ALPINE SHIRE

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Alpine Shire Council will be held in the Myrtleford Chamber, O'Donnell Avenue, Myrtleford, on 5 February 2008 commencing at 7.30 pm.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. OPENING PRAYER AND CUSTODIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
   That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting No. 16/2007 held on 4 December, 2007, Special Council Meeting No. 17/2007 held on 19 December 2007 and Special Meeting No. 1/2008 held on 16 January 2008 as circulated, be adopted.
3. APOLOGIES
4. OBITUARIES/CONGRATULATIONS
5. DECLARATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.
6. RECESSION AND READING OF PETITIONS
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY OFFICERS
8. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL TO OTHER BODIES.
9. GENERAL BUSINESS
10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN GIVEN
11. QUESTION TIME
12. DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

IAN NICHOLLS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Australia Day Award Ceremony for Sporting Achievement of the Year Award will be held at approximately 7.00 pm.
7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – IAN NICHOLLS

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11.1 QUESTION TIME

12.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING
7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – IAN NICHOLLS

7.1.1 Contracts Approved by the Chief Executive Officer

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CQ 07/03001</td>
<td>Design and production of an iconic sculpture representing the pioneers of tobacco growing in Myrtleford</td>
<td>High Country Forge</td>
<td>$41,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CQ 07/04001</td>
<td>Provision of Bituminous emulsion and products within the Alpine Shire</td>
<td>Downer EDI Works</td>
<td>$33,148.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT 07/04201</td>
<td>Stabilisation works at various locations</td>
<td>Stabilco Pty Ltd</td>
<td>$49,033.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT 07/04401</td>
<td>Supply and delivery of new vehicle – Environmental Health Officer – Toyota RAV 4 and trade of Nissan X Trail</td>
<td>Jacob Toyota</td>
<td>$5,672.73 (changeover)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT 07/04402</td>
<td>Supply and delivery of new vehicle – Building Surveyor – Ford Territory and trade of Ford Courier</td>
<td>Heffernan Ford</td>
<td>$16,290.00 (changeover)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT 07/04501</td>
<td>Production of a catalogue directory insert</td>
<td>HSJ Advertising</td>
<td>$18,480.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.1  CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Cont’d)

7.1.2 Council Plan Progress Report

File Number: 600.03

INTRODUCTION

The Council Plan is a guiding document, outlining Council’s objectives, goals and actions until the year 2010. The Council Plan Progress Report provides both Council and the community information on how the activities in the Council Plan are progressing.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Plan Progress Report for February 2008 be noted.

BACKGROUND

The Council Plan provides guidance for Council for the four year period after an election, and is reviewed annually to ensure that it is up to date and continues to provide direction for the remainder of the Council Plan period (to 2010).

The Council Plan is prepared to include the strategic objectives of the Council, with strategies for achieving the objectives, and indicators for monitoring these achievements. It also includes a Strategic Resource Plan, outlining the resources required to achieve the strategic objectives.

As outlined in the report to Council in September 2007, it is proposed that a report against the Council Plan be presented three times per year in September, February and May. This is the second report against the Council Plan progress and provides further details for progress in 2007/08.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Council Plan is a guiding document for Council and its activities, determining budget allocations and activities during the year. It is guided by Council’s 2030 Vision.
7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Cont’d)

7.1.2 Council Plan Progress Report (Cont’d)

File Number: 600.03

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Resource allocations are made in the annual budget to cater for activities in the Council Plan.

CONSULTATION

The community has the opportunity to comment on the Council Plan each year during May. Many of the activities included also involve public consultation.

CONCLUSION

Council should note the Council Plan Progress Report for February 2008 and support the progression of activities as detailed.
File Number: 110.02

INTRODUCTION

The Dinner Plain Management Committee met on 5 December 2007. The minutes of the meeting are attached.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Dinner Plain Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 5 December 2007 be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

The major resolutions passed by the Dinner Plain Committee are listed below. Other topics discussed at the meeting included the Dinner Plain Masterplan, extension of waste facilities, and general business.

- A concept plan for horse stables at Dinner Plain was discussed by the Committee, with the following recommendations ratified:
  1. That the proposed siting of the horse facilities be agreed on as per the concept plan.
  2. That the allocation of funding proposed in the budget (currently $45,000) remain.
  3. That construction of basic facilities proceed according to the budget.
  4. That formal expressions of interest be sought from operators for use of the yards and facility.

- The half-year Dinner Plain Budget was presented to the Committee. The budget was accepted, with further reports on planning and waste costs requested.
  1. That the Dinner Plain Revised Budget be adopted.

- The Cool Summer Festival is a new initiative for a food and music festival held between Mount Hotham and Dinner Plain.
  1. That the Committee support expenditure up to a maximum of $10,000 as support funding for the event, provided that the amount is matched by MHRMB and that the intellectual property for the event remains with Mount Hotham and Dinner Plain.
7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Cont’d)

7.1.3 Dinner Plain Management Committee (Cont’d)

File Number: 110.02

2. That no contracts are entered into that expose Dinner Plain to greater than $10,000 in liability.

- A proposal to purchase conferencing equipment to encourage the use of Dinner Plain as a conference venue was put to the Committee.

1. That up to $15,000 be made available for purchase of conference and meeting equipment for use in the Community Centre, with all equipment to be stored in the Community Centre itself.

- The matter of Committee Member remuneration was raised in general business.

1. That Council review the sitting fee / travel allowance to be reflective of costs imposed.
7.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER – LUKE TABERNER

7.2.1 Rating Strategy

File Number: 951.01

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to adopt the rating strategy which has been developed in response to a Council resolution made at the ordinary Council meeting held on 11 July 2006.

RECOMMENDATION

That the February 2008 Rating Strategy annexed to this report be adopted.

BACKGROUND

Council passed a resolution at its ordinary meeting in July 2006 for a rating strategy to be completed. This was in response to the large number of submissions objecting to the Commercial/Industrial Special Rate.

Consultants, Macro Plan Pty Ltd were commissioned to undertake a review of its rating strategy. There were two reasons for this which were as follows:

- To respond to public concern regarding the commercial/industrial special rate.
- A review of the rating system had not been conducted for over ten years and it was felt that it was time to do so.

Macro-plan with help from the Rates Department, produced a report for consideration by Council in April 2007. The recommendations from this report were rejected by Council after further consultation with payers of the Commercial/Industrial Special Rate.

The key recommendation from the Macro-plan report, which was considered by Council in May 2007, was to:

- Incorporate Option 3 outlined in the final options. i.e. remove the Commercial/Industrial Special Rate and apply a Differential Rate at 145% to Commercial Industrial and a 200% Vacant Land Differential

After further consultation with the community Council decided not to adopt the recommendation from the report, as there was strong community opposition in particular to the vacant land differential rate proposal.
7.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER (Cont’d)

7.2.1 Rating Strategy (Cont’d)

File Number: 951.01

At its ordinary meeting held on 7 November 2007 Council passed a resolution for the Special Rate of approximately 45% as is currently in place on commercial/industrial properties remain. The key reason to remain with the Special Rate was to ensure funding raised remained in that area.

ISSUES

Rates are the major form of income for Council and this strategy will govern how Council sets its rates over the coming years.

The biggest issue with this rating strategy is the retention of the commercial/industrial Special Rate. Both special rates are based on the user pays principle. In that ratepayers should pay for additional services that they receive above what is considered normal. Meaning that these additional services should not be paid for by ordinary ratepayers.

Money collected from any special rate must be spent on the purpose for which it is collected. This was the most important point for the business community when deciding to retain the industrial/commercial special rate rather than moving to a differential rate.

The strategy recommends only one differential rate, that being a concessional farm rate.

The strategy recommends that the rates levied be based on one rate in the Capital Improved Value across the entire Shire.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This Rating Strategy sets the future rating policy for Alpine Shire. In effect its principles are similar to the previous rating strategy although the research is more comprehensive. The major cornerstones of the Strategy are as follows:

- Use of a common rate in the Capital Improved Dollar (CIV) across the Shire.
- That no Municipal Charge apply
- That bona fide Farm Properties be eligible for a Differential Farm Rate of approximately 73% of the general rate.
7.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER (Cont’d)

7.2.1 Rating Strategy (Cont’d)

File Number: 951.01

- That Dinner Plain Village operate as a discreet Business Unit.
- That Special Rates be the preferred method of funding programs which directly benefit a specific segment of the community.
- Investigation of options for an environmental rebate.
- That a ten year financial plan be developed to ensure that rate rises are smoothed over time.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional financial or resource implications of implementing this Rating strategy.

CONCLUSION

The attached Rating Strategy should provide Council with clear direction for the setting of rates and charges.
INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the report is for Council to adopt a schedule of fees and charges for staying at Myrtleford Caravan Park.

RECOMMENDATION

That the following schedule of fees for Myrtleford Caravan Park be adopted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Type</th>
<th>Off Peak (Inc. GST)</th>
<th>Peak (Inc. GST)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Powered Sites (per night)</td>
<td>$18 (2 People)</td>
<td>$22 (2 People)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpowered Sites (per night)</td>
<td>$15 (2 People)</td>
<td>$18 (2 People)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabins (per night)</td>
<td>$55 (2 People)</td>
<td>$70 (2 People)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For all of the above, additional people are $5 per person per night.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bunkhouses (per night)</th>
<th>$18 per person, $10 per Child</th>
<th>$20 per person, $10 per child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annuals (per annum)</td>
<td>$925 per annum for 2 adults. Plus $10 per night for each additional adult and $5 per night for each child over three.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permanents</th>
<th>$60 per week plus power</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storage (per annum)</td>
<td>$260 per annum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BACKGROUND

Council has recently taken over management of Myrtleford Caravan Park. A fee structure is needed to help the park become profitable and to give the park manager support when charging fees.
7.2.2 Myrtleford Caravan Park Fees and Charges (Cont’d)

File Number: 01640.07.00

ISSUES

A sound fee structure is needed to ensure that the caravan park runs at a profit. It is also important that fees are high enough to maximise Council’s investment in the park.

The above fee structure advocates the charging of higher fees during peak periods when the market demand is high. Peak times are deemed to be from Christmas Day until 29 January, from the Thursday prior to Easter to Easter Tuesday, Victorian school holidays and long weekends.

The recommended table of fees should be easy to administer, consistent and fair to all who use the park. In practise the above fees are already being charged, the adoption of the above recommendations formalises the practise.

The fees have been set at lower than the average market rate in recognition of improvements needed at the park. However they are a significant increase on what has previously been charged. It is expected that fees will gradually increase as the standard of facilities improve and clientele build up.

Contracts need to be entered into between Council and Annuals, and Council and Permanents so that each party is aware of its obligations. The contracts will also make it clear to Annuals that they must pay for additional people staying in their vans, thus creating another revenue stream.

CONCLUSION

The recommended fees and charges are a significant increase on what has previously been charged but should not cause the business to lose market share.

Most customers are happy to pay more if they see conditions improving and Council needs the additional revenue to re-invest in the park. The new fee schedule should alleviate the pressure from the park managers and allow the business to operate more profitably.
7.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER (Cont’d)

7.2.3 Myrtleford Caravan Park Business Plan

File Number: 01640.07.00

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to adopt a business plan which has been written for the management of the Myrtleford Caravan Park.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Myrtleford Caravan Park Business Plan as attached be noted.

BACKGROUND

Council took over control of the Myrtleford Caravan Park in late October after the previous lessees elected not to take up an option on their lease.

In order to operate the Caravan Park efficiently a business plan has been written and placed before Council for adoption.

ISSUES

The caravan park needs to be run in a business like fashion and capital works need to be invested in wisely.

Following this business plan should achieve the following:

♦ Optimise revenue while Council is managing the park
♦ Enable Council to gain the best possible price when and if it decides to lease the park to a third party.

Even if the Caravan Park is leased out in the not to distant future the business plan can still be used as a guide for prioritising Capital Works.

The main focus of the business plan is to suggest ways which will increase business and to introduce a more realistic two tiered pricing system which will increase revenue.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The business plan projects that the caravan park will make a loss of approx $79,000 for this financial year reducing to approx $31,000 in 2011/12 as income rises. This seems to suggest that the most appropriate course for Council to take is to lease the park. It would also remove the burden of funding the Capital Works Program away from Council and onto the Lessee.
7.2.3 Myrtleford Caravan Park Business Plan (Cont’d)

File Number: 01640.07.00

The above figures are estimates made with no reliable history to go by. Council will have a better idea of the profitability of the park after Easter this year when most of the revenue will have been collected and expenditure incurred.

CONCLUSION

This business plan is a valuable document that will provide a guide to the management of one of Council’s most valuable assets. This will be updated regularly.
7.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER (Cont’d)

7.2.4 Finance Committee Meeting

File Number:

INTRODUCTION

The Finance Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday 16 January 2008. The minutes of the meeting have been circulated and are attached for Council’s consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

*That the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 16 January 2008 be noted and the following recommendations be adopted:*

1. *That the report for December 2007 as presented to the Finance Committee be adopted.*

2. *That the creditors and Wages payments for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2007 as presented to the Finance Committee be ratified.*

ISSUES:

Major unfavourable variances up to 31 December 2007 are:

- **HACC Services**
  
  Due to client fees and in-house support fees being significantly below budget. Investigation which has taken place since the Finance Committee Meeting indicates that the variance is primarily due to over-estimating budgeted income.

- **Building Services**
  
  Building Services is showing an unfavourable variance primarily due to income being $24,000 lower than budget year to date. Compounding this problem expenditure is $12,000 above budget, primarily due to salaries.

  However the building surveyor has recently received notification that a significant building application at Falls Creek will be made to Council this financial year. This is worth approximately $30,000 in fees. This should bring this area back close to budget.

  Council needs to look at this area carefully as there seems to be a permanent trend towards lower income. It needs to be established whether this is due to economic downturn or increased competition.
Other major areas of concern identified at the meeting were:

♦ Visitor Information Centres – the VIC Budgets are tracking as per revised budget in all cost centres except stock purchase which is over budget. This working capital for purchase of retail stock enables generation of revenue which is anticipated to increase during the balance of the financial year. As Council has no history of running these centres it is hard to know where our expenditure will end up.

♦ Training – Additional spending on executive leadership training has caused the year to date figure to be significantly over budget. Unless expenditure is reduced, the year end figure may end up well over budget. Further training will be reduced to compensate.

♦ Myrtleford Caravan Park – Income is meeting expectations and is expected to be above the budget by the end of the financial year. Cabin rentals and income from Annuals has been particularly strong. However expenditure on repairs and maintenance have been well above budget due to expenditure on the new toilet block and recommissioning the old toilet block, both of which have been neglected for several years.

Additionally another area of concern which has become apparent since the Finance Committee Meeting is Planning Other Expenses, which is currently $26,000 above the full year budget, and expected to be $48,000 above budget by the end of the financial year. A key reason for this is unbudgeted legal costs associated with the Coles appeal. This area needs to be closely monitored and budget adjustments to compensate identified.
7.3 MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES – TREVOR BRITTEN

7.3.1 Community Building Initiative - Township Community Atlas and Project Governance

File Number: SU 01782.00

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to:

- present the final draft of the governance arrangements for the Community Building Initiative (CBI) project for endorsement; and
- provide copies of each CBI small town ‘Community Atlas’ for noting.

The relevant papers form Attachments 1 and 2 to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the project governance model presented in Attachment 1 be adopted as the framework to undertake implementation of the Alpine CBI Project.

2. That the CBI small town ‘Community Atlases’ presented in Attachment 2 and representing the local action plans for each CBI township, be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

In March 2006, the Department for Victorian Communities (DVC) (now named the Dept for Planning and Community Development (DPCD)) approved a two year $143,000 grant to the Alpine Shire Council for the establishment of a CBI project.

In report 7.3.4 to the Council meeting of 7 November 2007, four recommendations were carried relating to the conduct of the Alpine CBI project. The recommendations carried were:

1. That the project plan and governance model presented in Attachments 1 and 2 to this report be endorsed as the framework to consult the community and the Department of Planning and Community Development on the implementation of the Alpine CBI Project.

2. That the Project Plan and Governance Model be reviewed following consultation with stakeholders and amended as required.

3. That the status of Bogong township as a CBI town be modified to that of ‘pending’ until such time as there is a satisfactory resolution regarding the future government administration of the township proper.
7.3 MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.3.1 Community Building Initiative - Township Community Atlas and Project Governance (Cont’d)

File Number: SU 01782.00

4. That an evaluation as to the worth of the CBI as a method for local area planning be undertaken in August 2008 and the results of that evaluation be reported to Council upon completion.

This report provides feedback and closure to resolutions 1, 2 and 3.

ISSUES

- CBI Resolutions from Council Report 7.3.4

With regards to Resolutions 1 and 2, Attachment 1 details the final CBI project governance model. The draft paper was subject to external stakeholder consultation including the project funding body representatives as well as being the subject of discussion at a Joint Forum of all CBI communities (held 14 November 2007).

The significant difference between the final draft as proposed to the consultation draft is that the CBI groups chose not to establish an umbrella CBI committee. The groups advocated for recognition of each individual township group as being accepted as a local steering committee in their own right.

In place of an overarching structure, the groups expressed the view that the preferred approach is for project staff to conduct two joint forums per annum. The purpose of the forums will be to provide information sharing and networking opportunities for CBI participants in the Alpine Shire.

Regarding Resolution #3, following further consultation with key council staff and funding body representatives, correspondence was forwarded to stakeholders of Bogong Village consistent with the position outlined in the resolution.

- CBI Township “Community Atlases”

A requirement by the CBI funding body is the creation of local township “action plans”. This is seen as an integral part of project delivery which also includes asset mapping, forming a local steering committee and community planning workshops.

Council would be aware from previous reports and briefings on the CBI project, that since mid 2006 a range of activities at each of the CBI towns has taken place involving the various project elements of mapping, workshopping and so forth. All of the activities generated records yet until recently, there had been no mechanism for reporting back to the communities on the activities they had participated in.
7.3 MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.3.1 Community Building Initiative - Township Community Atlas and Project Governance (Cont’d)

The concept of the “Community Atlas” was created to provide a ‘one stop shop’ document, a compilation of all known statistics, material generated and collated from the CBI project as well as relevant information from non-CBI activities. The Atlas therefore provides an analysis of information to create a basis for undertaking local action planning and defining key projects the local community will pursue.

A first draft of the Community Atlas, with content unique to each CBI town was written and presented at the Joint Forum of 14 November 2007. The content of the Atlas include: an executive summary; town profile; asset map; workshop report; current planning; next steps; and, a community action plan.

Since the Joint Forum and with the support of the Community Development staff, each active CBI group has completed their local action plan and prioritised actions for implementation. It is important to emphasise and be clear that the Atlas is not a Council plan. What the Atlas is a document to guide the energies and focus of activities for each of the CBI township committees and their participation in the CBI process.

To illustrate priority, the following are immediate actions each of the active CBI groups intend pursuing:

- **Dederang**: “Dederang Voice newsletter”; “Come Try Sports Day”; Advocate for future security of town water supply.
- **Harrietville**: “Harrietville Times newsletter”; “Replacement play equipment Tavare Park”; Harrietville Hall improvements”; “Sustainability Plan model”.
- **Porepunkah**: “Disabled toilet facilities”; Public Transport improvements”; “Community Noticeboard”.
- **Tawonga**: “Transport upgrades”; Improve local communications”.

For reference, copies of each town Community Atlas is provided in Attachment 2 to this report.

With regards to progress in Wandiligong, a draft “Wandiligong Community Atlas” has been compiled yet no CBI group exists as such to conclude the local planning exercise and efforts are being directed towards determining how best to work with the community.
7.3 MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.3.1 Community Building Initiative - Township Community Atlas and Project Governance (Cont’d)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The CBI project addresses the following strategic recommendations:

“There is active and informed participation in decision making affecting the Shire’s communities.” Key Direction Seven, 2030 Community Vision.

“Strong community involvement in decision making” Strategic Goal 1 Governance;

“Community Wellbeing is a core focus” and “Leadership in Emergency Recovery” Goal 3 Community Services;

“Communities are resilient with a capacity to grow and adapt.” Goal 6 Development Services: Council Plan 2005 – 2009

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The CBI project was approved for two years from March 2006 to March 2008, with funding totalling $143,000 from DPCD. The Minister for Community Development, Hon Peter Batchelor, announced on 14 October 2007 that funding for all existing CBI projects across Victoria would be extended to March 2010 with an additional two years funding.

Formal advice as to the quantum and obligations for accessing this “stage 2” funding has been received and the process of assessing the contract proposal from DPCD has commenced.

CONSULTATION

Internal consultation has occurred through the establishment and operation of the CBI Internal Reference Group (as per the Governance Model in Attachment 1).

External advice from community stakeholders has been obtained including advice received to staff from attendees at the Joint Forum of 14 November 2007. The final arrangements were presented to the Community Development Committee at its meeting of 12 December 2007 for noting.
7.3.1 Community Building Initiative - Township Community Atlas and Project Governance (Cont'd)

**CONCLUSION**

This report now confirms the project governance approach to implementing the CBI project.

This report also illustrates the significant local planning that has been undertaken in the last four months of 2007 since the reinvigoration of the CBI as a local community development exercise. The township “Community Atlas” documents lay out a distinctly local approach and flavour as to how community needs can be tackled by each of the groups under the CBI banner.
7.3.2 Youth Council

File Number: 1080.10

INTRODUCTION

The 2008 Youth Council came together for the first time at a two day induction camp at Howman's Gap on 14 and 15 January 2008. At this camp the 13 young people spent time getting to know one another, talking about youth issues, their role and what they hoped for the future.

The group reviewed and amended the Youth Council Charter and commenced work on the 2008-2009 Youth Action Plan.

Three nominations from Marian College to join the Youth Council have also been received.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the amended and attached Youth Council Charter be adopted.

2. That the following nominees be appointed to the 2007/08 Youth Council:
   i. Kaylee Underhill
   ii. Jacinta Russo

3. That Giovanna Mancuso be co-opted to the 2007/08 Youth Council as a ‘trainee’ without voting rights; with the opportunity to be appointed as a Youth Councillor as vacancies occur:

BACKGROUND

The following matters were discussed at the camp:

- **Slogan**
  The Youth Council developed their slogan for 2008. This is:
  - SNOWY (Supporting, New, Opportunities, Within, Youth).

  The following ideas were discussed in developing the acronym:
  together, connection, expression, teamwork, leadership, change, views, communication, future, represent, Alpine, awareness, youth, Shire, results, ideas, Council, discussion, activities, opportunities, creativity, development, aims, actions and voice.
7.3.2 **Youth Council** (Cont’d)

File Number: 00206.0

SNOWY will appear on the Youth Council T-shirts and on other communications that they undertake.

- **Instrument of delegation**
  Some amendments are required to the Instrument of delegation to ensure that it is clear and consistent throughout.

- **Nominations**
  Three nominations have been received from Marion College to complete the Youth Council membership.
  The difficult task of recommending appointments to the two remaining positions was undertaken by Kate Bradley (Youth Services Officer) and Helen Vey (Community Services Officer); who considered the nominee’s applications and interview results.

**CONCLUSION**

The appointment of the two Marian College representatives provides a full compliment of Youth Council for 2008. By reviewing their Charter the group has a clear direction and understanding of their roles, responsibilities and duties for the year. The work that they have commenced on the Alpine Shire Youth Council Action plan is outstanding and we commend this new group for their already demonstrated commitment enthusiasm to Youth Council and the young people of Alpine Shire.
7.3.3 Arts and Culture Strategic Plan

File Number: 00206.0

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to adopt the draft Arts and Culture Strategic Plan as a key directional document for Arts and Culture in Alpine Shire and provide an update on the relocation of the Bright Art Gallery and Cultural Centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the attached draft Arts and Culture strategy be adopted.
2. That the recommendations of the plan be implemented according to priorities and timelines set by Council.
3. That decisions regarding the relocation of the Art Gallery be deferred.

STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Vision

The strategy identifies the following vision for arts and culture in the Shire:

“Our vision in Alpine Shire is that arts and culture will be highly visible and valued and a range of cultural activities and programs are available to people of all ages.”

and the following roles for Council in achieving the vision:

i. To encourage and support community involvement and appreciation of a wide range of arts and cultural activities at all levels.

ii. To adopt arts and cultural developments as central to the social and economic progress of the Shire, arts and cultural activities are integral to municipal planning and arts and cultural resources should be accessible to all members of the community.

iii. To be committed to encouraging the development of the arts at all levels as it recognises the contribution that an active arts scene makes to cultural life and Shire presentation.
iv. To commit to creating places which are welcoming and attractive, both for its own citizens and for the many visitors who are drawn by the exciting cultural life in the state and municipality.

v. To create an environment where a wide range of individuals and community groups can prosper and develop their potential. Council aims to facilitate partnerships between community groups, government and other agencies with a view to maximising available resources for the betterment of community life and for economic and tourism development.

vi. To provide advice, support and encouragement to the community through its various officers and departments, in-kind support where practicable and has funding mechanisms in place to ensure that worthy community projects and events across all fields, including in the arts and culture areas can be initiated and further developed.

Strategic Goals:

The strategy sets out the following strategic goals that underpin the development of arts and culture;

i. Ensure a cross-council approach is pursued in the planning, management and delivery of services in the arts and culture areas.

ii. Enhance the image of the Shire as a centre of artistic creativity, excellence and cultural expression, locally and throughout Victoria.

iii. Foster the development of a diverse, active and entrepreneurial local arts sector, through facilitating access to local networks and facilities and professional development opportunities.

iv. Support the presentation of a wide range of high-quality and diverse arts and cultural experiences across a range of public venues and presentation formats.

v. Encourage opportunities for community appreciation of, and involvement in, a wide range of arts and cultural activities, both as engaged audiences and active participants.

vi. Encourage the growth in community interest, appreciation and recognition of excellence, innovation and cultural diversity in the arts.
vii. Utilising existing mechanisms, where practicable, support initiatives involving artists of all levels, especially where there is a demonstrated benefit to the wider community.

viii. Continue to monitor and assess arts and cultural programs, facilities and initiatives in the Alpine Shire, identifying gaps in services to the community and exploring new opportunities where viable.

**Action Plan:**
The strategy concludes with an action plan to achieve the vision that's summarised as follows -

i. Infrastructure – including accessibility, asset/resource register, arts precinct board and organisations, management plan for venues, curatorial and acquisition policy

ii. Community arts – including arts classes/workshops

iii. Artist in residence, education, community arts events, special interest groups, environment, and touring events

iv. Promotion – including brochure/maps/trails, touring events exhibitions, website, press releases, signage, promotion of the district, tours and local arts product and use of media.

v. Heritage – including the environment, indigenous cultural connections, white settlement, museums, historical groups, memorabilia and conservation.

vi. Events – including local festivals and events, exhibitions, business/tourism and conferences and conventions

vii. Funding – including cultural trust, sponsorship, fundraising, grants program and funding consortium.

A copy of the Arts and Culture strategy is attached.

**BACKGROUND**

- The Council Plan 2006-2010 identifies ‘Establish the feasibility of a comprehensive arts precinct for Bright including relocation of the Bright Art Gallery’ and ‘Develop an arts and culture action plan/strategy’ as two action items relating to our communities being rich in arts and culture. This study directly addresses these action items.

- Council has historically had limited involvement with arts and culture, however, we are at a time where this area is emerging as a key aspect of both our social and economic development.

- The report was released for public comment at Council’s November meeting. Council received thirteen responses, three of which made reference to the strategy.
7.3 MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.3.3 Arts and Culture Strategic Plan (Cont’d)

ISSUES

Community comments following consultation are summarised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comment:</th>
<th>Response:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need for someone to co-ordinate Arts and Culture activities and events across the Alpine Shire utilising existing venues;</td>
<td>Council acknowledges the need for human resources to implement the strategy and will undertake further investigation and modelling to determine possible solutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The plan doesn’t address all of the terms of reference. The action items relate to infrastructure; community arts, promotion, heritage, events and funding are absent;</td>
<td>Council acknowledges that some action areas are under developed, these will be addressed in consultation with the community to ensure local relevance and support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The document does not fully address the importance of Arts and Culture to tourism;</td>
<td>It should be noted that tourism is not the focus of the report, but it’s agreed that there’s an opportunity to develop arts and culture as a key tourism product for the region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The plan does not address the support of existing programs;</td>
<td>Whilst not spelt out in the strategy, current activities and organisations will form the basis and be a key component of any activities that are undertaken.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The action plan mentions in kind council officer time to undertake these activities. Which raises the question, ‘what can be accomplished with such an incredible workload. Indigo Shire has an Arts and Culture person who works three days a week and finds it difficult to achieve all that is expected in that time?’</td>
<td>As detailed above.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bright Art Gallery and Cultural Centre relocation

Thirteen comments where received from the community regarding the relocation of the Bright Art Gallery & Cultural Centre to an alternative location in the Bright CBD. This matter is being further considered and will be reported to a later Council meeting.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The strategy is consistent with the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2006-2010 strategic goal “Our Communities are rich in arts and cultural diversity” and the action: “to develop an arts and culture action plan/strategy and investigate a comprehensive arts precinct in Bright”.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

It must be noted that the strategy has the potential to significantly affect Council’s recurrent and capital finances, and human resources. For this reason, implementation of the strategy must be carefully considered and planned.

CONSULTATION

Extensive community and stakeholder consultation preceded the draft report. The draft was released for public comment for one month and attracted several submissions.

CONCLUSION

Adoption of the Arts and Culture Strategic Plan will be the first step in supporting and developing arts and culture in the Shire.
7.3 MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.3.4 2007/08 Home and Community Care Fee Schedule

File Number: 1030.00

INTRODUCTION

The Home and Community Care (HACC) fee schedule has been reviewed according to Department of Human Services (DHS) guidelines and the following recommendations are made.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the 2007/08 Home and Community Care fee schedule (table 1) be adopted, to take effect from 1 March 2008.

2. That clients be advised of the changes, and the new schedule be appropriately advertised before implementation.

BACKGROUND

HACC fees have increased only once in 4 years.

The main changes to the fee schedule are the refinement of penalty rates for full cost recovery clients. The only change recommended for core HACC clients is an increase in the meals on wheels charge, moving it towards the fee recommended by DHS guidelines.

The actual cost of providing HACC services is met by the collection of fees and significant subsidies from Council and the DHS.

ISSUES

The minimum fee recommended by DHS for meals on wheels meals is $7.40. Alpine Shire clients have enjoyed very low meals on wheels prices for numerous years. The recommended increase is a balance between covering costs and aligning fees with DHS guidelines; whilst maintaining an affordable, high quality service.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2007/08 HACC budget includes the recommended fee increases. No changes are proposed for the key areas of personal and general home care.
CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The new fee schedule is in keeping with a 2004 strategy to gradually align HACC fees with DHS guidelines.
### Table 1: 2007/08 HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE FEE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>HACC fees (inclusive of GST)</th>
<th>Agency fees - full cost recovery (inclusive of GST).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Activity Group (including Lunch Club).</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals on Wheels</td>
<td>$6.50 ($6.00)</td>
<td>$7.40 ($7.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal care</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Care</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home maintenance</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Modifications</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>$14.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respite Home &amp; Community</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>9 hour sleepover (10.30pm to 7.30am)</th>
<th>Call out during the night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overnight respite - Agency only.</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
<td>$16.50 per ½ hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION
Council is required to approve a name for a new common road created by a subdivision off Elgin Street in Myrtleford.

RECOMMENDATION

That the road name “Michelini Close” be approved for the Common Road created as part of proposed Plan of Subdivision 548112H under Planning Permit No.2003/121.

BACKGROUND
The land has been subdivided under Planning Permit No. 2003/121 into seven residential lots.
7.4 ACTING MANAGER STRATEGIC SERVICES – STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Cont’d)

7.4.1 Geographic Place Names – Michelini Close (Cont’d)

File Number: 1763.08

The Developer requested that the common road be named after Emo Michelini who passed away in May 2006. Emo Michelini an immigrant from Northern Italy arrived in Myrtleford with his family in 1951. Emo started out as a sharefarmer and subsequently purchased land in Buffalo River and Buckland Valleys for tobacco farming. Emo commenced viticulture in the Buckland Valley in 1982 and introduced grape processing facilities to Myrtleford in 1997.

The request has been assessed under the naming guidelines set out in Council Policy No. 57 and is in accordance with the Geographic Place Names Act 1998 and the Local Government Act.

ISSUES

Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Consideration of the road name has been undertaken in accordance with Council Policy No. 57 Place, Road, Memorial Naming

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

No Public Advertising is required when naming a Common Road.

The Geographic Place Names Committee have agreed that ‘Michelini Close’ is a suitable name.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the geographic naming guidelines and Council’s ‘Place, Road and Memorial Naming Policy’, ‘Michelini Close’ should be approved.
7.4.2 Geographic Place Names – Tom Bibby Bridge

File Number: 1763.08

INTRODUCTION

Council proposes to formally name the newly constructed access bridge across the Ovens River in Smoko at the picnic area, ‘Tom Bibby Bridge’ and the road to be named ‘Bibby Lane’.

RECOMMENDATION

That the bridge name “Tom Bibby Bridge” is approved for the newly constructed access bridge across the Ovens River in Smoko at the picnic area and the road name ‘Bibby Lane’ is approved.
7.4.2 Geographic Place Names – Tom Bibby Bridge

File Number: 1763.08

BACKGROUND

Tom Bibby was an early Cattleman. He worked for Treasures and lived in Harrietville. He was very well known especially because of his kind manner and the fact that he was always available to help and assist. His wife Maud was born and bred in Harrietville. Tom owned this land for many years before passing it on to his son Bill Bibby. Bill sold the land several years ago.

A road name must be approved in accordance with the Geographic Place Names Act 1998, Local Government Act and Council Policy No. 57.

ISSUES

Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Consideration of the road name has been undertaken in accordance with Council Policy No. 57 Place, Road, Memorial Naming

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

Notice of the name ‘Bibby Bridge’ and ‘Bibby Lane’ was given in the Alpine Observer on Wednesday 24th October 2007 for a 14 day period. Andrew Kemp who paid for the construction of the Bridge requested that the Bridge be called ‘Tom Bibby’ rather than ‘Bibby’ because he believed it sounded better. The Geographic Place Names Committee met in December and agreed to recommend ‘Tom Bibby Bridge’ rather than ‘Bibby Bridge’.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the geographic naming guidelines and Council’s ‘Place, Road and Memorial Naming Policy’, and given there has been no objection to the proposed name, ‘Tom Bibby Bridge and ‘Bibby Lane’ should be approved.
7.5 MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES – JOHN CARTER

7.5.1 Protocol for Inter-Council Emergency Management Resource Sharing

File Number: 21604

INTRODUCTION

The Municipal Association Victoria introduced a Protocol for inter-council emergency Management resource sharing to formalise cross council support during emergencies. They seek confirmation from councils who seek to become signatory to protocol.

RECOMMENDATION


BACKGROUND

The MAV have developed a protocol to be used by Municipalities for the sharing of municipal resources between councils with response and recovery tasks during emergencies. This led to the development of a Protocol for Inter-Council Emergency Management Resource Sharing.

In the development of this protocol the MAV consulted with the Office of the Emergency Services Commissioner, Civic Mutual Plus, WorkSafe and the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority.

This protocol is consistent with the concepts and policy guidelines articulated in the Emergency Management Act 1986 and the Emergency Management Manual of Victoria, and has been endorsed by the MAV Board of Management.

CONSULTATION

Councils were invited to provide input into a draft protocol in October 2006. Alpine Shire MERO indicated support to the proposal at this time as it reflected history of past cooperation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Is in accordance with the Council Plan in that it maintains appropriate emergency management capabilities to ensure effective response to community emergencies.
7.5  MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.5.1 Protocol for Inter-Council Emergency Management Resource Sharing (Cont’d)

File Number: 21604

FINANCIAL & RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Under the terms of the Protocol the council receiving the assistance will be responsible for the reimbursement or payment of all expenses incurred by the assisting council, including salaries, overtime, penalties, travel and accommodation expenses and consumables utilised in conjunction with the resources provided.

Claims for reimbursement of eligible municipal expenditure on defined natural disasters from the State Government may include the expenses paid to the assisting council.

CONCLUSION

The protocol formalises recent cross council support during emergencies and should only improve cooperation during emergencies.
7.5  MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES (Cont’d)

7.5.2  Bogong High Plains Road upgrade-Project update (January)

File Number: 1609.00

INTRODUCTION

This report is provided as an ongoing update from AG Project Consultants to the Project Control Group and Council as to the progress of the Bogong High Plains Road Sealing Project.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

BACKGROUND

At the Alpine Shire’s Special Council Meeting on Wednesday 19th December 2007 Winslow Constructions were awarded the construction contract to seal the Bogong High Plains Road. We are currently finalising Contract Administration issues to ensure commencement of works once Formal Possession of Site is handed over.

The TBM associated with the Bogong Power Development Project was not operating due to break down from 26th October 2007 to 22nd January 2008.

With no further delays, it is expected that works on the Bogong High Plains Road project will commence in February 2008.
ISSUES

The Tunnel Boring Machine breakdown has caused a significant delay to the commencement of the road project, however with TBM returning to production, both the Project Manager and Winslow Constructions representatives are confident that the project will still come in within budget and within the timeline setout in the agreements with the Federal and State Governments.

The Project Team will continue to monitor the progress of the material haulage to ensure satisfactory completion, quality and quantity.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

This month Council received $500,000 from Parks Victoria being their first part payment towards their $2,000,000 contribution. With the Contract Award for the road construction and sealing, expenditure is expected to rise in February and March.

CONSULTATION

The January Project Control Group Meeting was held on Wednesday 23rd January. A copy of the minutes is attached.

Meetings and consultation is continuing with all the major stakeholders in particular with AGL and McConnell Dowell, with the view to ensure any issues and potential impediments are dealt with as early as possible.

CONCLUSION

The Bogong High Plains Road is continuing to progress even though the TBM breakdown has caused a significant delay. With the TBM back in production and the recommencement of the material being transported to Basalt Hill, it is envisaged that works on the road will commence sometime in February.

With no further major delays, the Project Team are confident that the project will be finalised within time and budget.
8.1 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL TO OTHER BODIES
9.1 GENERAL BUSINESS
10.1 MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN GIVEN
11.1 QUESTION TIME
12.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

RECOMMENDATION

That the following documents be signed and sealed.


7. Section 173 Agreement - Robert Parolin, Merriang South Road, Myrtleford.