



STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2012 AT THE EUROA COMMUNITY CONFERENCE CENTRE COMMENCING AT 4.00 P.M.

Councillors: Debra Swan (Chair)
Colleen Furlanetto
Malcolm Little
Patrick Storer
Robin Weatherald

Officers: Steve Crawcour - Chief Executive Officer
Roy Hetherington - Director, Asset Services
David Woodhams – Director, Corporate and Community
Phil Howard – Director, Sustainable Development

BUSINESS

1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land Owners
'In keeping with the spirit of Reconciliation, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today. We recognise indigenous people, their elders past and present'.
3. Apologies

Councillor Alister Purbrick
Councillor Graeme (Mick) Williams
4. Disclosure of Interests

Nil

EXCERPT FROM MEETING PROCEDURE LOCAL LAW NO. 1

CONDUCT OF PUBLIC

52. VISITORS

- (1) Visitors must not interject or take part in debate.
- (2) Silence shall be preserved in the gallery at all times.
- (3) If any visitor is called to order by the Chairperson and again acts in breach of this Local Law, the Chairperson may order that person to be removed from the gallery.

53. CALL TO ORDER

Any person who has been called to order, including any Councillor who fails to comply with the Chairperson's direction, will be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: \$500

54. *REMOVAL FOR DISRUPTION*

The Chairperson has discretion to cause the removal of any person, including a Councillor, who disrupts any meeting or fails to comply with a direction under the provisions of this Local Law.

5. Reports

5.2 Infrastructure

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5. REPORTS

5.2 INFRASTRUCTURE

5.2.1 Proposed Place Naming

Author & Department

Road Naming Officer / Asset Services Directorate

File Reference

T65/0162/02

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest in relation to advice provided in this report

The author of this report does not have a direct or indirect interest in any of the matters referred to in this report.

Summary

A letter and multi-signed request were received on 4th June 2012 asking that Council arrange for a hill in the Gooram district, known as Wheeler Hill/Mt Cecelia to be officially named Mt Cecelia.

On 21st August Council resolved to accept the proposal, the initiator advised of that decision and a public advertisement seeking submissions inserted in the "Euroa Gazette" on 23rd October.

As a consequence, nine written submissions were received before the closing date of 23rd November and two after that date. All of the submissions supported Mount Cecelia and one suggested Mount Cecelia Wheeler as an alternative.

None of the people making submissions requested to be heard at a Special Meeting of Council to be convened on 18th December to hear submissions.

Councillors have been provided with copies of the submissions.

Background

The main points made in the submissions are that:

1. the hill has been known from pioneer times as Mount Cecelia;
2. the reinstatement of the name would preserve the history of a local pioneer family and one of its members - Cecelia Wheeler;
3. the hill was understood to have been shown as Mount Cecilia in Army Ordnance maps of late 1800s and early 1900s;
4. the name was understood to have been changed by newcomers to the district during their ownership of the property in 1979-1982;
5. the Wheeler family has had a long association with the district since pioneer times;
6. in the event of a bushfire most people would not know where Wheeler Hill is but would know the location of Mount Cecelia.

5.2.1 Proposed Place Naming (cont.)

Officer Comment

Most of the information relating to the feature is anecdotal but the following facts have been ascertained:

1. Wheeler Hill was recorded in State Government records as an Official Place Name on 1st April 1966. Contemporary Council Minutes make no reference to the change and State Government documentation of such events only started in 1983 ; and
2. Mt Cecelia appeared in the 1986 edition of the CFA Map Book but since at least 1990, as Wheeler Hill.

In order to give proper consideration to this request Councillors need to be aware of the following:

1. Council is the authority responsible for naming roads, places and features. On 20th December 2011 it adopted a revised Road Naming Policy, based on the principles contained in the Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010. These principles apply also to the naming of places and features. Two very similar submissions, in particular, were based on those principles;
2. Any rules that would have applied when the name of the hill was considered previously would no longer apply except insofar as they may comply with the current Guidelines;
3. Principle 1(H) "Using commemorative names" states that a commemorative name applied to a feature can use the first name and surname of a person; although it is preferred that only the surname be used. Wheeler Hill already commemorates the Wheeler family; and
4. When considering the naming of roads Council has consistently applied the rule that there should be no change for change sake and it is suggested that this rule should also apply in this case.

Conclusion

From experience with the Office of Geographic Names, it is considered that the proposal does not meet its requirements and may fail.

Council could resolve to accept the renaming proposal for the purpose of referral to the Office of Geographic Place Names.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That the submissions in relation to the proposed renaming of Wheeler Hill to Mount Cecelia be received.**
2. **That Council accept the renaming proposal and that it be referred to the Office of Geographic Names for approval.**

15/13 CRS FURLANETTO/LITTLE : That the Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

5.2.1 Proposed Place Naming (cont.)

Alternative options

The author has considered potential alternative courses of action. No feasible alternatives have been identified.

Risk Management

The author considers that there are no significant Risk Management factors relating to the report and recommendation.

Strategic links - policy implications and relevance to Council Plan

The author considers that this report is consistent with Council policies, key strategic documents and the Council Plan.

Best Value/National Competition Policy (NCP) / Trade Practices Act (TPA) implications

The author considers that the report is consistent with Best Value, National Competition Policy and Trade Practices Act requirements.

Financial/Budgetary implications

The author considers that the recommendation has no capital or recurrent budget implications.

Economic implications

The author considers that the recommendation has no significant economic implications for Council or the broader community.

Environmental/Amenity implications

The author considers that the recommendation has no significant environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

Community implications

The author considers that the recommendation has no significant community or social implications for Council or the broader community.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

The author considers that the recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

Legal/Statutory implications

The author considers that the recommendation has no legal or statutory implications which require the consideration of Council.

Consultation

The author advises that consultation took the form of advising the initiator of the proposal that submissions on the matter would be sought from the public and subsequently it was advertised in the "Euroa Gazette".

Attachments

Nil

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.06 P.M.

Confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the Meeting

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