



Agenda

Ordinary Meeting of Council
Tuesday, 22 September 2015

To be held in the
Council Chambers
1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay

Commencing at 6.00pm

Council:

Cr. Margot Smith (Mayor)
Cr. David Bell
Cr. Libby Coker
Cr. Eve Fisher
Cr. Clive Goldsworthy
Cr. Rose Hodge
Cr. Carol McGregor
Cr. Brian McKiterick
Cr. Heather Wellington

AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF SURF COAST SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1 MERRIJIG DRIVE, TORQUAY
ON TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015 COMMENCING AT 6.00PM

PRESENT:

OPENING:

Council acknowledge the traditional owners of the land where we meet today and pay respect to their elders past and present and Council acknowledges the citizens of the Surf Coast Shire.

PLEDGE:

As Councillors we carry out our responsibilities with diligence and integrity and make fair decisions of lasting value for the wellbeing of our community and environment.

APOLOGIES:

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Recommendation

That Council note the minutes of the Ordinary and In Camera meeting of Council held on 25 August 2015 and the Special meeting of Council held on 15 September 2015 as a correct record of the meetings.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS:

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Note to Councillors and Officers

Declaration of Interest

Councillors and Officers please note that in accordance with Section 77A of the Local Government Act 1989, there is an obligation to declare a conflict of interest in a matter that could come before Council.

A conflict of interest can be a direct or indirect interest in a matter.

A person has a direct interest if:

There is a reasonable likelihood that the benefits, obligations, opportunities or circumstances of the person would be directly altered if the matter is decided in a particular way.

A person has an indirect interest if the person has:

- 1. A close association whereby a "family member" of the person has a direct or indirect interest or a "relative" or member of a person's household has a direct interest in a matter;*
- 2. An indirect financial interest in the matter;*
- 3. A conflicting duty;*
- 4. Received an "applicable" gift;*
- 5. Become an interested party in the matter by initiating civil proceedings or becoming a party to civil proceedings in relation to the matter; or*
- 6. A residential amenity affect.*

Disclosure of Interest

A Councillor or Officer must make full disclosure of a conflict of interest by advising the class and nature of the interest immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting. While the matter is being considered or any vote taken, the Councillor or Officer with the conflict of interest must leave the room and notify the Chairperson that he or she is doing so.

PRESENTATIONS:

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

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1. OFFICE OF THE CEO

1.1 Monthly Finance Report - August 2015

Author's Title: Coordinator Management Accounting **CEO:** Keith Baillie
Department: Finance **File No:** F15/973
Division: Office of the CEO **Trim No:** IC15/305

Appendix:

1. Monthly Finance Report August 2015 (D15/81614)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
 Section 80C:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Status:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive and note a summary of the operating and capital works budgets as well as the financial position of the Surf Coast Shire Council to the end of August 2015.

Summary

An executive summary, financial analysis, capital works and new initiatives performance summary, financial position analysis and consolidated financial statements are included for the eleven months ending 31 August 2015. The report also contains an analysis of the significant year-to-date variations that are favourable or unfavourable to Council's 2015/16 budget.

The key financial results are as follows:

Year to date measure	Value (\$m)	Commentary
Operating Result	39.3	\$0.4m favourable to Budget
Capital Works expenditure	1.3	In line with Budget
New Initiatives expenditure	0.2	In line with Budget
Net Assets & Total Equity	417.8	\$0.4m favourable to Budget
Cash & Cash Equivalents	23.2	In line with Budget
Working Capital Ratio	692%	191% favourable to Budget

Council remains in a sound financial position.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the financial results, variances and explanations for the two months ended 31 August 2015;
2. Note the project adjustments approved by the Chief Executive Officer transferring a net \$3,707 to the waste reserve and \$1,393 from the accumulated unallocated reserve as listed in Appendix B of the August Finance report; and
3. Approve the project variations/reserve movements >\$5,000 transferring a of \$16,995 from the accumulated unallocated reserve and \$43,200 to the waste reserve as listed in Appendix B of the August Finance report.

1.1 Monthly Finance Report - August 2015

Report

Background

The attached financial report for the two months ended 31 August 2015 summarises the revenue and expenditure performance, capital works and new initiatives with an analysis of the overall financial position.

The report also contains an analysis of the significant year-to-date variations that are favourable or unfavourable to budget.

Discussion

Operating Results

The year-to-date operating result for the 2015/16 year shows a net surplus of \$39.3 million, which is \$0.4 million favourable to budget. This variance is mainly due to:

- Capital grants favourable to budget of \$482,000

Capital Works

The year-to-date capital works shows a total of \$1.3 million, which is in line with budget.

New Initiatives

The year-to-date new initiatives show a total of \$0.2 million which is in line with budget.

Balance Sheet

The working capital ratio is currently 692%, which is favourable to budget by 191%. The prudential limit required by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is a minimum working capital of 110%.

The cash and investments balance at 31 August 2015 is \$23.2 in line with budget.

Net assets and total equity is currently \$417.8 million, which is favourable to budget by \$0.4 million. This variance is due to the net surplus being favourable to budget \$0.4 million.

Borrowings have decreased to \$16.06 million.

No new borrowings have been budgeted for the 2015/16 year.

The detailed Financial Report for August 2015 is attached

Financial Implications

Year to date budget variations for the two months ended 31 August 2015 have been explained in this report.

Council Plan

Theme 2 Governance

Objective 2.4 Transparency in decision making and access to information

Strategy 2.4.2 Provide relevant and easy to understand financial information to the community.

Policy/Legal Implications

Section 138(1) of the Local Government Act states that:

“At least every 3 months, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to the Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.”

The Monthly Finance Report both fulfils this requirement, and provides supplementary information which is beneficial in the explanation of Council's financial position.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

1.1 Monthly Finance Report - August 2015

Risk Assessment

Council continues to prudently manage financial risk. In the report "Local Government: Results of the 2013-14 Audits", the Victorian Auditor-General's Office reported that "*Surf Coast Shire Council was a medium risk in 2013-14 (low in 2012-13) because of its high indebtedness ratio after recognising additional landfill provisions associated with its Anglesea landfill site*".

Council increased the Anglesea landfill provision in 2013-14 based on estimates of the useful life of the landfill and the cost of rehabilitating the facility after closure to EPA standards. Council has a funding strategy in place to ensure all costs associated with the Landfill will be met.

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office is expected to table its report into the most recent (2014-15) audits in November 2015.

Social Considerations

Not applicable

Community Engagement

Not applicable

Environmental Implications

Not applicable

Communication

Not applicable

Conclusion

Council remains in a sound financial position with all variances between the actual and budgeted results explained in this report.

2. GOVERNANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

2.1 Community Feedback Regarding Proposal to Construct and Seal part of Aireys Street, Aireys Inlet

Author's Title: Manager Engineering Services

General Manager: Sunil Bhalla

Department: Engineering Services

File No: F15/652

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/135

Appendix:

1. Information Brochure (D15/50226)
2. Existing Conditions Photos (D15/70981)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To consider the feedback from affected property owners regarding a proposal to construct and seal a section of Aireys Street, Aireys Inlet.

Summary

A petition seeking sealing of Aireys Street, between Great Ocean Road and Sandy Gully was considered at the 26 May 2015 Council Meeting. Council resolved to “commence investigations regarding construction of Aireys Street, including the preparation of a Special Charge Scheme to assist with the funding of the works, and consult with all the affected owners regarding the scope of the works and how best to apportion the Special Charge Scheme costs.”

An information brochure, explaining why the project is being considered, the scope of proposed works, who may be affected and what it might cost, was distributed to 30 properties in July 2015 inviting feedback. An Information Session held at the Aireys Inlet Community Centre on 8 August 2015 was attended by approximately 20 property owners.

Feedback has been received from 23 properties, with 6 properties being supportive in principle, and 16 are opposed. Several property owners who initially supported the petition have changed their opinion. This feedback includes properties in a second petition, tabled at the August Council Meeting, which requested that Council does not proceed with the proposal.

There is a significant majority who would like the street to remain unsealed. Many submissions suggest that improvements to signage, road safety and the school drop off zone would be beneficial.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the feedback from property owners regarding the proposal to seal Aireys Street, between Great Ocean Rd and Sandy Gully.
2. Advise all affected owners that the proposal for sealing of Aireys St will not be proceeding.
3. Officers investigate improvements to directional signage, road safety and school related parking on Aireys St.

2.1 Community Feedback Regarding Proposal to Construct and Seal part of Aireys Street, Aireys Inlet

Report

Background

In 2007, Council proposed the construction of roads, drainage and pathways within an area of Aireys Inlet designated as Precinct 1. This project included construction of the Aireys Street. In May 2008, following receipt of public submissions, Council resolved to proceed with drainage works (and an associated Special Charge Scheme) but not roadworks within the Precinct.

In March 2015, Council received a petition from eight Aireys Street residents requesting that Council investigate the sealing of Aireys Street, between Great Ocean Road and Sandy Gully.

At its 26 May 2015 Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved to commence project investigations, including funding through a Special Charge Scheme, and to consult with affected owners regarding the scope of the works and how to best apportion the costs. Subsequently, Council received a petition to leave in place the gravel surface on Aireys St which will be tabled at 25 August 2015 Council meeting.

An information brochure (Refer Appendix 1) explaining why the project is being considered, the scope of proposed works, who may be affected and what it might cost was distributed to 30 properties in July 2015 and an information session was held at the Aireys Inlet Community Centre on 8 August 2015. Feedback was invited by 12 August 2015.

At its 25 August 2015 Ordinary meeting, Council received and noted a second petition requesting that Council does not proceed with the construction and sealing of the street. Council referred this petition to the General Manager Governance and Infrastructure. These objections are included in this report.

Of the 23 property owners who have responded:

- 6 are supportive in principle (26%)
- 17 are opposed (74%)

Aireys Inlet and District Association (AIDA) and a property owner beyond the catchment area have also written expressing opposition. In addition to comments regarding road construction, many of the owners expressed concern about the inadequate directional signage and road safety, especially in regard to school access and parking.

Many of those who are opposed to the proposal have stated that they consider that the gravel road adds to the informal character and charm of the area.

Discussion

Existing Conditions

Aireys Street provides vehicular and pedestrian access for over 40 residential properties and secondary access to the Aireys Inlet School. The existing gravel road pavement varies in width from 7 m near the Great Ocean Road to 5 m east of Berthon Street. Stormwater from the road pavement and uphill properties runs into open table drains which convey the water along the road edge to the underground drainage system and ultimately Sandy Gully.

The table drains are poorly defined at the western end. Some of the driveway crossings are inadequate to manage the stormwater.

The traffic volume varies significantly according to the season. A survey during the recent school holidays, recorded volumes of 139 vehicles/day and an 85percentile speed (speed at or below which 85% of the vehicles are travelling) of 43kph. An onsite inspection at school finishing time noted that there were 10 vehicles temporarily parked on the roadside. There is limited opportunity for future property development and therefore the traffic volumes are unlikely to change significantly.

Photos of existing conditions are attached as Appendix 2.

The March 2015 petition requested the "sealing of Aireys Street" and to address a number of road safety issues. The feedback from Council's consultation suggests that most residents do not think that sealing the road is necessary.

2.1 Community Feedback Regarding Proposal to Construct and Seal part of Aireys Street, Aireys Inlet

However, many respondents do consider that there is a need for improvements to directional signage and road safety, particularly in respect to access to and from the school.

Financial Implications

Construction of Aireys Street is not included in the draft Ten Year Capital Works Program and no alternative funding source has been identified. Funding for road safety improvements would need consideration as part of future budget deliberations.

Council Plan

Theme 4 Infrastructure
Objective 4.1 Allocation of infrastructure according to need
Strategy 4.1.3 Develop an improved approach to service planning that identifies long-term future infrastructure requirements and actions

Policy/Legal Implications

Council's Special Charge Scheme Policy, which sets out the strategic framework for the construction of infrastructure, including gravel road construction, requires Council to discontinue a Scheme if more than 40% of the affected owners object to the proposed funding arrangements. The recent feedback indicates that at least 50% of affected owners are opposed to the proposal.

The draft road construction standard is below contemporary standards and makes no provision for separation of pedestrians from the vehicular traffic. However, it is acknowledged that the Aireys Inlet community generally has a very high desire to retain an informal non-urban environment.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

It would be appropriate for officers to investigate and assess the road safety concerns raised during the consultation.

Social Considerations

The sealing of the road would improve conditions for some residents by removing the dust nuisance in summer and the muddy conditions in winter. However, the feedback indicates a very clear preference to retain the gravel road surface because it reflects the informal ambience of the street and beyond.

Community Engagement

Aireys Street is within the original Aireys Inlet Precinct 1 where the upgrading of infrastructure has been the subject of extensive community engagement over the past seven years, including a very thorough Citizens' Jury.

Following Council's May 2015 resolution to consult with affected owners regarding the project scope and funding, an Information Brochure was sent to all potentially affected owners, and an information session held on site at the Community Centre provided an opportunity for further discussion.

Environmental Implications

The sealing of Aireys Street would reduce the extent of dust nuisance to abutting residents, especially those affected by the prevailing south westerly winds, and improve the quality of the storm water runoff reducing the extent of siltation downstream.

Communication

The petitioners will be formally notified following Council's consideration of this report.

Conclusion

There is a broad range of views regarding the benefits that would arise from construction of Aireys Street. The original petition indicates that some are supportive of the proposed road construction and sealing. However, the recent consultation with all affected property owners indicates the majority are strongly opposed to the road sealing because they consider that it would adversely affect the ambience of the area.

An investigation into the road safety and directional signage issues raised would be appropriate.

2.2 Community Satisfaction in Local Government Survey Results - Improvement Action Plan 2015 - 2016

Author's Title: Coordinator Corporate Planning

General Manager: Sunil Bhalla

Department: Governance & Risk

File No: F14/1871

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/144

Appendix:

1. Proposed Improvement Action Plan - Community Satisfaction Survey Results 2015 (D15/60082)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To note the proposed Community Satisfaction in Local Government Survey Results Improvement Action Plan for 2015 – 2016.

Summary

Council received the Community Satisfaction in Local Government Survey Results 2015 for Surf Coast Shire at the Ordinary meeting of Council in June 2015 and noted that a further report outlining the improvement actions as a result of the survey would be forthcoming.

The proposed Improvement Action Plan for 2015 – 2016 included at attachment 1 includes actions against the nine service areas identified in the 2015 survey results where community importance ratings exceeded performance ratings by 10 points or more.

The actions for 2015 – 2016 are expected to contribute to improved outcomes for the community and improved survey results in future years.

Recommendation

That Council note the proposed improvement action plan to improve the service experience of members of the Surf Coast Shire community.

2.2 Community Satisfaction in Local Government Survey Results - Improvement Action Plan 2015 - 2016

Report

Background

Surf Coast Shire Council has participated in the annual Community Satisfaction in Local Government Survey (hereafter referred to as “the survey”) for the last 16 years. The survey results are analysed and presented to Council each year and significant gaps between community ratings for importance and performance on core and service related measures are identified as potential areas for improvement.

Council received the survey results for Surf Coast Shire Council in 2015 at the Ordinary meeting of Council in June 2015. At this meeting Council noted that a further report would be provided outlining the improvement action plan resulting from this survey.

Discussion

The survey results for 2015 presented to Council identified the following nine areas for improvement where significant gaps of 10 points or more exist between importance (which is higher) and performance (which is lower).

1. Making decisions in the interest of the community
2. Community consultation and engagement
3. Lobbying on behalf of the Community
4. Town Planning Policy
5. Planning and building permits
6. Planning for population growth
7. Environmental sustainability
8. Maintenance of unsealed roads
9. Traffic management.

An improvement action plan (hereafter referred to as “the plan”) has been developed and is attached at appendix 1 as noted in the minutes for the June 2015 Ordinary meeting of Council.

The actions contained in the plan reflect current actions which are expected to contribute to improved outcomes for the community and have a positive impact on future survey results.

Financial Implications

There will be no financial implications resulting from the implementation of the proposed improvement plan. Current actions have already been included in the Surf Coast Shire Budget for 2015 – 2016.

Council Plan

Theme 2 Governance
Objective 2.2 High performing accountable organisation
Strategy 2.2.4 Undertake a scheduled program of service reviews aimed at improving efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery in accordance with agreed principles.

Theme 2 Governance
Objective 2.5 Enhanced community engagement
Strategy 2.5.2 Provide opportunities for all members of the community to engage with Council on issues that matter to them.

Theme 3 Communities
Objective 3.2 Quality services allocated according to need
Strategy 3.2.4 Ensure high quality community services are provided

Policy/Legal Implications

The development of an improvement action plan complies with the Council’s requirement “to achieve continuous improvement in the provision of services for its community” as specified in section 208B Best Value Principles in the *Local Government Act 1989 No. 11*.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

2.2 Community Satisfaction in Local Government Survey Results - Improvement Action Plan 2015 - 2016

Risk Assessment

There is a potential risk to Council if it does not comply with legislative requirements.

Social Considerations

The plan is intended to improve the service experience for the Surf Coast Shire community.

Community Engagement

Engagement on the plan will be via the Ordinary meeting of Council in September 2015.

Environmental Implications

No environmental implications are expected as a direct result of the noting of the plan.

Communication

Communication on the plan will be via the Ordinary meeting of Council in September 2015 and associated minutes.

Conclusion

That Council note the proposed improvement action plan as a record of action being taken to improve the service experience of members of the Surf Coast Shire community.

2.3 Policy Review - SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement, SCS-016 Investment Policy & SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Toy Library

Author's Title: Team Leader Governance
Department: Governance & Risk
Division: Governance & Infrastructure

General Manager: Sunil Bhalla
File No: F15/102
Trim No: IC15/177

Appendix:

1. SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement Policy (D15/65172)
2. SCS-016 Investment Policy (D15/73978)
3. SCS-007 Kindergarten & Surf Coast Toy Library (D15/67445)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Status:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To adopt the SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement Policy, SCS-016 Investment Policy, and revoke the SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Toy Library Policy.

Summary

The Council Policy Review Sub-Committee was established in September 2013 to provide a comprehensive review process for Council policies, prior to presentation to Council for adoption.

The above three policies were considered by the Policy Review Sub-Committee at its meeting on the 11 August 2015. The policies are now provided for the consideration of Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopt the SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement Policy.
2. Adopt the SCS-016 Investment Policy.
3. Revoke the SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Toy Library Policy.

2.3 Policy Review - SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement, SCS-016 Investment Policy & SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Toy Library

Report

Background

At the September 2013 Council meeting, Council formed a Policy Review Sub-Committee to assist in the review of Council policies prior to consideration by Council.

The Policy Review Sub-Committee has the responsibility to review, amend, replace or remove information in Council policies and to establish the utility of the current policies. This review occurs through:

1. Receiving input from responsible departments on current Council policies.
2. Reviewing the current Council policies and considering and/or proposing amendments.
3. Providing input, feedback and amendments (if required) to the Governance and Risk Department.
4. Providing advice to Council on the reviewed Council policies, including suggested community consultation or other actions.

Councillors appointed to the Committee are Cr. Heather Wellington, Cr. Clive Goldsworthy, Cr. David Bell and Cr. Libby Coker with the Mayor as ex-officio.

The Council Policy Review Sub-Committee will remain during the term of the current Council.

Discussion

SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement Policy

This is a newly drafted policy and is attached at Appendix 1.

SCS-017 Investment Policy

This policy was last adopted by Council at the 27 January 2015 Ordinary Council meeting. The policy has since been updated and is attached at Appendix 2.

SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Toy Library (revocation recommended)

A review of this policy has been undertaken and it is recommended that this policy be revoked. The existing policy is attached at Appendix 3.

Summary of reasons for recommending revocation:

- Prior to 2012, Kindergartens within the Shire operating from Council owned facilities were managed by Parent Committees of Management.
- Council provided annual grants to these Kindergartens under this Policy to assist with operations and sustainability.
- In March 2015, Council endorsed the development of the Surf Coast Kindergarten Cluster with two sites at Lorne and Torquay.
- At this time, all Kindergartens were invited to join the cluster.
- Council's endorsement of the Surf Coast Kindergarten Cluster included the cessation of the annual operating grants for those under the cluster.
- At this point, the Anglesea and Moriac Kindergartens continue to be operated by Parent Committees of Management however the Anglesea Kindergarten Committee is currently exploring options to seek to join the cluster.
- Anglesea and Moriac are the only services that continue to receive operating grants (4K each per annum).
- These services still have the option of seeking to join the cluster where Council would then assume operational responsibility.
- Lease arrangements outlining roles of the Committee and Council would not be affected by any changes to this policy.
- It is considered that the cluster is the most appropriate mechanism for funding operational support of Kindergartens.
- Council will continue to invest in capital infrastructure and maintenance for all services.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

2.3 Policy Review - SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement, SCS-016 Investment Policy & SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Toy Library

Council Plan

Theme 2 Governance
Objective 2.2 High performing accountable organisation
Strategy Nil

Policy/Legal Implications

Not applicable.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

Council is required to ensure that all policies are current and meet legislative and organisational requirements.

Social Considerations

Not applicable.

Community Engagement

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Communication

Not applicable.

Conclusion

It is proposed that Council:

1. Adopt the SCS-025 Capital Works Community Engagement Policy.
2. Adopt the SCS-016 Investment Policy.
3. Revoke the SCS-007 Kindergartens & Surf Coast Library Policy.

2.4 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2014 - 2015

Author's Title: Manager Governance & Risk

General Manager: Sunil Bhalla

Department: Governance & Risk

File No: F15/403

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/278

Appendix:

1. Audit Committee Annual Report 2014-2015 (D15/74996)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive the 2014 - 2015 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report.

Summary

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires the Audit and Risk Committee to prepare and present an Annual Report to Council.

The Audit and Risk Committee endorsed the 2014 - 2015 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report at its meeting on 8 September 2015 and it is now provided to the Council for noting.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the 2014 - 2015 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report.

2.4 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2014 - 2015

Report

Background

The Audit and Risk Committee is delegated by Council with the responsibility to:

- Promote and monitor an ethical culture throughout the Council.
- Monitor the implementation of a sound system of risk oversight and management.
- Ensure Council maintains a reliable system of internal control.
- Monitor and review internal and external reporting.

The Audit and Risk Committee plays a key role in effectively communicating between Council and the internal and external auditors to assist Council to fulfil its governance and oversight responsibilities in relation to these functions.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires the Audit and Risk Committee to prepare and present an Annual Report to Council.

Discussion

The Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, Mr Brian Keane, prepared the Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report for 2014 – 2015 which was endorsed by the Committee at its meeting on 8 September 2015. The Committee now provides the report to Council for information.

The Annual Report for 2014 – 2015 is attached at Appendix 1.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Council Plan

Theme 2 Governance

Objective 2.1 Robust risk management framework and processes

Policy/Legal Implications

Section 139 of the Local Government Act 1989, provides that Council must establish an audit committee. The Audit Committee Charter and Work Plan mandate that an annual report outlining the Committee's activities are to be provided to Council

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the compilation of this report has a conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

The Audit and Risk Committee complements the risk methodologies of Council.

Social Considerations

Not applicable.

Community Engagement

Not applicable.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Communication

Not applicable.

Conclusion

The Audit and Risk Committee endorsed the 2014 - 2015 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report at its 8 September 2015 meeting. It is recommended that Council receive and note the 2014 - 2015 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report.

2.5 Sale of Winchelsea Land

Author's Title: Property & Legal Services Officer

General Manager: Sunil Bhalla

Department: Governance & Risk

File No: F13/919

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/27

Appendix:

Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To declare its intention to sell properties known as 440 and 450 Hendy Main Road, Mount Moriac and 31-33 Hesse Street, Winchelsea.

Summary

This report seeks Council's support to sell the following properties in order to generate the funds for acquisition of land for the extension of Eastern Reserve, Winchelsea:

- 440 and 450 Hendy Main Road, Mount Moriac; and
- 31-33 Hesse Street, Winchelsea.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Declare its intention to sell properties known as 440 and 450 Hendy Main Road, Mount Moriac and 31-33 Hesse Street, Winchelsea.
2. Issue a public notice of intention to sell Council land and invite public submissions.
3. Consider any submissions received from the public submission process.
4. Note that at the time of sale the valuations shall not be more than six months old.
5. Sell the land by public competitive sale by auction or private treaty.
6. Note that the revenue from the sale of these properties will be used to acquire land for the extension of Eastern Reserve, Winchelsea.

2.5 Sale of Winchelsea Land

Report

Background

450 Hendy Main Road, Moriac

Details regarding the property:

- Owned by The Shire of Barrabool since 1865;
- Originally used as a Shire Hall which was then converted into Shire Offices and the Hall was eventually demolished in 1989;
- The Council Depot was operational between 1966 and 1995;
- The Depot buildings remain on site and are utilised by Council for storage of equipment;
- Zoning – Farming Zone;
- Size – 7889.98m²;
- Certificate of Title Volume 9757 Folio 538;
- The site has been the subject of extensive environmental assessment and auditing. 450 Hendy Main Road has been declared suitable for ongoing commercial use. It is not declared suitable for residential use.

440 Hendy Main Road, Moriac

Details regarding the property:

- Owned by The Shire of Barrabool since 1987, the land was purchased from the Church of England for the construction of a Council Chamber, however construction of the new Chamber was deferred and as an alternative the existing hall was renovated;
- The site is vacant land except for stock holding yards and a water tank which is part of a private water service;
- Size - 7898.84m²;
- Certificate of Title Volume 11337 Folio 785;
- Contamination within the site has been remediated.

31-33 Hesse Street, Winchelsea

Details regarding the property:

- The Shire of Winchelsea purchased this property in 1992. Prior to this time the site was previously the location of Knuckey's Farm Machinery;
- The adjacent vacant land at 27-29 Hesse Street is privately owned but was previously owned by the Shire of Winchelsea. This property was sold in 2003;
- Council retained this property in 2003 as it was considered required to allow access to properties at the rear;
- On 31 November 2004 Council resolved to advertise for public submissions to dispose of this land, however Council received an objection from the Winchelsea and District Action Group that they would like the sale postponed until Council has completed the Strategic Plan for Winchelsea;
- Vacant land with a cement slab;
- Zoning – General Residential Zone – Schedule 1;
- Size - 1065.3 m²;

Discussion

The recommended sale price for the properties will be determined by a current market valuation obtained by a qualified valuer.

It is recommended that Council endeavours to place the properties up for sale late 2015.

It is proposed that 440 Hendy Main Road be offered for sale with the stock compound remaining at the site. Depending upon the level of interest, further consideration should be given to the merit of relocating the stock pound to an alternative site.

2.5 Sale of Winchelsea Land

If the disposal is supported, the following process needs to be followed:

- Council resolution supporting the sale;
- Advertise Notice of intention to sell the land in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989;
- Hold a Hearing of Submissions meeting if necessary;
- Obtain three quotes from Real Estate Agents to appoint an agent for the sale;
- Advertise the properties for sale.

Financial Implications

- A total of \$487,000 has been spent on rehabilitation for the Mount Moriac properties over three years.
- The costs associated with selling each property, including Valuation of Land, Surveyor, Legal, Land Registry and Real Estate Agent Commission are estimated at \$30,000. This figure does not include officer time.

Council Plan

Theme 4 Infrastructure

Objective 4.1 Allocation of infrastructure according to need

Strategy 4.1.3 Develop an improved approach to service planning that identifies long-term future infrastructure requirements and actions

Policy/Legal Implications

- Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*
- Sale or Exchange of Council Land Policy
- Local Government Best Practice Guidelines for Sale, Exchange or Transfer of Land.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

If the properties do not sell, Council would need to consider disposal of other property to generate revenue to acquire the land for the extension of Eastern Reserve.

Social Considerations

The extension of Eastern Reserve is considered appropriate for the future wellbeing of the population of Winchelsea.

A public advertising process will be undertaken to consider feedback regarding selling public land.

Community Engagement

If Council supports the recommendation in this report, a public notice will be published inviting Section 223 Submissions in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Environmental Implications

Both properties in Mount Moriac have been the subject of extensive environmental assessment and auditing. 450 Hendy Main Road has been declared suitable for ongoing commercial use and it is anticipated that 440 Hendy Main Road will receive a Certificate of Environmental Audit shortly, allowing it to be used for residential use.

31-33 Hesse Street, Winchelsea does not have any environmental implications.

Communication

This proposal has been discussed with Council officers and no objections were received.

Conclusion

The sale of the properties is considered appropriate as they are surplus to Council requirements and will generate some revenue for the acquisition of land to enable the future extension of Eastern Reserve, Winchelsea.

3. ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan - Community Panel Report

Author's Title: Acting Manager Planning & Development

General Manager: Kate Sullivan

Department: Planning & Development

File No: F14/1248

Division: Environment & Development

Trim No: IC15/220

Appendix:

1. Spring Creek Community Panel Report (D15/81464)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive the report of the Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan Community Panel.

Summary

Council has commenced the process of preparing a Precinct Structure Plan for the "Spring Creek" urban growth area, from Duffields Road to one kilometre west. As part of the community engagement for the project, Council chose to include a deliberative process which involved convening a community panel comprising stakeholders and randomly selected members of the community of Torquay/Jan Juc and Bellbrae. The Panel's recommendations will form a major input into the preparation of the precinct structure plan.

The Community Panel met over three full Saturdays and one evening in August 2015. Their question to answer was "*How do we design for urban growth that is in balance with the surrounding environment?*" The Panel required 80% agreement on each recommendation before it could form part of the report to Council.

The Community Panel has now completed their report, which is presented to Council for consideration. A further report will be provided in November outlining a draft framework plan for the area that includes consideration of the technical reports and feedback from the Community Panel.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Acknowledge the work and commitment of all members who participated in the Spring Creek Community Panel and thank them for their important contribution to the development of the Precinct Structure Plan.
2. Receive the Spring Creek Community Panel report.
3. Consider the recommendations of the report in the preparation of the Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan.
4. Provide a further report to Council at its November meeting with a draft framework plan incorporating consideration of the technical reports and feedback from the Community Panel and recent surveys.

Report

Background

The Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan (PSP) project seeks to prepare a PSP for the Spring Creek Urban Growth Area. The development of a PSP is a mandatory requirement under the Urban Growth Zone and it is essentially a masterplan showing how the land is to be developed and the desired outcomes to be achieved. With the support of planning scheme schedules and provisions, it will provide an integrated approach to determine the overall layout for future use and development in the zone.

The importance of early stakeholder engagement in the PSP process is recognised and a rigorous community engagement program has been developed. One element of the program involves the establishment of a Community Panel that is tasked with the responsibility of making recommendations about the development of the PSP to Council on behalf of the local community.

The early investment made by the Community Panel (the Panel) through the time and commitment of its members has provided Council with valuable information about community views as they relate to the urban growth area. The recommendations of the Panel will be considered by Council with the outcomes directly informing the PSP. It is anticipated that the recommendations accepted by Council will have a significant role in forming the foundation of the PSP.

The 32 member Panel is comprised of 50% stakeholders - a mix of landowners in the Spring Creek PSP growth area and community group members; and 50% randomly selected individuals from the local community, who were shortlisted to achieve a group that is representative of the local demographic.

Those who owned land in the Urban Growth Zone were directly invited to participate in the Community Panel process as were local community groups who had previously shown an interest in the development of the area. The selection process for members of the broader community was deliberately random and to this end, the process began with invitations being sent to 4000 property owners and renters (every 3rd or 4th person from the Shire's database) in the 3228 area. Of these, 127 people responded.

Although the original target was to achieve a panel of 40 – 50, because stakeholder participation was less than anticipated, the number of random recruits was also reduced to ensure a more even mix of random selections and stakeholders (land owners and community groups). Due to lack of interest in the 15-24 age bracket (the 0-15 age bracket was not expected nor sort to attend) these panellists were directly sought through the Torquay Secondary College (two students self-selected).

The Random Selection Process

Council engaged professional community engagement facilitators, Firelight Consulting, to conduct the Community Panel. The randomly selected community members were able to nominate for the Panel by contacting the contractor (Firelight Consulting) by telephone or by registering online. Once registration closed, the records were combined and formatted to be identical (ie. in font, size etc) and an online random number generator was used to generate a list of non-repeating three digit numbers and a number assigned to each record.

The number and demographic details only were copied into a new spreadsheet and re-ordered by their ID number to jumble the records. Sampling began from the groups with less registrants and these were informed by the proportions in the census data to ensure that the other factors were balanced in each group as much as possible. Selections were made in each age group using an online dice roller. The recruitment and selection process beyond the initial mail out was completely independent of Council involvement and was undertaken by a sub-contractor to Firelight Consulting.

Discussion

Once formed, the Community Panel came together on four separate occasions being three full Saturdays and an evening session. The Panel has repeatedly shown an admirable level of dedication throughout what is acknowledged as a very demanding process with many members also doing additional research outside of these sessions.

The Panel was tasked with answering the question, “*How do we design for urban growth that is in balance with the surrounding environment?*”

The Panel operated under a number of agreed guidelines, one of which was that the Panel recommendations put forward must have at least 80% agreement (ie. a minimum of 80% of the panel members can live with it) to be accepted as recommendations to be presented to Council on behalf of the Community Panel. Absolute consensus was not required on each item for acceptance.

The effort of the Panel has resulted in a list of considered recommendations that are to be presented to Council today for their consideration in the development of the Precinct Structure Plan.

Those items that were considered important enough to raise during the Panel process but that failed to gain the required 80% acceptance of the group are listed at the end of the report as minority items.

In order to give the Community Panel a meaningful level of authority, Council agreed to incorporating the Panel's recommendations unless there was a good reason why they couldn't be included. Council is due to respond to the recommendations when the draft plan for the precinct is exhibited.

Financial Implications

The Community Panel process was fully funded through Council's 2015/16 budget and was not part of the funding sourced from the Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan landowner agreement.

Some of the recommendations may have budget implications for Council, but these will be assessed in the development of the precinct structure plan.

Council Plan

Theme 2 Governance
Objective 2.5 Enhanced community engagement
Strategy 2.5.2 Provide opportunities for all members of the community to engage with Council on issues that matter to them.

Theme 5 Development and Growth
Objective 5.4 Transparent and responsive land use and strategic planning
Strategy 5.4.2 Utilise structure plans and planning processes to encourage a diversity of housing stock across the Shire.

Policy/Legal Implications

There are no policy or legal implications to receiving this report.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

There are no risks to Council in receiving this report.

Social Considerations

The Community Panel has enabled a cross section of the Torquay/Jan Juc and Bellbrae communities to have input into the preparation of the Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan. This will have positive outcomes for the development of a structure plan that includes community views.

Community Engagement

The Community Panel is a relatively new method of community engagement referred to as a “deliberative process” where a representative group of people, as well as interested and invested stakeholders, are brought together to discuss a particular issue or question. The Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan Community Panel sessions have taken place prior to the drafting of the precinct structure plan, to allow input into the indicative framework plan to be exhibited in November 2015.

In addition, Council's community engagement experts conducted a survey during this period on Survey Monkey from 26 June to the 29 July which resulted in 59 responses. The survey was advertised on Council's website, in the Mayor's Column and on social media. The results were made available to the Community Panel. The survey included a question about what people thought would support or protect the values as stated in *Sustainable Futures Torquay 2040* for Spring Creek. The top themes were:

- Ensure lots of open space
- Low density living – large blocks of land, small houses
- Planting native vegetation
- Provide green buffer zones
- Respectful building
- Provide community facilities and buildings
- Preserve existing natural features
- Appropriate road infrastructure provided
- No development at all (15 respondents).
- Provide local shopping.

In a broad sense, these responses were consistent with many of the recommendations developed by the Community Panel.

Broad community engagement on the PSP, including open houses, are planned in November/December 2015 when a draft indicative framework plan for the precinct is available for exhibition. Council officers will be drafting this plan with the Metropolitan Planning Authority following the formal receipt of the Community Panel report.

Environmental Implications

Protection of the environmental values on the site is a strong focus underlying many of the Panel recommendations. The recommendations under this theme will inform the preparation of the indicative urban framework plan for the precinct, along with the principles contained in *Sustainable Futures Torquay Jan Juc 2040*, advice from government departments and agencies such as the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and the wider community.

Communication

The Community Panel Report will be made available on the Council website following formal receipt at the Council meeting on 22 September 2015.

Conclusion

The report of the Spring Creek Community Panel is the culmination of seven weeks of work by the community panel, consisting of stakeholders and randomly selected members of the community. The dedication and commitment shown by the panel is recognised and their recommendations will provide a valuable input into the preparation of the PSP.

3.2 Amendment C99 and Application 14/0287 - Rezoning and Subdivision of 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc

Author's Title: Senior Strategic Planner
Department: Planning & Development
Division: Environment & Development

General Manager: Kate Sullivan
File No: F15/1232
Trim No: IC15/301

Appendix:

1. C99 Explanatory Report (D15/72606)
2. Subdivision Design Response Plan (D15/76302)
3. Draft Planning Permit 14/0287 (D15/73692)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Status:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of a Section 96A combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit application for the rezoning and subdivision of land at 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc.

Summary

The proponent, St Quentin Consulting Pty Ltd on behalf of Great Ocean Road Projects Pty Ltd, has requested the consideration of a Section 96A planning scheme amendment and planning permit application to rezone land at 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc from Farming Zone to Low Density Residential Zone to allow for the subdivision of the land into sixteen lots.

Recommendation

That Council seek Ministerial authorisation to prepare and exhibit the Section 96A planning scheme amendment and planning permit application to rezone and subdivide land at 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc.

3.2 Amendment C99 and Application 14/0287 - Rezoning and Subdivision of 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc

Report

Background

The proponent, St Quentin Consulting Pty Ltd on behalf of Great Ocean Road Projects Pty Ltd, has requested the consideration of a Section 96A planning scheme amendment and planning permit application to rezone land at 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc from Farming Zone (FZ) to Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ) to allow for the subdivision of the land into sixteen lots.

Discussion

The subject site is located on the south-west corner of Great Ocean Road and Bells Boulevard. It has an area of 10.3ha and contains an existing dwelling, associated outbuildings and tennis court. The land consists primarily of grazed paddocks and stands of planted non-native trees. A small patch of remnant vegetation is located in the south-east corner. The site is currently included in the Farming Zone and is partially affected by the Vegetation Protection Overlay Schedule 1 (VPO1).



The planning scheme amendment seeks to:

- Rezone the land from Farming Zone to Low Density Residential Zone.
- Amend Clause 21.08 to delete the first dot point under “Undertaking further strategic work” and to modify Map 1 Torquay-Jan Juc Framework Map to replace the designation “Future Low Density Residential” with “Low Density Residential”.

The planning permit application seeks approval for:

- Staged subdivision of the land and associated works
- Removal of native vegetation (to provide new road access to the subdivided site).

Each lot will have a minimum area of 4,000m² (0.4ha) and is provided with a building envelope and effluent disposal envelope. It is proposed to retain the existing dwelling within Lot 1. Access to the subdivision would be provided via new internal roads with a single access point from Bells Boulevard. Access off the Great Ocean Road is not supported by VicRoads. Landscape buffers will be provided along Great Ocean Road and Bells Boulevard and a 5,094m² reserve is proposed in the south-east corner of the site, which will accommodate an existing dam and the patch of remnant vegetation.

The proposal is consistent with Clause 21.08 Torquay-Jan Juc Strategy of the Surf Coast Planning Scheme, which identifies the land as being within the settlement boundary and recommends investigation into the rezoning of the land for low density residential use. The LDRZ requires a minimum lot size of 0.4ha in the absence of reticulated sewerage and each lot should be capable of treating and retaining all wastewater.

Financial Implications

This privately driven amendment requires the proponent to cover all statutory costs relating to processing the amendment and planning permit application, including any panel costs.

3.2 Amendment C99 and Application 14/0287 - Rezoning and Subdivision of 305 Great Ocean Road, Jan Juc

Council Plan

Theme 5 Development and Growth
Objective 5.4 Transparent and responsive land use and strategic planning
Strategy 5.4.2 Utilise structure plans and planning processes to encourage a diversity of housing stock across the Shire.

Policy/Legal Implications

The processing of the Section 96A amendment request and planning permit application is legislated by the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Ministerial Direction Number 11 and the Surf Coast Planning Scheme provide a range of policy directions that need to be considered when testing the merits of the proposal, including the strategic justification, consistency with State and local policy, and the social, environmental and economic impacts.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

There are no risks to council associated with exhibited this amendment and planning permit.

Social Considerations

The development will increase the availability of low density residential lots in a desirable location.

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been undertaken to date. Upon authorisation by the Minister, the combined amendment and permit application will be placed on public exhibition for a period of one month in accordance with the legislative requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Environmental Implications

A land capability assessment was prepared to assess environmental risks associated with wastewater disposal.

The flora and fauna assessment prepared to support the application identifies that the site is mostly highly modified with remnant vegetation limited to the south-east corner of the site and the road reserves. A small amount of native vegetation is proposed to be removed to facilitate road access to the site. Appropriate offsets are nominated and the majority of remnant vegetation will be preserved in a reserve, with further planting to be provided within the landscape buffers.

A due diligence cultural heritage assessment undertaken for the site shows that the site is not within an area of cultural heritage sensitivity and is unlikely to contain any Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The site is not affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay, however a Bushfire Development Report was prepared to address any bushfire risk.

Communication

Affected landowners will receive notice of the combined amendment / permit application in the mail and notices will be placed in the Surf Coast Times and Government Gazette at the commencement of the public exhibition period in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The amendment will be available for viewing at the Council offices and on the Council and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) websites.

Conclusion

It is considered that the proposal is consistent with State and local policy in the Surf Coast Planning Scheme. The merits of the application should appropriately be tested through the amendment and planning permit application process. It is therefore recommended that Council seek Ministerial authorisation to prepare and exhibit Planning Scheme Amendment C99 and the associated planning permit application.

3.3 Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund Applications

Author's Title: Manager Economic Development & Tourism

General Manager: Kate Sullivan

Department: Planning & Environment

File No: F15/96

Division: Environment & Development

Trim No: IC15/159

Appendix:

Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To note the applications to be submitted under Regional Development Victoria's Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund.

Summary

There is an opportunity to submit a number of applications under a new Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (RJIF) program to enhance the project outcomes and reduce the financial cost to Council. The applications currently applicable to the funding are listed below. All applications will be submitted under the Rural Development stream (the only stream that contains planning money).

- Torquay CBD Urban Design: This project has \$50,000 in the current budget and will focus on the urban design and access requirements for Torquay's CBD. Council will seek \$50,000 under the Rural Development stream to boost the total project to \$100,000.
- Rural Hinterland Strategy: The project will produce a strategy for Surf Coast Shire's Hinterland area and in doing so identify the Hinterlands economic value, identify issues and opportunities and undertake a local food program. Council has \$28,500 budgeted for this project and will seek \$50,000 under the Rural Development stream to boost the total project to \$78,500.
- Torquay Visitor Surf Experience: Analysis/ research into the experience required to ensure the ANSM and Torquay is a distinctive destination of national appeal. This work will build upon earlier work undertaken on the 'Surf City' precinct. Council has \$30,000 budgeted for this project and will seek \$50,000 under the Rural Development stream to boost the total project to \$80,000.

The programs remain open however it is viewed as an advantage to submit applications as early as possible.

Recommendation

That Council note the applications to be submitted under the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund seeking \$50,000 for the Torquay CBD Urban Design Project, \$50,000 for the Economic Value of the Hinterland Project and \$50,000 for the Torquay Visitor Surf Experience Project.

3.3 Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund Applications

Report

Background

In July 2015 Regional Development Victoria released its new Regional Jobs and Infrastructure program. The RJIF is the Victorian Government's \$500 million overarching regional development package. It will invest in growing jobs, building infrastructure and strengthening communities in regional Victoria.

The overarching program is categorised into three funding streams:

- A \$250m Regional Infrastructure Fund
- A \$200m Regional Jobs Fund
- A \$50m Stronger Regional Communities Plan.

The above applications will be submitted under the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF). This program has a funding cap of \$50,000 for strategic projects with a possible funding ratio of 2:1. Under the RIF the most applicable funding stream is the Rural Development program, this provisions for planning/ research type projects. A number of discussions have been held with RDV to test suitability with each project receiving a positive response. The competitive nature of the process should be noted and funding is not guaranteed.

Discussion

Torquay CBD Urban Design project: This project will build upon the Commercial Market Sounding report currently underway (phase 1) and involve an analysis of high level design principles to create a greater sense of place in the Torquay CBD. Effective way finding and access to create better connectivity between Gilbert Street and surrounding precincts will also be considered. The project will focus on outcomes that do not adversely impact on Torquay's character and environmental values.

The rationale for undertaking the project is to ensure Torquay's CBD is able to provide for the needed job creation as a result of population growth, remain a key visitor destination and balance the desire to retain a coastal village feel.

Council has budgeted \$50,000 for the project which can be matched \$1 to \$1 to create a \$100,000 project. The \$50,000 cap does not enable funds to be secured on a 2:1 basis beyond a contribution of \$50,000.

Rural Hinterland Strategy: This project comprises 3 stages and funding is being sought for Stage 2 to develop a Rural Hinterland Strategy.

Stage 1 involves developing principles and a land use profile both of these elements have been developed with input from the Environment and Rural Advisory Panel (ERAP). The development of an in house survey to collect data on the land use profile is being rolled out based on an engagement approach suggest by ERAP.

Stage 2 (this project) involves producing an Economic Value of the Rural Hinterland study, developing an Issues & Opportunities paper and finally bringing all this work together from Stage 1 and 2 into a Local Food Program and Strategic Direction & Implementation Plan. These documents will form the basis of the Rural Hinterland Strategy being developed.

Stage 3 of the work will include the development of a prospectus for the rural hinterland area to outline the types of uses to be encouraged in this area. The Hinterland area comprises far more than standard agricultural activity with boutique tourism operations, cafes and restaurants, food production and others emerging. These agricultural and boutique tourism operations can play an important buffer role to residential growth as well as generate higher value add activity.

Council has budgeted \$28,500 for Stage 2 which can secure up to \$50,000 from state government to create a \$78,500 project.

Torquay Visitor Surf Experience: This project will focus on the surf experience visitors receive in Torquay and the role the ANSM can play in being a major destination in its own right. Experts in tourism product will undertake an analysis of national visitor experiences and identify required attributes a surf experience of similar standing would require. The Torquay Visitor Surf Experience project will build upon historical work undertaken.

3.3 Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund Applications

In 2014 Council completed the 'Australian Surf Capital Project'. The project identified key brand outcomes which included Council adopting the "Home of Australian Surfing" and 'Start of the Great Ocean Road' for Torquay. The project also had a focus on seeking to achieve surfing oriented development outcomes including the potential of an upgraded ANSM.

- Significant redevelopments have been undertaken to the major surf retail brands that front the precinct including Quiksilver, Rip Curl, Blunt and Strapper retail stores. These major redevelopments total several million dollars.
- The "Home of Australian Surfing" and "Start of the Great Ocean Road" brands have been identified in regional strategy documents and Destination Action Plans completed by Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Ltd as well as the action to enhance the ANSM experience.
- The Economic value of the surf industry has been quantified providing insight into Surf Coast Shires unique economic drivers and raising the profile of the sector at State and Federal levels of government.
- An internal refurbishment of the Torquay Visitor Centre has been completed enhancing the layout and interaction with the ANSM.
- A Surf Industry Implementation Group has been initiated. The group consists of 12 surf industry businesses which have expressed a strong desire to provide input on projects (including the ANSM).

Council has budgeted \$30,000 for this project and will seek \$50,000 to create an \$80,000 project.

Financial Implications

Council has budgeted the following amounts:

Torquay CBD Urban Design: \$50,000
Economic Value of the Rural Hinterland: \$28,500
Torquay Visitor Surf Experience: \$30,000

Securing of the various funding amounts will reduce the financial burden on Council and achieve a greater project outcome.

Council Plan

Theme 5 Development and Growth
Objective 5.3 Develop and grow sustainable year round tourism
Strategy Nil

Theme 5 Development and Growth
Objective 5.3 Develop and grow sustainable year round tourism
Strategy 5.3.8 Investigate opportunities of expanding the Australian National Surfing Museum as an integrated experience.

Theme 5 Development and Growth
Objective 5.2 Encourage sustainable economic development and growth
Strategy Nil

Policy/Legal Implications

Applications will need to be submitted to Regional Development Victoria. This process is competitive and funds are not guaranteed to be received. If successful, funding agreements will need to be signed for each.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

Failure to secure funding will result in a diminished ability to undertake the project. To minimise this several meetings have been held with RDV staff to discuss the various projects' suitability for funding.

3.3 Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund Applications

Social Considerations

The projects involve several considerations including the look and feel of the Torquay CBD, the role of the Hinterland and the surf experience received in an enhanced ANSM. These social considerations will be part of the community consultation processes.

Community Engagement

This report does not require consultation beyond discussions with funding departments. Once started, each project will involve community consultation on differing levels.

Environmental Implications

The Economic Value of the Hinterland project will recognise the economic importance of achieving the right outcomes in the hinterland area. This will then be fed into the Hinterland Strategy.

The Torquay CBD Urban design project will include elements of building heights and various development sites which involve visual amenity.

Communication

Applications will be finalised and submitted. If successful Council will work with the funding body to announce the projects and work with the various stakeholders in their implementation.

Conclusion

Regional Development Victoria recently released the new Regional Jobs and Infrastructure funding program. The program enables Council to leverage budgeted funds to achieve more significant outcomes. The Regional Development stream is the most appropriate avenue to seek funding as it provides for planning type projects.

Three applications are identified for noting by Council being:

- Torquay CBD Urban Design
- Economic Value of the Rural Hinterland; and
- Torquay Visitor Surf Experience

3.4 Petition Requesting Council Support for an ALDI Supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay

Author's Title: Senior Strategic Planner
Department: Planning & Development
Division: Environment & Development

General Manager: Kate Sullivan
File No: F15/710
Trim No: IC15/146

Appendix:

Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Yes

No

Status:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To respond to the petition received and noted by Council at the August Council meeting in relation to support for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay.

Summary

A petition seeking support for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay has been received and noted by Council.

In response to the petition it is proposed to:

- Include the author of the petition on the list of persons to be notified when the application for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay is placed on public exhibition.
- Advise the author of the petition that in order for submissions to the proposal to be formally considered as part of the planning process, the petition and any other submissions need to be resubmitted to Council during the public exhibition period.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Include the author of the petition on the list of persons to be notified when the application for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay is placed on public exhibition.
2. Advise the author of the petition that in order for submissions to the proposal to be formally considered as part of the planning process, the petition and any other submissions need to be resubmitted to Council during the public exhibition period.

3.4 Petition Requesting Council Support for an ALDI Supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay

Report

Background

A petition seeking support for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay has been received and noted by Council.

Discussion

Development of an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay would require the rezoning of land and a planning permit for buildings and works. The planning system has a formal process for considering public submissions made to the responsible authority in regards to a planning application. Council has not yet placed any application for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue on public exhibition. Council resolved to exhibit a joint amendment and planning permit application in May 2015 but before exhibition commenced the application was withdrawn as the applicant needed to resolve some issues identified by Council regarding that proposal.

ALDI Stores P/L has recently made a new application to develop a supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay (different layout and plan) and Council will need to consider whether to place this application on public exhibition.

In response to the petition it is proposed to:

- Include the author of the petition on the list of persons to be notified when the application for an ALDI supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay is placed on public exhibition.
- Advise the author of the petition that in order for submissions to the proposal to be formally considered as part of the planning process, the petition and any other submissions need to be resubmitted to Council during the public exhibition period.

Financial Implications

There are no significant costs associated with the proposed course of action.

Council Plan

Not applicable.

Policy/Legal Implications

Submissions to planning applications must be made through the formal public exhibition process governed by provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

Not applicable.

Social Considerations

Not applicable.

Community Engagement

Submissions to planning applications must be made through the formal public exhibition process governed by provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Communication

The author of the petition will be contacted and advised on the Council resolution and process for future submissions to planning applications.

3.4 Petition Requesting Council Support for an ALDI Supermarket in Rudd Avenue, Torquay

Conclusion

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* sets out a clear process for consideration of submissions to planning applications. It is appropriate to advise the author of the petition of the process that needs to be followed to allow a future petition to be considered by Council on this matter.

3.5 Review of Visitor Servicing in Great Ocean Road Region

Author's Title: Manager Economic Development & Tourism

General Manager: Kate Sullivan

Department: Planning & Environment

File No: F15/1008

Division: Environment & Development

Trim No: IC15/163

Appendix:

Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To allocate \$10,000 from the unallocated cash reserve towards the Review of Visitor Servicing in Great Ocean Road Project to be conducted by Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism.

Summary

As part of a collaborative regional approach to visitor servicing Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism (GORRT) intend to undertake a review of existing visitor services.

The review is to involve all municipalities in the Great Ocean Road Region with a view of developing an innovative, fully integrated approach to visitor service delivery.

Surf Coast Shire has significant Visitor Information Centres (VIC's) facilities in Torquay and Lorne with smaller facilities in Anglesea and Winchelsea. Combined, these VIC's received almost 310,000 information requests in the 2014/ 2015 year. As such Surf Coast Shires involvement in a regional approach will be important.

The project compliments the review on VIC's to be undertaken by Council which has a more internal focus.

In participating in the regional project it is recommended a contribution of \$10,000 be made by Surf Coast Shire. Financial commitments are being made by other council's in the Great Ocean Road Region to a similar amount.

Recommendation

That Council allocate \$10,000 from the unallocated cash reserve towards the Review of Visitor Servicing in Great Ocean Road Project conducted by Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism.

3.5 Review of Visitor Servicing in Great Ocean Road Region

Report

Background

The Great Ocean Road region, stretching from Torquay in the east, to the South Australian border in the west is a significant national and international visitor destination. It attracts over five million visitors annually, significantly more than other Australian destinations such as Uluru or the Great Barrier Reef.

Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Ltd (the regional tourism body) wishes to seek Expressions of Interest from consultants to develop an innovative, fully integrated approach to visitor service delivery for the Great Ocean Road region.

Funding has been requested from all Councils in the Great Ocean Road Region.

Discussion

Visitor Information Centres (VIC's) in the Great Ocean Road Region are part of a state-wide network and have strong strategic relationships with VIC's along the internationally marketed Great Southern Touring and Melbourne – Adelaide touring routes.

The accredited VIC network is supported by a collection of information hubs and non-accredited information centres that are funded and supported in most cases by local government. These information centres are generally located in inland towns and gateways, have more limited opening hours and generally service a lower volume of visitors (eg. the Winchelsea VIC which is only open a few days each week).

The VIC network in the Great Ocean Road Region is summarised as follows:

Surf Coast Shire: Torquay, Lorne (accredited) and Anglesea, Winchelsea (non- accredited).

Colac Otway Shire: Apollo Bay, Colac

City of Warrnambool: Warrnambool - Flagstaff Hill

Corangamite Shire: Port Campbell

Moyne Shire: Port Fairy

Glenelg Shire: Portland

Surf Coast Shire's VIC's are recognised as being some of the most frequently visited in Victoria. In 2014 Lorne VIC received over 179,000 visits and Torquay over 113,000 visits. Total visits for all four VIC's was approximately 310,000 for the same period. Given their position at the eastern end of the Great Ocean Road Region the strong majority of information requests are for destinations beyond Surf Coast Shire. Therefore there is merit in participating in a regional review.

Within Surf Coast Shire, all VIC's are funded and operated by Council (incorporating funds raised under the Commercial and Differential Rate).

By working collaboratively on VIC's, enhancements can be achieved in terms of visitor servicing. In developing a best practice model for servicing the Great Ocean Road Region the review will encompass four key components.

- Explore the role and form of VIC's and visitor information;
- Explore the type, location and availability of visitor services;
- Determine opportunities to service visitors at the various stages of the trip cycle to maximise conversion, yield, length of stay and dispersal; and
- Explore the commercial opportunities within visitor servicing.

It will be requested that the project explore best practice national and/or international examples of visitor/customer servicing models both within and external to the tourism sector.

3.5 Review of Visitor Servicing in Great Ocean Road Region

In line with this the objectives of the Visitor Servicing Review project are to:

1. Undertake a review of existing visitor servicing arrangements across the region to form a base line for assessment of strengths/weaknesses of future proposals. This will include data on operations and financials, as well as some analysis of capital and physical assets, labour and recurrent expenditure.
2. Position the Great Ocean Road Region as an innovative provider of visitor services with an integrated network of highly commercial visitor centres, and a strong online presence.
3. Identify a best practice model which is highly innovative to meet future visitor servicing needs across the region. This should have a strong focus on commercial opportunities, product development, a whole of region approach, as well as on meeting the projected requirements of future visitors.

A distinct, separate project for Corangamite Shire will be undertaken at the same time as the 'Review'. Surf Coast Shire's financial contribution will be confined towards the above project and will not contribute to the below objective.

4. Use Port Campbell as a potential location to establish the approach identified in the best practice model, and provide a business case to support the development of a new Visitor Information Centre and associated online presence which includes opportunities for commercial return through retail, tourism product offering etc.

In addition, Council intends to undertake a service review of VIC's within Surf Coast Shire this financial year to ensure resources are reflective of the needs of the VIC's. The two projects complement each other with relevant information collected in the Council review being able to be fed into the more regional approach to be undertaken by GORRT and vice versa.

Financial Implications

The proposed \$10,000 contribution has not been allocated in the 2015/ 2016 budget. Council would need to endorse the funding which would come from the unallocated cash reserve.

Council Plan

Theme 5 Development and Growth
Objective 5.3 Develop and grow sustainable year round tourism
Strategy 5.3.5 Encourage collaboration with all tourism businesses, associations and Great Ocean Road Tourism.

Policy/Legal Implications

There are no legal implications.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Officer involved in writing this report has a conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

Not participating in the regional review would impact on Council's Visitor Information Centres to provide the best level of visitor services available from a visitor perspective.

Social Considerations

The effective servicing of visitors forms an important component of boosting yield. This study will identify a best practice model for servicing visitors.

Community Engagement

This report carries no requirement for community engagement. Engagement with identified relevant stakeholders will be undertaken once the project commences.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental considerations within this report.

Communication

GORRT as the project lead will involve all relevant stakeholders and coordinate a communications plan to roll out the project. Council as a participant will form a key part of the consultation process.

3.5 Review of Visitor Servicing in Great Ocean Road Region

Conclusion

GORRT intend to undertake a regional review of VIC's for the region. There is merit in undertaking a regional approach as this will enhance collaboration with other destinations and service delivery for visitors.

An allocation for the project was not placed in the 2015/ 2016 budget and as such a contribution would need to be made from the unallocated cash reserve. It is recommended a contribution of \$10,000 be provided towards the project, representing a similar contribution to other councils.

3.6 Victoria's Renewable Energy Roadmap

Author's Title: Manager Environment & Community Safety

General Manager: Kate Sullivan

Department: Planning & Environment

File No: F15/1357

Division: Environment & Development

Trim No: IC15/307

Appendix:

1. Council submission to the Renewable Energy Roadmap - September 2015 (D15/79732)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To endorse a submission to the State Government on the Renewable Energy Roadmap.

Summary

On 21 August 2015 the State Government released a Renewable Energy Roadmap to commence a formal community discussion on the future of renewable energy in Victoria. Council recently wrote to Premier Andrews requesting that such a discussion occur. The Roadmap includes an overall objective of: "Accelerating development of renewable energy generation in Victoria to reduce emissions, create jobs, and put downward pressure on energy prices".

Council has found the Surf Coast community strongly supports renewable energy. Our Council Plan 2013 – 2017 includes a commitment to work with the community to reduce emissions and explore alternative energy opportunities. The Roadmap states that the government is committed to a renewable energy target of no less than 20 per cent by 2020 and as part of public consultation on the Roadmap, the Government is asking for community feedback on what the 2020 and 2025 targets should be.

This report recommends that Council makes the attached submission on the Renewable Energy Roadmap which supports overall objective and priority areas in the Roadmap and encourages Victoria to achieve a target higher than 20% by 2020. The submission advises the State that Council is willing to explore how our Council and community could collaborate with the State to create new renewable energy generation capacity while also creating the clean energy jobs of the future and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. Submissions on the Roadmap close on 30 September 2015.

Recommendation

That Council endorse the attached submission to the State Government on the Renewable Energy Roadmap.

3.6 Victoria's Renewable Energy Roadmap

Report

Background

On 21 August 2015 the State Government released a Renewable Energy Roadmap to commence a formal community discussion on the future of renewable energy in Victoria. Council recently wrote to Premier Andrews requesting that such a discussion occur.

The Roadmap includes:

- An overall objective of: "Accelerating development of renewable energy generation in Victoria to reduce emissions, create jobs, and put downward pressure on energy prices".
- Four priority areas:
 1. Transformation in the wholesale electricity market toward renewable energy.
 2. Reducing barriers to continued development of distributed generation and energy storage.
 3. Encouraging household and community development of renewable generation, products and services.
 4. Government support for renewable energy development, with a focus on job creation in Victoria.
- Using the Government's electricity purchasing power to support the creation of hundreds of renewable energy jobs
- Ending unfair discrimination and improving access to the grid for solar customers
- Supporting clean energy jobs through the \$20 million New Energy Jobs Fund

Public consultation on the Roadmap will feed into the development of a Renewable Energy Action Plan, which will set long-term actions to drive renewable energy investment in Victoria.

Discussion

Council has found the Surf Coast community strongly supports renewable energy. Our Council Plan 2013 – 2017 includes a commitment to work with the community to reduce emissions and explore alternative energy opportunities. We have community groups currently working closely with Council to develop projects of their own. Council also worked successfully with community groups to secure federal Solar Towns grants for solar panels on two community recreation facilities. Council has also obtained solar panel feasibility assessments and completed energy efficiency audits for key Council facilities.

The Roadmap states that the government is committed to a renewable energy target of no less than 20 per cent by 2020 and as part of public consultation on the Roadmap, the Government is asking for community feedback on what the 2020 and 2025 targets should be. Compared to Victoria's current 12% generation from renewables, South Australia generates 36% of its energy from renewables and has updated its target to 50% of its energy from renewables by 2025 and the ACT has set a target of 90% by 2020.

This report recommends that Council encourage Victoria to achieve a target higher than 20% by 2020 and is willing to explore how our Council and community could collaborate with the state government to do that while also creating clean energy jobs of the future and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

Financial Implications

There are no immediate financial implications from Council endorsing the recommendations in this report.

Council Plan

Theme 1 Environment
Objective 1.2 Pursue alternative energies
Strategy 1.2.2 Support community programs that aim to make solar power accessible and cost-effective for residents and businesses.

Theme 1 Environment
Objective 1.2 Pursue alternative energies
Strategy 1.2.1 Investigate the viability (practicality, efficiency, effectiveness) of alternative sources of sustainable power across council owned buildings.

Policy/Legal Implications

There is no policy or legal ramifications from Council endorsing the recommendations.

3.6 Victoria's Renewable Energy Roadmap

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

There are reputational risks if Council does not endorse the recommendations. Council has committed to pursuing alternative energy and leadership in innovative environmental practices. Council recently wrote to the Premier advising Council's opposition to unconventional gas and seeking that State and Local Government collaborate more to develop renewable energy generation in Victoria.

Social Considerations

The Roadmap's key objective is to accelerate the development of renewable energy generation in Victoria to reduce emissions, create jobs, and put downward pressure on energy prices. These outcomes are positive for our community.

Community Engagement

The Renewable Energy Roadmap marks the commencement of a formal community discussion on the future of renewable energy in Victoria. Our attached submission offers Council support for community engagement in the Surf Coast community.

Environmental Implications

The Roadmap's key objective is to accelerate the development of renewable energy generation in Victoria to reduce greenhouse gas emissions which is an environmental improvement.

Communication

If Council endorses the recommendations in this report then the attached submission will be sent to the State Government and this will be promoted to the public using the usual communication methods. The Surf Coast Energy Group will be contacted directly to advise them of Council's decision.

Conclusion

Council has found the Surf Coast community strongly supports renewable energy. Our Council Plan 2013 – 2017 includes a commitment to work with the community to reduce emissions and explore alternative energy opportunities. The Roadmap states that the government is committed to a renewable energy target of no less than 20 per cent by 2020 and as part of public consultation on the Roadmap, the Government is asking for community feedback on what the 2020 and 2025 targets should be.

This report recommends that Council makes the attached submission on the Renewable Energy Roadmap which supports overall objective and priority areas in the Roadmap and encourages Victoria to achieve a target higher than 20% by 2020. The submission advises the State that Council is willing to explore how our Council and community could collaborate with the State to create new renewable energy generation capacity while also creating the clean energy jobs of the future and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

4. CULTURE & COMMUNITY

4.1 MAV State Council Motions 23 October 2015

Author's Title: Manager Community Relations

General Manager: Chris Pike

Department: Community

File No: F15/1007

Division: Culture & Community

Trim No: IC15/175

Appendix:

1. State Council Motion - Template 23 October 2015 (D15/73702)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To adopt Council's motions for the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting on 23 October 2015.

Summary

Council is again presented with the opportunity to put forward motions to the MAV State Council. The MAV State Council is MAV members' opportunity to raise motions of business for consideration by the MAV to progress them as advocacy actions and to inform the MAV's strategic work plan.

Recommendation

That Council put the following motions to the MAV State Council Meeting:

1. That the MAV and the Local Government Sector formalise support for the State Government's renewable energy target.
2. That the MAV call on the Minister for Local Government and the Essential Services Commission to recognise the differing needs of rural, regional and urban councils and make allowance for these needs when finalising the rate capping framework.

4.1 MAV State Council Motions 23 October 2015

Report

Background

The MAV State Council provides member Councils the opportunity twice annually to put forward motions to guide MAV's advocacy priorities and inform the MAV strategic work plan.

All MAV member Councils have the opportunity to put forward motions at the State Council meeting. An electronic voting system determines the motions with the highest support to prioritise the work of the MAV.

At the State Council meeting on 15 May 2015, Surf Coast Shire Council put forward the following motions:

1. That the MAV State Council encourages councils to ban circuses with caged wild animals from performing within their municipality.

This motion was considered at the May meeting with the motions by other Victorian municipalities, however the motion was not carried.

Discussion

MAV State Council motions may not have an immediate impact to the operation of Councils who put them forward. However, the MAV is an influential organisation and Council should seek to leverage MAV's ability to advocate on our behalf for issues of regional and state significance.

An analysis of recent Council decisions has informed the October MAV State Council motions.

Surf Coast Shire Council has strongly opposed unconventional gas exploration for several years. Council has used many channels to voice its opposition to unconventional gas exploration including a putting forward a motion that was carried at the MAV State Council Meeting in October 2014.

MAV's submission to the inquiry into unconventional gas in Victoria in July 2015 drew extensively on reports prepared by the Surf Coast Shire Council. This MAV submission opposed any exploration and production of onshore unconventional gas in Victoria pending definitive evidence that the social and environmental impacts of such activity will not be detrimental; there is an appropriate level of community support; and there is a best practice regulatory framework in place to ensure protection of the environment, local communities, industries and private property rights. The MAV also called on the Victorian Government to focus its efforts on developing Victoria's renewable energy sector.

As well as opposing unconventional gas, Council is increasingly aware of the need to promote renewable energy. Surf Coast Shire Council has set a target to reduce the organisation's carbon emissions target between 2010 and 2020. The Local Government sector can play a lead role in supporting and achieving the Stat Government's renewable energy target

The issue of rate capping will have sector wide implications. The MAV has actively campaigned that the application of the rate capping framework needs careful consideration including the need to understand the unique characteristics and needs of individual councils. Surf Coast Shire Council has provided formal submissions and discussed this issue with the Essential Services Commission (ESC). This has included a written response to the ESC in April and a submission to the "Draft Report - A blueprint for change - local government rates capping & variation framework review" in August 2015.

Surf Coast Shire has encouraged the ESC to understand that each council's circumstances are different and must be accounted for in the development of its respective rating framework. Surf Coast Shire has a unique natural environment, is amongst the fastest growing Council's in the state, and is a premier tourist destination attracting over 1.8 million visitors a year. The shire population almost quadruples during the peak summer period. Other key points raised in Surf Coast Shire's advocacy to date on this issue include:

1. Councils should be encouraged to request a variation if needed.
2. The State Government should make it clear that the cap is not an absolute and remove any stigma of applying for a variation.
3. Supplementary rates need to be annualized.
4. There needs to be an adequate transition period to assist councils to adjust to new circumstances.
5. Councils should pursue efficiency gains without a mandatory efficiency factor.
6. Significant increases in the State Government's Fire Services Levy at the same time of rate capping seems inconsistent and confusing and should be reviewed.

4.1 MAV State Council Motions 23 October 2015

Financial Implications

The State Government's rate capping framework will have a significant financial impact to Council. The ESC draft report preview a potential rate cap near 3% per annum. This would reduce Council income by approximately \$100million over 15 years compared with recent long term financial planning.

Council Plan

Theme 2 Governance

Objective 2.6 Advocate on behalf of our community

Strategy Nil

Theme 2 Governance

Objective 2.2 High performing accountable organisation

Strategy 2.2.5 Make better use of MAV / VLGA and other peak bodies to progress issues of interest to the Surf Coast community.

Theme 1 Environment

Objective 1.1 Preserve and enhance the natural environment

Strategy 1.1.4 Council to continue to advocate to all relevant political parties (unconventional gas exploration) unless and until there is a clear community mandate to proceed.

Theme 1 Environment

Objective 1.3 Leadership in innovative environmental practices

Strategy Nil

Policy/Legal Implications

Advocating via the MAV is an effective way to influence Government policy.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

No significant risks are likely by determining the MAV State Council motions. This risk of not determining MAV state Council motions is an opportunity could be missed to advocate on behalf of the Surf Coast community.

Social Considerations

Nil at this stage.

Community Engagement

The proposed MAV State Council motions are informed by the community engagement work undertaken since the previous State Council Meeting in May 2015.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications by determining the MAV State Council motions. Support for the recommended motion 1 will contribute to achieving positive outcomes for the environment.

Communication

The motion will be communicated to the MAV via email. Council will communicate the MAV State Council motion to the community via communication channels which may include Groundswell, website and media articles.

Conclusion

The recommended motions are significant issues that affect Surf Coast Shire. Putting forward these motions to the MAV State Council is an effective way for Council to leverage MAV's ability to advocate on our behalf.

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

Author's Title: Open Space Planning Coordinator

General Manager: Chris Pike

Department: Leisure & Wellbeing

File No: F14/1370

Division: Culture & Community

Trim No: IC15/17

Appendix:

1. Open Space Strategy 2015 -2025 (Draft) (D15/74156)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To exhibit the Draft Open Space Strategy 2015 – 2025.

Summary

A review of Council's current Open Space Strategy (2004) document commenced in October 2014. The review is jointly funded by Council and Sport and Recreation Victoria's Community Facilities Funding Program.

The project consists of six stages allowing for input from across the organisation and the broader community at key milestone points. In January 2015 an Issues and Opportunities discussion paper was brought to Council for exhibition. The paper was exhibited for a six week period and it received a good cross section of responses from the community across all townships. The outcomes of the community feedback was then used to facilitate two workshops aimed at developing a vision and direction for the draft strategy. The first was with key external stakeholders and the second was with EMT and Councillors. The outcomes of the first exhibition period and workshops along with a gaps analysis of open space supply across the precincts has helped form the outcomes, recommendations and action plan in the draft Open Space Strategy document 2015 - 2025.

Exhibition of this draft document, internal workshops with key staff and open house session in four townships covering the precincts is the next step in the process of finalising the Open Space Strategy document.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Exhibit the Draft Open Space Strategy 2015 -2025 for a period of 4 weeks from 5 October 2015 – 30 October 2015.
2. Note the final version of the Strategy will be presented at a future meeting of Council.

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

Report

Background

The Open Space Strategy is the key strategic corporate document relating to open space within Surf Coast Shire. The current strategy was adopted in 2004. A review and development of a new strategy document was jointly funded by Council and Sport and Recreation Victoria's Community Facilities Funding Program in 2013/2014. The project commenced in October 2014 and consists of six stages:

- Stage 1 – Project clarification and inception
- Stage 2 – Issues and Opportunities – background analysis
- Stage 3 – Consultation (stage A) including a workshop with Councillors
- Stage 4 – Draft Strategy
- Stage 5 – Consultation (Stage B) including public exhibition of the draft strategy, internal workshops and public open house sessions
- Stage 6 – Final Open Space Strategy Document

The first 4 stages of the project are complete and there are two stages remaining including the public exhibition period and final adoption. It is estimated that the final report will be presented to Council for adoption at the December 2015 meeting.

Discussion

In February 2015 Council endorsed the public exhibition of an Issues and Opportunities paper for the Open Space Strategy 2015 – 2025 for a six week period. Feedback was received from all townships across a variety of demographic groups. 75 responses were received contributing of 1 telephone conversation.

Of the surveys completed:

- 77% were permanent residents, 17% non-permanent, 6% no response.
- 47% were male, 53% female
- 27% were aged between 25 - 49 years, 33% were aged between 50 – 64 years and 39% were 65+ years.
- 20 responses were from Aireys Inlet, 15 responses were from Torquay, 10 responses were from Anglesea, 6 responses were from Winchelsea, 5 responses were from Lorne, 4 responses were from Jan Juc, 1 response from Bellbrae and 1 response from Moriac.

The feedback was analysed and a list of the top five responses in order of importance were collated for discussion. These were:

1. Beach and bush both highly regarded
2. Access to 'nearby' open space is key
3. A connected network
4. Quality Open space provision
5. Dogs in open space (loved and loathed)

Direction and Visioning workshops

The feedback on the issues and opportunities discussion paper was then used as the basis for two workshops to assist with development of the key directions, guiding principles and vision for the Open Space Strategy 2015 – 2025. One workshop was held with the executive management team (EMT) and Councillors and the other with the key external agencies including:

- Department of Environment, Land Water & Planning (DELWP)
- Parks Victoria (PV)
- Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC)
- Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA)
- Department of Transport Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI).

These workshops were held in April – May 2015 and were facilitated by the Consultant Ross Planning Pty Ltd.

Following the workshop the Consultant commenced the development of the draft Surf Coast Shire Open Space Strategy 2015 – 2025 document.

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

Key directions and actions

The draft open space strategy provides a combined background analysis and action plan in the one document. It contains 33 actions in the action plan which have been prioritised as high (1 - 2 yrs), medium (2 - 5yrs) or Ongoing (1 - 10yrs). These actions fall into four distinct categories:

1. Policies
2. Management and operational processes
3. Partnerships, funding and budgets
4. Recreation and parks planning and delivery

All the actions can be reviewed in the attached draft document (Appendix 1). However the following are considered future directions which are fundamental to the future of open space in the Shire and have arisen consistently through the consultation and community needs analysis phases of the project.

It is considered these may also be of particular interest to Councillors and or some members/sectors of the Community.

Council resources - Funding

The draft strategy document explores the various funding mechanisms used for open space development and renewal. It also highlights the ability of these available funds to deliver and the likely pressure that is to come on available funds in the coming economic environment with rate capping.

The Draft Strategy identifies the current capital and renewal expenditure on open space and its division between formal recreation areas and natural areas as a percentage of the overall Council budget (averaged over the past ten years). In the discussion it highlights that compared to other similar Council's the current allocation is lower than desirable and the distribution between open space types and services does not align with current community priorities. It also points to the need for Council to seek alternative apportionment of its available resources. It makes several clear recommendations in relation to this which could impact on the Council budget process, allocation and current service levels for specific facilities.

- Council consider an increased target percentage of the overall budget for both renewal and capital works for open space including actions resulting from existing or future master and precinct plans.
- Council consider an individual budget allocation per annum for precinct planning of our open spaces.
- Council consider a re-apportionment of existing funds between Recreation (including playgrounds) facilities and nature reserves. This change however should result in no net loss of existing funding available.

Master planning

Council has recently developed a more robust framework to guide the development, implementation and prioritisation process of masterplans and their actions. Council has also undertaken an inventory of all the actions currently outstanding from its existing 29 masterplans and noted a considerable sum of outstanding works not currently budgeted for. Implementation of the all actions arising from the Masterplan work demonstrates that it is beyond both Council's and the community's ability to fund a in the short to medium or even long term. As a result the draft open space strategy recommends:

- Council should not undertake any new masterplans until the short and medium term recommendations from previous plans have either been completed or if no longer relevant removed from consideration. Once this is complete Council should only undertake one new masterplan and one review annually to avoid a backlog of plans and actions.
- Council should review the total sum of outstanding masterplan actions, re prioritise valid actions, or remove those that no longer meet council and community demand using the new guiding principles including in the draft strategy as one assessment method for re prioritisation.
- Council should only develop master plans for district/precinct level facilities and above. Concept plans could be developed in house for local level facilities. All proposals should be evidence based and or subject to a needs and demands analysis.
- Council should look to precinct planning as a priority.
- All masterplans should include significant community consultation, however most importantly they should reflect resource realities.
- Council should continue to trial the new prioritisation framework and review in five years-time when the strategy document is due for an interim review.

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

Tenure

Rate capping is likely to impact on Council's ability to fund the services it provides including those within or relating to open space. As a result council will need to review tenure arrangements relating to fees and charges. It is expected that this will be done as a separate body of work and include other services, not just those relating to open space. However the draft open space document makes some recommendations on key issues relating to use of its open space which should be considered as part of this work:

- The development of tenure arrangement with community groups should recognise the significant resource outlays undertaken by Council
- Community service obligations should be clearly articulated
- Acknowledgement should be made of the contribution many not for profit community organisations make towards facility maintenance
- Acknowledgement should be made of the social benefit, positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of our communities that many of the not for profit community organisations and clubs provide.
- It should be conducted using an open dialogue with the many community groups and clubs throughout the Shire
- A review of the current and future role of Council as Committee of Management for Crown land designated for open space purposes should be undertaken.

Community and Commercial Use

Council receives high volumes of proposals for community and commercial use of its open space. Council currently seeks to balance usage demand with the other values such as the preservation of environmental, economic and social values.

It has been identified through the development of the draft open space strategy that there is a need to consider a policy for community and commercial use of its open space. This will allow Council to articulate the framework and principals for making decisions about the allocation and use of community land in particular for commercial activities as well as organised community use. This will enable consideration of things such as consistency of allocation, impacts and incrementalism as well as exclusivity and possible restrictions or exclusions to open space to the public.

Key partnerships

One of the key aims in the development of the draft strategy 2015 – 2025 was around improving partnerships with other land managers. Although the document's primary focus is on Council managed or owned open space as this is what Council can commit to deliver on, it is clear from much of the feedback that the community and visitors alike view the open space within the Surf Coast Shire as a network. There is an ongoing need for regular and open dialogue between all land management agencies within the Surf Coast Shire. The draft strategy recommends this include some of the following key actions:

- the development of formal MOU's and policies regarding shared design guidelines, management and maintenance levels,
- close working relationships with open space planning and master planning processes,
- close management and monitoring of events and commercial ventures within and across Surf Coast Shire

DRAFT DOCUMENT REVIEW AND FEEDBACK

Upon completion of the draft document the project team organised three workshops to enable the document to be reviewed prior to it being formally presented to Council at a Council meeting and being placed on public exhibition.

The workshops included the key external agencies that had previously participated in workshops for the issues and opportunities discussion paper and the direction and visioning workshops, SCS Councillors and key internal staff within Surf Coast Shire. All workshops were held in August 2015.

External Agencies

Feedback on the draft document was received from the following agencies:

- Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC)
- Parks Victoria (PV)
- Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP)

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

- Department of Transport Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI)

Five Councillors also attended this workshop and contributed to the broader discussion.

The comments can be summarised as follows and primarily relate to key actions from the action plan:

General:

- The aspirations within, and direction of the document is consistent with that of the other agencies
- Financial capacity of the other agencies needs to be a consideration particularly regarding discussions around standards and maintenance agreements

Action 1

- Support for cross tenure approach regarding commercial and community use of crown land
- This approach captures tenure and risk, supports equality across tenures.
- Capacity needs to be a consideration

Action 2

- Encroachment is a consistent issue for all land managers

Action 7

- Development of a formal MOU between key agencies relating to a shared design guide manual to assist with unified future planning is generally supported. DELWP is currently in the very early stages of looking at cross tenure Coastal Management Plans for some areas of the Coast, and Parks Victoria already have in place State wide principles which could be explored for relevance.

Action 8

- Development of uniform policies across external land management agencies regarding facility maintenance and management is considered reasonable. Most agencies have existing service level principles. The development of these policies should include a recommendation around a suitable financial model.

Action 9

- Support for an opening discussion relating to appropriateness of Council's role as CoM for open space that is Crown Land. The discussion would need to commence with a clear set of approved actions and is likely to commence through a discussion paper, internally to explore the concept.

Actions 22 - 25

- Capital costs for joint projects between the agencies have not been so much the issue in the past, it is the ongoing maintenance costs and responsibilities post completion. Therefore any joint project or community partnership approach needs to consider this from the outset.

Action 26

- Support for precinct planning

Some additional commentary and clarifications in the following areas was requested:

- Importance of open space in emergency management
- Alignment of desired standards of service with the standards in Clause 56 of the Planning scheme
- Addition of a principle relating to preservation of open space as open space and green belts
- Changes to the executive summary

Financial Implications

Strategy Development

Council budget allowance 2014 – 2015: \$30,000

Grant Funding 2014 – 2015 Community Facilities Funding Program \$30,000

Total budget \$60,000

Action Plan

33 actions from the proposed action plan have future financial implications for council, however noting that a number of actions can be implemented through internal staff as part of their overall workplan.

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

CAPEX expenditure

A key recommendation in the action plan is for an annual dedicated budget sum in the CAPEX budget for delivery of actions from masterplans and new initiatives. It is intended that the total budget for this would be based on average previous expenditure in the open space category within the budget, however the distribution of funds within the total amount may vary from what was previously allocated. The renewal budget is already fixed and is expected to remain unchanged by any actions relating to the strategy.

Council Plan

Theme 1 Environment
Objective 1.4 Protect public open space and green belts
Strategy 1.4.1 Review Surf Coast Shire Open Space Strategy.

Policy/Legal Implications

The draft strategy currently identifies four new policies. It is considered that only one policy per year will be developed based on current resourcing. These have been prioritised over the new 1 – 4 years.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

A project risk log has been developed for the project. Key risks identified in the risk log are:

- Insufficient budget
- Lack of stakeholder interest
- Lack of community interest
- Consultants
- capacity to deliver (changes to the consultant team)
- Clarity of scope – how does this translate to the local context
- Scope creep
- Timing – going beyond schedule
- Roadblocks – from key stakeholders
- Confusion or blurring between other projects running concurrently across the organisation

Social Considerations

The new Open space Strategy 2015 – 2025 will provide positive benefits. The strategy will assist in ongoing and new decisions that are made around open space, the prioritisation for open space, assistance in working in better collaboration with other key agencies as well as providing a consistent, clear and transparent rationale for direction and decisions around open space development to the community. This will assist in managing community expectations.

Community Engagement

The following community engagement is proposed for this stage of the project:

- The draft report will go on public exhibition for a 4 week period. The document will be available in hard copy for viewing at Council's main office and the Visitor information centres. The document will also be available via a web link from Councils website.
- Submissions will be invited from the general community.
- Key community and agency stakeholders previously identified during the issues and opportunities phase of the project will be directly contacted regarding the exhibition and invited to submit any comments on the draft.
- 'Open house' sessions run by the consultant will be undertaken in four townships over the exhibition period. It is intended that these will be linked where possible with existing activities to gain the greatest exposure and maximise publicity of the document.

It is also intended that the draft document will be presented at the next available AAC meeting for discussion and feedback, as well as presented to the existing Youth groups for direct feedback.

4.2 Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2025 Draft

Environmental Implications

The community and public consultation to date has indicated a strong preference for protection and enhancement of the natural environment. This is also a focus in the draft report, so it is likely that there will be increased positive environmental outcomes as a result of the recommendations and actions within the final report.

Communication

The exhibition period will be published in local media, Mayor's column, stakeholder project bulletin (update) and via electronic media. It will be posted on the Surf Coast Shire website.

Conclusion

The development of the draft Open Space Strategy 2015 -2025 has been a collaborative process involving Councillors and the Executive Management team, key internal and external stakeholders as well as the broader community. Exhibition of this document is the final stage in the consultation process.

4.3 The Future of Surf Life Saving in Surf Coast Shire

Author's Title: Manager Leisure & Wellbeing

General Manager: Chris Pike

Department: Community

File No: F13/1914

Division: Culture & Community

Trim No: IC15/188

Appendix:

1. Draft Strategy - working draft September 2015 (D15/75730)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To exhibit the Draft Strategy – The Future of Surf Life Saving in Surf Coast Shire for four weeks prior to Council adoption of the Strategy.

Summary

The purpose of the Future of Surf Life Saving project is to prepare a strategic framework to guide the future use, provision, management and investment in the development of surf life saving and associated clubs, facilities and services in Surf Coast Shire.

This project is a collaborative effort between Council, Life Saving Victoria, Great Ocean Road Coastal Committee, Regional Development Victoria and Department Environment Water Land and Planning. The Draft Strategy has been prepared to go on public exhibition for four weeks and seek feedback from Clubs and interested community partners / members. Following the next phase of community engagement, a final strategy will be presented to Council for adoption.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Exhibit the Draft Strategy – The Future of Surf Life Saving in Surf Coast Shire for a period of four weeks.
2. Note the final Strategy will be presented at a future meeting of Council.

Report

Background

This project is a pilot project for Surf Coast Shire given that the existing five clubs are some of the largest Surf Life Saving Clubs in Victoria. The reasons for this Strategy include:

- SLSCs are located in community facilities and are a hub of community activity.
- There are gaps in strategic planning and policy across agencies that support surf life saving.
- The Strategy will assist Surf Coast Shire in developing a policy or position on how to best work with Clubs in the future.
- It is understood that organisations are reviewing aspects of their arrangements and involvement with surf life saving and therefore a shared understanding around the needs from Surf Life Saving Clubs and the main agency – Life Saving Victoria is required to determine the best way forward.
- There is no single agency responsible for surf life saving clubs and therefore shared understanding and collaboration is required to plan for the future of surf life saving in Surf Coast Shire.

The project commenced in September 2014, an issues and opportunities paper was presented to Council in November 2014 and the Strategy has been developed following on from the community feedback. Public consultation for the Strategy revealed very strong community support for surf life saving in Surf Coast Shire. The community research showed overwhelming support for surf lifesaving clubs to occupy Crown Land. Over 90% of respondents supported not only lifesaving activities, but also social facilities, additional storage, surf lifesaving events, cafes or restaurants, and accommodation. However, across many submissions there was recognition that surf life saving clubs facilities occupy precious coastal Crown land and that this public resource should be protected from further expansion. Residents and visitors highly value the relatively unspoilt coastal environment and in large numbers enjoy the surf and beach. The Shire's identity is completely recognised in its name – *the Surf Coast Shire*. The next stage is to seek community feedback on the Draft Strategy before finalising a report to Council for final adoption.

Discussion

Following Stage 3 - Community Engagement, Surf Coast Shire sponsored a workshop in May 2015 involving some key community leaders including the Surf Coast Shire Mayor, CEO, the Chair of the Great Ocean Road Coastal Board, the CEO of G21 (G21 – Geelong Alliance) and other staff from Emergency Management Victoria, Life Saving Victoria and key agencies.

The Vision was articulated as:

We support a well-managed, inclusive and adaptable surf life saving movement, connected to the community, helping to respect, understand and enjoy our coastal environment.

Through the course of developing this Strategy, some key understandings have emerged. There are a range of guiding principles used to guide the Strategy and assist in formulating the key actions as outlined. These key principles are recorded in page 15 of the Strategy.

Emanating from the Strategy is a series of key actions. The document outlines the key agency who will take the lead on these actions. Surf Coast Shire's key actions are outlined as follows:

1. Governance

1.1 – Convene a Surf Life Saving Round Table which meets at least six-monthly to progress actions in this Strategy and other matters of mutual interest, including governance, development, activities and events; and season reviews.

2. Safe Beach Experience

2.1 – Continue to support and nurture the Surf Life Saving Clubs and Life Saving Victoria to enable them to carry out paid and volunteer life saving services, highly valued by the Community. The continuation of funding for paid lifeguard services will be considered at the annual budget cycle.

Surf Coast Shire currently contributes towards the costs associated with Professional Lifeguards for the Summer season. Great Ocean Road Coastal Committee (GORCC) is the major financial contributor to this service.

2.4 – Continue to have LSV represented on Council's Municipal Emergency Committee.

3. Community Health and Wellbeing

3.2 – Support the community development aspect of Clubs, to develop groups and individuals with transferable skills in emergency management and community leadership.

3.3 – Build the important role of Surf Life Saving Clubs (SLSC) into the Surf Coast Shire narrative and reinforce that they are a part of the Surf Coast Shire experience.

3.4 – Recognise Surf Life Saving as a legitimate sporting activity (alongside its emergency management role) within the Shire's sporting club listing.

3. Economic Benefit Actions

3.8 – Through the Round Table, advocate for investment in the redevelopment of club facilities as a positive investment in the economy and community of Surf Coast Shire.

3.12 – Use the event assessment framework as an agreed decision making framework for event attraction and hosting.

3. Environment and Culture

3.16 – Investigate other access options such as public transport and park and ride schemes.

4. Revenue and Investment

There are a number of actions relating to revenue and investment and these can be further refined through the Round Table which Surf Coast Shire can lead. Should clubs seek major government (Federal, State or Local funds), the following criteria could be considered as a starting point for negotiation.

- That any re-design or redevelopment must be in sympathy with the coastal environment and in line with the Victorian Coastal Strategy.
- That any redevelopment is contained within the existing footprint or equivalent area
- That membership and usage data is provided, outlining current or future growth trends in need and usage of facilities and beach area
- That consideration of all other options such as usage of other infrastructure be fully explored;
- That the club is willing to provide access for other groups to use the facility, including but not limited to hiring. An EOI process could be undertaken to establish interest in sharing the facilities.
- Such community use should ultimately be formalised in the lease agreement.

5. Plan for Building and Resources

The Draft Strategy identified that there is not sufficient support for any new club location to be considered by the managing agencies. This position could be re-evaluated at any time approaching the ten year horizon, but would require detailed justification on the basis of risk, demographics and community support. The emphasis over the next ten years should be on consolidating, resourcing and possibly expanding outpost services with decisions made collaboratively between agencies, clubs and LSV on a risk management basis.

The Strategy also notes that future redevelopment proposals should be contained as far as possible within the existing development envelope and environmental and cultural impacts are minimised.

Agency Roles

Page 40 of the Draft Strategy outlines the agency role. Role clarification was an important item for clubs to understand is aware of which agency they can turn to when seeking advice. The Agency role matrix clarifies the role of Surf Coast Shire as:

- Statutory Planning Authority
- Current co-funder of Life Saving Services – Professional lifeguards during the peak summer season.
- Policy maker
- Strategic planner
- Program deliverer
- Recreation planner
- Community development
- Emergency manager for recovery purposes only
- Event supporter and authoriser when warranted, noting all club event activity occurs on the foreshore, however, event participation and spectators use Council owned and managed streetscapes.

Financial Implications

The cost in developing the Strategy is \$80k. This breakdown is funded as follows:

Regional Development Victoria - \$45,000
Life Saving Victoria - \$20,000
Surf Coast Shire - \$15,000 and Project Manager.
Great Ocean Road Coastal Committee - \$10,000.

The financial implications for implementing the Strategy include a continued contribution towards the Professional Lifeguard Services during the peak summer season. Currently, there is a financial commitment of \$42,000 and Life Saving Victoria has indicated that they would like to increase this allocation to be considered in future budgets.

Noting that the Strategy provides comments on the upcoming re-development options for existing Surf Coast Shire Surf Life Saving Clubs, it does however fall short on providing Council with a clear policy position about the level of investment that Council may be prepared to provide. With the absence of a clear policy and /or position around our investment in the re-development of Surf Life Saving Clubs, it is acknowledged that this work should be undertaken when the Strategy has been adopted.

Council Plan

Theme 3 Communities
Objective 3.4 Building leadership and skills within the community
Strategy Nil

Theme 2 Governance
Objective 2.5 Enhanced community engagement
Strategy 2.5.4 Build strong relationships with community interest groups.

Theme 3 Communities
Objective 3.1 Communities that plan for, and recover from, disasters
Strategy 3.1.3 Continue to undertake Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA).

Policy/Legal Implications

The Draft Strategy provides a framework for undertaking policy development work and clarifying our position with Surf Life Saving Clubs across the Shire. There are no legal implications for the Shire as Surf Life Saving Clubs are governed by two acts of Parliament – the Crown Land (Reserves) Act, 1978 and the Land (Surf Life Saving Association) Act 1967.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

The Draft Strategy provides the opportunity for Surf Coast Shire to take a more proactive role and in the work that clubs undertake. By taking the lead role in convening the Round Table, this process will provide the framework for implementing the actions from the Draft Strategy and taking a leadership role in the community. One of the major risks is ensuring all the nominated agencies can work together on the implementation phase of this project. Consensus amongst the agencies has been difficult to reach at times and progressing this Draft Strategy is an important commitment that all agencies and clubs will need to undertake.

Social Considerations

The value of coastal lifesaving services to the Victorian public has been estimated at \$235m per year. Local clubs and events have the potential to drive significant economic benefits into regional economies. Surf Life Saving Clubs are an important portal for the visitor population to connect with residents, and this opportunity creates a rare blend of communities. Of the 57 clubs listed in the LSV Annual Report 2013/14, the five Surf Coast clubs are all in the top 17 memberships. Anglesea has 1980 members; the largest in Victoria. There is considerable support for life saving clubs in the community as demonstrated through the market research. Ensuring the clubs and interested community members have a chance to have their say about this Draft Strategy will assist in refining the Strategy which can then be translated into meaningful actions.

Community Engagement

A range of community engagement methods have been undertaken so far for the development of this Draft Strategy. They include:

- The development of a Community Agency and Reference Group including the representatives from the five Surf Coast Shire clubs.
- Development of an Issues and Opportunities paper for consultation.
- Advertisements and articles in the Surf Coast Times
- Two focus groups and two Open Houses held
- A Project website established with OurSay and linked to the Council's website.
- A Vision and Objectives Workshop with stakeholder representatives.
- An online platform "Our Say" for interested parties
- Community research – a sample of 203 residents were interviewed via Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CAT). The sample was randomly selected from suburbs and postcodes within the Shire. This research yielded a statistically valid confidence level.
- Written submissions – a number of written submissions were received online or via email.
- Over 400 Surf Coast Shire residents have been directly involved in the consultation process to date.

To progress to the next stage, it is anticipated that the Community engagement will be:

- Meeting with Community Agency and Reference Group (CARG) and Club representatives to preview the Draft Strategy.
- Re-constitute the on-line platform on our web-site.
- Allow for submissions to be written to Council and provide feedback.

Environmental Implications

Surf Life Saving Clubs occupy precious coastal land. The Victorian Coastal Strategy remains the key document that guides club activity. Whilst the market research revealed that residents are very supportive of life saving, they also indicated a desire to ensure that surf life saving facilities do not impact on the environment or cultural heritage sites. The natural coastal environment is highly valued and there is a strong community desire to protect and maintain these sensitive and vulnerable areas. As the planning authority for any redevelopment proposal of Surf Life Saving Clubs, this strategy assists in providing some direction when considering these proposals.

Communication

It is intended to use a number of platforms for feedback on the Draft Strategy. These include: Surf Coast Shire website, the use of "Our Say" as a website online platform and to directly target our local Clubs.

Conclusion

The Draft Strategy meets the initial brief for providing a way forward for the key agencies and local clubs to work together share information and plan ahead. Whilst the Draft Strategy doesn't answer all the questions relating to local clubs, it does provide Council with an understanding of the local needs, a shared understanding between the key agencies around role clarification and a mechanism to work together. Following the exhibition phase, a final Strategy will be presented to Council for adoption.

4.4 Future Use Options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct

Author's Title: Manager Leisure & Wellbeing

General Manager: Chris Pike

Department: Community

File No: F11/254

Division: Culture & Community

Trim No: IC15/109

Appendix:

1. McMillan Street Precinct Masterplan Layout (D15/76140)
2. Anglesea Community Precinct - Site Analysis - Proposed ANGAIR Propagation Site (D15/75813)
3. Letters of Support - McMillan Precinct tenants - ANGAIR proposal (D15/76153)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To note the proposed approach to consider future use options at the rear of the Anglesea McMillan Street Community Precinct.

Summary

The McMillan Street Community Precinct (the Precinct) is on Council owned land, with the exception of the health centre. There is a current masterplan for the site but no designated land manager within Council for the Precinct. Council has received a proposal from local conservation group ANGAIR to use the vacant land in the rear of the Precinct for plant propagation. ANGAIR is an existing tenant of the Precinct and their proposed use of part of the Precinct for plant propagation is consistent with the Precinct Masterplan (see Appendix 1). The Anglesea Kindergarten has also expressed interest in using part of this area of the Precinct. This interest can be accommodated alongside ANGAIR's proposal as highlighted in the proposed site layout (Appendix 2), which includes retaining the existing bush kinder area. A planning permit application will be required by ANGAIR if approved by Council to proceed with its proposal. Officers from the Environment and Community Safety team have been working with Angair on this proposal.

In considering any future use option for the Precinct it is recommended that where the proposed use is consistent with the Precinct Masterplan, that consultation be undertaken with other Precinct tenants and neighbouring residents. If a planning permit is required for the development proposal, this consultation will be conducted as part of the planning permit application process. A draft policy is currently with the policy subcommittee which makes recommendations around levels of engagement if no planning permit is required for built infrastructure on Council land. However in the absence of an approved policy it is considered that if no planning permit is required, the consultation should be coordinated by the land manager of the Precinct. If the proposal is not consistent with the Precinct Masterplan, it would be rejected on that basis.

The new draft Open Space Strategy includes a recommendation that Council develop a policy regarding community and commercial use of open space. This policy would apply to all land classified in the Open Space Strategy and include required levels of community engagement. The intention in the new categorisation within the draft Open Space Strategy is that a member of the Leisure and Wellbeing Department will become the designated land manager for community precincts. In the current absence of an adopted procedure and land manager (as the new strategy is still in draft), it is recommended that the Manager of the Leisure and Wellbeing Department take on this role in the interim for this precinct.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note ANGAIR's proposal to establish a plant propagation site at the rear of the McMillan Street Community Precinct.
2. Note that officers have assessed the project and as the land manager believe the project aligns with the McMillan Street Precinct and can be accommodated.
3. Note that a coordinated community engagement process will be developed to ensure that the tenants of the McMillan Street Precinct and neighbouring residents will be notified as part of the planning application process.

4.4 Future Use Options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct

Report

Background

The McMillan Street Community Precinct (the Precinct) is a hub for community services in Anglesea. The Precinct is all Council owned land aside from the medical centre, which is owned by Barwon Health.

There is an existing 2009 masterplan for the Precinct, which was approved by Council on 28 January 2009. There is currently no designated Council land manager for the Precinct.

There is a 1999 Victorian Civil & Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) decision governing Precinct site access, parking and landscaping in the vicinity of Mawson Avenue. The application by neighbouring residents was prompted by proposed additions and alterations to the Community Centre and construction of a new one way entry to the Precinct off Mawson Avenue. VCAT approved issuance of a permit for the additions and alterations subject to various conditions, including removal of any vehicle access through Mawson Avenue and completion of certain landscaping and planting to screen views of the Centre and prevent parking in the road reserve.

By letter dated 14 June 2015, ANGAIR wrote to the Mayor requesting permission to use vacant land at the rear of the Precinct for propagation of indigenous native plants. A subsequent site meeting was held with ANGAIR representatives, the Mayor and the General Manager Environment & Development on 3 July 2015. There is currently no formal process for Council to consider future use proposals for the Precinct and engage with the community, other than through a planning permit application (if required).

Discussion

McMillan Street Community Precinct Masterplan

The future use options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct are broadly defined in the McMillan Street Community Precinct Masterplan (2009) and captured in the Masterplan Layout (Appendix 2) and related legend. The objectives of the Masterplan include setting priorities for future planning and development across the site and to strengthen the shared use and relationships between user groups.

The process to develop the Masterplan included extensive community consultation. A range of engagement processes was used, including representative members participating in a Project Reference Group, listening posts and public exhibition of two Masterplan options for a period of six weeks in October/November 2009. The Masterplan Layout (Appendix 2) envisages two main uses for the northern rear section of the site behind the ANGAIR office and the Anglesea Kindergarten:

- Potential relocation of the Historical Society/opportunities for a new building (Item 1a in Masterplan Layout); and
- Expansion of the existing community indigenous garden, including using the garden 'in an educational way to showcase indigenous and native drought tolerant plants and how they can be used in home garden situations' (Item 12 in Masterplan Layout).

ANGAIR's proposal (discussed in greater detail below) is consistent with the future uses proposed in the Masterplan for this section of the Precinct.

There is currently no designated land manager within Council for the Precinct. Under the new Open Space Strategy, all open space land parcels will have a designated land manager. A recommended action from the new Strategy will be the development of a policy for 'community and commercial use of open space'.

Precinct Description and Historical Use

The Precinct has sections of flat land together with slopes constituting a fall across the site of approximately 7m. A continuous tree canopy runs across the centre of the Precinct and planted and modified understorey native vegetation is scattered throughout the site. The Precinct contains a Barwon Water easement, the southern end of Mawson Avenue and an unused road reserve along the rear of the Community House.

Access to the Precinct via vehicle is from McMillan Street with foot traffic into the site available via McMillan Street, Mawson Avenue and Melaleuca Lane. Pedestrians can move within the site via internal concrete pathways, gravel tracks and roads and the sealed carpark.

4.4 Future Use Options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct

Tenants in the Precinct include Anglesea Community House, Barwon Health Medical Centre, Anglesea & Aireys Inlet Senior Citizens Club, Anglesea Kindergarten and Playgroup, Anglesea Community Garden, Anglesea District Historical Society and ANGAIR.

ANGAIR Background & Proposal

The Anglesea, Aireys Inlet Society for the Protection of Flora and Fauna or 'ANGAIR' is a local non-profit conservation group based in Anglesea, with offices located in the Precinct. ANGAIR is dedicated to protecting indigenous flora and fauna and to maintaining the natural beauty of Anglesea and Aireys Inlet.

The group was established in 1969 and has over 600 members. ANGAIR organises a wide range of activities including walks, working bees (including on Council owned and managed land), plant propagation, education groups and bird watching for both members and visitors.

ANGAIR currently conducts its indigenous plant propagation on private land owned by one of its members. The property has been sold and ANGAIR are looking to secure a long term site to continue its plant propagation work. By letter dated 14 June 2015, ANGAIR wrote to the Mayor requesting permission to use 235 square metres of vacant land at the rear of the Precinct for propagation of indigenous native plants. Key points to note about ANGAIR's proposal are:

- The proposal is to erect a plant propagation shed, greenhouse and hardening tables to establish around 8000 plants per year. Many plants are sold at a little over cost price at various events. ANGAIR also donates and supplies plants for a number of community projects, including some for Council and local schools. Many of the plants propagated are not available commercially. Money raised goes to support ANGAIR's activities.
- Site requirements are a propagating shed 5 m x 9 m with a 2 m veranda, a 3 m x 6 m greenhouse, outdoor tables for hardening of tube stock, outdoor storage of potting mix, tube washing facilities and access to power and water.
- ANGAIR have investigated a number of options for a new site, including Alcoa, YMCA, next to the Art House in Anglesea, Barwon Water land and on private land. ANGAIR's assessment of these sites is that they have major disadvantages such as reduced security of tenure, higher cost, OH&S issues and/or parking problems. Officers concur that there is no other obvious sites available for this kind of community activity in Anglesea.
- Relocation costs and purchase of the new propagation shed and greenhouse would be borne by ANGAIR.
- The plant propagation group has about 20 regular members, working once a week on all aspects of propagation. Watering of stock is on a needs basis. Volunteers range in age from 55 to 90, with an average age of 70. Some volunteers have disabilities and enjoy the social contact in an outdoor environment as well as contributing a valuable input to the protection and enhancement of indigenous vegetation.
- Benefits of the proposal include expanding indigenous planting in the Precinct (as recommended in the Masterplan); maintenance of existing Precinct plantings including at the Historical Society, wetland garden and fire ready garden; increased community education about indigenous plants; adding another valuable community activity to the Precinct and co-location with existing facilities and events.
- ANGAIR have met on site with the Mayor and General Manager of Environment and Development to discuss the proposal. They have also met with the Planning Department and are currently preparing a planning permit application.
- A site analysis plan has been prepared by the Coordinator Open Space Planning (Appendix 2).
- Part of this proposed site is currently used by the Anglesea Kindergarten on a weekly basis for its bush kinder program. This existing use has been retained for the site layout (Appendix 2).
- The proposal is supported by the Manager of Leisure and Wellbeing, the Manager of Aged & Family Services and the Manager of Environment and Community Safety. Letters have also been received from other Precinct tenants (Appendix 3).

Open Space Implications

The proposed site has undergone a preliminary site analysis which identified existing conditions, constraints and opportunities in response to ANGAIR's initial proposal. This included a review of the proposal for this area in the existing Precinct Masterplan as well as current uses of the area such as the bush kinder program for the Anglesea Kindergarten site. The area requested is currently not required for the bush kinder program. It had been previously earmarked for a potential building (new historic society facility).

4.4 Future Use Options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct

However since the adoption of the masterplan it has been determined that there is no longer a need for a new historic society facility. The area surrounding the site was earmarked for a 'native garden' which the proposal is considered to fit well within and would complement and there is still sufficient area available for enhancement of the existing vegetation where the current bush kinder program is run.

Given the size of the site, topography (retaining walls), its location at the rear of the Precinct (including it being adjacent to existing residential properties) and its constrained boundaries (including existing easements and access points for maintenance) it is unlikely that the site would be able to provide any formal open space use as a designated public reserve or local park. The area adjacent to the main hall is earmarked in the existing Masterplan for a village square and informal open space facility which complements the use of the hall. This is considered sufficient for the current users of the Precinct. The proposed use of the site is not considered to result in any net loss of open space provision within the Precinct and is consistent with the Precinct Masterplan uses for this part of the site.

Stakeholder Engagement

The process to develop the McMillan Street Community Precinct Masterplan involved extensive community consultation to "*ensure the whole of Anglesea Community was given an opportunity to participate in the project*". As noted above, a range of engagement processes were used and included representative members on the Project Reference Group, listening posts and public exhibition of two draft Masterplan options for a period of 6 weeks in October/November 2008.

ANGAIR has informally approached other Precinct tenants about their proposal and also discussed their proposal with a couple of neighbouring residents. Letter of support have been received from Precinct tenants Anglesea Community House, Anglesea Community Garden, Anglesea & District Historical Society and Anglesea & Aireys Inlet Senior Citizens Club (Appendix 3). The Anglesea Kindergarten has expressed its interest to continue to use the rear of the Precinct for their bush kinder program. This use has been considered and incorporated in the site analysis and proposed layout for ANGAIR (Appendix 2), with the space immediately behind the Kindergarten remaining vacant for ongoing bush kinder use.

The Planning Department has confirmed that a planning permit will be required by ANGAIR. The planning permit application process (discussed below) will require consultation with neighbouring residents about ANGAIR's proposal.

The new draft Open Space Strategy includes a recommendation that Council develop a 'community and commercial use of open space policy'. This policy would apply to all land classified in the new Strategy, including community precincts and specify the minimum required levels of community engagement. This is currently listed as a high priority (1-2 yrs).

Planning permit requirements

The Precinct is zoned Public Use Zone in the Surf Coast Shire Planning Scheme. A planning permit is required for any proposed use of the land not undertaken by or on behalf of the public land manager. ANGAIR have met with Statutory Planning officers to review likely objections and planning permit conditions and will address these in their application.

As part of the Public Notice requirements, information around operational matters will be provided so that community tenants and neighbouring residents can have an informed view about this proposal.

It is anticipated that objections may be raised in relation to vehicle access to the site, noise, hours of operation, fencing, storm water management, potting material and sale of material from the site. Permit conditions can be included to address these concerns if they are raised.

Statutory Planning has confirmed that the planning permit notification/engagement process can be extended to include tenants of the Precinct as well as neighbouring property owners.

Victorian Civil & Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) Decision

In 1999, VCAT heard an application to review Council's decision to grant a permit to the Anglesea Community Centre Committee of Management for alterations and additions to the Community Centre located in Mawson Avenue. The application was brought by a number of residents within close proximity of the Centre. Most of the objections related to amenity, traffic and parking issues and in particular focused on the proposed construction of a new one way entry to the Centre off Mawson Avenue and the increased traffic that would ensue from this new access road.

4.4 Future Use Options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct

VCAT granted the planning permit subject to conditions, including removal of any vehicle access from Mawson Avenue. Condition 1 a) required revised plans to show removal of vehicle access from Mawson Avenue. VCAT also imposed conditions regarding landscaping and planting to screen views of the Centre from nearby residential properties and to prevent the parking of vehicles within the Mawson Avenue road reserve.

Financial Implications

ANGAIR has confirmed in its proposal that it will bear all costs associated with relocation to the site and use and development of the site for plant propagation. ANGAIR does donate and supply its plants for working bees on Council owned and managed land – a cost saving for Council. Income from the sale of the propagated plants supports ANGAIR's conservation and education work.

Council Plan

Theme 1 Environment
Objective 1.4 Protect public open space and green belts
Strategy 1.4.1 Review Surf Coast Shire Open Space Strategy.

Theme 3 Communities
Objective 3.3 Preservation of peaceful, safe and healthy environments
Strategy 3.3.4 Support a wide-range of community groups to improve community wellbeing

Policy/Legal Implications

There is an existing 2009 Masterplan that applies to the Precinct and a 1999 VCAT decision that relates to the Community House (discussed above). The ANGAIR proposal also supports delivery of Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013 – 2017 objectives, especially increasing participation in physical activities, enhancing mental health and wellbeing, promote sustainable living and build community and organisational capacity to achieve better outcomes for older people. If ANGAIR is successful with their proposal, Council will negotiate an appropriate lease or licence agreement for the site with ANGAIR in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989. It is proposed that the term of the licence agreement would be three years with (two) 2 x (three) 3 years options).

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

Risk Assessment

A tree hazard assessment of the site has been conducted and work has been completed to address tree hazards on the site. There are reputational risks if Council is perceived as contravening the 1999 VCAT decision – these risks can be addressed through an appropriate consultation process with neighbouring residents and through planning permit conditions. There is also a reputational risk if Council is regarded as not supporting the important conservation and educational work undertaken by ANGAIR.

Social Considerations

There are positive social outcomes with ANGAIR's proposal. Locating ANGAIR's plant propagation at the Precinct will help to promote ANGAIR's community education programs within the community, foster intergenerational activity and raise community awareness about the importance and benefits of indigenous native plants. While the proposal will reduce the amount of public open space available within the Precinct, the site is located at the rear of the Precinct, is small in size and aside from bush kinder usage (which is being retained) does not have any other nominated use or experience high levels of casual use by the community as open space.

Community Engagement

As discussed earlier in relation to the Masterplan, there was extensive community engagement undertaken to develop the Precinct Masterplan. ANGAIR has spoken with Precinct tenants and has requested letters of support, four of which have been provided to date (Appendix 3). ANGAIR has also had informal discussions with several residents whose properties are adjacent to the proposed propagation site. Anglesea Kindergarten wrote to Council on 1 July requesting consideration as 'an interested party' for this part of the Precinct given their current use of the area behind the kindergarten for bush kinder.

4.4 Future Use Options for the McMillan Street Community Precinct

Given that this proposal requires a planning permit to proceed, the community engagement will include advising tenants of the McMillan Street Precinct, neighbouring residents and operational information included so that interested community members can have an informed view of this proposal.

Environmental Implications

The environmental implications of ANGAIR's proposal are positive. Plant propagation is one of several activities ANGAIR undertakes to protect indigenous flora and fauna and maintain the natural beauty of Anglesea and Aireys Inlet. ANGAIR donates and supplies propagated plants for a range of community projects, including some for Council owned and managed land and for local schools. By selling the plants at low cost, ANGAIR is also supporting local residents to plant drought tolerant indigenous plants which provide habitat for native species.

Communication

In addition to the initial informal discussions ANGAIR has already held with other Precinct tenants and some neighbouring residents, the main communication mechanism for the proposal will be the planning permit application process. The Manager Leisure & Wellbeing will coordinate a consultation process with Precinct tenants and neighbouring residents about ANGAIR's proposal as part of the planning permit application process.

Conclusion

Council has an existing Masterplan for the Precinct. ANGAIR is a current tenant of the Precinct and their proposal to conduct plant propagation at the rear of the site is consistent with the Precinct Masterplan. The Anglesea Kindergarten has also expressed interest in using part of this area of the Precinct. This interest can be accommodated alongside ANGAIR's proposal and the existing bush kinder area retained for that purpose. In considering future uses for the Precinct, it is recommended that where the use is consistent with the Precinct Masterplan, consultation be undertaken with Precinct tenants and neighbouring residents. The Draft Open Space Strategy includes a recommendation that Council develop a policy regarding community and commercial use of open space. This policy would apply to all land classified in the Open Space Strategy and include required levels of community engagement.

5. MINUTES

5.1 Section 86 Committee Minutes

Author's Title: Administration Officer - Governance & Risk **General Manager:** Sunil Bhalla

Department: Governance & Risk

File No: F15/399

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/215

Appendix:

1. Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting Minutes - 8 September 2015 (IC15/274)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the minutes of the Section 86 Committee meetings as appended.

Summary

The minutes provided in this report are draft unless otherwise identified. Committees do not re-issue minutes if any corrections are made at the time of adoption, rather note these corrections in the agenda item confirming adoption of the minutes at the following committee meeting.

Any corrections to draft minutes of material significance made by the committees will be provided to Council for noting in a subsequent report.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the 8 September 2015 Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting Minutes.

5.2 Advisory Committee Minutes

Author's Title: Administration Officer - Governance & Risk **General Manager:** Sunil Bhalla

Department: Governance & Risk

File No: F15/400

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/299

Appendix:

1. Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee Meeting Minutes - 4 August 2015 (D15/80846)
2. All Abilities Advisory Committee (AAAC) Meeting Minutes - 25 August 2015 (D15/80847)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the minutes of the Advisory Committee meetings as appended.

Summary

The minutes provided in this report are draft unless otherwise identified. Committees do not re-issue minutes if any corrections are made at the time of adoption, rather note these corrections in the agenda item confirming adoption of the minutes at the following committee meeting.

Any corrections to draft minutes of material significance made by the committees will be provided to Council for noting in a subsequent report.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the minutes from the following Advisory Committee meetings:

- Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee Meeting Minutes - 4 August 2015
- All Abilities Advisory Committee (AAAC) Meeting Minutes – 25 August 2015

6. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

6.1 Assemblies of Councillors

Author's Title: Administration Officer - Governance & Risk **General Manager:** Sunil Bhalla

Department: Governance & Risk

File No: F15/764

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/213

Appendix:

1. Assembly of Councillors - Spring Creek Community Panel - 22 August 2015 (D15/80148)
2. Assembly of Councillors - Aquatic & Health Centre - 25 August 2015 (D15/79860)
3. Assembly of Councillors - Bells Beach Taskforce - 31 August 2015 (D15/80151)
4. Assembly of Councillors - Council Briefing - 1 September 2015 (D15/76918)
5. Assembly of Councillors - Council Briefing - 8 September 2015 (D15/78075)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 – Section 80C:

Yes

No

Status:

Information classified confidential under Section 77 of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the Assembly of Councillors records received since the previous Council Meeting.

Summary

The Local Government Act 1989 section 80A(2) states that the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that the written record of an assembly of Councillors is as soon as practicable reported at an Ordinary Meeting of Council and incorporated in the minutes of that Council Meeting.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Assembly of Councillors records for the following meetings:

- Spring Creek Community Panel – 22 August 2015
- Aquatic & Health Centre Update – 25 August 2015
- Bells Beach Taskforce – 31 August 2015
- Council Briefing – 1 September 2015
- Council Briefing – 8 September 2015

7. URGENT BUSINESS/PETITIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 Petition Requesting Council Advocacy to VicRoads for the Redesign of Intersections of Princes Highway with Hendy Main Road and Cape Otway Road

Author's Title: Manager Engineering Services

General Manager: Sunil Bhalla

Department: Engineering Services

File No: F15/48

Division: Governance & Infrastructure

Trim No: IC15/297

Appendix:

1. Petition - Council to Advocate to VicRoads - Redesign of Intersections - Princes Highway and Hendy Main Road - Princes Highway and Cape Otway (D15/78481)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the petition requesting that Council advocate to VicRoads to redesign the intersections of Princes Highway with Hendy Main Road and Cape Otway Road.

The petition consists of 200 signatures.

Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with its Local Law No. 2 – Meeting Procedure:

1. Receive and note the petition requesting Council to advocate to VicRoads to redesign the intersections of Princes Highway with Hendy Main Road and Cape Otway Road.
2. Refer the petition to the General Manager Governance and Infrastructure for consideration
3. Require a report on the petition be presented to the 27 October 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting.

7.2 Petition Requesting Council Enclose Winchelsea Swimming Pool with a Roof - Open Pool All Year

Author's Title: Manager Leisure & Wellbeing

General Manager: Chris Pike

Department: Community

File No: F15/400

Division: Culture & Community

Trim No: IC15/304

Appendix:

1. Petition - Enclose Winchelsea Swimming Pool with a Roof - Open Pool All Year (D15/79937)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential under Section 77
of the Local Government Act:

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the petition requesting that Council enclose Winchelsea Swimming Pool with a roof - open pool all year.

The petition consists of 574 signatures.

Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with its Local Law No. 2 – Meeting Procedure:

1. Receive and note the petition requesting Council Enclose Winchelsea Swimming Pool with a Roof - Open Pool All Year.
2. Refer the petition to the General Manager Culture and Community for consideration.
3. Require a report on the petition be presented to the 27 October 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting.

8. IN-CAMERA

Recommendation

That Council pursuant to section 89(2)(h) other matters and section 89(2)(a) personnel matters of the Local Government Act 1989, close the meeting to members of the public to resolve on matters pertaining to the following items:

- 8.1 Assemblies of Councillors Confidential**
- 8.2 Appointment of the Tourism Reference Group Members**
- 8.3 CEO Employment Matters Committee Report**

Recommendation

That:

1. The resolution and report pertaining to In-Camera items 8.1 and 8.3 remain In Camera.
2. The resolution pertaining to In-Camera item 8.2 be made public and the report remain In Camera.
3. Council open the meeting to the public at pm.

Close: There being no further items of business the meeting closed at pm.