

AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

6.00pm Tuesday 26 May 2020

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

NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
6.00pm Tuesday 23 June 2020

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.

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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

Council acknowledge the traditional Wadawurrung owners of the land where we meet today. Council pays its respects to Wadawurrung Elders both past and present and 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 the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2020 as circulated, be confirmed.

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

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

File Number: 02-03-004

Author: Sharon Naylor, Executive Assistant - Chief Executive Officer

Authoriser: Eric Braslis, CEO

Attachments: 1. Assembly of Councillors 190520

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Assembly of Councillors Record from 29 April 2020 to 25 May 2020 as attached.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To present Council with written records of Assembly of Councillors in accordance with section 80A of the Local Government Act 1989 from 29 April 2020 to 25 May 2020.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 80A of the Local Government Act 1989 a written record of assembly of Councillors must be reported at an ordinary Council meeting and minuted as soon as practicable.

DISCUSSION

The record must include:

1. The names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending
2. The matters considered
3. Any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending
4. Whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest left the assembly

CONSULTATION

A formal consultation process is not required.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In Accordance with Section 80B of the Local Government Act 1989, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The information provided in this report is compliant with Section 76A of the Local Government Act 1989.

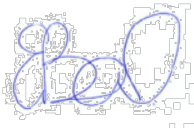


Assembly of Councillors Record

Virtual Meeting

Date of meeting:	Tuesday 19 May 2020
Time:	12.00pm
Purpose of meeting:	Councillor Briefing
Councillors present:	Cr Owen Sharkey, Mayor Cr Helena Kirby Cr Joanne Gilbert Cr Nathan Hansford Cr Les Rowe Cr David Evans
Apologies:	Cr Des Phelan
Council staff present:	Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure & Development Lisa Letic, Director Community Services Philippa O'Sullivan, Director Corporate Services Leanne Wilson, Manager Planning & Environment Ben Jordan, Manager Community & Council Planning Fiona Rae, Manager Finance David Greaves, Manager Works Laura Wilks, Coordinator Strategic Planning Dean Veenstra, Coordinator Recreation and Youth Asanka Jayakody, Coordinator Finance Sarah Fisher, Coordinator Statutory Planning Helena Charles, Senior Economic Development Officer Peter O'Brien, Town Planner
Other people present:	Miranda Donald – Garibaldi Community Planner Lubey Lozevski, Program Director, AgBioEn and Kollakorn Peter Holmgren, CEO, AgBioEn Andrew Buchanan, Landlord and Business Partner
Conflict of Interest Disclosures (Councillors)	Nil
Conflict of Interest Disclosures (Officers)	Nil
Matters discussed:	Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Garibaldi Community Planning update – AgBioEn and Kollakorn Corporation Limited - proposed renewable energy and liquid fuel production facility in the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – P02-102A - 3140 Midland Highway, Lethbridge (amend permit for expansion of piggery) – Development Contributions – Proposed sale of Council owned land at Lomandra Drive, Teesdale – Petition to prevent heavy haulage trucks from using the bridges and the roads leading to the bridges of the Moorabool Valley – Annual Adoption of Procurement Policy – Audit & Risk Committee Report - 12 May 2020 – Review of Council Plan 2017-2021 Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Civic Collections and Exhibition Development Update – Industrial Land Supply in the North of Golden Plains Shire – Customer Charter - Gravel Road Grading Program status report – New Local Government Act 2020 Requirements – Governance Quarter Three Report – GPSC Recycling contract with CleanAway



	CEO Only SMT Only Councillor Only
Completed by:	Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer 

7.2 DELEGATES REPORT - 28 APRIL 2020 TO 25 MAY 2020**File Number: 78-07-002****Author: Sharon Naylor, Executive Assistant - Chief Executive Officer****Authoriser: Eric Braslis, CEO****Attachments: Nil****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Delegates Report – 28 April 2020 to 25 May 2020.

Cr Owen Sharkey

28 April	Council Meeting
29 April	VLGA Connect Open Forum virtual meeting
30 April	G21 Economic Development Pillar virtual meeting
1 May	Leadership Learnings Webinar
6 May	Teleconference with Senator Sarah Henderson
11 May	Virtual meeting with Matt High, Director Meredith and Golden Plains Music Festivals
12 May	Audit & Risk Committee virtual meeting
14 May	Virtual meeting with Tom Boyd, Former Western Bulldogs Premiership Player and Headspace Ambassador
18 May	Virtual meeting with Lydia Lassila, 5 x Winter Olympian and 2010 Gold Medalist
19 May	Councillor Briefing virtual meeting

Cr David Evans

28 April	Council Meeting
1 May	Rural and Peri Urban Advisory Board virtual meeting
8 May	G21 Planning & Services Pillar virtual meeting
18 May	G21 Environment Pillar virtual meeting
19 May	Councillor Briefing virtual meeting

Cr Les Rowe

28 April	Council Meeting
5 May	Golden Plains Shire Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee virtual meeting
12 May	Audit & Risk Committee virtual meeting
18 May	G21 Environment Pillar virtual meeting
19 May	Councillor Briefing virtual meeting

Cr Helena Kirby

28 April	Council Meeting
5 May	Golden Plains Shire Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee virtual meeting
7 May	Community Vision Engagement virtual meeting
19 May	Councillor Briefing virtual meeting

Cr Nathan Hansford

28 April	Council Meeting
1 May	MAV Board virtual meeting
5 May	Golden Plains Shire Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee virtual meeting
19 May	Councillor Briefing virtual meeting
22 May	MAV Human Services Committee meeting

Cr Des Phelan

28 April	Council Meeting
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Cr Joanne Gilbert

28 April	Council Meeting
1 May	Leadership Learnings Webinar
19 May	Councillor Briefing virtual meeting

7.3 P02-102A - 3140 MIDLAND HIGHWAY, LETHBRIDGE (AMEND PERMIT FOR EXPANSION OF PIGGERY)**File Number:****Author:** Peter O'Brien, Town Planner**Authoriser:** Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Development**Attachments:**

1. Draft amendments
2. Amendment application and plans (under separate cover)
3. Existing planning permit and endorsed plans (P02-102) (under separate cover)
4. EPA referral response (under separate cover)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to Amend Planning Permit P02-102 for an artificial insemination laboratory and 200 boar piggery at 3140 Midland Highway, Lethbridge subject to the amendments set out in the attachment to this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to an application to amend Planning Permit P02-102 for a piggery expansion at 3140 Midland Highway, Lethbridge. The application has been referred to the Council Meeting for determination because there are objections to the application. This report provides a background to the application and a summary of the relevant planning considerations. The Councillors have been provided with a full copy of the application and objections for consideration prior to making a decision.

This application was considered by Council at its March Ordinary Meeting where it was resolved to defer the matter pending further information on how effluent from the piggery is managed.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION**Site description**

The subject land is situated at 3140 Midland Highway, Lethbridge and is formally known as Lot 2 on Plan of Subdivision 130617. The land has a total area of 78.01ha and contains an existing piggery and artificial insemination laboratory, dwelling and sheds. The land is undulating and cleared except for exotic trees. There is existing vehicle access to the site from the Midland Highway. The land is not affected by any restrictive covenants. The site is located in a farming area to the north of the Lethbridge township.

The proposal

The application proposes to amend Planning Permit P02-102 to allow a piggery shed extension and an increase in the number of pigs (increase from 200 to 400 boar piggery). A copy of the application and plans is attached.

Planning permit P02-102 was issued on 17 June 2003 and allows the use and development of the land for an artificial insemination laboratory and 200 boar piggery. The permit was issued following mediation at VCAT between the applicant and objectors in particular it was agreed that conditions be placed on the permit requiring the storage and removal of piggery effluent off site and prohibiting the application of piggery effluent to the land.

The application proposes to amend the permit as follows:

- Amend the permit preamble ('what the permit allows') and condition numbers 12 & 19 to allow an increase in the capacity of the piggery from 200 to 400 boars.

- Amend the plans endorsed under the permit to provide for an extension to the piggery shed. The proposed extension is to the rear (east end) of the existing shed. The shed extension has dimensions of 44m length, 14.2m width and 6.1m overall height. The total floor area of the extension is 624.8m². The shed extension will contain pens for 200 boars.

The application originally proposed to amend the permit to allow the construction of a waste treatment lagoon and the application of treated waste to the land however in response to concerns raised by objectors the applicant decided not to change the current waste management arrangements (storage and removal off site).

Site map



CONSULTATION

Notice of the application was given in accordance with Section 52(1)(a) & (d) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 ('the Act'). Notice was sent by mail to adjoining and neighbouring owners and occupiers within 1km of the site. Notice was also provided by placing a sign on the site and a notice in the Geelong Advertiser newspaper.

As a result of the public notice, 52 objections were received. A copy of the objections have been provided to the Councillors under separate cover.

The main concern of objectors was odour and environmental impacts resulting from the proposal to amend permit conditions to allow the construction of a waste treatment lagoon and the application

of treated waste to the land. The majority of objectors stated that they had no objection to the proposed piggery expansion provided that the applicant maintained the current waste management arrangements for storage and removal off site. In response to the objections the applicant decided not to proceed with the proposed lagoon and application of waste to the land and will continue with the current waste management arrangements. The objectors were notified of the changes to the application on 7 October 2019 and as a result two objections were withdrawn.

There were no consultation or mediation meetings held for this application.

ASSESSMENT

Processing of the application

The application was submitted on 12 January 2018. After the application was advertised the application was placed on hold while the applicant considered whether to amend the application to address the concerns of objectors. On 2 September 2019 the application was formally amended by removing the proposed waste treatment lagoon and application of treated waste to the land.

There are no referral authorities specified in the planning scheme for an application of this type however Council sought the advice of the EPA, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) & VicRoads regarding the proposal. These authorities had no objection to the amendment of the permit.

Planning Scheme

Planning Policy Framework (PPF)

Clause 13.07-1S Land use compatibility

The objective of this clause is:

- To safeguard community amenity while facilitating appropriate commercial, industrial or other uses with potential off-site effects.

Strategies:

- To ensure the compatibility of a use or development as appropriate to the land use functions and character of the area by:
- Directing land uses to appropriate locations
- Using a range of building design, urban design, operational and land use separation measures

Clause 14.01 Agriculture

The objective of this clause is:

- To protect the state's agricultural base by preserving productive farmland

Strategies include:

- Avoid permanent removal of productive agricultural land from the state's agricultural base without consideration of the economic importance of the land for the agricultural production and processing sectors
- Prevent inappropriately dispersed urban activities in rural areas
- Protect strategically important agricultural and primary production land from incompatible uses

Clause 14.01-2S Sustainable agricultural land use

The objective of this clause is:

- To encourage sustainable agricultural land use.

Strategies include:

- Support the development of innovative and sustainable approaches to agricultural and associated rural land use practices
- Encourage diversification and value-adding of agriculture through effective agricultural production and processing, rural industry and farm-related retailing

- Assist genuine farming enterprises to embrace opportunities and adjust flexibly to market changes
- Facilitate the establishment and expansion of cattle feedlots, piggeries, poultry farms and other intensive animal industries in a manner consistent with orderly and proper planning and protection of the environment

Clause 17.01-1S Diversified economy

The objective of this clause is:

- To strengthen and diversify the economy

Strategies include:

- Support rural economies to grow and diversity

Clause 17.01-1R2 Diversified economy – Geelong G21

Strategies include:

- Build on the region's competitive strengths, including tourism and agricultural land resources and economic, social and natural assets
- Support industries that utilise skills within the region

Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF)

Clause 21 Municipal Strategic Statement

The Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) recognises maintaining and encouraging viable agricultural industries and supporting the transition from agriculture to modern farming techniques and technology as key land use and planning issues for the Shire (Clause 21.01-2). The Shire is characterised by agricultural land used predominantly for grazing and cropping as well as other activities including intensive animal industries and wind farms. The Vision and Strategic Framework Plan (Clause 21.03) seeks to sustainably manage land use and development, protect the natural environment and grow the local economy, particularly in township development, farming and rural based industries. The Golden Plains Strategic Framework Plan (Figure 21.01-1A) shows the subject land on the edge of the Food Production Precinct.

Clause 21.05-1 Agriculture

The local policy for agriculture (Clause 21.05-1) emphasises the economic importance of agricultural industries to the Shire and recognises that an important land use management issue is the potential for conflict between sensitive uses and agricultural practices. The agriculture policy seeks to ensure that the use and development of rural land is both compatible and complementary to agricultural activities and to encourage agricultural diversity and promote opportunities for new farming enterprises.

Clause 21.08 Local areas – small towns

Clause 21.08 contains town structure plans for most settlements which establish a basis for future strategic planning decisions in each town. The subject land is located outside the area shown on the Lethbridge Structure Plan (Clause 21.08-5) however the plan shows the extent of the piggery buffer on the northern edge of the township. The Structure Plan includes strategies to support and protect farming enterprises around the township and encourage value adding businesses and enterprises related to these activities and actions to provide a strong town boundary to ensure an appropriate buffer between residential and farming activities.

Clause 22.03 Intensive animal husbandry

This policy applies to application for the use and development of land for intensive animal husbandry that are not covered by a Code of Practice incorporated into the planning scheme. The policy recognises that the proper siting and design of intensive animal husbandry is needed to ensure residential amenity and environmental quality is protected. This is to be achieved through the use of buffer distances to neighbouring dwellings (500m) and watercourses (200m), waste management measures and landscaping.

Zone and overlay provisions**Rural Activity Zone – Schedule 2**

The site is in a Rural Activity Zone – Schedule 2 (RAZ2). Surrounding land is also in a RAZ2 except for land to the west which is in a Farming Zone (FZ). The purpose of the RAZ is, among other things, to provide for the use of land for agriculture; to provide for other development, in appropriate locations, which is compatible with agriculture and the environmental and landscape characteristics of the area; and to ensure that development does not adversely affect surrounding land uses. Animal production (pig farm) is a “Section 2 (Permit required) Use” in the RAZ2 and any buildings and works associated with a Section 2 use requires a permit. Schedule 2 of the RAZ applies to the Moorabool Valley and seeks to achieve a planned mix of small agricultural holdings used for horticulture, rural industries, tourism and recreation facilities that are compatible with, among other things, the area’s dominant landscape features in particular the enclosed river valleys.

Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 3

The subject land is partly affected by an Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 3 (ESO3) however the proposed buildings and works are not located within the area affected by the overlay. Therefore a permit is not required under the ESO3 and the provisions of the ESO3 do not apply.

Particular provisions**Clause 53.16 Pig farm**

The purpose of Clause 53.16 of the planning scheme is to facilitate the establishment and expansion of pig farms in a manner that is consistent with orderly and proper planning and the protection of the environment. While Clause 53.09 contains no specific requirements applying to a pig farm of this type Council is required to consider the decision guidelines at Clause 53.16-3 which includes the following matters:

- The purpose of the relevant zone.
- The design, height, setback and appearance of the proposed buildings and works.
- The need to protect amenity of existing uses on adjoining land.
- The impact of the use of the land on the surrounding area, including from the emission of noise, light, vibration, odour, dust, or waste products.
- The impact of the proposal on any wetlands, waterways or water bodies.
- The likely environmental impact on the natural physical features and biodiversity of the land, including consideration of any Nutrient Management Plan submitted with the application.
- Whether the development will support and enhance agricultural production.

General provisions

Before deciding on an application Council must consider the decision guidelines set out in Clause 65 including:

- The matters set out in Section 60 of the Act.
- The State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- The purpose of the zone, overlay or other provision.
- Any matter required to be considered in the zone, overlay or other provision.
- The orderly planning of the area.
- The effect on the amenity of the area.
- Factors likely to cause or contribute to land degradation, salinity or reduce water quality.

DISCUSSION

Planning Scheme

The application is considered to satisfy the provisions of the State and Local Planning Policy Frameworks, Rural Activity Zone – Schedule 2, Clause 53.16 (Pig farm) and Clause 65 of the Victoria Planning Provisions. The proposal is supported by the MSS (Clause 21) and the local policy for Agriculture (Clause 21.05-1) which seek to grow the local economy through farming and rural based industries, encourage agricultural diversity and promote opportunities for new farming enterprises.

The proposal is consistent with state and local agriculture policies which seek to facilitate the expansion of intensive animal industries in suitable locations. The subject land is located in the Food Production Precinct which is an area of the Shire identified for intensive animal industries. The application also satisfies the recommended buffer distances to watercourses (200m) and neighbouring dwellings (500m) set out in the local policy for Intensive Animal Husbandry (Clause 22.03). The proposed development is located more than 1km from the Moorabool River and 600m from the nearest neighbouring dwelling.

Objectors' concerns

The main concern of objectors was odour and environmental impacts resulting from the proposal to amend permit conditions to allow the construction of a waste treatment lagoon and the application of treated waste to the land. Most objectors stated that they had no objection to the proposed piggery expansion provided that the applicant maintained the current waste management arrangements for storage and removal off site. As stated previously in response to concerns raised by the objectors the applicant has decided not to proceed with the proposed lagoon and application of waste to the land and will continue with the current waste management arrangements.

The proposal is for a relatively small (400 pigs) and controlled (indoor piggery with waste stored and regularly removed) operation and has previously operated for over 15 years under the current permit conditions with no history of complaints or non-compliance issues. It is therefore considered that the expansion of the piggery under the same set of strict conditions as the existing operation will address the concerns raised by objectors and ensure there is no adverse effect on the amenity of the area or the environment.

Effluent disposal

The original amendment application proposed the construction of a waste treatment lagoon and the application of treated waste to the land. However, in response to concerns raised by objectors, the applicant has decided to continue with the current waste management arrangement which is to store the effluent in a sump and have it regularly removed from site using a 21,000 litre tanker truck twice a week. With the expansion of the piggery it is proposed to increase the frequency of waste collection. The increase in the number of pigs from 200 to 400 will theoretically increase the waste collection trips from twice to at least four times a week. The waste is then to be disposed of to land at the contractor's property.

The existing conditions of the permit regulate the storage and disposal of effluent. Condition number 11 requires the preparation and approval of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) including details of effluent storage and condition number 41 requires a Waste Management Plan. A copy of the approved EMP including Waste Management Plan is provided with the existing permit attached to this report. Specifically in relation to effluent disposal, condition numbers 10 and 40 requires that waste not be applied to land within 10km of the Lethbridge town centre (intersection of Russell St and Midland Highway) and within 200m of the Moorabool River and its tributaries. These conditions controlling the effluent disposal were accepted by both the applicant and objectors when the original permit was issued. It is therefore considered unreasonable for one or other parties to now seek to either remove or add further restrictions in relation to effluent disposal or for Council to prescribe where and how effluent should be disposed where there is no planning or environmental reason to do so.

The original amendment application was referred to the EPA on 23 February 2018 and the EPA provided a response to Council via letter dated 27 March 2018. The application was re-referred to the EPA as some aspects of the application have since been amended. In its recent response, dated 24 April 2020, the EPA has raised no concerns regarding the piggery expansion including the proposed waste management arrangements. The EPA has advised that the proposal does not require a licence or works approval subject to the disposal of waste in accordance with EPA's requirements as described in EPA Publication 464.2 *Guidelines for Environmental Management: Use of reclaimed water* and EPA Publication 168 *Guidelines for wastewater irrigation*.

The EPA has recommended that if Council decides to amend the permit that certain conditions be included on the permit controlling dust, noise and pollution control. While the existing waste management arrangements are considered suitable for the piggery expansion the proposed permit amendments contained in the Officer's recommendation includes the requirement for a fully updated and amended Environmental Management Plan that provides additional measures such as a secondary containment system and pollution control devices to prevent the discharge of waste to the environment as well as details of effluent disposal.

CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPLICATIONS

This proposal does not require the preparation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan under the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007*.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 80B of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the Officers preparing this report declare no conflict of interest in regard to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The application satisfies State and Local planning policies, the Rural Activity Zone – Schedule 2, Clause 53.16 (Pig Farm) and the decision guidelines of the Planning Scheme (Clause 65). The application complies with the requirements of the Local Policy for Intensive Animal Husbandry (Clause 22.03) and there is suitable separation between the development and sensitive land uses. The application will facilitate the expansion of an important and productive agricultural industry in a manner that is consistent with orderly and proper planning and the protection of the environment. It is considered that the grant of a permit will not cause material detriment to any person.

**PLANNING APPLICATION P02-102A TO AMEND PERMIT FOR A PIGGERY EXPANSION
AT 3140 MIDLAND HIGHWAY, LETHBRIDGE**

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS FOR A NOTICE OF DECISION TO AMEND A PERMIT

- Amend the permit preamble ('what the permit allows') to allow an increase in the capacity of the piggery from 200 to 400 boars.
- Amend permit conditions numbers 12 & 19 by increasing the capacity of the piggery from 200 to 400 boars.
- Amend permit condition number 8 to require effluent removal on a weekly basis with a maximum of 10 days between collections.
- Add the following new conditions to the permit:
 - 1 The permit holder must ensure that nuisance dust and/or nuisance airborne particles must not be discharged beyond the boundaries of the premises.
 - 2 There must be no emissions of noise and/or vibrations from the premises which are detrimental to either of the following:
 - a) the environment in the area around the premises; and
 - b) the wellbeing of persons and/or their property in the area around the premises.
 - 3 A secondary containment system must be provided for liquids which if spilt are likely to cause pollution or pose an environmental hazard.
 - 4 Pollution control devices must be installed to prevent the discharge of waste to the environment and stormwater system.
 - 5 Before the use and development starts, an amended Environmental Management Plan to the satisfaction of the responsible authority must be submitted to and approved by the responsible authority. When approved the plan will be endorsed to form part of the permit. The plan must be generally in accordance with the endorsed Environmental Management Plan dated 16 October 2003 but amended to include the following:
 - a) a secondary containment system for liquids which if spilt are likely to cause pollution or pose an environmental hazard.
 - b) pollution control devices to prevent the discharge of waste to the environment and stormwater system.
 - c) maintain a log of any properties where piggery waste is applied and demonstrate that the application of waste to the subject properties is in accordance with EPA Publication 464.2 *Guidelines for Environmental Management: Use of reclaimed water* and EPA Publication 168 *Guidelines for wastewater irrigation*
- Amend the plans endorsed under the permit to provide for an extension to the piggery shed.

7.4 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

File Number:

Author: Leanne Wilson, Manager Planning and Environment

Authoriser: Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Development

Attachments: 1. Development Contributions Policy (under separate cover)
2. Revised Development Contributions Policy (under separate cover)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council amend Council Policy 10.4, Development Contributions, to provide for a flat rate of collection of \$4,500 per lot for the entire municipality.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Development Contributions represent an important source of revenue for the provision of infrastructure required to support sustainable and healthy communities. Since the review of Council Policy 10.4 – Development Contributions in 2016, Council has collected \$4,500 for developments in Bannockburn, and \$1,500 for the rest of the municipality. Council has identified an opportunity to consider options for an amendment to the existing policy to better achieve infrastructure needs through developer contributions.

BACKGROUND

Council currently secures Developer Contributions through the implementation of a Council Policy (Attachment 1 – Council Policy 10.4). Negotiations are undertaken to develop and execute S173 Agreements for the payment of contributions towards infrastructure.

Council Policy 10.4 – Developer Contributions was adopted by Council in 2005. This policy is referred to by the planning team in the consideration of new applications for planning scheme amendments and subdivisions. The policy is not incorporated in the Golden Plains Planning Scheme and therefore is not considered to be as robust or as enforceable as an incorporated Development Contributions Plan.

Council's Policy seeks development contributions payment for every new lot created through subdivision where land was rezoned for residential use. This approach did not however allow Council (via Section 173 agreements) to secure the payment of contributions from the subdividers or developers of infill lots which are already zoned for residential purposes. In such cases the applicants are requested in writing to make the appropriate contributions. A significant percentage of these requests were not complied with.

In 2015, Council sought the assistance of Mesh to prepare a report reviewing Council's methods of obtaining developer contributions. This report made a number of recommendations including:

- Ensure Council's Senior Management Team are well briefed on the various funding mechanisms available to Council.
- Undertake a land supply assessment for the northern portion of the Shire to match that completed as part of the G21 RGP process. ** This work has been completed as part of the drafting of the Northern Settlement Strategy.*
- Examine and document the development context of each town. ** Part completed with recent structure plan work and the development of the Northern Settlement Strategy.*
- Undertake a needs analysis study for physical infrastructure to compliment the recently completed Open Space Strategy and Recreation Strategy. **Partly being undertaken through the development of Casimo forecasting.*
- Identify key infrastructure priorities across the municipality, estimate the cost of these infrastructure items and their respective catchments. **Part completed with structure plan*

work and G21 RGP Infrastructure Plan. Further work required for key growth areas throughout the Shire.

- Identify Council's preferred mechanism/s to collect funds towards the key infrastructure items.

As a result of the review conducted by Mesh, the amounts collected were increased in 2016. The Policy sets a higher contribution rate for lots created within the township of Bannockburn, at a rate of \$4,500 (formerly \$2,765), compared with the rate applied to the rest of the municipality, set at \$1,500 per lot (formerly \$500).

These amounts are based on the Standard Development Contributions Advisory Committee's *Report 2: Setting the Levies*, released in 2013. The amount of \$4,500 for Bannockburn is based off the amount specified for Strategic Development Areas in non-metropolitan areas. The report specifies a range of \$4,500 to \$6,000 for these areas. The amount of \$1,500 for the rest of the areas is based off the amount specified for Urban Areas in non-metropolitan areas. The range specified is \$1,500 to \$3,000 for areas in this classification.

Year-to-date, Council has secured approximately \$157,000 in development contributions, which is over the forecasted \$130,000 predicted for the 19/20 financial year.

Existing Development Contributions Plans (DCP) system

In recent years, Council made a number of submissions to the State Government regarding the development of an Infrastructure Contributions Plan Framework to provide assistance to rural Council's with an off the shelf solution that would provide a logical and cost effective model for the peri-urban development context. A report was presented to Council in June 2018 seeking Council to halt action on reviewing Council's Policy on Development Contributions until the ICP Framework was released. The ICP guidelines were released by the State Government in November 2019, however did not include the specification of levies at this stage. It is unknown if or when levies will be released. Without specified levies, Council would have to undertake detailed plans and studies, similar to what was undertaken in the Bannockburn Transport Strategy, to adequately prove the nexus for the development of infrastructure in townships throughout the Shire, including costs and timeframes, in order to employ and ICP framework.

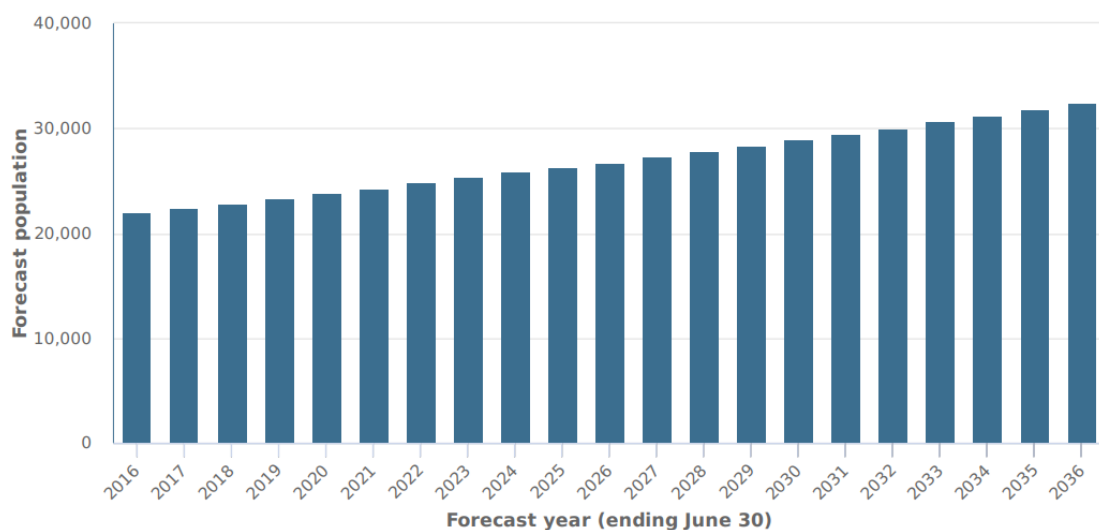
DISCUSSION

Golden Plains Shire has seen a steady rate of population increase and this increase in population growth is expected to continue into the future, particularly in light of the development of the Bannockburn Growth Structure Plan and the Northern Settlement Strategy.

Forecast.i.d have predicted that the population for 2020 is expected to be 23,856 and expected to increase to 32,449 in 2036, an increase of 36.02%.

Forecast population

Golden Plains Shire



Population and household forecasts, 2016 to 2036, prepared by .id, November 2017.

.id the population experts

The steady rate of population growth places additional pressure on Council resources to ensure that the new residents and existing residents are not impacted by off site impacts which comes with a growing population such as infrastructure maintenance and delivery of new assets and infrastructure to support the growing population.

The introduction of a flat rate municipal charge of \$4,500 for all new allotments created will assist the delivery and maintenance of existing and new assets.

The policy has also been revised to be clear that the contribution relates to both requests for rezoning land as well as planning permits for subdivision applications which reflects current practices.

It is expected that should Council's policy be amended to a flat fee, a forecasted income of \$230,000 is expected and this income will divert rate income to other projects that Council can deliver for the benefit of the entire municipality.

CONSULTATION

Consultation has not been undertaken in respect to introducing a flat rate of development contributions of \$4,500 across the municipality. Should Council approve the amendment to the policy, it is anticipated that Council will make the new policy available on Council's website and write to the regular applicants notifying them of the change to Council policy and commencement date.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 80B of the Local Government Act 1989, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

It is therefore recommended that Council's policy 10.4 – Development Contributions be amended to provide a flat collection fee of \$4500 per each new allotment.

7.5 PROPOSED SALE OF COUNCIL OWNED LAND AT LOMANDRA DRIVE, TEESDALE**File Number:****Author:** Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Development**Authoriser:** Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Development**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. In accordance with sections 189 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, publishes a public notice advising of its intention to sell Council owned land at Lomandra Drive, Teesdale after subdivision works have been completed, and seeks public submissions.
 2. Considers submissions and hears any submitters wishing to be heard at a future meeting of Council, prior to making a decision on the proposal.
-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has issued a Planning Permit for the subdivision of Council owned land at Lomandra Drive, Teesdale. In addition to meeting the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act* and the Golden Plains Planning Scheme in gaining a permit to create multiple lots, Council must comply with sections 189 and 223 of the *Local Government Act* prior to the sale of any Council owned land.

This report seeks Council approval to publish a public notice of its intention to sell land, and to seek public submissions as required by sections 189 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act).

BACKGROUND

At its Ordinary Meeting held on 25 February 2020, Council resolved to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit for a multi-lot subdivision (37 lots) at Lot A on Plan of Subdivision 529738U, Lomandra Drive, Teesdale. The land is Council owned. As no appeals were lodged with VCAT in the prescribed time, a Planning Permit was issued on 6 April 2020.

The site in Teesdale is zoned Low Density Residential. The site is an undeveloped parcel of land with a total area of 20.85 hectares.

The Planning Permit allows for the development of the land for a 37 lot subdivision. The subdivision includes the construction of an internal road network from Lomandra Drive and Caladenia Street.

The permit allows Council to develop the land, with the ability to then sell individual lots once all works have been completed, certified and individual titles released. This process is likely to take in the order of two [2] years.

The Act requires that public notice be given prior to the sale of any Council land.

POLICY CONTEXT

Golden Plains Shire Council Plan 2017-2021

Local Government Act 1989.

DISCUSSION

The land proposed to be developed and sold is the last stage of a 4-stage development project. With the Planning Permit having been issued, Council is now in a position to commence this final stage of the project.

Before committing significant resources to detail design and construction, it is recommended that Council formally consider the sale of land now in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act*. This will ensure that, from a governance perspective, Council does not commit significant resources to preparing the land for sale before a formal decision by Council on whether or not to sell the land is made.

Section 189 of the Act requires that public notice must be undertaken at least four [4] weeks before the sale or exchange of land but does not otherwise prescribe timing. It is, however, considered best practice to keep to a minimum the time between the public notice period and the actual sale. The challenge in this case is that preparing the land for sale will take at least two [2] years. To overcome this, the notice will include an estimated timeframe for bringing the land to market.

CONSULTATION

Notice of the Planning Permit application referred to above was given in accordance with section 52 (1) (a) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. As a result of the public notice, four [4] objections were received. This process does not alleviate the requirements of the *Local Government Act* related to the sale of land as prescribed in section 189.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with section 80B of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

Council is required to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act* in relation to selling Council owned land. It is considered appropriate that the formal process of determining whether or not to sell the land at Lomandra Drive, Teesdale, as prescribed in sections 189 and 223 of the Act, be undertaken prior to significant resources being allocated to subdividing the land.

7.6 PETITION TO PREVENT HEAVY HAULAGE TRUCKS FROM USING THE BRIDGES AND THE ROADS LEADING TO THE BRIDGES OF THE MOORABOOL VALLEY

File Number:

Author: David Greaves, Works Manager

Authoriser: Phil Josipovic, Director Infrastructure and Development

Attachments: 1. Copy of Petition (under separate cover)
2. Traffic Count Map

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Having considered the attached petition, does not exercise its powers under the Local Government Act 1989 (Clause 12 & 14 of Schedule 11).
 2. Writes to Victoria Police and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to bring to their attention the concerns raised by the Maude-She Oaks-Steiglitz community and request ongoing and regular inspection of this area in relation to heavy vehicle movements and road safety policing.
 3. Advocates to VicRoads via formal application for a speed reduction on the approaches to and on the bridges listed within the petition on the grounds of improved local road safety.
 4. Requests officers identify additional road warning signage that may provide a safety benefit on the approaches to the bridges listed within the petition.
 5. Responds to the lead Petitioner advising of the above decision.
-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council received the petition on 16 April 2020 which was formally presented to Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 28 April 2020. In accordance with Council's *Local Law No. 1 – Council Meeting Procedures & Common Seal* and the associated *Public Participation in Council Meetings Policy*, Council resolved to receive the petition and consider a report in response to the petition at its May Ordinary Meeting of Council. The petition, containing 68 signatures, states:

Petition summary and background

Summary

We are petitioning the Golden Plains Shire to remove non-local heavy haulage trucks from the roads namely, Perdrisat Rd, Maude – She Oaks Rd, Steiglitz -She Oaks Rd, Sharps Rd and Meredith Steiglitz Rd leading to the river crossings of Perdrisat Bridge, Sharps Crossing and Coopers Bridge in the Moorabool Valley. The use of these bridges by these trucks is an ongoing life-threatening risk to the residents of and visitors to our region.

Background

On the 26th Feb 2020, there was an extraordinary meeting of the Maude - She Oaks - Steiglitz Community Planning Group at the Maude Tennis Pavilion to discuss the life-threatening hazards to local traffic and the potential number of fatalities associated with heavy haulage trucks using the Golden Plains Shire roads and bridges in the Moorabool Valley. This meeting was well attended by both concerned residents and Councillors of the Golden Plains Shire.

Information from the working group of the She Oaks Community Group was presented. The information was derived from the attached document (endorsed with 68 signatures) and addressed the real potential for catastrophic accidents on the river crossings of the Moorabool Valley. Presented information included, a traffic survey, a hazard risk assessment

and a recommendation to Council. The recommendation “The most effective and economic action (for minimising the potential of catastrophic accidents) is for Councillors to prevent heavy haulage trucks from using the roads leading to and from the Moorabool River crossings”. This recommendation and a request to the Golden Plains Shire Council to use their “specific traffic management powers” Schedule 11, (Section 14) of the Local Government Act (1989) was unanimously supported.

Action petitioned for

We the undersigned request the Golden Plains Shire Council to use their “specific traffic management powers” as set out in Schedule 11, (Section 14) of the Local Government Act (1989) to prevent (non-local) heavy haulage trucks from using the roads and bridges over the Moorabool River as part of a short-cut route because of their potential life-threatening risks to our community. These bridges and roads are the Sharps Crossing Bridge, Perdrisat Road Bridge and Coopers Bridge with the associated roads of Sharps Road, Maude-She Oaks Road, Steiglitz-She Oaks Road, Perdrisat Road and the Meredith-Steiglitz Road. It is our expectation that this action does not preclude the use on these roads of farm machinery, emergency vehicles, buses or deliveries to properties in the area.

BACKGROUND

On 10 May 2017 a B-Double truck was involved in a single vehicle crash on Perdrisat Road, Maude in the early hours of the morning. The truck was traveling from the Midland Hwy along Perdrisat Road towards Steiglitz Road and was not approved to be using this section of road. The driver was unable to slow sufficiently on the steep decline; the truck made it across the single lane bridge but was unable to negotiate the following bend and rolled over. Tragically the male driver died while a female passenger was able to exit the vehicle and seek help. Council was notified of the crash.

The crash was attended by many local residents and local emergency services workers. Over the following years there has been a growing desire by the local community to remove selected non local trucks from the road network in the Maude region. Several letters, community meetings and Council Officer Meetings have taken place in relation to this matter.

Following this fatality and subsequent community meetings, council engaged an independent consultant to complete a road safety audit of Thompsons Rd, Perdrisat Rd, Sharps Rd, Butchers Rd and Maude-She Oaks Rd in the Maude area. The outcome of this audit identified 36 road safety improvements that could be undertaken by Council. These improvements were prioritized as Low, Medium and High. Council have completed all identified improvements as per this report.

In addition to the above and following consultation with the community around ongoing heavy vehicle concerns, Council also committed to investing \$1.485M in the 2019/20 financial year on significant road widening upgrades on the Maude She-oaks Road.

Council has also in the 2019/20 financial year invested \$1.56M in the replacement of Coopers Bridge, located over the Moorabool River on the Meredith-Steiglitz Road, Steiglitz, providing an unrestricted load limit route (previously restricted to 20 tonne).

Council Road Investment in the Maude area 2017 to 2020	
Project	Cost
Maude Safety Audit	\$ 965,504.00
Maude She-oaks Road upgrade	\$ 1,485,000.00
Coopers Bridge Replacement	\$ 1,590,000.00
Total	\$ 4,040,504.00

Note – The above table does not include ongoing general and yearly maintenance expenditure on road infrastructure.

POLICY CONTEXT

This report has been prepared in accordance with Council's Local Law No.1 – Council Meeting Procedures & Common Seal as it relates to responding to petitions.

DISCUSSION

Maude has a historic link to sand extraction industries with three licenced quarries operating in the area. Regional roads facilitate the movement of people and goods within and through rural townships, including passenger vehicles, farming, bus and heavy vehicle usage.

As a regional road network, Thompsons Rd, Sharps Rd, Steiglitz Rd, Maude-She Oaks Rd and their associated bridge infrastructure provide legitimate access for heavy vehicles to commercial and farming areas within the Maude district. Maude She-oaks Rd and Thompsons Rd provides legitimate heavy vehicle access to historic licenced quarries located in the area.

Under Victorian Government guidelines, any vehicles with an overall length not exceeding 19 metres and a gross combined mass not exceeding 43.5 tonnes, is permitted general access to all roads in Victoria unless prohibited by regulatory signage such as a load limit capacity. Vehicles exceeding this mass or dimension may only use approved routes, unless operating under a permit issued by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator or operating under the Concessional Mass Limits scheme monitored by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

As an example, Chelvon Quarry in Maude, has permits for it to operate Performance Based Standards (PBS) vehicles on Councils local road network. All PBS vehicles must have a permit to operate on Council specified roads. These permits are required through the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR). Council allow PBS – (truck and trailer combinations) in the shire, but not B-double (unless they are accessing a logging coupe or a dairy). As with PBS vehicles all B-double trucks have to apply for a permit, and they are assessed individually case by case. Council predominantly restricts b-doubles to the VicRoads networks.

A recent traffic Count of the Maude road network in February 2020 provided the following statistics.

Maude Area Traffic Counts			
Date	Road Name	Avg_Daily traffic_Volume	Heavy Vehicle_Percentage
17/02/2020	Thompson Road	253	26
17/02/2020	On Steiglitz Road	223	7.9
17/02/2020	Steiglitz Road	581	13.7
17/02/2020	Maude She Oaks Road	312	21.8
17/02/2020	Sharp Road	81	37.4
17/02/2020	Steiglitz Road	211	9

Note – For the purpose of traffic counts a heavy vehicle is identified as any vehicle that has an axle combination great than a standard passenger vehicle (ie tractors, tray trucks, crane truck, and tippers).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 80B of the Local Government Act 1989, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

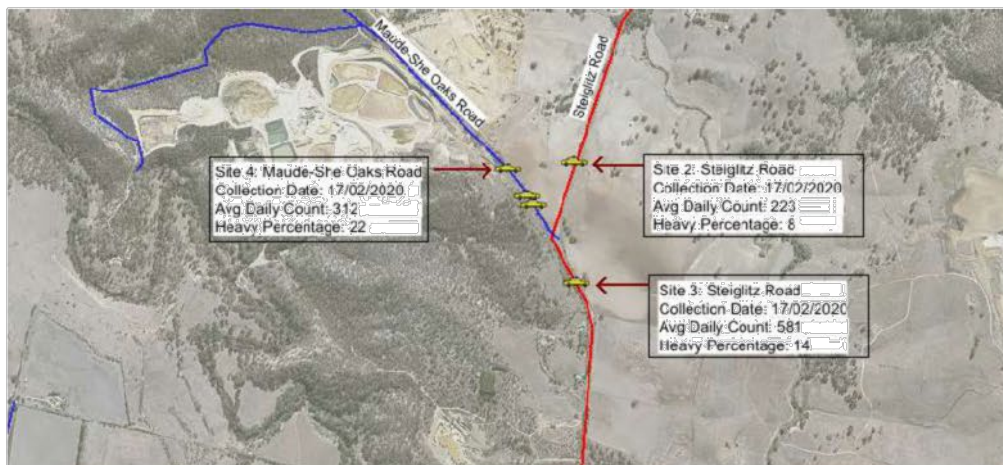
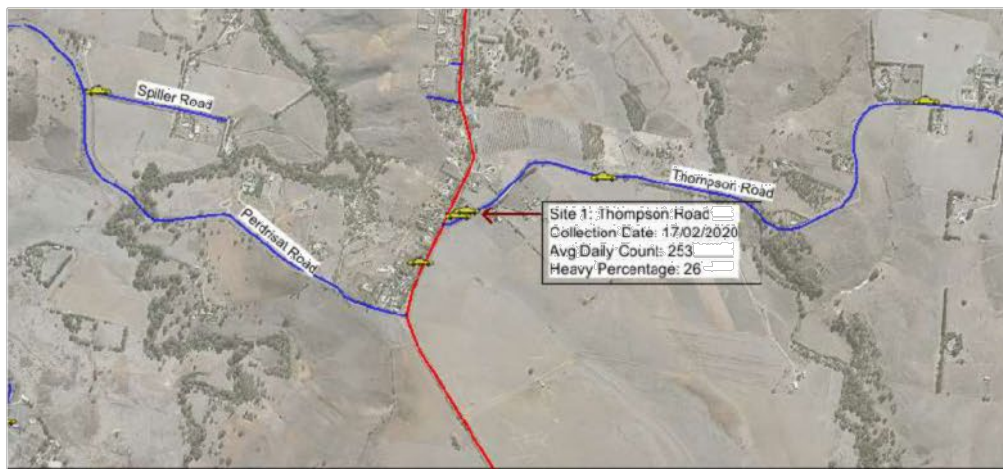
Schedule 11 (Clause 14) of the Local Government Act 1989 states that “A Council may prohibit or restrict traffic on a road that it considers unsafe for that traffic”.

Based on the function and connectivity which the Maude road network has within Council's Road Hierarchy and the local road network, aligned to the historic local extractive sand industries and

\$4M of recent investment made by Council over the past three years to improve safety on these roads, Council officers do not support or propose to implement a truck ban on the roads identified within the petition at this time. Further, it would be problematic to introduce restrictions on any roads in the area that only apply to “non-local” roads from an enforcement perspective.

Council acknowledges also that drivers of large vehicles are equally obligated to drive safely and adhere to the Victorian road rules as are all road users. Suspected oversize or over-mass heavy vehicles using the Maude road network, or incidences of poor driving behaviour such as speeding or driving recklessly, should be reported to the Victorian Police Force, VicRoads or the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator all of which are enforcement agencies.

Golden Plains Shire Tube Counts					
Site	Collection Date	Rd_Name	Avg Daily_C	Heavy Percentage	Locality
1	17/02/2020	Thompson Road	253	26	Maude
2	17/02/2020	On Steiglitz Road	223	7.9	Maude
3	17/02/2020	Steiglitz Road	581	13.7	Maude
4	17/02/2020	Maude She Oaks Road	312	21.8	Maude
5	17/02/2020	Sharp Road	81	37.4	Meredith
6	17/02/2020	Meredith -Steiglitz Road	211	9	Meredith





7.7 REVIEW OF COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

File Number:**Author:** Ben Jordan, Manager Corporate and Community Planning**Authoriser:** Lisa Letic, Director Community Services**Attachments:** 1. Council Plan 2017-2021 incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (under separate cover)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Note that the Council Plan 2017-2021 has been reviewed as to whether any adjustment is required in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan.
2. Endorse the existing Council Plan 2017-2021, as adopted by Council on 25 June 2019, with minor administrative changes to reflect the current organisation structure.
3. Note that as there are no adjustments to legislative elements for the 2020/21 financial year are proposed, there is no requirement to undertake further consultation on the Council Plan 2017-2021 at this time.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires that at least once each financial year Council must consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan.

This report details the existing Council Plan 2017-2021, including previous processes undertaken, the current status of the Plan and the legislative requirements of the Act in recommending that the Plan remain unchanged for the 2020/21 financial year.

BACKGROUND

Following Council elections in 2016, the four year Golden Plains Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 was developed and adopted by Council on 27 June 2017.

In accordance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), Council has considered adjustments to the Council Plan 2017-2021 on an annual basis. Minor revisions to the Council Plan were recommended in both 2018 and 2019 with the most recent revision adopted by Council on 25 June 2019.

POLICY CONTEXT

The Council Plan is the key document outlining Council's strategic direction for the four year period 2017-2021 and is a legislative requirement under the *Local Government Act 1989*.

DISCUSSION

The Council Plan 2017-2021 incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan (Attachment One) provides the following four strategic directions:

- Promoting healthy and connected communities
- Enhancing local economies
- Managing the natural and built environment
- Delivering good governance and leadership

Implementation of the Council Plan continues with progress updates and key deliverables reported to Council on quarterly basis.

In determining whether adjustments were required for to the Council Plan 2017-2021 for the remaining period of the plan, the following was considered:

- The Council Plan meets all current legislative requirements under the Act, including providing the strategic objectives, strategies for achieving the strategic objectives and strategic indicators for monitoring achievement of the strategic objectives.
- The remaining period of the existing Council Plan is the 2020/21 financial year - this period includes both a Council election and transition to the provisions of the new *Local Government Act 2020*.
- Two previous reviews of the Council Plan 2017-2021 were conducted in 2018 and 2019 including community engagement. In both cases, minor wording changes only were made with no changes either proposed or made to the legislative elements (strategic objectives, strategies, strategic indicators) of the Council Plan.
- To capture the aspirations of the Golden Plains community and provide the long term strategic direction, development of the Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 is in progress including significant community engagement. A minimum 10 year community vision is a mandated requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020* and will provide the framework for development and alignment of the Council Plan 2021-2025.

Whilst no adjustments to the legislative elements are proposed, the Council Plan 2017-2021 document (Attachment One) has image/text updates on pages 7 and 12 to reflect the current Mayor, Senior Management Team and Organisational Structure at Golden Plains Shire Council.

Following the adoption of Council's Budget 2020/21 (scheduled for the Council Meeting on 23 June 2020), the Strategic Resource Plan 2020-2024 will be appended to the Council Plan 2017-2021. As required under the Act, a copy of the Council Plan (incorporating the Strategic Resource Plan) will be provided to the Minister for Local Government prior to 30 June 2020.

In reviewing and implementing the Council Plan 2017-2021, Golden Plains Shire Council is and will continue to monitor the Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and its impact on our community and businesses. A number of changes to services/programs and financial assistance measures have already been introduced by Council and further action will be considered as required (and as information and guidance comes to hand) in the remaining period of the Council Plan 2017-2021.

CONSULTATION

The existing Council Plan 2017-2021 reflects the feedback from the Golden Plains community and stakeholders in response to an extensive community consultation process that was an integral component of the Plan's initial development.

Engagement for the latest revision of the Council Plan 2017-2021 (adopted in June 2019) was undertaken through three surveys between February and April 2019. The community survey was promoted via Council's website, social media and local media as to the review process and the opportunity for input.

As no adjustments to legislative elements for the 2020/21 financial year are proposed, there is no requirement to undertake further consultation on the Council Plan 2017-2021 at this time (including a section 223 process under the Act).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 80B of the Local Government Act 1989, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The Council Plan 2017-2021 was originally adopted in 2017 and has since undergone minor revisions in both in 2018 and 2019. Following consideration of the Council Plan 2017-2021 (and the required legislative elements), no adjustments are recommended for 2020/21 and the existing strategic directions and actions will continue to be implemented for the remaining period of the Council Plan.

Following adoption of the budget, a copy of the Council Plan 2017-2021 (incorporating the Strategic Resource Plan) will be provided to the Minister for Local Government.

A new Council Plan 2021-2025 will be developed and adopted following the Council elections in October 2020 and will be aligned with the Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040.

7.8 ANNUAL ADOPTION OF PROCUREMENT POLICY

File Number:**Author:** Fiona Rae, Finance Manager**Authoriser:** Philippa O'Sullivan, Director Corporate Services**Attachments:** 1. Procurement Policy (under separate cover)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Note its obligations under section 186A(7) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic) to review the current Procurement Policy at least once in each financial year and where necessary amend it.
2. Adopt the Procurement Policy noting that only a minor amendment was required due to the extensive review undertaken in 2019.
3. Make copies of the policy available to the public in accordance with Section 186A(8) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is committed to ensuring continuous improvement and strong compliance processes are in place for its procurement activities in order to achieve value for money and generate benefits for Council and its community.

The *Local Government Act 1989* requires that Council prepare and approve a Procurement Policy and review the Procurement Policy at least once in each financial year and amend it as necessary.

BACKGROUND

The current Procurement Policy was extensively reviewed in 2019 to encompass:

- Legislative requirements that Council must comply with in undertaking its procurement activities;
- Recommendations from the Local Government's Inspectorate's Report dated 28 February 2019; and
- Feedback from Council employees as a result of the consultation process during the review.

The annual review of the Procurement Policy determined that only a minor review was required. The table at section 5.1 has been updated to reflect the Chief Executive Officer delegation up to \$400,000 in the procurement threshold levels.

POLICY CONTEXT

Local Government Act 1989

DISCUSSION

The extensive review of the Procurement Policy completed in 2019 has resulted in increased compliance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and Guidelines and Principles.

A methodology for procurement is clearly identified with sustainable procurement considerations incorporated promoting job opportunities and social inclusion for our community, fostering relationships with local businesses, and creative and innovative approaches to delivering goods, services or works.

Enhancements to the Procurement Policy resulting from the 2019 review include: exemptions from the request for tender and request for quotation process, process and authority for execution of contracts, probity requirements that Council must comply with, process for internal controls and performance management and reporting, and the process for providing training and skill development across Council on procurement and governance processes and practices.

The Procurement Policy will need to be reviewed as part of the new *Local Government Act 2020* amendments which are required to be adopted by 31 December 2021.

CONSULTATION

The annual review of the Procurement Policy was conducted by Council officers in consultation with management.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 80B of the Local Government Act 1989, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The annual review of the Procurement Policy has identified that only a minor change was required at this point in time due to the extensive review completed and adopted by Council in 2019.

7.9 AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE REPORT - 12 MAY 2020**File Number:****Author:** Philippa O'Sullivan, Director Corporate Services**Authoriser:** Philippa O'Sullivan, Director Corporate Services**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION.**

That Council receive the Audit & Risk Committee report from the meeting of 12 May 2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is being submitted to Council to provide a summary of business considered at the 12 May 2020 meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee.

BACKGROUND

The Audit & Risk Committee (the Committee) is an independent advisory committee to Council. The primary objective of the Committee is to assist Council in the effective conduct of its responsibilities for financial reporting, management of risk, maintaining a reliable system of internal controls and facilitating the organisation's ethical development

POLICY CONTEXT

To remain compliant with Section 139 of Local Government Act 1989, the Audit and Risk Committee has been established to assist Council in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to risk management, financial management and control and reporting.

DISCUSSION

Attendees at the Committee meeting were as follows:

Councillors:

Cr Owen Sharkey

Cr Les Rowe

Independent Members:

Andrew Pearce

Joe Adamski

Phil Delahunty

Officers:

Eric Braslis (CEO)

Philippa O'Sullivan (Director Corporate Services)

Phil Josipovic (Director Infrastructure and Development)

Lisa Letic (Director Community Services)

Claire Tehan (Manager People and Culture)

Fiona Rae (Manager Finance)

David Greaves (Manager Works)

Rebecca Failla (Manager Digital Transformation)

Candice Robinson (Coordinator Governance and Risk)

Andrew O'Leary (Coordinator OHS)

Emily Chapman (Governance and Corporate Services Administration Officer)

Guests:

John Gavens (Crowe)

Chris Kol (McLaren Hunt)

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: Nil

The Committee considered the following matters at the meeting:

- Audit Committee Action Items
- Outstanding Internal and External Audit Actions
- Publications of Interest
- Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register
- Bannockburn Children Services Long Day Care – Progress Update
- GPCCC Project Update
- Quarterly OHS Report
- Update on Victorian Manslaughter Legislation
- Risk Management Quarter Three Report
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Risk Update
- Risk Management Framework Presentation
- Risk Owner Presentation – Cyber Security
- Internal Audits held during the Quarter – payroll
- Internal Audit – Follow up Audits
- Quarterly Finance Report
- VAGO 2019/20 Interim Audit Outcomes
- Progress update on new standards
- Governance Quarter Three Report
- New Local Government Act Requirements

CONSULTATION

Nil

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 80B of the Local Government Act 1989, the Officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.

CONCLUSION

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 8th September 2020.

8 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9 PETITIONS

Nil

10 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION

Nil