

WANGARATTA RURAL CITY COUNCIL



BUSINESS PAPER FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING
OF THE WANGARATTA RURAL CITY COUNCIL, TO BE HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
62-68 OVENS STREET, WANGARATTA
ON **TUESDAY, 19 APRIL 2011** COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

Doug Sharp
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As at 15/04/11 2:44 PM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page No.
1.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS	5
2.	OPENING PRAYER	5
3.	PRESENT	5
4.	ABSENT	5
5.	ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES AND GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
6.	CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY	5
7.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	5
8.	CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE.....	5
9.	RECEPTION OF PETITIONS	6
9.1.1.1	PETITION – RE DETERIORATING ROAD CONDITIONS ON LAKE BUFFALO WHITFIELD ROAD AND BLACK RANGE CREEK ROAD, EDI UPPER.....	6
9.1.1.2	PETITION – RE CONDITION OF SPEED STREET WANGARATTA AND REQUESTING IT BE SEALED.....	6
10.	HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS.....	7
11.	PRESENTATION OF REPORTS	8
11.1	COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS.....	8
11.1.1.1	NEVRWASTE AGM AND BOARD MEETING.....	8
11.1.1.2	NORTH EAST GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE (NEGHA) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.....	9
11.2	OFFICER’S REPORTS	10
11.2.1	EXECUTIVE SERVICES	10
11.2.1.1	DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN	10
11.2.1.2	COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW	13
11.2.1.3	MAYOR'S CHARITY GALA.....	17
11.2.1.4	COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS: NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE	18
11.2.1.5	COLLECTIVE MARKETING STRATEGY	20
11.2.2	SUSTAINABILITY	23
11.2.2.1	LOCAL AUTHORITIES SUPERANNUATION FUND DEFINED BENEFITS PLAN.....	23
11.2.2.2	AUDITOR GENERAL: RESULTS OF 2009/10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITS	24
11.2.3	COMMUNITY WELLBEING	27
11.2.3.1	COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE	27
11.2.3.2	COMMUNITY RAFFLE – 2011 -13	29
11.2.3.3	AQUATIC STRATEGY	30
11.2.4	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	35
11.2.4.1	CONTRACT NO C1011/033 - C1011/037 FLOOD REINSTATEMENT.....	35
11.2.4.2	STREET TREES – TEMPLETON AND GRAY STREETS WANGARATTA	38
11.2.4.3	SUBMISSION ON COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ROAD REFORM PLAN	43
11.3	SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.....	46

11.3.1.1	FRIENDS OF LACLUTA SPECIAL COMMITTEE.....	46
11.3.1.2	LACLUTA ENDORSEMENT OF MEMBERS.....	46
11.4	ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS.....	48
11.4.1.1	YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES.....	48
11.4.1.2	AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT.....	48
11.4.1.3	COMMUNITY PRIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.....	49
11.4.1.4	WANGARATTA UNLIMITED ADVISORY BOARD (COMMITTEE) MEETING REPORT.....	49
12.	RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS.....	52
13.	NOTICE OF MOTION.....	53
14.	URGENT BUSINESS.....	53
15.	AUTHORISATION OF SIGNING AND SEALING OF DOCUMENTS.....	54
16.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....	54
17.	CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS.....	54
18.	CLOSURE OF MEETING.....	54

1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

2. **OPENING PRAYER**

3. **PRESENT**

4. **ABSENT**

5. **ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES and GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

6. **CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY**

The Australian Citizenship ceremony (when applicable).

7. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, 15 March 2011 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting.

8. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

9. RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

9.1.1.1 PETITION – RE DETERIORATING ROAD CONDITIONS ON LAKE BUFFALO WHITFIELD ROAD AND BLACK RANGE CREEK ROAD, EDI UPPER.

Lake Buffalo Whitfield Road

14170

Background

A petition/joint letter containing some 20 signatures from concerned persons and residents of Edi Upper concerning the deteriorating road conditions on Lake Buffalo Whitfield Road and Black Range Creek Road, Edi Upper has been received.

A copy of the petition has been provided to Councillors under separate cover.

Issues

In accordance with Local Law No. 2 of 1999 – Meeting Procedures a petition presented to the Council must lay on the table until the next ordinary meeting of the Council and no motion, other than to receive the petition, may be accepted by the Chairperson, unless Council agrees to deal with it earlier.

Recommendation:

That the petition regarding deteriorating road conditions on Lake Buffalo Whitfield Road and Black Range Creek Road, Edi Upper be received and a report about the issues raised be considered at Council's May 2011 meeting.

Communication

The first named signatory of the petition/joint letter will be advised of Council's determination on this matter.

9.1.1.2 PETITION – RE CONDITION OF SPEED STREET WANGARATTA AND REQUESTING IT BE SEALED.

Speed Street

17090

Background

A petition/joint letter containing some 6 signatures from owners and operators of businesses at 23 Parfitt Road, Wangaratta concerning the condition of Speed Street and requesting it be sealed has been received.

A copy of the petition has been provided to Councillors under separate cover.

Issues

In accordance with Local Law No. 2 of 1999 – Meeting Procedures a petition presented to the Council must lay on the table until the next ordinary meeting of the Council and no motion, other than to receive the petition, may be accepted by the Chairperson, unless Council agrees to deal with it earlier.

Recommendation:

That the petition regarding the condition of Speed Street and requesting it be sealed be received and a report about the issues raised be considered at Council's May 2011 meeting.

Communication

The first named signatory of the petition/joint letter will be advised on Council's determination on this matter.

10. HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS

11. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

11.1 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

11.1.1.1 NEVRWASTE AGM AND BOARD MEETING

NevRWaste

72.010.002

Introduction

Cr Ron Webb attended the NevRWaste Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Board Meeting on Thursday 10 March 2011 at Wangaratta. In attendance were councillors and council officers from the seven member Councils and management representatives from the three Alpine Resorts.

The AGM confirmed the following membership and directors for 2011 before the elections:

- Cr. Peter Graham was re-elected as Chairperson;
- Mr Ben Derrick (Falls Creek Resort Management) was re-elected as Deputy Chairperson; and
- Cr Ron Webb was re-elected as Audit Committee Director.

Issues

The general meeting business included:

Charter of Corporate Governance review to separate policy from procedures with tracked changes;

- Financial Reports to 31 December – all approved;
- Postponement of the implementation of the Regional Waste Management Group (RWMG) review for at least two years;
- Sustainable Agencies review has proposed indexation of RWMG funding at 2.5% which is in contrast to the current funding increases of at least the Consumer Price Index (CPI);
- 2010 / 11 Business Plan implementation update - on track;
- Report on Regional Biomass and Kerbside Organics project. Further discussion to be held with Rural City of Wangaratta;
- Landfill issues in north east Victoria – motion from Rural City of Wangaratta's delegate to develop a 30 year strategy was carried unanimously.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.1.1.2 NORTH EAST GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE (NEGHA) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

North East Greenhouse Alliance Project

84.060.004

Introduction

Cr Webb attended the North East Greenhouse Alliance Executive Committee at Benalla on Thursday 31 March 2011 along with Councillors and Council officers from six member local government Councils and two independent member organisations.

The agenda included the following discussions and resolutions:

- Discussion on options for North East Greenhouse Alliance Corporate Governance.
 - Resolved to develop a discussion paper for Councils based on - Option 2 Not for Profit Incorporated Organisation.
- Adopted the Draft North East Greenhouse Alliance Statement of Purpose with minor amendments.
- Discussion on Projects Approval and Grants Policy
 - Resolved to defer discussion until Corporate Governance review is completed.
- Discussion on setting project management fees for non-member agencies. Deferred to the Technical Committee to develop guidelines.
- Current financial report and North East Greenhouse Alliance profit/loss projection for 2011/-2014 – Adopted.
- Report on current Projects Management – Adopted.
- Report on Grants Update – Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) has asked for first round funding applications which close on Friday 13 May 2011 with a focus on “Sustainable Economic and Community Growth” projects.
- Sponsorship request from Latrobe University – Denied.

Next meeting will be held at Wangaratta on Thursday 16 June 2011 at 10.30 am.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.2 OFFICER'S REPORTS

11.2.1 EXECUTIVE SERVICES

11.2.1.1 DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN

Council Plan

20.030.009

Introduction

At least once in each financial year, Council must consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment.

The Council Plan must include:

- the strategic objectives of the Council;
- strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next four years;
- strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives; and
- a Strategic Resource Plan containing certain financial statements and describing the human resources required to deliver the Plan.

Council must provide the opportunity for the community to make submissions on any adjusted Plan.

Background

A review of the Council Plan 2009-2013 currently adopted by Council has been prepared (*refer attachment*).

The focus of the review was to make minor adjustments to key actions and timeframes to accord with latest status assessment and to enable Council to meet new opportunities and challenges which have arisen since this Council Plan was originally adopted.

Issues

New actions in the Council Plan include to:

- Review the community grants process to link to the outcomes of Community Planning and / or take into account recovery needs.
- Give priority to post flood recovery works in the allocation of resources and advocate for improved funding outcomes.
- Develop an e-Business Strategy.
- Assist the community to adapt to challenges such as, climate change and resource constraints, including peak oil, through the development of a strategy to achieve a sustainable living culture.
- Develop a waste management strategy that provides for short term waste management issues at the Bowser landfill and clear direction for waste management for the next 30 years.
- Engage with regional authorities and neighbouring Councils to develop a regional approach to waste management to complement Council's Waste Management Strategy.

- Work with the Environment Protection Authority in the implementation of Council's Waste Management Strategy.
- Replacement Actions to further Council business previously completed include to:
 - Implement a planned approach to the identified pre-school service needs (Universal Access Strategy.)
 - Implement the Yarra Valley – High Country Touring Route Strategic Plan which links through to the King Valley;
 - Develop an integrated Natural Environment Strategy which includes:
 - current Council Plans and Planning provisions;
 - protection for threatened remnant native vegetation; and
 - restoration of habitat values for wildlife on bushland reserves and waterway reserves managed by Council through control of pest plants and animals
 - Develop a Corporate Sustainability Strategy to achieve Council targets in greenhouse gas and water use reduction and thereby promote environmental sustainability in all operational areas of Council.
 - Review the progress towards achieving the outcomes of the Deliberative Democracy Process with results reported to the Citizens' Jury.

There are four actions within the Council Plan where Councillors are involved at a community group board level and potentially represent a conflict of interest. To comply with the Local Government Act, these actions will be dealt with separately and in isolation from the remainder of the Council Plan. These actions are:

- previously 3.1.2.10 – Continue to support the development of the Wangaratta and District Community Foundation.
- previously - 3.3.1.1 – Support the Youth Council to develop skills in areas of leadership, civic service, community service and advocacy for youth issues.
- previously 5.2.3.2 (dot point 4) – Build on the key brand strengths of Food and Wine, Cycling, Ned Kelly and Jazz by collaborating with the Jazz Festival Board to ensure longevity and continued success of the event
- previously 6.1.1.3 – Participate in the development of the Regional Catchment Strategy and link to Council programs.

The draft adjusted Council Plan:

- draws on the knowledge of community needs and expectations obtained by Councillors and staff from their many interactions with the community
- prioritises the competing demands for Council resources identified in the many detailed planning activities and studies completed by the Council

The draft adjusted Council Plan identifies the key strategies for the organisation to pursue over the life of the Plan. In addition, summaries of the ongoing responsibilities and service obligations are also included.

Consultation

A person has a right to make a submission on a proposed adjustment to a Council Plan under section 223 of the Local Government Act.

Implications

Community Outcomes

Whilst the Council Plan adopted in 2009 and adjusted in 2010 sets the agenda for the Council, this annual review ensures the actions and objectives continue to be in line with the community and Council's broader vision.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the draft adjusted Council Plan for the period 2009-2013 annexed to this resolution and initialled by the Chairperson for identification amended to delete actions 3.1.2.10; 3.3.1.1; 5.2.4.2; and 6.1.1.1 be the adjusted Council Plan prepared by Council for the purposes of Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- 2. That a new action 3.1.2.10 be included in the Council Plan to: "Resolve a position on the future of the Wangaratta and District Community Foundation".**
- 3. That a new action 3.3.1.1 be included in the Council Plan to: "Support the Youth Council to develop skills in areas of leadership, civic service, community service and advocacy for youth issues".**
- 4. That a new dot point 4 be included in action 5.2.4.2 in the Council Plan to: "Build on the key brand strengths of Food and Wine, Cycling, Ned Kelly and Jazz by collaborating with the interim Jazz Festival Board to ensure longevity and continued success of the event".**
- 5. That a new action 6.1.1.1 be included in the Council Plan to: "Encourage the development of the Regional Catchment Strategy and link to Council programs".**
- 6. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to:**
 - a) give public notice that submissions in respect of this matter will be considered in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989; and**
 - b) make available for public inspection the information required to be made available.**
- 7. That submissions on any proposal or proposals contained in the adjusted Council Plan, made in accordance with section 125(9) of the Local Government Act 1989 be considered at a meeting of a committee of the Council to be held at the Wangaratta Government Centre, corner of Ford and Ovens Streets, Wangaratta on Tuesday 14 June 2011.**
- 8. That Council consider the adoption of the adjusted Council Plan at an Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday, 21 June 2011 at 7.00 pm.**

Communication

Public notification, inviting the community to make submissions on the adjusted Council Plan, will be given in the local media in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

11.2.1.2 **COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW**

Policy Review

10.005.003

Introduction

A comprehensive review has been undertaken of all Council's policies to ensure that they provide consistency, clarity, transparency and accountability for Council's decision making processes and service delivery.

Operational policies were not part of the review. 49 policies have been considered (***refer attachment***).

Background

Policies are essential to ensure that legal, fair and consistent decisions are made across the Council. They support Council in achieving its corporate objectives and provide crucial guidelines for Councillors, staff and other stakeholders.

Issues

The review identified that:

- 18 policies should be retained unchanged;
- 13 policies need only minor change to support Council's decision making processes and service delivery and / or legislative requirements and should be amended as advised;
- 16 policies no longer support Council's current decision making processes and service delivery and / or legislative requirements and should be thoroughly revised; and
- 2 policies are no longer relevant or required for Council's decision making processes and service delivery and should be revoked.

During the course of the review it was also identified that:

- one new policy related to Professional Development for Councillors should be developed (***refer attachment***);
- a review schedule consistent with the four year Council term be implemented.

Following is a summary of the review:

POLICY TITLE	ACTION
NEW	
Professional Development for Councillors	Develop new policy
RETAIN	
Asset Management	Retain
Community Loans	Retain
Councillor Code of Conduct	Retain
Debt Collection and Penalty Interest on Unpaid Debtors	Retain
Human Rights Charter	Retain
Information Privacy	Retain
Kiosk Hire	Retain
Late Payment of Rates	Retain
Position on Brothels in the Rural City of Wangaratta	Retain
Procurement	Retain
Rate Refund / Financial Hardship	Retain
Risk Management	Retain
Sale of Council Land	Retain
Special Rates and Charges and other Contributory Projects	Retain
Use of Mayoral Pendant	Retain
Wangaratta Community Event Signs	Retain
Wangaratta Planning Scheme - Effluent and Waste Water Disposal	Retain
Whistleblowers Protection	Retain
AMEND	
Annual Meeting of Council	Amend
Appointment of Acting Mayor	Amend
Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal	Amend
Commemorative plaques and other markers	Amend
Development Approval Facilitation	Amend
Guidelines for Delegates Reports to Council	Amend

POLICY TITLE	ACTION
Place Naming	Amend
Policy for Naming Roads, Streets and Other Accessways	Amend
Reimbursement of Expenses for Councillors and Members of Council Committees	Amend
Sister City/Friendship City Relationship Program	Amend
Street Furniture Relocation	Amend
Town Planning Conciliation Meetings	Amend
Use of Council's Name and Nomenclature	Amend
REVISE	
Car Parking Contribution	Revise
Civic Contribution Recognition (Australia Day/Awards)	Revise
Collection - Wangaratta Exhibitions Gallery	Revise
Community Amenity (Amendment) Local Law No. 1 - Local Laws Policies	Revise
Community Grants	Revise
Comprehensive Signs	Revise
Customer Request Management	Revise
Exemption for Farm Buildings	Revise
Food Premises - Exemptions	Revise
Guidelines for the use of Community Bus	Revise
National Competition - Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre	Revise
Public Art	Revise
Reserve and Sports Ground User Charges Pricing	Revise
Temporary Reservation - On-Street Car Parking	Revise
Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre/Town Hall Complex - Terms and Conditions of Hiring	Revise
Waste Charge	Revise
REVOKE	
Industry Incentive	Revoke
Open Space	Revoke

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

Councils Plan 2009-2013 adjusted at 2010 contains an objective to provide community leadership through the provision of an accessible, open and consultative government.

Conclusion

As a consequence of the review Council officers will now undertake a thorough re-assessment of those policies identified for revision and present their recommendations to Council in the future. In the mean time for governance purposes those policies will remain in operation.

Recommendation:

That:

- 1. the outcomes of the review of Council's policies be noted;***
- 2. the "Professional Development for Councillors" Policy as presented be adopted;***
- 3. in accordance with the outcome of the review, the following policies be amended as advised:***
 - Annual Meeting of Council;***
 - Appointment of Acting Mayor;***
 - Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Process;***
 - Commemorative plaques and other markers;***
 - Development Approval Facilitation;***
 - Guidelines for Delegates Reports to Council;***
 - Place Naming;***
 - Policy for Naming Roads, Streets and Other Accessways;***
 - Reimbursement of Expenses for Councillors and Members of Council Committees;***
 - Sister City/Friendship City Relationship Program;***
 - Street Furniture Relocation;***
 - Town Planning Conciliation Meetings; and***
 - Use of Council's Name and Nomenclature.***
- 4. in accordance with the outcome of the review, the following policies be revoked:***
 - Industry Incentive; and***
 - Open Space.***
- 5. A review schedule consistent with the four year Council term be implemented.***

11.2.1.3 MAYOR'S CHARITY GALA

Mayoral Charity Event

40.030.007

Introduction

A new approach is being proposed to the concept of a Mayoral Charity Ball, with the intention of maximising the funds raised for the chosen charity.

Background

As part of the 2010/11 Budget a project was adopted to undertake a Mayoral Charity Ball - a concept embraced in a number of local government areas.

The event will:

- raise money for a chosen charity;
- showcase the Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre; and
- help to deliver the 2009-2013 Council Plan action to 'expand the range of festive community events to enhance the liveability of the Rural City of Wangaratta and create opportunities for the community to come together'.

Issues

The Mayoral Charity Ball was proposed to have included a dinner and show for 300 guests, however upon investigation, this format was considered too costly with limited return to charity.

It is now proposed that the event take on an amended format and name - the 'Mayor's Charity Gala'. The event will include pre-dinner drinks and a performance followed by a cocktail-style function for 500 paying patrons. This format should generate a substantial return to charity.

Dates, entertainment and pricing are currently being determined. However it is expected that the event will be held in June.

The Mayor, in consultation with fellow Councillors, has discussed the Apex Merriwa Traffic School as a suitable recipient charity for 2011.

The Traffic School provides a safe and controlled environment to promote safer road user behaviour for children from a young age (largely 3 to 13 years old) and the disabled, with the aim of reducing the potential risk of injury and to save lives.

The Apex Merriwa Traffic School has submitted a breakdown of projects/ works that would benefit by additional funds:

- paint the main building inside and out;
- upgrade maintenance equipment;
- replace old bikes (upgrade the disabled bikes);
- replace concrete paths within the traffic school;
- upgrade street signage within the traffic school; and
- replace existing toilet block with disabled toilets.

The extent of the works is dependent on the amount generated by the event, but the estimated cost of all of the above is approximately \$25,000.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

To: 'expand the range of festive community events to enhance the liveability of the Rural City of Wangaratta and create opportunities for the community to come together'.

Conclusion

It is anticipated that the new approach being taken with the Mayor's Charity Gala will maximise the dividend available for charity from Council's investment.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the approach being taken with the event be endorsed;**
- 2. That the event be known as the Mayor's Charity Gala; and**
- 3. That Apex Merriwa Traffic School be the recipient charity for 2011.**

Communication

This event will be widely promoted to the Rural City of Wangaratta community.

11.2.1.4 COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS: NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE

Emergency Management

77.010.003

Introduction

A National Strategy for Disaster Resilience has been issued by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) (*refer attached*). The Rural City of Wangaratta participated in the strategy and features as a supporting case study.

Background

In December 2009 the Council of Australian Governments agreed to adopt a whole-of-nation resilience based approach to disaster management. It was in recognition that a national, coordinated and cooperative effort is needed to enhance Australia's capacity to withstand and recover from emergencies and disasters.

Its timing followed the Black Saturday bushfires of 2009 and the experiences fresh from that disaster.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Rural City of Wangaratta accepted an invitation to participate on the working group developing the strategy to give a Local Government perspective. This was perhaps in reference to the direct experience

gained as a result of being involved in a string of disaster management events that beset the north east over the past 10 years.

The working party met during 2010 and the strategy was released in February 2011.

Issues

The National Strategy for Disaster Resilience is based on a process of preparation, response, recovery, review and learning's in a continual cycle of improvement thereby better equipping communities to cope with disasters. A major emphasis is the notion of shared responsibility, whereby all levels of government, communities, organisations and individuals have a role in the process. As a starting point, however, individuals should be more self-reliant and prepared to take responsibility for the risks they live with.

Through this approach it is anticipated that resilience will be strengthened. Experience has shown that greater government intervention at all levels weakens an individual or community's self-reliance and thus undermines resilience.

While the strategy directly followed the 2009 Victorian Bushfires, it countenanced other disasters/emergency events. Coincidentally, while the strategy was being developed, North East Victoria was subjected to floods, giving the opportunity of a live experience to assess. The Rural City of Wangaratta's experience and learnings from this event was submitted as a case study and forms an Appendix to the National Strategy (*refer attached*). Our learnings were encapsulated in the following.

Observations Conceptualised

	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accurate warnings - Identification of risks - Preparedness
Adaptation	Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-ordination - State of readiness
	Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Swift - Timely - Effective - Communicated
	Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted - Prompt - Supportive

Review - Thorough
- Constructive

Outcomes:

No loss of life
Minimal stock losses
High level of community understanding and acceptance
Recovery process instantaneous
Continuous improvement

Resilience }

Learning: **Knowledge** → **Adaptation** → **Review** → **Resilience**

These learnings are reflected in the National Strategy.

Implications

The National Strategy for Disaster Resilience will set the framework for involvement by government at all levels into the future. It is predicated on the concept of building self-reliance through shared responsibility thereby improving resilience. A fundamental component is the sharing of knowledge and continuous improvement: enabling individuals to identify their own risks and mitigate against them in conjunction with the wider community and government.

The weight being given to this new approach is best summed up in a speech by the Federal Attorney-General, the Honourable Robert McClelland MP on the 25 March 2011:

“A better understanding of risk, greater focus on mitigation and shared responsibility within the Australian community are some of the key tenets of the new *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience*.”

The Strategy sets out the priorities of all Australian governments for building disaster resilient communities across Australia.

It is the first step in a long-term process to deliver sustained behavioural change.

This will require a concerted, whole of government effort, as demonstrated by the Prime Minister and state and territory leaders endorsing this strategy at last month’s Council of Australian Governments meeting.”

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.2.1.5 **COLLECTIVE MARKETING STRATEGY**

Wangaratta Unlimited Board

25.007.002

Introduction

Wangaratta Unlimited has been requested to endorse support for a promotional branding campaign “You’re Welcome in Wangaratta”.

Background

In 2010 Business Wangaratta formally advised Council that it would no longer actively pursue the application of a Special Charge for the businesses within the Rural City of Wangaratta for the purposes of collective marketing.

Since this time a group of Wangaratta traders have collaboratively promoted Wangaratta by way of a television advertisement with the catch cry “You’re Welcome in Wangaratta”. 100 businesses have supported this promotion to date, with excellent interest for an ongoing campaign.

Rural City of Wangaratta used the advertisement template to advertise its Christmas Festivities Program in December 2010 in an effort to further enhance the effect of the “You’re Welcome in Wangaratta” campaign.

Issues

The Board of Wangaratta Unlimited fully endorse the brand and concept that has been established. The slogan and its look and feel are accepted as being representative of our regional city and an effective method by which to raise the profile of Wangaratta as a retail and service centre destination.

It is recommended that the operation and ownership of the brand remain independent to Council as the buy-in and ongoing development by the traders is the essential ingredient for the success of the campaign.

Wangaratta Unlimited should therefore take a role in the support of the campaign by facilitating the development of range of templates for use by the consortium. There should also be a commitment to use the logo and templates for activities within the City which would benefit from this branding which showcases our central business district.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

“In conjunction with key stakeholders continue to consider a collective marketing strategy that creates brand awareness of Wangaratta within the retail catchment”.

Financial

The design costs associated with the establishment of various templates can be met from the existing unit budget.

Recommendation:

- 1. That Council endorse the concept “You’re Welcome In Wangaratta” as a promotional brand;**
- 2. That the operation of the brand be maintained independently of Council;
and**
- 3. That Wangaratta Unlimited support the further development of the concept through the development of a template for the brand for use by Wangaratta Unlimited and at the trader’s group discretion.**

11.2.2 SUSTAINABILITY

11.2.2.1 LOCAL AUTHORITIES SUPERANNUATION FUND DEFINED BENEFITS PLAN

Employee superannuation

59.020.002

Introduction

Victorian Councils make superannuation contributions to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund defined benefits plan (LASF) on behalf of Victorian Local Government employees that commenced prior to 31 December 1993. Defined benefits superannuation funds provide prescribed retirement benefits to members based on years of service and salary entitlement as at retirement.

One of the key features of defined benefits superannuation funds is that the employer rather than the employee bears the investment risk. Accordingly any shortfall in funds held by the fund must be borne by the employers.

Background

Council has received advice that the LASF has a shortfall that must be addressed. In a letter dated 3 December 2010, Vision Super Pty Ltd (Vision Super), the trustee of the LASF Plan, informed Council of the results of the 30 June 2010 actuarial investigation and the consequential funding impact on Council. In summary, the letter advised that the actuary has now recommended that employers be requested to fund a shortfall, and that the Board of Vision Super has accepted the actuary's recommendation for the full amount to be paid and will make a funding call in respect thereof.

The matter was referred to the Audit Advisory Committee, and Council's internal auditors, Johnsons MME have conducted a review of the issues associated with the LASF Plan funding call.

Vision Super will issue an invoice for the amount outstanding of \$600,862 (including tax of \$90,142 and an interest component) which is due and payable on 1 July 2011.

Issues

Internal Audit Report

Item 4a of Council's Audit Advisory Committee meeting report, included in this agenda, contains the internal audit report on Council's liability in relation to the LASF Plan and concludes that:

1. Council does have a liability in relation to the plan,
2. That the Council's allocated share of the unfunded superannuation liability is fair, and
3. That Council's finance team has no conflict of interest in respect to determining funding options.

Notwithstanding the above, the best method of funding the amount depends on:

- Council's current cash position and whether it has surplus cash resources;
- Whether Council can obtain a more favourable interest rate by borrowing from its bankers or other sources of finance.

Industry response

Investigations reveal that approximately one quarter of Victorian councils have already undertaken to pay their respective liabilities. Others are assessing the legalities and appropriateness of the funding call, in a similar manner to this Council.

Financing arrangements

Formal advice of Councils obligation in this matter was first received in December 2010 and is not included in the current budget. Borrowings for this payment will be undertaken and budgeted for in the 2011/12 financial year. Council will undertake a loan tender process to determine the best financing options during that year.

Implications

The Chief Executive Officer and Director, Sustainability both have a conflict of interest in this matter.

Recommendation:

That:

- 1. Council's obligation of \$600,862 be included in the 2011/12 draft budget, and;***
- 2. Provision be made for this amount in the borrowing program for 2011/12.***

11.2.2.2 AUDITOR GENERAL: RESULTS OF 2009/10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITS

Annual Audit

51.020.001

Introduction

Local government annual financial statement audits are undertaken by the Victorian Auditor General or his appointed contractor. Following the annual audit process for public sector entities, the auditor general prepares a report on financial results for parliament. A separate report for local government is prepared. This is in recognition of the importance of local government as the third tier of government and as autonomous entities accountable to ratepayers.

Background

The Victorian Auditor-General has issued his annual report on the results of his work on Local Government Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2010.

Issues

The report has been presented to parliament and raises a number of matters including:

- Results of audits
- Quality of financial reporting
- Financial sustainability, and
- Submissions and comments received.

The attached table shows the various indicators relied on by the Auditor to establish an opinion regarding financial sustainability (***refer attachment***).

*Note: the following is a guide indicating the level of risk as per figures shown in the table:

Green = low risk

Amber = medium risk

Red = high risk.

The report confirms Council's prudent and planned approach to budget management. All indicators, except for indebtedness and renewal gap, are classified as low risk.

Indebtedness

In the case of indebtedness, the score of 41.02 is only slightly above the threshold for low risk (40.0%) and has been affected by timing differences relating to the establishment of the Performing Arts Centre and the construct of Children's Services Centre. In both cases the borrowings necessary to continue the Centres were made prior to the commencement of operations and resulting cash flows. The forecast figures included in the report show a return to low risk in 2011.

Renewal Gap

The renewal gap calculation used by the auditor general compares spending on renewal, restoring and replacing of assets with the accounting depreciation of those assets. The measure does not take into account the current condition of the assets or the intervention levels used by Council when modelling future renewal requirements.

Council's score of 0.9+ is only slightly below the threshold for low risk (1.00). The trend is for low risk in the future (***refer attachment***).

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

Council's plan contains a key strategic activity to provide responsible financial practices ensuring Council's ongoing financial viability

Sustainability

The Auditor-General's Report indicates that Council's financial position is currently sound and is predicted to remain so.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.2.3 COMMUNITY WELLBEING

11.2.3.1 COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE

Community Planning

60.010.003

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to present a further six community plans to Council from the following communities: (*refer attachment*)

- Boorhaman and Boorhaman North;
- Greta District;
- Milawa and Markwood;
- Eldorado;
- Whitlands; and
- Whorouly District.

Background

Twenty rural communities have participated in Council's Community Planning program and are involved at various stages of the process. To date, nine rural communities have completed their plans which have been received by Council.

Issues

In order for Community Planning to be successful it is important for the community to be empowered to be part of decision making and determine the directions for their community.

It should be noted that an approach was made to include the Whitlands community in the Myrree community's community planning process however the residents of Whitlands felt that they identify with a number of areas including Mansfield and Benalla. To this end Whitlands, although small in population, has undertaken to develop its own separate plan.

Consideration has been given to the amount of funds allocated to each community given the variance in population. An approach was taken to allocate the same amount to each rural community to enable a project to be supported. In the case of Whitlands the amount remained the same in recognition of the lack of opportunity the Whitlands community has to generate revenue through other means.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

Community Wellbeing Objective: To improve community wellbeing by focusing on:

- Increasing the capacity of the community to be self-supporting and resilient;
- Actively fostering community leadership;
- Providing a safe and fair place to live; and

- Valuing and respecting the contribution of all sectors.

Governance Strategic Activity: To engage the community in a strategic approach to decision-making and the development of the Rural City of Wangaratta.

Policies

The implementation of Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Sustainability

Through community planning, five new action/development groups have formed to progress their plan as a collective voice. The positive outcomes of developing a community plan has also led to community champions with like-minded projects being able to connect and bridge their relationship across the municipality by sharing information, resources and experiences.

Community Engagement

The six community plans being presented to Council have engaged participants through, email, phone calls, small gatherings, town meetings, and workshops to inform, involve and empower.

Conclusion

The six community plans are provided to inform Council of the priority needs and aspirations identified by each community that will enhance the future liveability of their rural communities.

Recommendation:

That Council

- 1. Receive the Boorhaman & North Boorhaman, Greta and District, Milawa & Markwood, Eldorado, Whitlands and Whorouly District community plans as presented to Council; and***
- 2. Note that these are community plans which are endorsed by Council; and that Council is one of a number of stakeholders who have a role in actioning them.***

Communication

The respective communities will be advised of Council's decision.

11.2.3.2 COMMUNITY RAFFLE – 2011 -13

Community Raffle (Community Chest)

60.010.007

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement for the Agreement with YMCA Victoria for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Community Raffles.

Background

The community raffle was provided on behalf of Council by YMCA Victoria in 2009 and 2010. Both raffles were very successful and resulted in an increase in the number of not-for-profit organisations participating and the number of tickets sold, therefore providing more benefits for the community than previous years.

The 2009 community raffle raised \$69,404 for 76 community groups and the 2010 Community Raffle raised \$76,502 for 90 community groups.

The community raffle draw has now become a popular feature for the community at the annual Carols by Candlelight event.

A two year agreement was previously in place with YMCA Victoria for the provision of the community raffle, this arrangement has now expired.

Issues

As Council was previously advised in a report provided in May 2009 it has been difficult to identify a suitable entity to run the community raffle because of the demand on time and the gaming legislative requirements.

As the YMCA Victoria has delivered a very successful community raffle it is proposed that a further agreement be entered into for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 raffles.

The 2009 – 2010 agreement has been reviewed and the proposed draft agreement (***refer attachment***) now includes reference to Council's procurement policy for the purchasing of prizes. It also states that YMCA Victoria will invoice Council for the costs of prizes and running costs as recommended by Council's Finance Manager. Payment will only be made for the prizes after Council Officers have considered the quotes for costs provided.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

Council Plan action 1.1.1 to 'Support a Community Raffle or similar concept to provide the opportunity for community groups to raise funds'.

Policies

YMCA Victoria will be required to follow Council's Procurement Policy when purchasing prizes.

Community Engagement

Information about the Community Raffle is distributed to community organisations by YMCA Victoria through a mail out and e-mail utilising the most up to date Council Community Directory. YMCA Victoria will also promote the raffle at the Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre by having the prizes on display, through newsletters sent to the member's database, and articles in the "Round the Barr" weekly in the Wangaratta Chronicle. Council will also include an article in the Wangaratta Matters newsletter.

Conclusion

The YMCA Victoria has demonstrated an interest in continuing to provide the Community Raffle on Council's behalf. Given the success of the past two raffles and previous difficulties in finding a suitable provider it is proposed that YMCA Victoria is provides this activity for another three years.

Recommendation:

That Council endorse entering into an agreement with YMCA Victoria for the provision of the Community Raffle 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Communication

The YMCA Victoria will be advised of Council's decision.

11.2.3.3 AQUATIC STRATEGY

Aquatics Planning Study

61.040.004

Introduction

This report provides feedback on submissions from the community on the draft Aquatic Strategy, and proposes Council adopt the draft Aquatic Strategy and proceed with investigative work to explore the viability of the proposed concepts.

Background

A community consultation process has been undertaken seeking feedback on the draft Aquatic Strategy which proposes three development concepts:

1. WANGARATTA INDOOR SPORTS AND AQUATIC CENTRE (WISAC)
'A family recreation and health Centre'. This would include the construction of a second therapy pool for rehabilitation, training and learn to swim activities;
2. OLYMPIC OUTDOOR POOL

‘A regional aquatic attraction, providing a seasonal outdoor experience’. The 50m swimming pool would be refurbished, a modern ‘splash park’ developed, summer volleyball and cricket sand area would be provided, and an adjacent regional playground with ‘access for all’ developed; and

3. YARRUNGA OUTDOOR POOL

‘A local family swim centre’. The current facilities would be refurbished maintaining a local family attraction.

Summary of Responses

A total of 23 responses were received of which there were no unexpected issues or ideas put forward. It is most apparent that there are some respondents who have an attachment to the Olympic Pool and consequently want to maintain this facility. Other responses of which the majority are from Wangaratta Swim Club members indicate a need for facilities to better reflect the competition standards required of their sport which may attract major swimming events such as country and state championships.

The number of responses received for each respective opinion is as follows:

- Support for new 50m pool – 11
- Support to redevelop Olympic Pool – 6
- Close Olympic and not replace – 1
- Retain 50m either new or redevelop 2
- No real position regarding redevelopment or creating new pool could be ascertained – 2
- Support for additional hydrotherapy pool (no mention of position on 50m facility) – 1

The responses received have been considered relative to each component of the draft Aquatic Strategy (***refer attachment***). The following provides a brief summary of general remarks:

WISAC additional hydrotherapy pool

The responses received were favourable towards the development of a second warm water program (hydrotherapy) pool due to the additional value this will provide for rehabilitation and learn to swim programs.

Yarrunga local family swim centre

Responses received were favourable towards the development of facilities at Yarrunga due to the value provided to the community as a family friendly centre.

Olympic Pool Upgrade

The Aquatic Strategy Report provided by Michelle Read did not support the development of a 50m pool, however, public feedback suggests there is a sector of the community who feel very strongly about maintaining access to a 50m facility. Less than half of the total submissions received expressed support for a 50m facility that is able to meet the requirements of competitive swimming. Some submissions expressed the importance of providing a family friendly outdoor 50m facility. Submissions were divided in relation to the most suitable location for a

50m pool i.e. redevelopment of the existing Olympic Pool facility or construction of a new facility at WISAC.

It is clear from the submissions received that there is unquestionable support for the additional hydrotherapy pool at WISAC and for the Yarrunga pool to be retained and upgraded.

Given the number of submissions received it is hardly representative of the broader community. From this it could be assumed that generally the community does not have an issue with what is proposed in the 'draft' Aquatic Strategy. Consideration must also be given to the intent of the Guiding Principles (**refer attachment**) which are incorporated in and provide the basis of the draft Aquatic Strategy.

Issues

It should be noted that many of the submissions received support the Guiding Principles, except in the case where there is a proposal that clearly focuses on the development of aquatic facilities for a competitive standard of swim activities. Those that advocate for the development of a competition pool (which would include nine lanes and a warm up / cool down pool) are only considerate of the needs of a minority of the community. The broader community do not desire facilities of this standard.

It should also be noted that as a population of 28,000 plus, the Rural City of Wangaratta cannot be expected to provide a standard of aquatic facilities of those provided in larger regional centres such as Geelong. Remembering there are also competitive standard aquatic facilities within a reasonable travel distance to Wangaratta, for example: Albury and Shepparton.

Before Council can proceed with the implementation of the draft Aquatic Strategy the condition of the existing Olympic and Yarrunga pools and facilities need to be investigated further, and a full scope for the potential development of a second hydrotherapy pool at WISAC. An assessment will need to be undertaken to ensure there is definitive knowledge of the issues relating to the condition of the pool shell structure, surfaces, joints, filtration plant, water return flow rates, concourses etc. This detailed assessment and scope of works need to be undertaken prior to the progression of a development plan.

In the meantime, remedial works at Yarrunga Pool, such as installation of shade sails and upgrading of basic amenities should be undertaken, similar to that which occurred at the Olympic Pool.

A further component of the Aquatic Strategy includes the development of a Regional Playground and public splash park outside of the pool fenced area. It is proposed that the concept and costing of both these elements be included in the work to be undertaken to progress redevelopment of the Olympic and Yarrunga pools.

Community Engagement

The draft Aquatic Strategy, whilst ensuring the facilities address the long term needs of the community, provide regional standard facilities and a range of activities for the local community.

The draft Strategy aligns well with community need as is demonstrated by the guiding principles. Significant work was undertaken to develop the guiding principles clearly based on the community feedback.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

Improve access to both local and regional sport and recreation opportunities to improve health and wellbeing.

Financial Implications

Funding opportunities will need to be sought to enable the Aquatic Strategy to be realised. The Better Pools funding program (provided by the Victorian State Government) is generally the only funding opportunity that Council is able to apply for funding of aquatic facilities.

The Victorian State Government has recently announced a new funding program called the Regional Growth Fund. It appears there may be an opportunity to receive funding through this program for the implementation of the Aquatic Strategy being a significant regional infrastructure development.

Conclusion

Having regard to the comments received and issues raised via submissions and the community consultation processes and in consideration of the Guiding Principles, there appears to be insufficient grounds to charge the overall direction as given in the draft Aquatic Strategy.

The concepts provided in the draft Aquatic Strategy have been developed in response to community interest and need, but also to achieve a point of difference for Wangaratta. The point of difference will be achieved by providing three unique and deliberate aquatic facilities that provide for different interests. Council is therefore in a position to proceed with adoption of the draft Aquatic Strategy without amendment.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. *Adopt the draft Aquatic Strategy which incorporates the following concepts:***
 - *WANGARATTA INDOOR SPORTS AND AQUATIC CENTRE (WISAC)***

'A family recreation and health Centre'. This would include the construction of a second therapy pool for rehabilitation, training and learn to swim activities;

- ***OLYMPIC OUTDOOR POOL***
'A regional aquatic attraction, providing a seasonal outdoor experience'. The 50m swimming pool would be refurbished, a modern 'splash park' developed, summer volleyball and cricket sand area would be provided, and an adjacent regional playground with 'access for all' developed; and
- ***YARRUNGA OUTDOOR POOL***
'A local family swim centre'. The current facilities would be refurbished maintaining a local family attraction.

2. ***Support the following steps being undertaken in order to progress the Aquatic Strategy:***
 - a. ***Progress a development plan in relation to the additional hydrotherapy pool at Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre; and***
 - b. ***Undertake a detailed technical assessment relating to the condition of the Olympic and Yarrunga pools so that an appropriate development plan can be initiated which includes development of a Regional Playground and public accessible splash park in order to progress the refurbishment of both outdoor facilities.***
3. ***Further assess the implementation of the Strategy following the outcome of the development plan for the Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre and the detailed technical assessment of the Olympic and Yarrunga pools, and***
4. ***Refer an amount of \$50,000 for consideration in the 11/12 budget for remedial works at the Yarrunga swimming pool.***

11.2.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

11.2.4.1 CONTRACT NO C1011/033 - C1011/037 FLOOD REINSTATEMENT

Reinstatement of flood damaged roads

30.072.033-037

Background

These contracts are part of the flood restoration works following the September and December Flood events. The works covered by these contracts are the reinstatement of gravel shoulders on Council's sealed road networks.

The preparation of these tender packages has required significant time to undertake detailed inspections of each of the damaged sites to be able to specify the works for inclusion into tender documents.

Contract Details

Tenders for the reinstatement of various sealed roads were packaged in 5 separate tenders as detailed below:

C1011/033 - Flood Reinstatement Whitfield
C1011/034 - Flood Reinstatement Greta West
C1011/035 - Flood Reinstatement Everton and Whorouly
C1011/036 - Flood Reinstatement Eldorado and Boorhaman
C1011/037 - Flood Reinstatement Warby Ranges and Peechelba

Tenders were invited through advertisements as follows:

Newspaper	Date
Chronicle	25 February 2011
The Border Mail	26 February 2011
Also electronically	

Tenderlink	25 February 2011
------------	------------------

Tenders closed at 2.00pm on Wednesday 16 March 2011.

There was no pre-tender meeting for this contract.

Tenders Received

Three companies submitted tenders for the five tender packages. Tenders were received from TA Lindsay Pty Ltd, City Wide Infrastructure and Global Contractors.

All tenders were deemed by the evaluation panel to be conforming in accordance with the Conditions of Tendering.

Tender Evaluation

The tenders were evaluated in accordance with evaluation criteria set out in the Conditions of Tendering. The evaluation criterion is based upon a Weighted Attribution Method as follows:

Criteria	Description	Weighting
Tender Price	Total price of the work	50%
Capacity to carry out contract works	Contractors capacity to perform contract works, experience and past performance in previous similar works	15%
Timeliness	Ability to mobilise onto the job and complete works within the nominated project time lines	10%
Materials	Quality of materials proposed	15%
OHS Systems	Contractor's commitment to OHS	10%
	Total	100%

Panel members assigned a score (maximum 100) to each criteria (as shown below) and then weighted the average score to produce a final Weighted Attribution Method Score.

P	Evaluation Result	Criteria
100	Exceptional	Demonstrated capacity exceeds all required standards and innovations proposed.
90	Excellent	Demonstrated capacity exceeds all required standards.
70	Good	Complies with all required standards and capacity demonstrated.
50	Satisfactory	Complies with relevant standards without qualifications.
30	Marginal	Complies with relevant standards with qualifications.
0	Unsatisfactory	Fails to satisfy required standards.

The summary of the scores obtained by this method for each tender are as follows:

Contract	Tenderer	Score	Preferred Tenderer
C1011/033 – Flood Reinstatement Whitfield	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd	60	City Wide Infrastructure
	City Wide Infrastructure	67	
	Global Contractors	54	
C1011/034 – Flood Reinstatement Greta West	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd	58	Global Contractors
	Global Contractors	60	
C1011/035 – Flood Reinstatement Everton and Whorouly	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd	67	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd
	City Wide Infrastructure	63	
	Global Contractors	51	
C1011/036 – Flood Reinstatement Eldorado and Boorhaman	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd	65	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd
	City Wide Infrastructure	63	
	Global Contractors	53	
C1011/037 – Flood Reinstatement Warby Ranges and Peechelba	TA Lindsay Pty Ltd	15	City Wide Infrastructure
	City Wide Infrastructure	88	
	Global Contractors	78	

The higher value reflects the more favourable assessment.

Budget Considerations

These tenders fall under the flood restoration projects for Council. VicRoads have approved the tenders as being suitable for reimbursement through the Natural Disaster Relief funding.

The costs will be paid by Council and then fully reimbursed by the State Government.

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the following recommendations:

- 1. That Contract C1011/033 for the Flood Reinstatement at Whitfield be awarded to City Wide Infrastructure for the amount of \$296,569 (incl GST)***
- 2. That Contract C1011/034 for the Flood Reinstatement at Greta West be awarded to Global Contractors for the amount of \$693,771 (incl GST)***
- 3. That Contract C1011/035 for the Flood Reinstatement at Everton and Whorouly be awarded to TA Lindsay Pty Ltd for the amount of \$338,473 (incl GST)***

4. ***That Contract C1011/036 for the Flood Reinstatement at Eldorado and Boorhaman be awarded to TA Lindsay Pty Ltd for the amount of \$284,547 (incl GST)***
5. ***That Contract C1011/037 for the Flood Reinstatement at Warby Ranges and Peechelba be awarded to City Wide Infrastructure for the amount of \$409,615 (incl GST)***
6. ***That these Contracts (C1011/033, C1011/034, C1011/035, C1011/036 and C1011/037) for flood reinstatement be signed and sealed when available***

11.2.4.2 STREET TREES – TEMPLETON AND GRAY STREETS WANGARATTA

Trees

78.025.002

Introduction

On Tuesday 8 February 2011, a deputation of the Templeton Street and Gray Street residents was received in relation to Council's management of the street trees within the Templeton Street and Gray Street precinct.

The deputation sought Council's support for a 'plane tree precinct' centred on Gray and Templeton Streets ensuring the sustainable management of a significant streetscape in Wangaratta.

Background

Trees along the nature strips in Templeton and Gray Streets, Wangaratta are mainly Plane Trees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) with a small number of other species which have been inter-planted over time.

Some trees located under powerlines have lopsided canopies with the trees having been pollarded in order to provide the necessary clearance from high voltage power lines.

Following Council's inspection of trees within the Templeton and Gray Streets road reserve, works for further pruning and pollarding were scheduled to be undertaken in November 2010.

Shortly after commencement of these works Council's Arborist supervising the works was approached by a local resident and was requested to cease works.

On Monday 15 November 2010 approximately thirty (30) residents met with Council's arborist and Manager Technical Services onsite to discuss their concerns regarding the management of the street trees.

At a Deputations to Council meeting on Tuesday 8 February 2011 Templeton Street and Gray Street resident representatives sought commitment to support a

precinct specific project that ensures the sustainable management of a significant streetscape in Wangaratta. They proposed that the first phase would include:

- Replanting plane trees that have died or have not previously been replaced along the south side of Templeton Street where there are no powerlines by 30 June 2011.
- Commencement of plane tree planting along the east side of Gray Street extending from Rowan Street to the showgrounds where there are no powerlines by the 30 June 2011.
- Seek commitment to make application for funding for either aerial bundle cabling or underground cable for Templeton Street and Gray Street. The representatives also offered to assist Council in making their application to the powerline relocation committee in order to have this submitted by the 31 March 2011.

Finally, the representatives also requested a total dollar amount per tree be allocated for 2011/2012 budget, and request that the Plane Trees on the south side of Templeton Street be considered for inclusion on Council's Significant Tree Register.

Health and Structure of Existing Trees

To support Council in determining whether to establish a plane tree precinct, an independent assessment of the health and structure of the existing trees was undertaken.

A & R Tree Surgeons (Arborist Consultants) was engaged to assess trees growing on both sides of the road reserve along Templeton Street between Green Street and Mackay Street and along Gray Street between Rowan Street and Evans Street. The objectives of the Consultant's Report was to provide recommendations with regard to any ongoing maintenance strategies required to provide an acceptable level of safety for both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

The report describes the trees on the south side of Templeton Street to be in good health however the same cannot be said for trees on the north side.

The report reveals that due to the poor structure of the plane trees on the north side of Templeton Street and the fact that additional growth and weight is being added annually to their declining structure, the following action is recommended:

- Pollard the trees and maintain the trees with only pollarded re growth. This may require pollarding to be undertaken bi-annually.

OR

- Remove all the plane trees along the north side of Templeton Street under the high voltage power lines and replant with a more appropriate species of tree.

Copies of the arborist Reports are attached (*refer attachment*).

Issues

If the plane trees are to be retained under the powerlines, then as per the arborist's recommendations they will require regular pollarding. Even if Council were to employ Aerial Bundling of the power Cables (ABC) at an estimated cost of \$125,000, there is still a requirement for the trees to be pruned (pollarded every two years) around the remaining cable set. Hence the net benefit with this is considered negligible

The undergrounding of the power lines is considered a far better option with the natural growth of the trees being able to be maintained with minor pruning potentially required to protect other assets. However, this comes at significant cost, estimated at over \$350,000 for Templeton Street alone. (to be confirmed)

Further to this cost, there will be an associated cost for the individual property owners with new underground household connections required with the new installation. This is also estimated to add a further \$5,000 - \$10,000 per property onto the project costs.

There are grants available to contribute toward the costs of overhead powerline treatments. However, it might be some time before Council was successful in its application and it is apparent that Templeton Street and Gray Street resident representatives would like the plane tree precinct established sooner rather than later.

The most appropriate method to fund the works is via a special charge scheme as the residents within the Templeton and Gray Street precinct will derive a material benefit from placing the power supply underground while the broader community will not.

The implementation of a special charge scheme will require the majority support of the ratepayers affected. If this support is not forthcoming, then Council will be advised to implement the recommendation of the arborist report to remove the plane trees under the powerlines and replace with a more appropriate species selected in consultation with the residents.

The area being considered for the plane tree precinct is under a heritage overlay within the Wangaratta Planning Scheme. For the plane trees to be removed and substituted with another species, Council would be required to obtain a planning permit before undertaking the works



Figure showing properties within potential plane tree precinct

Implications

The estimated cost per property could be in the order of \$7,000 to \$8,000 for the special charge scheme and a further \$5,000 to \$10,000 to reconnect the house to the underground power supply.

The cost to install root barriers to protect private and Council assets are yet to be determined at the time of writing this report but will be estimated for inclusion in documentation supplied to residents during the survey process.

If the plane trees under the power lines are to be removed and replaced with a more appropriate species then, some consideration should be given to whether all the trees are removed at once. Adopting a process where alternate plane trees are removed initially and the balance in 2 years, would give the replacement trees a chance to become established before the balance of the plane trees are removed.

Extending the plane tree precinct into Gray Street could require the removal of some established native trees that currently grow in the naturestrip. Some of these trees have been identified in the arborist's report as having structural problems and will be removed and a more appropriate species planted should there be no support forthcoming for a plane tree precinct.

It is believed that the proposed actions meet Council plan objectives.

Council Plan Outcomes

Council Plan Objectives include:

Plan developments and public spaces that take into account community needs and desires while being practical and responsive to longer term needs; and

Ensure the amenity of public and built environments is attractive, safe and practical.

Community Engagement

Council proposes to poll the ratepayers of properties within the proposed plane tree precinct to determine whether they would be in favour of contributing to a special charge scheme for the undergrounding of the power with the associated costs in reconnecting their properties.

Should the majority vote be against the establishment of the plane tree precinct and associated special charge scheme to underground the power, Council will be advised to remove the plane trees under the powerlines in accordance with the arborist's report and replant with a suitable species after consultation with the residents.

With respect to the locations on the south side of Templeton Street identified by the deputation for replacement trees, the adjoining property holder will be consulted before any plantings take place.

The views of the residents of Gray Street will be sought regarding the removal of the existing native trees and the replacement with plane trees.

Conclusion

To create a plane tree precinct in Templeton and Gray Streets with plane trees on either side of the road, the overhead powerlines will need to be relocated underground.

The residents will be surveyed to determine whether a majority are in favour of the plane tree precinct and the associated costs and charges. If not, then the plane trees under the power lines should be removed and a more suitable species planted.

Regardless of the results of the survey, the plane trees under the powerlines in Templeton Street will be pollarded in the coming winter in accordance with the arborist's recommendations.

Recommendation:

That:

- 1. In order to create a plane tree precinct in the Templeton Street and Gray Street area;***

- a. ***The costs to establish the plane tree precinct be determined for individual properties in the potential plane tree precinct. Those costs include;***
 - i. ***the removal of the aerial power supply and replacing with underground power supply, and***
 - ii. ***the future planting, replacement and management of the plane trees,***
 - b. ***The residents within the potential plane tree precinct be surveyed, based on these costs, to determine the extent of support for a funding arrangement such as a special rate scheme for these works and,***
 - c. ***The results be reported to Council for future consideration.***
2. ***The existing plane trees under power lines in Templeton Street be pollarded this coming winter (2011) in accordance with the recommendations of the report by A & R Tree Surgeons (Arborist Consultants).***

Communication

Advise the deputation of the Templeton Street and Gray Street residents of Council's decision.

11.2.4.3 **SUBMISSION ON COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ROAD REFORM PLAN**

Freight/ Logistics

25.015.003.

Introduction

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has invited comments from the Local Government in Victoria for a submission being prepared in response to a paper published by the Council of Australian Government (COAG) Road Reform Plan Project.

Background

The COAG Road Reform Plan (CRRP) project is looking at how to improve the efficiency of freight movement through:

- the promotion of more efficient, productive and sustainable provision and use of freight infrastructure; and
- ensuring that national heavy vehicle road prices promote the efficient, safe and sustainable use of infrastructure, vehicles and transport modes.

A paper has been prepared to facilitate discussion between the CRRP project and Local Government regarding how road reform options being considered might impact upon Local Government especially in relation to making local roads (managed and maintained by Council) available for heavy vehicle use.

The Municipal Association of Victoria is making a submission on behalf of Local Government in Victoria with the closing date for submissions being 11 April 2011.

Comment is being sought from Local Government on:

- Key issues with heavy vehicle use on local roads,
- Pricing reform options for operators benefiting from improved access to the local road network;
- Funding options aimed at improving the link between revenue from heavy vehicle charges and future road spending decisions,
- Definition of service levels and accountability for expenditure of revenue raised from heavy vehicles,
- Community service obligations, and
- Incentives for Local Government to proactively invest in its local road network for heavy vehicles.

Issues

The issue to be addressed through the road reform process is how improved access to the local road network can be given to heavy vehicle traffic.

Council's submission generally makes the following comments:

- Council's local road network is generally not designed to carry heavy vehicle traffic. The pavement strength is often insufficient and in many cases the geometry of the road does not allow for two heavy vehicles to pass or for a heavy vehicle to be able to undertake turning movements at intersections.
- To allow access to Council's local road network, capital will be required to upgrade it to a suitable standard for the heavy vehicle traffic to be able to travel in safety.
- It would not be in Council's or the community's interest for Council to open roads to heavy vehicles without the necessary capital improvements and rely on contributions from the revenue collected from the freight industry to keep the road maintained.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

Plan for and provide infrastructure appropriate to the community's needs.

Efficient movement of freight must be balanced against the provision and maintenance of Council's local road infrastructure for community use.

The most beneficial way for Council to do this is to undertake the necessary capital improvement to each identified local road using funds provided by State or Federal Governments before heavy or high productivity vehicles are given access.

Conclusion

The MAV is currently facilitating a project with the Victorian Freight and Logistics Council into developing a consistent approach for approval of suitable routes for

use of high productivity vehicles. The Rural City of Wangaratta is an active participant in this project and the submission to the MAV on the CRRP paper is in support of this.

Recommendation:

That Council endorse this report.

11.3 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.3.1.1 FRIENDS OF LACLUTA SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Lacluta East Timor Friendship

42.070.020

Introduction

The Friends of Lacluta Special Committee's aim is to develop opportunities to support the community of Lacluta, East Timor. The Friends of Lacluta Special Committee provides this report from the meeting held on 3 March 2011. A copy of the minutes is attached (*refer attachment*).

Issues

The following items were discussed by the Committee:

- Confirmation issued to authorise the reconstruction of a Lacluta community building by the District Director of Land and Property;
- Appin Park Rotary Club's proposed assistance with the community building reconstruction;
- Lifting the profile of the Committee through the Wangaratta Matters Newsletter and regular media releases;
- Overcoming communication issues with contacts in Lacluta;
- Funding opportunities for fundraising events;
- Three interested community members to be endorsed to Committee by Council (refer to earlier report in this agenda);
- Reimbursement of Committee Member telephone costs; and
- Change of date of the scheduled Annual General Meeting.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.3.1.2 LACLUTA ENDORSEMENT OF MEMBERS

Lacluta East Timor Friendship

42.070.020

Introduction

The Friends of Lacluta Special Committee's aim is to develop opportunities to support the community of Lacluta, East Timor. As a Special Committee of Council new members are required to be formally endorsed by Council.

Background

The following people have already been endorsed by Council as current members of the Friends of Lacluta Special Committee:

Andy Kimber;
John Ambrosio;
Beth Walpole;
Margaret Brickhill;
Leonie Brien;
Elizabeth Walpole, and;
Joy Ramsey

The Charter for the Lacluta Special Committee allows for up to ten community Committee members.

Issues

There has been involvement by three other members of the community with the Friends of Lacluta Special Committee who now wish to become official members of the Committee. These community members are:

- John Bradford;
- Barbara Broz; and
- Bernadette Fraser.

Implications

Council Plan Outcomes

To foster and encourage: community spirit; volunteerism; community leadership.

Community Engagement

A broad section of the community is represented on the committee which enhances the opportunities to assist the people of Lacluta.

Conclusion

The endorsement of the three additional members by Council will strengthen the Friends of Lacluta Special Committee's initiatives to build capacity and advance the self-sufficiency of the people of Lacluta.

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the following people as community members of the Friends of Lacluta Special Committee:

- ***John Bradford;***
- ***Barbara Broz; and***
- ***Bernadette Fraser***

Communication

The nominated new Committee members and the current Committee members will be advised of Council's decision.

11.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.4.1.1 YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Youth Council

10.020.010

Background

The Youth Council Advisory Committee (Youth Council) conducts a formal meeting each month. The minutes of the 24 February 2011 and 24 March 2011 (*refer attachment*).

Issues

Youth Councillors have been heavily involved in various community activities such as the International Women's Day, Wangaratta Blue Light Disco, Christmas program and National Young Leaders Day. Youth Council has also been working on National Youth Week 2011 ("Own It" Youth Festival), raising the awareness of Youth Homelessness and working on addressing self esteem issues for young people by organising a workshop.

Youth Councillors continue to be actively involved in representing the issues and concerns affecting young people in the community. Information is gained through their daily contacts and networks.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.4.1.2 AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Audit Advisory Committee

51.020.004

Background

Council's Audit Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting on 9 March 2011. (*refer attachment*).

Reports to the meeting included:

1. Finance reports for January 2011,
2. Council Plan progress to December 2011,
3. Key Performance Indicators January 2011,
4. Internal Audit plan, scope, resources and reports, including internal project reports on:
 - a. the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Defined Benefits Plan and
 - b. Council's Long Term Budgeting Review.
5. Status of internal audit recommendations, risk management policy and risk register,
6. Delegations of authority,
7. Procurement best practice and legislation,

8. Whistleblower issues,
9. Compliance/non-compliance with legislation/Council policies,
10. Auditor General: Results of 2009/10 local government audits, and
11. Audit committees – a guide to good practice for local government.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.4.1.3 **COMMUNITY PRIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Community Pride Advisory Committee

71.020.005

Introduction

The Community Pride Advisory Committee (CPAC) held its meeting on 21 February 2011 and a report follows. A copy of the minutes is attached (***refer attachment***).

Issues

- The Volunteers Expo has been endorsed by Council. A sub-committee is organising this event.
- A report requesting Council to participate in the Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria awards will be referred to a Council meeting.
- Assessment of the Tidy Town signage on the approaches to Wangaratta to be included in the July 2011 CPAC meeting.
- The Committee agreed to hold the Community Pride Awards in 2012 with presentations to be held at the My Backyard Rules Expo in October 2012.
- ‘Cleanup Australia Day’ registrations are now open.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

11.4.1.4 **WANGARATTA UNLIMITED ADVISORY BOARD (COMMITTEE)
MEETING REPORT**

Wangaratta Unlimited Board

25.007.002

Background

The Wangaratta Unlimited Advisory Board (Committee) held their monthly meeting on Tuesday 5 April 2011 with the following members in attendance: Michael Carlile; John Brown; Stephen Oxley; Hayley Cail; Greg Larkins; Grant

Jones; Ken Butterworth; Helen Haines; Cr Anthony Griffiths; Cr Lisa McInerney; Doug Sharp; Graham Nickless; Charles Halter and Shivaun Brown.

Councillor Anthony Griffiths declared a conflict of interest in regards to the Draft Rural Land Strategy presentation.

Guest speakers:

- Doug McPhie – “You’re Welcome in Wangaratta”
- Michelle Grainger (Manager Planning & Customer Service)

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Sports Tourism
- Wangaratta Centre for Medical Excellence
- International Economic Relationship Strategy
- Billion \$ Regional Growth Fund
- Collective Marketing
- Wangaratta CBD Shopper Survey

Reports were received from the following committees or projects:

- Regional Development Australia
- AlpValleys Agrifood Initiative

The following items from the meeting are reported to Councillor’s for information:

Alpine Valleys Agrifood Initiative

The Executive Manager – Economic Development and Tourism will be attending the National Vegetable Growers Expo in Werribee on the 5th & 6th of May to raise the profile of the Alpine Valleys as an investment location. Ongoing developments in the region include further strengthening of a berry offer, development of a pumpkin seed crop and attraction of major infrastructure investment.

Wangaratta Centre for Medical Excellence

The consultation to date has been thorough and is largely complete for this phase of the project. A steering committee meeting will be called in the next month followed by a stakeholders’ meeting. Advocacy to Federal Government could then be progressed.

Collective Marketing

Doug McPhie presented to the Board two advertisements which have been used as a collective marketing campaign promoting Wangaratta as a retail and service centre destination.

The Board of Wangaratta Unlimited fully endorse the brand and concept that has been established and have made the following recommendations (see Council Report “Collective Marketing Strategy” for full board recommendation):

That Council endorse the concept “You’re Welcome In Wangaratta” as a promotional brand;

That the operation of the brand be maintained independently of Council; and

That Wangaratta Unlimited support the further development of the concept through the development of a template for the brand for use by Wangaratta Unlimited and at the trader's group discretion.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

12. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

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

A meeting of an advisory committee where at least one Councillor is present; or
 A planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors and at least one Council officer.

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

- a) The names of all Councillors and members of the Council staff attending;
- b) The matters considered;
- c) Any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending;
- d) Whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

The written record of an assembly of Councillors 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
08/03/2011	Draft Council Meeting Agenda & Deputations	Attachment
15/03/2011	Meeting of Council	Attachment
15/03/2011	Recreation and Open Space Strategy Meeting	Attachment
22/03/2011	Councillors Briefing Forum	Attachment
23/03/2011	Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee	Attachment
29/03/2011	Special Councillors Briefing Forum	Attachment
05/04/2011	Wangaratta Unlimited Advisory Board Committee	Refer Item 11.4.1.1

Recommendation:

1. ***That Council receive the reports of Assemblies of Councillors, and***
2. ***That on the grounds they relate to one or more of the following matters:***
 - a) ***Industrial matters;***
 - b) ***Contractual matters;***
 - c) ***Proposed developments; and***
 - d) ***A matter that would prejudice the Council;***

the following items remain confidential in accordance with S.77 of the Local Government Act :

(i) Councillor’s Briefing Forum dated 22 March 2011:

- 4.2.1.1 Key Performance Indicators**
- 4.2.1.2 Works And Activities Progress**
- 4.2.1.3 Building, Planning & Subdivision Reports**
- 4.2.1.4 Implementation Of Council Decisions**
- 4.2.1.5 Council Planning Calendar 2011**
- 4.2.2.2 Wangaratta Centre For Medical Excellence**
- 4.2.3.1 Triple Bottom Line Evaluation**
- 4.2.4.1 L2P Learner Driver Program – Update**
- 4.2.5.1 Access to Private Property via Council Land**
Contract No c1011/022 Gentle Annie Bridge
- 4.2.5.2 Extension – Variation to Contract**
- 4.2.5.3 Templeton/ Gray Street Trees**
- 5 General Business**
 - **CEO Performance Review Timeline**
 - **China Invitation**
 - **Flood Response from Peter Ryan**
 - **Mock up of entrance signs**
 - **Wangaratta Bowls Club**
 - **Letter of Complaint about Drainage Issue**

(ii) Special Councillor’s Briefing Forum dated 29 March 2011:

- 5 Advisory Committee Review**
- 5.1 Advisory Committee Review – Community Pride Committee**

13. NOTICE OF MOTION

14. URGENT BUSINESS

15. AUTHORISATION OF SIGNING AND SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Authorisation of Signing and Sealing of Documents

50.010.004

Recommendation:***That Council sign and seal the following documents:***

Contract C1011/033 - Flood Reinstatement Whitfield

Contract C1011/034 - Flood Reinstatement Greta West

Contract C1011/035 - Flood Reinstatement Everton and Whorouly

Contract C1011/036 - Flood Reinstatement Eldorado and Boorhaman

Contract C1011/037 - Flood Reinstatement Warby Ranges and Peechelba

16. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time

10.020.004

17. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**18. CLOSURE OF MEETING**