



**WELLINGTON**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

# Resolutions in Brief Ordinary Council Meeting

**Tuesday 20 May 2025, commencing at 5:00 PM**

**To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 20 May 2025.**

Cr Scott Rossetti (Mayor)	David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer
Cr Cindy Madeley (Deputy Mayor)	Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services
Cr Liz Foat	Andrew Pomeroy, General Manager Development
Cr Edward Lowe	Sam McPherson, Manager Facilities and Emergencies
Cr Carmel Ripper	Kim Salleh, Manager Communications & Media
Cr Garry Stephens (Online)	Catie Thomson, Governance Officer
Cr John Tatterson	
Cr Geoff Wells	

## **APOLOGIES**

Cr Catherine Bannerman

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
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## 1. APOLOGIES

COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN

## 2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

Councillor Stephens declared a general conflict of interest for item 16.1 Community Assistance Grants - March 2025.

## 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**

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 6 May 2025.*

**COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR RIPPER**

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 6 May 2025.

**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 WELLS expressed his disappointment about the passing of the Victorian Government's Emergency and Fire Services Levy. Under this new levy/tax, ratepayers will face huge increases in rates notices at a time when there are already challenges with cost of living and mental health. None of the funds will flow back into the community to support people who really need the funds, such as the CFA and volunteer fire fighters who fight the fires and other disasters with outdated equipment.

The community cannot continue to fund the revenue raised by the State Government who have mismanaged the State's funds. Councillor Wells hopes the community can stand together and say 'no' to this levy and push the State Government into re-assessing what they do with the funds.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER visited the Briagolong Quarry Reserve and camping ground along with six other Councillors last week. Councillor Ripper praised the high standard of care that goes into maintaining the Reserve in 'tip top condition' including the sit-in shelter, playground, facilities and upgraded amenities and acknowledged the effort from the volunteers who maintain it. Councillor Ripper noted that it is an affordable option for people and families.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY attended the Heyfield Vintage Machinery Rally on the weekend along with Councillor Ripper and acknowledged this fantastic local event which continues to grow each year in celebration of Gippsland's rich agricultural and mechanical heritage, now in its forty-second year. The Wellington Shire Council's \$6000 Community Assistance Grant helped to support the event which is entirely run by volunteers. Councillor Madeley acknowledged the volunteers from the Heyfield Vintage Machinery Rally as well as National Volunteer Week; the passion, dedication and community spirit of the volunteers is what makes such events as the Heyfield Vintage Machinery Rally possible.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY also acknowledged National Volunteer Week, promoting the Wellington Volunteer Expo which is free to attend and will be held on Thursday 22 May 5.30pm-7.30pm in the Port of Sale Building.

COUNCILLOR LOWE acknowledged the amazing mural artwork on show at the Stratford RSL by local artist Simon White. The art is a true reflection of Australia's National history and heritage and will be cherished by the community for many years to come. Councillor Lowe encouraged people to visit Stratford to admire the incredible artwork.

## 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

**ACTION OFFICER: MAYOR SCOTT ROSSETTI**

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for April 2025.</i>
COUNCILLOR WELLS / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON
<i>That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for April 2025.</i>
CARRIED

## 11. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

### 11.1. YOUTH COUNCIL MAYOR'S REPORT

**ACTION OFFICER: YOUTH MAYOR, DARCIE WRIGHT**

RECOMMENDATION
<i>That Council receive the Youth Mayor's Quarterly Report.</i>
COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR RIPPER
<i>That Council receive the Youth Mayor's Quarterly Report.</i>
CARRIED

## 12. DELEGATES REPORT

COUNCILLOR FOAT attended the Wellington Business Boost Reference Group meeting. The Committee for Wellington is a volunteer group made up of local businesses and community leaders who work together to improve the Wellington Shire via support for projects that create jobs, build infrastructure and make the area a better place to live and work and encourage long term growth and sustainability for the community. The core focus areas for the Committee include renewable energy, tourism, development, housing and accommodation, transport and connectivity, youth engagement and professional development, local initiatives and agricultural innovation.

Working together with the Council and partners, the Committee continues to help the community grow and thrive. The committee has supported projects which have led to more housing options in the region and better transport. The committee has successfully advocated for additional V-Line services between Sale and Bairnsdale. Councillor Foat encouraged people to seek further information on the committee and its activities, by visiting the website called the Committee for Wellington at <https://cfw.org.au>.

Highlights of the Committee include the expansion of tourist accommodation with the new accommodation pods that will soon be available at Sale and Stratford caravan parks; the new Rosedale business called the Mystic Hollow and Sweet Co (hand crafted miniature buildings); the nationally significant major art gallery exhibition of Turner and Australia from 7 June to 24 August; revisions to the Wellington Visitor promotional Guide set for wide distribution (up to 12,000 copies); new township signage in Longford (the Longford Signage Project).

Some events coming up are:

- The Victorian Seniors Tennis Tournament, Sale Tennis Club, 23-25 May 2025
- The Middle of Everywhere Gippsland Rally, Heyfield and surrounds, 22-24 August 2025
- Defence 'Freedom of Entry' event, 18 October 2025

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON attended the quarterly meeting of the South East Australian Transport Strategy Inc. (SEATS) on 8 May 2025 in Drouin. There were attendees from across Gippsland including Mayor Schelling (South Gippsland Shire Council), Councillor Pugsley (Latrobe City Council) and Councillor Kingwill (Baw Baw Shire Council). It was a busy day reviewing a number of transport related projects.

Of particular interest to Council was the update from the Department of Transport on the Sale alternative truck route in which the bridge strengthening works are now complete, thereby providing the capability to host the heavier mass vehicles. The representative from the Department of Transport and Planning assured Councillor Tatterson in the near future they will look to take over maintenance and operation of the two local roads that make up part of this bypass.

Other items discussed which will be a priority for SEATS in the time leading up to the State Government election will be the promotion of the Traralgon bypass which has been delayed due to the mine rehabilitation. There is a report expected in October. Once this report is released, there will be opportunity to consider whether the selected route for the Traralgon bypass is suitable. This is a key project for Gippsland as anyone travelling between Sale or Bairnsdale-Melbourne, Traralgon is the biggest bottleneck faced by commuters. If the bypass could be completed with a freeway bypass through town, this will make a significant difference for all transporters in and out of Gippsland.

Councillor Tatterson will pass the minutes from the meeting onto the Wellington Shire Council General Manager Development.

## **13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### **13.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for April 2025.*

**COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR WELLS**

*That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for April 2025.*

**CARRIED**

## **14. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **14.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 28 April to 11 May 2025.*

**COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR LOWE**

*That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillors records for the period 28 April to 11 May 2025.*

**CARRIED**



## 14.2. RECRUITMENT AGENCY PANEL TENDER

### ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PEOPLE AND CAPABILITY

#### RECOMMENDATION

***That Council:***

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the attached confidential Tender Evaluation Report of the Council Meeting Agenda for Contract No. 2025.000149 – Panel of Suppliers for Agency Staff; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the attached confidential Tender Evaluation Report Contract No. 2025.000149 – Panel of Suppliers for Agency Staff of this Council meeting agenda was designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 6 May 2025 because it relates to the following grounds: (g)(ii) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage and once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderers can be made public.***

#### **COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR FOAT**

***That Council:***

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the attached confidential Tender Evaluation Report of the Council Meeting Agenda for Contract No. 2025.000149 – Panel of Suppliers for Agency Staff; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the attached confidential Tender Evaluation Report Contract No. 2025.000149 – Panel of Suppliers for Agency Staff of this Council meeting agenda was designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 6 May 2025 because it relates to the following grounds: (g)(ii) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage and once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderers can be made public.***

#### **CARRIED**

The Chair announced the 7 successful providers who will be included in the Wellington Shire Council Panel of suppliers for Agency staff:

- Workhire Recruitment
- McArthur
- Nurselink Healthcare
- Maxima Training Group (Aust)
- GBS Recruitment
- DFP Recruitment Services and
- HAYS Specialist Recruitment (Australia)

### 14.3. CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

##### RECOMMENDATION

##### *That Council:*

1. *Receive and note the minutes in brief of the CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee meeting of 6 May 2025 (as attached) and the confidential attachments including Attachment 14.3.4 - CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee Minutes of 6 May 2025 and approve the following CERC recommendation:  
a) for Council to approve the CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy (as attached); and*
2. *Note that the information contained in the confidential attachments of this Council meeting report were designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 8 May 2025 because it relates to the following grounds:  
(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.*

The CEO left the Council Meeting at 5.26pm

##### **COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR MADELEY**

##### *That Council:*

1. **Receive and note the minutes in brief of the CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee meeting of 6 May 2025 (as attached) and the confidential attachments including Attachment 14.3.4 - CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee Minutes of 6 May 2025 and approve the following CERC recommendation:  
a) for Council to approve the CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy (as attached); and**
2. **Note that the information contained in the confidential attachments of this Council meeting report were designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 8 May 2025 because it relates to the following grounds:  
(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.**

**CARRIED**

The CEO returned to the Council Meeting at 5.29pm.

#### 14.4. S6 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – MEMBERS OF COUNCIL STAFF

##### ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

###### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve 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 S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.*
- 2. The S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff come into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.*
- 3. On the coming into force of the S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the current S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff dated 20 March 2025 is revoked.*
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

###### COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR MADELEY

*That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve 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 S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.*
- 2. The S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff come into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.*
- 3. On the coming into force of the S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the current S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff dated 20 March 2025 is revoked.*
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the S6 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

**CARRIED**

#### **14.5. S18 INSTRUMENT OF SUB-DELEGATION UNDER THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017**

##### **ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

###### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve 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 S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.*
- 2. The S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.*
- 3. On the coming into force of the S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017, the current S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 dated 9 June 2022 is revoked.*
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

###### **COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR MADELEY**

**That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve 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 S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.**
- 2. The S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.**
- 3. On the coming into force of the S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017, the current S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 dated 9 June 2022 is revoked.**
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**

**CARRIED**

#### 14.6. S11B INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION (ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017)

**ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That Council appoint and authorise the Council Officers referred to in the attached instrument titled 'S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017)' as set out in the instrument.*
- 2. That the instrument come into force immediately upon being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer and remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke the instrument.*
- 3. That Council revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017) dated 18 February 2025.*

##### **COUNCILLOR LOWE / COUNCILLOR WELLS**

- 1. That Council appoint and authorise the Council Officers referred to in the attached instrument titled 'S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017)' as set out in the instrument.**
- 2. That the instrument come into force immediately upon being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer and remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke the instrument.**
- 3. That Council revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017) dated 18 February 2025.**

**CARRIED**

#### 14.7. REMUNERATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

**ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES**

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council –*

- 1. Note and receive the minutes from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 6 May 2025 as attached; and*
- 2. Endorse the actions from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 6 May 2025 as detailed in the attached minutes.*

##### **COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR FOAT**

**That Council –**

- 1. Note and receive the minutes from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 6 May 2025 as attached; and**
- 2. Endorse the actions from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 6 May 2025 as detailed in the attached minutes.**

**CARRIED**

## **15. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT**

### **15.1. QUARTERLY BUILDING REPORT - JANUARY TO MARCH 2025**

**ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council note the report of building permits issued from 1 January to 31 March 2025.*

**COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON**

**That Council note the report of building permits issued from 1 January to 31 March 2025.**

**CARRIED**

### **15.2. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - MARCH 2025**

**ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 and 31 March 2025.*

**COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR MADELEY**

**That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 and 31 March 2025.**

**CARRIED**

## 16. GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

### 16.1. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS MARCH 2025

#### ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

##### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council –*

- 1. Receive and note this report;*
- 2. Approve the allocation of Community Assistance Grants March 2025, as detailed in the confidential attachment 16.1.2 - Community Assistance Grants March 2025 Recommendations, with applicants being notified of the outcome of their applications; and*
- 3. Note that the information contained in the confidential attachment 16.1.2 - Community Assistance Grants March 2025 Recommendations was designated confidential under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 8 May 2025 because it relates to the following grounds:  
(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful applicants can be made public.*

Councillor Stephens declared a general conflict of interest under section 127 at this item.

Councillor Stephens left online the Council meeting at 5.36pm.

#### **COUNCILLOR MADELEY / COUNCILLOR LOWE**

*That Council –*

- 1. Receive and note this report;*
- 2. Approve the allocation of Community Assistance Grants March 2025, as detailed in the confidential attachment 16.1.2 - Community Assistance Grants March 2025 Recommendations, with applicants being notified of the outcome of their applications; and*
- 3. Note that the information contained in the confidential attachment 16.1.2 - Community Assistance Grants March 2025 Recommendations was designated confidential under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 8 May 2025 because it relates to the following grounds:  
(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful applicants can be made public.*

**CARRIED**

*The Chair announced the 27 successful recipients of the Community Assistance Grants:*

- **Yarram Agricultural Society** for the Yarram Agricultural Show
- **The Maffra & District Agricultural Pastoral and Horticultural Society Inc.** for 'The Beet Goes On'
- **Port Albert Progress Association** for the 2025 NYE Twilight Market and Fireworks event
- **The Gumboot Collective** for the Gippsland Writers Festival
- **Yarram Eisteddfod** for their annual competition
- **Sale Netball Association Inc.** for their 'Netball for All' project
- **Princes Highway Reserve Committee Inc.** for a kitchen upgrade
- **Paradise & Golden Beach Senior Citizens Club Inc** for Senior Friendship and Trips Events and Activities
- **Sale Food Support Incorporated** for Strengthening Sale Food Support's Sustainability
- **Anglican Parish of Avon** for the Avon Anglican Family Fun Fair
- **Port Albert Maritime Museum** for landscaping & Garden for the museum yard
- **Stratford Bowling Club Inc** to update amenities
- **Heyfield Football Netball Club Inc** towards a Mobile Electronic Netball Scoreboard
- **Sale Tennis Club Inc.** for the Sale Open & Junior Tournament
- **Mirridong Services Inc** for All Abilities IndependDance
- **Gippsland Water Dragons Inc** to empower the group to provide Team Building to the wider community
- **Sale-Maffra & District Kennel Club Inc and Macalister All Breeds K&O Club Inc** for the Gippsland International Winter Festival
- **Loch Sport Foreshore Committee of Management Inc** for Loch Sport Foreshore Walking Track Upgrades
- **Wellington 8 Ball / Gippy Cup** for the Gippy Cup - Australia's largest team 8 Ball Competition
- **Yarram Yarram Landcare Network** for the refurbishment of YYLN Nursery Facility
- **Heyfield Golf Club** for a ramp installation and floor repairs
- **Gwenfa Hampton Kindergarten** for Repainting of the building exterior
- **Devon Valley Wildlife Shelter** towards establishing a portable wildlife Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and sterilisation system
- **Lake Wellington Yacht Club** for disability ramp surface replacement
- **Sale Public Cemetery** for the Community Volunteer Gardening Group
- **Rosedale & District Pony Club** for the Rosedale Pony Club Horse Trials
- **Sale City Band** for replacement of 45-year-old wash basins in the Men's and Ladies' bathrooms

*Councillor Stephens returned online to the Council meeting at 5.41pm.*



## 17. 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, MEERLIEU – thanked Council for taking a stand against the Emergency Services Fire Levy, it's collection and the levy in general. He further addressed Council in relation to various environmental concerns and alienation of farmers from food production. He noted that the Wellington Shire Council has a duty to get a total understanding of the full extent and impact that timber plantations and carbon farming enterprises are having on the rate base in Wellington Shire Council. Neil acknowledged the responses that Wellington Shire Council had provided to him so far, as similar questions have been asked in the East Gippsland Shire, where Neil was able to draw upon the responses provided by Wellington Shire Council.

Mayor Rossetti acknowledged Neil's address and questions, specifically in reference to plantation timber and relative rates compared to farmland and noted that there are a lot of elements around the Fire and Emergency Services Levy they still do not know. He further noted that he has sent some further information to the Councillors in response to Neil's comments.

Meeting declared closed at: 5.49pm.

The live streaming of this Council meeting came to a close.

## 18. IN CLOSED SESSION

*That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider confidential 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*

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IN CLOSED SESSION

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NIL