

Meander Valley Council

W O R K I N G T O G E T H E R

ORDINARY AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 13 December 2016

COUNCIL MEETING VISITORS

Visitors are most welcome to attend Council meetings.

Visitors attending a Council Meeting agree to abide by the following rules:-

- Visitors are required to sign the Visitor Book and provide their name and full residential address before entering the meeting room.
- Visitors are only allowed to address Council with the permission of the Chairperson.
- When addressing Council the speaker is asked not to swear or use threatening language.
- Visitors who refuse to abide by these rules will be asked to leave the meeting by the Chairperson.

SECURITY PROCEDURES

- Council staff will ensure that all visitors have signed the Visitor Book.
- A visitor who continually interjects during the meeting or uses threatening language to Councillors or staff, will be asked by the Chairperson to cease immediately.
- If the visitor fails to abide by the request of the Chairperson, the Chairperson shall suspend the meeting and ask the visitor to leave the meeting immediately.
- If the visitor fails to leave the meeting immediately, the General Manager is to contact Tasmania Police to come and remove the visitor from the building.
- Once the visitor has left the building the Chairperson may resume the meeting.
- In the case of extreme emergency caused by a visitor, the Chairperson is to activate the Distress Button immediately and Tasmania Police will be called.





PO Box 102, Westbury,
Tasmania, 7303

Dear Councillors

I wish to advise that an ordinary meeting of the Meander Valley Council will be held at the Westbury Council Chambers, 26 Lyall Street, Westbury, on **Tuesday 13 December 2016 at 1.30pm.**

Martin Gill
GENERAL MANAGER



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Evacuation and Safety:

At the commencement of the meeting the Mayor will advise that,

- Evacuation details and information are located on the wall to his right;
- In the unlikelyhood of an emergency evacuation an alarm will sound and evacuation wardens will assist with the evacuation. When directed, everyone will be required to exit in an orderly fashion through the front doors and go directly to the evacuation point which is in the car-park at the side of the Town Hall.

Agenda for an ordinary meeting of the Meander Valley Council to be held at the Council Chambers Meeting Room, 26 Lyall Street, Westbury, on Tuesday 13 December 2016 at 1.30pm.

PRESENT:**APOLOGIES:****IN ATTENDANCE:****CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Councillor xx moved and Councillor xx seconded, ***“that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on Tuesday 15 November, 2016, be received and confirmed.”***

COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

Date :	Items discussed:
29 November 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Discussion • Deloraine & Districts Recreation Precinct Presentation • Development Services Review – Groupwork Presentation • Conservation Covenants Policy • Councillors Expense Entitlements • 2017 Council Meeting Dates • Process for Notice of Motions • Planning Update • Workshop item request process • Strategic planning for out of session workshops



ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR:

Saturday 19 November

2016 Deloraine Show Presidents Lunch

Monday 21 November 2016

Tasmanian Flood Recovery Statewide Meeting

Thursday 24 November 2016

Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre Volunteers thank you

Friday 25 November 2016

Hadspen Cricket Club Champions lunch

Monday 28 November 2016

'Roses from the Heart' Memorial bonnet project, Entally Country Club Tasmania, end of year function

Tuesday 29 November 2016

Council Workshop

Wednesday 30 November 2016

Launch of Greater Launceston Salinity Strategy

Friday 2 December 2016

NTD Local Government Committee

Sunday 4 December 2016

Dairy Plains Hall Committee Christmas Party

Monday 5 December 2016

Launch of 2017 Volunteer Tasmania Awards

Tuesday 6 December 2016

Council Strategic Planning Workshop

Wednesday 7 December 2016

Gallipoli Rose Garden Workshop dedication, Westbury

Thursday 8 December 2016

Launch of 'Life Portraits Exhibition' LGH
Presentation Evening - Westbury Primary School



Friday 12 December 2016
Launceston City Deal Consultation

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

TABLING OF PETITIONS:

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

General Rules for Question Time:

Public question time will continue for no more than thirty minutes for 'questions on notice' and 'questions without notice'.

At the beginning of public question time, the Chairperson will firstly refer to the questions on notice. The Chairperson will ask each person who has a question on notice to come forward and state their name and where they are from (suburb or town) before asking their question(s).

The Chairperson will then ask anyone else with a question without notice to come forward and give their name and where they are from (suburb or town) before asking their question.

If called upon by the Chairperson, a person asking a question without notice may need to submit a written copy of their question to the Chairperson in order to clarify the content of the question.

A member of the public may ask a Council officer to read their question for them.

If accepted by the Chairperson, the question will be responded to, or, it may be taken on notice as a 'question on notice' for the next Council meeting. Questions will usually be taken on notice in cases where the questions raised at the meeting require further research or clarification. These questions will need to be submitted as a written copy to the Chairperson prior to the end of public question time.

The Chairperson may direct a Councillor or Council officer to provide a response.

All questions and answers must be kept as brief as possible.

There will be no debate on any questions or answers.

In the event that the same or similar question is raised by more than one person, an answer may be given as a combined response.

Questions on notice and their responses will be minuted.

Questions without notice raised during public question time and the responses to them will not be minuted or recorded in any way with exception to those questions taken on notice for the next Council meeting.



Once the allocated time period of thirty minutes has ended, the Chairperson will declare public question time ended. At this time, any person who has not had the opportunity to put forward a question will be invited to submit their question in writing for the next meeting.

Notes

- Council officers may be called upon to provide assistance to those wishing to register a question, particularly those with a disability or from non-English speaking cultures, by typing their questions.
- The Chairperson may allocate a maximum time for each question, depending on the complexity of the issue, and on how many questions are asked at the meeting. The Chairperson may also indicate when sufficient response to a question has been provided.
- Limited Privilege: Members of the public should be reminded that the protection of parliamentary privilege does not apply to local government, and any statements or discussion in the Council Chamber or any document, produced are subject to the laws of defamation.

For further information please telephone 6393 5300 or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE – NOVEMBER 2016

Nil

2. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE – DECEMBER 2016

2.1 Meander Area Residents & Ratepayers Association Inc

The audio recording of Council meetings is standard practice in many local government councils in Australia. MARRA understand this practice has been previously considered and agreed to by the Meander Valley Council. MARRA strongly supports the audio recording of all Council meetings in the interest of all parties, and would like to know when Council plans to implement the practice.

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

In the 2014–2015 Capital Works Budget Council included a capital project to install audio equipment in the Council Chambers. This equipment has been installed.

The matter of recording and streaming Ordinary Council meetings has been discussed by Councillors, however, Council has made no formal decision to make an audio recording of Ordinary Council meetings.



3. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – DECEMBER 2016

COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

1. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE – NOVEMBER 2016

1.1 Cr Deborah White

(a) Re Question No 2.1(a) – Who is the Executive Assistant at present?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

Merrilyn Young is the person referred to as Executive Assistant. Her formal title is Personal Assistant.

What determines whether correspondence is distributed via the Briefing Reports or by email?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

The General Manager in liaison with the Personal Assistant determines how correspondence is distributed. We have recently changed the process because the monthly distribution of correspondence meant that Councillors were sometimes receiving information or invitations after the related event.

At the moment I am generally using email to distribute correspondence received by email, or correspondence that has some priority that I think the Councillors should be aware of.

Merrilyn is distributing all other correspondence and Council responses to correspondence in a weekly correspondence briefing report.

Could we have a process that provides consistency?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

If Councillors would prefer to receive correspondence in a consistent format I would suggest that we limit distribution to the weekly correspondence briefing report.



- (c) Re the October Briefing Report 2.1 – “Council has contributed \$3,000 toward the (10 Days on the Island) festival – when, how and by whom was this decision made?”

Response by Patrick Gambles, Acting Director Governance & Community Services
Council has made the following funding contributions to biennial Ten Days on the Island Festivals (TDOTI):

- 2007 \$3,500
- 2009 \$3,000
- 2011 \$3,000

Council provided venue support only to the 2013 and 2015 TDOTI Festivals. All contributions were made through the operating budget for Community Development (special events funding) within the Governance & Community Services Department budget.

With regard to the 2017 Festival, Council Officers met with the CEO of TDOTI in January 2016 to provide feedback on previous Festival experiences. A request was then received from TDOTI for a \$3,000 commitment to support the 2017 program. This funding request was then included in the annual allocation for special events funding within Council’s 2016-17 Operating Budget.

1.2 Cr Bob Richardson

- (a) Cat Management/Control
When the Liberal State Government said that regulations/legislation would be ready early on the New Year did they mean early 2016 (which we all thought they meant) or 2017, or even 2018?
Could Council officers advise just what has become of Cat Management/Control since the issue disappeared down the black hole (which is called “Hobart”)?
When things go south, they usually do go south!!

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager
Council Officers understand that following the consultation of the draft State Cat Management Plan which closed on 30 June 2016 the Tasmanian Cat Management Reference Group has done the following:

- **collated and reviewed the 102 submissions**
- **prepared a minute for the Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Jeremy Rockliff MP with a number of recommendations for changes to the legislation**
- **updated the draft plan in response to submissions**

The minute is now with the Minister.



In addition, the Invasive Species branch of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment has submitted a budget initiative for a person to be put into each region to coordinate the various aspects of cat management.

- (b) Question re TasWater
Where are the homes (ie home towns) of each of the TasWater Board members?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

Page 38 of the TasWater 2015 – 2016 Annual Report provides a short biography of each board member who served during the reporting period and it does not include that level of private detail.

- (c) "Centre of Meander Valley Municipality
Could Council advise the demographic centre of
(i) the whole of the Meander Valley Municipality; and
(ii) "Part B" of the municipality (ie Hadspen westwards)?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

Following a recent meeting between Councillors, the General Manager has integrated this question into a broader investigation of demographic data, Council investment and level of services for places in the Meander Valley.

As the data is reviewed a map indicating various demographic trends and population distribution will produced and provided to the Councillors.

- (d) Re-commencement of Forestry operations
The State Government has announced that forestry operations are to re-commence in nearly 400,000 hectares of native forests understood to be protected until at least 2020.

Could Council advise whether any of this logging under "supervision" of (un) Sustainable Forestry Tasmania is within the Meander Valley precinct (specifically in the Great Western Tiers area)?

Further, has (un)Sustainable Forestry Tasmania discussed the matter with Council and if so what contribution is this Government business intending to make to Meander Valley Council for maintenance/damage to ratepayers roads?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

I have written to Sustainable Forestry Tasmania to pose the questions and am waiting a response at the time of writing. A response will be provided to Councillors when it is received.



1.3 Cr John Temple

In recognition of Donald J Trump being soon to adopt the mantle of Leader of the Free World, and he is likely to be the greatest agent of change this century, will Meander Valley Council rename the Westbury Cricket Ground DONALD J TRUMP PARK in his honour and wish him well for his term of leadership.

Response by Mayor Craig Perkins

This would be a matter for resolution through a formal decision of Council and would require a Councillor to initiate the decision through a formal notice of motion consistent with the process outlined in the Local Government Act (Meeting Procedures) 2015.

3.5 Cr Tanya King

Further to my Questions from last meeting of Council with regard to a Code of Conduct complaint against myself lodged by Mr Bronte Booth, and letters to Council, received from Bleyer Lawyers on behalf of the Meander Area Residents and Ratepayers Association, it seems the false allegations, and demands made by their legal representation have cost Council, and in turn ratepayers in the vicinity of \$6,500.

Many constituents have asked will Mr Booth, and the MARRA group, be made accountable for the costs incurred by the ratepayers, for their behaviour?

Is it possible that Mr Booth, and representatives from the MARRA group could perhaps do some Community Service work, in order to make right their time and money wasting antics?

I have had constituents indicate that they would be interested in purchasing tickets to view said people conducting community work, which could be another way to recover the wasted funds. In the event that such community service work eventuates, could Council please advise if it would be feasible to sell such tickets?

Response by Martin Gill, General Manager

Section 28V of the Local Government Act 1993 provides for a person to make a code of conduct complaint against a councillor, if the chairperson of the Code of Conduct Panel determines that the complaint is to be investigated there is no cost incurred by the complainant unless they commissioned advice for their case.



Question 1

This is a matter for Mr Booth and MARRA.

Question 2

No

2. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE – DECEMBER 2016

3. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – DECEMBER 2016

DEPUTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

NOTICE OF MOTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

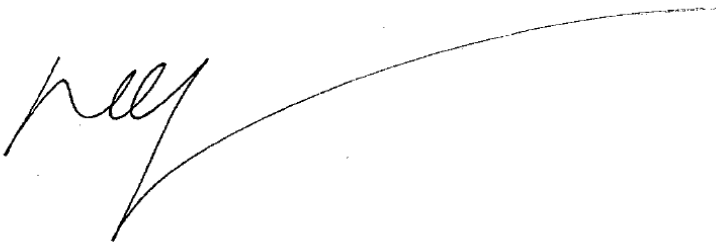
GOV 3 LOCAL ANTI-LITTERING CAMPAIGN – CR DEBORAH WHITE



CERTIFICATION

"I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendation provided to Council with this agenda:

1. the advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation, and
2. where any advice is given directly to Council by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person."



Martin Gill
GENERAL MANAGER

"Notes: S65(1) of the Local Government Act requires the General Manager to ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the Council (or a Council committee) is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation. S65(2) forbids Council from deciding any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering that advice."



GOV 1 2017 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to approve dates for Council ordinary meetings for 2017.

2) Background

The ordinary monthly meeting of Council occurs on the second Tuesday of each month, apart from January where it is held on the third Tuesday.

Council has traditionally held the January meeting on the third Tuesday reflecting the lower volume of items to be dealt with due to the Christmas/New Year and subsequent holiday period. This is proposed to continue in 2017 with the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 17 January.

3) Strategic/Annual Plan Conformance

Preparation of Council meeting agendas is an activity of the Annual Plan.

4) Policy Implications

Not applicable

5) Statutory Requirements

Meets the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 in that Council meets at least once per month. Meetings are advertised in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

Meets the requirements of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

6) Risk Management

Not applicable

7) Consultation with State Government and other Authorities

Not applicable



8) Community Consultation

Not applicable

9) Financial Impact

Not applicable

10) Alternative Options

Council can choose to hold meetings on different dates.

11) Officers Comments

Council's meeting schedule has successfully operated for a number of years with community members familiar with this arrangement. Council discussed the proposed schedule at the November Council workshop.

AUTHOR: Martin Gill
GENERAL MANAGER

12) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the following schedule of ordinary meetings for 2016:

Tuesday 17 January 2017
Tuesday 14 February 2017
Tuesday 14 March 2017
Tuesday 11 April 2017
Tuesday 9 May 2017
Tuesday 13 June 2017
Tuesday 11 July 2017
Tuesday 8 August 2017
Tuesday 12 September 2017
Tuesday 10 October 2017
Tuesday 14 November 2017
Tuesday 12 December 2017

DECISION:



GOV 2 POLICY REVIEW NO. 24 – COUNCILLOR EXPENSE ENTITLEMENTS, ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to review existing policy Number 24 – Councillor Expense Entitlements, Attendance at Conferences and Training.

2) Background

The objective of this policy is to ensure that Councillors are adequately compensated for expenses incurred in carrying out their civic duties.

This policy was last reviewed in November 2013 when it was endorsed with minor amendments.

3) Strategic/Annual Plan Conformance

The Annual Plan provides that this policy is to be reviewed in the December 2016 quarter.

4) Policy Implications

The process of policy review will ensure that policies are up to date and appropriate.

5) Statutory Requirements

Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2015

6) Risk Management

Not applicable

7) Consultation with State Government and other Authorities

Not applicable



8) Community Consultation

Not applicable

9) Financial Impact

There is an annual cost to Council of approximately \$33,500 in the application of this policy. An allocation is made each year within the Budget for Councillors' expenses.

10) Alternative Options

Council can elect to make further amendments or retain the existing policy.

11) Officers Comments

This policy was approved in principle by the Audit Panel in September 2016.

Amendments were discussed by Council at its workshop on 29 November 2016. Some of the suggestions have been incorporated into this revision. The most significant changes involve increased allowances for internet usage and conferences, seminars and training costs.

AUTHOR: Patrick Gambles
ACTING DIRECTOR GOVERNANCE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

12) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council confirm the continuation of Policy No.24 - Councillor Expense Entitlements, Attendance at Conferences and Training with amendments as follows:-

POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number: 24

Councillor Expense Entitlements, Attendance at Conferences and Training

Purpose:

To provide guidelines for the reimbursement of Councillors expenses incurred in carrying out their duties.

Department:

Governance & Community Services

Author:

David Pyke, Director Patrick Gambles, Acting Director



Council Meeting Date: 12th November 2013 13 December 2016
Minute Number: 195/2013

Next Review Date: November 2016 2020

POLICY

1. Definitions

Nil.

2. Objective

To ensure Councillors are adequately compensated for expenses incurred in carrying out their duties including professional development and training, so that electors are not deterred by cost from seeking a position on Council.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all elected members of Meander Valley Council.

4. Policy

Remuneration and Allowances

The allowances for Councillors are as outlined in the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 2015 and are paid monthly by direct deposit into the Councillor's nominated bank account.

Travelling/Child Care Carer Expenses

Councillors are entitled to reimbursement of travelling and/or child care carer expenses in the following situations:-

- To attend meetings of Council, or meetings of any committee of the Council, any other meeting where the Councillor has been delegated or authorised by Council to attend.
- Upon inspections or business within the Council area, provided such inspections or business is undertaken in compliance with resolutions of the Council.
- To attend to business of the Council, outside the Council area, in compliance with a resolution of Council.
- Attendance at the Annual Conference of the Local Government Association of Tasmania or any meeting of a regional organisation committee which Council sends a delegate.
- Attend any seminar/conference in compliance with a resolution or policy of Council.
- Upon inspections or business as arranged by the General Manager or Departmental



Managers Directors.

- The travelling allowance for Councillors shall be paid in accordance with the rates prescribed for the Tasmanian Public Service as for an "occasional user" category, with the Mayor being paid as for a "required user" but for all kilometres claimed.
- A vehicle may be provided for use by the Mayor for the purposes of discharging his or her functions and duties of office if more cost effective for Council than paying a travelling allowance.

Telephones

Council will reimburse Councillors for the cost of telephone rentals and calls. Claims need to provide sufficient information to show that it relates to the carrying out of the duties of office.

Communication Equipment

For each term of office, Council will provide each councillor with

- (i) a capital cost allowance up to a maximum of \$3,000 for purchase of a mobile phone, a fax, printer/scanner, a computer (loaded with an appropriate operating system and Microsoft office suite) and a filing cabinet to assist them in performing his/her duties,

Or

- (ii) an annual lease allowance up to \$625 per annum to offset the usage of existing personal communication equipment as listed above.

And

- (iii) An annual support allowance up to \$375-\$900 p.a. towards maintenance and Internet Service Provider (ISP) costs for home and mobile devices.

The capital cost allowance will be paid upon evidence of the purchase of equipment.

The annual lease allowance will be paid on the following pro-rata basis:

- \$375 per annum for computer usage
- \$100 per annum for printer/scanner/fax
- \$ 75 per annum for mobile phone
- \$ 75 per annum for filing cabinet
- \$625 per annum

when a Councillor provides personal communication equipment, which has not been funded previously by Council, for Council use.

The annual support allowance will be paid upon evidence of maintenance and ISP internet costs incurred.

Should a Councillor resign or the term of office be terminated prior to the normal four year term, then a pro-rata refund of the capital cost allowance may be payable by that Councillor (this shall be in the form of a cash refund or an equivalent deduction from any allowance payable to the Councillor as outlined in the Local Government (General)



Regulations 2005 2015.

Secretarial Assistance

Council will provide a reasonable level of word processing assistance to enable elected members to carry out their official duties. The General Manager will have discretion in determining the extent of assistance which can be provided.

Stationery

Council, shall upon request, provide Councillors with standard stationery held or obtained generally for the organisation's requirements.

Stationery may include but not necessarily limited to paper, business cards, writing implements, diaries, writing pads, computer disks, facsimile paper, envelopes and the like.

Requests for stationery will be by the way of the completion of a requisition presented to the General Manager.

Conferences, Seminars and Training

The following guidelines apply to conference, seminars and training:

- Council will provide an annual allocation for conference, seminar and training expenses for Councillors.
- The Council and General Manager are to ensure that there is equity between Councillors in relation to attendance at conferences, seminars and training courses.
- The Council is to ensure that conferences, seminars and training courses are relevant to the current activities of Council and the training and professional development needs of Councillors.
- Councillors attending a conference must submit a written report to the General Manager within 4 weeks of returning from the conference. This report should outline the conference program and benefits gained.
- Councillors attending a training course or seminar shall provide any course notes or hand outs to the General Manager for distribution to other Councillors.
- Councillors who wish to attend a conference, seminar or training program must lodge a Training Registration Form with the General Manager. Details of the conference, seminar or training program must be attached to the Training Registration Form.

Where the total cost of registration, travel and expenses is likely to exceed \$1,500 \$2,500, the General Manager will refer the application to Council for consideration and approval.

Where the total cost of registration, travel and expenses is less than \$1,500 \$2,500, then the General Manager will have delegated authority to consider and approve the application.

If the General Manager refuses an application, a Councillor may submit an application in



writing for consideration at a meeting of Council.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are Council's designated delegates to the LGAT Annual Conference. Other Councillors may attend by using the Councillor Training Registration Form.

Other Expenditure

Any expenditure not specified above as expenditure for which a Councillor is entitled to be reimbursed or paid by the Council shall be the responsibility of the Councillor, except where Council resolves otherwise.

General Provisions

The following general provisions apply to this policy wherever appropriate to determine the amount of out of pocket expenses that will be reimbursed to Councillors:

- Travel must be undertaken by the shortest route possible.
- Any time occupied in authorised Council business is not to be included in the calculation of any expenses to be paid.
- Wherever possible and practicable a Councillor should seek prior Council approval before attending an activity for the purpose of making payments in relation to any expenses incurred.
- Where travel is by flight the standard form of travel will be economy class.
- Travelling expenses, childcare care expenses and out of pocket expenses will, unless there are exceptional circumstances, be paid in arrears.

5. Legislation

~~This policy is complementary to the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2005~~ 2015.

6. Responsibility

Responsibility for the operation of this policy rests with the General Manager.

DECISION:



GOV 3 NOTICE OF MOTION - LOCAL ANTI-LITTERING CAMPAIGN – CR DEBORAH WHITE

1) Introduction (Cr Deborah White)

The purpose of this report is to consider a Notice of Motion from Councillor Deborah White concerning a proposal for Council to encourage community groups to participate in the 20th Anniversary of Clean Up Australia Day (CUAD) on March 5, 2017.

2) Background (Cr Deborah White)

Council's role would be to liaise with the Special Committees of Council to engage local communities in a local CUAD roadside clean-ups; support these community groups according to CUAD guidelines; publicise the event; and complement the effort with anti-littering signage appropriate to the demographic of the litterers, as determined by the composition of the rubbish currently littering our roadsides, erected on Council roads.

There has been growing concern in the Meander Valley community over the increase in roadside littering. Council received correspondence in October from the Carrick Community Committee complaining about it, Council's TRAP committee discussed the issue in its October meeting, letters to the Editor of the Examiner have also recently expressed concern, and I personally wrote to the General Manager at the start of November regarding the almost 1/3 of a cubic metre of rubbish that I had picked up during my daily 1km walk on Exton Road. (See photo attached.) Councillors are frequently contacted by residents who are concerned about roadside dumping, the turnoff to Dunorlan being one such site favoured by litterers and frequently awash with bottles, cans and fast food wrappers. The visual impact of this situation not only concerns the local community, but extends to the potential negative impact such litter has on visitors, and on our tourism industry.





Figure 1 Example of litter collected on roadside at Exton

Current measures are clearly not working: notices stating that littering is an offence and that penalties apply are clearly being disregarded by a certain sector of the populace which is visibly unconcerned about such empty threats. As Council resources do not stretch to more frequent roadside rubbish collection, I believe that one solution would be to engage local communities in the Clean Up Australia Day campaign (www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au) by inviting them to participate in a Council-supported local campaign that coincides with the national one.

I therefore propose that resources be allocated to develop such a campaign, with it being advertised in the Gazette, on social media, and in Council's Community News. The Special Committees of Council could be contacted to garner their support in engaging locals in groups to clean up their local roadsides, thus publicising our concern for our surroundings and promoting a culture of caring for the community in which we live.

Council could also install its own anti-littering signage as part of this campaign that could precede and follow the actual day. Given the nature of the litter (as above, bottles, usually beer and Red Bull, drink cans, and fast food containers) it appears that the demographic to which the litterers belong is young and thoughtless. For this reason I believe that language familiar to them would be preferable to the more formal wording on State government signage.



I suggest the following or similar:

***Don't trash the 'hood –
Take your rubbish home!***

This wording is based on the best practice of limiting the number of words to those that can be read by a car moving at 100kph. It also draws on the direct instruction practice of stating first what behaviour isn't wanted, and follows with the instruction of what is wanted, thus leaving the reader with the positive message of the action desired.

3) Strategic/Annual Plan Conformance

Furthers the objectives of the Council Community Strategic Plan 2014 to 2024 in particular:

- Future direction (1) – A sustainable natural and built environment
- Future direction (5) - Innovative leadership and community governance

4) Policy Implications

Not applicable

5) Statutory Requirements

Not applicable

6) Risk Management

Council acknowledges there will be matters of risk that need to be resolved and mitigated with the participation of the Special Committees in this initiative.

7) Consultation with State Government and other Authorities

Not applicable

8) Community Consultation

Council will contact the Special Committees of Council to discuss the initiative.



9) Financial Impact

Finance will be required for:

- Publicity and printing cost
- Procurement and erection of signage

There is no existing budget allocation for this project. If Council supports the initiative Council officers will prepare cost estimate and a proposal to reallocate money from another project.

10) Alternative Options

Council can elect to amend or not approve the recommendation.

11) Officers Comments

In response to the short lead in time to Clean Up Australia Day in 2017, Council officers would recommend that Council uses the framework set out by Cr White to establish a pilot project and focus on one particular location.

This approach will allow Council to:

- Determine the organisational impact
- Limit the financial impact and impact on other projects
- Evaluate the outcome

If the pilot project is successful Council can then decide to plan for an expanded program in 2018.

It is recommended that Council chooses a Council managed road where littering is particularly prevalent as a pilot project and liaise with the local Special Council Committee.

AUTHOR: Martin Gill
GENERAL MANAGER

12) Recommendation (Cr Deborah White)

It is recommended that Council:

- 1. liaises with the Special Committees of Council to engage local communities in local CUAD roadside clean-ups***
- 2. supports community groups according to CUAD guidelines***
- 3. publicises the event in social and print media***



4. *complements the effort with anti-littering signage appropriate to the demographic of the litterers, as determined by the composition of the rubbish currently littering our roadsides, erected on Council roads.*

DECISION:



GOV 4 FEASIBILITY STUDY DELORAINE & DISTRICTS

RECREATIONAL PRECINCT

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider preparing a brief and commissioning a feasibility study for a Deloraine & District Recreation Precinct.

2) Background

Prior to the development of the Deloraine Outline Development Plan Council received correspondence from a working group called the Meander Valley Regional Recreation Precinct (MVRRP). The working group was made up of the following existing sporting clubs:

- Deloraine Football Club
- Deloraine Devils Netball Club
- Deloraine Amateur Basketball Association
- Deloraine Little Athletics Club
- Deloraine Squash Club

The working group was developing a concept plan which would improve and expand the Deloraine Community Complex into a sporting and recreation precinct that services the Deloraine District and the broader Meander Valley community.

When the MVRRP working group sent this correspondence to Council introducing the concept plan, the idea had the endorsement of the Meander Valley Economic Renewal Action Group. The MVRRP working group was also in discussions with the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank Branch of the Bendigo Bank and the Australian Sports Foundation.

In response to the correspondence Council encouraged the MVRRP working group to participate in the development of the Deloraine Outline Development Plan.

During preparation of the Deloraine Outline Development Plan Council undertook two community consultation stages.

The first stage was an open consultation seeking community ideas, views and priorities through a series of workshops, surveys, focus groups and public meetings. The subsequent draft Deloraine Outline Development Plan incorporated the feedback from this consultation into a document that



outlined a vision and series of strategic objectives for Deloraine.

The draft Deloraine Outline Development Plan included the proposed recreation precinct as a key strategic initiative. This reflected the results of the initial consultation where there was strong support for the concept from the Deloraine community.

The second stage of consultation was the public exhibition of the draft Deloraine Outline Development Plan which included the following strategy:

STRATEGY 2 — DEVELOP A DELORAINÉ-BASED REGIONAL RECREATIONAL PRECINCT AT ALVESTON DRIVE

The staged development of a regional recreation precinct at Alveston Drive will cater for regional demand for facilities and support Deloraine's role as a District Centre. Consolidating sporting activities in the one location has many advantages including opportunities for sharing facilities, integration with the local schools and locating new facilities outside of the flood-prone area. Strong support for this initiative was received during the public consultation phase.

A feasibility study that outlines the public costs and benefits that would derive from the project to support future applications for funding should be considered a high priority. In resolving the site design for the recreational facilities, consideration should be given to the requirements of the Deloraine Craft Fair to ensure that this important event that currently utilises the site is not adversely impacted.

Considerable support for a new skate park was expressed by younger members of the community. This facility would ideally be located in proximity to the local schools and/or the recreation precinct and its siting should be considered in the context of these activities.

In response to the public exhibition of the draft Deloraine Outline Development Plan Council received:

- 15 written submissions
- 126 survey submissions

Of the 15 written submissions 13 explicitly supported the recreation precinct concept.

As part of the survey participants were asked to nominate their highest



priority initiative presented in the draft Deloraine Outline Development Plan. The results were:

1. Deloraine Recreation Precinct (72.41%);
2. Community hub (7.76%);
3. Improve and support career pathways (4.31%);
4. Wild Wood loop track (3.45%).

The recreation precinct concept was incorporated into the final Deloraine Outline Development Plan which was formally received by Council at the Ordinary Council meeting in July 2016.

In the week before the Council decision the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank committed \$250,000 over five years toward the concept.

The combination of the Council receipt of the Deloraine Outline Development Plan and the commitment of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank generated further energy and enthusiasm for the concept.

Over the last 4 months Council has received further correspondence from the sporting clubs reiterating their support for the concept and seeking advice about the next steps, the Council process and the timing of the project.

During this period the General Manager met a delegation of representatives from all of the sporting clubs involved with the MVRRP working group. The Mayor and General Manager also met with Lynn Hayward Chair of the Board of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank Branch.

The clear message in all of these discussions was that the concept was being driven by local community leaders who wanted to work with Council to progress the initiative.

The discussions in these meetings focussed on a number of key issues. The working group and the Bank wanted to know how to progress the project and translate community support into Council support and action. Council outlined the decision making process and the need to undertake a feasibility study prior to any formal decision about the precinct concept.

The message sent by Council was the need to use the wording in the Deloraine Outline Development Plan as a basis for any next steps. The key words in this case are:



A feasibility study that outlines the public costs and benefits that would derive from the project to support future applications for funding should be considered a high priority.

Following these meetings the Bank and representatives of the MVRPP working group presented to Council at the November Council workshop. During the presentation Lynn Hayward spoke about a partnership between Meander Valley Council and the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank, which, in the first instance, would co fund and commission a feasibility study in line with the strategy in the Deloraine Outline Development Plan.

Council is now in a position where it needs to respond to Deloraine & Districts Community Bank Branch and in a broader sense the community who are driving the concept and support the strategy within the Deloraine Outline Development Plan. The purpose then of this report is to determine if Council supports initiating a feasibility study that investigates the viability of developing a recreation precinct at the Deloraine Community Complex.

3) Strategic/Annual Plan Conformance

Furthers the objectives of Council's Community Strategic Plan 2014 to 2024 in particular:

- Future direction (3) – Vibrant and engaged communities
- Future direction (4) - A healthy and safe community

4) Policy Implications

Not applicable

5) Statutory Requirements

Not applicable

6) Risk Management

Not applicable

7) Consultation with State Government and other Authorities

Not Applicable



8) Community Consultation

Community consultation during preparation of the Deloraine Outline Development Plan indicated strong support for the recreation precinct concept by the Deloraine community.

9) Financial Impact

If Council was to match the funding commitment of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank it would provide up to \$50,000 toward the feasibility study.

10) Alternative Options

Council can elect to amend or not approve the recommendation.

11) Officers Comments

It would be reasonable to describe the recreation precinct concept for Deloraine as a community initiative. The idea has been championed by a collective of sporting clubs that have developed a common purpose and a clear vision.

As Council developed the Deloraine Outline Development Plan and committed to a broad range of consultation seeking ideas from the broader community support for the idea only appeared to strengthen.

This community support has now been backed by financial support from the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank.

Strong community support is a basis to investigate the feasibility of the idea and to measure its viability against the broader recreation infrastructure requirements of Meander Valley and the region.

The potential to partner with the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank provides an opportunity to expand the scope of any feasibility study to include an analysis of the future recreation needs and the role Deloraine might play in a network of recreation precincts throughout Meander Valley.

If Council decides to undertake a feasibility study and match the funding offer of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank Branch the project brief should be developed in conjunction with the Bank, but should include direction to investigate:



- The needs of the existing clubs in Deloraine
- The benefits of consolidating (spatially) the recreation infrastructure in Deloraine
- The potential future use by sporting clubs in the District
- The potential to host regional or State events
- The whole of life cost to the community
- Financing and ongoing funding options
- A reasonable level of capital investment in the context of projected population growth in Deloraine and Districts
- The role of a Deloraine precinct in relation to Westbury, Hadspen, and Prospect Vale Park recreation infrastructure
- The potential to partner with the Deloraine Primary School to provide infrastructure
- Design options for the precinct including staging and connections to the broader urban pattern of Deloraine

Undertaking the feasibility study at this time will provide Council with data and analysis which will guide strategic decisions about recreation infrastructure across the four urban areas pivotal to the ongoing success of the region. This in turn will begin to inform long term financial planning and the question of long term sustainability and asset management in Meander Valley.

It is for these reasons and in recognition of the strong community support for the concept of a Deloraine & Districts recreation precinct and it is recommended that Council makes a determination to work with the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank Branch and undertake a feasibility study.

AUTHOR: Martin Gill
GENERAL MANAGER

12) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council work with Deloraine & Districts Community Bank Branch to prepare a brief and commission a feasibility study for the development of a recreation precinct at the Deloraine Community Complex site.

DECISION:



ITEMS FOR CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING:

Councillor xx moved and Councillor xx seconded ***“that Council move into Closed Session to discuss the following items.”***

The meeting moved into Closed Session at x.xxpm

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER, 2016.

GOV 5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

(Reference Part 2 Regulation 15(2)(h) Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015)

GOV 6 2017 AUSTRALIA DAY NOMINATIONS

(Reference Part 2 Regulation 15(2)(g) Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015)

INFRA 1 LANSDOWNE PLACE – EAST BARRACK STREET INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

(Reference Part 2 Regulation 15(2)(d) Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015)

Cr xxx moved and Cr xxx seconded ***“that Council move out of Closed Session and endorse those decisions taken while in Closed Session.”***

The meeting re-opened to the public at x.xxpm

Cr xxx moved and Cr xxx seconded ***“that the following decisions were taken by Council in Closed Session and are to be released for the public’s information.”***

The meeting closed at

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CRAIG PERKINS (MAYOR)

