

Strathbogie Shire Council

Council Meeting Minutes / Decisions

June 20, 2023

Minutes/Decisions

Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 6pm

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

<https://www.strathbogje.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 Reg Dickinson (Lake Nagambie Ward)
Cr Sally Hayes-Burke (Seven Creeks Ward)
Cr Chris Raeburn (Honeysuckle Creek Ward)

Municipal Monitor:

Peter Stephenson

Officers:

Julie Salomon – Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Tingay – Director Community and Planning
Dawn Bray – Director People and Governance
Vlad Adamek – Director Sustainable Infrastructure
Kristin Favaloro – Executive Manager Communications and Engagement
Phillip Carruthers – Specialist Governance Advisor

Meeting Procedure

1. Welcome

2. 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.

3. Privacy Notice

This public meeting was streamed live via our website ([Council Meetings and Minutes | Strathbogie Shire](#)) and is made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes of this meeting. All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however, as a visitor in the public gallery, it is assumed that your consent is given in the event that your image is broadcast to the public. It is also assumed that your consent is given to the use and disclosure of any information that you share at the meeting (including personal or sensitive information) to any person who accesses those recordings or Minutes.

4. Governance Principles

Council considers that the recommendations contained in these Minutes/Decisions gives effect to the overarching governance principles stated in Section 9(2) of the Local Government Act 2020. These principles are as follows:

- 1. Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;*
- 2. priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;*
- 3. the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;*
- 4. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;*
- 5. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;*
- 6. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;*
- 7. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;*
- 8. regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;*
- 9. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.*

5. Apologies / Leave of Absence

Cr Kristy Hourigan (Seven Creeks Ward)

6. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Cr Hayes-Burke declared a material conflict of interest under section 128 of the Local Government Act 2020 in Item 11.3.1 - Tender for Contract No. 22/23-81: Euroa Streetscape – Stage 2 – Construction

7. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

MOVED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN

SECONDED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE

1. ***That the minutes/decisions of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, May 16 2023, be confirmed.***
2. ***That the minutes/decisions of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, be confirmed.***

112-22/23 **CARRIED**

8. Petitions

Nil.

9. Reports of Mayor and Councillors and Delegates*Cr Raeburn*

- Represented Council at Tidy Towns awards at King Island 18-20 May.
- Attended Rural and Regional Planning Conference at Marysville 1-2 June.
- Conveyed thanks to Council's Director People and Governance, Dawn Bray, who has resigned from Council, for her advice and support to him since his election as a Councillor and during his term as Mayor, and for her support for all Councillors

Cr Hayes-Burke

- Noted advice from Council's Environment and Waste department of the difference between biodegradable and compostable waste, and wished to alert the community to look for the symbols on packaging to ascertain the correct disposal method, i.e. disposal in recyclables or landfill bin.
- Attended MAV State Council as Mayor's representative on 19 May.
- Conveyed congratulations to Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network on successful Fungi Festival.
- Wished Dawn Bray well in her next endeavours, and conveyed thanks for her commitment to Council, and her guidance and expertise to Cr Hayes-Burke during her first term on Council.

Cr Dickinson

Acknowledged contribution of former Councillor, David Andrews, who has resigned from Council due to health reasons. Looks forward to working with new Councillor, when elected.

Cr Murray

- Attended Fungi Festival Bioluminescence evening, organised by Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network, and the Festival lunch, and conveyed congratulations on a successful event.

- Attended Avenel Active meeting last month. Conveyed thanks to Jeff Moran for his contributions to the Avenel community, and wished him well on his retirement and relocation to Melbourne.
- Attended Longwood Action Group meeting.
- Attended Go Nagambie meeting on 15 June.
- Attended Official opening of the Molka Fire Station on 15 June which was opened by the Hon. Jaclyn Symes, Minister for Emergency Services. Also took the opportunity to raise advocacy matters with the Minister.
- Attended Nature Stewards program graduation in Nagambie on 17 June. Conveyed congratulations to graduates.
- Extended congratulations and best wishes to Dawn Bray, and thanked her for her advice and support.

Mayor

I am really happy to speak tonight about my participation in the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA) in Canberra last week.

It was a fantastic opportunity to bring Council's top five Advocacy Asks to many politicians in a huge range of portfolios.

I met with Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Kristy McBain, and discussed our top 5 advocacy asks, with particular focus on the need for increased and improved funding to repair our extensive road network.

I raised Kirwan's Bridge with Minister McBain and sought her support in providing critical funding so residents can cross the Goulburn River and tourists can visit and experience this unique historic timber bridge.

I was also able to meet with Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Catherine King MP where I again raised the top five asks as well as the ARTC project.

The Australian Council Local Government is a chance for our Council to hear directly from Federal Government ministers about their commitment to the Australian Local Government sector and how they will work with Councils to ensure they are delivering the projects and programs that are needed at the local levels we know so well.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese spoke passionately about his genuine commitment to developing strong working relationships with local governments and trusting us to provide advice on what our community need.

I also met with Federal Member for Indi Dr Helen Haines, while Federal Member for Nicholls Sam Birrell arranged meetings with many Shadow Ministers. Among these were:

- Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education, Youth Angie Bell MP to discuss Nature Based Playspaces and the need for more early childhood education spaces and educators in Strathbogie Shire;
- Shadow Minister for Water, Emergency Management Senator Perin Davey to discuss the Greening Euroa project;
- Shadow Minister Trade and Tourism Kevin Hodge MP to speak about the impacts of climate related natural disasters, such as the October flood,

which has had a significant impact on the tourism industry, especially in the Nagambie region, and on local agriculture production and trade.

- Shadow Minister Local Government Darren Chester to speak on all our advocacy asks and the need for a national standard of local government training for councillors that ensures elected representatives understand their role, responsibilities and are best equipped to advocate for their communities.

I can assure our community I used my time in Canberra well and I am looking forward to see our advocacy efforts become a reality.

Finally tonight I wanted to invite the community to the launch of our ARTBOX project on Friday, June 23 at 11am in Euroa. Artbox is a travelling exhibition space for local artists and its been made possible thanks to Creative Victoria Grant funding.

Our first exhibition will feature artist Aimee McCartney of Luruk-In. I am truly excited to see this new exhibition space come to life. This is an exciting way to connect community and visitors to our region through arts and culture. To book head to our website to find out how.

I would also like to thank ex-Councillor David Andrews for service to Strathbogie Shire, and wish him all the best in his health recovery.

I would also like to thank Dawn for all her support and service to the Shire, and me in particular. Her guidance and expertise in the area of governance has been exceptional and I wouldn't be the leader, and have the knowledge of governance, without her support. I wish her all the very best in her ventures and her role with the Local Government Inspectorate.

10. Public Question Time

Council Ref: LC: 21/2023

1. To have Leos Road, Two Mile Creek floodway fixed, as cannot get horses and livestock out. And also to get feed to them.
2. Or have Symes Lane done so when the floodway is flooded or washed out, there is another alternative.

Response

In response to your first question, as previously advised, this has been assessed by officers and it is noted that the particular floodway contains low-level flow capacity. Recent flooding has placed great strain on much of Council and the community's rural drainage and flow paths and the assets within them.

There are currently a number of low-level crossings across the Strathbogie Shire road network which ultimately could be upgraded to cater for high flow where budget allows. Council is meeting its funding requirements for the bridge renewal program for its current asset register.

Due to the extensive road network requiring renewal, the current priority is to meet the renewal demand and carry out the project management in line with relevant standards. At this stage maintenance allocations are available to service the existing culvert/s.

Your proposal is however noted and Council will continue to monitor the existing network and flood issues so that future road upgrade strategies relating to access can reflect projects that are beneficial to the public which factor in cost, benefit and risk values.

10. Public Question Time (cont.)

This project is recognised as a capital works request and will be reviewed alongside the various others for its benefit on the above-mentioned values.

I would also like to point out that Council was successful recently in receiving a \$300,000 grant from State and Federal Governments to undertake a stormwater drainage review, and part of this study will look at drainage across the Shire, including this area.

In response to your second question, officer have also has assessed this option. Symes Lane is a Council gazetted unmade road and holds a zero classification and is only maintained at basic required intervals.

This road has and will be maintained as per Council Approved Road Management Plan 2021. The Road Management Plan is available on the Council's web site and is downloadable for perusal. Again, we have noted your issue and will maintain Symes Lane in accordance with the Road Management Plan – which includes an annual inspection, and any rectification works (such as canopy clearing, dangerous potholes etc) will be programmed.

Any upgrade to Symes Lane would need to be subject to a capital works upgrade and subject to Council consideration during the budget preparation process.

Council Ref: JA: 22/2023

The Council meeting 11 April 2022, approved expenditure of \$1,822,870.08 to upgrade Weir Rd and an additional \$105,709.00 for a dedicated grader for Weir Rd - with an undertaking to inspect Weir Rd every two weeks and grading as necessary. Weir Rd was graded on Wednesday 14 June for the first time in over 7 weeks. At that time, it was in a shocking state. Multiple complaints were made to the Shire. Given this situation, can we revert to utilising the Shire Grader at a cost of \$2,830.00 and allocate the balance of the “dedicated” grader funds to the Kirwans Bridge (reserve) to go towards bridge repairs.

Response

Currently Council's rural unsealed roads are graded on an annual or biannual road rotation depending on the traffic volumes. These scheduled grading rotations can be found on our website.

With regards to Weir Road, you are correct - an allowance of \$105,709 incl GST was made as part of the 11 April 2023 Council resolution to increase this grading rotation.

To ensure the condition of Weir Road is proactively managed through the Winter months (June – August) or until the works commence in September, officers have committed to undertake:

- *a fortnightly inspection of the road surface, and*
- *grading the road once per month or more frequently as per the conditions of the road.*

Given our limited resources, the additional funding covers the cost of the grader hire plus one grader operator, a water truck (if required), transport of the hire grader to and from the site and diesel fuel on a monthly basis.

Since 11 April Council meeting, officers from our operations team have been inspecting the road surface every 2 weeks and this will continue. Unfortunately, we cannot leave a hire grader sitting permanently on Weir Road due to the potential of vandalism.

I trust this clarifies the works and action Council has implemented in response to the 11 April 2023 Council report.

10. Public Question Time (cont.)

Council Ref: MH/CH/AH/AD: 23/2023

In November 2022. Planning Application No. P2021-052 was rejected by this Council. We, the residents of Taylor Dve, Miepoll, welcomed this decision. We have made this place our home, and were pleased to know that Council would not permit non-compliant activity, including commercial/ industrial use, as specified in Council planning rules.

Unfortunately, this permit refusal has NOT prevented the site user from continuing his business operations. The site is zoned rural / residential.

Since November 2022, we have contacted Council numerous times to alert them to the continuing operations. We have been constantly fobbed off. In April 2022 we submitted a question to Council asking why Council's ruling was not being enforced. At this meeting, we were told that "The matter has been referred to the Council's Compliance Team who are currently In the process of working with the business operator in terms of ceasing the business".

We have been told that on the 1st May, Council submitted a notice to the business operator, instructing him to cease all work and vacate the site. Now, six weeks later, nothing has changed.

We have become deeply cynical about the Council process. Seven months after the Council ruling, no enforcement of the Council decision has been taken. Illegal operations continue. The site operator has recently displayed intimidating behaviour towards the complainants, and it appears the Council Compliance Officer is assisting the site operator to find ways to subvert the ruling.

Our questions are: -

- When a compliance notice is issued, what time frames apply?
- What action will Council take to enforce compliance?

Response

In response to question 1: Delegated Officers set the timeframes under the relevant legislation. The timeframe in this matter is appropriate given the nature of the work required to bring the property into compliance.

In response to question 2: Should the relevant parties not comply with the compliance order, further enforcement action will be taken. There are a number of options, such as a Planning Infringement Notice or seeking an enforcement order at VCAT. The appropriate course of action would be determined when considering any breach of the compliance order.

11. **Officer Reports**

11.1 Strategic and Statutory

11.2 Community

11.3 Infrastructure

11.4 Corporate

11.5 Governance and Customer Service

11.6 Executive

12. **Notices of Motion**

13. **Notices of Rescission**

14. **Urgent Business**

15. **Confidential Business**

Next meetings

An Extraordinary meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, at 6pm

The next monthly meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at the Nagambie Lakes Regatta Centre, at 6pm.

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11. OFFICER REPORTS

11.1 STRATEGIC AND STATUTORY PLANNING

11.1.1 Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined - 1 to 31 May 2023

Author: Manager Planning and Investment

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides listings of all Planning Applications Received (Attachment 1) and Planning Applications Determined (Attachment 2) for the period of 1st to 31st May 2023. The latest available Planning Permit Activity Performance (PPARS) Figures are also attached (Attachment 3). It should be noted that the latest PPARS Figures are for the month of April 2023. The May PPARS Figures were not available at the time of writing this report as the monthly figures are not updated until 15th of each month. The contents of this report are provided for information purposes only.

It is noted that there were nineteen (19) new planning applications received and twelve (12) planning applications decided upon during the reporting period.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR DICKINSON

That Council:

- 1. Note that there were nineteen (19) new planning applications received, and twelve (12) planning applications decided on during the period of 1 to 31 May 2023.***
- 2. Note the report.***

113-22/23 **CARRIED**

11.2 **COMMUNITY**

11.2.1 **Revised Community Funding Model and Funding Guidelines for 2023/24**

Author: Coordinator Community Services and Inclusion

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Community Funding Model provides an opportunity for groups to undertake projects that complement the Community Vision and strategic focus areas identified in the Strathbogie Shire Council Plan 2021-25. Council has a long history of providing community funding to groups in the Municipality to support the delivery of many important community projects.

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the proposed changes following a review of Council's community funding model, incorporating existing community grants, community action group funding and sponsorship guidelines.

The review was undertaken following a resolution (in part) from the 2022 September Council meeting as highlighted below:

4. *Authorise Council Officers to undertake a review of Council's existing Community Grants and Community Action Group Funding guidelines and present a report to Council at a future Council Meeting.*

The review takes the below into consideration:

- officer feedback,
- community feedback,
- the Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants report from the Victorian Auditor General's Office, and
- benchmarking against other Councils.

The proposed model intends to promote ease of access to funding for Community, increase efficiency, improve governance, increase monetary value to deliver a wider variety of strategic projects and hence result in greater community benefit for the Strathbogie municipality. The recommended changes are detailed in this report, with an associated rationale.

Features of the new model include:

- Fewer categories and sub streams,
- Increase in maximum funds available for Community Strengthening Grants (Previously Community grants), with grants available for up to \$10,000,
- Fairer and equitable distribution measures; eligibility changes, auspice arrangements, success based on quality and outcomes of applications rather than the applicant or grant stream,
- Christmas decorations can be purchased through Community Strengthening Grant,
- Neighbourhood Houses can apply for a grant/ project in each stream,
- Increase in total allocation for Events funding (previously \$30,000, proposed to increase to \$50,000, subject to the adoption of the 203/24 budget), and
- Once off Community Conversations Grant to support community discussions regarding January 26 in each township.

11.2.1 Revised Community Funding Model and Funding Guidelines for 2023/24 (cont.)

This report seeks Council consideration to adopt the 2023/24 community funding model and associated guidelines.

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE**

That Council:

- 1. Note the findings of the grants review;***
- 2. Adopt the new Community Funding Model and associated guidelines (Community Grant Guidelines and Event Grant Guidelines) for 2023/24; and***
- 3. Authorise Officers to implement the model through the promotion and release of grant guidelines and information immediately on Strathbogie Shire Council's Website, local media, publications and broadly through a range of engagement networks with the Community Conversations grant opening on 26 June 2023 and closing on 24 July 2023 and the Community Strengthening grant opening on 26 June 2023 and closing on 7 August 2023.***

114-22/23 CARRIED

11.2.2 Final Draft Strathbogie Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027

Author: Economic Development and Project Coordinator

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The final draft Strathbogie Shire Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 outlines the key directions and priorities for Strathbogie Shire Council to support economic development and sustained growth for the local economy.

The key actions and recommendations outlined in the strategy are designed to achieve economic development outcomes and drive economic uplift to benefit the community, workers and businesses within the Shire.

At the February 2023 Council meeting, Council endorsed the release of the draft Strategy for broad community consultation and feedback for the period 22 February 2023 to 5 April 2023. Throughout this period, a number of communication and engagement methods were utilised to further inform the final draft Strategy. These methods included (but not limited to), published on the Share Strathbogie Platform, Councils newspaper column (Euroa Gazette and Nagambie Voice), attendance at chamber of commerce meetings and communication through the business e-newsletter.

There were four formal submissions received as part of the engagement process. These submissions varied in nature covering areas of; inclusion of exploration and mining, industry (Zanelli Road Precinct), inclusion of food and destination hospitality (markets and events) as stimulus for the visitor economy, car parking in Nagambie, land use planning considerations and relocation of the information centre to the Travellers Rest, in Euroa. The full engagement report is attached to this report. A response to each of the submissions received is detailed in the community engagement section of this report.

Following the final engagement process, the Strathbogie Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027 is now presented to Council for consideration and adoption.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY

That Council:

- 1. Note the community engagement report as attached to this report;***
- 2. Adopt the final draft Strathbogie Economic Development Strategy 2023–2027; and***
- 3. Publish the Strathbogie Economic Development Strategy 2023-2027 on and through relevant Council communication platforms.***

115-22/23 **CARRIED**

11.3 INFRASTRUCTURE

11.3.1 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-81: Euroa Streetscape – Stage 2 – Construction

6.48 pm: Councillor Hayes-Burke left the meeting due to declaring a material conflict of interest

Author: Manager Project Delivery/ Senior Project Officer Project Delivery

Responsible Director: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strathbogie Shire Streetscape Program Commenced in 21/22 Financial Year with Stage 1 works completed for Euroa, Longwood, and Avenel. As the grants were received through Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP), to progress further on Streetscape works Council has planned for stage 2 works to be commenced at Euroa with a detailed design completed for Stage 2 through Contract 22/23-27.

This project focus on Euroa Streetscape Stage 2 Construction which is replication of stage 1 works at the crossing further north on Binney street - Euroa. Shire officers conducted community consultation meetings while developing the detail designs for stage 2. The final plans were acknowledged and accepted by related community groups.

Council invited tenders for the work under Contract 22/23-81, advertised between 05 May 2023 and 31 May 2023. At close of tender on 31 May 2023, two (2) tenders were received. These tenders have been assessed and evaluated by Council Officers and a summary of results is detailed in this report.

This report seeks acceptance of following recommendations from the Council.

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN**

That Council:

- 1. *Receives and notes the outcome of the tender assessment process for Contract No 22/23-81 Euroa Streetscape – Stage 2 – Construction;***
- 2. *Awards the tender for contract No 22/23-81 Euroa Streetscape – Stage 2 – Construction - Lump Sum to Kialla Lawn and Garden Pty Ltd of Shepparton, for a total amount of \$253,257.40 inclusive of GST;***
- 3. *Authorises officers to advise the unsuccessful tenderer;***
- 4. *Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Contract by signing and affixing the Common Seal of Strathbogie Shire Council; and***
- 5. *Notes that the works will be completed in 12 weeks after full Contract execution.***

116-22/23 **CARRIED**

6.54 pm: Councillor Hayes-Burke returned to the meeting after the vote on the matter had been conducted

11.3.2 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation

Author: Procurement and Tenders Officer

Responsible Directors: Director Community & Planning / Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Council and the community of the status of request for the publicly advertised tenders, invitations for written quotations and quotations provided using collaborative and/or third party contracts which have been awarded under officer delegation for the period 1 May 2023 to 31 May 2023.

This report specifically relates to works that form part of Council's 2022/23 adopted budget.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR DICKINSON

That Council note the contracts awarded under delegated authority by the Chief Executive Officer for May 2023.

117-22/23 ***CARRIED***

11.4 CORPORATE

11.4.1 Council Policy Review - Community Engagement Policy Annual Review

Author: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

Responsible Director: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Engagement Policy provides the scope and commitments of Strathbogie Shire Council's community engagement practices and responsibilities.

We want to encourage participation. To support open, honest and meaningful conversations with our community. This will ensure community members' priorities and expectations are reflected in Council activities and decision making.

Community engagement provides opportunities for the community to be involved in planning and decision-making. Hearing from a range of perspectives leads to better decisions and encourages ownership and belonging from all sections of our community. Importantly, it ensures transparency, integrity and trust in Council processes.

This policy has been revised to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 having been developed in consultation with the community and giving effect to the community engagement principles listed in the Act.

Additions to the policy include:

- Updated information on the application of the policy,
- Further information on the roles and responsibilities of Council Business Units, Councillors, Executive Leadership Team, Executive Manager of Communications and Engagement and Council staff and contractors,
- A guide to the engagement approach for Council's statutory requirements, such as the Community Vision, Council Plan and Budget, and
- Reasons for limited engagement.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE

SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the updated Community Engagement Policy; and***
- 2. Authorise Council Officers to place the policy on Council's website, along with the publication of a notice in Council's weekly or fortnightly newspaper columns and social media pages informing the community about the policy.***

118-22/23 ***CARRIED***

11.4.2 Council Policy Review - Events Policy

Author: Manager Community and Culture

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strathbogie Shire Council plans, manages, supports and delivers a range of events, functions and festivals held in Council facilities and on Council owned/managed land. The purpose of this policy is to provide the community and Council staff with clarity and an understanding of Council's objectives and approach with regards to the delivery and support of events.

The first Event Policy was adopted by Council in August 2021, following an audit review conducted by AFS & Associates. Council officers have reviewed this policy and this report presents an updated version to Council for consideration and adoption. Changes include:

- process improvements,
- new flow charts,
- regulatory updates, including single use plastics ban and First Aid requirements.
- changes to names/ titles, and
- Addition of the requirement to notify Taungurung Land and Waters Council under the Land Use Activity Agreement.

The policy applies to all Council and Community run events conducted on land owned/managed by Strathbogie Shire Council. This policy is supported by the Event Management Framework for the delivery of internal and external events within the Shire.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the updated Strathbogie Shire Council Events Policy 2023;***
- 2. Place the updated policy on Council's website, along with the publication of a notice in Council's weekly and fortnightly newspaper columns and social media pages about the adoption of the policy; and***
- 3. Note the policy will be reviewed biennially and may change at any time, subject to a Council resolution.***

119-22/23 **CARRIED**

11.4.3 Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee – Confirmed Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 3 March 2023 and Extraordinary Meeting held on 21 April 2023

Author and Responsible Director: Director, People & Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the confirmed minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 3 March 2023 and the confirmed minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 21 April 2023 for Council's noting.

The items considered by the Committee at the meeting were as follows:

3 March 2023 -

- Overall Staff satisfaction survey results
- Dates for 2023-24 budget review meetings
- Municipal Monitors Final Report
- Appointment of Internal Auditor tender update
- Cumulative Spend – Procurement Policy Thresholds Arborist
- Electoral Structure Review Update
- Goulburn Valley Library Update – New CEO Recruitment update
- Disaster Recovery Plan and Emergency Recovery Update
- Strategic Risk Register Update
- Outstanding Internal Audit Items Update
- External Audit Strategy Memorandum year end 30 June 2023
- Internal Audit Program Reports
- Human Resources – Key Strategic Indicators
- Item raised by Committee members
- Confidential briefing with the CEO

21 April 2023 -

- 2023-24 Draft Budget and 2023–24 Draft Capital Work Program
- Confidential Briefing with CEO, Director People & Governance, and Independent Members

The confirmed minutes from the above meetings are presented for Council's noting.

***MOVED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY***

That Council receive and note the Confirmed Minutes of the Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee meetings of 3 March 2023 and 21 April 2023.

120-22/23 ***CARRIED***

11.4.4 Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee – Annual Committee Performance Report January to December 2022 and Bi-Annual Committee Performance Report January to June 2023

Author and Responsible Director: Director, People & Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the Annual Committee Performance Report for January to December 2022 and Bi-Annual Committee Performance Report, January to June 2023.

The Committee prepares an annual and bi-annual audit and risk report that describes the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee and includes the Committee's findings and recommendations in accordance with section 54(5a) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, and clause 6 of the Audit and Risk Committee Charter (the Charter).

The Annual Committee Performance Report covers the Audit and Risk Committee activities from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022. In the period the Committee met eight times as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Meeting Dates

| Meeting Date | Purpose of Meeting |
|---------------------|---|
| 11 March 2022 | Special Meeting – to consider draft Strategic Risk Register |
| 25 March 2022 | Ordinary Meeting |
| 4 April 2022 | Special Meeting – to consider 2022-23 draft Budget & 2022-23 Financial Plan |
| 1 July 2022 | Ordinary Meeting |
| 16 September 2022 | Ordinary Meeting |
| 19 September 2022 | Extraordinary Meeting (due to lack of quorum at 16 September 2022 meeting) |
| 7 October 2022 | Extraordinary Meeting – to review policies |
| 2 December 2022 | Ordinary Meeting |

The report details:

- Membership Attendance
- Key Activities for the Reporting Period
- External Audit report summary
- Internal Audit report summary
- Risk Management summary
- Assessment of the Committee's Performance summary
- Audit Committee Work Plan – Summary of Actions/Updates in Quarter to Dec2022

The Bi-Annual Committee Performance Report covers the Audit and Risk Committee activities from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023. In the period the Committee met three times as detailed in Table 2.

11.4.5 Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee – Annual Committee Performance Report January to December 2022 and Bi-Annual Committee Performance Report January to June 2023 (cont.)

Table 2: 2023 Meeting Dates

| Meeting Date | Purpose of Meeting |
|---------------|---|
| 3 March 2023 | Ordinary Meeting |
| 21 April 2023 | Extraordinary Meeting – to consider 2023-24 draft Budget & 2023-24 Financial Plan |
| 2 June 2023 | Ordinary Meeting |

The report details:

- Membership and Attendance
- Key Activities for the Reporting Period
- External Audit Summary
- Internal Audit Summary
- Risk Management Summary
- Audit Committee Work Plan – Summary of Actions/Updates in Quarter to June 2023

The Annual Committee Performance Report and Bi-Annual Committee Performance Report are presented for Council's noting.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE

That Council receive and note the Annual Committee Performance Report January – December 2022 and the Bi-Annual Committee Performance Report January-June 2023 of the Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee.

121-22/23 **CARRIED**

11.5 GOVERNANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

11.5.1 Receipt of Resignation – Councillor David Andrews

Author: Director People & Governance

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chief Executive Officer received a written notice of resignation from Councillor Dave Andrews, Lake Nagambie Ward, on Monday 12 June 2023.

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), states that the resignation takes effect the day that it is delivered to the Chief Executive Officer.

An extraordinary vacancy in the Lake Nagambie Ward now exists.

The Act requires notification to the Minister for Local Government and the Victorian Electoral Commission within 72 hours of this extraordinary vacancy occurring.

The CEO informed the Hon. Melissa Horne Minister for Local Government and the Acting Electoral Commissioner for the Victorian Electoral Commission, Mairead Doyle of Cr Andrews' resignation on 13 June 2023.

Given the Lake Nagambie ward is a multi-member ward, the Victorian Electoral Commission will conduct a countback to identify if the vacancy can be held through this means over the forthcoming weeks.

***MOVED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE***

That Council note:

- 1. The Chief Executive Officer has received written notice from Councillor Dave Andrews of his resignation as Councillor for the Lake Nagambie Ward, received 12 June 2023.***
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer has informed the Minister for Local Government and the Acting Electoral Commissioner of the Victorian Electoral Commission, by way of letter on 13 June 2023, that there is an extraordinary vacancy in the Lake Nagambie Ward in accordance with section 258(8) of the Local Government Act 2020.***
- 3. The Victorian Electoral Commission will commence proceedings for a countback for the Lake Nagambie Ward to elect a new Councillor in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.***

122-22/23 **CARRIED**

11.5.2 Monthly Performance Report

The June 2023 Monthly Performance Report includes reports as follows:-

- Building Department – May 2023 Statistics
- Planning Department – Planning Application Approvals – Development Cost (Capital Improved Value) – May 2023
- Customer Enquiry Analysis Report – Report for May 2023
- Waste Management Reporting ~ Year to Date – May 2023
- Transfer Station Date - May 2023
- Actioning of Council Reports Resolutions – Council Meeting Tuesday May 16, 2023, and Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday May 23, 2023
- Outstanding Actions of Council Resolutions to May 31, 2023
- Review of Council Policies and Adoption of new Policies – May 2023
- Records of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings – 1 to 31 May 2023

By reporting on a monthly basis, Council can effectively manage any risks that may arise. The Business Management System will also incorporate Council's corporate goals and objectives.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR DICKINSON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN

That the report be accepted.

123-22/33 ***CARRIED***

11.6 **EXECUTIVE**

11.6.1 **Updated Australian Government Advocacy Ask**

Author: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

Responsible Director: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For Strathbogie Shire Council, advocacy is an essential way of securing funding for the important projects and works that matter to our community, that Council alone cannot fund.

The Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) identifies that Councils have a legitimate role to play in advocating for the needs of the community and municipality. It states Council must give effect to several governance principles including:

- achieving the best outcomes for the community,
- promoting the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipality, and
- pursuing innovation and continuous improvement.

Our advocacy efforts are essential to achieving these requirements of the Act. Perhaps, more importantly, advocacy is essential to achieving great outcomes for our community.

To ensure State and Federal governments are clear on our advocacy priorities Council has developed an Advocacy Ask document.

The document can be found on our website, but we have also printed limited copies to provide to potential funders.

In May 2023 the Advocacy Ask document was updated in preparation for the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 29th *National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government* in Canberra from June 13 to 15.

Updates have removed the Commonwealth Games Advocacy Bid and replaced with an Advocacy Ask for funding commitments to improve our shire's roads and a long-term solution for Kirwans Bridge.

MOVED: COUNCILLOR HAYES-BURKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN

That Council notes and endorses the updated Advocacy Ask.

124-22/23 ***CARRIED***

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1 Notice of Motion – Council Meeting Tuesday 20 June 2023 Report on participation in Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Company Directors Course - Lodged by Councillor Laura Binks and Councillor Chris Raeburn (Notice of Motion Ref. No. 06/2023)

We, Councillor Laura Binks, and Councillor Chris Raeburn,

Wish to lodge the following Notice of Motion under Governance Rule 35.

The motion we wish to put to Council is:

That Council:

1. *Note the attached written report from Cr Binks of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course, as required by section 17.2 of the Council Expenses Policy, identifying the key issues of relevance to the Shire and the community benefit gained by the completion of the course.*
2. *Write to Rural Councils Victoria, thanking them for the subsidised opportunity to participate in the course, noting the significant benefit to councillors from rural communities in being able to access this course at a reduced rate and encourage them to continue to offer for more councillors to complete this valuable training.*
3. *Write to Minister for Local Government, Melissa Horne MP, to encourage the State Government consider how the councillor induction requirements could include a module that incorporates elements of the Company Directors Course, or similar, so that councillors are best equipped to perform their roles as required under the Local Government Act 2020.*

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MURRAY

SECONDED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN

That Council:

1. *Note the attached written report from Cr Binks of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course, as required by section 17.2 of the Council Expenses Policy, identifying the key issues of relevance to the Shire and the community benefit gained by the completion of the course.*
2. *Write to Rural Councils Victoria, thanking them for the subsidised opportunity to participate in the course, noting the significant benefit to councillors from rural communities in being able to access this course at a reduced rate and encourage them to continue to offer for more councillors to complete this valuable training.*

- 12.1 Notice of Motion – Council Meeting Tuesday 20 June 2023
Report on participation in Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)
Company Directors Course
- Lodged by Councillor Laura Binks and Councillor Chris Raeburn (Notice of Motion
Ref. No. 06/2023) (cont.)

MOTION (cont.)

3. ***Write to Minister for Local Government, Melissa Horne MP, to encourage the State Government consider how the councillor induction requirements could include a module that incorporates elements of the Company Directors Course, or similar, so that councillors are best equipped to perform their roles as required under the Local Government Act 2020.***

125-22/23 **CARRIED**

13. NOTICES OF RESCISSION

Nil

14. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

15. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

NEXT MEETING

An Extraordinary meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, at 6 pm

The next monthly meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at the Nagambie Lakes Regatta Centre, at 6pm.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.49 P.M.

Confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the Meeting

.....
Chair

.....
Date