are deemed confidential, that is, if the items to be discussed relate to:

- a) Personnel matters;
- b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- c) Industrial matters;
- d) Contractual matters;
- e) Proposed developments;
- f) Legal advice;
- g) Matters affecting the security of Council property;
- h) Any other matter which the Council or Special Committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) a resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

15. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, Cr Nelson declared the meeting closed at 3:31pm
