

**AGENDA OF ORDINARY MEETING OF YARRIAMBIACK SHIRE COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST 2015 AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE 34 LYLE STREET WARRACKNABEAL AT 9:30AM**

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**1 WELCOME**

**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet today and pay our respect to both past and present elders.

**3 PRAYER**

*Almighty God, without whom no Council can stand nor anything prosper we ask that you be present and guide us in our deliberations today. We pray that we will be fair in our judgements and wise in our actions and that decisions will be made with goodwill and a clear conscience for the betterment and welfare of the people of Yarriambiack Shire.*

*Amen*

**4 PRESENT**

Crs A McLean, Cr R Kingston, Cr K Zanker, Cr L Woods, Cr H Ballentine, Cr T Grange, Cr G Massey, Ray Campling (Chief Executive Officer), James Magee (Director Infrastructure & Planning) and Bernardine Schilling (Executive Assistant)

**5 APOLOGIES**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Ordinary Meeting of Council – 22 July 2015

**7 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

## **8 BUSINESS ARISING**

**8.1 Action List from last meeting**

**8.2 Ongoing and Pending Action List**

## **9 PETITIONS**

## **10 REPORTS**

### **Corporate Reports**

- 10.1 Mayor's Report
- 10.2 Councillor's Reports
- 10.3 Chief Executive Officer – Activity Report
- 10.4 Director Infrastructure & Planning Report
- 10.5 Capital Works Program Report
- 10.6 Community Services Report
- 10.7 Infrastructure Services Report
- 10.8 Community Projects Report

## **11 REPORTS FOR DECISION**

- 11.1 Finance Report
- 11.2 Revenue Report
- 11.3 Rates Capping and Variation Framework Review

**10.1 Mayor's Report – Prepared by Andrew McLean**

- 28 July                      Attended a meeting in Beulah in regard to the Women on Farms Gathering.
- Attended the Woomelang Community Engagement Visitation meeting
- 29 July                      Attended the Birchip Cropping Group's Sheep Management Showcase at Birchip
- 30 July                      Chaired the Women on Farm Gathering election of Executives at Hopetoun
- 31 July                      Attended the Mayoral gathering in Horsham
- 03 August                    Attended the Hopetoun Community Engagement Visitation meeting
- 05-06 August                Attended the Mallee Machinery Field Days at Speed
- 11 August                    Attended the Heart Foundations Launch of their Heart Attack Map Fact Sheet at Warracknabeal
- 12 August                    Attended Council Forum at Warracknabeal.
- Attended the Yarriambiack Creek Advisory meeting at Warracknabeal
- 19 August                    Attended the Beulah Community Engagement Visitation meeting

**10.2 Councillor's Reports****Cr H Ballentine**

- 28 July Attended the Woomelang Community Engagement Visitation meeting.
- 30 July Attended Women on Farms Gathering meeting
- 12 August Council Forum
- Attended the Wimmera Mallee Tourism meeting with Regional Development Victoria
- 15 August Attended the Yarri Music & Life Festival at Warracknabeal

**Cr G Massey**

- 27 July Attended Chaplaincy meeting at Warracknabeal
- 28 July Attended Woomelang Community Engagement Visitation meeting
- 30 July Attended Women on Farms meeting with Mayor McLean and Cr Ballentine.
- Attended Yarriambiack Creek Flood Study meeting at Warracknabeal
- 03 August Attended Hopetoun Community Engagement Visitation meeting
- 04 August Met with members of the Warracknabeal Senior Citizens to finalise their updated rules and regulations
- 06 August Attended the Mallee Machinery Field Days at Speed
- 10 August Attended Senior Citizens monthly meeting with Gavin Blinman (Manager of Community Services & Development)
- 11 August Chaired meeting for the Warracknabeal Showyards Committee of Management
- 12 August Council Forum
- 13 August Attended Warracknabeal Action Group meeting at Warracknabeal
- 19 August Attended Beulah Community Engagement Visitation meeting
- 21 August Attended Wimmera Regional Library Corporation meeting at Nhill

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**Cr K Zanker**

28 July	Attended Warracknabeal Scout AGM
30 July	Attended 'WORDS' meeting
31 July	Attended Youth Gamers evening at Neighbourhood House
03 August	Attended Hopetoun Community Engagement Visitation meeting
07 August	Attended Country Women's Authority Depression evening
12 August	Council Forum
14 August	Attended Warracknabeal Apex handover dinner
19 August	Invited to speak at Leadership Wimmera at Wimmera Development Association
24 August	HUB meeting
25 August	Attended the Volunteering Western Victoria general meeting

**Cr R Kingston**

28 July	Attended Woomelang Community Engagement Visitation meeting
05 August	Minyip Progress Association – ongoing concerns re feral cats in town
06-07 August	Attended Livestock Saleyard Association of Victoria Conference and AGM in Melbourne (re-elected to board)
10 August	Chaired Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance meeting in Horsham.  Attended Rupanyup Consultative Committee meeting
12 August	Council Forum
20 August	Murtoa Secondary College Science Investigation – judging and award presentation

**Cr L Woods**

- 30 July Attended Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce meeting in Horsham
- 06 August Attended Mallee Machinery Field Day in Speed
- 10 August Attended RoadSafe Wimmera AGM and monthly meeting in Horsham
- 11 August Attended Wimmera Development Association meeting in Horsham
- 12 August Council Forum
- 17 August Attended Rural Northwest Health Community meeting at Warracknabeal

**Cr T Grange**

- 28 July Attended Woomelang Community Engagement Visitation at Woomelang
- 31 July Attended Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Transport Group meeting in Horsham
- 03 August Attended Hopetoun Community Engagement Visitation at Hopetoun
- 05 August Attended Mallee Machinery Field Days at Speed
- 11 August Attended Wimmera Development Association Board meeting in Horsham
- 12 August Council Forum
- Meeting with Dennis Smith and Richard Bales (RDV) Various matters at Warracknabeal
- 14 August Met with Mrs Iris Wiese, President Minyip Senior Citizens – various matters
- 18 August Attended Murtoa Progress Association meeting at Murtoa
- 19 August Attended Beulah Community Engagement Visitation at Beulah
- 21 August Attended Wimmera Highway Action Committee meeting in Horsham
- 24 August Attended Gregson Park Committee Elections at Minyip

**10.3 Chief Executive Officer, Activity Report – Prepared by Ray Campling**

- Met with representatives from the Warracknabeal Historical Society in relation to the Wheatlands Museum
- Met with Simone Meade and Marianne Hendron recently appointed Women's Health Grampians CEO
- Met with ACE Radio representatives – Wimmera Cancer Centre promotion
- Met with Richard Bales, Regional Development Victoria – various projects
- Attended Woomelang Community Engagement Visitation
- Attended Brim Flood Investigation Community Information Session at the Brim Recreation Reserve
- Attended Rural Councils Victoria meeting in Melbourne
- Attended Regional Jobs & Information Fund presentation at Alexandra Oval, Ararat
- Attended Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning Network (WSLLEN) meeting in Horsham
- Attended Warracknabeal Flood Investigation Community Information Session at Council Offices
- Attended Mallee Machinery Field Days at Speed
- Participated in the Healthy Hearts Campaign – launch held at the Council Offices
- Attended Hopetoun Community Engagement Visitation at Gateway BEET
- Attended the official opening of the Beulah Community Gardens at the Beulah Business & Information Centre
- Undertook a presentation of Prevention of Violence Against Women and Children to the West Wimmera Shire Council
- Attended Wimmera Development Association meeting with Councillors Woods and Grange
- Represented Rural Councils Victoria at the Fairer Rates Reference Panel meeting in Melbourne
- Attended Municipal Association of Victoria Mayor's & CEO's Forum in Melbourne
- Attended Wimmera Local Government CEO's meeting in Horsham
- Attended Women on Farms Gathering meeting in Hopetoun
- Attended the Beulah Community Engagement Visitation at the Beulah Business & Information Centre
- Met with Mark Crouch, Secretary, North West Municipalities Association – various matters

## **10.4 Director Infrastructure & Planning Report – Prepared by James Magee**

### **Brim Flood Study**

Wimmera CMA, Consultants and Council representatives (Cr Lisa Woods, CEO Ray Campling and Director Infrastructure James Magee) met with the Brim community to discuss the latest flood modelling 29 July 2015. The flood mapping presented was received as very accurate and showed there were no threats to property in Brim for a 1 in 100 event either above or below the floor.

Flood warning was seen as important and the proposed automatic flood warning gauge at Ailsa Road was supported. It was also suggested that a warning regime be developed between readings at Brim and Lah and it was agreed that this data would be provided by the study.

The new accurate flood mapping was seen as important to provide reassurance to people.

### **Warracknabeal Flood Study**

A community meeting was held 30 July 2015 and approximately 30 members of the public attended to review flood mapping and also to gain some feedback from the community on, if there was a need to have permanent levees in Warracknabeal. Cr Massey attended from Council as did Ray Campling, Bernie Naylor, Michael Evans, Gavin Blinman and Tony Brennan. Some of the thoughts put forward at the meeting are listed below:-

- Support for a full levee with potential for both permanent and temporary sections
- Concern – fallen trees may cause a restriction and damage to the weir
- Small levees could be built as walking tracks
- People felt they were well warned
- 'More done now means less done later' was the general comment
- A few people suggested even if the levee foundation was done they could built on it
- In general, people were approving of the remnant levees and liked walking tracks as a way they could be combined into the 'natural' look of the creek
- Sandbags must be placed around pits rather than on top to allow the pressure to escape
- Some consideration must be given to the stormwater pipes leaking under pressure and water coming up through roads, this was observed during January 2011
- There was concern, logs and other loose debris would get stuck in bridge and culvert infrastructure, in particular at the Jamouneau Street bridge
- In general people felt they had enough warning, they didn't need to be told there was going to be a flood. The Warracknabeal Herald had more than two paper issues out before the flood arrived
- They felt local knowledge wasn't taken into account, in particularly in respect to timing
- People in Melbourne tried to tell them when the flood would arrive but they were incorrect
- Water backed up to the St Mary School – came up the drains
- Phone warnings before and during flooding in January 2011 caused undue stress. It was unwanted, evacuation of the elderly caused undue stress, they would have been far more comfortable staying in their houses
- Drainage on Rainbow Road to east of the levee is causing water to pool, there is not adequate drainage. More drainage is needed at either end of Rainbow Road
- Community wanted to test impacts of restrictions at the Dimboola Road Bridge and Jamouneau Street Bridge



Detailed levee design work will now be undertaken by the consultants. Once complete, further consultation with the public will occur to refine the levee design.

### **Design Engineer Position**

Council's newly appointed Design Engineer, Joel Turner commenced 17 August 2015. Joel was successful from a field of 20 applicants. He has previous local government experience with Wakool Shire, NSW.

### **Patchewollock Railway Buildings**

Works have commenced on the goods shed with the building being restumped. Other works to be done include replacing structural members and some roofing iron, replacement of guttering and improving drainage away from the building. The funding comes via Victrack for heritage buildings. Onley's Holdings of Donald are the main contractor for the works.

### **Public Lighting Project**

The installation of 43 public area lights throughout our township commenced mid June and is now complete. The majority of the lights are solar which will minimise ongoing costs. The project is funded through the Community Safety and Infrastructure Fund which focuses on public safety and is coordinated by the Department of Justice.



**10.5 Capital Works Program 2015/2016 – Prepared by Warren Perris**

<b>Roads &amp; Streets – Urban Roads</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Brock Street Woomelang				
Cemetery Road Warracknabeal				
Cook Street Woomelang				
Gould Street Warracknabeal				
Long Street Warracknabeal				
Market Street Minyip				
Mill Street Minyip	80%	July 2015	August 2015	Willmores
Roberts Street Woomelang				
Scott Street Warracknabeal				
Smith Street Warracknabeal				
Taylor Street Warracknabeal				

<b>Roads &amp; Streets – Rural Roads</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Banyena Pimpinio Road		November 2015		Chapmans Pit
Brim West Road		December 2015		Murphys Pit
Dimboola Minyip Road			June 2016	Horsham Rural City Council undertaking Construction
Gama Sea Lake Road		February 2016		Andersons Pit
Longerenong Road				Chapmans Pit
Patchewollock Tempy Road		September 2015		Burns Pit
Sea Lake Lascelles Road		February 2016		Andersons Pit
Sheep Hills Bangerang Road		January 2016		Hewitts Pit
Watchem Warracknabeal Road		September 2015		Hewitts Pit

<b>Gravel Shoulders</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Banyena Pimpinio Road				Sandstone
Brim West Road				Sandstone
Dimboola Minyip Road				Sandstone
Hopetoun Yaapect Road				Limestone
Minyip Dimboola Road				Sandstone
Minyip Rich Avon Road				Sandstone
Rosebery Rainbow Road				Limestone
Rupanyup Road				Sandstone
Sea Lake Lascelles Road				Limestone
Sheep Hills Bangerang Road				Limestone
Wyperfeld Park Road				Limestone
Yaapect Kenmare Road				Limestone

<b>Gravel Re-Sheets</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
3LK Road				Chapmans Pit Sandstone
A Matthews Road				Drums Pit Sandstone
Ailsa Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Ailsa Wheat Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Antwerp Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone

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<b>Gravel Re-Sheets (continued)</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Areegra Exchange		August 2015		Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Averys Road	100%	August 2015	August 2015	Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Bangerang Hall Road	100%	July 2015	July 2015	Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Boolite Donald Road				Tickners Pit Sandstone
Boundary Road 2				Hofmaiers Pit Limestone
C Readings Road				Drums Pit Sandstone
Cannum 5 Chain Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Clyne Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Dogwood Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Echunga Road				Eys/Websters Pit Limestone
Feerys Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Gama South Road				Andersons Pit Limestone
Goslings Road	100%	July 2015	July 2015	Eys Pit Limestone
Guleys Road				Hofmaiers Pit Limestone
Hoffmans Road				Murphys Pit Sandstone
Hollands Road	100%	August 2015	August 2015	Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Holtkamps Road	100%	July 2015	July 2015	Chapmans Pit Sandstone
Jollys Road		September 2015		Andersons Pit Limestone
Lah Angle Road	100%	August 2015	August 2015	Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Lascelles North Road				Andersons Pit Limestone

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<b>Gravel Re-Sheets (continued)</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Lawler Carron Road				Tickners Pit Sandstone
McIntyres Road				Chapmans Pit Sandstone
Mellis Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Moloneys Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Murtoa Cemetery Road	100%	July 2015	July 2015	Chapmans Pit Sandstone
Niewands Road				Drums Pit Sandstone
Olnays Road				Drums Pit Sandstone
Patchewollock Tip Road				Moles Pit Limestone
Pullens Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Ratray Road	100%	August 2015	August 2015	Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Rosebery Rainbow Road				Hofmaiers Pit Limestone
Thompsons Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Turriff West Road				Burns/Moles Pit Limestone
Two Mile Road				Websters Pit Limestone
V Schultzs Road				Drums Pit Sandstone
Wallup Hall Road				Hewitts Pit Sandstone
Wardles Road West		August 2015		Murphys Pit Sandstone
Wathe Reserve Road				Moles/Hallams Pit Limestone
Woods Road				Tickners Pit Sandstone
Woollards Road				Moles Pit Limestone

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<b>Gravel Re-Sheets (continued)</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Yaapeet South Road				Eys/Websters Pit Limestone
Yarto Speed Road				Burns/Moles Pit Limestone

<b>Footpaths</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Beggs Street Warracknabeal				
Craig Avenue Warracknabeal				
Cromie Street Rupanyup				
Lascelles Street Hopetoun				
Lyle Street Warracknabeal				
Main Street Minyip				
O'Brien Street Warracknabeal				
Phillips Street Warracknabeal				
Strachan Street Hopetoun				
Hewitt/Bell Streets Warracknabeal				Pedestrian Crossing
Scott/Bell Streets Warracknabeal				Pedestrian Crossing
Scott/Milbourne Streets Warracknabeal				Pedestrian Crossing



<b>Kerb &amp; Channel</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Cromie Street Murtoa				
Dennys Street Hopetoun				
Foundry Street Minyip				
McLeod Street Minyip				
Stewart Street Rupanyup				

<b>Bridges &amp; Culverts and Drainage</b>				
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>% Completed</i></b>	<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Lloyd/Munro Streets Murtoa				Drainage – Install Pipe & Storm Water Pit
Gladstone Street Beulah				Renew Culverts
Lloyd/Munro Streets Murtoa				Upgrade Drainage System
Phillips Street Beulah				Renew Culverts

- New gravel pits established in last 18 months – Eys, Websters and Burdetts
- Extensions to gravel pits – Burns, Andersons, Hallams and Drums
- Working on proposed pits – Clugstons, Hofmaiars, Shalders, McKenzies and Bushs
- Crushing work at Andersons Pit
- Stripping, pushing-up and backfilling at Chapmans Pit
- Line-marking in Hopetoun and surrounding roads
- Cleaning of storm water pipes – Murtoa, Rupanyup and Warracknabeal
- Murtoa Post Office – alteration to parking

## **10.6 Community Services Report – Prepared by Gavin Blinman**

### **Kindergartens**

Meetings at all kindergartens are occurring this month to inform parents of the new bus policy. Parents unable to attend will have the policy sent to them.

DET has also amended our license at Minyip/Rupanyup so that, under the National Regulations and Law we can continue to have an assistant to escort children between the two centres.

We are also looking at budgets in each kindergarten and adjusting staffing numbers to ensure the funding and staff ratios are met. We may look at a graduate program for Warracknabeal staff, but the committee needs to discuss this option first.

### **Environmental Health / Local Laws – Prepared by Tim Rose and Greg Wilson**

Food premises inspections have been conducted over this period with only minor levels of non-compliance identified. Businesses that have issues highlighted will be followed up where there is the potential for further offending or a risk to the community.

Council has also received an application for one new food business and trading has commenced in recent weeks.

Results from recent food samples taken as part of the Grampians regional survey into vanilla slice have been received. All samples passed with the exception of one, which recorded a result of marginal. This proprietor has had their processes investigated and changes implemented. Council will continue to monitor.

Onsite wastewater applications have continued over this period. One complaint regarding wastewater was received and the matter has been investigated and a written response provided to the complainant.

Council also received a complaint regarding a closed business and the infestation of pigeons that the building now shelters. An inspection was undertaken and the owner has been provided with a written direction to rectify the situation. The matter is currently ongoing.

Council's EHO will be attending the quarterly Grampians Health meeting in Clunes to discuss current issues and changes within the legislation with which they work.

In relation to the EHO entering construction sites associated with onsite waste water construction/installation process, White Card training was recently completed to ensure safety.

We had a slight increase in dogs and cats being trapped or picked up wandering this month. The main towns of concern for dog issues this month have been Warracknabeal, Beulah and Rupanyup. Most part the wandering dog issues in Rupanyup have been sorted as well as Warracknabeal with no major incidents. However, it is a trend that can easily turn nasty if not responded to quickly, the only issue for us is identifying the offending dogs and owners and this process can take some time.

There has been four dogs surrendered to Council last month, one has been adopted another has been euthanized and two others waiting for the mandatory holding period before being either adopted out or moved to a rescue group.

Cats are a big issue again, we are receiving calls daily at the moment about unwanted and stray cats, this is not unusual but more frustrating as it is time consuming and costly to Council.

Council are still working with a resident in Lubeck that has many cats; this is a slow process but we are progressing - as this is a major hoarding issue.

Barking dog complaints are currently being worked through; these have the potential to become major issues if not addressed within relevant timeframes, as they can lead to neighbourhood disputes.

Council are now commencing inspections of properties across the Shire for unsightly issues. Two main areas identified are long grass, weeds and rubbish; resulting from the rainfall over the last two months. Some properties have weeds and grass up to the top of the fences; if they are not dealt with soon they will become come an extreme fire hazard with the onset of summer.

The Local Law document is now at its next stage of being adopted by Council. It will then be in use with the last remaining step being gazetted.

### **Aged and Disability – Prepared by Lisa Dunkley**

#### **HACC**

At the end of our Memory Strategies group session which we held over five weeks, the participants decided they would like to continue to meet on a regular basis. We had a guest speaker come from community options to give a talk on Dementia which they thoroughly enjoyed followed by a lovely morning tea. We will leave it to the seniors to suggest future guest speakers, this will allow them to nominate who they would like to see participate.

We have been thrilled with the response after starting Memory Strategies Group down South. In October Yarriambiack Shire will be running Memory Strategies for the same period of time.

A Senior Citizens forum was held at the Yarriambiack Shire with each town's representatives. Discussions incorporated 'Seniors Week' events and problems arising around maintenance of buildings. Overall, it was identified that only small maintenance issues were required on some of the buildings. These have all been addressed except for Murtoa, where the floor boards in the Mechanics Hall need restumping which is the responsibility of the Mechanics Hall Committee.

### **Volunteer Transport – Prepared by Michelle Hallam**

#### **Transport**

For the month of July 2015 we completed 20 drives and had only one cancelled booking. This month, elderly were mainly accessing services in Horsham, Ballarat and Nhill. The table below is a comparison over the last three years.

July 2015	20 drives, 1 cancellation
July 2014	12 drives
July 2013	8 drives

### **Maternal and Child Health (MCH) – Prepared by Nanette Freckleton & Ros Barber**

- Birth notifications YTD = 8 Enrolments YTD =10
- MCH Regional meeting was held 21 July at Murtoa, showcasing our Shire's schools hospitality
- Linking Learning / Lets Read program is moving forward
- Volunteer readers at the monthly immunisation sessions well received
- Secondary school immunisation (catch up's) are up-to-date. Therefore, the students should be right to have their next immunisation

### **Youth Report – Prepared by Murray McKenzie**

- Members of the Yarriambiack Youth Action Council met via poly-conferencing last Wednesday to discuss issues including, T Shirts, Murtoa Film Night, FReeZA funding opportunity. Skidz for Kidz, and discussion on hold Yarriambiack Has Talent potential date was discussed
- The trial Gaming Nights were completed with 16 young people attending the final session at Warracknabeal
- Meeting of Youth Officers from the Wimmera and Grampians Districts took place at Horsham on 13 August 2015. Discussing support networks and coming events such as Battle of the Bands as well as other funding opportunities. Time was also devoted to discussing solutions to similar issues around Youth Engagement.
- Working with Carolynne Hamdorf to hopefully secure Project Funding for a Regional Arts Victoria, Short Film Festival to be held at in the Shire in 2016. Depending on funding young female artist Hannah French to be engaged to run workshops with young people to make 5-12 minute films.
- The Yarriambiack Shire Council is applying for FReeZA Funding for the next three years with \$24,500 per year to run five events each year across the Shire. The Grant application has been finalised with strong letters of support from three local Members of Parliament, the three Secondary Colleges as well as the Yarriambiack Shire Mayor and CEO

**SHARE Program (Sustainable Healthy Adaptable Resilient Engaged) – Prepared by Marianne Ferguson****Re-invigorating Your Product Group Mentoring Sessions**

A free group mentoring session was held in Warracknabeal on Monday, 27 July 2015 and the Mallee Bush Retreat Stick Shed on Wednesday, 29 July 2015. The mentoring session focused on reinvigorating existing business products and services and both workshops were well attended.

**Think Business Workshop**

A Think Business Workshop was held in Murtoa on Monday, 17 August 2015. Leading business performance specialist, Peter Fitzgerald, shared seven key ideas he believes will allow businesses to thrive, no matter where they are located.

**Social Media Strategy Workshop**

A Social Media Strategy Workshop will be held at the Beulah Business & Information Centre on 14 October 2015 at 6.30pm. The workshop will explore social media tools, creating a comprehensive social media strategy and implementation options.

**Re-think the Art of Up-cycling Project**

The Warracknabeal & District Neighbourhood House received funding from Regional Arts Victoria to deliver the 'Rethink The Art of Up-cycling' project.

The project will provide a series of creative skill development workshops in Warracknabeal that combine creative arts and working with recyclable materials to recreate, re-imagine and up-cycle items that may otherwise have ended up in landfill.

**Wimmera Mallee Tourism**

Wimmera Mallee Tourism is currently preparing to partner with the Horsham Tourism Advisory Group to attend the Melbourne 4WD and Outdoor Expo in August 2015. A new free camping DL promotional flyer, camping brochure and 4WD guide have been printed.

**Woomelang Caravan Park Upgrade**

The roof has been replaced and preparations are underway for paving and landscaping.

**Yarriambiack Art Salon**

A Yarriambiack Art Salon Facebook Group has been established to provide an opportunity to promote networking opportunities for cultural development in the Shire. The next Yarriambiack Art Salon will be held at the Beulah Business and Information Centre on Tuesday, 8 September 2015 at 6.30pm.

**Yarriambiack Tourism**

The Yarriambiack Tourism Facebook Page currently has 1,216 'Likes'. The next Yarriambiack Tourism meeting will be held in Beulah on 31 August 2015. The Warracknabeal Herald will work with Yarriambiack Tourism to develop a Wedding Guide to be released later in the year. The Minyip Heritage Walk is currently being redesigned.

**10.7 Infrastructure Services Report – Prepared by Bernie Naylor****Environment – Prepared by Geoff Harvey**

- Attended Technical Services meeting
- Inspected shed and facilities for use of Yarrilinks Facilitator
- Attended Council Forum to discuss Green Army project
- Met with CMA and Landcare staff in Horsham re Annual Report and Planning
- Inspected rabbit control work in Brim/Beulah area
- Attended Emergency Management training day at Murtoa
- Inspected roads prior to works
- Inspected Airport re rabbits and trees
- Attended Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance meeting in Horsham
- Met with CMA staff re Green Army
- Attended Yarriambiack Creek Advisory Committee meeting

**OH&S Officer – Prepared by Robert Taylor**

- Conducting audits on Rupanyup and Hopetoun Depots
- Working on Evacuation Plans and Traffic management Plans for Rupanyup and Hopetoun
- Organising OH&S refresher training for all staff 20-21 August 2015

**Technical Services – Prepared by Nathan McLean**

- Organised traffic counter installation and locations, downloaded data and saved report for future works
- I have been inspecting and been in contact with Brad Stewart (Project Manager) from Laser Electrical Horsham who are to provide 43 new solar LED lights in areas identified in discussion with local police and community groups. Only three remaining to complete
- Updated and monitored our fleet vehicle information to ensure the terms are in line with lease requirements. Modifications and extensions can be introduced if necessary
- Met with two executives of Tripstop to discuss and inspect how and where we are using this product on our footpaths
- Attended the Emergency Management training exercise at Graincorp, Murtoa
- Completing handover sheets from the 2014/15 Capital Works Program
- Following-up information with managers for their LGIP projects, so I can implement a spreadsheet for Richard Bales
- Two day online training course for MapInfo
- Currently working on a funding application for the Bridges Renewal Programme where we identified renewing and upgrading the major culverts on the Banyena Pimpinio Road at the Dunmunkle Creek

**Technical Officer – Prepared by Tony Brennan**

- Attended Yarriambiack Shire Council Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee high angle rescue exercise at the Grain Corp site in Murtoa
- Inspected all Council sites prior to connection of new pressure sewerage system in Rupanyup. Correspond with GWMWater to organise relevant paperwork and organise for quotes to carry out connection and decommissioning of old septic tanks and realm drains
- Attended Warracknabeal Flood Investigation information evening
- Re-cladding of the Murtoa Depot Workshop completed including approved variances
- Approve as required Consent Requests for the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Processed various stormwater discharge point applications
- Completed internal audit of Livestock Exchange per National Saleyard Quality Assurance program
- Assigned/completed various Complaint Request Management tasks as required
- Attended Hopetoun Engagement Visitation meeting
- Attended Beulah Engagement Visitation meeting
- Attended Little Desert Fire conference at Lawloit Hall

**Warracknabeal Regional Livestock Exchange**

- Sale held 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2,435 head
- Sale held 5<sup>th</sup> August 2,835 head
- Amenities block septic tank has collapsed and requires replacement. Tank has been removed and the site has been inspected by Gary Newman. Currently waiting on his report and recommendations to upgrade as required
- Installed signage around drafting races to prevent stock being held in drafting pens post sale

**Caravan Park Occupancy July 2015**

State	Warracknabeal	Hopetoun	Murtoa
VIC	87	68	5
NSW	2	0	0
WA	1	0	0
QLD	4	0	0
SA	1	0	1
NT	0	0	0
ACT	0	0	0
TAS	1	0	0
International	0	0	0
Permanents	(10 x 8) = 80 (21 x 9) = 189	(29 x 0) = 0	(31 x 2) = 62
Monthly Occupancy	365	68	68

**Assets – Prepared by Mick Evans**

- Prepare information and submit the yearly Valuation report for the finance auditors. This process involves inputting all finished Capital works into our Asset registers, updating Council's registers with the latest asset conditions stemming from inspection regimes and carrying out a revaluation of Council's asset replacement unit rates.
- R2R – mapping selected roads for submission
- Attended a Regional Asset Management meeting in Mildura
- Met with and liaised with two company representatives from Tripstop. Council has been using the product in the concrete footpaths constructed in the Shire since 2009
- Attended a Vicmap information session in Beaufort

**Emergency Management**

- Complete a training delivered by SES – 'Maintain Safety at a Flood and Storm Event'
- Attend a mock High Angle exercise at the Graincorp site in Murtoa



## **10.8 Community Projects Report – Prepared by Dennis Smith**

### **Country Football and Netball Program 2013/2014 and Putting Locals First Program**

Drawings are currently being modified to bring the Hopetoun Community Centre project back into budget subsequent to the tenders being over the budgeted amount.

### **Country Football and Netball Program 2014/2015**

An advertisement was placed for the design and construction of the toilets/showers facilities at the Minyip Recreation Reserve component of this project, with a closing date of Friday, 7 August 2015. Expressions of Interest are currently being evaluated.

### **Community Facility Funding Program 2015/16 – Planning**

All background information has been provided to Communityvibe for our Shire wide Sport & Recreation Strategy 2016/2020.

A plan for community consultations will be developed in the near future.

### **Community Facility Funding Program 2015/16 – Minors**

A Purchase Order has been raised for the installation of lights at the Beulah Bowling and Croquet Club. The globe supplier has advised the contractor that there is a four to six week delivery timeframe. Therefore, works are expected to commence mid August 2015.

### **Local Facilities for Local Clubs Program**

The construction of the cricket practice wickets at the Minyip Recreation Reserve is anticipated to commence in late August 2015.

### **Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund**

Preliminary work, and obtaining quotations, has commenced with a view to submitting an application under this fund for the construction of walking tracks across the Shire. These tracks are to be located at Yaapeet, Patchewollock, Woomelang, Murtoa and two in Minyip.

Conceptual designs have been received for the Minyip Streetscape Stage 1 and are now being modified to reflect a final design, which will then be costed.

### **Other Work Undertaken**

Sport and Recreation Victoria has released the guidelines for their new Community Sports Infrastructure Fund and I am currently investigating possible applications for the following projects: Anzac Park alternative water supply, Brim Recreation Reserve re-surfacing / sprinkler system, Brim Bowling Club lights and alternative water supply and Warracknabeal Golf Club clubhouse upgrade. It is quite possible other projects may arise prior to the closing date for submissions of 29 October 2015.

I am assisting the Hopetoun RSL to implement projects/improvements from their allocated Local Government Infrastructure Program funding.

## **11 REPORTS FOR DECISION**

### **11.1 Finance Report – Prepared by Anita McFarlane**

The Finance Report as at July 2015 will be tabled.

#### **Recommendation**

The Finance Report as at July 2015 be received.

### **11.2 Revenue Report – Prepared by Chantelle Pitt**

The Revenue Report as at August 2015 will be tabled.

#### **Recommendation**

The Revenue Report as at August 2015 be received.

### **11.3 Rates Capping and Variation Framework Review – Reviewed by Ray Campling**

The intention of this report is to provide a precise of the recently released Essential Services Commission (ESC) report on the Victorian Local Government Rates Capping and Variation Framework Review.

As Councillors would be aware the Essential Services Commission lead by its Chair Dr Ron Ben-David was tasked by the Victorian State Government to undertake and report on a state-wide capping and variation framework for Council rates. In May this year Yarriambiack Shire Council forwarded a submission to the Essential Services Commission during the initial stages of this particular framework.

The Essential Services Commission on 31 July 2015 published draft reports Volume (1) which contains an overall summary of the proposed framework and Volume (2) which provides a comprehensive analysis and background information in relation to the draft recommendations.

The report identifies eleven draft recommendations:-

1. One rate cap to apply equally to all Councils in Victoria
2. The cap is to apply to general rates and the municipal charge and not to special changes or service charges (but these other charges will be monitored and benchmarked)
3. The cap is to apply to the rates and charges paid by the “average” ratepayer (Total rate revenue divided by rateable properties at the start of the year)
4. Annual rate cap to be calculated as follows:  $(60\% \times \text{CPI}) + (40\% \times \text{Wage Price Index})$  less (an efficiency factor). The efficiency factor is 0% in 2016-17 but increases by 0.05% each year until reviewed.
5. The 2015-16 adopted budget rates will be the starting base for the calculation
6. The discretion to apply for variation is Council’s determination and can be for any reason
7. Variations must address 5 matters:-
  - I. The reason a variation is required
  - II. The application takes into account ratepayers and communities review
  - III. The variation represents good value-for-money and is an efficient response to the budgeting need
  - IV. Service priorities and funding options have been considered
  - V. The proposal is integrated into Council’s long-term strategy
8. Variations will only be allowed for one year in 2016-17, up to two years in 2017-18, up to three years in 2018-19 and up to four years beyond that.
9. The ESC will be the decision maker with the power to accept or reject and not vary an application.
10. The ESC to publish an annual rate report on Council’s adherence to the cap and any approved variations
11. The ESC to publish an annual monitoring report on the overall outcome for ratepayers and the communities.

The ESC has also recommended that the government consider making the review of the rates capping and variation framework a statutory obligation to be completed every 4 years. It also recommends that the Local Government Act 1989 be amended to require service rates and charges to reflect the efficient cost of providing the underlying service, and that there is a periodic review of any statutory charges.

The next steps in the process for the ESC are; discuss the draft reports with Councillors, Council staff, ratepayers and their representative bodies; convene deliberative discussion groups of randomly selected ratepayers and community members; and received submissions from any interested parties.

The final report is expected to be provided to the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Finance by the end September 2015, following which the final report will be released publicly.

Expected timelines for the 2016-17 rating year are as follows:-

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| • ESC announces cap                                  | December 2015  |
| • Councils submit 15-16 baseline data                | January 2016   |
| • Councils notify ESC of intention to seek variation | January 2016   |
| • Councils applies for variation and submits data    | March 2016     |
| • ESC assess Council variation applications          | March-May 2016 |
| • ESC Notifies Councils of decisions                 | May 2016       |
| • Council consults on draft                          | May 2016       |
| • Council formally adopt budget                      | June 2016      |

Unfortunately, a very short timeframe has been allocated for providing any further submissions into this process and again unfortunately a very short timeframe has been permitted for consideration of those particular submissions prior to the final report being provided to the Minister for Local Government.

Some immediate concerns and challenges identified in the report are as follows:-

1. The inclusion of an efficiency factor does not recognise the complex nature of service delivery within the Local Government environment. Decisions such as this should be the domain of Council in considering the levels of service they wish to provide within their communities.
2. The inability of the ESC to make variations to a requested cap variation will be very restrictive in terms of managing Council's budget process and any specific items that it may want to consider raising additional revenue for by way of a rate increase.
3. The proposed timelines are very tight in order for Council to amend budgets post the result from the variation request. Council will need to allow time for the 28 day public consultation process and then adequate time to hear submissions arising from that process. Any significant changes to the budget in this consultation would definitely not be subject to further community consultation if Council is to meet the 30 June deadline for adopting its budget.

The Essential Services Commission is now calling for submissions from any organisations and/or interested community members on the reports by Friday, 28 August 2015.

The Essential Services Commission will be conducting public information sessions in the region at the Horsham Golf Club on Wednesday, 26 August 2015 between 6:00pm – 7:30pm and at the Northern Grampians Shire Council Offices on Thursday, 27 August 2015 between 3:00pm – 4:30pm.

**Recommendation**

That the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of Council provide a submission to the Essential Services Commission, in relation to the recently published Victorian Local Government Rates Capping and Variation Framework Review Draft Reports.

**12 GENERAL BUSINESS** (including strategic direction and specific issues)

**13 CLOSED SESSION**

**14 MINUTES FROM MEETINGS**

**15 ATTACHMENTS / REPORTS**

**16 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday, 23 September 2015 at 9:30am at Warracknabeal.

**17 CLOSE**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Mayor**

Application No	Application type	Property Location						Proposed Use or Development	Applicant Details				Date Application Received	Responsible Authority Outcome	Date of Responsible Authority Outcome
		Street Address		Postcode	Crown Description	Lot on Plan			Name	Street Number, Name, Type	Locality	State			
		Street Number, Name, Type	Locality			Lot	Plan								
1.1	1.2	1.3.1.1	1.3.1.2	1.3.1.3	1.3.4	1.3.5.1	1.3.5.2	1.8	1.9.1	1.9.1.1	1.9.1.2	1.9.1.3	2.1	4.1	4.2
TP39-14	New application	Sunraysia Highway	Woomelang	3485	CA18A, Parish of Werrigar	1	PS442517	Additional 2 Bunkers	Mark Carter	PO Box 313	Kerang	Vic	24/07/2014	Notice of decision issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	30/06/2015
TP09-15	New application	450 Henty Highway	Warracknabeal	3393	CA18A, Parish of Werrigar			Development of land for Rural Store and subdivision of the land.	Price Merrett	PO Box 313	Kerang	Vic	13/03/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	02/07/2015
TP33-15	New application	Deakin St	Beulah	3395	CA 2002 Parish Beulah			Installaton of floating pontoon	Beulah Public Purpose Reserve Committee	PO Box 63	Beulah	Vic	21/04/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	06/07/2015
TP36-15	New application	145 Kellys Rd	Woomelang	3485	CA32, 33(PT) Parish Cronomby			Subdivision	Price Merrett Consulting	PO Box 1172	Swan Hill	Vic	19/05/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	06/07/2015
TP38-15	New application	919 Echunga Rd	Hopetoun	3396	CA25 Parish Gaalanunqah	25	TP772378B	Subdivision	Price Merrett Consulting	PO Box 1172	Swan Hill	Vic	28/05/2015	In progress	
TP40-15	New application	1158 Patchewollock Tempy Rd	Tempy	3489	CA33, Parish Dering		TP312945L	Stone Extraction	Yarriambiack Shire Council	PO Box 243	Warracknabeal	Vic	09/06/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	14/07/2015
TP41-15	New application	19 Carroll St	Minyip	3392	CA6 Sec 21 Parish Nullan		TP276977T	10 Units	Allandar Homes P/L	173-177 Eley Rd	Blackburn South	Vic	16/06/2015	In progress	
TP42-15	New application	11 Tarrant St	Warracknabeal	3393	CA2G Sec 25		TP607685S	Construction of a Dwelling	JG King Homes	146 Firebrace St	Horsham	Vic	22/06/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	15/07/2015
TP43-15	New application	Rainbow- Rosebery Road	Rainbow			Lot 1	TP217581E	Stone Extraction	Yarriambiack Shire Council	PO Box 243	Warracknabeal	Vic	22/06/2015	In progress	
TP44-15	New application	115 Lascelles St	Hopetoun	3396		Lot 1	TP100683	Erection of Garage	Donald Anderson	115 Lascelles St	Hopetoun	Vic	30/06/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	28/07/2015
TP60-14a	Amended permit a	59a Devereux St	Warracknabeal	3393		Lots 1	TP344418F	Construction of 2 Units	Nates Adams & Assoc	3/16 McLeans Rd	Bundoora	Vic	14/07/2015	Permit issued by the Responsible Authority	28/07/2015
TP45-15	New application	38-40 Dimboola Rd	Warracknabeal	3393		Lot2	PS121449	Re-Erection of Bungalow	Wayne Preston	19 Hewitt St	Warracknabeal	Vic	02/07/2015	In progress	
TP46-15	New application	46 Molyneaux St	Warracknabeal	3393	CA5 Parish Werrigar			Erection of Dwelling & Garage	Hotondo Homes	PO Box 1331	Horsham	Vic	14/07/2015	In progress	
TP47-15	New application	45 Government Rd	Warracknabeal	3393		Lot 5	PS005853	Re-Erection of Dwelling	Wayne Preston	19 Hewitt St	Warracknabeal	Vic	09/07/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	28/07/2015
TP48-15	New application	Sunraysia Highway	Warracknabeal	3393		Lot 1	TP217722N	Installation of Mast	GWMWater	11 McLachlan St	Horsham	Vic	15/07/2015	Permit issued by a delegate of the Responsible Authority	28/07/2015
TP49-15	New application	47 Thomas St	Warracknabeal	3393		Lot 2	PS417275K	Erection of 4 Shipping Containers	Max Pitman	58 Atkinsons Rd	Magpie	Vic	28/07/2015	In progress	
TP50-15	New application	1622 Sunraysia Highway	Lascelles	3487	CA 1 (Pt)	Lot 1	TP841066P	Grain Storage	Patchewollock Pastoral P/L	18 Fishen St	Bacchus Marsh	Vic	28/07/2015	In progress	
TP51-15	New application	34 Bowman St	Warracknabeal	3393		Lot 1	PS094379	Storage Shed	Kyle George	PO Box 403	Warracknabeal	Vic	28/07/2015	In progress	