



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

RESOLUTIONS IN BRIEF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 17 September 2024, commencing at 5pm

To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 17 September 2024.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Cr Ian Bye (Mayor)
Cr Scott Rossetti
Cr Carolyn Crossley
Cr Gayle Maher (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Carmel Ripper
Cr Jill Wood
Cr John Tattersson
Cr Marcus McKenzie

OFFICERS PRESENT

David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer
Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services
Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment
Suzanne Snooks, Acting General Manager Community & Culture
Kim Salleh, Manager Communications and Media
Catie Thomson, Governance Officer

APOLOGIES

Cr Garry Stephens

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
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1. APOLOGIES

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

NIL

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S

3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

OBJECTIVE

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 3 September 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 3 September 2024.

COUNCILLOR WOOD / COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 3 September 2024.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS

NIL

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION

NIL

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS

7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE acknowledged the town of Seaspray as a finalist in the 2024 Tiny Towns and Cities “Keeping Victoria Beautiful” in the category of Heritage and Culture. Seaspray has been recognised for the twelve historical signs along the town’s historic foreshore showcasing Seaspray’s history. The signs offer glimpses into the town’s past, highlighting and celebrating the town’s socio and cultural history including beachside fashions, early streetscapes, the General Store’s beginning and the supply of fresh bread and milk to campers in the 1920s and 1930’s. This project was the brainchild of Kaylene Wheeler, President of the Seaspray Ratepayers Association, and with special mention of Sue Kennedy for all her hours of research into the history and storytelling of Seaspray by pictures and the wonderful financial support of Esso. Her dream became a reality.

Seaspray were up against two other historical and significant heritage finalists, both in Beechworth - The Golden Horseshoe Festival and Beechworth Court House. The winners will be announced on October 28 and on behalf of the Wellington community, Councillor McKenzie wished Seaspray all the best and hopes they are awarded the 2024 Tiny Towns Heritage and Cultural Trophy.

COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY congratulated and acknowledged the 2024 John Leslie Art Prize, our richest and most loved landscape painting prize. The community was well engaged with 200+ people attending the gallery opening for the exhibition on 6 September. It was a packed event. The winner, Peter Gardiner – with his large oil, wax and glitter painting ‘Elephant’ depicting storm destruction and damage in the forest – acknowledged in his acceptance speech that it is an important and well-loved exhibition for artists across Australia. The exhibition was beautifully presented which was remarked upon by the artists who were very pleased to be part of it. The “Best Gippsland Work” winner was Linda Gibbs, whose recent work “Aurora Over Corner Inlet” is a beautiful romantic landscape piece.

Not only are these events loved by the arts community, but Councillor Crossley commented that the restaurants and accommodation venues are “packed to the gunnels” and the feedback is that these events are a cultural and economic stimulus to the town. Councillor Crossley encouraged people to visit the exhibition which is bursting with new exhibits. It is the first time the Borun & Tuk exhibition has been in the larger space at the gallery as well as the new youth exhibition space.

MAYOR BYE acknowledged the Municipal Association Victoria (MAV) Annual Awards night which he attended and Councillor Crossley who received an MAV Councillor Service Award for her 15 years of service as a councillor, a big achievement. Mayor Bye thanked and congratulated Councillor Crossley for her years of service, and presented her with the Councillor Service Award and a special pin imprinted with 15 years of service to local government.

COUNCILLOR MAHER acknowledged Mayor Bye who was also recognised with a Mayor Emeritus Award for his leadership and service to the Wellington Shire Council. Councillor Maher passed on her congratulations to Mayor Bye on behalf of all sitting there today.

MAYOR BYE also acknowledged the Gippsland New Energy Conference (GNEC) held in the first week of September in Traralgon and hosted by Latrobe City Council. It had been hosted in Wellington Shire at the Wedge for the first two years. It was quite pleasing to see the acknowledgement that Wellington Shire received for adopting and bringing this new energy to Gippsland and being at the forefront of this new renewable energy to bring future jobs to our area. There were about 800 delegates, 350 students and 150 different speakers, keen to see that renewable energy in our region does succeed and does keep going. We were lucky to have the Federal Minister, the Hon. Chris Bowen MP, fly down to do a couple of announcements, including attending the launch of the Gippsland Offshore Wind Alliance.

Councillor Bye congratulated the hard working team at the Gippsland Climate Change Network for delivering such a great conference which was well received by all. With the growing numbers, extra room was needed, so it was fantastic to have the larger venue hosted by Latrobe to make it a success. We look forward to next year's conference which will be even bigger and better again as we continue to build each year.

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

10. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT

10.1. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT - AUGUST 2024

ACTION OFFICER: COUNCILLOR IAN BYE

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted.</i> COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR WOOD <i>That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted.</i>
CARRIED

11. DELEGATES REPORT

NIL

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT - AUGUST 2024

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR MAHER

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.

CARRIED

13. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

13.1. QUARTERLY BUILDING REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER REGULATORY SERVICES

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report of building permits issued from 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024.

COUNCILLOR MAHER / COUNCILLOR WOOD

That Council note the report of building permits issued from 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024.

CARRIED

13.2. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - JULY 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 July and 31 July 2024.

COUNCILLOR MAHER / COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 July and 31 July 2024.

CARRIED

14. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS

Gallery comments are an opportunity for members of the public to raise any particular matter they wish. This allows those in the gallery to speak directly to Councillors but is not a forum designed for open discussion or debate. We will listen respectfully to what you have to say and make the commitment that if your query requires a written response, we will advise you that a response will be forthcoming, and a copy of that response will be circulated to all Councillors.

This is not a forum for members of the public to lodge complaints against individuals, including Councillors and staff, particularly as that individual gets no public right of reply to any matter raised. We take complaints seriously, and in line with the guidance from the Victorian Ombudsman and the local Government Inspectorate, we request that any specific complaint against an individual be put in writing. This way, your concern can be properly dealt with while ensuring fairness to all parties concerned.

If you wish to speak, we remind you that this part of the meeting is being recorded and broadcast on our website. Council's official Minutes will record that you have spoken to Council and the subject you spoke to Council about but will not record specific comments. We ask you to state your name in full, where you are from, and you have three minutes.

ONLINE COMMENTS

NIL

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

Neil Barraclough addressed Council.

Neil expressed his disappointment on Council's initial stand regarding the timber industry promoting it as sustainable, when Neil believes it is clearly not sustainable. He is also disappointed that the Shire has not had the positive input they could have had. Neil warned the Council about a number of environmental predictions he has made.

Meeting declared closed at: 5.21pm.

The live streaming of this Council meeting will now come to a close.

15. IN CLOSED SESSION

That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider matters under Section 66(5)(b) as defined by Section 3(1) being:

- a) Council business information*
- b) Security information*
- c) Land use planning information*
- d) Law enforcement information*
- e) Legal privileged information*
- f) Personal information*
- g) Private commercial information*
- h) Confidential meeting information*
- i) Internal arbitration information*
- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information*
- k) Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information*
- l) Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989*

IN CLOSED SESSION

NIL