

Meander Valley Council

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

ORDINARY MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 12 July 2016

Table of Contents

142/2016	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:.....	4
143/2016	COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING:	5
144/2016	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR:	5
145/2016	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:.....	6
146/2016	TABLING OF PETITIONS:.....	6
147/2016	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....	6
148/2016	COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME.....	10
149/2016	DEPUTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	15
150/2015	NOTICE OF MOTIONS BY COUNCILLORS	16
151/2016	REPRESENTATIONS TO DRAFT PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT 3/2015 – 1 HARLEY PARADE PROSPECT VALE	17
152/2016	DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL MANAGER.....	18
153/2016	NOTICE OF MOTION – MEANDER SCHOOL - CR DEB WHITE	19
154/2016	COUNCIL AUDIT PANEL MINUTES, 2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2016-17 WORK PLAN	21
155/2016	COUNCILLORS CODE OF CONDUCT AND CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL..	22
156/2016	BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN	23
157/2016	REVIEW OF POLICY NO 21 – VANDALISM REDUCTION INCENTIVE.....	24
158/2016	DELORAINE OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN.....	27
159/2016	SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP	28
160/2016	NOTICE OF MOTION – DELORAINE BUSH TUCKER TRAIL – CR DEB WHITE.	29
161/2016	GREATER LAUNCESTON METROPOLITAN PASSENGER TRANSPORT PLAN	31
162/2016	2016 FLOODS – INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE	32

ITEMS FOR CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING:..... 33

163/2016 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION OF THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7 JUNE, 201633

164/2016 LEAVE OF ABSENCE33

165/2016 CONTRACT FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE NO 114,
PITTS LANE, BRACKNELL33

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Meander Valley Council held at the Council Chambers Meeting Room, 26 Lyall Street, Westbury, on Tuesday 12 July 2016 at 1.37pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Craig Perkins, Deputy Mayor Michael Kelly, Councillors Andrew Connor, Tanya King, Ian Mackenzie, Bob Richardson, Rodney Synfield, John Temple, and Deb White

APOLOGIES: Nil

IN ATTENDANCE: Greg Preece, General Manager
Merrilyn Young, Personal Assistant
Martin Gill, Director Development Services
David Pyke, Director Governance & Community Services
Malcolm Salter, Director Corporate Services
Dino De Paoli, Director Infrastructure Services
Matthew Millwood, Director Works
Stuart Brownlea, A/Director Economic Development & Sustainability
Jo Oliver, Senior Town Planner
Justin Simons, Town Planner
Jon Harmey, Senior Accountant
Daniel Smedley, Recreation Co-ordinator
Krista Palfreyman, Development Administration Co-ordinator
Sandi Scott, Development Services Officer
Craig Plaisted, Project Officer
Natasha Szczyglowska, Technical Officer

142/2016 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Councillor Mackenzie moved and Councillor Synfield seconded, ***“that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on Tuesday 7 June, 2016, be received and confirmed.”***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

143/2016 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

Date :	Items discussed:
28 June 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit by CEO of LGAT• Visit by Toddle Inn, Deloraine• Bush Tucker Trail Proposal – Colony 47• Bracknell Wastewater Management• Prospect Vale & Hadspen draft Playground Strategy• 2016 Floods – Update on damage to infrastructure and response actions• Fallow Deer Legislative Council Inquiry – Council submission• Draft State Cat Management Plan• New Model Code of Conduct

144/2016 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR:

Thursday 9 June 2016

TasWater Special General Meeting

Friday 17 June 2016

Northern regional meeting – Flood affected municipalities

Monday 20 June – Wednesday 21 June 2016

Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly (Canberra)

Friday 24 June 2016

Northern Region Flood Recovery Committee

Tuesday 28 June 2016

Father Terry Yard Golden Jubilee Celebration
Council Workshop

Thursday 30 June 2016

Beacon Foundation Charter signing
Beacon Foundation Dessert Challenge

Friday 1 July 2016

Northern Region Flood Recovery Committee
Rotary Club of Deloraine changeover dinner

Tuesday 5 July 2016

Toddle Inn Deloraine, Move Well Eat Well presentation

Wednesday 6 July 2016

NAIDOC Week Flag Raising Event

Friday 8 July 2016

Northern Region Flood Recovery Committee

Tuesday 12 July 2016

Official welcome for the EPA Smoke Workshop, Deloraine

145/2016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

165/2016 CONTRACT NO 170 2015/16 – DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE NO 114, PITTS LANE, BRACKNELL - CR MICHAEL KELLY

146/2016 TABLING OF PETITIONS:

Nil

147/2016 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE – JUNE 2016

Nil

2. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE – JULY 2016

2.1 Mrs Kerin Booth, Legana

1. Can you guarantee to surrounding property owners that the proposed TC development at the old Meander School site will not lower property values?

Council cannot guarantee that the development will either increase or lower property values. The value of a property is determined by the Valuer Generals Office.

2. Can you guarantee to Meander property owners and residents that the proposed TC development will not detract from the amenity of the area?

The amenity of surrounding landowners will be considered as part of any planning permit application for development at the site. If a planning permit is required for development, the planning scheme provides for the consideration of the following matters of amenity:

- **The hours of operation for commercial vehicles**
- **Storage of goods and materials in locations visible from adjacent properties**
- **For new buildings, the protection of the residential amenity of adjoining lots by ensuring that height, setbacks, siting and design of buildings provides adequate privacy, separation, open space and sunlight for residents**

Other amenity issues such as noise, dust and odour emissions are managed under the provisions of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994

3. Does the Council intend to advertise to change the zoning for this site?

No rezoning is required; the site is currently in the Village Zone. This is the appropriate land use zone for the site given its location, the zoning of surrounding land and the purpose of the zone which is:

- **To provide for small rural centres with a mix of residential, community services, and commercial activities**
- **To provide for low impact, non-residential uses that support the function of settlement**
- **To provide for the amenity of the residents in a manner appropriate to the mixed use characteristics and needs of a particular settlement**

4. Does the Council intend to advertise the development application for change of use and upgrade to residential facilities?

If the use and development requires an assessment as discretion or under performance criteria in the provisions of the planning scheme, Council in its role as the planning authority, is required to notify the application under Section 57 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.

This determination cannot be made until Council receives a planning application and a specific use and development is proposed.

5. Does the Council intend to contribute, either financially or in-kind, to TC, such as rate subsidies, assistance with building maintenance or other assistance?

Council has taken on the property from the Tasmanian Government on the basis that there will be no cost to Council.

6. Does the Council's lease arrangements with TC allow for future opportunities to end the lease with TC and for the school site to be used for educational or training purposes if the demographics of Meander change in the future?

A Lease Agreement for the property is yet to be negotiated and the period of the lease approved in the Council decision of the June 2016 Council Meeting was for a 5 year period with two 5 year extension options.

7. Does the Council's lease agreement indicate to TC that the Council may allow the eventual sale of the property to TC?

It is a condition of the Tasmanian Government Transfer Order that the property must revert back to the Crown if the land is no longer being used for the Permitted Purpose or there is an intention to sell the land.

8. What measures of security will there be for the TC clients, for example from drug suppliers they may owe money to or from aggrieved partners?

This is a matter for Teen Challenge to consider if they proceed with the proposal.

9. What measures of security will there be for surrounding residents if incidents arise, given that Meander is quite a distance from the nearest police station?

This is a question that you would need to ask Tasmania Police.

10. In regards to employment, does TC mainly recruit from their own organisation or will there be any job opportunities for Meander residents?

This is a question that should be directed to Teen Challenge.

11. Will all staff be required to have police checks for working with children and vulnerable people?

This is a question that should be directed to Teen Challenge.

12. Will all staff be up-to-date with their relevant government accredited (not just Teen Challenge accredited) training and qualifications as counsellors?

This is a question that should be directed to Teen Challenge.

13. Will the organisation come under the scrutiny of Health, Education and Child Welfare Ministers and their agencies to ensure no unfair, discriminatory or coercive behaviour-modification is being used towards the women and their children in the rehabilitation process?

This is a matter for the relevant agencies and/or Ministers to consider.

14. Concerns have been raised in the community and in the media about cultism and the possible discrimination and coercion of people from different faiths or with no faith, as they do not fit with the TC Vision of "... We desire that every person within Tasmania is equipped to choose freedom from addiction through the saving grace of Jesus Christ". Is Council aware of what type of services TC is going to provide to women and their children who are Buddhists, Humanists or atheists and do not wish to change their beliefs in the process of rehabilitating from drug use?

Council does not make a judgement on moral or religious issues.

15. Discrimination against lesbians was raised at the public meeting in Meander at which a TC representative admitted that lesbians would not be accepted as clients. TC have now apparently and somewhat conveniently changed their stance on this. What form of assurance has been given by TC to Council about this change to TC's previous discriminatory approach in not accepting lesbians in their program?

Council is not required to seek assurances on these issues.

16. Will TC be allowed to proceed with their development, extend their lease and possibly purchase the site in the long term, even though the majority of Meander residents indicated in the MVC survey that they believe that this development will not be of benefit to the community and many feel it will have a detrimental effect on the amenity of the area and community life?

See response at 6.

Council has made its decision based upon the Expression of Interest Process, the conduct of a Public Meeting, consideration of public feedback by letter, email, telephone and conversations and consideration of the Meander resident survey.

17. Does MVC consider that any development on this old school site should be of overall benefit to the community? If so, what are the benefits of TC and do they outweigh all the risks and detrimental effects it may have?

See response at 16 above.

18. Have you considered finding a more suitable location for TC, for example on a farm or larger property, rather than on a small site in the centre of Meander village?

Teen Challenge have not requested that Council assist it in seeking an alternative location.

19. Have the MV Councillors done their background research about TC and its overarching national and global organisations without relying alone on the promotional sites of Teen Challenge?

This is a question for individual Councillors to consider.

20. Has MV Council conducted an overall risk analysis for this proposed development?

A risk assessment has not been undertaken on this or any of the expressions of interest received.

2. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – JULY 2016

Nil

148/2016 COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

1. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE – JUNE 2016

Nil

2. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE – JULY 2016

2.1 Cr Bob Richardson

(a) Minutes of a previous TRAP Select Committee indicated that Council had been offered a Lone Pine seedling as part of ANZAC Centenary celebrations.

Has that seedling been received, and where is it to be planted in the Municipality?

Response by David Pyke, Director Governance & Community Services

The Lone Pine seedling has not yet been received and is expected by the end of July. The seedling will be planted in Deloraine.

(b) Child Care/Day Care Facilities: Meander Valley

There are several Day Care/Child Care facilities in the Meander Valley, (almost) all being run by private entities.

Responses by Malcolm Salter, Director Corporate Services

(a) Could Council confirm that the (Deloraine-based) Toddle Inn Child Care Centre -

(i) was built on land donated by Council

Toddle Inn Child Care Centre holds a 30yr lease (from 14 August 2000) jointly from Council (two thirds ownership) and the Crown (one third ownership).

(ii) was built using Commonwealth funding;

The Commonwealth provided capital funding of \$138,434 and the State Government committed up to a maximum amount of \$244,792. The State Government owned the then existing Toddle Inn premises at East Parade which was subsequently sold for residential use.

(iii) has rates exempt status?

Yes, for the General Rate only. Service rates and charges apply for Waste Management and Fire Levy.

(b) Does that Centre also receive exemption from Land Tax?

The State Revenue Office is responsible for Land Tax and any exemptions that may apply.

(c) Do all the remaining centres throughout the Municipality receive similar exemptions from rates and land tax?

I am aware of one other similar Child Care Centre which is located in Prospect Vale. Unlike the not for profit Toddle Inn, this centre does not qualify for the General Rate exemption as the property is privately owned and the centre is operated by a public company.

- (d) Will Council similarly receive potential applications for land grants with the same response as that received by Toddle Inn?

It would be expected that an application of a similar nature and background to the Toddle Inn Child Care Centre would be considered on its merits and the circumstances prevailing at the time.

3. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – JULY 2016

3.1 Cr Deb White

- (a) Council received correspondence from Ms Helen Boyer regarding the situation at Mary Street residents during recent floods. As a past member of the Emergency Management and Recovery Committee, I know that considerable time and effort was put into considering how to reach vulnerable residents during emergencies.

However, it seems that what is in the plan did not necessarily translate into action on the day.

What steps will Council take to ensure that the EMP is implemented effectively in future?

Response by Greg Preece, General Manager

This matter will be discussed at the next Council Workshop on 26 July.

- (b) At the April Council meeting, Council approved the recommendation to undertake a review of the Development Services Department. Can the GM advise us as to how this matter has been progressed?

Response by Greg Preece, General Manager

Mr Bob Campbell has been appointed as the Consultant to review the Development Services Department and met with the Mayor, General Manager and Director Developments Services last week.

3.2 Cr Bob Richardson

- (a) Does Council realise that there are several significant military memorials throughout the municipality – including cenotaphs at Deloraine, Westbury, Hagley and Carrick and memorial halls.

So can it be explained to me who made the decision for the Deloraine siting, and upon what basis?

Response by David Pyke, Director Governance & Community Services

Contact was made with both the Deloraine and Westbury RSL Clubs following the decision made at the 20 April 2016 Townscape, Reserves and Parks Committee meeting. Deloraine was pleased to accept the offer of a Lone Pine seedling as their seedling, planted in the 1970's, had died hence the decision to allocate it to Deloraine. Recently when following up the delivery of this seedling through Guy Barnett's office there was another seedling still available and this was acquired for the Westbury RSL Club.

- (b) The July 2016 "Meander Valley Gazette" included an article headlined with "Launch of New Basketball Initiatives".

Apart from the 4 basketball rings, each with a price equivalent to that of a Mitsubishi Outlander, the article stated: "the (upgrades) also included upgrades to stadium seating, the canteen and toilet and shower facilities". Because the press article stated "included", presumably money was also spent on other facilities.

What was the total cost of these refurbishments, including the Council staff input, Council administration fees, materials and labour/contractors fees?

What was the cost of the launch function, including staff time, advertising, refreshments, etc.?

- (c) Senator Eric Abetz has stated that the "new" Turnbull Government will honour promises made during the election, even if made by defeated members. Some of those promises related to sporting/recreational facilities included: Exeter (\$1 million), Campbell Town (\$775,000), Oatlands (\$1.5 million), Smithton (\$3.6 million).

Given that the proposed Westbury Recreation and Community Function Centre was to cost in excess of \$3 million why did Council only request \$300,000? And who made that decision?

Questions taken on Notice

3.3 Cr Andrew Connor

During mid-June 2016 some areas in Meander Valley suffered flooding and resultant damage due to unprecedented amounts of rainfall in the Western Tiers.

Since the Meander Dam (and Huntsman Lake) was built around a decade ago this is the first time that some areas have been flooded to such a degree (for example Deloraine).

Could Council write to Tasmanian Irrigation, as operators of the dam, to ask if they have a willingness to investigate using Meander Dam as a buffer against flooding and if such a technical ability exists?

In practice this could involve drawing down of Meander Dam when flooding is forecast to delay or dissipate peak flooding effects.

***Response by Mayor Craig Perkins
Yes Council can write to Tasmanian Irrigation***

3.4 Cr Tanya King

Further to Cr Richardson's Question with Notice regarding a Lone Pine seedling.

Could Council please confirm that the Carrick cenotaph already has a Lone Pine?

Could Council please consider the acquisition of a Lone Pine for the cenotaph at Hagley?

***Response by David Pyke, Director Governance & Community Services
Yes the Carrick Community Committee has already sourced a Lone Pine seedling for their cenotaph. Contact will be made with Guy Barnett's office to ascertain whether there are any further seedlings still available.***

3.5 Cr Ian Mackenzie

During a recent users meeting at the Deloraine Community Complex it was stated that Council had made a decision that council owned facilities were to shut at 12.00am when hired out.

- a) When was this decision made?
- b) Who made it and when were councillors notified of this decision?

Response by Daniel Smedley Recreation Co-Ordinator

The decision was made in April 2016 by Council Officers (Daniel Smedley-Recreation Coordinator and David Pyke – Director) following research of best practice, consideration of the cost benefit and risks in providing a licensed venue for the public after midnight and consultation with relevant stakeholders. The research included discussion with Licensing and advice from other major facility providers (Aurora Stadium). Best practice for the Meander Valley Municipality is considered to be the Prospect Park Sports Club which leases the Ray Johnstone Centre at Prospect Vale Park and holds a 'Club License'. The revenue from hire fees is very small and given there is no licensed security firms located in the Meander Valley the cost of having security attend licensed functions after midnight is prohibitive. As well the risk inherent in staff having to 'troubleshoot' at our venues after midnight for licensed functions is considered high.

The new draft guidelines were developed with all this information considered and it is the view of Council Officers that the most appropriate course of action is to follow best practice and not provide Council facilities after midnight for licensed functions.

The draft guidelines were provided to Councillors via the June Briefing Report and also were distributed to Council officers for comment, including the Facility Officer for Deloraine and the Recreation Officer for Hadspen and the Work Health and Safety Officer. Furthermore the draft guidelines were presented at the Deloraine All Facility Users Meeting on 14 June 2016 for feedback from users.

149/2016 DEPUTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Nil

150/2015 NOTICE OF MOTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

153/2016 MEANDER SCHOOL – CR DEB WHITE

160/2016 DELORAINE BUSH TUCKER TRAIL – CR DEB WHITE

COUNCIL MEETING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY

The Mayor advised that for item DEV1 Council is acting as a Planning Authority under the provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

151/2016 REPRESENTATIONS TO DRAFT PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT 3/2015 – 1 HARLEY PARADE PROSPECT VALE

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to assess and adopt a formal response to the representations made to the exhibition of the draft planning scheme amendment 3/2015 for a rezoning of land and subdivision at 1 Harley Parade Prospect Vale, in accordance with Section 39 of the former provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act (LUPAA) 1993.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council:

- 1. Endorse this report as its opinion as to the merits of the representations in accordance with Section 39(2) of the former provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.***
- 2. Forward the endorsed report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.***

DECISION:

Cr Connor moved and Cr White seconded ***“that Council:***

- 1. Endorse this report as its opinion as to the merits of the representations in accordance with Section 39(2) of the former provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.***
- 2. Forward the endorsed report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

152/2016 DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL MANAGER

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider extending a delegation to the General Manager.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council delegates in writing to the General Manager, under the powers in Section 22 of the Local Government Act 1993, the exercise and performance of the following functions and powers:

- ***Section 6 of the Local Government (Highways) Act 1982 subject to following condition:***
 - ***Director Infrastructure Services recommends the making or opening of a Highway***

DECISION:

Cr Mackenzie moved and Cr King seconded ***“that Council delegates in writing to the General Manager, under the powers in Section 22 of the Local Government Act 1993, the exercise and performance of the following functions and powers:***

- ***Section 6 of the Local Government (Highways) Act 1982 subject to following condition:***
 - ***Director Infrastructure Services recommends the making or opening of a Highway***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

As a procedural motion Cr White moved and Cr King seconded ***“that Council bring forwarded Item 153/2016 to be discussed now.”***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

153/2016 NOTICE OF MOTION – MEANDER SCHOOL - CR DEB WHITE

The Mayor read a statement from Bodhi McSweeney and invited Peter Ferrall, Tanya Cavanagh, Bronte Booth and Genni Ellis obo Robert Waterman to address Council regarding this item.

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is to consider a Notice of Motion from Councillor Deb White to rescind motion 126/2016 Former Meander School Decision Process passed at the 14 June 2016 Council Meeting.

2) Recommendation (Cr Deb White)

It is recommended that Council:

- a) retains responsibility for the site and;***
- b) re-enters into discussions with the State Government to allow for Expressions of Interest from commercial enterprises.***

DECISION:

Cr White moved and Cr Connor seconded ***“that Council:***

- a) retains responsibility for the site and;***
- b) re-enters into discussions with the State Government to allow for Expressions of Interest from commercial enterprises.***

Cr Synfield foreshadowed a motion

The motion was declared LOST with Councillors Connor, Richardson and White voting for the motion and Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Synfield, and Temple voting against the motion

Cr Synfield moved and Cr White seconded ***“that Council***

- a) Receives the IPM Survey Report,***
- b) Forthwith investigates utilizing the Meander School as ‘headquarters’ in the short to medium term, for the purpose of enabling appropriate development of the Great Western Tiers precinct for tourism related activities,***
- c) Enters into further discussions with the Crown, insofar as relates to the permissibility or otherwise, of the incidental usage of the Meander School site for the purpose of ‘seeding’ commercial enterprises that may have a tourism related focus and the broader issue of commercial enterprises utilizing the site outright,***
- d) Works with and assists Teen Challenge to find suitable premises for their proposed facility,***
- e) A report and appropriate recommendations be provided to Council by the General Manager within four months, of the following;***
 - i. merits as relates to b) above (including any compatible usage of the site that may satisfy a community purpose ‘test’ right now),***
 - ii. the outcome of the discussions with the Crown as per c) above, and***
 - iii the outcome of assistance provided to Teen Challenge to find suitable premises for their proposed facility, as per d) above.***

The motion was declared LOST with Councillors Connor, Richardson, Synfield and White voting for the motion and Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins and Temple voting against the motion

Cr Kelly left the meeting at 2.44pm

154/2016 COUNCIL AUDIT PANEL MINUTES, 2015-16 **ANNUAL REPORT AND 2016-17 WORK PLAN**

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the minutes of the Council Audit Panel meeting held on 28 June 2016 including its 2015-16 Annual Report and to approve the 2016-17 Council Audit Panel Work Plan.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council:

- 1) receive the minutes of the Council Audit Panel meeting held on 28 June 2016*
- 2) receive and note the Council Audit Panel 2015-16 Annual Report and refer items 1 and 2 under the heading "Other Matters" to a future Council workshop*
- 3) approve the Council Audit Panel Work Plan for 2016-17*

DECISION:

Cr Richardson moved and Cr White seconded *"that Council:*

- 1) receive the minutes of the Council Audit Panel meeting held on 28 June 2016*
- 2) receive and note the Council Audit Panel 2015-16 Annual Report and refer items 1 and 2 under the heading "Other Matters" to a future Council workshop*
- 3) approve the Council Audit Panel Work Plan for 2016-17*

*The motion was declared **CARRIED** with Councillors Connor, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.*

Cr Kelly returned to the meeting at 2.47pm

155/2016 COUNCILLORS CODE OF CONDUCT AND CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt a new Code of Conduct and to terminate membership of the current Council Code of Conduct Panel.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that:

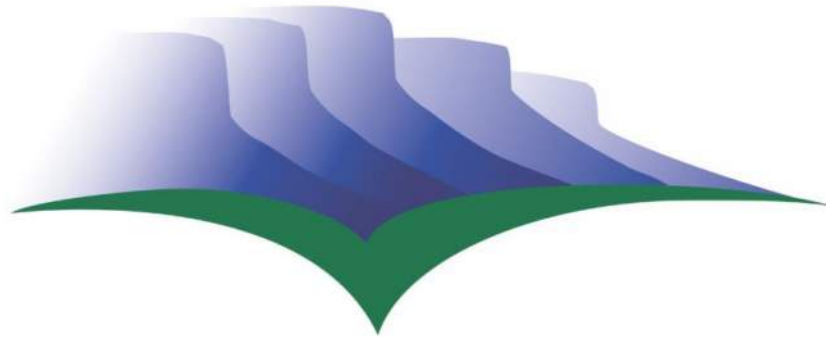
- ***Council adopt the attached Code of Conduct and***
- ***The Council's Code of Conduct Panel and its members be terminated effective from the date of this motion***

DECISION:

Cr Connor moved and Cr Mackenzie seconded ***“that***

- ***Council adopt the attached Code of Conduct and***
- ***The Council's Code of Conduct Panel and its members be terminated effective from the date of this motion***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Perkins, Temple and White voting for the motion and Councillors Mackenzie, Richardson and Synfield voting against the motion



Meander Valley Council

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

MEANDER VALLEY COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

June 2016

Version 2
Adopted: 12 July 2016
Minute No. 155/2016

Contents

Model Code of Conduct	3
PART 1 - Decision making	3
PART 2 - Conflict of interest.....	3
PART 3 - Use of Office.....	4
PART 4 - Use of resources	4
PART 5 - Use of information.....	4
PART 6 - Gifts and benefits	5
PART 7 - Relationships with community, councillors and Council employees.....	5
PART 8 - Representation	6
PART 9 - Variation of Code of Conduct.....	6
Supplementary Information to Accompany to the Model Code of Conduct	7
1. Introduction	7
Purpose of code of conduct.....	7
Application of code of conduct	7
Standards of conduct prescribed under the Code of Conduct.....	7
Principles of good governance	8
2. Legislation	9
Code of conduct.....	9
Making a code of conduct complaint	9
Code of conduct complaint lodgement fee	10
3. Further assistance	10
Councillor dispute resolution	10
Complaints under the Local Government Act 1993	11
Public Interest Disclosure	11
Key contacts.....	12
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT FORM	13

Model Code of Conduct

PART 1 - Decision making

1. A councillor must bring an open and unprejudiced mind to all matters being decided upon in the course of his or her duties, including when making planning decisions as part of the Council's role as a Planning Authority.
2. A councillor must make decisions free from personal bias or prejudgement.
3. In making decisions, a councillor must give genuine and impartial consideration to all relevant information known to him or her, or of which he or she should have reasonably been aware.
4. A councillor must make decisions solely on merit and must not take irrelevant matters or circumstances into account when making decisions.

PART 2 - Conflict of interest

1. When carrying out his or her public duty, a councillor must not be unduly influenced, nor be seen to be unduly influenced, by personal or private interests that he or she may have.
2. A councillor must act openly and honestly in the public interest.
3. A councillor must uphold the principles of transparency and honesty and declare actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest at any meeting of the Council and at any workshop or any meeting of a body to which the councillor is appointed or nominated by the Council.
4. A councillor must act in good faith and exercise reasonable judgement to determine whether he or she has an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest.
5. A councillor must avoid, and remove himself or herself from, positions of conflict of interest as far as reasonably possible.
6. A councillor who has an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest in a matter before the Council must –
 - (a) declare the conflict of interest before discussion on the matter begins; and
 - (b) act in good faith and exercise reasonable judgement to determine whether the conflict of interest is so material that it requires removing himself or herself physically from any Council discussion and remaining out of the room until the matter is decided by the Council.

PART 3 - Use of Office

- 1.** The actions of a councillor must not bring the Council or the office of councillor into disrepute.
- 2.** A councillor must not take advantage, or seek to take advantage, of his or her office or status to improperly influence others in order to gain an undue, improper, unauthorised or unfair benefit or detriment for himself or herself or any other person or body.
- 3.** In his or her personal dealings with the Council (for example as a ratepayer, recipient of a Council service or planning applicant), a councillor must not expect nor request, expressly or implicitly, preferential treatment for himself or herself or any other person or body.

PART 4 - Use of resources

- 1.** A councillor must use Council resources appropriately in the course of his or her public duties.
- 2.** A councillor must not use Council resources for private purposes except as provided by Council policies and procedures.
- 3.** A councillor must not allow the misuse of Council resources by any other person or body.
- 4.** A councillor must avoid any action or situation which may lead to a reasonable perception that Council resources are being misused by the councillor or any other person or body.

PART 5 - Use of information

- 1.** A councillor must protect confidential Council information in his or her possession or knowledge, and only release it if he or she has the authority to do so.
- 2.** A councillor must only access Council information needed to perform his or her role and not for personal reasons or non-official purposes.
- 3.** A councillor must not use Council information for personal reasons or non-official purposes.
- 4.** A councillor must only release Council information in accordance with established Council policies and procedures and in compliance with relevant legislation.

PART 6 - Gifts and benefits

- 1.** A councillor may accept an offer of a gift or benefit if it directly relates to the carrying out of the councillor's public duties and is appropriate in the circumstances.
- 2.** A councillor must avoid situations in which the appearance may be created that any person or body, through the provisions of gifts or benefits of any kind, is securing (or attempting to secure) influence or a favour from the councillor or the Council.
- 3.** A councillor must carefully consider –
 - (a)** the apparent intent of the giver of the gift or benefit; and
 - (b)** the relationship the councillor has with the giver; and
 - (c)** whether the giver is seeking to influence his or her decisions or actions, or seeking a favour in return for the gift or benefit.
- 4.** A councillor must not solicit gifts or benefits in the carrying out of his or her duties.
- 5.** A councillor must not accept an offer of cash, cash-like gifts (such as gift cards and vouchers) or credit.
- 6.** A councillor must not accept a gift or benefit if the giver is involved in a matter which is before the Council.
- 7.** A councillor may accept an offer of a gift or benefit that is token in nature (valued at less than \$50) or meets the definition of a token gift or benefit (if the Council has a gifts and benefits policy).
- 8.** If the Council has a gifts register, a councillor who accepts a gift or benefit must record it in the relevant register.

PART 7 - Relationships with community, councillors and Council employees

- 1.** A councillor –
 - (a)** must treat all persons with courtesy, fairness, dignity and respect; and
 - (b)** must not cause any reasonable person offence or embarrassment; and
 - (c)** must not bully or harass any person.

2. A councillor must listen to, and respect, the views of other councillors in Council and committee meetings and any other proceedings of the Council, and endeavour to ensure that issues, not personalities, are the focus of debate.

3. A councillor must not influence, or attempt to influence, any Council employee or delegate of the Council, in the exercise of the functions of the employee or delegate.

4. A councillor must not contact or issue instructions to any of the Council's contractors or tenderers, without appropriate authorisation.

5. A councillor must not contact an employee of the Council in relation to Council matters unless authorised by the General Manager of the Council.

PART 8 - Representation

1. When giving information to the community, a councillor must accurately represent the policies and decisions of the Council.

2. A councillor must not knowingly misrepresent information that he or she has obtained in the course of his or her duties.

3. A councillor must not speak on behalf of the Council unless specifically authorised or delegated by the Mayor or Lord Mayor.

4. A councillor must clearly indicate when he or she is putting forward his or her personal views.

5. A councillor's personal views must not be expressed in such a way as to undermine the decisions of the Council or bring the Council into disrepute.

6. A councillor must show respect when expressing personal views publicly.

7. The personal conduct of a councillor must not reflect, or have the potential to reflect, adversely on the reputation of the Council.

8. When representing the Council on external bodies, a councillor must strive to understand the basis of the appointment and be aware of the ethical and legal responsibilities attached to such an appointment.

PART 9 - Variation of Code of Conduct

1. Any variation of this model code of conduct is to be in accordance with section 28T of the Act.

Supplementary Information to Accompany to the Model Code of Conduct

1. Introduction

Purpose of code of conduct

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of the councillors of the Meander Valley Council, with respect to all aspects of their role.

As leaders in the community, councillors acknowledge the importance of high standards of behaviour in maintaining good governance. Good governance supports each councillor's primary goal of acting in the best interests of the community.

Councillors therefore agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the standards of behaviour set out in the Code of Conduct.

This Code of Conduct incorporates the Model Code of Conduct made by Order of the Minister responsible for local government.

Application of code of conduct

This Code of Conduct applies to a councillor whenever he or she:

- conducts council business, whether at or outside a meeting;
- conducts the business of his or her office (which may be that of mayor, deputy mayor or councillor); or
- acts as a representative of the Council.

A complaint of failure to comply with the provisions of the Code of Conduct may be made where the councillor fails to meet the standard of conduct specified in the Code of Conduct.

Standards of conduct prescribed under the Code of Conduct

The code of conduct provides for the following eight standards of conduct:

1. Decision making

A councillor is to bring an open and unprejudiced mind to all matters being considered in the course of his or her duties, so that decisions are made in the best interests of the community.

2. Conflict of interest

A councillor effectively manages conflict of interest by ensuring that personal or private interests do not influence, and are not seen to influence, the performance of his or her role and acting in the public interest.

3. Use of office

A councillor uses his or her office solely to represent and serve the community, conducting himself or herself in a way that maintains the community's trust in the councillor and the Council as a whole.

4. Use of resources

A councillor uses Council resources and assets strictly for the purpose of performing his or her role.

5. Use of information

A councillor uses information appropriately to assist in performing his or her role in the best interests of the community.

6. Gifts and benefits

A councillor adheres to the highest standards of transparency and accountability in relation to the receiving of gifts or benefits, and carries out his or her duties without being influenced by personal gifts or benefits.

7. Relationships with community, councillors and council employees

A councillor is to be respectful in his or her conduct, communication and relationships with members of the community, fellow councillors and Council employees in a way that builds trust and confidence in the Council.

8. Representation

A councillor is to represent himself or herself and the Council appropriately and within the ambit of his or her role, and clearly distinguish between his or her views as an individual and those of the Council.

Principles of good governance

By adopting this Code of Conduct, councillors commit to the overarching principles of good governance by being:

Accountable – Explain, and be answerable for, the consequences of decisions made on behalf of the community.

Transparent – Ensure decision making processes can be clearly followed and understood by the community.

Law-abiding – Ensure decisions are consistent with relevant legislation or common law, and within the powers of local government.

Responsive – Represent and serve the needs of the entire community while balancing competing interests in a timely, appropriate and responsive manner.

Equitable – Provide all groups with the opportunity to participate in the decision making process and treat all groups equally.

Participatory and inclusive – Ensure that anyone affected by or interested in a decision has the opportunity to participate in the process for making that decision.

Effective and efficient – Implement decisions and follow processes that make the best use of the available people, resources and time, to ensure the best possible results for the community.

Consensus oriented – Take into account the different views and interests in the community, to reach a majority position on what is in the best interests of the whole community, and how it can be achieved.

2. Legislation

The code of conduct framework is legislated under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act). The Act is available to view via the Tasmanian Legislation Website at www.thelaw.tas.gov.au.

Code of conduct

Tasmanian councillors are required to comply with the provisions of the Council's Code of Conduct while performing the functions and exercising the powers of his or her office with the council.

The Code of Conduct incorporates the Model Code of Conduct (made by order of the Minister responsible for local government) and may include permitted variations included as attached schedules to the Model Code of Conduct.

Making a code of conduct complaint

A person may make a code of conduct complaint against one councillor in relation to the contravention by the councillor of the relevant council's code of conduct.

A person may make a complaint against more than one councillor if the complaint relates to the same behaviour and the same code of conduct contravention.

Code of conduct complaints are lodged with the general manager of the relevant council and must comply with legislative requirements, as outlined below.

A complaint may not be made by more than two complainants jointly.

A code of conduct complaint is to –

- be in writing;
- state the name and address of the complainant;
- state the name of each councillor against whom the complaint is made;
- state the provisions of the relevant code of conduct that the councillor has allegedly contravened;
- contain details of the behaviour of each councillor that constitutes the alleged contravention;
- be lodged with the general manager within six months after the councillor or councillors against whom the complaint is made allegedly committed the contravention of the code of conduct; and
- be accompanied by the code of conduct complaint lodgement fee.

Once satisfied that the code of conduct complaint meets prescribed requirements, the General Manager forwards the complaint to the Code of Conduct Panel.

Code of conduct complaint lodgement fee

The code of conduct complaint lodgement fee is prescribed under Schedule 3 (Fees) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015*. The lodgement fee is 50 fee units (\$76.50 in 2016/17).

3. Further assistance

Councillor dispute resolution

Councillors commit to developing strong and positive working relationships and working effectively together at all times.

Prior to commencing a formal code of conduct complaint, the councillors who are parties to any disagreement should endeavour to resolve their differences in a courteous and respectful manner, recognising that they have been elected to act in the best interests of the community.

A council's internal dispute resolution process should be the first step that is taken when there is a dispute between councillors.

A councillor who is party to any disagreement should request the Mayor (or Lord Mayor) or the General Manager to assist that councillor in resolving the disagreement informally.

If the informal assistance does not resolve the disagreement, the General Manager may, with the consent of the parties involved, choose to appoint an external mediator to assist in the resolution of the disagreement. If an external mediator is appointed, councillors who are party to the disagreement must strive to cooperate with the mediator and use their best endeavours to assist the mediator and participate in the mediation arranged.

Where a matter cannot be resolved through internal processes, the next step may be to lodge a formal code of conduct complaint.

Councillors should only invoke the provisions of the Code of Conduct in good faith, where it is perceived that another councillor has not complied with the provisions or intent of the Code of Conduct.

Complaints under the Local Government Act 1993

The Director of Local Government is responsible for the investigation of complaints regarding alleged breaches of the Act.

Any person can make a complaint to the Director, via the Local Government Division (contact details below), in accordance with section 339E of the Act, where it is genuinely believed that a council, councillor or general manager may have committed an offence under the Act or failed to comply with the requirements of the Act.

To make a complaint, it is recommended that you first contact the Local Government Division to discuss whether the matter is something that the Division can assist with.

Public Interest Disclosure

Any instances of suspected corrupt conduct, maladministration and serious and substantial waste of public resources or substantial risk to public health or safety or to the environment should be reported in accordance with the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2002*. Disclosures may be made to the Tasmanian Ombudsman or the Tasmanian Integrity Commission.

Key contacts

Department of Premier and Cabinet's Local Government Division

Executive Building, 15 Murray Street, HOBART TAS 7000

GPO Box 123, HOBART TAS 7001

Phone: (03) 6232 7022 Fax: (03) 6232 5685

Email: lgd@dpac.tas.gov.au

Web: www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/local_government

Local Government Association of Tasmania

326 Macquarie Street, HOBART TAS 7000

GPO Box 1521, HOBART TAS 7001

Phone: (03) 6233 5966

Email: admin@lgat.tas.gov.au

Web: www.lgat.tas.gov.au

The Tasmanian Integrity Commission

Surrey House, Level 2, 199 Macquarie Street, HOBART TAS 7000

GPO Box 822, HOBART TAS 7001

Phone: 1300 720 289

Email: mper@integrity.tas.gov.au

Web: www.integrity.tas.gov.au

Ombudsman Tasmania

NAB House, Level 6, 86 Collins Street, HOBART TAS 7000

GPO Box 123, HOBART TAS 7001

Phone: 1800 001 170

Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.tas.gov.au

Web: www.ombudsman.tas.gov.au

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT FORM

INTRODUCTION

This form is designed to help you comply with section 28V (Making a code of conduct complaint against councillor) under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

All complaints must be in writing and be lodged within 6 months after the councillor or councillors allegedly committed the contravention of the Council's Code of Conduct.

INSTRUCTIONS

If completing this form by hand, please use black or blue pen and print clearly.

Send your completed form to the General Manager of the Council.

A code of conduct complaint must be accompanied by the prescribed lodgement fee of 50 fee units (\$75.50 in 2015/16).

CONTACT DETAILS (of person making the complaint)

Name:	Telephone (mobile):
Address (Residential):	Telephone (work):
Address (Postal):	Telephone (home):

Email address:

SUMMMARY OF COMPLAINT

Name of each councillor who you believe has contravened the Council's Code of Conduct <i>(may include more than one councillor if complaint relates to the same behaviour and same code of conduct contravention):</i>	
Provisions of the Council's Code of Conduct that you believe each councillor has contravened:	
Date(s) of incident(s):	
Location(s) of incident(s):	

**DETAILS OF THE BEHAVIOUR OF EACH COUNCILLOR THAT CONSTITUTES THE ALLEGED CONTRAVENTION
(FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE ATTACHED)**

WITNESSES (INCLUDE ANYONE WITH KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT HAPPENED)

HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY MADE A CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT ABOUT THIS MATTER?

YES NO

If yes, when did you make the complaint?

DESIRED OUTCOME OF COMPLAINT

Please explain what you would like to happen as a result of lodging this complaint:

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE

SIGNATURE:

Date:

156/2016 BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive Council's new Business Continuity Plan (BCP) for the organisation.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council receive the Business Continuity Plan.

DECISION:

Cr Connor moved and Cr White seconded ***"that Council receive the Business Continuity Plan.***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

157/2016 REVIEW OF POLICY NO 21 – VANDALISM REDUCTION INCENTIVE

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to review Policy No 21 – Vandalism Reduction Incentive.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council adopt the amended Policy No 21 – Vandalism Reduction Incentive as follows:

POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number: 21

Vandalism Reduction Incentive

Purpose:

To act as an incentive for the community to report vandalism of council property.

Department:

Governance & Community Services

Author:

David Pyke, Director

Council Meeting Date:

~~13 August, 2013~~ 12 July 2016

Minute Number:

141/2013

Next Review Date:

August ~~2016~~ 2020

POLICY

1. Definitions

Nil.

2. Objective

To reduce the level of vandalism to Council property.

3. Scope

This policy applies to the vandalism or destruction of any Council controlled property.

4. Policy

That a minimum offer of \$300 be made by way of a reward for information leading to the conviction of persons vandalising or destroying any Council property and this be increased to a maximum of \$1,000 at the discretion of the Mayor or General Manager depending on the severity of the vandalism.

5. Legislation

Not applicable.

6. Responsibility

The responsibility to ensure that this policy is adhered to rests with the General Manager.

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

DECISION:

Cr White moved and Cr Richardson seconded ***“that Council adopt the amended Policy No 21 – Vandalism Reduction Incentive as follows:***

POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number: 21	Vandalism Reduction Incentive
Purpose:	To act as an incentive for the community to report vandalism of council property.
Department:	Governance & Community Services
Author:	David Pyke, Director
Council Meeting Date:	12 July 2016
Minute Number:	157/2016
Next Review Date:	<i>August 2020</i>

POLICY

1. Definitions

Nil.

2. Objective

To reduce the level of vandalism to Council property.

3. Scope

This policy applies to the vandalism or destruction of any Council controlled property.

4. Policy

That a minimum offer of \$300 be made by way of a reward for information leading to the conviction of persons vandalising or destroying any Council property and this be increased to a maximum of \$1,000 at the discretion of the Mayor or General Manager depending on the severity of the vandalism.

5. Legislation

Not Applicable

6. Responsibility

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

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Connor, Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

The Council meeting adjourned for afternoon tea at 3.05pm

The Council meeting resumed at 3.21 pm

Cr Connor left the meeting at 3.20pm

158/2016 DELORAINÉ OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the Deloraine Outline Development Plan (the 'Deloraine ODP').

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council formally receive the Deloraine Outline Development Plan.

DECISION:

Cr King moved and Cr Kelly seconded ***“that Council formally receive the Deloraine Outline Development Plan.”***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

Comment by Cr Bob Richardson

It is noted that the motion says Council RECEIVES the Deloraine ODP.

There are several assumptions and findings in the report which are deserving of challenge.

Furthermore, there are other centres which have been starved of infrastructure developments. These centres have significant catch-up to be made.

After that has been achieved, (at Hadspen, Westbury and Prospect Vale in particular), then Council can consider spending in Deloraine.

159/2016 SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to appoint two new community representatives to Council's Sustainable Environment Special Committee (SESC).

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Mr Ian Howard and Mr Sean Manners be appointed by Council under Section 24 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 as community members to the Sustainable Environment Special Committee.

DECISION:

Cr White moved and Cr Mackenzie seconded ***“that Mr Ian Howard and Mr Sean Manners be appointed by Council under Section 24 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 as community members to the Sustainable Environment Special Committee.”***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

160/2016 NOTICE OF MOTION – DELORAINE BUSH TUCKER TRAIL – CR DEB WHITE

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a Notice of Motion from Councillor Deb White concerning the Bush Tucker Trail project proposed to be undertaken in the river foreshore reserve in Deloraine.

2) Recommendation (Cr Deb White)

It is recommended that Council endorse the proposal for a Bush Tucker Trail proposed by Colony 47 as presented in the Council workshop held on 28 June 2016.

DECISION:

Cr White moved and Cr Mackenzie seconded ***“that Council endorse the proposal for a Bush Tucker Trail proposed by Colony 47 as per the attached document.”***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion and Councillor Richardson voting against the motion

Comment by Cr Bob Richardson

The original concept was for a ‘bush tucker’ trail which was available to the general public for a tactile experience where visitors could taste/feel/smell the plants. Signage will request visitors not to taste the plants? – a complete reversal of the original concept.

The vast majority of the funding will now be spent on facsimile animals etc. Surely a better concept would have been to link the bush garden with real, live native animals in a “bush” setting – Trowunna, which I understand, is owned/managed by descendants of the original Tasmanians.

I would be more inclined to support the motion if indigenous Tasmanians (from across the State) produce the artworks.

I am also concerned that scarce NRM funds are being used. Almost \$25,000 NRM money could be better used to remove crack willows in Quamby Brook downstream of Westbury's Town Common, thus reducing the flood impact on-going costs to Council are likely to be in excess of \$14,000 pa.

What is Colony 47?

Colony 47 is a Tasmanian not-for-profit community service organisation that helps Tasmanians to:-

- stay housed
- access education
- develop skills
- find employment and
- build meaningful relationships
- The Community Pathways Program supports Aboriginal people via -
 - 1) Referral service and information service
 - 2) Support the Deloraine Community Garden
 - 3) Activities at Deloraine House
 - 4) Twilight Fest and Cultural Excursions

What is the Bush Tucker Trail?

- The BTT was first proposed by Greg Murray, an Aboriginal man who grew up in Deloraine spending much time on the river in his youth and has a passion for imparting Aboriginal culture.
- Through the Com Pathway Program C47 has investigated and developed the proposal to this point and today I seek Council endorsement for this unique project.
- The BTT is proposed to be sited on the north bank of the Meander River at Deloraine between the train bridge and the swimming pool (700m-RT)
- It will be a fantastic visitor experience showcasing Tasmanian Aboriginal culture incorporating bush tucker gardens, small animal sculptures, hand stencils, pavers, mosaics, a traditional Yarning Circle, and interpretive signage

What is the Bush Tucker Trail?

- The existing pathway is ideal for such a venture as it is all weather and gentle, meaning that it can be navigated by all people, with special consideration for the elderly and disabled.
- It is ideally located, being in an area which has much public infrastructure already in place which dove-tails harmoniously with the forecasted utilization of the trail. (incl: car and tour bus parking/bbq area/toilets)
- The garden sites will add colour and interest to the existing walk and the six sites have been selected as they are currently under-utilized or in difficult to maintain areas
- All features proposed are to enhance the riverbank area and to compliment the well maintained parkland in a subtle and interesting way

BTT – Proposed Sites and Signage

- * Site 2 and 2A – Either side of the railway bridge
- All sites have been carefully analysed by Herbert Staubmann of Habitat Plants and as each site has it's own micro-climate, plantings have been selected which are suitable for each site
- **Site 2**- on the train side of the railway bridge
- Full sun, approximately 4m²
- Great introduction to the trail, unused site
- The background wall will have traditional ochre hand stencils applied
- Greg Murray and local schoolkids
- **Site 2A** – other side of train bridge
- Morning sun, then shaded as the day progresses
- Existing sparse planting and mulch are already present

Interpretive Signage for the BTT

- As the train abutments are owned by TASRAIL, permission has been sought and granted to apply the hand stencils on the right abutment and to attach an interpretive sign to the left abutment
- The sign will be approximately 1.5 x .9 metres and being attached to the wall it will be discreet as there is not the need to erect another pedestal sign as the one nearby
- We have chosen the signage type which is on display at YARNS which John Parish created
- The benefits of this type of signage are:
 - It will be unique as it will differ from YARNS with writing as well as pictures
 - It also is hard-wearing, long-lasting and resistant to vandalism, the YARNS tiles looking as good as the day they were erected.

BTT Garden Sites 3 & 4

- The garden sites 3 & 4 are located either side of the road bridge.
- Again, both these sites are unused and are perfect locations for native plantings to add interest and colour.
- **SITE 3*** : is a semi-shade microclimate of approx. 3.5 m² and

& SITE 4 : (9 x 4 metres incl. the banked area) is a shaded area which incorporates a sloping bank towards the pool side. The bank is very difficult for Council to maintain and because of this plantings have been selected to trail down the bank whilst adding stability and improving maintenance aspects for Council.

* With all the garden sites, border pavers will be applied to enable Council maintenance staff to mow up to, creating a crisp delineation from lawn to garden areas.

BTT Sites 5A & 5B

- Site 5A & B are the remaining garden sites and are located in front of the swimming pool.
- 5A is the existing area which has existing plantings and mulch
- These plantings will be added to, again providing stability with an injection of colour for this area
- 5B is a new garden bed in front of and to the left of the shed (approx. 12 m x 6 m) which will curve towards the cyclone fence.
- The microclimate here is varied from full sun to partial shade with plantings to reflect these variabilities
- We feel that the garden sites will greatly enhance the existing flora and add to the overall aesthetics of the Riverwalk

Plant List and Costings for BTT garden Sites – (slide 8)

- This is the plant spreadsheet developed by Herbert from Habitat
- Habitat have been consulted extensively from the beginning of the project and Herbert has been very generous with his time and expertise
- He has provided Council a list of year round maintenance items which cover:
 - Plant replacement ratios
 - Weeding requirements &
 - Mulch top up
- * We have secured the services of a qualified horticulturalist and landscape designer to oversee the planting schematic for each site and to lead a group of 5 local volunteers for the ongoing maintenance requirements for the BTT sites.

Examples of Signage Along the BTT

- The tiled example on the right will be located on the left abutment of the rail bridge
- This will be the main interpretive signage for the trail (1500x900)
- The middle example is a garden bed sign, approx. 230x150 mm
- Additional signage of this size will be erected at each site to inform the public that the plantings are for display and educational purposes only and not for consumption
- Much consideration has been given to the types of plants chosen to alleviate any potential risk, with one plant type replaced with a similar kind as consumption out of season could lead to a mildly upset stomach
- The left signage example is a double pedestal type as used in other sections of the park
- A similar sized one will inform visitors about the Yarning Circle

Traditional Yarning/Healing Circle

- A wonderful feature of the BTT is a traditional Yarning or Healing Circle and one that we anticipate will be greatly used by all members of the community
- It consists of 9 stones or boulders which denote the 9 Tasmanian Aboriginal Nations surrounding a central fire-pit which will incorporate a lockable cover featuring a unique design by an Aboriginal artist
- The fire-pit will be manufactured by a local metal artist
- Colony has created a Yarning Circle for the Trevallyn reserve in L'ton and the idea is to provide a place where people can come together to 'Yarn' or reflect.... much like the campfire experience
- Colony and Council will have security keys for the use of the fire-pit with prior notification required for usage. It will have a seating capacity for 27 people and is approx. 4 metres in diameter and will be a valuable addition for annual festivals in the area

Features of the BTT

- To compliment the garden sites and to make the 700 metre round trip a truly memorable cultural experience for visitors a number of artworks are proposed for the trail.
- As stated the right abutment of the rail bridge will have hand stencils applied, an example of which is top right
- The two low retaining walls will be enhanced by a subtle mosaic, similar to the one pictured and be designed by Aboriginal artist and Elder, Aunty Dawn Blazeley
- A local mosaic artist will collaborate with Aunty Dawn and apply the design with the assistance of local volunteers
- Eight bronze Tasmanian sculptures will be dotted along the trail which will be cast by John Parish after the moulds have been made by eight Aboriginal and non aboriginal members of the community
- The sculptures will dovetail with existing sculptures on the Main Street and will be educational, building on the state's dual naming policy,
e.g. the Tasmanian Devil is 'Taraba' and this will be denoted by a small plaque
- Pavers and QR codes

BTT – Community wide consultation

- Since September last year we have been in extensive consultation with the community regarding the project including:
 - Members of the local Aboriginal Community and Aboriginal Elders and artists.....we have placed the utmost importance of respecting Cultural sensitivities and have received guidance and approval from Elders for all concepts of the trail.
 - MVC Council staff from community development, technical and works departments
 - Community organisations and bodies including Rotary Deloraine, Arts Deloraine, Townscapes/reserves and parks, Deloraine House, the three local schools and Habitat Plants
 - We expect tour groups will be attracted to come and experience the trail like the one pictured (top left) and we have held two public consultation days which were advertised in the Gazette article and also in the Examiner, which received great support for the proposal

BTT Support

- We have been overwhelmed with the goodwill, support and assistance that we have received from everyone we have talked to regarding the project:
- Council have been fantastic throughout, providing a letter of support and approving a \$3000 grant from the Community Grants program which is contingent on Council endorsement
- The local schools are very enthusiastic to participate in various elements of the project
- All funding bodies approached have commented that the project ticks many boxes
- We have emphasized from the outset, our desire for the project to have at its heart a community wide focus that brings the community together, utilizes local skillsets and businesses which in turn fosters a real sense of inclusion and ownership by all participants involved.

BTT-Project Costs

- We have been very successful in attracting funding for the project: receiving:-
 - A seeding grant for site plans from NRM North
 - NRM North also granted funding for the garden sites, signage and part of the Yarning Circle
 - A valued donation from the Rotary Club of Deloraine
 - A fantastic contribution from the Community Enterprise Fund administered through the Bendigo Bank
 - As mentioned the MVC grant
 - And we are to be notified shortly of our funding applications to Tas. Regional Arts and the Tasmanian Community Fund, which we are quietly confident of
 - So around \$40, 000 of funding has been secured, with around \$26, 000 to be confirmed which when applied to the project will create a great, valuable, long lasting gifted asset for the MVC and the people of the Meander Valley

What are the benefits of having a Bush Tucker Trail in the Meander Valley?

The BTT will:

- * Provide a sense of pride and place for the Aboriginal Community
- * Add to the character and reputation of the Meander Valley
- * Enhance tourism and economic development
- * Engage local school students in learning about Aboriginal culture in a positive community activity and improve artistic and practical skills
- * Be a great educational tool for visitors and residents
- * Build partnerships across the community
- * Promote local artists and
- * Will be a unique cultural experience for locals and visitors alike

Locality:

River Parkland
Meander Riverbank
Town of Deloraine

Site Proposals:

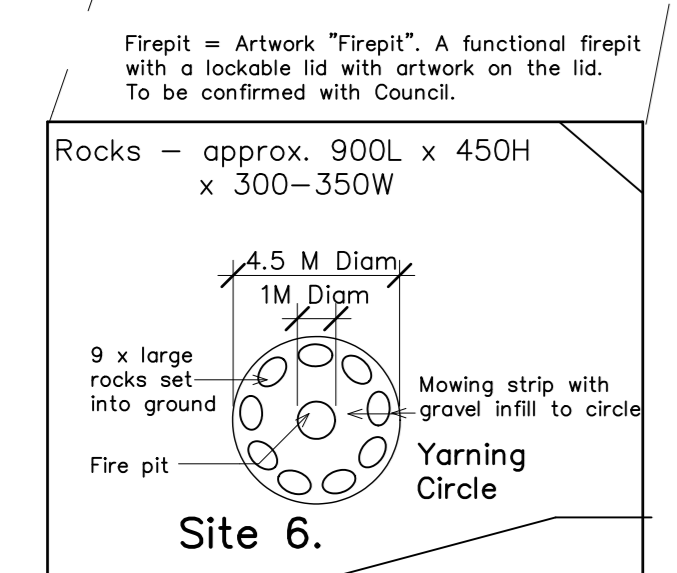
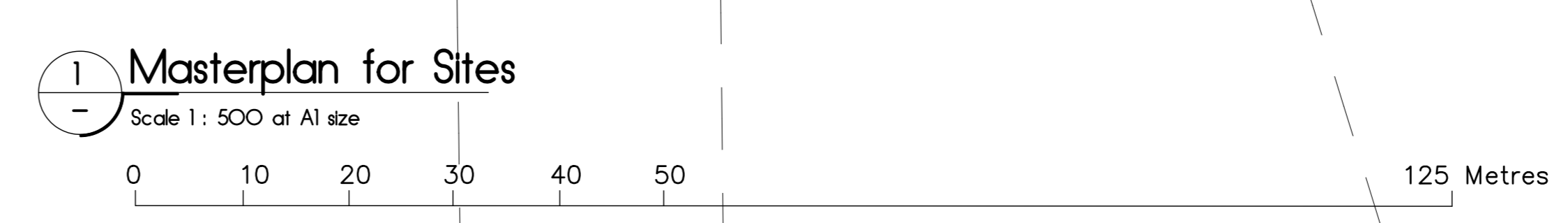
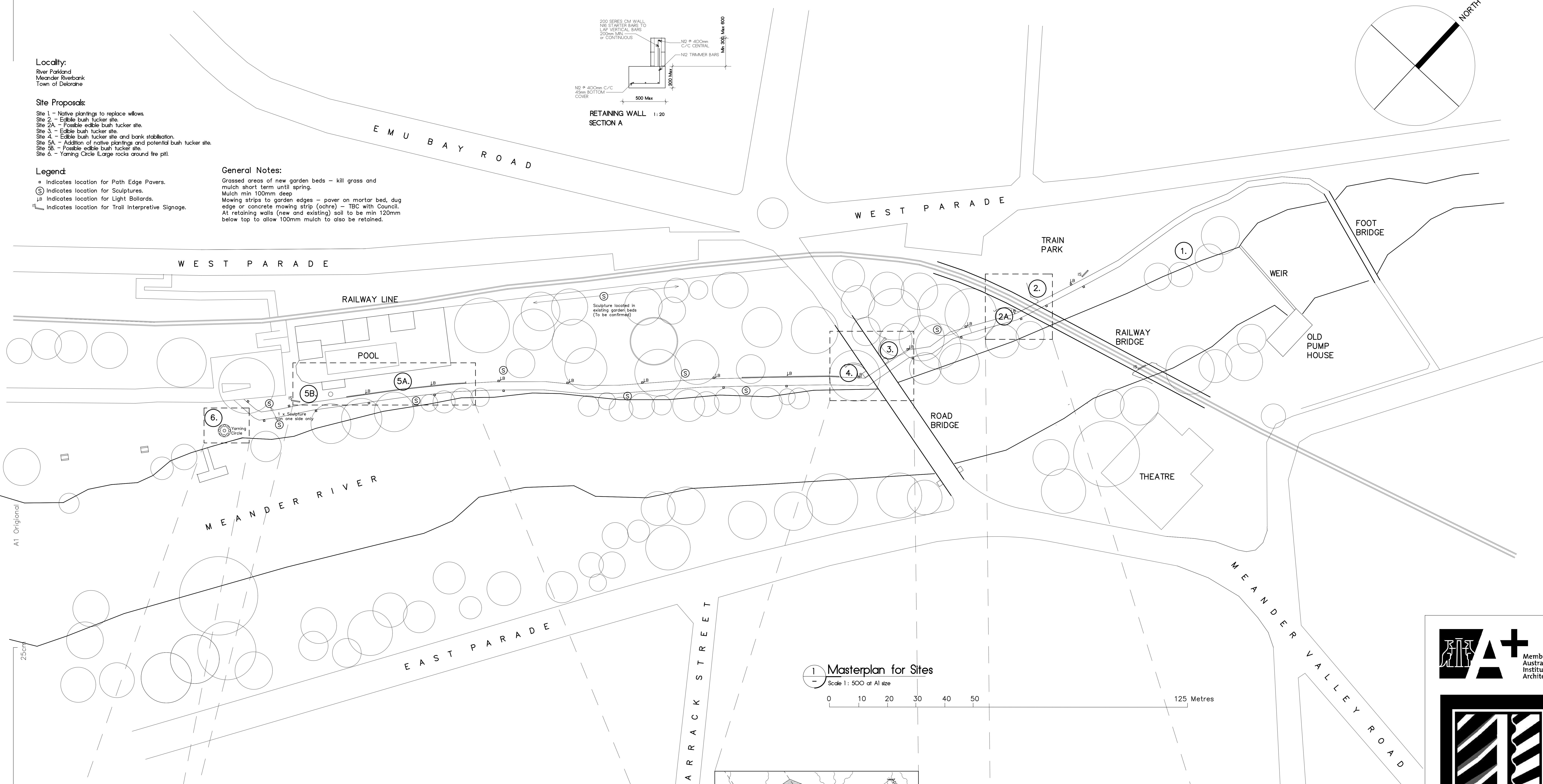
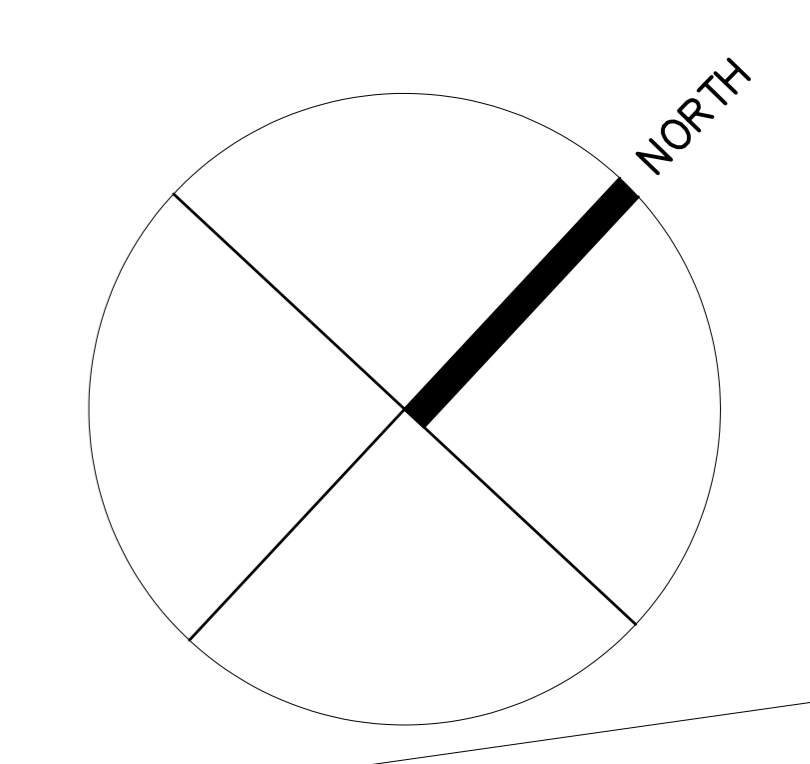
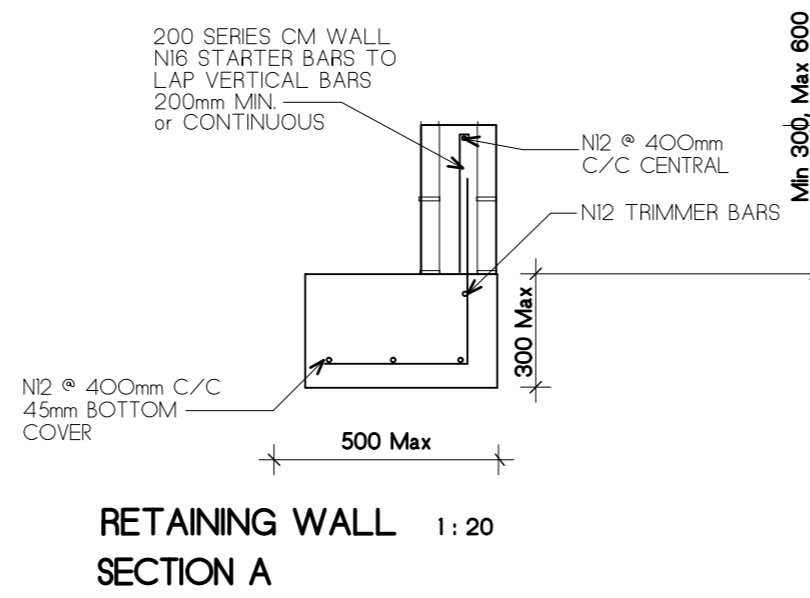
- Site 1 - Native plantings to replace willows.
- Site 2 - Edible bush tucker site.
- Site 2A - Possible edible bush tucker site.
- Site 3 - Edible bush tucker site.
- Site 4 - Edible bush tucker site and bank stabilisation.
- Site 5A - Addition of native plantings and potential bush tucker site.
- Site 5B - Possible edible bush tucker site.
- Site 6 - Yarning Circle & Large rocks around fire pit.

Legend:

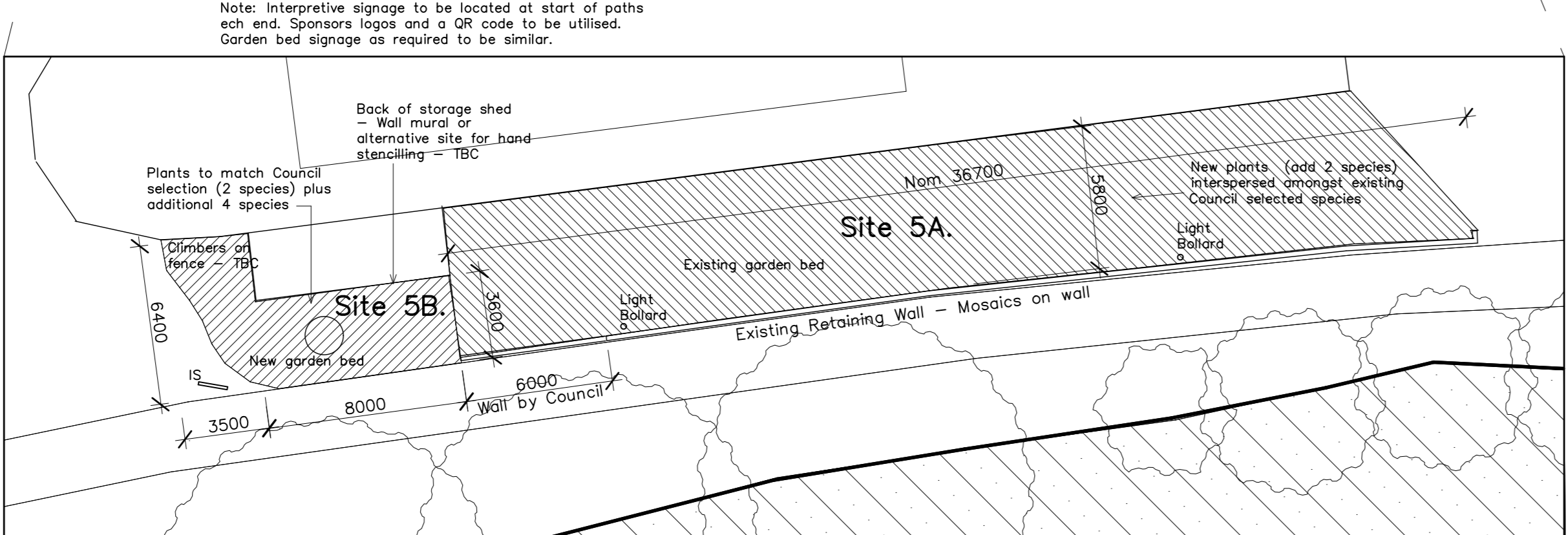
- Indicates location for Path Edge Pavers.
- ⊙ Indicates location for Sculptures.
- ⊕ Indicates location for Light Ballards.
- Ⓜ Indicates location for Trail Interpretive Signage.

General Notes:

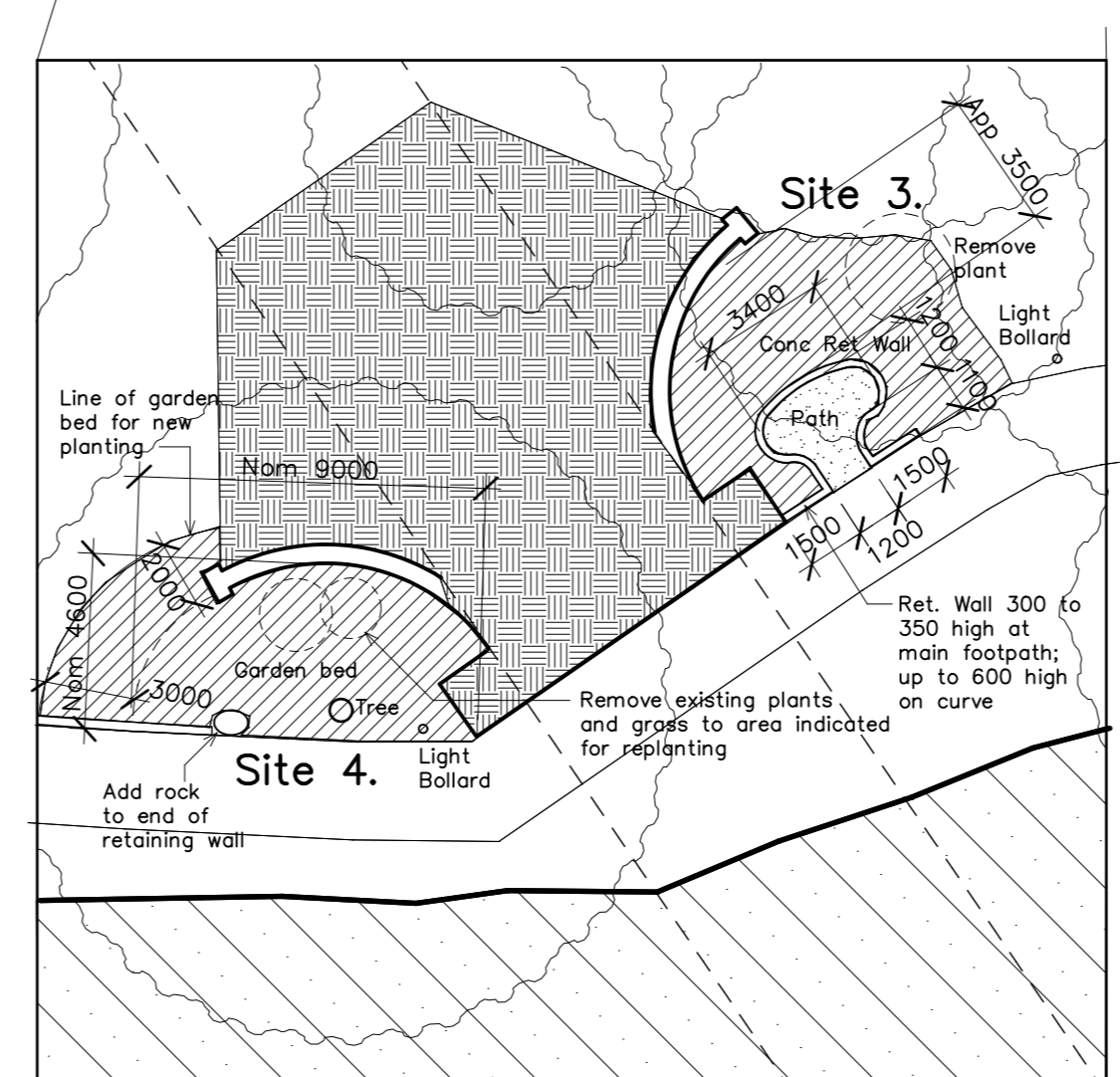
Grassed areas of new garden beds - kill grass and mulch short term until spring.
Mulch min 100mm deep
Mowing strips to garden edges - paver on mortar bed, dug edge or concrete mowing strip (ochre) - TBC with Council.
At retaining walls (new and existing) soil to be min 120mm below top to allow 100mm mulch to also be retained.



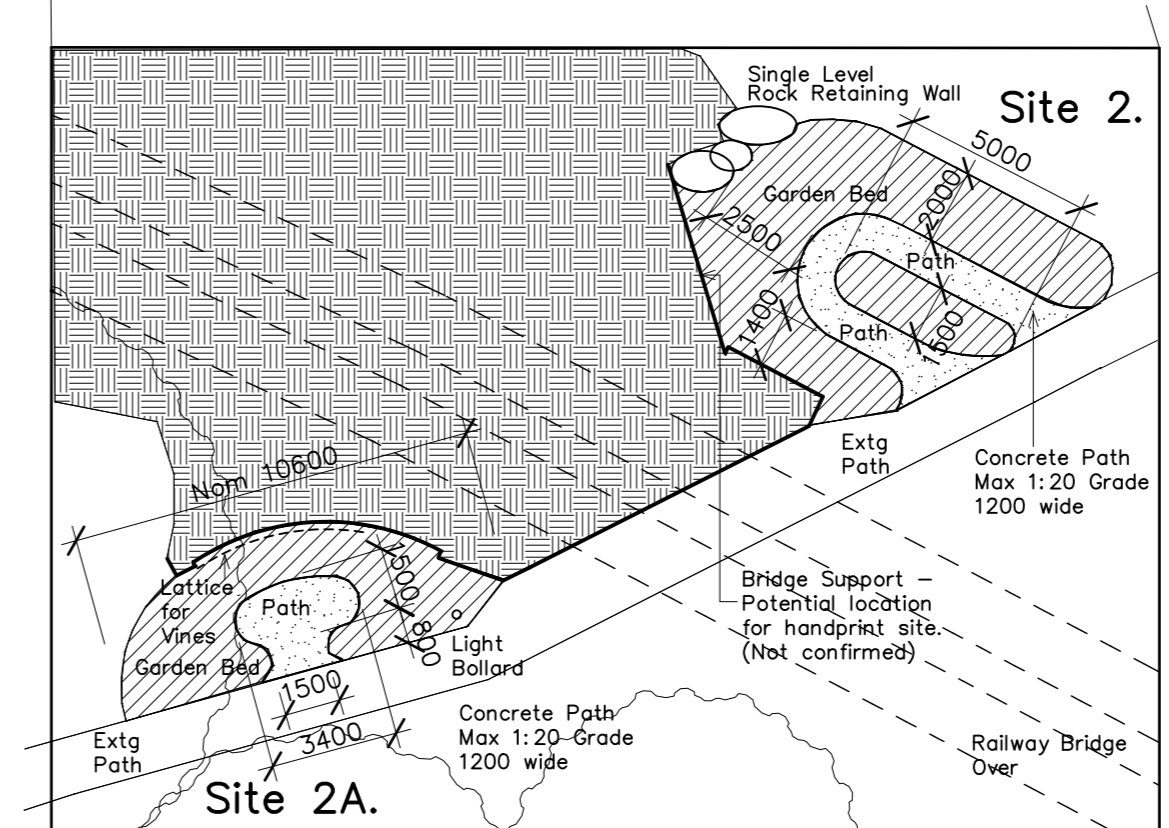
Site Enlargement A - Sites 6



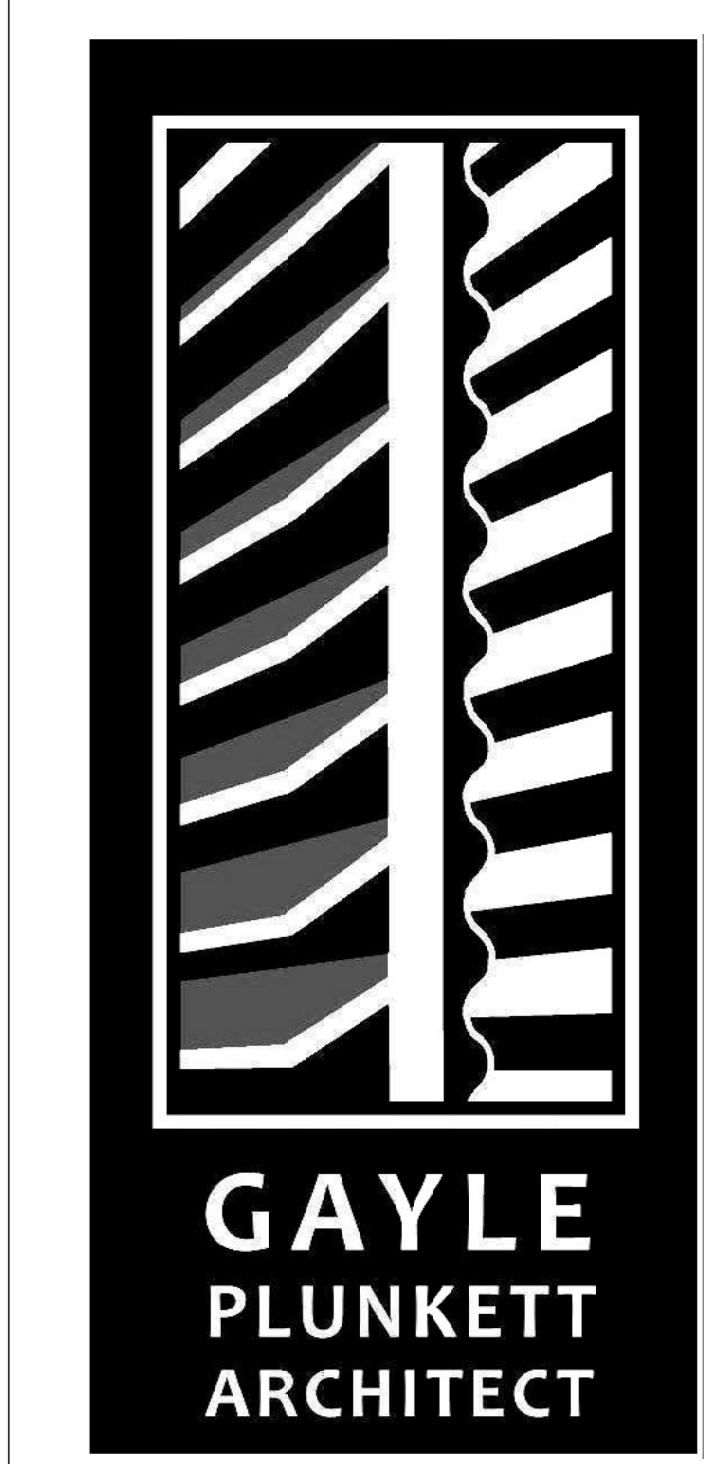
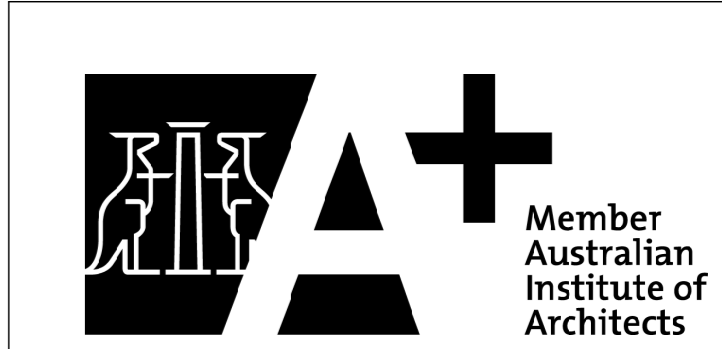
Site Enlargement B - Sites 5A, 5B



Site Enlargement C - Sites 3, 4



Site Enlargement D - Sites 2, 2A



Office Address:
20-22 Emu Bay Road
Deloraine TAS 7304
Mobile: 0418 813 112
BAQ Reg No: 2081
BAT Reg No: 871
BANT Reg No: ARI041
ABP Acc No: CC&O22J

© Copyright-Gayle Plunkett Architect
The Information, Ideas and Concepts contained within this document may not be copied or disclosed to any person without prior written consent of the Author

Yarning Circle Updated to 9 Rocks Updated drawings for Council Grant Application Drawing Issue			C B A	GP GP GP	26-5-16 13-4-16 25-2-16	Checked	Date	Drawn	Date	Client	Dwg Title	Scale	Job No.	Dwg No	Rev.
Revisions and Issues			Rev.	By	Date	Apprvd	Date	Plotted	Date	Bush Tucker Trail Project Committee c/- Colony 47	Site Plan and Enlarged Specific Site Plans	1: 500 and 1: 200	BTT-16.01	CD.01	C
										Bush Tucker Trail River Parkland, Deloraine. TAS					

161/2016 GREATER LAUNCESTON METROPOLITAN PASSENGER TRANSPORT PLAN

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive and note the recently completed Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council receive and note the Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan.

DECISION:

Cr White moved and Cr Mackenzie seconded ***“that Council receive and note the Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan.”***

As an amendment Cr Richardson moved and Cr Synfield seconded ***“that Council receive and note the Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan and recommend that the new replacement fleet run on LNG.”***

The amendment was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion and Councillor Mackenzie voting against the motion.

The amended motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion and Councillor Mackenzie voting against the motion.

Mayor Perkins left the meeting at 4.11pm

Deputy Mayor Michael Kelly assumed the Chair at 4.11pm

Mayor Perkins returned to the meeting at 4.13pm

Deputy Mayor Michael Kelly vacated the Chair at 4.13pm

162/2016 2016 FLOODS – INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

1) Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council on the extent of flood impacts to public infrastructure across the municipality, advise of response actions to date to return the condition of assets to pre-flood levels of service and to seek endorsement of the response actions implemented by Council officers.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that Council receive the report and endorse the response actions implemented by Council Officers.

DECISION:

Cr White moved and Cr King seconded ***“that Council receive the report and endorse the response actions implemented by Council Officers.”***

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

ITEMS FOR CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING:

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

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

The meeting moved into Closed Session at 4.20pm

163/2016 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7 JUNE, 2016

164/2016 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

165/2016 CONTRACT FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE NO 114, PITTS LANE, BRACKNELL

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

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

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

The meeting re-opened to the public at 4.31pm

Cr White moved and Cr Synfield seconded "**that the following decision taken by Council in Closed Session is to be released for the public's information -**

that Council award Contract No 170-2015/16 for the design and construction of a dual lane bridge structure at Pitts Lane to TasSpan Pty Ltd."

The motion was declared CARRIED with Councillors Kelly, King, Mackenzie, Perkins, Richardson, Synfield, Temple and White voting for the motion.

The meeting closed at 4.36pm

.....
CRAIG PERKINS (MAYOR)