



Central Highlands Council

MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 20 FEBRUARY 2024

DRAFT - Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Central Highlands Council held in the Council Chamber, Bothwell on Tuesday 20 February 2024, commencing at 9.00am.

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1. OPENING

2. AUDIO RECORDING DISCLAIMER

As per Regulation 33 (2) (a) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, audio recordings of meetings will be made available to Councillors, staff and members of the wider community including Government Agencies at no charge and will be made available on Council's website as soon as practicable after each Council Meeting. Unlike Parliament, Council meetings are not subject to parliamentary privilege, and both Council and the individual may be liable for comments that may be regarded as offensive, derogatory and/or defamatory.

The Mayor advises the meeting and members of the public that Council Meetings, not including Closed Sessions, are audio recorded and published on Council's Website in accordance with Council's Policy 2017-50.

The Mayor also advises, that members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council Meetings without prior approval being granted.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

4. PRESENT

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer attended at 9.03am; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

5. IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Adam Wilson (Acting General Manager); Mrs Katrina Brazendale (Minute Secretary); Jason Branch (Manager Works and Services) and Barry Harback (Works Supervisor) attended the meeting at 9.00am.

6. APOLOGIES

Nil

7. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

8. PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATIONS

In accordance with Regulation 8 (7) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Chairperson requests Councillors to indicate whether they or a close associate have or are likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any Item of the Agenda.

Nil

9. PERCEIVED INTEREST DECLARATIONS

Under the **Model Code of Conduct** made by Order of the Minister responsible for Local Government the following will apply to a Councillor –

PART 2 – Conflict of Interest that are not Pecuniary.

(6) A Councillor who has an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest in a matter before the Council must –

- (a) Declare the conflict of interest and the nature of the interest before discussion on the matter begins; and
- (b) Act in good faith and exercise reasonable judgement to determine whether a reasonable person would consider that the conflict of interest requires the Councillor to remove himself or herself physically from any Council discussion and remain out of the room until the matter is decided by the Council.

Nil

10. CLOSED SESSION OF THE MEETING

Regulation 15 (1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that at a meeting, a council by absolute majority, or a council committee by simple majority, may close a part of the meeting to the public for a reason specified in sub-regulation (2).

As per *Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, this motion requires an absolute majority.

RESOLUTION: 01/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr Y Miller

THAT pursuant to *Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, Council, by absolute majority, close the meeting to the public to consider the following matters in Closed Session:

Item Number	Matter	Outcome
1	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 January 2024.</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2)(G) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to Council on the condition it is kept confidential.</i>
2	<i>Deputations</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2) (C) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – Commercial information of a confidential nature.</i>
3.1	<i>Purchase of Land at 381 Marlborough Road, Bronte Park (SP 183647-1)</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2) (F) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - proposals for the council to acquire land or an interest in land or for the disposal of land.</i>
4	<i>Supplementary Agenda Items</i>	<i>Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.</i>
5	<i>Consideration of Matters for Disclosure to the Public.</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (8) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - While in a closed meeting, the Council, or Council Committee, is to consider whether any discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to that closed meeting are to be kept confidential or released to the public, taking into account privacy and confidentiality issues.</i>

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

MEETING CLOSED to the public at 9.08 am.

11. MOTION OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**RESOLUTION 04/01.2024/CC****Moved:** Cr J Honner**Seconded:** Cr R Cassidy***THAT*** the Council:

- (1) *Having met and dealt with its business formally move out of the Closed Session; and*
- (2) *Resolved to report that it has determined the following:*

Item Number	Matter	Outcome
1	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 January 2024.</i>	<i>THAT</i> the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 January 2024 be confirmed.
2	<i>Deputations</i>	<i>THAT</i> Council discussed the matter.
3.1	<i>Purchase of Land at Lot 1 381 Marlborough Road, Bronte Park (SP183647-1)</i>	<i>THAT</i> Council discussed the matter.
4	<i>Supplementary Agenda Item/s</i>	<i>Nil</i>

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cr A Bailey, Cr R Cassidy, Cr J Honner, Cr J Hall, Cr Y Miller, Cr D Meacheam and Cr A Archer.

12. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The meeting re-opened to the public at 10.16 am. The Mayor again advises, to the meeting and members of the public that Council Meetings, not including Closed Sessions, are audio recorded and published on Council's Website.

Members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council Meetings without prior approval being granted.

13. DEPUTATIONS

Presentation by Haulage Road, Breona Ratepayers

7 members attended in the gallery for the discussion on Haulage Road, Breona

Mayor Loueen Triffitt thanked them all for sharing their thoughts and coming along to today's meeting.

The presentation concluded at 11.07 a.m. and Cr A Bailey left the meeting at 11.07 a.m.

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council conducts a Public Question Time Forum to enable members of the public to ask question on Council related matters.

A period of 15 minutes, if required, will be set aside at the beginning of each Ordinary Council Meeting to conduct Public Question Time. If a response to a question cannot be provided at the meeting a written response will be provided as soon as practicable.

A member of the public may give written notice to the General Manager, 7 days before a meeting of a question to be put to the Meeting.

The Chairman may invite any member of the public present at a meeting to ask questions, without notice, relating to activities of the Council, subject to the provisions of Clause 2 below.

1. Once Question Time commences the Chairman will determine the order in which questions are heard.
2. Questions may relate to any business of the Council capable of being discussed in the open portion of the meeting, and which is not listed as an item for consideration on the Agenda for the Council Meeting.
3. Members of the public proposing a question are required to be present at the Council Meeting at which their question is to be read. Where a person submits a question for Public Question Time but fails to attend the meeting, the question will be treated as general correspondence and a written response will be provided at the earliest opportunity.
4. A person asking a question, when called upon by the Chairman is requested to:
 - Stand,
 - State their name and address,
 - Read out their question.
5. The Chairman retains the right to accept or decline questions and to determine if the question is to be answered at the meeting by the appropriate Councillor or employee or written down and taken on notice. The decision to take the question on notice may also be taken by the Councillor or employee to whom the question is directed. Questions taken on notice will be answered at a later meeting.
6. The Chairman may rule a question inappropriate, and thus inadmissible if in his or her opinion it has already been asked, is unclear, irrelevant, insulting, improper or relates to any matter which would normally be discussed in the closed portion of the meeting as defined in the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.
7. Public Question Time forum will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes in duration and will be declared closed following the expiration of the allocated time period, or where all valid questions have been dealt with, whichever is the sooner.
8. Each question is to be asked by the proponent who will be allowed a maximum of three minutes in which to put the question.
9. The Chairman will **not allow** any discussion or debate on either the question or the response.
10. Where a person proposes more than one question at any one forum, and there are a number of persons wishing to lodge questions, the Chairman may take the questions in such order so as to hear as many members of the public as practical during the time allocated.
11. The minutes of the Council Meeting will contain a summary of each question asked by members of the public and the response given.

12. Public Statements (as opposed to questions) **will not** be accepted for the reason that statements could be considered a form of participation.

Pertaining to any Planning Authority agenda item within this agenda, Council will do so in accordance with Council's Policy 2017-49.

Both the Public Question Time Procedure above and Council's Policy 2017-49 'Public Comment on Planning Agenda Items' will be available for the public to view at the meeting.

Nil

15. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Under Regulation 16 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* relating to Motions on Notice. It states the following:

- (5) *A Councillor may give to the general manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, give written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of that meeting. general manager of a question in respect of which the councillor seeks an answer at that meeting.*
-

Graham Rogers Development and Environmental Services Manager attended the meeting at 11.11am.

Cr A Bailey returned to the meeting at 11.12am.

15.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR D MEACHEAM

A Notice of Motion has been received from **Cr D Meacheam** on **2 December 2023**, for inclusion on this Agenda and provides the following supporting information and reasons for this motion: -

A number of Bronte residents have approached me, expressing grave concern at the number of dogs wandering in the Bronte Park settlement, creating a major nuisance. I acknowledge that enforcement of any dog control measure in this community could be problematic, being remote from Hamilton and Bothwell, but the signage alone will prompt some residents to exercise better control of their dogs.

Zoning Bronte Park as a dog control area will bring the settlement into line with the same zoning in Miena.

This Notice of Motion was previously tabled at the January Council Meeting; however, Cr Meacheam was unable to attend and therefore, this item was deferred to the February Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION: 02/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr D Meacheam

Seconded: Cr R Cassidy

THAT the Bronte Village be subject to the following dog control measure, with appropriate signage: "Restricted area. Dogs must be on a leash".

CARRIED 5/4

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Against the Motion

Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey and Cr J Hall

Cr D Meacheam left the meeting at 11.25am.

15.2 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR R CASSIDY

A Notice of Motion has been received from **Cr R Cassidy** on **9 February 2024**, for inclusion on this Agenda and provides the following supporting information and reasons for this motion: -

Request Mayor Lou Triffitt and Acting General Manager, Adam Wilson write, expeditiously, to the federal and state ministers regarding telephone and telecommunications blackspots, throughout the Central Highlands, as I firmly believe this is a serious public safety and national security issue.

If either a farmer or farm worker in a remote location on a Central Highlands property has been seriously injured from a tractor or ATV rollover or bitten by a venomous snake or wanted to alert one another about a bush fire heading in their direction, how can they communicate those threats to their safety or life or even call for an ambulance or rescue helicopter? If a bushwalker, fisherman, or tourist were in a situation threatening their life how could anyone raise the alarm? We need to know what progress these honourable ministers have made toward reducing the telecommunications blackspots throughout the Central Highlands. We need to know the status of any upgrades or proposed telecommunications infrastructure to be constructed in the Central Highlands. We need to know what grants are available or that we can expect to fund construction of the necessary telecommunications infrastructure. Also, it should be affirmed this necessary infrastructure would enhance national security, as well. The contact addresses are below:

Minister of Communications, the Honourable Michelle Rowland,
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600
Telephone: (02) 6277 7480
Email address: Michelle.Rowland.MP@aph.gov.au

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
The Honourable Catherine King
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6277 7520 Email: Minister.King@mo.infrastructure.gov.au

The Honourable Minister Michael Ferguson Minister for Infrastructure and Transport and Planning
PO Box 537
Launceston, TAS 7250
Telephone: (03) 6165 7701 Email: michael.ferguson@parliament.tas.gov.au

BACKGROUND

Recently, a farmer had called me and his mobile phone, whilst I was at home. My house is not more than 750m to the telecommunications tower. His mobile phone kept cutting out, whilst he was out on his property managing his business. He told me that his employees had been unable to call him or his manager . . . the previous day. If anyone of them had been seriously injured from a tractor or ATV rollover or bitten by a venomous snake or wanted to alert one another about a bush fire heading in their direction, how could they communicate those threats to their safety or life or even call for an ambulance or rescue helicopter? We owe it to our ratepayers and residents to provide for their health and wellbeing, as identified by the Future of Local Government Review. Below are excerpts from the Final Report- "Tasmanians need a capable and effective local government sector to support their wellbeing. We believe the future role of local government is to support and improve the wellbeing of Tasmanian communities by: providing infrastructure . . . The local government sector needs to be able to effectively partner with the Australian and Tasmanian Governments on wellbeing. We know effective and capable councils are a key enabler of community prosperity and wellbeing."

RESOLUTION: 03/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr R Cassidy**Seconded:** Cr J Hall

THAT Mayor Lou Triffitt and Acting General Manager, Adam Wilson write, expeditiously, to the federal and state ministers regarding telephone and telecommunications blackspots, throughout the Central Highlands, as I firmly believe this is a serious public safety and national security issue.

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner and Cr Y Miller.

16. COMMITMENTS**16.1 MAYORAL COMMITMENTS****11 January 2024 to 14 February 2023**

16 January 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
17 January 2024	ABC Radio Interview
18 January 2024	Tele-meeting x 3
20 January 2024	Westerway Hall Community Event, Meeting with Community members x 4
8 February 2024	Meeting with General Manager and Quartz Consulting
10 February 2024	CWA Show Opening
13 February 2024	Workshop (Bothwell)

- Business of Council **x 17**
- Ratepayer and community members - communications **x 15**
- Elected Members - communications **x 28**

NOTED**16.2 COUNCILLOR COMMITMENTS*****Deputy Mayor J Allwright***

16 January 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
26 January 2024	Australia Day Ceremony (Bothwell)
13 February 2024	Workshop (Bothwell)

Cr A Archer

16 January 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
13 February 2024	Workshop (Bothwell)

Cr A Bailey

16 January 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
26 January 2024	Australia Day Ceremony (Bothwell)
5 February 2024	Audit Panel Meeting
13 February 2024	Workshop (Bothwell)

Cr R Cassidy

16 January 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
26 January 2024	Australia Day Ceremony (Bothwell)
13 February 2024	Workshop (Bothwell)

Cr J Hall

16 January 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
 26 January 2024 Australia Day Ceremony (Bothwell)

Cr J Honner

16 January 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
 26 January 2024 Australia Day Ceremony (Bothwell)
 13 February 2024 Workshop (Bothwell)

Cr D Meacheam

5 February 2024 Audit Panel Meeting
 13 February 2024 Workshop (Bothwell)

Cr Y Miller

16 January 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting (Hamilton)
 26 January 2024 Australia Day Ceremony (Bothwell)
 13 February 2024 Workshop (Bothwell)

Health Action Team - Central Highlands (HATCH) REPORT – by Cr Yvonne Miller

There was a meeting held on Feb 1st at the Ouse School. Tracy confirmed that the Council was waiting on the batteries for the Defibrillator at Ellendale. Catherine Watson had received 3 quotes from St John's, Red Cross and The Morton Group to conduct First Aid Courses in 2024.

The Chairperson, Pamela reported to the group that Steven Shubert from the ABC, was wanting to conduct a report on Rural Health, including the Central Highlands. He was interested in talking to community members with Mayor Triffitt maybe an obvious choice among other residents.

Located in Alice Springs Mr Shubert is a National Rural Reporter.

Special Guests:

We were lucky to have Ellie O'Brien and Kirsty Bartlett Clark from Corumbene as guest speakers. They put forward an idea of a pop-up information centre combined with HATCH and Community Health Centre. The idea is designed to give locals knowledge about Corumbene and the services they can be offered.

The other subject was how to reach our male population. There was several ideas and a lot of discussion around this subject. We thank them for their time.

Wendy Holdsworth from Westerway School is our Education Dept Representative. What she had to report was very informative and disturbing. There are children in our community who cannot get professional health care such as paediatricians and physiologists for months, if not years. This means that early intervention is not happening.

HATCH is one service which may be able to help.

Paul from Ouse Table Tennis is happy to attend Westerway School to engage in the children. Giving them something to do outside school.

Tracy is still in talks with Neighbour House Tasmania in making Ash Cottage into a satellite neighbour house through Community House New Norfolk.

The Recreation Ground at Ouse is coming along with Stage 1 completed including cement slab and basketball hoop.

There was money raised by two community members for a basketball court to be erected in Hamilton. I would like the Council to write to these people and ask where the money is and how far away are they from having enough to complete the half court.

A question was asked concerning the Ouse Hall and when it will be ready to be used. The next meeting will be held on 21st March.

NOTED**16.3 GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMITMENTS**

Date	With Whom	Subject / Comment
16 Jan 2024	Council and Management Members	Council Meeting
19 Jan 2024	Hydro Tasmania and Planner	Tarraleah Redevelopment
22 Jan 2024	Simmons Wolfhagen	Various Legal Matters
23 Jan 2024	Senior Management Team	Monthly Meeting
24 Jan 2024	Management Members, Union and Staff Representatives	Enterprise Agreement Meeting
24 Jan 2024	Martin Farley (Creating Preferred Futures)	Future of Local Government Review final report submission preparation
25 Jan 2024	Spirit Super	Services provide to Staff Members
26 Jan 2024	Councillors & Community	Australia Day Awards
30 Jan 2024	Management Members, Graham Green & Katrina Graham (STCA)	Southern Councils Climate Collaboration – Risk Management Workshop
1 Feb 2024	Southern Tasmanian General Managers/CEOs, LGAT and Local Government Board	Future of Local Government Review final report sector submission workshop
5 Feb 2024	Council and Management Members with Audit Panel Chair	Audit Panel Meeting
6 Feb 2024	Senior Management Team	Monthly Meeting
7 Feb 2024	Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) members (STCA)	Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) meeting
8 Feb 2024	Quartz Consulting & Mayor	GM Performance Review 2024
12-16 Feb 2024	Annual Leave	

NOTED

Cr D Meacheam returned to the meeting at 11.27 am.

16.4 DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER COMMITMENTS

Date	With Whom	Subject / Comment
23 Jan 2024	General Manager and Management Members	Staff Management Team (SMT) Meeting
24 Jan 2024	General Manager, Management Members, Union and Rep's	Enterprise Agreement Meeting
24 Jan 2024	LGAT Rep and Deputy General Manager	Meeting with LGAT regarding discussion on best practical child safe standards support for rural councils
25 Jan 2024	Spirit Super Rep, General Manager and Deputy General Manager	Super meeting - Spirit Super
30 Jan 2024	Management Members and Staff Members	Enterprise Agreement Staff Meeting 2023
30 Jan 2024	General Manager, Management Members and Southern Regional Climate Change Project Rep's	Climate change risk workshop
13 Feb 2024	Council and Management Members	Council Workshop

NOTED

17. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD

A Council Workshop was held on **13 February 2024**. The following items were discussed –

- Town Structure Plans Project – briefing update
 - St Patricks Plains Wind Farm – DA progress update
 - Haulage Road briefing by Staff
 - Future of Local Government Review – Final Report submission
-

18. FUTURE WORKSHOPS

The proposed next Council Workshop will be held on the following date/s –

- 12 March 2024
-

19. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

20. MINUTES

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF DRAFT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 16 JANUARY 2024

RESOLUTION: 04/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr J Hall

THAT the Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16 January 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

20.2 RECEIVAL OF DRAFT AUDIT PANEL MEETING MINUTES – 5 FEBRUARY 2024

RESOLUTION: 05/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr A Bailey

Seconded: Cr D Meacheam

THAT the Draft Minutes of the Audit Panel Meeting held on Monday 5 February 2024 be received and the following recommendations be endorsed by Council –

1. The Risk Management Register be updated with the Audit Findings on Financial Reporting Risks and the Climate Risk Assessment table be included into the Register.
2. Council's Caravan Bylaw 1 of 2014 which is due to expire on 16 July 2024, be addressed as soon as possible.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

21. BUSINESS ARISING – JANUARY 2024 COUNCIL MEETING

Business Arising - actions undertaken.

15.1	NOTICE OF MOTION – CR R CASSIDY	For Future Consideration
15.2	NOTICE OF MOTION – CR R CASSIDY	Actioned
15.3	NOTICE OF MOTION – CR D MEACHEAM	Deferred to the February Council Meeting
23.1	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION (DA 2023/63) FOR SUBDIVISION (2 LOTS & BALANCE LOT) AT LOT 2 ELLENDALE ROAD, ELLENDALE OWNED BY T CLARK & S GATENBY-CLARK	Approved and actioned
27.2	COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION – THE TASMANIAN HIGHLANDS GATHERING 2024	Actioned and \$1,000 approved
27.3	REQUEST FOR REMISSION OF HALL HIRE FEES 2024 – BOTHWELL WELLNESS GROUP	Actioned and approved
24.4	REQUEST FOR FUNDING – HIGHLANDS HEALTHY CONNECT PROJECT STAGE 2	Approved \$10,000 for 2023/24 budget and another \$10,000 for 2024/25 Budget
27.5	OPEN SPACES GRANT DEED – WAYATINAH COMMUNITY 'GET TOGETHER' MEETING, PICNIC, FAMILY AREA	Authorised and \$84,000 contribution approved for 2024/25 Budget
27.6	EMPLOYMENT AND RECRUITMENT POLICY	Approved and actioned
27.7	TASMANIAN AUTUMN FESTIVAL – SPONSORSHIP	Actioned and \$1,000 approved
27.8	MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS – FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL / DISCUSSION PAPER	Actioned
27.9	COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PLANNING COMMITTEE AND TASWATER OWNER REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2023/24	Actioned

NOTED

22. DERWENT CATCHMENT PROJECT



General business

Clyde River

The Australian Government's Disaster Ready Fund Round 2 applications are open, and we are working with Council to submit an application by early March for willow removal and revegetation on the Clyde River. The grant does not require cash, we can apply using the in kind \$ that Council has spent on flood mitigation and risk management (i.e. stormwater upgrades, roadworks, bridges and any other flood related infrastructure or planning). We can ask for double what Council has spent, so for example if we calculated \$250,000 of money spent by Council, we can ask for \$500,000 for the willow project. This is an excellent opportunity to work on Croakers and the Bothwell township and potentially beyond, depending on what we can ask for. We will keep Council informed of progress.

Central Highlands Weeds Program

Strategic Actions 4.4 Continue the program of weed reduction in the Central Highlands, and 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.

The roadside weed management program is underway on Pelham Road, Victoria Valley Road, Bashan Road, Hollow Tree Road, and 1000-acre Lane. The crews have reported that there has been great success from last year and we are expanding our reach this year. Ellendale, Ouse and Hamilton have all received maintenance spraying on behalf of Council.

Stuart Rose (Restoration Manager) has met with a range of community members to discuss weed management within the Central Highlands and helped them with treatment advice whilst connecting them with larger weed management programs.

Orange Hawkweed: Weed Action Fund

The Orange hawkweed (OHW) program is in its final days of survey and whilst there has been a reduction in density there is still a large amount at most sites. As such, Morgan has had regular meetings with Sustainable Timbers Tas.,

TasNetworks, Hydro and Entura to discuss OHW management on a catchment scale and in detail at Butlers Gorge. Every effort is being made to make sure OHW does not get spread from the works being carried out at Butlers Gorge. Further discussions are being had with Biosecurity Tas and our interstate counterparts to discuss the complexities of Tasmania's OHW sites and possible management actions.

Agriculture

Strategic Actions 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.

Farming Forecaster extension – funded by NRM South

Monitoring of Farming Forecaster sites in the Derwent Valley has continued to provide a linkage between observed pasture growth activity, species composition, plant phenology and bare ground with the soil moisture status recorded by the site probes. Green perennial grass activity was recently recorded at all sites. One site has additionally provided an opportunity to compare net pasture growth observations with predicted growth generated by the Grassgro model used in the forecaster component of these sites. This will provide some useful local insight into the performance of the Farming Forecaster tool's growth model.

Derwent Pasture Network - funded by the Derwent Catchment Project

Fertiliser test strip harvests have been processed and comparisons developed between responses in 2023 and 2022. Pasture yield was reduced by approximately half in 2023, though there is some evidence to suggest this reduction was less where nutrient status was improved. Our species persistence trial sites are showing species and cultivar differences in growth response since Christmas, with some strong cocksfoot response and slower phalaris responses being observed. It's clear in these three-year-old trials, that perennial ground cover is increasing at each site, and that well adapted cocksfoots are key to this. The long game, however, is persistence over the next decade and more.

Containment Project – funded by NRM South (Farming Forecaster) and the Tas Farm Innovation Hub

With a dryer than usual winter in farming areas, drought and lack of feed for animals became a priority for our containment program. We were able to deliver two workshops on containment feeding in December to improve grower awareness and confidence of this important drought strategy. The first workshop at Ross was attended by 15 producers and the second at Bothwell had 25 farmers, a number of their staff and service industry professionals. Feedback from the days was very positive and we are following up now with containment feeding plans tailored to individual producers.

We are contributing to another drought management project by piloting a drought resilience assessment in partnership with Rural Business Tasmania. We are currently finalising recommendations for the next stages of the project. The assessment questions we piloted showed that whilst many producers have good drought strategies, there is always some area for improvement. We hope that in time this project will deliver a much more resilient farming community when the climate is less favorable.

Restoration and Conservation

Strategic Actions: 4.1 Continue to fund and support the Derwent Catchment Project and 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.



Tyenna River Recovery – Willow Warriors – supported by IFS, SFM, DV council and Tassal

DCP held its first 'Willow Warriors' working bee for 2024 following up on the efforts of a landholder who had been managing willows along their most downstream stretch of the Tyenna River. The landholder is now enthused to undertake further control after support on the main infestation by the Willow Warriors and DCP.

Platypus Walk

The ground crew have continued to keep up the maintenance at Platypus Walk. This month they treated Californian thistle along the walk and in the adjunct pathways. Californian thistle is a nasty weed and difficult to treat, there has been lots of it popping up this season.

Nursery update

Everything is ticking over nicely at the nursery. Pricking out has finished for the season with good numbers for most species. Seed collecting is well under way and this year Karen has collected a few different species such as leatherwood and mountain pepper, due to special requests from community.

Grant applications

Cattle Hill Community Fund – 4WD truck application – pending

We have submitted an application that requests funding for a 4WD truck to support improved weed management and restoration work, particularly managing green willow debris.

FRRR – Strengthening Rural Communities - \$10 k – pending

This application is seeking funds to install conference IT capabilities and an internet upgrade at the Hamilton Resource Centre.

Please don't hesitate to call us if you have any queries about our programs.

Yours Sincerely,

The Derwent Catchment Team

Key Contacts:

Josie Kelman (Co Executive Officer) 0427 044 700

Eve Lazarus (Co Executive Officer) 0429 170 048

Morgan McPherson (Works Manager) 0418 667 426

Stuart Rose (Restoration Manager)

Karen Phillips (Nursery Manager) 0400 039 303

RESOLUTION: 06/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr Y Miller

THAT the Derwent Catchment Project Report for January 2024 be received.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

23. COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY

No Planning items tabled.

24. ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING RESUMED

N/A

25. DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

25.1 STATE PLANNING PROVISIONS DRAFT AMENDMENT 01-2024

The Minister for Planning has advised that during the scoping process undertaken for the State Planning Provision's (SPPs) review in 2022 several potential amendments to address operation matters and to clarify and improve requirements in the SPPs were identified.

One matters identified was the need for amendments to correct errors and clarify the exemptions in the Coastal Erosion, Coastal Inundation, and Landslip Hazard Codes. The amendments seek to clarify the following:

- Interface between the codes and the *Building Act 2016*;
- Application of the Landslip Hazard Code to "significant works"; and
- Operation of the exemptions in the Landslip Hazard Code for the medium, medium-active, and high hazards bands.

Draft Amendment 01-2024 of the SPPs has been prepared and comments are being sought by Friday 1st March 2024. A copy of the letter received from the Minister and supporting documents has been included in the attachments.

NOTED

25.2 TOWNSHIPS STRUCTURE PLANNING PROJECT – PROGRESS UPDATE

Report by

Council Planning Consultant (SMC) Damian Mackey

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise of the progress of the project to develop 'Structure Plans' for the townships of Bothwell, Ouse & Hamilton.

Background

Feedback received the public notification of the Central Highlands Draft Local Provisions Schedule brought into focus the need to undertake strategic land use planning exercises for the townships of Bothwell, Hamilton and Ouse. It has been many years since the future of these towns were considered in an holistic, forward-looking process.

Furthermore, the State Government has commenced its review of the three Regional Land Use Strategies, which are now twelve years old. This is being done through the State Planning Office and the three regional groupings of Councils. Structure planning for our towns is timely in that relevant outcomes will be able to feed into the review of the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy.

Finally, it is noted that proposed zone changes and other planning scheme amendments have a greater chance of success through the Tasmanian Planning Commission if they are supported by holistic strategic planning. In other words: 'structure plans'.

In response to these needs, Council appointed a 'Project Steering Group' in November 2022, through which a Project Plan and a Project Brief were developed.

A call for Expressions of Interest from suitable consultants was advertised in mid 2023. After an assessment and interview process, the project was awarded Niche Studio, who has partnered with Entura and Urban Enterprise for this project.

A Project Inception Meeting was held with the consultants on 23 October 2023 and initial public awareness work was undertaken in the lead up to the end of the year, including information at Council's stall at BushFest and on Council's website.

PROJECT UPDATE – BACKGROUND REPORT

The consultants have completed the draft background report, which was considered by the Project Steering

Group on 13 February. Feedback provide back to the consultants included the following:

- Tweak economic sections of background report to qualify 'economic contribution' numbers, highlighting that Central Highlands brings additional value to the State economy through generation of renewable energy and export of agricultural products, and highlighting agriculture as an asset to the local economy.
- Tweak wording of the report around demographics to discuss 'equivalent population' and the need for services in place for non-resident and visitor numbers, as these can have a significant effect on service availability and needs.
- Updates required to the plans prior to broader community consultation – as discussed at the Project Steering Group meeting.

PROJECT UPDATE – SCHEDULING OF COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

At the Project Steering Group, the dates, times and locations of the Community Workshops were set as follows:

Bothwell:

Tuesday 12th March.
Bothwell Hall
 5:30pm (tea/coffee) for a **6:00pm start.**

Ouse:

Wednesday 13th March.
Ouse Golf Club
 5:30pm (tea/coffee) for a **6:00pm start.**

Hamilton:

Thursday 14th March
Hamilton Hall
 5:30pm (tea/coffee) for a **6:00pm start.**

All members of the community who are interested in the future of these towns are to be encouraged to attend. They should contact Council's Bothwell office to register their interest:

Phone: [\(03\) 6259 5503](tel:0362595503)
 Email: development@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au

Council will collate the list of interested community members and organisations.

Niche, in collaboration with Council, will prepare informational material to advertise the workshops.

Niche will also conduct 'intercept surveys' at various locations around the municipality during the week that the community workshops are held. Times and locations are to be determined in consultation with Council officers.

RESOLUTION: 07/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr Y Miller

Seconded: Cr J Honner

THAT the progress update on the Central Highlands Townships Structure Planning Project be received.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

25.3 DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (DES) REPORT

Reports By

Graham Rogers, Manager DES

PLANNING PERMITS ISSUED UNDER DELEGATION

The following planning permits have been issued under delegation during the past month.

NO PERMIT REQUIRED

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2023 / 69	Bison Construction	Dawson Road, Ouse	Outbuilding
2024 / 02	Pla Designs	20 Wallace Road, Doctors Point	Dwelling Addition and Outbuilding
2024 / 04	R L Sonners	Pelham Road, Pelham	Shed- Farm Machinery Storage

PERMITTED

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2024 / 01	D Lindahl	7619 Lyell Highway, Ouse	Dwelling Alterations

DISCRETIONARY

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2023 / 67	D J & M A Roles	2 Reynolds Neck Road, Reynolds Neck	Outbuilding

ANIMAL CONTROL

Total Number of Dogs Registered in 2022/2023 Financial Year – 968

Total Number of Kennel Licences Issued for 2022/2023 Financial Year – 29

2023/2024 Dog Registration & Kennel Licence Renewals have been issued and were due by 31 July 2023.

2023/2024 Statistics as of 14 February 2024	
Number of Dogs Impounded during last month	0
Number of Dogs Currently Registered	968
Number of Dogs Pending Re-Registration	11
Number of Kennel Licences Issued	35
Number of Kennel Licences Pending	1

RESOLUTION: 08/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr A Bailey

THAT the Development & Environmental monthly report for February 2024 be received.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Graham Rogers Development and Environmental Services Manager left the meeting at 11.32am.

26. WORKS & SERVICES

26.1 HAULAGE ROAD, BREONA

Report By

Jason Branch, Works & Services Manager

Background

The Haulage Road (also locally known as Haulage Hill Road) was constructed by Council as part of works associated with the Central Highlands Shack Sites Project which involved the conversion of many Crown Land leases to freehold title. Central Highlands Council was contracted by the then Department of Primary Industries Water and Environment to upgrade existing roads and tracks which serviced these properties to a standard to rural road suitable for residential traffic.

I think that the completion of the road upgrade works was around April/May 2008 and since then Haulage Road has been used for a short cut by heavy vehicles and other general traffic which otherwise have used the Highland Lakes Road. These vehicles are presumably using Haulage Road as it removes two particularly tight hairpin bends from the trip up and down Haulage on the Highland Lakes Road.

The road is predominantly a residential street servicing the small 20 shack sites located along it and two short cul-de-sacs. As there are no formed footpaths within the shack site the roadways are also used by pedestrians and children playing.

The road has a narrow-formed carriageway width which is generally 5m making it difficult for two larger vehicles to pass.

Some properties located along the road are located extremely close to the edge of the road <5m. Having large vehicles and a high volume of small traffic passing this close to houses may have impact on structural damage from vibrations and cause major dust problems in the warmer months.

The same concerns have been raised many times with Council from the residents of Haulage since probably the completion of the upgrade works in 2008 and maybe even longer.

The Council did seek engineering advice and gained traffic count data at some stage and solutions that came from this were to go through the appropriate channels and apply a load limit to stop larger vehicles using the road to improve safety. This was done and a 5-ton load limit was installed. The council overtime has also installed pictorial pedestrian signs, slow down signs, and local resident only signs.

The Council did discuss closing one end of Haulage Road with a boom gate and giving all residents and emergency services a key. There has been some debate over closing one end for some time now. One thought is that because of the nasty hairpin corners on the Highland Lakes Road this makes a great alternative for all traffic if there is a crash especially in the snow at these two corners so that Haulage should be left open.

Council also engaged at that time DIER and meet with them onsite for their thoughts on closing the road their advice was to leave Haulage open and put in some other measures at first, like signs and a load limit to see if these prevent motorists from using Haulage as a shortcut. The Council did undertake this.

In recent years Highland Lakes Road has been sealed all the way through to Deloraine and the traffic volume has considerably increased, and residents believe more and more motorists are using Haulage Road as a short cut and to avoid the hairpin corners on the Highland Lakes Road.

Residents have spoken about how on many occasions many vehicles get stuck or run off the road going up Haulage Road in the snow and block the road for lengthy periods of time, one suggestion in the residents most recent letter to Council is that the Haulage Road become one way from the top to the bottom and this could definitely ease vehicles running of the road in winter and less traffic.

Traffic Count Data Evidence

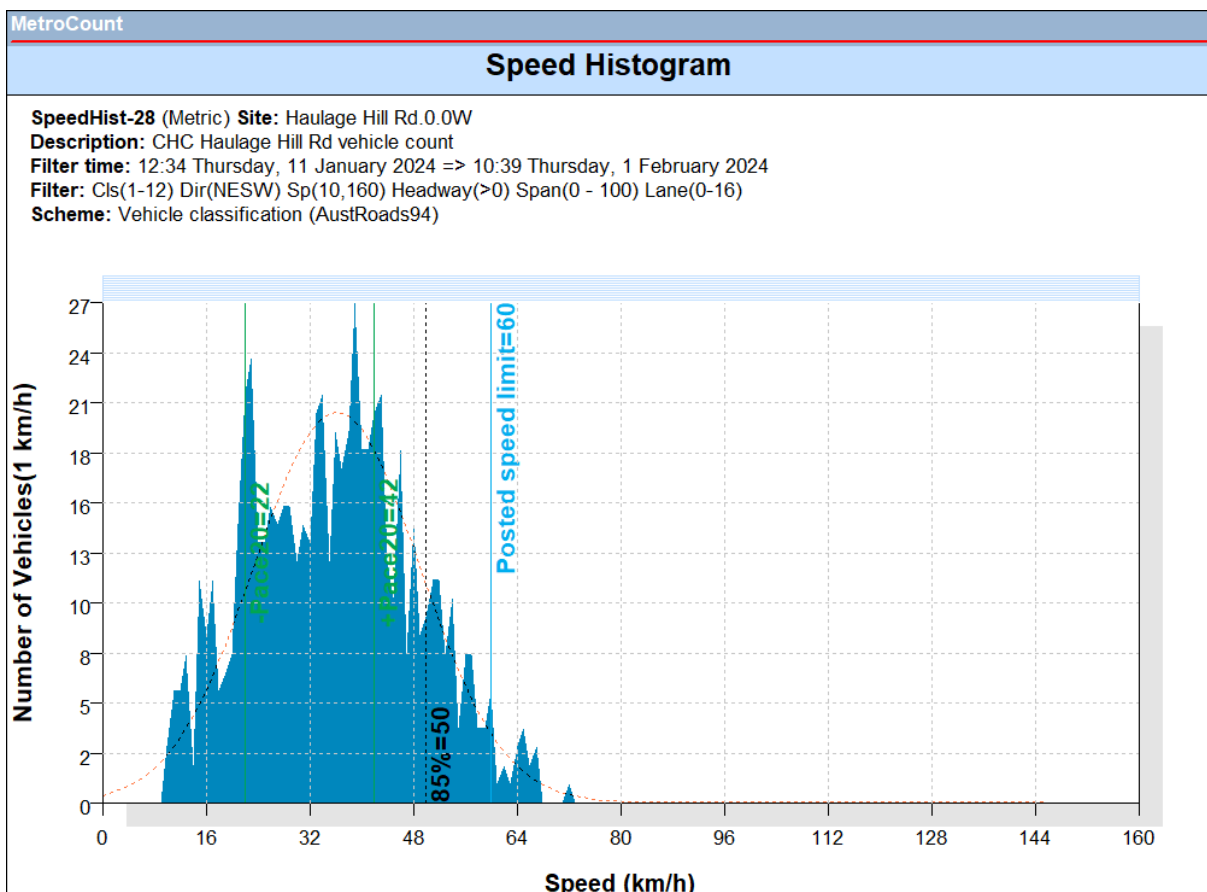
Council staff installed a traffic counter on Haulage Road from 11/01/2024 to the 01/02/2024 which was in total 22 days.

The findings are as follows:

- The average daily vehicle movements are **32.3**, with notably higher travel on Fridays. This is split into daily averages of: Mon 29.3, Tue 27.3, Wed 26.7, Thu 37.3, Fri 43.3, Sat 30.7, Sun 31.7.
- There is a higher proportion of vehicle flow travelling **south-east**, with an overall average percentage of **60%** vehicle movements in that direction.
- The highest number of vehicle movements recorded for a single hour was **11** on Sat 20th Jan (Weekly report).
- The period of highest travel was typically between 11-12, with an average of **4.2** vehicle movements each day.
- While vehicle class information was recorded, this is not reliable due to potential issues with the tubes. The count data is still accurate.

In terms of speed, 74% of vehicles are travelling between 20-50, and 96.6% are between 10-60. There's about 38.58% over **40km/h**.

Please also see below the individual report for Haulage Road on each vehicle and the speed statistics and speed Histogram.





Haulage Road, Breona

RESOLUTION: 09/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cr A Bailey

THAT Council:-

1. *Write to the Department of State Growth in relation of the entrances to Haulage Road from Highlands Lake Road to reduce the speed on approaches.*
2. *Write to the Tasmanian Police in relation to speeding traffic at Haulage Road.*
3. *Write to Stornoway on the possibility of grading snow from Haulage Road when snow clearing the Highlands Lake Road at a cost to Council.*
4. *Write to the TT-Line Company to provide information that in winter the Highlands Lake Road over Great Lake will possibly be the shortest route to weather conditions.*
5. *Provide a donation of \$300 towards the costs of winter first aid supplies*

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

26.2 SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION REQUESTS – PATRICK STREET, BOTHWELL

Report By

Jason Branch, Works & Services Manager

Background

In recent weeks Council have received four letters, relating to the speed limit along Patrick Street/Highlands Lake Road. All letters have the same concern that the speed limit through Bothwell should be lowered from 60km/h to 50km/h.

The Highlands Lake Road is a state-owned road, and the Department of State Growth is the road manager. The current speed limit is 60km/h zone through Bothwell for approximately 1.9km.

This would all depend on the approval of the Transport Commissioner, here may be merit for a 50km/h shopping zone through the central section of Bothwell. Say 600meters long between the western end of the existing part-time school zone, just west of Michael Street, and the western side of Dalrymple Street, unsure if the full 1.9km will have such merit this is not for Council to decide.

If Council are in favor of a proposed request of a speed limit change through Bothwell, then Council will need to write to the General Manager of State Roads, saying why Council believe a lower limit would be appropriate and then it would be up to State Roads to make an application for approval from the Transport Commissioner.

RESOLUTION: 10/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cr J Hall

***THAT** Council write to the Dept of State Growth seeking the speed limit reduction from the current 60 to 50 through Patrick Street, Bothwell.*

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Cr A Bailey left the meeting at 11.53 am and returned at 11.56am.

RESOLUTION: 11/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr Y Miller

Seconded: Cr J Honner

***THAT** Council write to the Dept of State Growth for a warning sign for the blind intersection on Lyell Highway / Hollow Tree Road, Hamilton Intersection.*

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

RESOLUTION: 12/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr Y Miller

Seconded: Cr R Cassidy

***THAT** Council write to the Dept of State Growth regarding the blind intersection on Lyell Highway / Thousand Acre Lane, Hamilton.*

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Cr A Archer left the meeting at 12.03 pm.

26.3 2075 VICTORIA VALLEY ROAD, OSTERLEY – IMPACTS OF ROAD DUST

Report By

Jason Branch, Works & Services Manager

Background

A request has been put to Council, for some sealing to be constructed outside of 2075 Victoria Valley Road, Osterley because of increased dust from increased vehicle movements.

The residents in their letter have raised concerns of the dust from increased traffic movements over the years especially log trucks particularly as they both suffer from server asthma as well as contaminated drinking water supplies and noise and noise.

The following was raised within their letter to Council -

1. *The road was sealed in Osterley a few years ago and their house is 3 times closer to the road than the closest house at Osterley.*

Council did construct the seal at Osterley around 10 years ago, 4 properties are situated here.

2. *The property at the northern end of Waddamana Road (Wihareja) that had a sealed road in front of the property was diverted altogether.*

This is correct and this was diverted at the landowner's own expense.

3. *The seal outside Cloverdale on the Victoria Valley Road was resurfaced recently.*

Yes, this section was resurfaced recently. Council still must maintain all existing assets and we believe that this was first sealed back in the Hamilton Council time (pre-1993).

The residents have previously written to Council in relation to dust problems back in 2014 and the motion was passed at that time -

16.3 SEALING OF 2075 VICTORIA VALLEY ROAD

Moved *Clr A J Downie*

Seconded *Clr I V McMichael*

THAT Council write to the applicants stating that Council are not in a position to seal the road and include a copy of the Dust Policy.

Carried

For the motion: Mayor D E Flint, Deputy Mayor A J Downie, Clr A W Bailey, Clr R J Bowden, Clr T H Jacka, Clr I V McMichael, Clr D C McMillan, Clr L M Triffitt.

Within Council's Alleviation of Dust Nuisance – Roadworks Policy 2014-21 it states the following considerations:

- Council shall consider the number of residents affected by the situation.
- Before a decision is made a vehicle usage assessment should be undertaken.
- Council shall seek a contribution from the property owners and where they are prepared to contribute to the proposed work (dollar for dollar basis) Council shall give priority to the work in the following annual budget.

Council's Works & Services staff have undertaken a cost analysis and the **approximate** costing for a 200m x 6m sealed section is estimated to be more than \$70,000.

RESOLUTION: 13/02.2024/C**Moved:** Deputy Mayor J Allwright**Seconded:** Cr A Bailey*THAT Council write to the requested parties and refer to the dust nuisance policy.***CARRIED****For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

*Cr A Archer returned to the meeting at 12.09 pm.***26.4 PEDESTRIAN FOOTPATH REQUEST - GRETNA****Report By**

Barry Harback, Works Supervisor

Background

Council has received a written request from a local resident to consider the construction of footpath within the township of Gretna. The request is for a footpath to be constructed from Woolpack Road, for an approximate distance of 2.3 kilometres along to Glen Lea Drive, Gretna.

This would entail a lot of work due to the terrain in this area. There are deep drains and steep embankments all of which would need to have a comprehensive Engineers detailed design and surveying completed as well as Dept of State Growth approvals as the proposed footpath would be along the Lyell Highway. Council staff believe there may be many additional conditions imposed from State Growth.

At this stage it is very difficult to estimate a budget costing due to the nature of the environment involved with the proposed footpath.

For an approximate price on a new standard concrete footpath to dig, prep, steel, box out and pour this could be in the vicinity of \$160.00 sq/m. Therefore, for the 2.3km footpath and the standard 1.5m in width would be in the vicinity of \$552,000. This price excludes any cut and fill bulk earthworks, storm water and pits, service locations and possible relocations, safety barrier/guard rail, handrail, traffic management, survey works, engineering fees and concept design and any other variations that will arise.

The only way to receive a true costing for budget deliberation would be to engage an Engineer to undertake a detailed concept design package, survey and detailed design and documentation.

NOTED**26.5 WORKS & SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY 2024****Report By**

Jason Branch, Works & Services Manager

BackgroundThe following activities were performed during **January 2024** by Works & Services –

Grading & Sheeting	
Maintenance Grading	Haulage Hill Road, Breona Rise, Berry Drive, Alport Road, Jones Road, Johnson Road, Flemming Drive
Potholing / shouldering	
Spraying:	Bothwell township, Hamilton Depot, Hamilton township

Culverts / Drainage:	Install culverts Woodsprings Road Install culvert Dennistoun Road Install culvert McGuires Marsh Road Repair culvert Weasel Plains Road Clean culverts Victoria Valley Road Rectify drainage Wallace Road
Occupational Health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Toolbox Meetings • Day to day JSA and daily prestart check lists completed. • Monthly workplace inspections completed.
Bridges:	
Refuse / recycling sites:	Cover Hamilton Tip twice weekly
Other:	Grout culverts Cramps Bay Road Repair guideposts Thousand Acre Lane and pelham Road Replace Laycock Drive, street blade sign Install gravel warning signs 14 Mile Road Install gravel warning signs Strickland Road Remove 12 fallen trees from various roads in weather event Commencement of Hamilton Recreation power upgrade and concept design Repair edge break Pelham Road Footpath reconstruction Hamilton Road reconstruction Hollow Tree Road Road reconstruction Ellendale Road Road reconstruction Arthurs Lake Road Replace Bluff Road sign Remove vegetation at Old Hamilton School Repair water leak Hamilton Recreation ground Commence preparation for Hamilton Show Clen up of fallen trees Ellendale and Ouse Parks
Slashing:	
Municipal Town Maintenance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of town rubbish twice weekly • Maintenance of parks, cemetery, recreation ground and Caravan Park. • Cleaning of public toilets, gutters, drains and footpaths. • Collection of rubbish twice weekly • Cleaning of toilets and public facilities • General maintenance • Mowing of towns and parks • Town Drainage
Buildings:	
Plant:	PM756 Kenworth Truck serviced PM843 Toyota Hilux 1000km service new ute arrival PM682 float 2 x new tyres PM676 Put track back on PM751 Toro ride on mower new seat Torago Van serviced PM786 Triton serviced
Private Works:	Water delivery David Eccles
Casuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets, rubbish and Hobart • Hamilton general duties
Program for next 4 weeks	Complete Franklin Place footpath replacement Complete stabilization works Ellendale Road Complete Stabailization works Hollow Tree Road Commence works Arthurs Lake Road Stabilization

RESOLUTION: 14/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr A Bailey**Seconded:** Cr J Hall*THAT the Works & Services monthly report for January 2024 be received.***CARRIED****For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

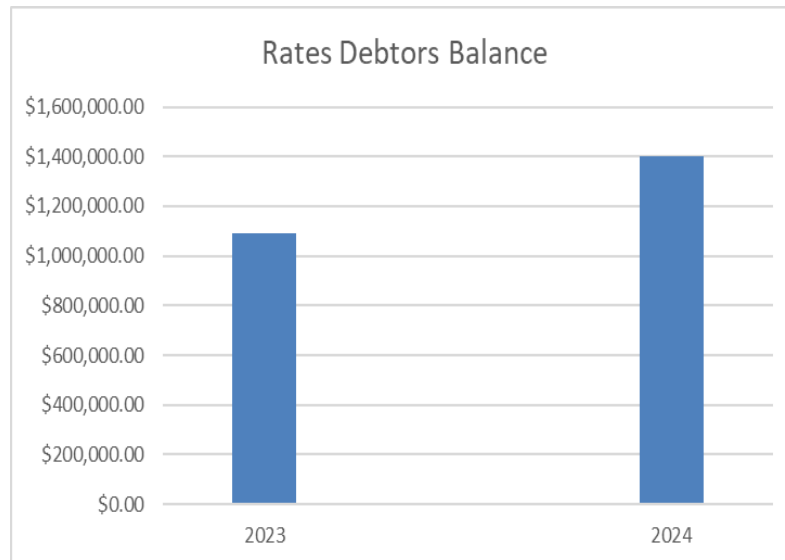
27. ADMINISTRATION SERVICES**27.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT TO 31 JANUARY 2024****Report by**

David Doyle, Contract Accountant

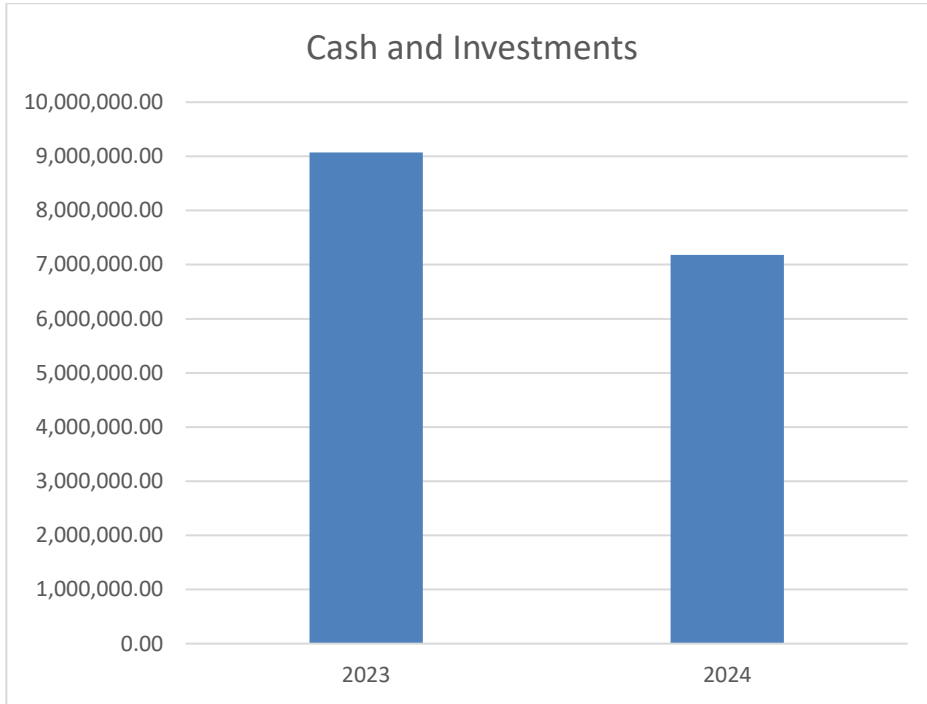
RESOLUTION 15/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr D Meacheam**Seconded:** Cr J Honner*THAT the Monthly Finance Report to 31 January 2024 be received.***CARRIED****For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Rates Reconciliation as at 31 January 2024			
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Rates in Debit 30th June		\$100,036.35	\$135,606.82
Rates in Credit 30th June		-\$139,127.10	-\$171,244.88
Balance 30th June		-\$39,090.75	-\$35,638.06
Rates Raised		\$4,110,809.76	\$4,486,365.49
Penalties Raised		\$25,164.48	\$28,420.94
Supplementaries/Debit Adjustments		\$21,627.95	\$13,489.65
Total Raised		\$3,979,384.34	\$4,528,276.08
Less:			
Receipts to Date		\$2,744,666.97	\$2,953,843.57
Pensioner Rate Remissions		\$110,356.31	\$119,193.87
Remissions/Supplementary Credits		\$33,376.03	\$16,101.42
Balance		\$1,090,985.03	\$1,403,499.16



BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024					BALANCE	
No.	Bank Accounts	Investment Period	Current Interest Rate %	Due Date	2023	2024
11100 Cash at Bank and on Hand						
11105	Bank 01 - Commonwealth - General Trading Account				226,363.90	1,743,495.03
11106	Bank 02 - Westpac - Direct Deposit Account				143,478.25	39,913.00
11110	Petty Cash				350.00	350.00
11115	Floats				200.00	200.00
11199	TOTAL CASH AT BANK AND ON HAND				370,392.15	1,783,958.03
11200 Investments						
11207	Bank 05	87 Days	4.85%	22/03/2024	2,528,689.57	3,101,930.88
11207	Bank 06	30 Days			2,029,235.48	-
11214	Tascorp	183 Days	4.60%	21/06/2024	78,294.58	82,259.93
11216	Bank 16	60 Days	4.60%	12/02/2024	4,064,061.65	2,210,438.15
11299	TOTAL INVESTMENTS				8,700,281.28	5,394,628.96
TOTAL BANK ACCOUNTS AND CASH ON HAND					9,070,673.43	7,178,586.99



Bank Reconciliation as at 31 January 2024		
	2023	2024
Balance Brought Forward	\$9,553,313.20	\$7,951,230.28
Receipts for month	\$154,888.48	\$566,926.48
Expenditure for month	\$637,108.25	\$1,339,569.77
Balance	\$9,071,093.43	\$7,178,586.99
Represented By:		
Balance Commonwealth Bank	\$226,363.90	\$1,743,495.03
Balance Westpac Bank	\$143,478.25	\$39,913.00
Investments	\$8,700,281.28	\$5,394,628.96
Petty Cash & Floats	\$550.00	\$550.00
	\$9,070,673.43	\$7,178,586.99
Plus Unbanked Money	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$9,070,673.43	\$7,178,586.99
Less Unpresented Cheques	\$0.00	\$0.00
Unreceipted amounts on bank statements	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$9,070,673.43	\$7,178,586.99

	BUDGET 2023/2024	ACTUAL TO 31-Jan-23	ACTUAL TO 31-Jan-24	% OF BUDGET SPENT	BALANCE OF BUDGET
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES					
ADMIN HAMILTON	\$1,697,621	\$1,031,018	\$1,076,118	63.39%	\$621,502
ELECTED MEMBERS EXPENDITURE(A/MEH)	\$181,554	\$106,714	\$133,974	73.79%	\$47,580
MEDICAL CENTRES(MED)	\$121,900	\$57,127	\$63,371	51.99%	\$58,529
STREET LIGHTING(STLIGHT)	\$41,000	\$20,752	\$22,215	54.18%	\$18,785
ONCOSTS	(\$279,933)	\$79,480	(\$295,615)	105.60%	\$15,682
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & RELATIONS(CDR+EDEV)	\$323,750	\$114,686	\$315,177	97.35%	\$8,573
TOTAL CORPORATE & FINANCIAL SERVICES	\$2,085,892	\$1,409,776	\$1,315,241	63.05%	\$770,651
DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES					
ADMIN BOTHWELL	\$286,795	\$141,642	\$197,295	68.79%	\$89,501
ENVIRON HEALTH SERVICES (EHS)	\$31,300	\$11,926	\$17,178	54.88%	\$14,122
ANIMAL CONTROL(A/C)	\$11,300	\$6,079	\$5,881	52.05%	\$5,419
PLUMBING/BUILDING CONTROL (BPC)	\$204,463	\$74,100	\$87,462	42.78%	\$117,001
SWIMMING POOLS (POOL)	\$53,151	\$15,648	\$24,401	45.91%	\$28,750
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL (DEV)	\$192,000	\$78,390	\$117,450	61.17%	\$74,550
WASTE SERVICES	\$874,519	\$438,082	\$527,196	60.28%	\$347,323
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (EP)	\$49,440	\$168,667	\$5,213	10.54%	\$44,227
TOTAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	\$1,702,968	\$934,534	\$982,076	57.67%	\$720,892
WORKS AND SERVICES					
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES (PC)	\$160,734	\$97,725	\$108,228	67.33%	\$52,506
CEMETERY (CEM)	\$23,800	\$11,375	\$13,304	55.90%	\$10,496
HALLS (HALL)	\$56,969	\$32,805	\$43,441	76.25%	\$13,529
PARKS AND GARDENS(PG)	\$75,329	\$45,819	\$68,718	91.22%	\$6,611
REC. & RESERVES(Rec+tennis)	\$100,745	\$51,254	\$135,617	134.61%	(\$34,872)
TOWN MOWING/TREES/STREETSCAPES(MOW)	\$152,400	\$116,970	\$189,978	124.66%	(\$37,578)
HOUSING (HOU)	\$100,258	\$63,685	\$91,013	90.78%	\$9,245
CAMPING GROUNDS (CPARK)	\$17,580	\$9,149	\$10,691	60.81%	\$6,889
LIBRARY (LIB)	\$1,267	\$1,279	\$1,852	146.18%	(\$585)
ROAD MAINTENANCE (ROAD)	\$1,037,200	\$845,189	\$901,755	86.94%	\$135,445
FOOTPATHS/KERBS/GUTTERS (FKG)	\$9,580	\$6,210	\$8,830	92.17%	\$750
BRIDGE MAINTENANCE (BR)	\$23,316	\$5,857	\$5,823	24.97%	\$17,493
PRIVATE WORKS (PW)	\$44,600	\$53,272	\$47,899	107.40%	(\$3,299)
SUPER. & VD OVERHEADS (SUPER)	\$757,839	\$274,346	\$386,760	51.03%	\$371,079
QUARRY/GRAVEL (QUARRY)	(\$194,500)	(\$44,910)	(\$40,368)	20.75%	(\$154,132)
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT(NRM)	\$136,000	\$72,315	\$55,047	40.48%	\$80,953
SES (SES)	\$2,000	\$12,567	\$502	25.11%	\$1,498
PLANT MTCE & OPERATING COSTS (PLANT)	\$500,000	\$367,134	\$475,461	95.09%	\$24,539
PLANT INCOME	(\$710,000)	(\$474,728)	(\$688,789)	97.01%	(\$21,211)
DRAINAGE (DRAIN)	\$32,000	\$19,997	\$33,049	103.28%	(\$1,049)
OTHER COMMUNITY AMENITIES (OCA)	\$28,553	\$26,001	\$25,812	90.40%	\$2,741
WASTE COLLECTION & ASSOC SERVICES (WAS)	\$37,000	\$27,719	\$11,023	29.79%	\$25,977
FLOOD REPAIRS		\$51,617	\$0		
TOTAL WORKS & SERVICES	\$2,392,672	\$1,672,649	\$1,885,646	78.81%	\$507,026
DEPARTMENT TOTALS OPERATING EXPENSES					
Corporate Services	\$2,085,892	\$1,409,776	\$1,315,241	63.05%	\$770,651
Dev. & Environmental Services	\$1,702,968	\$934,534	\$982,076	57.67%	\$720,892
Works & Services	\$2,392,672	\$1,672,649	\$1,885,646	78.81%	\$507,026
Total All Operating	\$6,181,531	\$4,016,959	\$4,182,963	67.67%	\$1,998,569

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Computer Purchases	\$10,000	\$23,718	\$2,220	0.00%	\$10,000
Equipment	\$5,000	\$5,578	\$1,577	31.54%	\$3,423
Miscellaneous	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$5,000
	\$20,000	\$29,296	\$3,797	18.98%	\$18,423
DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES					
Swimming Pool	\$15,000	\$4,659	\$9,182	61.21%	\$5,818
	\$15,000	\$4,659	\$9,182	61.21%	\$10,341
WORKS & SERVICES					
Plant Purchases	\$940,000	\$342,711	\$378,389	40.25%	\$561,611
Camping Grounds	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Public Conveniences	\$333,334	\$99,252	\$156,609	46.98%	\$176,725
Bridges	\$648,000	\$17,175	\$7,097	1.10%	\$640,903
Road Construction & Reseals	\$2,818,000	\$1,292,332	\$534,034	18.95%	\$2,283,966
Drainage	\$780,000	\$25,209	\$248,553	0.00%	\$531,447
Parks & Gardens	\$73,000	\$123,134	\$6,248	8.56%	\$66,752
Infrastructure	\$184,000	\$0	\$65,395	35.54%	\$118,605
Footpaths, Kerbs & Gutters	\$443,000	\$8,073	\$92,801	20.95%	\$350,199
Rec Grounds	\$810,000	\$0	\$11,705	1.45%	\$798,295
Halls	\$198,000	\$103,577	\$2,623	1.32%	\$195,377
Buildings	\$845,169	\$223,139	\$781,090	92.42%	\$64,079
	\$8,072,503	\$2,234,601	\$2,284,543	28.30%	\$5,787,960
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS					
Corporate Services	\$20,000	\$29,296	\$3,797	18.98%	\$16,203
Dev. & Environmental Services	\$15,000	\$4,659	\$9,182	61.21%	\$5,818
Works & Services	\$8,072,503	\$2,234,601	\$2,284,543	28.30%	\$5,787,960
	\$8,107,503	\$2,268,557	\$2,297,521	28.34%	\$5,809,982

Comprehensive Income Statement						
31/01/2024						
Recurrent Income	Budget 2022-2023	Actual to date prior year	Actual to Date	Budget 2023-2024	Variation from YTD Budget %	Comments
Rates Charges	\$4,088,847	\$4,095,905	\$4,478,196	\$4,469,863	0%	
User Fees	\$370,250	\$171,401	\$143,611	\$355,450	(18)%	
Grants - Operating	\$928,852	\$440,994	\$169,591	\$124,860	77%	
Other Revenue	\$354,200	\$332,651	\$455,716	\$453,200	42%	
Grants received in Advance	\$2,044,477		\$3,031,386	\$2,998,566		FAGs received Jun 2023 for 2023/24
Total Revenues	\$7,786,626	\$5,040,951	\$8,278,499	\$8,401,939	40%	
Expenditure						
Employee Benefits	\$2,005,037	\$1,323,038	\$1,406,088	\$2,553,663	(3)%	
Materials and Services	\$2,089,353	\$1,685,603	\$1,611,649	\$2,012,016	22%	
Other Expenses	\$1,699,645	\$1,024,711	\$1,157,900	\$1,715,852	9%	
Depreciation and Amortisation	\$2,130,000	\$1,392,036	\$1,417,597	\$2,260,000	4%	
Total Expenditure	\$7,924,035	5,425,388	5,593,234	8,541,531	7%	
Operating Surplus(Deficit)	(137,409)	(384,437)	2,685,265	(139,593)		
Capital Grants & Other	\$2,379,150	\$847,376	\$330,100	\$2,407,078		
Surplus(Deficit)	2,241,741	462,939	3,015,365	2,267,485		
Capital Expenditure	\$5,561,522	\$2,268,557	\$2,297,521	\$8,107,503		

Date	Details	Budget	Australia Day, ANZAC Day, Hamilton Show	Childrens Services	Community Grants \ Donations	Event Development and Sponsorship	Further Education Bursaries and School Support	General Items	Church Grants	Tourism	TOTAL
	Community & Economic Development Support	\$4,133									
	Support/Donations	\$4,352									
	Further Education Bursaries	\$1,800									
	Central Highlands School Support	\$3,000									
	Anzac Day	\$6,000									
	Hamilton Show	\$5,000									
	Australia Day	\$2,500									
	Church Grants	\$5,000									
	Suicide Prevention Program	\$2,000									
	Anglers Alliance Sponsorship	\$3,000									
	Royal Flying Doctor Service	\$1,000									
	Youth Activities	\$5,000									
	Australasian Golf Museum contribution to power	\$5,000									
	South Central Region Projects	\$5,000									
	Local Govt Shared Services Project	\$2,000									
	200 Years of Hamilton Celebration	\$40,000									
	Health & Wellbeing Plan Implementation	\$5,000									
	Visitors Centre	\$5,000									
	Grant assistance	\$15,000									
	Design/concept contractors - Grants	\$25,000									
	Healthy Connect Project	\$10,000									
	Highlands Digest Support	\$0									
	Contribution Children's Services Bothwell	\$500									
31/07/2023	Brighton Family Day Care	\$5,000		5,000.00							5,000.00
17/08/2023	Lions Club of Hobart	\$360						360.00			
7/09/2023	Highlands Digest Support	\$10,800						10,800.00			
5/10/2023	Great Lake Volunteer Fire Brigade	\$867				867.00					
28/11/2023	Cameras for Gretna Rec Ground	\$2,683				2,683.00					
20/12/2023	Rotary Club of Hobart - Magic Show	\$255						254.55			
5/01/2024	Great Lake Tie-In Assn	\$1,000				1,000.00					
5/01/2024	Menzies Institute - Cancer Research Donation	\$500						500.00			
24/01/2024	Gretna Volunteer Fire Brigade	\$850				850.00					
	YEAR TO DATE EXPENDITURE		0.00	5,000.00	5,400.00	0.00	0.00	11,914.55	0.00	0.00	22,314.55
	BUDGET	\$177,600	13,500.00	10,500.00	10,000.00	41,000.00	4,800.00	84,800.00	5,000.00	8,000.00	177,600.00

Barry Harback (Works Supervisor) left the meeting at 12.15pm.

27.2 GRETNA CRICKET CLUB FUNDING SUPPORT

Report by

Adam Wilson, Acting General Manager

The Gretna Cricket Club has written to Council requesting support for their upcoming Junior and Senior Trophy Presentations.

Mr Shaw the Gretna Cricket Club Secretary states that the Gretna Cricket Club are thrilled to let Council know that the junior cricket numbers are thriving with the club now securing 4 teams (total of 37 children) in the junior competition.

The Gretna Cricket Club are currently seeking support for their upcoming Junior and Senior Trophy Presentations. They hope Council would kindly consider making a donation towards their end of season presentations by sponsoring trophies for each team being 4 Juniors and 2 Senior teams or a donation towards the purchase of the trophies. Mr Shaw states that any assistance would be appreciated.

RESOLUTION: 16/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr A Bailey

***THAT** Council donate \$250 to the Gretna Cricket Club to support for their upcoming Junior and Senior Trophy Presentations.*

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

27.3 HYDRO TARRALEAH POWER STATION UPGRADE FIELD VISIT

Report by

Adam Wilson, Acting General Manager

Dr Don Thomson the Senior Advisor, Social Impact and Stakeholder Engagement, Battery of the Nation has written to Council regarding the upgrade works and possible future redevelopment of the Tarraleah Power Station.

The Hydro would like to organise a site visit, for Central Highlands Councillors and staff, so that Councillors can see the extent of the upgrade works and how they complement any future redevelopment.

Hydro suggests a day in mid to late March, that best suits Councillors.

Could Council please:

1. Indicate whether this field trip is still of interest?
2. If required, nominate a date and time for the field trip?

Hydro has mini-buses and other resources available, and they will ensure that key managers and engineers for the Tarraleah project are with us, to enable attendees to gain a complete understanding of the project.

RESOLUTION: 16/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr J Hall**Seconded:** Cr Y Miller**THAT Council:**

1. *Wish to attend a field trip; and*
2. *Contact Hydro Tasmania when the General Manager returns to confirm a date.*

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

27.4 HYDRO LAKE MEADOWBANK INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE**Report by**

Adam Wilson, Acting General Manager

Hydro Tasmania would like Council's approval to install interpretation signage at the Lake Meadowbank picnic area Dunrobin Park.

At the September 2023 Council Meeting, Council agreed to the following:

RESOLUTION 20/09.2023/C***Moved:*** Cr Y Miller***Seconded:*** Cr J Honner

THAT Council endorse the following options for the vinyl table wraps and metal signage option number one and remove the turbine and leave the eagle shape..

CARRIED***For the Motion***

Mayor L Triffitt, Cr A Bailey, Cr R Cassidy, Cr J Honner, Cr J Hall, & Cr Y Miller.

Hydro Tasmania would like to know if Councillors have any concerns about the turbine in the proposed interpretation signage which I understand was because there was confusion that it was a wind turbine.

Ms Jane Alpine, Senior Community Engagement Advisor for Hydro Tasmania states in her email to Council on the 22 December 2022 that the turbine is a water turbine (to reflect hydro operations).

Ms Alpine states that she knows people liked the eagle but that was just a placeholder and really doesn't have a lot of relevance to the content or purpose. These will be accompanied by the table wraps (previously reviewed and approved) – but attached for your info.

Lake Meadowbank Mockup



 Hydro Tasmania Lake Meadowbank December 2023

Lake Meadowbank Mockup




 Hydro Tasmania Lake Meadowbank December 2023

Lake Meadowbank Text


Powerful and plentiful!
Hydroelectricity harnesses the power of Tassie's rivers. The water in front of you has passed through 9 power stations on its journey out to sea.

That's 9 opportunities to generate clean, green power.



Lake Meadowbank powers community and connection across the state.

From berries and cherries, to wine, artisan lamb and Tassie milk, its waters support a thriving agricultural industry. It's also a great place to spend time fishing, kayaking or just relaxing.



Hydro Tasmania Lake Meadowbank December 2023

Ms Alpine also states that she has spoken to Council's Works and Service Manager and agreed to meet him on site to finalise placement and they will also take the table panels away for 1 – 2 days (mid week to minimise disruptions) – this allows the vinyl wraps to be applied.

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

- 1. LAKE MEADOWBANK**
A picturesque spot for a coffee break or a spot of fishing. Launch your boat at Queenborough wharf.
- 2. TARRALEAH PENSTOCK LOOKOUT**
Continue for about 10 minutes before you can take in the breathtaking Tarraleah Penstock looking down to Tarraleah Power Station. The Tarraleah scheme was built in 1978, and has been an icon of the Central Highlands ever since.
- 3. THE BRADY'S CHAIN: BRADY'S, BINNETT AND TUNGATINAH**
Take a break up the road, have a picnic, walk the dog, and enjoy the view. The best and most scenic views are found in the area and come prepared.
- 4. BRONTE LAGOON**
The spectacular curves of Tarraleah Canyon and Bronte Lagoon are a sight to behold, if you feel like a change of scenery.
- 5. YINGINA / GREAT LAKE**
Great Lake is a central water source for one of our biggest power stations, Tarraleah. It is also a great spot for water skiing, particularly around Tark Cove.
- 6. WADDAMANA POWER STATION**
Head back via Waddamana Road to visit our very first power station. Beautifully restored, heritage listed, and open as a museum. Entry is free.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO DISCOVER MORE BEAUTIFUL PLACES TO VISIT!



Explore the heart of Tasmania!

THE DERWENT SCHEME

Lake Meadowbank sits within Hydro Tasmania's Lower Derwent Hydro Electric Scheme. The 8 power stations in this run-of-river scheme harness the power of the River Derwent multiple times as it flows out to sea.

EXPLORE THE MAP TO FIND OUR DAMS, POWER STATIONS AND HYDRO TASMANIA TEAM!

7 = Dams, 8 = Power Stations




CAN YOU FIND THESE TASMANIAN ANIMALS?



HOW ABOUT THESE PEOPLE ENJOYING OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES?



FOR MORE INFO ABOUT HYDROPOWER IN TASSIE, SCAN THE QR CODE!



A copy of the proposed interpretation designs and concepts regarding vinyl table wraps and Metal signs are included in the attachments for council consideration.

RESOLUTION: 17/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr Y Miller**Seconded:** Cr J Hall

THAT Council endorse the interpretation designs and concepts regarding vinyl table wraps and Metal signs, subject to the acknowledgement of the first nations.

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

27.5 BOTHWELL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM**Report by**

Adam Wilson, Acting General Manager

Mrs Susan Webb the Chairperson of the Bothwell District High School Association has written to the Mayor regarding Council support for the Bothwell District High School Breakfast Program.

Mrs Webb email stated the following:

"I am writing on behalf of the Bothwell District School Association to seek Council's reconsideration of its recent decision regarding support for the school's breakfast program.

The General Manager has advised that the yearly contribution made by the Council to the School needs to be redirected to the breakfast program. These funds had historically been allocated to transportation costs of students to activities and events outside of the district. Council's decision will result in a significant decrease in the budget for these essential opportunities for the students.

The breakfast program funded through the Cattle Hill Wind Farm grant was extremely well supported by the students. The Association arranged volunteers to operate the program at the suggestion of the General Manager and we would like to see a joint program in 2024 operated by the Association and partly funded by the Council.

We respectfully request that Council reconsider this decision and fund the breakfast program separately to its yearly contributions to schools within the municipal area.

The Association has also hired the Bothwell Recreation Ground in March for a fundraising function and we would also like to seek a waiver of the hire fee for this event.

It is the Association's hope that this request will be submitted to the full council for discussion and consideration.

If you require additional information in relation to my contact with the General Manager, or our proposal for the 2024 program, please do not hesitate to contact me."

In 2023 Council supported the Breakfast Program across the municipality by an estimate of \$6000, which covered Bothwell District High School, Westerway Primary School and Ouse Primary School.

RESOLUTION: 18/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr D Meachem**Seconded:** Cr Y Miller

THAT Council defer this item and discuss with Item 28.6 on the Supplementary Agenda.

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

28. SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council by absolute majority may decide to deal with a matter that is not on the agenda if, where the General Manager has reported either:

- a) The reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda;
- b) That the matter is urgent; or
- c) That advice of a qualified person has been obtained and taken into account in providing advice to Council under Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

RESOLUTION: 19/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr Y Miller

THAT the Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Deputy Mayor J Allwright left the meeting at 12.22 pm.

28.1 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW FINAL REPORT SUBMISSION

Mr Nic Street MP, Minister for Local Government sent a letter the Councillors in November 2023:

"I am pleased to provide you with the enclosed copy of the Future of Local Government Review Final Report provided to me by the Local Government Board.

In accordance with section 214D of the Local Government Act 1993, I am forwarding a copy of the report to all Tasmanian councils, inviting submissions on any matter covered by the Report. I am also releasing the Report to the public and inviting comments from any community member.

Given the complexity and significance of this Review, and the forthcoming Christmas period, I am allowing until 29 February 2024 for submissions. Those submissions will help to inform Government's response to the Review, which I am intending to release in the first half of 2024.

The Board's Report states that councils – particularly smaller rural councils – face pressures beyond their control. These pressures are inherently structural and relate to things like growing demand for more (and more costly) services, shrinking rates bases, input cost increases, labour force and skills shortages, and climate change impacts.

The Board finds that the current system of local government limits how councils can respond to these pressures. The Report says that substantial structural reform is needed to create a more robust and capable system of local government. This is not a criticism of individual councils – it is the difficult environment they operate in.

The Final Report includes an integrated package of 37 reforms and an implementation plan for the next few years.

The Report recognises the Government's position that there would be no forced amalgamations resulting from the Review, and that specific boundary changes would only proceed if councils and the community support

them. It outlines a process for voluntary council amalgamations linked to regional partnerships with the State Government. Groups of councils who have said they are open to exploring the benefits of amalgamation are recommended as Phase 1 of a voluntary amalgamation program.

The Report also recommends some mandatory service sharing between councils, and makes a range of specific recommendations, including on council revenue, community engagement, monitoring and reporting, asset management and councillor education.

The Report positions local government reform as an ongoing process, with specific reforms, such as improved monitoring and reporting, laying the foundations for continuous improvement and possible future amalgamations.

I now invite you to make submissions on the Report. While your submissions can cover any matter covered by the Report, I draw your attention to two issues that were addressed in general terms earlier in the Review or were raised in submissions late in the Review: mandated shared services and rating and revenue.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your participation in the Review. The Government gave the Board a challenging task and they've shared that challenge with the sector, putting forward at times provocative suggestions to stimulate a discussion that needed to be had.

All councils have responded in a quite robust but constructive way, and that is to be expected on a subject as important as this. I hope that we can continue this constructive exchange as we now together consider the Board's recommendations and their proposed implementation roadmap.

If you have any specific questions about the Report, I encourage you to contact the Office of Local Government on 03 6232 7022 or localgovernment@dpac.tas.gov.au ”

At the January 2024 Council Workshop Councillors agreed to obtain the services of Dr. Martin Farley to facilitate the Central Highlands Council submission on the Future of Local Government Review Final Report.

Attached for Councillors endorsement is the Central Highlands Council submission on the Future of Local Government Review Final Report facilitated by Dr. Martin Farley.

The Tasmanian Government is inviting comments and submissions on the Final Report until 29 February 2024. You can also make a submission:

- By mail to Local Government Reform, GPO Box 123, Hobart, Australia 7001
- By email to lq.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au

RESOLUTION: 20/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr Meacheam

Seconded: Cr J Honner

THAT Council endorse the Central Highlands Council submission on the Future of Local Government Review Final Report facilitated by Dr. Martin Farley and that the Acting General Manager lodge the submission by the 29 February 2024.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

Deputy Mayor J Allwright returned to the meeting at 12.23 pm.

28.2 SHEEP STATION CUP BOTHWELL

The Mayor has requested that Councillors consider providing support to the 6th Annual Sheep Station Cup and make a contribution to 'Pankind' the Pancreatic Cancer Foundation.

Since 2018 The Sheep Station Cup has been bringing together local farmers from around the state for a vibrant charity golf day at Ratho Farm Golf Course.

The event was created to help raise funds for important community projects and organisations relevant to the local farming community in Tasmania.

Over 200 golfers come together to raise important funds for local community groups, as well as a charity of choice that has affected the local community. With 68 Australians dying each week of Pancreatic Cancer, the community has decided that this year, 'Pankind' the Pancreatic Cancer Foundation will be a recipient charity.

RESOLUTION: 21/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr J Honner

Seconded: Cr J Hall

THAT Council donate \$500 to 'Pankind' the Pancreatic Cancer Foundation.

LOST

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Cr A Archer; Cr R Cassidy and Cr J Honner

Against the Motion

Cr D Meacheam; Cr Y Miller; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr J Hall and Cr A Bailey

RESOLUTION: 22/02.2024/C

Moved: Deputy Mayor Allwright

Seconded: Cr J Hall

THAT Council donate \$1,000 to 'Pankind' the Pancreatic Cancer Foundation.

CARRIED


For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

28.3 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR HALL

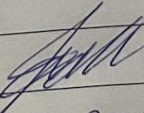
A Notice of Motion has been received from **Cr J Hall** on the **31 January 2023** for inclusion on this Agenda and provides the following supporting information and reasons for this motion.

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL



NOTICE OF MOTION

Under Division 2 – Motions, Section 16 (5) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, a Councillor may give to the General Manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of that meeting.

Date of Meeting:	20-2-2024
Councillor Name:	JOHN HALL
Proposed Motion:	TO Reduce THE speed LIMIT FROM 60km TO 50km AND TO AVOID USING ENGINE BRAKE IN PATRICK ST. BOTHWELL
Background Details:	WE HAVE A SCHOOL/POOL/DOCTOR'S/ AMBULANCE A VILLAGE ZONE A. DANGEROUS INTERSECTION POST OFFICE FIRE STATION AND ALSO A POLICE STATION ALL OF THESE SERVICES ARE ON PATRICK ST.
Signature:	
Date:	31-1-2023.

NOTED

28.4 COUNCILLOR STATE ELECTION CANDIDATES

Dion Lester the Chief Executive Officer for the Local Government Association of Tasmania has sent an email to the Mayor and General Manager on Friday, February 16, 2024 stating the following:

“I am getting a few questions from the sector on if a councillor is standing for the State election is required to stand down from council during election period? The answer is no, they are not. However, at our July 2018 General Meeting the following resolution was supported:

That LGAT pursue legislative changes which would:

1. *Require a councillor who is standing for State or Federal Parliament to take a leave of absence from Council for the period between issuing of the writ and declaration of the poll.*

When we raised this with the Government and also during the Review of the Local Government Act, they were supportive in principle, but are yet to make any legislative changes.

What this means is that while a councillor is not required to stand down, if LGAT is asked by media outlets then we will provide this policy position – i.e. that we believe the legislation should be changed to require them to stand down. “

NOTED

28.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA GENERAL MEETING MOTIONS - 14 MARCH 2024

Dion Lester the Chief Executive Officer for the Local Government Association of Tasmania has sent an email to the General Manager on Monday February 19, 2024 stating the following:

“Consistent with past practice, we are sending out the five motions we have received for the March General Meeting in advance of the agenda proper, to allow sufficient time for councils to discuss them.

Can we request that when councils are considering forming motions to LGAT that you contact us in advance, as in many cases we can support the framing of motions to be more consistent with the context.”

The five motions are:

9.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – MAYOR BLOMELEY - STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION PROTOCOLS

In accordance with Notice given, Mayor Blomeley intends to move the following Motion:

“That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and request that a motion be placed on the agenda for the next LGAT General Meeting seeking:

- a) Support from Tasmanian Councils for the renegotiation of the Partnership Agreement on Communication and Consultation 2003 (Partnership Agreement), between the Tasmanian Government and Councils;
- b) That LGAT seek agreement in principle from the Tasmanian Government to renew the Partnership Agreement, subject to the negotiation of new terms; and
- c) That, in pursuit of a new Partnership Agreement, LGAT establish a working group comprising council representatives to develop the key terms of a new Partnership Agreement.”

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The Tasmanian Government has recently undertaken “consultations” with Tasmanian Councils and the wider community in relation to proposed legislative change. There appears to be no “standardised” approach to consultation by the Tasmanian Government, which has resulted in significant concerns related to the proposed regulatory changes.

2. Circa 2003, the Tasmanian Government and LGAT entered into a Partnership Agreement on Communication and Consultation. This agreement provided a basis for communication and consultation between government and the local government sector. The Partnership Agreement was discontinued following a Premier’s Local

Government Council meeting a few years ago. Since that time critical issues with the Tasmanian Government's approach to consultation have emerged.

3. The Tasmanian Government's approach to communication and consultation with Tasmanian Councils does not reflect good practice, varies from issue to issue, and in several instances appears to treat councils with a level of disrespect.

4. Renegotiation of the Partnership Agreement will assist to re-establish a best practice framework between the Tasmanian Government and councils. Once agreed, it will provide all parties with certainty and ensure that regulatory changes can be developed in partnership, be well understood, consulted and feedback properly considered before those regulatory changes are submitted to parliament for debate and vote. A new Partnership Agreement will re-establish confidence and trust within the regulatory development process.

Mayor B A Blomeley

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S COMMENT

The Tasmanian Government's legislative program can result in councils being requested to provide feedback on legislation without reasonable forewarning and within critically short consultation timeframes. Consultation timeframes of five or six weeks often don't allow sufficient time for councils to properly assess the impacts of proposed legislation, conduct workshops with councillors and provide reports for consideration at council meetings. This impacts upon a council's ability to properly represent its community when responding to proposed regulatory change. This raises the risk that consultation is seen as superficial or not genuine.

Different departments within the Tasmanian Government appear to adopt different development and consultation practices when considering legislative change or reform. In some instances, local government is engaged and consulted at the scoping and initial drafting stage, while in other cases there is no involvement until formal community consultation commences.

As a matter of best practice, a regulatory development and consultation protocol that describes the key steps of the regulatory review process, timeframes, and points of engagement with local government, would significantly improve the process and make legislative reforms more robust, well-considered and understood.

PLEASE QUOTE

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Enquiries: Bel Lynch
bellynch@burnie.tas.gov.au
 0427 276 974

80 Wilson Street, Burnie Tasmania
 PO Box 973, Burnie TAS 7320

ABN: 29 846 979 690
 Phone: (03) 6430 5700
 Email: burnie@burnie.tas.gov.au
 Web: www.burnie.tas.gov.au

We value your feedback on our service.
 Tell us about it at www.burnie.tas.gov.au/feedback



18 October 2023

Dion Lester
 Chief Executive Officer
 Local Government Association of Tasmania

Email: Dion.Lester@lgat.tas.gov.au

A hard copy will not be sent unless requested

Dear Dion,

MOTION – AMENDMENT TO THE TASMANIAN PENSION REMISSION GUIDELINES

At the Council meeting of 22 August 2023, the Burnie City Council considered a historical issue whereby pensioners do not qualify with the eligibility criteria for the Tasmanian Pension Remission Scheme in a given financial year, if their pension card is not dated on or before 1 July of the financial year.

This means as an example a pensioner who receives their eligible card 14 days after the commencement of the financial year (ie. card dated 14 July 2023) does not qualify for the 30% pension remission offered for the full year.

The Burnie City Council feels strongly that this is an inequitable system, and an anomaly that, from our research, seems to occur only in Tasmanian Guidelines. Furthermore, the rate of inflation and corresponding increase in expenditure that our communities have faced in recent years is unprecedented.

For this reason, we believe that state government via their local government partners should be availing eligible pensioners to as much relief as possible. It is accepted that there is a level of administration of this scheme and therefore understandably there needs to be cut off imposed, however it is not considered appropriate that pensioners who spend much of the year with an eligible pension card, are simply not able to benefit from what is a significant remission in their circumstances.

The Burnie City Council subsequently requests to put a motion before the next appropriate meeting to:

“Seek the State Government to amend its Guidelines to benefit pensioners who receive an eligible card within a financial year, post the 1st July.”

- 2 -

The purpose of this correspondence is to make you aware of the issue and the Council's subsequent decision. I would be happy at the appropriate time to complete a more detailed submission to accompany the motion.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please feel free to get in touch with me on the contact details provided.

Yours sincerely,



Bel Lynch
DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES



Details of Motion

Motion Title **Integrated Transport Study**

Decision Sought

- a) LGAT lobby the Tasmanian State Government to urgently progress a costed integrated Transport Plan for Tasmania, including timeframes and responsibility for implementation.
- b) LGAT coordinates a Local Government response on behalf of southern region Councils to the Department of State Growth's draft plan for Greater Hobart's transport future.
- c) LGAT advocate for future transport planning outputs that prioritise:
 - i. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
 - ii. Equitable access to transport
 - iii. Regional coverage
 - iv. Road safety
 - v. Improved health and liveability outcomes.

Background Comment

While up until now renewable energy and changes in land use have enabled Tasmania to report zero net emissions, our underlying GHG emissions are rising, with transport being a major factor. The solution is not simply to electrify all private cars, but to greatly reduce our dependence on private cars. This dependency is a great source of inequality, congestion, noise, and particulate emissions. It requires continual expenditure on road infrastructure and parking facilities. An integrated public transport system that makes use of a much improved and regular fixed route service, along with extensive active transport options, professional car-pooling and on-demand services for home to node, would tick boxes in health, climate, opportunities in health education and the workplace and lead to more liveable townships and a healthier and more prosperous population. It is difficult for local councils on their own to solve these problems, hence this proposed approach through LGAT.

Strategic alignment (Tasmanian State Govt)

An integrated transport system is fully aligned with the aims and objectives of the following documents:

- Southern Integrated Transport Plan 2010
https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/Transport_and_Infrastructure/infrastructure_tasmania/freight/planning/regionalplans/southern
- Tasmanian Walking and Cycling for Active Transport Strategy 2010
https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/policies_and_strategies/framework/walking-cycling

- Our Infrastructure Future 2019 ([https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/Transport and Infrastructure/infrastructure tasmania/tasmanias strategic infrastructure framework](https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/Transport%20and%20Infrastructure/infrastructure%20tasmania/tasmanias%20strategic%20infrastructure%20framework))
- The Hobart City Deal ([https://www.hobartcitydeal.com.au/projects/accordions/key focus area 3 greater hobart transport vision](https://www.hobartcitydeal.com.au/projects/accordions/key%20focus%20area%203%20greater%20hobart%20transport%20vision))
- Transport Access Strategy 2014 ([https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/policies and strategies/transport access strategy](https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/policies%20and%20strategies/transport%20access%20strategy))
- Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2025 ([https://recfit.tas.gov.au/_ data/assets/pdf file/0011/439634/Tasmanias Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25 Accessible.pdf](https://recfit.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/439634/Tasmanias%20Climate%20Change%20Action%20Plan%202023-25%20Accessible.pdf))

Need

- Currently, Tasmanians mainly get around in private cars, which are often single-occupancy. Population and car use is growing fast, creating more congestion and less-liveable townships.
- Running a car is expensive, with RACT estimating people in Hobart are spending almost 20% of their income on transport and running cars.
- Public transport routes are restricted, the service is sometimes infrequent and finishes early (particularly in regional areas)
- Those on low incomes, the disabled, and the young and old, are worse affected by mobility restrictions and the cost of running a private car. The majority of bus travellers are students or holders of low income cards: [Transport Access Strategy 2014](#)
- Lack of mobility restricts opportunities to travel for work, social occasions and healthcare. Congestion also adds costs to freight transport and puts additional pressure on road networks.
- Transport is responsible for 30% of greenhouse gas emissions in Southern Tasmania. The recently issued draft Technical Policy Paper entitled 'Driving Net-Zero: A roadmap for reducing Tasmania's transport emissions' by the UTAS Tasmanian Policy Exchange, sees transport as low-hanging fruit to enable Tasmania to retain its net-zero carbon status.
- Many \$millions are being spend on new roads and new road improvements, despite there being little evidence that these reduce congestion: <https://www.wired.com/2014/06/wuwt-traffic-induced-demand/>

Solution

- An integrated transport system (ITS) is one which incorporates many different modes of getting around including fixed route buses, on-demand passenger vehicles, professional car pooling/ sharing, ferries, self-hire vehicles and active transport (walking and cycling).
- Timetables are integrated and connected, route-planning is facilitated, and ticketing works across all transport platforms. This integrated system is called Mobility as a Service (MaaS).
- An ITS must be convenient, affordable and accessible. It should be supported by all levels of government and preceded by advertising, promotion and incentivisation to encourage behaviour change: <https://philch.medium.com/what-doestransport-integration-really-mean-bd83a15a50b8>
- The approach is supported by multiple state government policy documents including the [Southern Integrated Transport Plan 2010](#), [Tasmanian Walking and Cycling for Active Transport Strategy 2010](#), [Our Infrastructure Future 2019](#) and latterly, the Tasmanian government's media piece regarding getting people to and from a proposed new stadium at Macquarie Point and Tasmania's new Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25.

Benefits

Research by the Sydney-based Tourism and Transport Forum, consistently shows a high return on investment for improved mobility solutions. They state 'economic benefits include:

- *effective connection of wealth and labour to the marketplace;*

- *removal of productivity bottlenecks; and*
- *maximising opportunities for individuals, business and government to increase income and asset value.'*

These findings are reflected by research across the globe. The International Association of Public Transport identifies some of the benefits of public transport over individual transport modes, arguing it:

'costs less to the community;

- *needs less urban space;*
- *is less energy-intensive;*
- *pollutes less;*
- *is the safest mode;*
- *improves accessibility to jobs; and*
- *offers mobility for all.'*

It also creates transport and mobility corridors along which land can be freed up for housing and other development and creates opportunities for activating town centres as social and business centres.

Examples

- A demand-responsive service in Lincolnshire, UK, a large regional area with a dispersed population, close to other urban centres: <https://www.justgonorthlincs.co.uk/> which is now being repeated in East Yorkshire (a similar region) and the West Midlands (more urban).
- <https://www.liftango.com/resources> - multiple examples.
- <https://ridewithvia.com/resources/case-studies/> - multiple examples.
- Suburbs in NSW, SA and WA are all successfully running on-demand minibuses: <https://www.keolisdowner.com.au/keoride-on-demand-transport-celebrates-its-four-year-anniversary-and-introduces-new-fully-accessible-vehicles-in-the-northern-beaches/>
- Victoria has an Integrated Transport Act (2010) and the people of Greater Bendigo rejected new roads in favour of the development of an Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy, which sets out the steps for ensuring greater connectiveness and equality of mobility across the city.
- Griffith in NSW is currently developing an Integrated Transport Plan and Sydney already operates an integrated ferry, bus and train service, with the more recent addition of on-demand buses serving the Northern Beaches.
- Tasmania is working on new legislation for the regulation of on-demand vehicles in recognition of their importance in mobility and WA has recently ended its levy on on-demand operators, having finished paying for its buy-back of taxi plates.
- Multiple examples in Europe.

More resources

- <https://its-australia.com.au/about-us> - Intelligent Transport Systems, peak body for Australia transport data analytics and mobility companies (30 year heritage).
- [Southern Integrated Transport Plan 2010](#) (Tasmania)
- [Tasmanian Walking and Cycling for Active Transport Strategy 2010](#) (Tasmania)
- [Our Infrastructure Future 2019](#) (Tasmania)
- [Transport Access Strategy 2014](#) (Tasmania)
- <https://www.wired.com/2014/06/wuwt-traffic-induced-demand/>
- <https://philch.medium.com/what-does-transport-integration-really-mean-bd83a15a50b8>
- [Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy](#) (Bendigo)
- [Liftango Demand-Responsive Transport Guide](#)
- [Kingborough Integrated Transport Strategy](#)
- [Huon Valley Council Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)

- [Huon Valley Council Walking Track Strategy](#)
- [Huon Valley Council Recreation Plan](#)
- [Kingborough Cycling Strategy](#)
- [Kingborough Track and Trails Strategic Action Plan](#)
- [City of Hobart Transport Strategy](#)

Northern Midlands Council

Motion:

That LGAT lobby the State Government to:

- (a) provide an accessible online user interface for purchasers, residents and developers to all available flood mapping in populated areas in Tasmania;
- (b) assist Tasmanian councils to flood map low lying land, inclusive of climate change impact, so the effect flooding could have on property, including future developments, renovations and subdivisions is known statewide; and
- (c) require all councils to include flood mapping in the issuance of any Form 337 and any other such forms as appropriate.

Background

1. The increasing effects of climate change have made it imperative for councils to have a comprehensive understanding of potential flood risks in our state.
2. While there are already some sources of flood mapping information available, such as the Tasmania State Emergency Services/ListMAP, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, the Australian Flood Risk Information Portal (AFRIP), and further flood maps as maintained by each municipality, critically, there is no statutory or regulatory obligation at present incumbent upon Tasmanian councils to provide this information to purchasers, residents, or developers.
3. If or when a planning or building application is lodged, a council may request for the Flood-Prone Areas Hazard Code in the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – State Planning Provisions to be addressed; this ensures prospective flood risks are considered and developments are appropriate. There is, however, currently no ability for a council to directly inform prospective purchasers that a property is located within a predicted flood area. Although councils may maintain their own flood maps, these are not always readily available to prospective purchasers, and it is not apparent that they themselves should undertake their own due diligence to ensure that the flood risks on the relevant property are acceptable. If flood mapping were to be provided under the Section 337 *Local Government Act 1993* process (Council Certificate of Land Information), then these risks would be known to purchasers before they commit to this significant financial decision.
4. The initiative contemplated in this motion will not only help purchasers, residents, and developers make informed decisions but also assist councils in planning and managing low-lying lands. By considering the impact of climate change, we can ensure that our state is prepared for future challenges and that our communities are built to be resilient and are provided the tools and the information to manage prospective and recurrent flood risks.
5. This motion seeks to address these issues by advocating for a statewide, accessible online interface for flood mapping and requiring the inclusion by the relevant council of flood mapping in the issuance of Form 337 and any other such forms as appropriate.

References

The following sources of information were considered in the preparation of this motion:

- Tasmania State Emergency Services - <https://www.ses.tas.gov.au/about/risk-management/flood-risk-management/tasmanian-flood-mapping-project-reports/>
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania - <https://nre.tas.gov.au/water/water-monitoring-and-assessment/hydrological-assessment/floods/floodplain-mapping>
- Australian Flood Risk Information Portal (AFRIP) - <https://www.community-safety.ga.gov.au/data-and-products/afrip>
- ListMAP - <https://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map>

Northern Midlands Council

Motion:

That LGAT lobby the State Government:

- To amend legislation to include electricity generation and storage plant and equipment in capital valuation (as occurs in Victoria) and to allow energy sector developments to make appropriate payments in lieu of rates under a regulated formula subject to indexation consisting of a fixed payment per site and a variable payment based on installed capacity.
- That applicable developments subject to the rating policy amendments will include all current electricity generation and storage developments under existing technologies, as well as future generation and storage developments under existing and new technologies.
- Consider the means by which Councils located within reasonable proximity of energy sector developments in unincorporated areas that impact infrastructure and service provision are appropriately compensated via similar payment arrangement to ensure ratepayers are not financially impacted by these developments.

Background Information:

It is suggested that there is an increase in the flexibility for Tasmanian Councils in the categorisation of land uses for rating purposes to better reflect intensity of use, and to allow councils to recover payments in lieu of rates directly from electricity generators under a regulated formula (as exists in Victoria).

In 2016 MAV (Municipal Association of Victoria) provided a submission to the Victorian Community Renewable Energy Projects Consultation, the following information is extracted from the submission (the Community renewable energy projects PiLoR and planning issues discussion paper is attached):

The community renewable energy projects' discussion paper focuses on three key issues:

- *the definition of community renewable energy projects*
- *the possibility of an alternative payment-in-lieu-of-rates (PiLoR) methodology for community renewable energy projects; and*
- *planning arrangements for community wind farms*

...

The MAV and councils support a transition away from non-renewable energy sources and the State's setting of ambitious renewable energy targets. It is our hope and expectation that the State will engage constructively with local government to ensure a smooth transition.

...

(ii) Payment in lieu of rates (PiLoR) methodology

The current methodology for the rates in lieu of rates was established following a comprehensive review in 2004. This review extensively consulted with generator owners, councils and other interested parties. This process effectively argued that the capital intensity of electricity generators would lead to excessive rates under a normal capital improved value (CIV) rating methodology and therefore discounts to these ratepayers is appropriate. It is worth noting that the MAV believes that the PiLoR methodology is the only example of rates or rates in lieu being paid expressly on the output capacity of a property rather than its value.

As a matter of principle, the MAV believes that the rates provisions within the Local Government Act 1989 provide sufficient powers and flexibility for a council to equitably impose rates on electricity generators, including small scale renewable facilities. That is, the MAV, at the time of the review in 2004 and currently, does not believe that the rates in lieu provisions of the Electricity Industry Act are required. Councils can apply differential rates to various types of properties and there is no barrier for a differential rate to be applied to a small-scale electricity generation facility. In considering rating decisions, the framework must achieve vertical and horizontal equity - that is, the rates paid must be equitable against those properties that are similar (in this example, are a similar value or provide a similar purpose) and must also be equitable in relation to both higher and lower valued properties. For example, the review must consider why a generation facility that has a community ownership should be given preferential treatment to other properties that provide a community benefit. There is no evidence that these broader issues have been considered in the paper.

Notwithstanding the MAV's long standing position, the discussion paper suggests that the current approach is inappropriate for small-scale renewable energy facilities because of the high fixed cost incorporated in the 'base' PiLoR methodology. The MAV makes the following observations:

- *The provisions in the Electricity Industry Act are only triggered in the event that either the council or generator*

owner seeks a payment in lieu of rates; otherwise the normal rating methodology would apply and as discussed above, a council has extensive tools to construct an equitable rating strategy.

- The legislative framework allows councils and the community-owned renewable energy facilities to negotiate a rates in lieu structure that is not based on the PiloR methodology, but rather one that reflects the benefit of that generator. It is contended that where a small scale community owned facility provides a benefit to the community, it is unlikely that a council would not support the development of that facility through a rates in lieu structure that would not disadvantage that facility.
- There are no examples provided of a small facility that pays rates at the 'commercial' generator PiloR level or of any proposed renewable facilities that did not proceed because of the rates in lieu methodology.
- There has been no comprehensive process to review these provisions, unlike in previous examples of amending the rating provisions around electricity generators.

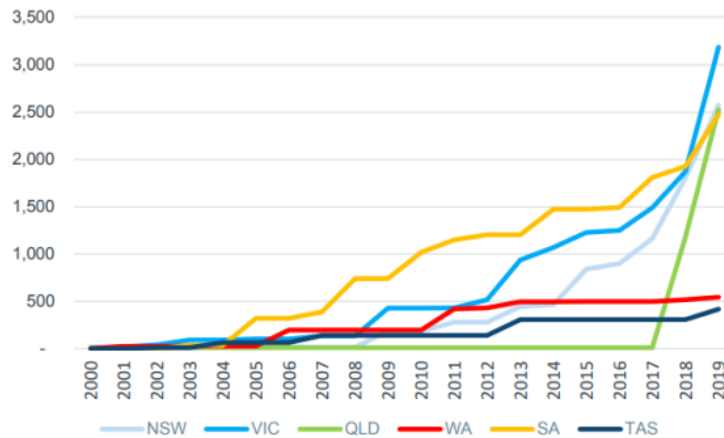
The MAV has undertaken consultation with its members which has indicated there is some support for the removal of the fixed cost component of the PiloR methodology. As indicated above, the MAV's current position is that all energy generators - renewables or otherwise - should be rated under the Local Government Act 1989. We believe that in the event the State wishes to amend these provisions that it must adopt an appropriate review structure that more deeply considers the rating issues. The current paper does not demonstrate the existence of an issue that requires a policy response and nor does it show sufficient understanding of the rating system and its complexities to provide a suitable response even in the event there is a genuine need to review the current framework.

The following extracts from the February 2020 LEGATUS Group report, *The Rating Equity in SA and the Financial Impacts on Local Government's Ability to Support Growth* provides background to the motion.

Industry & Council/Community Impact Assessment

Figure E.1 shows a comparison of the cumulative energy generation capacity from wind and solar farms by state since 2000. The assessment highlights considerable growth in renewable energy capacity across Australia, with SA being an early adopter and capacity growing most rapidly in NSW, VIC and QLD in recent years. The substantial growth in renewable energy capacity in VIC and QLD relative to SA in recent years has occurred despite their respective State Governments enabling Councils to levy appropriate and equitable rates on (or receive payments made in lieu of rates from) energy sector developments which are considerably higher than the rates able to be levied by SA Councils.

Figure E.1: Wind Farm + Solar Farm Generation Capacity – Cumulative Since 2000



Source: AEC, AEMO (2019), assorted online sources.

The analysis suggests that the introduction by SA Councils of similar rating practices to VIC will not impact the commercial viability of energy sector projects, and therefore will not influence location decisions for investments in these projects. Presently, SA Council rates account for less than 0.1% of infrastructure lifecycle costs excluding financing for wind and solar farms, compared with 1% in VIC – these contributions halve when financial costs are included. Location decisions are primarily made with reference to electricity generation efficiencies and the ease with which connection can be made to the national grid. Further, no flow-on effects on electricity prices are anticipated from higher SA rates on energy sector projects given prices are determined in a national market where other generators are already levied higher Council rates. Under current SA Government valuation and rating policy, the estimated annual revenue foregone by SA regional Councils when compared to VIC Government rating policy is estimated at \$4.8 million (as shown in Table E.1), which equates to \$120.9 million over 25 years (equal to the asset life for the majority of renewable energy sector developments). It should be noted here that the actual revenue loss for SA Councils is much greater when compared to the rates payable under the full capital valuation approach (as exists as the base position in VIC), with the estimated annual loss being around \$26 million or \$650 million over 25 years. Allowing the regions to access this revenue has the potential to facilitate ongoing permanent employment of

up to 43 jobs assuming the VIC regulated formula approach is adopted – maintaining current rating policy will prevent these additional regional employment opportunities from occurring. These Council and community impacts are expected to grow significantly in the short to medium term given the significant number of renewable energy projects currently under financial close and approved in SA regional areas.

Table E.1: Estimated Foregone Revenue from Energy Sector Developments for Regional SA Councils

Council	Current Contribution	Potential Contribution	Foregone Revenue
EYRE PENINSULA			
Lower Eyre Peninsula	\$ 4,288	\$ 138,801	\$ 134,513
Port Lincoln	\$ 3,215	\$ 148,226	\$ 145,011
Franklin Harbour	\$ 12,382	\$ 143,828	\$ 131,446
LEGATUS			
Barossa	\$ 4,672	\$ 118,693	\$ 114,020
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	\$ 29,441	\$ 389,201	\$ 359,760
Goyder	\$ 16,141	\$ 741,064	\$ 724,923
Northern Areas	\$ 70,600	\$ 934,842	\$ 864,242
Peterborough	\$ 2,000	\$ 62,893	\$ 60,893
Port Pirie	\$ 6,975	\$ 189,252	\$ 182,277
Wakefield	\$ 26,050	\$ 519,595	\$ 493,545
Yorke Peninsula	\$ 15,515	\$ 263,463	\$ 247,948
LIMESTONE COAST			
Wattle Range	\$ 26,067	\$ 898,225	\$ 872,158
SOUTHERN & HILLS			
Yankalilla	\$ 20,804	\$ 99,213	\$ 78,409
UPPER SPENCER GULF			
Port Augusta	\$ 1,737	\$ 194,098	\$ 192,360
MURRAYLANDS & RIVERLANDS			
Coorong	\$ 2,000	\$ 175,246	\$ 173,246
Murray Bridge	\$ 2,000	\$ 62,139	\$ 60,139
TOTAL	\$ 243,888	\$ 5,078,778	\$ 4,834,891

Source: AEC, selected SA Councils.

Overall, this report shows that:

- The competitiveness of SA regions in attracting renewable energy developments will not be impacted by the proposed rating policy amendments particularly if rates levied are comparable with VIC. As such, there would be no negative impact on investment and employment opportunities in SA regions as a result of the proposed rating policy amendments.
- There is an opportunity to provide a financial, economic and social boost to SA regions through the proposed rating policy amendments, as the additional rate payments retained within local economies and communities is estimated to provide sufficient stimulus to sustainably create up to an additional 43 permanent full-time equivalent jobs in SA regions.

An in-depth industry assessment found that no negative economic or employment effects would be felt by SA regions as a result of the above recommendations. In fact, adoption of the above recommendations may result in additional employment in SA regions of up to 43 full-time equivalent jobs from developments to date, with the extent of this benefit likely to increase with the addition of more developments in the future.

The above information has been compiled from the following sources:

- https://www.mav.asn.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/5758/Submission-to-community-renewable-energy-projects-discussion-paper-Nov-2016.pdf
- https://www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0026/919106/FINAL-REPORT-Rating-Equity-in-SA-and-the-Financial-Impacts-on-Local-Governments-Ability-~Legatus-Group-February-2020.pdf

See the following references for further information:

- <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/payment-in-lieu-of-rates-for-electricity-generators>
- https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0031/594616/PLoR-fact-sheet.pdf
- <https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2016-09/apo-nid70565.pdf>

NOTED (Item to be listed on the next workshop agenda)

28.6 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION – BOTHWELL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Report by

Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise of a Community Grant Application from Bothwell School Association.

Bothwell School Association
37-39a Patrick St
Bothwell, TAS, 7030
BDHSAssoc@gmail.com

15th February 2024

Councillors
Central Highland Council
6 Tarleton St,
Hamilton, TAS, 7140

Dear Central Highland Councillors,

The Bothwell School Association is seeking funds from the Council to purchase food for Bothwell School's Breakfast Club program. We have completed a community grants program application form which details our request.

In summary, Bothwell School community volunteers (including parents, carers and interested community members) will purchase food, prepare, and deliver breakfast and clean up every Wednesday morning. All school students will be able to access breakfast from 8.30-9.00am. We require no administration or support from Council other than funds to purchase food and milk. The Bothwell School Association will be responsible for the running of Breakfast Club. We have budgeted \$70 a week for food for 75 students and there are 40 weeks in the school year.

We would also like to bring to your attention a report titled "An Evaluation of the School Breakfast Club Program" (Final Report February 2019), by Victoria University which stated:

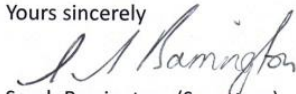
Teachers report that breakfast clubs have had a significant impact on student learning:

- 95% of teachers note an improvement in concentration,
- 90% have observed greater levels of engagement and focus for students who attend,
- 88% of teachers report improvements in student's social skills,
- 85% of teachers note a positive impact on the academic outcomes of students who attended breakfast club.

There were many other benefits listed however the ones above are fantastic outcomes.

We believe that Breakfast Club is a valuable and important service we can offer all students at Bothwell School.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Barrington. (Secretary)
610barrington@gmail.com
0497100675

BACKGROUND

A Community Grant application form was received on 15 February 2024 from the Bothwell School; Association. The Grant Request is to obtain funding for provisions for the Bothwell School Breakfast Club program in 2024.

The funding request is for \$2,800 to be allocated from the Grant Assistance Budget. This budget has \$15,000 currently available for allocation.

RESOLUTION: 23/02.2024/C

Moved: Cr A Archer

Seconded: Cr R Cassidy

THAT the Bothwell School Association be allocated \$2,800 from the Grant Assistance Budget.

CARRIED

For the Motion

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

28.7 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION – BOTHWELL HALL FEE WAIVER FOR EXERCISE CLASSES – THE HEALTH ACTION TEAM CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

Report by

Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider a request for fee waiver for Community Exercise classes at Bothwell Hall. These ongoing classes are run by the Health Action Team Central Highlands (HATCH) at the Hall on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Background

Council has received a request from Tracey Turale – the Health Promotion Coordinator for the Tasmanian Health Service on behalf of HATCH. The request is for remission of fees for the Bothwell Town Hall for ongoing fitness classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during 2024. Additionally, the request is for remission of any fees for hire of the Bothwell Football Club and Community Centre if Council otherwise requires the Bothwell Town Hall.

These classes are an initiative of HATCH through the Highlands Healthy Connect Project. HATCH covers most running costs for this program including hire of instructor Karen Beasant. A small contribution also comes via attendance fees, which are \$7 per class, or \$50 for a 10-class pass. The attendance fee is subsidised by HATCH – if attendees were to pay a full commercial price, this would be \$20 per class, or \$160 for a 10 Class Pass.

HATCH has a long-standing relationship with Council by providing community group exercise at the Bothwell Town Hall for the past 3 years, and other locations within the Central Highlands. These popular classes provide an opportunity to for the community to enhance both their physical and mental health in a safe, supportive environment. HATCH thanks Council for their consideration in this matter and their ongoing support for community health and wellbeing initiatives.

Karen Beasant is the exercise instructor for all classes. A copy of Karen's certificate of currency is included as Attachment B for the Saturday Class - Karen is engaged directly for this class by HATCH. A copy of Freedom Health and Wellness Certificate of Currency is included as Attachment C - Karen is employed through Freedom Health and Wellness for the Monday and Wednesday class.

RESOLUTION 24/02.2024/C**Moved:** Cr R Cassidy**Seconded:** Cr Y Miller

THAT Council remit the hire fees during 2024 for Bothwell Hall, and Bothwell Football Club and Community Centre when required, for HATCH's exercise classes on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

CARRIED**For the Motion**

Mayor L Triffitt; Deputy Mayor J Allwright; Cr A Archer; Cr A Bailey; Cr R Cassidy; Cr J Hall; Cr J Honner; Cr D Meacheam and Cr Y Miller.

29. OTHER BUSINESS**29.1 ANZAC Services**

It was noted that the following Councillors will be attending and assisting in the following services:-

Gretna	Mayor L Triffitt
Fentonbury	Deputy Mayor Allwright and Mayor L Triffitt
Arthurs	Cr J Honner and Cr J Hall
Bothwell	Mayor L Triffitt; Cr J Honner and Cr R Cassidy
Hamilton	Deputy Mayor Allwright; Cr A Bailey and Cr Y Miller

30. CLOSURE

Mayor Triffitt thanked everyone for their contribution and declared the meeting closed at **12.50pm**.

Signed as Confirmed:

Mayor L Triffitt**Dated:** 19 March 2024