

*Mission Statement:*

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

HELD: Tuesday 8 February 2011, 6.30pm

LOCATION: Stanley Hall, Stanley

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS: 22 (Only details of 20 residents in attendance were recorded)

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Senior Managers</b>	<b>Community members</b>
	Brendan McGrath - CEO	Jean Horne
Bernard Gaffney – Deputy Mayor	Roberta Baker – Manager Communications	Gerry Horne
Peter Croucher	Andre Kompler – Acting GM Corporate Services	Marilla Byrne
Larry Goldsworthy	Frank Bonacci – Manager Finance	Mike Byrne
Vic Issell	Chris Westwood – Team Leader Recreation & Community Strengthening	Julie Willis
Barbara Murdoch	Jamie Heritage – Acting GM Major Projects & Programs	Helen McIntyre
Peter Graham		Maggie Mackenzie
		Janice Turnbull
		Richard Turnbull
		Chris Brett
		Robin McLeish
		Neil Higgins

		William Sharp
		Leonie Williams
		Genevieve Milham
		Vicki Knopers
		Annette Nuck
		Michael Nuck
		Bob Powter
		Consie Powter
		Ed Tyrie

ITEM NO	ITEM	ACTION
1.0	<b>Welcome</b>	
2.0	<b>Apologies:</b> Cr Ali Pockley	
3.0	<b>Recent work with CFA on egress and access through fire season and beyond</b>	
	Andre Kompler provided an outline of work with the CFA on these issues to provide a better outcome for the community in the longer term. Stanley CFA captain Michael Nuck raised the issue of repair work on Wodonga Road at Wooragee and considered Stanley would have been a higher priority in terms of risk.	
4.0	<b>Recent completed capital works in the Stanley area. ie. hall and building and access improvement to the oval</b>	
	Chris Westwood gave an overview of the \$250,000 donation from the Bendigo Bank for a bushfire-related project. Formal quotes will be sought on an extension to facilities at Stanley Recreation Reserve. The current building has capacity for approximately 120 people and it is proposed to extend that and include a water tank, barbecue area etc and create more of a hub. When a more detailed design is available, it will be brought to the Stanley community for their feedback. Genevieve Milham queried how the project came about and expressed concern at what she considered the lack of community consultation - she said the community had a meeting room at the hall and the Athenaeum. Response was that the Bendigo Bank indicated the donation was for a	<b>Chris Westwood</b>

	<p>bushfire-related project and approached the CFA; and the building at the recreation reserve passed the Neighbourhood Safer Places criteria. A copy of the initial concept plan will be sent out to the community.</p> <p>Community noticeboard – despite numerous consultations the community is yet to decide the final design and site for this.</p>	
5.0	<p><b>Council Long Term Strategic Planning Project (2030 plan)</b></p> <p>Roberta Baker gave a short overview of this project, which will be starting shortly. It involves creating a longterm view of how the community wants Indigo Shire to be in 20 years, what they want it to look like, what services they would like to see in place, what the “look and feel” might be for future generations. Comments will be sought from people of all ages and interests across the community.</p> <p>Gerry Horne from Beechworth raised the issue of his building, the Beechworth Gallery, and where it would fit in the vision of where the shire is in 20 years. He believes the building is the part of the future of Indigo.</p> <p>Discussion turned to zoning in the centre of Stanley and the Rural Land Use Strategy with comments made that zoning issues should be dealt with ahead of any long-term strategy for Indigo, and that the limitations of current zoning of Stanley was strangling the township. In relation to the Rural Land Use Strategy, residents asked that their submissions by responded to and Genevieve Milham asked that once a strategic planner had made recommendations, that they come back to the community. CEO Brendan McGrath said he would talk to Councillors to see if they want to go down that road, as other communities were affected also. Comment was made that a proposed new zone in the Rural Land Use Strategy was for the 1 square kilometre in the centre of Stanley.</p>	<p><b>Mark Florence</b></p>
6.0	<p><b>Council Rating Strategy Update</b></p>	
	<p>Andre Kompler provided a review of this project over the past 12 months and urged people to obtain a copy of the draft strategy and comment on it. The strategy is about finding the most equitable rating base and has already been available for public comment last year. The strategy will not increase the amount of rates, but looks at more equitable ways of spreading the rate burden, and links in with Council’s long-term financial plan to provide services to the community. The latest draft includes changes following earlier community consultation. It is hoped a final version of the strategy will go to the April Council meeting. The draft is available</p>	

	<p>for comment until March 15 and can be found on Council's website as well as at Customer Service Centres.</p> <p>A question was asked about valuations and if Council was going to employ outside valuers to review properties. The CEO said valuers were appointed on behalf of the Valuer General's office, every two years, under external contract. There is a process if people don't agree with the valuation of their property and this is outlined on the back of their rate notice. Mr Horne asked if there were any alarms bells internally at Council if a valuation seemed too high.</p> <p>Finance Manager Frank Bonacci subsequently provided the following information on this matter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both the valuer and Valuer General's Office do perform sense checks. Once the values are signed off by VGO though, it is too late for Council to perform any sense checks because the VGO has agreed to the valuations. However, Council can get the raw data from the valuer at the appropriate time and perform our own sense checks at that stage and query the valuer on anomalies and potentially get them corrected before the CIVs are finalized.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Frank Bonacci</b></p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p><b>Stanley Recreational Reserve Masterplan</b></p>	
	<p>Chris Westwood explained that a consultant had been engaged to undertake development of masterplans for the Stanley Recreation Reserve and Coulston Park in Tangambalanga. Council resolved at the meeting just prior to the Community Forum to put draft plans out to the community for comment.</p>	<p><b>Chris Westwood</b></p>
	<p><b>YOUR SAY</b></p>	
	<p>Wooragee resident Rob McLeish urged residents to prepare a response to the draft updated Roadside Management Plan now available for feedback. He said the main changes were that the plan aimed to have roadsides managed as nature reserves and landholders would need a permit to carry out work on roadsides. Slashing, burning, grading, removing fallen trees etc would not be allowed. Fire prevention work would need permission from Council's Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. Mr McLeish said there was no mention of road safety in the draft plan and that 20 people had been killed in Victoria in the last three months of 2010 through road accidents involving trees, four of those fatalities were in this region. He urged people to make their concerns known to Council before 7 March, the closing date for comments.</p> <p>Michael Nuck mentioned the state of the roads managed by Indigo Shire, especially since the recent rain and</p>	

	<p>was informed someone was coming to carry out inspections. Mr Kompler said urgent road safety issues would be dealt with first, and other work as a package in order of priority.</p> <p>A resident commented the Lower Nine Mile Road was badly potholed and had been nominated for funding to fix it. Mr Kompler said the road was subject to State Government funding, which did not come through.</p>	