

10 May 2017

To Councillor, "as addressed"

NOTICE is hereby given that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of the Hindmarsh Shire Council will be held at the Council Chamber, Nhill on Wednesday 17 May 2017, commencing at **3.00pm**.

**Greg Wood** 

**Chief Executive Officer** 

# **AGENDA**

9.

<ol> <li>Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community and Opening Prayer</li> <li>Apologies</li> <li>Confirmation of Minutes</li> <li>Declaration of Interests</li> <li>Public Question Time</li> <li>Deputations</li> <li>Activity Reports</li> </ol>		
3. Confirmation of Minutes  4. Declaration of Interests  5. Public Question Time  6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports	1.	Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community and Opening Prayer
3. Confirmation of Minutes  4. Declaration of Interests  5. Public Question Time  6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports		
4. Declaration of Interests  5. Public Question Time  6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports	2.	Apologies
4. Declaration of Interests  5. Public Question Time  6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports		
5. Public Question Time  6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports	3.	Confirmation of Minutes
Public Question Time     Deputations     Activity Reports		
6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports	4.	Declaration of Interests
6. Deputations  7. Activity Reports		
7. Activity Reports	5.	Public Question Time
7. Activity Reports		
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8 Correspondence	7.	Activity Reports
8 Correspondence		
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9.1 Record of Assembly

**Assembly of Councillors** 

# 10. Planning Permit Reports

- 10.1 Application for Planning Permit 1552-17
- 10.2 Application for Planning Permit 1553-17
- 10.3 Application for Planning Permit 1554-17

# 11. Reports Requiring a Decision

- 11.1 Road Management Plan and Road Hierarchy Review
- 11.2 Melbourne Cup Day Public Holidays 2017
- 11.3 Section 86 Committee Dimboola Town Committee Membership

# 12. Special Committees

- 12.1 Nhill Town Committee
- 12.2 Dimboola Town Committee
- 12.3 Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum

## 13. Late Reports

- 13.1 2017-18 Community Sporting Infrastructure Fund
- 13.2 Hindmarsh Shire Council Borrowing Policy

#### 14. Other Business

No report

## 15. Confidential Matters

No report

# 16. Meeting Close

# 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY AND OPENING PRAYER

## Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community

We acknowledge the Shire's Indigenous community as the first owners of this country.

We recognise the important ongoing role that indigenous people have in our community and pay our respects to their elders and people both living and past.

# **Opening Prayer**

Dear Lord,

We humbly request your blessing upon this Council and welcome your guiding presence among us.

May our decisions be taken wisely and in good faith, to your glory and the true welfare of the citizens of the Hindmarsh Shire.

## 2. APOLOGIES

Nil

#### 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3 May 2017 in the Council Chamber, Nhill as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

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.

COI	confinencement of discussion of the specific item.		
5.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME		
6.	DEPUTATIONS		
No deputations			
	The department		

Victorian Mallee Fowl Recovery Group, Dimboola

# 7. ACTIVITY REPORTS

## **COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES: APRIL 2017**

# Cr NELSON, MAYOR

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• 01/04/2017

<ul><li>01/04/2017</li></ul>	Manja Art exhibition official opening, Natimuk
• 03/04/2017	Town Committee, Dimboola
• 04/04/2017	Mayor CEO catch-up, Nhill
• 04/04/2017	Meeting with Federation Uni, Nhill
<ul><li>04/04/2017</li></ul>	Passenger Services Cost and Feasibility study, Ararat
• 04/04/2017	Community engagement, Dimboola
• 05/04/2017	Briefing meeting, Nhill
• 05/04/2017	Council meeting, Nhill
• 05/04/2017	Youth Council Launch, Nhill
• 06/04/2017	Meeting with Luv a Duck owners
• 06/04/2017	100 years Red Cross celebration, Nhill
• 07/04/2017	Meals on wheels, Dimboola
<ul><li>11/04/2017</li></ul>	Wimmera Development Association meeting, Horsham
<ul><li>18/04/2017</li></ul>	Mayor / CEO meeting, Nhill
<ul><li>19/04/2017</li></ul>	Briefing meeting, Nhill
• 19/04/2017	Council meeting, Nhill
• 20/04/2017	Lunch with Hon Peter Walsh and Emma Kealy, Halls Gap

WSMLLEN meeting, Horsham

Anzac Day Service, Dimboola

Western Highway Action Group meeting, Wendouree

# **Cr LOWE, DEPUTY MAYOR**

#### Attended:

20/04/2017

21/04/2017

25/04/2017

• 27/04/2017

• 27/04/2017

•	01/04/2017	RJFNC Debutante Ball, Rainbow
•	04/04/2017	Community Consultation, Dimboola
•	05/04/2017	Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill
•	05/04/2017	Launch of Hindmarsh Youth Council, Community Centre, Nhill
•	10/04/2017	Town Committee Meeting, Jeparit
•	15/04/2017	Karen Water Festival, Nhill
•	18/04/2017	Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Meeting, Jeparit
•	19/04/2017	Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill
•	25/04/2017	ANZAC Service and Wreath Laying, Jeparit

MAV Rural & Regional Forum, Melbourne

Mayor Panel, Government House, Melbourne

## Cr GERSCH

#### Attended.

Attended:	
• 05/04/2017	Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill
• 05/04/2017	Launch of Hindmarsh Youth Council, Community Centre, Nhill
• 18/04/2017	Meeting with Emma Kealy
• 19/04/2017	Council meeting
• 24/04/2017	Meeting with Geoff Lord Federation University
• 25/04/2017	Anzac Day dawn service, Nhill

• 25/04/2017 Anzac Day service, Nhill

#### **Cr COLBERT**

#### Attended:

05/04/2017 Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill
 19/04/2017 Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill

24/04/2017 Nhill Town Meeting
04/2017 Nhill Men's Shed
04/2017 Lutheran school
04/2017 Dimboola Coffee shop

04/2017 Diffiboola Coffee shop
 04/2017 Nhill Coffee shop
 Various Nhill Golf Club

#### Cr ISMAY

#### Attended:

• 05/04/2017 Council briefing meeting, Nhill

• 05/04/2017 Council meeting, Nhill

05/04/2017 Youth Council launch, Nhill
05/04/2017 Meeting with Jeparit Lions club
18/04/2016 WMT meeting, Edenhope
18/04/2016 WMPM meeting, Jeparit

18/04/2016 WMPM meeting, Jeparit
19/04/2017 Council meeting, Nhill
20/04/2017 Yurunga Meeting, Rainbow

21/04/2017 Ross lakes inspection with Greg Wood
 22/12/2017 Various meetings with VORRA, Rainbow

24/04/2017 Meeting with Shannon Rentsch
25/04/2017 Lay wreath Anzac service, Rainbow

27/04/2017 Inspection of Alpine school site Hindmarsh outlet
 29/04/2017 Meeting with David Wilson Light Artist, Rainbow

#### Cr SCHNEIDER

#### Attended:

• 03/04/2017 Dimboola Town Committee

05/04/2017 Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill

• 17/04/2017 Clean-up Australia, Nursery Road, Dimboola

19/04/2017 Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill

• 20 & 29/04/2017 Upper Regions Cemetery clean-up, Wail

• 21/04/2017 Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Board meeting, Birchip

25/04/2017 ANZAC Day service, Dimboola

#### **SENIOR MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: APRIL 2017**

# **GREG WOOD, Chief Executive Officer:**

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<ul><li>03/04/2017</li></ul>	RSA training (for Nhill	Cinema), Nhill
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04/04/2017 CEO/Mayor meeting, Nhill

04/04/2017 Meeting with Federation University, Nhill
 04/04/2017 Dimboola Community Conversations
 05/04/2017 Meeting with Luv-A-Duck owners, Nhill

• 05/04/2017 Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill

• 05/04/2017 Youth Council Launch, Nhill

• 05/04/2017 Nhill Community Conversations

• 06/04/2017 ESC Visit, Nhill

11/04/2017 Meeting with VicRoads regional director, Nhill

• 11/04/2017 WDA Meeting, Horsham

12/04/2017 Meeting at Dimboola Riverside Holiday Park

• 13/04/2017 Wimmera CEO Meeting, Stawell

18/04/2017 Mayor/CEO meeting, Nhill

• 19/04/2017 Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill

20/04/2017 VAGO teleconference

21/04/2017 Ross Lakes tour, Rainbow

• 24/04/2017 Rainbow Desert Enduro meeting, Nhill

25/04/2017 Anzac Day Commemorations, Nhill

26/04/2017 Act@Work Bystander Training

26/04/2017 Meeting with Telstra – internet and phone services

#### **ADRIAN GASPERONI, Director Infrastructure Services:**

#### Attended:

•	19/04/2017	Briefing and Council meeting, Nhill
•	21/04/2017	Meeting with Wimmera Emergency Management Group
•	24/04/2017	Rainbow Desert Enduro – Meeting with organiser to discuss

Traffic

Management for the event

26/04/2017 Act@Work Bystander Training

• 28/04/2017 Tour of NEYLC with Community Groups

## **ANNE CHAMPNESS, Director Corporate and Community Services:**

### Attended:

•	03/04/2017	Dimboola Town Committee
•	04/04/2017	Meeting Parks Vic, Nhill

04/04/2017 West Wimmera Shire Council Audit Committee, Kaniva

04/04/2017 Community Conversation, Dimboola
 05/04/2017 Council Briefing and Meeting, Nhill

• 05/04/2017 Youth Council launch, Nhill

05/04/2017 Community Conversation, Nhill
 06/04/2017 Macting with Examples Commiss.

06/04/2017 Meeting with Essential Services Commission, Nhill
 06/04/2017 Meeting with Brotherhood of St Laurence, energy efficiency

audits, Nhill

• 11/04/2017 Wimmera Southern Mallee Home Support Program workshop,

Horsham

HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL	
COUNCIL MEETING	

AGENDA 17 MAY 2017

•	12/04/2017 Horsham	Wimmera Southern Mallee Home Support Program workshop,
•	15/04/2017	Nhill Memorial Community Centre visit
•	19/04/2017	Council Briefing and Meeting, Nhill
•	20/04/2017	Wimmera PCP health promotion planning meeting, Horsham
•	21/04/2017	Nhill Early Years Centre Fundraising Committee meeting, Nhill
•	26/04/2017	Act@Work Intensive Bystander Training, Nhill
•	27/04/2017	Rainbow Alpine School site visit, Rainbow

### 8. CORRESPONDENCE

#### 8.1 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

05/05/2017- Premier of Victoria

Express its great disappointment that the State Government in the 2017 Victorian

State Budget did not accept the submission and recommendation by Rural

Councils Victoria.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council note the correspondence as tabled.

Attachment: 2

# 9. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: 3

#### 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 Record as presented.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council accept the Assembly of Councillors Record as presented.

Attachment: 3

## 10. PLANNING PERMITS

## 10.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING 1552-17

**Responsible Officer:** Director Infrastructure Services **File:** Planning – Applications – 1552-17

Assessment: 034880

Attachment: 4

**Applicant:** Grant Schultz and Philip Nuske **Owner:** Grant Schultz and Philip Nuske

Subject Land: Lot 1, TP319016

(3745 Geodetic Road, Dimboola)

**Proposal:** Two lot subdivision **Zoning & Overlays:** Farming Zone (FZ)

No overlays

## **Summary:**

The subject site is located on the west side of Geodetic Road approximately 1.2 kilometres north of the Borung Highway. The site is irregular in shape with an area of 74.25 hectares. It is largely cleared. A dwelling, sheds and vegetation are located on the south east side of the property. Adjoining land is used for broad acre farming.

The proposal seeks planning permission to create a two lot subdivision by the excision of an area containing the existing dwelling and immediate surrounds.

The proposed Lot 1 will have an area of 6.1 hectares and will contain the residence, farm sheds and established vegetation. Lot 2 will contain the balance of the property with an area of 68.2 hectares.

Clause 35.07-3 provides for subdivision of land in the Farming Zone. The standard minimum lot size for subdivision within the Farming Zone is 40 hectares however there is discretion to allow a smaller lot if this lot is created for an existing dwelling.

The subdivision will allow both lots to continue to be associated with agricultural production. The subdivision will not adversely impact upon agricultural activities on nearby properties. The subdivision will not adversely impact upon environmental values of the subject site or surrounding properties.

The proposal is considered to be consistent with the Farming Zone provisions and planning policy, which supports agricultural activity.

## **Notification & Referral of Application:**

Pursuant to Sections 52 and 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act), notice of the application can be given to the community and must be referred to stipulated authorities.

## Community:

Pursuant to Section 52 of the Act, Council is required to give notice of this application to any person it considers the grant of the permit may cause material detriment. Notice of this application was given to adjoining owners and no objection was received.

#### **Authorities:**

Pursuant to Section 52 of the Act, notice of this application was not sent to any authorities due to the nature of what is proposed.

Pursuant to Section 55 of the Act, notice of this application was not required to be sent to any authorities due to the nature of what is proposed.

## Strategic, Statutory and Procedural Requirements:

The proposal is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

## **Report to Council:**

The Town Planner advises that all obligations of Council (strategic, statutory and procedural) have been addressed and discharged in this planning application.

## **Processing Times:**

The application was received on the 21 March 2017. The report is being presented to the Council meeting of 17 May 2017. The statutory processing time requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 have been satisfied.

### **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 – Adrian Gasperoni, Director Infrastructure Services In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Peter Jewell, Town Planner In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approves Planning Application 1552-17 allowing a Planning Permit for a two (2) lot subdivision at Lot 1 TP 319016 (3745 Geodetic Road, Dimboola). The Planning Permit shall be issued with the following conditions:

#### 1. Formal Plans of Subdivision:

The formal plan of subdivision lodged with Council for certification must be in accordance with the Endorsed Plan and must not be modified except to comply with statutory requirements or with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

- 2. Council Infrastructure Requirements
- a) A new access point must be created off Geodetic Road for Lot 2.
- b) The new access point must be to the satisfaction of Council and constructed at the applicant's cost; and
- c) The existing access point to Lot 1 must be upgraded to the satisfaction of Council and at the applicant's cost.
- 3. This Permit will expire if:

- a) The Plan of Subdivision is not certified within three years of the date of this Permit, or
- b) The registration of the subdivision is not completed within five years of the date of the certification of the plan of subdivision.

The Responsible Authority may extend the permit if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three months afterwards.

Attachment: 4

# 10.2 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT 1553-17

**Responsible Officer:** Director Infrastructure Services **File:** Planning – Applications – 1553-17

Assessment: 091520

Attachment: 5

Applicant: Peter Taylor
Owner: Peter Taylor
Subject Land: Lot 1, TP217794

(4905 Western Highway, Gerang Gerung)

Proposal: Two lot subdivision

**Zoning & Overlays:** Farming Zone (FZ), Road Zone (RDZ1)

**Vegetation Protection Overlay** 

Attachments: Plan

## **Summary:**

The subject site is located on the south west corner of the Western Highway and Never Never Road, Gerang Gerung. The land comprises four different parcels. The parcels on the North West corner of the site appear to have been associated with the realignment of the Western Highway. Some of this land is in the Road Zone.

The overall site is irregular in shape with an area of 123.9 hectares. It is largely cleared. A dwelling, sheds and vegetation are located on the North West side of the property. Adjoining land is used for broad acre farming.

The proposal seeks planning permission to create two lots out of the existing four parcels.

The proposed Lot 1 will have an area of 14.73 hectares and will contain the residence, farm sheds and established vegetation. Lot 2 will contain the balance of the property with an area of 109.2 hectares.

Clause 35.07-3 provides for subdivision of land in the Farming Zone. The standard minimum lot size for subdivision within the Farming Zone is 40 hectares however there is discretion to allow a smaller lot if this lot is created for an existing dwelling. The applicant is applying under this provision.

The subdivision will allow both lots to continue to be associated with agricultural production. The subdivision action will also provide greater order in terms of the subdivision pattern within the area. The subdivision will not adversely impact upon agricultural activities on nearby properties. The subdivision will not adversely impact upon environmental values of the subject site or surrounding properties.

The proposal is considered to be consistent with the Farming Zone provisions and planning policy, which supports agricultural activity.

The area of the site within the Road Zone could be considered in the next 'anomalies' planning scheme amendment that Council undertakes. This amendment would correct the various zoning discrepancies that occur due to legacy issues, changed land use circumstances or incorrect mapping.

## **Notification & Referral of Application:**

Pursuant to Sections 52 and 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act), notice of the application can be given to the community and must be referred to stipulated authorities.

## Community:

Pursuant to Section 52 of the Act, Council is required to give notice of this application to any person it considers the grant of the permit may cause material detriment. Notice of this application was given to adjoining owners and no objection was received.

#### **Authorities:**

Pursuant to Section 52 of the Act, notice of this application was not sent to any authorities due to the nature of what is proposed.

Pursuant to Section 55 of the Act, notice of this application was sent to VicRoads who did not object to the application.

## Strategic, Statutory and Procedural Requirements:

The proposal is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

## Report to Council:

The Town Planner advises that all obligations of Council (strategic, statutory and procedural) have been addressed and discharged in this planning application.

#### **Processing Times:**

The application was received on the 4 April 2017. The report is being presented to the Council meeting of 17 May 2017. The statutory processing time requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 have been satisfied.

#### 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 – Adrian Gasperoni, Director Infrastructure Services In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Peter Jewell, Town Planner In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approves Planning Application 1553-17 allowing a Planning Permit for a two (2) lot subdivision at Lot 1 TP 217794 (4905 Western Highway, Gerang Gerung). The Planning Permit shall be issued with the following conditions:

#### 1. Formal Plans of Subdivision:

The formal plan of subdivision lodged with Council for certification must be in accordance with the Endorsed Plan and must not be modified except to comply with statutory requirements or with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

# 2. Council Infrastructure Requirements

The access points to Lot 1 and Lot 2 onto Never Never Road must be upgraded to the satisfaction of Council and at the applicant's cost.

- 3. This Permit will expire if:
- a) The Plan of Subdivision is not certified within three years of the date of this Permit, or
- b) The registration of the subdivision is not completed within five years of the date of the certification of the plan of subdivision.

The Responsible Authority may extend the permit if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three months afterwards.

Attachment: 5

# 10.3 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT 1554-17

**Responsible Officer:** Director Infrastructure Services **File:** Planning – Applications – 1554-17

Assessment: 097210

Attachment: 6

**Applicant:** Dallas Warrick **Owner:** Dallas Warrick

Subject Land: Allotment 24, Parish of Woraigworm

(245 Warrick Road, Gerang Gerung)

**Proposal:** Two lot subdivision **Zoning & Overlays:** Farming Zone (FZ)

No overlays

**Attachments:** Plan

## **Summary:**

The subject site is located on the south east corner of Warrick Road and Jordan Road, Gerang Gerung. The site is regular in shape with an area of 71.62 hectares. It is largely cleared. A dwelling and shedding are located on the south west corner of the property. Adjoining land is used for broad acre farming.

The proposal seeks planning permission to create a two lot subdivision by the excision of an area containing the existing dwelling and immediate surrounds.

The proposed Lot 1 will have an area of 1.95 hectares and will contain the residence and shedding. Lot 2 will contain the balance of the property with an area of 69.67 hectares.

Clause 35.07-3 provides for subdivision of land in the Farming Zone. The standard minimum lot size for subdivision within the Farming Zone is 40 hectares however there is discretion to allow a smaller lot if this lot is created for an existing dwelling.

The subdivision will allow both lots to continue to be associated with agricultural production. The subdivision will not adversely impact upon agricultural activities on nearby properties. The subdivision will not adversely impact upon environmental values of the subject site or surrounding properties.

The proposal is considered to be consistent with the Farming Zone provisions and planning policy, which supports agricultural activity.

## **Notification & Referral of Application:**

Pursuant to Sections 52 and 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act), notice of the application can be given to the community and must be referred to stipulated authorities.

## Community:

Pursuant to Section 52 of the Act, Council is required to give notice of this application to any person it considers the grant of the permit may cause material detriment. Notice of this application was given to adjoining owners and no objection was received.

#### **Authorities:**

Pursuant to Section 52 of the Act, notice of this application was not sent to any authorities due to the nature of what is proposed.

Pursuant to Section 55 of the Act, notice of this application was not required to be sent to any authorities due to the nature of what is proposed.

## Strategic, Statutory and Procedural Requirements:

The proposal is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

# **Report to Council:**

The Town Planner advises that all obligations of Council (strategic, statutory and procedural) have been addressed and discharged in this planning application.

# **Processing Times:**

The application was received on the 4 April 2017. The report is being presented to the Council meeting of 17 May 2017. The statutory processing time requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 have been satisfied.

#### 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 – Adrian Gasperoni, Director Infrastructure Services In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Peter Jewell, Town Planner

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approves Planning Application 1554-17 allowing a Planning Permit for a two (2) lot subdivision at Allotment 24 Parish of Woraigworm (245 Warrick Road, Gerang Gerung). The Planning Permit shall be issued with the following conditions:

## 1. Formal Plans of Subdivision:

The formal plan of subdivision lodged with Council for certification must be in accordance with the Endorsed Plan and must not be modified except to comply with statutory requirements or with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

## 2. Council Infrastructure Requirements

No new access points can be created on either lot unless permission is sought and granted from Hindmarsh Shire Council.

- 3. This Permit will expire if:
- a) The Plan of Subdivision is not certified within three years of the date of this Permit, or
- b) The registration of the subdivision is not completed within five years of the

date of the certification of the plan of subdivision.

The Responsible Authority may extend the permit if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three months afterwards.

Attachment: 6

## 11. REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

## 11.1 ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ROAD HIERARCHY REVIEW

**Responsible Officer:** Director of Infrastructure Services

Attachment: 7 & 8

#### Introduction:

In accordance with Section 54 (5) of the Road Management Act 2004, Hindmarsh Shire Council is required to conduct a review of its Road Management Plan (RMP) at prescribed intervals. And in line with the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016 each incoming municipal council must review its road management plan within the period of 6 months after each general election or by the next 30 June, whichever is later.

The purpose of the review, consistent with the role, functions and responsibilities of the Council as a road authority under the Act, is to ensure that the standards in relation to, and the priorities to be given to, the inspection, maintenance and repair of the roads and the classes of road to which the Council's RMP applies are safe, efficient and appropriate for use by the community served by the Council.

#### Discussion:

The Road Hierarchy is a division of the road network into individual road classifications or types. This allows each classification to be managed in a predefined manner in keeping with the function of each road which is detailed in the Road Management Plan and appendices.

The aim of the RMP & Hierarchy is to allow the road management system to be concise, understandable, easy to implement and easily communicated with all stakeholders.

The current Hindmarsh Shire Council Road Management Plan (RMP) and Road Hierarchy have been under review over a period spanning several years and have recently being put out for public consultation. As a result of the consultation process a listing of proposed changes to the road hierarchy were made and have been incorporated into the draft document.

The most significant change is the introduction of inspection and defect criteria for the additional road hierarchy classification "6S" which covers more strategic earth roads. "6S" was a classification which was introduced as a direct result of the Farmer Consultation forums, and covers roads that are used by farmers as important connector roads and not just roads leading to individual farming properties.

At its meeting on Wednesday 1 February 2017 Council endorsed the Road Management Plan and Road Hierarchy classifications and committed to undertake community consultation as per the Road Management Act 2004.

#### **Link to Council Plan:**

3.2: Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs.

## **Adoption Procedure**

Section 54 of the Road Management Act 2004 requires that upon amending a road management plan the road authority must give notice in the Government Gazette and in a local newspaper concerning the purpose and amendments to the road management plan, where a copy can be obtained or inspected, and advising that any person who is aggrieved by the proposed road management plan may make a

submission on the proposed RMP. The road authority must allow at least 28 days after the notice as a public submission period.

As a result following the endorsement of the draft RMP by Council at its 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 meeting, notice was advertised in the Herald Sun and Government Gazette on 9 March 2017 and in the Wimmera Mail Times on 10 March 2017 with submissions to be received by Friday 7 April 2017.

With no public submissions being received the RMP and Hierarchy can now be formally adopted and subsequently gazetted.

## **Options:**

**Option One** – Council may formally adopt the attached Road Management Plan and Road Hierarchy and give notice of this adoption as required by the Road Management Act 2004.

**Option Two** – Council may decide not to amend the existing Road Management Plan and Road Hierarchy as contained in the 2009 documents and not be required to give notice under regulation 10 of the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016.

# **Financial Implications:**

The Road Management Plan and Road Hierarchy Review by themselves have no direct impact on Council's budget. However the changes made will impact on Council's future budgets.

These documents set out the service standards for the Hindmarsh Shire Council Road network and changes made to the Plan will affect the Council's financial commitment to the maintenance, renewal and upgrade of road infrastructure into the future. The elevation of 6R earth roads to 6S strategic roads and 5R all weather gravel roads will increase Council's maintenance expenses going forward. These changes endeavour to provide a balance between the transport needs of the local community and appropriate and affordable levels of service that Council is able to provide.

## **Risk Management Implications:**

The review and adoption of the Road Management Plan and Road Hierarchy address risk across the municipal road network by placing roads of similar risk into urban and rural road classes which are then allocated corresponding levels of service and defect inspection regimes.

#### 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 – Adrian Gasperoni, Director Infrastructure Services

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

Author – Mike Coppins, Asset Manager

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

## **Communications Strategy:**

Communication and community engagement have been undertaken and are detailed under "Discussion" and "Adoption Procedure" above.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council adopts the Road Management Plan (as required by Section 54(5) of the Road Management Act 2004) and Road Hierarchy classifications as set out in the attached documents and give notice of this adoption in the Victorian Government Gazette and the Wimmera Mail Times.

Attachment: 7 & 8

#### 11.2 MELBOURNE CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2017

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

#### Introduction:

This report outlines the procedure and options for the declaration of substitute public holidays for Melbourne Cup Day in 2017.

#### Discussion:

In 2011, the Victorian Government amended the *Public Holidays Act 1993* to give regional Councils the ability to request alternative local public holiday arrangements in lieu of Melbourne Cup Day.

The Public Holidays Act 1993 section 8A (1) states:

Council may request substitute holiday for Melbourne Cup Day

- (1) A non-metropolitan Council may request in writing that the Minister make a declaration under section 8(1)—
  - (a) that the day appointed under section 6 being the first Tuesday in November (Melbourne Cup Day) is not in a specified year such a public holiday in the whole or any part of the municipal district of that Council; and
  - (b) that another day or 2 half-days (one half-day of which may be Melbourne Cup Day) be appointed as a public holiday or 2 public half-holidays in that year.
- (2) A request under subsection (1) must—
  - (a) be made at least 90 days before the Melbourne Cup Day to which the request relate; and
  - (b) specify the day or 2 half-days of the substituted public holiday; and
  - (c) specify the reasons for making the request.
- (3) In making a declaration on a request under subsection (1), the Minister must not appoint a Saturday or a Sunday as a public holiday or a public half-holiday.
- (4) A public holiday or 2 public half-holidays appointed under section 8(1) on a request under subsection (1) in respect of part of a municipal district of a Council applies or apply only in that part of the municipal district.

Since 2012, Hindmarsh Shire Council has successfully applied to the Minister for Small Business for substitute public holidays to Melbourne Cup Day for the Rainbow and Nhill agricultural shows, as these are held each year on weekdays. The Dimboola and Jeparit districts continued to take Melbourne Cup Day as a public holiday, as their respective agricultural shows fall on a weekend.

Councils nominating substitute holiday arrangements need to make their request at least 90 days prior to Melbourne Cup Day 2017, that is, no later than Wednesday 9 August 2017.

The dates for the 2017 agricultural shows are:

Rainbow Tuesday 10 October 2017;
Nhill Thursday 12 October 2017;
Dimboola Saturday 14 October 2017; and
Sunday 15 October 2017.

The Nhill Show public holiday incorporates the localities of Broughton, Yanac, Netherby, Lorquon, Nhill, Glenlee, Kiata, Gerang Gerung and Little Desert.

The Rainbow Show public holiday incorporates the localities of Rainbow, Albacutya and Kenmare.

## Options:

Council has several options to consider:

- 1. Council may choose not to nominate any substitutes and Melbourne Cup Day will automatically apply as a public holiday for the whole Shire on the first Tuesday in November;
- 2. Nominate a substitute public holiday for the whole Shire;
- 3. Nominate substitute public holidays in each part of the Shire; or
- 4. Parts of the Shire take Melbourne Cup Day on the first Tuesday of November and other parts of the Shire nominate a substitute public holiday.

## **Communication Strategy:**

Advertisements will be placed in each of the local papers following approval of the

Gazettal by the Minister for Small Business.

#### **Conflict of Interest:**

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Author and Officer Responsible: Anne Champness, Director Corporate & Community

Services

In providing this advice as the Author and Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council writes to the Minister for Small Business expressing a preference for the following:

- 1. A substitute public holiday in lieu of Melbourne Cup Day for Rainbow Show (Tuesday 10 October 2017) for the localities of Rainbow, Albacutya and Kenmare within the Shire;
- 2. A substitute public holiday in lieu of Melbourne Cup Day for Nhill Show (Thursday 12 October 2017) for the localities of Broughton, Yanac, Netherby, Lorquon, Nhill, Glenlee, Kiata, Gerang Gerung and Little Desert within the Shire; and
- 3. Melbourne Cup Day for the remainder of the Shire.

# 11.3 SECTION 86 COMMITTEES –DIMBOOLA TOWN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate and Community Services

#### Introduction:

The report seeks the appointment of additional members to the Dimboola Town Committee as a special committee of Council under Section 86 of the Local Government Act.

#### Discussion:

Councils may establish special committees with authority to exercise certain Council powers, Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act). Special committees must operate in accordance with the Act and the Hindmarsh Meeting Procedures and Common Seal Local Law (the Local Law). Members of special committees must comply with the limits imposed by Council's instrument of delegation, disclose conflicts of interests and not misuse their positions.

At the committee's AGM on 3 October 2016, the following people were nominated to the committee:

- Phil Colquhoun, Chairperson
- Amanda Ingeme
- Kaylene Pietsch
- Jan Ballard
- Ron Donaldson
- Russell Barber
- Cadence Smith
- Clive Eastwood
- Debra Nelson
- Bruce Donnelly
- Rhonda Huf
- Jo Donnelly

Clive Eastwood resigned from the Committee on 3 April 2017. At the Dimboola Town Committee meeting on 1 May 2017, Bill Eldridge was nominated to the committee.

#### **Options:**

Council can choose to appoint all, some or none of the nominated committee members.

## **Link to Council Plan:**

- 1.1 An actively engaged community
- 1.2 A range of effective and accessible services to support the health and wellbeing of our community.
- 1.2.8 Establish a training program for S86 committees

## **Financial Implications:**

No financial implications arise.

# **Risk Management Implications:**

No risk management implications arise.

#### **Conflict of Interest:**

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Author and Officer Responsible: Anne Champness, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author and Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

## **Communications Strategy:**

Not applicable.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council note the resignation of Clive Eastwood and, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86 and 87 of the Local Government Act 1989 appoint as members of the committee:

## A) DIMBOOLA TOWN COMMITTEE

- Phil Colquhoun, Chairperson
- Amanda Ingeme
- Kaylene Pietsch
- Jan Ballard
- Ron Donaldson
- Russell Barber
- Cadence Smith
- Debra Nelson
- Bruce Donnelly
- Rhonda Huf
- Jo Donnelly
- Bill Eldridge

## 12. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### 12.1 NHILL TOWN COMMITTEE

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment: 9

#### Introduction:

The Nhill Town Committee held its Meeting on 24 April 2017. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the minutes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council notes the minutes of the Nhill Town Committee Meeting on 24 April 2017.

Attachment: 9

#### 12.2 DIMBOOLA TOWN COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment: 10

#### Introduction:

The Dimboola Town Committee held its Meeting on 1 May 2017. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the minutes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council notes the minutes of the Dimboola Town Committee Meeting on 1 May 2017.

Attachment: 10

#### 12.3 WIMMERA MALLEE PIONEER MUSEUM COMMITTEE

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment: 11

## Introduction:

The Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee held its Meeting on 18 April 2017. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the minutes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council notes the minutes of the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee Meeting on 18 April 2017.

Attachment: 11

## 13. LATE REPORTS

#### 13.1 2017-18 COMMUNITY SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services Attachment:

#### Introduction:

This report seeks Council endorsement for the submission of project proposals for funding assistance through the Victorian Government's 2018 – 2019 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

#### **Discussion:**

The Community Sports Infrastructure Fund is a Victorian Government funding program that helps provide high-quality, accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria by encouraging:

- Increased sport and recreation participation for all Victorians
- Increased female and junior participation
- Increased access to sport and recreation opportunities
- Better planning of sport and recreation facilities
- Innovative sport and recreation facilities
- Environmentally sustainable facilities
- Universally designed facilities

The Community Sports Infrastructure Fund provides grants for planning, building new and improving existing infrastructure where communities conduct, organise and participate in sport and recreation.

Funding is available under the following categories:

- **Better Pools\*** Grants of up to \$3 million to provide high quality aquatic leisure facilities through new or redeveloped aquatic centres.
- **Major Facilities\*** Grants of up to \$650,000 (where the total project cost is more than \$500,000 excluding GST) are available to develop or upgrade sub-regional and regional sport and recreation facilities;
- **Small Aquatic Project\*** Grants of up to \$200,000 are available to improve and aquatic facilities, seasonal pools and develop new water play spaces.
- Minor Facilities\*\* Grants of up to \$100,000 for any one project (where the total project cost is up to \$1M, excluding GST) are available for community sport and recreation groups working in partnership with local government to develop or upgrade local sport and recreation facilities.
- Cricket Facilities\*\* Grants of up to \$100,000 are available to assist local councils, cricket associations and local cricket clubs to upgrade and develop cricket specific club infrastructure including new buildings, grounds and training facilities.
- **Female Friendly Facilities**\*\*\* Grants of up to \$100,000 are available to build new and upgrade existing, outdated change facilities at sports clubs around the state that cater for female sport, with a focus on promoting female and family friendly environments.
- Planning Funding is available for planning initiatives that address the future sport and recreation needs of communities through better information gathering, consultation and strategic planning, including;

- Grants up to \$30,000 for projects focusing on recreation planning or facility feasibility in one municipality
- Grants of up to \$50,000 for regional planning initiatives that demonstrate intermunicipal needs and financial support from multiple local government authorities
- o Grants of up to \$30,000 for female participation strategies

\*Only one project can be submitted under the Better Pools, Major Facilities and Small Aquatic Projects categories.

\*\*Councils may apply for the maximum grant amount for up to three (3) projects from the Minor Facilities and Cricket Facilities categories with a maximum of two (2) applications from any single category.

\*\*\*Councils may apply for the maximum grant amount for up to three projects from the Female Friendly Facilities category.

A two stage application process is required for the 2018 - 2019 program, with online project proposals closing on 7 June 2017.

Following assessment of project proposals, Sport and Recreation Victoria will advise councils from 24 July 2017 if their proposals are supported to go to the full application stage.

Councils notified of supported project proposals will be invited to submit a full application. Full applications must be submitted by 11 September 2017 and may only seek an amount equal to or less than the amount approved in the project proposal. The scope of the project should not change.

Council invited clubs and organisations throughout Hindmarsh Shire via a newspaper advertisement and direct email to submit project proposals for consideration for the Victorian Government's 2018 - 2019 Community Sport Infrastructure Fund.

Because of the tight timeframes, clubs and organisations were asked to provide all relevant documentation as stated on the expression of interest (EOI) form otherwise their EOI would not be considered.

At the closing date for EOIs, 5 May 2017, no EOIs were received, however, the Dimboola Bowling Club contacted Council to enquire if an application for funding of a shade structure alongside a bowling green would be eligible. Council contacted Sport and Recreation Victoria who stated that there would be limited appetite to fund such an initiative as the Community Shade Grants Program would be a more suitable avenue for funding.

Based on outcomes from the Hindmarsh Shire Sport and Recreation Strategy, Nhill Community Precinct Plan and Rainbow Community Plan, two projects have been identified as potential project proposals through the 2018/2019 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

These projects are a new skate park in Nhill and new female change rooms in Rainbow.

Another potential project is the installation of electric motors to roll up the solar blankets recently installed at swimming pools in Dimboola, Jeparit and Nhill.

#### **Nhill Skate Park**

In its 2016/2017 Budget, Council has allocated funding of \$10,000 to prepare conceptual designs for a new Nhill Skate Park as recommended in the Hindmarsh Shire Sport and Recreation Strategy and prioritised in the Sport and Recreation section of the Nhill Community Precinct Plan.

In line with skate parks in Rainbow and Dimboola, it is proposed that a project proposal seek \$100,000 in funding, matched with a Council allocation of \$100,000 to construct a new skate park.

Council has engaged the services of landscape architect and skate park design company, Enlocus Pty Ltd to undertake the following for the proposed Nhill skate park.

- Inception phone meeting discuss direction and objectives of the project. Confirm project timelines and key dates for deliverables.
- Review site survey geotech assessment to determine site constraints and opportunities relating to topography, drainage and existing services (above and below ground).
- Site assessment investigate possible site/s and recommend preferred site for proposed type and scale of facility based on a range of factors
- Draft concept design investigate and recommend the type and scale of facility based on a number of factors including, the intended skate/scooter/BMX user, age groups and skill levels and style and elements required
- 3D visualisation of concept design options 3 x views showing illustrative views of the facility and surrounding site
- Estimate of probable cost of concept design
- Video conference of concept design
- Revision of concept design incorporating feedback, comments etc from concept design presentation
- 3D visualisation of revised concept design 3 x views showing illustrative views of the facility and surrounding site
- Design vision and funding report outcomes from concept design to be incorporated into the Vision and Feasibility Funding Report

Enlocus Pty Ltd were engaged to prepare designs for the Dimboola and Rainbow skate parks which were both successful in receiving funding in the 2017/2018 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

Based on previous experience the vision and funding report will be a crucial attachment to include with the project proposal for the Nhill skate park.

Council officers have recently undertaken two workshops with Nhill's youth to determine a suitable location and style for the proposed Nhill skate park.

Outcomes from these workshops have been collated and attached. This information will also be presented to the general community at a further consultation to be held on 18 May 2017.

Outcomes of all consultations will be collated and presented to Enlocus and will be used in the preparation of the conceptual design.

Preliminary cost estimates have not been established yet as this will be a core component of the report to be provided by Enlocus. However, based on costs of

previously funded skate parks in Dimboola and Rainbow it is expected that the total cost will be in the \$200,000 range.

It is anticipated that a budget proposal for a Council contribution of \$100,000 will be submitted for consideration in Council's 2018/2019 budget. This amount is similar to the amount provided by Council for the Dimboola and Rainbow skate parks.

As this will be the only project to be submitted through the Minor Facilities category, Council will be able to apply for the maximum amount of \$100,000. Funding in this category is on a \$2:\$1 ratio.

# **Rainbow Female Changeroom Facilities**

New change room facilities for the Rainbow Recreation Reserve were identified and prioritised in the Rainbow Community Plan and as the #1 priority for Rainbow in the Hindmarsh Sport and Recreation Strategy.

It is proposed that a project proposal seek funding of \$100,000, matched by a Council allocation of \$25,000, and community contribution (cash and in-kind) to construct new female changerooms.

As Female Friendly Facilities is a specific funding category through the 2019/2019 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund, it is proposed that the development of new change rooms at the Rainbow Recreation Reserve be carried out in two stages. Stage one will be for new female change rooms based on a successful funding application through the Female Friendly Facilities category and stage two for new football changerooms subject to successful funding through a future Country Football Netball funding program.

The design of the proposed female change room facilities will be based on the floorplan of the new Dimboola netball changerooms (as previously presented to Council) and will be designed in such a way that stage two can be seamlessly carried out in the future.

Costs have not yet been established but it is anticipated that the project cost will be similar to the Dimboola netball changerooms at a cost of approximately \$150,000.

It is anticipated that a budget proposal for a Council contribution of \$25,000 will be submitted for consideration in Council's 2018/2019 budget. It is expected that this amount will be matched by the Rainbow community with in-kind support making up the balance.

Council could reserve the right to withdraw the submission of a project proposal should the Jeparit Rainbow Football Netball Club or the Rainbow Recreation Reserve Committee of Management defer their support and contribution towards this project.

As this will be the only project to be submitted through the Female Friendly Facilities category, Council will be able to apply for the maximum amount of \$100,000. Funding in this category is on a \$2:\$1 ratio.

Safety and operating efficiency improvements to Hindmarsh Shire Swimming Pools.

In June 2016, Council purchased commercial grade pool covers for the Dimboola, Jeparit and Nhill Swimming Pools at a cost of approximately \$45,000.00. Funding for these pool covers were through the 2013/2014 Community Facility Funding Program – Seasonal Pool Renewal category.

The swimming pool covers were installed for the 2016/2017 swimming season but due to the difficulties faced by the swimming pool managers and staff to physically cover and uncover the pools, they were rarely used.

This report seeks support from Council to submit a project proposal for funding of \$26,000 and an allocation from Council of \$13,500 to purchase and install electronic winch systems at each of the swimming pools to enable easier, safer and more frequent use of the swimming pool covers.

The outcomes of this proposed installation of the winches are twofold.

- 1. The installation of an electronic winch system will make the covering and uncovering of the swimming pools far safer as it will reduce the considerable effort required to manually wind up the rollers while trying to keep the covers straight as they are being rolled up. It will also remove the need to drag the covers out to cover the pool as the winches can be reversed meaning the operator will only have to guide the placement of the covers rather than dragging them out and placing them.
- 2. The more frequent covering of the pools through the easier operation as outlined above will improve the efficiency of keeping the water in the pools warmer and cleaner when the pools are not in use. This in turn increase opportunities for use, e.g. early morning lap swimming, water aerobics, water exercises and learn to swim classes.

As the electronic winch systems are portable and can be connected to individual pool cover rollers, only one winch system will be required at each swimming pool.

Cost of the winch systems is estimated at \$10,500 each, plus freight ex-factory, Perth WA. In addition, minor works of approximately \$5,000 will be required at the Nhill swimming pool to facilitate the installation. The total investment required will be approximately \$39,500.00

It is anticipated that a budget proposal for a Council contribution of \$13,500 will be submitted for consideration to Council's 2018/2019 budget.

#### Options

Council can choose to submit all, some or none of the project proposals or select alternative projects.

#### **Link to Council Plan:**

- Strategy 1.1 An actively engaged community
- Strategy 1.2 A range of effective and accessible services to support the health and wellbeing of our community
- Strategy 1.3 A community that is physically active with access to a wide range of leisure, sporting and recreation facilities
- Strategy 2.1 Well maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs

## **Financial Implications:**

As funding under the 2018/2019 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund will not be available until July 2018, a submission for funds to be contributed by Council will be included for consideration in the 2018/2019 Budget process.

## **Risk Management Implications:**

Appropriate Risk Assessments will be prepared in accordance to Councils procedures and policies prior to the implementations of any activities.

### **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 – Phil King, Economic and Community Development Manager In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

## **Communications Strategy:**

Media releases will be prepared if and as the projects progress.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council endorses the following submissions to the Victorian Government's Community Sports Infrastructure Fund:

- A project proposal seeking \$100,000 for the development of a new skate park in Nhill, matched by a Council contribution of \$100,000 deferred to the 2018/19 Annual Budget.
- A project proposal seeking \$100,000 for the construction of new female changerooms at the Rainbow Recreation Reserve, matched by a Council contribution of \$25,000 deferred to the 2018/19 Annual Budget and a community contribution of \$25,000 (cash and/or in-kind).
- A project proposal seeking \$26,000 for the supply of electronic winches for pool cover rollers for the Dimboola, Jeparit and Nhill Swimming Pools, matched by a Council contribution of \$13,500 deferred to the 2018/19 Annual Budget.

#### 13.2 HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL BORROWING POLICY

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment: 12

#### Introduction

The report seeks Council's adoption of a Borrowing Policy.

#### **Discussion**

The Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) section 185E requires councils applying for a higher rate cap to specify, amongst other matters,

(e) whether consideration has been given to reprioritising proposed expenditures and alternative funding options and why those options are not adequate;

While neither the Act, nor the Essential Services Commission (ESC) administering the Fair Go Rates System are advocating for councils to take on debt, debt finance could be an option available to councils as part of their financial tool kit and form a key element in a responsible long-term financial plan. In particular, debt finance can be useful when a council seeks to provide long-lived infrastructure that is likely to provide inter-generational benefits to the community.

The ESC expects a council applying for a higher cap to show it has a well-considered debt policy that guides its decision whether to use debt to reduce the need for additional funding in the short term through increased rates revenue.

While Council has for many years held the position that it will only consider debt for major infrastructure items that are of strategic importance to our community, this position has not been formalised in a policy document.

Though the proposed draft Borrowing Policy (Attachment 11) provides a formal framework for potential borrowings, it also reflects the need for caution and prudent financial management when committing to borrow.

Borrowing may provide an alternative funding option for a significant intergenerational asset, like the \$3.3m rebuilt of the Albacutya Bridge, but the repayment impact on our future cash flows and the risk of overcommitting ourselves financially could be substantial. A \$1m loan for example would add additional expenses to our cash flow that would outweigh a 1% rate increase.

#### Options

Council can adopt, or adopt with alterations, the Borrowing Policy.

#### **Link to Council Plan:**

Strategy 4.1: Long-term financial sustainability.

## **Financial Implications**

No financial implications arise from the policy.

## **Risk Management Implications**

The policy aims to provide a framework that minimises risks from borrowings.

## **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.

Author and Officer Responsible – Anne Champness, Director Corporate & Community Services

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

# **Communications Strategy:**

Not applicable.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Borrowing Policy, as presented, be adopted.

Attachment: 12

## 14. OTHER BUSINESS

## 15. 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.

## 16. MEETING CLOSE