



AGENDA

Council Meeting

6.00pm Wednesday 26 April 2023

VENUE:
Golden Plains Civic Centre
Council Chambers
2 Pope Street, Bannockburn

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
6.00pm Tuesday 23 May 2023

Copies of Golden Plains Shire Council's Agendas & Minutes
Can be obtained online at www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au

Code of Conduct Principles

WORKING TOGETHER

We Councillors will:

- acknowledge and respect that a diversity of opinion exists among us;
- recognise that each of us has different life experience, knowledge and values, and that all of these contribute collectively to our discussions;
- behave with courtesy towards each other, Council officers and our citizens;
- conform to the policy and precedents that guide the conduct of meetings;
- attend punctually and participate in all relevant meetings, workshops and briefings;
- share reasonably in the representation, ceremonial and hosting tasks of the full Council; and
- honour the majority decisions made by the Council, irrespective of our own position, and explain these decisions frankly to the community, once made.

BEHAVING WITH INTEGRITY

We Councillors will:

- identify our financial and personal interest, or potential interest, in any matter that comes before the Council;
- be honest and truthful;
- comply with laws and the regulations deriving there from;
- respect Council property and be frugal in its use, where allowed;
- avoid using our position for personal gain or to achieve advantage over others or to obtain preferential treatment;
- be sympathetic to the legitimate concerns of our citizens;
- act impartially when making decisions and have due regard to the needs of the community as a whole, rather than that of narrow vested interest; and
- acknowledge the role of Council officers in providing advice to us and in implementing Council decisions.

MAKING COMPETENT DECISIONS

We Councillors will:

- without diminishing the short term focus, approach decisions with due regard to the long term needs of the municipality;
- form policies with regard to the needs of the entire Shire;
- direct our attentions to the strategic and statutory needs of the municipality rather than short term, transient, operational issues;
- seek to fully inform ourselves on the issues before Council before making a decision;
- take all reasonable steps to improve our knowledge of matters relevant to our municipal duties; and
- use and respect the professional knowledge of Council officers and other advisers to Council.

Members of the Gallery

Welcome to a Golden Plains Shire Council meeting and thank you for joining us.

MEETING PROCEDURES

The procedures for this Council meeting are provided in Council's Governance Rules. A copy of the Governance Rules can be found on Council's [website](#).

MEETING FACILITIES

Council meetings are generally held at:

- Golden Plains Shire Council Civic Centre (2 Pope Street, Bannockburn)
- Linton Shire Hall (68 Sussex Street, Linton)
- The Well, Smythesdale (19 Heales Street, Smythesdale)

EXPECTATIONS OF THE GALLERY

Council meetings are decision-making forums and it is important that they are open to the community to attend and view proceedings. Community members may participate in Council meetings in accordance with Chapter 2, Division 7 of the Governance Rules.

At each meeting, there is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the Council. Questions must be submitted to Council no later than 10:00am on the day of the meeting in order to be asked at the meeting.

Members of the public present at Council meetings must remain silent during the proceedings except when specifically invited to address the meeting. Mobile devices are permitted for silent use but must not be used for recording, talking or any usage that generates noise, unless permission is granted by the Chairperson of the meeting.

The Chairperson of the meeting may remove a person from the meeting if the person continues to interject or gesticulate offensively after being asked to desist. The Chairperson may cause the removal of any object or material that is deemed by them to be objectionable or disrespectful.

The Chairperson may call a break in a meeting for either a short time or to resume another day if the behaviour at the Council table or in the gallery is significantly disrupting the meeting.

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

Council meetings are recorded and streamed live on the internet. Recordings are archived and available on Council's [Youtube page](#).

All care is taken to maintain your privacy however as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded.

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1 OPENING DECLARATION

We the Councillors of Golden Plains Shire declare that we will undertake, on every occasion, to carry out our duties in the best interest of the community and that our conduct shall maintain the standards of the code of good governance so that we may faithfully represent and uphold the trust placed in this Council by the people of Golden Plains Shire

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Golden Plains Shire spans the Traditional lands of the Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar Peoples.

Council acknowledges them as the Traditional Owners and Custodians and pays its respects to both Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar Elders past, present and emerging.

Council extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of Golden Plains Shire.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****Recommendation**

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 March 2023.

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 POSTPONEMENT OF THE 18 APRIL COUNCIL MEETING TO 26 APRIL 2023

File Number:

Author: Eric Braslis, CEO

Authoriser: Eric Braslis, CEO

Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the CEO's report on the postponement of the 18 April Council meeting to 26 April 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council meeting scheduled for 18 April 2023 was postponed by eight days, to Wednesday 26 April 2023. Council's Governance Rules require that when the CEO makes a decision to postpone a Council meeting, a report must be provided to the following Council meeting detailing the circumstances that required the postponement. This report is now provided for Council to acknowledge the rationale as to why the CEO exercised his power to postpone the Council meeting from 18 April to 26 April 2023.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting in December 2022, several amendments were made to the Council meeting schedule for 2023. It was pointed out that the April 2023 meeting would fall on ANZAC Day, which is a public holiday. As a result, the meeting was moved the week prior, being Tuesday 18 April 2023. This has had ramifications on the draft budget endorsement timelines. The budget for 2023/24 must be adopted by 30 June 2023, in accordance with s 94(1)(a) of the Local Government Act.

The Governance Rules sub-rule 19.1 allows the CEO to cancel or postpone a Council meeting for several defined reasons, including in sub-rule 19.1(e) where any other circumstances have arisen which make the holding of the meeting undesirable. Where a meeting is cancelled or postponed under rule 19, the CEO must prepare a report to the following Council meeting describing the circumstances which necessitated the cancellation or postponement.

DISCUSSION

In December 2022, when Council determined the 2023 Council meeting schedule, the April Council meeting was moved back 1 week as the usual fourth Tuesday of the month would cause the Council meeting to fall on the ANZAC Day public holiday. This has caused unanticipated impacts on the ability to brief and present the draft model budget to the Council and the community in time for the 18 April meeting date.

To allow sufficient time for the Council to consider the draft budget and ensure that it is ready to be endorsed for community engagement in April, allowing time for the community to provide feedback prior to the budget adoption deadline of 30 June, the 18 April 2023 Council meeting was postponed to Wednesday 26 April 2023. Written notice of the postponement was provided to Councillors on 5 April 2023, as required by sub-rules 19.1 and 25.2 of the Governance Rules.

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	No
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	No
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	No
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	No
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	No
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	Yes
Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	No

GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

Under Rule 19 of the Governance Rules, the CEO, in consultation with the Mayor may postpone any meeting by giving notice in accordance with Rule 25, where they are satisfied that the cancellation or postponement is warranted because of circumstances that have arisen which make the holding of the meeting undesirable. The CEO must then present a written report explaining the circumstances which warranted the action taken to postpone.

POLICY/RELEVANT LAW

Golden Plains Shire Council Governance Rules and Local Government Act 2020

COMMUNICATION

Written notice of the postponement was provided to Councillors on 5 April 2023.

Notice of the postponement was provided to the community through a post on Council's webpage and social media pages.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest in regard to this matter.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the Governance Rules, this report is presented by the CEO to describe the circumstances that required postponement of the 18 April 2023 Council meeting to 26 April 2023.

7.2 DELEGATES REPORT & INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS RECORDS

File Number:**Author:** Elise Holmes, Executive Assistant to the CEO**Authoriser:** Eric Braslis, CEO**Attachments:**

1. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - 4 April 2023
2. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - 11 April 2023
3. Informal Meeting of Councillors Record - 18 April 2023

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Delegates Report and Informal Meetings of Councillors for the past month.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At each Council meeting, Councillors have the opportunity to update their colleagues and the community about attendances at various Delegated Boards/Committees/Meetings that they attended on behalf of the Council and can acknowledge significant community events or Council functions / engagement opportunities that they have attended over the past month. This report contains records of informal meetings of Councillors as defined under Rule 1 of Chapter 5 of Council's Governance Rules.

MANDATORY BOARDS / COMMITTEES / MEETINGS

- Audit Committee
- G21 - Board of Directors
- Central Highlands Councils Victoria
- Peri Urban Group of Rural Councils
- Berrybank Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Geelong Regional Library Corporation
- Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine Board
- Grampians Central West Waste & Resource Recovery Group - Local Government Forum
- Council Meeting, Strategic Briefing, Councillor Briefing and Portfolio meetings

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / EVENTS

Cr Cunningham

- "Unpacking the Man Box" online workshops
- Golden Plains Farmers Market
- Council Listening Post - Linton
- Golden Plains Youth Hub Community Reference Group Meeting
- Official Launch - Geelong Region Build Financial Inclusion Action Plan (FIAP)
- G21 Mayoral Informal Catch Up
- Inverleigh and District Good Friday Appeal Family Fun Day
- Vera Linton Statue Launch

Cr Gamble

- Victoria 2026 Ballarat Regional Engagement Forum
- Council Listening Post - Linton

Cr Getsom

- Vera Linton Statue Launch

Cr Kirby

- Council Listening Post – Linton
- Vera Linton Statue Launch

Cr Rowe

-

Cr Sharkey

- G21 Region Plan - Cultural & Economic Development Pillar
- Golden Plains Farmers Market

Cr Whitfield

- Meeting with Inverleigh Progress Association
- Golden Plains Farmers Market
- Council Listening Post – Linton

INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

Rule 1 of Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules requires that if there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- a) Is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors.
- b) Is attended by an absolute majority of Councillors and one member of Council staff; and
- c) Is not a Council meeting, delegated committee meeting or community asset committee meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting are:

- a) Tabled at the next convenient Council meeting; and
- b) Recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

Records of informal meetings of Councillors are reported to an open Council meeting in order to promote transparency of Council decisions, actions and information, in accordance with the Governance Principles as contained in s9(2) Local Government Act 2020. The informal meetings of Councillors records are attached to this report. Rule 6 of Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules provides procedures for the declaration of a conflict of interest at a meeting being held under the auspices of Council, which includes a meeting which meets the definition of an informal meeting of Councillors under Rule 1 of Chapter 5. The informal meetings of Councillors records attached include any declarations of conflicts of interest made at these meetings.

7.3 PREPARATION OF 2023/24 DRAFT BUDGET - ENDORSE FOR EXHIBITION

File Number:**Author:** Fiona Rae, Manager Finance**Authoriser:** Lynnere Gray, Director Corporate Services**Attachments:** 1. 2023/24 Draft Budget**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. In accordance with section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, place the 2023/24 Draft Annual Budget on public exhibition.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice and make available for public inspection the 2023/24 Draft Budget.
3. Invite submissions and feedback on the 2023/24 Draft Budget, including the composition of proposed rates and charges, in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy until 9am on Monday 29 May 2023.
4. Considers any submissions at the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 6 June 2023.
5. Endorses, subject to changes to the 2023/24 Draft Budget after consideration of all submissions, to notify and place on public notice its intention to adopt the 2023/24 Annual Budget at a Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 27 June 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The budget seeks to achieve the actions and activities set out in the Council Plan by balancing the demand for services and infrastructure with the community's capacity to pay.

BACKGROUND

Council is required to prepare a budget annually in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* which is required to be adopted by 30 June 2023 following a public consultation process.

The draft 2023/24 capital budget was prepared following a workshop with key staff resulting in the identification of specific projects noting that some projects are dependent on government funding to proceed. If the funding applications are not successful alternative projects will need to be selected.

Any expenditure above Business-As-Usual (BAU) levels is identified as a new initiative for consideration to include in the draft 2023/24 budget. The draft 2023/24 operating budget, together with a list of new initiatives recommended to be included have been presented to Council.

DISCUSSION

The 2023/24 Draft Budget is appended to this report. The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been prepared based on the adopted principles within the 2021-2025 Council Plan and Financial Plan, however, some of the longer-term assumptions have been updated to better reflect the current environment and known future changes.

The inputs to the draft budget have been presented to Council over the last 6 months as outlined in the table below:

November 2022 Council Briefing	2023/24 budget process and key timeframes outlined.
December 2022 Council Briefing	Preliminary 2023/24 capital budget and ten year capital program provided for discussion. An update on key dates together with key assumptions to be incorporated into the operating budget provided.
February 2023 Strategic Briefing	Update on budget timeline, including details of community engagement session to be held in February. Updated 2023/24 draft capital budget and draft new initiatives presented and discussed. Discussion on the rate cap set by the minister and impacts on the budget and long-term financial plan from the rate cap adopted.
March 2023 Strategic Briefing	2023/24 schedule of draft fees and charges provided for information and discussion.
March 2023 Council Briefing	Updated 2023/24 capital budget with supporting schedules for annual programs provided. Feedback on key themes from the community engagement session and survey provided.
April 2023 Strategic Briefing	Presentation on 2023/24 Operating Budget including recommended new initiatives, 2023/24 Capital Budget with 10-year outlook, and 2023/24 draft fees and charges. Long Term Financial Plan key assumptions and key indicators presented.
April 2023 Councillor Briefing	Draft budget for endorsement.

Draft Budget

The 2023/24 budget seeks to maintain and improve services and infrastructure as well as deliver projects and services that are valued by our community, delivering these within the maximum 3.50% rate cap increase announced by the State Government.

This budget recognises the current economic climate with inflationary pressures and significant increases in costs, noting inflation is trending towards 8%, utility costs have increased up to 11%, civil construction costs up to 15% higher than historic levels, commercial building rate increases up to 20% higher than historic levels, and material costs for items such as gravel, concrete and steel have increased upwards of 20%-40%. Council is continuing to support customers experiencing financial hardship by including \$50k for a rate rebate to assist those in need.

Key indicators of the 2023/24 Draft Budget:

- Total operating revenue of \$61.6m
 - Rate revenue modelled on stage 3 valuations with a 3.5% average rate cap increase in accordance with the Minister for Local Government's announcement in December 2022
 - Waste Management Fee increased to \$427
 - Council user fees at 3.5% increase apart from kindergarten fees which are based on cost recovery
 - Additional income generated through:
 - Lomandra Drive land sales - \$3m

- Windfarm income - \$430k (Mount Mercer and Berrybank windfarms)
- Operating expenditure of \$49.1m to continue to deliver services to the Golden Plains community.
 - Waste management costs increased by contracted expenses increases
 - Salaries and wages increase based on new Enterprise Agreement
 - 5 additional FTE included in line with the long term financial plan
- Operating surplus of \$12.5m, with an overall Underlying surplus of \$394k

As indicated above, the 2023/24 Draft Budget is generating an adjusted underlying surplus of \$394k noting that this is above the Council's financial sustainability threshold of zero. Long term financial modelling confirms a stronger financial result in future years with a forecast in revenue from external sources such as the Berrybank Stage 2 windfarm, Golden Plains windfarm and land sales.

Capital Works Program

The 2023/24 budget includes Capital Works investment of \$22.4 million with \$10.9 million funded out of council cash.

Category	Project Budget \$,000	External Funding \$,000	Council Cash \$,000
Building	550	0	550
Information Technology	246	0	246
Infrastructure	9,622	3,497	6,125
Parks, Open Spaces & Streetscapes	1,350	325	1,025
Recreation, Leisure & Community	8,382	7,582	800
Plant and Machinery	2,210	0	2,210
Total	22,360	11,404	10,956

Key allocations in the capital program include:

- Funding has been redirected as compared to 2022/23:
 - Road Reseals increased from \$1.0m to \$1.1m
 - Local Road Improvements increased from \$800k to \$900k
 - Local Road Projects (subject to successful \$1.3m Roads to Recovery Federal Government grant)
 - Gravel Resheeting increased from \$700k to \$800k
 - Drainage program maintained at \$400k
 - Footpaths & Trails maintained at \$300k (\$50k State Government grant)
 - Kerb and Channel maintained at \$300k
 - Bridge renewal maintained at \$600k
 - Bridge replacement reduced from \$2.1m to \$1.3m following an unsuccessful funding application in 2022/23 (will apply for \$780k Federal Government grant).
- Projects attracting significant external grant funding include:
 - Local Roads and Community Infrastructure projects (\$1.334m LRCI State Government grant)
 - Drainage Improvements \$809k
 - Sebastopol Smythesdale Road \$310k
 - Inverleigh Golf Club Septic System \$150k
 - Ross Creek Public Toilet and Septic Upgrade \$45k
 - Safety Fencing Linton Recreation Reserve \$20k

- Northern Streetscape (\$325k Berrybank Wind Farm funding)
- Bannockburn Skate Park (\$805k State Government Growing Suburbs grant)
- Maude Community Hub (\$350k Federal Government election commitment)
- Bannockburn Family Services Centre extension (\$450k Federal Government election commitment)
- Woody Yaloak (Smythesdale) Lighting (\$500k Federal Government election commitment)
- Bannockburn Vic Park Netball Pavilion and Football Change Refurbishment (\$1.1m State Govt SRV grant and \$690k Federal Govt Election Commitment)
- Teesdale Don Wallace Rec Reserve (\$1.5m State Govt Election Commitment)
- Inverleigh Active Youth Space (\$1.5m State Govt Growing Suburbs grant and \$700k Federal Govt election commitment)
- Linton Oval Reconstruction (\$200k State Govt SRV grant and \$750k Federal Government election commitment)

Key operational programs in the 2023-24 Budget include:

- Preparation of an Open Space Strategy for the Shire
- Continuation of the Community Strengthening Grants Program
- Funding for six more communities to progress through the Community Planning Program
- Continued implementation of Climate Emergency Plan actions
- Development of 2 recreation reserve masterplans for the Smythesdale Gardens/Brewery Dam and Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre to guide future development
- Completion and adoption of the Tracks and Trails Strategy
- Completion and adoption of the Footpath Strategy
- Completion and community consultation on Waste Services transition to reflect State mandated 4 bin service
- Completion and adoption of Moorabool River masterplan
- Continued development and implementation of the Core Systems Transformation Project
- Implementation of new Learning and Development and Performance Management Strategy
- Development and implementation of the Safety & Wellbeing Strategy

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The 2023/24 Draft Budget also addresses the strategic objectives of the Golden Plains Shire's 2021-2025 Council Plan, which addresses the Four Themes (Strategic Priorities) of the Golden Plains Community Vision 2040 and the additional theme of Leadership. The 21 Strategic Objectives and the Strategic Priority they contribute to the achievement of are listed below:

Strategic Objective 1: Community

- 1.1 Safe, resilient and proud communities
- 1.2 Celebrating and connecting communities
- 1.3 Community participation, engagement and ownership
- 1.4 Valuing community diversity and inclusion

Strategic Objective 2: Liveability

- 2.1 Connected and accessible roads, crossings, paths and transport
- 2.2 Supporting healthy and active living
- 2.3 Provide for a diversity lifestyle and housing options
- 2.4 Attractive and well-maintained infrastructure and public spaces

Strategic Objective 3: Sustainability

- 3.1 Valuing and protecting nature, cultural heritage and the environment
- 3.2 Effective and responsive waste services and education
- 3.3 Responsibly maintaining and managing natural landscapes and resources
- 3.4 Mitigating climate change and clean and green technology

Strategic Objective 4: Prosperity

- 4.1 Education, learning and skill development
- 4.2 Supporting local producers, agriculture and business
- 4.3 Improved options for shopping, hospitality, tourism and events
- 4.4 Local employment and training
- 4.5 Partnerships, advocacy and opportunities for investment

Strategic Objective 5: Leadership

- 5.1 Information and engagement to involve community in decision making
- 5.2 Accountable and transparent governance and financial management
- 5.3 Responsive service delivery supported by systems, resources and a skilled workforce
- 5.4 Planning, advocating and innovating for the future

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	Yes
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	Yes

Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Risk Assessment	Yes
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	Yes
Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	Whilst the Budget doesn't require a GIA, services and programs contained within will require a GIA and will undertake the appropriate actions

GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

POLICY/RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020

Local Government Amendment (Fair Go Rates) Act 2015

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020

Long Term Financial Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL/SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Environmentally sustainable design and construction is included for all projects.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The principles contained in the 2021-2025 Council Plan were adopted after an extensive community engagement and consultation process. As mentioned earlier in the report the Draft Budget has been prepared based on these adopted principles.

The 2023/24 Draft Budget is to be placed on public exhibition in accordance with Council's community and engagement policy. The draft budget will be made available for inspection and comment up to the 29 May 2023. Any person can make written comment on any proposal contained in the budget. Feedback will be heard at a council meeting on 6 June 2023.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

The public consultation process facilitates transparency of the budget submitted for adoption and all Council reports are available for the public to access.

STRATEGIES/PLANS

The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been prepared ensuring consistency with Council's long term financial plan and ensuring alignment with the 2021-2025 Council Plan.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements. Financial sustainability is monitored by considering the financial result for the period and key financial indicators within Council's long term financial plan.

SERVICE PERFORMANCE

Service performance levels are considered when developing the annual budget to ensure sufficient funds are available to meet required levels of performance.

RISK ASSESSMENT

There are identified risk implications associated with this report, detailed below:

The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* incorporating long term financial plan requirements to ensure financial sustainability over the short and long term.

COMMUNICATION

The 2023/24 Draft Budget has been reported to Council as it has been formulated with a series of workshops held with Council to facilitate the development of the draft budget. The 2023/24 Draft Budget will be placed on public exhibition for a four-week period up to 29 May 2023, with public submissions considered at the 6 June 2023 Council meeting, and adoption of the budget at the 27 June 2023 Council meeting.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC).

GENDER EQUALITY

Whilst the 2023/24 Draft Budget itself does not require gender impact assessment, some of the services and programs included in the budget will require a gender impact assessment.

OPTIONS

Option 1 – Council endorse the 2023/24 Draft Budget and endorse to place on public exhibition

This option is recommended by officers as it is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2020 to prepare an annual budget, place on public exhibition for a four week period, and formally adopt the budget by 30 June. Council have been provided with an extensive amount of information on all aspects of the budget and have also been involved in key decisions such as the level of expenditure included.

Option 2 – Council request changes to be made to the 2023/24 Draft Budget prior to placing on public exhibition

This option is not recommended by officers as Council have been provided with an extensive amount of information on all aspects of the budget with opportunity for input throughout this process.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The strategies and long-term financial plans adopted by Council must underpin the preparation of the 2023/24 Draft Budget. It is also impacted by the Shire's unique demographics, increased demand for new services, population growth, extensive local road network of 1,800 kilometres and the competing interests between rural and urban communities. In accordance with the legislation, Council will place the Budget out for public exhibition prior to the adoption of the final 2023/24 Budget by 30 June 2023.

7.4 LINTON COMMUNITY HUB - FUTURE MANAGEMENT MODEL

File Number:**Author:** Ben Jordan, Manager Recreation & Community Infrastructure**Authoriser:** Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Environment**Attachments:**

1. Linton Community Hub - Floor Plan Spaces Allocation
2. Images - Linton Emergency Relief Food Pantry and Community Hub Signage
3. Linton Community Hub - Renewal / Improvement Items
4. Linton Community Hub Management Agreement - Maintenance Responsibilities

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

1. Note the current management model for the Linton Community Hub and its activation outcomes following a 12-month trial.
2. Endorse the extension of the current Management Agreements with the three tenant groups for an additional 12 months only.
3. Continue to fund approximately \$15,000 from existing operational budgets to cover building cleaning, basic maintenance, and utility costs for the next 12 months only.
4. Require the tenant groups to self-fund the basic building maintenance and utility costs in order to extend the agreements for any further term following this 12 month extension.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A 12-month trial period of a community management and activation model was implemented at Linton Community Hub in March 2022. This report details that under Management Agreements, three tenant groups have conducted various activities within the building, made the facility available to other users and worked cohesively together for the benefit of the Linton community over the trial period.

With the trial period coming to an end, consideration of the next steps and options for the future management and activation of the Linton Community Hub are required including consideration of the expenses incurred for the building's operations. It is proposed that the current Management Agreements with the three groups be extended for an additional 12-month period ending on 31 March 2024 and that building operating expenses be funded from the Community Halls budget.

BACKGROUND

A briefing was provided to Councillors in February 2022 which led to a community managed model being implemented for the Council owned Linton Community Hub (formerly the Linton Shire Hall and Council Office). The Linton building had seen little utilisation for an extended period following its closure as a Council Office in July 2020. The community managed model included:

- Three not-for-profit Community Groups (determined via an EOI process) to manage various spaces under separate Management Agreements - Linton and District Historical Society Inc., Linton and District Craft Group and Linton Community Inc. Attachment One shows the allocation of spaces that were implemented via the agreements.
- The Agreements being implemented for a 12 Month trial period ending on 31 March 2023
- Linton and District Craft Group became Incorporated
- Public opening of the Linton Emergency Relief Food Pantry in June 2022

- Council undertaking base operating costs for the facility including cleaning and utilities – to enable this a \$15,000 allocation was made from Community Grants Program to Office Building Maintenance in June 2022.
- Change of building name from the Linton Hall to Linton Community Hub – with new signage recently installed to reflect this.

DISCUSSION

Activation of Space and Outcomes over 12 Month Trial Period

Linton and District Historical Society Inc.

Main Council Chamber, Ante Room, Kitchen and one office space.

The main Council Chamber space has had over 70 usages between April 2022 (when the Historical Society Management Agreement commenced) and the end of January 2023. This has included both day time and night time community activities. Activities in these spaces (a number of these are conducted regularly) include Play Reading Group, Historic Society Open Day, Historic Society Meetings, Progress Association Meetings, Cemetery Trust Meetings and the Living Sculptures Exhibition.

Linton and District Craft Group Inc.

Arts Room space and storage room

Linton and District Craft Group conducts weekly activities in the Arts Room and has an average attendance of 12 participants each week with 58 followers on their Facebook Page. Equipment and supplies for the group are secured in the storage room. One of the Craft Group's key community activities was contributing to 'Pink Up Linton' by making pink bunting for local businesses (Police Station, Clare Bear's Sweets, Linton Emporium, Linton Take-Away, Linton Food Pantry, Linton and District Historical Society) and the portico over the craft room entry to support the McGrath Cancer Foundation. Local business have also allowed the Linton and District Craft Group to use their shop front windows to showcase their work and promote activities.

Linton Community Inc.

Management of Community Office area, Health Rooms (Linton Emergency Relief Food Pantry)

Linton Community Inc. have undertaken community meetings, coffee catch ups, book sales, and art classes at the facility.

Linton Emergency Relief Food Pantry

A major community driven activity, coordinated by Linton Community Inc., has been the renovation of the old Health Room space - removing carpets, undertaking new flooring and painting (at their own cost) to create an enhanced Linton Emergency Relief Food Pantry.

Opened in April 2022, by Member for Ballarat Catherine King MP and Councillor Ian Getsom, this initiative provides free food, ranging from fresh bread to milk, tinned food and dry staples to the local community and those in need.

To date, the service has had multiple daily users (all anonymous) who can access the open door of the Pantry and select goods. It is estimated that up to 100 users are regularly engaged in the service and over 150 people are connected on Facebook to the Emergency Relief Pantry page.

This initiative has been well supported by the local community, Golden Plains Shire Council and the State Government. Council sourced over 40 relief boxes for the Pantry early last year. Ten of these were directly passed on to families in need, with the rest provided as stock for the Pantry.

Initially the Pantry was open 7 days a week during post-COVID times with many local families struggling. The hours have now moved to being open from Friday to Monday.

Donations in Cash for the project have been over \$1,000, all of which has gone to the purchase of food. With other food donations and community activities to generate support for this initiative, over \$10,000 in value of food has been made available to the Linton and District community.

Attachment 2 shows images of the Emergency Relief Food Pantry and the new signage provided at the Linton Community Hub.

GPSC Use of Building

The ability to continue scheduling Council Meetings and activities at the Linton Community Hub is provided for in the community management agreements. Golden Plains Shire Council conducted two public Council Meetings during 2022. Council also resolved to schedule two Council Meetings in 2023 - on 28 March and 28 November at the Linton Community Hub.

In addition, there have been approximately 10 uses by Council staff up until the end of January 2023 for activities such as Community Strengthening Grants Information Sessions, Community Planning meetings and Immunisation Sessions.

Financial Outcomes

The activation of the space has generated only very low-level financial outcomes for the groups that have Management Agreements for the facility. These groups are small scale, not-for-profit community entities. As an example, the reported financials for the Craft Group was under \$900 for the period with all of their fundraising activities and donations being used primarily for food purchases for the Emergency Relief Pantry.

The current ongoing fixed costs for the building are approximately \$15,000 per annum which includes cleaning, pest control, basic maintenance and all utilities. This is a standard annual operating cost without addressing any major facility improvements. Due to the age and current condition of the Linton Community Hub, significant investment would be required to address the sustainability and fit-for-purpose usability of the building in the longer-term. A list of priority facility renewal/improvement items was compiled (Attachment 3) that could potentially be implemented if approximately \$100,000 in funding were to become available.

It is worth noting that prior to the building being made available to the three current community groups, the following minor works were undertaken to provide greater usability:

- Heater servicing
- Tidy up of the front entrance to building
- Review and labelling of all Furniture and equipment
- Historic Society Audit of Furniture undertaken
- Removal of Contracted Printer/Photocopier
- Removal of excess/used Furniture
- Removal of Shelving, Cabinets & Other Items in Office area
- Full deep clean conducted – Walls, Windows, Carpet Steam Clean.

Options / Future Agreements

As part of establishing the agreements with the three different community groups, it was noted that the rent-free period was for an initial 12 months only and that future management agreements (including potential fees/rent) beyond the trial will be considered/negotiated.

Options that could be considered at this time include:

- Conducting a public EOI process to lease the building - making it open to both community groups and commercial tenants with a view to cover costs to maintain/operate the building as a minimum. Two previous EOIs have occurred for the building which resulted in the current arrangements.
- Selling the site on the open property market which would require a Council resolution declaring the building and land surplus to current requirements.
- Extending the current community Management Agreements (overseen by Council officers) on the basis of the 12-month trial operating reasonably successfully in terms of building activation, access for a variety of uses and cohesive management.

Should community management and activation of the building not be favoured going forward, there are a number of other facilities within the Linton township that could be utilised by community groups for meetings and activities. These include

- The pavilion at Linton Recreation Reserve
- Linton and District Bowls Club
- Linton Railway Hotel
- The former Linton Public Library building.

At present, the existing groups do not pay rent or fees to financially contribute to the operational costs for the building and have managed/activated the spaces under the Agreement Maintenance Responsibilities schedule provided (Attachment 4). It is proposed that the \$15,000 allocation be funded from Council's 2023/24 operational budget for building maintenance.

Furthermore, it is proposed that these arrangements would terminate at the end of the 12 month period. Any further extension on community management of the facility would be subject to the tenant groups being able to self-fund the basic building maintenance and utility costs into the future and would be subject to Council approval.

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	Yes
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	No
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	Yes
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	Yes
Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	No

GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

The overarching governance principles in s.9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provide for giving priority to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community and that innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued.

Community management of the Linton Community Hub has enabled the activation of an underutilised premises and provided a benefit to the local groups and broader Linton community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community engagement principles under s.56 of the *Local Government Act 2020* were considered through engagement undertaken to conduct EOI processes and establish community Management Agreements for the Linton Community Hub.

Should alternative options such as another EOI process or sale of the Linton Community Hub be progressed, broader community engagement would occur consistent with the Act and GPSC Community Engagement Policy.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

One of the overarching governance principles in s.9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is to ensure the transparency of decision making, actions and information. By seeking Council endorsement of the extension of local community management agreements at Linton Community Hub, Council is adhering to the public transparency principles in s.58 of the Act.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Consideration has been given to the financial management principles under s.101 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. This report details that the approximate annual cost of operating the building to Council under the present model is \$15,000.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The current (and any future) implementation of a community management model is undertaken via documented, signed agreements for the Linton Community Hub. The agreements detail compliance requirements (including insurances and legislation) and responsibilities of the parties involved and provide clarity on identifying and mitigating major risks associated with operating community facilities.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is regular and consistent with existing tenants and stakeholders involved in management and activation of the Linton Community Hub. Following endorsement (or otherwise) of the recommendations in this report, further work will occur with these groups including consideration of ongoing communications to the broader community regarding the Linton facility.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC).

GENDER EQUALITY

The process of entering into community management agreements for Linton Community Hub has been considered in accordance with s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020. No gender inequality implications have been identified.

OPTIONS

Option 1 – Endorse the extension of the current Management Agreements with the three tenant groups for an additional 12 months.

This option is recommended by officers as the initial 12 month trial has been reasonably successful in activating the building and providing a level of benefit to the community.

Option 2 – Do not endorse the extension of the current Management Agreements with the three tenant groups at Linton Community Hub.

This option is not recommended by officers as the community managed model was implemented after 18 months of working with the local community and has led to improved activation and community benefit outcomes. At this point in time, the community managed model is considered the most effective means of managing and activating the facility.

Option 3 – Consider other options for the future of the Linton Community Hub including an EOI process to lease or sell the facility/property.

This option is not recommended by officers as previous EOI processes for the Linton Community Hub have only attracted minimal interest in terms of commercial lease viability and/or sales potential.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

Within the last 12 months, the three community groups - Linton and District Historical Society Inc., Linton and District Craft Group and Linton Community Inc. have worked well together and activated the space/s at the Linton Community Hub for the benefit of the local community. As a formal meeting place, social inclusion, arts/craft space and as the only localised food bank in the north of Golden Plains Shire, the diversity of purpose and importance in the community has been demonstrated over the 12-month trial period.

Given the outcomes of the initial 12-month trial (and Council's ongoing use of the building), it is recommended that Council extend the Management Agreements with each community group for a further period of 12 months only under the existing routine maintenance responsibilities and financial arrangements. This includes:

- Paying of utilities and weekly common area cleaning by Council to be included at an estimated cost of \$15,000 per annum.
- Other minor maintenance and small upgrades to the spaces to be considered by Council as required.

Council officers will continue to work with the tenant groups at Linton Community Hub to create further activation strategies including undertaking combined committee meetings (3 to 4 times a year) and scheduling Council activities and events. Consideration of any further extension to a community management model (beyond the 12 month period) would be subject to the Tenant groups being able to self-fund the basic building maintenance and utility costs.

7.5 ROSS CREEK RECREATION RESERVE DRAFT MASTERPLAN

File Number:**Author:** Ben Jordan, Manager Recreation & Community Infrastructure**Authoriser:** Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Environment**Attachments:** 1. Ross Creek Recreation Reserve - Updated Draft Masterplan 2023**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council endorse the updated Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan (Attachment 1) for public exhibition.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has engaged True Resource Group to consult with community stakeholders on current facility provisions at the reserve, identify the demand for possible future facility improvements and explore potential participation opportunities through the development of an updated Draft Masterplan (Attachment 1) for the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve.

An extensive community engagement process to develop this Draft Masterplan update was undertaken, with the engagement process demonstrating strong community interest in this reserve, and the current and future opportunities for participation and facility activation. The Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Committee of Management (CoM) took part in face to face and telephone sessions, with further one to one discussion occurring with key user groups, the local primary school, and several Council Officers.

This process has been supported by a detailed research and evidence base, and will inform strategic planning, investment and priorities for future infrastructure and programming opportunities for the period 2023-2033. The Draft Masterplan provides clear and prioritised recommendations and is supported by evidence of community need, benefit and sustainability, and will assist in the scoping of potential funding/grant opportunities which aim to deliver facility improvements and increase participation.

BACKGROUND

For Council to plan the development and enhancement of sport and active recreation facilities and programs across the shire, site-specific recreation masterplans are required. Master planning assists with the prioritisation of projects, decisions about investment and supports advocacy and opportunities to seek external funding. Masterplans provide a strong evidence base as they require extensive consultation and site-specific planning.

Golden Plains Shire's 'Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020–2030' identifies the need for site masterplans which align with the strategic planning principles of the Strategy and have been developed in partnership with key stakeholders and tested with community.

The Sport & Active Recreation Strategy 2020–2030 states that each of Council's masterplans for recreation reserves should be reviewed to identify which actions have been achieved, which actions are in progress, which actions are no longer relevant and which actions are yet to be achieved (and the reason why). Once this list has been compiled, each project should be assessed against the agreed planning principles and other Council priorities.

To ensure the best possible chance of securing external funding for prioritised capital works, projects should be shelf-ready and have considered feasibility and financial sustainability/viability prior to development.

Council committed funds in the 2020/21 Budget to develop and updated Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Masterplan to:

- Assess the demand for sporting and recreation facilities relating to the site
- Review the condition and provision of the sport and recreation facilities at the reserve

- Identify capital and strategic development opportunities at the reserve for future developments and activation including costings and funding responsibilities
- Produce a concept plan detailing the recommended location of potential developments.

In line with Council's procurement processes, quotes were requested, and True Resource Group were appointed to undertake the Ross Recreation Reserve Masterplan process.

DISCUSSION

Current Status

The Ross Creek Recreation Reserve is located at 655 Sebastopol-Smythesdale Road in Ross Creek, Victoria. It is the only formalised open space and active recreation reserve in the area.

The reserve is a Crown owned facility with management responsibilities delegated to Council, and then by agreement to the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, which has driven sport participation and the development/activation of the reserve.

The reserve is home to a range of community groups and clubs, including Ballarat Fire Brigade Cricket Club, Ross Creek Community Coordinators, Ross Creek Tennis Club and Ross Creek Landcare all of which collectively represent the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. The Woody Yaloak Primary School (Ross Creek Campus), which shares a property boundary, is also a regular user of the site.

Masterplan Process

The methodology to undertake the Masterplan project with community stakeholders involved several elements under the following five stages:

Stage 1 – Project Inception and Site Visits

Stage 2 – Background Review, Research and Renew

Stage 3 – Stakeholder Consultation (Internal and External)

Stage 4 – Draft Master Plan and Concept Design

Stage 5 – Final Master Plan and Concept Design.

Findings and Masterplan Recommendations

Based on feedback from stakeholders, sport and participation trends and continued projected population growth (within Golden Plains and surrounding LGAs), it is likely that there will be increasing interest and demand for activities facilitated at Ross Creek Recreation Reserve.

Significant upgrades to informal recreation elements have recently been completed at the reserve to benefit the community and user groups (especially the Primary School) and are reflected in the Draft Masterplan.

Through a combination of State Government (Growing Suburbs Fund) and Council funding, the Ross Creek Play and Active Recreation Upgrade included delivery a new playground with inclusive play elements, fitness equipment, expanded walking trails, a new barbecue, extended shelter and picnic furniture. These works have been complimented by beautification and supporting infrastructure improvements around the car park areas and vehicle access track which includes bollards, solar lighting and enhanced drainage around the perimeter of the oval.

Further improvement/development of facilities at the reserve would enable greater accessibility and utilisation to meet increasing demand, address safety concerns and provide enhanced opportunities and experiences for participants and spectators.

Based on the stakeholder/community consultation, industry trends and best practice, a full list of recommendations for the reserve is provided in the Draft Masterplan (Attachment 1).

These recommendations have been prioritised and cover a broad range of improvement possibilities throughout the Recreation Reserve with a focus on active community/sporting infrastructure, given the recent upgrades to informal recreation elements.

Some of the high priority actions within the recommendations identified an emphasis on participation, safety and increased usability, including:

- Improving directional signage, traffic movement, parking and landscaping
- Develop changerooms to meet minimum sport requirements
- Redeveloping the oval and tennis courts, including the installation of sports oval lighting
- Upgrade the existing community hall and meeting spaces
- Upgrade and extend trail networks.

Given the nature, extent and cost associated with several of the Draft Masterplan improvement recommendations, it is highly likely that the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve CoM, user clubs and Council will need to plan for and explore external funding opportunities to progress any of these projects, which may also need to be delivered in a staged approach.

Detailed designs and costings would need to be prepared, including escalations and contingencies, when planning is being undertaken for each specific item of infrastructure, before being brought to Council for further discussion prior to delivery.

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	Yes
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	Yes
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	Yes
Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	Yes

GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

The overarching governance principles in s.9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provide for giving priority to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community and that innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued.

The development of the Draft Masterplan seeks to clarify and prioritise opportunities for improved community infrastructure to create social, recreational and learning outcomes that align with community expectations. This is consistent with the Council Plan 2021-2025 and the principles outlined in Council's Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020-2030.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community engagement principles under s.56 of the *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered through engagement undertaken to develop the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan.

This has included discussions with State Sporting Associations and extensive consultation and engagement at various stages with internal Council departments and representatives from the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and tenant clubs.

Further engagement will occur with the Draft Masterplan to be made available for public exhibition and comment for a period of four weeks. Community feedback will be assessed and updates considered prior to the Masterplan being presented back Council for adoption.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

One of the overarching governance principles in s.9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is to ensure the transparency of decision making, actions and information. By seeking Council endorsement of the Draft Masterplan (for public exhibition and comment) developed through research and community engagement, Council is adhering to the public transparency principles in s.58 of the Act.

STRATEGIES/PLANS

One of the overarching governance principles in s.9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making. This is further defined by the Strategic Planning principles under s.89 of the LGA 2020.

The preparation of the Ross Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan has been undertaken to engage on future opportunities for this facility and aligns with the objectives and principles of the Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040, Council Plan 2021-2025 and Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020-2030.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Consideration has been given to the financial management principles under s.101 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. True Resource Group was engaged by Council to undertake this process utilising an operational budget allocation for Masterplan preparation.

The report and attached Draft Masterplan do not commit Council to further financial contributions or budget implications at this time and any future investment or funding applications for facility improvements would be subject to subsequent decisions.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan seeks to mitigate the risks of insufficient planning and engagement with community and enable future facility development to be informed by strong evidence and priorities.

COMMUNICATION

Communication about Council's preparation of the Masterplan has been provided directly to internal and external stakeholders and partners over an extended period.

Following Council endorsement, online and external communications will be provided to the broader community that Draft Masterplan is now available for public exhibition and feedback.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

GENDER EQUALITY

The undertaking a master planning process for Ross Creek Recreation Reserve and the presentation of the Draft Masterplan have been considered (in accordance with s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020) and have identified no gender inequality implications.

It is noted that the implementation of recommendations and individual projects in the Draft Masterplan will require Gender Impact Assessments (GIA) to be undertaken.

OPTIONS

Option 1 – That Council endorse the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan being made available for public exhibition and comment.

This option is recommended by officers as a comprehensive process has been undertaken, including community engagement, to provide a strategic Draft Masterplan outlining facility enhancements and opportunities to increase participation at the reserve over the next ten years.

Option 2 – That Council does not endorse the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan.

This option is not recommended by officers as the Draft Masterplan has been informed by a comprehensive process, including community engagement. It should be noted that endorsing the Draft Masterplan for public exhibition does not commit Council to any individual decisions in relation to funding or implementation of specific projects.

Option 3 – That Council delay endorsing the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Draft Masterplan.

This option is not recommended by officers as a thorough planning and community engagement process has been undertaken and the next stage of the process is Council endorsing the Draft Masterplan for public exhibition and comment.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest in regard to this matter.

CONCLUSION

Following detailed research, a review of the existing facilities and analysis of engagement activities, a Draft Masterplan has been developed for the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve to provide strategic direction for the development and management of the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve for the 10 years from 2023 to 2033. It is recommended Council endorse the Draft Masterplan to be made available for public exhibition for a period of four weeks.

This final Masterplan will be presented back to a future Council Meeting for adoption and will assist the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and Council to prioritise capital project upgrades, explore new opportunities to activate the reserve and increase physical activity and sport participation. Council support will be requested and discussed in any future reports where specific opportunities are identified that require Council and/or external funding commitments to support infrastructure developments.

7.6 ACTIVE AGEING & INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

File Number:

Author: Tania Barry, Acting Manager Community Wellbeing

Authoriser: Steven Sagona, Director Community, Planning & Growth

Attachments:

- 1. DRAFT AA&I Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**
- 2. DRAFT AC&H Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the Active Ageing & Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as per Attachment 1.
2. Adopt the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as per Attachment 2.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Active Ageing and Inclusion Advisory Committee (AA&IAC) has formally been in existence since February 2021 when the current Active Ageing and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024 was endorsed by Council. Current members of AA&IAC have, however, been functioning as an advisory group to Council since 2011 when the (former) Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee was established. Current members of the group have expressed their hope to strengthen their voice to Council as a mechanism of advocacy and accountability. The attached Active Ageing & Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference works towards this goal.

Establishment of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee (AC&HAC) is an action of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026. The AC&HAC will provide advice to Council on policies, plans, initiatives and activities to advance arts, culture and heritage in Golden Plains Shire. The attached Terms of Reference (attachment 2) describes the purpose, objectives, roles, responsibilities and operational governance of the AC&HAC.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

Council's Active Ageing and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024 is the key strategic document guiding Council's work around positive ageing and inclusion. The implementation of actions from this plan are undertaken by multiple business units of Council, and overseen by the Active Ageing and Inclusion Team. This work is both informed and held accountable by the Active Ageing & Inclusion Advisory Committee (AA&IAC). The AA&IAC is made up of older community members and those with lived experience of disability. Currently the AA&IAC holds no formal Terms of Reference or nomination process for new membership. The current model was co-designed with Committee members who preferred an informal governance environment inclusive of people with lived experience of disability. It has been observed that the lack of formal documentation diminishes the voice to Council and the opportunity for the AA&IAC to advocate around issues impacting older people and people with disability.

The Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee (AC&HAC) will be established to provide advice and arts industry insight to the implementation of Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026. This ensures a shire-specific response that is informed by Golden Plains Shire's growing creative and cultural community and allows Council to respond with new insights and programs designed to support the arts, culture, heritage and entertainment sectors to move forward.

It is noted that at the December 2022 Council meeting, Cr Kirby was confirmed as the chair of the Active Ageing & Inclusion Advisory Committee, and of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee pending its establishment in early 2023.

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS*Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)*

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	Yes
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	No
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	No
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	Yes
Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	No

GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

The Terms of Reference documents will assist in appropriate governance of the two advisory committees. The establishment of the advisory committees adhere to the governance principles of innovation and continuous improvement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Development of both the Active Ageing and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024 and the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026 were informed by community engagement activities, including community surveys and workshops.

A draft of the Terms of Reference for the AA&IAC has been presented to the current membership. Member feedback has been incorporated into the draft Terms of Reference now presented.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

Council's decision-making on this matter will be made at an open Council meeting. The Terms of Reference for each group will be accessible on Council's website.

STRATEGIES/PLANS

The Terms of Reference for the AA&IAC links to the Active Ageing and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024.

The Terms of Reference for the AC&HAC is linked to the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026.

RISK ASSESSMENT

There are no identified risk implications associated with this report.

COMMUNICATION

Assuming Council adopts the proposed Terms of Reference documents, the community will be informed through Council's regular communications platforms. Members of the current AA&IAC will be advised directly.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC).

OPTIONS

Option 1 – That Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Active Ageing & Inclusion Advisory Committee and the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

This option is recommended by officers as formalised governance documentation ensures both the AA&IAC and the AC&HAC function effectively as mechanisms for advice, advocacy and accountability.

Option 2 – That Council does not endorse one or both of the Terms of Reference documents.

This option is not recommended by officers.

Option 3 – That Council reviews and requests changes to either or both documents

This option is not recommended by officers as the draft Terms of Reference documents have been workshopped and refined and no further changes are considered necessary.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

Both the Active Ageing and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024, and the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026 have been informed by research and community consultation. Their effective implementation will be assisted by the AA&IAC and the AC&HAC respectively, and in turn the governance and work of these two groups will be enhanced by the adoption of the attached Terms of Reference documents.

7.7 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (NGA) OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2023 - MAYORAL ATTENDANCE

File Number:**Author:** Elise Holmes, Executive Assistant to the CEO**Authoriser:** Eric Braslis, CEO**Attachments:** 1. ALGA NGA Program**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the attendance of the Mayor, Cr Cunningham at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

That Council approve the attendance of the Mayor at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2023 and the related expenditure.

BACKGROUND

The National General Assembly (NGA) is convened annually by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), attracts more than 800 delegates from councils across Australia and has been running annually for more than 20 years. The NGA is the premiere event in the local government calendar and is an opportunity for key local government representatives to debate issues of national significance, hear from political and academics speakers as well as to develop policy and fiscal strategy for the coming year.

The 2023 NGA will be held from Tuesday 13 June to Thursday 15 June 2023 at the National Convention Centre in Canberra. In the past, it has been common practice that the Mayor would represent the Council at this conference. The NGA is an important event for Golden Plains Shire Council, as it provides Council with the opportunity to communicate and jointly advocate on major strategic issues and projects across the region. Councillors attending the conference will also gain insight into a range of issues

DISCUSSION

The theme for the 2023 NGA will be “Our Communities, Our Future” – looking for ideas for new federal programs and policies that would support councils to build stronger communities in the future. A copy of the conference program is attached.

Cr Cunningham will have the opportunity to debate issues of national significance and influence ALGA policy, in addition to meeting with members of Parliament to advocate for our communities and promote issues of importance to Golden Plains Shire.

The Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, and key ministers have been invited to share their vision for Australia’s future and how we can work together for the benefit of our communities.

During the event, they will look at how councils are responding to new challenges and opportunities to create jobs and drive economic growth, and how they are shaping a better future for all Australians. This will include a series of panels where mayors and councillors will share their learnings and lived experience leading their communities through the turbulence of the past few years.

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS*Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)*

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	No
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	No
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	No
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	No
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	No
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	Yes
Gender Equality (Consideration of the Gender Equality Act 2020 and obligations to conduct gender impact assessments on new or reviewed policies, procedures and services that have a significant and direct impact on the public)	Yes

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC).

GENDER EQUALITY

This report has considered the gender equality principles as set out in the Gender Equality Act 2020.

OPTIONS

Option 1 – That Council approve the attendance of the Mayor at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2023 and the related expenditure.

This option is recommended by officers as this is a key event in Local Government and provides an opportunity to elevate the Shire and our priorities to the Federal level.

Option 2 – That Council do not approve the attendance of the Mayor at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2023 and the related expenditure.

This option is not recommended by officers as this is a key event in Local Government and provides an opportunity to elevate the Shire and our priorities to the Federal level.

Option 3 – That Council requires further information for the attendance of the Mayor at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2022 and the related expenditure.

This option is not recommended by officers as all relevant information has been provided.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest regarding this matter.

CONCLUSION

The National General Assembly of Local Government provides Council with a vital opportunity to elevate the Shire and our priorities to the Federal level. The Mayor's attendance at this conference will allow him to gain insight into a range of issues affecting the Local Government Sector and bring crucial information back to Council. The Mayor's attendance at the NGA is highly recommended, as he will have the opportunity to influence ALGA policy for the coming year, as well as advocate for our communities.

7.8 COUNCILLOR EXPENSES AND MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORT - QUARTER THREE ENDING 31 MARCH 2023

File Number:

Author: Rosie Wright, Coordinator Governance and Risk

Authoriser: Lynnere Gray, Director Corporate Services

Attachments: 1. Councillor Expenditure YTD 2022-23

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the contents of the Councillor Expenses and attendance report for quarter three of 2022/23.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report provides a record of expenditure made on behalf of Councillors in the performance of their duties for quarter three of 2022/23. This report also includes quarterly updates on Councillor attendance at both scheduled and unscheduled meetings of Council, to provide transparency on Council decision making.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with legislation and policy, Councillors can be reimbursed for eligible out of pocket expenditure in relation to resources and training to undertake their role as Councillors.

Furthermore, Councillors have responsibility to provide leadership to the community including decision making on behalf of the community. The formal decision-making process is conducted through council meetings which are typically held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The meetings provide an opportunity for community members to attend and if required, address the Council in support of their submissions. This report provides a regular update on Councillor attendance at scheduled meetings and unscheduled meetings of Council during the year. A summary of Councillor attendance at meetings is included in the Annual Report.

DISCUSSION

Summarised in the attached document are the figures for expenses for the Mayor and Councillors for quarter three of 2022/23.

The actual expenditure in comparison to the annual budget is as follows:

Category	Annual Budget \$	Actual \$ YTD	Percentage spent
Conferences & Training Expenses	17,735	7,573.82	42.71%
Travel Expenses	5,605	3,227.87	57.59%
Car Expenses	12,797	4,047.09	31.63%
IT & Communications	6,426	1,635.52	25.45%
Childcare Expenses	-	-	-
Total Councillor Allowances	42,563	16,484.30	38.73%

IT and communications charges included in this quarter contain charges and adjustments from last quarter, due to changes in billing.

Owing to the earlier Council meeting in April due to Anzac Day, these figures are reported up to 28 March 2023. Any remaining expenditure between 29-31 March will be reported for April.

Councillor attendance at scheduled and unscheduled meetings of council

The table below outlines the Councillor attendance at both scheduled and unscheduled meetings of Council for quarter three of 2022/23.

Council held the following meetings:

- 2 scheduled Council meetings held in February (28th) and March (28th)

Councillor	Scheduled meetings (2 meetings)	Unscheduled meetings (0 meetings)	Total meetings (2 meetings)	Total meetings (YTD 2022-23)
Brett Cunningham	2	0	2	10
Gavin Gamble	2	0	2	10
Ian Getsom	2	0	2	9
Helena Kirby	2	0	2	9
Les Rowe	2	0	2	9
Owen Sharkey	2	0	2	10
Clayton Whitfield	2	0	2	10

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	No
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	No
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	No
Communication	No
Human Rights Charter	No

Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	No
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POLICY/RELEVANT LAW

In accordance with section 41B of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must adopt and maintain an expenses policy in relation to the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for Councillors and members of delegated committees.

The expenses outlined in this report comply with Golden Plains Shire Council's Councillor expenses and entitlement policy.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

In accordance with Section 58 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, information contained within this report complies with the public transparency principles.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Councillor expenses and reimbursements are monitored against the annual financial budget to ensure expenses remain within the budget provision adopted.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic).

OPTIONS

Option 1 – That Council note the contents of this report.

This option is recommended by officers as it ensures compliance with legislated requirements.

Option 2 – That Council defer the report.

This option is not recommended by officers as the report provides an update on Councillor expenses and attendance for quarter three 2022/23 which has now finished.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest with regard to this matter.

CONCLUSION

That Council note the contents of the Councillor Expenses and attendance report for quarter three of 2022/23 being the quarter ended 31 March 2023.

8 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9 PETITIONS

9.1 PETITION - STOP GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL REZONING AND SELLING PUBLIC RECREATION LAND IN BANNOCKBURN

File Number:

Author: Rosie Wright, Coordinator Governance and Risk

Authoriser: Lynnere Gray, Director Corporate Services

Attachments: 1. Petition Wording - Stop Golden Plains Shire Council Rezoning and selling public recreation land in Bannockburn

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive the petition.
2. Refer the petition to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and response.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A petition was submitted to Council on 23 March 2023. The petition is entitled "Stop Golden Plains Shire Council rezoning and selling public recreation land in Bannockburn". The petition contained 951 signatures, of which 365 gave a Golden Plains Shire based location.

This petition has been received and is submitted to the Council in accordance with rule 37 of the Governance Rules.

BACKGROUND

The Governance Rules provide the process for petitions to be received by Council. Specifically, petitions must:

- a. Be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer at least seven days prior to the Council meeting at which it is to be considered to allow inclusion in the agenda;
- b. Be written, typed or printed;
- c. Contain at least five signatures;
- d. Have the full name, address and signature of all individual signatories;
- e. Not be defamatory, indecent, abusive or objectionable in language or content;
- f. Not relate to matters beyond the powers of the Council;
- g. Not be aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or member of Council staff;
- h. Not relate to a matter which will be or is likely to be considered in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with sub-rule 29.1(a); and
- i. Include the whole of the request of the petitioners or signatories on each page.

This petition was received on 23 March 2023 and in accordance with sub-rule 37.4, the CEO must arrange for petitions to be submitted to the next practicable meeting following their receipt, which in this instance was the April 2023 meeting.

The petition is not strictly compliant with point (d) or (i) above, however sub-rule 37.13(a) provides the CEO with discretion to determine that an electronic or online petition will be submitted to a Council meeting. As this petition was created on the platform Change.org, a globally recognised platform for petitioning, it has been determined that the petition be accepted.

Governance Rule sub-rule 37.7 provides that the only motions that may be considered for any petitions are:

- a. That the petition be received; and
- b. That the petition be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and response; or
- c. That the petition be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to a future Council meeting.

DISCUSSION

The petition request is provided at attachment 1. At the time of receipt, the petition had 951 signatures. A breakdown of location of signatories is provided below.

Location	Number of signatories
Golden Plains	365
Bamganie	1
Bannockburn	295
Batesford	2
Inverleigh	9
Lethbridge	21
Maude	3
Meredith	5
Shelford	6
Steiglitz	1
Sutherlands Creek	2
Teesdale	21
Non-Golden Plains	586
New South Wales	70
Northern Territory	2
Queensland	42
South Australia	21
Tasmania	3
United Kingdom	2
United States	2
Unknown	7
Victoria (not Golden Plains)	414
Western Australia	23
Grand total	951

REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS*Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)*

Implications	Applicable to this Report
Governance Principles (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Policy/Relevant Law (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Environmental/Sustainability Implications (Consideration of the Governance Principles under s.9 of LGA 2020)	No
Community Engagement (Consideration of Community Engagement Principles under s.56 LGA 2020)	Yes
Public Transparency (Consideration of Public Transparency Principles under s.58 of LGA 2020)	Yes
Strategies and Plans (Consideration of Strategic Planning Principles under s.89 of LGA 2020)	No
Financial Management (Consideration of Financial Management Principles under s.101 of LGA 2020)	No
Service Performance (Consideration of Service Performance Principles under s.106 of LGA 2020)	No
Risk Assessment	No
Communication	Yes
Human Rights Charter	No
Gender Equality (Gender Impact Assessment required by s.9 of Gender Equality Act 2020)	No

GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

The submission and presentation of petitions to Council supports the overarching governance principles, specifically that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

POLICY/RELEVANT LAW

- Local Government Act 2020
- Governance Rules

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Petitions are a form of community engagement and allow community members to demonstrate community support for a request or views on a matter and for that request or view to be presented directly to Council.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

Petitions allow community members to demonstrate community support for a request or views on a matter and for that request or view to be presented directly to Council. The processes in the Governance Rules provide transparency on the way that petitions are presented to Council and how Council decisions relating to petitions will be made.

RISK ASSESSMENT

There are no identified risk implications associated with this report.

COMMUNICATION

If Council determines to refer the petition to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and response, a response will be provided to the lead petitioner, as the obvious intended contact person for the petition.

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

It is considered that this report does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (VIC).

OPTIONS

Option 1 – Receive the petition and refer it to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and response.

This option is recommended by officers as this matter has already been the subject of a notice of motion and will return to Council for further decision making in relation to the future of the land.

Option 2 – Receive the petition and refer it to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to a future Council meeting.

This option is not recommended by officers as this matter has already been the subject of a notice of motion and will return to Council for further decision making in relation to the future of the land.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in preparing this report has any conflicts of interest with regard to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The petition has been submitted to the Chief Executive Officer and is now presented to Council in accordance with rule 37 of the Governance Rules.

10 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION

Nil