

WANGARATTA RURAL CITY COUNCIL



RURAL CITY OF
WANGARATTA

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING
OF THE WANGARATTA RURAL CITY COUNCIL,
HELD AT SOUTH WANGARATTA CFA,
SHANLEY STREET, WANGARATTA
ON **TUESDAY, 15 APRIL 2014** COMMENCING AT 6.00PM

Brendan McGrath
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders and to Elders from other communities who may be here today.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, we humbly ask thee to bless and guide this council in its deliberations so that we may truly preserve the welfare of the people whom we serve. Amen

3. PRESENT

Administrators:

Mrs Ailsa Fox, Chair; Ms Irene Grant; Mr Rod Roscholler

Officers Present:

Mrs Ruth Kneebone, Director Corporate Services; Mr Alan Clark, Director Infrastructure Services; Mr Barry Green, Director Development Services; Ms Penny Hargrave, Acting Director Community Wellbeing

4. ABSENT

Mr Brendan McGrath, Chief Executive Officer; Ms Jaime Carroll, Director Community Wellbeing

5. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES and GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ORDER OF BUSINESS

6. CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

Nil.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

(Moved: Administrator I Grant/ Administrator R Roscholler)

Recommendation

That Council read and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 18 March 2014 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting.

Carried

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

In accordance with sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors are required to disclose a '*conflict of interest*' in a decision if they would receive, or could reasonably be perceived as receiving, a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

9. RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

Nil.

10. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

10.1 ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

Nil.

10.2 OFFICER'S REPORTS

10.2.1 EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Nil.

10.2.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil.

10.2.3 COMMUNITY WELLBEING

10.2.3.1 MULTICULTURAL STRATEGY 2014 - 2017

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Justine Ambrosio Cultural Development Officer
File Name: Multicultural Strategic Plan
File No: 60.020.006

Jaime Carroll declared an indirect conflict of interest (S78B 1(b) *Local Government Act*) regarding the matter under consideration as she was the consultant engaged to write the strategy.

Executive Summary

This report is presented to seek Council's endorsement of the Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017.

The Multicultural Strategy 2014 - 2017 identifies key issues identified by the multicultural community, service providers and stakeholders for the Rural City of Wangaratta community; and key priority areas objectives and actions to address these issues. The Strategy also outlines opportunities for partners to work together with Council:

- to promote unity, harmony and connection;
- to support the community to become empowered and engaged;
- to build a connected community through effective partnerships and advocacy; and
- to provide culturally appropriate services and programs that are accessible and meet the community's changing needs.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator I Grant/ Administrator A Fox)

That Council resolves to adopt the Multicultural Strategy 2014 - 2017.

Carried

Background

Council is committed to promoting a culture of respect and harmony for all, and values individuals and communities of diverse and multicultural backgrounds for their rich contribution to the Rural City of Wangaratta community.

The development of the Multicultural Strategy was identified as an action in Council's Plan 2009- 2013 (2.1.2.1, "work in partnership with key stakeholders to develop a Multicultural Strategic Plan").

The intent of the Multicultural Strategy is to provide strategic direction and an action plan for how Council will respond to and work with the multicultural community.

The Multicultural Strategy 2014-2017 was placed on public exhibition from 18 February to 20 March 2014. Copies were provided to stakeholders, community groups and agencies; were available at the Council offices, Wangaratta Library via Council's website, and provided to rural community general stores and post offices. Advertisements regarding the public exhibition period were placed in the Wangaratta Chronicle Rural Connections Page.

Implications

Council received one written submission that did not require an amendment to be made to the Multicultural Strategy.

Submission 1:

Lodged by Melinda Shepherd, the Acting Manager of Operations for Ovens and King Community Health Service.

Ms Shepherd enquired as to why two key stakeholders were not included in the list on page nine:

- Dirrawarra Indigenous Network; and
- Central Hume Primary Care Partnership (CHPCP) in relation to 'Closing the Health Gap' and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness training being delivered in the coming months.

Ms Shepherd also added that "the document looks great and it is wonderful to have a strategy documented like this".

Cultural Development Officer's Comments/Recommendation

A significant amount of research was conducted into Multicultural Strategies throughout Australia to determine best practice. The result of the research was that while some municipalities included Indigenous people within their strategy, the majority did not. This is largely due to the definition of multiculturalism in the context of the strategy referring to those who have migrated to Australia from other countries.

Council works closely with the Dirrawarra Indigenous Network (DIN) to implement strategies and initiatives that have been developed through the DIN Community Plan.

Policy Considerations

In the development of this strategy, Council considered the following State and Federal policies:

- Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria Inc. – Strategic Plan 2010 – 2014;
- Cultural Diversity Guide – Department Human Services, 2006;
- Victorian Multicultural Act 2011;
- “All of Us” – Victorian Government Policy Statement 2010;
- Valuing Cultural Diversity – Victorian Office of Multicultural Affairs;
- Municipal Association of Victoria – Cultural Diversity 2012;
- The Government’s Vision for Citizenship in a Multicultural Victoria; and
- Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

Financial

The Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017 has no immediate financial impact; however, resourcing of some actions will require consideration in future Council budgets.

Legal/Statutory

There are no legal/statutory implications identified for the subject of this report.

Social

The Rural City of Wangaratta is strongly committed to supporting our multicultural community by providing support for other agencies and organisations in a number of programs, activities and events.

Environmental/Sustainability

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts identified for the subject of this report.

Economic

There are no economic impacts identified for the subject of this report.

Council Plan-Key Strategic Activity/Action

The development of the Multicultural Strategy meets the following actions from the Rural City of Wangaratta 2013 - 2017 Council Plan:

- 1.1.1.4 Support cultural groups to celebrate their heritage; and
- 2.4.1.7 Work in partnership with key stakeholders to develop a Multicultural Strategic Plan.’

Strategic Links

a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision

Section eight: *'Respect and celebration of cultural diversity is pivotal to our way of life, the strength of our community and our personal wellbeing'*.

b) Other strategic links

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013 – 2017:

*'4.2.5 – Deliver culturally respectful and acceptable services and programs', and
'4.2.8 –Continue to collaboratively plan and deliver integrated high quality community facilities that meet a range of health, cultural and community needs'.*

Risk Management

Risks have been considered in relation to this project and there are no moderate to extreme risks identified for the subject of the report.

Consultation/Communication

The community has been engaged extensively throughout the development of the Multicultural Strategy 2014 - 2017. Community consultation undertaken in the development of this strategy is outlined below, with 196 people contributing their thoughts and ideas. Many different cultures and languages were represented, with the consultation process including the following methods:

- Community Survey - in 'postcard' format and a longer two page version (in English and Italian). The survey was distributed throughout the municipality and at cultural events and activities held in the 6 months leading up to the development of the strategy. The survey was also available online;
- Focus Groups – six focus groups were held in the consultation period leading up to the development of the strategy; and
- Stakeholder Meetings - meetings were held with key internal and external stakeholders/partners: Community Planning, Community Support North East, North East Multicultural Association, North East Health, Italian Pensioners Association, Pangerang House, Global Skills for Provincial Victoria, Open Door Neighbourhood House, The Centre, High Country Library, Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre, Hume Regional Aged Care Assessment Service and Wangaratta Children's Services.

The information gathered played a vital role helping to inform and strengthen Council's commitment to working in partnership with local and regional service providers, community groups, and organisations.

The Multicultural Strategy 2014 - 2017 will be translated into languages other than English and the provision of translator services will be made available upon request. The top four languages spoken within the Rural City of Wangaratta are Italian, German, Greek and Filipino/Tagalog.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	keep informed, provide endorsed strategy	Stakeholder meetings. Network emails.
Consult	Listen, acknowledge	Community conversations. Community survey. Face to face meetings with individuals and stakeholder groups.
Involve	Include interested stakeholders and community members	Focus groups. Stakeholder meetings.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Options for Consideration

1. Do not endorse the Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017.

This option would not be preferable as this would not meet the expectation of our community who contributed to the strategy development, and will not assist Council in responding to the new and changing needs of the multicultural community.

2. Endorse the Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017.

Endorsing the Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017 will ensure Council is better positioned in shaping how we will work with multicultural communities in the future.

Conclusion

The Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017 provides strong direction on how we will work with our multicultural communities into the future and will enable us to respond to the new and changing needs of our multicultural community.

Attachments

Multicultural Strategy 2014 – 2017.

Gallery Questions

Nil

10.2.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil.

10.2.5 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

10.2.5.1 DRAFT AMENDMENT C51 TO WANGARATTA PLANNING SCHEME – RURAL CITY OF WANGARATTA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2012

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Victoria Mallinder Coordinator Strategic Planning
File Name: Wangaratta Planning Scheme Amendment C51
File No: 73.030.063

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Executive Summary

This report is presented to Council to seek Council's agreement to adopt Draft Amendment C51 with changes and submit the Draft Amendment under Section 31 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) to the Minister for Planning for approval. The report summarises the exhibition process and addresses submissions received to the amendment.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator R Roscholler/ Administrator I Grant)

That Council resolves to:

- 1. adopt Draft Amendment C51 Open Space Strategy with changes under Section 29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;***
- 2. submit Draft Amendment C51 Open Space Strategy to the Minister for Planning requesting the Minister approve the Draft Amendment under Section 35 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;***
- 3. notify those person/s who have made submissions in relation to this amendment; and***
- 4. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor changes to the Draft Amendment as may be required by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.***

Carried

Background

The Wangaratta Open Space Strategy was adopted by Council at its meeting on 18 September 2012. Section 8 of the endorsed Strategy identifies the requirements for the statutory implementation of the Strategy. Amendment C51 was prepared on the basis of this section.

The amendment was exhibited for public comment from 6 February 2014 to 14 March 2014. Notification was undertaken in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Act.

Four submissions were received as follows (*refer attachment*):

Received	Details	Issues	Recommended Action
03/03/14	N Repacholi Goulburn- Murray Water	No objection and no comment	No action required
05/03/14	S Redman VicRoads North East Region	No objection and no comment	No action required
17/03/14	K Edwards Department of Environment and Primary Industries	No objection to the amendment Comments regarding provision of open space including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No increase in bushfire risk • Encourage retention of remnant native vegetation • Open space distinct from offset requirements • Encourage local indigenous species, offset 4 metres from fences • Increase connectivity of remnant patches through strategic placement of open space 	No action required Comments noted. No changes to amendment requested
18/02/14	J Brooks North East Water	No objection to the amendment Comments including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of relevant Municipal Strategic Statement clauses to reflect new reticulated sewer in Milawa and Oxley townships • Request to change reference to name of agency as 'Corporation' instead of 'Authority'. 	Changes made to Clause 21.07 Clause 21.11 as requested and agreed by NEW

Discussion

Section 22(1) of the Act requires Council to consider all submission made to an amendment. Submissions from VicRoads, Goulburn-Murray Water and Department of Environment and Primary Industries require no action by Council as they make no objection to the amendment and do not request any changes.

Where a submission requests changes be made to the amendment, Council has three options available at section 23 of the Act. Council must either make the changes as requested, appoint a Panel to consider the submission or abandon the amendment.

The submission from North East Water (NEW) makes no objection to the amendment. The submission, however does suggest some unrelated updates to sections of the Municipal Strategic Statement that are part of the amendment. The suggestions include making reference to the reticulated sewerage service now in Oxley and Milawa, correcting reference to the Authority as a 'Corporation' and inserting reference to the requirement for a Domestic Wastewater Management Plan to support townships requiring sewer. Due to the minor nature of the changes, it is recommended that they be made as requested by NEW. This is also consistent with the advice Council received from the Department of Transport and Planning and Local Infrastructure.

Planning Panels Victoria was notified on 19 March 2014 that a Panel Hearing was not considered necessary for the Draft Amendment.

Implications

Policy Considerations

The amendment implements Council's *Open Space Strategy 2012*.

This amendment does not conflict with any existing Council policy or the *Draft Hume Regional Growth Plan 2013*.

Financial Implications

The preparation of Amendment C51 up to exhibition stage of the planning scheme amendment process has been funded through the 'Rural Flying Squad' program. Council has not required a Planning Panel to consider submissions, thereby avoiding Panel costs. The final cost (\$798.00) of submitting the amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval will be borne by Council. The implementation of 5% open space contribution of site value across residential, industrial and commercial areas will increase the revenue for Council. Currently, Council charges "up to 5%" in residential areas only.

Legal/Statutory

All procedures associated with this amendment comply with the legislative requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1997* and the *Subdivision Act 1988*.

The insertion of new controls, including a Local Planning Policy, into the Scheme gives a clear statutory direction to enable Council to require open space contributions of 5% when subdivision of residential, commercial or industrial land occurs.

Social

The use of open space contributions toward the provision and upgrading of open space and recreation facilities has a clear social benefit to the community and the municipality as a whole. The new provisions provide clarity about contributions for planning staff, developers and the wider community.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The collection and allocation of open space contributions through the new planning scheme controls will have a positive benefit for the environment. The Open Space Strategy promotes a coordinated approach that will minimise the provision of piecemeal open space and assist in achieving linear parks along waterways as well as open space in areas of greatest need.

Economic Impacts

The implementation of the Strategy through the planning scheme provisions will ensure appropriate contributions are sought, either as land or a monetary contribution, at the time land is subdivided. Additional funds collected will be directed towards projects and areas of identified need.

Council Plan-Key Strategic Activity/Action

Key Strategic Action 7.2.1.4 of the Council Plan specifies the implementation of priority projects and actions identified in the Open Space Strategy, including review of the Municipal Strategic Statement and Local Planning Policy Framework and development of a Schedule to Clause 52.1 to specify new open space requirements across the municipality. Amendment C51 implements these specific actions.

Strategic Links

a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision

Amendment C51 is consistent with Strategy 20 of the Community Vision Action Plan, being to 'develop an Open Space Strategy'. The amendment forms part of the implementation of the adopted Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

The amendment is consistent with Council's *Population and Housing Strategy*.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Amendment not approved by Minister	Low	Major	Medium	Work with DTPLI to ensure the need for the amendment is understood and supported and all relevant documentation is provided.

Consultation/Communication

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	Yes	Notice in the local paper/Notice in the Government Gazette and letters were sent out to prescribed Ministers and Government agencies
Consult	NA	NA
Involve	Yes	Opportunity was given to make submission
Collaborate	Yes	Negotiated outcomes with submitters
Empower	NA	Minister for Planning has final power to approve this amendment.

Council has complied with notification requirements under the Act for exhibition of a planning scheme amendment. This includes notices to prescribed Ministers and affected agencies. Notice was given in the Chronicle newspaper and Government Gazette.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Options for Consideration

1. Agree to the adoption of the planning scheme amendment with changes and submission to the Minister for Planning (preferred option); and
2. Do not agree with changes as requested in submissions.
The consequences associated with this include:
 - Requirement to proceed to Planning Panel to consider submissions;
 - Additional costs to Council associated with Panel Hearing and delays in implementation of amendment; and
 - Lack of control over outcome of Panel Hearing, Council must consider recommendations of Panel Report.

Conclusion

Draft Amendment C51 seeks to implement the recommendations of the *Wangaratta Open Space Strategy 2012* in relation to the provision and allocation of open space contributions through the municipality. It can be expected to deliver positive economic and social benefits to the community, whilst increasing planning certainty and improving outcomes. This report recommends that Council adopt Amendment C51 with changes and submit the amendment for approval by the Minister for Planning in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Attachments

Submissions to Amendment C51

Gallery Questions

Nil

10.2.5.2 DRAFT AMENDMENT C52 TO WANGARATTA PLANNING SCHEME – IMPLEMENTATION OF OVENS RIVER FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Victoria Mallinder, Coordinator Strategic Planning
File Name: Wangaratta Planning Scheme Amendment C52
File No: 73.030.066

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Executive Summary

This report is presented to Council to seek Council's agreement to adopt Draft Amendment C52 with changes and submit the Draft Amendment under Section 31 of the *planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) to the Minister for Planning for approval. The report summarises the exhibition process and addresses submissions received to the amendment.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator R Roscholler/ Administrator I Grant)

That Council resolves to:

- 1. adopt Draft Amendment C52 Ovens River Floodplain Management Plan with changes under Section 29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;***
- 2. submit Draft Amendment C52 Ovens River Floodplain Management Plan to the Minister for Planning requesting the Minister approve the Draft Amendment under Section 35 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;***
- 3. notify those person/s who have made submissions in relation to this amendment; and***
- 4. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor changes to the Draft Amendment as may be required by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.***

Carried

Background

The North East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA) prepared in July 2003 a report entitled *Flood Study and Preparation of a Floodplain Management Plan for the Ovens Floodplain between Whorouly and Wangaratta* (the Study).

Appendix G of the Study contains a Floodplain Management Plan that was prepared for inclusion as an amendment to the Wangaratta Planning Scheme. At the time Council adopted the Study and associated mapping which appears in the current Flood Overlays, but other key recommendations of the Floodplain Management Plan were not incorporated into the Planning Scheme.

The Floodplain Management Plan provides detailed guidance for management of the floodplain and includes specific planning controls within the Ovens River floodplain. In particular, there are proposed exemptions from the need for a planning permit and the necessary protection of development within the floodplain. The inclusion of these recommendations in the Planning Scheme will increase certainty, clarify existing planning scheme controls and minimise the need for planning approval for relatively minor works.

Discussion

The amendment was exhibited for public comment from 17 January 2014 to 21 February 2014. Notification was undertaken in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Act.

A total of four submissions were received from the Department of Environment and Primary Industry (DEPI), Goulburn-Murray Water (G-MW) and North East Water (NEW) and a late submission from Environment Protection Authority (EPA) (***refer attachment 1***).

Section 22(1) of the Act requires Council to consider all submissions made to an amendment. Both DEPI and EPA submissions require no action by Council as they make no objection to the amendment and do not request any changes.

The submission from G-MW suggests correcting the title of two documents referenced in the amendment. The documents are not directly related to the content and purpose of the amendment, however there is no reason why they cannot be changed as part of this process. The changes are supported. The documents, correctly referenced are *Guidelines for the Protection of Water Quality (2001) prepared by North East Planning Referrals Committee* and the *Municipal Domestic Wastewater Management Plan*.

G-MW also suggests changing two exemptions from planning permit referenced in the Schedule to the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (ie. from 100m² to 200m² for either a non-habitable building or an extension to a non-habitable building). Whilst the suggestion has merit, it is not appropriate to change exemption sizes at this time. The figures have been taken directly from the Floodplain Management Plan endorsed by NECMA and it would be prudent to see how these new exemptions work before making further changes. Following

discussions, G-MW provided written support for the proposed 100m² exemptions and required no further changes.

The submission by NEW requests a change to the way the agency's name is referenced in the amendment documents. NEW is referenced in one amendment document, being Clause 21.10 of the Municipal Strategic Statement. Following discussion with NEW, it was agreed the reference would be corrected to read 'North East Region Water Corporation', rather than 'Authority'. No further action is required by Council and NEW is satisfied with this response.

Planning Panels Victoria was notified on 25 February 2014 that a Panel Hearing was not considered necessary for the Draft Amendment.

Implications

Policy Considerations

The amendment implements the recommendations and findings of the *Flood Study and Preparation of a Floodplain Management Plan for the Ovens River between Whorouly and Wangaratta Report July 2003* (Ovens River Floodplain Management Report).

The amendment does not conflict with any existing Council policy or the *Draft Hume Regional Growth Plan 2013*.

Financial Implications

The preparation of Amendment C52 up to exhibition stage of the planning scheme amendment process has been funded through the 'Rural Flying Squad' program. Council has not required a Planning Panel to consider submissions, thereby avoiding Panel costs. The final cost (\$798.00) of submitting the amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval will be borne by Council.

Legal/Statutory

All procedures associated with this amendment comply with the legislative requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Social

By introducing the recommendations and mitigation measures contained in the Ovens Floodplain Management Report into Clause 21.10 *Catchment, waterways and supplies*, the amendment will help to:

- Align development outcomes and controls in flood prone areas with identified, current flood risk;
- Provide increased certainty and consistency for development proposals in flood prone areas; and
- Create resource savings for landowners and authorities by removing the need for planning permits for minor buildings and works identified as permit exemptions in identified flood risk areas.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The amendment will have a positive effect on the environment of the Ovens River floodplain by introducing the recommendations and mitigation measures contained in the Ovens Floodplain Management Report into the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS), and encouraging future flood studies and mapping of the Ovens River system as 'further work' in Clause 21.10 *Catchment, waterways and supplies*, which will help to:

- Reinforce the natural environmental flooding conditions and hazard in planning mapping, strategies and controls;
- Protect the Ovens River environs for flood storage and passage from inappropriate development; and
- Ensure that new development within the floodplain maintains or improves river and wetland health, waterway protection and flood plain health.

Economic Impacts

Overall, the amendment is expected to have positive economic benefits for landowners, Wangaratta Rural City Council and the general community. This will be achieved by reducing the administrative burden on Council and the NECMA by introduction of permit exemptions in the schedules to the LSIO and FO for buildings and works, which don't affect flooding matters.

Council Plan-Key Strategic Activity/Action

Key Objective 5.3 of the Council Plan 2013-2017 is 'to protect and enhance the natural landscape, treescapes and waterways'. Key Strategic Activity 5.3.1 requires Council to 'responsibly manage the local environment'. Implementation of the Ovens Floodplain Management Plan through appropriate referencing in the Planning Scheme and the inclusion of planning permit exemptions supports the achievement of these key objectives and actions.

Strategic Links

a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision

Amendment C52 is consistent with Strategy 3 of the 2030 Community Vision Action Plan, being to enhance the rural waterways to contribute to a healthy rural environment. A recognised outcome of this action is that the 'river system is allowed to expand onto the natural flood plains'.

Suitable consideration of the Ovens Floodplain Management Plan when new development is proposed in the floodplain area is a direct outcome of Amendment C52.

b) Other strategic links

The Ovens Floodplain Management Report was carried out in the context of the Victorian Flood Management Strategy (DNRE, 1998) and National Risk Management Standard (AS/NZS 4360:1999) as described in the Emergency Risk Management – Applications Guide (EMA, 2000).

Essentially it involved the application of a systematic process to identify existing and possible future flood risks and the development of recommendations for treatment.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Amendment not approved by Minister	Low	Medium	Medium	Work with DTPLI to ensure the need for the amendment is understood and supported and all relevant documentation is provided.

Consultation/Communication

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	Yes	Notice in the local paper/Government Gazette Letters sent to prescribed Ministers and Government agencies
Consult	NA	NA
Involve	Yes	Opportunity to make a submission Negotiated outcomes with submitters
Collaborate	Yes	Negotiated outcomes with submitters
Empower	NA	Minister for Planning has final power to approve this amendment.

Council has complied with notification requirements under the Act for exhibition of a planning scheme amendment.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Options for Consideration

1. Agree to the adoption of the planning scheme amendment with changes and submission to the Minister for Planning (preferred option); and
2. Do not agree with changes as requested in submissions.
The consequences associated with this include:
 - Requirements to proceed to Planning Panel to consider submissions;

- Additional costs to Council associated with Panel Hearing and delays in implementation of amendment and
- Lack of control over outcome of Panel Hearing, Council must consider recommendations of Panel Report.

Conclusion

Draft Amendment C52 introduces the recommendations and mitigation measures of the Ovens Floodplain Management Report into the Wangaratta Planning Scheme, to address flooding in the area, which has been identified as a major issue under Clause 21.10 of the Scheme. As such, the amendment assists in the protection of the natural functions and flood carrying capacity of the waterways and surrounding flood-affected areas. Introduction of relevant permit exemptions enables development of minor buildings and works that are not considered to have an impact on flooding matters. This assists to reduce the administrative processes associated with planning permit referrals.

This report recommends that Council adopt Amendment C52 with changes and submit the amendment for approval by the Minister for Planning in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Attachments

Submissions to Amendment C52.

Gallery Questions

Nil

10.2.5.3 DRAFT AMENDMENT C54 TO WANGARATTA PLANNING SCHEME
– MAPPING CORRECTIONS 2013

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Victoria Mallinder, Coordinator Strategic Planning
File Name: Amendment C54 Mapping Corrections 2013
File No: 73.030.062

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Executive Summary

This report is presented to Council to seek Council's agreement to adopt Draft Amendment C54 in full and submit the Draft Amendment under Section 31 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) to the Minister for Planning for approval. The report summarises the exhibition process and submissions received to the amendment.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator I Grant/ Administrator R Roscholler)

That Council resolves to:

- 1. adopt Draft Amendment C54 Mapping Corrections 2013 in full under Section 29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;*
- 2. submit Draft Amendment C54 Mapping Corrections 2013 to the Minister for Planning requesting the Minister approve the Draft Amendment under Section 35 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;*
- 3. notify those person/s who made submissions in relation to this amendment; and*
- 4. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor changes to the Draft Amendment as may be required by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.*

Carried

Background

Council considered a previous report regarding the preparation of Amendment No 38 for the correction of mapping errors on 25 January 2011. At that meeting Council resolved to prepare a mapping corrections amendment.

At that time, however, the resolution of 25 January 2011 excluded a range of mapping and overlay corrections that were previously presented to the Council Forum in December 2011. The reason for the exclusion of these matters is unclear as the map corrections are essential in some cases and minor in nature.

These corrections are detailed below with reasons for the changes:

Map 1 – Whitfield Zone Map Corrections (refer Attachment 1)

Details of map corrections

Rezoning the following land(s) from Township Zone to Farming Zone:-

Lot 2 TP438712, 10 King Valley Road, Whitfield

Rezoning the following land(s) from Farming Zone to Township Zone:-

Lot 1 TP 532981, 24 King Valley Road, Whitfield

Lot 1 TP 232595, 26 King Valley Road, Whitfield

Lot 8 LP 53272, 6165 Whitfield Road, Whitfield

Rezoning the following land(s) from Farming Zone to Public Use Zone 6.

Lot 1 TP 244738, Whitfield Road, Whitfield

Reasons

The Township Zone in Whitfield does not align with the allotment boundaries containing detached dwellings and the map is to be amended to align the zone boundaries with the property boundaries.

Lot 1 TP 244738 adjoins the Whitfield Recreation Reserve, is owned by Council and forms part of the reserve which is a community facility.

Map 2 – Springhurst Zone Map Corrections (refer Attachment 1)

Details of Map Corrections

Rezoning the following land(s) from Farming Zone to Public Conservation and Resource Zone:-

Crown Allotment 12D Section 2, Sanderson Road, Springhurst

Rezoning the following land(s) from Public Conservation and Resource Zone to Farming Zone:

Crown Allotment 9, Section 2, Sanderson Road, Springhurst

Reasons

Crown Allotment 12D is a Conservation Area and is to be zoned appropriately. Crown Allotment 9 is privately owned land and not identified as a Conservation Area.

Map 3 Glenrowan Zone Map Corrections (refer Attachment 1)**Details of Map Corrections**

Rezoning the following land(s) from Farming Zone to Public Park and Recreation Zone:

Crown Allotment 113E, 5 Daniel Lane, Glenrowan
Crown Allotment 2B Section 19, Daniel Lane, Glenrowan
Lot 1 TP 782189, Rifle Range Road, Glenrowan

Reasons

These lands are public land and need to be recognised by using an appropriate public land zone.

Map 4 Coleman Road North Wangaratta Zone Map Corrections (refer Attachment 1)**Details of Map Corrections**

Rezoning the following land(s) from Farming Zone to Public Use Zone 6 - Local Government:-

Lots 1, 2 and 3 TP 115934 Coleman Road, North Wangaratta
Lot 1 TP 115932 Coleman Road, North Wangaratta
Lots 1 and 2 PS 303243 Coleman Road, North Wangaratta

Reason

These lands are owned and managed by Council as a refuse disposal (Bowser landfill) site and should be recognised by applying an appropriate Public Use Zone.

Map 5 Myrree Zone Map Corrections (refer Attachment 1)**Details of Map Corrections**

Rezoning the following land(s) from Public Use Zone 2 – Education to Farming Zone:-

Lot 1 and 2 TP 602666, Benalla-Whitfield Road, Myrree
Lot 2 TP 644145, 26 Upper Fifteen Mile Creek Road, Myrree
Crown Allotment 5C Section A, 4147 Wangaratta-Whitfield Road, Myrree

Rezoning the following land(s) from Road Zone 2 to Farming Zone:-

A section of unconstructed road reserve at the intersection of Boggy Creek Road and the Benalla – Whitfield Road, Myrree

Lot 102 PS5112232, 1706 Benalla – Whitfield Road, Myrree

Reasons

The land(s) located at the Benalla-Whitfield Road and Upper Fifteen Mile Creek Road were originally part of the Myrree Public School site while the land on the Wangaratta-Whitfield Road was formerly used as the King Valley Primary School.

Each of the sites was sold by the Victorian Government and is now in private ownership. Rezoning the land to Farming Zone is consistent with the ownership, use and development of the land(s) and that being adjacent, privately owned and used land.

The rezoning of land within Road Zone 2 is land that is outside of the existing road reserve and is privately owned.

Map 6 Oxley Zone Map Corrections (*refer Attachment 1*)

Details of Map Corrections

Rezoning the following land(s) from Public Use Zone 6 – Local Government to Farming Zone:-

Crown Allotment 17E Section 2A, 115 Smith Street, Oxley

Reason

The land was formerly owned by Council and was used as a domestic animal pound for the township of Oxley. The land is privately owned, used and developed with a dwelling as it was sold in 1998. Rezoning the land from Public Use Zone – Schedule 6 to Farming Zone is consistent with the ownership, use and development of the adjoining and nearby land that is privately owned.

Map 7 Murrumgee Zone Map Corrections (*refer Attachment 1*)

Details of Map Corrections

Rezoning the following land from Public Parks and Recreation Zone to Farming Zone:-

Crown Allotment 8 Section F, Ellens Lane, Parish Murrumgee

Reason

The above land is privately owned and used for agricultural purposes consistent with the adjoining allotment under the same ownership. It has been inadvertently zoned Public Parks and Recreation Zone which is a public land zone. Rezoning the land to Farming Zone is consistent with the ownership, use and development of the land and that with adjoining privately owned and used land.

Map 8 Templeton Flood Overlay Corrections (*refer Attachment 1*)

Details of overlay corrections

Applying the Flood Overlay to the following lands:

- Crown Allotment 15 Section 38, Parish Wangaratta
- Crown Allotment 9 Section 38, 36 Templeton Street, Wangaratta
- Crown Allotment 2 Section 39, Parish Wangaratta
- Lot 1 TP12846, 26 Templeton Street, Wangaratta
- Part Crown Allotment 4 Section 39, Templeton Street, Wangaratta
- Part Crown Allotment 5 Section 39, 28 Templeton Street, Wangaratta
- Lot 1 TP19274, 30 Templeton Street, Wangaratta
- Lot 1 TP18721, 32 Templeton Street, Wangaratta

Reason

The North East Catchment Management Authority has advised that the above land(s) are flood prone and had previously requested that the boundary of the overlay be amended as a priority.

Discussion

The amendment was exhibited for public comment from 06 February 2014 to 14 March 2014.

Notification was undertaken in accordance with Section 19(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Notice included letters to all owners and occupiers of affected land.

A total of three submissions were received by Council. These were from VicRoads, EPA and Goulburn-Murray Water (*refer Attachment 2*).

Section 22(1) of the Act requires Council to consider all submission made to an amendment. The three submissions received require no action from Council as they raise no objection to the amendment and do not request any changes.

Planning Panels Victoria was notified on 19 March 2014 that a Panel Hearing was not required for the Draft Amendment.

Implications

Policy Considerations

The amendment does not conflict with any existing Council policy or Strategy.

Financial Implications

The preparation of Amendment C54 has been done by Council staff and did not require any funding. Council has not required a Planning Panel to consider submissions, thereby avoiding Panel costs. The final cost (\$798.00) of submitting the amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval will be borne by Council.

Legal/Statutory

Council has complied with notification requirements under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Social

By removing the mapping anomalies and making corrections in the Planning Scheme, the amendment will facilitate the appropriate use and development of land and improve the welfare of the affected land owners.

The amendment will also create resource and time savings for landowners and authorities by removing the need for unnecessary planning approvals.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The outcomes of the Draft amendment are very positive for the sustainability of local environment.

Economic Impacts

Overall, the amendment is expected to have positive economic benefits for landowners, Wangaratta Rural City Council and the general community. This will be achieved by facilitating the orderly use and development of land parcels which are currently incorrectly zoned or subject to other inappropriate planning controls.

Council Plan- Key Strategic Activity/Action

Key Objective 5.2 of the Council Plan 2013-2017 is 'ensure land use planning provides balanced outcomes for growth, existing land use, environment and heritage'. Key Strategic Activity 5.3.1 requires Council to '*Review updated 2013 State Planning and zoning guidelines and ensure that the Wangaratta Planning Scheme and Municipal Strategic Statement are consistent with state regulations and reflect local planning strategies*'. Removal of mapping anomalies in the Planning Scheme supports the achievement of these key objectives and actions.

Strategic Links

a) Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Community Vision

Amendment C54 is consistent with Strategy 8 of the 2030 Community Vision Action Plan, being 'to ensure that the Wangaratta Planning Scheme continues to align with the 2030'. This amendment aligns the content of the Planning Scheme with the 2030 Community Vision by improving the provisions of the Planning Scheme.

b) Other strategic links

The amendment is consistent with the Draft *Hume Regional Growth Plan*.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Amendment not approved by Minister	Low	Low	Low	Work with DTPLI to ensure the need for the amendment is understood and supported and all relevant documentation is provided.

Consultation/Communication

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Tools/Techniques
Inform	Yes	Notice in the local paper/Government Gazette Letters sent to prescribed Ministers and Government agencies
Consult	NA	NA
Involve	Yes	Opportunity to make a submission
Collaborate	NA	NA
Empower	NA	Minister for Planning has final power to approve this amendment.

Council has complied with notification requirements under the Act for exhibition of a planning scheme amendment. This includes notices to prescribed Ministers and affected agencies. Notice was given in the Chronicle newspaper and Government Gazette.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Options for Consideration

1. Agree to the adoption of the planning scheme amendment and submission to the Minister for Planning (preferred option); and
2. Do not agree with changes as requested in this amendment. The consequences associated with this would be losing an opportunity for improving some of the provisions of the Planning Scheme.

Conclusion

The amendment seeks to make corrections in the Wangaratta Planning Scheme by removing mapping anomalies. These changes will improve the effectiveness of the Planning Scheme and facilitate the better use of the land affected by this amendment. The changes proposed under this amendment are consistent with the ownership, use and development of the affected land.

This report recommends that Council adopt Amendment C54 and submit the amendment for approval by the Minister for Planning in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Attachments

1. Maps for Amendment C54
2. Submissions to Amendment C54

Gallery Questions

Nil

10.3 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.3.1.1 FRIENDS OF LACLUTA SPECIAL COMMITTEE (FOLC)

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Leonie Painter - Manager Community Recreation
File Name: Lacluta East Timor Friendship
File No: 47.070.020

Executive Summary

The Friends of Lacluta Special Committee (FOLC) was established to develop the Friendship Agreement that will contribute to the re-building of Timor-Leste and to facilitate community-to-community links with Lacluta.

This report is presented to Council to provide a report from the meeting held on 24 February 2014.

Attendees: Heather Redmond, Leonie Brien, Liz Walpole, David Taylor, John Bradford, John Ambrosio, Kerryn Taylor, Andy Kimber, Karen Jones and Barb Broz.

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- scholarship agreement;
- aims of the two East Timor visits in March 2014 and June/July 2014;
- Draft Investment Prospectus presented to FOLC Members for feedback;
- exploring potential partnerships;
- fund raising opportunities for 2014;
- projected costs for pre-primary education;
- website and facebook page management;
- donated bicycles report;
- attendance at Friends of Venilale dinner in Mansfield on 11 February 2014;
- letter of resignation from FOLC received from Bernadette Fraser; and
- financial report.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator A Fox/ Administrator I Grant)

That Council resolves to note this report.

Carried

Gallery Questions

Nil

10.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.4.1.1 YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Lauren Glass - Community/Youth Development Officer
File Name: Youth Council
File No: 10.020.10

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Executive Summary

This report is presented to Council to provide a report from the meeting held on 19 February 2014.

Attendees: Youth Councillors Chloe Hancock, Ella Thomas, Zoe Matthews, Alex Darbyshire, Isabelle Smith, Max Dewez, Meg Walch, Nathan Jeffries, Youth Mayor Zoe Stinson and Lauren Glass (Council Community/Youth Development Officer)

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Wangaratta Youth Contact Card;
- National Youth Week, 4 April – 13 April 2014;
- Skateboarding Australia Visit, 10 December 2013;
- Wangaratta Carols by Candlelight, 15 December 2013;
- Creative Youth Crew, summer events review;
- Australia Day 26 January 2014 and Civic Reception 6 February 2014; and
- school holiday activities on 22 January 2014 and 23 January 2014.

The following items are provided for information.

Creative Youth Crew, Summer Events Review

During December/January 2014 the Creative Youth Crew was a part of three live music events for the community. These included the West End Community Christmas gathering where the Creative Youth Crew (the Crew) hosted a live music stage. This was a new and exciting opportunity for the Creative Youth Crew to work with the wider community.

The Crew also organised and hosted 'Hands Up' Wangaratta, a youth event at the Olympic Pool on 20 December 2014 attended by 180 young people.

The Crew supported the 'Summer in the Parks' event 'Rock Pool', hosting a live music stage before the family movie commenced. Three young local acts performed while the Crew ran sound and lighting requirements.

School Holiday Activities

January 2014 school holidays included two trips to Melbourne. On 22 January 2014, 20 young people accompanied by Council staff spent the day at Luna Park, Melbourne. On 23 January 2014, 19 young people from Wangaratta and 19 young people from Albury spent the day indoor rock-climbing and at the Bounce trampoline centre in Melbourne.

Rock-climbing and Bounce were a combined trip between Rural City of Wangaratta and Albury City Council. Young people on the trip indicated that they would be interested in attending more inter council events and activities.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator A Fox/ Administrator I Grant)

That Council resolves to note this report.

Carried

Gallery Questions

Nil

10.4.1.2 ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Type: Ordinary Council Meeting
Date of Meeting: 15 April 2014
Author: Justine Ambrosio Cultural Development Officer
File Name: Arts Culture and Heritage Committee
File No: 67.010.004

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Executive Summary

This is report from the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) reporting on their bi -monthly meeting held on 3 February 2014.

Attendees: Rhonda Diffey, Ken Gaudion, Kim Westcott, Penny Hargrave, Dianne Mangan, Justine Ambrosio, Loueen Twyford, Ailsa Fox (Chair - Administrators).

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

The following items addressed at the meeting are reported to the Administrators for information:

1. An Update of Council Activities was given by the Acting Director Community Wellbeing;
2. The Chief Administrator Ailsa Fox was introduced to the Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee;
3. The Arts, Culture and Heritage Vision Statement and Plan;
4. The Gallery Upgrade Proposal and ACHAC Recommendation; and
5. The Victorian Heritage Register Places and Objects Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved: Administrator I Grant/ Administrator R Roscholler)

That Council resolves to note this report.

Carried

Gallery Questions

Nil

11. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF ADMINISTRATORS

An “Assembly of Administrators” is a meeting at which matters are considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision and is either of the following:

- a meeting of an advisory committee where at least one Administrator is present; or
- a planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Administrators and at least one Council officer.

At an assembly of Administrators, a written record is kept of:

- a) the names of all Administrators and members of the Council staff attending;
- b) the matters considered;
- c) any conflict of interest disclosures made by an Administrator attending; and
- d) whether an Administrator who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

The written record of an assembly of Administrators is, as soon as practicable:

- a) reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council; and
- b) incorporated in the Minutes of that Council meeting.

Date	Meeting details	Refer
11-03-2014	Waldara Golf Club	Attachment
11-03-2014	Council Planning Workshop	Attachment
11-03-2014	Draft Council Meeting	Attachment
17-03-2014	GoTafe	Attachment
17-03-2014	Ovens Street Streetscape	Attachment
18-03/2014	Prior to Ordinary Council Meeting	Attachment
24-03-2014	Meeting with Northeast Water	Attachment
24-03-2014	Administrators and Executive Services Planning Meeting	Attachment
25-03-2014	Administrators Briefing Forum and Deputations	Attachment
25-03-2014	Showgrounds Committee of Management	Attachment
01-04-2014	Meeting with Philip Bart	Attachment
01-04-2014	Council Plan Review	Attachment
01-04-2014	Administrator’s Briefing	Attachment
7-04-2014	Draft Council Meeting	Attachment

RECOMMENDATION:

(Moved Administrator/ Administrator)

That Council resolves to receive the reports of Assemblies of Administrators.

Carried

Gallery Questions

Nil

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

13. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time

10.020.004

Dr Julian Fidge – Docker

Dr Fidge submitted the following questions to Council:

Question 1:

There are three foot bridges across the Ovens River in the vicinity of the Central Activities Area and the Wangaratta Showgrounds.

May I please ask when these bridges were built, who built them, and what they cost?

Answer:

There are three bridges:

- The Stock Bridge was built in 1995 by Waldren Bridges P/L for \$263,500; and
- The two suspension bridges were constructed under a single contract and were completed in 2012 by Cable Bridge Constructions (Porepunkah) for \$771,401.08

Question 2:

Does Wangaratta Council have an agreement with the Department to apply lesser parking requirements to planning and building applications than are required in the state planning guidelines?

Answer:

There is no agreement in place. Each application is assessed on its individual merit in accordance with the relevant legislation.

What is the nature of this agreement? How much less parking is required in Wangaratta than in the State Planning scheme?

Answer:

N/A as no agreement in place

How has this agreement affected parking availability around the hospital and the Central Activities Area?

Answer:

N/A as no agreement in place.

Question 3:

The new shiny bright blue justice building in Faithful does not comply with the Council Plan, specifically that part of the Council's on page 5 which says that Council's mission is to "preserve and enhance our heritage".

On page 7, Council says that "The Rural City of Wangaratta is proud of its...heritage" but approval of building permits like the Justice building and the primary coloured TAFE college seem to indicate that the planning department is not following the Council Plan and are following their own plan. The Justice building is particularly grating because it is located next to the old Art Deco Wangaratta Courthouse, and the clash is ghastly.

Answer:

Although some state government departments are exempt from planning approval, permits were sought on these sites.

Neither the Department of Justice nor the TAFE college sites are covered by a heritage overlay.

The Department of Justice site adjoins a heritage overlay and advice was received from Council's expert heritage advisor.

Is Council's planning department going to respect the Council plan, or will the planning department continue to approve post-modern architectural designs like the new Justice building and the TAFE building?

Answer:

The planning department will assess all applications received on their merits in accordance with relevant legislation and policy, with any approval based on balancing a range of factors.

Question 4:

Council dug out a small portion of the levee bank protecting the Painter's Island Caravan Park several years ago when doing civil construction work. The levee was never repaired and the caravan park regularly floods with even small flood levels when it did not flood in the past unless there was major flooding. The repair is minor and could be completed in a day or two. When does council plan to repair the levee bank damage to protect the Painter's Island caravan park? If Council does not plan to repair the damage, why not?

Answer:

It is assumed that the area referred to in the question is where the current multi-user path is located; there was some damage in this area a couple of years ago. Council officers are not aware of any other damage. This location had all damage repaired when the new path was constructed. The majority of the path is at moderate flood level. One small section is at the level which is mid-way

between minor and moderate levels as required by Northeast Catchment Management Authority (NEMCA).

Council officers met with Tim McCurdy and representatives from Painters Island Caravan Park Committee of Management; the new lessees; Department Environment Primary Industries; NECMA and emergency services last Wednesday. The path was discussed, there were no negative comments and overall, the Chairman of the Committee of Management expressed thanks for the cooperation and progress. Council officers are not aware of any outstanding issues.

Mr Jim Lewis – Wangaratta

Mr Lewis submitted the following:

Question 1:

The reported change (24 decrease) in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures for estimated residential population (ERP) for Wangaratta follows the trend of reducing magnitude of population increase over the last five years. The change from 2012 to 2013 is shown by the ABS to be negative at 0.09% of population.

Given that these figures are derived from the 2011 census figures with considered additions and deletions it would seem that there be some margin of error. Such a figure is not obvious to me on the website. Is council supplied with a margin of error figure and if so what is it in both percentage terms and in actual numbers?

Answer:

We are not provided with a margin of error figure, neither percentage nor actual number. We will make an enquiry in regards to this through ProfileID. I am told that profileID is a demographic program.

Question 2:

Simple logic tells us that more houses means more people. Over a long period this may be so. Census figures for 2006 and 2011 analyse households by size. The biggest change is in single person households where there was an increase of 446 or 16%. Is this increase the result of increased population or does it relate to the splitting of existing larger households. Are there any other figures around which help us understand fewer people – more residences and would they be of any value in council activities and help us accept the ERP figures?

Answer:

At this point we have no further information from the ABS in regards to the cause and effect of the large increase of single person households. We will make an enquiry in regards to this through Profile ID.

Mr Rodney Roscholler, Administrator added that it is frustrating for everyone not knowing what the growth rate is for Wangaratta. The numbers don't seem credible when you look at the amount of development that's occurring both to the south and west of Wangaratta. We are trying to find simple ways we can come up with a number that we are comfortable with and not totally relying on census data.

As we service new residents there are many ways you can look at the number of households moving in and occupancy per household. We will be looking at these figures over the next few weeks.

Brian Fox – Wangaratta

Mr Fox referred to recent media coverage of the Saleyards Development and asked whether Council had considered leasing the Saleyards to a private operator with conditions.

Mrs Ailsa Fox, Administrator Chair, responded that she is aware the funding of the redevelopment is causing angst but there has been no decision made at this stage.

Mrs Fox advised that at the special meeting of the Agriculture, Agribusiness Advisory Committee there had been some interest for private investment or even forming a cooperative. She said that Council were looking at all options including sharing the risk.

Ken Clarke – Wangaratta

Mr Clarke referred to Victoria Parade and asked how we are going to get the traffic out onto Faithfull Street from the new Target Complex.

Mr Alan Clark, Director Infrastructure Services, responded that he was not able to answer this question at the moment but would send the details.

15. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil.

16. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 6:34pm.