



# Alpine Shire

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**M4 - 3 MAY 2016**

**Mount Beauty Senior Citizens' Centre**

**7:00pm**



Notice is hereby given that the next **Ordinary Meeting** of the **Alpine Shire Council** will be held in the Senior Citizens Centre, Tawonga Crescent, Mount Beauty, on **3 May 2016** commencing at **7:00pm**.

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## **1 RECORDING AND LIVESTREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

*The CEO will read the following statement:*

All Council meetings are filmed, with both video and audio being recorded.

Video recording is focused on Councillors and staff, while audio from the entire room is captured.

By speaking during question time, or at any time, you consent to your voice and any comments you make being recorded.

The entire recording will be live-streamed to the internet on Council's website [www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au), and will also be made available online after the meeting. This is to improve access and transparency of Council decision making to our community.

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS, RECOGNITION OF ALL PEOPLE AND OPENING PRAYER**

*The CEO will read the following statement:*

The Alpine Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land we are now on.

We also acknowledge those people who have contributed to the rich fabric of our community and strive to make wise decisions that will improve the quality of life for all.

## **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **3.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – M3 - 5 APRIL 2016**

*Cr Farrell  
Cr Forsyth*

*That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting M3 held on 5 April 2016 as circulated be confirmed*

*Carried*

## **4 APOLOGIES**

Nil

## **5 OBITUARIES / CONGRATULATIONS**

Cr Keeble - Congratulations to the Mount Beauty Music Festival Committee for coordinating another successful Mount Beauty Music Festival.

Cr Farrell - Congratulations to Autumn Festival Committee in Bright for coordinating another successful Autumn Festival.

Cr Roper - Congratulations to RSL clubs for performing ANZAC day services.



## **6 DECLARATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

## **7 QUESTION TIME**

### **David Priestly**

- Expressed concerned about lack of consultation about mooted change of management of the library service in Alpine Shire. How will the staffing function change?

The CEO advised that when Council takes over the library service there will be 0.2 full-time equivalent more council staff than current, and operating hours will be maintained.

- Will the close relationship between Friends of Library and library staff be maintained after Council takes over the library service?

The CEO advised that Council would like to maintain the close relationship and would like to meet directly with Friends of Library representatives to discuss their concerns. The monthly meetings between the library staff and Friends of Library group will not change, however Council cannot guarantee which staff will be working in the library.

- The process of establishing changes appears to have been done without any staff consultation, please comment.

The CEO agreed and expressed concern that staff consultation has been inadequate. This has been outside of Council's control and urged concerned community members to take up any concerns with the High Country Library Corporation CEO.

- How will library satisfaction be monitored? And what will Council do to respond?

The CEO advised that Council's performance is monitored under the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework. The libraries in Alpine Shire currently provide relatively good service - high usage and low cost. If the community has concerns about Council's performance they can contact Council directly or communicate any concerns to Councillors.

- I understand the Library Hub will located be in Myrtleford Library, will staff be working in Wangaratta?

The CEO advised that just over two full-time equivalent staff will be located in Myrtleford. However there will be a part-time Library Hub coordinator working from the Wangaratta library.

- I understand the Library Hub service will be paid for by a number of participating councils. Is the hub ready to go (infrastructure, staff, etc.)?

The CEO advised that Council will earn \$22,000 per annum to provide the Library Hub service. The library hub will be set up and operational (staff, infrastructure,



etc.) by 1 August 2016. Existing equipment, such as compactus, tables and trolleys will be relocated from Wangaratta.

**Sharon Plummer**

- A Mount Beauty Skate Park upgrade masterplan was prepared in 2012 and the community has raised \$15,000 towards implementing this plan. When can we expect to this to be included in the budget?

The Director Assets advised that Council has a Strategic Project Pipeline that includes a prioritised list of all the potential capital works projects identified across the Shire, which is reviewed by Council annually. This project is included in the Strategic Project Pipeline. Councillor Roper advised that the community can make a submission to Council's Draft Budget. Councillor Vonarx advised that the community's effort of raising \$15,000 for this project demonstrates strong community's support for the project. Director of Assets advised that he would contact Ms Plummer after the meeting and advise where the Mount Beauty Skate Park project was currently ranked on Council's Strategic Project Pipeline and advise the budget for the Myrtleford Skate park project, which was recently completed.

**Marilyn May**

- Queried what was happening in relation to her request for an extension of the concrete kerb on the eastern side of the Kiewa Valley Highway from the church towards the southern end of the township.

The CEO advised that Kiewa Valley Highway is managed by VicRoads and we have little influence over their management of roads, however we would raise it at our next quarterly meeting. The Director Assets advised he would follow this matter up and the Engineering Coordinator would contact her regarding her request.

**Jill Riley**

- Enquired about the extent of the tree removal and maintenance works being undertaken in Maddison Street, Mount Beauty.

The Director Assets advised that one Pin Oak tree had been removed in Maddison Street, Mount Beauty to address a public safety risk. During this work it was discovered that the upper canopy of another tree in the street was in poor condition and also presented a public safety risk. Council has planned further stakeholder engagement before undertaking further works. Director of Assets advised that he would discuss the query in more detail with Ms Riley after the meeting.



### **Questions on notice**

#### **Helen Mathew**

- Can you confirm that Mount Beauty is not included in the current planning scheme amendment C51? What investigation will be undertaken, how and by whom will it be 'deemed appropriate'?

Director Sustainable Development confirmed that the Mount Beauty township is not included in the Planning Scheme amendment C51. The Planning Scheme identifies individual properties, such as the St Joseph's Catholic Church in Mount Beauty. No precincts are proposed in this amendment. If further amendments are considered by Council then consultation with the community would occur and Council would be the authority to deem an amendment appropriate or not.

#### **Bronwyn Gray**

- What are the current plans for safe cycling routes to school for children who are coming from Tawonga South down the Kiewa Valley Highway, and from Simmonds Creek Road where they need to cross the highway?

Director Assets advised that the Council awarded a contract in May 2015 to complete the pedestrian crossing point on Kiewa Valley Highway and connecting path on Simmonds Creek Road. However, just after this the Asset Development team became aware of the development application on Kiewa Valley Highway opposite the Simmonds Creek Road intersection. The proposed developed could affect the design and location of the proposed crossing point, so it was decided to defer the project until further information from the developer and VicRoads was provided. We have sought clarity from VicRoads on several occasions and only recently determined that the proposed crossing point can be constructed as designed.



## **8 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY OFFICERS**

### **8.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – DAVE BARRY**

#### **8.1.1 Contracts approved by the CEO**

*Cr Vonarx*

*Cr Farrell*

*That the Contract approved by the CEO be noted.*

Contract No:	1504501	Process:	Public tender
Title:	Myrtleford and Mount Beauty Netball courts synthetic surfacing		
Tenderer:	Eclipse sporting surfaces		
\$ (excl. GST):	86,500		
Funding:	SRV Local facilities for local clubs program		

*Carried*





## **8.2 DIRECTOR CORPORATE PERFORMANCE – TREVOR BRITTEN**

### **8.2.1 Adoption of 2016/17 Draft Budget**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this report is to receive the Alpine Shire Council 2016/17 draft Budget, and to place it on public exhibition inviting submissions.

*Cr Pearce*

*Cr Vonarx*

*That:*

- 1. The proposed 2016/17 budget annexed to this resolution be amended to set the special rate for Dinner Plain at 65% of the general rate.*
- 2. The proposed 2016/17 budget annexed to this resolution (incorporating the amendment for the Dinner Plain Special Rate) and featuring a 2.3% rates and charges rise be the draft budget prepared by Alpine Shire Council for the purposes of section 127(1) of the Local Government Act.*
- 3. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to:*
  - a. Give public notice of the preparation of the Alpine Shire Council 2016/17 Budget in accordance with section 129(1) of the Local Government Act 1989; and*
  - b. Make available for public inspection the information required to be made available in accordance with the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.*
- 4. Consideration be given to any submission on any proposal contained in the budget made under sections 129 and 223 of the Act, with submissions closing 3pm, 9 June 2016; and*
- 5. A recommendation to adopt the budget be presented to a Special Meeting of Council on 28 June 2016.*

*Carried*

Cr Roper called for a division

For - Crs Pearce, Vonarx, Keeble, Forsyth, Farrell

Against - Crs Roper, Janas

#### **BACKGROUND**

Council has prepared a Budget for 2016/17 which is aligned to the vision in the Council Plan 2013/17. It seeks to maintain and improve services and infrastructure as well as deliver projects and services that are valued by our community, and do this with a lower rate increase than that mandated by the State Government.



This Budget projects a surplus of \$1.8 million which is influenced by:

- Rates and charges to increase by 2.3% being 0.2% lower than the rate cap set by the State Government.
- Reduction on previous years employee costs of \$1.1 million to \$8.2 million. This is mainly attributed to HACC services being recommissioned to another provider by the Department of Health and Human Services. This is partly offset by only applying a 1.5% increment to salaries and wages in 2016/17 and projected in the long term financial plan.
- Additional Roads to Recovery (R2R) funding expected to be received in 2016/17 of \$1.2 million.
- Reduction in user fees of \$427K. This is partly attributed to the recommissioning of HACC services and a reduction in revenue derived from pools and facilities. This is a proactive move by Council, reducing the early bird family pool seasons pass from \$99 to \$89 to focus on increasing usage of its facilities.

### **Key things Council is funding**

Council is focusing on its capital works program to provide greater benefits to the local community. This year the capital works program will be the largest program budgeted at \$9.4 million. Major projects being undertaken by Council are:

- Alpine Better Places – Mafeking Square (\$1.5 million), Myrtleford (\$96K) and Porepunkah (\$1.5 million);
- Alpine Events Park – Bright (\$670K);
- Renewal of roads (\$2.2 million); and
- Renewal of bridges (\$524K).

In addition to capital projects Council is undertaking projects that align with the Council Plan strategic objectives as follows:

#### Strategic Objective 1: Inspired community leadership

- Transition Myrtleford, Mount Beauty and Bright libraries into Council from High Country Library Corporation operations with a focus on customer service and process improvement.
- Continue to trial participative budgeting techniques.
- Strategically lobby and network with key decision makers to positively influence funding applications and opportunities.

#### Strategic Objective 2: Enhancing the environment and liveability

- Develop and implement a holistic strategy for the collection, transfer and disposal of waste, recyclables and green/organic waste.
- Cease landfill operations and transition to a landfill diversion strategy.
- Implement stage one of the Asset Management System to provide greater detail on how Council manages its assets and centralising asset maintenance, finance and valuation requirements.



- Undertake Council's tree planting and maintenance programs.

Strategic Objective 3: Strengthening the community

- Improve affordability and accessibility to community facilities;
- Review of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan;
- Undertake year two of the Engage program aimed at capacity building in young people.

Strategic Objective 4: Prosperous economy, employment and investment

- Develop a new Alpine Shire Cycle Guide to assist with promoting North East Victoria as the chosen cycle destination in Australia.
- Event attraction including Spartan and Enduro World series to increase the economic benefit derived within the Alpine Shire.
- Market test operations of the Myrtleford Holiday Park to ensure long term sustainability.
- Review operations of Councils business facilities to achieve optimal efficiency.

Strategic Objective 5: Performance focused organisation

- Develop and implement automated business solutions (priorities include customer requests, time and attendance and purchase to pay).
- Review and update the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).
- Implement web based health and safety management system.
- Continue to simplify workflows and procedures.

**The Rate Rise**

Council's rate revenue rise will be 2.3%. This is expected to be one of the lowest rate increases in the State and lower than the 2.5% order set by the Minister for Local Government on 14 December 2015 under the Fair Go Rates System. Service charges are expected to also increase by 2.3% for the average ratepayer which is reflective of the cost to manage the waste business function. Council has also proposed to reduce the Dinner Plain special rate from 80% of the general rate in the dollar to 43% which will equate to the commercial/industrial rate differential. This results in a reduction of \$274K in special rate revenue. Overall Council's rates and charges revenue will only increase by 1.2% compared to the 2015.16 forecast.

Key drivers in determining the rates and charges for the year are:

- To minimise rate increases to ratepayers.
- To fund renewal and upgrade of infrastructure and community assets.
- To fund ongoing service delivery.
- Valuations as per the General Revaluation dated 1 January 2016 (as amended by supplementary valuations).



## **Context**

Key budget information is provided in the Draft Budget about the rate increase, operating result, services, cash and investments, capital works, financial position, financial sustainability and strategic objectives of the Council.

In advance of preparing the budget, Officers firstly review and update Council's long term financial projections. Financial projections for at least four years are ultimately included in Council's Strategic Resource Plan (SRP), which is the key medium-term financial plan produced by Council on a rolling basis. In addition to the Council prepares and models a Long Term Financial Plan to ensure financial sustainability for 10 years into the future.

The preparation of the budget, within this broader context, begins with Officers preparing the operating and capital components of the annual budget during January and February. Consideration is also given to submissions received in the prior year which were not funded and community consultation which has occurred throughout the year. A draft consolidated budget is then prepared and various iterations are considered by Council at informal briefings during March and April. A 'proposed' budget is prepared in accordance with the Act and submitted to Council for approval 'in principle'. Council then seeks feedback from the Community through the formal submission process.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Draft Budget is prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*. Relevant requirements are set out in attachment 8.2.1b.

## **CONSULTATION**

Council is required to give 'public notice' that it intends to 'adopt' the budget. It must give 28 days' notice of its intention to adopt the proposed budget and make the budget available for inspection at its offices and on its internet web site. A person has a right to make a submission on any proposal contained in the budget and any submission must be considered before adoption of the budget by Council.

Council officers undertake community engagement processes throughout the year to assist with the development of the budget. The final step is for Council to adopt the budget after receiving and considering any submissions from interested parties. The budget is required to be adopted by 30 June and a copy submitted to the Minister within 28 days after adoption.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with Alpine Shire Council's Council Plan, Strategic themes and the Local Government Act. The Draft Budget is presented for Council's consideration and public exhibition.



**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Corporate Performance
- Manager Corporate

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 8.2.1a - Draft Budget 2016/17
- 8.2.1b – Extracts from Local Government Act 1989



## 8.2.2 Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 (review 2016)

File Number: 600.03

### INTRODUCTION

The annual review of the Council Plan is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1989*. This report provides an outline of the 2016 review process.

*Cr Pearce*

*Cr Farrell*

*That Council:*

1. *Note that the proposed changes to the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 in 2016 are to:*
  - a. *Update the Mayor and CEO messages;*
  - b. *Update the Annual Action Plan to reflect the Major Initiatives as identified in the 2016/17 Budget; and*
  - c. *Update the Strategic Resource Plan to be consistent with the Long Term Financial Plan identified in the 2016/17 Budget.*
2. *Note that section 125(9) of the Local Government Act 1989 requires a section 223 public submission process only where there are proposed adjustments in the Council Plan to:*
  - a. *The strategic objectives of the council;*
  - b. *Strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next four years; or*
  - c. *Strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives.*
3. *Note that no formal public submission process is required under section 125(9) of the Local Government Act 1989 as there are no proposed adjustments to the strategic objectives, strategies or strategic indicators;*
4. *Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to prepare the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 (review 2016) for adoption at a special council meeting to be held in June.*

*Carried*

### BACKGROUND

The Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 was adopted in June 2013, to cover the four-year term of the Councillors elected in 2012. It was intended to be a more strategic document than in previous years, identifying the key strategic objectives, strategies and indicators, but not identifying individual actions in a specific year. This meant that the plan was much more likely to 'stand the test of time' over the four years of Council's term, without the need for constant modification.

The council plan is supported by an annual action plan, which is an appendix to the council plan. This ensures that the activities committed to each year are easily



identifiable from those that were promised over the life of the council plan. These are reflected in the annual budget.

Section 125(7) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) specifies:

*At least once in each financial year, a council must consider whether the current council plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the council plan.*

Council traditionally undertakes a review in the early part of the calendar year, releasing proposed adjustments for public comment, and adopting the final plan in June each year.

## **ISSUES**

### **Strategic direction**

2016/17 is the final year of the council plan – after each subsequent council election, the Act requires every Victorian council to generate a new council plan to provide direction and strategic goals for the four year term of the newly elected council.

It is proposed that there be no changes made to the strategic content of the council plan for two key reasons:

- The plan was drafted to be a strategic document and to ‘stand the test of time’, without the need for constant modification; and
- Council elections will be held on 22 October 2016, after which a new council plan will be developed.

### **Annual actions**

Changes to the Act in 2014 mean that section 127(2)(d) now requires councils to include *major initiatives, being identified by the council as priorities, to be undertaken during the financial year* in the council's annual budget.

The major initiatives are aligned to each of the major themes and strategic objectives in the council plan. As the budget, and the accompanying ‘major initiatives’ are required to be publicly exhibited, and agreed to by Council, it is logical that those major initiatives are then inserted into the annual action plan (an appendix to the council plan) each year. This ensures that the council plan and budget are strategically aligned.

### **Proposed changes and requirement for public submissions**

Council has traditionally placed the annually adjusted Council Plan on exhibition, inviting public submissions on the proposed changes. However, section 125(9) of the Act only requires a public submission process to occur where there are proposed changes to:

- (a) the strategic objectives of the council;*
- (b) strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next 4 years; or*
- (c) strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives.*



Proposed changes for 2016 are:

- Minor updates to the Mayor and CEO messages to reflect the 2016 year;
- No changes to any other part of the main council plan document (ie four year direction, strategic objectives, strategies or strategic indicators);
- Updating the annual action plan (appendix 1) to reflect the major initiatives adopted as part of the budget; and
- Updating the strategic resource plan 2017-2020.

The council plan must also contain a strategic resource plan (SRP), outlining the financial and non-financial resources required over the next four years. The SRP is informed by the long term financial plan, and will be adopted as part of the budget and inserted in the council plan. Section 126 of the Act requires the SRP to be adopted prior to 30 June each year.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The development and review of a council plan is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Following the October 2016 elections, a new council plan will be developed. This will require extensive input from the community and councillors.

### **CONSULTATION**

The proposed updates to the council plan do not require a section 223 public submission process. Public consultation was undertaken during the development of the council plan, and in previous year reviews.

### **CONCLUSION**

The council plan will be presented to the special council meeting on 28 June for adoption. Following the adoption, Council has 30 days to forward a copy of the changes to the Minister for Local Government.

Council should note that public exhibition is not required for the proposed updates to the council plan.

### **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Chief Executive Officer
- Governance Officer

### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

- Nil





### **8.2.3 Quarterly Report – 1 January– 31 March 2016**

File Number: SU600.03

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This report provides the third quarterly report against the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 (review 2015).

*Cr Vonarx*

*Cr Forsyth*

*That the Alpine Shire Council Plan Quarterly Report ending 31 March 2016 be received and noted.*

*Carried*

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### **Council Plan development**

The Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013–2017 was developed following the election of the Council in October 2012. The Council Plan outlines the strategic objectives and strategies that will be used to achieve Council's adopted direction for its four year term.

The Council Plan must be reviewed annually to determine if any adjustments are necessary. Only minor adjustments were made in the 2015 review, updating the plan with the direction Council is taking to ensure a sustainable organisation into the future.

#### **ISSUES**

The annual action plan details the Council Plan commitments that have been budgeted in 2015/16, and it is the annual action plan that this quarterly report provides progress against.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **Inspired Community Leadership**

Council commenced audio visual recording and live streaming of its Council meetings in February. The recordings allow the wider community to access the decisions and debate that occur during a council meeting without having to attend in person. Recordings are available to watch live during the meeting, and archives are available for viewing afterwards. Both the live stream and the archived meetings can be accessed via Council's website under 'Council meetings'.

##### **Enhancing the Environment and Liveability**

The Alpine Better Places concept designs were adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting in March. The detailed concept designs provide clear direction for almost \$8million worth of streetscape improvements to the town centres of Bright,



Porepunkah and Myrtleford, ready to proceed into detailed design and implementation.

A review of the Myrtleford Landfill Operation was completed and Council resolved to close the landfill facility and convert it to a best practice waste transfer station (with no impact on the services provided or opening hours). The key advantages of this decision are:

- Waste disposal in a large regional site is environmentally responsible
- Risk exposure to increasing regulation and compliance requirements is minimised
- Ongoing rehabilitation responsibilities are capped, and
- Significant financial savings will be achieved

### **Strengthening the Community**

Changes are happening in the way Home Care services are delivered in Victoria; from 1 July 2016, responsibility for the service will transfer from the State Government to the Commonwealth Government. In response, Council determined to relinquish the service back to the State in order to:

- preserve the highly regarded alpine@home service delivery model
- maintain the current exceptional quality of care to clients
- maximise local employment, and
- pass on savings to the whole community

### **Prosperous Economy, Employment and Investment**

The new Official Visitors Guide for Bright and Surrounds has been designed and produced. The new publication is full of new and fresh imagery, has been condensed and is information rich for visitors to the Shire.

Channel 7 "Sunrise" weather crosses occurred out of Bright, with seven weather crosses featuring tourism operators and exposure to upcoming festivals.

### **Performance Focused Organisation**

Council has developed and loaded data into a cloud based project and service prioritisation tool called 'Ignite'. Ignite provides clarity and accountability to Council's Strategic Projects Pipeline. Future refinements will allow the community to view the Strategic Projects Pipeline online.

The 'Vend' Point of Sale system is now installed and operating successfully at 10 sites. Its introduction into the Bright, Myrtleford and Mt Beauty libraries is the final step in its rollout.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Council Plan is a specific requirement of the *Local Government Act 1989*, and is a guiding document for Council. While quarterly reporting against the Council Plan is



not a specific requirement of the Act, Council has elected to continue to report to the community regarding its progress throughout the year.

The Council Plan, annual action plan and Budget identify and commit Council to the completion of specific initiatives each year.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The Strategic Resource Plan and annual Budget are developed and adopted to provide the finance and resources required for the programs and projects outlined and reported against in this quarterly Council Plan report.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Council Plan is subject to public exhibition each year prior to being adopted by Council. As part of the annual review of the Council Plan, any changes to the initiatives are also subject to public exhibition.

Many of the individual initiatives and activities included in the Council Plan are subject to their own community participation and consultation processes.

Council's annual Budget is also publicly exhibited and submissions called for prior to its consideration and adoption by Council.

### **CONCLUSION**

This quarterly report shows that progress is being made on the delivery of key Council Plan Activities.

### **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report:

- Director Corporate Performance
- Governance Officer

### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 8.2.3 - Alpine Shire Council Quarterly Report - ending 31 March 2016



## 8.2.4 Retail lease, 5 Elm Court, Bright

File Number:

### INTRODUCTION

Council is the Committee of Management for the parcel of land known as 5 Elm Court, Bright and identified as Crown Allotment CA 2E SEC C2 (shown below):



The land and building were formerly occupied by the Bright Pre-School (which has now relocated to the Alpine View Early Years Centre in Deacon Avenue).

Expressions of interest seeking tenants have been invited and the purpose of this report is to approve a 5-year lease of the facility.

*Cr Pearce*

*Cr Roper*

***That subject to Section 17D of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 and Ministerial approval:***

- 1. the property identified as Crown Allotment CA 2E Section C2, be leased to Kerrie Sinclair for use as a dance studio,***
- 2. the rental amount be set at \$6,000+GST per annum,***
- 3. the rental amount be indexed annually by CPI, and***
- 4. the lease term be set at 5 years (no options).***

***Carried***



## BACKGROUND

The property is located in Elm Court Bright and was formerly the Bright Kindergarten. The property has been vacant since the relocation of the kindergarten to the Alpine View Children's Centre in January 2013.

A Public Expression of Interest for use of the property was issued in April 2013; no outcome was achieved.

Expressions of Interest for use / tenancy were called for again in 2015. This process resulted discussions with potential user groups including Rotary, U3A / Bright Community Garden / Landcare, Kerrie Sinclair and Big4 Bright Holiday Park (Denis Payton).

Formal Expressions of Interest were received from Kerrie Sinclair and Big4. Council discussed the submissions and subsequently instructed Officers to progress the Kerrie Sinclair proposal to establish a dance school in the facility.

### Proposed lease

A lease document has now been finalised and is ready for signature by both parties. The key features of the lease are:

Tenant:	Kerrie Sinclair
Use:	Dance School
Commencement date:	1 May 2016
Lease term:	5 years (no options periods)
Commencement rent:	\$6,000 per annum
Indexation:	Annually by CPI

### Assessment and development of the lease

Alpine Shire Council is the Committee of Management for this parcel of Crown Land; the lease will be issued as a Retail Lease according to Section 17D(4)(c) of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.

The document was prepared in conjunction with Maddocks Lawyers, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and Kerrie Sinclair.

A Planning Permit allowing the use and development of the land as a dancing school (subject to conditions) has been granted.

Denis Payton has been advised of this recommendation and is pleased that the facility will be put to good use.

## CONCLUSION

The attached lease document:

- is consistent with Council instruction
- represents a 'good' use of the property, and



- provides a review opportunity in 5 years' time

With Council's approval, the lease will be signed by the CEO and forwarded to the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water for approval and signing.

#### **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Corporate Performance
- Manager Facilities

#### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 8.2.4a - Lease document
- 8.2.4b - Lease Schedule
- 8.2.4c - Retail Lease Disclosure Statement
- 8.2.4d - Planning Permit and Endorsed Plan



**8.3 DIRECTOR ASSETS – CHARLIE BIRD**

**8.3.1 Nil**



## **8.4 DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – HEATHER GREEN**

### **8.4.1 Harrietville Strategic Master Plan – Draft for further community consultation**

File Number: 1780/69

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this report is to recommend to Council that the draft of the Strategic Master Plan for Harrietville is accepted for the purposes of further community consultation, and that the Harrietville Community Forum proposal for the \$40,000 allocated for demonstration projects are accepted.

*Cr Pearce*

*Cr Keeble*

- 1. That the draft of the 'Harrietville – Our Future: Strategic Master Plan' be adopted for the purpose of further community consultation.*
- 2. That the projects recommended by the Strategic Master Plan be incorporated into Council's Strategic Project Pipeline, prioritised in the context of all projects in the Pipeline and outcomes of this process be communicated to the Harrietville Community Forum no later than 30 June 2016.*
- 3. The \$40,000 project funding be used to progress projects recommended by the Strategic Master Plan in full consultation with the Harrietville Community Forum.*

*Carried*

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Harrietville Strategic Master Plan has been developed as a part of the *Communities Adapting to Climate Change* project – a Victorian Government funded project delivered by the Alpine Shire Council in partnership with the Harrietville Community Forum (HCF). The \$150,000 project was developed after the 2013 fire and flood in Harrietville to help strengthen resilience and sustainability of the Harrietville community and support some of the sustainability actions identified in the 2012 Harrietville Community Building Initiative *Sustainability Action Plan*. \$100,000 was contributed by the Victorian Government.

A significant component of the project was to develop a Strategic Master Plan to acknowledge the factors that make Harrietville such a valued location; to formalise support and guidance from relevant agencies; and to outline a set of relevant strategies to build on the work that has been ongoing in Harrietville for a number of years.

The Strategic Master Plan defines the vision and strategic direction for the town, and outlines the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the community. It is a clear statement of intent regarding the community's priorities for Harrietville's long





term sustainability. Future funding applications and projects will be guided by the Strategic Master Plan and will share an overarching common goal and vision.

The Communities Adapting to Climate Change grant also included \$40,000 allocated to projects that demonstrate resilience and sustainability in Harrietville.

## ISSUES

The draft of the Strategic Master Plan expresses a comprehensive vision for the town, an overarching aim, and a series of work areas or themes that contribute to building resilience in the community by impacting on either the economic base of the town, or on community facilities or social networks.

Each theme carries with it a table of actions. The first appendix of the Strategic Master Plan rearranges the actions into groups according to type of work and whether the action is executed by the HCF, other agencies, or the continued work of the Project Officer dedicated to this project.

Key aspects of the Strategic Master Plan are identified in the table below:

Resilience for Harrietville is defined as:

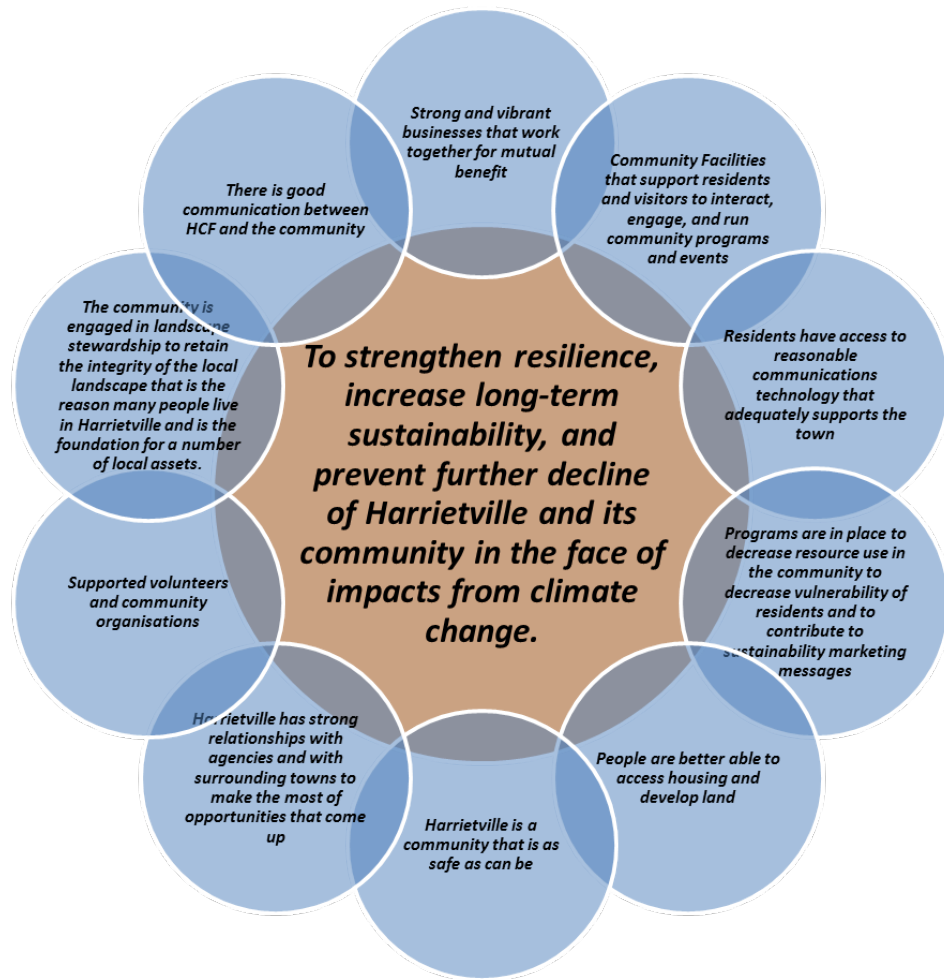
- Economic sustainability of the community and of individual residents, whereby people are able to earn a living that satisfies reasonable needs.
- Sustainability of the population, whereby residential numbers and population structure is able to support a range of services and businesses.
- An aggregated low vulnerability, whereby a majority of the population are able to respond and adapt to change and shocks.
- Stability of services and businesses.
- Strong social networks.
- Functional community facilities.

Vision for Harrietville:

*Harrietville will be a strong, resilient, connected and thriving community. It will have a robust population, active and committed to meeting the needs of the town and engaging in a range of events and community development initiatives. Harrietville will have a 'heart' and will have a range of facilities that work to meet the needs of the community. The natural environment and rural landscapes, including forests, parks, rivers and farmlands will be an integral part of the Harrietville lifestyle and will support people's livelihoods in diverse ways. Visitor numbers will be healthy throughout the year, supporting a strong tourism industry focussed on the nature-based offerings of the town, without detracting from the rural lifestyle and nature-focussed experience, which residents and tourists are seeking. Harrietville will be 'connected' with regional agencies, working together to integrate the latest in understanding of the environment, resource options and sustainable development options for the town and its surrounding environment.*



Aim and Themes:



The full draft of the Strategic Master Plan, including Action Tables, is attached.

The HCF has also recommended where the \$40,000 funding allocation to demonstrate resilience building projects is best spent. Due to the wide range of community opinion on what is most significant for community resilience, the HCF proposes a funding split to cover a range of projects that collectively improve assets the town is able to use to boost the local economy, community facilities, and strengthen community committees. This funding must be spent by the funding deadline of November 1 2016. As such, it is important the funding allocation is approved before the Strategic Master Plan is finalised. The proposed funding allocations are listed in the following table, which includes the rational for each item.



Item	Cost	Rational
East Ovens Bridge plan, design and costing	\$7,000	Links the Tronoh Dredge trails to the Bon Accord Trail meaning improved walking loops for short walks, and a better trail head for longer walks. Significant improvement to the Harrietville walking tracks product.
Materials for track/trail interpretive signage, assembly of content, track/trail maintenance	\$15,000	Significant priority for improved economic base for Harrietville. Ties in with work being done at HRMB and with iconic Falls-Hotham walks being marketed and developed by Parks Victoria.
Community committee materials for improved safety and service	\$5,000	Some community committees highlighted the need for further equipment to boost resilience and safety in the community during the community consultation process. These funds will be used to purchase equipment for the benefit of the community.
Harrietville landscape plan (map of critical services and town amenity – Harrietville 'Better Places')	\$13,000	Town amenity and the need to capture traffic from the Great Alpine Road highlighted as a priority during community discussions. A map of priorities seen as critical starting point to seek further funding.
TOTAL COST	\$40,000	

This expenditure needs to be considered in the light of other competing projects using Council's Strategic Project Pipeline tool and in full consultation with the Harrietville Community Forum to ensure it is spent in the most effective manner.

Development of the Strategic Master Plan has involved extensive consultation with the community and with the HCF. Nine community discussion sessions were held over October and November 2015. In addition, HCF conducted its own survey of the community in 2014.

The issues discussed and articulated during the consultation sessions were then subjected to an analysis by the Harrietville Community Forum. The HCF looked at the overarching goal of strengthening community resilience and long-term broad sustainability and considered what needs to change to meet that long term goal and how the issues and suggestions raised by the community contribute to building sustainability and resilience.

Assessments by a number of experts have been used, where applicable to support the content of this Strategic Master Plan. These include the following documents:

- Dr Graeme Pearman presentation on climate change in Harrietville August 2015
- Victoria University Report on managing emergencies and tourism.
- Moreland Energy Foundation Report on alternative energy options in Harrietville

The *Communities Adapting to Climate Change* project will also include pre-feasibility work to assess the viability of the Tailings to meet future development needs in



Harrietville, and has achieved pre-feasibility analysis to assess options for a waste water management solution for Harrietville.

In addition to expert reports, the HCF has prepared a number of strategic documents that have been used to inform the development of the Strategic Master Plan. These documents include:

- Bon Accord / Tronoh Track Complex
- Harrietville Tourism Promotion Management Plan
- Tracks and Trails Strategy Paper
- Harrietville: Gateway to the nature and history of Mount Feathertop and the Alpine National Park

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Promotion and furthering of community resilience and sustainability is in line with the direction provided by the 2030 Vision, the Council Plan, Council's Environment Strategy 2013, the Alpine Liveability Plan 2013-17, and the Climate Change Action Plan 2010. They all identify the importance of resilience building and future planning to best combat the impacts of climate change.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Further community consultation on the draft Strategic Master Plan is funded by the *Communities Adapting to Climate Change* budget. The Strategic Master Plan does not require further budget for implementation. Rather, it sets out the community's priorities so that future funding directed to Harrietville will be done so with an accurate understanding how those funds are best used.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Strategic Master Plan draft has been informed by a series of nine discussion sessions with Harrietville residents held in October and November 2015. The initial three sessions focussed on residents' vision for the community. The remaining six sessions focussed on specific topics that were commonly raised during the first three sessions that needed further exploring.

The HCF has also conducted a survey of the community to identify community priorities. The survey was conducted in late 2014 and received fifty respondents.

During the development of the Strategic Master Plan letters were received from the Harrietville Cricket Club, the Harrietville branch of the Country Fire Authority, and the Harrietville TV Committee.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council approves the draft of the Strategic Master Plan for Harrietville for the purposes of further community consultation.



**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Sustainable Development
- Environment Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 8.4.1 - Harrietville Strategic Master Plan – final draft



## 9 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

### INTRODUCTION

Section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires a written record of Assemblies of Councillors to be reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and to be incorporated in the minutes of the Council meeting.

*Cr Vonarx*

*Cr Pearce*

*That the summary of the Assemblies of Councillor for April 2016 be received.*

*Carried*

### BACKGROUND

The written records of the assemblies held during the previous month are summarised below. Detailed assembly records can be found in Attachment 8.0 to this report.

Date	Meeting
5 April 2016	Briefing Session
19 April 2016	Briefing Session
26 April 2016	Briefing Session

### ATTACHMENT(S)

- 9.0 Assemblies of Councillors - April 2016



## **10 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY DELEGATES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Councillor representation on various committees occurs where Council has an interest. Delegate reports contain information about meetings attended, and the outcomes of those meetings that affect Council.

*Cr Farrell*

*Cr Keeble*

*That the summary of the presentation of reports by delegates for March / April 2016 be received.*

*Carried*

### **BACKGROUND**

The written records of the delegates reports held during the previous month are summarised below. Detailed delegates reports can be found in Attachment 9.0 to this report.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
9-11 March	Rural Councils Summit	Cr Jan Vonarx
8 April	Rural Councils Victoria	Cr Jan Vonarx
7&8 April	Australian Local Government Women's Association Conference	Cr Kate Farrell
11 April	North East Multicultural Association	Cr Kate Farrell

### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 10.0 Presentation of Reports by Delegates - March / April 2016



## **11 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Forsyth - Enquired whether works in Hollands Street were complete  
Director Assets advised that there were only minor works outstanding in Hollands Street, for example kerb barriers, and we did not anticipate any more road closures.

Cr Keeble - Thanked the community for attending the Council meeting in Mount Beauty and staff for recent work.

Cr Pearce - Advised that the Freeburgh Bridge was reopened in April.

*Cr Roper*

*Cr Keeble*

*Cr Roper moved a motion that Council consider another item as a matter of urgent business.*

*Carried*

Cr Roper - Moved the following motion, as a matter of urgent business.

*Cr Roper*

*Cr Vonarx*

*Council instruct the CEO to investigate areas for further savings totalling \$1m from the recurrent budget over the next 3 years without impacting on council services and report back to council prior to the adoption of the 2016/17 budget.*

*Carried*

## **12 MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN GIVEN**

Nil

## **13 RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS**

### **13.1.1 Petition to The Alpine Shire Council to stop the use of gas scare guns**

Council has received a petition to stop the use of Gas Scare Guns.

A report will be tabled at the next Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 7 June 2016.

## **14 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING**

Nil

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8.46pm

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Chairperson