



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 2 July 2025

Date: Wednesday, 2 July 2025

Time: 6.00pm

Location: Council Chambers, 15 Stead Street, Ballan &
Online

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1 OPENING OF MEETING AND PRAYER

Mayor Cr Paul Tatchell opened the meeting at 6.00pm.

Cr Moira Berry read the Prayer.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Steve Venditti-Taylor read the Acknowledgement of Country.

3 RECORDING OF MEETING

In accordance with Moorabool Shire Council's Governance Rules, the meeting is livestreamed.

4 PRESENT

Cr Paul Tatchell, Mayor

Cr Rod Ward, Deputy Mayor

Cr Moira Berry

Cr Jarrod Bingham

Cr Sheila Freeman

Cr John Keogh

Cr Ally Munari

Cr Tom Sullivan

Cr Steve Venditti-Taylor

Officers:

Mr Derek Madden

Chief Executive Officer

Ms Leanne Manton

Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate Services

Mr Phil Jeffrey

General Manager Community Assets & Infrastructure

Ms Leigh McCallum

General Manager Community Strengthening

Mr Henry Bezuidenhout

Executive Manager Community Planning & Development

Mr Joseph Spiteri

Manager Governance & Civic Support

5 APOLOGIES

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Jarrod Bingham

Seconded: Cr Ally Munari

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4 June 2025, the Special Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11 June 2025 and the Unscheduled Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25 June 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED

7 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Ally Munari declared a conflict in relation to item 18.2.

Cr Tom Sullivan declared a conflict in relation to item 11.2.

8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

9 PETITIONS

Nil

10 PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

Item	Report	Speaker/s	Position	Attendance
11.1	Planning Scheme Amendment C103moor - Hopetoun Park North - Consideration of Submissions	Ross Closter, Bacchus Marsh Property Group	Supporter	In Person
		Clare Mizzi	Objector	In Person
		Elley Camilleri	Objector	Online

11 COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

Ross Closter addressed Council in relation to Item 11.1.

Clare Mizzi addressed Council in relation to Item 11.1.

Elley Camilleri addressed Council in relation to Item 11.1.

11.1 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C103 MOOR - HOPETOUN PARK NORTH - CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

Author: Liam Prescott, A/g Senior Strategic Planner

Authoriser: Henry Bezuidenhout, Executive Manager Community Planning & Development

Attachments:

- 1. Amendment C103 - Summary of submissions and officer response (under separate cover)**
- 2. Development Plan Overlay Schedule 7 DPO7 with post exhibition track changes (under separate cover)**

PURPOSE

To consider all submissions received in response to the recent public exhibition of Moorabool Planning Scheme Amendment C103 – Hopetoun Park North and to request the Minister for Planning appoint an Independent Planning Panel to consider the amendment and submissions received.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Amendment C81 implemented the strategic direction of the Bacchus Marsh Urban Growth Framework 2018 (UGF) into the Moorabool Planning Scheme. The Bacchus Marsh Urban Growth Framework Plan was included at Clause 11.01-1L-02 and identifies an area of farmland in Hopetoun Park for further investigation for residential development.
- Amendment C103 is a proponent led amendment to rezone 62ha of farmland in Hopetoun Park for residential use. The amendment proposes to introduce and apply planning controls to manage a master planned community of approximately 400 new lots for 1,200 residents and facilitate the provision of open space and community infrastructure benefiting existing and future residents of Hopetoun Park.
- At its meeting on 7 February 2024, Council resolved to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C103.
- The amendment was exhibited from 21 March to 4 May 2025 and 32 submissions have been received.
- Matters raised in submissions included: opposition to any form of residential development, requests for lot sizes to be consistent with existing lot sizes in Hopetoun Park, concerns about the loss of native habitat and impacts on local fauna, and potential negative impacts on residential amenity, particularly increased traffic.
- Council officers have reviewed and responded to submissions and recommend several changes to the amendment documentation in response.

- It is recommended that an independent Planning Panel be appointed to consider all submissions. Following a Panel Hearing and receipt of a Planning Panel report, Council will have the opportunity to either adopt the amendment, adopt the amendment with changes, or abandon the amendment.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tom Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Moira Berry

That Council:

1. **Request the Minister for Planning establish an independent planning panel to consider all submissions received in response to Amendment C103moor, in accordance with section 22 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.**
2. **Delegates authority to the Executive Manager Community Planning and Development to negotiate with submitters on proposed changes to the exhibited Amendment documents to resolve matters in dispute between Council and submitters to Amendment C103.**
3. **Delegates authority to the Executive Manager Community Planning and Development to consider any further late submissions received by Council in relation to Amendment C103moor and refer them to the independent planning panel.**

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Bacchus Marsh Urban Growth Framework, 2018 and Moorabool Planning Scheme

The Hopetoun Park North precinct was identified for investigation as a residential growth area within the *Bacchus Marsh Urban Growth Framework* (UGF) prepared by Council in 2018 (refer Figure 1). Amendment C81 updated the Moorabool Planning Scheme to support this investigation, including a strategy to:

encourage residential growth including community facilities/amenities within Hopetoun Park where it would facilitate improved connectivity between Hopetoun Park and the Western Freeway, to and from the west.

The Hopetoun Park North precinct includes land on either side of Hopetoun Road between the Western Freeway and the existing Hopetoun Park residential estate. The amendment site comprises the western portion of the precinct on the west side of Hopetoun Park Road (outlined in purple in Figure 1).

State planning policy at Clause 11.02-1S requires a 15-year supply of residential land. Furthermore, the state government recently released *Plan for Victoria*, which identifies housing targets for all municipalities. Moorabool has a target of 20,000 new houses over the next 30 years. This will be achieved largely in growth precincts in Bacchus Marsh and Ballan.

State planning policy Clause 11.03-3S (Peri-Urban Areas) has the objective “to manage growth in peri-urban areas to protect and enhance their identified valued attributes”. A relevant strategy is to “Provide for development in established settlements that have capacity for growth having regard to complex ecosystems, landscapes, agricultural and recreational activities including in ... Bacchus Marsh, ... Ballan and other towns identified by Regional Growth Plans as having potential for growth”.

State planning policy Clause 11.01-1S (Settlement) has the objective *“To facilitate the sustainable growth and development of Victoria and deliver choice and opportunity for all Victorians through a network of settlements”*.

Regional policy Clause 11.01-1R (Settlement - Central Highlands) includes a strategy to *“direct growth to well serviced settlements with good access to Melbourne or Ballarat, particularly Bacchus Marsh, Ballan, ...”*. Local policy Clause 11.01-1L (Settlement in Moorabool) includes a strategy to *“direct the majority of the population and employment growth to Bacchus Marsh with supporting growth in Ballan”*.

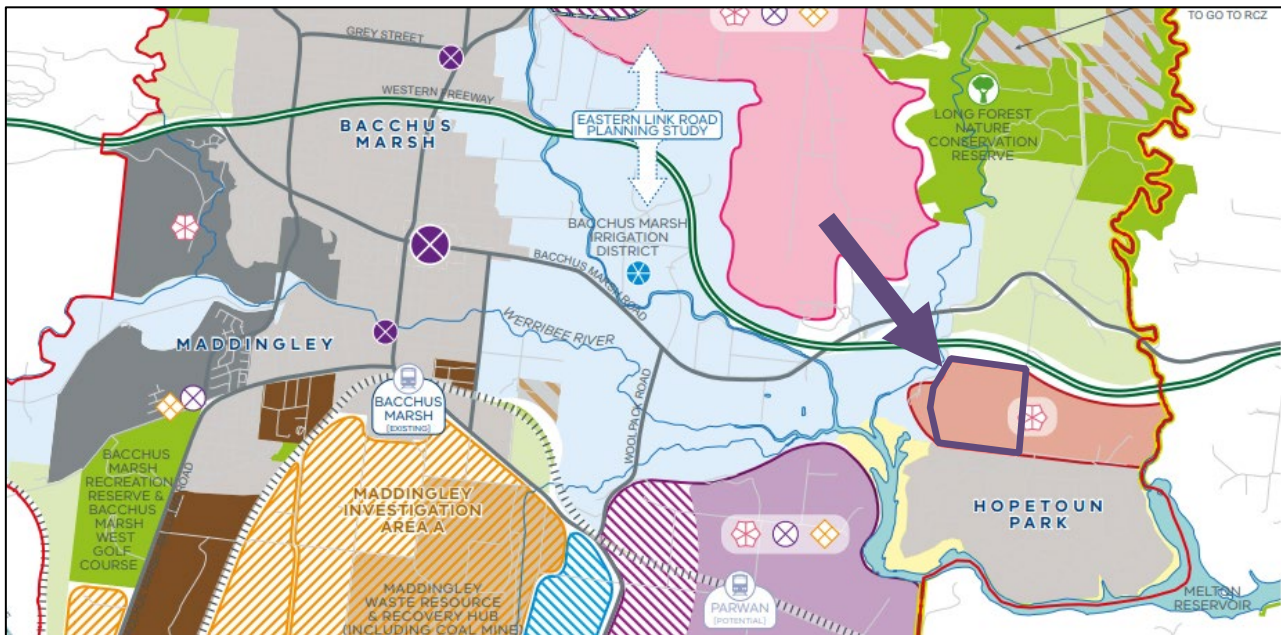


Figure 1: Extract from Plan 1, Urban Growth Framework (2018) edited to indicate site in purple polygon

PROPOSAL

The Subject Land

- The Amendment land is comprised of eight lots held by three separate landowners totalling 62ha. The amendment proponent holds the largest area of developable land (58 ha).
- The northern boundary of the site is adjacent to public land associated with the Western Freeway.
- The eastern boundary is bordered by Hopetoun Park Road, which is a two-lane local connector road and provides sealed road access to the proposed development.
- The southern boundary of the site abuts low density residential properties within the existing Hopetoun Park estate.
- The western boundary winds along the top of the Pyrites Creek escarpment, with the natural break of slope forming the boundary of the amendment.
- The land is currently contained within the Farming Zone and is used for cropping, grazing and equine activities. Two dwellings are located within the site.

- Existing planning overlay controls apply to areas of the site including Design Development Overlay (DDO2 Visual Amenity), Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO8 River Red Gums in the Bacchus Marsh Valley) and Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO1 Scenic Hilltops and Ridge Line Areas).
- Patches of native vegetation remain adjacent to Hopetoun Park Road and the escarpment.

The boundary of the Amendment C103moor land is illustrated in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Aerial photo and site boundary Source: Nearmap 2025

The Proposed Amendment

Amendment C103 proposes to amend the Moorabool Planning Scheme to enable coordinated development of a master planned residential development.

The Amendment proposes to:

- Rezone approximately 62ha of land from the Farming Zone (FZ) to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 8 (NRZ8).

- Introduce and apply the Development Plan Overlay Schedule 7 (DPO7) to provide a framework for future development including subdivision, transport, open space, community facilities, stormwater management and bushfire management requirements.
- Introduce and apply the Design and Development Overlay Schedule 17 (DDO17) to manage setbacks and siting requirements for future dwellings.
- Apply the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 7 (ESO7) to two areas of biodiversity significance.
- Remove the existing Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO1) and Design and Development Overlay (DDO2) which relate to rural land uses.

AUTHORISATION AND PUBLIC EXHIBITION

On 27 November 2024, the Minister for Planning provided conditional authorisation of Amendment C103moor.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 19 of the Act, the Amendment was placed on public exhibition from 21 March 2025 to 4 May 2025. Further details about the exhibition process are included in the 'Communications & Consultation Strategy' section below.

Consideration of Submissions

At the close of the exhibition period, 32 submissions had been received comprising:

- 23 submissions from residents.
- Five submissions from government agencies.
- One submission from Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.
- One submission from a landowner east of the site supporting the amendment.
- Two submissions from landowners within the amendment area supporting the amendment.

A summary of each submission along with a Council officer response is included in Attachment 1.

The key themes raised in submissions can be summarised as:

- Interface between existing properties and new development.
- Transport, including traffic generation, road maintenance, freeway access and road safety.
- Existing native habitat, animals and environment.
- Sense of community.
- Stormwater drainage.
- Adequacy of water supply and electricity infrastructure.
- Bushfire evacuation and access constraints.
- Education, including access to primary and secondary schools.
- Existing residents feel that their activities may be less compatible with new urban neighbours (e.g. motorbiking/horse-riding/animal-keeping/smoke from firepits) support for the amendment.

Any late submissions received will be referred to an independent planning panel for consideration.

Recommended Changes to the Amendment

Five government agencies provided submissions requesting changes to the DPO7 schedule (Development Plan Overlay Schedule) and providing advice for Council's consideration. Officers have sought to resolve most of the issues raised in agency submissions by recommending changes to the DPO7 schedule (refer Attachment 2).

Most of these recommended changes are minor in nature and seek to clarify design detail, or the technical work required to inform the design detail in the development plan and conditions on permits.

Some of the recommended changes to the DPO7 seek to respond to concerns raised by community members through submissions by clarifying or more directly addressing minor matters such as increasing requirements for canopy tree coverage and wildlife sensitive lighting design for streets/trails and sporting facility interfacing with the conservation areas and waterway corridors. However, as most community submissions raise in-principle concerns or matters that cannot be resolved at this time, it is recommended that Council refer these submissions to an independent Planning Panel for consideration.

OPTIONS

At this stage in the amendment process Council has three options under Section 23(1) of the Act:

1. Change the amendment in the manner requested (by submissions); or
2. Refer all submissions (including any late submissions) to a Panel appointed under Part 8 of the Act; or
3. Abandon the amendment or part of the amendment.

Given the number of competing submissions, Council is unable to change the amendment to achieve option 1.

Officers recommend that Council refers the submissions to a Panel (option 2) as:

- The amendment, including residential development of the subject land, is supported by the strategic direction in the Moorabool Planning Scheme and the *Bacchus Marsh Urban Growth Framework* report which has been adopted by Council.
- Changes to the planning scheme ordinance are proposed to address issues raised in submissions where appropriate.
- At this time, Council is only being asked to decide on whether submissions on the Amendment should progress through the planning scheme amendment process to an independent Planning Panel which will hold a public hearing and provide a report with its findings and any recommendations, to Council. Should the Amendment be referred to a Panel, as recommended by officers, Council will be required to consider the Panel's report before deciding whether or not to adopt the Amendment, with or without changes, or abandon it. If Council decides to adopt the Amendment (with or without changes), it will then need to submit the Amendment to the Minister for approval.

COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan 2021-2025 provides as follows:

Strategic Objective 2: Liveable and thriving environments

Priority 2.1: Develop planning mechanisms to enhance liveability in the Shire

The proposal to request the Minister for Planning to appoint an independent planning panel to consider unresolved submissions to Amendment C103moor is consistent with Council Plan Priority 2.1. Appropriate mechanisms are proposed to enhance liveability and provide community infrastructure to meet the needs of the growing community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As a privately initiated planning scheme amendment, the applicant is required to pay statutory fees in accordance with the *Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016*. The applicant is also responsible for covering other costs associated with the Amendment as allowed under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, including advertising and panel costs.

If the Amendment is ultimately approved, then the number of dwellings and residents in Hopetoun Park will increase. Development contributions will provide significant contributions towards expanded community, road and open space infrastructure requirements generated by the proposed development.

RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

Risk Identifier	Detail of Risk	Risk Rating	Control/s
Developer Contributions	Contributions are not secured prior to rezoning and therefore not provided or renegotiated.	Medium	Require contributions via a 173 Agreement for land controlled by the proponent to be finalised and signed before adopting the Amendment.
Ministerial intervention	The <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> allows for a proponent to ask the Minister for Planning to progress an amendment, potentially with no community engagement. Any community benefits negotiated by Council (such as developer contributions, open space provision, movement network, etc) could also be reduced or removed. This option is more likely to be pursued by the proponent should Council delay or decide to abandon the amendment.	Medium	Progress the amendment in a timely manner and refer all submissions to an independent Planning Panel. This will ensure that independent advice is received on the amendment and submitters have their chance to participate in a public hearing. Council will be able to further consider the amendment (including decisions to adopt, defer or abandon the amendment) after receiving the planning panel report. The chance of ministerial intervention is greatest if Council were to resolve to delay or abandon the amendment now. Proceeding to a panel will ensure any subsequent ministerial intervention would occur with the benefit of the planning panel report.

COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Consultation of the amendment followed the statutory requirements of Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act). Letters were sent to all owners and occupiers of properties

within Hopetoun Park, neighbouring properties, government agencies and prescribed ministers. A full-page notice was included in the Moorabool News on 21 March, with reminder notices included in Council's advertisement for the following six weeks.

A full-page notice was also published in the Melton Star on 25 March, and the Victorian Government Gazette on 27 March 2025. A post was published on Council's Facebook page on 21 March. All amendment information was available on Council's 'Have your say' website and the Department of Transport and Planning's (DTP) website.

Three community consultation sessions were held during the exhibition period, between 11.00am to 2.00pm and 4.00pm to 7.00pm on 3 April, and 4.00pm to 7.00pm on 29 April 2025. The sessions provided the community an opportunity to ask Council officers, the proponent (Bacchus Marsh Property Group), and their planning consultant any questions about the Amendment and future development of the subject land. Approximately 30 residents attended the information sessions.

VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Executive Manager – Henry Bezuidenhout

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Liam Prescott

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

CONCLUSION

Existing planning policy demonstrates strong strategic planning need and justification for the C103moor Amendment. Development of the amendment site in Hopetoun Park North will provide larger, residential lots and make an important contribution towards the State Government's housing targets as well as a desirable form of housing for second and third home buyers in the local area.

Considering the submissions received to the Amendment, it is recommended Council makes the changes to the Amendment indicated in Attachment 2 and refers the Amendment and all submissions to an Independent Planning Panel for consideration under Section 23(1) (b) and 23(2) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Cr Tom Sullivan left the meeting at 6.19pm.

11.2 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C085MOOR - WEST MOORABOOL HERITAGE STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

Author: Demi Spencer, Senior Heritage Planner

Authoriser: Henry Bezuidenhout, Executive Manager Community Planning & Development

Attachments:

1. Summary of Submissions and Council Officer Response and Recommendations Table (under separate cover)
2. Post Exhibition Amendment Documents (under separate cover)

PURPOSE

To consider submissions received during public exhibition of Moorabool Planning Scheme Amendment C085moor – West Moorabool Heritage Study and to request the Minister for Planning appoint an independent Planning Panel to consider the amendment and unresolved submissions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Amendment C085moor implements the *West Moorabool Heritage Study (WMHS) Stage 2A Review* (May 2021, Plan Heritage) by applying the Heritage Overlay to 106 individual places and 7 heritage precincts across Ballan, Blackwood, Bungaree, Gordon, Lal Lal, Millbrook and Wallace.
- At its meeting on 6 December 2023, Council resolved to adopt the *WMHS Stage 2A Review* and seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C085moor. The Amendment was authorised with conditions on 28 February 2024.
- The amendment was exhibited from 13 March to 30 April 2025 and 12 submissions have been received.
- Matters raised in the submissions included questions or clarifications around heritage significance, some requested changes to the Statements of Significance or advised of changes that have occurred to a place and four opposed heritage controls on specific properties.
- Council officers have reviewed and responded to submissions and recommend several changes to the amendment documentation supported by expert heritage advice.
- Council officers recommend that an independent Planning Panel be appointed to hear unresolved submissions. Council will be required to consider the Panel's report and will have the opportunity to adopt, adopt with changes or abandon the amendment following a Panel Hearing and receipt of a Planning Panel report.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ally Munari

Seconded: Cr Moira Berry

That Council resolves to:

- 1. Request the Minister for Planning establish an independent planning panel to consider submissions received in response to Amendment C085moor in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987.**
- 2. Authorise the Executive Manager Community Planning and Development to continue to liaise with submitters and seek to resolve submissions prior to and during the independent Planning Panel process prior to Amendment C85moor being reported back to Council for consideration.**
- 3. Authorise the Executive Manager Community Planning and Development to consider any further late submissions and refer them to the independent Planning Panel.**

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Amendment C085moor implements the findings of the *WMHS Stage 2A Review* (Plan Heritage, May 2021). The WMHS was prepared to identify and assess places of heritage significance in the western part of the shire.

It was undertaken in three parts:

- Stage 1: Preparation of a thematic environmental history and identification of 702 potential places of heritage significance for further assessment.
- Stage 2: A detailed assessment of 106 places and 7 precincts in priority areas identified in Stage 1.
- Stage 2A Review: A review of the Stage 2A study to incorporate current practices and guidance suitable to support a Planning Scheme Amendment.

Council adopted the *WMHS 2A Review* at the 6 December 2023 Ordinary Meeting of Council and resolved to seek Ministerial authorisation to prepare and exhibit Amendment C085moor. Other heritage places identified in Stage 1 of the study and not included in Amendment C085moor will need to be further assessed in a future study, and if necessary protected through a future planning scheme amendment.

Amendment C085moor

Amendment C085moor applies the Heritage Overlay to 113 places of cultural significance in Moorabool Shire. This includes 106 individual places and 7 heritage precincts across Ballan, Blackwood, Bungaree, Gordon, Lal Lal, Millbrook and Wallace.

Specifically, the amendment will make the following changes to the Moorabool Planning Scheme:

- Apply the Heritage Overlay to 106 individual places and seven heritage precincts across Ballan, Blackwood, Bungaree, Gordon, Lal Lal, Millbrook, Mount Egerton and Wallace.
- Remove the Heritage Overlay from three individual heritage places that are to be included in new precincts.

- Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 (Heritage Overlay) to apply permanent controls to the identified places and insert permit application requirements.
- Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.04 (Incorporated Documents) to include 113 Statements of Significance and the *Moorabool Shire Heritage Precincts and Places Incorporated Planning Permit Exemptions* (Plan Heritage, May 2021) as incorporated documents.
- Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background Documents) to insert the *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review* (Plan Heritage, May 2021).

Ministerial authorisation

On 28 February 2025, the Minister for Planning provided conditional authorisation of Amendment C085moor.

Public exhibition

In accordance with the requirements of Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) Amendment C085moor was placed on public exhibition from 13 March 2025 to 30 April 2025. Further details of the exhibition process are included in the 'Communications & Consultation Strategy' section below.

CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

A total of 12 submissions were received during the exhibition period. Of the 12 submissions, four opposed the overlay applying to specific properties, and in one case removal of a property from Amendment C085moor was justified. Other submissions requested changes to detail about specific heritage properties with the matters raised in some submissions resulting in recommended changes to the amendment documents. Three submissions from stakeholders advised that they had no comment. A summary of each submission with a Council officer response and recommendation is included in Attachment 1.

The themes raised in submissions include:

- Requesting changes to the Statement of Significance.
- Heritage significance and values identified.
- Identifying changes that have occurred to a place.
- General objection.
- Misconceptions of the Heritage overlay such as misinterpretation of controls and perceptions of financial impost and restrictions on development.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

Based on the content of submissions received, and informed by expert heritage advice from Plan Heritage (the author of the *WMHS Stage 2A Review*), Council officers recommend the following changes to the amendment documentation (contained in Attachment 2):

- Correct street number references in the Steiglitz Street Heritage Precinct (HO201) to change reference from 93-97 to 91-95.
- Remove 49 Edols Street (HO215) from the amendment as aerial evidence confirms the building is a relocated dwelling and was not on the site in the 1980s.
- Remove reference to the cost of damages from a previous building fire from the heritage citation for 190 Bungaree Wallace Road, Bungaree (HO272).

- Remove reference to an outbuilding at the rear of the site for 146 and 146a Inglis Street, Ballan (HO242 citation) as the outbuilding has recently been removed.
- Make changes relating to 179 Donnellans Road, Millbrook (HO307) to apply controls for internal alterations, external paint controls and tree controls and update the corresponding Statement of Significance and Heritage Citations (pending further advice from Plan Heritage).
- Add text on the historical value of the bell and bell tower in 56 Simpson Street, Ballan (HO252) (pending further advice from Plan Heritage).

Statutory Decisions about Submissions

Under Section 23(1) of the Act, at this stage in the amendment process, Council must undertake one of the following:

1. Change the amendment in the manner requested in submissions.
2. Refer all submissions to an independent Planning Panel appointed under Part 8 of the Act.
3. Abandon the amendment or part of the amendment.

Officers have considered the three options and it is recommended that a Planning Panel be appointed to consider all submissions and provide submitters with an opportunity to be heard by an independent Panel.

COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan 2021-2025 provides as follows:

Strategic Objective 2: Liveable and thriving environments

Priority 2.1: Develop planning mechanisms to enhance liveability in the Shire

The proposal to request the Minister for Planning to appoint an independent planning panel to consider unresolved submissions to Amendment C085moor is consistent with Council Plan Priority 2.1. Appropriate mechanisms are proposed to enhance liveability and provide community infrastructure to meet the needs of the growing community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The amendment will apply the heritage overlay to 113 places of cultural significance which may trigger planning permit applications or require heritage to be considered where other controls also trigger a planning permit application. A Heritage Planner role was created in 2024 to resource the heritage advice needed for these permit applications.

The *Moorabool Shire Heritage Precincts and Places Incorporated Planning Permit Exemptions* document has also been prepared to exempt permit requirements where works are of a minor nature to avoid unnecessary costs to landowners and Council's resourcing requirements.

Costs associated with the planning scheme amendment, including expert evidence and the planning panel process are budgeted for in the recurrent budget of Council's Growth and Developments division.

Given this there are no significant financial implications created by the amendment.

RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

Risk Identifier	Detail of Risk	Risk Rating	Control/s
Demolition of heritage assets	Prior to the Heritage Overlay being applied, sites may be damaged or demolished, negatively affecting the heritage significance of places.	Medium	Interim heritage controls if demolition is proposed.
Heritage studies become outdated	The WMHS was undertaken over several years and included a review in 2021 to ensure it is up to date with current practices and could support a planning scheme amendment. If the recommendations of the study are not implemented in the short term, an additional review or new study will be required to support a future planning scheme amendment. This will require further financial investment and staff resourcing and increase the risk to heritage sites.	Medium	Progress the amendment to the next stage.

COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Consultation of the amendment followed the statutory requirements of Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act). The amendment was placed on public exhibition from 13 March 2025 to 30 April 2025.

Notification included:

- Letters to all affected landowners and occupiers which included the notice letter, an amendment factsheet and a copy of the statement of significance for the property.
- Notices published in Moorabool News on Friday 7 March and the Government Gazette on Thursday 13 March.
- Letters to relevant government agencies, prescribed ministers, adjoining councils, relevant community groups such as historical societies, and Registered Aboriginal Parties.
- A Facebook post on 25 March.
- An A3 poster was displayed on a community notice board outside the Blackwood Post Office from Wednesday 12 March due to an inability to deliver letters to occupiers in Blackwood.

All amendment documentation was available online on the C085moor *Have Your Say* page, Council's website, and the Department of Transport and Planning website for the duration of the exhibition period. Physical copies of amendment documents were available at Council's Darley and Ballan offices and the Lerderderg Library in Bacchus Marsh.

Council officers were available to take calls and arrange in person meetings throughout the amendment process.

VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Authoriser: Executive Manager Community Planning and Development – Henry Bezuidenhout

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author: Senior Heritage Planner – Demi Spencer

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

CONCLUSION

Planning Scheme Amendment C085moor implements the *West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A Review* (Plan Heritage, May 2021). The amendment was publicly exhibited between 13 March and 30 April 2025 and 12 submissions have been received.

Considering the submissions received to the amendment, it is recommended Council makes the changes to the amendment as detailed in this report and refers the amendment and all submissions to an independent Planning Panel for consideration under Section 23(1) (b) and 23(2) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Cr Tom Sullivan returned to the meeting at 6.21pm.

11.3 PAYMENT IN LIEU OF RATES (PILOR) SCHEME FOR ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

Author: Catherine McLay, Special Projects Lead

Authoriser: Henry Bezuidenhout, Executive Manager Community Planning & Development

Attachments: 1. Moorabool Shire Council submission on the Payment in Lieu of Rates Scheme for Energy Storage Systems Discussion Paper (under separate cover)

PURPOSE

To inform Council of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's (DEECA) Discussion Paper proposing a new Payment in Lieu of Rates (PILOR) methodology for energy storage systems, and to seek endorsement of Council's draft submission opposing the proposal.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In May 2025, DEECA released a Discussion Paper outlining a proposed PILOR methodology specifically for large-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).
- This proposal seeks to differentiate energy storage systems from other forms of electricity generation by introducing a new payment model that considers their smaller land footprint and capital intensity.
- Council has prepared a draft submission (Attachment 1) objecting to the proposed changes due to the potential for significant reductions in local government revenue, increased administrative complexity, and inconsistent treatment of energy infrastructure across taxation frameworks.
- Submissions to DEECA closed on 30 June 2025.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rod Ward

Seconded: Cr Tom Sullivan

That Council:

1. **Notes the preliminary submission opposing the proposed PILOR methodology for energy storage systems.**
2. **Mandate the Chief Executive Officer to provide further comments and submissions to DEECA in relation to this report.**
3. **Write to other affected Councils seeking their support in this matter.**

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Under the current PILOR framework, councils and electricity generators – including energy storage providers – negotiate payments based on generating capacity (in megawatts), with a guiding methodology to support arbitration. This framework already results in lower revenue compared to traditional Capital Improved Value (CIV)-based rating.

The new proposal introduces a separate PILOR model for BESS developments, which could further decrease local government revenue, despite such developments often relying on Council infrastructure and services. The proposed change comes at a time when Moorabool Shire has one approved and one proposed 200 MW BESS, both located near the Elaine Terminal Station, with construction yet to commence.

PROPOSAL

Council has prepared a draft submission that highlights the following key concerns:

- The PILOR framework already disadvantages Councils financially, with local wind farms currently contributing only 38% of the revenue they would under CIV-based rating (\$1.10M vs \$2.94M annually).
- The proposed methodology for energy storage systems could further erode Council's revenue base without providing offsetting benefits to local communities.
- The new model introduces additional complexity and diverges from the consistent CIV-based approach used in other state taxes, such as the Fire Services Property Levy and Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund Levy.
- There is no clear requirement for BESS developments to provide community benefit under the new model.
- The proposal reduces local government autonomy and entrenches an inequitable rating system.
- Council was not informed directly by DEECA that the discussion paper had been released.
- Council does not support the proposed PILOR methodology and seeks to ensure this position is clearly communicated in the submission to DEECA.

COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan 2021-2025 provides as follows:

Strategic Objective 2: Liveable and thriving environments

Priority 2.1: Develop planning mechanisms to enhance liveability in the Shire

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

That Council will be financially disadvantaged by the PILOR framework. The wind farms serve as an example. Local wind farms currently contribute only 38% of the revenue they would under CIV-based rating (\$1.10M vs \$2.94M annually).

RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

Risk Identifier	Detail of Risk	Risk Rating	Control/s
PILOR framework	Loss of Income	Extreme	Advocate for change

COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Level of Engagement	Stakeholder	Activities	Date	Outcome
Consult	Councillors	Formal submission to State Government	July 2025	Advocate for change

VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Executive Manager – Henry Bezuidenhout

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Catherine McLay

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

CONCLUSION

Council's position is that the proposed PILOR treatment for energy storage systems is fiscally and administratively unsound. It conflicts with the principles of rating equity, removes autonomy from councils, and creates inconsistency across state tax frameworks. A draft response reflecting this position is attached for Councillor review and endorsement prior to submission by 30 June 2025.

12 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING REPORTS

12.1 LOCAL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LBAC) MEMBER NOMINATIONS

Author: Shannon Maloney, Manager Community Place and Prosperity

Authoriser: Leigh McCallum, General Manager Community Strengthening

Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to approve the appointment of members to the Local Business Advisory Committee (LBAC).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- LBAC is a Council Advisory Committee established 2 December 2020.
- LBAC provides advice to Council in relation to the growth of the Moorabool Shire economy and the generation of local employment opportunities and increased levels of investment and business development.
- Through an open Expression of Interest process, Council received expressions of interest from external community members, businesses and industry to join LBAC.
- Seven nominees are recommended to become members of LBAC.
- In addition, as per the Terms of Reference, the President of the Ballan & District Chamber of Commerce received an invitation to become a member of LBAC and has accepted.
- Council to also invite additional community and industry expertise to the meetings as required to support the objectives of the Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ally Munari

Seconded: Cr Tom Sullivan

That Council:

- 1. Approves the appointment of the following nominees as members of the Local Business Advisory Committee:**
 - a) Kristy Noakes**
 - b) Kate Sharkey**
 - c) Shane Zammit**
 - d) Angela Candeloro**
 - e) Cameron Jones**
 - f) Gillian Stewart**
 - g) Belinda Dellios**

h) President, Ballan & District Chamber of Commerce

2. Resolves to invite additional community and industry expertise to the meetings as required to support the objectives of the Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The establishment of a Local Business Advisory Committee was passed by Council resolution on 1 July 2020. The initial LBAC committee members were then endorsed by Council on 2 December 2020.

LBAC provides advice to Council in relation to the growth of the Moorabool Shire economy and the generation of local employment opportunities through increased levels of investment and business development.

The LBAC membership includes:

- Councillor representatives
- Council officers
- Up to ten local businesses, two community members and the President of the Ballan & District Chamber of Commerce

An Expression of Interest process was undertaken with widespread promotion across the Shire, including advertising in the Moorabool News and Council's social media channels. Applicants were required to provide a statement regarding their suitability to the Committee.

Council received seven nominations.

Officers undertook an assessment and evaluation process, which included an interview with shortlisted applicants to determine their suitability to the Committee and to match skills and experience required to meet the purpose of the Committee.

Below is a list of the seven nominees including role, location and expertise.

Name	Location	Role	Expertise
Kristy Noakes	Maddingley	Community member	A People and Culture Manager interested in helping create sustainable, fair and legally sound workplaces.
Kate Sharkey	Bacchus Marsh	Community member	Background in agricultural management with strong links to the community through volunteering with various local committees.
Shane Zammit	Bacchus Marsh / Ballan	Local business owner Ballan Butcher Retail	Operates two retail businesses in Ballan and Bacchus Marsh with experience across a range of industries shire wide.

Angela Candeloro	The Avenue / Bacchus Marsh	Local business owner Tripod Farms Agriculture / horticulture	Managing Director from long established family farm (vegetable growers)
Cameron Jones	Parwan / Bacchus Marsh	Parwan Protein and Tallow (PPT) Industrial / circular economy	A strong commitment to the Parwan precinct and aligning shared goals with businesses across Moorabool Shire.
Gillian Stewart	Ballan	Local business owner Phoenix Park Events / tourism / camping and accommodation	Offers a range of skills and experience as a business owner combined with a background in Local Government and a strong commitment to supporting and promoting other local businesses.
Belinda Dellios	The Avenue / Bacchus Marsh	Local business owner Fruits of Life Retail / Tourism	Three decades of experience in tourism and retail in Bacchus Marsh and a former member of the Bacchus Marsh Tourism Association.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed to appoint seven members to the Local Business Advisory Committee. It is also proposed that Council, as required, invites additional community and industry expertise to the meetings to support the objectives of the Advisory Committee.

COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan 2021-2025 provides as follows:

Strategic Objective 2: Liveable and thriving environments

Priority 2.4: Grow local employment and business investment

The proposal is to appoint this iteration of the Local Business Advisory Committee which is consistent with the Council Plan 2021-2025.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation contained in this report.

RISK & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

Risk Identifier	Detail of Risk	Risk Rating	Control/s
The Local Business Advisory Committee is not established	Lost opportunity to use the knowledge and experience available within the community.	Medium	Appoint committee members to LBAC.
Breach of confidentiality	Breach of confidentiality by Committee members.	Medium	Each Committee member to undertake an induction program and will enter into a Pledge of Confidentiality agreement at the commencement of their term.
Conflict of interest	A committee member has a conflict of interest.	Medium	Committee members must disclose a Conflict of Interest and must leave the room and not participate in any discussion or decision

COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Level of Engagement	Stakeholder	Activities	Location	Date	Outcome
Inform	Moorabool Shire residents	Expression of interest process promoted through social media, MSC website, posters and flyers through local community groups.	Various	February to March 2025	Nominations were received.
	Local businesses	Promoted via the Business Innovation and Growth Facebook page and newsletter and direct emails.	Various	February to March 2025	Nominations were received.

VICTORIAN CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006

In developing this report to Council, the officer considered whether the subject matter raised any human rights issues. In particular, whether the scope of any human right established by the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is in any way limited, restricted or interfered with by the recommendations contained in the report. It is considered that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

General Manager – Leigh McCallum

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – Shannon Maloney

In providing this advice to Council as the Author, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

CONCLUSION

The establishment of a Local Business Advisory Committee was passed by Council resolution on 1 July 2020.

Through an open Expression of Interest process Council invited local businesses and community members to join LBAC. As per the Terms of Reference, the President of the Ballan & District Chamber of Commerce received an invitation to become a member of LBAC and has accepted.

After an assessment and evaluation process seven nominations are recommended for appointment to the Committee, along with the President of the Ballan & District Chamber of Commerce. It is also recommended that Council, as required, invites additional community and industry expertise to the meetings to support the objectives of the Advisory Committee.

13 OTHER REPORTS

Nil

14 NOTICES OF MOTION**14.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 334 - REDUCTION IN STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE**

Attachments: Nil

I, Councillor Rod Ward give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 2 July 2025, I intend to move the following motion:

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Moira Berry

Seconded: Cr Jarrod Bingham

That Council:

1. Writes to the Victorian Government asking the State Government to provide justification for the reduction in total funding available in 2025/26 budget for new and upgraded community sport and recreation infrastructure of \$20m, noting that the 2022/23 budget had a funding pool of \$143m for available for a Peri Urban Council such as Moorabool Shire Council.
2. Includes in the letter to the State Government that this is contrary to the recommendations from the Legislative Council's Economy and Infrastructure Committee that examined the sustainability and efficiency of local government funding and service and recommended that the Victorian Government should create growth funds specifically for Councils experiencing rapid growth such as the Moorabool Shire Council, and including peri-urban Councils.

This report noted that Peri-urban Councils, located on the fringes of metropolitan areas, are among the fastest-growing regions in Victoria. These Councils face unique challenges, including:

- **Population Growth:** Rapid urban expansion increases demand for infrastructure and community services, often outpacing revenue growth.
- **Infrastructure Backlogs:** These Councils are required to provide new infrastructure while maintaining existing assets, resulting in financial strain.
- **Funding Gaps:** They experience significant financial shortfalls due to limited rate-raising capacity and reliance on grants, which are often competitive or tied to specific outcomes.

These funds should support timely delivery of infrastructure through works-in-kind agreements and additional financial contributions.

3. Includes in the letter to the State Government that The "Active Victoria 2022 – 2026 Strategic Framework for Sport & Active Recreation for Victoria" recognised that sport and active recreation supports the health and wellbeing of all Victorians, builds the social fabric of our communities and delivers thousands of local jobs. The Vision for "Active Victoria 2022-2026" is "To build a thriving, inclusive and connected sport and active

recreation sector that benefits for all Victorians” including:

- Establishing thriving places and communities that are safe, fair and inclusive. Sport is a vehicle to address social issues, discrimination, inequality, violence and enhances connected communities.
 - Building quality infrastructure. Investing in new and existing natural built form assets provides more opportunities for Victorians to be physically active and the liveability of Victoria is enhanced by high-quality sport and active recreation infrastructure.
4. Calls on the State Government to significantly increase its funding for new and upgraded community sport and recreation infrastructure in line with its “Active Victoria 2022-2026” strategy.
 5. Calls on the State Government to create growth funds specifically for Councils experiencing rapid growth such as the Moorabool Shire Council, and including peri-urban for new and upgraded community sport and recreation infrastructure in line with the *Legislative Council’s Economy and Infrastructure Committee* that this feasibility study also consider the likely future need for the provision of a public secondary school in Ballan in the future.
 6. Sends the letter to:
 - a) Premier of Victoria, the Hon Jacinta Allan MP
 - b) Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Jaclyn Symes
 - c) Minister for Community Sport , the Hon Ros Spence
 - d) Minister for Tourism, Sport & Major Events, the Hon. Steve Dimopoulos
 - e) Minister for Planning, the Hon. Sonya Kilkenny
 - f) Minister for Development Victoria & Precincts, the Hon Harriet Shing
 - g) Minister for Economic Growth & Jobs, the Hon. Danny Pearson
 - h) Member for Eureka, Michaela Settle MP
 - i) Member for Melton, Steve McGhie MP.

CARRIED

RATIONALE

Against the above background, it is alarming to see the reduction in funding that has been available for local sport and active recreation infrastructure over recent years, which is highlighted by the following:

Financial Year	Funding Available	Funding Stream	Details
2022/23	\$50 million	Growing Suburbs Fund	Funding provided to deliver critical new and upgraded infrastructure projects across Melbourne’s interface and Peri Urban Councils.
	\$5 million	Living Local – Regional	Funding is available to support rural and regional communities to build

			social and community connections, including community infrastructure projects.
	\$88 million	Meeting Victoria's demand for local sport and active recreation infrastructure	Funding to deliver new and upgraded community sport and recreation infrastructure. Programs include Local Sports Infrastructure Fund, Female Friendly Facilities Fund and CFNP.
2022/2023	\$143 million	Total funding pool available to a peri-urban Council such as Moorabool Shire Council for infrastructure delivery.	
2025/26	\$20 million	Delivery Community Sports Infrastructure	Funding to deliver new and upgraded community sport and recreation infrastructure.
2025/26	\$20 million	Total funding pool available to a peri-urban Council such as Moorabool Shire Council for infrastructure delivery.	

The above figures are for infrastructure build only, and do not include Sporting and Event Centre funding (e.g. State Sports Centre, Kardinia Park Trust), or delivering Improving Access to Sport programs e.g. Get Active Vouchers.

The trend is clear, there's been a significant reduction in direct infrastructure funding, especially for peri-urban areas. The Growing Suburbs Fund took a massive hit (from \$50m to \$10m, and Moorabool Shire Council were excluded in that year) and now the GSF has disappeared. The Living Local program also appears to have vanished.

The overall funding picture indicates a significant reduction in funding for new and upgraded community sport and recreation infrastructure which is contradictory to the State Governments own policies.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

15 NOTICES OF RESCISSION

Nil

16 MAYOR'S & COUNCILLORS REPORTS**16.1 MAYOR'S REPORT****Author:** Dianne Elshaug, Co-ordinator CEOs Office**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide details to the community on the meetings and events attended by the Mayor since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

That the Mayor's Report be tabled for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

RESOLUTION**Moved:** Cr John Keogh**Seconded:** Cr Jarrod Bingham**That Council receives the Mayor's Report.****CARRIED****Cr Paul Tatchell – Mayor's Report*****Date:*** 2 July 2025

5 June	Young Leaders Forum 2025, West Maddingley Early Years Hub
6 June	Gala Opening – Bacchus Marsh Rotary Art Show, Bacchus Marsh
11 June	- Councillor Briefings – VicGrid Draft 2025 Victorian Transmission Line Briefing; Review of the DAC Agenda - Unscheduled (Special) Meeting of Council
14 June	Peter Carey Short Story Award & Moorabool Young Writers Awards Ceremony, Lerderderg Library, Bacchus Marsh
17 June	Australian Citizenship Ceremonies, West Maddingley Early Years Hub
18 June	- Youth Art Awards 2025 – Judging Panel - Councillor Briefings - Contract C0160 2025/2026 Trade and Civil Services; Planning Scheme Amendment C085moor - West Moorabool Heritage Study Implementation; Payment in Lieu of Rates (PILOR) Scheme for Energy Storage Systems; Review of the OMC Agenda

	• Development Assessment Committee
25 June	• Unscheduled (Special) Meeting of Council
27 June	• Greater Ballarat Alliance of Councils Meeting, Ballarat • Tiny Towns Funding Announcement – Dales Creek Shelter Project • Tiny Towns Funding Announcement – Blackwood Hiking Hub Feasibility Study • Youth Art Awards 2025 – Presentation of Awards, West Maddingley Early Years Hub
28 June	• Official Opening – Aqualink, Darley
2 July	• Official Opening – Darley Park Playspace • Ordinary Meeting of Council

16.2 COUNCILLORS REPORTS**Author:** Dianne Elshaug, Co-ordinator CEOs Office**Authoriser:** Derek Madden, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide details to the community on meetings and events attended by Councillors since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

That the Councillors Reports be accepted for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

RESOLUTION**Moved:** Cr Moira Berry**Seconded:** Cr Jarrod Bingham**That Council receives the Councillors Reports.****CARRIED**

Cr Tom Sullivan	
19 June	• Timber Towns meeting

Cr John Keogh	
6 June	• Bacchus Marsh Rotary Art show
19 June	• Heritage Advisory Committee
24 June	• West Implementation Committee
27 June	• Tourism Midwest Industry Conference and Networking event
27 June	• Tiny Towns announcement in Dales Creek
27 June	• Blackwood Heritage Hub

Cr Steve Venditti-Taylor	
6 June	Bacchus Marsh Rotary Art show
18 June	Youth Arts Awards 2025
17 June	Australian Citizenship – Early Years and Community Hub in Maddingley
26 June	Peri-Urban Councils of Australia round table (Canberra)
27 June	Tourism Midwest Industry Conference and Networking event organisation
27 June	Tiny Towns announcement in Dales Creek
27 June	Blackwood Heritage Hub
28 June	Opening of Aqualink Bike and Walk Track
2 July	Darley Park Play Space

Cr Ally Munari	
27 June	Tourism Midwest Industry Conference and Networking event organisation

Cr Jarrod Bingham	
18 June	Youth Arts Awards

Cr Moira Berry	
6 June	Urban Council's planning meeting (Chaired)
6 June	Bacchus Marsh Rotary Art show
14 June	Peter Carey Short Story Awards and Moorabool Young Writers Awards
17 June	Australian Citizenship – Early Years and Community Hub in Maddingley
18 June	Youth Arts Awards 2025
19 June	Grow West Implementation Committee
26 June	Peri-Urban Councils of Australia round table (Canberra)
27 June	Tiny Towns announcement in Dales Creek
27 June	Blackwood Heritage Hub

28 June	• Opening of Aqualink Bike and Walk Track
1 July	• Public Art and Collections Advisory Committee
2 July	• Darley Park Play Space

Cr Sheila Freeman

6 June	• Bacchus Marsh Rotary Art show
17 June	• Australian Citizenship – Early Years and Community Hub in Maddingley

17 URGENT BUSINESS

Cr Moira Berry raised an item of urgent business in relation to managing mobs of kangaroos.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Moira Berry

Seconded: Cr Jarrod Bingham

That Council accept the item of urgent business in relation to managing mobs of kangaroos.

CARRIED

17.1 MANAGING MOBS OF KANGAROOS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Moira Berry

Seconded: Cr Jarrod Bingham

That Council:

- 1. Writes to DEECA to ask what DEECA have in place for managing mobs of Kangaroos that are a growing concern accessing our streets in Darley and Bacchus Marsh.**
- 2. Receives a report back to Council on the outcome of DEECA's response.**

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tom Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Moira Berry

That Council adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6.52pm.

The meeting resumed at 6.55pm.

18 CLOSED SESSION OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**RESOLUTION****Moved: Cr Moira Berry****Seconded: Cr John Keogh**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

18.1 Insurance Broking & Risk Management Services 2025/2026 - 2027/2028

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 89(2) - (d) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with contractual matters.

18.2 Contract C0160-2025/2026 Trade and Civil Services

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) confidential information - (g) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that

- (i) relates to trade secrets; or
- (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

18.3 Western Renewables Link (WRL) Project Environmental Effects Statement (EES)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) confidential information - (e) and (h) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies. and confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a).

CARRIED

19 MEETING CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 6.58pm.

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CHAIRPERSON