

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10

***Mission Statement:***

***To support and develop a sustainable, thriving and resilient Community  
through leadership and partnership.***

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**HELD:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 3.00pm

**LOCATION:** Community Hall, Tangambalanga

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**ATTENDEES:**

| Councillors:               | Senior Management/Officers |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bernard Gaffney – Mayor    | Brendan McGrath – CEO      |
| Ali Pockley – Deputy Mayor | Andre M Kompler            |
| Peter Croucher             | Mark Crouch                |
| Larry Goldsworthy          | Mark Florence              |
| Vic Issell                 | Katie Rizzuto              |
| Barbara Murdoch            | Sally McCarron             |
| Peter Graham               | Frank Bonacci              |
|                            | Mark Greene                |
|                            | Roberta Baker              |

**APOLOGIES:** Nil.

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***Vision Statement:***

***INDIGO – A great place to live, work and visit.***

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**1.0 WELCOME**

They Mayor welcomed all those in attendance.

**2.0 OPENING PRAYER & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND**

Cr Peter Croucher read the opening prayer and the acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land.

**3.0 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil.

**4.0 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Cr Murdoch declared a direct conflict of interest concerning Item 11.1 “Planning Application, EDM Group On Behalf Of K&E Mueller, Traton St, Wahgunyah” as it conflicts with her duties at North East Water.

**5.0 OPEN FORUM**

Cr Croucher introduced Jessica Hadley from Kiewa Valley Primary School. Jessica informed Councillors of her recent activities as a Junior Councillor; this included a trip to Melbourne to attend the Young Leaders Forum and participating in the ANZAC Day Ceremony.

**6.0 CONDOLENCES**

Nil.

**7.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – 13.04.10**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That the minutes from the Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010 be amended.**

**Unanimously Carried**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That the minutes from the Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010 be adopted.**

**Unanimously Carried**

## 8.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cr Goldsworthy:

- Rating Strategy and notices of motion put up at the previous Council meeting were going to be listed on website.

CEO responded: it would not be appropriate to load notices of motion onto the Indigo Shire Council website, as the motion was lost at the previous Council Meeting.

- Draft Council Plan: Strategic Resource Plan appears to have not been included with the Council Plan.

CEO responded: Draft Strategic Resources Plan was adopted, will ensure it is on the website.

## 9.0 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Nil.

**10.0 CORPORATE SERVICES**

**10.1 CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT INDIGO SHIRE COUNCIL BUDGET 2010/2011  
PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 127 & 128 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989**

**File No.: 09/646 – General Manager Corporate Services**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That:**

- 1. The 2010/11 proposed Budget annexed to this Agenda be the Budget prepared by Council for the purposes of Section 127(1) of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to:**
  - **give public notice of the preparation of such Budget, in accordance with Section 129 (1) of the Local Government Act 1989;**
  - **make available for public inspection the information required to be made available in accordance with the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004 No 30;**
- 3. That Council consider any:**
  - a) Submission on any proposal contained in such budget made in accordance with sections 129 and 223 of the Act, with such submissions closing June 14 2010; and**
  - b) Should any person wish to be heard in support of their submission to the proposed budget, that they be heard by Council on a date to be confirmed; and**
  - c) Recommendation or Notice of Motion to adopt such Budget at a Special meeting of Council on a date to be confirmed.**

**Moved: Cr Pockley  
Seconded: Cr Murdoch**

**That 2010/2011 Draft Budget be deferred to a date to be agreed.**

**Carried**

|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>For:</b>        | <b>Against:</b>       |
| <b>Cr Gaffney</b>  | <b>Cr Goldsworthy</b> |
| <b>Cr Pockley</b>  | <b>Cr Graham</b>      |
| <b>Cr Croucher</b> | <b>Cr Issell</b>      |
| <b>Cr Murdoch</b>  |                       |

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10

**Cr Graham called for a division:**

| <b>For:</b>        | <b>Against:</b>       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Cr Gaffney</b>  | <b>Cr Goldsworthy</b> |
| <b>Cr Pockley</b>  | <b>Cr Graham</b>      |
| <b>Cr Croucher</b> | <b>Cr Issell</b>      |
| <b>Cr Murdoch</b>  |                       |

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That a Special Meeting of Council be held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010/2011 to adopt the Draft Budget.**

**Unanimously Carried**

### INTRODUCTION

A draft Budget for 2010/11 has been prepared and distributed to Councillors. Refer attached Draft Budget 2010/11.

Council has prepared a budget for the 2010/11 financial year which seeks to maintain the financial sustainability of Council.

The attached budget papers needs to be read in conjunction with the Council Plan which contains the Strategic Resource Plan. The Council Plan has been developed and updated following extensive consultation and examination by the council. The proposed Council Plan has been used as the basis for the Council budget. The proposed Council plan establishes the medium term perspective in relation to Council planning and sustainability.

Rates and Charges revenue for 2010/11 is budgeted at \$10.45M. The Forecast Actual for 2009/10 is \$9.767M.

The expected operating result for 2010/11 is a surplus of \$0.085M. The underlying result when the gain / loss on disposal of property, capital grants and capital contributions are excluded is a \$2.178M deficit.

The capital works program for the 2010/11 year is expected to be \$6.69M. This includes a forecast carry forward of capital works totalling \$1.915M. The total capital works program includes capital works proposed to be funded by capital grants of \$2.01M. A number of projects tied to unconfirmed grants have been excluded from the 2010/11 Budget at this stage and will be added to the Budget at the mid year review for any of these grant applications that are successful.

A high level Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) has been developed for the years 2010/11 to 2013/14. This will assist council in adopting budgets which provide for prudent expenditure and revenue to assist in council's goals of financial sustainability.

The SRP provides analysis and review of all aspects of Council’s financial position.

The annual budget is designed to enable council to achieve its key strategic activities as contained in the Council Plan.

BACKGROUND

An extensive program of consultation was conducted last year to develop a Council Plan and further consultation was conducted earlier this year in updating the Council Plan. The community needed to be enrolled into the vision so they would take action to make it happen.

The updated Council Plan has formed a strong basis of the Budget 2010/11.

KEY IMPLICATIONS – LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1989:

S 127. Council must prepare a budget

1. A Council must prepare a budget for each financial year.
2. The Council must ensure that the budget contains:
  - (a) the standard statements in the form and containing the matters required by the regulations;
  - (b) a description of the activities and initiatives to be funded in the budget;
  - (c) a statement as to how the activities and initiatives described under paragraph (b) will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan;
  - (d) separately identified Key Strategic Activities to be undertaken during the financial year and performance targets and measures in relation to each Key Strategic Activity;
  - (e) any other details required by the regulations.
3. The Council must ensure that the budget also contains:
  - (a) the information the Council is required to declare under section 158(1);
  - (b) if the Council intends to declare a differential rate under section 161, the details listed in section 161 (2)
  - (c) if the Council intends to declare a differential rate under section 161A, the details listed in section 161(2).

S 129. Public notice

1. As soon as practicable after a Council has prepared a budget or revised budget, the Council must give public notice.
2. A person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on any proposal contained in the budget or revised budget.
3. In addition to any other requirements specified by this Act, the notice referred to in subsection (1) must:
  - (a) contain any details required by the regulations; and
  - (b) advise that copies of the budget or revised budget are available for inspection for at least 14 days after the publication of the notice at:
    - the Council office and any district offices; and
    - any other place required by the regulations.

4. A copy of the budget or revised budget must be displayed at the places specified under sub-section (3)(b).

S 130. Adoption of budget or revised budget

1. A Council may adopt a budget or revised budget if it has complied with all of the relevant requirements of this Act relating to budgets and revised budgets.
2. The Council must give public notice of its decision under sub-section (1).
3. The Council must adopt the budget by 31 August each year.
4. The Council must submit a copy of the budget to the Minister by 31 August each year.
5. The Minister may extend the period within which a Council must comply with sub-section (4).
6. If a Council fails to submit a copy of the budget to the Minister within the time allowed, the Secretary must ensure that details of the failure are published in the annual report of the Department.
7. A Council must give the Minister any details concerning its budget or revised budget that the Minister requests.
8. A Council must comply with sub-section (7):
  - (a) within 14 days of receiving a request in writing for the details from the Minister; or
  - (b) within any longer period specified by the Minister in the request.
9. A copy of the budget or revised budget must be available for inspection by the public at:
  - (a) the Council office and any district offices; and
  - (b) any other place required by the regulations.

Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004 No. 30

PART 3—BUDGETS

R 8. Other matters to be included

For the purposes of sections 127(2)(e) and 128(3) of the Act, the budget and any revised budget must contain the following information for the financial year to which the budget or revised budget relates:

- (a) the total amount proposed to be borrowed, other than borrowings to refinance existing loans;
- (b) the proposed total amount of debt redemption;
- (c) in the case of the proposed budget:
  - the proposed rate in the dollar for each type of rate to be levied;
  - the estimated amount to be raised by each type of rate to be levied;
  - the estimated total amount to be raised by rates;
  - the proposed percentage change in the rate in the dollar for each type of rate to be levied compared to that of the previous financial year;
  - the number of assessments for each type of rate to be levied compared with the previous year;
  - the total number of assessments;
  - the basis of valuation to be used;
  - the estimated total value of land in respect of which each type of rate is to be levied compared with the previous year;
  - the proposed municipal charge, if any;

- the proposed rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under section 162 of the Act;
  - the estimated amount to be raised by each type of charge to be levied compared with the previous year;
  - the estimated total amount to be raised by rates and charges;
  - any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised;
- (d) in the case of a revised budget, those matters referred to in paragraph (c) as applicable to any additional rates and charges to be levied.

R 9. Public notice of proposed budget or revised Budget

For the purposes of section 129 of the Act, the following information must be included in the public notice of the preparation of a proposed budget or revised budget—

- (a) the date on which Council will meet to adopt its budget or revised budget;
- (b) the total amount borrowed as at 30 June of the previous financial year;
- (c) the total amount proposed to be borrowed during the financial year or the total amount borrowed immediately before the preparation of the revised budget, other than borrowings to refinance existing loans;
- (d) the total amount projected to be redeemed during the financial year;
- (e) the projected total amount of borrowings as at 30 June of the financial year;
- (f) the projected cost of servicing the borrowings during the financial year;
- (g) the proposed rate in the dollar for each type of rate to be levied;
- (h) the proposed municipal charge, if any;
- (i) the proposed rate or unit amount for each type of service rate or charge to be levied under section 162 of the Act;
- (j) in the case of a revised budget, a summary of reasons for the preparation of the revised budget.

126. Strategic Resource Plan

1. The Strategic Resource Plan is a resource plan of the resources required to achieve the strategic objectives.
2. The Strategic Resource Plan must include in respect of at least the next 4 financial years—
  - (a) the standard statements describing the required
  - (b) financial resources in the form and containing the
  - (c) information required by the regulations;
  - (d) statements describing the required non-financial
  - (e) resources, including human resources.
3. A Council must:
  - (a) review the Strategic Resource Plan during the
  - (b) preparation of the Council Plan; and
  - (c) adopt the Strategic Resource Plan not later than
  - (d) 30 June each year.
4. A copy of the current Strategic Resource Plan must be available for inspection by the public at:
  - (a) the Council office and any district offices; and
  - (b) any other place required by the regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As detailed in this report and the Budget 2010/11 attached.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

To reduce waste and minimise the impact on the environment, council will provide a display copy of the Council Plan, incorporating the Strategic Resource Plan, and Annual Budget at its Council Offices and service centres.

The documents will also be available to be downloaded from the Council website at [www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au).

Alternatively a printed or electronic copy will be made available upon request.

Attachment:  
Draft Budget Report – 2010/11

**10.2 BURKE MUSEUM AND HISTORIC PRECINCT – ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS**

File No.: 09/469 - Kate Biglin - Tourism Manager

For Decision

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Deed of Delegation of the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct Advisory Committee be altered to increase the number of community representatives from two (2) to six (6), and that the following persons be appointed to the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct Advisory Committee:

One (1) Councillor of the Indigo Shire Council  
- Cr Ali Pockley (sub Cr Vic Issell)

Four (4) Special Interest or 'skills' based representatives  
- Jean McAuslan, Maggie Tyrie, Ali Garnett and Anne Hanson

One (1) representative of the Friends of the Burke Museum  
- John Herbst

One (1) member representative other museums/athenaeums in the Shire.  
- Chris Dormer

Six (6) community representatives  
- Pam Davis-Jones, Carole O'Neil, Lesley Milne, Rita Lazauskas, Doug Brockfield, David Lawrence

Indigo Shire senior staff member responsible for Burke Museum management  
- vacant

Indigo Shire Manager Tourism  
- Kate Biglin

**Moved: Cr Issell**  
**Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That the Deed of Delegation of the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct Advisory Committee be altered to increase the number of community representatives from two (2) to six (6), and that the following persons be appointed to the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct Advisory Committee:**

**One (1) Councillor of the Indigo Shire Council**

**- Cr Ali Pockley (sub Cr Vic Issell)**

**Four (4) Special Interest or 'skills' based representatives**

**- Jean McAuslan, Maggie Tyrrie, Ali Garnett and Anne Hanson**

**One (1) representative of the Friends of the Burke Museum**

**- John Herbst**

**One (1) member representative other museums/athenaeums in the Shire.**

**- Chris Dormer**

**Six (6) community representatives**

**- Pam Davis-Jones, Carole O'Neil, Lesley Milne, Rita Lazauskas, Doug Brockfield,**

**David Lawrence**

**Indigo Shire senior staff member responsible for Burke Museum management**

**- vacant**

**Indigo Shire Manager Tourism**

**- Kate Biglin**

**Unanimously Carried**

## INTRODUCTION

This report and officer recommendation seeks to increase the number of community representatives on the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct Advisory Committee and to formalise the appointment of persons to the Committee pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 and Council resolution of December 8 2009.

This matter is not being considered in isolation and forms part of a number actions agreed by Council as part of the Council resolution below in relation to the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct.

BACKGROUND

At the December 8 2009 Council meeting, Council resolved as follows:

Reaffirm its support for the Burke Museum and the cultural and heritage significance the Burke Museum brings to Beechworth and the Indigo Shire as a whole.

Support the formation of an overarching advisory committee to advise Council on the future directions and policy for a combined Burke Museum and Beechworth Historical Precinct.

Adopt and sign and seal the Instrument of Delegation for a Burke Museum and Beechworth Historical Precinct Advisory Committee pursuant to Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Seek expressions of interest from suitably qualified and / or experienced people for the advisory committee pursuant to Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Investigate the potential for the development of an Archive and Heritage Centre in conjunction with the Burke Museum, to expand on the existing Public Records Office (PROV) capacity within the museum's operations, as well as the public display of the substantial indigenous collection held by the Burke Museum.

Instruct the Chief Executive Officer to prepare an appropriate staffing structure for a combined Museum and Historical Precinct operation together with estimated costs of implementing same for detailed consideration by Council in the framing of the Council Budget 2010/11.

Receive a recommendation at its February 2010 meeting re the employment options of a Manager.

That recommendation 8.2 that relates to signage be acted on sooner rather than later and is appropriate with the desired outcome of highlighting the museums presence in Beechworth.

The December 8 2009 Council report followed the Council receipt and consideration of a report on the Burke Museum prepared by Geoff Speirs Museum and Editing Services and others (Speirs). The formation of an advisory committee was one of a number of recommendations made in the Speirs report.

Council has advertised the intent to appoint members to an advisory committee pursuant the agreed instrument of delegation that was formalised at the December 8 2009 Council meeting. An advertising campaign was prepared in conjunction with various other initiatives to seek attention and interest in these positions. All persons who attended the November 2009 public meeting convened to consider the future of the Burke Museum were provided a copy of an information package and encouraged to express interest in committee membership or to convey information to any person who would seek to make a positive contribution on the committee in the furtherance of the committee's objectives.

At the time of closing of the expression of interest (EOI) phase on Friday 29th January 2010, 22 persons expressed interest in committee membership for the community and special interest roles. Overwhelmed by the positive response, Crs Ali Pockley and Vic Issell hosted a breakfast meeting with the applicants on Monday 22nd March to discuss the way forward and how everyone's skills and passion could be applied. It was agreed that Council would be asked to change the Deed of Delegation to increase the number of community representatives from two to six, and that special interest groups could be established to review particular aspects of the Museum and Precinct such as education programs, collections and buildings, and information technology and research. People nominated their preferred position either on the broader committee or as part of special interest groups which could examine particular issues and report to the broader committee. It was also agreed at this meeting that the Expressions of Interest from the Koorie Trust and the Forests Commission Retired Personnel Association would be best dealt with by establishing Memorandums of Understanding with these organisations.

The instrument of delegation was structured to have membership comprised as follows:

### 3 Composition of the Committee

3.1 The Committee shall comprise:

3.1.1 One (1) Councillor of the Indigo Shire Council.

3.1.2 Four (4) Special Interest or 'skills' based representatives. Representatives should have background or experience in at least one or more of the following fields or areas of expertise including - Museum management, curatorship, Archival, marketing, education, public records, and genealogy,

3.1.3 One (1) representative of the Friends of the Burke Museum

3.1.4 One (1) member representing the other museums / athenaeums operating in the Indigo Shire.

3.1.5 Two (2) Community representatives.

3.1.6 Indigo Shire Senior Staff member responsible for Burke Museum management.

3.1.7 Indigo Shire Manager Tourism.

3.2 Changes to the composition of the Committee shall be considered by the Council upon recommendation of the Committee.

3.3 The Committee may co opt persons with special interests, qualifications and skills on an as needed basis.

3.4 Council staff members, and any person/s coopted from time to time to assist the committee in its advisory role, will have no voting rights.

The proposed change would affect 3.1.5 to increase the community representatives from two to six. Cl 3.3 & 3.4 above will also provide ample scope to allow staff and other input into the workings of the committee.

### KEY IMPLICATIONS

From a risk management perspective, the formation of a skills based advisory committee places Council in a better position to manage this facility going forward. There are 'risks' in having this facility continue in the current vein, as clearly highlighted in the Speirs report and associated recommendations.

From a legislative / regulatory perspective, there are a number of issues faced by Council. There are museum accreditation matters to be considered, and these matters and the role of the advisory committee have been canvassed at length in the Speirs report. From a Historic Precinct perspective, there are a considerable number of historical building, associated upkeep and maintenance issues and planning implications that must be recognised and observed. There are advantages in the formation of a skills based committee that can provide Council clear recommendations on a wide range of strategic and policy matters that have been assigned or delegated to the committee.

There are no environmental implications with regard the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct.

It is important for Council to recognise that the committee has responsibility for providing Council with strategic direction advice on the Burke Museum as well as the Historic Precinct. The Speirs report recommended:

#### 1.3.Integration

The operations of the Historic Precinct be integrated into the Robert O'Hara Burke Museum.

It will be important that the committee be structured so as to provide this broad range advice to Council not only with regard the Burke Museum, but also the Historic Precinct. Although separate buildings or facilities, the synergies and the need to consider the facilities as a 'package' will be vital going forward.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications on the establishment of an advisory committee are wide ranging.

The Speirs report and associated recommendations have detailed a wide range of matters where the advisory committee needs to focus attention. Not all the outstanding matters can or should be addressed immediately by the committee and /or Council. There are yet to be determined cost implications around many of the recommendations that Council is not in a position to fund or consider at this time. There must be a programmed approach to taking the Museum and Historic Precinct forward. There will be an obligation on the advisory committee to work with Council to address a program of changes over time. These may take a number of years to undertake. Council will need to establish this working relationship with the committee to maximise the committees' operations and outcomes toward stated objectives. Council will be required to consider all committee recommendations on merit and be prepared to justify and communicate its position.

There will also be a responsibility on the Council administration to work closely with the committee to ensure agreed policy positions as well as day to day operational matters are addressed in a professional manner. The advisory committee will have no operational responsibilities and will need to focus clearly on its predetermined roles and responsibilities as detailed in the committee instrument of delegation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The role of the appointed committee will include the need to focus on policy and strategic advice to Council.

Objectives:

- 2.1 To provide Council policy and strategic direction advice and recommendations in relation to the Burke Museum and Historical Precinct at Beechworth.
- 2.2 To advise Council and make recommendations on the assimilation of the Burke Museum and the Historical Precinct facilities to provide for the professional stewardship of the facilities from an historical and cultural perspective.
- 2.3 To advise and make recommendations to Council on the establishment of a Statements of Purpose, Vision and Mission and Policy framework for the Burke Museum and Historical Precinct.
- 2.4 To advise and make recommendations to Council on the relationships, workings and the maximisation of opportunities and assistance between the Burke Museum and Historical Precinct with the other museums / athenaeums operating within the Shire.
- 2.5 To advise and make recommendations to Council on issues involving museum and heritage accreditation and standards of operation.
- 2.6 To foster and promote a close professional working relationship between the Indigo Shire Council, Burke Museum and Historical Precinct, and the Friends of the Burke Museum.
- 2.7 To advise and make recommendations to Council on the mechanisms required to maximise the Burke Museum and Historical Precinct operation in the areas of policy and planning, performance monitoring, accountability and decision making.

To advise and make recommendations to Council on the preparation and establishment of various plans and policies in a range of areas including marketing, collection management and interpretation.

To advise and make recommendations to Council in relation to management and professional custodianship of the Indigenous and Ethnographic Collections held at the Burke Museum.

- 2.10 To advise Council on the various strategic elements comprising the operation of the Burke Museum, including Public Records Office Victoria (PROV), research and other specialist services provided by the Burke Museum.
- 2.11 To advise and make recommendations to Council on strategic means of improving visitation and patronage to both the Burke Museum and Historical Precinct.

### CONCLUSION

The EOI process has produced a varied and talented skill set to take the Burke Museum and Historic Precinct forward. A sound working relationship needs to be established and maintained.

It is important that the committee membership is formalised as quickly as possible to ensure work can commence on strategic advice to Council on these important and iconic facilities within Indigo Shire. Recruitment is currently underway for the Burke Museum & Historic Precinct Manager, for which this committee will be a key strategic partner.

**10.3 FINANCE REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 31TH MARCH 2010**

**File No.: 09/646 - Frank Bonacci - Finance Manager**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Finance Report for period ending 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 be received and noted.**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Graham**

**That:**

- a) The utility costs for the swimming pools are closely monitored. The reasons for increased usage of water and electricity is thoroughly explored and options to reduce consumption reported back to Council.**
- b) Council continue to closely monitor the Cost of Goods Sold and the return on investments on External Contracts.**
- c) Council continue to support festivals and events that the budget is appropriately expended to reflect this support.**
- d) The Finance Report for period ending 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 be received and noted.**

**Unanimously Carried**

At the December Mid Year Budget review, all Business Unit forecasts for the remainder of the year were updated which resulted in a reduction of the current year's Underlying Deficit by \$663,000 from \$3.21M to \$2.544M.

At the end of March 2010, a quarterly forecast review was again conducted to establish a current Year End Forecast (YEF) to provide management and Council with a clearer picture of where we expect to end the financial year.

The March Quarterly review shows a YTD favourable variance (versus the Mid Year Review) of \$344,000 and the updated forecasts for the remaining three months shows that more than half (\$185,000) of this favourability is timing.

The March YEF shows that we now expected the year end position to be an underlying deficit of \$2.385M, which is a further improvement of \$159,500 over the mid year review. In light of these additional savings versus the Mid Year Budget, senior management has allowed additional expenditure in some areas over the coming months where that expenditure removed pressure on the 2010/11 Budget. Examples include extra expenditure on the Council's website development, correctly reflecting additional recruitment costs and improving computer room security and environment.

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More detail on these YTD and YEF variances can seen in the accompany Profit & Loss Attachment (which shows the Income and Expenditure areas where these variances occurred) and within the attached Department by Business Unit Report (which shows the Business Unit's where these variances occurred).

Also accompanying this Finance Report is a new format Exception Report which contains a variance explanation for each Business Unit where the YTD and / or the YEF variance exceeds \$10,000.

Cash and investments held by Council as at the end of March are still strong at \$7.1M. While the continued focus on capital works delivery will draw down upon these cash holding during the remainder of the year, the final Council Rate instalment and the final Victorian Grants Commission payment, both due at the end of May, will ensure that Council maintains a healthy level of cash holding at the end of the year. Details of Cash holding are contained within the attached Cash & Investment Report.

The Capital works program is continuing to show positive progress on delivery of works with \$7.46M having been spent on Capital Works in the nine months to the end of March 2010. Details of Capital Works progress and activities will be reported upon within the Major Projects & Programs section of this Council Meeting Agenda.

Attachments:  
Department By Business Unit Report for March 2010  
Profit and Loss Report to March 2010  
Exception Report March 31 2010  
Cash & Investment Report as at 31 March 2010

**10.4 RUTHERGLEN WINE CENTRE, RUTHERGLEN WINE CENTRE BOARD AND VISITORS CENTRE – FUTURE SERVICE PROVISION MODEL**

**File No.: 09/491- Mark Crouch- General Manager Corporate Services**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Give in principle support to the working group proposal that will see the windup of the Council S86 special committee Rutherglen Wine Centre Board and the proposed establishment of an independent entity to be known as Destination Rutherglen (DR) under the Associations Incorporations Act.**
- 2. Council consider revised memorandum of understandings (MOU's) in relation to the various relationships between Council, the Wine Makers of Rutherglen, and the current RWRT via a proposed new entity Destination Rutherglen;**
- 3. Consider further developments, including revised memorandum of understandings and a proposed windup of the RWCB, at the June 2010 Council meeting in preparation for a proposed July 1 2010 commencement of the new business model.**

**Moved: Cr Graham  
Seconded: Cr Croucher**

**That this item be deferred to the June Meeting of Council.**

**Unanimously Carried**

**Based on:**

1. The Wine Makers of Rutherglen (WOR) making a decision to review it relationship and operation within the Rutherglen Wine Centre Board (RWCB) and Rutherglen Wine Experience (RWE);
2. Preparedness by Council to allow the various parties, including the Rutherglen Wine Region Tourism (RWRT) and the WOR to examine and workshop various alternative business models to continue the operations of the RWE and Rutherglen Visitors Centre.
3. The need to ensure that the Rutherglen Visitors Centre continues to provide a level of services acceptable to both the Council and the Rutherglen tourism operators;
4. The need to ensure a smooth transition of business and employment of staff from the current structure to a new model proposed to be commence July 1 2010;
5. The need to ensure the working relationship between Council and the WOR, as owners, tenants in common, of Vol 10084 Folio 150, also known as 57 Main Street Rutherglen, is redefined and agreed following final agreed operational changes as workshopped;
6. The proposed formation of an incorporated entity under the Associations Incorporation provisions to be known as Destination Rutherglen Inc (DR);
7. The proposed windup of the RWRT and the incorporation of the current roles undertaken by RWRT being absorbed into wider DR responsibilities.
8. A proposed windup of the Council Special Committee RWCB on the basis that DR will undertake business operations previously carried out by RWCB;

9. A preparedness by Council to give a revised model a period of 12 months to trial the changes and for Council to review the operational effectiveness of the new model at this time;
10. A recognition that there will be business and other risks in trialling such a model, and that there will be recognition by Council that should the new model not operate effectively that there will be a need for Council to step in and determine an alternative arrangement going forward.
11. Council understanding that the key driver to the operations at the Rutherglen Wine Centre will not be via a Council S86 committee but an independent entity separate from Council.
12. The need for Council to closely monitor the financial affairs of the current S86 special committee RWCB given recent staff departures and the proposed wind up of this committee.

### INTRODUCTION

Following a decision late last calendar year by the Winemakers of Rutherglen (WOR) to withdraw from direct operational involvement of the Rutherglen Wine Experience, a series of meetings have taken place to determine a new structure to operate the Rutherglen Visitor Information Centre and the Rutherglen Wine Experience (RWE) operations.

The existing RWCB, a S86 Committee appointed by Council, will be replaced by a new entity to be known as Destination Rutherglen Inc (DR). DR will be the old Rutherglen Wine Region Tourism (RWRT) with constitutional changes approved by their members. It is planned that the new incorporated entity will be operational from 1 July 2010.

The new DR will be responsible for the operational activities of the Wine Centre and the Visitor Information Centre, and will appoint a management board for the centre. That board will be responsible for all business operations of RWE including staffing, finance, leasing of café and the retail operation of the shop. Proposed Board representation is detailed in an attachment to this report. Operating under this structure, and being part of and answerable to DR, will be a Rutherglen Marketing Committee.

The WOR future involvement in the operations at the RWE will be through DR Board Representation and through DR membership by the WOR members. WOR will also continue to occupy office space in the building and their Executive officer will be based at the centre.

### BACKGROUND

#### *Structure:*

It is proposed that the current structure will cease to exist from the end of the current financial year. It will be replaced by the new incorporated entity DR that will have an agreed representation and will have all operational responsibilities for the Rutherglen Wine Experience including the Rutherglen Visitor Information Centre.

*Services to be provided by DR:*

All current services will continue to be delivered by the centre subject to funding within a proposed budget for the new DR. A proposed budget has been drafted and will deliver all existing services except for the previous position of Manager Tourism and Business Development. The costs associated with the new marketing officer's role built into the budget provide minimal funding for marketing activities outside of the production of the Visitors Guide and website sales. Any additional marketing will need to be based on a project-by-project basis.

*Location:*

The current location of the RWE building at 57 Main Street is considered the best option from which to deliver the service. Although there are other commercial premises in the main street which could be converted to a visitors centre, the revenue streams that the current facility attracts could be lost. There appears no beneficial reason to relocate and incur the additional costs of establishing a new centre in alternative premises.

While there are plans to build new public toilets opposite the council buildings in High Street, and the VIC could be located in the council buildings opposite, the foot traffic through the centre would diminish considerably. The ideal location for visitor centres are high profile main road exposures and the current RWE building is on the junction of three main roads into Rutherglen.

Further, the existing building is well established with all required infrastructure such as off street parking, signage, public toilets etc in place.

The main contribution to the viability of the RWE operation is the retail sales (substantially wines from Rutherglen WOR Members) and the café rental which provide financial stability for the operation of the RWE as well as being an additional reason for visiting the centre.

*Ownership of Property being 57 Main Street Rutherglen commonly known as RWE:*

There is sound reason why the current arrangement with regard to joint ownership should remain. The shared ownership between the Indigo Shire Council (ISC) and WOR is a reflection of the strong commitment both parties have shown towards the importance of tourism in Rutherglen, and the importance of wine to the regions success.

*Occupancy of RWE:*

The ground floor area is reserved for the current operational activities - Visitor Information Centre, Café and kitchen, Retail shop, Art gallery and ground floor offices for RWE activities. Under the proposed arrangement WOR will occupy the office space on the first floor for the use of their Executive officer. As part of the ongoing sponsorship agreement with WOR, this space will be made available rent-free as a reflection of their (WOR) shared ownership of the building and their cash contribution towards the operational costs of the RWE.

*WOR:*

The WOR wish to step back from the direct responsibility of employing the staff of the RWE and leave the operational activities of this facility to the new board. The WOR will have a designated position on the new board of DR. It is important to recognise that the primary reason for this change is that WOR wish to focus their budget on core WOR business although they do wish to retain their obligations and involvement with the wider tourism community.

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Also as part of the sponsorship agreement, DR will make available three wall spaces at the centre (in retail shop area and in main VIC area) for display purposes, exclusive positioning of promotional material including district map and brochure stand and sales of WOR members wines on sale in the retail area.

WOR have indicated that they will provide additional sponsorship to assist with staffing in the retail area in exchange for the retailing of their members' wines.

### *RWRT:*

Subject to a special general meeting of their members and subject to gaining membership approval, the existing RWRT will become the new 'Destination Rutherglen' and take all operational responsibility subject to continued financial support from the ISC. WOR will have an automatic position on the DR executive.

All of the current membership is expected to transfer across to the new DR as will any funds currently held by RWRT. The expectation is that as well as existing members, the new DR will endeavour to bring on board the balance of the business community who currently do not have a membership of any local business or tourism organisation. Currently there is no Chamber of Commerce or Business Association and many of the main street traders are yet to identify their link to Tourism.

### KEY IMPLICATIONS

It is considered critical to the ongoing success of the Rutherglen Tourism industry that the Wine Centre and the VIC are retained as much as possible in their current operational format. Although it is possible to establish a new VIC elsewhere in Rutherglen, it is not considered a practical option as mentioned above.

It has been suggested that there may be a need by Council to provide some level of additional operational funding support over the first year while the new group becomes fully established. The ongoing success of DR hinges on ongoing financial support from the shire, subscriptions and support from the existing and new membership, commercial activities of the retail operations, the rental from the café and the revenue streams from the Visitor Guide and the website.

Forecast revenue is approximately \$245,000 (including the \$90,000 from the shire). There may be a need for an increase in fees from the current membership. Ongoing levels of cooperation and coordinated marketing activities are essential if the new DR is to be successful.

It is important to note that ISC has stepped back from the process and given all opportunity for WOR and RWRT to plot a path forward with Council support. ISC has not imposed a process on the various parties, but has attempted to support the groups going forward.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Current Council financial commitment as incorporated in the draft 2010/11 Tourism Budget is \$90,000 with an additional net \$10,000 set aside for building maintenance. A letter has been received from the current RWCB requesting an increase of \$20,000 in the tourism budget allocation for 2010/11 of \$84,700 bringing the requested contribution for the Wine centre up to \$104,700 (excluding the Maintenance budget).

There are potential financial implications in the proposed new business model failing. There will be an expectation that Council will be heavily involved and support the Rutherglen tourism sector to ensure some workable structure is established.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There will be a requirement for council to agree to the dissolution of the RWTB Section 86 committee.

There will be a requirement to commit to various Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RWRT, the WOR and ISC covering the operational structure of DR and the commitment of funds and services from the three parties. Various draft memorandums are currently being perused by Council solicitors.

There will be a need for a new MOU between WOR and the shire confirming any new arrangement between the two parties as joint owners of the building. The Winemakers wish to exclusively occupy the upstairs office space.

#### CONCLUSION

While there are still a number of structural issues to be confirmed, with both WOR and RWRT finalising agreement from their membership, there is general agreement in principle to the new structure by the executive of both parties.

In the main this is a continuation of the levels of service currently provided and there will be evolutionary changes with a range of additional options for future revenue streams being considered such as booking services and new retail merchandise opportunities. It is also a case of Council putting faith in the Rutherglen operations that have worked successfully in the past and giving the new organisation and model an opportunity to work. There is always the business risk that the changes fail to materialise in which case Council may have to consider alternative options at a later date.

In terms of the revenue streams, the Beechworth VIC recovers considerable funding for the operation of the VIC from accommodation and activity bookings. This is currently not the case in Rutherglen and although there is a good opportunity to implement this, it will take some time to introduce. This will be a matter that DR will need to consider and provide the wider tourism sector an important and valued service.

The revised financial forecasts have been reviewed by the steering committee and the forecast is for a balanced budget for the 2010/11 financial year. It is expected that the following years will show a positive balance. A major sponsorship agreement has been confirmed with WOR which will assist in staffing and marketing costs.

Attachment:  
Proposed DR Board representation and other draft proposals

**10.5 ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION (THE COMMISSION) – LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE MONITORING FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL**

**File No.: 09/1812 - Mark Crouch - General Manager Corporate Services**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the CEO causes two letters to be constructed relating to the Draft Local Government Performance Monitoring Framework. That these letters be addressed to the Victorian Ministers for Finance and Local Government and cc'd to our local politicians. In addition to any other raised by the CEO, that the letter specifically highlights:**

- a) Councils concern in regard to the onerous reporting requirements being imposed on Councils, with little perceived benefit.**
- b) The increased cost that Council will incur in complying with the new framework.**
- c) The detrimental impact of diverting Council's activities away from other community driven activities.**

**That the letters are returned for Councillors consideration, within one week. It will be a decision for individual Councillors to co-sign the letters prior to posting.**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That the CEO causes two letters to be constructed, for the Mayor's signature, relating to the Draft Local Government Performance Monitoring Framework. That these letters be addressed to the Victorian Ministers for Finance and Local Government and cc'd to our local politicians. In addition to any other raised by the CEO, that the letter specifically highlights:**

- a) Councils concern in regard to the onerous reporting requirements being imposed on Councils, with little perceived benefit.**
- b) The increased cost that Council will incur in complying with the new framework.**
- c) The detrimental impact of diverting Council's activities away from other community driven activities.**

**Unanimously Carried**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Essential Services Commission is Victoria's independent economic regulator. It regulates a number of industries, including water utilities, energy retail services, ports and rail infrastructure, and administers the Victorian energy targets schemes. It also advises the Victorian Government on any matter that the government refers to it. Additionally, it produces performance monitoring reports in the water, energy retail and ports sectors. The Commission objective is to promote the long-term interests of Victorian consumers.

BACKGROUND

On August 12 2009, the Victorian State Premier referred to the Commission the task of developing a local government performance assessment and benchmarking framework. This task was formalised in the terms of reference that the Minister for Finance (in consultation with the Minister for Local Government) issued on 15 October 2009 (refer to Appendix C of the appended draft report).

The Essential Services Commission undertook a wide-ranging consultation process consistent with the Commission Charter of Consultation and Regulatory Practice and the terms of reference provided by the State Government. The Commission released an Issues Paper in October 2009 and received 52 written submissions from parties such as councils, State Government departments, community groups and individuals.

The Commission then established a Consultative Committee and working groups and initiated meetings with local councils, relevant government agencies and other interested groups. Over three months the Consultative Committee and working groups met numerous times.

The Commission also undertook a wide program of seminars, meetings and presentations. In November 2009, the Commission hosted a seminar on addressing development of a performance assessment and benchmarking framework. From December 2009 to March 2010, the Commission met with councils across Victoria, representatives from relevant State departments and interested stakeholder bodies.

Respondents expressed a wide range of views. There was recognition of the significant benefits of a performance monitoring framework, but concerns that the reporting burden on local government could increase and that costs would be imposed on councils.

The Draft Report was accompanied by five background papers that detailed the preliminary approach by the Commission to developing a common performance monitoring framework for local government. Appendix B of the report details the content of each background paper. Copies of the background papers will be made available to Council, and are accessible from the Commission web site.

The Draft Report outlines the key issues in developing the performance-monitoring framework and presents a series of proposed recommendations. The structure of the Draft Report is as follows:

- Chapter 2 discusses the consultation process undertaken in producing the Draft Report and the details of the next round of consultation before release of a Final Report.
- Chapter 3 discusses key issues that emerged as part of the framework development.
- Chapter 4 discusses the proposed performance indicators.
- Chapter 5 presents the Commission views on the implementation issues along with options for putting the performance-monitoring framework in place.

The Commission propose a performance indicator set and reporting framework, having considered the issues identified by the consultation, and the advice of the Consultative Committee and working groups.

Following the release of the Draft Report, the Commission has scheduled a series of public forums to outline the Commission preliminary views. The Commission will also meet with councillors and councils to discuss their preliminary set of indicators. This consultation will provide a further opportunity for the Commission to test their proposals and seek further information.

The Essential Services Commission proposes that a statewide performance-monitoring framework for local government in Victoria should:

- be published annually with the format and the timing of the report to fit with councils' reporting processes
- report on commonly delivered services based on uniform definitions for the draft set of performance indicators set out in Appendix D of the draft report
- provide comparative performance data based on groupings of like councils
- commence with a pilot report in January 2011 prepared for the Ministers for Finance and Local Government
- involve a two year, staged implementation program taking into account individual council's ability to collect the proposed information. All councils should be able to report on all indicators by 2012/13
- accept data already independently audited and use the Victorian Auditor-General's Office annual audit process to verify any unaudited data. Data will be collected from councils only if it cannot be sourced from government agencies
- provide councils with the opportunity to provide commentary on their performance prior to release of the annual performance report
- support the reduction and streamlining of current reporting requirements imposed by State Government agencies
- include reviews to assess opportunities for improving the framework
- be given effect through the Local Government Act 1989 and/or the Essential Service Commission Act 2001.

Implementing the framework will involve an extensive work program and ongoing consultation. After the Final Report, the Commission will prepare a handbook detailing the definitions and operational requirements of the framework. The Commission will also work with councils to assist in building Council capacity to implement the framework.

A copy of the 'Local Government Performance Monitoring Framework – Draft Report' is appended as an attachment to this report.

**KEY IMPLICATIONS**

There are a number of implications to local Government of the proposed Local Government Performance Monitoring Framework.

The ramifications from this initiative constitute a potential cost shift onto Local Government. Despite the initiative creating opportunities for councils to make improved and informed analysis of their business against other Councils and providing a framework for this to occur, the fact remains that should legislation be created that enshrines the structure contained in the Commission draft report, there will be costs to local Government.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be costs associated with Council gathering the information and data on which the performance-monitoring framework will be based.

Appendix D of the draft report refers to the proposed 65 indicators across 26 service categories.

A number of the 'Internal' data sourced indicators will involve Council having or establishing systems and processes to capture this information. There is no mention of the State Government allocating funding to Councils to defray any additional costs to Council to administer this State Government initiative.

Council administration will consider system changes to prepare for the capture of this information. Some of the data will be readily available – other data capture systems may need to be established.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This matter is not about Council policy but potentially responding to a State Government mandated reporting regime.

CONCLUSION

There is little doubt that the Commission Local Government Performance Monitoring Framework will come to be a legislated requirement. The State Government terms of reference to the Commission are clear and are part of a reporting and control agenda on Local Government.

At the same time, the framework will provide a range of opportunities for the Local Government sector to analyse and compare how it does business and make some useful comparisons.

The Commission draft report also detail what the performance monitoring framework is 'not' designed to do. At the same time, should the initiate proceed, there will be risks and unintended consequences. Local Government should seek to maximise the benefits this framework will facilitate and monitor how it performs against its intended 'charter'.

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) in a media release dated April 20 2010 details the following:

*Ahead of this week's Local Government Ministerial Forum, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has called on the Victorian Government to halt its plan to impose a new set of performance indicators until it reduces the onerous regulations already expected of councils.*

*MAV President, Cr Bill McArthur said the forum's theme of 'Embracing change for Victorian communities' was the same driver behind the call to reduce councils' growing reporting compliance costs.*

*"The recent release of a draft report by the Essential Services Commission (the Commission) proposed that councils should report on a set of 65 performance indicators, but the State had not first committed to review or streamline its existing tedious reporting regime.*

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*“We support the intent of transparent local government performance indicators, particularly if they reduce the reporting burden on councils, serve as a useful planning tool and improve accountability to the community.*

*“However, the Commission has already identified more than 100 separate reporting demands imposed on councils by at least 17 different State departments and agencies.*

*“Councils have expressed concerns that the Commission performance monitoring framework could add an additional layer of reporting to the already extensive State and Federal Government requirements.*

*“Despite increasing council compliance costs and diversion of scarce resources away from ratepayer services, the State appears reluctant to examine the magnitude or usefulness of the existing regime as a first step.*

*“The efficiency and effectiveness of local government is being undermined by a cauldron of regulations.*

*“Rather than first getting serious about rationalizing the current regulatory regime to offset the new the Commission indicators, the State appears intent on turning up the heat until they cook us.*

*“The Commission benchmarks are expected to cost each council \$30,000 to \$40,000 per year to administer. It won’t deliver more services or spread the rates dollar further, but will load up councils with more financial pressures.*

*“Local government’s compliance costs will either be passed on to unwitting ratepayers, or occur at the expense of essential community services and infrastructure.*

*“Given the lack of State action on this matter, the MAV has appointed Allens Consulting to establish the cost to local government to comply with State Government regulations and reporting requirements.*

*“This work is expected to be completed mid-year and we hope it forms the basis for a more meaningful dialogue with the State about reducing the current unsustainable burden facing councils.*

*“While many individual regulations and information reporting requirements may appear sensible, each is imposed in isolation without the Government considering the cumulative impacts.*

*“The Commission performance framework must not proceed until the Victorian Government can demonstrate it has significantly reduced the current regime to more than offset the costs of the proposed new indicators,” he said.*

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*MAV President, Cr Bill McArthur*

The concerns for this Council and the sector as a whole is whether Local Government in Victoria is prepared to make an effective stand against a further cost shift on the sector. At the conservative end of the MAV calculations and based on 79 Councils in Victoria, the new regime will add an additional estimated \$2.3M per annum on top of existing Council costs.

Attachment:  
Local Government Performance Monitoring Framework –  
Draft Report by the Essential services Commission

**10.6 ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION REVIEW**

**File No.: 09/733 - Jo Riley - Manager Governance & Risk**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Appoint the Victorian Electoral Commission ("VEC") to undertake an electoral representation review before the 2012 general elections for the municipality of Indigo.**
- 2. Notify the VEC and the Minister of the appointment no later than 24 May, 2010.**

**Moved: Cr Pockley  
Seconded: Cr Goldsworthy**

**That Council:**

- 1. Appoint the Victorian Electoral Commission ("VEC") to undertake an electoral representation review before the 2012 general elections for the municipality of Indigo.**
- 2. Notify the VEC and the Minister of the appointment no later than 24 May, 2010.**

**Unanimously Carried**

**INTRODUCTION**

In November, 2009 Local Government Victoria issued a consultation paper which considered possible reforms to the electoral representation review process for Councils.

Under current legislation, Councils are required to undertake an electoral representation review before every second general election. As the review for Indigo Shire Council was held prior to the 2005 general elections, in the absence of any legislative change, another review must be conducted prior to the general elections in 2012.

**BACKGROUND**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 Division 2 - Electoral Representation Review, an independent review of electoral representation by all Councils is required on a regular.

The purpose for a review is to recommend the number of Councillors and the electoral structure that provides fair and equitable representation for the persons who are entitled to vote at a general election of the Council. The review must be conducted before every second general election so as not to commence until 2 years before that general election and in this case at least 30 months before the next general election, appoint an Electoral Commission as the reviewer.

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An appointment cannot be made unless the Council and the reviewer have entered into a contract which specifies the terms of the engagement and provides for the Council to pay the costs of conducting the review on the terms and conditions specified. Council must notify the Minister that it has appointed a reviewer. If Council fails to do so, the Minister may appoint the VEC as the reviewer on behalf of the Council.

The reviewer must publish a notice in a newspaper generally circulating in the municipal district of the relevant Council specifying that:

- a) a review is to be conducted and what the purpose of the review is; and
- b) any person may make a preliminary written submission by the date specified in the notice, being a date not less than 14 days after the notice is published.

The Council is entitled to make a preliminary written submission.

After considering any preliminary submissions, the reviewer must prepare a preliminary report containing a preferred option (including a map) as to the number of Councillors and the electoral structure.

An order may provide that the changes are to have effect for the purposes of the next general election.

### KEY IMPLICATIONS

Legislative - Council is required under the legislation to appoint a reviewer by 24 May, 2010.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An estimate of costs to conduct the review by the VEC is attached as Appendix A.

The estimate has been based on the VEC conducting the review in accordance with the current provisions of the Local Government Act 1989. It will include a communications campaign that will comprise the following:-publication of the statutory notices in the Council newspapers;

- a general advertisement in The Age and Herald-Sun newspapers;
- publication of information in the Council newsletter (where applicable);
- distribution of information leaflets and Guide for Submissions to customer service centres, libraries and community groups; and
- a public information session.

### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As above.

### CONCLUSION

That in accordance with the legislative requirements Council appoint the VEC to undertake an electoral representation review before the 2012 general election for the municipality of Indigo.

Attachment:  
Conduct of Electoral Representation Review - Costs Estimate

**11.0 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**

Cr Murdoch declared a direct conflict of interest as it conflicts with her duties at North East Water and departed the meeting at 4.05pm.

**11.1 PLANNING APPLICATION, EDM GROUP ON BEHALF OF K&E MUELLER, TRATON ST WAHGUNYAH**

**File No.: PP09-0197 - Mark Florence - General Manager Sustainable Communities**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Planning Application PP09 - 0197 to construct and use a dwelling and associated outbuildings on Lot 1 Plan of Subdivision 507322C, Traton Street, Wahgunyah be refused because:**

- **The application is inconsistent to the orderly planning of the area**
- **The application is inconsistent with the purpose of the farming Zone**
- **The application will affect the amenity of the area**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That Planning Application PP09 - 0197 to construct and use a dwelling and associated outbuildings on Lot 1 Plan of Subdivision 507322C, Traton Street, Wahgunyah be refused because:**

- a) **In consideration of Clause 65 of the Indigo Shire Planning Scheme the application:**
  - **Is consistent to the orderly planning of the area;**
  - **Will adversely affect the amenity of the area;**
  - **Is too close in proximity to public land, primarily a speedway and football ground and there is a concern that noise emanating from these venues will ultimately become an issue to the applicant;**
  - **The subject land is at greater risk of flood and fire than the nearby residential area**
- b) **The application is inconsistent with the purpose of the farming zone, in that:**
  - **It does not encourage the retention of productive agricultural land;**
  - **It does not provide for the use of the land for agriculture; and**
  - **A dwelling is not reasonably required for the operation of any agricultural activity conducted on the land.**

**Carried**

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>For:</b>           | <b>Against:</b>    |
| <b>Cr Pockley</b>     | <b>Cr Croucher</b> |
| <b>Cr Graham</b>      | <b>Cr Gaffney</b>  |
| <b>Cr Issell</b>      |                    |
| <b>Cr Goldsworthy</b> |                    |

BACKGROUND

The planning application as described above was presented to Council at the April 2010 Council meeting with a recommendation from Council planning staff for approval. That recommendation was put to Council for decision and was lost.

In the event a planning application is refused by Council, the Planning and Environment Act requires Council to adopt a new resolution refusing the application, AND to stipulate the reasons why the planning application was refused.

In an oversight of process, this action did not take place at the April Council meeting.

Following consideration of the matter and on receipt of specialist advice, the recommendation listed above corrects that oversight to ensure compliance under the Act, and importantly honours the intent of the April Council meeting to refuse the application.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of the recommendation ensures that Council processes comply with the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act, and honours the intent of the Council decision made at the April 2010 Council Meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications.

CONCLUSION

The recommendation allows the matter to be concluded in keeping with statutory requirements and confirms the intent of Council as expressed at the April Council meeting.

Cr Murdoch returned to the meeting at 4.09pm.

**11.2 PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PP09-0143 (B COLLINS C/- EDM GROUP)**

File No.: PP09-0143 - Travis Basham - Town Planner

For Decision

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Planning Application PP09-0143 to use and develop Crown Allotment 6 Section 6 Parish of Stanley for the purposes of a dwelling and to realign the boundaries between Crown Allotments 5C, 8 and 8A Section 7 and Crown Allotments 6 and 4 Section 6 Parish of Stanley be refused because:

1. The application is inconsistent with the purposes of the Farming Zone and in particular the decision guidelines in relation to agriculture and dwelling issues and the objectives of Schedule 1 to the Environmental Significance Overlay.
2. The application is inconsistent with the objectives of Clause 17.05 'Agriculture' of the State Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy at Clause 22.02-2 'Land Use Development and Subdivision in Rural Areas'
3. The application has not taken into account the constraints and opportunities provided by the site, as well as the infrastructure and servicing requirements of the development and will therefore adversely impact on the continuation of primary production on adjacent land, with particular regard to the compatibility between the proposed development and the existing uses of the surrounding land.

Moved: Cr Pockley  
 Seconded: Cr Murdoch

That Planning Application PP09-0143 to use and develop Crown Allotment 6 Section 6 Parish of Stanley for the purposes of a dwelling and to realign the boundaries between Crown Allotments 5C, 8 and 8A Section 7 and Crown Allotments 6 and 4 Section 6 Parish of Stanley be refused because:

1. The application is inconsistent with the purposes of the Farming Zone and in particular the decision guidelines in relation to agriculture and dwelling issues and the objectives of Schedule 1 to the Environmental Significance Overlay.
2. The application is inconsistent with the objectives of Clause 17.05 'Agriculture' of the State Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy at Clause 22.02-2 'Land Use Development and Subdivision in Rural Areas'
3. The application has not taken into account the constraints and opportunities provided by the site, as well as the infrastructure and servicing requirements of the development and will therefore adversely impact on the continuation of primary production on adjacent land, with particular regard to the compatibility between the proposed development and the existing uses of the surrounding land.

**Unanimously Carried**

INTRODUCTION

Application No: PP09-0143  
 Applicant: B Collins C/- EDM Group  
 Owner: B & H Collins  
 Subject Land: Crown Allotments 5C, 8 and 8A Section 7 and Crown Allotments 6 and 4 Section 6 Parish of Stanley, Hurdle Flat Road, Silver Creek  
 Proposal: Boundary Realignment and dwelling

PROPOSAL

The application seeks approval for a dwelling on Crown Allotment 6 Section 6 Parish of Stanley and the realignment of the boundaries between Crown Allotments 5C, 8 and 8A Section 7 and Crown Allotments 6 and 4 Section 6 Parish of Stanley to excise the existing 'dwelling', coolroom and packing facility onto a separate lot of approximately 2ha (see Attachment A).

The subject land forms part of a larger holding that surrounds the land identified in the application and is developed with established irrigated walnut and apple orchards and ancillary farm infrastructure including cool rooms packing sheds and accommodation.

ZONING AND PLANNING CONTROLS

Zoning: Farming Zone

Overlay/s: ESO1 (High Quality Agricultural Land)  
 Part Wildfire Management Overlay

Permit Trigger: A Planning Permit is required under the provisions of the Farming Zone and the ESO1 to subdivide land. A Planning Permit is required under the provisions of the Farming Zone to use the subject land for the purposes of a dwelling. A Planning Permit is required under the provisions of the Farming Zone and the ESO1 to develop the land by the construction of a dwelling.

A Planning Permit is required under the provisions of the Wildfire Management Overlay (WMO) to subdivide land and to construct a building used for accommodation. In this instance the dwelling is proposed to be sited on land not covered by the WMO. A permit is therefore only required under the WMO for subdivision.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 - SECT 60

Section 60 of the Act provides that before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- (a) the relevant planning scheme; and
- (b) the objectives of planning in Victoria (which include at Section 4(1)(b) to provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources...); and
- (c) all objections and other submissions which it has received and which have not been withdrawn; and
- (d) any decision and comments of a referral authority which it has received; and
- (e) any significant effects which the responsible authority considers the use or development may have on the environment or which the responsible authority considers the environment may have on the use or development.

Section (1A) of the Act provides that the responsible authority, if the circumstances appear to so require, may consider:

- (a) any significant social and economic effects of the use or development for which the application is made; and...
- (j) any other relevant matter.

**STATE PLANNING POLICY**

**11 Introduction, Goal and Principles**

The purpose of State policy in planning schemes is to inform planning authorities and responsible authorities of those aspects of State level planning policy which they are to take into account and give effect to in planning and administering their respective areas. It is the State Government's expectation that planning and responsible authorities will endeavour to integrate the range of policies relevant to the issues to be determined and balance conflicting objectives in favour of net community benefit and sustainable development. Planning and responsible authorities must take account of and give effect to both the general principles and the specific policies applicable to issues before them to ensure integrated decision-making.

Society has various needs and expectations such as land for settlement, protection of the environment, economic well-being, various social needs, proper management of resources and infrastructure. Planning aims to meet these by addressing aspects of economic, environmental and social well-being affected by land use and development.

The State Planning Policy Framework seeks to ensure that the objectives of planning in Victoria are met and encouraged through land use and development. The following policies and clauses are deemed to be relevant to this proposal and have been taken into account in the assessment of this application:

- 15.01 Protection of Catchments
- 15.07 Protection from Wildfire
- 17.05 Agriculture
- 18.09 Water Supply, Sewerage & Drainage
- 19.01 Subdivision

**LOCAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) provides relevant discussion in relation to land use and development in the Shire. The following policies and clauses are deemed to be relevant to this proposal and have been taken into account in the assessment of this application:

**Municipal Strategic Statement**

Relevant clauses of MSS include:

- 21.01-4 Economy
- 21.02 Key Issues
- 21.03-1 Vision & Strategic Framework
- 21.03-2 Corporate Plan
- 21.04-1-8 Stanley
- 21.04-2-1 Agriculture

**Local Planning Policies**

- 22.01-2 Rural Dwelling Siting & Design Guidelines
- 22.01-5 Dwellings on Existing Small Rural Allotments. Note that this policy states that development should not take place on land affected by the Environmental Significance Overlay 1 (ESO 1) “High Quality Agricultural Land” (applications involving such land will be considered in terms of the provisions of that particular Overlay)
- 22.02-1 Landcare & Catchment Management
- 22.02-2 Land Use, Development and Subdivision in Rural Areas
- 22.03-2 Fire Hazard
- 22.03-4 Effluent Disposal & Water Quality
- 22.03-11 Stormwater Management Policy

PARTICULAR PROVISIONS

52.01 Subdivision

GENERAL PROVISIONS

**65 Decision Guidelines**

Because a permit can be granted does not imply that a permit should or will be granted. The responsible authority must decide whether the proposal will produce acceptable outcomes in terms of the decision guidelines of this clause.

65.01 Approval of an application or plan

Before deciding on an application or approval of a plan, the responsible authority must consider:

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

65.02 APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION TO SUBDIVIDE LAND

Before deciding on an application to subdivide land, the responsible authority must also consider, as appropriate:

- The suitability of the land for subdivision.
- The existing use and possible future development of the land and nearby land.
- The availability of subdivided land in the locality, and the need for the creation of further lots.
- The effect of development on the use or development of other land which has a common means of drainage.
- The subdivision pattern having regard to the physical characteristics of the land including existing vegetation.
- The density of the proposed development.
- The area and dimensions of each lot in the subdivision.

If the land is not sewered and no provision has been made for the land to be sewered, the capacity of the land to treat and retain all sewage and sullage within the boundaries of each lot.

Whether, in relation to subdivision plans, native vegetation can be protected through subdivision and siting of open space areas.

#### REFERRAL AUTHORITIES

The application was referred to the following referral authorities in accordance with Section 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and/or advice was sought from the following:

- Indigo Shire Council - Assets
- Health (effluent disposal)
- North East CMA
- GMW

Responses received recommend approval subject to conditions (see Attachment B for a copy of responses). Due to the circumstances of the case, the application has not been referred to the CFA for comment in relation to the subdivision of the land at this stage. As the proposal is not considered to represent an acceptable outcome and is being reported to Council with a recommendation for refusal the matter is not required to be referred to the CFA at this stage.

Should Council decide to approve the application, it will first be necessary to defer the decision and seek comment from the CFA.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of the application was given to adjoining owners and occupiers and other relevant persons in accordance with Section 52 (1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

One objection was received in response (see separate attachment to be provided to Councillors).

Issues raised essentially relate to the potential for land use conflict based on amenity impacts from adjacent plantation activities. Given the content of the objection and as the proposal is being reported to Council with a recommendation for refusal, it is not considered that a planning focus meeting is warranted in this instance.

#### DISCUSSION

The land subject to the application includes Crown Allotments 5C, 8 and 8A Section 7 and Crown Allotments 6 and 4 Section 6 Parish of Stanley, Hurdle Flat Road, Silver Creek (see attachment A). As can be clearly seen from the attachment however, the subject land forms part of a larger planning unit with existing orchards and infrastructure extending over allotment boundaries and including Crown Allotment 5 of Section 6 as well as numerous crown allotments to the north and west of the land that has been singled out in the application.

That the existing agricultural activities and infrastructure have not had regard to Crown Allotment boundaries indicates that it has been established in response to land characteristics, management requirements and capability. This indicates that subdivision and development along Crown Allotment boundaries, not only fails to respond to the existing agricultural use and development of the land, but also fails to address land capability.

The objective of Clause 17.05 of the State Planning Policy Framework is to ensure that the State's agricultural base is protected from the unplanned loss of productive agricultural land due to permanent changes of land use and to enable protection of productive farmland which is of strategic significance in the local or regional context.

This policy recognises that land capability is a fundamental factor for consideration in rural land use planning and provides that when considering a proposal to subdivide or develop agricultural land, the following factors must be taken into account:

- The desirability and impacts of removing the land from primary production, given its agricultural productivity.
- The impacts of the proposed subdivision or development on the continuation of primary production on adjacent land, with particular regard to land values and to the viability of infrastructure for such production.
- The compatibility between the proposed or likely development and the existing uses of the surrounding land.
- Assessment of the land capability.

This policy direction also provides that where inappropriate subdivisions exist on productive agricultural land, priority should be given by planning authorities to their re-structure.

In this instance, restriction of the application to individual crown allotments is not considered to respond to the agricultural use of the land and prevents an appropriate design response for both the subdivision and the proposed dwelling.

While the boundary re-alignment may respond to the site occupied by the infrastructure associated with the rural industry (coolrooms and packing sheds), when coupled with the proposed dwelling, it is not considered responsive to the agricultural use of the remainder of the land.

In this regard, it is considered that to avoid the fragmentation of agricultural land and the existing orchards and avoid land use conflict between the proposed dwelling and adjacent agricultural activities, the proposal should necessarily have included Crown Allotment 5 of Section 7 so as to re-align the boundary in a manner that reflects the agricultural use of the land. For the same reasons, Crown Allotments 4 and 5 Section 6 should have been consolidated with Crown Allotment 6 Section 6 thereby reflecting the agricultural use of the land and ensuring an ongoing nexus between the proposed dwelling and agriculture.

The application also indicates that the orchards are irrigated. As such it is considered that land containing the infrastructure necessary for the ongoing agricultural use of the land should also be included in the proposal or an alternate means of securing the required water supply to the land should be provided to support the application.

Schedule 1 to the Environmental Significance Overlay applies to identified high quality agricultural land with the objectives of:

- recognising the finite nature of high quality agricultural land.
- protecting high quality agricultural land because of its versatility, productivity and ability to sustain a wide range of agricultural uses without degradation.
- protecting the potential production from high quality agricultural land.
- preventing the unsustainable use of high quality agricultural land which results in the loss of the quantity or quality of the land and limits the realisation of its full productive potential.
- preventing the conversion of high quality agricultural land to non-soil based use and development.

In order to achieve the above objectives which are strategically aligned with protecting and conserving this finite resource the decision guidelines of the ESO1 provide that unless it can be demonstrated that a proposed development, including subdivision and certain types of agricultural development, maintains the productive potential of high quality agricultural land, there will be a presumption against granting a permit for that development.

The purposes of the Farming Zone are to:

- provide for the use of land for agriculture.
- encourage the retention of productive agricultural land.
- ensure that non-agricultural uses, particularly dwellings, do not adversely affect the use of land for agriculture.
- encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.

The decision guidelines of the Farming Zone relating to agricultural issues require the Responsible Authority to consider:

- Whether the use or development will support and enhance agricultural production.
- Whether the use or development will permanently remove land from agricultural production.
- The potential for the use or development to limit the operation and expansion of adjoining and nearby agricultural uses.
- The capacity of the site to sustain the agricultural use.
- The agricultural qualities of the land, such as soil quality, access to water and access to rural infrastructure.

The current proposal has clearly not had regard to the established agricultural use of the land which transcends crown allotment boundaries. If the proposed dwelling was to be approved on Crown Allotment 6, it would clearly fragment the existing agricultural use of the land. In addition to this, having the potential to be separately disposed of, would also have the potential to jeopardise the continuing agricultural use of adjoining allotments due to land use conflict. In the absence of an approval for a dwelling, it would be both practically and economically unlikely that Crown Allotment 6 would be disposed of due to the fragmentation that would occur to the agricultural activity conducted on the land.

In this instance, the proposal has not had any regard to the site and it's context and does not represent an appropriate design response. It is considered to be inconsistent with the purposes of the Farming Zone, the decision guidelines in relation to agriculture and the objective sought by the application of the ESO1 to the subject land. For these reasons, the proposal fails to meet the objectives of Clause 17.05 of the State Planning Policy Framework.

The failure of the proposal to respond to the site and it's context also places it at odds with the decision guidelines relating to dwelling issues which require the Responsible Authority to consider:

- Whether the dwelling will result in the loss or fragmentation of productive agricultural land.
- Whether the dwelling is reasonably required for the operation of the agricultural activity conducted on the land.
- Whether the dwelling will be adversely affected by agricultural activities on adjacent and nearby land due to dust, noise, odour, use of chemicals and farm machinery, traffic and hours of operation.

- Whether the dwelling will adversely affect the operation and expansion of adjoining and nearby agricultural uses.
- The potential for the proposal to lead to a concentration or proliferation of dwellings in the area and the impact of this on the use of the land for agriculture.

Local Planning Policy at Clause 22.02-2 applies to the use, development and subdivision of land in the Farming Zone. The policy:

- applies the objectives in Clause 17.05 of the SPPF to local circumstances; and
- implements the MSS objectives in Clause 21.04.2-1 in relation to the use and development of rural land.

The policy seeks to achieve a balanced approach to the use, development and subdivision of land in the Farming Zone which needs to take into account the constraints and opportunities provided by the site, as well as the infrastructure and servicing requirements of the development.

The policy also notes that the Shire's rural areas comprise a large number of existing rural lots reflecting historic subdivisions. Many rural properties comprise a multitude of titles. The provision for the re-subdivision of existing properties containing existing lots needs to be managed so that it does not impact detrimentally on existing agricultural practices.

Consistent with Clause 17.05, the purposes of the Farming Zone and the ESO1, the objectives of this policy are to:

- retain land in larger parcels suitable to the relevant production requirements of the viticulture, horticulture and grazing industries.
- ensure that development and changes to the use of land do not prejudice the continued operation of agricultural industries or the productive capacity of the land.
- protect high quality agricultural land or land that produces recognised high quality produce.
- ensure that subdivision providing for lots less than 40 hectares in area does not adversely impact on the maintenance and development of agricultural uses, infrastructure requirements or water management.
- ensure that development takes account of site opportunities and constraints.

For the reasons mentioned above, the proposal is not considered to meet these objectives.

### CONCLUSION

The Indigo Planning Scheme aims to retain the value of agricultural land. Permitting this proposal will simply facilitate fragmentation. The proposal to realign some of the allotment boundaries is a matter of convenience for the excision of the rural industry and 'existing dwelling' and it is contended that there is no adequate supporting evidence to indicate that the proposal would be better capable of supporting farming enterprises.

That the existing agricultural activities and infrastructure have not had regard to Crown Allotment boundaries indicates that it has been established in response to land characteristics, management requirements and capability. This indicates that subdivision and development along Crown Allotment boundaries, not only fails to respond to the existing agricultural use and development of the land, but also fails to address land capability.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10**

It is contended that the property can continue to be farmed in its current manner without the need for an additional dwelling in the manner proposed. There is however a real possibility that construction of a dwelling on Crown Allotment 6 as proposed, would result in the parcel of land being disposed of; fragmenting the existing agricultural infrastructure and uses of the land which occur over allotment boundaries and would ultimately result in conflict between the residential use of the land and the reduced agricultural use of adjacent land.

The provisions of the Farming Zone, at Clause 35.07 combined with the objective and implementation actions of Clause 17.05 of the SPPF (relating to Agriculture), impose a requirement to protect the State's agricultural base from the loss of high quality productive agricultural land and the VPP Practice Note on the application of the rural zones reinforces the expectation that a non-farming use will only be permitted if it has a functional nexus with the agricultural use on the land and that decisions will be made in favour of protecting and supporting farming. In this regard the Responsible Authority is clearly required to consider the potential for the use or development to limit the operation and expansion of adjoining and nearby agricultural uses.

The land is currently used for agriculture and appears to be managed in a sustainable manner. It is contended that the subject land can continue to be used for agriculture without the need for a dwelling as proposed. Having particular regard to the circumstances of the case, the orderly planning of the area, and considering the effect the proposal will have on adjoining land, it is therefore recommended that the application should be refused in its current format.

Attachments:

*Attachment A - Locality plan and proposal*

*Attachment B - Referral Authority responses*

Separate Attachments to be provided to Councillors

*Copy of Objection*

*Attachment C - Additional background information*

**11.3 RUTHERGLEN PUBLIC PARK RESERVE – COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

**File No.: 09/1187 – David Koren – Recreation & Leisure Coordinator**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That:**

- 1. Council write to the Department of Sustainability & Environment requesting that Council be appointed as the Committee of Management for the Rutherglen Public Park Reserve.**
- 2. Council begin the process to appoint a Section 86 Committee of Management for the portion of the Rutherglen Public Park Reserve as detailed in this report.**

**Moved: Cr Graham  
Seconded: Cr Goldsworthy**

**That this item be deferred:**

- a) To allow further discussion to determine the failure of the DSE committee of management system**
- b) Determine how a change of status of the committee of management can overcome long-standing problems.**

**Unanimously Carried**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Rutherglen Public Park Reserve is a large multi-purpose reserve bounded by Murray and High Streets in Rutherglen. The Reserve includes major facilities/features such as Lake King, the golf course, tennis courts, show society buildings, the swimming pool, a caravan park, Apex Park, a lawn bowls facility, Skate Park and a pre-school. The Reserve is Crown Land administered by the Department of Sustainability & Environment (DSE).

The Reserve is a very important and prominent community facility in Rutherglen that has had management issues for a long period of time. This report recommends that Council become the Committee of Management for the whole Reserve to address these issues.

**BACKGROUND**

The Rutherglen Public Park Reserve is Rutherglen's major recreational and community reserve which contains community infrastructure important to the Rutherglen community.

The Reserve is Crown Land administered by DSE which has in place a variety of management structures which have created management issues and communication problems over many years.

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10

The current management structure is as follows (please also refer to the attached Plan):

Area Managed by Rutherglen Bowling Club

The Rutherglen Bowling Club is a separate DSE Committee of Management responsible for the bowling club area only. The Committee report directly to DSE.

Areas Managed by Indigo Shire Council (as the appointed DSE Committee of Management)

Rutherglen Pre-School

The Pre-School has an occupation agreement with Indigo Shire Council and reports directly to Council's Community Planning Unit.

Apex and Memorial Parks

Directly managed by Indigo Shire Council with support from Service Clubs and community.

Rutherglen Swimming Pool

Directly managed by Indigo Shire Council and includes the Swimming Club Clubrooms.

Rutherglen Caravan Park

The caravan park is leased by Council to a contractor who manages the operations of the park. Council's Tourism department administers the lease.

Rutherglen Skate Park

Directly managed by Indigo Shire Council.

Areas Managed by Rutherglen Public Park Reserve Committee of Management (as the appointed DSE Committee of Management)

Rutherglen Golf Course

The golf course is licensed by the Committee of Management to the Golf Club.

Rutherglen Tennis Courts

No agreement currently in place.

Show Pavilion and Showgrounds

No agreement currently in place.

Balance of the Reserve including Lake King

Directly managed by the Committee of Management.

The Reserve Committee has had ongoing issues with management of the whole reserve for a number of years. As a DSE Committee who report to DSE, they feel that DSE do not have the resources or personnel to adequately support the Committee to resolve these issues. DSE have acknowledged this issue and have confirmed that management of community facilities is not their core business.

In particular, some of the issues that have arisen include:

- The Caravan Park lessee allowing and charging for unauthorised camping outside their leased area
- Non-cooperation of the Agricultural Society to manage their infrastructure
- Unauthorised removal of fencing
- Lack of consultation involving upgrades
- Lack of consultation and feedback from DSE regarding infrastructure issues

Although these issues seem relatively minor, it is the lack of support from the managing authority, in this case DSE, to address issues as they arise. This is complicated by the variety of management structures in place and the inability for parties to appropriately communicate to resolve issues.

As Rutherglen Park is so prominent in the township, DSE and the Reserve Committee deemed it appropriate for Council to be approached to take over responsibility as the appointed DSE Committee of Management for the whole reserve. Council would subsequently appoint a Section 86 Committee of Management for the areas managed by the Reserve Committee.

Subsequent meetings between all stakeholders agreed that future management of the whole Reserve, with the exception of the Bowling Club area, would be best served with Council as the Committee of Management.

With Council as the Committee of Management, local management of the areas currently managed by the Reserve Committee could be facilitated by Council appointing a Section 86 Committee of Management. This arrangement would be similar to Baarmutha Park in Beechworth where Council, as the DSE Committee of Management, have appointed the Baarmutha Park Committee of Management as a Section 86 Committee to manage the day to day operations of the Park.

It would be important for Council to be represented on the new Committee to provide the vital communication and support link between the Committee and the other areas under direct Council control i.e. the Caravan Park, Pre-School, parks and Swimming Pool.

#### KEY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed new management structure will be the fresh start the current committees need. It is believed that this proposed arrangement will strengthen communication between all stakeholders and provide strong management and support, a good basis for addressing any issues at the Reserve.

By appointing a new Section 86 Committee of Management, there will be some additional administrative duties Council officers will be responsible to support and manage an additional Committee. They are considered relatively minor and do not outweigh the advantages outlined in the body of this report.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Rutherglen Public Park Reserve Committee of Management receives financial support through Council's Asset Maintenance Grants Program. This support will be in the order of \$3,600 in 2010/2011. This level of support won't change with the appointment of the Committee as a Council Section 86 Committee of Management.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10**

It is not anticipated that Council will inherit any major infrastructure obligations as a result of the preferred arrangements.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Appropriate management of community facilities is consistent with the Council Plan Objectives 4.1 – Effective and efficient service delivery and 4.6 – Enhance the health and wellbeing of the community.

CONCLUSION

The Rutherglen Public Park Reserve has a variety of management structures in place, including areas that are under Council control. This has resulted in frustration with some of the managing committees as they believe that issues are not being adequately resolved. DSE, despite being the land owner, do not believe that management of community facilities is their core business and support Council being appointed as the Committee of Management for the whole Reserve.

The Park is a very important community facility for Rutherglen and strong management and support is required to ensure appropriate recreational and community services continue to be delivered.

The appointment of Council as the Committee of Management is considered the most appropriate method to facilitate this.

Attachment:  
Rutherglen Park Committee – Areas of Responsibility

#### 11.4 INDIGO SHIRE COUNCIL YOUTH STRATEGY 2010-2013

File No.: 09/279 - Bev Hoffmann - Youth Development Officer

For Decision

#### RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council receive the Draft Indigo Shire Youth Strategy; and
2. The Youth Strategy be placed on public display to enable additional community feedback for 28 days.

Moved: Cr Croucher  
Seconded: Cr Graham

That:

1. Council receive the Draft Indigo Shire Youth Strategy; and
2. The Youth Strategy be placed on public display to enable additional community feedback for 28 days.

**Unanimously Carried**

#### INTRODUCTION

The Indigo Shire Council Plan 2009-12 identifies the need for a Youth Strategy to 'encourage healthy and active lifestyles in our community'. The attached document is the Draft Youth Strategy 2010-2013.

#### BACKGROUND

The purpose of a Youth Strategy is to identify, articulate and prioritise issues relevant to Indigo Shire's young people and make recommendations to the Council for implementation.

Considerable time has been spent reviewing previous strategies and reports, researching current and emerging issues, and developing a set of survey questions for young people, service providers, schools and parents that has informed the Draft Strategy. Consultation commenced early in February 2010 utilising this survey. The resulting responses, collected data, research and literature have all been evaluated, collated and synthesised into the Draft Strategy, which is ready for further comment and consultation.

The Youth Strategy has given priority to the voice of young people, as their guiding wisdom influences the work of the Youth Development Officer and the information contained in the strategy.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

The Key Implications from this document can be seen in the themes explored by the Youth Strategy:

- Environment—natural & built:
  - Young people require informal opportunities to engage with the natural environment balanced by supportive and appropriate built environment. This includes access to spaces that are safe.
- Engagement—civic & economic
  - Young people benefit from opportunities to volunteer in meaningful civic and economic situations. This leads to them feeling valued in their own community.
- Connection—physical & technological.
  - Young people develop quality relationships through appropriate guidance in their physical and technological worlds. The balance of access to both these means of communication, both via transport and internet, creates a ‘liveable’ community for young people.

Young people's development is affected by Council's subtle and direct decisions in all of these areas. For example, safe healthy activities require suitable but not overly restrictive risk management, clearly defined boundaries for personal and community behaviour and access to accurate and appropriate information.

The engagement of young people and their connection to their communities is of vital importance in their development. The Youth Strategy focuses on supporting and facilitating this engagement and connection.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Youth Strategy contains a number of actions and recommendations. While many actions reflect ongoing activities some of the actions will have resultant cost implications. The progression of these will need to be subject to budget processes and considerations.

There are no immediate financial implications beyond continuing the funding commitment to the Beechworth Youth Centre and Council's contribution to the Youth Development Officer's position.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The development of the Youth Strategy is a key action within the Council Plan, specifically within Strategic objective 4 – Developing Sustainable Communities.

CONCLUSION

The Strategy has been developed following substantial consultation. It is important however that the community has the opportunity to comment on the draft document and provide final feedback.

Attachment:  
Draft Youth Strategy

**11.5 INDIGO SWIMMING POOLS AND WODONGA OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL – 2009/2010 SEASON REPORT**

**File No.: 09/1235 – David Koren – Recreation & Leisure Coordinator**

**For Information**

Cr Graham departed the meeting at 4.26pm and returned at 4.28pm.

**INTRODUCTION**

Indigo Shire Council’s Community Planning Unit directly manages 5 public swimming pools located within the Shire at Beechworth, Chiltern, Rutherglen, Tangambalanga and Yackandandah. Council also has the contract to manage the operations of the Wodonga Olympic Swimming Pool.

This report summarises key outcomes from the 2009/2010 swimming season, such as attendance and participation trends, pool operation, staff and infrastructure matters and reports on the financial issues which have impacted on the budgets for the pools.

**BACKGROUND**

The five public swimming pools located within the Shire and the Wodonga Olympic Swimming Pool are all directly managed by Council’s Community Planning Unit. Council employs appropriately qualified staff and lifeguards to ensure the pools operate effectively and conform to all health and staffing ratio guidelines.

The five Indigo pools opened for the 2009/2010 swimming season on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2009 and closed on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010. The Wodonga pool opened on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 and closed on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 as per the contract.

The following is a brief summary of the key outcomes from the Indigo Shire swimming pools for the 2009/2010 season:

Table 1: Summary of Total Yearly Attendances – Indigo Shire pools

|                      | <b>2003/04</b> | <b>2004/05</b> | <b>2005/06</b> | <b>2006/07</b> | <b>2007/08</b> | <b>2008/09</b> | <b>2009/10</b> |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Beechworth</b>    | 7,663          | 6,933          | 8,077          | 8,749          | Closed         | 8,249          | 8,018          |
| <b>Chiltern</b>      | 8,334          | 5,930          | 7,054          | 6,914          | 6,652          | 6,777          | 6,469          |
| <b>Rutherglen</b>    | 12,278         | 7,837          | 10,069         | 12,102         | 10,611         | 9,163          | 9,322          |
| <b>Tangambalanga</b> | 5,981          | 5,241          | 8,746          | 5,956          | 5,223          | 4,823          | 4,403          |
| <b>Yackandandah</b>  | 9,287          | 7,562          | 12,126         | 9,257          | 8,975          | 8,389          | 6,926          |
| <b>TOTALS</b>        | <b>43,543</b>  | <b>33,503</b>  | <b>46,072</b>  | <b>42,978</b>  | <b>31,461</b>  | <b>37,401</b>  | <b>35,138</b>  |

**Beechworth Swimming Pool:**

The Beechworth pool underwent some major upgrades prior to opening including a refurbishment of the change room/toilet facilities, installation of solar hot water for the amenities, repair of the solar heating of the pool and major concourse works around the pool. It is believed the 20% increase in season membership can be attributed to these upgrades.

Table 2: Beechworth Pool attendance 2009/2010

| 2009/2010     | Adult/<br>Concession | Child       | Spectator  | Schools    | Swim<br>Lessons/<br>Other<br>Programs | Members     | Total       |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| November      | 69                   | 52          | 7          |            |                                       | 131         | 259         |
| December      | 349                  | 670         | 45         |            | 20                                    | 1082        | 2166        |
| January       | 711                  | 1028        | 70         |            | 293                                   | 1700        | 3802        |
| February      | 143                  | 210         | 13         | 332        | 5                                     | 921         | 1624        |
| March         | 13                   | 18          | 1          |            |                                       | 135         | 167         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>1285</b>          | <b>1978</b> | <b>136</b> | <b>332</b> | <b>318</b>                            | <b>3969</b> | <b>8018</b> |

The new pool liner, installed in the main pool in 2008, operated without issue throughout the season.

Feedback from patrons was excellent, particularly around the upgrades and the professionalism of the lifeguards. Patrons expressed a need for additional shade over the shallow end of the main pool and extending over a portion of the new synthetic grassed area.

Early morning opening was trialled in Beechworth with the pool opening on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.30am – 8.00am. The trial was very successful with consistently good numbers (between 6 and 20) from the Beechworth Swim Club, the Beechworth Young Mothers Club and the general community. It is intended to continue early morning opening at Beechworth in future seasons.

**Chiltern Swimming Pool**

The Chiltern pool operated without any major issues over the 2009/2010 season.

Table 3: Chiltern Pool attendance 2009/2010

| 2009/2010     | Adult/<br>Concession | Child       | Spectator  | Schools    | Swim<br>Lessons/<br>Other<br>Programs | Members     | Total       |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| November      | 22                   | 101         | 19         |            |                                       | 185         | 327         |
| December      | 259                  | 326         | 56         | 405        | 13                                    | 1201        | 1860        |
| January       | 315                  | 476         | 111        |            | 17                                    | 1272        | 2191        |
| February      | 66                   | 171         | 71         | 375        | 6                                     | 837         | 1526        |
| March         | 7                    | 21          | 4          |            |                                       | 133         | 165         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>669</b>           | <b>1095</b> | <b>261</b> | <b>780</b> | <b>36</b>                             | <b>3628</b> | <b>6469</b> |

Rutherglen Swimming Pool:

The Rutherglen pool operated without any major issues over the 2009/2010 season. A new BBQ was installed late in the season. The main pool requires repainting urgently. The paint has worn so thin in places that the concrete shell is exposed to the treated water, which potentially will result in major damage to the structure of the concrete. The black painted lane lines have also faded making school carnivals and swim training more difficult. It should be noted that the repainting of the Rutherglen Swimming Pool has been referred to Council's 2010/2011 Capital Works for consideration.

Attendances continued to be strong in Rutherglen, despite the milder weather.

Table 4: Rutherglen Pool attendance 2009/2010

| 2009/2010     | Adult/<br>Concession | Child       | Spectator  | Schools     | Swim<br>Lessons/<br>Other<br>Programs | Members     | Total       |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| November      | 14                   | 66          | 9          | 120         |                                       | 204         | 413         |
| December      | 209                  | 374         | 62         | 257         | 23                                    | 915         | 1840        |
| January       | 480                  | 745         | 69         |             | 17                                    | 2705        | 4016        |
| February      | 100                  | 245         | 28         | 1054        | 34                                    | 1341        | 2802        |
| March         | 25                   | 37          | 2          | 11          | 7                                     | 169         | 251         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>828</b>           | <b>1467</b> | <b>170</b> | <b>1442</b> | <b>81</b>                             | <b>5334</b> | <b>9322</b> |

Tangambalanga Swimming Pool:

The Tangambalanga pool operated without any major issues over the 2009/2010 season. Attendances were down from previous seasons which can be anecdotally attributed to several private pools being installed in Tangambalanga which can then be used by neighbours. The cooler weather was also a factor.

Table 5: Tangambalanga Pool attendance 2009/2010

| 2009/2010     | Adult/<br>Concession | Child       | Spectator  | Schools    | Swim<br>Lessons/<br>Other<br>Programs | Members     | Total       |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| November      | 13                   | 70          | 9          |            |                                       | 57          | 149         |
| December      | 194                  | 408         | 60         |            |                                       | 523         | 1185        |
| January       | 377                  | 554         | 86         |            |                                       | 817         | 1834        |
| February      | 97                   | 168         | 42         | 470        |                                       | 406         | 1183        |
| March         | 7                    | 11          | 3          |            |                                       | 31          | 52          |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>688</b>           | <b>1211</b> | <b>200</b> | <b>470</b> | <b>0</b>                              | <b>1834</b> | <b>4403</b> |

Yackandandah Swimming Pool:

The Yackandandah pool generally operated without major issues over the 2009/2010 season. One patron was attended to by the senior lifeguard on duty, which ultimately resulted in the patron requiring hospital treatment for a heart condition. Feedback from paramedics indicated that the lifeguard's quick actions probably saved the patron's life.

Table 6: Yackandandah Pool attendance 2009/2010

| 2009/2010     | Adult/<br>Concession | Child       | Spectator  | Schools   | Swim<br>Lessons/<br>Other<br>Programs | Members     | Total       |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| November      | 4                    | 73          | 4          |           |                                       | 96          | 177         |
| December      | 330                  | 462         | 77         |           |                                       | 1132        | 2001        |
| January       | 439                  | 636         | 61         |           | 2                                     | 2214        | 3352        |
| February      | 77                   | 116         | 56         | 92        |                                       | 1291        | 1632        |
| March         | 7                    | 20          | 3          |           |                                       | 134         | 164         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>857</b>           | <b>1307</b> | <b>201</b> | <b>92</b> | <b>2</b>                              | <b>4867</b> | <b>7326</b> |

The following is a brief summary of the key outcomes from the operation of the Wodonga Olympic Swimming Pool for the 2009/2010 season:

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Table 7: Total Attendances – Wodonga Pool

|                | 2003/04 | 2004/05 | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Wodonga</b> | 35,247  | 38,231  | 42,372  | 44,129  | 37,672  | 36,206  | 30,810  |

The Wodonga pool operated for the full 6 months of the swim season with the months of October and March being managed as a Low Patronage pool when appropriate. Operating hours and fees and charges are set by the conditions of the contract with the City of Wodonga.

A few incidents of break-ins and anti-social behaviour, both common issues in previous seasons for Wodonga, occurred early in the season. All incidents were documented and managed appropriately by the senior lifeguard on duty. The installation of a monitored security system in late January 2010 has substantially reduced break-ins and vandalism. The capital cost of this installation was met by the City of Wodonga.

Attendances were down from previous years due to the colder summer. It is anticipated that increased marketing of the pool prior to and through the 2010/2011 season will increase patronage at Wodonga pool.

Table 8: Wodonga Pool attendance 2009/2010

| 2009/2010     | Adult/<br>Concession | Child        | Spectator   | Schools     | Swim<br>Lessons/Other<br>Programs | Members     | Total        |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| October       | 176                  | 635          | 61          |             |                                   | 86          | 958          |
| November      | 1533                 | 2861         | 524         | 739         |                                   | 500         | 6157         |
| December      | 1452                 | 2816         | 660         | 8           | 8                                 | 598         | 5542         |
| January       | 2947                 | 3946         | 679         | 1           | 2                                 | 738         | 8313         |
| February      | 800                  | 1223         | 751         | 4004        |                                   | 490         | 7268         |
| March         | 282                  | 343          | 119         | 1414        | 49                                | 365         | 2572         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>7190</b>          | <b>11824</b> | <b>2794</b> | <b>6166</b> | <b>59</b>                         | <b>2777</b> | <b>30810</b> |

### KEY IMPLICATIONS

Attendance/Participation:

Indigo Pools:

2009/10 total attendances were down by about 10% on the average attendances over the last six (6) years and down by about 6% on 2008/2009 figures (see Table 1 above). This resulted in a loss of revenue in the order of \$6,000 across all Indigo pools against budget forecasts. It should be noted that the 2009/2010 income budgets for the pools were based on an increase in attendance of about 5%.

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The lower attendance also resulted in less stock being sold through the kiosks. The net result, taking into account the lower expenditure to purchase kiosk merchandise, was a deficit against budget forecasts of about \$3,500 across all 5 indigo pools.

Attendance was down at Chiltern, Tangambalanga and Yackandandah. The 2009/10 summer has been described as cooler than previous years with February particularly being wetter and cooler. This was reflected in lower attendance figures across all pools in the month of February.

Some additional marketing of the pools in the next season may have a minor positive impact on attendances but it is the continued improvement of the facilities at the pools which can impact more on attendances.

### Wodonga Pool

As mentioned previously in this report, the 2009/2010 season was generally cooler which resulted in a 12% drop in attendance figures for the Wodonga pool from the 2008/2009 season. This resulted in a net shortfall of income of approximately \$8,200.

The City of Wodonga are anticipating that the Wodonga pool will continue to operate for two more seasons (2010/2011 and 2011/2012) before being decommissioned. The proposed new Aquatic facility in White Box Rise in Wodonga is due for completion in 2012 and will be managed by the YMCA.

Some additional marketing of the Wodonga pool will take place throughout the 2010/2011 season which may impact positively on attendances.

### Staffing Issues

The issue of retaining qualified pool lifeguards for the full extent of the swimming season continues to create issues for Council. However, it is not a new or unique problem and, despite some difficulties particularly at the end of the season, all pools remained open and appropriately staffed for the whole season.

### Hours of Operation

#### Indigo Pools

The popularity of early morning opening at Indigo Shire pools has continued through the 2009/2010 season. Currently Beechworth, Rutherglen and Yackandandah open for about 1-2 hours on various weekday mornings. Very good, consistent numbers continue to use the pool during these hours and it is considered an excellent service that the local communities are taking advantage of.

Conversely, the very low numbers that attend Indigo pools during the 10.30am – 12.30pm time frame is concerning. Following feedback from senior lifeguards and investigating the opening hours of similar country pools in the region, indications are strong that the swimming community generally do not use the pools during this period, particularly in the low season (non-school holidays).

Council officers will prepare a separate report on this issue for presentation to Council.

The issue of extending the opening hours of the Indigo pools during periods of extremely hot weather was raised throughout the season. In previous years, the pools were 'informally' kept open for longer on very hot days where patronage was still very high close to closing time.

The major issue with extending opening hours on hot days is that, due to the limited number of senior lifeguards available, Council would be potentially expecting them to work up to 10 straight hours in hot and busy conditions (10.30am to 8.00pm plus opening and closing time).

As briefly discussed above, the issue of amending the hours of operation for Indigo pools, where all pools open at a later time throughout the whole season will alleviate the staff issues which have arisen from extending opening hours on very hot days. This issue will be fully investigated with a separate report presented to Council.

#### Wodonga Pool

The opening hours of the Wodonga pool are determined by the conditions of the contract and will not change for future seasons.

#### Utility Charges

##### Indigo Pools

Substantial increases in the cost of electricity, and to a lesser degree the cost of water, were experienced across all Indigo Pools. The net result was a budget shortfall of approximately \$13,400. The increases were generally a combination of increased usage and an increase in the cost of electricity from previous years.

It is anticipated that these utility increases will continue into the future and subsequently, Council needs to budget for these increased costs at all pools.

#### Wodonga Pool

The major impact from utility charges at the Wodonga pool resulted from a new water meter being installed mid season. Discussions with North East Water ascertained that the appropriate charges for water consumption at the pool were not being levied due to a faulty meter. This had been an issue for many years and resulted in significant undercharging.

The resultant new meter and subsequent readings resulted in a significantly larger water consumption charge resulting in a shortfall of over \$12,000 in the budget. The high water consumption was exacerbated by major leaking from the Wodonga pool discovered in late January. The City of Wodonga continue to investigate the problem and are confident of fixing the leak prior to the 2010/2011 season.

#### Fees and Charges

##### Indigo Pools

Costs for operating the Indigo pools will continue to increase with increased wages costs and particularly with the anticipated higher utility costs (water and electricity). It is anticipated that the proposed 4-5% increase in fees and charges and additional marketing of the pools will not be enough to cover these anticipated increases. As mentioned previously in this report the option of managing the operating hours for the pools more strategically needs to be seriously considered.

Two new fee options were introduced for the 2009/2010 season; a Family Casual fee and a 50% staff deduction for Season Tickets.

The Family Casual fee was taken up in the 2009/2010 season as follows:

- Beechworth Nil
- Chiltern 14

- Rutherglen 2
- Tangambalanga Nil
- Yackandandah Nil

The staff discount option was very popular with 21 staff members taking advantage of the 50% reduction for season tickets.

#### Wodonga Pool

The 2009/2010 fees and charges for the Wodonga Pool were set in the conditions of the contract. Fees and charges for future seasons are subject to negotiation between Council and the City of Wodonga. It is anticipated that Council officers will recommend to the City of Wodonga a fee increase of 5% for the 2010/2011 season to cover anticipated increases in wages and utility costs.

It is anticipated that Council will manage the Wodonga Pool for the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 seasons after which it is then expected to close. The higher electricity and water charges will need to be absorbed for the 2010/2011 season as the contract fee has already been set. However, Council will be in a position to negotiate the contract fee for the 2011/2012 season which will need to cover anticipated higher utility charges.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

#### Indigo Pools

As indicated in the body of this report, it is anticipated that the net budget result for the operation of the Indigo swimming pools for 2009/2010 will be a shortfall of approximately \$18,000 from the adopted budget.

The shortfall can be wholly attributed to lower attendances resulting in reduced income from user fees and increased utility costs, particularly electricity consumption charges.

#### Wodonga Olympic Swimming Pool

The 2009/2010 budget for the Wodonga pool anticipated a net profit of about \$40,000. Forecasts indicate that this profit margin will be accurate, however, there were significant budget line item differences as follows:

Table 9: Key budget line items for Wodonga Pool 2009/2010

| <b>WODONGA POOL</b>                            | <b>2009/2010<br/>Adopted<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2009/2010<br/>Actuals (to<br/>date)</b> | <b>Variance</b> | <b>Comments</b>                                       |
|--|---|--|-----------------|---|
| Contract – City of Wodonga                     | -\$125,000                              | -\$151,000                                 | \$26,000        | Contract fee not finalized until after budget adopted |
| Total User Income (entry fees and kiosk sales) | -\$138,240                              | -\$124,983                                 | -\$13,257       | Lower attendances and kiosk sales                     |
| Water consumption account                      | \$2,400                                 | \$15,171                                   | -\$12,771       | New water meter installed, pool shell leakage issue   |

### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The operation of the swimming pools is consistent with the Council Plan Objectives 4.1 – Effective and Efficient Service Delivery and 4.6 – Enhance the Health and Wellbeing of the Community.

### CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the operation of the 5 Indigo pools and the Wodonga pool was successfully completed without any major incidents. The cooler summer impacted on the budgets and, along with other financial issues such as increased electricity charges, resulted in a negative financial result for the swimming pools. However, patrons had access to high quality, clean swim centres, open for the days and hours as advertised and appropriately staffed and managed.

## 11.6 INDIGO SHIRE SWIMMING POOLS – HOURS OF OPERATION

File No.: 09/1235 – David Koren – Recreation & Leisure Coordinator

For Decision

### RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The new operating hours of the five Indigo Shire swimming pools, as detailed in the body of this report, are adopted.
2. The season ticket fees for the five Indigo Shire swimming pools are not increased for the 2010/2011 season.

**Amended Motion:**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy**

**Seconded: Cr Murdoch**

That:

1. The Indigo Shire Swimming Pools report is adopted as a draft only and that it is put out for public comment.
2. That the known swimming pool user groups are sent a covering explanatory letter along with a copy of the draft report. The letter is, at a minimum, to request feedback on how the user group perceive they will be affected and any recommendations they could make.
3. The draft is to be returned to Council at the July meeting of Council along with any submissions.

**Unanimously Carried**

### INTRODUCTION

Indigo Shire Council's Community Planning Unit directly manages five public swimming pools located within the Shire at Beechworth, Chiltern, Rutherglen, Tangambalanga and Yackandandah. Council also has the contract to manage the operations of the Wodonga Olympic Swimming Pool.

This report reviews the operating hours of the five Indigo Shire swimming pools and makes recommendations on more efficient use of staff resources and opening hours of the pools.

### BACKGROUND

The five public swimming pools located within the Shire are all directly managed by Council's Community Planning Unit.

The 2009/2010 budget adopted by Council in July 2009 showed that the cost of operating the Indigo pools was in the order of \$180,000. This figure does not include the \$27,000 expenditure budget for cyclic maintenance or the \$40,000 profit margin for operating the Wodonga pool.

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The March forecast for operating the Indigo pools for the 2009/2010 financial year has been estimated at \$198,000 or a total of \$18,000 over original budget forecasts. The majority of the difference is due to increased utility costs (around \$13,400) and reduced income from entry fees (around \$6,000) due to lower attendance figures.

In 2009/2010, the operating days and hours of the Indigo swimming pools were set as follows:

### **Low Season - 21st November - 18th December 2009 and 1st February - 8th March 2010**

Monday - Friday - 12.30pm - 7.00pm

Saturday & Sunday - 10.30am - 7.30pm

### **High Season - 19th December 2009 - 31st January 2010**

Monday - Friday - 10.30am - 7.30pm

Saturday & Sunday - 10.30am - 7.30pm

The Beechworth, Yackandandah and Rutherglen pools also had early morning opening on various week days for around 1 to 1.5 hours per session.

An investigation into the operating hours of other similar swimming pools in the region indicates that Indigo Shire Council opens its pools for a significantly longer period each day. Please refer to Table 1 below:

Table 1: Operating hours of similar outdoor pools in region

| COUNCIL     | POOL/VENUE         | DAYS            | LOW SEASON                         | HIGH SEASON (SCHOOL HOLIDAYS) |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Indigo      | Beechworth         | Mon-Fri         | 12.30pm – 7.30pm                   | 10.30am – 7.30pm              |
|             | Rutherglen         | Sat-Sun         | 10.30am – 7.30pm                   | 10.30am – 7.30pm              |
|             | Chiltern           |                 | (Same opening hours for all pools) |                               |
|             | Yackandandah       |                 |                                    |                               |
| Moirā       | Tangambalanga      |                 |                                    |                               |
|             | Cobram             | Mon - Fri       | 3.00pm - 7.00pm                    | 1.00pm - 7.00pm               |
|             | Nathalia           | Sat - Sun       | 1.00pm - 7.00pm                    | 1.00pm - 7.00pm               |
|             | Numurkah (outdoor) |                 | (Same opening hours for all pools) |                               |
| Strathbogie | Strathmerton       |                 |                                    |                               |
|             | Yarrowonga         |                 |                                    |                               |
|             | Violet Town        | Mon - Fri       | 1.00pm - 7.00pm                    | 12noon - 7.00pm               |
|             | Nagambie           | Sat - Sun       | 1.00pm - 7.00pm                    | 12noon - 7.00pm               |
| Campaspie   | Euroa              |                 | (Same opening hours for all pools) |                               |
|             | Avenel             |                 |                                    |                               |
|             | Lockington         | Mon - Fri       | 3.30pm - 7.00pm                    | 2.30pm - 7.00pm               |
|             |                    | Sat - Sun       | 2.30pm - 7.00pm                    | 2.30pm - 7.00pm               |
| Stanhope    | Mon - Fri          | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 2.00pm - 6.00pm                    |                               |
|             | Sat - Sun          | 2.00pm - 6.00pm | 2.00pm - 6.00pm                    |                               |

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|  |  |  |                    |                    |                    |
|--|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|  | <b>Colbinabbin</b>   | Mon - Fri  | 4.00pm - 6.00pm    | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 4.00pm - 6.00pm    | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Rushworth</b>   | Mon - Fri  | 4.00pm - 6.00pm    | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Tongala</b>   | Mon - Fri  | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    | 1.00pm - 7.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 1.00pm - 7.00pm    | 1.00pm - 7.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Rochester</b>   | Mon - Fri  | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 1.00pm - 7.00pm    | 1.00pm - 7.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Kyabram</b>   | Mon - Fri  | 12.30pm - 8.30pm   | 12.30pm - 8.30pm   |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 12.30pm - 8.00pm   | 12.30pm - 8.00pm   |                    |
|  | <b>Note: most pools have option of staying open later on hot days with some also having some early morning opening</b> |  |                    |                    |                    |
|  | <b>Alpine</b>  | <b>Mount Beauty</b>  | Mon - Fri          | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    | 12.00noon - 7.00pm |
| Sat - Sun  |  |  | 1.00pm - 6.00pm    | 1.00pm - 6.00pm    |                    |
| <b>Myrtleford</b>  |  | Mon - Fri  | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    | 12.00noon - 7.00pm |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 1.00pm - 6.00pm    | 12.00noon - 6.00pm |                    |
| <b>Note: both pools have early morning opening options</b> |  |  |                    |                    |                    |
| <b>Towong</b>  | <b>Corryong</b>  | Mon - Fri  | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    | 12.00noon - 7.00pm |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 1.00pm - 7.00pm    | 12.00noon - 7.00pm |                    |
|  | <b>Tallangatta</b>   | (Same opening hours for both pools)                        |                    |                    |                    |
|  |  | <b>Note: both pools have early morning opening options</b> |                    |                    |                    |
| <b>Greater Hume Shire</b>                                  | <b>Holbrook</b>  | Tue - Fri  | 2.30pm - 6.00pm    | 11.00am - 7.00pm   |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 2.30pm - 6.00pm    | 11.00am - 7.00pm   |                    |
|  | <b>Culcairn</b>  | Tue - Fri  | 2.00pm - 6.00pm    | 2.00pm - 8.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 3.00pm - 7.00pm    | 2.00pm - 8.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Henty</b>   | Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri   | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    | 1.30pm - 7.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 1.30pm - 7.00pm    | 1.30pm - 7.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Walla Walla</b>   | Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri   | 3.30pm - 6.00pm    | 1.00pm - 8.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 1.00pm - 6.00pm    | 1.00pm - 8.00pm    |                    |
|  | <b>Jindera</b>   | Tue - Fri  | 1.00pm - 6.00pm    | 3.30pm - 7.00pm    |                    |
|  |  | Sat - Sun  | 12.00noon - 7.00pm | 12.00noon - 7.30pm |                    |
|  | <b>Note: most pools have early morning opening options, <u>all</u> pools are closed on one day during the week</b>     |  |                    |                    |                    |

The longer opening hours of Indigo pools has created issues which need to be urgently addressed:

#### Staff Work Loads

Currently, the five swimming pools are supervised by appropriately trained senior and junior lifeguards. Particular senior lifeguards, based on where they live and due to their experience, manage particular pools and take on extra responsibilities such as staff rostering and other minor administrative duties. This arrangement works very well as the lifeguards have good knowledge of the local pool, its infrastructure and the local patrons attending the pool. However, the issue of having enough lifeguards to appropriately supervise all of the pools for the whole season has been an ongoing issue for many years. This issue is not unique to Indigo.

Generally, one senior lifeguard would work the full day shift at each pool and roster the appropriate number of junior lifeguards as required. During high season, this results in the senior lifeguard on duty working up to 9.5 hours at the pool on a normal day. The issue around extending the opening hours on very hot days (an additional hour) placed added pressure on the senior lifeguard on duty, who may be feeling fatigued after a busy day in hot conditions. This is clearly not an appropriate situation for Council staff, particularly in a position where mistakes can have major repercussions.

The popularity and expected continuance of the early morning opening at three of the Indigo pools also has the potential to add to the length of the working day, although, there is generally a greater than 4 hour break between the early morning opening and the start of the normal shift.

The option to have two senior lifeguards split the shift was problematic as there were not enough senior lifeguards available without having senior lifeguards working everyday without a break during the high season.

Having one senior lifeguard supervising the pool for a full day is considered the most appropriate option for Indigo pools when that day does not exceed 8.5 hours.

#### More efficient use of staff time

Feedback from the senior lifeguards at all five pools indicated that there were very small numbers of patrons attending from 10.30am to 1.00pm, even during high season and school holidays. On many days, particularly during the low season, there would be no patrons at the pools during these times. This is not an efficient use of staff resources, particularly when the cost of operating swimming pools will continue to increase.

#### Anticipated Higher Utility Charges

Another major issue which will particularly affect the swimming pools is the anticipated substantial increases in the cost of water and electricity consumption. The 2009/2010 budgets have already been negatively affected by higher utility costs and it is anticipated that substantial increases will continue in the short to medium term.

Council staff will continue to investigate options for reducing water and electricity usage at the pools, however major increases should be expected.

The option of reducing the opening hours of the pools will reduce the cost of wages which will then allow Council to counteract the anticipated higher utility costs which have the capacity to significantly increase future swimming pool budgets.

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10

A reduction in operating hours will also effectively address the staff issues at the Indigo pools as outlined above and put the Indigo pools in line with similar facilities in the region.

To deliver a balanced service that caters for community need without compromising staff safety or future budgets, it is considered appropriate to reduce the operating hours of all Indigo pools as follows:

**Low Season - 20th November - 17th December 2010 and 31st January - 7th March 2011**

Monday - Friday - 1.00pm - 7.00pm

Saturday & Sunday - 1.00pm - 7.30pm

**High Season - 18th December 2010 - 30th January 2011**

Monday - Friday – 1.00pm - 7.30pm

Saturday & Sunday - 12.00noon - 7.30pm

*\* Option for extending opening to 8.30pm in extremely hot weather*

The proposed new operating hours will result in a total reduction in opening hours of about 18%. However, the new hours will result in all pools being able to stay open until 8.30pm on very hot days, giving a net reduction in hours of about 13%. The new hours will also give Council the opportunity to effectively advertise the extended hours on hot days knowing that staff and patrons are not being put at risk.

Further investigation will take place into the usage pattern of individual pools to determine whether the operating hours can be varied from the core hours detailed above to ensure a better service to the community. For example, investigations may find that the Tangambalanga community would prefer to have the pool open in the mornings from 7.00am – 8.00am, but then not again until after 3.00pm. Council can then make an informed decision on whether these opening times should be introduced for that particular pool.

These options should be fully explored to ensure the pools are open at times that suit local community patterns, therefore making the best use of staff resources.

### KEY IMPLICATIONS

#### Staffing Issues

Reduced operating hours will greatly reduce the pressure on senior lifeguards during the hotter weather in the high season when patron numbers are high. Lifeguard fatigue will be reduced and efficiency will be increased. Feedback from senior lifeguards indicate that potentially working less hours over the course of the season is not an issue and addressing the long working day is a higher priority.

Certainty for the community on extending hours on hot days will also be addressed by the reduction in operating hours.

#### Utility Costs

Anticipated higher utility costs will significantly impact future swimming pool budgets. The reduced operating hours will reduce wages costs which will offset the higher costs of water and electricity.

**Community Response**

It is anticipated that there will be some negative feedback from the community if the shorter operating hours are introduced. Appropriate consultation with the community and information around the issues behind the decision are important for the community to accept the new operating hours. Although the operating hours of other pools in the region do not affect how Indigo pools are managed, it is considered very relevant information to benchmark Indigo against other Councils to increase the community’s awareness of the opening hours of other pools.

It can be argued that the reduced operating hours, although not affecting the casual entry fees, should result in Council reducing the cost of a season ticket. This argument has some validity and it is considered appropriate that Council should consider keeping the season ticket fees at their 2009/2010 rate.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

As mentioned previously in the report, the total cost of operating the five (5) Indigo pools for the 2009/2010 financial year has been forecast at around \$198,000, which is up from the original budget estimate of \$180,000 adopted in July 2009.

It is anticipated that utility costs will substantially increase in coming years. As a result, Council has budgeted for a total utility cost of \$56,610 in the draft 2010/2011 budget. This is an increase of about \$7,000 from the 2009/2010 forecast and an increase of about \$20,000 from the original 2009/2010 budget adopted in July 2009.

The cost of wages, if operating hours remained the same, would increase from about \$195,900 in 2009/2010 to about \$206,000 in 2010/2011.

A reduction in the operating hours of the five Indigo pools will result in a reduction in wages of about \$17,150. It should be noted that this wages figure includes costs for the continuance of early morning opening at Beechworth, Rutherglen and Yackandandah and has also made allowance for anticipated longer opening hours on very hot days.

**Indigo Shire Swimming Pools – Wages Costs**

| Pool/Venue                | WAGES ONLY<br>2009/2010<br>Budget | WAGES ONLY<br>2010/2011 Budget<br>- Normal Season | WAGES ONLY<br>2010/2011 Budget –<br>Reduced Opening<br>Hours |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| YACKANDANDAH POOL         | \$31,776                          | \$35,800  | \$30,750   |
| BEECHWORTH POOL           | \$38,030                          | \$41,500  | \$36,600   |
| RUTHERGLEN POOL           | \$45,850                          | \$48,000  | \$42,100   |
| TANGAMBALANGA POOL        | \$45,220                          | \$44,200  | \$37,950   |
| CHILTERN POOL             | \$35,030                          | \$36,500  | \$31,350   |
| <b>Total Indigo Pools</b> | <b>\$195,906</b>                  | <b>\$206,000</b>                                  | <b>\$178,750</b>   |

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10**

Without a reduction in operating hours, it is anticipated that the cost of operating the Indigo swimming pools will increase from \$198,000 (2009/2010 March forecast) to over \$220,000.

With the reduction in operating hours, and taking into account the anticipated increases in utility costs, Council can expect the 2010/2011 budget for the Indigo swimming pools to be in the order of \$184,000. This figure would include all other anticipated income (entry fees, kiosk sales etc) and expenditure (cost of merchandise, chemicals etc) for the five pools.

It is anticipated that the 'freezing' of the season ticket fees for 2010/2011 will not substantially affect the income budgets.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The operation of the swimming pools is consistent with the Council Plan Objectives 4.1 – Effective and efficient service delivery and 4.6 – Enhance the health and wellbeing of the community.

#### CONCLUSION

Due to anticipated utility charge increases, the cost of operating Council's five (5) swimming pools is expected to substantially increase in the coming years. To offset these anticipated costs and to address major staff issues, it is recommended that the operating hours of the pools be reduced.

The proposed reduction in operating hours will address the concerns of senior lifeguards working long hours in difficult conditions, utilise staff more efficiently and also more closely align the opening hours of Indigo pools with other similar pools in the region.

**12.0 MAJOR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

**12.1 MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**File No.: 09/540 - Mark Greene - Municipal Emergency Resource Officer**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council endorse the Municipal Emergency Management Plan.**

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy  
Seconded: Cr Croucher**

**That Council endorse the Municipal Emergency Management Plan.**

**Carried**

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>For:</b>           | <b>Against:</b>   |
| <b>Cr Gaffney</b>     | <b>Cr Issell</b>  |
| <b>Cr Croucher</b>    | <b>Cr Pockley</b> |
| <b>Cr Murdoch</b>     | <b>Cr Graham</b>  |
| <b>Cr Goldsworthy</b> |                   |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan (the plan) outlines Council responsibilities in relation to the preparation, response and recovery from emergencies in the municipality. It also identifies the roles and responsibilities of the Municipal Emergency Resource Officer (the office) and Municipal Recovery Manager (the Manager) and the membership of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (the Committee).

**BACKGROUND**

The plan is required to be audited by the State Emergency Service (SES) once every 3 years and a requirement of the Emergency Management Manual Victoria is that it be presented to Council for consideration on one occasion since the last audit. The last audit was conducted in March 2008.

The plan is undergoing an audit by the SES and prior to the completion of this audit Council endorsement of the current plan is required.

A copy of the plan has been forwarded to each Councillor prior to the meeting for their information.

Following endorsement by Council a copy of the plan will be placed on Council's web site for information.

The plan is reviewed twice annually by the Committee and appropriate amendments are made to the plan when required. The plan was last amended in March 2009.

#### KEY IMPLICATIONS

The Emergency Management Act 1986 requires that Councils prepare a plan and that it is audited once every 3 years and that Council endorse the plan at least once during the 3 year period.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This fulfils Council obligations regarding the provision of a safe environment for the community as outlined in Objective 4.2 of the Council Plan 2009-2012

#### CONCLUSION

Council endorsement of the plan will comply with one of the audit requirements currently being assessed by the SES.

Attachment:  
Municipal Emergency Management Plan

**12.2 ROAD NAMING**

File No.: 09/1390 - Mark Greene - Civil Works Officer

For Decision

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the two submissions received following the public consultation process and adopts this report as amended, including:

1. Replacing the suggested name of Forbes Lane (query 16) with Albert Lane
2. Deferring a decision to change Martins Lane to Martins Road which will be addressed in a separate report to Council at a later date.
3. Replacing the suggested name of Smiths Lane (query 17) with Wallace Lane.
4. Completing the formal road naming process.

Moved: Cr Graham  
 Seconded: Cr Goldsworthy

That Council note the two submissions received following the public consultation process and adopts this report as amended, including:

1. Replacing the suggested name of Forbes Lane (query 16) with Albert Lane
2. Deferring a decision to change Martins Lane to Martins Road which will be addressed in a separate report to Council at a later date.
3. Replacing the suggested name of Smiths Lane (query 17) with Wallace Lane.
4. Completing the formal road naming process.

**Unanimously Carried**

| QUERY NO. | UN NAMED ROAD LOCATION               | LOCALITY      | PROPOSED NAME | COMMENTS   |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| 1         | Between Soldiers Rd. & Fishers Rd.   | Barnawartha   | Beck Lane     | No objections received to Beck Lane. Recommend Beck Lane be adopted.     |
| 2         | Off Brewers Rd.                      | Indigo Valley | Devitt Road   | No objections received to Devitt Road. Recommend Devitt Road be adopted. |
| 3         | Between Battery Rd. and Hopetoun Rd. | Rutherglen    | Pascoe Road   | No objections received to Pascoe Road. Recommend Pascoe Road be adopted. |
| 4         | Between Nilsson St. and Eyre St.     | Rutherglen    | Apex Lane     | No objections received to Apex Lane. Recommend Apex Lane be adopted.     |

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11.05.10**

|    |   |                 |                 |  |
|----|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| 5  | Between Murray Valley Highway and Bullers Rd.                             | Norong          | Turner Road     | No objections received to Turner Road. Recommend Turner Road be adopted.   |
| 6  | Between Murray Valley Highway and Campbell St.                            | Rutherglen      | Williamson Road | No objections received to Williamson Road. Recommend Williamson Road be adopted.   |
| 7  | Beside Chiltern Athenaeum Annex Conness St.                               | Chiltern        | McEwen Lane     | In the report to Council of 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2009 the spelling of McEwen was shown as McEwan.<br><br>Correct spelling should be McEwen. No objections received to McEwen Lane. Recommend McEwen Lane be adopted. |
| 8  | Between Bernie Rd. and Marengo Rd.  | Chiltern Valley | Barrass Road    | No objections received to Barrass Road. Recommend Barrass Road be adopted.   |
| 9  | South off United Rd.  | Lilliput        | Bath Lane       | No objections received to Bath Lane. Recommend Bath Lane be adopted.   |
| 10 | Between Ryans Access Rd. and White St.                                    | Barnawartha     | Fryingpan Rd.   | No objections received to Fryingpan Road. Recommend Fryingpan Road be adopted.   |
| 11 | Beside railway line between Canning St. and unnamed road in 11 above.     | Barnawartha     | Place Lane      | No objections received to Place Lane. Recommend Place Lane be adopted.   |
| 12 | Between Walsh Rd. and the intersection of Campbell St. and Gooramadda Rd. | Rutherglen      | Moore Road      | No objections received to Moore Road. Recommend Moore Road be adopted.   |
| 13 | Martins Lane between Beechworth-Chiltern Rd. and Deep Creek Rd.           | Chiltern        | Martins Road    | The changing of Martins Lane to Martins Road not to be considered in this report.  |
| 14 | From Reserve Rd. heading west towards Murray River                        | Wahgunyah       | Grimmond Lane   | No objections received to Grimmond Lane. Recommend Grimmond Lane be adopted.   |

|    |   |            |                                    |   |
|----|---|------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 15 | Road running north from the end of Edmondson Lane, Wooragee | Wooragee   | Poyntz Track                       | A submission was received suggesting that the road be named as a continuation of Edmondson Lane. Further investigation through VicMap has revealed that this road is already named as Poyntz track and that this should be retained.  |
| 16 | Road running west from the end of Short St.                 | Wahgunyah  | Forbes Lane change to Albert Lane. | Submission received from the Wahgunyah Progress Association requests that Forbes Lane be named Albert Lane  |
| 17 | Road between Sheridans Bridge Rd. & Ready St. West          | Rutherglen | Smith Lane change to Wallace Lane. | <p>A submission received from the Wahgunyah Progress Association has suggested that there would be a more relevant name with a link to the history of Rutherglen. They have suggested “John Wallace” who was responsible for naming the township of Rutherglen in the 1860s.</p> <p>Discussions with the Rutherglen Historical Society has confirmed this and support the name.</p> |

**INTRODUCTION**

From time to time un-named roads are identified throughout the municipality that are required to be named. It is Council responsibility to name these roads in accordance with our Local Law No. 1, Council’s Naming of Local Roads Policy and the Guidelines for Geographic Names Victoria.

**BACKGROUND**

Council, at its meeting of 8th December 2009, considered a report relating to the naming of a number of un-named roads throughout the municipality. The names chosen by Council have been advertised for public comment with two submissions being received, one from a ratepayer relating to the road identified as query No. 15 in the table in this report running north from the end of Edmondson Lane, Wooragee and one from the Wahgunyah Progress Association relating to query 16 and 17 in the table.

In the submission from the ratepayer relating to the naming of the road running north from the end of Edmondson Lane the ratepayer has requested that the road to the gate entrance to their property should be named Edmondson Lane as opposed to Poyntz Track as was recommended by Council.

It should be noted that the submission includes references that seem to indicate the road to be a continuation of Edmondson Lane. This is highlighted by a copy of a map from the CFA Map Book, "Google" maps and a VicRoads map. Further investigation by Council staff have shown that the Vic Map map, (see copy attached) which is the recognised authority for the identification of road names in Victoria, identifies the commencement of Poyntz Track at the eastern most end of Edmondson Lane and continues north from this point. It would seem from this information that the road is already identified as Poyntz Track and would not have needed a decision of Council to name this road.

In an original submission to Council, which was considered at the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009 meeting of Council, the resident offered the name "Vogt" as the preferred name for this road but this was rejected by Council.

The submission received from the Wahgunyah Progress Association has suggested that the road identified in query 16 be named "Albert", as opposed to "Forbes", in recognition of the efforts of Albert Mills, a long time resident of Wahgunyah, who was responsible for the building of the road to its present condition.

The Progress Association is also concerned that the name of the Smith family, so intricately involved with Wahgunyah over the years, should be given to a laneway in Rutherglen (query 17). They are suggesting that there are more relevant people in the history of Rutherglen to honour, eg John Wallace who gave the town its name in the 1860s and that the road should be named after him. This has been confirmed by the Rutherglen Historical Society who would support the name of Wallace for this lane.

Prior to the presentation of the Road Naming report to Council on 8th December 2009 a request was received from the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (the Authority) to rename Martins Lane off the Beechworth-Chiltern Rd. to Martins Road to avoid confusion with Martins Lane in the Chiltern township (query 13 in the table). Since the preparation of that report and after conducting the advertising process, the Authority has now advised that it would be more appropriate to remove the name of Martins entirely and to rename either Martins Lane off the Beechworth-Chiltern Rd., or Martins Lane in Chiltern Township. The Authority has also identified two instances of "Greens Lane", one in the Chiltern Township and the other running south off Black Dog Creek Rd. It is preferable not to have roads with the same name in the one locality as this can cause confusion when an incident or accident is being reported for response by emergency service organisations. It will now be necessary to undertake a review and re-naming of these 2 roads and this will be the subject of a separate report to be presented to Council at a later date.

#### KEY IMPLICATIONS

Naming of these roads will allow for better identification of properties and locating by emergency services.

On completion of the naming process the adopted names will be forwarded to the Registrar of Geographic Names for inclusion on their data base.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Some costs will be incurred in placing new signs and also in the consultative advertising process. This will be covered by the existing budget.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This road naming process is undertaken in accordance with Council's Naming of Local Roads Policy.

#### CONCLUSION

To facilitate the naming process Council is requested to adopt the preferred name from each of the options mentioned and consider the submissions received from the Ratepayer and the Wahgunyah Progress Association and adopt an appropriate name in each instance.

Attachment:  
Confidential

### 12.3 ROAD NAMING - FANNING LANE, WOORAGEE

File No.: 09/1390 - Mark Greene - Civil Works Officer

For Decision

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt this report, and commence the formal road naming process by advertising the selected name for public comment.

Moved: Cr Croucher  
Seconded: Cr Goldsworthy

That Council adopt this report, and commence the formal road naming process by advertising the selected name for public comment.

**Unanimously Carried**

#### INTRODUCTION

From time to time un-named roads are identified throughout the municipality that are required to be named. It is Council responsibility to name these roads in accordance with our Local Law No. 1, Council's Naming of Local Roads Policy and the Guidelines for Geographic Names Victoria.

#### BACKGROUND

Following the recent development of land adjacent to an un-named road off Fanning Lane in Wooragee it will now be necessary to identify this road by name.

#### KEY IMPLICATIONS

Naming of this road will allow for better identification of properties and locating by emergency services.

On completion of the naming process the adopted name will be forwarded to the Registrar of Geographic Names for inclusion on their data base.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Some costs will be incurred in placing a new sign and also in the consultative advertising process. This will be covered by the existing budget.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This road naming process is undertaken in accordance with Council's Naming of Local Roads Policy.

CONCLUSION

To facilitate the naming process Council is requested to select a preferred name from the alternatives mentioned in the attached table so that this name can then be advertised for public comment. Attached also for information is a plan showing the location of the road to be named.

Attachments:

1. Table of suggested names
2. Locality map

## 12.4 CAPEX DELIVERY TO END OF MARCH QUARTER 2010

**Andre Kompler – General Manager - Major Projects & Programs**

### For Information

#### INTRODUCTION

The Capex monitor is provided to Council on a quarterly basis as a means of informing progress to date on Capital Works progress.

#### BACKGROUND

This 2009 /10 financial year has a target capital spend of 15.197 million dollars associated with 114 projects. Within this total spend there is included a carry over of 54 project works from previous years worth 6.32 million dollars.

As things stand there are 5 projects representing approximately \$650,000 which have been delayed or put on hold on account of either external funding delay, funding not happening or significant stakeholder clarification limiting any further progress. Such projects are:

- Project 632 Lake Sambell works
- Project 739 Stanley Six Mile road upgrade
- Project 802 Barnawartha to Howlong Road pavement strengthening
- Project 715 Osborne's Flat School Road & Kerb
- Project 765 Rutherglen water Reuse

Whilst Council's accounting system recognises what expenses have been processed for payment, the reality of actual progress is better understood when one looks at works on an accrual basis. As things stand, many projects have been completed and based on the value of accrued progress invoicing yet to be received, at the end of March, \$9.22 million of work has been done.

Based on contracts let, work planned and remaining, it is expected that end of financial year Capital Expenditure should exceed 11.7 million dollars. Short of out of the ordinary circumstances, such levels of expenditure would see achievement of the Council plan target of 80% or better capital project delivery.

Also this year there has been more design done for works in preparation for delivery in subsequent years.

#### KEY IMPLICATIONS

Limited carry over expenditure into the next financial year.

The use of a more direct Major Projects model for early days engagement with other departments and stakeholders is currently being trialled on projects like the Wahgunyah Foreshore Master Plan with early days success. The subsequent wider use of such should see better outcomes.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Additional to the above work there have been capital grants applications from the major Projects Division exceeding \$5 million. The extent of success of such will provide for additional works and service delivery into 2010/11 over and above what already has been allowed for in the current 2010/11 budget process.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

Council can have confidence in what is happening in this area of service delivery.

Attachments:  
S - Curve Graph: Accumulated Projected and Actual at the end March 2010  
Capital Monitor with individual project comment.

**13.0 GOVERNANCE**

**13.1 COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEES REPORT**

**File No.: 09/1177 - Jo Riley - Manager Governance & Risk**

**For Decision**

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the following Advisory Committee minutes be received and noted by Council.

| COMMITTEE                             | DATE OF MEETING |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Indigo Tourism Advisory Committee     | 26 March 2010   |
| Indigo Environment Advisory Committee | 14 April 2010   |
| Heritage Advisory Committee           | 18 March 2010   |
|                                       | 14 April 2010   |
| Arts & Cultural Advisory Committee    | 12 April 2010   |
| Disability Advisory Committee         | Nil             |
| Finance Committee                     | 25 March 2010   |
| Audit Committee                       | Nil             |

2. That the following Advisory Committee resolutions be ratified by Council

**Indigo Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee – April 12 2010**

**Motion:** That the Arts and Cultural Committee apply for \$4,000 from 2010/11 budget to develop the new Arts Strategic Plan 2011-14.

**Motion:** That the Arts and Culture Development Officer provide a final report on the expiring Strategic Plan.

**Motion:** All committee members to read the framework of the plan, and provide feedback as necessary at the June meeting.

**Moved: Cr Issell**  
**Seconded: Cr Pockley**

1. That the following Advisory Committee minutes be received and noted by Council.

| COMMITTEE                             | DATE OF MEETING                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Indigo Tourism Advisory Committee     | 26 March 2010                  |
| Indigo Environment Advisory Committee | 14 April 2010                  |
| Heritage Advisory Committee           | 18 March 2010<br>14 April 2010 |
| Arts & Cultural Advisory Committee    | 12 April 2010                  |
| Disability Advisory Committee         | Nil                            |
| Finance Committee                     | 25 March 2010                  |
| Audit Committee                       | Nil                            |

2. That the following Advisory Committee resolutions be noted by Council.

**Indigo Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee – April 12 2010**

**Motion:** That the Arts and Cultural Committee apply for \$4,000 from 2010/11 budget to develop the new Arts Strategic Plan 2011-14.

**Motion:** That the Arts and Culture Development Officer provide a final report on the expiring Strategic Plan.

**Motion:** All committee members to read the framework of the plan, and provide feedback as necessary at the June meeting.

**Unanimously Carried**

INTRODUCTION

A copy of the Minutes from the abovementioned meetings is appended to this agenda.

BACKGROUND

Please refer to the appended minutes.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

Not applicable.

Attachment:

Heritage Advisory Committee Minutes – 18 March 2010  
Heritage Advisory Committee Minutes - 14 April 2010  
Indigo Tourism Advisory Committee Minutes – 26 March 2010  
Indigo Environment Advisory Committee – 14 April 2010  
Arts & Cultural Advisory Committee – 12 April 2010  
Finance Committee Minutes – 25 March 2010

## 13.2 REVIEW OF REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUPS

File No.: 09/1597 - Cr Peter Graham OAM

For Decision

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council support the position of the Association of Victoria Regional Waste Management Group in accepting the state government proposal to form seven Regional Waste management Groups within Victoria.

Moved: Cr Graham  
Seconded: Cr Murdoch

That Council support the position of the Association of Victoria Regional Waste Management Group in accepting the state government proposal to form seven Regional Waste management Groups within Victoria.

**Unanimously Carried**

### INTRODUCTION

This report relates to the consideration by the Association of Victoria Regional Waste Management Group, and existing Regional Waste Management Groups, of a state government proposal to restructure and reduce the number of Regional Waste Management Groups across the state.

### BACKGROUND

At the General Meeting of the Association of Victoria Regional Waste Management Group held in Alexandra on 16 April 2010 the Association, in a majority decision, endorsed the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Gavin Jennings, proposal to form seven Regional Waste Management Groups within Victoria from the present twelve.

There is no change to the composition of North East Regional Waste Management Group in this proposal.

North East Regional Waste Management Group supported change but was ambivalent about the structure. The proposal calls for the retention of statutory authority status for each Regional Waste Management Group, a point highly sort after by many Regional Waste Management Groups and the MAV.

Funding and resourcing, although not fully agreed, seems to have been improved and the Minister has indicated a preparedness to enter into further discussion.

The recommendation is consistent with the attitude of Indigo Shire council previously advised and the attachments provided provide more detail on the proposal if required.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant implications evident that affect the current arrangements in the North East.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications are evident.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications or changes as a result of this proposal.

CONCLUSION

The adoption of the recommendation continues Council's commitment in participating in appropriate regional waste management forums, and to ensure that it remains a key participant in the framing of waste management policies and initiatives.

Attachment:  
Review of Regional Waste Management Groups

14.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

**15.0 COMMITTEE AND DELEGATES REPORTS (ALL ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

**15.1 CR GAFFNEY - MAYOR**

| DATE    | TIME    | FUNCTION/EVENT  |
|---------|---------|---|
| 1 April | 5pm     | Draft Rating Strategy Meeting, Yackandandah                   |
| 3       | 12pm    | Golden Horseshoe Festival, Beechworth                         |
| 4       | 10am    | Golden Horseshoe Festival, Beechworth                         |
| 6       | 12pm    | VicRoads Meeting, Yackandandah                                |
| 7       | 9.30am  | Schoolhouse Gallery Meeting with Robert Godfrey, Beechworth   |
|         | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                 |
| 8       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                 |
| 9       | 12.30pm | Meeting with Federal Opposition Leader Tony Abbot, Beechworth |
|         | 3pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0197, Wahgunyah                       |
| 11      | 12pm    | Rutherglen & District Garden Show & Expo, Rutherglen          |
| 12      | 9.30am  | Meeting with CEO, Beechworth                                  |
|         | 3pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0155, Beechworth                      |
| 13      | 2pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Beechworth                          |
|         | 3pm     | Ordinary Council Meeting, Beechworth                          |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Beechworth                                   |
| 20      | 9.30am  | MAV Fundamentals Governance, Benalla                          |
| 21      | All Day | Local Government Ministerial Forum, Melbourne                 |
|         | 7pm     | Local Government Ministerial Forum Dinner, Melbourne          |
| 22      | 8.30am  | Local Government Ministerial Forum, Melbourne                 |
|         | 1.30pm  | High Country Councils Coalition Meeting, Melbourne            |
|         | 7pm     | Sustainable Communities Presentation Dinner, Melbourne        |
| 23      | 4pm     | National Sustainable Communities Reception, Canberra          |
| 27      | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                        |
| 29      | 9.15am  | Harvest Festival Gala Dinner Meeting, Beechworth              |
|         | 10am    | Meeting with CEO, Beechworth                                  |
| 30      | 9.30am  | Kerferd Oration Committee Meeting, Beechworth                 |

**15.2 CR POCKLEY – DEPUTY MAYOR**

| DATE    | TIME    | FUNCTION /EVENT   |
|---------|---------|---|
| 1 April | 10am    | Meeting with Yackandandah Constituents  |
|         | 12.30pm | Rostrum, Albury   |
| 3       | 2pm     | Opening of Frank Le Compte Exhibition, Chiltern Athenaeum   |
| 4-10    | All Day | On Leave  |
| 11      | 12pm    | Official Opening of Horse Arena, Indigo Riding Club, Chiltern   |
| 12      | 4pm     | Meeting with members of Yackandandah Senior Citizens, Director of Beechworth Health Service and Manager, Community Planning, Yackandandah |
|         | 6pm     | Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee Meeting, Beechworth  |
| 13      | 2pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Beechworth  |
|         | 3pm     | Ordinary Meeting of Council, Beechworth   |
|         | 7pm     | Community Forum, Beechworth   |
| 14      | All Day | Indigo Heritage Awards Judging, Shire-wide  |
| 15      | 12.30pm | Rostrum   |
| 17      | 10am    | Meeting with Yackandandah Constituents  |
| 18      | 12pm    | Official Opening of Indigo Valley CFA Shed  |
| 20      | 9.30am  | MAV Fundamentals Governance, Benalla  |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Barnawartha  |
| 23      | 12pm    | Communications Policy Review, Beechworth  |
| 25      | 5.45am  | Anzac Day Dawn Service/Gunfire Breakfast, Yackandandah  |
|         | 10.30am | Anzac Day March & Service, Yackandandah   |
| 26      | 5pm     | Beechworth Neighbourhood Centre Meeting, Beechworth   |
| 27      | 11am    | Autism Spectrum Australia Meeting, Albury   |
|         | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah  |
| 30      | 10am    | Interview with Stock & Land Magazine, Indigo Valley   |

**15.3 CR GRAHAM**

| DATE    | TIME    | FUNCTION/EVENT   |
|---------|---------|--|
| 1 April | 4pm     | Budget Meeting, Beechworth                             |
| 6       | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                 |
| 7       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                          |
| 8       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                          |
| 9       | 3pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0197, Wahgunyah                |
| 11      |         | Lions Farmers Market, Rutherglen                       |
| 12      | All Day | Veterans Affairs Meeting, Bendigo                      |
| 13      | All Day | Veterans Affairs Meeting, Bendigo                      |
| 14      | All Day | General Meeting AVRWMG, Alexandra                      |
| 15      | All Day | General Meeting AVRWMG, Alexandra                      |
| 16      | All ay  | General Meeting AVRWMG, Alexandra                      |
| 17      |         | Corowa Lions 50 <sup>th</sup> Dinner, Corowa           |
| 19      | 1.30pm  | Indigo Disability Advisory Committee Meeting, Chiltern |
| 20      | 9.30am  | Governance Fundamentals Workshop, Benalla              |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Barnawartha                           |
| 22      | 7pm     | Sustainable Communities Presentation Dinner, Melbourne |
| 23      |         | Guest Speaker Anzac Traditions, Rutherglen             |
| 24      |         | Memorial RSL Service, Carlyle                          |
| 25      | 6am     | Anzac Day Dawn Service & March, Rutherglen             |

**15.4 CR CROUCHER**

| DATE    | TIME    | FUNCTION/EVENT   |
|---------|---------|--|
| 1 April | 5pm     | Draft Rating Strategy Meeting, Yackandandah                        |
| 3       | 10am    | Golden Horseshoe Festival, Beechworth                              |
|         | 2pm     | Art Exhibition, Chiltern Athenaeum                                 |
| 5       | 10am    | Wooragee Market, Wooragee  |
| 6       | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                             |
| 7       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                      |
| 8       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                      |
|         | 10am    | Upper Murray Regional Library Meeting Sally McCarron, Yackandandah |
|         | 12.30pm | Meeting with Federal Opposition Leader Tony Abbot, Beechworth      |
|         | 3pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0197, Wahgunyah                            |
| 11      | 12.30pm | Grand Opening Arena Adult Riding Club, Chiltern                    |
| 12      | 3pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0155, Beechworth                           |
|         | 7.30pm  | April Sandy Creek Committee of Management Meeting, Sandy Creek     |
| 13      | 2pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Beechworth                               |
|         | 3pm     | Ordinary Meeting of Council, Beechworth                            |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Beechworth  |
| 15      | 12.30pm | Rostrum, Albury  |
| 19      | 10.30am | Meeting with Beechworth Health, Tangambalanga                      |
| 20      | 9.30am  | MAV Fundamentals Governance, Benalla                               |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Barnawartha                                       |
| 22      | 2.30pm  | Meeting with Andre Kompler, Yackandandah                           |
| 23      |         | Rutherglen Walkabout, Rutherglen                                   |
| 25      | 5.45am  | Anzac Day Dawn Service & March, Kiewa/Tangambalanga                |
| 27      | 10am    | Upper Murray Regional Library Meeting, Wodonga                     |
|         | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                             |
| 29      | 10am    | Meeting with Constituent, Chiltern                                 |
|         | 10.40am | Meeting with Mayor & CEO, Beechworth                               |
|         | 4pm     | Atauro Island Friendship Committee Meeting, Rutherglen             |
| 30      | 3.30pm  | April Meeting, Rutherglen  |

## For Information

### UPPER MURRAY REGIONAL LIBRARY

The Upper Murray Regional Library Directors met in Wodonga on Tuesday 27 April 2010. Items discussed at the meeting were as follows:

- 2010/11 Budget
- Final Report from J L Management Services in relation to the review
- Wodonga Council in relation to the Library Contract and the staffing of Wodonga City Library

### ATAURO ISLAND FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Atauro Island Friendship Committee met at Rutherglen High School on Friday 30 April 2010. Items discussed at the meeting were as follows:

- Student scholarships
- Teacher exchange project
- Fund raising prospectus/financial report
- Marcello agreement

The Committee wished to thank the Shire for their donation in regard to this venture.

**15.5 CR GOLDSWORTHY**

| DATE    | TIME   | FUNCTION/EVENT  |
|---------|--------|---|
| 1 April | 4pm    | Rating Strategy Workshop, Yackandandah                    |
| 6       | 4pm    | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                    |
| 7       | 4pm    | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                             |
| 8       | 4pm    | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                             |
| 13      | 2pm    | Council Briefing Meeting, Beechworth                      |
|         | 3pm    | Ordinary Meeting of Council, Beechworth                   |
|         | 6.30pm | Community Forum, Beechworth                               |
| 20      | 9.30am | MAV Fundamentals, Governance, Benalla                     |
|         | 6.30pm | Community Forum, Barnawartha                              |
| 23      | 11am   | Communications Strategy Review, Beechworth                |
| 27      | 2pm    | Lake Sambell Map Meeting, Beechworth                      |
|         | 4pm    | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                    |
|         | 7.30pm | Municipal Fire Prevention Committee Meeting, Yackandandah |

**15.6 CR ISSELL**

| DATE    | TIME    | FUNCTION/EVENT  |
|---------|---------|---|
| 3 April | 8.45am  | Launch Fun Run and Present Awards, Beechworth                 |
|         | 12noon  | Golden Horseshoes Festival, Beechworth                        |
| 6       | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                        |
| 7       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                 |
| 8       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                 |
| 9       | 12.30pm | Meeting with Federal Opposition Leader Tony Abbot, Beechworth |
| 9       | 2pm     | On site Inspection, John St. property, Beechworth             |
| 12      | 6pm     | Arts & Culture Advisory Committee, Beechworth                 |
| 13      | 2pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Beechworth                          |
|         | 3pm     | Ordinary Meeting of Council, Beechworth                       |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Beechworth                                   |
| 14      | 6pm     | Environment Advisory Committee, Rutherglen                    |
| 19      | 10.15am | Meeting with President, Beechworth RSL                        |
| 23      | 12noon  | Communications Policy Meeting, Beechworth                     |
| 25      | 6.30am  | Anzac Day Dawn Service & March, Beechworth                    |
| 25      | 11am    | Anzac Day Service Address, Beechworth                         |
| 26      | 7.30pm  | Wahgunyah Progress Association meeting                        |
| 27      | 2pm     | Lake Sambell Map Meeting, Beechworth                          |
| 28      | 5.30pm  | ACSUM Working Party Meeting, Albury                           |

**15.7 CR MURDOCH**

| DATE    | TIME    | FUNCTION/EVENT  |
|---------|---------|---|
| 1 April | 4pm     | Finance Committee Meeting, Beechworth                         |
| 6       | 4pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Yackandandah                        |
| 7       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                 |
| 8       | 4pm     | Budget Workshop, Yackandandah                                 |
| 9       | 12.30pm | Meeting with Federal Opposition Leader Tony Abbot, Beechworth |
|         | 2pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0155, Beechworth                      |
|         | 3pm     | On Site Inspection PP09-0197, Wahgunyah                       |
| 11      | 12pm    | Le Compte Art Exhibition, Chiltern                            |
| 12      | 2.20pm  | Indigo Shire Resilience Committee Meeting, Yackandandah       |
| 13      | 2pm     | Council Briefing Meeting, Beechworth                          |
|         | 3pm     | Ordinary Meeting of Council, Beechworth                       |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Beechworth                                   |
| 19      | 11am    | Rural Women Leading Change Meeting, Wodonga                   |
|         | 5pm     | Indigo Audit Committee Meeting, Beechworth                    |
|         | 7pm     | Chiltern Tourism Meeting, Chiltern                            |
| 20      | 9.30am  | Governance Fundamentals Workshop, Benalla                     |
|         | 6.30pm  | Community Forum, Barnawartha                                  |
| 21      | 7pm     | Planning Group Meeting, Chiltern                              |
| 22      |         | Tidy Town Awards, Canberra                                    |
| 25      | 6am     | Anzac Day Dawn Service & March, Chiltern                      |
|         | 10am    | Anzac Day March, Barnawartha                                  |
| 28      | 5.30pm  | ACSUM Working Party Meeting, Albury                           |

**16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Graham departed the meeting for the evening at 4.50pm, as he was unwell.

| COUNCILLOR  | ITEM  |
|-------------|---|
| Goldsworthy | <p>Burke Museum Signage – Has this initiative been implemented since adoption at the December meeting of Council?</p> <p>Mark Crouch responded – There is still more work to be done, it is currently partially completed. Will be followed up to have action undertaken sooner rather than later.</p> <p>Has any additional funding been factored into budget?</p> <p>Mark Crouch – Manager in place and factored into budget. Not a great deal of extra funding is allocated.</p> <p>Workcover issued notice on storage area – what actions have been undertaken to rectify.</p> <p>Mark Crouch responded – the room has been taken “off line” at the moment.</p> |
|             | Burke Museum Manager Position – what is the status at present?  |
|             | Mark Crouch responded – responses have been completed and we are currently confirming acceptance with the successful applicant.   |
|             | Beechworth rezoning – requested an update of the status.  |
|             | Mark Florence responded: applications are still being received from affected landowners.  |
| Issell      | A-frame located in Ford Street, Beechworth. Should it be located there? Moved?  |
|             | Mark Florence responded – yes, we are technically in breach and it should/will be removed ASAP.   |

Mark Florence declared a conflict of interest, as he is a parent of the person requesting sponsorship/funding and departed the meeting at 5.15pm.

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Gaffney | Briefed Councillors and gallery on a request for funding to volunteer for World Youth International in Kenya. |
|---------|---|

**Moved: Cr Goldsworthy**  
**Seconded: Cr Pockley**

**That a donation of \$250 from the Mayor and Councillors discretionary fund be given to Ellie Florence to assist in her volunteering for World Youth International in Kenya.**

**Unanimously Carried**

The Mayor declared the meeting closed.

**Meeting Concluded: 5.53pm**

**Next Meeting: Council Meeting - Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 3.00pm  
- Senior Citizens Hall, Rutherglen**