

INDIGO SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INDIGO SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE SHED, INDIGO SHIRE COUNCIL OFFICES, HIGH STREET, YACKANDANDAH ON TUESDAY 13 JANUARY 2009 COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM.

PRESENT

Councillors

Councillor P F A Graham, OAM (Mayor)
Councillor B D Gaffney
Councillor L A Goldsworthy
Councillor V J Issell
Councillor B J Murdoch
Councillor A C Pockley

Officers

Mr Brendan McGrath (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Phil Prior (General Manager Operations and Assets)
Mr David Montgomery (General Manager Corporate & Visitor Services)
Mrs Naomi Cox (Executive Assistant/Chief Executive Officer)

1.0 WELCOME

Cr Graham welcomed those in attendance.

2.0 OPENING PRAYER

Cr Graham read the Opening Prayer.

3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor P H Croucher – Leave of Absence

4.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Graham declared a Conflict of Interest in item 5 second dot point in that his wife is the Senior Vice President of the Rutherglen Sub RSL and he is the Welfare Officer of that organisation.

5.0 REGIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM PROJECT (FILE NO: T417 – GMOA)

Note: Cr Graham declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 5 second dot point in that his wife is the Senior Vice President of the Rutherglen RSL Sub Branch and he is the Welfare Officer of that organisation and left the meeting at 6.55 pm and took no part in voting on this Item.

The Deputy Mayor took the Chair for voting on Item 5.0.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council fund the following projects from the \$434,000 RLCIP funding:

- Barnawartha Streetscape Improvements
- Upgrade various community buildings and recreation facilities
- Bruarong Hall upgrade
- Rutherglen Lake King improvements
- Drought Bore Browns Plains area
- Burke Museum storage shed
- Stanley Tennis Courts Lighting
- Chiltern Bowls Clubroom Upgrade
- Rowdy Flat Walk Yackandandah
- Beechworth Historic Precinct Multimedia
- Martin Park Chiltern Pathways and Landscaping
- Tree Planting

**Moved Cr Goldsworthy
Seconded Cr Pockley**

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- **Chiltern Bowls Clubroom Upgrade**

- **Tree Planting**
- **Erect shade sails over public playgrounds throughout the Shire to the value of \$80,000 and playground equipment to the value of \$40,000.**

CARRIED

Note: Cr Graham returned to the meeting at 6.56 pm and took the Chair.

SUMMARY

The Federal Government has provided funding of \$434,000 within the Rural Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) for community infrastructure. The funding must be expended by 30 September 2009 and the decisions of eligible projects nominated and approved by 30 January 2009.

BACKGROUND

Under the RLCIP the Australian Government has provided one off funding of \$250,000,000 in 2008/2009 to local Councils to stimulate additional growth. The direct allocation to Indigo Shire is \$434,000 and this funding may be spent on the projects which meet the eligibility guidelines subject to formal approval of those projects by the Department of Transport and Regional Services.

Funding guidelines and project eligibility are broad and enable new construction and major renovations to the majority of infrastructure assets. In general the only exclusions are that works cannot be undertaken on operational or maintenance areas and cannot be undertaken on transport infrastructure such as roads or bridges. Timelines associated with identifying projects do not allow for any meaningful community consultation and accordingly the above projects have been identified on adopted Capital Works priorities, input from the Senior Management Group, works identified in the Recreation Strategy, works which were unsuccessful on Council's 2008/2009 Community Grants Program and urban works identified from recent building inspections. The following charts identify the projects and preliminary costs.

Submissions from Councillors		
Description	Cost	Comments
Rowdy Flat Walk-concern re lack of scoping	\$50,000	Agree would prefer more detail scoping however I am assured by the Council Officer involved in this project (currently on leave) that the project is adequately scoped to proceed within the timelines. Note the estimate is preliminary, the allocation may be varied.
Barnawartha Streetscape- concern re readiness of project	\$20,000	Agree however, in the event that the commercial development does not occur then funds could be readily utilised to beautify the roundabout.

Concern at "new" projects not previously part of adopted Capital Works and not been subject to Community Consultation		Agree there are a number of projects in this category, generally included as they are perceived as suitable for the funding and probable community priorities. See detail listing.
Erect Shade Sails Over Public Playgrounds	circa \$120,000	A number of Councillors identified this as a priority. The advantages are clear, however it has not been general industry practice to install shade over public playgrounds - it is however over non-public eg swimming pools. A full briefing paper can be provided, in brief staff concerns are:-1. High risk of vandalism and the sails being used as trampolines. 2. High cost of replacement sails. 3. Once program commenced, all will need to be done. 4. Users of public playgrounds have an onus to take due care themselves.
Tree Planting/Replacement	circa \$30,000	Again a number of Councillors identified this as a priority. Plenty of work to do in this area, funds can be usefully used. Need to tailor works to RLCIP program. Recommend hold on elm tree replacement until Tree management Plan adopted (to be prepared this year).
Project Title	Grant Amount	Officer comments
Stanley tennis Courts Lighting	\$12,000	Have applied for Sport & Rec funding unsuccessfully. Committee to contribute part cost.
Upgrade Various Community Buildings & Recreation Facilities	\$147,000	(Refer breakdown over page)
		From building inspections and committee requests.
Bruarong Hall Kitchen Upgrade	\$9,000	Committee request, promote activities.
Rutherglen Lake King Improvements	\$23,000	Improve water catchment area to better maintain water levels. Note requires consultation with committee.
Drought Bore Browns Plains Area	\$33,000	Will complete the drought bore network. Funding no longer available from Goulburn Murray Water. Priority from Drought committee.
Burke Museum Storage Shed	\$20,000	Construct shed at Beechworth Depot. Overflow storage, OH&S issue.
Barnawartha Streetscape Improvements	\$20,000	Will provide funding to tie in with proposed commercial development and o/or
Chiltern Bowls Clubroom Upgrade	\$20,000	Kitchen etc upgrade. Committee to contribute balance of total cost of \$40,000.
Rowdy Flat Walk Yackandandah	\$50,000	Newly formed Crown committee, project broadly scoped and costed. Possible within timelines though.
Beechworth Historic Precinct Multimedia	\$25,000	Replace/upgrade existing equipment in historic precinct.
Martin Park Chiltern Pathways and Landscaping	\$45,000	Adjoins Lake Anderson. Works required at Lake to improve banks and provide jetty. Existing masterplan in place. Could be done within timelines.
Tree Planting	\$30,000	Upgrade streetscapes.
TOTAL	\$434,000	

Other Projects for Consideration		
Water Tower(Wine Bottle)	\$180,000	Very preliminary estimate of cost only. Could attract complimentary State funding however further public consultation required and difficult to achieve in timelines.
Lake Sambell Sandy Beach Toilets	\$90,000	New facility at swimming beach. This project is listed in 2009/10 capital works to be funded via State sources.
Lake Sambell Pathways etc	\$150,000	Completion of master plan works commenced 2001. This project is listed in 2009/10 capital works to be funded via State sources.
Yackandandah Public Hall Upgrade	\$800,000	Cannot obtain necessary complimentary State funding within required timelines.
Yackandandah Sports Park Hall	\$1,200,000	Cannot obtain necessary complimentary State funding within required timelines.
Upgrade Yack & Chiltern Visitor Centres	\$165,000	Project not sufficiently defined to proceed within timelines.
Beechworth Courthouse Airconditioning	\$20,000	Not currently airconditioned. Need to identify operational costs before proceeding.

Upgrade Various Community Buildings and Recreation Facilities Sub-List				
No.	Asset Description	Asset Location	Works description	Approx Grant Amount required Cost
Facility Improvements Identified from Asset Inspections by Council				
1	Beechworth Youth Centre	Harper Avenue, Beechworth	Refurbish interior ceilings.	\$5,000
2	Chiltern Athenaeum Building	55 Conness Street, Chiltern	Renew flooring and substructure and refurbish interior.	\$12,000
3	Chiltern Memorial Hall Building	86 Conness Street, Chiltern	Stage and acoustic improvements.	\$20,000
4	Yackandandah Butson Park Change Rooms Stand	Butson Street	Upgrade and renewal works.	\$6,000
5	Beechworth Senior Citizens Club Rooms Building	Harper Avenue, Beechworth	New kitchen.	\$6,000
6	Chiltern Community Offices Building	52 Main Street, Chiltern	Internal refurbishment front rooms.	\$5,000
7	Stanley Athenaeum / Library Building	Stanley Road, Stanley	Refurbish flooring and internal walls.	\$10,000
8	Rutherglen RSL	High St Rutherglen	New kitchen.	\$8,000
			SUB TOTAL	\$72,000

Recreational Capital Works Priorities				
9	Coulston Park	Kiewa East Road, Tangambalanga	Main oval renovations, drainage and irrigation improvements.	\$30,000
10	Wahgunyah Recreation Reserve	Recreation Reserve Road, Wahgunyah	Upgrade electrical supply to 3-phase power to the Wahgunyah Recreation Reserve and extend to the Wahgunyah Speedway.	\$25,000
			SUB TOTAL	\$55,000

Capital Works Projects Unsuccessful through Council's 2008/2009 Community Grants Program				
11	Beechworth Montessori Children's Centre	La Trobe University, Beechworth	Recommission existing toilet block for 0-3 year old child care area.	\$2,530
12	Beechworth RSL Sub-Branch	Ford Street, Beechworth	Replace carpeting with vinyl flooring in foyer, main hall and storeroom at club facility.	\$3,000
13	Kiewa Valley Early Childhood Centre	Kiewa East Road, Tangambalanga	Upgrade children's washroom and toilet area including new flooring and dual flush toilets.	\$4,000
14	Barkly Park Rutherglen	Reid Street, Rutherglen	Renovations to the clubroom to improve canteen/bar access and viewing areas.	\$4,000
15	Rutherglen Kindergarten	169 High Street, Rutherglen	Redevelopment of kinder's backyard to make safer and more aesthetic for use, includes moving fence, flatten slopes, construct storage shed, install water tanks.	\$3,187
16	Yackandandah Kindergarten Inc	30 Isaacs Avenue, Yackandandah	Installation of playground edging for kindergarten.	\$4,000
			SUB TOTAL	\$20,717
			TOTAL	\$147,717

Further works will be undertaken on refining project costs and discussion of projects with particular community groups. The final project costs may vary marginally from those identified however it is envisaged that all project should be able to be completed within the available funding. The recommendation has been written without costings to enable variation on project costs for the final application.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Some of the identified projects require complimentary funding from community groups. The various groups have confirmed their commitment to the projects. Given the current back log of Capital Works Projects which Council has, it is envisaged that the larger projects will be project managed with external resources and this has been built into the preliminary costings.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Ideally funding of this type would be incorporated through Council's normal budgeting processes and capital works review normally undertaken in May of each year and which involve full community consultation. The short timelines associated with this funding requires decisions to be made within timelines and guidelines established as part of the grant. The projects listed ensure at least some expenditure will be incurred across most areas in the Shire.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 6.57 pm.

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Cr Peter Graham OAM – Mayor

20/01/09