

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Corryong Council Office

Tuesday 2 February 2016

This information is available in alternative formats on request

<p style="text-align: center;">MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD AT TOWONG SHIRE COUNCIL, CORRYONG OFFICE ON TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2016 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM.</p>

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The Mayor declared the meeting open at 10.00 am.

1 Opening Prayer

"Almighty God, we ask that you be present at this meeting to assist us in our service to the Community through Local Government.

We pray that our decisions will be wise and taken with goodwill and clear conscience.

Amen."

2 Councillor and Officer presence at the meeting

Present: Crs Wortmann, Scales, Fraser, Gadd and Joyce

In Attendance:	Title:
J Heritage	Director Technical Services
D Snaith	Executive Assistant

3 Apologies and granting of leave of absence

J Phelps and J Shannon

4 Declaration of pecuniary interest and/or conflict

For the purpose of this section, Councillors must disclose the nature of the conflict of interest in accordance with s79(2) of the Local Government Act.

Nil.

5 Confirmation of minutes

1 December 2015

**CR FRASER
CR GADD**

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2015
AS CIRCULATED BE CONFIRMED.**

CARRIED

6 Petitions, joint letters and declarations

Nil.

7 Assembly of Councillors

A written record of the Assemblies of Councillors from 1 December to 27 January 2016 is included at [Appendix 1](#).

**CR SCALES
CR JOYCE**

THAT THE INFORMATION BE AMENDED AND NOTED.

CARRIED

8 Open Forum

NAME	TOPIC
Mrs Marilyn Hill	<p>Mrs Hill represented the Corryong and Upper Murray Show Society and financial assistance for the erection of a marquee to be used at the 2016 annual Agricultural Pastoral Show.</p> <p><i>The Mayor noted the request and advised that rate capping placed severe limitations on Council this financial year.</i></p>
Mr Adrian Davis	<p>Mr Davis represented the Corryong and District Memorial Hall Committee. Mr Davis advised the Committee was working in collaboration with the RSL Hall Committee to develop a Business Plan for the purpose of seeking grants. Once the Business Plan is finalised they will seek a closed meeting with the Council.</p> <p><i>Councillors said collaboration with the RSL is to be commended.</i></p> <p><i>Cr Joyce advised there was an opportunity to discuss this issue with the Shadow Minister for Regional Development when he visits Corryong on Thursday 4 February 2016.</i></p>

9 Organisational improvement

9.1 Finance Report as at 31 December 2015 (DCCS)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Mr Blair Phillips, Manager Finance.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

OPERATING RESULT

	Note	Dec-15	Dec-15	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	2015/16	2015/16
		(Actual)	(Budget)	(Actual)	(Budget)	(Variance)	(Variance)	(Budget)	(Achieved)
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	%
Income	1	262	862	9,708	11,453	(1,745)	(15%)	15,124	64%
Expenditure	2	697	1,081	4,177	5,634	1,457	26%	14,019	30%
Surplus/ (Deficit)		(435)	(219)	5,531	5,819	(288)	(5%)	1,105	501%

Table 1: Operating Result

Note 1:

Council YTD income at 31 December 2015 is \$9.7m against a budget of \$11.4m. The major items contributing to the \$1.7m variance include:

- Revenue received in a prior period:
 - In the 2014/15 financial year an early payment of \$1.8 million was received for part of the 2015/16 Financial Assistance Grants allocation from the Victorian Grants Commission. This has resulted in receiving \$457,000 less per quarterly instalment than originally budgeted in 2015/16. This accounts for \$914,000 of the YTD variance at 31 December 2015. This will be a permanent variance for 2015/16.
- Revenue expected to be received later than anticipated:
 - Council is yet to receive the funding of \$180,000 for the Corryong Swimming Pool upgrade. It is anticipated to be received when works commence in March 2016 (timing variance).
 - Council is also yet to receive the Roads to Recovery funding of \$642,000. This is likely to be received in April 2016 (timing variance).

Note 2:

Council YTD expenditure at 31 December 2015 is \$4.2m against a budget of \$5.6m. The major items contributing to the \$1.4m variance include:

- Expenditure that will be incurred later than expected:
 - \$519,000 Wyeeboo Multi Purpose Facility (works commenced in late October 2015, later than originally expected)
 - \$152,000 Corryong Tennis Court project (scheduled for April 2016)
 - \$123,000 Plant and equipment costs
 - \$107,000 Grading and drainage maintenance
 - \$87,000 Staff costs
 - \$68,000 Kerbside collection service
- Operational savings:
 - \$92,000 Staff costs (Currently operating at 63.3 EFT v Budget of 68.3 EFT)

Council is currently operating at 63.3 Equivalent Full Time (EFT) staff against a budget of 68.3.

Grant Income

	Note	Dec-15	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	2015/16	2015/16
		(Actual)	(Actual)	(Budget)	(Variance)	(Variance)	(Budget)	(Achieved)
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	%
Recurring	1	62	1,251	2,137	(886)	(41%)	5,418	23%
Non-Competitive		3	20	-	20	0%	-	0%
Competitive	2	75	322	600	(278)	(46%)	934	34%
Total		140	1,593	2,737	(1,144)	(42%)	6,352	25%

Table 2: Grant Income

Note 1:

Council YTD recurring grant income at 31 December 2015 is \$1.2m against a budget of \$2.1m. The major item contributing to the \$0.9m variance is:

- Part of the 2015/16 Financial Assistance Grants allocation from the Victorian Grants Commission Revenue was received in a prior period. This has resulted in receiving \$457,000 less per quarterly instalment than originally budgeted in 2015/16. This accounts for \$914,000 of the YTD variance at 31 December 2015 and will be a permanent variance for 2015/16.

Note 2:

Council YTD competitive grant income at 31 December 2015 is \$0.3m against a budget of \$0.6m. The major items contributing to the \$0.3m variance are:

- Revenue that is expected to be received later than anticipated:
 - Corryong Swimming Pool upgrade \$180,000 (funding now expected to be received in March 2016 when upgrade works commence)
 - Tallangatta Integrated Community Centre \$100,000 (due to delays in construction)
 - Corryong Pre-School upgrade \$79,000 (funding expected to be received in early 2016)
- Funding that has been received in advance of budget or is unbudgeted and includes:
 - Magorra Park \$40,000 (unbudgeted income offset by additional expenditure)
 - Community Development projects \$46,000 (timing variance).

Grants received Year-to-Date (YTD) are shown in the following table:

	\$'000
Recurring	
VGC General Purpose Funding	532
VGC Local Roads Funding	328
Library	103
Maternal and Child Health	70
Municipal Emergency Response Program	60
Corryong Pre School	41
Weed Project	30
Tallangatta Pre School	24
Berringa Pre School	17
State Emergency Service Corryong	13
State Emergency Service Tallangatta	13
LG Infrastructure Projects	10
State Emergency Service Mitta	7
Health Admin	3
Total Recurring Grants	1,251
Competitive and Non-Competitive	
Corryong Tennis Courts Grant	90
Tallangatta Tfer Station - Capital	60
L2P Program	48
Magorra Park (DSE)	40
Our Valley Our Future	30
Pre-School Cluster	20
Community Access	19
Corryong Tfr Station - Capital Gran	14
Regional Living Expo	10
Freeza Funding	6
Community Health and Wellbeing	5
Total Competitive and Non-Competitive Grants	342
Total Grants Received	1,593

Table 3: Grant Income received

Unexpended Grants and Restricted Funds

Where Council has received grants that are required to be expended in a specified manner, but the funds have not yet been expended, the grant is recognised as an unexpended grant or restricted funds. This identifies cash holdings that are required to be spent on a specified purpose and are not available for other Council priorities.

The following table provides a listing of current unexpended grants and restricted funds:

	\$'000
Unexpended Grants	
Country Roads and Bridges	195
Community Access	92
Corryong Tennis Courts Grant	90
Our Valley Our Future	78
Tallangatta Tfer Station - Capital	60
Tallangatta Neighbourhood House	51
Flood Recovery Officer	42
Library	37
Weed Project	37
Local Gov Business Collaboration	32
High Country Rail Trail Upgrade (DSE)	28
L2P Program	24
Bushfire Management Overlay	13
Freeza Funding	11
Children Services Review	10
Health Promotions (Walk to School)	6
Regional Living Expo	3
Wyeboon Multi Purpose Facility	3
The Narrows Project	2
Total Unexpended Grants	814

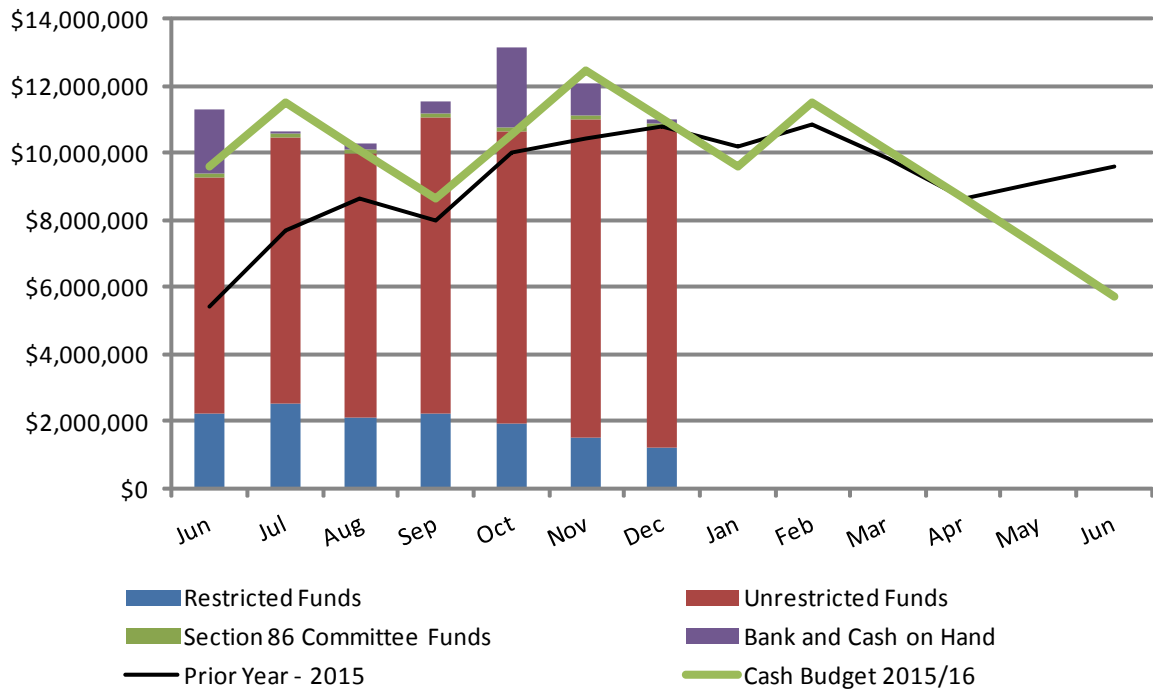
Table 4: Unexpended Grants and Restricted Funds

CASH POSITION

Cash on Hand

The cash position moved during the month as detailed below:

	Current Month	Prior Month	Variance	
	Dec-15	Nov-15	\$	%
	\$	\$	\$	%
Unexpended Grants	813,543	1,079,875	(266,332)	-24.7%
Other Provisions and Reserves	425,706	425,706	-	0.0%
Restricted Funds	1,239,249	1,505,581	(266,332)	-17.7%
Provision for Employee Entitlements	1,145,657	1,145,657	-	0.0%
Other Unrestricted Funds	8,346,401	8,319,434	26,966	0.3%
Total Unrestricted Funds	9,492,058	9,465,091	26,966	0.3%
Section 86 Committee Funds	136,246	136,246	-	0.0%
Total Investments	10,867,552	11,106,918	(239,366)	-2.2%
Bank and Cash on Hand	96,092	961,392	(865,301)	-90.0%
Total Cash	10,963,644	12,068,310	(1,104,666)	-9.2%
Average Interest Rate	2.76%	2.70%		



Investments

Investments were made up of the following at the month end:

Date	Product	Institution	Principal	Yield	Term	Rating	Maturity
17/11/2015	Term Deposit	WBC	1,000,000	2.85%	180 Days	A1+	17/05/2016
21/07/2015	Term Deposit	NAB	1,000,000	2.87%	182 Days	A1+	19/01/2016
16/09/2015	Term Deposit	NAB	2,000,000	2.85%	180 Days	A1+	16/03/2016
22/07/2015	Term Deposit	AMP	1,500,000	2.90%	271 Days	A1	18/04/2016
8/07/2015	Term Deposit	Bank of Queensland	1,000,000	2.95%	187 Days	A2	11/01/2016
27/10/2015	Term Deposit	ME Bank	1,000,000	2.85%	126 Days	A2	1/03/2016
26/06/2015	Term Deposit	WAW	828,032	2.85%	199 Days		11/01/2016
N/A	Online Saver	Westpac	2,403,275	2.25%	On Call	AA-	N/A
N/A	S86 Committees	Various	136,246	4.68%	N/A		N/A
Total Investments			10,867,552				

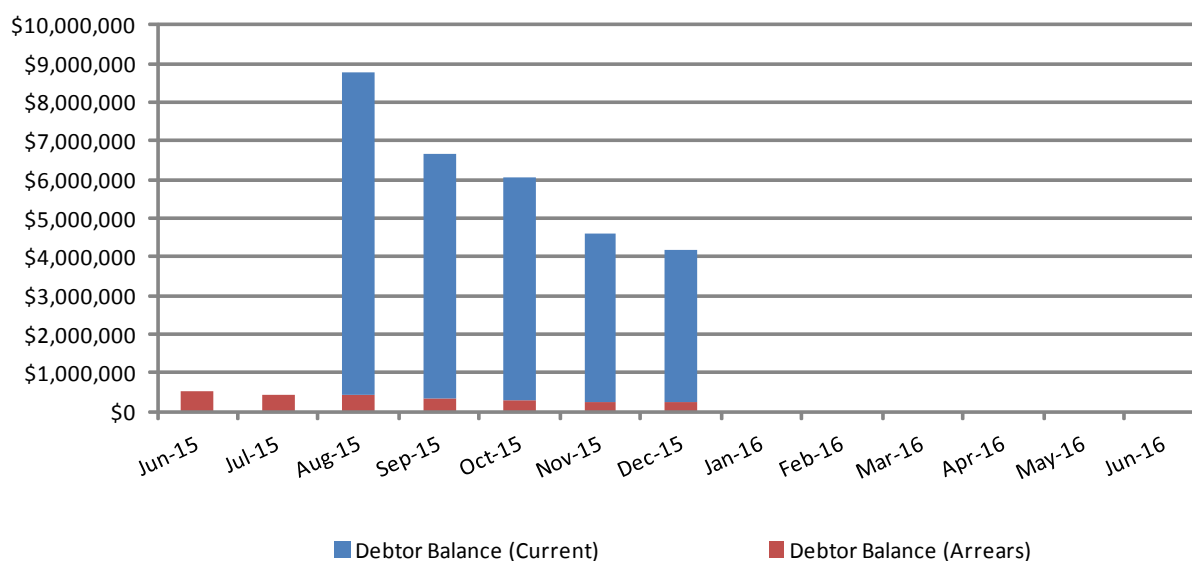
Table 5: Investments at month end

RECEIVABLES

Rates, Municipal Charge, Waste Management Charge and Waste Collection Charge

The breakdown of rates received for the current month and year-to-date is shown in the following table and graph:

Rates, charges and FSPL Debtors							
	Amount	Received	% Collected	Received	Collected	Balance	
	\$	Dec-15	Dec-15	YTD	YTD	Outstanding	
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	
Levied 2015/16	8,454,247	403,213	4.8%	4,505,401	53.3%	3,948,846	
Arrears prior to 2015/16	524,863	17,453	3.3%	296,219	56.4%	228,644	
Total Charges		420,665		4,801,620		4,177,490	

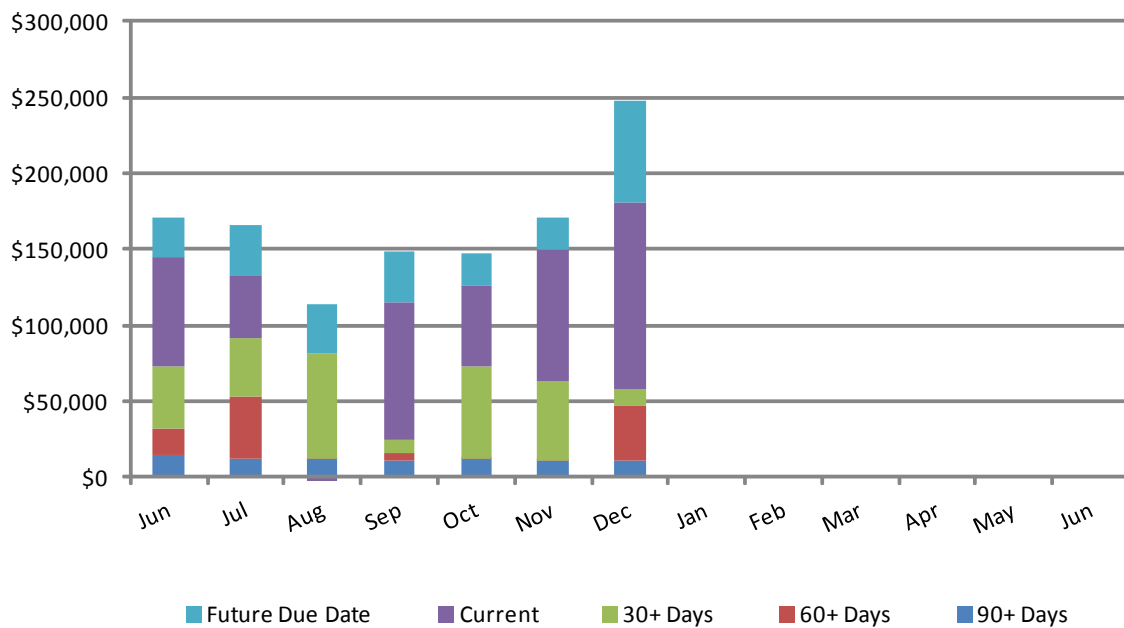


Note – rates were struck in August 2015. Quarterly instalments are due at the end of September, November, February and May.

Sundry Debtors

The Sundry Debtors outstanding at month end and the movement from the prior month is shown below:

Sundry Debtors	Future Due Date	Current	30 Days	60 Days	90+ Days	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
December 2015	67,929	122,453	11,323	36,038	10,278	248,020
November 2015	20,953	86,830	51,821	203	10,501	170,308
Movement	46,976	35,622	(40,498)	35,835	(223)	77,712



Significant debtors (>\$1,000) with ageing of greater than 90 days are as follows:

Debtor	Amount	Description	RO	Notes
Debtor 8411	\$1,580	Contribution	JS	Payment has been requested.
Debtor 17007	\$1,540	Cost recovery for slashing	BP	Contact has been made with the debtor and is expected to be recovered.
Debtor 18925	\$3,250	Community Contribution	BP	Payment plan has been entered. Last payment received on 29/10/15.
Debtor 19755	\$1,548	50% Cost Recovery for weed control	BP	Contact has been made with the debtor and is expected to be recovered.

Table 6: Significant debtors > 90 days

LOCAL ROADS

Local Roads and Bridges Capital Works

The following tables report on progress of Local Roads and Bridges Capital and Maintenance programs.

Local Roads and Bridges Infrastructure	Note	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Annual Budget \$
410 Road Construction		29,073	-	(29,073)	584,778
417 Resealing	1	-	300,000	300,000	962,500
420 Drainage Construction		-	10,000	10,000	30,000
421 Digouts	2	184,589	150,000	(34,589)	600,000
422 Resheeting		29,696	50,000	20,304	230,000
432 Footpaths		12,684	-	(12,684)	344,596
433 Kerb and Channel		17,866	25,000	7,134	168,504
442 Guardrails		-	-	-	30,000
450 Bridge Construction		19,950	6,000	(13,950)	20,000
Total		293,858	541,000	247,142	2,970,378

Table 7: Local Roads & Bridges – Capital Works (YTD)

The Local Roads and Bridges Capital Works program is scheduled to be delivered over the drier months and commenced in October 2015. The commencement of some works was delayed until 2016 pending the outcome of Council's National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF) application. It was announced in December that Council has been successful in securing \$2.6m under the NSRF program to deliver the Destination Tallangatta project. Delayed works will now be rescheduled into the Destination Tallangatta project plan.

Note 1:

Some road construction work has started earlier than anticipated (timing variance).

Note 2:

Digout works have progressed ahead of scheduled budget (timing variance).

Local Roads and Bridges Maintenance

	Note	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	Variance \$	Annual Budget \$
302 Survey and Design		6,963	22,502	15,539	45,000
304 Pavement Maintenance		85,783	70,000	(15,783)	150,000
306 Grading	1	169,515	229,998	60,483	460,000
308 Shoulder Maintenance	2	101,290	49,998	(51,292)	100,000
310 Drainage Maintenance	3	37,538	85,002	47,464	170,000
312 Call Outs		5,861	10,002	4,141	20,000
324 General Roadside Maintenance		48,841	37,500	(11,341)	75,000
326 Mowing		-	-	-	500
328 Tree Maintenance		43,799	40,002	(3,797)	102,000
330 Footpath Maintenance		3,301	4,000	699	8,000
334 Roadside Treatments		-	9,000	9,000	15,000
336 Signs Maintenance		5,805	6,000	195	32,000
338 Linemarking		169	5,000	4,831	10,000
340 Guideposts		6,577	3,498	(3,079)	7,000
342 Guardrail		-	2,500	2,500	5,000
346 Bridge Maintenance		30,347	14,604	(15,743)	29,210
Total		545,789	589,606	43,817	1,228,710

Table 8: Local Roads & Bridges - Maintenance (YTD)

Note 1:

Grading maintenance works have not progressed as originally anticipated due to the wet weather limiting opportunities to undertake works. Works resumed in September (timing variance).

Note 2:

Additional works have been completed in preparation for the reseal program.

Note 3:

Demand for drainage works has been less than anticipated.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Fair Go Rates cap

The Minister for Local Government Natalie Hutchins announced the *Fair Go Rates* cap on 22 December 2015, keeping an election commitment to cap council rate rises to the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The cap is based on the forecast Melbourne CPI for next year of 2.5%.

Any council wishing to apply for a higher cap has until 31 March to apply to the Essential Services Commission.

CR JOYCE

CR GADD

THAT THE FINANCE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.2 Occupational Health and Safety Report (06/04/0212-DCCS)

The Occupational Health and Safety report is presented every second month. The next report is due in March 2016.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

9.3 Action Sheet Reports (06/05/0010-EA)

Items requiring action from the 1 December 2015 Council Meeting are attached at [Appendix 2](#).

CR JOYCE

CR GADD

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.4 Council Plan Priorities (07/05/0022-DCCS)

The monthly updates on the 2013-2017 Council Plan priorities are attached at [Appendix 3](#) for information.

**CR FRASER
CR JOYCE**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.5 Performance Reporting Graphs (DCCS)

The Performance Reporting Graphs are attached at [Appendix 4](#) for information.

**CR GADD
CR FRASER**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

10 Community wellbeing

The Community Wellbeing report is presented every second month. The next report is due in March 2016.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

10.1 Netball Courts Funding Application (04/03/0027-DCCS)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Ms Jo Shannon, Director Community and Corporate Services.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Background/History:

Sport and Recreation Victoria facilitate the Country Football Netball Program to provide funding for football and netball facilities throughout Victoria.

The 2016/17 funding round closes on 11 February 2016. The maximum amount that can be requested under the funding program is \$100,000 and only one application may be submitted in each round.

The funding program was circulated to Council's recreational club contacts to establish local interest in applying for funding.

Two clubs have expressed an interest in having their project submitted in the 2016/17 Country Football Netball Program funding round:

- Mitta United Netball Club
- Rowen Park Committee of Management (for the Tallangatta Netball Club)

The Mitta United Netball Club has expressed interest in the reconstruction and resurfacing of their two courts at Eskdale. The club has facilities in both Eskdale and Mitta Mitta. The club and local community funded two new netball courts in Mitta Mitta in 2014/15. The Eskdale courts were constructed more than 15 years ago and significant safety concerns have been raised about the surface. The club has provided an independent report which identifies safety issues relating to the cracks and the slippery surface when wet and advises that the courts are not compliant for

competition standard. The likely life of the courts is estimated at 1-3 years. This proposal is to replace two substandard courts with two compliant courts.

The Rowen Park Committee of Management has expressed interest in the construction of one new additional netball court in Tallangatta. The club and local community funded the construction of a netball court in Tallangatta in 2013/14. With the funds available at the time they were only able to provide a concrete surface on the new court. This proposal is to construct a new compliant court so that there are two courts available in Tallangatta for netball competition and training.

The budget for the two projects (as provided by the applicants) and funding sources are as follows:

Organisation	Project Description	Grant request \$	Community Cash \$	Community In-kind \$	Council Cash \$	TOTAL PROJECT COST \$
Mitta United Netball Club	Two new courts - Eskdale	\$ 100,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 151,000
Rowen Park Committee of Management	One new netball court - Tallangatta	\$ 38,900	\$ -	\$ 20,840	\$ -	\$ 59,740

As detailed in the table above, the Mitta United Netball Club is seeking a \$10,000 contribution from Council.

Netball Victoria have provided advice that from its perspective the Eskdale netball courts are a higher priority than the Tallangatta netball courts.

An internal assessment has also been undertaken to rate each project against pre-established criteria to assist in identifying a priority project. The key criteria used are:

- Fit with Council Plan
- Urgency (contractual arrangements, safety, etc)
- Finance
- Application preparedness / supporting documentation
- Need

The following rating scale and weightings has been used:

Rating	Fit with Council Plan	Urgency	Finance budgeted	Application supporting documentation	Need
3	Strategy in Council Plan	Project recommended to proceed due to existing contractual arrangements, significant safety concerns	All funds available (including in Council budget if required)	Detailed documentation available	Funding not available through other programs; demonstrated community need
2	Initiative in plan adopted by Council	Project could proceed; opportunistic funding; minor safety concerns		Documentation requires some work	
1	Linked strategy in Council Plan		Council funds not in budget	Documentation requires considerable work	Demonstrated community need, funding available through other programs
0	Not contained in Council Plan	Project could be delayed 12 months if required			No demonstrated community need
Weighting	30%	20%	20%	10%	20%

The assessment provides the following results:

Organisation	Project Description	30%	20%	20%	10%	20%	Total Weighted Score
		Fit with Council Plan	Urgency	Finance budgeted	Application supporting documentation	Need	
Mitta United Netball Club	Two new courts - Eskdale	1	3	1	3	2	1.8
Rowen Park Committee of Management	One new netball court - Tallangatta	1	2	3	3	2	2

Impact on Council Policy:

Neither of the submitted projects are specifically identified in the 2013-2017 Council Plan. Both projects do contribute to Council's strategic objective to assist Towong Shire residents in the attainment of a high level of health and safety, resilience and connectedness to their communities.

National / State Government Policy Impacts:

Both projects meet the State Government's requirements for the Country Football Netball Program.

Budget Impact:

The Mitta United Netball Club project requires a \$10,000 contribution from Council towards the court construction cost.

No Council contribution is required for the construction of the Tallangatta netball court (Rowen Park Committee of Management project).

The projects do not include any funds to appoint a project manager to deliver the project. This is estimated at \$7,000 - \$10,000 and if required will be an additional cost to the project.

Rate capping will shortly commence for the 2016/17 financial year. The cap for the 2016/17 year is 2.5%. If Council agrees to a financial contribution it may be appropriate to include in the rate capping variation submission, should Council apply for a variation.

Risk Assessment:

Safety concerns have been raised in relation to the netball courts in both Eskdale and Tallangatta. An independent report identifying the safety issues at the Eskdale netball courts has also been received.

A risk assessment has been completed on delivering the infrastructure projects:

Risk	Activity / Action	Risk Identification	ESKDALE (risk rating)	TALLANGATTA (risk rating)	Comments
1	Community Engagement - Service Delivery	Impact on the project's perception & operation within the community as a result of poor engagement /	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both netball clubs are invested in the proposed projects and are likely to be a key active participant in the community engagement process.

Risk	Activity / Action	Risk Identification	ESKDALE (risk rating)	TALLANGATTA (risk rating)	Comments
		consultation.			
2	Funding - Insufficient Funds	Costs exceed budget	Medium	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eskdale Netball Courts - Costings are high level and do not detail components of works to be undertaken. Tight budget with no contingency. No project management costs included. Tallangatta Netball Courts – Detailed costings include breakdown of in-kind contributions by local businesses / individuals. No project management costs included.
3	Construction - Occupational Health, Safety and Environment (OHSE)	OHSE risks associated with the construction phase of the project.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitably qualified contractor to be awarded construction contract.
4	Construction – Delay	Time and costs associated with delays in the construction delivery	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delayed delivery of the project will result in negligible cost to the project.
5	Final outcome	Delivery of quality infrastructure that aligns with the funding agreement	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical to maintain Council's existing reputation with being able to deliver quality infrastructure.

Community Consultation/Responses:

Details of the funding program were circulated to Council's recreational club contacts to establish local interest in applying for funding. Two submissions were received from sporting clubs in the Towong Shire.

Discussion/Officers View:

Council is currently operating in a challenging fiscal environment. The indexation on Financial Assistance Grants from the Federal Government is still frozen and savings

are still being sought to offset against the grant revenue that Council is not receiving (but had anticipated) for 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17. The State Government's rate capping policy comes into effect on 1 July 2016 and a cap of 2.5% has been announced for 2016/17.

Options available to Council include:

1. Agree to submit the Mitta United Netball Club's project to the 2016/17 Country Football Netball Program funding round:
 - a. Contributing \$10,000 as requested and the cost of a project manager (estimated \$10,000)
 - b. Contributing \$10,000 as requested and handing project management to the club to deliver the project
 - c. Scaling back the project to one court (not desired by the club)
 - d. Offer the Club a loan of \$10,000 (not desired by the Club)

2. Agree to submit the Rowen Park Committee of Management's project to the 2016/17 Country Football Netball Program funding round:
 - a. Contributing the cost of a project manager (estimated \$7,000)
 - b. Handing project management to the Committee of Management to deliver the project

3. Agree not to make any submissions to the 2016/17 Country Football Netball Program funding round.

If Council determines a project for submission, it is recommended that the approval contain specific reference to the applicant club / organisation being responsible for any project overruns.

**CR FRASER
CR GADD**

THAT:

- 1. COUNCIL PUT FORWARD THE APPLICATION FOR THE ROWEN PARK COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT TO BE BORNE BY THE COMMITTEE;**
- 2. PROJECT OVERRUN COSTS ARE BE BORNE BY THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT; AND**
- 3. THE MITTA UNITED PROJECT (ESKDALE NETBALL COURTS) BE NOTED AS THE NEXT PRIORITY SHOULD THERE BE FURTHER ROUNDS OF THIS FUNDING.**

CARRIED

10.2 Furnishing for Tallangatta Integrated Community Centre (TICC) Childcare (04/03/0027-DCCS)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Ms Penelope Sell, Manager Community Services.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Background/History:

In early 2016 Council will open the Tallangatta Early Years Learning Centre in the newly constructed Tallangatta Integrated Community Centre (TICC). The service will offer Long Day Care, After School Care and a funded Kindergarten program.

Council will need to purchase furnishings and equipment to accommodate the different ages of children that will be using the service (0-3 years, 3-4 years and primary school age). As reported in November 2015, funds for this were not included in the original TICC budget.

The following objectives have been considered in sourcing furnishings:

- preference for natural-look
- environmentally friendly products
- support the delivery of a quality education program and meet a range of Quality Area requirements under the National Quality Framework
- value for money
- meet occupational health and safety needs.

Based on quotes obtained from a number of suppliers it is estimated that a total budget allocation of \$35,000 will be required to furnish the early years centre, as follows:

	\$
Furniture	26,000
Toys and learning equipment	5,000
Crockery, linen and other supplies	4,000
Total funds required	35,000

Impact on Council Policy:

Purchase of appropriate early year's furnishings supports the 2013-2017 Council Plan's Community wellbeing strategy to 'Continue to pursue and extend children's services across the Shire.'

National / State Government Policy Impacts:

Through the provision of a professional and quality centre and learning program, the new furnishings will support the National Quality Framework:

- ✓ Quality Area 1 - providing a stimulating and engaging environment to enhance children's learning
- ✓ Quality Area 2 - focussing on safeguarding and promoting children's health and safety
- ✓ Quality Area 3 - focussing on the physical environment and ensure that it is safe, suitable and provides a rich and diverse range of experiences that promote children's learning and development.

Budget Impact:

This budget request will be funded by Council's cash reserves and will result in an increase of \$35,000 in the underlying deficit. Ongoing asset renewal has been factored into the financial modelling for the new service.

Risk Assessment:

Most products are imported and require a minimum of 30 days notice for the placement of an order. Council will need to place an order no later than 14 February 2016 to avoid any possible delays for the opening.

Community Consultation/Responses:

Educators from the Tallangatta Kindergarten and representatives from the Department of Education and Training have reviewed the furnishings and are satisfied that the proposed purchases adequately cater for the 0-8 year old age group.

Discussion/Officers View:

The proposed budget will enable the establishment of a quality learning environment for young children using the services in the Tallangatta Integrated Community Centre. These services will strengthen our community and contribute to making Towong Shire the ideal place to live.

It is therefore recommended that Council allocate \$35,000 to purchase furnishings for the early years services in the Tallangatta Integrated Community Centre.

**CR SCALES
CR FRASER**

**THAT COUNCIL APPROVE A BUDGET UP TO \$35,000 TO PURCHASE
FURNISHINGS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT FOR THE EARLY YEARS SERVICES
AT THE TALLANGATTA INTEGRATED COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

CARRIED

11 Asset management

The Asset Management report is presented every second month. The next report is due in March 2016.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

12 Land-use planning

There are no reports for consideration.

13 Environmental sustainability

The Environmental Sustainability report is presented every second month. The next report is due in March 2016.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

14 Economic and tourism development

The Economic and Tourism Development report is presented every second month. The next report is due in March 2016.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

15 Councillor reports

15.1 School Presentation Evenings (Cr Wortmann)

Date	9, 16 and 17 December 2015
Details About the Activity	<p>I attended award nights at Bethanga Primary School (9 December 2015), Talgarno Primary School (16 December 2015) and the Year 6 students graduation at Tallangatta Primary School on 17 December 2015.</p> <p>These awards ceremonies are always very enjoyable nights watching the students perform, sing and act. It is always great to hear from the teachers and students as to the achievements and milestones that have been reached throughout the year.</p> <p>The Schools are very appreciative of the continued support by the Towong Shire's annual school awards</p>

15.2 Our Valley Our Future Community Celebration and Funding Announcement (Cr Wortmann)

Date	12 December 2015
Details About the Activity	<p>Cr Scales and I attended this event. The day was a great success with around fifty people in attendance to see the fourteen successful projects awarded their funding, which totalled over \$100,000.</p> <p>Dr Aaron Gosling (Gardiner Foundation) and his family were able to be present to announce the successful projects and we thank them very much for travelling to the Mitta Valley, to make the day such a great success.</p> <p>Projects that received funding are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Profit from Local Produce - Mitta Valley Farm Gate Trail.• Mitta Valley High Country Cycle Challenge.• Mitta Valley OSHC (Outside School Hours Care).• Mitta Valley A Supported and Sustainable Future Mitta Valley Where You are at Signage.• Mitta Valley Making Money from Grass, Not That Sort Of

	<p>Grass!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring Safety and Accessibility at the Mitta Valley Bowling Club. • Continuance of the Mitta Valley Volunteer Transport Service. • Mitta Valley Making an Online Splash. Shelter for Heritage Items and Footings For Three Heritage Buildings • Farm Gate Family to the Sun Country on the Murray Farm Gate Trail. • Creating Art in Food. • Butchers Hook Craft Shop Upgrade. • Bush Tucker Garden (Eskdale Primary School). <p>I would like to thank the Gardiner Foundation for their continued support of OVOF.</p> <p>Also I must thank the OVOF Steering Committee for their tireless work and last but by no means least Tanya Hall Project Manager and Lauren Elvin The Manager of Economic Development at Towong Shire Council.</p>
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15.3 Meeting with the Editor Border Mail (BM) (Cr Wortmann)

Date	7 January 2016
Details About the Activity	<p>Juliana and I met with MR Niall Boyle Editor BM. The reason for the meeting was to talk about issues affecting Towong Shire and projects that will happen in 2016.</p> <p>The first thing we spoke about was the introduction of Rate Capping. We emphasised that our Council is in favour of Rate Capping.</p> <p>At Towong we are continually looking for opportunities to save money and innovate to improve our efficiency through new operating models, collaborative procurement and shared services with neighbouring Councils.</p> <p>Small Rural Councils like Towong will be hardest hit by the cap and who can least afford it. Rural Shires have small budgets and populations, extensive road networks to maintain and a</p>

	<p>comprehensive range of community services to provide. It is critical that these services continue to be provided equally to all Victorians, regardless of where they live. Under the Rate Cap Model, the State will need to invest far more into Rural areas to make up the shortfall.</p> <p>Other issues we spoke about included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Federal Governments freeze on Federal Assistance Grants • Mobile Blackspot Funding • The role out of the NBN • Train Services from Melbourne to Albury <p>The projects in Towong we spoke about included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destination Tallangatta • Upper Murray 2030 • Increasing Tourism in Towong • Tallangatta Integrated Community Centre <p>I believe the meeting was very worthwhile and we plan have another catch up later in the year.</p>
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15.4 Australia Day Community Breakfast Awards – Bellbridge (Cr Wortmann)

Date	26 January 2016
Details About the Activity	<p>Around sixty people attended the awards at the Berringa Community Centre. We all enjoyed a delicious breakfast provided by the Rotary Club.</p> <p>Mr Ian Moffat was our MC for the awards. The official proceedings started with Australian Flag raising ceremony conducted by the local Navel Cadets.</p> <p>The guest speaker Mrs Julie De Hennin was invited to the lectern. Julie presented a brilliant speech about what Australia Day means to her. It definitely resonated with everyone who was present.</p>

	<p>Then Julie De Hennin, Ian Moffat and myself presented the Australia Day Awards to the following recipients:</p> <p>Citizens of the Year Award was shared by husband and wife Peter and Diana Schmidt.</p> <p>Community Organisation of the Year was awarded to the Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group with Jim De Hennin accepting the Award.</p> <p>Community Participation Award was presented to Lawrence Packer.</p> <p>The morning was enjoyed by everyone who attended.</p>
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15.5 Australia Day Community Breakfast Awards – Walwa (Cr Gadd)

Date	26 January 2016
Details About the Activity	<p>Mr Rob Gell was the Ambassador for the Walwa Australia Day Celebrations.</p> <p>Approximately 165 people attended the breakfast at the Walwa Hall provided by our local Walwa Jingellic Lions Club. The hall was beautifully presented, local musicians played our national anthem where all joined in.</p> <p>Rob's knowledge of the geology of the local area was very well received. He spoke about Australia's continual and unbroken system of democracy, our freedom and our heritage.</p> <p>He acknowledged our past and recommitting to our future local landforms of Pine Mountain and Mount Burrowa and their geology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen of the Year: Mr Vyner Smithwick • Community Organisation of the Year: Walwa Community Shop

15.6 Australia Day Community Breakfast Tallangatta (Cr Fraser)

Date	26 January 2016
Details About the Activity	<p>The guest speaker Alice Pung was a delightful Ambassador for Tallangatta, she spoke of her parents experience as refugees coming to Australia. It made us all very aware of how fortunate we are to be Australian citizens. Her speech was amusing and informative and she was really very well received. The Rotary Club provided their usual hospitality and there were about one hundred and eighty or a little more people present. The Community Award went to the Tallangatta Traders and Uniting Church for the end of year Christmas celebrations. The Young citizen was Mitch Maddock who carries on a family tradition of volunteering. And the Citizen of the Year Award went to Roger Lees, a very good local volunteer who as well as other organisations he works for, is most committed to the Tallangatta Show Society and makes a significant contribution to its on-going success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen of the Year: Mr Roger Lees • Young Citizen of the Year: Mitchell Maddock • Organisation of the Year: Tallangatta Retailers

15.7 Our Valley Our Future Grant presentation day (Cr Scales)

Date	12 December 2015
Details About the Activity	<p>I attended this Event along with Cr Wortmann. Around fifty community members attended the day and were treated to a meal provided by the Farm Gate produce group. All ingredients were local produce and prepared and presented to an extremely high standard, and had an abundance of flavours.</p> <p>In this round of Gardiner Foundation Funding in excess of \$100,000 was granted to organisations within the Mitta Valley to further strengthen the community, taking total grants awarded through this project to in excess of \$900,000 to date.</p> <p>Groups formed through the Our Valley Our Future project received funding to continue their fantastic efforts in strengthening the Mitta Valley Economy as well as a long awaited grant being provided to the Eskdale Bowling Club for an</p>

	<p>upgrade of disabled accessibility to their club rooms. The Gardiner Foundation and the Mitta Valley Community should be highly congratulated on this extremely successful and engaging project which is certain to continue to deliver outstanding results for the community into the future.</p>
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15.8 Mitta Primary School Concert (Cr Scales)

Date	15 December 2015
Details About the Activity	<p>I attended the Mitta Primary School Concert. The concert this year was different to traditional concerts being held as a soirée. Parents of students and community members totalling around 80 were in attendance and treated to a musical presentation of the student's activities throughout the year followed by a delicious meal prepared by the students.</p>

15.9 Mitta Valley Australia Day Community Awards (Cr Scales)

Date	26 January 2016
Details About the Activity	<p>I attended the Mitta Valley Australia Day awards. Attendance was high with approximately 200 people in attendance. The Event was held at the Eskdale Hall and the presentations were conducted on the lawn area at the back of the Hall, overlooking spectacular river flats that back onto the township.</p> <p>A delicious breakfast was served by the Eskdale Progress Association and they should be congratulated on their catering and overall organisation of a wonderful morning of celebrating Australia Day.</p> <p>Winners of Australia Day Awards were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team of the Year: Eskdale A Grade Cricket Club • Event of the Year: Magorra Park Facility Official Opening • Organisation of the Year: Our Valley Our Future • Young Citizen of the Year: Sally Hodgkin • Senior Citizen of the Year: Leo La Fontaine • Citizen of the Year: John Baude <p>I congratulate all winners of this year's Australia Day Awards.</p>

**15.10 Australia Day Community Breakfast Awards – Corryong
(Cr Joyce)**

Verbal report.

15.11 Eskdale Caravan Park Triennial Meeting (Cr Scales)

Verbal report.

**CR JOYCE
CR FRASER**

THAT THE COUNCILLOR REPORTS BE NOTED.

CARRIED

16 Urgent business

Nil.

17 Committee minutes

17.1 Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (Cr Wortmann)

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2015 are attached at [Appendix 5](#) for information.

**CR JOYCE
CR SCALES**

**THAT THE UNCONFIRMED MINUTES FROM THE MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE BE NOTED.**

CARRIED

17.2 MAV Regional Forum (Cr Wortmann)

The unconfirmed notes of the meeting held on 3 December 2015 are attached at [Appendix 6](#) for information.

**CR JOYCE
CR GADD**

THAT THE UNCONFIRMED NOTES OF THE MAV REGIONAL FORUM BE NOTED.

CARRIED

17.3 Man from Snowy River Tourist Association (DTS)

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2015 are attached at [Appendix 7](#) for information.

**CR GADD
CR FRASER**

**THAT THE UNCONFIRMED MINUTES FROM MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER
TOURIST ASSOCIATION MEETING BE NOTED.**

CARRIED

17.4 MAV Emergency Management Committee (Cr Wortmann)

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2015 are attached at [Appendix 8](#) for information.

**CR JOYCE
CR FRASER**

THAT THE UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE MAV EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE BE NOTED.

CARRIED

18 Occupational health and safety

18.1 OHS Committee (06/04/0212-DCCS)

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2016 are attached at [Appendix 9](#) for information.

**CR JOYCE
CR GADD**

THAT THE UNCONFIRMED MINUTES FROM THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE BE NOTED.

CARRIED

19 Council policies (10/01/0007-CEO)

The following policy was tabled for review at the 1 December 2015 Council meeting and is presented at [Appendix 10](#) for adoption.

- Tree

**CR FRASER
CR JOYCE**

THAT THE TREE POLICY BE DEFERRED AND BE PRESENTED AT A FUTURE MEETING.

CARRIED

The following policy is attached at [Appendix 11](#) for review. Councillors are requested to provide feedback on the policy to the Responsible Officer by 1 March 2016.

- OHS Committee Constitution (DCCS)

20 Sealing of documents

No documents for sealing.

21 Confidential

In accordance with S77(2) information is 'confidential information' if:

(a) the information was provided to the Council or a special committee in relation to a matter considered by the Council or special committee at a meeting closed to members of the public and the Council or special committee has not passed a resolution that the information is not confidential; or

(b) the information has been designated as confidential information by a resolution of the Council or a special committee which specifies the relevant ground or grounds applying under section 89(2) and the Council or special committee has not passed a resolution that the information is not confidential; or

(c) subject to sub-section (3), the information has been designated in writing as confidential information by the Chief Executive Officer specifying the relevant ground or grounds applying under section 89(2) and the Council has not passed a resolution that the information is not confidential.

In accordance with Section 89(2) and 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1989,

(2) A Council or special committee may resolve that the meeting be closed to members of the public if the meeting is discussing any of the following—

- (a) personnel matters;
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- (c) industrial matters;
- (d) contractual matters;
- (e) proposed developments;
- (f) legal advice;
- (g) matters affecting the security of Council property;
- (h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) a resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

(3) If a Council or special committee resolves to close a meeting to members of the public the reason must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting

**CR FRASER
CR JOYCE**

THAT THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER INFORMATION CONSIDERED UNDER SECTION 89(2)(h) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT TO BE CONFIDENTIAL THE TIME BEING 11.15 AM.

CARRIED

**CR GADD
CR JOYCE**

THAT THE MEETING BE RE-OPENED TO THE PUBLIC THE TIME BEING 12.02 PM.

CARRIED

21.1 Industrial Land (DTS)

**CR SCALES
CR GADD**

THAT:

- 1. COUNCIL CONFIRM ITS INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY FOR FUTURE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT;**
- 2. INSTRUCT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE LANDOWNER; AND**
- 3. THE FUNDS BE BORROWED OVER A LONG TERM PERIOD.**

CARRIED

CR JOYCE REQUESTED HIS VOTE AGAINST THE MOTION BE RECORDED.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 12.05 pm.

Minutes confirmed this day of 2016.

Mayor