PRESENT
The Mayor, Cr PA Hooper Chairperson,
Crs Gwenda Allgood, Jo Armstrong, Peter Beales, Darren Ford, Glenda McLean and David Pettman,
Mr Andrew Evans, Chief Executive Officer,
Mrs Colleen White, Director Corporate Strategy, Risk and Governance,
Mr Don Cole, Director, Assets, Finances and Corporate Services,
Mr Neil Manning - Executive Manager Planning and Public Health,
Mrs Angela Hunt - Acting Executive Manager Community Life,
Mr Tim Day - Acting Executive Manager Operations and Infrastructure, and
Mrs Jenny Woolcock, Manager Executive Services and Governance.

1 TRADITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Prayers were read out by Mayor Cr Paul Hooper.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND ON WHICH WE MEET TODAY, AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST AND PRESENT.

OPENING PRAYER

ALMIGHTY GOD, WE HUMBLY ASK YOU TO HELP US, AS ELECTED COUNCILLORS OF THE ARARAT RURAL CITY COUNCIL. GUIDE OUR DELIBERATIONS. PROSPER WHAT IS YOUR WILL FOR US, TO YOUR HONOUR AND GLORY AND FOR THE WELFARE AND BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE WHOM WE SERVE IN THE ARARAT RURAL CITY.

COUNCILLORS OATH


2 APOLOGIES
Nil.
3 – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED CR ARMSTRONG
SECONDED CR BEALS

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 February 2017 be confirmed.

CARRIED 3382/17
4 – REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

A written request to address Council must be received before 12noon on the Monday prior to the Council meeting.

Written requests must be in relation to an item listed on the current Council Meeting Agenda.

If a request is not accepted by the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer, a written advice will be provided to the requester outlining the reasons for this decision.

Approved requests to address Council Meetings will be heard at the commencement of the Council Meeting.

The presenter will be allocated a maximum of three (3) minutes to present his or her address to the Council. An extension of time may be granted by the Mayor.

During the presentation, the presenter may not address questions to Councillors or officers.

Two minutes will be allocated for Councillors to ask questions of the presenter, if required.

Council may request a further report on the matter from officers.

Members of the public gallery are not allowed to communicate with Councillors and officers whilst the meeting is in progress.

No Requests to Address Council were received.
Disclosure of Interests are to be made immediately prior to any relevant item being discussed.

Local Government Act 1989 Section 79 (2)

A Councillor or member of a special committee who has a conflict of interest and is attending the meeting of the Council or special committee must make a full disclosure of that interest -

(a) by either -
   (i) advising the Council or special committee at the meeting of the details required under paragraph (b) and (c) immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting; or
   (ii) advising the Chief Executive Officer in writing of the details required under paragraphs (b) and (c) before the meeting; and

(b) classifying the type of interest that has given rise to the conflict as either -
   (i) a direct interest: or
   (ii) an indirect interest and specifying the particular kind of indirect interest under section 78, 78A, 78B, 78C, 78D or 78E; and

(c) describing the nature of the interest; and

(d) if the Councillor or member advised the Chief Executive Officer of the details under paragraph (a) (ii), the Councillor or member must make a disclosure of the class of interest only to the meeting immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting.

Local Government Act 1989 Section 80C)

A person who is providing advice or a report to a meeting of the Council or a special committee, and who has a conflict of interest in a matter to which the advice or report relates, must disclose the constituting the conflict of interest when providing the advice or report and before the advice or report is considered by the Council or the committee.
6 - PETITIONS

Clause 15 of Council’s Meeting Procedure states:

1. A petition presented to Council must lay on the table until the next Ordinary Meeting of Council and no motion, other than to receive the petition or joint letter may be accepted by the Chair, unless the Council agrees to deal with it earlier.
2. Petitions received by Ararat Rural City Council will be tabled under “Petitions” in the Order of Business.
3. At the meeting the petition will be formally received by Council and referred to the relevant area of Council for consideration and action which will be reported to the next ordinary meeting of Council for decision if one is required.
4. When a petition relates to an item already on the agenda at the meeting at which the petition is tabled, the matter will be dealt with at that meeting.
5. Any Councillor presenting a petition will be responsible for ensuring that he or she is familiar with the contents and purpose of the petition and that the petition is not derogatory or defamatory.
6. Any person who fraudulently signs a petition or joint letter which is presented to the Council is guilty of an offence.

No Petitions were received.
ITEM 7.1.1 BUSINESS ARISING
13039071
CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership

Introduction
Information only item.

Discussion
Please note the following schedule listing actions taken on the resolutions from the last Council Meeting and outstanding items from previous meetings.

Officer's Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task No.</th>
<th>Resolution Number</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Council Meeting Date</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Audit Reference</th>
<th>Task Date</th>
<th>Task Progress</th>
<th>Office Update</th>
<th>Directorate &amp; Business Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1156</td>
<td>3373</td>
<td></td>
<td>21/02/2017 08:00:00</td>
<td>Certify Plan of subdivision 16 Backly St</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 100%</td>
<td>Certification and Statement of Compliance issued in SPEAR</td>
<td>Council Services (Planning)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1152</td>
<td>3366</td>
<td></td>
<td>21/02/2017 08:00:00</td>
<td>Issue NPD Mountview Wastewater extension of Reclamation Line</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 100%</td>
<td>Notice of Decision issued</td>
<td>Council Services (Planning)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1153</td>
<td>3374</td>
<td></td>
<td>21/02/2017 08:00:00</td>
<td>Issue Planning Permit 778 Andrews Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 100%</td>
<td>Council Services (Planning)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1070</td>
<td>3167</td>
<td></td>
<td>28/06/2016 08:00:00</td>
<td>Review and, if necessary, update the Fraud Prevention Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 100%</td>
<td>Initial review completed, further reviews remain open - outcome of Task 1068 “Fraud Control Plan” development</td>
<td>Council Services (Planning)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1157</td>
<td>3365</td>
<td></td>
<td>21/02/2017 08:00:00</td>
<td>That the Councillors allowances be paid monthly, and updated as per any notifications received from the Minister for Local Government</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 100%</td>
<td>Accounts and People and Culture departments notified of resolution that the Councillors allowances be paid monthly, and updated as per any notifications received from the Minister for Local Government</td>
<td>Executive Services (Operational Governance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1156</td>
<td>3364</td>
<td></td>
<td>21/02/2017 08:00:00</td>
<td>Write to Lake Bolac Complex Committee of Management advising Council approval of Committee members as nominated at the Meeting held on 31 November 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Completed 100%</td>
<td>Correspondence forwarded on 9 March 2017 advising approval of nominated officers to the Lake Bolac Complex Committee of Management</td>
<td>Executive Services (Operational Governance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1062</td>
<td>3190</td>
<td></td>
<td>18/07/2016 08:00:00</td>
<td>Audio recordings of Council Meetings and Special Council Meetings (open sessions) be placed on Council’s new website once it is launched and each recording remain on the site for a period of 12 months following the meeting date</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In Progress 0-50%</td>
<td>Further structure requirements are being undertaken as part of the new website, once these have been finalised the audio of Council Meetings will be available on the Council websites.</td>
<td>Executive Services (Operational Governance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task no.</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>Council Meeting Date</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Audit Reference</td>
<td>Task Date</td>
<td>Task Progress</td>
<td>Office Update</td>
<td>Directorate &amp; Business Unit</td>
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<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>838</td>
<td>2795</td>
<td>29/06/2015</td>
<td>Each year Council conduct at least two formal service level reviews to identify efficiency gain opportunities and ultimate budget savings.</td>
<td>2015-01 Customer Request Management AND 2014-02 Long Term Financial Planning</td>
<td>31/06/2017</td>
<td>In progress 0-50%</td>
<td>Documentation reflecting an implementation process is currently under development</td>
<td>Corporate Strategy, Risk &amp; Governance (People &amp; Culture)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1119</td>
<td>3290</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>The review of Council's Road Management Plan is currently under way and the review considers the proposed amendments to the current Road Management Plan as drafted.</td>
<td></td>
<td>19/05/2017</td>
<td>In progress 0-50%</td>
<td>Review of Council's Road Management Plan has commenced. The draft plan has been sent to John Smith (MAV) for review and input.</td>
<td>Assets, Finance &amp; Corporate Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1117</td>
<td>3201</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>Advocate on the Maroona Primary School's behalf to the Department of Education and Vocational Education for future works.</td>
<td></td>
<td>31/03/2017</td>
<td>In progress 51-99%</td>
<td>A letter has been drafted to arrange a meeting between the parties.</td>
<td>Council Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1115</td>
<td>3206</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>Closure and subsequent one of the unsealed sections of road reserve (Patterns Street) in Wodonga, between Patterson Street and Firth Street.</td>
<td></td>
<td>24/02/2017</td>
<td>In progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Request has been forwarded to DR/LWP.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1149</td>
<td>3234</td>
<td>10/12/2016</td>
<td>Council will work with the post members of the McDonald Centre to work come across regarding the current proposal for the McDonald Centre to use the centre.</td>
<td></td>
<td>31/03/2017</td>
<td>In progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Officers have had difficulty contacting all parties over the Christmas/New Year period but are progressing with those conversations. A report will be provided at the April Council meeting.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>495</td>
<td>2382</td>
<td>26/06/2014</td>
<td>Developing a project management framework for all Ararat Rural City Council which is aligned to best practice principles.</td>
<td>VASO RFP Project Management Report</td>
<td>30/02/2017</td>
<td>In progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Work is progressing towards the development of a PMO Service which is largely aligned with the PRINCE2 standard. This service will support projects of varying sizes, including those associated with Capital Program Delivery.</td>
<td>Assets, Finance &amp; Corporate Services (Asset Management)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>968</td>
<td>3114</td>
<td>01/12/2015</td>
<td>Document Community Contributions Framework and present to Council for final approval.</td>
<td></td>
<td>30/06/2017</td>
<td>In progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Draft document under development. The revised draft document will be brought to Council at the completion of strategic planning process in 2017.</td>
<td>Council Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task no.</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>Council Meeting Date</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Audit Reference</td>
<td>Task Date</td>
<td>Task Progress</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>706</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>2604</td>
<td>17/03/2015</td>
<td>Install and connect sewer in Anwar Found</td>
<td>30/05/2017</td>
<td>In Progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Tender has come in considerably over budget, Alternative systems being investigated</td>
<td>Council Services (Buildings &amp; Facilities)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1092</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>3224 (C)</td>
<td>18/02/2016</td>
<td>Obtain a current rental market value for the proposed land surrounding the aerodrome and if Ms Whalen is prepared to pay the revised lease then advertise Council’s intention in lines this lead to Mr Whalen and call for public submissions to hear from anyone who objects to the proposed lease</td>
<td>6/02/2017</td>
<td>In Progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Council considered a report in February 2017 and a notice of intention to advertise the land to Ms Whalen was placed in the Anwar Advertiser on Friday 17 February. The public have until 7 April 2017 to make a submission.</td>
<td>Assets, Finance &amp; Corporate Services (Property, Rates &amp; Valuations)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1068</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>3167</td>
<td>28/06/2016</td>
<td>Prepare and adopt a Fraud Control Plan aligned with better practice</td>
<td>31/03/2017</td>
<td>In Progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Draft has been completed, further analysis is being undertaken to plan alignment of the &quot;process&quot; purchase and policy. Once the analysis is complete, the Fraud Plan can be submitted for appropriate approval.</td>
<td>Corporate Strategy, Risk &amp; Governance (Strategic Governance)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1155</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>3267</td>
<td>21/02/2017</td>
<td>Reinstate VicTrack for costs of planning &amp; building permits</td>
<td>24/03/2017</td>
<td>In Progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Issue invoice and process payment as they arise</td>
<td>Council Services (Planning)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1096</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>3209</td>
<td>29/09/2016</td>
<td>Report on Management of Gordon St to Council</td>
<td>31/03/2017</td>
<td>In Progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Report has been developed and a notice has been placed in the Council’s newsletter advising interested parties to attend the meeting to discuss the report.</td>
<td>Council Services (Community Development &amp; Client Services)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1071</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>3167</td>
<td>28/06/2016</td>
<td>Review the Protected Disclosures Policy in line with the timeframe within the policy</td>
<td>31/05/2017</td>
<td>In Progress 51-99%</td>
<td>Review underway</td>
<td>Corporate Strategy, Risk &amp; Governance (Strategic Governance)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task no.</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>Council Meeting Date</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Audit Reference</td>
<td>Task Date</td>
<td>Task Progress</td>
<td>Office Update</td>
<td>Directorate &amp; Business Unit</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>21/02/2012 00:00:00</td>
<td>Undertake a Business Impact Assessment to identify minimum adequate ICT usage times to ensure adequate disaster recovery and business continuity arrangements are in place to mitigate risk of non-recovering critical business functions and services within the agreed timeframes.</td>
<td>2011-02 Business Continuity &amp; Disaster Recovery Planning</td>
<td>20/02/2017 00:00:00</td>
<td>In Progress 21-99%</td>
<td>A new data entry page is now being developed within the Service Excellence Framework (SEF) to capture key ICT provided software/hardware elements used by each service. A time-related impact assessment for the loss of these key elements will also be captured for each element. This data will subsequently be used to drive business continuity planning (BCP) within ICT and within ICT-sensitive services.</td>
<td>Assets, Finance &amp; Corporate Services (Information Technology)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1151</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>13/12/2016 00:00:00</td>
<td>Undertake community consultation regarding the proposed re-funding of the Ararat Area Precinct and associated services.</td>
<td></td>
<td>28/02/2017 00:00:00</td>
<td>In Progress 21-99%</td>
<td>Given the Christmas/New Year period officers extended the consultation period to include all of February to allow more people to participate in the engagement process. The consultation closed on Feb 28 and will be reported on at the March Council meeting.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1072</td>
<td>Resolution Number</td>
<td>28/06/2016 00:00:00</td>
<td>Update relevant policies, procedures and volunteer induction process to include an acknowledgement of Council's Employees Code of Conduct.</td>
<td>Fraud Prevention and Detection Strategies</td>
<td>25/02/2017 00:00:00</td>
<td>In Progress 21-99%</td>
<td>Updating of policies and procedures is in progress, the outcome of which is being informed by the resources roll-out of Section 86 Committee Framework reform.</td>
<td>Corporate Strategy, Risk &amp; Governance (Strategic Governance)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7 - INFORMATION REPORTS

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOVED CR FORD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SECONDED CR BEALES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That the Business Arising Report be received.

CARRIED 3383/17
ITEM 7.1.2 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

13039075
CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership

Introduction
Information only item.

This report contains the records of Council Committee meetings minutes received since the last Council Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committees</th>
<th>Councillor representative</th>
<th>Current meeting (as presented)</th>
<th>Next scheduled meeting/s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Bypass Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Cr Hooper and Cr McLean</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20 March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Regional Art Gallery Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18 April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Committee</td>
<td>Mayor and Cr McLean</td>
<td>Audit Committee Report presented separately.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Engagement Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong and Cr Pettman</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22 March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Road Safety Steering Committee</td>
<td>Cr Allgood</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Yearly in August/September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Years Strategic Planning Advisory Group</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5 April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Strategy Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Cr Allgood, Cr Ford and Cr Hooper</td>
<td>27 February 2017</td>
<td>27 March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Sustainability Advisory Group</td>
<td>Cr Pettman</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19 April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future of Agriculture Advisory Group</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong and Cr Hooper</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16 March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Promoting Leadership Advisory Group</td>
<td>Cr Pettman</td>
<td>9 March 2017 (minutes to be presented to April 2017 Council Meeting)</td>
<td>11 May 2017, 15 June 2017, 14 September 2017 and 16 November 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>8 March 2017 (minutes to be presented to April 2017 Council Meeting)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.
7 - INFORMATION REPORTS

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
Further information regarding this item is provided in Attachment 7.1.2.

MOVED CR BEALES
SECONDED CR PETTMAN

That the Council Committees Report be received.

CARRIED 3384/17
ITEM 7.1.3  ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Council plan reference
5.1  Good governance through leadership

Introduction
Information only item.

The Local Government Act 1989 (Section 80A) requires that the record of an assembly of Councillors is to be reported to the next practicable Council meeting and be included in the minutes of that meeting.

Discussion
The following records of meetings of the Assembly of Councillors since the last Council Meeting are attached.  Note: Any disclosures of interest, relevant to these items, are recorded in the Assembly of Councillors record.

1  Assembly of Councillors held on 21 February 2017;
2  Assembly of Councillors held on 27 February 2017 Economic Strategy Advisory Committee;
3  Assembly of Councillors held on 28 February 2017;
4  Assembly of Councillors held on 06 March 2017;
5  Assembly of Councillors held on 07 March 2017; and
6  Assembly of Councillors held on 14 March 2017.

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
The six Assembly of Councillor records listed above are provided in Attachment 7.1.3.

MOVED CR ALLGOOD
SECONDED CR McLEAN

That the Assembly of Councillors Reports be received.

CARRIED 3385/17
ITEM 7.1.4 GRANT APPLICATIONS
13039073 CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

Council plan reference
1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper

Introduction
Information item only.

Discussion
Please note the following schedule updating grant applications.

Officer's Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Grant Source</th>
<th>Grant Name</th>
<th>Grant Description</th>
<th>Grant Progress</th>
<th>Officer Update</th>
<th>Action Start Date</th>
<th>Action Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>460</td>
<td>DETTR - Local Roads to Market</td>
<td>Local Roads to Market 2014</td>
<td>Application submitted to also improve in Tooronga Park; key link to market in the municipality; $500,000 Council contribution, $350,000 application.</td>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>469</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Application received for the Tooronga Park Development project to improve public access and amenities.</td>
<td>Successful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>470</td>
<td>Australian Government - Building Better Regional Fund</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Application received for Tooronga Park Development project to improve public access and amenities.</td>
<td>Successful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>471</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Application received for Tooronga Park Development project to improve public access and amenities.</td>
<td>Successful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>472</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Application received for Tooronga Park Development project to improve public access and amenities.</td>
<td>Successful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>473</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Tooronga Park Development</td>
<td>Application received for Tooronga Park Development project to improve public access and amenities.</td>
<td>Successful</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Grant Source.</td>
<td>Grant Name.</td>
<td>Grant Description.</td>
<td>Grant Progress.</td>
<td>Officer Update.</td>
<td>Action Start Date</td>
<td>Action Due Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>DFO - Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>Toowoomba Avenue of Honour Restoration</td>
<td>To undertake a tree assessment and prepare a management plan for restoration of Avenue of Honour. Replant trees at</td>
<td>Application - Successful</td>
<td>Applied for $20,000, received $1,605</td>
<td>26/02/2018</td>
<td>06/02/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>402</td>
<td>DFO - Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>Toowoomba Avenue of Honour Restoration</td>
<td>To undertake a tree assessment and prepare a management plan for restoration of Avenue of Honour. Replant trees at</td>
<td>Application - Successful</td>
<td>Applied for $20,000, received $9,215</td>
<td>26/02/2018</td>
<td>06/02/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>DFO - Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>Toowoomba Avenue of Honour Restoration</td>
<td>To undertake a tree assessment and prepare a management plan for restoration of Avenue of Honour. Replant trees at</td>
<td>Application - Successful</td>
<td>$20,000 application, received $5,605</td>
<td>26/02/2018</td>
<td>06/02/19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7 - INFORMATION REPORTS

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

MOVED CR FORD
SECONDED CR BEALES

That the Grant Applications Report be received.

CARRIED 3386/17
7 - INFORMATION REPORTS

ITEM 7.1.5 COUNCILLORS EXPENSES
15065324
CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership

Introduction
Council resolved at the 21 July 2015 Council Meeting to publish, at each Council Meeting, the monthly expenditure and year to date amounts of Councillors Expenses, which will include accommodation, meals, mileage allowance, training and development, conferences and communication.

Discussion
To assist Councillors in meeting their obligations, they are provided with general support such as mobile phones, computers and reimbursement of official travel and meal costs.

The following graph and table outlines the Councillors expenses up until 15 March 2017.

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.
MOVED CR McLEAN  
SECONDED CR BEALES

That the Councillors Expenses Report be received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Accommodation</th>
<th>Meals/Dining</th>
<th>Travel (includes reimbursement of fees travelled in own vehicle and Remote Area travel and parking)</th>
<th>Training and Development (registration fees and membership)</th>
<th>Conferences (registration fees)</th>
<th>Communications (inc. Travel, travel &amp; meals, phones and gifts)</th>
<th>Total per Councillor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cr Allgood</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 6.75</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 72.00</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Armstrong</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 39.25</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Ford</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Hourani</td>
<td>$ 154.55</td>
<td>$ 3,015.46</td>
<td>$ 104.96</td>
<td>$ 27.27</td>
<td>$ 54.54</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr McLean</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 21.00</td>
<td>$ 21.00</td>
<td>$ 59.86</td>
<td>$ 59.86</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Pettman</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Cr Deutsch</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 1.275.12</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Cr T Hall</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Cr G Hall</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 154.55</td>
<td>$ 73.91</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Cr McLean</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 1.275.12</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure by category</td>
<td>$ 154.55</td>
<td>$ 1,370.01</td>
<td>$ 21.00</td>
<td>$ 206.62</td>
<td>$ 86.63</td>
<td>$ 3,017.34</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITEM 7.1.6 CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE QUARTERLY REPORT

CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

Council plan reference
1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper
3.1 A Strong and diverse local economy
5.1 Good governance through leadership
5.4 Professional and skilled staff in a safe and supportive environment
5.5 Sustainable, long term financial management

EXECUTIVE SERVICES AND GOVERNANCE

Councillor and Mayoral Allowances
A Council must review and determine the level of Councillor allowances and the Mayoral Allowance within the period of 6 months after the general election or by the next 30 June, whichever is later.

At the Statutory Meeting held on Tuesday 8 November, Council received a report on the review of Councillor and Mayoral Allowances.

Council advertised its intent to set the Mayoral and Councillor allowances for the entire council term (ie until November 2020) at the maximum levels for a Category 1 Council, as determined by the Minister for Local Government and published in the Victoria Government Gazette from time to time.

An advertisement was placed in the Ararat Advertiser on 18 November 2016 inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received.

A Council report on the Councillors Allowances was presented to the February 2017 Council Meeting, and the Councillors and Mayoral Allowances adopted as outlined.

Councillor Code of Conduct review
Section 76C(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, states that “a Council must, within the period of 4 months after a general election—
(a) call a special meeting solely for the purpose of reviewing the Councillor Code of Conduct; and
(b) at that special meeting, approve any amendments to be made to the Councillor Code of Conduct determined by the Council to be necessary following the review of the Councillor Code of Conduct.”.

At the Special Council Meeting on 19 January 2017, Council adopted the reviewed Councillor Code of Conduct. The Councillor Code of Conduct declaration was signed by each Councillor on 31 January 2017.

Reputational Risk Audit
AFS and Associates conducted a Reputational Risk Audit in November 2016. The objective of the audit was to ensure reputational risk exposures/opportunities are identified and processes are in place to effectively manage these. This includes opportunities to enhance Council’s profile/success.
The Audit report found 20 recommendations, with 7 requiring minor action and 3 with no issue, but opportunities. These recommendations have now been dealt with.

**Strategic Planning Audit**
AFS and Associates conducted a Strategic Planning Audit in January 2017. The Audit was to confirm that Council had systems in place to develop, progress and monitor strategic initiatives proposed through the Council Plan/Strategic Resource Plan and Budget setting processes.

The Audit report found that out of the 11 recommendations only 3 required minor action. These outstanding items have now been resolved.

**Corporate Planning and Budget Workshop**
During the first three months of 2017, Council has held numerous Assembly of Councillors sessions to discuss the Council Plan 2017/2021 and Budget 2017/2018.

**Corporate Planning Timetable 2017/2018**
The following is a timetable, which has been created to assist with the development of these strategic documents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 January 2017</td>
<td>Corporate Planning/Budget Workshop 1</td>
<td>Facilitate meeting with Council</td>
<td>Overview of Council Planning and Budget Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 January 2017</td>
<td>Priority Projects and Goals Workshop</td>
<td>Facilitate meeting with Council</td>
<td>Priority Projects and Council Plan 4 year goals and priorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillors to consider the priority projects, provide further priority projects not already discussed, consider content of draft Council Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 January 2017</td>
<td>Strategic Planning Update to MANEX</td>
<td>Email MANEX the draft Council Plan template and Priority Projects List</td>
<td>MANEX to be given the opportunity for input into the draft Council Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 January 2017</td>
<td>Corporate Planning/Budget Workshop 2</td>
<td>Develop draft Council Plan taking into account feedback regarding</td>
<td>Consolidation of Council priorities and strategies with input from Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Vision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Mission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Pillars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Objectives for each Pillar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Strategies for each Pillar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Key Actions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Performance Measures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Deliverables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council reviews the Council Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Draft Budget 2017/2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council consider major projects, operating budgets and recurrent capital budgets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council reviews the Council Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Draft Budget 2017/2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council consider major projects, operating budgets and recurrent capital budgets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early February</td>
<td>Communications Plan</td>
<td>Develop Communications Plan</td>
<td>Media briefings, Press Releases and general communications/marketing, advertising communicating events and scheduling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early February</td>
<td>Communications and Media</td>
<td>Meet with Media Team to discuss Draft Budget/Draft Council Plan</td>
<td>Post card promotion, media releases, website, communicating events and scheduling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early February</td>
<td>Consultation on Council Plan 2017/2021, incorporating the MPHWP, Budget 2017/2018 and Rating Strategy</td>
<td>Post Card as per 2013 consultation</td>
<td>Emailed/Posted to all households (also used at listening posts and forums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 February 2017</td>
<td>Strategic Planning Update with MANEX</td>
<td>Update MANEX on the Council Plan and Budget Process</td>
<td>MANEX to be given the opportunity for input into the Council Plan and Budget Discussion on departmental budgets Request feedback by 23 February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 February 2017</td>
<td>Post Card – Community Engagement</td>
<td>Post cards sent to households</td>
<td>Distribute to households via Australia Post on 20 February 2017 (Responses due date: 25 March 2017) Also distribute at various community engagement planned activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 February 2017</td>
<td>Corporate Planning/Budget Workshop 5</td>
<td>Facilitate meeting with Council</td>
<td>Strategic Resource Plan Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March 2017</td>
<td>Workshop 6 – Final Discussion re Balanced Draft Budget and Draft Council Plan</td>
<td>Facilitate meeting with Council</td>
<td>Present to Council the draft documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 March 2017</td>
<td>Deadline for Post Cards feedback</td>
<td>Collate data obtained from Post Card feedback</td>
<td>Report on findings and observations of community consultation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Deliverables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 June 2017</td>
<td>Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>Meeting held to hear submissions on the draft Budget 2017/2018 (if any received)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 June 2017</td>
<td>Assembly of Councillors</td>
<td>Discuss submissions received at Special Council Meeting on 6 June 2017.</td>
<td>Any amendments to the documents will be reflected in the documents presented to the 27 June 2017 Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June 2017</td>
<td>Lodge Council Plan and Budget with Minister prior to 30 June 2017</td>
<td>Prepare letter to Minister by 30 June 2017 Forward Council Plan and Budget to Minister</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 September 2017</td>
<td>Audit Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Audit Committee to review Draft Annual Financial Report and Draft Annual Performance Statement prior to presentation to Council</td>
<td>Audit Committee recommend the Councillor representatives sign the financial statement and performance statement in is final form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 September 2017</td>
<td>Advertisement for Financial Statements and Performance Statements Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>Public notice advising Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>Place advertisement for Special Council Meeting to be held on 9 September 2017 in Ararat Advertiser on 2 September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 September 2017</td>
<td>Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>Approval of financial statements and performance statements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7 - INFORMATION REPORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 September 2017</td>
<td>Council considers and approves Financial Statements and Performance Statements</td>
<td>Council authorises the Councillor representatives to certify the financial statements and performance statements in their final form</td>
<td>Council representatives sign the certification pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 September 2017</td>
<td>Lodge Annual Report with Minister prior to 30 September 2017</td>
<td>Prepare letter to Minister by 30 September 2017</td>
<td>Forward Annual Report to Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 September 2017</td>
<td>Advertise Special Council Meeting to discuss the Annual Report 2016/2017</td>
<td>Public notice advising Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>Place advertisement for Special Council Meeting to be held on 10 October 2017 in Ararat Advertiser on 29 September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 October 2017</td>
<td>Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>Adoption of Annual Report 2016/2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Review of Council Plan 2017/2021**
As part of the review of the Council Plan 2017/2021, Council has posted out to all residents a copy of the “Have Your Say” survey in the form of a postcard. The survey can also be completed online at [www.ararat.vic.gov.au](http://www.ararat.vic.gov.au).

The survey is open until 25 March 2017, and results/outcomes will be presented to Council for discussion as part of the review for the Council Plan 2017/2021

**2017 Year of Opportunity in Local Government Forum**
Ararat Rural City Council are hosting a forum entitled “2017 Year of Opportunity in Local Government” on Thursday 30 March 2017.

The Forum will have presenters from Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate, Local Government Victoria, Ombudsman’s Office, Infrastructure Victoria, Municipal Association of Victoria, Wyndham City Council, Ararat Rural City Council and two local presenters.

This is a great opportunity for Ararat to promote the region to other Victorian Councils, State Government Departments and the Local Government Associations.

**Community Satisfaction Survey 2017**
The Local Government Victoria's state-wide Community Satisfaction Survey was carried out in February/March 2017. The survey involved 400 interviews conducted among a representative sample of residents. A further update will be provided once the results have been received.

**PROOPLE AND CULTURE**
Training
Depot employees participated in an “Injury Prevention” workshop on January 31, presented by local Physiotherapist Kylie Plunkett.

Key employees that have contact with emotionally charged customers participated in a “Deflecting Anger Techniques” workshop on February 9. The group found the workshop extremely beneficial in their day to day activities and learnt how different behavioural types deal with unfavourable situations, the signs to look for and how to best approach that behaviour to gain a more positive outcome.

The team have once again coordinated the Personal Development Plan (PDP) process during December/January. This forms part of Councils formal employee appraisal process. This process is a mandatory requirement prescribed by the Local Authorities Award 2001. The December/January round of PDP's involves all managers undertaking development plans with their employees in either a team or individual environment, discussing the content of the work that is being performed and where improvements can be made, identifying skill gaps where training is required, and discussing various other factors that affect the performance of an individual or team. The process is designed to allow for an open and honest discussion to occur between the employees and their manager.

Defined Benefits Update
Correspondence received from Vision Super in February has relayed that there is enough funds (105.4%) to cover all employees within the program. The major finding within this update surrounded the defined benefits program and the current performance of the plan. This amount is dependent upon market factors but there won’t be a call upon Councils to provide extra funds unless this amount drops below 100%.

Health & Wellbeing
Council's new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) providers MindWorks Australia held introductory sessions with the entire workforce on February 16. Time was also made available at the conclusion of the sessions for any employees who wished to have a one on one conversation.

MindWorks will be commencing monthly on-site visits from March 9 where employees will have the opportunity to catch up with a Counsellor and discuss any issues they may be experiencing.

The People & Culture team have also organised “Performance and Resilience” training for all employees over a four month period commencing at the end of March.

Industrial Relations:
Council's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) was successfully voted in favour of after a ballot vote concluding on February 24. The Agreement has now been signed by the participating Unions and lodged at the Fair Work Commission.

Recruitment and Selection
The People and Culture team has continued to manage the Recruitment and Selection, Induction and Exit processes across Council as well as managing the multitude of all associated matters that concern the employees of Ararat Rural City Council.

Since December, 3 new casual employees have been welcomed into the Ararat Team. These positions include: Assistant Building Surveyor and two Intern Planners.
A number of Positions were advertised and filled from within Council. These being: Executive Manager Community Life, Executive Manager Operations and Infrastructure, Executive Manager Planning & Public Health and Manager People & Culture.

Others not yet finalised include Early Years & Positive Aging Coordinator, Maintenance Works Coordinator, Safety Officer and Casual Parks and Gardens Officers.

The period also saw Council farewell three valued employees.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES and LOCAL LAWS**
This is an information report on the activities of the Emergency Services and Local Laws team for the months of December 2016, January and February 2017.

**Local Laws**

**Resources**
The Local Laws has utilised the Local Laws Casual Officer for peak workloads or for backfilling when Officers are at training or on leave. The Local Laws and Emergency Management Team now have a dedicated administration officer who will be a significant asset to the team and will also increase our capacity, providing administration support for emergency services and local laws.

**Training**
Members of the Local Laws Team are progressing well with their Certificate IV in Statutory Compliance and Animal Control. One Officer is due to complete the course in July and the other in December 2017.

The Local Laws Team Leader attended a Litter Training and Investigation Workshop held in Melbourne and attended by other Councils and agencies involved Waste Management Services. The course was presented by Environmental Pollution staff from both Victorian and New South Wales.

**RSPCA**
Three animal cruelty complaints were received from the RSPCA during the reporting period, for neglect or improper care of dogs kept at residential properties. All cases were investigated by Local Laws and all resulted in educational advice and or verbal warnings being given.

**Pound**
The pound has a new septic system installed, providing a more capable and efficient system that is safer and more environmentally friendly in the treatment of effluent.

**Adoption**
Local Laws works tirelessly at rehousing as many suitable dogs and cats as possible. The Pet Rescue website has been delivering results with direct animal adoptions being facilitated by this organisation.

Council now offers a fully inclusive fee of $100 for dog adoption and $50 for cat adoption. This makes Council competitive with other councils and animal pounds throughout the State. We also receive applications from interstate which opens up the capabilities of rehousing our animals.

**Cat and Dog Registrations**
In this period we have targeted specific streets and areas within our municipality to try and increase overall compliance for animal registration.
During the past quarter the following cat and dog registrations have been received:
- 60 Dogs  All new registrations
- 14 Cats   All new registrations

**Dog Attacks**
Three dog attacks were reported to Local Laws in the reporting period with the following summary:
- On the 20 December 2016 two dogs were at large in George Road and whilst they were out they started biting and attacking a resident’s dog through the fence of the front yard of a house. The victim and owner of the attacking dogs came to a private arrangement and the dog attack was not officially reported. Infringements were issued to the owner of the attacking dogs for the following:
  - Not Renewing Dog Registration x 2
  - Dog at Large During Night Time x 2
- The second dog attack on 27\textsuperscript{th} of February 2017 was a person delivering parcels to a farm in Armstrong who was bitten by a dog that lived on the property. The owner of the dog was given the following fine:
  - Non serious injury caused by dog attack.
- The third dog attack occurred on the 28 February 2017, where a Rottweiler jumped a fence and attacked a small dog being walked along Henderson Street Ararat by a female. This woman received significant injuries protecting herself and her dog and was taken to hospital for treatment and dog went to vets. Police were called and are prosecuting the owner of the dog for dog attack causing serious injury, Council attended and have issued infringements for
  - Dog at large during daytime and;
  - Unregistered dog.
The attacking dog was euthanized by the veterinary surgeon.

**Compliance and Enforcement**
Compliance and enforcement activities are outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infringement Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parking Infringements for the period</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Management infringements for the period: 22</td>
<td>$6,062.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Laws Infringements(Allow dog to be unleashed): 0</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infringement Notices Total:</strong> (including Animal Control)</td>
<td><strong>$6,062.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meter takings for the period: Ext GST</td>
<td>$13,834.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pound fees for the period:</td>
<td>$1,870.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Furniture Permit receipts x 5</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Air Burning Permits x 3</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi Animal Permits x 3</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue December 2016 – February 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total $ 22,111.22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the period a total of 22 infringement notices were issued.
- 8 Unregistered animal
- 13 Dog at large during the daytime
- 1 Non serious injury caused by a dog attack
- 0 Local Law offence

**Prosecution**
Council has received 4 applications for an Infringement Payment Plan against infringements issued during this period. The applications were granted in line with the Infringements Act, requiring Council to accept these within a nominated period, these plans can be ongoing until completion and or if they default.

**Domestic Animal Management**
During the period four dogs and thirteen cats were rehoused through statewide rescue groups. This is on top of the three dogs directly adopted from the pound via Pet Rescue. This has been timely due to an increase of impounded animals during the period.

**Requests of Assistance**
There were 178 customer requests for assistance from the Local Laws Team during the period. This is a much higher figure than in the previous period.
- December  51
- January       63
- February     64

**Livestock**
During the period there were 4 reported cases of stock at large in the municipality resulting in officers attending to move livestock off the road or back on to their property. In one case a notice was issued to the owner of cattle at Moyston, directing them to make urgent fence repairs (Impounding of Livestock Act). This was complied with and no further action needed to be taken.

**Meter Takings**

Meter maintenance issues are affecting the revenue received.

**Easy Park**
EasyPark has been available to motorists in the city of Ararat from December 2014.
Transaction and usage data show fluctuations in uptake in the past quarter. The revenue from Easy Park has been included in the overall parking meter takings amount, however February figures are not available at this stage.

**Easy Park transaction data**

![Easy Park transaction data graph]

**Easy Park revenue data**

![Easy Park revenue data graph]

**Disabled Parking Permits**
This quarter the Local Laws team has issued the following number of disabled parking permits.
- 28 Blue Permits
- 2 Green Permits

**Local Laws Permits**
This quarter the Local Laws team has issued the following number of permits.
- General 1
- Permit to Burn 3
- Street Furniture 5
7 - INFORMATION REPORTS

- Multi Animal Permits 3

Total Permits Issued 12

Animal Control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 2016 – February 2017</th>
<th>DOGS</th>
<th>CATS</th>
<th>LIVESTOCK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Pound at start of period</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impounded – Seized</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1 (Sheep)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impounded – Surrendered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released to owner</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euthanized</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopted from pound</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehoused to Rescue Group</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Pound at end of period</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1 (Sheep)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All cats euthanized were deemed feral or diseased and unsuitable for rehousing.

The sheep in the pound is being held as evidence by Police who are investigating the theft of the sheep.

After Hours Requests
Local Laws after hours call-outs for the period December to February 2017: 5
After hours phone calls only for the period December to February 2017: 4

SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Occupational Health and Safety

The Safety Committee held the first of 4 annual meetings. 16 staff received OH&S refresher training and 18 staff received ‘Deflecting Anger’ training to deal with aggressive customers.

Worksafe claims are being managed in accordance with policy and legislation.

Emergency Preparedness

Councils Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO) conducted municipal fire inspections, resulting in 141 notices being served on property owners to reduce vegetation and subsequent fire risk on their property.

Council Parks and Gardens officer and MFPO met to ensure fire management planning works on strategic fire breaks and roadside vegetation and emergency water supplies was completed in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP).
ARCC 2016-17 Fire Season Advice brochures were mailed to all residents, detailing a shared responsibility for planning and preparing our community for the coming fire season. The brochure contained two free waste vouchers and approximately 1400 vouchers were received at transfer stations.

A Municipal Emergency Resource Project (MERP) Plan was submitted to Local Government Victoria as part of the ongoing funding arrangements for the MERP position.

**Emergency Planning**

Council coordinated a community meeting, inviting residents residing in high risk fire areas on the north west interface of Ararat and identified in the ‘Defendable Spaces’ Project. Approximately 90 residents attended the meeting. The participants were shown ‘Phoenix Modeling’, depicting a bush fire impacting residences close to the interface. Positive feedback was received from the community about the inherent risk of fire and need for proactive maintenance and fuel reduction on the urban interface.

Council has participated in two emergency Management Planning Guidelines - External Reference group meetings. These meetings are preparing the way for the Emergency Management Guidelines to be released later in the year.

The Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC) meet in March.

The Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) also meet in March.

Council participated in Municipal Flood Emergency Planning (MFEP) and Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) planning.
TOURISM AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Tourism Projects
The Regional Tourism Pipeline is the development of a prioritised pipeline of Regional Tourism projects and a plan for future investment opportunities. Tourism is a major economic driver for regional Victoria and contributes significantly to Regional development through investment attraction, employment generation and visitor expenditure. Developing local tourist assets and encouraging more visitors to travel to destinations in Regional Victoria is a key growth opportunity. Ararat Rural City Council in partnership with surrounding Councils and Grampians Tourism continue to work on the below projects:-

Mount Langi Ghiran Scenic Route and Tourism Development project
This project included a market focused analysis of the Mount Langi Ghiran and Mount Cole areas, to enable the identification and prioritisation of investment opportunities.

It also incorporates a feasibility study to look at development of a tourism product and investment in and around Mount Langi Ghiran.

The preparation of the report engaged local tourism operators, government authorities, local businesses, community and relevant stakeholders to contribute their knowledge about the current state of the industry, constraints and future opportunities. The final report will be used to look at these opportunities to further enhance Tourism.

Grampians Peaks Trail Investment Activation Plan
The purpose of this report is to present the findings of the Grampians Peaks Trail accommodation feasibility study and investment activation plan. This project included a feasibility of the accommodation along the GPT that the private sector could develop and/or operate, looking at a range of on park and off park sites and modeling a number of different investment scenarios.

One of four long-distance walks being developed as part of the Walk Victoria’s Icons portfolio, the Grampians Peaks Trail (GPT) is ideally located in a region renowned for its outstanding natural landscapes, wildlife and cultural values and will position Victoria and the Grampians National Park (Gariwerd) as a key nature-based tourism destination.

Once completed, the GPT will provide visitors with a 144km multi-day walking experience which can be undertaken as a whole trail experience or in sections. The trail will stretch from Mount Zero in the north to Dunkeld in the south.

Along with this study the other critical documents directing the development of the GPT are the Grampians Peaks Trail Master Plan and The Grampians Peaks Trail Product Development Plan.

This project is a Grampians Tourism led funding submission with a Project Control Group now in the final stages of finalising the report.

Regional Cycling and Trails Business and Master Plan
This project will deliver a coherent and clearly outlined strategy for the infrastructure spend required for road cycling, mountain biking, BMX, Cyclo cross, bike packing and trail walking and adventure experiences, to develop a consistent supporting tourism product Grampians wide.
Key outcomes for this project will include:

- Potential to attract both national and world class cycling and trail events, with the accompanying boost to regional economic development
- Significant opportunity to develop a consistent approach to marketing and promotion of Grampians regional cycling product
- Opportunity to plan a ten year program of infrastructure delivery across the Grampians region, providing a long term view that allows for budget planning between the State and respective LGAs
- Encourage visitors to regional Victoria and build upon the strength of the region in nature based, heritage and wine tourism.
- Capitalise on the transport and infrastructure in regional Victoria to develop a network cycling and walking trails
- Review cycling events, trails, infrastructure and proposed projects across the regional and develop coordinated strategy

The Grampians region has the potential to be Australia’s premier tourism destination for cycling and trail related experiences. The Grampians Region Cycling and Trails Business and Master Plan will explore the full potential for the whole of the Grampians region, across all 11 LGA’s. A focus will be around capitalising on the iconic Grampians Peaks Trail and Goldfields Track, currently amongst two of the world’s best walking and cycling experiences, to develop consistent supporting tourism product Grampians wide.

The Grampians Region Cycling and Trails Business and Master Plan will deliver a coherent and clearly outlined strategy for the infrastructure spend required for road cycling, mountain biking, BMX, cyclo cross, bike packing, and trail walking and adventure experiences for cycling and walking communities, visitors from across the country and the world.

**Ararat & Grampians Visitor Information Centre**

Visitation for the quarter was up YOY by 1.7% with both December and January recording positive increases in visitation. A full quarter of growth for international visitation to the centre is a great result. The Grampians region as a whole has also experienced growth within this demographic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visits</th>
<th>Dec 16</th>
<th>Dec 15</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIC Country</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>1072</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interstate</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3023</td>
<td>2726</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11% increase YOY for December with Vic Country and Melbourne visitation strong.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visits</th>
<th>Jan 17</th>
<th>Jan 16</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIC Country</td>
<td>1004</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>1117</td>
<td>1151</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interstate</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3124</td>
<td>2992</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International visitation in January had a spike with a 30% increase YOY.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visits</th>
<th>Feb 17</th>
<th>Feb 16</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIC Country</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>-7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interstate</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>-13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2493</td>
<td>2773</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An increase in visitation of International visitors for February.

December 2016
International Visitors Total: 131
December’s visitation recorded a variety of different counties, Germany and the UK at the top of the list with 23% of total visitation.

Germany again was the leader in visitation in January with 19% of total visitation. Closely followed by UK and New Zealand, combined totalling 20% of total visitation.
International visitation for the quarter increased by 15% YOY. February had a combination of UK, France and Germany to record 48% of total visitation.

South Australia recorded the highest visitation from interstate travellers with 46% of the total visitation.

Out of the 694 interstate visitors we recorded for the quarter 285 originated from South Australia which converts to 41% of total visitation.

Solid visitor numbers were recorded for both South Australia and New South Wales contributing to 70% of total visitation.

**Information Packs were distributed between Dec 2016 – Feb 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club / Organisation</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Gardening Club</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Hill Lake Committee</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AME - (Kenworth Stakeholders)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deniliquin Car Club</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Probus</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Inhouse Design
Ararat & Surrounds Visitor Guide
Updates to the Ararat & Surrounds Visitor Guide have been completed using the same template as previous years. Full lakes, changes to the Arts precinct and our focus on Dark Tourism have been reflected in this guide along with the normal maintenance and enhancement of the Tourism Operators. Extra guides were printed to accommodate the Pitch Music Festival held in March.

Events and Event Development
Carols by Candlelight – December 10
The Alexandra Gardens lit up with festivities on December 10, with the group keeping with the success in recent years of holding the event on a Saturday. The pool and kiosk within the gardens created further opportunity for the event to activate this area and give a new offering to attendees of the carols.

Willaura Outdoor Cinema – December 10
In conjunction with the Willaura Pool Committee and the opening of the Willaura Pool, an outdoor cinema screening was held at Willaura Recreation Reserve. The pool committee worked with other local community groups to set up activities and games prior to the movie, with popcorn and drinks for sale. A Christmas movie, Arthur Christmas created a festive atmosphere.

More than 40 people enjoyed a great night of family fun, numbers were down due to inclement weather playing a part.

Australia Day
2017 saw a revamp of Australia Day celebrations in the municipality, with formalities shifting to Alexandra Oval Community Centre from midday. The Community Centre reached capacity with more than 250 people attending the formal events of the day.
The Ararat Outdoor Olympic Pool held games and activities around the pool precinct across the afternoon with jumping castles and face painting beside the kiosk and pool.

In the evening, an outdoor screening of Oddball was held in the gardens with more than 100 people taking advantage of the mild night and the long weekend.

**Harvest Cut Out – 3 February**
A celebration after a long harvest season for the Willaura community, this great community based event had a good turn out at the Willaura Recreation Reserve.

With the closure of the Willaura Hotel, the committee is looking to combine the Harvest Cut Out into the post celebration of the Farm to Pub, combining two great community events into one.

**Ride to Remember – 5 February**
This event keeps exponentially growing year on year with more than 400 riders registering for the ride in 2017. This growth means the amount that the group is donating to East Grampians Health Service has grown, with an estimated $10,000 being donated from the 2017 event.

2018 is the 10th anniversary of the Ride to Remember, the committee are looking to expand the ride route and planning to celebrate with a series of events over the weekend.

**Farm to Pub – 25 February**
This year’s run had up to 200 runners return to the original Sandy Lane route. Online registrations continue to grow, and cooler temperatures this year made the renowned hill a bit less of a challenge.

A steady committee has turned this into a well organised event, and with the potential of combining with the Harvest Cut Out, could continue to grow into a great community event for Willaura. The closure of the famed ‘pub’ part of the run has been a catalyst to this, however the potential for great community growth with the use of the recreation reserve could be a positive change. By finishing the run at the Rec Reserve, it will be a good combination of two events. Increasing participation and enhancing the event.

**Upcoming Events**

**Jailhouse Rock Festival – 16-19 March**
This year the JHR Committee have worked hard to adjust in having to make changes due to the closure of the PAC for redevelopment, creating a revised program with the whole weekend of which is now to take place on the Alexandra Oval.

There is hope however that the changes required over the next two-years will create a ‘new normal’ and plans for 2018 include further activating the gardens area which shows a keenness by the committee to continue to evolve and grow with the changes.

**Moyston Sheepdog Trials**
The oldest sheepdog trials in Victoria this year enters its 89th year.

**Ararat Gift**
This year the Ararat Gift will be held on 25 March. The track lines have been surveyed and the Parks and Gardens team are hitting full track preparation mode following the cricket grand final over the
long weekend. This event will be a great asset for the region, and this year for the first time men and women will compete over equal distance for equal prize money.

Willaura Good Friday Appeal
The last event for the busy Willaura season, the Good Friday Appeal is expected to again raise a significant amount for the Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal.

Moyston Easter Market
The Easter Market has a good team coordinating the market, they continue working hard to get a good mix of stalls. With Easter falling at the end of the school holidays, the potential for a great attendance with local residents and through traffic to the Grampians Region is of benefit.

Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Relay
Special Olympics is a worldwide movement that inspires people with an intellectual disability to reach their personal best through regular sport and competition. The Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) is a police aligned charitable committee. Its primary aim is to support Special Olympics by raising funds and awareness and assisting Police Service Area’s to engage with their local intellectually disabled community through Special Olympics Activities and Torch Run events.

April will see the relay travel through the Wimmera region, arriving in Ararat the morning of Wednesday 26 April. The relay will involve up to 30 torch runners supported by carers, relay officials and interstate and local police members.

Departing from the Ararat Police Station, The Torch Run will be followed by a sports clinic to be held at Alexandra Oval and Community Centre highlighting various sports and encouraging participation by members of the disabled community, support and service providers and mainstream schools.

Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay
At the launch on March 5, Ararat was announced as a celebration community for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay. The baton will come through Ararat 13 February 2018 from 4:30pm.

Council was recommended as a key-route point by the Department of Health and will be the furtherest Western point of the Victorian route. This is one of the reasons Ararat has been selected as a prime site, with the relay finishing the day here, creating an opportunity for a community event following the relay for the public to experience the baton close up.

Council officers have been working closely with GOLDOC representatives over the past 6 months to coordinate routes, community safety aspects and create community partnerships.

Around 40 people will be selected to carry the baton on the Ararat route, with community nominations now open. The community nomination period commences 6 March until 15 May.

- A baton bearer is someone who meets one or more of the following criteria:
- Has achieved something extraordinary or inspired others to achieve something extraordinary.
- Has made a significant contribution to either sport, education, the arts, culture, charity or within their community.
- Has excelled, or aspires to excel athletically or personally.
- Who contributes to a fun, friendly, vibrant and inclusive community.
GOLDOC will also possibly be filming promotional footage prior to the relay for broadcast in affiliation with host broadcaster Channel 7 which will be great regional promotion.

**Alexandra Oval Community Centre and Fiscalini Pavilion**

Bookings

External bookings at Alexandra Oval Community Centre finished strongly in 2016, with 11 in total – up by six on the previous year. There were a number of returning bookings from 2015 including Ararat 800 Primary School Graduation Ceremony (approximately 200 attendees) and Ararat West Primary School Graduation Dinner (120). Also returning after a successful function earlier in 2016 was the Ararat Prison Officers’ Social Club, for their Christmas Party. The venue is an appropriate space for Christmas parties and will be further promoted next year to capitalise on this type of booking.

January is typically a quieter time of year, with many organisations not resuming operations until mid-late month. This seems to reflect low number of bookings compared to other months of the year, although 2017 did out-perform both 2016 and 2015 numbers. A welcomed addition to the Community Centre was that of the Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony. The decision this year to change location and time from early morning in Alexandra Gardens to lunchtime at Alexandra Oval was met with almost 100 percent positive feedback. All seating was fully utilised with an estimated 250 people attending. Given the early inclement weather on the day, having the ceremony inside the Community Centre was particularly well received by the public.

Bookings in February have also grown on the previous two years, indicating that a busy 12 months at the Community Centre are ahead. The month included two funerals on the same day (AM and PM), with feedback from John Dunn Funeral Services being that families are selecting the venue because it’s ‘large windows make it bright and modern and has good seating capacity’. To date the venue has held eight funeral services.

With the Ararat Rural City Council website now in full operation, an online booking function has been added to the Alexandra Oval Community Centre page and has assisted with reducing some administration work. More potential hirers are also visiting the page before phoning Council’s Function and Promotions Officer to discuss their booking further.
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Bookings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAV Web Networking Seminar</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Prison Officers’ Christmas Party</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA Course</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Institute of TAFE Free Trade Agreement Session Two</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Awareness Meeting</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transport Victoria Murray Basin Rail Project Meeting</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Disability Services NDIS Readiness Network</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Grants Presentation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballarat Health Services Education Day</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat 800 Primary School Graduation Ceremony</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat West Primary School Graduation Dinner</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services NDIS Update</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Disability Insurance Agency Community Forum</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customised Diploma Training</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis Great Escape Rally Launch</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampians Central Waste and Resource Group Meeting</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Health Grampians Workshop</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customised Diploma Training</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Lions Club Youth of the Year Award Dinner</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Birthday</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maintenance and improvements

A number of maintenance and improvements have been made in the past quarter including: Sectrol Security Ballarat have completed a number of works on both the Community Centre and Fiscalini Pavilion, including the installation of three new CCTV cameras to help improve monitoring and security of both buildings. Sectrol also replaced a faulty door reader on Changeroom 2 and upgraded the lock on the Community Centre’s kitchen door.

Both the Community Centre and Fiscalini Pavilion underwent its annual carpet clean to begin the year. Council’s Parks and Gardens team are to be congratulated for their efforts in maintaining Alexandra Oval’s surface during dry and hot summer conditions, as well as their work on the centre pitch throughout the Grampians Cricket Season. It has resulted in the venue hosting both the A grade Semi Final and A grade Grand Final.
Collateral

Further to Alexandra Oval Community Centre and Gum San Great Hall appearing in the Business Events Victoria Planner’s Guide 2016/17, both venues now have an online profile on the BEV website.

Business Events Victoria (founded by the Regional Victoria Conference Group) is a growing, membership-based group that has been operating since 1996. It operates as a collective group of conference venues, accommodation providers, tour operators, local councils, regional tourism organisations.

Both online profiles feature photographs of the venues as well as information on key features and a map. The BEV site also has a website linking function, which allows browsers looking at the page to be directed back to the Ararat Rural City Council website to find more information.

Gum San Great Hall

Bookings

Attracting bookings to Gum San Great Hall is challenging when Alexandra Oval Community Centre is also available. There were six external bookings for the quarter, with the major function being an all-day conference held by the Catholic Education Department. This is the second year the conference has been held at the Great Hall following its success in 2016.

Friends of Gum San utilised the venue in January to host a Chinese New Year banquet. The Chinese Dragon has also been set up for several weeks as part of the Chinese New Year celebrations and has attracted onlookers from the museum below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bookings</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>December</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monash University Conference</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillors Response to Emergencies Workshop</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniting Care NDIS Information Session</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>January</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Education Conference</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Meeting (office)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance Victoria Meeting</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Media & Communications

December saw the launch of the new Ararat Rural City Council website, creating a new communications tool for the community to receive information, updates and find out about the region and what’s on.

A transition period was undertaken with the old website running in conjunction with the new for a short period of time while people got used to the new site as the menu system, information and capabilities was very different to what many would have been used to.
Overall feedback has been positive, with people commenting on the clean look and easy navigation of the site.

One of the key features of the new site is the ability to gather real time data over level of use and behaviours of visitors to the site. Over the first months, daily page visits have averages just under 500 views on a weekday, with a return rate of just under 40%. As people get used to using the site as a source of information, it is expected that this will increase.

Currently people are spending an average 3 minutes per visit to the site, with a bounce rate (people who leave the site before proceeding to another page) of about 40%. This is a great rate for a new site, anything on or below 40% is considered good, this meaning people are engaged and can easily use a website. As with the return rate, this is also expected to improve over the coming months as the transition is complete.

After the homepage, the careers and services sections of the site receive the most traffic. With the ability to now apply for positions online being readily taken up by prospective employees, the reliance on these sections of the site is expected to grow.

The news feature of the site is the other growing trend in terms of usability, with all media releases being uploaded at the same time they’re sent to news outlet contact lists. This not only allows us to be proactive with our messaging, but also to push the items out through all available channels, including social media.
Another new feature is the ‘Have Your Say’ community feedback forum. Since launch, this has been used to source feedback on the site from the community. The health and Wellbeing Plan, Arts Precinct branding review and currently the Council Plan are all on this section for feedback. This feature allows for the collation of both quantitative and qualitative data which can be analysed in real time to monitor trends. Feedback can be received via a moderated discussion board or surveys which can be created within the site.

A similar functionality has been used to run competitions through the site. The 12 Days of Christmas and Nitro Circus competitions generated traffic to the site, giving users a chance to familiarise themselves with these new features. The 12 Days of Christmas competition, launched two days after the launch of the site, generated more than 30 online entries, while the Nitro Circus competition attracted around 50. This has shown to be a great way to engage users with the site and showcase it not just as an information tool, but an interactive community tool.

Work is continuing with the developers and other council software providers to finalise the integration of the website to other Council services software, allowing for further automation of customer queries and requests. This work will continue in testing over the coming weeks, and once finalised will allow for further online services to be integrated into the website.

Further community education will take place in coming months to highlight the ability for community to user input their own information for events, update community group information and highlight places and attractions of significance, as well as provide regular feedback to plans, strategies and ideas through the Have Your Say forum.

The ability to integrate between the website and social media platforms has also had a positive effect on the engagement levels on social media platforms.

Use of social media, particularly Facebook has continued to increase making it one of the most useful tools for engaging with our community. More than 1500 people now engage with the Facebook page, and is continuing to steadily increase.
Media Releases

The upgrade of the Ararat Rural City Council’s website has streamlined the way Council’s media releases are shared with the community.

The ‘news’ section of the new website is updated with each media release that is created by Council and this link is then shared with the various external media outlets on Council’s distribution list, as well as Ararat Active Facebook page. This new process not only provides up-to-date information to the media and public, but boosts visitors to Council’s website.

The feedback has been very strong, with positive comments including the website’s easy to read and navigate format. During the quarter a healthy amount of media releases were distributed and helped contribute to the success of a number of Council initiatives including Australia Day activities and community consultation.
ECONOMIC STRATEGY AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Introduction
The Economic Strategy Team continues to proactively implement the Ararat Economic Strategy 2014 - 2030 by leveraging and promoting our regional strengths in order to:
- attract major infrastructure projects
- attract new business investment
- attract new residents to Ararat Rural City and
- assist local businesses and industries grow by developing knowledge and networks.

The team focuses on attracting and facilitating major infrastructure projects and industry development strategies that deliver the greatest collective economic impact for Ararat Rural City.

There is also a significant opportunity to increase the population of Ararat Rural City over time by levering and marketing Ararat’s outstanding social, cultural and economic infrastructure.

Economic Performance
Total value added output for the year to December 2016 has increased from $524 million to $552 million when compared to the same period in 2015 (Remplan). The economy of Ararat Rural City is in a strong position due to the diversity of its industries and success in attracting major infrastructure projects such as the re-opening of the Maryborough – Ararat Rail freight line, the Western Highway duplication and the Ararat Wind Farm. A breakdown of Ararat Rural City’s economy is as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Output $ mill</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>$404.289</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Forestry &amp; Fishing</td>
<td>$175.585</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$159.879</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental, Hiring &amp; Real Estate Services</td>
<td>$115.836</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration &amp; Safety</td>
<td>$88.591</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</td>
<td>$74.125</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>$62.378</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>$46.863</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation &amp; Food Services</td>
<td>$36.936</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Training</td>
<td>$36.664</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial &amp; Insurance Services</td>
<td>$34.931</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport, Postal &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>$27.072</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, Scientific &amp; Technical Services</td>
<td>$19.712</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>$19.683</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity, Gas, Water &amp; Waste Services</td>
<td>$17.109</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative &amp; Support Services</td>
<td>$13.506</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Media &amp; Telecommunications</td>
<td>$9.638</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>$7.778</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Recreation Services</td>
<td>$7.250</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for ARCC</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,357.83</strong></td>
<td><strong>4550</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic Strategy Advisory Committee
Council’s Economic Strategy Advisory Committee (ESAC) has convened its first meeting with progressive and forward thinking contributions from all members. The (ESAC) has committed to a full review of the existing Ararat Rural City Council Economic Strategy as a precursor to setting a clear direction for maintain and bolstering existing economic stakeholders as well a leveraging new over the horizon opportunities.

Relationship Building
The Manager, Strategic Performance and Innovation has commenced reaching out to those stakeholders historically engaged by the previous Manager Economic Strategy to reinforce the commitment that the Ararat Rural City has to those relationships both now and into the future.

RES Ararat Wind Farm
RES has recently engaged an independent consulting firm specialising in economic and social analysis to undertake the development of a post project impact report. The broad scope of the report will be to consult with and measure the experiences of a diverse range of project stakeholders including but not limited to construction contractors, accommodation businesses, landowners, local vendors, ratepayers and Council representatives.

East Grampians Water Infrastructure Study and Intensive Agriculture Opportunities
This project continues to move forward under the leadership of Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water with strong support and guidance from Pyrenees Shire and Ararat Rural City Officers. The Manager, Strategic Performance and Innovation attended the most recent Technical Workshop where engineering consultants spoke to the progress of technical feasibility analysis. Ararat Rural City Officers have provided feedback related to expansion requirements against current and projected industry usage as well as GIS support to assist GWM build a consultation footprint of landowners. The latter support will underpin a combination of postal delivered information packs building end user awareness about the project as well as targeted, on the ground forums giving potential end users and interested parties an opportunity to discuss the benefits of the project with Council and GWM Officers.

Ararat Regional Business Association (ARBA)
The Economic Strategy Team continues to maintain its relationship with ARBA through collaborative events such as the Business Breakfasts and the Christmas Shopping Night of December 2nd.

ARBA's "Get Wrapped up in Ararat" Christmas Shopping Night was held on the 2nd December, where the CBD was open late. More than 45 retailers were a part of the ARBA promotion and most other businesses kept their doors open, taking part in a very successful evening's trading.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that most participating businesses had their expectations exceeded and healthy trading was had by all. Organisers and participants have mixed feelings about the event but others hailed it a great success.

The Economic Strategy Team is also liaising with ARBA and Small Business Victoria (SBV) for ARBA to be listed as a Training Host Organisation to deliver SBV’s training programs to its members and the wider business community.
Heritage Development - GUM SAN Chinese Heritage Centre

Entry
Entry figures for the December 2016 – February 2017 quarter, was 1,719 people, up 19% (1,449) from this period last year. They were made up of the following:

Groups
Group visitation numbers are comparable to this period last year. The Christmas period is the lowest in terms of group visitation with it being the Christmas and School Holiday period.

Revenue
Entry revenue for the same period was $10,297, up 19% ($7,673) from the same period last year, Gift Shop revenue was $5,932 up 42% ($4,172) on this time last year at an average Gross Profit of 64%, relating to an impressive $5.99 spend per person for every person entering the premises. Product Group GP breakdown is:
Visitor Origins

Over all Visitor Origin data for the financial year to date is as follows:

Regional Victoria is Gum San’s biggest visitor sector and draws on a broad range of markets. The biggest sections are indicative of where a large portion of the marketing has been directed - Horsham/Hamilton, Warrnambool and Ballarat. We also believe that the feed in through Western Victoria could also be playing a part in accounting for some of the South and West Australian Visitors (see Interstate origins below). It is also believed that improved presentation and physical visibility of the site, along with a high Trip Advisor rating, have combined to improve visitation from the already travelling public.
Interstate visitation break up for this last quarter is:

![Bar chart showing interstate visitation]

6% of Gum San’s Visitors come from overseas, with China being the largest point of origin as per the following graph. While China’s percentage is high, it is a big part of a small sector that is being re targeted.

![Bar chart showing international origins]

**Economic Benefit to Ararat Rural City**

Based on data collected, Gum San’s economic benefit to Ararat is modelled at almost $823,000, with approx. 20% of its visitors staying in Ararat at least one night. These figures placed in REMPLAN give the following benefits:
Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

MOVED CR ALLGOOD
SECONDED CR McLEAN

That the Corporate Strategy, Risk and Governance Quarterly Report be received.

CARRIED 3388/17
ITEM 7.1.7  ALEXANDRA OVAL USER REFERENCE GROUP (AOURG) AND LIQUOR LICENCE

17082552
CORPORATE STRATEGY RISK AND GOVERNANCE

Council plan reference
1.1  Assist communities to develop and prosper
3.1  A strong and diverse local economy

Introduction
The following report aims to update Council on the status of Alexandra Oval User Reference Group and the Liquor Licence, as part of the review undertaken on the following resolutions made by Council at the 6 December 2015 Council meeting:-

1  Council endorse the review of the Alexandra Oval Reserve Management Plan to commence in the first quarter of 2016;
2  Council endorse the commencement of a process to transition the Alexandra Oval User Reference Group Inc to an Advisory Committee to Council;
3  Council endorse the commencement of a review into the structure of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre liquor licence to ensure the most appropriate licencee and nominee are nominated;

Discussion
Alexandra Oval Reserve Management Plan
Resolution number 2990(c) Council endorse the review of the Alexandra Oval Reserve Management Plan to commence in the first quarter of 2016;

The reserve continues to operate under the Alexandra Oval Reserve Management Plan which was prepared in order to ensure that the use, operation and management of the facility are underpinned by a clearly defined management framework. The main purpose of this plan is to provide a strategic approach to the use, management and operation of the facilities within the Alexandra Oval Reserve.

The Management plan has now been reviewed and changes made in accordance as part of Alexandra Oval Operational requirements and Council’s responsibilities. The Alexandra Oval Community Centre and Reserve will continue to operate under the Management plan for 2017.

Alexandra Oval User Reference Group (AOURG)
Resolution number 2990 (c) Council endorse the commencement of a process to transition the Alexandra Oval User Reference Group Inc to an Advisory Committee to Council

The Alexandra Oval User Reference Group was established to ensure representation of local interests, including facility user groups and the broader community. Responsibilities are to ensure the communication between user groups, community representatives, key stakeholders and Council with regards to the management and operation of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre incorporating the Reserve. Letters have also been sent to the Ararat Outdoor Olympic Pool Committee requesting a representative to be a part of the AOURG as they now operate within the vicinity of Alexandra Oval and Gardens Precinct, Council are yet to hear back from this committee.
As part of a meeting with the AOURG in February 2016 it was discussed and supported by all representatives to look at moving to an advisory committee, to better assist with participation of the representatives and Council’s management of the facility. The incorporated committee currently adheres to the administration requirements as well as the Council administrative requirements. As the seasonal representatives are also members on their club committees they see it as a time restraint to undertake any role requirements on the AOURG, therefore limiting the input and assistance required as part of the AOURG.

For the transition to occur to an advisory committee only the Liquor licence is required to be amended to change from the AOURG as Licencee to Ararat Rural City Council as Licencee. The committee in its current format will be dissolved under the requirements of the incorporation and formed as an advisory committee only, all banking details will also transfer under Council requirements and administration requirements will continue in the current format.

**Liquor Licence**

Resolution number 2990 (c) Council endorse the commencement of a review into the structure of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre liquor licence to ensure the most appropriate licencee and nominee are nominated;

The Alexandra Oval Community Centre operates under an On Premise liquor licence, the listed licensee is Alexandra Oval User Reference Group who operate under the direction of Council, with Julie Kilpatrick - Manager Tourism & Community Information listed as the licence nominee.

There is also a Renewable Limited Licence (Booth) which allows for the operation of a booth to operate on a game day. Both licences can operate at the one time as long as the liquor regulations and requirements are adhered to.

With the operations of the bar being undertaken by members of the associated seasonal users, (therefore volunteers), licence regulations can sometimes not be adhered to. This can be put down to lack of training being undertaken but as most who operate the bar are volunteers it is hard to keep consistent in the operations. As per the resolution to review the structure of the liquor licencee and nominee to be changed to include Council as the licencee and Council CEO Andrew Evans as nominee of the liquor licence. As Council undertake the management of all areas within the facility, having overall management of the licence is more practical and beneficial for the operations of the bar. Council currently undertake the stocktake, banking, point of sale requirements, provide floats for the tills and adhere to all administration requirements as a part of the AOURG. This would then give the AOURG an advisory role only and the requirement to be an incorporated body will no longer be needed.

Requirements for the transition to occur is for Council to complete the associated forms to transfer an existing licence or permit out of the Alexandra Oval User Reference Group across to Ararat Rural City Council. All Councillors would be required to complete a Liquor Licensing Questionnaire and declaration for this to proceed, along with the CEO Andrew Evans to complete the Declaration and Transfer of Licence Nominee.
Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
Further information regarding this item is provided as Attachment 7.1.7.

MOVED CR ALLGOOD
SECONDED CR PETTMAN

That the Alexandra Oval User Reference Group and Liquor Licence Report be received.

CARRIED 3389/17
ITEM 7.2.1 BUILDING APPROVALS

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Council plan reference
3.4 Effective and efficient land use planning and building controls.

Introduction
Information only item.

Discussion
This report outlines the monthly building permit approvals issued by Ararat Rural City Council and by private building surveyors for building works within Ararat Rural City for the month of February 2017.

Approvals by Ararat Rural City Municipal Building Surveyor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permit No.</th>
<th>Application Date</th>
<th>Approval Date</th>
<th>Building Address</th>
<th>Nature of Works</th>
<th>Use of Building</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>161390/0</td>
<td>2/09/2016</td>
<td>1/02/2017</td>
<td>628 Jinnys Creek Road, Mafeking</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Dwelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161418/0</td>
<td>7/12/2016</td>
<td>7/02/2017</td>
<td>2 Lot 23 &amp; 24, Walkerville Street, Willaura</td>
<td>Addition to dwelling &amp; Verandah</td>
<td>Completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161420/0</td>
<td>14/11/2016</td>
<td>14/02/2017</td>
<td>18 Lot 3, High Street West, Ararat</td>
<td>Addition / Alteration to dwelling</td>
<td>Completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161429/1</td>
<td>27/02/2017</td>
<td>28/02/2017</td>
<td>2079 Lot 1, Pomonal Road, Pomonal</td>
<td>New Building</td>
<td>Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161430/0</td>
<td>2/12/2016</td>
<td>1/02/2017</td>
<td>17 Lot 2, Palmer Street, Ararat</td>
<td>Carport</td>
<td>Carport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161431/0</td>
<td>19/12/2016</td>
<td>6/02/2017</td>
<td>16 Lot 1, Ellerker Avenue, Ararat</td>
<td>Shed</td>
<td>Completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161433/0</td>
<td>4/01/2017</td>
<td>7/02/2017</td>
<td>3360 Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal</td>
<td>Addition</td>
<td>New Shed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171435/0</td>
<td>16/01/2017</td>
<td>6/02/2017</td>
<td>17 Lot 4, Wildflower Drive, Pomonal</td>
<td>Re-Stump</td>
<td>Completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171437/0</td>
<td>6/01/2017</td>
<td>8/02/2017</td>
<td>44 High Street West, Ararat</td>
<td>Shed</td>
<td>Completion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL VALUE $656,620

Please note that Private Building Surveyors have not been reported on for this month.

Impact on Value-Added
From a direct increase in output of $656,620 the corresponding increase in direct value-added is estimated at $187,089. From this direct expansion in the economy, flow-on industrial effects in terms of local purchases of goods and services are anticipated, and it is estimated that these indirect impacts would result in a further increase to value-added of $128,216. This represents a Type 1 Value-added multiplier of 1.685.
The increase in direct and indirect output and the corresponding boost to jobs in the economy are expected to result in an increase in the wages and salaries paid to employees. A proportion of these wages and salaries are typically spent on consumption and a proportion of this expenditure is captured in the local economy. The consumption effects under this scenario are expected to further boost value-added by $74,784.

Total value-added, including all direct, industrial and consumption effects is estimated to increase by up to $390,090. This represents a Type 2 Value-added multiplier of 2.085.

Officer's Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

MOVED CR ARMSTRONG
SECONDED CR BEALES

That the Building Approvals Report be received.

CARRIED 3390/17
Cr Darren Ford disclosed a direct interest in Item 7.2.2 – Planning Matters Approved under Delegation, Planning Permits and Certification of Subdivision Plans (Application 1138), due to him being the owner of the property.

Cr Ford left the Council Chamber at 6.09pm

**ITEM 7.2.2  PLANNING MATTERS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATION PLANNING PERMITS AND CERTIFICATION OF SUBDIVISION PLANS**

**EXECUTIVE SERVICES – PLANNING AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

---

**Council plan reference**
3.4 Effective and efficient land use planning and building controls.

**Introduction**
Information only item.

**Discussion**
Planning permits, certification of subdivision plans and liquor license applications are approved under delegated authority by relevant Council officers each month, where possible. This report outlines the various approvals for Council’s information.

Planning permit approvals under delegated authority.

**February 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Date Lodged</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Proposed Use of Development</th>
<th>Date of Delegated Approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02487</td>
<td>31/01/2017</td>
<td>Bob Milne</td>
<td>2406 Ararat – Halls Gap Road, Pomonal</td>
<td>Building &amp; Works: Sheep yard Roof</td>
<td>Amended Planning Permit 14/02/2017 Delegate: Joel Hastings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02578</td>
<td>23/05/2016</td>
<td>Brian Heinrich</td>
<td>Tunnel Road, Pomonal being Crown Allotment 5A &amp; 5C, Section 2, Parish of Jallukar</td>
<td>4 Lot Subdivision &amp; Native Vegetation Removal</td>
<td>10/02/2017 Delegate: Joel Hastings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02610</td>
<td>13/10/2016</td>
<td>Sandy Pok, Beveridge Williams &amp; Co P/L</td>
<td>Mortlake-Ararat Road, Reservation (Hopkins River Crossing), Rossbridge</td>
<td>Removal of Native Vegetation</td>
<td>10/02/2017 Delegate: Joel Hastings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02615</td>
<td>20/09/2016</td>
<td>Christopher Wells</td>
<td>31 Nott Road, Ararat being Crown Allotment 23, Section 16, Parish of Ararat</td>
<td>Construction of Shed and Native Vegetation Removal</td>
<td>16/02/2017 Delegate: Joel Hastings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARARAT PLANNING SCHEME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Date Lodged</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Proposed Use of Development</th>
<th>Date of Delegated Approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02624</td>
<td>13/10/2016</td>
<td>James Iles, iPlanning Services P/L</td>
<td>87 Port Fairy Road, Ararat being Lot 1 TP550249, Parish of Ararat</td>
<td>Replacement Dwelling</td>
<td>10/02/2017 Delegate: Joel Hastings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02633</td>
<td>28/11/2016</td>
<td>Rohan Fry, Grampians i-Design P/L for Bond</td>
<td>139-141 High Street, Ararat Being Lot 1, TP376372 and Lot 1 TP945915, Township &amp; Parish of Ararat</td>
<td>Warehouse, Carpark &amp; Road Zone Category 1 alteration</td>
<td>21/02/2017 Delegate: Joel Hastings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VCAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Proposed Use of Development</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>Andrea Marian</td>
<td>Tower Road, Norval</td>
<td>Removal of Native Vegetation and Construction of Dwelling &amp; Outbuildings And Outbuildings</td>
<td>VCAT Hearing 04/05/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Certification of subdivision plans under delegated authority.

February 2017

CERTIFICATION OF SUBDIVISION PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Date Lodged</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Date of Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1138</td>
<td>27/11/2015</td>
<td>Ararat Survey Pty Ltd</td>
<td>16 Barkly Street West, Ararat being Lot 1 TP341428, Township &amp; Parish of Ararat</td>
<td>Certification &amp; Statement of Compliance in relation to PS741982X, Version 03</td>
<td>27/02/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1105</td>
<td>29/04/2014</td>
<td>North Central Land Surveying for McKenzie</td>
<td>5556 Hillside Road, Buangor being Crown Allotments 45A1, 45B1, 44A, 44B, 82B &amp; E, Parish of Colvinsby</td>
<td>Certification of Plan in relation to PS71307B, Version 06</td>
<td>01/03/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liquor License Applications

LIQUOR LICENCING COMMISSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Consent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GoJo International P/L</td>
<td>Pitch Music Festival, Dunkeld Road, Moyston</td>
<td>Application for Major Event License</td>
<td>16/02/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atchison Nominees P/L</td>
<td>2079 Pomonal Road, Pomonal</td>
<td>Application for Wine &amp; Beer Producers License</td>
<td>16/02/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Officer's Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

MOVED CR BEALES
SECONDED CR ARMSTRONG

That the Building Planning Matters Approved under Delegation – Planning Permits and Certification of Subdivision Plans and Liquor License Applications be received.

CARRIED 3391/17

Cr Ford returned to the Council Chamber at 6.10pm.
ITEM 7.2.3 PARKING AND TRAFFIC ASSESSMENT-ARTS PRECINCT

EXECUTIVE SERVICES - OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Council plan reference
2.4 Strong performing and visual arts program.
3.2 Economic Growth within the municipality.
4.3 Community facilities that are developed and maintained
5.2 Services and infrastructure that meets the municipality’s existing and future needs

Introduction
An independent engineering firm (Driscoll Engineering Services) was recently engaged to assess any potential impact the Ararat Arts Precinct Redevelopment may have on parking and traffic in the precinct and to prepare a report on the findings and determinations of that analysis.

The report is a mandatory requirement under the planning scheme for this type of redevelopment and is currently the subject of a planning permit application.

Discussion
The Parking and Traffic report includes an assessment of the available on-street parking and the available public parking in off-street facilities in the vicinity of the site to enable Council to consider dispensation of car parking associated with the redevelopment.

This report also considers proposed access arrangements and the impact of the redevelopment on the existing traffic network.

The report concludes that whilst site improvements will result in a small net reduction in available on-site car parking there is still significant surplus capacity in the on-street and off-street parking facilities in the immediate vicinity of the Ararat Arts Precinct to accommodate the forecast increase in parking demand associated with the redevelopment.

The report also identifies some possible options for future improvements to parking arrangements in the precinct and the Ararat CBD.

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Attachments
Parking and Traffic Assessment Ararat Arts Precinct Site is included as Attachment 7.2.3.
MOVED CR ALLGOOD
SECONDED CR BEALES

That the Parking and Traffic Assessment-Ararat Arts Precinct Site report be received.

CARRIED 3392/17
**ITEM 8.1.1 SECTION 86 COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT**

13039110/17082539
CORPORATE STRATEGY, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

**Introduction**

Section 86 Special Committees are established to assist Council with executing specific functions or duties. By instrument of delegation, Council has delegated to the Special Committees such functions and powers of the Council that it deems appropriate, utilising provisions of the Local Government Act 1989.

**Discussion**

Section 86 Special Committees are required to report to Council at intervals determined by the Council.

A review of the process of receiving and presenting Section 86 Committees minutes is currently being carried out.

**Summary of Committee Meetings**

The following table updates Council on the meetings held by Council’s Section 86 Committees since the last Council Meeting.

Please note that due to the timing of meetings some minutes may not have been confirmed at the time they have been presented to Council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Committee</th>
<th>Councillor representative</th>
<th>Current meeting (as presented)</th>
<th>Next proposed meeting/s</th>
<th>Minutes last presented to Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Hall Committee of Management</td>
<td>Cr Allgood</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 May 2017</td>
<td>9 February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmhurst Public Hall Committee</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 February 2017, 13 April 2017, 8 June 2017</td>
<td>8 December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Bolac Complex Committee</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting dates not provided</td>
<td>23 November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Bolac Memorial Hall Committee</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Meeting dates not provided</td>
<td>30 September 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maroona Recreation Reserve Committee</td>
<td>Cr Pettman</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Meeting dates not provided</td>
<td>22 August 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mininera Recreation Reserve Committee</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9 March 2017, 13 July 2017, 19 October 2017, AGM</td>
<td>20 October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moyston Public Hall Committee</td>
<td>Cr Hooper</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 January 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomonal Hall &amp; Reserve Committee</td>
<td>Cr Hooper</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meetings held 1st Wednesday of each month</td>
<td>1 February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streatham Memorial Hall Committee</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Meeting dates not provided</td>
<td>20 May 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8 – SECTION 86 COMMITTEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Committee</th>
<th>Councillor representative</th>
<th>Current meeting (as presented)</th>
<th>Next proposed meeting/s</th>
<th>Minutes last presented to Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMW Community Development Committee (former Streatham</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8 August 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary School)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tatyoon Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12 March 2017</td>
<td>8 November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrak Public Hall Committee</td>
<td>Cr Allgood</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8 August 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westmere Progress Association Committee (Westmere</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17 October 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall and Recreation Reserve)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wickliffe Action Group Wickliffe Common Committee</td>
<td>Cr McLean</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Advised no formal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wickliffe Recreation Reserve Committee</td>
<td>Cr McLean</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Meeting dates not</td>
<td>26 June 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willaura Golf Club</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Meeting dates not</td>
<td>13 June 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willaura Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Cr Beales</td>
<td>2 February 2017</td>
<td>1 December 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willaura Recreation Reserve</td>
<td>Cr Pettman</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>21 October 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yalla-Y-Poora Community Centre</td>
<td>Cr Armstrong</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8 September 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

Council plan reference
1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper.
5.1 Good governance through leadership

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Financial and resource implications
None identified.

Risk implications
None identified.

Statutory Implications
Council’s Section 86 Committee Instrument of Delegation states that Committees must “Adhere to the Section 86 Committee Governance Manual (Governance) in relation to all reporting requirements.”

Section 86 Committee Minutes must be forwarded to Council within 14 days after the meeting.
### Community Implications
None identified.

### Environmental Implications
None identified.

### Internal/external consultation
None identified.

### Attachments
One Section 86 Committee has provided minutes, which are included in Agenda Attachment 8.1.1.

### Conclusion
Under the Local Government Regulations 2004 Part 5, 11(i) requires that minutes from Special Committees of Council are available to the public.

**MOVED CR ARMSTRONG**  
**SECONDED CR BEALES**  
That Council receives the Ordinary Meeting minute of the Buangor Community Sports Centre Committee (including Cobb & Co Building) held on 14 February 2017.

**CARRIED 3393/17**
Introduction
This report is an update on the delegations made by Council to members of staff (other than the CEO) and proposes amendments to the Instrument of Delegation from Council to Staff.

Under the Local Government Act 1989 (LGA) Councils have the power to delegate specific functions, powers or duties under any Act to Council officers or special committees of Council.

Council utilises an instrument of delegation in order to delegate its functions, powers and duties.

Section 98(6) of the Local Government Act requires that the Council must review all delegations within a period of 12 months after a general election.

Discussion
Most statutory bodies have a power of delegation. Delegation is generally considered essential to enable day-to-day decisions to be made.

The following features of delegated power are drawn to Council’s attention:

1. The decision, once made, is for all legal purposes a decision of the Council itself;
2. The delegate is in much the same position as the Council itself in terms of making the decision – for example, where the decision requires that opinion be formed, the delegate’s opinion is the basis for the decision;
3. The fact that a delegation has been made does not affect the Council’s powers in relation to the issue concerned. However, this is subject to the rule that the delegate’s decision (once made) is taken to be the decision of the Council itself. For this reason it is important that the Council has in place appropriate policies and guidelines under which delegation should be exercised.

Amendments to the Delegations from Council to Members of Council Staff, are as follows:

1. Minor amendments have been made in relation to provisions of the Road Management Act 2004 relating to bus stopping points and infrastructure; and
2. The Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016 have replaced the Planning and Environment Regulations (Fees) Interim Regulations 2015.
POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership.

Financial and resource implications
There are no financial implications.

Delegation greatly assists with the most effective and efficient use of staff resources and Council decision making.

Risk implications
The amendment of the Instrument of Delegation from Council to Staff ensures ongoing legislative compliance for Ararat Rural City.

It is essential that the Instruments of Delegation are kept up to date to ensure that the members of staff are properly empowered to undertake their roles.

The Council can amend or revoke any delegated power at any time. Section 98(6) of the Local Government Act requires that the Council must review all delegations within a period of 12 months after a general election.

Statutory implications
The Council is required to keep a register of delegations and it must be made available for public inspection.

Under Section 98(6) A Council must review within the period of 12 months after a general election all delegations which are in force and have been made by the Council under subsection (1).

Community implications
None identified.

Environmental implications
None identified.

Internal/External consultation
The amendment of the Instrument of Delegation from Council to Council staff has been updated using the Maddocks Lawyers Delegations Service and the templates provided by Advent ManageR.

Attachments
Further information regarding this item is provided in Attachment 9.1.1.

Options
Council has a number of options if it has any concerns with the proposed delegations. It can:

- Add, delete or change the staff position listed as the delegate
- Include additional conditions or limitations on the proposed delegation/s
- Decide to not delegate selected things to any person.
The Instrument submitted is based on the Maddocks Lawyers update and the range of powers proposed to be delegated are consistent with such powers generally delegated by other Councils.

MOVED CR FORD
SECONDED CR BEALES

That:
In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 98(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) and the other legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, Ararat Rural City Council (Council) resolves that -

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;

2. The instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument;

3. On the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked;

4. The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt; and

5. The instrument be signed under the seal of the Council.

CARRIED 3394/17
Introduction
A report of the Ararat Arts Precinct Band Renewal Proposal was presented at the Council meeting of Tuesday 13 December 2016. At this meeting Council decided that further community consultation was required, especially about the proposed name changes for the Gallery and PAC.

A survey was posted on the Council website. A link to the survey was posted to the Ararat Active, gallery and PAC Facebook pages. A media release was distributed resulting in a front page article in the Ararat Advertiser. This article was also shared on the Ararat Advertiser Facebook page, which generated discussion.

The engagement results showed support for the change as outlined in the re-branding report.

Discussion
Gravity Design was engaged to deliver a review of the Ararat Performing Arts Centre (PAC) and Ararat Regional Art Gallery (gallery) brands with reference to the planned $6.235M Ararat Arts Precinct Redevelopment. The redevelopment creates an opportunity to review the efficacy of existing PAC and gallery branding. The project is premised on strengthening the PAC and gallery brands to increase local and external visitation, leading to economic benefits for the region.

On 30 August 2015 Gravity Design presented a workshop for gallery and PAC and gallery stakeholders, including PAC audience members and venue users and gallery audience members, volunteers and advisory committee members. Staff from the PAC and gallery attended alongside Council officers involved with marketing, tourism, economic development and the Ararat Arts Precinct Redevelopment. Existing brands were reviewed to consider if they were relevant to the vision of the redevelopment or whether brand renewal was required.

On 3 December 2015 Gravity Design returned to Ararat to give a presentation on a brand proposition and architecture for the PAC and gallery, with reference to the closer co-location and precinct renewal the redevelopment would deliver. In essence, the existing brands were identified as tired, dated and not representative of the potential and aspirations of the PAC or gallery. The review recommended developing new, fresh and appealing brands (including logos) for both the PAC and gallery.

The gallery and PAC names were also reviewed. It was recommended that the gallery return to the name it had from 1968 to 2005: Ararat Gallery. In addition it would incorporate a sub-brand: TAMA: Textile Art Museum Australia, in which to capitalise on its national reputation for textile art. The gallery will therefore be known as Ararat Gallery: TAMA. The PAC would become Ararat Regional Theatre (ART). The new name differentiates it from other regional presenters who also use the PAC acronym.

Ararat Gallery: TAMA and Ararat Regional Theatre would be positioned under the banner of the Ararat Cultural Precinct. This affirms the Market Square historic precinct as the cultural heart of the region.
Ararat Town Hall remains the name of the building, and though not reflected in the branding, there is no intention to change or abandon this name which persists in public usage as it is the actual street address for both services.

**Consultation**
51 people responded to the survey. The survey results are summarised below:

![Survey Results](image)

61% respondents visited the gallery monthly, 23% visited quarterly, 14% visited yearly and 4% never visited.

94% of respondents agreed that the gallery’s branding should reflect its textile specialisation. This is despite 14% visiting yearly and 4% never visiting.

90% of respondents agreed that Ararat Gallery: TAMA reflects this textile specialisation.
29% of respondents visited the PAC monthly, 33% visited quarterly, 23% visited yearly and 15% never visited.

71% of respondents agreed that the name Ararat Regional Theatre reflects the variety of performances and events held at the Town Hall.

In addition to the survey results, the most common theme in social media commentary and in a letter received through Council's customer request system, concerned perceptions that the Ararat Town Hall's name was being changed. However, the branding review only addressed the gallery and PAC - two independent brands which operate out of the building known as the Ararat Town Hall.

This branding review has given consideration to recognition of the Ararat Town Hall, but considers it to be a location rather than a service/brand. The term Ararat Town Hall will continue to be used to describe the location of the gallery and the PAC as it is the street address and a prominent landmark in its own right.
The refurbishment and expansion of the Ararat Town Hall will enable the PAC and gallery to deliver fresh programming backed by an audience development strategy. To this end, the PAC and gallery has received an $80,000 Creative Victoria grant over four years to deliver strategic audience development strategies to ensure success upon reopening.

The gallery and PAC need to be strongly positioned to capitalise on the benefits a refurbished facility will deliver. There will be increased opportunities for collaboration between the gallery and PAC in audience development and programming. It is important that both services have clear, strong brands which are subtly linked. This branding review proposes a strategic direction that is responsive to these new opportunities.

**POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council plan reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Community services that are accessible, inclusive and responsive to the community’s needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Community Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Participation in diverse sport, recreation and leisure activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Officer’s Declaration of Interest**

Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

**Financial and resource implications**

The cost of the brand review has been covered through gallery and PAC operating budgets to date.

An Expression of Interest process will be used to attract marketing and design firms interested in quoting on the design stage. This stage will be covered through gallery and PAC operating budgets.

The implementation of new branding into the Ararat Town Hall building and precinct will be covered through the project budget.

**Risk implications**

This brand review ensures that Council’s investment in the Ararat Arts Precinct Redevelopment is backed by a change process to ensure the reputation of Council and its cultural service brands are strengthened during this significant process of change.

**Statutory Implications**

None identified.

**Community Implications**

Community feedback has been sought to ensure that changes to the brand identities of the gallery and PAC are supported and understood by key stakeholders. The review reflects the outcomes of a workshop held on 30 August 2015 that was attended by staff, relevant Council officers, Gallery Advisory Committee members and Gallery and PAC users and stakeholders. At Council’s request, further community consultation occurred through a survey about the naming proposition.
The survey was made available to the public on Council’s webpage from 10 to 26 February 2017. 51 people responded to the survey.

**Environmental Implications**
None identified.

**Internal/external consultation**
Details of internal and external consultation are documented in the report.

**Options**
Council could:
1. Approve the brand renewal process outlined in this report
2. Reject the brand renewal proposal

**Attachments**
The Brand Review is included as attachment 9.2.1.

**Conclusion**
The results of the community engagement are supportive of the proposed changes as outlined in the branding review.

The new logos will be embargoed until early 2018 and will be formally launched prior to the opening of the new facilities. This will maximise media exposure and build community momentum. Importantly, it will ensure the brands are immediately associated with the improved quality of infrastructure, arts programming and overall visitor services that will be delivered from 2018 onwards.

**MOVED CR ALLGOOD**
**SECONDED CR ARMSTRONG**

That Council approves the Ararat Arts Precinct Brand Renewal process as outlined in this report.

**CARRIED 3395/17**
9 - OFFICERS REPORTS

ITEM 9.2.2 NAIDOC WEEK
17081370
EXECUTIVE SERVICES - COMMUNITY LIFE

Introduction
NAIDOC week celebrations are held around Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year NAIDOC week will be celebrated on the 2 – 9 July. The week is celebrated across government agencies, schools, local council and workplaces.

Discussion
A request has been received from community groups and organisations to Council's Community Development Officer to assist with their planning for 2017 NAIDOC week celebrations across the municipality of Ararat. While Ararat Rural City Council has not in the past specifically run events for this celebration it has partnered with community groups to support respectful activities through financial support. In 2016 three community groups took advantage of this specific NAIDOC week celebrations grant to run activities.

This request is to assist with the provision of live entertainment and other community activities, a new flag pole at the Lake Bolac Business Centre to enable the flying of the aboriginal flag, and to assist with the Art Show that is held in Lake Bolac especially for NAIDOC week celebrations. In 2015 Ararat Live participated in NAIDOC week celebrations when indigenous artist Yirrmal from Arnhem Land performed a concert in Ararat. And in 2016 the performers were Bo Jenkins supporting Andy Alberts and the Walkabouts. These artists are highly sought after during NAIDOC week celebrations and to be able to support another successful year of live entertainment.

The 2017 theme for NAIDOC Week celebrations are - Our Languages Matter - aims to emphasise and celebrate the unique and essential role that Indigenous languages play in cultural identity, linking people to their land and water and in the transmission of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, spirituality and rites, through story and song.

Some 250 distinct Indigenous language groups covered the continent at first (significant) European contact in the late eighteenth century. Most of these languages would have had several dialects, so that the total number of named varieties would have run to many hundreds.

Today only around 120 of those languages are still spoken and many are at risk of being lost as Elders pass on.

National NAIDOC Committee Co-Chair Anne Martin said languages are the breath of life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the theme will raise awareness of the status and importance of Indigenous languages across the country.

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait languages are not just a means of communication, they express knowledge about everything: law, geography, history, family and human relationships, philosophy, religion, anatomy, childcare, health, caring for country, astronomy, biology and food. “Each language is associated with an area of land and has a deep spiritual significance and it is through their own languages, that Indigenous nations maintain their connection with their ancestors, land and law,” Ms Martin said.
Committee Co-Chair Benjamin Mitchell hopes that the theme will shine a spotlight on the programs and community groups working to preserve, revitalise or record Indigenous languages, and encourage all Australians to notice the use of Indigenous languages in their community.

“There is currently a wave of activity, with people in many communities working to learn more about their language, and to ensure they are passed on to the next generation before it is too late.’ Mr Mitchell said.

“Nationally, many place names for our suburbs, rivers, mountains and parks are Indigenous language words. Noticing and paying attention to these words will generate greater appreciation and respect for the significance of language among all Australians.

"The preservation and revitalisation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages - the original languages of this nation - is the preservation of priceless treasure, not just for Indigenous peoples, but for everyone."

Community members have requested support to run activities such as those listed above. This report is a request to allocate $5,000 from Council’s community grants fund to support a range of community led activities which celebrate NAIDOC week. This allocation of funds will be distributed by the Council’s Community Life team as appropriate initiatives arise between now and July. All activities supported by Council’s NAIDOC week support will be badged as being an initiative supported by Ararat Rural City Council.

Council’s final round of community grants for the financial year has been assessed and forms part of this Council agenda. If all funds are allocated as recommended there will be $11,955 remaining in Community Grants budget.

POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

Council plan reference
1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper
1.4 Participation in diverse sport, recreation & leisure activities

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Financial and resource implications
These funds can be re-directed from unspent community grants funds from the current financial year budget. $5,000 is available in this area and would therefore not impact on the overall budget of Council. $11,955 is available at the completion of 2016/17 Community grant rounds.

Risk implications
None identified.
9 - OFFICERS REPORTS

Statutory Implications
The NAIDOC week celebrations will contribute towards Council’s potential future Action Plan.

Community Implications
The NAIDOC week celebration is an opportunity to support community driven initiatives which work towards inclusiveness and cultural awareness.

Environmental Implications
None identified.

Internal/external consultation
Consultation has occurred with community groups wishing to provide.

Options
Council could:
1. Decide to reallocate $5,000 from the community grants fund towards community led initiatives which celebrate NAIDOC week.
2. Decide not to fund community led initiatives which support NAIDOC week.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

Conclusion
A $5,000 allocation is requested to ensure Council’s inclusion and support for NAIDOC week celebrations 2017 and to support local community groups in their celebrations. Funds would be provided to community groups who wish to hold inclusive activities such as those listed above. Any recipients of NAIDOC week support funds would acknowledge Ararat Rural City Council as a partner in their event. Supporting community driven events and activities such as these are a great way for Council to be involved in the celebrations.

Recommendation
That Council reallocate $5,000 from Council’s community grant fund to support community led initiatives which celebrate NAIDOC week celebrations 2017.

MOVED CR BEALES
SECONDED CR FORD

That Item 9.2.2 - NAIDOC Week be deferred to the next Council Meeting.

CARRIED 3396/17
Introduction
Council’s Community Support Grant applications are assessed 3 times a year with rounds closing on the 15th of February, June and October. The March round closed on 15 February 2017, and were assessed by the committee on 28 February 2017.

This round has a total of $30,000 to allocate in two categories:
1. Infrastructure Projects – up to $20,000 per application with matching $ for $ and no more than 25% in-kind of the total project costs can be included.
2. Community Projects- maximum of $1000 per application with no matching $ required.

There were 12 applications in this round of grants with a total amount requested of $23,795.00 this included 5 community projects and 7 infrastructure projects. Three of the community projects have been referred to Council’s Sponsorship Program for consideration due to the type of request received by each applicant. One further project was assessed as not eligible at this time.

Discussion
The assessment panel’s recommendations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Amount Recommended by Assessment Committee</th>
<th>Additional Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Plant Society</td>
<td>APSGG Portable PA System</td>
<td>$1,202.00</td>
<td>$601.00</td>
<td>$601.00</td>
<td>Purchase of a portable PA system for use during events and meetings and hiring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampians Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willaura Hall Committee</td>
<td>Willaura Hall Technical and Acoustic Upgrade</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$8,610.00</td>
<td>$8,610.00</td>
<td>To purchase and install a technical and acoustic upgrade to the Willaura Hall to enhance the ability to host professional musical and theatrical performances, $4,390.00 in-kind labour, $2,000 from Bendigo Bank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampians Soaring Club</td>
<td>Ride on Mower</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
<td>To assist with general mowing duties around the clubhouse, hangars, entrance to aerodrome and glider trailer park. Also to touch up the glider launch areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moyston Hall Committee</td>
<td>Additional to Moyston Hall Upgrade (12 x Tables)</td>
<td>$599.76</td>
<td>$299.88</td>
<td>$299.88</td>
<td>To purchase 12 rectangular tables for the Moyston Hall (bowl mould 1.8m). The current hall has trestle tables which are difficult to move and store.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Total Cost</td>
<td>Amount Requested</td>
<td>Amount Recommended by Assessment Committee</td>
<td>Additional Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ararat Embroiderers Guild</td>
<td>Bi-Annual Exhibition</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
<td>Recommended for Sponsorship for $600.00</td>
<td>The request is to assist with hire costs for the 3 day event at the RSL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Highland Sports Society</td>
<td>Ararat Gift Printing of Program and Advertising</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>Recommended for Sponsorship for $600.00</td>
<td>This request had already been presented to Events area of Council for assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A recommendation from Assessment Panel for Council to sponsor prize money for the “Ararat Gift” the main athletic race.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat VRI Bowls Club Ladies Committee</td>
<td>Renovation of VRI Kitchen</td>
<td>$6,371.00</td>
<td>$3,185.00</td>
<td>$3,185.00</td>
<td>Removal of current benchtops, repair water damage to existing cupboards and replace the benchtops and laminex. Part renovation works to VRI Bowls Kitchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Gardening Club</td>
<td>Western Regional Garden Clubs Conference 2017</td>
<td>$1,717.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>Recommended for Sponsorship for $600.00</td>
<td>Conference to be held at the Ararat RSL. The project more relevant to a Council sponsorship allocation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmhurst Recreation Reserve</td>
<td>Recreation Reserve Security Improvement Program</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>Installation of security cameras and digital recording equipment to the Recreation Reserve building in an attempt to prevent further damages. There have been multiple damages to the reserve buildings, public toilets and arson attempts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lions Club of Ararat</td>
<td>Lions Club Marquee</td>
<td>$2,700.00</td>
<td>$1,350.00</td>
<td>$1,350.00</td>
<td>Purchase of 3 x3 marquees that can be used for community events and BBQs to provide sun and weather protection for Lion Club members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Show Society Inc.</td>
<td>Ararat Show Society Inc. Program Development</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>Redevelopment of the Ararat Show Program/schedule, media and marketing, printing and design. Working with Ararat Secondary College to assist with this work. Council officers also working with Show Society to assist with</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

Council plan reference
1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No Council Officers present at the Assessment Panel had a conflict with any projects for discussion.

Financial and resource implications
Council’s Community Support Grant applications did not exceed Council’s existing Community Support Grants budget allocation for the March round of $30,000.00.

The recommended allocations are within the $30,000 grants budget for this round.

Risk implications
Risks have been assessed and understood by the grants committee. No unmanaged risks identified at this time.

Statutory Implications
None identified.

Community Implications
Community grants support community clubs and groups to undertake various projects which benefit the local community.

Environmental Implications
None identified.

Internal/external consultation
Internal assessment committee have evaluated all grant applications. Discussions have been held with a number of the applicants in the development of their grant applications.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Amount Recommended by Assessment Committee</th>
<th>Additional Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grampians Region YMCA</td>
<td>Professional Resource Library</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
<td>Not eligible.</td>
<td>This project did not provide enough matching funding from YMCA to enable project to be recommended for funding. Further discussions required in regard to this project with the group.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

obtaining more affordable printing options.
9 - OFFICERS REPORTS

Options
Council could:
1. Approve the Community Support Grants as recommended by the assessment committee.
2. Make alterations to Community Support Grants as recommended by the Assessment Committee.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

Conclusion
The Community Support Grants program continues to be an important source of support from Council to community clubs, groups and committees. This round was assessed under the current guidelines for Community Support Grants, events and sponsorships with consideration given to each application and outcomes for the community.

MOVED CR McLEAN
SECONDED CR FORD

That Council approve the following allocations as recommended by the assessment panel;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infrastructure Grants</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Plants Society Grampians Group</td>
<td>$ 601.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willaura Hall Committee Inc.</td>
<td>$8,610.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampians Soaring Club</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moyston Hall Committee</td>
<td>$ 299.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ararat VRI Bowls Club Ladies Committee</td>
<td>$ 3,185.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmhurst Recreation Reserve Committee</td>
<td>$ 1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lions Club of Ararat</td>
<td>$ 1,350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$18,045.88</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Grants</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ararat Show Society Inc.</td>
<td>$ 1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CARRIED 3397/17
9 - OFFICERS REPORTS

ITEM 9.2.4 REQUESTS FOR SPONSORSHIPS REPORT - COMBINED
17082499, 17081786, 17081755, 17081525
EXECUTIVE SERVICES - COMMUNITY LIFE

Introduction
Council’s sponsorship procedure requires groups and organisations to apply in writing requesting sponsorship for their event for amounts up to $600. The guidelines allow for this to occur throughout the year with no opening and closing dates.

There are three sponsorships for Council’s consideration for March. Three of the sponsorships have been recommended from applications that have come from Council’s Community Grants. The assessment panel recommended these community events be supported through the sponsorship program instead of the grants program. The Council’s Sponsorship Program is enabling small groups and organisations to develop new community events and activities across the municipality and an opportunity for Council to continue to connect and support their community. The current balance for sponsorships for the 2016/2017 financial year is $5,703.

Discussion

1. Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Victoria

Council has received a request from the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Victoria, for the use of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre for hire fees in the sum of $229.32. The LETR are running this event in the Wimmera and Mallee regions with the commencement of the event to commence in Ararat on the 26 April 2017 commencing with the torch run followed by some various come and try clinics and activities on Alexandra Oval during the morning.

Special Olympics is a worldwide movement that inspires people with an intellectual disability to reach their personal best through regular sport and competition. The law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) is a police aligned charitable committee that’s primary aim is to support special Olympics by raising funds and awareness and assisting Police Service Area’s to engage with their local intellectually disabled community through Special Olympic Activities and Torch Run events.

In partnership with the Law Enforcement Torch Run Victoria, (LETR), Special Olympics Victoria are meeting with local organisations, and providing fun and engaging sports sessions to local specialist schools and businesses, to establish a foundation of ongoing support and development of sporting opportunities and to build local relationships that lead to sustainable outcomes for club-based sport in the region.

The event will depart the Ararat Police Station. The Torch Run will be followed by a sports clinic to be held at Alexandra Oval and Community Centre highlighting various sports and encouraging participation by members of the disabled community, support and service providers and main stream schools. This is an event that has significant community benefit and the organisers are keen to have Council actively involved.

An invitation is extended to the Mayor and Council representatives to join the event at Alexandra oval to receive the Special Olympic “Flame of Hope: from the torch runners and light the Special Olympics Cauldron.
2. **Ararat Embroiderers Guild**

The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria – Ararat Branch applied to Council through Community Grants for assistance to hire the function room at the Ararat RSL on Friday 13, 14 and 15 October for their Bi-annual Exhibition.

The cost of the hire is $250 per day for the 3 days, $750 in total. The Community Grant’s Assessment Panel made the recommendation that this application is best attributed to a sponsorship as the request is for the hire costs for their event with the contribution through sponsorship of $600.00 toward the hire costs.

The Bi-annual Exhibition is to showcase the work of the Ararat Branch members and to promote interest in textile art and its diversity. The expected number of attendees is 300 to 500 visitors and an opportunity to promote and showcase Ararat.

3. **Ararat Highlands Sports Society Inc.**

The Ararat Highland Sports Society Inc. are holding the Ararat Gift Meeting on Saturday the 25 March 2017 at Alexandra Oval. The Society applied for a community grant to assist with printing and advertising for this event for $1,000.

The Community Grants Assessment Panel after discussions with Council’s Events Co-ordinator recommended that the Sports Society would be better suited to apply for a Council sponsorship towards the gift’s prize money.

A letter has been received from the Sports Society seeking $600 to sponsor the main race “The Ararat Gift”. The Ararat gift has prize money of $3,000 in total and attracts athletics from all over Australia.

There are nine events on the program ranging from 70 metres to 3,200 metres, it provides an economic and tourism boost to Ararat expecting 400 to 600 visitors.

The Sports Society is being assisted with printing and advertising through the Event’s Co-ordinator, to the sum of $500.

4. **Ararat Gardening Club**

The Ararat Gardening Club is hosting the Western Regional Garden Clubs Conference 2017 on Saturday 29 April 2017. The Conference will be held at the Ararat RSL on Saturday 29 April 2017.

The Gardening Club applied through Council’s Community Grant for assistance of $1,000.00 towards this event. The Community Grants Assessment Panel discussed this local event and have recommended the event for a sponsorship.

All gardening clubs in the Western Regional areas take their turn at hosting the yearly conference in their town or city. This gives the hosting town/city the opportunity to showcase their activities. The gardening club also provide information bags for visitors and promotes the club. Numbers attending is expected to be around 100.

The existence of an active and vibrant gardening club in Ararat offers regular friendship, outings, knowledge and health and wellbeing. Visitors from as far as Mt Gambier, Naracoorte and Portland...
9 - OFFICERS REPORTS

attend. The guest speakers for this year’s conference is Mr David Glenn – Lambley Nursery, Ascot and Dr John Harrison – “Apothodary”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Council plan reference</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Community and cultural connectedness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 A strong and diverse local economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Officer’s Declaration of Interest</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial and resource implications</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Sponsorship Program is available to groups for a maximum of $600.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The balance for the Sponsorship Program is $5,703.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risk implications</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statutory Implications</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Implications</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental Implications</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Internal/external consultation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only two of the groups contacted Council’s Coordinator Community Development to discuss their applications prior to submission - the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics and the Ararat Highlands Sports Society in relation to their upcoming community celebrations. The Ararat Gardening Club and the Ararat Embroiderers Guild submitted Community Grant Applications without contacting Council Officers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Options</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council could:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Approve the request for sponsorship from the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Victoria, for the use of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre for hire fees in the sum of $229.32.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Not approve the request for sponsorship from the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Victoria, for the use of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre for hire fees in the sum of $229.32.

and

3. Approve the request for sponsorship for the Embroiderers Guild, Victoria – Ararat Branch applied to Council through Community Grants for assistance to hire the function room at the Ararat RSL on Friday 13, 14 and 15 October for their Bi-annual Exhibition in the sum of $600

or

4. Not approve the request for sponsorship for the Embroiderers Guild, Victoria – Ararat Branch applied to Council through Community Grants for assistance to hire the function room at the Ararat RSL on Friday 13, 14 and 15 October for their Bi-annual Exhibition in the sum of $600

and

5. Approve the request for sponsorship for the Ararat Highland Sports Society Inc. in the sum of $600 towards the prize money for the Ararat Gift to be held on Saturday the 25 March 2017 at Alexandra Oval.

or

6. Not approve the request for sponsorship for the Ararat Highland Sports Society Inc. in the sum of $600 towards the prize money for the Ararat Gift to be held on Saturday the 25 March 2017 at Alexandra Oval.

and

7. Approve the request for sponsorship for the Ararat Gardening Club in the sum of $600 towards the hosting of their Annual Western Regional Conference in Ararat on the 29 April 2017 at the Ararat RSL.

or

8. Not approve the request for sponsorship for the Ararat Gardening Club in the sum of $600 towards the hosting of their Annual Western Regional Conference in Ararat on the 29 April 2017 at the Ararat RSL.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to these items.

Conclusion
The Sponsorship Programs continues to be an important source of support from Council to community clubs, groups and committees.
That Council Approve the Request for Sponsorships from:

1. The Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Victoria, for the use of the Alexandra Oval Community Centre for hire fees in the sum of $229.32;

2. The Embroiders Guild, Victoria – Ararat Branch for assistance to hire the function room at the Ararat RSL on Friday 13, 14 and 15 October for their Bi-annual Exhibition in the sum of $600;

3. The Ararat Highland Sports Society Inc. in the sum of $600 towards the prize money for the Ararat Gift to be held on Saturday the 25 March 2017 at Alexandra Oval; and

4. The Ararat Gardening Club in the sum of $600 towards the hosting of their Annual Conference in Ararat on the 29 April 2017.

CARRIED 3398/17
Mr Andrew Evans disclosed a direct interest in Item 9.2.5 – McDonald Centre Lease Request, due to him being on the Committee of the Ararat Musical Comedy Society.

Mr Evans left the Council Chamber at 6.15pm.

ITEM 9.2.5  MC DONALD CENTRE LEASE REQUEST

EXECUTIVE SERVICES - COMMUNITY LIFE

Introduction
The McDonald Centre Hall has been unused for several years due to issues surrounding essential services and disability access. Several reports have been presented to Council over the past few years including one that provided feedback on public consultation about potential future uses of the hall. To date the hall remains unused however some minor works is being carried out to enable the essential services and some of the access issues to be rectified and enable the hall to be utilised with restrictions.

The Musical Comedy Society has written to Council requesting to Lease the facility. This report outlines an overview of recent history of consultation undertaken relating to McDonald Centre and outlines Council’s options for re-use.

This report was submitted for consideration in December with the following resolution: “That the McDonald Centre lease report be deferred until February 2017”.

Discussion
In 2014 Council called for public submissions and ideas for future use of the McDonald Centre. A report was returned with feedback from 15 individuals and organisations who each made suggestions ranging from community youth spaces to meeting spaces for community groups, a dancing hall, a rehearsal space for the city band and a workshop space for adult education. It was suggested that the hall still had a variety of possible uses for community.

Following this consultation period the McDonald Centre re-use committee was set up. This group have met monthly over the past year to further discuss the future of the centre. At the time the group was established the Central Grampians LLEN and the Ararat City Band were 2 groups who had an interest in being located within the centre. Since this time both groups have identified and moved in to alternative locations.

The Rock and Roll dance club, Musical Comedy Society, Arts Group and Ararat Darts Club were also represented on the re-use committee as interested parties however given the building was unable to be utilised at this time no outcome or final recommendation has come out of the re-use group.

The Musical Comedy Society has written to Council requesting use of the facility and that Council enter into a lease agreement with the group to allow them to manage the facility and utilise it for rehearsals throughout the year and storage for equipment.

The Musical Comedy Society is currently based at the Aradale site but with its’ future unclear the location is no longer a suitable one. The group is a not-for-profit community organisation with members ageing from 10 to 70. They have requested that Council enter into a Peppercorn lease arrangement with the group once essential maintenance activities have been completed.
## POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

### Council plan reference

1.1 Assist communities to develop and prosper  
1.2 Community services that are accessible and responsive to communities needs

### Officer's Declaration of Interest

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

### Financial and resource implications

Council is in the process of bringing the facility to essential services requirement standards and improving the accessibility of the site to enable restricted use. No additional funds would be spent as a result of this potential lease arrangements. Consideration will need to be given to which party would be responsible for ongoing services and utilities connected to the building as part of any lease negotiation.

If Council was to retain the facility and manage it via casual bookings there is a resource and asset maintenance implication that could be resolved by leasing this facility.

### Risk implications

The Centre is not currently up to full community access standards. Given there has been previous interest expressed by other organisations to utilise this facility there may be a risk that there are other community groups still wishing to utilise the centre. Any lease agreements entered into by Council will be required to undertake appropriate consultations and calls for submissions as provided for within the Local Government Act.

### Statutory Implications

The *Local Government Act* makes provision for community land to be leased under the following conditions; if a council proposes to grant a lease, licence or other estate in respect of community land for a period it must:

- give public notice of the proposal, and
- exhibit notice of the proposal on the land to which the proposal relates, and
- give notice of the proposal to such persons as appear to it to own or occupy the land adjoining the community land, and
- give notice of the proposal to any other person, appearing to the council to be the owner or occuper of land in the vicinity of the community land, if in the opinion of the council the land the subject of the proposal is likely to form the primary focus of the person’s enjoyment of community land.

A notice of the proposal must include:

- information sufficient to identify the community land concerned
- the purpose for which the land will be used under the proposed lease, licence or other estate
- the term of the proposed lease, licence or other estate (including particulars of any options for renewal)
- the name of the person to whom it is proposed to grant the lease, licence or other estate (if known)
- a statement that submissions in writing may be made to the council concerning the proposal within a period, not less than 28 days, specified in the notice.
Before granting the lease, licence or other estate, council must consider all submissions duly made to it.

**Community Implications**
The McDonald Centre holds significant interest within the community. A range of consultations have occurred which have all suggested people want to see this asset used again. Providing a lease to a community organisation such as the Musical Comedy Society would enable the centre to be used for private purposes and give the centre a new future. General public access to the building would still be restricted given the accessibility to the centre is limited and does not meet full access guidelines.

**Environmental Implications**
None identified.

**Internal/external consultation**
As discussed there has been previous consultation regarding this property with a range of community groups. This current proposal has not yet been to public consultation but would do so as provided for in the Act.

**Options**
Council could:
1. Enter into conditional negotiations with the Ararat Musical Comedy Society to Lease the Alex & Jemima McDonald Centre under the provisions provided for within the Local Government Act.
2. Decline the request of the Ararat Musical Comedy Society to lease the premises.

**Attachments**
Letter of request from the Ararat Musical Comedy Society is provided in Attachment 9.2.5.

**Conclusion**
The McDonald Centre is an important asset to the Community of Ararat Rural City. With the current works being undertaken to essential services and access to the building it once again has an opportunity to be utilised by the Community.

MOVED CR BEALES
SECONDED CR PETTMAN
That:
1. Council enter into conditional negotiations with the Ararat Musical Comedy Society to Lease the Alex & Jemima McDonald Centre under the provisions provided for within the Local Government Act; and
2. A report outlining the details of the lease and any objections to the proposal be brought to Council prior to finalising lease documentation.

CARRIED 3399/17

Mr Evans returned to the Council Chamber at 6.23pm.
Cr Allgood requested her vote be recorded AGAINST the motion.
ITEM 9.3.1  ANNUAL REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF PROCUREMENT POLICY
C1.16
14058638
ASSETS, FINANCES AND CORPORATE SERVICES

Introduction
Council Policies are being updated as part of an ongoing review process. The Procurement Policy requires annual review. The reviewed policy is submitted to Council for adoption.

Discussion
The following Council Policy has now been reviewed and minor amendments are proposed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Name of Policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.1.16</td>
<td>Procurement Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Through the review process there have been minor amendments to the policy amounting to amendments to the Appendices to allow for the recent staff restructure and inclusion of a financial delegation and evaluation requirements for the newly appointed role of Executive Manager. There have been no changes of substance to the remainder of the policy.

Council’s Procurement Policy is published on Council’s website to ensure the information and requirements contained in this policy become public information. This is consistent with other Victorian councils, including metropolitan, regional city councils, rural city councils and shire councils.

POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership.

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Financial and resource implications
Low. Increase in expenditure on lower value items based on higher applicable local benefit will be offset by lower benefit applied to high cost items.

Risk implications
Low. Clarity and transparency of Council Policies and Procedures is enhanced.

Statutory Implications
None identified.
### Community Implications
None identified.

### Environmental Implications
None identified.

### Internal/external consultation
Internal consultation has been undertaken with staff in relation to appropriate delegations and the procurement of insurance services.

### Options
In relation to C.1.16 Procurement Policy Council could:
1. Adopt the policy as amended; or
2. Retain the existing Procurement Policy, unchanged.

### Attachments
Further information regarding this item is provided as attachments C.1.16 Procurement Policy.

### Conclusion
The proposed Procurement Policy includes minor amendments without substantive change as a result of its annual review.

**MOVED CR McLEAN**  
**SECONDED CR PETTMAN**

That the Procurement Policy C.1.16, as amended, be adopted as the current and applicable policy.

**CARRIED 3400/17**
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ITEM 9.3.2 YEAR 2018 GENERAL REVALUATION
17082149
ASSETS, FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES

Introduction
The Valuation of Land Act 1960 requires Council to conduct valuations every two years. The State Government has determined that 1 January, 2018 is the date at which the value of all rateable properties and all non-rateable but leviable properties (for the purposes of the fire services levy) shall be assessed for each municipality within the State of Victoria for the 2018 General Valuation.

The valuation is to be returned no later than 30 April, 2018 and these valuations will be used to raise rates for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

Discussion
Section 6(1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960 requires that a rating Authority that is proposing to make a general revaluation of rateable land and non-rateable, leviable properties shall give to the Valuer-General and to every rating authority interested in the valuation of land within its area not less than one month’s notice of the decisions to cause such a general valuation to be made. Rating Authorities with an interest in Ararat’s valuations include the State Revenue Office, Northern Grampians Shire Council, Southern Grampians Shire Council, Moyne Shire Council and Pyrenees Shire Council.

It is therefore appropriate for Council to resolve to make a general valuation of rateable land and non-rateable leviable land.

At its September 2012 meeting, Council awarded Contract 400 - Provision of Valuations Services to PW Newman Pty Ltd for the 2014 and 2016 General Valuations. At its meeting held 15 March 2016 Council resolved to extend the contract term for Provision of Valuation Services for a further two years to include the 2018 General Valuation.

POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership

Officer’s Declaration of Interest
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

Financial and resource implications
None identified.

Risk implications
None identified.

Statutory Implications
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It is a legislative requirement under the Valuation of Land Act 1960 to cause a valuation to be made.

Community Implications
None identified.

Environmental Implications
None identified.

Internal/external consultation
None identified.

Options
Council can:
1 Resolve to cause a general valuation to be made of all rateable land and all non-rateable leviable land in Ararat Rural City Council.
2 Not resolve to cause a general valuation to be made of all rateable land and all non-rateable leviable land in Ararat Rural City Council.

Attachments
There are no attachments relating to this item.

Conclusion
It is a legislative requirement for Council to cause a general valuation to be made of all rateable land and all non-rateable leviable land in Ararat Rural City Council, and give notice to every rating authority interested in the valuation of land within its area.

MOVED CR McLEAN
SECONDED CR PETTMAN

That Ararat Rural City Council undertake a general valuation of all rateable land and all non-rateable, leviable land as at 1 January 2018 in accordance with section 6(1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960, and that the Valuer-General and every other rating authority that has expressed an interest in the valuation of land within the Ararat Municipality be advised in accordance with the Valuation of Land (General Valuation) Regulations 2014.

CARRIED 3401/17
Cr Allgood disclosed a direct interest in Item 9.3.3 Audit Committee (Attachment – Audit Committee Minutes Items 7.1.4 and 8.4), due to her being the President of the Green Hill Lake Development Board.

Cr Allgood left the Council Chamber at 6.26pm.

ITEM 9.3.3 AUDIT COMMITTEE
13041023
ASSETS, FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

Council plan reference
5.1 Good governance through leadership

Introduction
The Audit Committee met on 7 March 2017 and the unconfirmed minutes are included in the attachments to the agenda.

Discussion
The Audit Committee passed 28 recommendations for Council’s consideration at the meeting:

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council receives the Strategic Planning report and that Council:
1. Develop an Annual Review Corporate Planning Timetable
2. Include the source of cost estimates in future Budget Initiative Proposal Briefs

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council close off the following outstanding matters identified in the Past Issues Report:
1. *That Council* give consideration to a degree of proactive enforcement activities, particularly where the risk profile of a permit or type of permit is high. That is, where non-compliance with conditions has a potential public health and safety risk (refer Pg 1).
2. That Council implements:
   a. Password change frequency of once every two months at a minimum;
   b. A combination of alpha/numeric/special character requirement for passwords; and
   c. Formal password protection policies. (refer Pg 15)
3. …*that an internal quality assurance self-review process of contract management is developed and implemented* (refer Pg 33).
4. …*that integration between the Asset Management System and the Finance System is sought to ensure accurate and timely disclosure of information* (refer Pg 42).
5. …*that Ararat consider reducing the public tender threshold to create a safety buffer which may reduce Ararat’s risk of non-compliance in instances of contract variations or procurements exceeding budgeted expectations* (refer Pg 46).
6. …*that Ararat publish their contracts register on council’s website and make it available at council’s office* (refer Pg 53).
7. …*that Council review the linking mechanism between the initial customer request and the work orders raised. As well as causing inefficiency for customer service staff, this enhances the exposure of Ararat to potential liability should they be unable to prove adequate response was...
conducted on a given asset reported as requiring intervention (i.e. stretch of road or footpath) should an accident or injury occur (refer Pg 57).

8. …that Council implement additional liquidity, capital replacement and renewal gap indicators exist that may be incorporated into forward modelling (refer Pg 64).

9. …that Ararat quantify and report the financial impact of rate capping on future forecast financial periods and propose strategies to balance future budgets. Ararat’s forward models had not considered the effect of rate capping commencing 16/17 at the time of review (refer Pg 65).

10. …that Ararat take into account the ageing population within their LTFP model (refer Pg 71).

11. …that Ararat review the adequacy of current security arrangements to ensure the likelihood of theft is sufficiently minimised (refer Pg 86).

12. …that fraud risk assessments are conducted in line with regular risk assessments within Ararat’s risk management framework (refer Pg 97).

13. Develop an Annual Review Corporate Planning Timetable

14. Include the source of cost estimates in future Budget Initiative Proposal Briefs

That the Audit Committee recommends Council adopts the following Audit Committee’s recommendation in relation to the Past Issues Report and that Council:

1. performs a full ICT system recovery test as soon as practical (Pg 4),
2. completes a review of all asset management plans - with the exception of the Road Management Plan (Pg 8)
3. completes a review and adoption of the new ICT Strategic Plan (Pg 14)
4. ensures requirements for Disaster Recovery & Business Continuity Planning is regularly reviewed across all Services (Pg 16)
5. expedites the implementation of its new AMIS and associated business processes to fully address key business requirements relating to building assets (Pg 19 / 20)
6. expedites the implementation of its proposed Project Management Office (PMO) Framework based on PRINCE2 to address best-practice project requirements and project-related risks (Pg 34 ~ 40).
7. document its business controls over accessing capital project contingency reserves (Pg 75)
8. complete a review of the Protected Disclosures Policy (Pg 96)
9. develop appropriate business processes to ensure the Code of Conduct is provided to all contractors and volunteers (Pg 96).
10. …that Council review individual performance measures for employees involved in the capital works delivery process may aid in aligning individual performance to the broader goals of the organisation (refer Pg 76).

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council receives the Reputational Risk Management & External Communications report and that Council:

1. Ensure that reputational risks relating to safety and security breaches are recognised within the ARCC Risk Register and that controls and any mitigation strategies actioned should also be documented
2. Promptly complete and adopt the Marketing and Communications Strategy

### POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS ISSUE

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**Officer’s Declaration of Interest**
Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

No person involved in the preparation of this report has a direct or indirect interest requiring disclosure.

**Financial and resource implications**
The Audit program is included in the current budget. Human resources will need to be allocated to implement some of the recommendations.

**Risk implications**
None identified.

**Statutory Implications**
None identified.

**Community Implications**
None identified.

**Environmental Implications**
None identified.

**Internal/external consultation**
None identified.

**Options**
Council could:
1. Adopt all of the Audit Committee’s recommendations
2. Adopt some of the Audit Committee’s recommendations
3. Adopt none of the Audit Committee’s recommendations

**Attachments**
The minutes of the Audit Committee and the Attachments to the Audit Committee Minutes are included as Attachment 9.3.3 Audit Ctee Minutes and 9.3.3 Audit Ctee Minutes Attachments.

**MOVED CR BEALES**
**SECONDED CR McLEAN**

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council receives the Strategic Planning report and that Council:
1. Develop an Annual Review Corporate Planning Timetable; and
2. Include the source of cost estimates in future Budget Initiative Proposal Briefs.

CARRIED 3402/17
MOVED CR BEALES
SECONDED CR PETTMAN

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council close off the following outstanding matters identified in the Past Issues Report:

1. That Council give consideration to a degree of proactive enforcement activities, particularly where the risk profile of a permit or type of permit is high. That is, where non-compliance with conditions has a potential public health and safety risk (refer Pg 1);

2. That Council implements:
   a. Password change frequency of once every two months at a minimum;
   b. A combination of alpha/numeric/special character requirement for passwords; and
   c. Formal password protection policies (refer Pg 15);

3. …that an internal quality assurance self-review process of contract management is developed and implemented (refer Pg 33);

4. …that integration between the Asset Management System and the Finance System is sought to ensure accurate and timely disclosure of information (refer Pg 42);

5. …that Ararat consider reducing the public tender threshold to create a safety buffer which may reduce Ararat’s risk of non-compliance in instances of contract variations or procurements exceeding budgeted expectations (refer Pg 46);

6. …that Ararat publish their contracts register on council’s website and make it available at council’s office (refer Pg 53);

7. …that Council review the linking mechanism between the initial customer request and the work orders raised. As well as causing inefficiency for customer service staff, this enhances the exposure of Ararat to potential liability should they be unable to prove adequate response was conducted on a given asset reported as requiring intervention (i.e. stretch of road or footpath) should an accident or injury occur (refer Pg 57);

8. …that Council implement additional liquidity, capital replacement and renewal gap indicators exist that may be incorporated into forward modelling (refer Pg 64);

9. …that Ararat quantify and report the financial impact of rate capping on future forecast financial periods and propose strategies to balance future budgets. Ararat’s forward models had not considered the effect of rate capping commencing 16/17 at the time of review (refer Pg 65);

10. …that Ararat take into account the ageing population within their LTFP model (refer Pg 71);

11. …that Ararat review the adequacy of current security arrangements to ensure the likelihood of theft is sufficiently minimised (refer Pg 86);

12. …that fraud risk assessments are conducted in line with regular risk assessments within Ararat’s risk management framework (refer Pg 97);

13. Develop an Annual Review Corporate Planning Timetable;


CARRIED 3403/17
MOVED CR BEALES
SECONDED CR McLEAN

That the Audit Committee recommends Council adopts the following Audit Committee’s recommendation in relation to the Past Issues Report:

1. performs a full ICT system recovery test as soon as practical (Pg 4);
2. completes a review of all asset management plans - with the exception of the Road Management Plan (Pg 8);
3. completes a review and adoption of the new ICT Strategic Plan (Pg 14);
4. ensures requirements for Disaster Recovery & Business Continuity Planning is regularly reviewed across all Services (Pg 16);
5. expedites the implementation of its new AMIS and associated business processes to fully address key business requirements relating to building assets (Pg 19/20);
6. expedites the implementation of its proposed Project Management Office (PMO) Framework based on PRINCE2 to address best-practice project requirements and project-related risks (Pg 34~40);
7. document its business controls over accessing capital project contingency reserves (Pg 75);
8. complete a review of the Protected Disclosures Policy (Pg 96);
9. develop appropriate business processes to ensure the Code of Conduct is provided to all contractors and volunteers (Pg 96); and
10. …that Council review individual performance measures for employees involved in the capital works delivery process may aid in aligning individual performance to the broader goals of the organisation (refer Pg 76).

CARRIED 3404/17

MOVED CR ARMSTRONG
SECONDED CR BEALES

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council receives the Reputational Risk Management & External Communications report and that Council:

1. Ensure that reputational risks relating to safety and security breaches are recognised within the ARCC Risk Register and that controls and any mitigation strategies actioned should also be documented; and
2. Promptly complete and adopt the Marketing and Communications Strategy.

CARRIED 3405/17

Cr Allgood returned to the Council Chamber at 6.28pm.
Notice of Motions must be in writing and lodged with the Chief Executive Officer no later than 5pm on the Wednesday which is at least four (4) business days before the meeting at which it is intended to be considered, unless a public holiday falls within that four days, as per Clause 18(4) of the Ararat Rural City Council Meeting Procedure.

Nil.
At each Council Meeting, all Councillors will have the opportunity to provide an overview of any meetings attended.

If a Councillor chooses to provide details, the name of the conference/event and the Councillor attending will be noted in the Minutes of the meeting. If a Councillor requires additional information on the conference/event to be included in the Minutes, the Councillor must submit in writing to the Chief Executive Officer by no later than 12pm (noon) the day following the meeting.

Cr Beales chaired the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee Meeting held on 8 March 2017, and that minutes will be provided at the next Council Meeting.

Cr Armstrong reported on the Future of Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting she attended on 16 March 2017.

Cr McLean advised she was attending the East Grampians Health Service Community Action Network (CAN) Think Tank on Education and Training on 24 March 2017.

Cr McLean noted the 2017 Year of Opportunity in Local Government hosted by Council will be held on 30 March 2017 at Gum San.
12 – URGENT BUSINESS

Ararat Rural City Council Meeting Procedure, Clause 17 Urgent Business states:

(1) Items proposed as urgent business must not be submitted to the meeting other than by resolution of the Council and only if it relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the Agenda or which cannot be reasonably deferred for inclusion in the agenda of the next meeting.

(2) The nature of the urgency must be stated by the Councillor and outlined in the minute of the meeting.

Nil.
6.33PM CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

MOVED CR BEALES  
SECONDED CR ARMSTRONG

That the meeting be closed to members of the public to discuss the items listed in the confidential agenda, in accordance with the following provision:
“89 Meetings to be open to the public
(2) A Council or special committee may resolve that the meeting be closed to members of the public if the meeting is discussing any of the following—
(a) personnel matters;
(c) industrial matters;
(d) contractual matters;
(e) proposed developments.

CARRIED 3406/17

6.39PM OPEN COUNCIL MEETING RECOMMENCEMENT

MOVED CR BEALES  
SECONDED CR ARMSTRONG

That the Open Council Meeting recommence.

CARRIED 3411/17

LIFTING OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTIONS

Recommendation
That the Confidentiality of:
1 Item 13.3.1 not be lifted until such time as a joint announcement is made by all participating Councils; and
2 The decision in relation to Items 13.1.1 and 13.2.1 of the Confidential Agenda be lifted.

MOVED CR BEALES  
SECONDED CR FORD

That the Confidentiality of:
1 Item 13.3.1 not be lifted until such time as a joint announcement is made by all participating Councils; and
2 The decision in relation to Items 13.1.1 and 13.2.1 of the Confidential Agenda be lifted;
3 Item 13.3.2 not be lifted until after the announcement of awarding of the contract by the Minister for Regional Development.

CARRIED 3412/17
The following resolutions are extracted from the minutes of the Ararat Rural City Council Meeting in Camera Session held on 21 March 2017. Any disclosures of interest, relevant to these items, are recorded in the Council Meeting in Camera minutes.

**ITEM 13.1.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS**

**MOVED CR BEALES**
**SECONDED CR ARMSTRONG**

That the:
1. Confidential Assembly of Councillors Report be received; and
2. Confidentiality of the decision be lifted.

CARRIED 3407/17

Meeting closed at 6.40pm.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT PAGES 264 TO 715 INCLUDING PAGES 38 TO 55 OF THE CLOSED SESSION ARE CONFIRMED AND ARE A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

**MAYOR – CR PAUL HOOPER**