

Strathbogie Shire Council

Extraordinary Council Meeting Minutes/Decisions

May 2, 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we strive, the peoples of the rivers and the hills of the Strathbogie Shire region who walked these lands for generations.

We pay our respects to the elders of the past, and the speakers of the first words, who lived in harmony with this country.

We acknowledge the elders of the present, who seek to regain their culture, and to teach the elders of the future their law, their history and their language.

We pay our respects to them and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

We honour their spirit – and the memory, culture, art and science of the world's oldest living culture through 60,000 years.

Minutes/Decisions

Extraordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 6pm

Meeting held at the Euroa Community Conference Centre and livestreamed on Council's website:

<https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/council/our-council/council-meetings-and-minutes/>

Council:

Cr Laura Binks (Mt Wombat Ward) – Mayor
Cr Paul Murray (Hughes Creek Ward) – Deputy Mayor
Cr David Andrews (Lake Nagambie Ward)
Cr Reg Dickinson (Lake Nagambie Ward)
Cr Kristy Hourigan (Seven Creeks Ward)
Cr Chris Raeburn (Honeysuckle Creek Ward)

Officers:

Julie Salomon – Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Tingay – Director Community and Planning
Vlad Adamek – Director Sustainable Infrastructure
Kristin Favaloro – Executive Manager Communications and Engagement
Upul Sathurusinghe – Chief Financial Officer

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1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Country
3. Apologies / Leave of Absence
 - Cr Sally Hayes-Burke (Seven Creeks Ward)
 - Dawn Bray – Director People and Governance
4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Cr Hourigan declared a material conflict of interest under section 128 of the Local Government Act 2020 in Item 5.4.1 - Consideration of Nagambie and Euroa Caravan Park Line Items for the Draft 2023-24 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget due to being the business owner of Euroa Caravan Park.

5. Officer Reports
 - 5.1 Strategic and Statutory
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 - 5.6 Executive

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5. OFFICER REPORTS

5.4 CORPORATE

6.03 pm: Cr Hourigan left the meeting due to declaring a material conflict of interest.

5.4.1 **Consideration of Nagambie and Euroa Caravan Park Line Items for the Draft 2023-24 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget**

Author: Chief Financial Officer

Responsible Director: Director People and Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the requirements of section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the 2020 Act), Council has prepared a budget for the financial year ending 30 June 2024.

The draft budget has been developed in accordance with the 2020 Act's financial management principles in accordance with section 96(1)(a).

There are income and expense line items within the draft Budget that relate to Caravan Parks in Nagambie and Euroa, in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in existing lease agreements.

A lease for the Euroa Caravan Park was transferred to the current lessee, Lilly Ann Pty Ltd by way of Council resolution on 21 February 2017. Councillor Hourigan is a Director of this company, as declared in her March 2023 personal interest declaration form.

As Councillor Hourigan has a material interest in these budget line items, it has been necessary to separate out this line item in the draft budget so that Cr Hourigan can participate in the broader draft budget consideration without breaching the conflict of interest provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Given that the terms of the lease contain terms and conditions that have been previously considered by Council in a confidential item, details as to how income is to be calculated is outlined in a confidential attachment.

This report seeks approval for the inclusion of the related line items in the draft Budget, which total \$93,600 in income, \$31,200 in operating expense and \$62,400 on capital works (projects to be confirmed), which will then be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR ANDREWS**

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the line items relating to income of \$93,600, \$31,200 in operating expense and \$62,400 on capital works (projects to be confirmed) to the Caravan Parks located in Euroa and Nagambie, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the existing leases.**

5.4.1 Consideration of Nagambie and Euroa Caravan Park Line Items for the Draft 2023-24 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget (cont.)

MOTION (cont.)

2. ***Include these line items in the draft 2023-24 Budget documents for the 28 day community engagement process.***

EM-17-22/23 CARRIED

6.05 pm: Cr Hourigan returned to the meeting after the vote on this matter had been conducted.

5.4.2 Draft 2023/24 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget - Preparation of Draft Budget, and Draft Fees and Charges for Exhibition and Comment

Author: Chief Financial Officer

Responsible Director: Director People and Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the requirements of section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the 2020 Act), Council has prepared a draft budget and fees and charges for the financial year ending 30 June 2024.

The draft budget and fees and charges have been developed in accordance with the 2020 Act's financial management principles in accordance with section 96(1)(a). A Revenue and Rating Plan was prepared in 2021 under new requirements introduced by section 93 of the 2020 Act.

It should be noted that currently general rates, municipal charges service rates/charges and special charges/rates are to be declared under Part 8 of the *Local Government Act 1989* as these provisions have not been included in the 2020 Act.

Community engagement already been undertaken to inform the preparation of the draft budget during the development of the Council Plan and Pick My Project submissions.

It is proposed that further consultation is undertaken through a 28-day consultation period in accordance with the Communications and Engagement Plan whereby written submissions will be received and submitters provided with an opportunity to make a verbal submission to Council at a dedicated meeting to hear and consider budget submissions.

To facilitate further engagement, eligible Pitch My Project submissions will be uploaded onto the Share Strathbogie platform from 8 May to 31 May 2023 to enable community members to vote on their favorite pitches.

Council will also use its Share Strathbogie online engagement hub to seek Budget feedback. It is proposed that written submissions will need to be received by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 31 May 2023 and be considered by Council at an Extraordinary Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 27 June 2023.

***MOVED: COUNCILLOR HOURIGAN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY***

That:

- 1. Council accept the draft 2023/24 Budget and draft Fees and Charges.***
- 2. The draft 2023/24 Budget and draft Fees and Charges be initialled by the Mayor (for identification) and presented as the budget prepared by Council for the purposes of sections 94 and 96 of the Local Government Act 2020.***

5.4.2 Draft 2023/24 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget - Preparation of Draft Budget, and Draft Fees and Charges for Exhibition and Comment (cont.)

MOTION (cont.)

3. ***The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to give public notice of the preparation of such budget for a period of 28 days in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy and section 96(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 through notices in locally circulating newspapers and newsletters, on Council’s social media pages and on Council’s website.***
4. ***The closing time for the receipt of written submissions will be 5.00 pm on Wednesday 31 May 2023.***
5. ***Council consider written and verbal submissions on any proposal (or proposals) contained in such budget at an Extraordinary Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 6 June 2023, commencing at 6.00 pm at the Euroa Community Conference Centre.***
6. ***Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial changes to the draft Budget and Fees and Charges, if required.***
7. ***Council allocate up to \$300,000 towards Pitch My Project submissions informed by the community voting process and to be included in the final draft 2023/24 Budget.***
8. ***The 2023/24 Strathbogie Shire Council Budget be adopted at an Extraordinary Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 27 June 2023, commencing at 6.00 pm at the Euroa Community Conference Centre.***

EM-18-22/23 CARRIED

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.23 P.M.

Confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the Meeting

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Chair

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Date