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#### National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week was held between 21– 27 May 2018 and provides Council with an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the great contribution volunteers make to our communities. This year's theme is 'Give a little. Change a lot.' To say thank you to our volunteers and acknowledge the contribution to our community we have a coffee and cake voucher promotion running from 21 May until 11 June inclusive.

Vouchers are available for collection on Monday 21 May from Council's customer service centres at Nhill, Dimboola, Jeparit and Rainbow. This year there are eight participating businesses throughout the shire.



Review of Hindmarsh Planning Rules and 2016 – 2019 Community Plans

Council is currently reviewing its Hindmarsh Planning Scheme and as part of the meeting, residents from Jeparit and Rainbow will be invited to review their respective 2016 – 2019 Community Plans.

The Hindmarsh Planning Scheme guides all planning decisions in Hindmarsh Shire while the community plans set the vision for the community.

Residents are invited to express their views and have input into their community's future direction.

Topics will include:

- Growing the viability of the farming and agricultural sector
- Protection and care for the environment vegetation, soil quality, biodiversity, climate change
- How our townships can be supported
- Creating a strong economic future for Hindmarsh
- Planning for an older community
- Infrastructure, like roads and transport, power and telecommunications, public places and spaces, sporting venues etc. and
- Community wellbeing and liveability

The Hindmarsh Planning Scheme can be accessed via this webpage: http://planning-schemes.delwp.vic.gov.au/schemes/hindmarsh

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Workshops are to be held in Jeparit and Rainbow as follows:-JEPARIT: Tuesday 5 June – 7.00pm – CFA Hall RAINBOW – Tuesday 12 June – 7.00pm – Mecca Supper Room



If you require further information about these workshops please contact Simon Landrigan, Community Development Coordinator or Andre Dalton, Coordinator of Planning and Development on (03) 5391 4444.

#### New attraction at the Riverside Holiday Park

The Riverside Holiday Park in Dimboola has received their new pedal-carts which are now available for hire by families staying at the park. The pedal-carts are an added attraction to the family friendly Riverside Holiday Park.

The pedal-carts are specifically designed for commercial hire with robust construction, durable puncture resistant off-road tyres and added safety features such as seatbelts for front seats designed for smaller children. The park has two single seat carts and two 4-seat carts. Families have already started enjoying the new attraction!



Rainbow Recreation At its meeting on 23 May 2018, Council brought forward the development of a Master Plan for the Rainbow Recreation Reserve and Rainbow Caravan Park.

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Reserve/ Rainbow Caravan Park Master Plan	The proposed Master Plan will be concise, user friendly and provide guidance on capital expenditure and development for at least the next ten years. The Master Plan will identify if and how the two Recreation Reserve and Caravan Park can have joint use of amenities and facilities.
Dimboola Recreation Reserve Female Change Rooms	At its meeting on 23 May 2018, Council appointed contractors to construct a new female change room facility at the Dimboola Recreation Reserve.  The female change rooms have been funded through Sport and Recreation Victoria's Country Football Netball program, Female Friendly Facilities program, Hindmarsh Shire Council and the Dimboola Football Netball Club. Works are expected to be completed for the 2019 football / netball season.
Draft 2018/19 Budget	On Wednesday 23 May 2018 Council released the draft 2018/19 budget for public consultation.  The budget balances the retention of existing community service levels, maintenance and renewal of assets, and new initiatives designed to grow our economy, improve amenity and make Hindmarsh a better place to live in a challenging financial environment.  The budget proposes a rate increase of 2.25% in line with the Essential Services Commission (ESC) calculation method.  The budget contains many initiatives including \$5.8 million in capital works, construction of the new Nhill skate park, continuation of the Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants programs.  Council will consider any submissions and adopt the 2018/19 budget at a special council meeting on 27 June 2018.

#### Street and Reserve Tree Strategy



Council was pleased to welcome thirty-two interested members of the community to workshops in each of our major towns to discuss the importance of trees in our landscape.

Meg Caffin of Urban Forest Consulting led the workshops, providing an overall context of why trees are important in Hindmarsh towns.

Meg ran through the data collected for each town by Stephen Frank, Director of Tree Logic who assessed 132 streets, noting approximately 5,000 existing street trees and that there are currently 2,000 vacant sites where trees could be

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planted. The audit identified that there are opportunities to create greater shade, reduce the dominance of callistemons and to replace poorly performing trees, particularly the Ash, Cedar and Pyramid species.

To assist in formulating the draft tree strategy, Community members were given the opportunity to 'vote' for their preferred township 'character', (colour, shade, biodiversity, main street amenity) and to then identify opportunities and challenges for tree planting.



#### Review of Planning Rules Nhill and Dimboola

The first of four community workshops relating to a review of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme was conducted on Wednesday 23 May at the Nhill Council Chambers. Cazz from Red Ink Planning led nine community members through a presentation that provided a 'snapshot' of the planning scheme and the audit to date. Those present were then asked to identify the key issues facing Hindmarsh relating to land and development use.

Further workshops will be held at 7pm in Dimboola on Tuesday 29 May, Jeparit 5 June and Rainbow 12 June 2018.



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Western Hwy Safety Improvements Nhill	Installation of an Electronic Warning sign has been completed on Nelson Street (Adelaide bound) at the Victoria Street approach – the well-known 90 degree left hand bend on the Western Highway. Energy absorbing bollards are to be installed at the same corner soon.  In addition, Council has received quotations and is currently working with contractors to install an unsigned pedestrian crossing connecting the West Wimmera Health Service Centre with the median carpark, including provision of all abilities car spaces.
Charles Street Footpath, Jeparit	Extending from John Street to Sands Avenue, Council has invested approximately \$60k for this new concrete footpath. The new footpath improves pedestrian's connections from residences into the main street of town, the northern side of Charles St in Jeparit to the recreation reserve, swimming pool and school.
Bow Street, Footpath, Rainbow	A footpath along Bow Street, Rainbow has is also nearing completion with only the final touches required to tidy up the area. The path provides a safe passage over the rail line connecting the west side of the town with the east.
Renewal of Unsealed Roads and Sealed Road Shoulders	The gravel resheeting of roads allocated in the 2017/18 budget is almost complete with only finishing of Halls Rd Propodollah and Hazeldene Road Rainbow. This investment of approximately \$454k will improve driving conditions for road users and extend the life of the asset. Council is also nearing completion of a further \$360k in resheeting the shoulders of the sealed road network in various locations throughout the municipality.