



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

# Scheduled Meeting of Council

## Minutes

Wednesday 23 March 2022  
Alexandra Council Chambers  
Perkins Street  
6:00 PM

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

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## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCILLORS' PLEDGE

### 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The meeting was opened with the Chief Executive Officer declaring the following Pledge on behalf of the Murrindindi Shire Council:

“Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.”

### 1.2 Councillors' Pledge

“The Councillors, democratically elected to represent our community as the Murrindindi Shire Council, are committed to working together in the best interests of the people who live in our municipality, those who conduct business here and those who visit.”

## 2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 2.1 Privacy Note

This public meeting was streamed live via Council's Facebook page and can be viewed along with the Minutes of this meeting on Council's website.

### 2.2 Apologies and Request for Leave of Absence

That Council accept the apologies of Cr S Carpenter.

#### **Present:**

Councillors D Gallagher (Chair), K Haslam, I Gerencser, E Lording, S McAulay, J Walsh

#### **In attendance:**

Chief Executive Officer: Livia Bonazzi

Director Corporate and Shared Services: Michael Chesworth

Director Community Engagement: Shivaun Brown

Director Assets and Development: Vito Albicini

Manager Governance and Risk: Tara Carter

Manager Development Services: Natalie Stewart

Coordinator Planning: Cameron Fraser

Senior Planner: Clara Gartland

Meeting Support: Adam Dennis

### 2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest

Cr E Lording declared a general conflict of interest in Agenda item 4.1 being Planning Application - Relocation of Post Office - 1061 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake West as he has been involved in detailed discussions and feels he can no longer approach the decision on the matter with a sufficiently impartial perspective.

Cr S McAulay declared a Material conflict of interest in Agenda item 5.1 being the Grants and Contributions Program – March Allocations as she is the Secretary of the Taggerty Community Progress Group.

## 2.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of Council held on 23 February 2022.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr E Lording**  
That Council confirm the minutes of the 23 February 2022 Scheduled Meeting of Council.

**CARRIED**

## 2.5 Petitions

Nil.

## 2.6 Community Recognition

Nil.

## 2.7 Matters Deferred from Previous Meeting

Nil.

## 2.8 Urgent Business

Nil.

## 3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### 3.1 Open Forum

Livia Bonazzi, CEO read a submission on behalf of John Griffiths against the Planning Application - Relocation of Post Office - 1061 Whittlesea- Kinglake Road, Kinglake West (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Kenneth Aitkin spoke in support of item Planning Application - Relocation of Post Office - 1061 Whittlesea Kinglake Road, Kinglake West (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

### 3.2 Questions of Council

Nil.

## 4 REPORTS - ASSETS AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

### 4.1 Planning Application - Relocation of Post Office - 1061 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake West

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Application Documents [4.1.1 - 7 pages] Confidential Attachment 1 – Submissions (distributed to Councillors separately)
Presenter	C Gartland, Senior Planner
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

This report recommends that a notice of decision to grant a permit be issued for the relocation of post office from 6 McMahons Road, Kinglake to 1061 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake West. The application proposes the removal of the historic Kinglake Post Office from the land at 6 McMahons Road and reconstruction on the land at 1061 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake West which is currently occupied in part by the Kinglake Heritage Centre run by the Kinglake Historical Society. The remainder of the site contains sporting facilities. This includes a disused tennis court on which the post office is to be located.

A planning permit is required for the removal of the post office building from the land at 6 McMahons Road, Kinglake that is affected by the Heritage Overlay. A permit is required for its reconstruction at 1061 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road under the provisions of the Bushfire Management Overlay as this is considered as buildings and works associated with the use of land as a museum.

The Post Office building was previously located in the Kinglake Township at 28 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road and was relocated to the land at 6 McMahons Road over 15 years ago. The building has not operated as a post office from this site, nor is this use intended for the building into the future.

The proposed relocation of the building is being done in conjunction with the expansion of the existing facilities at the Kinglake Heritage Centre in Kinglake West.

The application has been advertised to all adjoining landowners of both properties as well as a notice being placed in the Mountain Monthly. Three objections were received. One was subsequently withdrawn, and two objections remain outstanding. The objections largely relate to the proposed use of the land by the Kinglake Historic Society, specifically the tennis courts and the impacts on the community as a result of the loss of this sporting infrastructure.

The application has been referred to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning as the public land manager, Fire Rescue Victoria (Formerly CFA) as well as Council's Heritage Advisor. The application has been supported by both referral authorities and the Heritage Advisor, the latter of whom has provided advice which has resulted in conditions to be included on any permit issued.

On balance the proposal meets the objectives of the Planning Policy Framework, Zone and Overlay controls.

It is recommended that Council resolve to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit in accordance with the Officer Recommendation.

## RESOLUTION

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr K Haslam**

**That Council issue a Notice of Decision to grant a planning permit for the removal of a heritage building and reconstruction of a building at 1061 Whittlesea- Kinglake Road, Kinglake West (PCA:14, CAL:C), 6 McMahons Road, Kinglake (C/A:6; CAL C) subject to the following conditions:**

- 1. Prior to the development (including the removal of the building from 1060 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake West) starts, a conservation management plan for the heritage building to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the conservation management plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The conservation management plan must include:
  - a. Window, roof and door repairs/restoration.**
  - b. External joinery restoration.**
  - c. Removal of the slate tiles on the portion of the building, which is to be demolished, and their re-use to repair the remaining roof.**
  - d. A Transport Management Plan showing the proposed methods of transport of the building from 6 McMahons Road, Kinglake to 1061 Whittlesea- Kinglake Road, Kinglake West**
  - e. Proposed actions to ensure the building is not altered or destroyed.****

**Works to the heritage building must be undertaken in accordance with the conservation management plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**

- 2. The layout of the site and the size and type of the proposed buildings and works, including the materials of construction, as shown on the endorsed plan, shall not be altered or modified without the consent in writing of the Responsible Authority**
- 3. The building (old Kinglake Post Office) must not be destroyed or altered in any way without the written consent of the Responsible Authority**
- 4. No works are to occur that will impact on the tennis courts at 1061 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road. In the event that the building is removed from the site, the tennis courts must be reinstated to their condition at the date of issue of this planning permit.**

### **Planning Permit Expiry**

**This permit shall expire if the demolition or development hereby permitted is not completed and the use commenced within two years of the date hereof, or any extension of such period the Responsible Authority may allow in writing. A request for an extension of time may be made before or within six months after the permit expiry date, where the use or development allowed by the permit has not yet commenced, or within 12 months after the permit expiry date, where the development allowed by the permit lawfully commenced before the permit expired.**

**CARRIED**

## 4.2 Planning Application - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling / Outbuilding / Agricultural Shed - 517 Ghin Ghin Road Ghin Ghin

This item was withdrawn from the Agenda.

## 4.3 Discontinuance of Brunel Street, Narbethong

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Aerial - Brunel Street Narbethong [4.3.1 - 1 page] Attachment 2 - Plan of Survey [4.3.2 - 2 pages] Attachment 3 - Title Plan [4.3.3 - 1 page]
Presenter	V Albicini, Director Assets & Development
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

### Executive Summary

This report seeks Council's endorsement to discontinue part of Brunel Street, Narbethong, being an unused Government Road (as shown in bold on the title plan attached to this report) to enable the Department of Environment Land Water & Planning (DELWP) to transfer the unreserved Crown Land to the adjoining owner of 12 Dom Dom Road, Narbethong.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council:**

- 1. discontinue the unused Government Road that is part of Brunel Street Narbethong (as shown coloured yellow on the survey plan attached to this report)**
- 2. publish a notice of discontinuance of this Government Road in the Government Gazette**
- 3. Following (2), refer the matter to DELWP to arrange for the transfer of the unreserved Crown Land in the Government Road to the adjoining land owner at no cost to Council.**

**CARRIED**

## 4.4 CONT21/22 - Contract Cleaning Council Facilities

Attachment(s)	Confidential Attachment 1 – CONT21/22 Contract Cleaning Council Facilities
Presenter	V Albicini, Director Assets & Development
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision

## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is for Council to appoint a contractor for the provision of Contract Cleaning – Council Facilities. The scope of the contract is to provide cleaning services for 19 Council facilities across the municipality. This contract is a three year lump sum contract with schedule of rates for miscellaneous cleaning with a further two year contract extension.

Tenders were called on the 9th November 2021 and seven submissions were received. A detailed evaluation process was undertaken in line with Council's Procurement Policy and against tender evaluation criteria by a Tender Evaluation Committee.

Based on the evaluation, the Committee recommended Tender 2 be awarded Contract 21/22 Contract Cleaning – Council Facilities for the lump sum price of \$729,072 for the three (3) year contract (\$472,133 Standard Routine Cleaning and \$256,938 COVID 19 Routine Touchpoint Cleaning) for the 3 year period with an option for a further two years subject to satisfactory performance. It is further recommended that an annual contingency of \$55,000 be allocated for cleaning variations over the three (3) year contract period.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr S McAulay / Cr E Lording**  
**That Council:**

- 1. appoint CONT21/22 - Contract Cleaning Council Facilities to KC Facility Services for an initial period of three years for a lump sum price of \$729,072 commencing 3 April 2022 to 3 March 2025, with the option to delete COVID 19 annual lump sum cleaning at any time and the option for a two-year extension;**
- 2. approve a contingency of \$55,000 per annum of the contract for miscellaneous emergency cleaning as detailed by the report noting that the total contract expenditure will not exceed \$1,521,004 for the 5-year period (includes extension);**
- 3. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to extend CONT21/22 Contract Cleaning – Council Facilities beyond the initial term for a further two-year period subject to satisfactory performance; and**
- 4. release this resolution and the name of KC Facility Services into the Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of 23 March 2022.**

**CARRIED**



## 5 REPORTS - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

### 5.1 Grants and Contributions Program - March Allocations

Attachment(s)	Nil
Presenter	S Brown, Director Community Engagement
Approved by	Director Community Engagement
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the February 2022 Grants and Contributions Program applications and variations for noting and endorsement.

#### RESOLUTION

Cr I Gerencser / Cr K Haslam

That Council:

1. Endorse the following variations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:

Application	Original Grant Awarded	Variation Request
CS-21/22-002 - Alexandra Secondary Collage Sponsorship of 2021 College Dux Student	\$600	Timing change
FR-21/22-003 – Yea Primary School – Annual Musical	\$1,000	Timing change

2. Endorse the following allocations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:

Application	Amount
Taungurung Land and Water Corporation - TAUNGURUNG WURRUNG-our marrening ba gaberring	\$1,500
Taggerty Community Progress Group - Outdoor Seating	\$2,500
Alexandra District Health - Healthy at Alex Hub	\$900
The Outdoor Education Foundation - Young Men, Old Mountains	\$2,500
Yea & District Historical Society - The History of the Yea and District Memorial Hospital	\$1,000
Alexandra Football Netball Club - Anzac Spirit and Community Celebration	\$2,000
Mother's Day Classic Foundation – Alexandra, Yea & District Regional Event	\$3,500

**CARRIED**

## 6 REPORTS - CORPORATE & SHARED SERVICES DIRECTORATE

### 6.1 Australian Local Government Association Advocacy Priorities

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - ALGA Advocacy Priorities [6.1.1 - 16 pages]
Presenter	M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), representing the local government sector nationally, has developed its advocacy priorities for the upcoming federal election. These are based on the themes of economic recovery, improved transport and community infrastructure, building resilience, supporting the circular economy and improving intergovernmental relations.

The ALGA is seeking endorsement of these priorities by councils prior to its National Assembly in June. The priorities are consistent with several objectives in the Murrindindi Shire *Council Plan 2021-2025*.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr K Haslam / Cr E Lording**

**That Council endorse the ALGA's federal election priorities as outlined in the 'Don't Leave Communities Behind Federal Election Priorities' statement attached to this report.**

**CARRIED**

### 6.2 Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report - July to December 2021 [6.2.1 - 3 pages]
Presenter	M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For noting

#### Executive Summary

The Murrindindi Shire Council is committed to providing good governance, public transparency and accountability to the communities of the Murrindindi Shire. The Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) is an independent advisory committee to Council, established under section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) to provide oversight, guidance and assurance to assist Council and Council's Executive meet this commitment.

The attached Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report describes the activities of the Committee for the July to December 2021 period.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr E Lording / Cr S McAulay**

**That Council note the Audit and Risk Committee's Biannual Report for July to December 2021.**

**CARRIED**

### **6.3 Audit and Risk Committee - Confirmation of Minutes**

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - 2022-03-10 Audit and Risk Committee Minutes [6.3.1 - 28 pages]
Presenter	M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For noting

#### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the 10 March 2022 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting to Council for noting.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Cr S McAulay / Cr K Haslam**

**That Council receive and note the minutes of the 10 March 2022 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting as enclosed in Attachment 6.3.1.**

**CARRIED**

## 7 COUNCILLOR AND CEO REPORTS

### 7.1 Notices of Motions

Nil.

### 7.2 Cr Karine Haslam

Nil to report.

### 7.3 Cr Ilona Gerencser

Nil to report.

### 7.4 Cr Eric Lording

Nil to report.

### 7.5 Cr John Walsh

Nil to report.

### 7.6 Cr Sandice McAulay

Nil to report.

### 7.7 Cr Damien Gallagher

I'd like to commence by acknowledging the initiative and persistence of Alexandra community member, Pamela Thompson, who having recently grieved the loss of a dear friend to prostate cancer, set about planning and delivering a Men's Health Information evening. A thoughtful line-up of medical professionals and community members shared their experience and expertise and there were many in attendance from across the shire. The message for Murrindindi blokes is: Treat your body like a precious car. If it rattles and knocks or just isn't right, then get it checked out. And don't forget 'regular servicing'. Book in a regular check-up with your GP.

This month, Alexandra District Traders and Tourism Association representatives invited me to join them to meet the Victorian Small Business Commissioner, Lynda McAlary-Smith. The Commissioner was very receptive to the concerns of the business community, including housing stock availability, staff shortages and retention challenges, telecommunications service blackspots, and industrial zoned land availability. The challenges correlate closely to Council's action plan and schedule of advocacy priorities. We eagerly await the policy advice that the independent commissioner will deliver to Government.

Councillors requested and were afforded a tour of VicForests Operations in the Snobs Creek region, and similarly, the opportunity for Councillors to visit private commercial enterprise plantations was taken. Comparing and contrasting the scale and nature of the distinct types of operations is valuable and Council continues to consult widely ahead of the development of a

plan to support the broader community with the transition away from commercial native state forest timber harvest.

#### To portfolio and external committee matters

I'd like to congratulate the 2022 Eildon Primary School captains, Ava and Jasmine and their fellow leaders whom Cr. Haslam and I had the privilege of meeting and acknowledging this week. I'd also like to thank the Alexandra Secondary College VCAL staff and students for their invitation to talk about volunteering, careers, and local government. It was a Monday morning and given the subject matter I was very chuffed that the students not only stayed awake, but they posed some really thoughtful questions. The off-campus VCAL sessions are hosted by the Embassy of Ideas in Alexandra. It's appropriate that the Embassy, its humble ambassador, Sasha Barrow, and the teaching team are acknowledged for instilling in the students a sense that there is a supportive community around them to help them thrive as they approach the end of their secondary school education.

The MSC Customer Experience team is preparing to conduct a periodic shire-wide Library Strategy covering fixed and mobile library service delivery.

Council's Community Wellbeing team is pleased to report record pool visitation for the 2021-22 season. Some 27810 people visited a Murrindindi Shire pool facility which equates to 2 visits for every person in the municipality. Of course these numbers exclude club swimmers, school swimming and other visitation under user agreement programs. The number represents the strongest visitation numbers since the 2007-08 season.

The Eildon pool season culminated with the popular pool party event and the same evening, about 200 people enjoyed a twilight outdoor cinema event on the banks of the lower pondage. Over the last month I had the opportunity to advance Council advocacy priorities during discussions with various local community and service groups. Last Friday, between leadership development sessions at an assembly of Mayors and Deputy Mayors from across Victoria, I had the opportunity meet the Hon Sean Leane, Local Government Minister again, and to further progress Murrindindi Shire Council advocacy interests.

It's a little while away, but I wish everyone a safe and peaceful Easter break. Enjoy the Alexandra Rotary Easter Art Show, the Alexandra Easter Fair in Rotary Park, one of the many great markets, and perhaps try a new adventure in our region.

#### Finally

When we meet, Council occasionally ponders the notion of *legacy*: Those matters of importance to the Murrindindi Shire community beyond roads, rubbish, sound governance, and careful custodianship of public funds. For me, this afternoon marked a legacy milestone with the ceremonial declaration of Murrindindi Shire as a Refugee Welcome Zone. Today Council took a huge step towards realising the community-owned 10-Year vision of being inclusive, embracing diversity, and encouraging the participation of all.

## **7.8 Cr Sue Carpenter - Mayoral Report**

It is unfortunate that I am unable to attend this months Council Meeting.

I have had a fairly routine surgical procedure that should have seen me up and well, but my recovery is progressing at a much slower rate than expected and I regret not being well enough to be with my fellow Councillors this evening.

I particularly wish to thank Cr Gallagher for stepping into my shoes and fulfilling my commitments over the past couple of weeks.

I have had the opportunity of visiting the local primary schools and presenting the school leaders with certificates congratulating them on their leadership roles. It is a pleasure to spend time with the younger residents of the shire and is important to have connections between the Councillors and the schools, where future community leaders are being nurtured. Thank you to my fellow Councillors for offering to attend the schools in their areas while I am unable to.

A tour was conducted by Vic Forests at their Snobs Creek logging coupes. The tour was attended by most of the councilors, our CEO and the executive officers. We were shown areas that were in the process of being logged; coupes that had been recently replanted and other coupes with regrowth from a variety of years ago. The tour gave us an insight into how forestry logging is conducted and discussed what measures are in place to protect flora and fauna.

The property of John Woodley, Taggerty Arboretum was visited by a group of Councillors and the executive. This was a fascinating tour of one mans work over 25 years to trial on a large scale, both native and exotic tree species for timber production. There is so much knowledge tied up in the Arboretum that will be of benefit to anyone who is considering planting trees for amenity and/or plantation timber in the shire.

Thankyou to John for sharing his property and his extensive expertise with us.

Rotary District 9790 held their annual conference last week in Marysville. Approximately 350 Rotarians and guests were able to enjoy all that Marysville had to offer, and celebrate the projects that Rotary clubs do for the benefit of communities both near and far. The weather was perfect autumn days, and our shire was glad to welcome visitors from Melbourne and regional Victoria to one of the prettiest towns in the Murrindindi shire.

A plaque was unveiled at the Yea swimming pool on Sunday. This plaque was installed as a replacement for the original plaque that was removed during renovations some time ago. It is to recognize and acknowledge the tireless contribution of Noel Moore B.E.M who led and guided the community effort to establish the pool in Yea in the 1950's  
About 20 relatives and friends were able to meet and celebrate the reinstating of this important historical recognition.

I was disappointed to be unable to attend, but I understand that the family were thrilled with the outcome of the replacement plaque.

The wheels of our great shire keep turning while I rest and recuperate.

## **7.9 Chief Executive Officer Report**

Nil to report.

## 8 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

### Executive Summary

This report presents the records of assemblies of Councillors for 23 February 2022 to 16 March 2022, for Council to note.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr E Lording**

**That Council receive and note the records of assembly of Councillors for 21 February 2022 to 18 March 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## 9 SEALING REGISTER

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr E Lording**

**That the list of items to which the Council seal has been affixed be noted.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was closed at 6:50pm.

**CONFIRMED THIS**

**CHAIRPERSON Cr D Gallagher**