

NAME OF MEETING:	Ward District Engagement Meeting
WARD:	Eppalock
DATE:	Monday June 27, 2016
TIME:	7pm
LOCATION:	Mechanics Institute Hall, Mia Mia
ATTENDEES	
COUNCILLORS:	Cr Mark Weragoda (Chair), Cr. Rod Campbell & Cr. Helen Leach
CITY of GREATER BENDIGO EMPLOYEES:	Debbie Thewlis – Manager, Customer Support
COMMUNITY ATTENDEES:	2 residents signed the attendance sheet

PURPOSE OF NOTES:	Please note the purpose of these notes is to record the information presented, the topics discussed and the details of any works or action requests raised at the meeting. They are not formal minutes.
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AGENDA ITEMS	
1.	Welcome & Introductions
2.	Acknowledgment of Country
3.	Information Items
4.	General Business

TOPICS DISCUSSED	
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3.	<p>Information Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Community Strategy: After extensive consultation with community members from our rural areas and interested groups, the City of Greater Bendigo is pleased to announce that the Draft Rural Communities Strategy has been released for consultation. You can find the Draft Rural Communities Strategy, together with the summary paper and other related documents on the City’s website https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Planning/Strategic_Planning/Current_Projects/Rural_Communities_Strategy. We welcome your comments and feedback, and encourage you to complete an online survey, which closes on 29 July 2016. The link to the survey can be found on the City’s website or in the Summary Paper. If your community group or organisation would like to arrange a meeting to discuss the Draft Rural Communities Strategy further, or if you have an additional comments or feedback, please email j.pendlebury@bendigo.vic.gov.au. Submissions will be received until close of business on Friday 29 July 2016. • Open Air Burning and Burning Off: Local Laws no 3 prohibits off of household and other waste, and the use of backyard incinerators are all banned. You cannot burn of the following in the open air: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ grass clippings ➤ mulch ➤ prunings ➤ leaves ➤ newspaper and cardboard Burning these materials causes air particles, which have adverse effect on health, especially breathing difficulties like asthma. Properties greater than one hectare in size do not require a permit to light open air fires to reduce excess, dry, solid fuel for fire reduction purposes. On properties less than one Hecate in size, a written permit is required before an open air fire is allowed (Local Law 3).
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If you are burning off, make sure that 10 litres of water of a working hose is readily available and that an adult is supervising the fire at all times. Outdoor fires should never be lit in high winds and are prohibited during a total fire ban. The fire must also be located five meters away from any building and a clear radius of three meters from any flammable material. If you have a property less than 1 hectare in size, you can no longer light an open fire to burn dry, solid fuel without a written permit from the City of Greater Bendigo. There are no fees associated with the application for Open air burning form. Contact the City's Local Laws Unit of 5434 6333 for further information. You are also required to advise VicFire of your burn off **1800 668 511**.

- Next Round of Community Grants: Next round of community grants open 4 July 2016 and close 1 August 2016 (for projects commencing from 1 December 2016). Community Grants provide an opportunity for not-for-profit incorporated groups to develop projects that complement areas identified as priorities for the City of Greater Bendigo. Grants of up to \$5,000 can be applied for under the following categories:

- Community Development
- Environmental Sustainability
- Arts and Culture
- Community Events
- Active and Health Communities
- Print and Digital publications
- Driver Education for Youth (DEFY)

The City will be running two workshops to assist the community groups to write applications for the Community Grants Program. These workshops will be held in the Reception Room at the City's Lyttleton Terrace office for Tuesday 28 June from 5:30pm - 8:30pm; and Wednesday 6 July from 9:30am - 10:30am.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

- Black spot funding has been announced to elevate the priority of erection of mobile towers at Raywood and Mia Mia. The City has offered to contribute \$10,000 towards these projects to match Government funding to elevate the priority of these two sites.
- The purpose/concept of the Citizens Jury was discussed. The project is being run by an independent company NewDemocracy. The Citizens Jury will assist and inform the new Council to set its future direction and will be made up of 24 members selected from a broad cross section of the community, including from rural areas.
- Cr Campbell mentioned some matters of interest to be decided at the next Council Meeting on Wednesday 29 June.
 - Council Plan to be adopted – we are into the last year of the 4 year plan which means we are in the finalisation and consolidation phase.
 - Budget to be adopted – which includes a 2.5% average rate increase.
 - Marong Business Park to be considered – this item relates to the future provision of industrial land for the municipality. Council has received the Panel report and must decide how to proceed.
 - Big Hill–Mandurang Valley Assessment amendment – The Panel was critical of the Consultants Report – Council will decide how to progress in light of the Panel Report.
 - Victorian 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy – Council is considering a submission to the Government on the Strategy.
 - Appointing Greater Bendigo Disability Inclusion Reference Committee.
 - Adopt the Reconciliation Plan – the plan has been developed in cooperation with our indigenous community and was recognised recently by Reconciliation Australia as a cutting edge high level plan.
 - Appoint a Council representative to the Lake Eppalock and Water Implementation Management Working Group – Council is keen to get involved on this Working Group to make sure that the limited water is managed well for all water users.
 - Organics Service – final step to implementation. Council will consider the contracts for collection and management of the organics.

➤ Draft Environmental Strategy – will go on public exhibition following the Council meeting. Residents are encouraged to go on line as this Strategy will be of interest.	
• An open air burning permit was provided to a resident who questioned the rules.	
• A pine tree limb has fallen on a fence at the Recreation Reserve. Following some discussion it was agreed that this was a matter for the committee of management.	
The following requests for service were received. These have been logged and details are as follows.	
WORKS REQUEST REF NUMBER	WORKS REQUEST TYPE
1618852	Request to Parks Unit to advise of the species of trees planted by Council along Valley Road for the purpose of replacing some of the missing trees.
1618854	Information request to clarify building insurance for the Mia Mia Hall for the next 12 months.

*For updates on the above requests please call CoGB Customer Support Unit on 5434 6000 or email requests@bendigo.vic.gov.au and quote the relevant works request ref number.