



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

# Scheduled Meeting of Council

## Minutes

Wednesday 22 June 2022  
Yea Council Chambers  
The Semi Circle  
6:00 PM

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## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCILLORS' PLEDGE

### 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The meeting was opened with the Mayor reading the following 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 official Minutes of this meeting on Council's website.

### 2.2 Apologies and Request for Leave of Absence

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence tendered.

#### **Present:**

Councillors S Carpenter (Chair), D Gallagher, 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  
Planning Officer: Nicole Grey

### 2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest

Nil.

## 2.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of Council held on 25 May 2022.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council confirm the minutes of the 25 May 2022 Scheduled Meeting of Council.**

**CARRIED**

## 2.5 Petitions

Nil.

## 2.6 Community Recognition

### Jo Hunter - Emergency Service Medal recipient

The Mayor, Cr Sue Carpenter read the following statement on behalf of Council:

"I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge Josephine Hunter, who was the recipient of an Emergency Service Medal as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Jo is a valued member of the Marysville community and joined the VIC SES in 2004 at the age of 18. She was appointed Unit Controller in 2012, as the second youngest controller in the State she is renowned for her calm and mature leadership style. Jo was Acting Controller for the Marysville Unit during the Black Saturday Fires and in recognition of her efforts during this period she received the Dawson Community Service and Volunteering award at the Victorian Young Achiever Awards.

Jo has been instrumental in the establishment of the high angle rescue training package, has been involved in the road rescue working group and the vehicle design working group for many years. She not only leads rescue initiatives in our communities but also across Victoria and New South Wales, taking part in several deployments.

Jo was invited to attend tonight but as you can imagine with her very busy schedule she unfortunately was unable to attend.

On behalf of Murrindindi Shire Council, we congratulate you Jo on receiving the Emergency Service Medal and we thank you for your service to our communities."

## 2.7 Matters Deferred from Previous Meeting

Nil.

## 2.8 Urgent Business

Nil.

## 3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### 3.1 Open Forum

Mike Dalmau spoke in support of Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Tim Buckley spoke against Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Murray Ross spoke against Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Andy Lloyd spoke against Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Jonathon Buckley spoke against Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

James Stewart spoke in support of Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Angelina Bell spoke in support of Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling (item 4.1 on the Agenda).

Jack Russell spoke about Freedom of Information, previous Questions of Council and contact with Council.

### 3.2 Questions of Council

Two questions were received from Mr. Trevor Johnson.

Question 1 Poor condition of unsealed roads, poorly timed and inadequate work.

The Chief Executive Officer responded to Question 1:  
Council maintains over 710Km of Unsealed road network and undertakes proactive inspections on a 6 monthly basis. This forms part of the road grading and maintenance program. Whilst every effort is made to plan maintenance works according to favourable weather conditions, unfortunately shortly after the grading works on Captains Creek road in April were completed, we received a significant amount of unexpected rain fall. This impacted Council's ability to complete the works to a satisfactory level and required Council to return to improve the road surface.

Question 2 Inadequate supervision of contactors on infrastructure works

The Chief Executive Officer responded to Question 2:  
Council has dedicated supervisors and project managers for all infrastructure works. Their responsibility is to monitor the works to ensure that the works are delivered in accordance to the specifications of the contract or to documented maintenance standards. Council believes that an appropriate level of resources are provided to supervise works.

## 4 REPORTS - ASSETS AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

### 4.1 Planning Application - 61 Acheron Road, Acheron - Use and Development of the Land for a Dwelling

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Plans [4.1.1 - 31 pages] Confidential Attachment 1 – Approved Planning Permit and Endorsed Plans ( <i>distributed to Councillors separately</i> ) Confidential Attachment 2 – Submissions ( <i>distributed to Councillors separately</i> )
Presenter	N Grey, Planning Officer
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision
Land:	61 Acheron Road, Acheron
Proposal:	Use and development of land for a dwelling (amendment application to change the location of a dwelling)
Applicant:	James and Zehra Stewart
Zoning:	Farming Zone
Overlays:	Floodway Overlay (partial)
Triggers:	Clause 35.07 Farming Zone – a planning permit is required for the use and development of land for a dwelling on a lot less than 40 hectares and for works within 100 metres of a waterway.

#### Locality Plan





### Executive Summary

An amended planning permit is required for the use and development of land for a dwelling under the provisions of the Farming Zone in the Murrindindi Planning Scheme. The proposed dwelling is intended to support the proposed farming activities on the land which include an olive grove and stock grazing for beef.

The objective of the proposal is to relocate the already approved dwelling, to a higher elevation on the property with an amended associated Farm Management Plan. The applicant intends to reside permanently on the land to manage the agricultural activities and sustainable environmental land management.

The subject site is approximately 11.1 hectares and adjoins the Goulburn and Acheron Rivers along the northern and eastern boundaries respectively. The property has an existing direct access to Acheron Road and access to the Maroondah Highway via a carriageway easement through an adjoining property to the west.

The land is relatively clear of vegetation, with some native scattered paddock trees and Silver Wattle near the Rivers. There is a significant slope rising from Acheron Road to the west boundary.

The property is in the Farming Zone and is partially affected by the Floodway Overlay along the northern boundary, where the Goulburn River encroaches into the subject land. The remainder of the land is not impacted by any Overlays.

The application has been broadly advertised to all adjoining and nearby property owners, including properties within 500 metres of the subject site which have views to the proposed development. Nineteen (19) submissions were received of which seven (7) were supportive of the application and twelve (12) were submissions objecting to the proposal. The twelve objections

relate to how the dwelling would stand out in the landscape from the Acheron valley and adjoining properties.

The application has been referred externally to Agriculture Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (as an adjoining land manager) and internally to Council's Environmental Health, Environmental Programs and Engineering units. The responses from the authorities have been included as part of the assessment of the application.

This report recommends that a refusal to grant an amended planning permit be issued for the use and development of land for a dwelling at 61 Acheron Road, Acheron. The application is being reported to Council because twelve (12) objections have been received in relation to the proposal and the recommendation is for a refusal. The amendment application proposes the dwelling to be in a highly visible location which could have amenity impacts to surrounding properties and views from the rivers and the broader landscape.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr E Lording**

**That Council issue a refusal to grant an amended planning permit for the use and development of land for a dwelling at 61 Acheron Road, Acheron (Plan of Consolidation 151980), on the following grounds:**

- 1. The proposed amendment does not comply with the requirements of Clause 15.01-2S Building Design, the objectives and strategies of which include:**
  - a. Minimise the detrimental impact of the development on neighbouring properties, the public realm and the natural environment***
  - b. Ensure development is designed to protect and enhance valued landmarks, views and vistas***
  - c. Ensure development provides landscaping that responds to its site context, enhances the built form and creates safe and attractive spaces.***
- 2. The proposed amendment is inconsistent with the requirements of Clause 15.01-6S Design for Rural Areas as the objective to ensure development respects valued areas of rural character and the strategies includes:**
  - a. Ensure that the siting, scale and appearance of development protects and enhances rural character***
  - b. Protect the visual amenity of valued rural landscapes and character areas along township approaches and sensitive tourist routes by ensuring new development is sympathetically located***
  - c. Site and design development to minimise visual impacts on surrounding natural scenery and landscape features including ridgelines, hill tops, waterways, lakes and wetlands.***
- 3. The proposed amendment does not suitably address the requirements of Clause 35.07-6 Farming Zone, in particular Decision Guidelines:**
  - a. The impact of the proposal on the natural physical features and resources of the area, in particular on soil and water quality***
  - b. The impact of the siting, design, height, bulk, colours and materials to be used, on the natural environment, major roads, vistas and water features and the measures to be undertaken to minimise any adverse impacts.***

**CARRIED**



## 4.2 Murrindindi Shire Council 10 Year Asset Plan (LGA2020) - For adoption

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Draft MSC Asset Plan [4.2.1 - 54 pages]
Presenter	V Albicini, Director Assets & Development
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision

### Executive Summary

This report presents the Council's 10 Year Asset Plan (Plan). In accordance with section 92 of the *Local Government Act 2020* the plan is to be adopted by 30 June 2022.

The Plan includes information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal, and decommissioning in relation to each class of infrastructure asset under the control of the Council.

Although community consultation is not required for this initial release, officers will conduct deliberative consultation with the community alongside future releases of the Council Plan and 10-year Financial Plan.

The Asset Plan is intended to be a strategic public-facing document that informs the community on how the council-controlled infrastructure assets are to be managed to achieve the Community Vision and supporting Council Plan objectives.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr E Lording / Cr K Haslam**

**That Council adopt the 10 Year Asset Plan as contained in Attachment 4.2.1.**

**CARRIED**

### 4.3 Councillor Nomination for Local Government State-wide Waste Forum

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Email invitation - Local Government State-wide Waste Forum [4.3.1 - 2 pages]
Presenter	V Albicini, Director Assets & Development
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

Council has been approached by the current chair of the Goulburn Valley Local Government Forum, Cr Clark of Mitchell Shire Council, advising of the suggested creation of a new waste forum. It is proposed to commence from 1 July 2022 with the commencement of the new waste reform arrangements, which see the beginning of Recycling Victoria (RV) and the end of the current regional Waste & Resource Recovery Groups. His email (Attachment 1) seeks the appointment of a councillor from Murrindindi Shire to participate in the regional sector of the new Forum.

This report seeks the nomination of a councillor representative on waste and recycling matters to participate in the regional sector of the proposed Local Government State-wide Waste Forum.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr E Lording / Cr I Gerencser**  
**That Council:**

- 1. Note that the State Government has introduced legislation that dissolves the regional Waste and Resource Recovery Groups (WRRGs) effective from 1 July 2022;**
- 2. Note that the WRRGs have provided an effective mechanism for regional collaboration between councils on waste and resource recovery matters. This has provided substantial benefit to the participating Councils and their communities, including delivering effective services, achieving efficiencies of scale, sharing expertise, advocating for better policy and legislation, education and procurement; and**
- 3. Appoint Cr K Haslam as the Councillor representative on recycling and waste matters, including for the purposes of:**
  - Meeting with other councils in the Goulburn Valley region to consider recycling and waste matters, and to provide advice to councils in the region.**
  - Appointing a chair of the regional advisory group on recycling and waste, who would represent the region in a state-wide advisory group, including electing a state-wide chair.**
  - Developing a proposal for governance (including a Terms of Reference) of regional coordination between the councils, for consideration by Council at a future date.**
  - Calling on the state government to support regional collaboration by providing the secretariat function via Recycling Victoria RV.**

**CARRIED**

## 5 REPORTS - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

### 5.1 Contract 22/1 - Great Victorian Rail Trail Art Installations Project

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Great Victorian Rail Trail - Installation Locations Map [5.1.1 - 1 page] Confidential Attachment 1 - Contract 221 Great Victorian Rail Trail Art Installations ( <i>distributed to Councillors separately</i> )
Presenter	S Brown, Director Community Engagement
Approved by	Director Community Engagement
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

This report recommends to Council the commissioning of eight artists for eight sculptural opportunities for the Great Victorian Rail Trail (GVRT) Art Installations Project.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council:**

- 1. Accept the tender recommendation to appoint the following artists to the 8 opportunities at the noted value:**
  - **Site A - \$190,000 installation – Donna Marcus**
  - **Site B - \$80,000 installation – Yu-Fang Chi**
  - **Site C - \$80,000 installation – Wigley World**
  - **Site D - \$190,000 installation – Louise Paramor**
  - **Site E - \$80,000 installation – Tai Snaith**
  - **Site F - \$80,000 installation – Cara Johnson**
  - **Site G - \$190,000 installation – Robbie Rowlands**
  - **Trail long opportunity - \$50,000 installation – Ngarga Warendj**
- 2. Authorise the signing and sealing of contracts number 22/1 Great Victorian Rail Trail Art Installations Project**
- 3. Release this resolution and the names of the successful tenderers into the Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of 22 June 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## 5.2 Grants and Contributions Program - June 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 May 2022 Grants and Contributions Program applications and variations for noting and endorsement.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr K Haslam / Cr D Gallagher**

**That Council endorse the following allocations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>CPE-21/22-027 - Flowerdale Community House Inc – Flowerdale Quilt Show</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>CPE-21/22-029 – Foggy Mountain Inc – Foggy Mountain Primary School Song Writing &amp; Performance Project</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>
<b>CPE-21/22-033 - Ukrainian Youth Association Melbourne - Winter Camp</b>	<b>\$2,200</b>

**CARRIED**

## 6.1 2022/23 Annual Budget

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - 2022-23 Draft Annual Budget [6.1.1 - 68 pages]
Presenter	M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

### Executive Summary

Council endorsed the draft 2022/23 Annual Budget (Budget) at the 13 April 2022 Unscheduled Council meeting, for the purposes of public exhibition and the receiving of submissions. The public submission period closed on 13 May 2022. Five submissions were received, and all submitters were offered the opportunity to present their submissions at the 25 May Council meeting.

This report provides Council with an updated draft of the 2022/23 Annual budget for consideration and adoption at this meeting. It includes recommended Council responses to the five budget submissions received.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr K Haslam**

**That Council:**

- 1. having heard and considered public submissions on the draft 2022/23 Annual Budget, accept the officer's recommendation for each submission outlined in the body of this report notify submitters of Council's decision noting that responses will be issued by the Manager Business Services.**
- 2. adopt the 2022/23 Annual Budget (Attachment 6.1.1) noting the following changes to the exhibited draft Annual Budget:**
  - the rates in the dollar and property valuation figures have been confirmed following the receipt of the final revaluation data from the Valuer-General Victoria (no change)**
  - following the submissions, the operating budget has been amended to increase the funding allocation for additional street tree planting by \$25,000**
  - Fees and Charges Schedule amendment for Sales Yard fee - Cow & Calf Unit fee to \$14.30 including GST, at the request of the Yea Saleyards Committee of Management.**
- 3. confirm the differential rates, municipal charge and waste service charges as detailed in the 2022/23 Budget per Attachment 6.1.1.**
- 4. authorise the rates officers of Council to levy and recover the differential rates so declared in accordance with the Act.**
- 5. note the due date for the full payment of rates is 15 February 2023 and the due dates for rate instalments will be as follows:**
  - a. Instalment 1: 30 September 2022**
  - b. Instalment 2: 30 November 2022**
  - c. Instalment 3: 28 February 2023**
  - d. Instalment 4: 31 May 2023**

**CARRIED**

## 6.2 Priority Action Plan 2022/23

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Priority Action Plan 2022-23 [6.2.1 - 4 pages]
Presenter	D Echeverry, Coordinator Integrity and Governance
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

### Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Priority Action Plan 2022/23 to Council for endorsement. The Council Plan 2021-2025 establishes the Strategic Objectives which Council has set out to achieve over its four year term. Annually Council adopts a Priority Action Plan that identifies the key activities and initiatives for the coming financial year that support the delivery of the Council Plan Strategic Objectives.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council adopt the Priority Action Plan 2022/23 as contained in Attachment 6.2.1 with the inclusion of:**

- **3.1.3.2 - Advocate to ensure all businesses, contractors and employees of the forestry sector are provided with information about funding and resources available through the State Government to support them through forestry industry transition.**

**CARRIED**

## 7 COUNCILLOR AND CEO REPORTS

### 7.1 Notices of Motions

Nil.

### 7.2 Cr Karine Haslam

It's an exciting time in the Murrindindi Shire. Many things for our community to consider.

#### Portfolio matters

The Victorian Government, are introducing a CDS – which means Container Deposit Scheme. This is set to start in 2023.

The scheme, will reward Victorians, with a 10c refund for every eligible container they return. There are many options to consider in regard to what – where and how this scheme will work. We all have the opportunity to comment on the plan.

Consultation is open until Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June. For more information visit:  
[engage.vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme](https://engage.vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme)

#### Eildon Community Plan

The Community came together last month, at a Community Dinner, to decide what projects were of high priority for Eildon. Six projects now have a committed Action Team.

These were:

- Advocating to attract a medical practice/doctor for Eildon
- Opening a community-run gym
- Creating an artistic mural on the Eildon spillway
- Forming a dedicated group to advocate for broader use of the Eildon Pondage
- Live music for Eildon
- Forming a rowing club on the Eildon Pondage.

There were also other projects that the community showed interest in, but have not yet formed an Action team. If you are interested in participating it is not too late. The more help, the better the chance of getting projects off the ground. You can contact the Council on 03 5772 0333 or jump onto [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au](https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au).

#### Skyline Road

The Vic Govt announced \$500,000 funding to enable planning, consultation and detailed designs to construct the remaining 15 kilometres of Skyline Road, this includes Maintongoon Road and Sommaberg Drive. This funding will enable both Murrindindi and Mansfield Shire Councils to complete the necessary planning work ahead of sealing the Skyline gravel surface.

The project is one of a number of priority projects identified in the Lake Eildon Masterplan.

Skyline Road's proposed upgrades, are an important step in turning the Lake Eildon area into a premier tourism destination. The road is a key vantage point for sightseers to observe a snapshot of Lake Eildon and Victoria's High Country. Some of the best, if not, THE BEST views, you will find anywhere.

### I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU!

As we all know volunteers make a big difference to a community.

Within a successful organisation there are a core of people who are leaders and organisers, it is a great loss when club stewards call it a day. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the incredible contribution from Frank and Maria Stow and also Thelma Lucas. Who have over a combined period of 54 years contributed without hesitation to our community and the Lions. Thelma initiated, and worked on committees to organise several projects, such as the Biggest Morning tea, which is a fund raiser for breast cancer, Lion's Senior's Christmas Dinner in Eildon, for the elderly and Two music festivals for Eildon. She was involved in the Visitor Information Centre and Eildon Action Inc. Thelma is also active in the U3A group and has contributed in many ways to see it, as it is now, a very successful organisation.

Frank and Maria Stow both contributed, they were involved in the Eildon Easter Market which ran for 36 years. Eildon Action, Meals on wheels, Eildon Opportunity Shop, U3A committee. Frank had a program on UGFM where he would interview school children.

He held executive positions within Lions and was actively involved with the two Eildon Music Festivals, Australia Day celebrations, organising catering for the "Canteen Kid's" (kid's with cancer) the Dam Museum, which is a joint venture with Eildon Action and the Lions Club of Eildon. They also contributed much time to their church.

Frank, Maria and Thelma are going to be greatly missed by our community. We wish you well for the future and say THANK YOU for all you have done.

### **7.3 Cr Ilona Gerencser**

Congratulations to the Kinglake Junior Football Club on their win against Mill Park on the weekend. They're doing a fantastic job and the club encourage any U10 or U12 youth to join in by attending training on Thursdays from 5-6pm at the reserve on Extons Road. Kinglake Football Netball Club also had a win on the weekend in the U18s, so big congrats to them too. You can find details for all of our clubs on facebook. Great community involvement and support. I was extremely happy to see the Foggy Mountain Primary School Song Writing & Performance Project being introduced and the Grant Funding of \$4500 to make this happen.

The project will provide the opportunity for children from the six primary schools throughout the Kinglake Ranges to participate in the Foggy Mountain Primary School Song Writing program. It will include guidance from professional musicians and supports youth participation and engagement, as well as enhancing participants wellbeing and confidence. Thank you to our Grants Officers and Foggy Mountain Inc for getting this off the ground.

If you haven't already, I would like to encourage everyone in the Kinglake Ranges to attend the first of our Community Focused Session next Wednesday night (the 29th of June) at Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House 6 McMahons Road Kinglake from 4pm to 7.30pm.

We've listened to the feedback and you have asked for a chance to be heard and this will allow you to contribute to our Community Vision/Plan. It's a chance for you to discuss what you want from Council in a controlled environment. You will have 5 minutes to present to council and have your say. Registration is a must, so please register at [governance@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:governance@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) before the 29th. Alternatively, please give the council a call on 03 5772 0333 or search for Open Community Meeting in Kinglake on Council's website.

Lastly I'd like to encourage people to utilize Snap Send Solve on the Council website to register any issues in the area. Although we do have officers who keep track on community Facebook pages, it's a huge task. The most efficient way to resolve any issue is to contact Council directly



on 03 5772 0333, via the Council website or Snap Send Solve. You will receive a reference number on the app or on our website and this allows everyone to keep track on what the progress is. We want to help get issues resolved quickly and efficiently. I'm also happy for community members to email me at [igerencser@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:igerencser@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) with their concerns.

Thank you and I'll look forward to seeing those who attend at the KRNH next Wednesday

#### **7.4 Cr Eric Lording**

Nil to report.

#### **7.5 Cr John Walsh**

Last Friday the Central Ranges Local Learning and Employment Network held their AGM and I thank Councillors for attending. A highlight of the meeting was a presentation by a group of young Murrindindi leaders on their report "How Work, Works". The report was the outcome of a series of interviews with Murrindindi employers and with young people seeking work. The presentation highlighted the gaps in expectations of the two groups and how these gaps can be overcome. The report will soon be on Council's website and I commend it to all.

At last month's meeting, Council approved a grant for the Highlands Hall Committee to partially rectify termite damage in their hall. At the time I flagged that the Committee may be applying for a further grant if their fund raising efforts weren't successful elsewhere. I am pleased to advise that through their energy and ingenuity, the Committee have gained sufficient funds to rectify all the termite damage and complete prevention works. In addition they have completed a draft Master Plan for the development of improved disabled access and toilet renovations. When finalised, I will bring a copy for Council to use in our advocacy to the State Government.

#### **7.6 Cr Sandice McAulay**

##### Emergency Management

Officers are finalising the LEAPing into resilience project. Council will be advertising for a 33 month role in July/August. The project is about creating Local Emergency Action Plans (LEAPs) directly with communities in Mansfield, Murrindindi and Strathbogie Shires.

Planning has commenced for Emergency Management Victoria's community based emergency exercise in Kinglake which will be taking place in November/December 2022. The first very well attended meeting with interested community members was held as a hybrid meeting (on line and in person) at the Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House about three weeks ago. Interested community members can still register their interest in being involved in the project at [mempc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:mempc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

##### Community Assets

Yea Pioneer Reserve Flooring has now been replaced and the new coating applied – and is looking great!

The Alexandra Maternal Child Health Centre restumping project is underway and the new floor will be laid soon.

The Yea Hall stabilisation works have been completed and the front room refurbishment is nearly complete.

### Operations

Crews have been kept very busy with requests relating to drainage and potholes with the consistent rainfall. Luckily emergency call outs have been low considering the amount of snow and rain so early in the winter season

### Capital works

The works program is continuing despite the rain the unsealed road re-sheeting program is nearing completion.

Lastly, the exciting works for the Alexandra Visitors Activity Precinct is due to commence in late June or early July.

### Out and About

“Be Brave. Make Change.” was this year’s Reconciliation Week’s theme. Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan group organised the “Acknowledge This Cultural Training” for all of Council to participate in for Reconciliation Week. Council is in its first year of building our Reconciliation Action Plan – which is known as the REFLECT phase. Our RAP will help Council design a structured approach to advance reconciliation that suits our organisation. The RAP is also about understanding our relationship with our Indigenous stakeholders and deciding our vision for reconciliation. The training has greatly raised our awareness of the meaning of Acknowledging Country and has enable us to personalise our individual Acknowledgment of Country Statements. I would just like to thank the RAP working group for organising this valuable training opportunity.

Finally, I would like to add my personal congratulations to Jo Hunter on receiving the Emergency Services Medal as part of this year’s Queens Birthday Honours and thank her in particular for her service to Marysville and the wider community.

## **7.7 Cr Damien Gallagher**

Shortly after our last Council meeting I presented certificates on behalf of our Mayor, Cr. Carpenter, to the student leaders at Flowerdale Primary School. The young leaders are already great ambassadors for the wonderfully unique community of Flowerdale.

I also had the privilege of welcoming the people of Eildon to their Community Planning Dinner. The Community Planning process has delivered it’s aims:

- to facilitate community discussions, and
- to empower the community to engage in projects which enhance their community.

The program yielded a number of projects which boast community support and, now, Action Groups to deliver. The community planning at Eildon has been a credit to the Community Planning Officers and to the Core Group they assembled to guide the program.

After a three year hiatus, the Alexandra Truck, Ute & Rod Show returned to Alexandra. I extend my congratulations to Alexandra Events Corporation Chair, Caolan O’Conner, and to Alexandra Truck, Ute & Rod Committee Chair, Ayden Embling whose small team delivered this important celebration of Alexandra and Community. So many people commented on the buzz around the town and how proud they were of Alexandra, and of *their* event being back, on the Queen’s Birthday weekend.

The event weekend celebrates Alexandra’s timber heritage. The Victorian Truck Drivers’ Memorial Service provides a place for families to remember loved ones lost while at work on their truck, and for families to share their experiences. In 2022, the transport industry at large was celebrated for delivering for Australia right through our COVID experience.

The not-for-profit event is about driving visitation and economic activity to Murrindindi Shire and proceeds to community food stalls go directly to the groups who served our many visitors.

I also have a role on the committee of the event, and so I've seen firsthand, Murrindindi Shire Council support: From our Mayor, Cr. Carpenter and, CEO, Livia Bonazzi, all Councillors, and to officers: From executive, to planning, to the parks team, waste, community assets, local laws, tourism, business support, administration, thanks for the part you played in assuring a successful showcase of the region.

#### To portfolio and external committee matters

This week saw the re-election of Ray Steyger as Chair of the Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve Committee, and various reserve user group members have assumed executive roles. Last night I attended the monthly Alexandra District Traders and Tourism Association Forum and provided the Murrindindi Shire Council Report. I was also invited to attend the AGM of the Upper Goulburn branch of the Australian Deer Association. The local association represents a great community support network for the members who shared stories of their recent experiences. The ADA President, Richie Timms stood down and the group elected Stephen O'Reilly-Nugent to take over. Richie Timms is leaving the area and his philanthropy and support for fellow members of the community will be sorely lost.

I also accepted a kind invitation to address the Rotary Club of Alexandra. It was a welcome opportunity to share my experience of Council. I described for those present, our recent Reconciliation Week experience of the Acknowledge This! program which engages participants in deep conversations about connecting traditional and modern culture with a meaningful Acknowledgement Country. The key message is that there is no wrong way to acknowledge our connection of people and place, if delivered with good spirit.

#### Finally

In the coming month, I look forward to supporting Cr. Carpenter's leadership of Council's mid-term review. As we approach the half way point of this Council term, it's timely for a reflection on how we think this group is performing relative to its ambitious priorities within our sphere of control, and how effectively we are delivering our advocacy story to those within our sphere of influence.

To be successful, we need to be focussed on our goals as we enter the third quarter,

And there's no time like right now to support one another with the necessary resources to be effective in our role of delivering powerful, prudent community outcomes.

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

Due to being unwell I was unable to attend our Council meeting last month, but I did manage to watch from my sickbed. I wish to thank Deputy Mayor Cr Gallagher for stepping in and so capably and competently Chair the meeting on my behalf. Thankyou Damien.

There is always lots happening for the Councillors and this month was no exception. We attended weekly briefing sessions to be informed of the motions that we may be involved in making decisions about, and continuing to learn of the many facets of local government.

We were fortunate to attend a training session about Acknowledgment of Country, the meaning and significance of an Acknowledgement, and how we can do it better. What a great step in the process or Reconciliation.

I had the opportunity to meet with Mayors from our neighbouring councils. We had constructive conversations about the challenges and successes of being a mayor in our region. We plan to meet informally several times a year as we all bring insights that when shared aid us to be the best we can for our fellow Councillors, council officers and our community.

“The Victorian Local Government Association held a training session on “the Role of Councillors in Land-Use and Planning”

This was informative, discussing the differences in the roles of Councillors, council officers, and council. We also gained greater knowledge about the Planning Act, the Planning permit process, and conflict of interest issues. This knowledge will aid us in our deliberations.

I attended the Alexandra Truck Show for the first time. The Memorial Service held on the Saturday was a “moving” acknowledgement of the Truck-drivers that lose their life at work. It was well attended by families, colleagues, and friends who had lost someone and the wider community. I was honoured to be able to speak at the event.

On the Sunday, Wow! What a great event. Over 350 entrants showing off their trucks, utes and rods. Lots of people admiring the vehicles; community groups providing a range of food; entertainment; and fundraising opportunities for local organizations.

The organizing committee must be heartily congratulated for putting on a most successful event that saw a significant amount of visitors come to our shire and enjoy the long weekend. Well done.

I also attended the Municipal Association of Victoria Rural North-East Region on-line meeting with Mayors and CEOs from 12 shires in our district.

We share many issues and were able to discuss them including Resource recovery and the circular economy; the effects of Rate-capping; resourcing and support for the Planning area; and Social and affordable Housing shortages.

The CRLLEN, Central Ranges Local Learning Employment Network AGM was held with many of our councillors in attendance. We heard about the great work that is being done in our region by the organization, and with council support for some programs, and had the opportunity to meet some inspiring young people.

Finally I have spent the last 3 days attending virtually the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly that was held in Canberra.

There are 537 local government areas in Australia and we all had the opportunity to gather together and be inspired by a range of terrific, highly qualified speakers who covered fascinating subjects. We heard about practical subjects such as sourcing increased funding, to where Democracy is headed globally, and so much more.

We became aware that local government receives 4% of Government revenue and yet provide 25% of services to the community.

Well done local government, arguably the most efficient tier of Government.

## 7.9 Chief Executive Officer Report

### Advocacy

This month I have had several opportunities to join other Councils both in our region and beyond, to advance the advocacy efforts for our Council and region.

These include through the Hume Region Local Government Network, and the Australian LG Women's association and the National General Assembly of Local Government which I attended online with the Mayor

Following the Fed elections, Council will now be refocusing our advocacy efforts prior to this year's State Government election. Among other issues, we are seeking:

- A larger share of recurrent grant funding
- Increased funding for roads in Murrindindi Shire (both state roads and local) and urgent repairs maintenance by Rural Roads Vic
- funding for capital works projects
- Assistance to Deliver State Government Circular Economy Policy
- Better access to mental health services and health services in general and
- A share of the state's \$5.3 billion Big Build social and affordable housing investment in our shire.

### Grant Funding: Free from Violence

I am pleased to advise that Council has been advised it will receive a grant of \$270,000 over three years to support the implementation of the Local government guide for preventing family violence and all forms of violence against women.

The program is a partnership between the Office for Prevention of Family Violence and Coordination in the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, Local Government Victoria, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and Victorian councils.

The objectives of the program are:

- To support Victorian councils to promote positive attitudes, behaviour and culture change in their workplace and through the community programs and services they deliver, to prevent family violence and all forms of violence against women.
- To increase awareness and understanding across Victorian councils of the drivers of family violence and all forms of violence against women, and how to stop it before it starts.
- To test the appropriateness, useability and effectiveness of the guide as a tool to support councils to implement and embed a whole-of-council approach to preventing family violence and all forms of violence against women.

### Grant Funding: Skyline Road sealing design

Cr Haslam has already mentioned the \$500,000 funding received by Mansfield and Murrindindi shire councils for the functional design to seal the remaining section of Skyline Road, around Lake Eildon. We hope that this project will lead to a further future grant to fund the actual construction of the road which will improve access for visitors and locals travelling between Eildon and Bonnie Doon.

### COVID Restrictions

A further easing of restrictions has been recently announced by the State Premier– there is no impact on Council services – like every organisation, we have had some COVID related pressures keeping our sites staffed, but thanks to the team effort there were no service interruptions due to illness.

### Virtual meetings

The COVID-19 pandemic brought necessary change to the Council decision making process in the form of virtual and hybrid Council meetings. This move has allowed both Councillors and members of the public to attend meetings remotely. From 2 September 2022, councils will be able to conduct virtual meetings in accordance with their Governance Rules on a permanent basis as per the Regulatory Legislation Amendment Act 2022. Council will be releasing our revised Governance Rules for public consultation via the loop this week, the revision includes the ability for attendees to participate in person or remotely. The draft Governance Rules will be available for comment for four weeks. Following consideration of the feedback, Council will adopt the Revised Governance Rules at its August Scheduled Meeting.

### LG Act 2020 Compliance

Finally Madam Mayor, with tonight's adoption of the 10 Year Asset Plan, Council has formally completed the implementation of the Local Government Act 2020 which was enacted on 6 April 2020 and all legislated requirements have now been achieved ahead of the due date. I would like to note that the effort involved to comply with the new Act is practically the same whether we are a small rural council like Murrindindi or a large metro council with 10 times the resources and size of budgets, with teams allocated to tasks that our staff had to fit in to their day jobs. This was a significant undertaking and I commend the organisation for the professionalism and commitment shown.

## 8 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

### Purpose

For noting.

### Executive Summary

This report presents the records of assemblies of Councillors for 25 May 2022 to 15 June 2022, for Council to note.

The following summary details are for 25 May 2022 to 15 June 2022:

Meeting Name/Type		Council Pre-Meet		
Meeting Date:		25 May 2022		
Matters Discussed:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning Application – 1059 Maroondah Highway, Narbethong – Extension of Use of Land for a Caravan Park</li> <li>2. Planning Application – 12 – 14 Craigie Street, Yea – Two Lot Re-subdivision and Roadworks</li> <li>3. Grants and Contributions Program – May Allocations</li> <li>4. Enterprise Risk Management Policy Review</li> <li>5. Audit and Risk Committee Charter</li> <li>6. Audit and Risk Committee – Confirmation of Minutes</li> </ol>		
Councillor Attendees:		Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser		
Council Officer Attendees:		L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, S Brown, V Albicini, T Carter, N Stewart, C Fraser (V), C Gartland, C Nickels-Beattie		
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Yes				
Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Was a vote taken?	Did the Councillor leave the room?	When? Before or after discussion?
3	Cr S McAulay	No	Yes	Before
3	Cr K Haslam	No	Yes	Before
Meeting Name/Type		Council Budget Briefing		
Meeting Date:		25 May 2022		
Matters Discussed:		1. Budget Submissions		
Councillor Attendees:		Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser		
Council Officer Attendees:		L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, S Brown, V Albicini, T Carter, C Nickels-Beattie		
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Nil				

Meeting Name/Type	Briefing Session
Meeting Date:	1 June 2022
Matters Discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning Application – 1059 Maroondah Highway, Narbethong – Extension of Use of Land for a Caravan Park</li> <li>2. Planning Application – 12 – 14 Craigie Street, Yea – Two Lot Re-subdivision and Roadworks</li> <li>3. Grants and Contributions Program – May Allocations</li> <li>4. Enterprise Risk Management Policy Review</li> <li>5. Audit and Risk Committee Charter</li> <li>6. Audit and Risk Committee – Confirmation of Minutes</li> </ol>
Councillor Attendees:	Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr I Gerencser (V)
Council Officer Attendees:	L Bonazzi, S Brown (V), V Albicini, C Nickels-Beattie, M Thomas, C Fraser, C Gartland, M Piritidis
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Nil	

Meeting Name/Type	Briefing Session
Meeting Date:	8 June 2022
Matters Discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Priority Action Plan 2022/23</li> <li>2. Local Government Inspectorate Presentation</li> <li>3. Community Planning Review</li> <li>4. Planning Application: 621 UT Creek Road, ALEXANDRA</li> <li>5. Planning Application: 61 Acheron Rd ACHERON</li> </ol>
Councillor Attendees:	Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser
Council Officer Attendees:	L Bonazzi, S Brown, V Albicini, T Carter, S Coller, A Paix, D Echeverry, C Fraser, N Grey
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Nil	



Meeting Name/Type	Briefing Session
Meeting Date:	15 June 2022
Matters Discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ALGA Motions</li> <li>2. Budget update</li> <li>3. Draft Governance Rules</li> <li>4. Community Communication Preferences Project Recommendations - Approach and Risk Mitigation</li> <li>5. Container Deposit Scheme Policy – State Government Proposal</li> <li>6. Great Victorian Rail Trail Art Installations Project – Contract Award</li> <li>7. Murrindindi Shire Council 10 Year Asset Plan (LGA2020)</li> <li>8. Road Safety Trauma Study</li> <li>9. Capital Works Monthly Report - May 2022</li> <li>10. Development Services – Planning Report June 2022</li> <li>11. Grants and Contributions Program – June Allocations</li> </ol>
Councillor Attendees:	Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr K Haslam, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser
Council Officer Attendees:	L Bonazzi (V), M Chesworth, S Brown, V Albicini, T Carter, C Nickels-Beattie, M Thomas, C Allingham (V), J Rabel, R Kane, L Kelly, S Russell, B Scott, N Stewart
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Nil	

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council receive and note the records of assembly of Councillors for 23 May 2022 to 17 June 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## 9 SEALING REGISTER

File Reference	Date Seal Affixed	Description of Documents	Signatures of Persons Sealing
CONT21/8	23 May 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Stabilico	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter
CONT21/34	24 May 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Noth Central Construction - Path renewal Program 2021/2022	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter
CONT21/8	10 June 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Foley Services Pty Ltd for Civil Works Panel	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr E Lording**  
**That the list of items to which the Council seal has been affixed be noted.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was closed at 8.37pm.

**CONFIRMED THIS**



**CHAIRPERSON Cr S Carpenter**