

Strathbogie Shire Council

**Council Meeting
Minutes / Decisions**

Tuesday 20 May 2025

Minutes/Decisions

Council Meeting

20 May 2025 at 4:00 pm

A meeting was 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/>

Councillors

Mayor Cr Claire Ewart-Kennedy
Deputy Mayor Cr Scott Jeffery
Cr Laura Binks
Cr Vicki Halsall
Cr Clark Holloway
Cr Fiona Stevens

Municipal Monitor

Marg Allan

Officers

Rachelle Quattrocchi	Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Tingay	Director People and Governance
Oliver McNulty	Director Sustainable Infrastructure
Rachael Frampton	Director Community and Planning
Michelle Harris	Interim Media and Communications Manager
Kerry Lynch	Governance Officer

Order of Business

1	Welcome	5
2	Acknowledgement of Country	5
3	Privacy Notice	5
4	Governance Principles	5
5	Apologies/Leave of Absence	6
6	Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest	6
7	Confirmation of Minutes/Decisions of Previous Meetings	7
8	Petitions	7
9	Mayor and Councillor Reports	7
9.1	Mayor's Report	7
9.2	Councillor Reports	9
10	Public Question Time	10
11	Officer Reports	13
11.1	Strategic and Statutory Planning	13
11.1.1	Planning Report Planning Application P2025-023 - 2 Millards Lane Euroa.....	13
11.1.2	Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025.....	24
11.2	Community	25
11.2.1	School Crossing Supervision- Goulburn Street Nagambie	25
11.3	Infrastructure	26
11.3.1	Euroa Saleyards Fees and Charges.....	26
11.4	Corporate.....	27
11.4.1	Response to the Minister for Local Government - Commitment to Ministers Governance Expectations.....	27
11.4.2	S5 Instrument of Delegation to Chief Executive Officer.....	27
11.4.3	Council Financial Report March 2025.....	28
11.4.4	Record of Informal Meetings of Councillors April 2025.....	29
11.5	Communications, Engagement and Advocacy.....	30
12	Notice of Motion	30
13	Notice of Rescission	30
14	Confidential Business	30
15	Urgent Business	30
16	Next Meeting	32
17	Closure of Meeting	32

Meeting Procedure

1 Welcome

Councillors Vision

We will be a Councillor group that delivers valuable outcomes for our community through teamwork characterised by:

- respectful debate
- collaboration, and
- the commitment to being inclusive and transparent.

Councillor Values

- Respect
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Responsiveness

2 Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the places we live, work and play.

We recognise and respect the enduring relationship they have with their lands and waters, and we pay respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.

Today we are meeting on the lands of the Taungurung peoples of the Eastern Kulin nation, whose sovereignty here has never been ceded.

3 Privacy Notice

This public meeting is being streamed live via our website ([Council Meetings and Minutes | Strathbogie Shire](#)) and made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes/Decisions 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/Decisions.

4 Governance Principles

Council considers that the recommendations contained in this Agenda 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 are 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 Greg Carlson

6 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Cr Laura Binks declared a general conflict of interest in relation to Item 11.1.2 Planning Applications Received and Planning Application Determined 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025.

7 Confirmation of Minutes/Decisions of Previous Meetings

The minutes have been circulated to Councillors and posted on Council website [Council Meetings and Minutes | Strathbogie Shire](#) pending confirmation at this meeting.

MOVED: Cr Laura Binks
SECONDED: Cr Scott Jeffery

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 29 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

24/25-87

CARRIED

8 Petitions

Nil

9 Mayor and Councillor Reports

9.1 Mayor's Report

Firstly, I would like to formally and warmly welcome our new permanent Chief Executive Officer, Rachelle Quattrocchi. Rachelle commenced with us on 5 May and has hit the ground running! On behalf of the Councillor group, we look forward to working with you.

At an Extraordinary meeting on 29 April, council endorsed the draft Council Plan 2025-29 and other strategic documents, and the 2025-26 draft Budget for public consultation for a three week period. Submissions on these draft documents close at 11.59pm tonight, so there is still time to have your say!

Strathbogie Shire Council is actively advocating for our community as Inland Rail works continue in Euroa. We understand concerns about the removal of trees along Anderson Street and are working closely with Inland Rail and arborists to protect as many as possible—especially those on Council-managed land.

While the works are part of a State Government project, Council is focused on achieving the best outcomes for our community, ensuring environmental, cultural, and local values are respected.

We're committed to continuing to push for outcomes that reflect our community's voice.

I've taken part in several media engagements to represent and promote Council's work and advocacy. I was interviewed by the Euroa Gazette to highlight the success of Explore Euroa Day and the positive feedback from local businesses and visitors. It was a great day and one I thoroughly enjoyed.

Following the last Council meeting, I spoke with ABC Radio about Council's engagement approach regarding Australia Day and participated in interviews on 3AW Mornings with Tom Elliott and 3AW Breakfast with Ross and Russ and Hit FM 96.9 to discuss the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund, as well as TV interviews with Channels 7, 9 and 10.

The state government's Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund will hit our community hard. Our farmers, families, and small businesses are already struggling – and now they're being hit with increases which could be up to 150% in some cases.

In parallel, Council has taken a firm stand against the State Government's proposed Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund and last Thursdays decision has been more than disappointing. Our farmers, families and small business owners are already doing it tough with soaring cost-of-living pressures — and now they're being asked to carry the weight of a levy that could double or triple their rates.

This is an unjust and disproportionate hit on rural communities like ours. I attended the Emergency Services Tax workshop held earlier this month by Annabelle Cleeland and the Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Danny O'Brien, where I heard firsthand from CFA and SES volunteers and farmers about their concerns.

The State Government is shifting the financial burden of emergency services to those least able to absorb it, without consultation, support, or regard for the long-term impact on regional Victoria. It's unacceptable — and we will continue to fight it and advocate for this levy to be scrapped. If they won't reverse the decision, then the least they can do is take responsibility for collecting it — this shouldn't fall on councils.

We are acutely aware of the impact felt deeply by our farmers this week when so many Victorian regions were drought declared but not Strathbogie and many of our neighbours. We are already working on this as a priority for our immediate advocacy.

Advocacy has also been a key focus regarding safety concerns at the Avenel rail crossing. I have engaged directly with relevant authorities and regional stakeholders to push for urgent safety upgrades in response to growing community concern.

On a brighter note, I felt incredibly fortunate to attend the Ruffy CFA Good Friday Appeal event and spend the day with the wonderful Ruffy community, supporting a major fundraiser for the Royal Children's Hospital. The hospitality and company were outstanding, and it was a privilege to witness such strong community spirit and values in action.

On the 24th of April I attended the Strathbogie Community Anzac Day Event and laid a wreath on behalf of residents of Strathbogie Shire. This was one of many moving Anzac Day events that were attended by Councillors who laid wreaths and represented our communities across the Shire.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors who attended dawn and other services on Anzac Day:

- Deputy Mayor Cr Scott Jeffery in Avenel
- Cr Vicki Halsall in Euroa and Longwood
- Cr Fiona Stevens in Nagambie
- Cr Clark Holloway in Violet Town.

Earlier this month, Kestrel Aviation—a renowned Mangalore-based company—celebrated its 40th anniversary. Known for its vital role in disaster response and strong contributions to the local economy and community, Kestrel is a true asset to the region. I was fortunate to attend the celebrations, marking an important milestone for a standout Shire business.

I have made a conscious effort to connect over the past four weeks to spend time in our community with traders and retailers.

A huge shout out to many of the wonderfully resilient business owners who are so often family businesses. In Euroa - The Wine List, The Nest, Fare Enough, Café 56, Balmattum Butchery, Petrostar, Thomson Betta Electrics, The Sevens Hotel, Bowser Bean and in Nagambie Corner Nook, Somewhere, The Royal Mail Hotel, Nagambie Brewery, Eighteen Sixty, Harvest Moon, Burkes Bakery, Hilda and May and in surrounding areas Fowles, The Daily Dose, Harvest Home, Avenel Roadhouse and The White Hart Longwood are just to name a few that have reached out to me and welcomed me during my visits in the last month. We are blessed to have so many wonderful hardworking and unique businesses in our Shire.

Last Friday, CEO Rachelle Quattrocchi and I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council.

As the MAV is the state peak body, motions give a mandate for MAV leadership and advocacy on issues of importance to the sector. This benefits our community by advancing and prioritising local advocacy priorities and promoting the role of local government.

Strathbogie Shire Council had the opportunity to put forward three motions to the meeting covering the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund, Natural Disaster Recovery Funding and Local Government Sustainability.

9.2 Councillor Reports

Cr Vicki Halsall

After six months in the role of Councillor, I am feeling more confident in myself and with my peers, our teamwork and the way in which business is conducted in the chamber. I feel a sense of positivity for growth and development across the municipality, and hope that others within the community share my growing sense of confidence in council.

I would like to pay my respects to our Mayor Claire Ewart-Kennedy for the work she has been doing across the shire and in the media. Our Mayor continues to be committed to our community with a personal mandate to go above and beyond and lead by example. I feel confident that opportunities will be seized as they present under her leadership.

We have welcomed our CEO Rachelle Quatrocchi to the chamber. Rachelle has already proven herself to be a 'hit the ground running type of leader'. Her experience is obvious in the chamber and I'm sure the community will share my thoughts as they have the opportunity to meet and interact with her as she attends markets and events throughout the municipality.

I enjoyed the presentation by the Tungaurung Land and Waters Council which provided the opportunity to meet Matt, Bonnie, Mark and Fiona.

We heard about the values of the organisation, breadth of services and the willingness to work in partnership with Council. The presentation was another positive and valuable interaction to support an ongoing working relationship with our Indigenous community organisation.

Inland rail presented to Council on the 13th of May. Navigating our underpass development continues to be a moving feast. I believe they heard our feedback regarding timely notification, tree preservation and the importance of pedestrian crossings along the town. I am excited to see the works happening in the town and I encourage as many businesses as possible to put themselves in a position to benefit from this spike in activity around town. I commend 'Fare Enough' for their adaptability to serve and sustain the construction team.

As you know I have a keen interest in economic development around the Shire and I am excited to see housing developments from small duplex projects to large scale housing developments.

I'm attending a planning forum with Councillor Stevens on Thursday and Friday and I look forward to furthering my understanding of the challenges in the planning scheme that support the State housing goals of which Strathbogie as a municipality has been earmarked for upwards of two thousand new dwellings. Guiding this growth as best we can to achieve positive long term outcomes will be a key role of Council going forward.

Cr Binks

Thank you, Mayor Ewart-Kennedy. I'd like to acknowledge that Saturday was IDAHOBIT Day, and we flew the Rainbow flag both here in Euroa and in Nagambie to celebrate the Queer Community that we love to support and were really proud that they form a big part of our community here in Strathbogie.

I want to just have a quick shout out to the Festival of Fungi which started last week. There's a fabulous exhibition on in the Shires ArtBox in Binney Street if you haven't seen it, go and check it out.

Some of the artwork came from one of the groups getting a grant through our Strengthening

Community Fund to do art workshops last year with community. Some of that artwork is now being exhibited in the Shires travelling art gallery which is a wonderful thing.

This weekend we also have the Bioluminescence Festival down at Sevens Creek which in previous years Council has supported, but they have gone on their own now. I think this a a really great example of how communities can work to find funding through other means.

It might not mean that they are always going to not come to us for funding support, but it is really great to see them being able to continue their work with the Fungi Festival, which is always hugely popular especially with the students. They get to make these most amazing projections and its a really fabulous night so from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm down at the Sevens, I'm sorry not the Sevens, the Northey, navigate getting around the new diversion in Birkett Street. It's not as direct as it used to be, but head down to the Northey this Friday. There are other events as well, see our page for details.

Finally on Saturday I'm really excited to join with the Mayor and other Councillors at the Reconciliation event at the Shadforth Reserve in Violet Town. Its the first event for them to be putting on in partnership with the Yorta Yorta Nation. There are some great activities happening throught the day including a smoking ceremony, a welcome ceremony by Yorta Yorta Elders and examples of spear throwing. There are all sorts of wonderful things on there and a family friendly day that celebrates indigenous culture, as well as the incredible community group that make Shadforth Reserve and that area a really great resource for our community.

10 Public Question Time

Question One - Reference RW 21/2025

Question

Will council consider McMaster's lane upgrade to improve off street parking facilities for Tradies vehicles?

McMasters Lane offers opportunity to improve drainage and off street parking surfaces on a shared cost basis with a reasonable number of Private ownership's adjacent.

Response

Thank you Robyn for your question we are currently developing the Capital Works program for 2025-26 with a focus on renewal of existing assets.

There is no current plan for the upgrade of Alex McMasters Laneway, I will have Oliver McNulty - Director Sustainable Infrastructure contact you in relation to the parking and access concerns you have raised.

Question Two - Reference GN 22/2025

Question

In agenda item number 11.1.1, point 3b) I would like to know HOW in these current economic and climatic conditions, does one "demonstrate or guarantee that agricultural activities can and will continue ... into the future."?

Response

Thank you, Graham, for your question.

Strathbogie Shire Council's planning scheme and local policies, support the ongoing use of rural land for agriculture through planning as it is a key employer and income generator.

The shire includes some quality agricultural land that is an asset and should be protected for productive use and future economic development.

The underlying principle in determining the future of the rural areas is the protection of the amenity and environment of the shire. The shire's unique amenity is a key attractor of residents and visitors, and the health of the environment directly influences amenity as well as agricultural prospects.

A key economic driver within our economic strategy is recognition that the rural areas of the shire have a role and a value that includes agriculture, both commercial and lifestyle, as well as tourism, wine making, horse breeding, environment and rural living. This proposes a rural area that provides for the continuation of farming, but also supports the growth of tourism and the protection of environmental values.

Question Three - Reference SB 23/2025

Question

What does Council define as "ongoing farming sustainable activity" and what practices does it include, in reference to horses, as outlined in Pg 16 of 23 in Officers Report (page 32) in agenda item number 11.1.1?

Response

Thank you, Sally, for your question.

Our planning officers assess planning applications against the planning framework.

Strathbogie Shire Council's planning scheme and local policies, sustainable farming activities in Strathbogie can extend to practices that focus on environmental stewardship, resource management, and community engagement. This can include implementing conservation techniques, promoting biodiversity, reducing environmental impacts, and supporting local farmers and the agricultural industry.

In some cases, the keeping of horses may be considered part of a sustainable farming operation, but this depends entirely on how the activity is managed, its scale, and how it aligns with agricultural land use objectives.

Ultimately, as part of the planning application process, we do engage the appropriate documentation to demonstrate how the proposal meets the intent of the planning policy, zoning and land use requirements and contribute to sustainable farming outcomes.

Question Four - Reference SC 24/2025

Question

In agenda item number 11.1.1, point 3d) how does the Planning Department think that a horse breeding and husbandry enterprise “Results in the permanent loss of productive farming land that is currently part of the local economy.” when Strathbogie claims to be ‘The Horse Capital of Victoria’?

Response

Thank you, Sue, for your question.

Strathbogie Shire, recognise and support our thriving horse thoroughbred breeding and racing industry. The Australian thoroughbred breeding industry is a significant contributor to the national economy, generating more than \$1.16 billion annually.

Horse breeding and husbandry are legitimate agricultural uses, but the concern in planning matter 11.1.1 is with land subdivision, not land use per say. The subdivision of agriculture land reduces long-term farming potential and contributes to the gradual loss of agricultural land in the local economy.

As mentioned, a key economic driver within our economic strategy is recognition that the rural areas of the shire have a role and a value that includes agriculture, both commercial and lifestyle, as well as tourism, wine making, horse breeding, environment and rural living.

11 Officer Reports

11.1 Strategic and Statutory Planning

11.1.1 Planning Report Planning Application P2025-023 - 2 Millards Lane Euroa

AUTHOR Principal Planner

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An application has been received for a two-lot subdivision (house excision) of a 61.48ha parcel of farming zoned land at 2 Millards Lane, Euroa.

The proposal seeks to excise off the existing dwelling and part of the farming business into a lot that measures 21.48ha, creating a vacant 40ha lot with an as of right use for a dwelling. The site is zoned Farming Zone and is partially controlled by the Erosion Management Overlay.

The site is located at the base of the Strathbogie Ranges, along roads with significant vegetation, and surrounded by large farm holdings ranging from 83ha to 1652ha. The subject site previously underwent a previous loss of farming land when a boundary realignment was undertaken, and the separate title sold on. The current site comprises one lot only.

The application has been notified to adjacent and nearby owners and occupiers and one (1) objection has been received citing concerns about incompatibility and impacts on surrounding large farm holdings and activities.

A detailed assessment of the proposal against the relevant provisions of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme is contained within the Planning Officer report in attachment one. This assessment concluded that on balance the proposal is not supported by the Strathbogie Planning Scheme and recommends that Council issue a Notice of Decision to Refuse to Grant a Permit.

One objector addressed the meeting.
The Applicant's Consultant addressed the meeting.
The Landowner addressed the meeting.
The Landowner's brother addressed the meeting.

In accordance with section 93 of the Governance Rules, the meeting was closed to the public to enable discussion on matters pertaining to the report.

MOVED: Cr Fiona Stevens
SECONDED: Cr Laura Binks

That Council:

That standing orders be suspended, and to go into confidential to seek advice.

24/25-88

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the public at 5:00 pm

MOVED: Cr Scott Jeffery
SECONDED: Cr Fiona Stevens

That Council:

Reopen the meeting to the public.

24/25-89

CARRIED

The meeting reopened to the public at 5:14 pm.

MOVED: Cr Holloway
SECONDED: Cr Jeffery

That Council:

Having caused notice of Planning Permit Application No. P2025-023 pursuant to Section 52 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, decides to issue a *Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit* under the provisions of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme in respect of the land known as *2 Millards Lane Euroa VIC 3666 (Lot 1 PS803102R)*, for a *Two lot subdivision (house lot excision)*, in accordance with the endorsed plans subject to the following conditions:

Conditions 1 through to 15 as detailed on page 35 through to page 38 of the agenda, with a minor change to item 10 to replace the word occupancy with compliance.

Conditions

Compliance with documents approved under this permit

- 1. At all times what the permit allows must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of any document approved under this permit to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.**

Layout not altered

- 2. The layout of the development must not be altered from the layout on the approved and endorsed plans without the written consent of the responsible authority.**

Mandatory Conditions

- 3. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage, sewerage facilities,**

electricity and gas services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.

4. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing or required utility services and roads on the land must be set aside in the plan of subdivision submitted for certification in favour of the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created.
5. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the *Subdivision Act 1988* must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of the Act.

Engineering

Rural Vehicle Crossing Requirements

6. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance, the proposed lots must have a vehicular crossing constructed to the council's Infrastructure Design Manual standard drawing SD255 or SD265, and must:
 - a) Be constructed at a right angle to the road or as otherwise approved, any redundant crossing shall be removed and reinstated to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority
 - b) Be setback a minimum of 1.5 meters from any side-entry pit, power or telecommunication pole, manhole cover, or marker, or 3 meters from any street tree
 - c) residential vehicular crossings shall not be less than 3 meters nor more than 6 meters in width and shall be constructed from concrete or other material as approved in writing by the Responsible Authority
 - d) A works within Road Reserves permit must be obtained from the Responsible Authority prior to carrying out any vehicle crossing works.

Internal Access Road Requirements

7. Prior to the commencement of the use all internal access roads must be constructed, formed and drained to avoid erosion and to minimise disturbance to natural topography of the land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Internal access, including the turn-around areas for emergency vehicles, must be all weather construction with a minimum trafficable width of 4m.

Drainage Requirements

8. All stormwater and surface water discharging from the site, buildings, and works must be conveyed to the legal point of discharge drains to the

satisfaction of the Responsible Authority/Goulburn Murray Water or dissipated within the site boundaries. No effluent or polluted water of any type may be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.

- 9. Prior to the commencement of any works, the design parameters for any defined watercourse crossing(s), both structural and hydraulic design, shall be approved by the Responsible Authority (GBCMA- works on waterways permit)**

Miscellaneous

- 10. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance, the nature strip and all disturbed areas are to be top soiled and seeded to establish grass cover.**
- 11. Appropriate steps must be taken to retain all silt and sediment on-site during the construction phase to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, in accordance with the sediment control principles outlined in Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control (EPA, 1991) and to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**
- 12. No excavated or construction materials may be placed or stored outside the site area or on the adjoining road reserves, except where the materials are required in connection with any road or footpath construction works in such reserves that are required as part of the permit.**
- 13. Prior to the commencement of works, the owner or developer must submit to the Responsible Authority a written report and photos of any prior damage to public infrastructure. Listed in the report must be the condition of the kerb and channel, footpath, seal, streetlights, signs, and other public infrastructure fronting the property and abutting at least two properties on either side of the development. Unless identified with the written report, any damage to infrastructure post-construction will be attributed to the development. The owner or developer of the subject land must pay for any damage caused to the Council's assets/Public infrastructure caused as a result of the development or use permitted by this permit.**

Commencement of permit

- 14. This permit will operate from the issued date of this permit.**

Expiry – Subdivision

- 15. This permit as it relates to subdivision, will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:**
 - a) The plan of subdivision has not been certified under the *Subdivision Act 1988* within two (2) years of the issued date of this permit.**

- b) A statement of compliance is not issued within five (5) years of the date of certification.**

In accordance with Section 69 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* an application may be submitted to the responsible authority for an extension of the periods referred to in this condition.

Division

For

**Cr Halsall
Cr Holloway
Cr Ewart- Kennedy**

Against

**Cr Binks
Cr Stevens
Cr Jeffery**

In accordance with Section 78 of the Governance Rules, Mayor Cr Ewart-Kennedy exercised a casting vote.

24/25-90

CARRIED

11.1.2 Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025

AUTHOR Principal Planner

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Council's Planning Applications referral to Council Policy, this monthly report lists all Planning Applications Received (Attachment One) and Planning Applications Determined (Attachment Two) from 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025.

It is noted that there were nine (9) new planning applications received for the month and seven (7) determined for the month.

The latest available Planning Permit Activity Performance (PPARs) figures for the month of March, and update on current Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) appeals were included in the report.

The contents of this report are provided for information purposes only, the listing of current planning applications on public display can be found on Council's website.

MOVED: Cr Vicki Halsall
SECONDED: Cr Clark Holloway

That Council:

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Note that there were nine (9) new planning applications received, and seven (7) planning applications decided on during the period of 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025.**

24/25-91

CARRIED

11.2 Community

11.2.1 School Crossing Supervision- Goulburn Street Nagambie

AUTHOR Manager Community Safety

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As per the resolution from the Council Meeting held on 10 December 2024, Council Officers have prepared this report to present options for the future supervision of the Goulburn Street School Crossing in Nagambie.

The report outlines current and potential service levels, associated risks and the financial and operational impacts of each option, informed by the findings of a Road Safety Audit at this site.

In response to safety concerns raised by the community and Council, supervision of the crossing was temporarily reinstated for Terms one and two of the 2025 school year whilst further assessment was undertaken.

MOVED: Cr Fiona Stevens

SECONDED: Cr Scott Jeffery

That Council:

- 1. Note the findings of the Goulburn Street (Nagambie) School Crossing Existing Conditions Road Safety Audit March 2025**
- 2. Note that officers will investigate infrastructure works and safety treatments that were recommended and possible additional safety treatments within the Goulburn Street (Nagambie) School Crossing Existing Conditions Road Safety Audit March 2025, for consideration within the future capital budget program.**
- 3. Approve operating model A as listed in table one, to use a contractor to deliver the school crossing supervision service at the Goulburn Street Nagambie School Crossing ongoing**
- 4. Authorise officers to engage a contractor to deliver the school crossing supervision service at Goulburn Street Nagambie, in accordance with Councils' Procurement Policy**
- 5. Amend the draft budget 2025-2026 to accommodate the increased contractor expenditure to the value of up to \$34,000 (excluding GST).**
- 6. Write to the Minister for Transport Infrastructure, the Hon Gabrielle Williams MP and the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, the Hon Melissa Horne, advocating for a contribution to deliver the Goulburn Street Nagambie School Crossing supervision service in line with the State Government School Crossing Supervision Subsidy interim guidelines.**

11.3 Infrastructure

11.3.1 Euroa Saleyards Fees and Charges

AUTHOR Procurement and Tenders Officer

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council manage and operates the Euroa Saleyards located at 52-56 Sutherland Street, Euroa.

As part of the facilitation of livestock sales at the Euroa Saleyards, Council had used the contract services of Scanclear Pty Ltd, who specialise in scanning, weighing, droving services, data entry and sales clerking for livestock sales. In January 2025, Scanclear informed Council that they would cease operation after the 2 April 2025 Euroa cattle sale.

To support Council with ongoing cattle sales, Council went to public tender for droving, scanning, weighing and data entry services. Outcross Agri-Services were the successful tenderer and were awarded the contract under CEO delegation in May 2025.

The schedule of rates charged by Outcross Agri-Services do not align with the previous contractors pricing. As this is a service which Council on-charges to the users of the Saleyards, it is noted that Councils applicable 2024-25 fees and charges must increase immediately to reflect the changes in charges.

The amended fees and charges will be included in the final version of the draft 2025-26 budget to be considered by Council in June 2025.

MOVED: Cr Scott Jeffery
SECONDED: Cr Clark Holloway

That Council:

- 1. Ratify the amended fees and charges for weighing and scanning service for the May 2025 Euroa cattle sale as listed below:**
 - **Weighing and scanning from \$5.83 to \$7.30**
 - **Scanning only from \$4.35 to \$3.25**
 - **Private weighs from \$5.83 to \$11.00.**
- 2. Approve the amended fees and charges for weighing and scanning service for the June 2025 Euroa Cattle Sales as listed below:**
 - **Weighing and scanning from \$5.83 to \$7.30**
 - **Scanning only from \$4.35 to \$3.25**
 - **Private weighs from \$5.83 to \$11.00.**
- 3. Note that the amended fees and charges will be incorporated in the final version of the draft 2025-26 Fees and Charges to be considered by Council in June.**

11.4 Corporate

11.4.1 Response to the Minister for Local Government - Commitment to Ministers Governance Expectations

AUTHOR Governance Officer

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director People and Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 26 November 2024 Council received correspondence from the previous Minister for Local Government, The Hon Melissa Horne MP requesting Council outline it's commitment to the Minister's governance expectations.

A response was provided to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Nick Staikos reiterating Councillors commitment to achieving the best outcomes and financial sustainability for our community and focusing on the strategic governance of our Municipality.

MOVED: Cr Laura Binks
SECONDED: Cr Fiona Stevens

That Council:

Endorse the response to the Minister for Local Government, The Hon Nick Staikos summarising Councillor progress to date on the expectation of Councillor performance duties and commitment to the Ministers governance expectations.

24/25-94

CARRIED

11.4.2 S5 Instrument of Delegation to Chief Executive Officer

AUTHOR Governance Officer

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director People and Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the context of the *Local Government Act 2020* "S5" refers to an instrument of delegation from Council to the Chief Executive Officer. This delegation grants the CEO the authority to perform certain powers, duties, and functions that would otherwise be the responsibility of the Council.

The primary purpose of this delegation is to enable the Chief Executive Officer to manage the organization's day-to-day operations and make decisions on behalf of the Council within the scope of the delegated authority.

MOVED: Cr Scott Jeffery
SECONDED: Cr Vicki Halsall

That Council in the exercise of the power conferred by S11(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Strathbogie Shire Council resolves that:

- 1. There be delegated to the person holding the position, or acting in or performing the duties, of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument**
- 2. The instrument comes into effect immediately upon the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the instrument**
- 3. On the coming into force of the instrument, all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked**
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**

24/25-95

CARRIED

11.4.3 Council Financial Report March 2025

AUTHOR Chief Financial Officer

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director People and Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The September Financial Report compares the year-to-date midyear budget review forecasts (as reported at the February 2025 Council meeting) for the 2024-25 financial year to the actual financial outcome and position as at 31 March 2025.

The report contains the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, and capital performance and other financial data in graphical format.

The current year operating surplus for the three-month period ending 31 March was \$6,490,511, as rates have been raised and recognised for the full financial year, and some grants have been received earlier than anticipated.

As at 31 March 2025, the total expenditure on capital works was \$6,160,285, which excludes committed expenditure.

MOVED: Cr Clark Holloway

SECONDED: Cr Scott Jeffery

That Council receive and note the quarterly Financial Report and Financial Statements for the nine months ending 31 March 2025.

24/25-96

CARRIED

11.4.4 Record of Informal Meetings of Councillors April 2025

AUTHOR Governance Officer

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR Director People and Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Section (114) of the Strathbogie Shire Council Governance Rules, if there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors
- is attended by at least one member of Council staff, and
- is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting, these are known as Informal Meetings of Councillors.

The Interim Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting are:

- tabled at the next convenient Council meeting
- recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

The details of the Record of Informal Meetings of Councillors for the period 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025 were attached to the report.

MOVED: Cr Laura Binks
SECONDED: Cr Scott Jeffery

That Council:

Notes the Record of Informal Meetings of Councillors from 1 April 2025 to 30 April 2025.

24/25-97

CARRIED

11.5 Communications, Engagement and Advocacy

Nil reports.

12 Notice of Motion

Nil

13 Notice of Rescission

Nil

14 Confidential Business

Nil

15 Urgent Business

Two Items Of Urgent Business Were Introduced To The Meeting

(1) Item One was introduced by Cr Clark Holloway

Urgent Business on Firewood Collection

I would like to raise an item of urgent business in regards to roadside firewood collection in Strathbogie Shire given that the current prohibition on it constitutes a grave risk to certain members of our community.

MOVED: Cr Clark Holloway

SECONDED: Cr Scott Jeffery

That Council:

Accept the Urgent Business on Firewood Collection as introduced by Cr Holloway.

24/25-98

CARRIED

MOVED: Cr Clark Holloway

SECONDED: Cr Scott Jeffery

I request that Council consider the following urgent business. I believe this matter to be a critical strategic risk to our Shire and our less-fortunate residents. To wit, I request Council to:

- 1. Note that Strathbogie Shire area has already entered the cold of winter and has already experienced subzero nighttime temperatures across the Shire.**
- 2. Note that some Strathbogie Shire residents are struggling financially and rely on low cost firewood from designated collection points in order to maintain health and comfort during cold months.**
- 3. Note that Council has for the past two years relied upon DEECA designated collection points to fulfill the community's need for low-cost heating fuel, having previously terminated issuing permits for roadside firewood collection.**
- 4. Note that all of the eight DEECA designated firewood collection sites relied upon are over 40 km distant from Euroa (and other Shire population centres) and mostly located in extremely challenging rough terrain along fire trails in the state forest. Two of the closest DEECA designated firewood collection sites were inspected by Councillors and found to be completely unsuitable for the ready provision of firewood to the community.**
- 5. Note that multiple Shire residents have made clear to multiple Councillors that the facts outlined in (1)-(4) above are serving to effectively prevent them from collecting low cost firewood.**
- 6. Given that points (1)-(5) above present a risk not only to the residents themselves, but to the Shire as well, request Officers to add to Council's strategic risk register an item with words to the effect that 'there is a risk that Strathbogie Shire residents who are struggling financially and rely on wood**

heating may face grave physical harm due to the inability to heat their homes during winter time due to lack of firewood, resulting in reputational and financial damages to the Shire'. As 'grave physical harm' denotes a critical risk, and as we are already experiencing subzero nighttime temperatures in Strathbogie Shire, mitigation strategies are needed with utmost priority.

7. Request Officers to therefore immediately implement mitigation strategies for the above critical strategic risk by methods considered most expedient and effective to provide free or low cost firewood for those residents in need.
8. Manage the above mitigation strategies such that areas of environmental or heritage concern are excluded and clearly prohibited from firewood harvesting.
9. Report back to Council at earliest opportunity on implementation.

24/25-99**CARRIED**

(2) Item Two was introduced by Cr Scott Jeffery

Urgent Business on extension of submission period on the Draft Key Strategic documents.

MOVED: Cr Scott Jeffery
SECONDED: Cr Vicki Halsall

That Council:

Accept the Urgent Business to extend the formal submission process on the draft key strategic documents.

24/25-100**CARRIED**

MOVED: Cr Scott Jeffery
SECONDED: Cr Clark Holloway

That Council:

Extend the formal submission process on the following draft key strategic documents:

1. Draft Community Vision 2025-2035
2. Draft Council Plan 2025-2029 incorporating the Health, Wellbeing and Inclusion Plan and Disability Action Plan and Draft Annual Action Plan 2025-2026
3. Draft Financial Plan 2025-2035
4. Draft Asset Plan 2025-2035
5. Draft Rating and Revenue Plan 2025
6. Draft 2025-2026 Budget
7. Draft Fees and Charges 2025-2026

with an extended submission to close at 2:00 pm on Thursday 22 May 2025.

24/25-101**CARRIED**

16 Next Meeting

The next meeting of Strathbogie Shire Council will be held on 17 June 2025 at Euroa Community Conference Centre commencing at 4:00 pm.

17 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6:27 pm.

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Chair

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Date