



08 May 2025

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday 7 May 2025

Time: 3:00pm

Venue: Nhill Council Chamber,
92 Nelson Street, Nhill

Council: Cr Ron Ismay – Mayor
Cr Chan Uoy – Deputy Mayor
Cr Roger Aitken
Cr Rosie Barker
Cr James Barry
Cr Tony Clark

Officers: Monica Revell – Chief Executive Officer
Petra Croot – Director Corporate & Community Services
Ram Upadhyaya – Director Infrastructure Services

Public Access: This meeting is open to the public and can be attended in-person or viewed online via Live Stream at
<https://www.youtube.com/@hindmarshshirecouncil>.



Cr Ron Ismay - Mayor
West Ward



Cr Chan Uoy – Deputy Mayor
East Ward



Cr Roger Aitken
North Ward



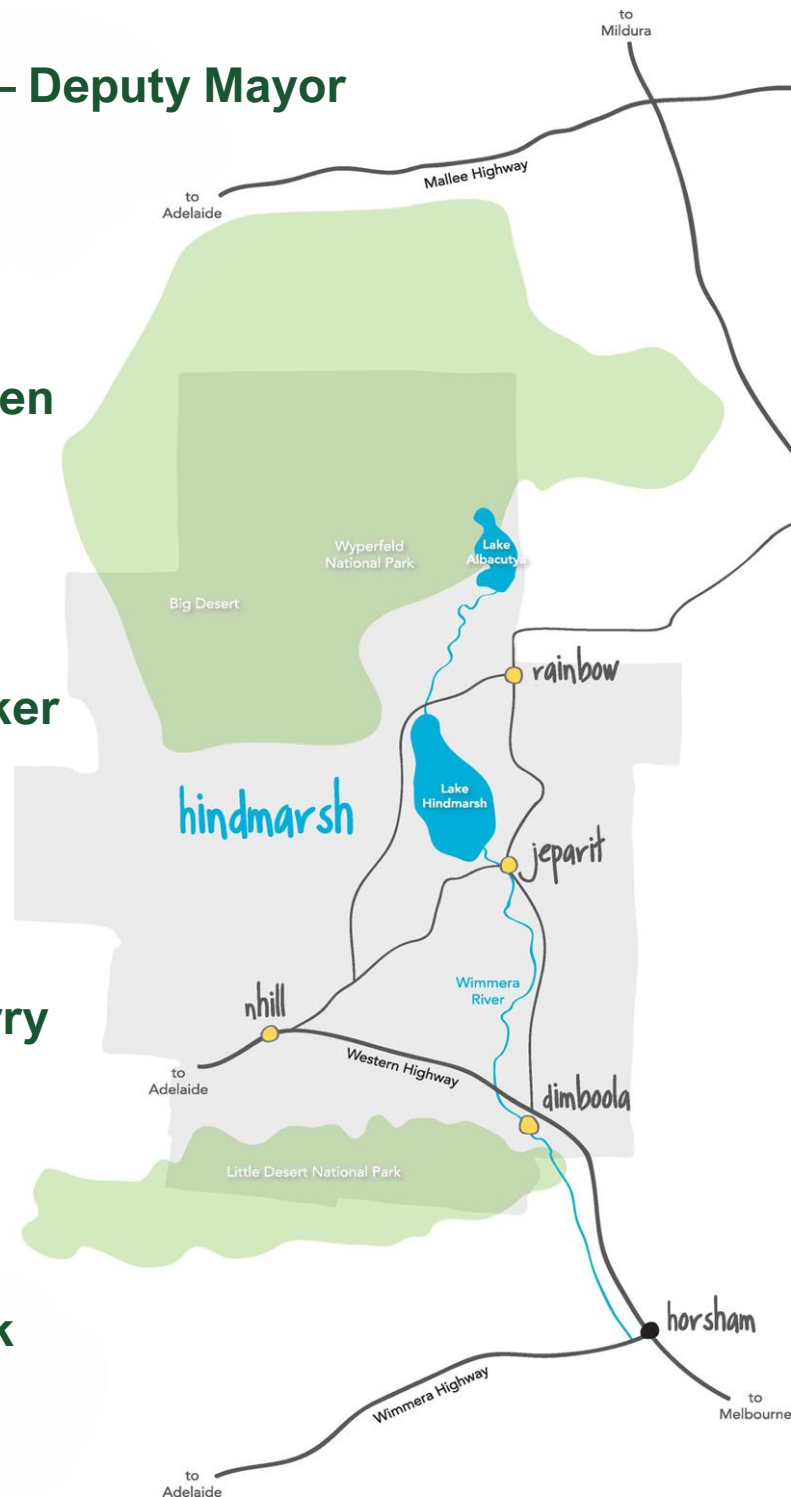
Cr Rosie Barker
West Ward



Cr James Barry
East Ward



Cr Tony Clark
North Ward



Councillor Statement of Values

Our commitment is to come prepared to every meeting, fostering a respectful and inclusive environment where accountability and approachability are at the core of our actions. We value and encourage innovation, collaboration, and open communication, always keeping in mind the well-being and needs of our community. Together, we stand united as one, working towards shared goals with mutual respect and consideration.

Vision

Working together to be a connected, inclusive and prosperous community.

We will achieve our vision through four key themes woven into our Council Plan and Vision:

- Our Community
- Built and Natural Environment
- Competitive and Innovative Economy
- Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Values

Council addresses key values through:

- Transparent and accountable actions and decisions
- Inclusion and collaboration with residents
- Showing respect and integrity to all
- Being proactive and responsible by encouraging innovation

Mission

- Increase accessible services to enable the community to be healthy, active and engaged.
- Provide infrastructure essential to support the community; and to protect and enhance our natural environment.
- Foster a sustainable and diversified local economy where economic growth is encouraged and supported.
- Promote user friendly services to ensure transparency, good governance and financial sustainability.
- Advance gender equality, equity and inclusion for all.

Purpose of Council Meetings

Council conducts its formal decision-making process through Ordinary Meetings of Council and Special Meetings of Council.

Ordinary meetings are held regularly to conduct the ongoing business of the Council and Special meetings are held from time to time for specific purposes.

Council adopts a schedule for its Ordinary Council Meetings annually. This schedule can be found on Council's website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/Council-meetings.

From time to time the Mayor and Councillors may call a Special Meeting of Council to deal with urgent items. These meetings are generally held at the Council Chambers at the specified time and date advertised in the public notices in local newspapers and on Council's website.

Meetings, or parts of meetings, are only closed to the public when topics of a confidential nature are discussed, such as an individual's personal or financial circumstances, contractual or legal matters. Grounds for closing the meeting are defined in more detail within Section 3(1) and Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

Before each Ordinary or Special Council Meeting an Agenda is prepared by the Chief Executive Officer detailing the items that are to be presented to the meeting for Council's consideration and decision.

Copies of agendas are available at Council offices and on Council's website. The decisions of Council become resolutions of Council and are recorded in the official Council Minutes. Except for matters classified as confidential, all Agenda reports, Minutes and recordings of meetings are available on Council's website.

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In Attendance:**Councillors:**

Cr Ron Ismay (Mayor), Cr Chan Uoy (Deputy Mayor), Cr Roger Aitken, Cr Rosie Barker, Cr James Barry and Cr Tony Clark.

Officers:

Ms Monica Revell (Chief Executive Officer), Ms Petra Croot (Director Corporate and Community Services), Mr Ram Upadhyaya (Director Infrastructure Services) and Ms Mary-Ann Speakman (Customer Service and Councillor Support Officer).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

Cr Ron Ismay, Mayor, opened the meeting at 3:00pm by acknowledging the Indigenous Community.

1.2 LIVESTREAMING STATEMENT

Cr Ron Ismay, read the Live Streaming Statement.

1.3 STATEMENT OF VALUES

Cr James Barry, read the Councillor Statement of Values.

2 APOLOGIES

No apologies.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

A Councillor or Officer with a conflict of interest in an item on the Agenda must indicate that they have a conflict of interest by clearly stating:

- the item for which they have a conflict of interest;
- whether their conflict is **general** or **material**; and
- the circumstances that give rise to the conflict of interest.

Declaration of material or general conflict of interest must also be advised by Councillors and Officers at the commencement of discussion of the specific item.

No declaration of interests declared.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 02 April 2025 at the Nhill Council Chamber, 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Cr R Barker/Cr T Clark

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 02 April 2025 at the Nhill Council Chamber, 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

Attachments:

1. 2025 04 02 Council Meeting Minutes - MEDIA [4.1.1]
2. CONFIDENTIAL - 2025 04 02 Council Meeting Minutes [4.1.2]

4.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Council Meeting	Recommendation Action	Action Taken	Complete / In Progress / Delayed
2 April 2025 9.1	That Council issues a Notice of Decision for PA1857-2024, notifying the applicant and objector of Council's decision.	Notice of Decision issued to applicant and objector informed of Council's decision.	Complete
2 April 2025 10.2	That Council notifies applicants of the outcome of their Community Action Grant applications, distribute media and communications promoting successful applicants.	Community Action Grant letters prepared for all applicants, media release circulated and social media communications published.	Complete
2 April 2025 10.3	That Council endorses the draft Town Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, draft Hindmarsh Pride Committee Terms of Reference and Advisory Committee Policy for public consultation on Have Your Say.	All three policies uploaded to Have Your Say for consultation and feedback.	Complete
2 April 2025 10.4	That Council adopts the Audit and Risk Committee Charter. Provides a copy to Committee members, relevant staff and publish on Council's website.	Circulated to Committee Members and relevant staff. Published on website.	Complete
2 April 2025 10.5	That Council makes a financial donation of \$2,500 to BlazeAid.	Donation made and letter sent to BlazeAid.	Complete

5 PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Community members wishing to ask questions at council meetings may do so, in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the council meeting. Both the question and answer will be read out at the meeting. Questions may be submitted by mail, email info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au or delivered in person to a council customer centre but are limited to two questions and 100 words including any pre-amble. Offensive, trivial and repetitive questions, questions which have been recently answered, or questions that may contain defamatory comments, may be excluded at the discretion of the Mayor.

The question must be accompanied by a name and the locality where the questioner resides or works, which will be read out at the meeting. By submitting a question, the questioner gives consent to this information being read out in public. Anonymous questions will not be answered.

No public questions or submissions received.

6 ACTIVITY REPORTS

COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES: 25 March 2025 – 28 April 2025

6.1 CR RON ISMAY, MAYOR

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
28-03-2025	Western Highway Action Group Meeting	Ballarat Town Hall	Catherine King, Minister for Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government of Australia attended, and I was impressed with what she spoke about.
01-04-2025	Citizenship Ceremony	Nhill, Council Chambers	Presented two gentlemen with their Citizenships, always a very rewarding experience, I'm sure from both sides.
02-04-2025	Council Briefing and Council Meeting	Nhill, Council Chambers	
05-04-2025	'Wimpy Reichelt's 90 th Birthday Celebration	Winiam Hall	A very dear friend of mine, who has done so much for Nhill and surrounding district.
08-04-2025	New Residents BBQ	Yurunga Homestead, Rainbow	A great night, perfect weather and a good turn out of residents.
11-04-2025	Meeting of CEO's and Mayor's with Jeroen Weimar, Secretary of the Department of Transport and Planning	Horsham Rural City Council, Council Chambers	Jeroen listened intently to all of our concerns/issues, we are very privileged to have someone of his position meet with us in person.
23-04-2025	Briefing Meeting	Nhill, Council Chambers	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Dawn Service	Rainbow	Allira Roberts and Peter Ralph spoke about the history of the servicemen who perished during the second world war. This was very enlightening and a great tribute to our ANZAC troops.
25-04-2025	ANZAC Wreath Laying Service	Nhill	Fantastic to have Wayne Batson as guest

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
			speaker, who gave a great reflection of his career in the RAAF. Wiremu Larkins sang the New Zealand Anthem, at my request, what a great voice.

6.2 CR CHAN UOY, DEPUTY MAYOR

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
26-03-2025	Council Shire Tour of Projects and Businesses	Jeparit and Rainbow	Ahrens Silos
28-03-2025	Northern Grampians Shire Tour of Dimboola	Dimboola	Visited businesses in town
29-03-2025	Fire Fighters Thank You Concert	Dimboola Sound Shell	
02-04-2025	Council Briefing and Meeting	Nhill	
12-04-2025	Wimmera Steampunk Festival	Dimboola	
14-04-2025	Alambi Annual General Meeting	Dimboola	
17-04-2025	Wimmera Southern Mallee Development FAR Committee Meeting	Teams (Online)	
20-04-2025	Pay Respect to Seniors and Elders Event	Nhill Memorial Community Centre	
23-04-2025	Council Briefing	Nhill, Council Chambers	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Wreath Laying Service	Dimboola Secondary Memorial College	

6.3 CR ROGER AITKEN

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
26-03-2025	Council Wide Tour of Projects and Businesses	Hindmarsh Shire	
25-03-2025 to 30-05-2025	Off Road Race ARB480	Rainbow	
25-03-2025	Rainbow Street Party	Rainbow	A good turn out.
01-04-2025	Rainbow Town Committee	Rainbow	

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
02-04-2025	Briefing and Council Meeting	Nhill	
08-04-2025	New Residence BBQ Yurunga Homestead	Rainbow	Good to see all the new residences.
08-04-2025	RSL Meeting for ANZAC Day	Rainbow	
12-04-2025	Steampunk	Dimboola	
15-04-2025	Rainbow Town Committee	Rainbow	
15-04-2025	Pioneer Museum Meeting	Jeparit	
23-04-2025	P-12 School Soft Opening	Rainbow	
23-04-2025	Council Briefing	Council Chambers, Nhill	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Dawn Service	Rainbow	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Morning Service	Rainbow	
25-04-2025	Hospital Visit and Talk	Rainbow	

6.4 CR ROSIE BARKER

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
26-03-2025	North Hindmarsh Shire Councillor Tour	Rainbow and Jeparit	Interesting Tour of the Area
01-04-2025	Citizenship Ceremony	Hindmarsh Shire Council Chambers	Two New Citizens for Australia
02-04-2025	Councillor Available at HSC to Community	Nhill Council Office	Met with two community members
02-04-2025	Council Briefing and Meeting	Nhill, Council Chambers	
02-04-2025	Nhill Meet Up with BlazeAid	Nhill Showgrounds	Met with many members of BlazeAid
08-04-2025	Nhill Town Committee	Nhill Senior Citizens Centre	
09-04-2025	Councillor Available at HSC to Community	Nhill Council Office	
09-04-2025	Nhill Listening Post	Nhill Library	Met with two community members
10-04-2025	Gather Round Town Setup	Nhill Main Street	Met with community members and HSC staff to assist putting up AFL balloons to encourage travellers to stop in Nhill on their journey. Very successful.

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
10-04-2025	Mentoring ALGWA	Teams (Online)	Met with Karen Foster, Mayor of Moyne Shire. Very inspiring.
11-04-2025	Met with Ram to discuss community concerns	Goldsworthy Park	Discussed 1949 lights, pedestrian access across Main Street and new lights in Centenary Park.
12-04-2025	Wimmera Steampunk	Dimboola Main Street	Volunteered at main gates, welcoming public and placing entry bracelets on attendees. Great vibe and community event.
13-04-2025	Lowan Art Prize Official Opening	Nhill Art Gallery	Well attended event with art contributed from around the state and interstate. High quality art and judged well by SA judge.
15-04-2025	Removing AFL Decorations	Nhill Main Street	Removal of AFL balloons after 'Gather Round SA'
19-04-2025	Nhill Easter Egg Hunt	Jaypex Park	Well attended and organised event for Nhill. Supported by Lions.
23-04-2025	Rainbow College P-12 Stage 1 Building Opening	Rainbow College P-12	Amazing opening of the new well funded facility at Rainbow P-12 College.
23-04-2025	Council Briefing	Nhill, Council Chambers	Great presentation of potential activities for Council.
24-04-2025	Meeting with Greens Candidate	Mr Le's	Met with some community and Nicole Rogan, Greens Candidate
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Dawn Service	Goldsworthy Park Nhill	Well attended and emotional dawn service
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Wreath Laying and Parade	Goldsworthy Park Nhill	Well attended parage and Wreath Laying
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Ceremony	Nhill Memorial Community Hall	Great speech by guest speaker, Mr Wayne Batson, who serves for RAF. Great performance by Nhill Dimboola Band with

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
			singing by Mr Wiremu Larkins.

6.5 CR JAMES BARRY

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
26-03-2025	North Ward Shire Tour	Jeparit and Rainbow	
23-04-2025	Council Briefing	Nhill, Council Chambers	

6.6 CR TONY CLARK

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
26-03-2025	Shire Tour by Council Staff	Hindmarsh Shire	
26-03-2025	Lions Meeting	Rainbow	
27-03-2025	Yurunga Homestead Meeting	Rainbow	
02-04-2025	Council Meeting	Nhill, Council Chambers	
23-04-2025	Rainbow P-12 College Soft Opening	Rainbow	
23-04-2025	Lions Dinner Meeting	Rainbow	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Dawn Service	Rainbow	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Service	Rainbow	
25-04-2025	ANZAC Day Service	Jeparit	

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Introduction:

The following correspondence is attached for noting by Council.

Inwards:

- 2025/03/24 - Joan Bennett to Council re Flags at Municipal Office Nhill – (Attachment Number: 7.1.1)
- 2025/04/14 - Jennifer Goldsworthy to Council re West Wimmera Action Group Inc. Request for Funding (Attachment Number: 7.1.2)
- 2025/04/16 - Beverley McArthur MP to Council re Invitation to meet Victoria's Shadow Minister for Local Government (Attachment Number: 7.1.3)

Outwards:

- 2025/03/26 - Council to Joan Bennett re Flags – (Attachment Number: 7.1.4)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Nhill A & P Society re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.5)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Angela Snowden re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.6)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Nhill Basketball Association (Raptors) re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.7)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Nhill South Landcare Group re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.8)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Nhill-Dimboola Band re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.9)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Rainbow Scout Group re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.10)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Winiam CFA re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.11)
- 2025/04/07 - Council to Winiam Hall Incorporated re Community Action Grants 2024-2025 Round Two – (Attachment Number: 7.1.12)
- 2025/04/08 - Council to BlazeAid re Donation – (Attachment Number: 7.1.13)
- 2025/04/22 - Council to Jennifer Goldsworthy re West Wimmera Action Group Inc. Request for Funding (Attachment Number: 7.1.14)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the attached correspondence.

MOVED: Cr C Uoy/Cr R Barker

That Council notes the attached correspondence.

CARRIED

8 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLOR RECORDS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. 2025 04 02 Assembly of Councillors Record [8.1.1]
2. 2025 04 23 Assembly of Councillors Record [8.1.2]

Introduction:

As required under Section 33(9) of Hindmarsh Shire Council's Governance Rules, the attached Assembly of Councillors Records are presented as attachments to the Council Agenda for the information of Councillors.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Assembly of Councillor Records as presented.

MOVED: Cr J Barry/Cr R Aitken

That Council notes the Assembly of Councillor Records as presented.

CARRIED

9 PLANNING PERMITS

No planning permits.

10 REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

10.1 COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN Q3 UPDATE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

Nil

Executive Summary:

This report presents Council with an update on the progress of items identified in the Council Plan Action Plan for delivery in the 2024/2025 financial year. Annually, Council adopts an Action Plan that aids in the achievement of the objectives within the Council Plan 2021-2025. The actions in the Action Plan correspond to the themes identified in the Council Plan:

- Our Community
- Built and Natural Environment
- Competitive and Innovative Economy
- Good Governance & Financial Sustainability

Quarter Three (3) covers January – March 2025, with actions against each item detailed with a progress indicator.

Key achievements in quarter three include:

- The completion of the Classic Movie scheduling across the Shire;
- The successful commencement of use of the new Kinders on School Sites in Dimboola and Nhill; and
- Progress on the new facilities at Davis Park, Nhill.

Discussion:

The table below provides a detailed update on the Council Plan Action Plan 2024/2025:

Theme One – Our Community

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
Continue to implement and develop effective communication methods to ensure the community is engaged and informed about Council projects, plans and services, including e-news and newsletters, advertisements and	We have continued producing monthly and quarterly newsletters and fortnightly e-newsletters. 39 media releases and 55 events were published on Council's website. Additionally, 185 posts to our Facebook page had over 650,000 views.	Ongoing

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
media releases, website development and social media.		
Deliver community safety and education initiatives around Council's Local Laws as well as Fire Prevention and animal management.	Local Laws communications plan developed for 2025 calendar year, tying with key enforcement periods, including the animal registration renewal period and fire danger period. Local Law Officers are actively engaging with the community to promote responsible pet ownership. Hindmarsh Shire Council's website update for cat responsibilities has been prepared.	Ongoing
Continue to provide programs and services that promote the health and social engagement of our ageing community, including seniors concert and social connection activities, with a focus on ensuring activities are inclusive and accessible.	Classic movies in each of the four towns continued during this quarter with the final round being screened. Planning is underway to deliver a musical concert in each town during June 2025.	Ongoing
Support and coordinate the Volunteer Taxi Service in Nhill.	For the March quarter there was only one taxi booking for two patrons from the same address. A review of this service will be undertaken to determine future service level requirements.	Ongoing
Develop a Sports and Recreation Strategy to support sports infrastructure, sports organisations and active living in Hindmarsh Shire.	The Sports and Recreation Strategy project plan and engagement strategy have been developed, with the development timeline now extended into the 2025/2026 financial year. As Council is developing numerous strategies and plans in line with legislative requirements throughout 2025, it was determined that delaying this Strategy would enable alignment with the Council Plan 2025-2029 and ensure various Council engagements are spaced out to encourage community participation and engagement.	15%
Facilitate delivery of infrastructure projects	Nhill and Dimboola Kindergartens operational from day one of Term 1 2025 and effectively	95%

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
in partnership with the Department of Education to provide four-year-old kinder services as of 2025 in Nhill and Dimboola.	complete with only minor furnishings and resources to be added (backorders, additional items etc).	
Continue to advocate for after school care and an increase in childcare in Hindmarsh Shire.	Advocacy undertaken in this quarter in support of By-Five's funding extension, including communications and a letter to the Minister.	Ongoing
Continue to deliver Council's youth program, including delivery of the Hindmarsh Shire Youth Strategy, school holidays activities and the Youth Council.	A full program of school holiday activities has been planned for the April School Holidays with activities including craft workshops, soccer clinics, skate lessons and competitions, gaming and game events, making kokedamas, physics demonstrations, and a movie at the Nhill Cinema.	Ongoing
Support significant days/weeks for groups represented within the Shire, including International Day of People with a Disability and Harmony Day.	Events to promote Harmony Day, and Cultural Diversity Week have been held in 2024/2025 along with International Women's Day.	Ongoing
Deliver service and document reviews, events, activities, and statements that promote reconciliation and advance the objectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within the community.	<p>A Reconciliation Action Plan is in its final form, with adoption delayed due to Council elections. This will be revisited in Q4 or the 2025/2026 Financial Year, subject to development of the Council Plan.</p> <p>An interview with Tracey Rigney was published as part of Cultural Diversity Week and Harmony Day celebrations.</p>	Ongoing
Advocate for and host a range of learning and skill development opportunities for all ages throughout Hindmarsh	Learning and development opportunities delivered as part of school holidays programs for young people. Council supports learning centres through Community Action Grants programs and Town Committee support.	Ongoing

Theme Two – Built & Natural Environment

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
Commence construction at Davis Park, Nhill, on the AFL compliant changerooms with undercover seating.	Construction progressing as forecast. Building construction including internal framing and roofing complete. Installation of flashings complete. Window, door installation and sisalation wrap in progress.	50%
Complete Nhill Aerodrome upgrades including drainage and pavement works.	Works complete.	100%
Continue to advocate for funding for a new weir at Jeparit.	Council staff continue to advocate for funding for a new weir at Jeparit. This priority item has been including in advocacy documentation provided to media and politicians in relation to the 2025 Federal Election.	Ongoing
Seek funding to install solar on Council buildings and halls.	Council has sourced quotes for Council's six main power-drawing buildings so that we are prepared to apply should funding become available.	30%
Develop and implement an up-to-date Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.	Onsite wastewater management plan was adopted in August 2024. https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/Council/Council-Resources/Plans-and-Strategies/Onsite-Wastewater-Management-Plan	100%
Explore funding options for installation of solar heating at the Dimboola Swimming Pool.	Solar heating was installed at Dimboola Swimming Pool in time for the opening of the 2024/2025 swimming season.	100%
Consider options for delivery of Weeds, Pest and Plant program following the changes to the Landcare network in the region.	Council has employed a Landcare Facilitator who works with local Landcare groups to prioritise issues within the Shire regarding Pest, Plants and Weeds. Ongoing mapping works being undertaken by Landcare Facilitator to identify control issues and weed species.	100%
Adopt a Climate Adaption Strategy that supports community resilience, risk	The Climate Adaption Strategy was adopted by Council on 28 August 2024.	100%

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
mitigation and reduced negative environmental impact within the Shire.		
Increased building and planning enforcement activity to protect Council's environment.	This is progressed on an ongoing basis when the need arises. Having Manager of Planning and Environment and Planner position filled internally means that enforcement capability will keep increasing.	Ongoing
Facilitate Hindmarsh Heavy Transport and Freight Working Group.	Heavy Transport and Freight Working Group Terms of Reference reviewed to able re-invigoration of working group in Q4. The first meeting has been scheduled for mid-May 2025.	Ongoing
Successful delivery of Council's Capital Works program as contained within the 2024-2025 Hindmarsh Shire Council Budget.	30 projects completed, 13 commenced, and 6 yet to begin.	60%
Sealed road construction works on Dimboola Minyip Road (subject to funding).	Pavement works well underway. Surfacing works to be completed soon.	80%
Ensure Council representation on Western Highway Action Committee and Wimmera Regional Transport Group.	Council has a delegate representing Council's interests on these committees.	Ongoing
Implement Assetic Cloud as an effective Asset Management software system, improving the financial efficacy, sustainability and usability of our asset management functions.	Data migration completed in January 2025 for full implementation in June 2025.	50%
Install recycling and glass collection bins in main street in	Installation of recycling bins and surrounds for Dimboola is scheduled for fourth quarter.	75%

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow.		
Hold free green waste month in September and encourage residents to tidy their properties prior to the fire season.	Completed in September 2024.	100%
Work closely with conservation partners including the Wimmera CMA to educate the community on land management and conservation strategies.	Council's Landcare Facilitator will work closely with stakeholder groups, including Wimmera CMA to provide education activities for the community.	Ongoing
Continued implementation of the Nhill Streetscape Plan.	Works completed on the pathway linking Victoria Street and the Nhill Lake, including surface works and lighting installation. Plans are underway for the Centenary Park component of the project, including the fence and pathway that are planned for completion in Q4.	60%
Seek funding to upgrade Rainbow Public Amenities and install new all-abilities amenities and ramp into MECCA Supper Room.	Council continues to advocate for funding for this project and prepare plans to best position Council should a funding opportunity become available. This project was included in Council's Advocacy documentation that has been provided to the media and politicians in the lead up to the 2025 federal election.	Ongoing
Continue development and implementation of the Hindmarsh Playground Strategy.	The Playground Strategy is scheduled to be presented to Council in draft form in 2025.	15%
Complete construction of new Mechanics workshop at Jeparit Depot.	Construction completed. Final components due for installation in early 2025.	95%
Consider opportunities and seek funding for lighting in public areas.	Lighting posts included as part of the Nhill Streetscape Masterplan Implementation at Centenary Park. Council will continue to seek	Ongoing

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
	additional opportunities to improve public lighting.	

Theme Three – Competitive and Innovative Economy

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
Participate in the Visitor Economy Partnership and commence development of Destination Management Plans and industry development activities.	Ongoing work with GWMT for regional marketing underway. Council staff and GWMT team attended caravan and camping show, also had representation (brochures/banner) at Grand Prix, and Ballarat camping show. Looking to review internal marketing activities to align better with GWMT.	Ongoing
Continue delivery of Silo Art project at Llew Schilling Silo in Rainbow.	Fabrication of the structure delayed due to conflicting views for balustrade engineering. Issues solved late in the quarter, allowing fabrication to proceed. Kone Concrete foundation works completed. Artist appointed for Art Activation.	30%
Deliver a Business Assistance Grants program responsive to the changing economic interests within the Shire.	2024/2025 Business Assistance Grants program fully expended. New round to be promoted and released in July/August 2025 subject to budget allocation. Final reporting being followed up in Q4.	90%
Promote Hindmarsh as a tourism destination to stop, play and stay.	Continued promotion of Hindmarsh as a tourism stopover. Staff exploring additional promotion opportunities to promote our parks to attract and support visitation.	Ongoing
Host quarterly business networking sessions in Hindmarsh for businesses to come together, network and learn.	The second business networking session was cancelled due to low number of responses. Economic Development and Tourism staff will survey to work out what support businesses are looking for from Council.	50%
Undertake a review of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme.	The review was adopted by Council at a meeting on the 5th of March 2025.	100%
Seek funding for continued	Announcement on outcome of application under the Regional Tourism Investment Fund	Ongoing

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
development of Hindmarsh Shire Caravan Parks and implement upgrades to the Nhill Caravan Park as contained in the Nhill Caravan Park Masterplan.	for cabins at the Nhill Holiday Park expected in Q4.	
Commence implementation planning for Council's Economic Development Strategy 2024-2028.	Shopfront business list compiled with home-based business contact information currently being collected. Relationship development has been strong focus, as well as improving internal processes relating to business development and support. Industrial land project investigation for further action in Q4.	Ongoing
Provide financial and in-kind support to regional community events held in Hindmarsh that increase economic benefit.	2024/2025 Regional Events Grants Program not fully subscribed. Council has requested more thorough reporting for attendance and financial benefits to inform improved design of events and grants processes.	100%
Actively seek funding to upgrade key freight routes for our agricultural economy.	Application submitted for Dimboola Minyip Road and Lorquon Netherby Rd under Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program. Secured funding for pedestrian crossing under TAC grant. Working with TAC to deliver \$2M Safer Local Roads and Streets Program.	Ongoing

Theme Four – Good Governance & Financial Sustainability

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
Deliver proactive activities aimed at encouraging candidature for the 2024 Council elections, including the MAV Stand for Council Program.	Completed in Q1-2.	100%
Prepare for, and deliver, a compliant caretaker and election period for	Completed in Q1-2.	100%

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
the 2024 Local Council Elections.		
Review existing, and develop new, Councillor induction processes (including a training program) to facilitate compliant and effective transition into a new Council period.	Completed in Q1-2.	100%
Review and adopt critical Council policies as per Council's policy review cycle.	During this period Council adopted the Councillor Expense Entitlements Policy and the Fee Waiver and Reduction Policy.	Ongoing
Further develop and maintain a panel of preferred suppliers for critical services areas to ensure the efficiency of Council business.	Council Officers planning to re-tender for a panel of suppliers in Q4.	Ongoing
Continue to promote transparency and accessibility of Council meetings through streaming meetings online and including closed captioning where possible.	There continues to be some technical issues post the installation of the new equipment. These are worked through as they occur and a contingency plan is always available for if these errors occur during Council meetings. Each meeting has been accessible.	Ongoing
Continue to consider trainee, apprenticeship, and work placement opportunities to providing bringing pathways to employment at Council.	Council has been able to engage school structured workplace learning student in the parks and gardens team within this period.	Ongoing
Develop a guide to assist the community and to provide clarity on the process of public Council meetings and how to participate.	This is a priority for development post implementation of new equipment. To be completed prior to June 2025.	10%

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
Implement the Community Engagement Policy and provide appropriate consultation and engagement methods for policies, projects and plans.	Significant consultations have been delivered in this period, including CEO drop-in sessions, Listening Posts, targeted engagement for the Council Plan 2025-2029 and the 2025/2026 Council Budget.	Ongoing
Develop and integrate organisation-wide framework for managing all complaints relating to Council's functions and services and framework for monitoring success of complaints management processes.	Complaints training and guidance documents produced and circulated to staff with full project scheduled for the second half of the 2024/2025 FY – this is tied to the RCTP through CRM system implementation. Complaints Handling Policy under review and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee in this period.	40%
Update Council's Long Term Financial Plan.	The long-term financial plan is to be prepared in conjunction with the 2025/2026 budget and will be presented to Council in June 2025.	Ongoing
Continue implementation of Gender Equality Action Plan.	A gender equity lens is applied to the development of all internal and external programs, policies and procedures that have a direct and significant impact on the community. The results of Council's performance against the gender equality indicators will be published in Q3-4 after they are made available by the Commission.	Ongoing
Continue to collaborate with Horsham Rural City Council and Loddon Shire Council to implement the Rural Council Transformation Project.	Online timesheets and community engagement will be rolled out when they become available through the software supplier. Standard Operating Environment and CRM system implementation project plans under development for 2025 implementation.	Ongoing
Maintain the Business Continuity Plan as an active document, ensuring that it is	Business Continuity Plan updated annually, provided to the Audit and Risk Committee for endorsement in September 2024.	100%

Action Item	Q3 Update	Progress %
responsive to changing risk environments.		
Enhance the organisations information, communications and technology (ICT) capabilities and systems, including strengthening our cyber-security capability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly Email Phishing Campaigns initiated to regularly test users' ability to recognise potentially malicious emails and record statistics on Review of Physical Firewall Infrastructure Capabilities with a plan to update and replace existing hardware with higher capacity equipment to ensure not drop in system capabilities. Additional Physical Firewalls added to external/remote sites to increase the security and capacity for users at each site. Removing reliance on end user-based VPN connectivity Review and Changes to password policy to add complexity and decrease the frequency of required changes to be more in line with current best practices. 	Ongoing
Deliver actions within the Hindmarsh Shire Council Cultural Audit to improve the accessibility of Council services and the diversity of our workforce.	Key documents continue to be translated into Karen. Inclusive photo gallery in process for use in Council communications. Access, Equity and Priority Policy to be developed and adopted in Q3-4.	
Engage local sporting clubs in the development and implementation of the Fair Access components of the Sports and Recreation Reserves Allocation and Use Policy.	Council engaged with Sporting Clubs in Q1 to inform the Fair Access Policy Action Plan. Sports and Recreation Strategy scheduled for development in 2025 – this will involve additional engagement and incorporation of Fair Access Action Plan objectives.	40%
Undertake review of the Hindmarsh Shire Council Workforce Plan.	Council has engaged a facilitator to consult with staff and develop the Workforce Plan in line with legislative timelines.	20%

Link to Council Plan:

Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Strong governance practices

Financial Implications:

Initiatives within the Council Plan Action Plan are accounted for in the Annual Budget as adopted.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Community Needs Governance	<p>The preparation of the Council Plan, incorporating the Health and Wellbeing Plan and Community Vision, is a statutory requirement.</p> <p>The actions contained within the Annual Action plan represent and allow progress on projects, events and services relevant to the community. This ensures that Council is expending resources efficiently and in line with community needs.</p>

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Gender Equality Act 2020

Community Engagement:

Community engagement was undertaken as part of the development and adoption of the Council Plan 2021-2025; additional engagement is undertaken in the development of the Annual Action Plans. Annual Action Plans are also informed by ongoing engagement programs and the development of other Council strategies and plans, including Community Action Plans and the Economic Development Strategy.

Gender Equality Implications:

In accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, a Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Chief Executive Officer

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

The Council Plan Q1 Update will be published via a media release to ensure that the information is available to the community.

Next Steps:

Council officers to continue implementation of the Council Plan Action Plan 2024/2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the Council Plan Action Plan 2024/2025 third quarter update.

MOVED: Cr R Aitken/Cr T Clark

That Council receives the Council Plan Action Plan 2024/2025 third quarter update.

CARRIED

10.2 DRAFT HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL BUDGET 2025/2026

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. Draft Annual Budget 25-26 [10.2.1]

Executive Summary:

This report presents the draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget (incorporating the draft Long-Term Financial Plan and draft Revenue and Rating Plan) in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*. The report includes a recommendation that Council approve the draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan for the purposes of public consultation for the period 8 May 2025 to 4 June 2025.

The draft budget has been developed to balance the retention of existing community service levels, maintenance and renewal of assets, and new initiatives to improve the amenity and make Hindmarsh a better place to live. One of the key focuses of this draft budget – shaped significantly by community consultation – is addressing the priorities identified by our residents. The community has told us that roads and pedestrian infrastructure are the highest priority, so we are investing \$4.693m in road construction, resheets, reseals and final seals, kerb and channel and footpaths (both maintenance and capital works).

The total amount to be raised by general rates and charges in 2025/2026 in \$10.336m which is an increase of \$0.294m from 2024/2025. The draft Revenue and Rating Plan includes differentials for farms and commercial/industrial properties (10 percent discount), recreational properties (50 percent discount) and non-farm vacant land (100 percent penalty).

The draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget includes capital works expenditure of \$7.033m. Key initiatives for 2025/2026 include:

- Roads
 - Undertake unsealed road construction on Boyeo Tarraginnie Rd, Boyeo; Yanac South Rd, Yanac; Peakes Three Chain Rd, Woorak; and Propodollah Extension Rd, Propodollah.
 - Undertake sealed road construction including major stabilised patching on Nhill Rainbow/Lush Rd, Nhill; Rainbow/Three Chains Rd; Woorak-Ni-Ni-Lorquon and Glenlee Lorquon Rd; Broughton Kaniva Rd, Nhill; Rainbow/Kruger Rd and Nhill-Rainbow/Solly Rd. A number of these road works will only be undertaken subject to a successful funding application.
- Footpaths
 - Whitehead Avenue, Nhill (including pedestrian crossing), Park St, Nhill and MacPherson St, Nhill

- Kerb & Channel
 - Lloyd St, Dimboola

Tourism and economic development are another significant community priority, and we're excited to be delivering several projects that improve tourism and recreation infrastructure for locals and visitors. The draft 2025/2026 budget includes:

- Installation of studio cabins at Nhill Caravan Park
- Improvements to Dimboola Swimming Pool
- Continue the construction at Davis Park including the grandstand.

Under Council's Community Engagement Policy, the draft budget, updated draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan will be made available for public inspection and the receiving of submissions for the period Thursday 8 May 2025 to Wednesday 4 June 2025. Council will be advised of any submissions received at the 18 June 2025 Council meeting.

Discussion:

Council is required under Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* to prepare a budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years by 30 June each year or any other date fixed by the Minister by notice published in the Government Gazette.

The draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget has been prepared in accordance with relevant statutory requirements, including the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

A requirement of the Act is that all Victorian Local Governments adopted a Revenue and Rating Plan by 30 June 2021. The Revenue and Rating Plan was developed and adopted on 23 June 2021 and has been revised in conjunction with preparation of the 2025/2026 Budget. The updated draft Revenue and Rating Plan was developed to retain the current differentials for farm and commercial/industrial properties (10 percent discount), recreational properties (50 percent discount) and non-farm vacant land (100 percent penalty).

When revising the plan consideration was given to the capacity for each class of ratepayer to pay rates and benchmarking against similar councils was undertaken.

The draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget has been developed to balance the retention of existing community service levels and maintenance and renewal of assets, as well as new initiatives to improve amenity and make Hindmarsh a better place to live. It replicates the format of the four Key Results Areas used in the 2021-2025 Council Plan, namely:

- Our Community;
- Built and Natural Environment;
- Competitive and Innovative Economy; and

- Good Governance and Financial Sustainability.

The draft budget has been prepared based on available information to inform forecasts and assumptions.

Rates and Charges

The rates and charges calculated for 2025/2026 are based on revaluation figures as at 1 January 2025. The draft Revenue and Rating Plan includes differentials for farms and commercial/industrial properties (10 percent discount), recreational properties (50 percent discount) and non-farm vacant land (100 percent penalty).

The Victorian State Government rate cap for 2025/2026 has been set at 3%. The rate cap, in line with the Essential Services Commission (ESC) calculation method, applies the increase to the average rates payable per assessment.

The total amount to be raised by general rates and charges in 2025/2026 in \$10.336m which is an increase of \$0.294m from 2024/2025.

Hindmarsh Shire Councils' average rate in 23/24 was \$1,650.11 compared to an average rates for similar councils of \$1,733.69 (Figure 1).

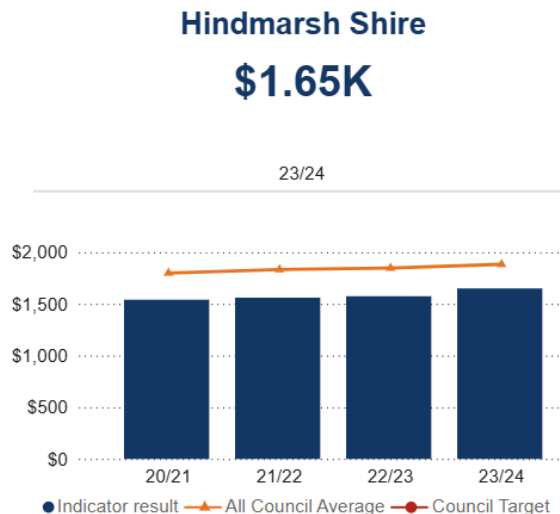


Figure 1.

Capital Works

The draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget includes capital works expenditure of \$7.033m. The proposed key initiatives for the 2025/2026 financial year are outlined below. Further details are included in the relevant sections of the budget document attached to this report.

Community Infrastructure

- \$275,000 on the Dimboola swimming pool
- Completion of construction of Davis Park facilities

Tourism

- \$367,273 co-investment in the development of 3 studio cabins at the Nhill Holiday Park

Infrastructure

- \$464,787 Reseals and Final Seals
- \$2,352,495 Sealed Road Construction
- \$229,878 Road Resheet Projects
- \$821,251 Unsealed Road Construction
- \$150,000 Kerb & Channel
- \$100,000 Major Culverts
- \$575,362 Footpaths

The draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget incorporating the updated draft Rating and Revenue Plan and the draft Long Term Financial Plan have been prepared for approval by Council. Under Council's Community Engagement Policy, the draft budget, updated draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan will be made available for public inspection and the receiving of submissions for the period Thursday 8 May 2025 to Wednesday 4 June 2025. Council will be advised of any submissions received at the 18 June 2025 Council meeting.

Council conducted an initial survey that informed the development of the draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget through the identification of service priorities. Several drop-in sessions have been planned across the Shire, as well as engagement with Hindmarsh Shire Council's Township Advisory Committees.

The draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget incorporating the revised Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan will also be available for public inspection at Council's Customer Service Centers or online on Council's website.

Link to Council Plan:**Theme One: Our Community**

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

Theme Two: Built and Natural Environment

Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs

Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Long-term financial sustainability

Financial Implications:

The 2025/2026 draft Budget is consistent with the parameters set out in Council's ten-year financial plan. The adopted budget will be closely monitored and reported on by Council staff to Council and the Audit and Risk Committee to ensure that

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Financial Sustainability	The preparation of the budget is a statutory requirement, ensuring that short - and long-term financial planning is undertaken in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and supports the long-term financial sustainability of Council.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020

Community Engagement:

Under Council's Community Engagement Policy, the draft budget, updated draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan will be made available for public inspection and the receiving of submissions for the period Thursday 8 May 2025 to Wednesday 4 June 2025. Council will be advised of any submissions received at the 18 June 2025 Council meeting.

Council conducted an initial survey that informed the development of the draft 2025/2026 Annual Budget through the identification of service priorities. Several drop-in sessions have been planned across the Shire, as well as engagement with Hindmarsh Shire Council's Township Advisory Committees.

Gender Equality Implications:

In accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, a Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

As per Community Engagement.

Next Steps:

As per Community Engagement. After the consultation period is complete, the reviewed draft budget will be presented to Council for adoption for the 2025/2026 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. approves the draft 2025/2026 Budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan for the purposes of public consultation in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020;***
- 2. gives public notice of the preparation of the draft 2025/2026 Budget, incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan, inviting written submissions from the public for the period from Thursday 8 May 2025 to Wednesday 4 June 2025;***
- 3. considers public submissions and the formal adoption of the draft budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan at the Council meeting on Wednesday 18 June 2025; and***
- 4. authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial changes to the draft 2025/2026 Budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan if required.***

MOVED: Cr C Uoy/Cr T Clark

That Council:

- 1. approves the draft 2025/2026 Budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan for the purposes of public consultation in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020;***
- 2. gives public notice of the preparation of the draft 2025/2026 Budget, incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan, inviting written submissions from the public for the period from Thursday 8 May 2025 to Wednesday 4 June 2025;***
- 3. considers public submissions and the formal adoption of the draft budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan at the Council meeting on Wednesday 18 June 2025; and***

- 4. authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial changes to the draft 2025/2026 Budget incorporating the draft Revenue and Rating Plan and draft Long Term Financial Plan if required.***

CARRIED

10.3 QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT - Q3 2024/2025

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. Quarterly Financial Report to 30 March 2025 [10.3.1]

Executive Summary:

The Financial Report for the third quarter of the 2024/2025 financial year has been prepared, including explanations of variances where applicable. The content of financial reporting to Council summarises Council's financial health and shows how financial performance is tracking against the budget, highlighting any risks faced and providing information on any other relevant issues from that quarter.

As at 31 March 2025, Council's surplus is \$4.76m against a budget of \$4.56m. This variance is due to receipt of the Financial Assistance Grant in full in July 2024, whereas the budget reflects quarterly payments.

As at 31 March 2025 Council had \$11.8m cash. The high cash balance is due to several capital projects being carried forward from 2023/2024 for completion in 2024/2025 and the early payment of the Financial Assistance Grant.

Council's expenditure on capital works was \$5.58m against a budget of \$6.17m. The variance is largely due to phasing of budgeted road projects as well as work undertaken on carried forward projects.

The complete report and further discussion around key variations are included in the report attachment.

Discussion:

Council manages significant finances on behalf of the community and must manage these finances responsibly, effectively, and transparently to ensure the delivery of important services and facilities. As well as reporting quarterly on the delivery of the Council plan, quarterly financial reports are also prepared and provided to Council, forming a key component of Council's planning and reporting framework.

The content of financial reporting to Council summarises Council's financial health and shows how financial performance is tracking against the budget, highlighting any risks faced and providing information on any other relevant issues from that quarter.

The Financial Report (**Attached**) includes:

Dashboard with both financial and non-financial indicators

This information provides information in graph format for Council on a range of areas within Council including:

- rates outstanding and rates arrears.
- debtors and infringements outstanding.
- local laws information including after-hours calls, after-hours call outs, animals through pound and fines issued.
- a capital works update.
- planning permits applications and permits issued.
- staff accrued leave.
- Customer Service data including telephone calls and customers at each centre.
- Caravan Park revenue and visitors for each of the four parks.

Executive Summary & Ratio Summary

Along with the ratio summary, the Executive Summary section presents a high-level summary of YTD budget and actuals with a traffic light system to indicate any high-risk variances.

Income Statement

As at 31 March, Council's surplus is \$4.76m against a budget of \$4.56m. The surplus is predominately due to the Financial Assistance Grant for 2024/2025 that was budgeted to be received quarterly being paid in full in July 2024.

Balance Sheet

The information within the Balance Sheet includes current assets, non-current assets, current liabilities and non-current liabilities. Commentary is included for most items on the balance sheet.

Cash Flow Statement

The information within the cash flow statement reflects the actual cash received and payments made for items. The cash flow statement will vary from the income statement due to timing of receipts and payments. The cash flow statement also includes payments for capital works but does not include depreciation.

As at 31 March Council had \$11.8m cash. The high cash balance is due to several capital projects being carried forward from 2023/2024 for completion in 2024/2025 and the early payment of the Financial Assistance Grant.

Capital Works Statement

The information within the capital works statement includes projects of a capital nature that improve an asset. The capital works statement is broken into categories including buildings, plant and equipment, infrastructure, which is represented by new assets, renewal of assets, expansion of assets, and upgrades to assets.

As at 31 March Council expenditure on capital works was \$5.58m against a budget of \$6.17m. The variance is largely due to phasing of budgeted road projects as well as work undertaken on carried forward projects.

Key Result Area Summary

The information within the Key Result Area Summary provides an overview of actual expenditure against budget for all service areas.

Detailed Capital Works Scheduling

The information within the detailed capitals work scheduling provides Councillors with scheduled dates of commencement of capital works projects contained within the annual budget.

Link to Council Plan:

Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Long-term financial sustainability

Financial Implications:

This information is provided for noting, therefore there are no financial implications for this decision.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Financial Sustainability	Reporting quarterly on Council's financial position ensures the accountability and transparency of Council's financial performance and enables Council to have high-level oversight of the same. Regular reporting allows for early identification of any high-risk items and early intervention should remedial action be required.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Community Engagement:

Consultation with the community occurred during the development of the 2024/2025 Council Budget.

Gender Equality Implications:

In accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, a Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Chief Executive Officer

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2025.

MOVED: Cr R Barker/Cr C Uoy

That Council notes the Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2025.

CARRIED

10.4 COUNCIL ADVISORY TOWN COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE, HINDMARSH PRIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY REVIEW

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachments:

1. C 020 Advisory Committee Policy [10.4.1]
2. Terms of Reference Hindmarsh Pride Committee [10.4.2]
3. Terms of Reference Town Advisory Committee [10.4.3]
4. GIA Council Advisory Committees Terms of Reference and Policy [10.4.4]

Executive Summary:

In accordance with the Advisory Committee Policy, the following documents have been reviewed and following a period of public consultation from 3 – 18 April 2025, are now presented to Council for adoption:

- the Terms of Reference for Hindmarsh Shire Council's Town Advisory Committees of Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow;
- the Hindmarsh Pride Committee Terms of Reference; and
- the Advisory Committee Policy.

No further changes to the documents have been made following the consultation period.

Initial proposed minor changes to the documents included:

- aligning the term of appointment across all documents; and
- noting that unspent funds allocated to Advisory Committees may not be carried forward to the next financial year.

Discussion:

In accordance with the implementation of *The Local Government Act (2020)*, Advisory Committees were established by Council Resolution on 19 August 2020. The Advisory Committee Policy, established in September 2021, requires Council review Advisory Committees within 6 months of a general election.

Hindmarsh Advisory Town Committee Terms of Reference

The role of these committees in each of the towns of Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow, is to:

- provide leadership in the promotion of the town and district, the improvement of the businesses to identify and help coordinate community's liveability and its economic development, liaising with sporting clubs, community organisations and any such opportunities;
- advise Council of necessary service delivery and infrastructure improvements in its community, and to prioritise such requests and submit them in early December of each year for consideration in Council's budget;
- provide a means of effective and efficient communication between Council and the community;

- facilitate local activities and events, including welcome functions for new residents;
- provide advice to Council as to how the funds of the Town Committee are expended; and
- to establish clearer lines of communication between Council and residents to support future development and operational activities in each town.

Proposed changes to these terms of reference are mainly administrative in nature to reflect changes in position titles, and changes to the term of appointment in line with Policy and current practice. Removal of Dimboola from the list of town committees is administrative following their incorporation as Dimboola Progress Association.

The addition of a clear set of guidelines for assessing any applications will enhance the fair and transparent appointment process and ensure that Council has adequate information to assess applicant suitability.

Section 4.3 has also been amended, with the proposed clause requiring an expenditure proposal be submitted and approved by Council before any funds remaining in the Town Committees ledger at the end of the financial year be carried forward to the following year.

Hindmarsh Pride Committee Terms of Reference

The Hindmarsh Pride Committee was formed to strengthen the voice of the LGBTIQ+ community with the municipality. The Hindmarsh Pride Committee Terms of Reference set the purpose for this committee as being to:

- provide a representative sample of independent and authentic voices of people from the LGBTIQ+ community, with an ability to advise on current and emerging issues and priorities;
- provide feedback and advice to Council on broader policy issues;
- promote and assist Council to celebrate LGBTIQ+ days of significance and host events within Hindmarsh Shire;
- assist Council to promote the benefits of diversity and enhance understanding about the barriers to equality facing LGBTIQ+ communities; and
- report to Council via the tabling of minutes at Council meetings after each meeting.

After reviewing the Terms of Reference there are no material changes proposed.

Advisory Committee Policy

This policy supports Council in ensuring good governance and appropriate management of all advisory committees. Upon review, the recommended changes to this policy are administrative in nature and do not materially change the intent of the policy.

Amendments to reflect the quantity of members being stated in each of their Terms of Reference will alleviate any conflicts where different committees are limited to varying member numbers.

During the consultation period, twenty participants visited the Have your Say Hindmarsh pages with no submissions received. Accordingly, there are no further amendments recommended to the Advisory committee Policy, Terms of Reference Hindmarsh Pride Committee, or Terms of Reference Town Advisory Committee presented to Council for adoption.

Link to Council Plan:**Theme One: Our Community**

A community well informed and engaged

Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Strong governance practices

Financial Implications:

Funds for Advisory Committee use are considered as part of the annual budget setting process. There are no material changes to allocation because of this decision.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Community Needs Governance	This review ensures the clear, transparent and appropriate operation of Council's Advisory Committees.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

The Gender Equality Act 2020

Community Engagement:

Community consultation has been conducted in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy. Council utilised the Have Your Say Hindmarsh webpage for gathering feedback and called for submissions from 3 – 18 April 2025.

Gender Equality Implications:

Gender Impact Assessment Attached.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Janelle Reichelt, Manager People & Performance

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

If adopted, the Advisory Committee Policy, Terms of Reference Hindmarsh Pride Committee, and Terms of Reference Hindmarsh Advisory Town Committee will be published on Council's website, made available to Councillors via Sharepoint, and the community will be notified via social media and Council's newsletters.

Next Steps:

As above.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts:

- 1. the Advisory Committee Policy;***
- 2. the Hindmarsh Pride Committee Terms of Reference; and***
- 3. the Town Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.***

MOVED: Cr R Barker/Cr J Barry

That Council:

- 1. inserts the following clause in the Hindmarsh Shire Council Advisory Committee Policy;***
 - a) 8.2.1 VOLUNTEER ORGANISATION REPRESENTATION - Council acknowledges that collaboration with, and support of, other volunteer organisations within local communities is key to the success of community engagement, projects and events. As such, representatives from volunteer organisations will be invited to attend Hindmarsh Shire Council Township Advisory Committee meetings to participate in discussions and collaborate on projects and events.***
 - b) and with that change, adopt the Hindmarsh Shire Council Advisory Committee Policy; and***
- 2. adopts the Hindmarsh Shire Council Pride Committee Terms of Reference.***
- 3. inserts the following clause in the Hindmarsh Shire Council Advisory Committee Terms of Reference:***

- a) 6.9 VOLUNTEER ORGANISATION REPRESENTATION - Council acknowledges that collaboration with, and support of, other volunteer organisations within local communities is key to the success of community engagement, projects and events. As such, representatives from volunteer organisations will be invited to attend Hindmarsh Shire Council Township Advisory Committee meetings to participate in discussions and collaborate on projects and events.**
- b) and with that change, adopt the Hindmarsh Shire Council Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.**

CARRIED

10.5 COUNCILLOR GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY POLICY REVIEW

Responsible Officer: Manager People and Performance

1. C 007 Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy [10.5.1]

Executive Summary:

This report presents the Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy (the Policy), recommended for Council adoption following a periodic review.

There are several changes to the Policy that improve clarity and wording, as well as an additional section that provides for the management of anonymous gifts. Minor administrative changes are also included to standardise the version control for consistency between Council policies.

Discussion:

The Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy was first adopted in December 2020 in accordance with Section 138 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act). This is the third review of this policy which seeks to add further clarification, improve understanding, and maintain relevance to the Act.

Both the scope and background of this Policy have been expanded to enhance the understanding of the purpose for the policy and the knowledge of the circumstances to which it applies. Other changes include:

- The addition of a section relating to Anonymous gifts that reflects Section 137 of the Act, which expressly denies acceptance of an anonymous gift.
- The HOST test, as a guideline for assessing gifts of hospitality, has been added as an appendix for reference in addition to the GIFT test which provides guidance for assessing a gift or benefit.

The Policy is presented to Council for adoption.

Link to Council Plan:

Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Strong governance practices

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications relating to the administration or intent of this Policy.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Governance	Maintaining a robust Gifts and Hospitality Policy that is reflective of the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> supports good governance through the management

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
	of real and perceived conflicts of interest. This Policy supports the principles of transparency and integrity through having a clear framework through which Council staff and Councillors can assess offers of gifts and hospitality in the course of official duties.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Community Engagement:

This policy is mandatory and the receiving of gifts and hospitality in Local Government is regulated by legislation. As such, adoption of this policy does not have a significant impact on the community and will not be subject to community engagement processes under Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Gender Equality Implications:

In accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, a Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Janelle Reichelt, Manager People & Performance

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

If adopted, the Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy will be published on Council's website, made available to Councillors via Sharepoint and the community will be notified via social media, and Council's newsletters.

Next Steps:

As above.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy.

MOVED: Cr R Aitken/Cr T Clark

That Council adopts the Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy.

CARRIED

10.6 LLEW SCHILLING SILO PROMOTION

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL - The Old Man and the Silo Proposal [10.6.1]

Executive Summary:

Construction is currently underway on the Llew Schilling Silo which will be regions newest addition to the Silo Art Trail. Once completed the Llew Schilling Silo will be like no other silo on the Silo Art Trail as this silo will include external art, an external staircase and lift providing two viewing points into the Silo, and internal art activation.

A strong advertising campaign will enhance knowledge to the broader regions, states and across the world bringing tourists from all over the globe to visit Rainbow.

This report seeks Council support to provide \$6,500 in funding to Midnight Toast, an independent production company, to create a short documentary on “The Old Man and the Silo”. The documentary will then be used for promotional purposes across various platforms including social media, websites, and prior to screenings at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre and night activations at the Llew Schilling Silo.

Discussion:

The Llew Schilling Silo development is an innovative project that will offer so much more than a large-scale external painting on the side of the Silo, with both external and internal art activation. Viewing of the internal art will be made possible with the installation of a large tower featuring a stairway and elevator into a viewing platform both approximately 5 metres and 24 metres above the ground.

It is anticipated works will be completed later this year, with contractors well underway on the construction component, and an artist being appointed following an Expression of Interest process for the art activation. The art activation will honour Llew Schilling and his deep connection to the site by magnifying the flowers from his garden at the base of the silo into something monumental and visible for miles. Inside, an illuminated sculpture featuring macro photographs of flowers from Llew’s garden, printed onto DigiGlass, will transform the silo’s interior into a dynamic exploration of light and texture. Suspended DigiGlass petals will cast shifting shadows onto the curved walls, creating an evolving analogue projection that changes throughout the day.

This work continues the legacy of storytelling in silo artwork. It is a reimagining of a portrait not through likeness, but through nature – a celebration of a man who has shaped this place in quiet but lasting ways, turning his connection to the land into artwork grown from the community, for the community.

It will be important for Council to advertise the Silo both locally, regionally and nationally, to reach many members across different communities. Council has been approached by Leigh Schilling from Midnight Toast, an independent production company based in Melbourne, who is keen to create a short documentary on “The Old Man and the Silo.” Leigh has been following the Llew Schilling silo project with interest since the first ideas surfaced many years ago. The documentary will showcase and visually archive the construction of the silo project, capturing and preserving the many storylines surrounding it.

A trailer has been developed on the proposed documentary which is available on YouTube (['The Old Man and the Silo' | Trailer](#)). The proposed budget for the documentary is \$10,500 with \$4,000 being secured already through donations from interested parties. This report proposes that Council provide funding of \$6,500 to ensure the documentary is completed and available for Council purposes to advertise the Llew Schilling Silo.

Link to Council Plan:**Theme One: Our Community**

Provide arts and cultural activities that strengthen social connection

Theme Three: Competitive and Innovative Economy

Develop and promote local tourism opportunities that attract visitation

Financial Implications:

Council’s contribution towards the short documentary would be \$6,500, provided through contribution to grant funded projects.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Project Management and Strategic Execution	Significant investment is being made into the Llew Schilling Silo project construction and art activation phase. It will be important to ensure investment is made into advertising the completed Silo Art project to attract a wide range of visitors.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Community Engagement:

Media releases, Facebook posts and regular updates have been provided to the community throughout the project.

Gender Equality Implications:

In accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, a Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Chief Executive Officer

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Monica Revell, Chief Executive Officer

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

The documentary will be used to advertise the Llew Schilling Silo project through various platforms including social media, websites, prior to film screenings at Nhill Memorial Community Centre and night screenings at the Llew Schilling Silo.

Next Steps:

Officers will communicate the outcome of this report with Leigh Schilling.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council provides \$6,500 (excl GST) in funding to Midnight Toast, an independent production company, to create a short documentary on “The Old Man and the Silo” for promotional use on the Llew Schilling Silo project.

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr C Uoy

That Council provides \$6,500 (excl GST) in funding to Midnight Toast, an independent production company, to create a short documentary on “The Old Man and the Silo” for promotional use on the Llew Schilling Silo project.

CARRIED

10.7 CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure Services

Attachments:

Nil

Executive Summary:

This report presents Council with an update on the progress of 2024/2025 capital works program. This program includes projects carried forward from 2023/2024, plant purchases, road constructions, building maintenance, and major projects.

As of 28 April 2025, over 62% of capital works have been completed. It is expected that 85% to 90% of the capital works projects will be delivered by the end of the 2024/2025 financial year. The remaining 10% accounts for some major projects being carried forward over multiple financial years including the Llew Schilling Silo project and Davis Park upgrades.

Discussion:

The capital works program is progressing well with expected delivery of over 85% being completed before the end of 2024/2025 financial year. The table below shows the progress of capital works program.

The “Forecast” column in the table below indicates the expected delivery at conclusion of the 2024/2025 financial year being 30 June 2025. Green cells indicate projects that are completed, yellow cells indicate projects that are expected to be completed by 30 June 2025, and red cells indicate projects that could potentially be carried forward into the next financial year, 2025/2026.

Two (2) plant items listed in the program are not required following an internal review of plant items. The budget for these items will be redeployed in the next financial year. Presently, there are seven items in the program that are likely to be carried forward into the next financial year. These include some of the major projects that run over multiple financial years. The remaining items on the program will be completed before 30 June 2025.

Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) provisional works delivery is contingent on timely approval process from DTP. The purchase of some of the fleet and plant items were purposefully delayed, maximising the use of those specific items within the financial year. These items will be ordered in May with the aim to get it delivered before 30 June 2025.

In the past three (3) months, 196 Customer Action Requests were completed. Over 90% of those requests were related to road infrastructure. The works team is also gradually dealing with 256 works tickets related to road grading. 27 of those tickets were created from customer action request and the rest resulted from routine inspections. A report on length of road graded will be provided in the next report.

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
Plant and Equipment					
Truck - CF	\$101,736.00	100%	100%	Dimboola Town Truck	Complete
Truck - CF	\$101,736.00	100%	100%	Jeparit Town Truck	Complete
Road Patching Truck - CF	\$400,225.48	60%	100%	Nhill Road Patching Truck	ETA April 2026.
Utility - CF	\$45,000.00	0%	100%	Outdoor Team	Ordered before end of FY.
Utility - CF	\$45,000.00	0%	100%	Outdoor Team	Ordered before end of FY.
Utility - CF	\$45,000.00	0%	100%	Outdoor Team	Ordered before end of FY.
Mower	\$48,000.00	0%	100%	Dimboola Town Maintenance	Specification developed. To be procured before the end of FY.
Mower	\$48,000.00	0%	100%	Dimboola Town Maintenance	Specification developed. To be procured before the end of FY.
Minor Plant	\$35,000.00	30%	100%	Misc Plant	Will be completed by June 30.
Footpath Roller	\$80,000.00	100%	100%	2T self propelled roller	Complete
Spreader trailer	\$75,000.00	0%	0%	Spreader trailer	Plant purchase not required.
PTO Driven Stabiliser	\$50,000.00	0%	0%	PTO Driven Stabiliser	Plant purchase not required.
Emulsion tank	\$200,000.00	60%	100%	Ordered Supply and delivery. 60% complete	Procurement complete.
Wagon	\$56,000.00	100%	100%	Office Staff Vehicle	Complete
Wagon	\$56,000.00	100%	100%	Office Staff Vehicle	Complete
Utility	\$62,000.00	100%	100%	Team Leader Mechanics	Complete
Utility	\$46,000.00	100%	100%	Team Leader West	Complete
Utility	\$46,000.00	100%	100%	Team Leader East	Complete
Utility	\$50,000.00	100%	100%	Operations - Indoor	Complete
Wagon	\$70,000.00	100%	100%	CEO Vehicle	Complete
Sealed Road Construction					
Dimboola Minyip Road	\$210,000.00	100%	100%	1 KM Pavement renewal and widening to 6.8 meters wide seal 2-meter shoulder each side.	Complete

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
Lorquon-Netherby Rd & Lorquon Rd	\$214,000.00	100%	100%	1 KM Pavement renewal over three segments and widening to 6.2 meters wide seal 2-meter shoulder each side.	Complete
Netherby Baker Rd	\$212,000.00	100%	100%	1.13 KM pavement renewal with 4-meter-wide seal and 2-meter-wide shoulder both sides.	Complete
Old Minyip Rd	\$219,000.00	75%	100%	1KM pavement renewal with 4-meter-wide seal and 2-meter-wide shoulder both sides.	Mid-May completion.
Tarranyurk East Rd	\$200,000.00	0%	30%	Flood recovery – Funding agreement needs this project to be completed by June 2026.	Project potentially being carried forward.
Woorak-Ni Ni-Lorquon Rd - CF	\$331,000.00	75%	100%	800 meters pavement renewal and widening to 6.8 meters wide seal 2-meter shoulder each side. Vegetation removal requirement delayed the project significantly.	Will be completed by June 30.
Rainbow Nhill Rd - CF	\$26,614.00	100%	100%	Patch work at various locations.	Complete
Shoulder Resheet					
Dimboola Minyip Road	\$46,000.00	0%	100%	Construction of 2-meter-wide unsealed shoulders on both sides.	Will be completed by June 30. To be commenced after completion of Old Minyip Construction.
Gravel Road Construction					

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
Boundary Rd	\$23,000.00	100%	100%	Unsealed road construction with 4-meter resheet and 1.5-meter shoulders.	Completed by WWSC. Invoice yet to come.
Keams Rd	\$41,000.00	100%	100%	Unsealed road construction with 4-meter resheet and 1.5 meter shoulders.	Complete
Mckenzie Rd	\$75,000.00	100%	100%	Unsealed road construction with 4-meter resheet and 1.5 meter shoulders.	Complete
Tarranyurk East	\$150,000.00	100%	100%	Completed 6m resheet with 1.5 shoulder	Complete
Tarranyurk West	\$113,000.00	30%	80%	Completed 6m resheet with 1.5 shoulder	Procurement in progress. Potentially some component might be carried forward.
Designs and Vegetation Assessments	\$40,000.00	100%	100%	Vegetation assessment at various roads prior to construction or resheet.	Complete
Kerb and Channel					
Winifred St	\$163,000.00	90%	100%	Construction of new K&C and sealing road surface between current seal and K&C. Installation of additional drainage.	To be completed by June 30.
Lloyd St	\$118,000.00	0%	0%	Renewal of K&C	Delayed due to discovery of additional services. Carried forward due to need for additional budget for service relocation.
Brougham St	\$15,000.00	0%	50%	Renewal of K&C and some associated pavement works	The location is next to Western Highway, hence waiting for DTP approval. Potentially carried forwards.

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
K&C Section Replacement	\$130,000.00	50%	100%	Redeployment of budget from Elgin St	Complete by June 30.
Minor Culvert					
Culvert Renewals	\$50,000.00	60%	100%	Renewal of various minor culverts within the road network.	Complete by June 30.
Reseals (To be completed by Contractors)					
River Rd, Dimboola	\$65,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Katyil Wail Rd, Dimboola	\$75,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Old Minyip Rd, Dimboola	\$60,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Montrose St, Dimboola	\$12,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Elizabeth St, Dimboola	\$15,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Railway St, Rainbow	\$8,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Dahlenburg Dr, Nhill	\$7,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	Complete
Kiata North, Nhill	\$35,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	Complete
Diapur-Miram Rd, Nhill	\$33,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	Complete
Nhill Murrayville Rd, Nhill	\$94,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	Complete
Broadway St, Jeparit	\$26,000.00	0%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
Livingston St Jeparit	\$18,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Scott St, Jeparit	\$16,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Tullyvea St, Jeparit	\$10,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Reserve Entrance - Jeparit	\$5,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Four Mile Beach Rd, Jeparit	\$25,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Lochiel St, Dimboola	\$25,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Swimming Pool/bowls club carpark and track, Dimboola	\$8,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	PO Issued. To be completed before end of April.
Fraser St, Nhill	\$12,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	Complete
Aerodrome Access Rd Track, Nhill	\$65,000.00	100%	100%	Resurfacing to prevent water ingress into the pavement	Complete
DTP Provisional Works					
Provisional Works	\$ 250,000.00	40%	100%	Repair works on arterial road network under current maintenance contract.	Awaiting DTP approval for this works to commence. Current contract expires on 30 April 2025.
Bridges					
Bridge Repairs, following level 3 condition audit	\$50,000.00	30%	100%	Level 3 inspections of structures recommended by Level 2 inspection.	Will be completed before June 30.
Footpaths					
Footpath Section Replacement	\$40,000.00	60%	100%	Replacement of damaged sections of footpath in the network.	To be completed by June 30.

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
Footpath Crossings	\$30,000.00	30%	100%	Replacement of footpath crossings to various location to enable safe passages of prams and gophers.	To be completed by June 30.
Buildings					
Dimboola and Nhill Depot Works	\$100,000.00	0%	40%	Depot Improvement	Likely to undertake some works at Nhill Depot.
Industrial Laundry Appliances	\$30,000.00	100%	100%	Dimboola Laundry Upgrade	Complete
Jeparit Workshop - CF	\$69,700.00	100%	100%	Construction of workshop at Jeparit depot	Complete
Nhill Aerodrome Works	\$240,000.00	100%	100%	Drainage, pavement and taxiway repairs to provide safe entry exit for emergency services. Funded 50% by Federal Government Regional Airport Program.	Complete
Nhill dog park - CF	\$66,664.00	70%	100%	Development of off leash dog park including 1500mm high chain mesh fencing, agility course, landscaping, park furniture, all weather driveway access and parking	Fencing complete, driveway complete. Landscaping and furniture installation works to commence soon.
Rainbow Rises Event Centre Development	\$625,000.00	98%	100%	Construction of Limestone driveway and pit / hardstand area, construction of Amenities Building, construction of Storage Shed	Infrastructure construction complete. Final signoff by building inspector remaining.
Davis Park Grandstand and change rooms	\$1,837,000.00	50%	80%	Construction of new Grandstand incorporating change rooms, medical room, tiered seating etc.	

Project/road Name (2024-25)	Budget	% Complete	Forecast (for 30 June 25)	Description of Works	Status
Nhill and Dimboola Kindergarten Fitout	\$300,000.00	95%	100%	Installation of furnishings and resources at new Dimboola and Nhill Kinders.	Some furniture delivery still pending. To be completed Mid-May.
Rainbow Lake All Abilities Fishing Pontoon / Jetty	\$60,545.45	20%	100%	Installation of a pontoon / jetty to provide improved access to fishing opportunities at the lake	Completion at the end of May.
Llew Schilling Silo	\$1,881,930.00	35%	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of Tower with Viewing Platform with staircase & elevator - Internal & External Art Activation of Silo - Silo Site Development 	Likely to be completed by the end of August
Total	\$10,232,150.93				

Link to Council Plan:**Theme Two: Built and Natural Environment**

Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs

Financial Implications:

Capital works program is delivered based on allocated budget. The customer action request and grading program is absorbed within the annual operational budget.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Asset Management	Delay in capital works is likely to reduce the level of service provided to the community and increase the renewal gap. Additional repair requirement is likely to induce some additional cost.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Road Management Act 2004

Community Engagement:

Not applicable.

Gender Equality Implications:

In accordance with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*, a Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Ram Upadhyaya, Director Infrastructure Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Ram Upadhyaya, Director Infrastructure Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

The next update on progress of the capital works will be provided at the end of quarter 4.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the capital works update report.

MOVED: Cr J Barry/Cr T Clark

That Council notes the capital works update report.

CARRIED

11 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

11.1 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. Jeparit Township Committee Minutes 10 March 2025 [11.1.1]
2. Nhill Town Committee Minutes 11 March 2025 [11.1.2]
3. Rainbow Town Committee Minutes 17 March 2025 [11.1.3]

Introduction:

The following Hindmarsh Shire Council Advisory Committees held meetings on the following dates:

- **Jeparit Township Advisory Committee**
General Meeting on 10 March 2025
- **Nhill Township Advisory Committee**
General Meeting on 11 March 2025
- **Rainbow Township Advisory Committee**
General Meeting on 17 March 2025

A copy of the minutes for each meeting are included as an attachment for the information of Council.

Next Steps:

Advisory Committee minutes will be published on Council's website.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council

1. ***notes the minutes of the following Advisory Committees:***
 - a) ***Jeparit Township meeting held on 10 March 2025;***
 - b) ***Nhill Township meeting held on 11 March 2025;***
 - c) ***Rainbow Township meeting held on 17 March 2025; and***
2. ***approves the Rainbow Town Committee's request to allocate \$2,800 to the Rainbow Neighbourhood House to support the Rainbow Men's Shed.***

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr R Barker

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the following Advisory Committees:***
 - a) ***Jeparit Township meeting held on 10 March 2025;***

- b) Nhill Township meeting held on 11 March 2025;*
c) Rainbow Township meeting held on 17 March 2025; and
2. approves the Rainbow Town Committee's request to allocate \$2,800 to the Rainbow Neighbourhood House to support the Rainbow Men's Shed.

CARRIED

11.2 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Minutes 18 March 2025 [11.2.1]
2. Yurunga Homestead Minutes 27 March 2025 [11.2.2]

Introduction:

The following Hindmarsh Shire Community Asset Committees held a meeting on the following dates:

- **Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee**
General Meeting on 18 March 2025
- **Yurunga Homestead Committee**
General Meeting on 27 March 2025

A copy of the minutes for each meeting are included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the minutes of the following Community Asset Committees:

- 1. Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum meeting held on 18 March 2025; and***
- 2. Yurunga Homestead meeting held on 27 March 2025.***

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr R Aitken

That Council notes the minutes of the following Community Asset Committees:

- 1. Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum meeting held on 18 March 2025; and***
- 2. Yurunga Homestead meeting held on 27 March 2025.***

CARRIED

12 LATE REPORTS

No late reports.

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

No notices of motions.

14 OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

15 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

In accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council may close the meeting to the public to consider confidential information. Confidential information is defined by part IV of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, and by Section 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* as being:

- a) Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released;
- b) security information, being information that if released is likely to endanger the security of Council property or the safety of any person;
- c) land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values;
- d) law enforcement information, being information which if released would be reasonably likely to prejudice the investigation into an alleged breach of the law or the fair trial or hearing of any person;
- e) legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies;
- f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;
- g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—
 - i. relates to trade secrets; or
 - ii. if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage;
- h) confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under Section 66(2)(a);
- i) internal arbitration information, being information specified in Section 145;
- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information, being information specified in Section 169;
- k) information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition;
- l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to consider reports that contain confidential information as defined by Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2020, and/or Part IV of the Freedom of Information Act 1982, and following consideration of items 15.1 to 15.2 close the Council meeting:

15.1 DELIBERTIVE PANEL APPOINTMENT – this report contains “personal information, being information which if released would result in the

unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs”; and

- 15.2 AWARD OF CONTRACT 2024-2025-32 PROVISION OF ICT SERVICES – this report contains “private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets”.**

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr J Barry

That the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to consider reports that contain confidential information as defined by Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2020, and/or Part IV of the Freedom of Information Act 1982, and following consideration of items 15.1 to 15.2 close the Council meeting:

- 15.1 DELIBERTIVE PANEL APPOINTMENT – this report contains “personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs”; and**

- 15.2 AWARD OF CONTRACT 2024-2025-32 PROVISION OF ICT SERVICES – this report contains “private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets”.**

CARRIED

16 LATE CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

No late confidential reports.

17 MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, Cr R Ismay declared the meeting closed at 4:27pm.
