



Murrindindi
Shire Council

Scheduled Meeting of Council

Minutes

24 April 2024
Yea Chambers
15 The Semi Circle Yea
6:00PM

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 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 is being streamed live via our Facebook page and website. A recording of the meeting along with the official Minutes of the meeting will also be published on our website.

2.2 Apologies and Request for Planned Leave

Apologies:

Cr K Haslam, Cr I Gerenscer.

Present:

Councillors D Gallagher (chair), J Walsh, S Carpenter, E Lording, S McAulay

In attendance:

Chief Executive Officer: Livia Bonazzi

Director People & Corporate Performance: Michael Chesworth

Director Community & Development: Andrew Paxton

Director Assets & Environment: Caroline Lintott

Manager Governance & Risk: Amanda Vogt

Manager Sustainability & Assets: Peter Bain

Cr J Walsh requested planned leave for the period of 20 June 2024 to 15 July 2024.

RESOLUTION

Cr S Carpenter / Cr E Lording

That Council accept the request for planned leave from Cr J Walsh for the period of 20 June 2024 to 15 July 2024

CARRIED

2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest

In accordance with section 130 (1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose any “conflict of interest” in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

2.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of Council held on 22 March 2024.

RESOLUTION

Cr J Walsh / Cr S Carpenter
That Council confirm the minutes of the 22 March 2024 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

Nil.

3.2 Questions of Council

Nil.

4 REPORTS - COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT GROUP

4.1 Draft Early Childhood Education Workforce Plan

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Department | Community Development |
| Presenter | A Paxton, Director Community and Development |
| Approved by | A Paxton, Director Community and Development |
| Purpose | For noting |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - Draft Early Childhood Education Workforce Plan [4.1.1 - 65 pages] |

Executive Summary

This report seeks Council endorsement of the draft Early Years Education Workforce Plan, prepared in conjunction with Early Years' service providers in the Shire.

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr S Carpenter

That Council:

1. Note the draft Early Years Education Workforce Plan in Attachment 4.1.1.
2. Request the Chief Executive Officer provide the endorsed Workforce Plan to the Department of Education as per funding requirements.

CARRIED

4.2 Key Worker Housing Strategy

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Department | Community & Development |
| Presenter | Andrew Paxton, Director Community and Development |
| Approved by | Andrew Paxton, Director Community and Development |
| Purpose | For discussion |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - Murrindindi Shire Key Worker Housing Strategy [4.2.1 - 47 pages] |

Executive Summary

The Murrindindi Shire Key Worker Housing Strategy is an action of the Murrindindi Shire Housing and Settlement Strategy. The Strategy identifies key publicly owned land that could be developed into key worker housing. The Strategy provides recommendations on the process to create key worker housing and providing a framework to assess the options.

Four sites are identified for key worker housing, with recommendations on the approach to seek endorsement from Council.

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr J Walsh

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Key Worker Housing Strategy.**
- 2. Note the lodging of an application with Regional Worker Accommodation Fund for key worker housing at 10 Eighth and 18 Twenty-First Steets, Eildon.**
- 3. Endorse the approach to seek expressions of interest for a lease for the purpose of key worker housing at 174 Grant and 94 Nihil Streets, Alexandra.**
- 4. Consult the community on key worker housing opportunities on Council owned land.**

CARRIED

5 REPORTS - PEOPLE & CORPORATE PERFORMANCE GROUP

5.1 Priority Action Plan - Quarterly Report - January-March 2024

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Department | <i>Governance & Risk</i> |
| Presenter | A Vogt, Manager Governance & Risk |
| Approved by | M Chesworth, Director People & Corporate Performance |
| Purpose | For noting |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - Council Plan 2021-2025 - Quarterly Report - January to March 2024 [5.1.1 - 41 pages] |

Executive Summary

This report provides a summary of the progress from 1 January to 31 March 2024 (third quarter) in delivering Council's *Priority Action Plan 2023/24* and *Council Plan 2021-2025*.

RESOLUTION

Cr J Walsh / Cr S Carpenter

That Council note the Council Plan 2021-2025 Progress Report – 1 January to 31 March 2024 period as contained in Attachment 5.1.1

CARRIED

5.2 Review of Public Transparency Policy

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Department | Governance and Risk |
| Presenter | A Vogt, Manager Governance and Risk |
| Approved by | Director People & Corporate Performance, Michael Chesworth |
| Purpose | For decision |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - Policy Public Transparency DRAFT 2024 [5.2.1 - 6 pages] |

Executive Summary

The Local Government Act 2020 requires councils to adopt and maintain a Public Transparency Policy to give effect to public transparency principles and outline how council information is made public. The Public Transparency Policy was adopted by Council on 24 June 2020 and is due for review by June 2024. The recommended revised policy includes minor changes to improve readability, as there have been no legislative changes, and feedback from the Audit and Risk Committee. This report seeks Council's approval of the revised Public Transparency Policy.

RESOLUTION

Cr S McAulay / Cr E Lording

That Council endorse the revised Public Transparency Policy as contained in Attachment 5.2.1

CARRIED

5.3 Quarterly Finance Report

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Department | People & Corporate Performance |
| Presenter | M Chesworth, Director People & Corporate Performance |
| Approved by | M Chesworth, Director People & Corporate Performance |
| Purpose | For decision |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - March 2024 Quarterly Financial Statements [5.3.1 - 4 pages] |

Executive Summary

This report provides the quarterly financial report for the period ending 31 March 2024. The Annual Revised Budget forecasts an operating surplus for the year of \$5 million.

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr J Walsh

That Council:

- 1. Receive the Quarterly Financial Report to 31 March 2024.**
- 2. Note that the Chief Executive Officer advises that the formal adoption of a revised budget for the 2023/24 financial year is not required.**

CARRIED

5.4 Review of Borrowings Policy

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Department | People and Corporate Performance |
| Presenter | M Chesworth, Director People and Corporate Performance |
| Approved by | M Chesworth, Director People and Corporate Performance |
| Purpose | For decision |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - Draft Policy Borrowings 2024 [5.4.1 - 5 pages] |

Executive Summary

The Borrowings Policy establishes the policy framework guiding Council's approach to borrowing to ensure it supports sound financial management principles and compliance with the Local Government Act 202. The Policy has been reviewed to ensure it remains consistent with Council's strategic objectives and borrowing requirements.

The review recommends broadening the objective and scope of borrowing to include investment in significant non-capital initiatives that align with the objectives of the Council Plan, that are within Council's risk appetite and provide a financial return that contribute to the cost of borrowings. The review also recommends the Policy include reference to the Community Infrastructure Loans Scheme established by the Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV), as a source of Council borrowings.

RESOLUTION

Cr J Walsh / Cr S Carpenter

That Council endorse the revised Borrowings Policy as contained in Attachment 5.4.1.

CARRIED

5.5 2024/25 Draft Budget

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Department | People & Corporate Performance |
| Presenter | M Chesworth, Director People & Corporate Performance |
| Approved by | M Chesworth, Director People & Corporate Performance |
| Purpose | For decision |
| Attachment(s) | 1. Attachment 1 - Draft Annual Budget [5.5.1 - 114 pages] |

Executive Summary

This report seeks Council's endorsement of the draft Annual Budget 2024/25 (draft Budget) for the purpose of a public exhibition and submission process in accordance with section 96 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

RESOLUTION

Cr J Walsh / Cr E Lording

That Council:

1. Note that the draft Annual Budget 2024/25 in Attachment 3.1.1 has been prepared by Council in accordance with Section 94(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*
2. Release the draft Annual Budget 2024/25 for public exhibition, closing 24 May 2024
3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of the draft Annual Budget 2024/25 and submission process
4. Advise that a copy of the draft Annual Budget 2024/25 will be made available on Council's website – www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au
5. Advise that submissions can be made in the following ways-
 - lodged via Council's engagement platform, Dindi - In the Loop
 - directly to governance@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
 - in written form submitted to a Council office or by post
 - verbally as part of Public Participation time Council's Scheduled meeting on 22 May 2024 (6 pm at the Alexandra Council Chambers)
6. Note that following consideration of all written and verbal submissions, the Annual Budget 2024/25 will be presented for adoption at Council's Special meeting on 12 June 2024.

CARRIED

6 REPORTS - ASSETS & ENVIRONMENT GROUP

6.1 Capital Works Program Quarterly Report - 30 March 2024

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Department | Assets & Development |
| Presenter | P Bain, Manager Sustainability & Assets |
| Approved by | C Lintott, Director Assets & Development |
| Purpose | For decision |
| Attachment(s) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment 1 - Capital Works Program - Quarterly Report - March 2024 - Program Financials [6.1.1 - 9 pages] Attachment 2 - Capital Works Program - Quarterly Report - March 2024 - Program Comments [6.1.2 - 10 pages] |

Executive Summary

This report is the third quarter progress report of the capital works program (CWP) for the 2023/24 financial year. The period of reporting is from 1 January 2024 to the end of March 2024. The CWP is comprised of those projects endorsed by Council as part of the 2023/24 budget, projects identified for carry forward from the 2022/23 program and any approved projects that have received grant funding during the financial year.

RESOLUTION

Cr E Lording / Cr S McAulay
That Council receive the quarterly report for the quarter ending 31 March 2024 on the status of the Capital Works Program.

CARRIED

7 COUNCILLOR AND CEO REPORTS

7.1 Notices of Motions

Nil.

7.2 Cr Ilona Gerencser

Nil.

7.3 Cr Eric Lording

The Toolangi Discovery Centre is a stunning building nestled in a beautiful forest some 70Km from Melbourne near the junction of roads from Healesville, Yea and Kinglake and not far east of the Melba Highway from Melbourne.

It is in need of some tender loving care, as it has been empty for some time. It has served as a meeting place, small restaurant, art and craft centre, and is simply a cleverly designed structure with local parking spaces.

It was built on Crown Land and therefore does not belong to the Murrindindi Shire. It needs help from DEECA for its renovation.

Locals love the building and do not want it to be lost to the forest.

Our shire has received a number of requests to assist in obtain funding to help it survive.

To this end on 12 March our council resolved to do the following.

1. Council will write to the Minister for Planning seeking an intervention in the amendment to address the situation and make the Victorian government aware of the plight of the building and the residents strong desire to bring the building back to life.
2. Provide the amendment as a submission to the Eminent Panel for Community Engagement for their deliberation and advice to the Minister for Planning, on future uses of Crown and State Forests.
3. Write to Planning Panels Victoria to seek to defer the panel to gain time to seek more funding sources and help to preserve the building.
4. To note that the amendment will lapse if not resolved by 19 November 2025 in an effort to create some urgency..

To date we have written to the Minister requesting their intervention and have unfortunately had no response.

We have provided the information to the Eminent Panel and they are reviewing their terms of Reference to confirm how they can consider this.

We have written to Planning panels deferring the panel hearing.

I sincerely hope that we will have more success in the near future and can save this building for the people of Toolangi and surrounds.

7.4 Cr Sandice McAulay

The draft Fair Access in Sport Policy consultation has closed, with limited community feedback. This will now proceed to the May scheduled meeting to be adopted by Council. This policy provides an important framework and approach to address barriers to female participation in sport. Like many such policies it is essential documentation to be able to access State and Federal funding.

Upgrades across all our pools can now commence now that the summer season has finished. Works are to include Yea lighting upgrade and Wet deck, and kiosk and change rooms across all four pools.

The Murrindindi Shire Volunteer Community Volunteer Award nominations closed with 45 fantastic nominations. This year the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be in Alexandra on Friday 25th May. What a great way to make our Volunteers feel valued and special.

Flowerdale Community Planning

There have been three community ideas generating events in April with great progress with the Flowerdale Community developing their vision for their future and being able to identify priorities for them and their community going forward.

Children Services

The Annual Early Years Conference is to be held at Holmesglen Eildon on the 9th May. This awesome conference brings together all the local service providers for professional growth and much needed networking as well as a lot of fun and laughter.

Economic Development Strategy

The Murrindindi Shire Draft Economic Development Strategy 2024 is out for business and community consultation. We are calling on all businesses and our community members to provide valuable input and commentary on the draft Strategy. This Strategy is outcome focused, measurable and sets a vision of where we want to be by the end of the five-year Strategy. Have your say on The Loop - [We are open to business! | Dindi - In the Loop \(murrindindi.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

Australian Tourism Data Warehouse - Is your business listed? Ever wonder why other tourism related businesses are listed on the official tourism websites like Discover Dindi? This site and many others generate their listings automatically through the Australian Tourism Database Warehouse.

It is a simple process to get listed which I recently completed. Some words of advice that I would like to share about loading the photos is that they need to be landscape – can't be portrait – and they need to be high resolution – minimum 1mb but no bigger than 10mb.

Businesses based in Murrindindi Shire with new and existing listings on the ATDW automatically go into the draw to win one of three great prizes:

- 1st Prize - a photo/video shoot valued at \$1000
- 2nd Prize - 1:1 business development session valued at \$500
- 3rd Prize - a free ATDW listing for 12 months valued at \$295

For more information, you can visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/atdw](https://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/atdw)

Community Consultation on Victoria's State Forests

The Panel for Engagement supported by DEECA has been conducting small group meetings and drop-in sessions over the last few weeks. The next drop-in session will be Monday 6th of May at 6pm at the Alexandra Shire Hall. Other ways you can provide feedback is via The Panel's Engage Victoria page which includes a short survey and a map where you can drop a pin and explain why this location is important to you and complete the online feedback form.

Murrindindi Jobs Expo

Don't forget that Monday 6 May at Alexandra Football Club from 11am. An event for business, job seekers and more. This is a valuable opportunity for local job seekers and businesses to connect, network and learn about the latest industry trends, innovations and opportunities.

Out and About in Cathedral

Of note this month I had the honour of participating in activities to help the Buxton Fire Brigade celebrate their 80th Birthday over this last weekend. Saturday night I attended the anniversary dinner and was proud to witness the presentation of a number well deserved Service Awards as well as awarding of a number of Life Memberships. Well done and Congratulations to all for these remarkable milestones.

7.5 Cr Karine Haslam

Nil.

7.6 Cr John Walsh

This month, I went to Swan Hill for the opening of the Mallee Community University Centre to gain further knowledge on how we can be successful in our next bid for funding to develop a Regional University Study Hub within the Shire. The Mallee Centre has been operating for only 4 months and already has 93 students, exceeding their annual target of 80.

Along with the CEO and the Director Community and Development, I also participated in a debrief of our unsuccessful application for a Hub given by representatives of the Commonwealth Department of Education. It became clear that the assessing panel had made some incorrect assumptions about what we were proposing and that when compared to currently operating facilities we were taking a more innovative approach in order to provide support that was the best solution given our unique topographical situation and lack of public transport. As a consequence it was decided that we should try to meet directly with the Assistant Minister Senator Anthony Chisholm and his staff to fully explain our concept. I thank the Mayor for sending a request for such a meeting.

Along with other Councillors and staff I attended community meetings covering the proposed windfarm in the Highlands / Ruffy area with transmission lines running south through either Ghin Ghin or Cathkin and also a meeting about the management of Lake Eildon. I will leave discussion of the latter to the Mayor whom I believe will be addressing the topic in some depth. The Wind farm proposal should be examined closely by all of us. Like many other renewable energy projects there is already division within the community and there will be differing costs and benefits for different groups within the Shire. The State Government controls planning for such projects, not Council. We are only able to advocate on the community's behalf. I encourage everyone who may be impacted by the proposal to advise their Ward Councillors of their position and to also directly make submissions to the State Government when the proposal is formally presented.

With respect to the Governance and Finance portfolio, the fruits of the group's labour have been fully presented in the earlier items of the meeting and I thank them for all their work.

7.7 Cr Sue Carpenter

The Autumn weather has been lovely this year. Trees are turning spectacular colours before the leaves fall. So street sweepers are busy in our towns and are clearing the leaves regularly, often fortnightly or as needed.

We have two full-time staff on our Tree crew working on the street trees identified by our Arborist as requiring attention. The council will not have to rely on contractors as much now.

\$1.83 million has been spent on gravel roads resheeting.

The council is excited to report that they are in the process of procurement of our first electric vehicle for the fleet. We hope to take delivery by the end of June. We already have hybrid vehicles in our fleet.

This month I was able to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Murrindindi Woodburn CFA brigade. It was terrific to acknowledge the many volunteers that have worked over the years.

Today I attended an Anzac Day School service at Middle Kinglake Primary School. The students had worked hard researching servicemen and women from the Kinglake area that served in the First or Second World Wars and told their stories to the many Veterans, RSL members and family members that were present.

Tomorrow, I plan to attend services in Strath Creek and Yea.

I hope many in our community can take the opportunity to attend their local service for Anzac Day.

Lest We Forget

7.8 Cr Damien Gallagher - Mayoral Report

Cr Gallagher requested additional speaking time to present his report

RESOLUTION

Cr D Gallagher / Cr J Walsh

That additional time be granted for the Mayor's report which, in part, calls for ministerial intervention in the matter of Upper Goulburn water policy and flood mitigation measures

CARRIED

Over the Easter long weekend, many took the opportunity to be with family and friends for engaging local markets and attractions in stunning Autumn Murrindindi weather. And there were local celebrations of art and culture including the Sculpture in the Land Exhibition by Rennie at Acheron. It was an honour to open the Alexandra Rotary Easter Art Show, and to reflect on the talent of those who offer an expression of self, of place, of experience, and vulnerabilities.

In late March, Murrindindi Shire Council chaired another assembly of the Hume Region Local Government Network. The group endorsed the advocacy work to date on these key matters:

- Financial sustainability of rural/regional Councils,
- Road safety, renewal, and disaster recovery,
- Decarbonisation and circular economy,
- Support growth-enabling infrastructure, key-worker housing, housing affordability, and public transport, and
- Maintaining 'country' character in the planning scheme.

Council looks forward to supporting a delegation of HRLGN representatives with presentation of the advocacy agenda to relevant Federal and State Ministers.

In addition to regional advocacy activity, Council has supported the community this month by:

- Sharing the challenges of flood recovery funding and betterment provisions to achieve restoration of a fit-for-application Breakaway Bridge in Acheron
- Meeting with various stakeholders from Marysville, the triangle, and surrounds, to understand the local impacts on changes to operations and services at Lake Mountain Alpine Resort.
- Working closely with the Eminent Panel for Community Engagement to ensure that every voice is heard as plans are prepared for future management of the forests of the Central Highlands.
- Several Councillors, and council officers have attended community discussions regarding a windfarm project which spans Strathbogie and Murrindindi Shires. Council has also been briefed by the proponent. Council's ambitions are to seek to better understand the project and its impacts, and, most fundamentally, to conserve community interests.

At the inaugural Taungurung Land and Waters Council and Local Government Forum in April, consideration was given to an enduring collaboration between TLaWC and all 15 of the Local Government Areas on Taungurung Country. A collective of the kind proposed will deliver benefits to the custodians of history and country of the *First people of the rivers and mountains*; and equally, efficiency and productive outcomes for all local residents, businesses, and visitors.

Alongside fellow Councillors, it was a pleasure to support local celebrations of significant milestones, being the 75th Anniversary of Murrindindi Fire Brigade, and the 80th Anniversary of Buxton Fire Brigade. I acknowledge the proud history of these local institutions and I thank the volunteers and their supportive families for their service.

Lake Eildon Operating Arrangements Assessment Report

In 2023, following the riverine flood event of October 2022, a Lake Eildon Technical Assessment was commissioned by the Department of Environment, Energy, and Climate Action (DEECA) to “*assess the operating arrangements to find ways to reduce flooding downstream.*” The report was released on the Thursday before the Easter long weekend last month.

At a public webinar hosted by DEECA on 9 April, I posed the following questions to DEECA and Hydrology and Risk Consulting (HARC), the authors of the assessment.

- What comparison has been made between the cost of flood mitigation and the cost of flood recovery?
 - Answer: *None.*
- There was reference to earlier flood experiences (1975 & 2022) being modelled against the options. Was consideration given to modelling the January, 2024 storm event, the volume of which would have terminally impacted Molesworth, Yea, and Seymour?
 - Answer: *No.*
- Will DEECA be recommending that some funds obtained from water entitlement holders be quarantined to support rebuilding damaged private and public assets for the 1:100 and 1:200 probability storm events which are routinely occurring increasingly more often?
 - Answer: *No.*
- Will the recommendation to the Minister include the economic, financial, and social impacts of the floods rather than just the value of water for irrigation in a potential drought? If not, when will the full impacts of the floods be contemplated?
 - Answer: *No. Out of Scope.*
- Will there be a funding allocation from Government to ensure bridges and other assets affected by surges can be made more resilient, given that there is no support for a change the flood mitigation policy?
 - Answer: *No.*

You see, in every significant community engagement exercise, Council hears loud and clear that we value the people around us and our shared sense of community. And so it is for the people of Whanregarwen and Molesworth.

Last night at a community flood recovery event, locals Andrew Perry and Jan Beer led their own dialogue on the Lake Eildon Operating Arrangements Assessment report. There were scores of questions around the gap between report assumptions and their lived experience. It was outlined that the assessment lists a number of flood mitigation options. Popular amongst those who offered submissions to the preliminary study was “Option 3”, to “*Reduce target storage based on*

climate signals". The assessment found that "*climate signals tested for this were generally poor predictors of monthly inflows and storage volumes at Lake Eildon*". The community questioned how successive wet years, a saturated water table, a full lake, and a dearth of downstream demand were overlooked as "*poor predictors*".

During a break in the session, I had a confronting discussion with a young person who had moved drowning cattle through 38,000ML/day flood water in the early hours of the morning; who has lost season after a season of investment in pasture preparation, fertilising and seeding in successive flood events; and who, facing financial strain and personal turmoil during that time had contemplated taking their own life. That person has asked "Am I not relevant?", "Are we not important enough?"

This is an emergency situation.

Council will therefore express in writing to the Minister for Emergency Services, The Hon. Jaclyn Symes, and to the Minister for Water, The Hon. Harriet Shing that:

1. The Lake Eildon Technical Assessment is inexplicably biased in its failure to give due consideration to all of the options for flood mitigation. Council further questions the gross understatement of financial flood impact between the Eildon Wier and Seymour.
2. A comprehensive flood study be commissioned – and owned – by the Goulburn-Broken Catchment Management Authority, with a scope which encompasses the entire Lake Eildon and Upper Goulburn tributary catchment, establishment of Flood Overlays and a flood mitigation action plan, including:

Option 3: Reduce target storage based on climate signals by holding the lake, where possible at a lower Full Supply Level based on industry-standard climate indicators indicating a wet year.

3. More contemporary, climate-change-influenced flooding scenarios be modelled, such as the volumes of rainfall experienced during the 1:200 probability event that impacted Yea in 2024.

There is a critical need for trust to be restored with the Murrindindi Shire Community and I look to the Victorian Government to support the anxious and traumatised residents of the Upper Goulburn River region.

Finally Councillors, with thanks for your endurance: On the eve of ANZAC Day, 2024, Council joins with the entire community, at services across the Shire, in commemorating the generations of Murrindindi Citizens for their service and sacrifice for Australia.

Lest we forget.

7.9 Chief Executive Officer Report

Draft Kerbside Waste and Recycling Services Policy for Consultation

Council has published on our website the draft Kerbside Waste and Recycling Services Policy. The policy is now available for consultation.

Starting in July 2025, Murrindindi Shire Council will introduce a 4-bin kerbside collection service to improve recycling, reduce landfill waste, and to comply with Victorian Government policies. The four streams of the service will include separate collection for glass, food organics and green organics (FOGO), mixed recycling and general waste. Residents have a crucial role in shaping

this service and are invited to review and comment on the proposed details in the draft Policy. Community feedback can be submitted through our online platform, The Loop, or at various community events. This will help fine-tune the service to better meet community needs. Input is welcome until 19 May.

Stand for Council

With Council elections scheduled for October this year, the MAV, in partnership with Victorian councils, is delivering a number of information sessions for the community and prospective candidates. These sessions can be attended either in-person or online.

At these sessions, participants will be provided with information about:

- Local government and the important role councils play for our local communities
- The role and responsibility of a Councillor, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and CEO
- The election process and candidate requirements
- What newly elected councillors can expect soon after the elections
- Councillor training and development opportunities.

The sessions will be held at various metropolitan and regional locations across Victoria, with interested participants able to register to attend more than one session, including outside of their municipality. In our region there are two sessions – at Strathbogie Shire Council offices in Euroa on 11 June and one at Mitchell Shire Council offices in Broadford on 12 June. Both sessions will run from 6:30pm to 8:30 pm and people can attend these sessions in person or online providing they register beforehand. A link will be established in Council's website for people register online.

Release of the Interim Report by the Parliamentary Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria
The Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee has released its interim report for the 2022 flood event in Victoria.

Council had contributed a detailed submission and there were another 35 submissions to this Parliamentary Inquiry across the shire of Murrindindi. However, disappointingly, none of our townships or impacts to Murrindindi have been specifically referenced in the Interim Report.

We will contact the Inquiry Committee Chair and ask that the content of the submissions relating to our part of the State be considered and mentioned in the final report, which is due in June.

Anne Frank Exhibition

Council is hosting an exhibition on The Life Story of Anne Frank. It will open this Saturday and will be on display at the Alexandra Library from May 1 to 29 June. This poignant exhibition was curated by the Anne Frank House and delves into the life of Anne, born in Germany, in 1929. It traces her family's move to the Netherlands to escape persecution, and their time in hiding in Amsterdam where Anne wrote her famous diary. The exhibition features eight historical modules with large-scale pictures illustrating Anne's life and the broader historical context of her time, including the Holocaust and the impact of anti-Jewish measures. This free exhibition offers a chance to engage with Anne Frank's story and its enduring significance today.

8 RECORD OF COUNCIL BRIEFING SESSIONS

Purpose

For noting.

Executive Summary

This report presents the records of Council Briefing Sessions for 22 March 2023 to 19 April 2023, for Council to note.

The following summary details are for 27 March 2024 to 17 April 2024:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Meeting Name/Type | Council Pre-Meet |
| Meeting Date: | 27 March 2024 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning Application - 18 Pratts Road KINGLAKE WEST 2 lot subdivision 2. Entrepreneurial Discovery Process - Local Development Strategy 3. Economic Development Strategy - Draft Engagement 4. UT Creek/Leckie Park precinct consultation feedback 5. Grants and Sponsorships - major event 6. Amendment C77 - Eildon Reserves 7. Amendment C71 - Toolangi Forest Discovery Centre 8. Adoption of Advocacy Policy 9. CODI Enterprise ERP Procurement 10. Audit & Risk Committee Meeting – Minutes 11. Draft Murrindindi Road Safety Strategy 12. Naming Roads & Places Policy and Guidelines |
| Councillor Attendees: | Cr J Walsh, Cr K Haslam, Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, A Paxton, C Lintott, N Stewart, C Fraser, E Kubeil, A Vogt |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Name/Type | Briefing Session |
| Meeting Date: | 3 April 2024 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rural Roadside Conservation Management Plan 2. Flat Lead Road Tree Project Update 3. Pyrolyzer Waste Timber Recycling Proposal 4. Draft Annual Budget Preparation - Financial Statements 5. Preparation for Council Plan - SWOT Brainstorm |
| Councillor Attendees: | Cr J Walsh, Cr K Haslam, Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay (Virtual) |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, A Paxton, C Lintott, B Chapman, P Bain, B Harnwell, D O'Keeffe |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Meeting Name/Type | Briefing Session |
| Meeting Date: | 10 April 2024 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revised Special Charge Schemes for Infrastructure Policy 2. 2024/25 Draft Budget 3. Borrowing Policy 4. Draft Early Childhood Education Workforce Plan 5. Public Transparency Policy update |
| Councillor Attendees: | Cr D Gallagher, Cr S Carpenter, Cr S McAulay |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, A Paxton, C Lintott, P Bain, D O'Keeffe, S Coller |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

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|--------------------|---|
| Meeting Name/Type | Briefing Session |
| Meeting Date: | 17 April 2024 |
| Matters Discussed: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Key Worker Housing Strategy 2. 2024/25 Draft Annual Budget 3. Capital Works Program Review – March 2024 4. National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), Motions Deadline 30 April 2024. 5. Fera Windfarm - Update from Proponent |

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| Councillor Attendees: | Cr J Walsh, Cr K Haslam, Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr E Lording, Cr S McAulay |
| Council Officer Attendees: | L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, A Paxton, C Lintott, P Bain, D O'Keeffe, B Harnwell, D Litange, C Fraser |
| Conflict of Interest Disclosures: | Nil |

RESOLUTION

Cr S McAulay / Cr S Carpenter

That Council receive and note the records of Council Briefing Sessions for 17 March 2024 to 17 April 2024.

CARRIED

9 SEALING REGISTER

| File Reference | Date Seal Affixed | Description of Documents | Signatures of Persons Sealing |
|----------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| CONT23/13 | 22 March 2023 | Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Boral Resources Pty Ltd | Livia Bonazzi Damien Gallagher |

RESOLUTION

Cr S Carpenter / Cr E Lording

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

CARRIED

10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil.

The meeting was closed at 7:00PM

CONFIRMED BY: