



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT THE DIMBOOLA HEALTH AND FITNESS CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 6
SEPTEMBER 2017, COMMENCING AT 3:00PM**

AGENDA

1. Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community and Opening Prayer

2. Apologies

3. Confirmation of Minutes

4. Declaration of Interests

5. Public Question Time

6. Correspondence

7. Assembly of Councillors

7.1 Record of Assembly

8. Planning Permit Reports

No report

9. Reports Requiring a Decision

- 9.1 Resignation of Audit Committee Member
- 9.2 Change of meeting
- 9.3 Karen Community Plan
- 9.4 Social Media Policy
- 9.5 Dimboola Community Precinct Plan

10. Special Committees

- 10.1 Rainbow Town Committee

11. Late Reports

No report

12. Other Business

No report

13. Confidential Matters

- 13.1 Financial Hardship Application

14. Meeting Close

Present: Crs. D. Nelson (Mayor), R. Lowe (Deputy Mayor), D. Colbert, R. Gersch, R. Ismay

In Attendance:

Greg Wood (Chief Executive Officer), Wayne Schulze (Acting Director Infrastructure Services), Monica Revell (Acting Director Corporate Services), Philip King (Acting Director Community Services), Taegan Salt (Executive Assistant), Shelley Gersch (Acting Executive Assistant), Alicia Stewart (Governance Adviser).

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY AND OPENING PRAYER

Cr Nelson opened the meeting at 3:00pm by acknowledging the Indigenous Community and offering the opening prayer.

2. APOLOGIES

Cr T. Schneider

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23 August 2017 in the Council Chamber, Nhill as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: CRS R. Gersch/R. Lowe

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23 August 2017 in the Council Chamber, Nhill as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

Attachment: 1

4. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS OR OFFICERS OF ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA.

- Direct; or
- Indirect interest
- a) by close association;
- b) that is an indirect financial interest;
- c) because of conflicting duties;
- d) because of receipt of an applicable gift;
- e) as a consequence of becoming an interested party; or
- f) because of an impact on residential amenity.

Declaration of direct or indirect interest must also be advised by Councillors at the commencement of discussion of the specific item.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: 2

The following correspondence is tabled for noting by Councillors:

- 24/08/2017 Wendy Robins
Thanking for the service to the Nhill Town Committee
- 24/08/2017 VORRA
Congratulating on a successful Rainbow Enduro event

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the attached correspondence.

MOVED: CRS R. Lowe/D. Colbert

That Council notes the attached correspondence.

CARRIED

Attachment: 2

7. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Attachment: 3

Introduction:

The attached Assembly of Councillors Record is presented as an attachment to the Council agenda for the information of Councillors and recorded at the Council meeting as required under s80A Local Government Act 1989.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accepts the Assembly of Councillors Records as presented.

MOVED: CRS R. Gersch/R. Ismay

That Council accepts the Assembly of Councillors Records as presented.

CARRIED

Attachment: 3

8. PLANNING PERMITS

No report

9. REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

9.1 RESIGNATION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Corporate Services

Introduction: This report seeks the appointment of a new independent member to Council's Audit Committee.

Discussion: The Audit Committee is an advisory committee of Council, and as such has no power to act or bind Council in a legal capacity.

Council's Audit Charter, which establishes the Audit Committee, describes the membership of the committee as follows:

The desired Audit Committee membership will comprise two Councillors and up to four independent members and their term of membership will coincide with the term of the councillors of the Hindmarsh Shire Council. The Chief Executive Officer and the Director Corporate & Community Services are to attend meetings of the Audit Committee unless specifically requested to leave.

The Audit Committee received Mr Venkat Petiti's resignation in March 2017 due to his appointment at Central Goldfields Shire Council.

Council staff sought to provide the Audit Committee with names of possible new members. Unfortunately, it proved quite difficult to identify potential nominees with suitable skills, those community nominees contacted by staff declined nomination. Mr Ashley Roberts, General Manager Corporate and Community Services at West Wimmera Shire is a potential nominee who has agreed to join the Audit Committee if nominated.

Mr Roberts previously held roles as Finance Manager in Colac Otway Shire, and Finance Manager in West Wimmera Shire Council prior to being appointed to the role of General Manager Corporate and Community Services in 2017.

At the Audit Committee meeting on 15 June, 2017 the Audit Committee resolved to identify potential nominees as new Audit Committee members and make nominations to Council accordingly.

Options:

Council can choose to nominate Mr Ashley Roberts as a new external member, nominate a community member or seek further potential nominees.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 4.6: An organisation that takes risk management responsibilities seriously and embeds a culture of risk management throughout the organisation.

Financial Implications:

External members of Council's Audit Committee are paid a small allowance of \$200 per meeting. The allowance does not apply to public sector employees.

Risk Management Implications:

There are no risk management implications to be considered

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible and Author: Monica Revell, Acting Director Corporate Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible an Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Communications Strategy:

Mr Roberts and the Audit Committee will be informed in accordance with Council's resolution.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. *That Council appoints Mr. Ashley Roberts as an external member of the Audit Committee.*
2. *That Council reappoints the following members to the Audit Committee:*
Mr. Darren Welsh (Independent member)
Ms. Debra Nelson (Council representative)
Mr. Tony Schneider (Council representative)

MOVED: CRS R. Lowe/D. Colbert

1. *That Council appoints Mr. Ashley Roberts as an external member of the Audit Committee.*
2. *That Council reappoints the following members to the Audit Committee:*
Mr. Darren Welsh (Independent member)
Ms. Debra Nelson (Council representative)
Mr. Tony Schneider (Council representative)

CARRIED

9.2 CHANGE OF MEETING

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Corporate Services

Introduction: This report seeks approval to move the council meeting scheduled to be held on 18 October 2017 to 25 October 2017.

Discussion: Council has been notified the Rural Councils Victoria meeting and MAV Annual Conference will be held on 18 October 2017 and 19-20 October 2017. This means that at least two councillors will be unavailable for the council meeting scheduled for 18 October. A further unexpected councillor absence would mean that a quorum would not be available for the meeting.

As Council is required to adopt the 2017/18 Annual report by 31 October 2017 it is necessary for a meeting to be held in October. A meeting on 25 October means that there would be a three week interval between the three ordinary council meetings in October and November 2017, noting that the meeting scheduled for 1 November 2017 is the annual statutory meeting

Options:

1. Council may choose to change the date of the October 18, 2017 Meeting to October 25, 2017.
2. Council may choose to cancel the meeting or move it to another date in October.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 4.6: An organisation that takes risk management responsibilities seriously and embeds a culture of risk management throughout the organisation.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Risk Management Implications:

Nil.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Author: Monica Revell, Acting Director Corporate Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Officer Responsible: Greg Wood, Chief Executive Officer

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

Communications Strategy:

Advertising of the change of meeting date will be placed in the Local Newspapers.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. ***That Council moves the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 3pm, 18 October 2017 to 3pm, 25 October 2017 to enable consideration of the 2017/18 Annual Report.***

2. *That the venue for the meeting remain unchanged at the Supper Room, MECCA, Federal St, Rainbow*
3. *That advertisements be placed in local newspapers notifying the community of the change of date.*

MOVED: CRS D. Colbert/R. Lowe

1. *That Council moves the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 3pm, 18 October 2017 to 3pm, 25 October 2017 to enable consideration of the 2017/18 Annual Report.*
2. *That the venue for the meeting remain unchanged at the Supper Room, MECCA, Federal St, Rainbow*
3. *That advertisements be placed in local newspapers notifying the community of the change of date.*

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL

9.3 KAREN COMMUNITY PLAN 2017-2021

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Community Services

Attachment Number: 4

Introduction:

This report seeks endorsement from Council for the Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 to be made available for public comment.

The draft plan will be open for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 – Monday 2 October 2017.

The first Karen Community Plan was established in 2014 to reaffirm Council's commitment to assisting the Karen community's transition from life in refugee camps in Burma to making their home in Nhill.

It identified key areas of improvement, change and growth and focused on three key themes:

1. Access – Empowering new migrants by providing support and linking them with the services they need to settle into and integrate with the community.
2. Involvement – Increasing social cohesion by celebrating Karen culture and the diversity of our community by actively breaking down language barriers and encouraging the exchange of ideas, and
3. Consultation – Engaging the community and encouraging leadership with an open consultation process between Council and the community the 2014 Karen Community Plan was adopted by Council on 17 September 2014 and launched later the same day at a ceremony featuring traditional Karen dance, music, food and a citizenship ceremony.

An action plan was established under each of the above themes and work to achieve the objectives has been ongoing.

A review and update of the 2014 Karen Community Plan was included in the Migrant Employment Coordinator work plan that Council received funding for through the Capacity Building and Participation Program.

Discussion:

The Nhill Settlement and Advisory Committee have assisted Council staff in the review of the 2014 Karen Community Plan and have provided significant input into the development of the Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 and the Action Plan that forms part of the strategic document.

The Action Plan includes a range of objectives in four strategic key result areas:

1. Lifestyle
2. Education, Enterprise and Employment
3. Increased Leadership
4. Services and Support

The Nhill Settlement and Advisory Committee include representatives from:

- John and Marg Millington
- Luv-a-Duck
- Nhill College
- Nhill Karen Community Organisation
- Nhill Learning Centre

- Nhill Lutheran School
- St Patrick's Primary School
- West Wimmera Health Service
- Wimmera Uniting Care
- Wimmera Development Association
- Wimmera Primary Care Partnership

The Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 provides an update on data and statistics of the Karen community in Nhill and Hindmarsh Shire and outlines achievements reached from the 2014 Plan.

It outlines the consultation process in establishing the 2017-2021 Plan, provides community profiles and details an extensive Karen Community Action Plan.

The draft Karen Community Plan is being presented to Council for comment prior to its release for public response. It is expected to be presented to Council for adoption at the 25 October 2017 Council meeting.

Options:

Council can choose to endorse the draft Karen Community Plan for release for public response, with or without amendments.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 1.1	An actively engaged community
Strategic Objective 1.2	A range of effective and accessible services to support the health and wellbeing of our community
Strategic Objective 1.3	A community that is physically active with access to a wide range of leisure, sporting and recreation facilities
Strategic Objective 2.1:	Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs.
Strategic Objective 3.1:	A strong rural economy and thriving towns

Financial Implications:

The 2017/2018 budget has allowed for activities associated with the support of our migrant community.

Risk Management Implications:

No risk management implications arise.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible and Author: Phil King, Acting Director Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible and Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Authors: Maggie Bridgewater, Migrant Employment Coordinator

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Communications Strategy:

The draft Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 will be made available for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 to Monday 2 October 2017.

The draft Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 will be promoted through Council's various communication methods , including Council's website, social media channels and media outlets.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses and releases the draft Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 until Monday 2 October 2017.

MOVED: CRS D. Colbert/R. Ismay

That Council endorses and releases the draft Karen Community Plan 2017-2021 for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 until Monday 2 October 2017.

CARRIED

Attachment: 4

CONFIDENTIAL

9.4 SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Community Services

Attachment Number: 5

Introduction:

This report seeks support from Council for the adoption of the Social Media Policy version number 1.02

The original Social Media Policy was established in August 2013 and the attached Policy has been amended to include current conditions regarding the use of modern communication channels.

Discussion:

The purpose of the Hindmarsh Shire Council Social Media Policy is to provide strategic guidance to Hindmarsh Shire Council employees and Councillors involved in the delivery of social media and to encourage active promotion of Hindmarsh Shire through the use of social media.

The objective of the Social Media Policy is to outline the requirements for compliance with confidentiality, governance, legal, privacy and regulatory parameters when using social media to conduct Council business.

The policy provides guidelines for decision making about standard material that is used on social media.

It aims to:

- Provide direction for Council to participate in an online environment to comply with good corporate governance;
- Promote effective and productive community engagement through social media;
- Minimise miscommunication or mischievous communications; and
- Help manage the inherent challenges of speed and immediacy.

The Social Media Policy applies to digital spaces where people may comment, contribute, create, forward, post, upload and share content.

Options:

Council can choose to adopt the Social Media Policy either fully, partially or with alterations.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 1.1 An actively engaged community

Strategic Objective 1.2 A range of effective and accessible services to support the health and wellbeing of our community

Financial Implications:

No financial implications arise.

Risk Management Implications:

No risk management implications arise.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests,

including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible: Phil King, Acting Director Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

Author: Kat Colbert, Economic Development Coordinator ,

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Communications Strategy:

The Social Media Policy will be promoted to all employees, Councillors, Section 86 Committees, Advisory Committees and Committees of Management by internal communication methods.

It is also proposed that Social Media training will be implemented to all appropriate committees.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the Social Media Policy version 1.02 (attachment 5) as presented.

MOVED: CRS R. Gersch/R. Lowe

That Council adopts the Social Media Policy version 1.02 (attachment 5) as presented.

CARRIED

Attachment: 5

9.5 DIMBOOLA COMMUNITY PRECINCT PLAN

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Community Services

Attachment Number: 6

Introduction:

This report seeks endorsement from Council for the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan to be made available for public comment for amendment following the adoption of the Council Plan 2017/2021.

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan will be open for public comment for responses for proposed amendments from Friday 8 September 2017 – Monday 2 October 2017.

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plan was adopted by Council at its September 2016 meeting and was developed in collaboration with user groups, stakeholders and the community of Dimboola following a range of community consultation processes with the appointed consultants SED Advisory.

Discussion:

The Dimboola Community Precinct Plans identified opportunities and provided direction for future planning, development of new or redevelopment of existing community facilities and infrastructure including;

- Sport and recreation facilities,
- Arts and cultural facilities,
- Community centres,
- Early childhood and family support services,
- Education facilities,
- Health facilities,
- Justice and emergency services,
- Land use planning, and
- Business facilities

At the closing of public responses on Friday 18 August 2017, for the 2017-2021 Council Plan, Council received the following responses;

1. 16 x respondents requesting support for the redevelopment of the former Dimboola Hotel site at the corner of Lloyd and Lochiel Streets, Dimboola, and
2. 1 x respondent regarding the establishment of smaller land holding for cottage industry and produce production

Respondents included:

Name	Business / Resident	Location	Issue
Wayne Hoare	Antipodean Produce	Dimboola	Support for the redevelopment of the former Dimboola Hotel site located at the corner of Lloyd and Lochiel Streets Dimboola
Amy Ward	The Good Paddock	Dimboola	
Cal Myers	Victoria Police	Dimboola	
Mandy Myers	Dimboola Historical Society	Dimboola	
Col Campbell	Dimboola Football Netball Club	Dimboola	
Hannah Young	Dimboola Playgroup	Dimboola	
Ilse Aschenbrenner	Resident	Dimboola	

Jan John	Jan's Wimmera Whimseys	Dimboola	
Jo & Bruce Donnelly	Residents	Dimboola	
John Hutchins	Harris Mensland	Dimboola	
John Johnson	Dimboola Bladeworks	Dimboola	
Margaret Hunter	Resident	Dimboola	
Mars Drum	Resident	Dimboola	
Mary Clarke	Mason Clarke Preserving Co	Dimboola	
Peter Gooding	Resident	Mosman, NSW	
Sharyn Cook	Resident	Dimboola	
Ilse Aschenbrenner	Resident	Dimboola	

The following comments are made in consideration of the above responses:

- **Former Dimboola Hotel site**

Consideration for the development of new community services and social infrastructure and economic and tourism opportunities has been provided for in the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan established in July 2016.

Whilst the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan identified the former Dimboola Hotel site as a suitable location for a proposed Library and Civic Hub, circumstances did not permit this to eventuate.

As the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan does not specifically detail other privately or community owned development opportunities, Council will continue to support and advocate for the development of any opportunities or initiatives to increase economic growth, create employment opportunities and to generally increase the community livability and sustainability of Dimboola.

- **Small lot holdings**

Consideration for the development of new economic and tourism opportunities has been provided for in the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan established in July 2016.

Item 5.2.2 of the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan states:

‘Support the development of sympathetic tourism businesses that complement and promote the cultural, environmental, heritage and agricultural features of the community and region’.

“Support sympathetic development and activities such as pop up markets and food stalls that encourage the use of areas, pedestrian traffic and general recreation and leisure use that link the commercial centre to the river frontage, particularly along Wimmera Street’.

In consideration of the above responses to the Council Plan 2017-2021, it is proposed that all reference to the establishment of a new Library and Civic Hub on the former Dimboola Hotel site at the corner of Lloyd and Lochiel Streets be removed from the Dimboola Community Precinct Plan as detailed below and be replaced with ‘Support for the redevelopment of the former Dimboola Hotel site located at the corner of Lloyd and Lochiel Streets Dimboola’.

Section 4 – Community Services and social infrastructure

- 4.2.1

- Figure 13

Section 8 – Implementation

- 4.2.1

Options:

Council can choose to endorse the amended Dimboola Community Precinct Plan for release for public response, and seek additional comments.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 1.1	An actively engaged community
Strategic Objective 1.2	A range of effective and accessible services to support the health and wellbeing of our community
Strategic Objective 1.3	A community that is physically active with access to a wide range of leisure, sporting and recreation facilities
Strategic Objective 2.1:	Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs.
Strategic Objective 3.1:	A strong rural economy and thriving towns

Financial Implications:

No financial implications arise.

Risk Management Implications:

No risk management implications arise.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 80C of the LGA officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible and Author: Phil King, Acting Director Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible and Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Communications Strategy:

The amended Dimboola Community Precinct Plan will be made available for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 to Monday 2 October 2017.

The amended Dimboola Community Precinct Plan will be promoted through Council's various communication methods, including Council's website, social media channels and media outlets.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses and releases the amended Dimboola Community Precinct Plan for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 until Monday 2 October 2017.

MOVED: CRS R. Lowe/D. Colbert

That Council endorses and releases the amended Dimboola Community Precinct Plan for public comment from Friday 8 September 2017 until Monday 2 October 2017.

CARRIED

Attachment: 6

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

10.1 RAINBOW TOWN COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Corporate Services
Attachment: 7 & 8

Introduction:

The Rainbow Town Committee held its Meeting on 26 June and 24 July 2017. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the minutes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the minutes of the Rainbow Town Committee Meeting on 26 June and 24 July 2017.

MOVED: CRS R. Ismay/R. Gersch

That Council notes the minutes of the Rainbow Town Committee Meeting on 26 June and 24 July 2017.

CARRIED

Attachment: 7 and 8

11. LATE REPORTS

No report

12. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

13. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

In accordance with Section 89 (2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council may close the meeting to the public if items to be discussed are deemed confidential, that is, if the items to be discussed relate to:

- (a) Personnel matters;
- (b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- (c) Industrial matters;
- (d) Contractual matters;
- (e) Proposed developments;
- (f) Legal advice;
- (g) Matters affecting the security of Council property;
- (h) Any other matter which the Council or Special Committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) a resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989, as b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;

- **13.1 Financial Hardship Application**

MOVED: CRS R. Gersch/R. Lowe

That the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989, as b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;

- **13.1 Financial Hardship Application**

CARRIED

MOVED: CRS R. Gersch/R. Ismay

That Council move out of closed session.

CARRIED

14. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, Cr Nelson declared the meeting closed at 3:28pm

CONFIDENTIAL