

Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 11 May 2021 commencing at 7:00pm.

Attachments

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Thursday 6 May 2021

Distribution: Public

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Nillumbik Shire Council

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Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting

held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 13 April 2021 commenced at 7:01pm.

Minutes

Vince Lombardi
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Friday 16 April 2021

Distribution: Public

Civic Drive, Greensborough
PO Box 476, Greensborough 3088
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Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes
Nillumbik Shire Council

13 April 2021

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Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes

13 April 2021

Nillumbik Shire Council

**Minutes of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held
Tuesday 13 April 2021. The meeting commenced at 7:01pm.**

Councillors present:

Cr Richard Stockman	Blue Lake Ward
Cr Peter Perkins	Ellis Ward (Mayor)
Cr Ben Ramcharan	Sugarloaf Ward (Chairperson Consultation Matters)
Cr Frances Eyre	Swipers Gully Ward (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Geoff Paine	Wingrove Ward (Chairperson Planning Matters)

Officers in attendance:

Vince Lombardi	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Operations and Infrastructure
Katia Croce	Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
Corrienne Nichols	Executive Manager Communities
Emma Christensen	Senior Governance Officer

1. Welcome by the Chair

The Chairperson, Cr Ben Ramcharan welcomed everyone to the first Planning and Consultation Committee meeting which has replaced the Future Nillumbik Committee meetings.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was read by the Chairperson, Cr Ben Ramcharan.

3. Apologies

Apologies for this meeting were received from Cr Natalie Duffy and Cr Karen Egan.

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Frances Eyre

That the apologies for Cr Natalie Duffy and Cr Karen Egan be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes

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The Mayor, Peter Perkins read the following statement from Cr Natalie Duffy:

"It is with regret that I cannot attend tonight's Planning and Community Consultation Meeting and I ask Council to accept my apology. Yesterday I was readmitted to hospital via Emergency with complications from my first round of chemotherapy treatment. The past two weeks have been extremely difficult and I am expecting that the months ahead will be tough with ups and downs. I will remain in hospital for a few more days.

For the community please know that I remain committed to doing a good job to represent you and am pleased that on tonight's agenda my efforts to advocate for a safe signalised pedestrian crossing over the Hurstbridge Line between Edendale Farm and Allendale Road, Eltham North is gaining traction. Cr Eyre and I have worked together on this for 9 months listening to the experiences of local families dodging the rails to access schools, public transport and recreation each day.

We are pleased that local member Vicki Ward MP fully supports this investigation and acknowledge the 124 people who signed our community petition for Nillumbik Council to call on the State Government to fund a community led solution to this problem.

Thank you for good wishes from the community regarding my health. It is certainly helping to keep my spirits lifted.

Best wishes,

*Cr Natalie Duffy
Edendale Ward"*

4 Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2021.

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Richard Stockman

That the minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 be confirmed (**Attachment 1**).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5 Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

Planning and Consultation Committee Minutes

13 April 2021

6. Officers' reports

PCC.001/21 Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Membership Endorsement

Item: Consultation Matter

Distribution: Public

Manager: Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Communities

Author: Fiona Vuong, Positive Ageing Officer

Summary

The Positive Ageing Advisory Committee (PAAC) provides a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in initiatives, policies and strategies concerning older residents of Nillumbik.

On 25 August 2020, Council endorsed the revised PACC Terms of Reference (TOR) and approved the issue of a public invitation seeking community representatives to nominate to join the committee. Nominees have been sought and received. All nominees have been assessed and interviewed.

Council endorsement of seven new members, and nine standing members, and an amended Terms of Reference is now recommended. This report also recommends that Council acknowledge all submissions received and thank each nominee for their expression of interest.

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Endorses the seven new applications listed (**Attachment 2**) onto the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee:
 - (a) Applicant A _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (b) Applicant B _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (c) Applicant C _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (d) Applicant D _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (e) Applicant E _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (f) Applicant F _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - b) Applicant G _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member.
2. Reconfirm the nine listed committee members who tendered their reapplication (**Attachment 2**) onto the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee:
 - (a) Applicant L _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (b) Applicant M _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member

Planning and Consultation Committee Minutes

13 April 2021

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.001/21 Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Membership Endorsement

-
- (c) Applicant N _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (d) Applicant O _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (e) Applicant P _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (f) Applicant Q _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (g) Applicant R _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (h) Applicant S _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (i) Applicant T _____ for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member.
- 3. Resolves that the Evaluation table and assessment (**Attachment 2**) to remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - 4. Confirms amended Terms of Reference for the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee (**Attachment 1**).
 - 5. Acknowledges and thanks all community members who submitted expressions of interest to the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Frances Eyre

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

- 1. Endorses the seven new applications listed (**Attachment 2**) onto the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee:
 - (a) Applicant A **Sue Riley** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (b) Applicant B **Max Lee** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (c) Applicant C **Janice (Jan) Taylor** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (d) Applicant D **Sandra Verdam** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (e) Applicant E **Janice Crosswhite** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (f) Applicant F **Joy Ferguson** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (g) Applicant G **Tianjian Shen** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member

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6. Consultation Matters

PCC.001/21 Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Membership Endorsement

2. Reconfirm the nine listed committee members who tendered their reapplication (**Attachment 2**) onto the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee:
 - (a) Applicant L **Anne Fitzpatrick** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (b) Applicant M **David Nicholls** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (c) Applicant N **Deanna Finn** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (d) Applicant O **Gertraud McDonald** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (e) Applicant P **Pamela Johnson** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (f) Applicant Q **Philip Green** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (g) Applicant R **Ray Carroll** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (h) Applicant S **Richard Kottek** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (i) Applicant T **Sabi Buehler** for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member.
3. Resolves that the Evaluation table and assessment (**Attachment 2**) to remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
4. Confirms amended Terms of Reference for the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee **updated March 2021 (see revised Attachment 1)**.
5. Acknowledges and thanks all community members who submitted expressions of interest to the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Frances Eyre

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Endorses the seven new applications listed (**Attachment 2**) onto the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee:
 - (a) Applicant A Sue Riley for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (b) Applicant B Max Lee for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member

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PCC.001/21 Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Membership Endorsement

- (c) Applicant C Janice (Jan) Taylor for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (d) Applicant D Sandra Verdam for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (e) Applicant E Janice Crosswhite for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (f) Applicant F Joy Ferguson for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (g) Applicant G Tianjian Shen for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
2. Reconfirm the nine listed committee members who tendered their reapplication (**Attachment 2**) onto the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee:
- (a) Applicant L Anne Fitzpatrick for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (b) Applicant M David Nicholls for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (c) Applicant N Deanna Finn for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (d) Applicant O Gertraud McDonald for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (e) Applicant P Pamela Johnson for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (f) Applicant Q Philip Green for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (g) Applicant R Ray Carroll for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (h) Applicant S Richard Kottek for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member
 - (i) Applicant T Sabi Buehler for their role as a Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Member.
3. Resolves that the Evaluation table and assessment (**Attachment 2**) to remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
4. Confirms amended Terms of Reference for the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee updated March 2021 (see revised Attachment 1).
5. Acknowledges and thanks all community members who submitted expressions of interest to the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Planning and Consultation Committee Minutes

13 April 2021

6. Officers' reports

PCC.002/21 Motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria - State Council Meeting 2021

Item: Consultation Matter
Distribution: Public
Manager: Blaga Naumoski, Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
Author: Katia Croce, Governance Lead

Summary

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council meets to consider matters of state-wide significance. The deadline for motions to be submitted for consideration at the 21 May 2021 State Council Meeting is 23 April 2021.

Motions must have state-wide significance or relevance across the Victorian Local Government sector and be related to issues and initiatives that affect the livelihood and wellbeing of the Nillumbik community.

Officers have prepared two motions that are consistent with the items submitted to the National General Assembly.

This report is seeking Councillor endorsement to lodge the motions to the MAV State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021.

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Resolves to adopt the following two motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021:
 - a) *'That the Municipal Association of Victoria:*
 - i) *Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2021 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association requesting the Commonwealth Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate funding mechanisms to enable local governments to establish community hubs for the co-location of key services such as education, youth services, counselling and community health, in order to deliver comprehensive, integrated support to local communities, as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic; and*
 - ii) *Seeks State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.'*
 - b) *'That the Municipal Association of Victoria:*
 - i) *Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2021 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association requesting the Australian Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate implementation frameworks and make available greater funding – either through the extension of its Smart Cities and Suburbs program or a new initiative, to enable local governments and their communities to implement the latest*

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13 April 2021

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.002/21 Motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria - State Council Meeting 2021

networking and monitoring technology in their efforts to improve bushfire preparedness and climate resilience; and

ii) *Seeks State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.'*

2. Resolves to lodge motions and rationale (**Attachment 1**) to the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Richard Stockman

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Resolves to adopt the following two motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021:
 - a) *'That the Municipal Association of Victoria:*
 - i) *Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2021 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association **and strongly advocates to the Australian** Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate funding mechanisms to enable local governments to establish community hubs for the co-location of key services such as education, youth services, counselling and community health, in order to deliver comprehensive, integrated support to local communities, as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic; and*
 - ii) *Seeks State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.'*
 - b) *'That the Municipal Association of Victoria:*
 - i) *Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2021 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association **and strongly advocates to the Australian** Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate implementation frameworks and make available greater funding – either through the extension of its Smart Cities and Suburbs program or a new initiative, to enable local governments and their communities to implement the latest networking and monitoring technology in their efforts to improve bushfire preparedness and climate resilience; and*
 - ii) *Seeks State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.'*
2. Resolves to lodge motions and rationale (**Attachment 1**) to the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

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13 April 2021

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.002/21 Motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria - State Council Meeting 2021

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Richard Stockman

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Resolves to adopt the following two motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021:
 - a) *'That the Municipal Association of Victoria:*
 - i) *Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2021 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association and strongly advocates to the Australian Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate funding mechanisms to enable local governments to establish community hubs for the co-location of key services such as education, youth services, counselling and community health, in order to deliver comprehensive, integrated support to local communities, as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic; and*
 - ii) *Seeks State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.'*
 - b) *'That the Municipal Association of Victoria:*
 - i) *Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2021 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association and strongly advocates to the Australian Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate implementation frameworks and make available greater funding – either through the extension of its Smart Cities and Suburbs program or a new initiative, to enable local governments and their communities to implement the latest networking and monitoring technology in their efforts to improve bushfire preparedness and climate resilience; and*
 - ii) *Seeks State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.'*
2. Resolves to lodge motions and rationale (**Attachment 1**) to the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 21 May 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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13 April 2021

6. Officers' reports

PCC.003/21 Extension of the Project Area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project - Request for feedback from the LXP

Item: Consultation Matter
Distribution: Public
Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety
Author: Paul Fyffe, Senior Strategic Planner
Lawrence Seyers, Lead Transport Planner
Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead

Summary

This report presents and considers a request to Council from the Level Crossing Removal Project (LXP) to provide feedback on a proposed minor increase in the project area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project.

Subject to the requirements of Clause 52.03 (Level Crossing Removal Project) of planning schemes, the project area defines the area in which planning approval has been provided by the Minister for Planning for certain LXP projects, including the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project. Further, subject to the requirements of the clause, some prior consultation should be conducted on the proposed boundary of a project area, including with the relevant Council.

On 9 March 2021, Council received a letter from LXP advising that it proposes to extend the existing project area for the duplication project to include a portion of private land located at 203 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek (refer to **Attachments 1 and 2**). The purpose of the inclusion is to support work operations by providing for site amenities, storage of materials and machinery etc.

The letter from LXP advises that all trees in the extended project area will be retained and protected and further, traffic management during use of the site will be appropriately managed in consultation with the Department of Transport. In discussions with LXP, Council officers have emphasised that the land in question is green wedge land that contributes to an important visual rural break between the townships of Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen. LXP officers have verbally advised that the land, once no longer required for the project, will be properly re-instated. Council officers consider it prudent that Council's resolution formally requests that this occurs.

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council) requests the CEO write to LXP advising that Council has no objection to the proposed extension of the project area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project to include part of 203 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek, subject to the land being properly re-instated once use of the site by LXP ceases, particularly to retain the contribution the land currently makes to a rural break between Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen.

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13 April 2021

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.003/21 Extension of the Project Area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project - Request for feedback from the LXR

Motion

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council) requests the **Mayor** writes to LXR advising that Council:

1. Has no objection to the proposed extension of the project area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project to include part of 203 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek, subject to the land being properly **rehabilitated back to its current condition upon project completion, noting the land is within the Green Wedge, is zoned Rural Conservation Zone Schedule 3 and positively contributes to biodiversity and the rural break between Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen.**
2. **Reiterates the 15 September 2020 Council Resolution that Council does not support temporary commuter car parking within the road reserve at Main Hurstbridge Road Diamond Creek, as the identified carparks are already at capacity. Council does support temporary commuter parking at Coventry Oval, Diamond Creek.**
3. **Requests as part of the works to widen and upgrade Platform 2 at Diamond Creek railway station, that LXR provide a safe pedestrian connection to the adjacent Diamond Creek Station Shopping Centre from that Platform.**
4. **Requests the Victorian Government provide a safe signalised pedestrian crossing of the Hurstbridge Train line between Edendale Farm & Allendale Road at Eltham North to address community concerns regarding the lack of safe crossings for access to schools, public transport and recreation.**
5. **Notes LXR's commitment in their letter to the CEO dated 3 March 2021, that all existing trees within and surrounding the sites, including within the road reservation, will be retained and protected.**

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council) requests the Mayor writes to LXR advising that Council:

1. Has no objection to the proposed extension of the project area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project to include part of 203 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek, subject to the land being properly rehabilitated back to its current condition upon project completion, noting the land is within the Green Wedge, is zoned Rural Conservation Zone Schedule 3 and positively contributes to biodiversity and the rural break between Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen.

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PCC.003/21 Extension of the Project Area for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project - Request for feedback from the LXR

-
2. Reiterates the 15 September 2020 Council Resolution that Council does not support temporary commuter car parking within the road reserve at Main Hurstbridge Road Diamond Creek, as the identified carparks are already at capacity. Council does support temporary commuter parking at Coventry Oval, Diamond Creek.
 3. Requests as part of the works to widen and upgrade Platform 2 at Diamond Creek railway station, that LXR provide a safe pedestrian connection to the adjacent Diamond Creek Station Shopping Centre from that Platform.
 4. Requests the Victorian Government provide a safe signalised pedestrian crossing of the Hurstbridge Train line between Edendale Farm & Allendale Road at Eltham North to address community concerns regarding the lack of safe crossings for access to schools, public transport and recreation.
 5. Notes LXR's commitment in their letter to the CEO dated 3 March 2021, that all existing trees within and surrounding the sites, including within the road reservation, will be retained and protected.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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7. Supplementary and urgent business

Nil

8. Confidential reports

Nil

9. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 7:22pm.

Confirmed:

Cr Ben Ramcharan, Chairperson

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Nillumbik Shire Council – Public submissions to the Draft Budget 2021-2022	
Submitter and Key Points	Officer Response
<p>1. Gavin Watson</p> <p>I do not see any allocation for Emergency Relief expenditure and other community support to those facing personal and financial crisis. This services is needed in the Nillumbik area and currently supported by independent organisations such as Lions, Rotary and Diamond Valley Community Support and similar.</p> <p>The welfare of locals experiencing crisis cannot be ignored, as there a many people experiencing these crisis and will continue to do so coming out of Covid and the removal of jobkeeper.</p>	<p>Diamond Valley Community Support are funded \$15,000 per year under Federal Government Department of Social Services (DSS) Emergency Relief (ER) funding contracts to deliver ER to Nillumbik commencing 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2023. Salvation Army and Uniting have also received funding under this contract to deliver ER services to Nillumbik.</p> <p>Council have also contributed \$140,000 towards the Nillumbik recovery fund to support our community to respond to and recover from the impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic. Three different grants are also currently available to DVCS through the Nillumbik Recovery Fund.</p>
<p>2. Edgars Kogtevs</p> <p>I am truly disgusted that the Nillumbik Council is increasing rates at this time, especially waste management rates by 13.86%.</p> <p>We have just come through the worst pandemic in our history and the council is showing no empathy or concern for the hardship that we have been through by this exorbitant increase which is roughly 10 times the CPI.</p> <p>Show some compassion and understanding of what your constituents have been through by getting inventive about how you can cut operating costs and not by taking the easy way out by increasing rates.</p> <p>These are tough times, it's time that you and your councillors recognised it and put on your creative thinking caps to work out how to run council in a manner that is appropriate to the conditions that we face.</p>	<p>The increase to rates is in compliance with the rate capping framework established by the Victorian State Government and is reflective of the continued provision of services, which have been maintained at existing levels, and capital works program delivery.</p> <p>The waste service charge captures all known costs associated with the provision of the service, including the cost of rehabilitation of the former landfill sites. The service charge is compliant with statutory regulations.</p> <p>The increase in cost of the service is driven by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases to disposal costs due to volume increases driven by 240 litre bin rollout and increases in tonnages. Tipping fees have increased mainly as result of an uplift to the State Government EPA levy Kerbside waste collection costs have increased due to higher lift numbers driven by new and additional services.
<p>3. Suzanne Fyffe</p> <p>I am a ratepayer of Nillumbik and have read online there is to be a 1.5% rate increase and a 13.86% waste management charge increase.</p> <p>Please be our voice against these increases. I am a pensioner and there are so many out of work since COVID. Why do we have to have these increases at this time?</p> <p>I am so sick of rates going up and charges going up. We are the most expensive shire per capita in Australia. This is ludicrous.</p> <p>What are they trying to do drive people out of the shire because it is getting too expensive to live here.</p> <p>Time the people are heard more loudly. I am disgusted at these increases.</p>	<p>The increase to rates is in compliance with the rate capping framework established by the Victorian State Government and is reflective of the continued provision of services, which have been maintained at existing levels, and capital works program delivery.</p> <p>The waste service charge captures all known costs associated with the provision of the service, including the cost of rehabilitation the former landfill sites. The service charge is compliant with statutory regulations.</p> <p>The increase in cost of the service is driven by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases to disposal costs due to volume increases driven by 240 litre bin rollout and increases in tonnages. Tipping fees have increased mainly as result of an uplift to the State Government EPA levy Kerbside waste collection costs have increased due to higher lift numbers driven by new and additional services.
<p>4. Angela Davies</p> <p>I live on a narrow and steep unmade road (Swan Street/Stanhope Street, Eltham) The dust in the summer can be a nuisance and the potholes that result from the traffic that use the road can be a problem and could potentially cause vehicle damage. The road is scraped twice, or more a year with the worst holes filled in with gravel, but the potholes invariably reoccur soon after. That said however I would not agree to the road being permanently sealed and widened because of the increase in traffic avoiding Eltham town centre that would necessarily follow.</p> <p>I recently came upon an article which referred to a chemical sealing process used with some success for dust mitigation and weathering on outback unmade roads. The chemical is mixed with the top layer of the existing road surface and when compacted forms a stable surface which lasts for a considerable time. I am unaware of the cost-benefit of such a process over regular scraping/filling but would suggest that Council's Engineering department could undertake such a study relatively easily.</p> <p>I enclose a link to the article that I read and to the company referred to therein, plus another company I found in a quick internet search. I daresay that there are other companies who also supply similar products and/or undertake such a service. I would add that I have no connection with these or any other such company.</p> <p>Road to big wind and solar paved with ingenious soil nano-technology https://reneweconomy.com.au/road-to-big-wind-and-solar-paved-with-ingenious-soil-nano-technology/</p> <p>RST Solutions https://www.rstsolutions.com.au/media/a0ae0fef/RST%20RT20%20Dynamic%20Brochure_Int.pdf</p>	<p>Council does not currently have a funded dust suppression program.</p> <p>Council will continue to consider the inclusion of a dust suppressant program in future budget setting processes as it believes this will provide additional amenity benefit to residents adjoining unsealed roads by minimising dust associated with these roads.</p>

Nillumbik Shire Council – Public submissions to the Draft Budget 2021-2022	
Submitter and Key Points	Officer Response
<p>Vital Chemical https://www.vitalindustries.com.au/products-services/dust-and-erosion-control/</p>	
<p>5. Richard Dovile - President, Nillumbik Tourism & Business</p> <p>Nillumbik Tourism & Business (NTB) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Shire of Nillumbik's Budget for 2021-2022 and takes this opportunity to raise the prospect of gaining support from the Shire's economic development budget, to develop our strategic direction.</p> <p>The NTB is the merged entity of the Nillumbik Tourism Association (NTA) and the Nillumbik Business Network (NBN) and the funding will be utilised to run a facilitated workshop to review the most recent business plans of the NTA and NBN and develop a 3-year plan for the NTB.</p> <p>We are seeking \$5,000 to fund a facilitator and associated costs, as well as a writer to work alongside the NTB to create our plan. This work will clearly articulate our priorities and projects and it will be tailored to align with the Council's (soon-to-be endorsed) Economic Development Strategy. As a not-for-profit group of volunteers, the NTB are charged with the responsibility of providing advice and direction to our members and the wider Nillumbik community to support micro businesses and boutique tourism operators in the Shire.</p> <p>We also work alongside the local Traders' Association's and Chamber of Commerce to provide overarching strategic guidance to Council when working with local businesses. Nillumbik boasts quaint townships, the most wonderful array of attractions, meet-the-maker experiences, award winning wineries and restaurants, a Mudbrick heritage and beautiful trails. Whether you run a micro business or a destination such as Montsalvat, it is important that we don't miss opportunities to market our great Shire within Australia and to the rest of the world.</p> <p>The NTB is a key local industry body, and it is our intent that we are given the chance to properly articulate what opportunities need to be pursued.</p> <p>We would also like to take this opportunity to signal the support and encouragement Council's Economic Development team have provided, especially during Covid and make special mention of Danielle Phyland and her team.</p> <p>With a small team, that delivers a huge program of work, the NTB would encourage that maintaining a strong economic development budget remains a priority. This is especially critical if the team is to deliver on Council's Economic Development Strategy; the success of which will provide an upswing to the local economy.</p> <p>Thank you in anticipation of your assistance.</p>	<p>Council is committed to working with Nillumbik Tourism and Business to support local businesses to flourish in the changing economic environment.</p> <p>Council staff can provide support to establish a plan, provide opportunities/partnerships to implement activities. Council officers can also provide information to the association regarding grants and workshops that can assist them in developing their direction.</p> <p>The endorsed Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030 Objectives 1 & 4 will deliver outcomes that provide opportunities for input and collaboration with Council. Outcomes from Objective 1 – Improve Economic Development Practices to assist local business which will benefit the Nillumbik Tourism and Business Association and its members include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advocacy to strategic partners potentially leading to major projects and procurement opportunities, investment attraction and possible grants and funding. • an up to date Business kit both print and digital that can be provided to new and prospective businesses • business education, networking and mentoring programs • support and programs specific to home based and micro businesses shop local campaigns • training and employment programs for local youth <p>Outcomes from Objective 4 – Enhance the visitor economy showcasing natural, recreational and cultural strengths include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing partnership with Yarra Ranges Tourism • Leverage recreation and sporting opportunities for locals and visitors • Strengthen offering of events and festivals and showcase local businesses through this • Engage and showcase creative industries • Explore ecotourism, health and wellbeing tourism opportunities <p>Council currently has a strong working relationship with Nillumbik Tourism and Business and will continue to build on this into the future.</p>
<p>6. Carlota Quinlan</p> <p><u>Nillumbik Draft Budget 2021-2022</u></p> <p>1. Four Year Council Plan 2021-2025 Has the current council prepared the Four Year Council Plan for 2021-2025? If not, when will it be prepared and put out for community consultation? Also if not, it seems like putting the cart before the horse to be preparing and deciding on a budget for 2021-2022 when an up to date plan is not in place. Is this draft budget then based on a plan formulated by the past council? The 2021-2022 Draft Budget, on page 11 states: 'The Council delivers activities and initiatives under 30 major service categories as listed in the following pages. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the five strategic objectives as set out in the Council Plan for 2017-21. The following table lists the five strategic objectives as described in the Council Plan.' Surely the present council, with five out of seven new councillors, should be basing its spending on strategies developed in line with the philosophy, values and expectations of the residents who voted in a new council? Those strategies may be quite different to those upon which this budget is based, the money allocated for which comprises one quarter of the spending for their term of office.</p> <p>2. Nillumbik, the Green Wedge Shire As Nillumbik is a Green Wedge Shire, I would have expected the overarching strategies of the budget to reflect that. Of the five strategic objectives however, only one mentions the environment, and then virtually in passing. 'Objective 3. Safe and healthy environments. Healthy and safe communities enjoy living in our iconic environment.' It is still the people and communities that are the focus in that objective, not the environment. There is a certain sense of deja vue in writing this as it was a criticism of the 2017-2021 Council Plan that the Strategic Objectives could equally well apply to any local government area across Melbourne. When will the present Council develop their own Four Year Plan?</p>	<p>1 & 2. The Local Government Act 2020 has afforded councils until the 31 October in the year following a general election to adopt a Council Plan and Financial Plan. However, the annual budget must be adopted before 30 June each year. Under the previous Local Government Act 1989, all three documents were required to be adopted by 30 June.</p> <p>The additional time afforded to preparing the Council Plan is due to the requirement of the Act for 'deliberate community engagement'. For Nillumbik, this is occurring through the 'Our People, Our Place, Our Future' community engagement. The feedback from this community engagement is helping shape the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025. Having regard to the 'Our People, Our Place, Our Future' feedback, the draft Council Plan 2021-2025 will be publicly exhibited in the coming months and prior to its formal adoption before 31 October.</p> <p>3. The increase to rates is in compliance with the rate capping framework established by the Victorian State Government and is reflective of the continued provision of services, which have been maintained at existing levels, and capital works program delivery.</p> <p>The waste service charge captures all known costs associated with the provision of the service, including the rehabilitation costs of the former landfill sites. The service charge is compliant with statutory regulations. The increase in cost of the service is driven by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases to disposal costs due to volume increases driven by 240 litre bin rollout and increases in tonnages. • Tipping fees have increased mainly as result of an uplift to the State Government EPA levy • Kerbside waste collection costs have increased due to higher lift numbers driven by new and additional services. <p>Regarding questions on prior year projects, a response can be provided separately as this engagement is specifically targeting the 2021-2022 budget.</p>

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<p>Funding for sportsgrounds, parks, reserves, while needed, cannot be considered as spending needed to further the health of our green wedge.</p> <p>3. Explanations When ratepayers receive their next rate notice they will be asking how it was that the previous council managed to spend money but not raise rates while the present council is already increasing the rates. They will want to know why waste charges are higher when the outsourcing of waste management was supposed to be cheaper and more efficient. Is it partly because the previous council did not raise rates but spent council money, including 'reserves' that were set aside for particular purposes? What did the Green Wedge Management Plan cost? And the Old Shire office Site/War Memorial Complex?</p> <p>Everyone understands that if you spend the money set aside for painting the house or buying a new car on something else, the money still has to eventually be found some other way. This is not a criticism of the rate rise. If the rise is even in part due to financial decisions or the financial situation in which the previous council left the shire then that should be made perfectly clear. Council needs to justify to residents, in very clear terms, why the increase is necessary.</p>	
<p>7. Mark Tickle</p> <p>The management of the Council finances has been very poor for a very long time which has resulted in the increasing requirement for borrowing large sums and the increasing of residents rates to pay for the mismanagement. Key questions from the draft budget as follows;</p> <p>1. Kangaroo Ground landfill rehab - the EPA requirement to rehab the landfill has always been known, why did Council not allocate a long term fund raising scheme such as charge for use over the life of the landfill? What does Council propose to do with the land once the works are complete? Does the Council propose to sell the land to recover the costs of the rehab works?</p> <p>2. DV Sports and Fitness Centre - Council announced 15/9/2020 this project with a \$6M contribution from Council, the 2020-2021 budget nominated \$8M to this project. The 2021-2022 budget nominates \$3.5M towards this project. Please confirm the final value of the Council contribution to this project as it appears the contribution value of \$11.5M is almost double the commitment at the time of the announcement.</p> <p>3. North Eltham Soccer pitch replacement - the project was announced in 2020 and is currently nearing completion, it was not nominated in the 2020-2021 budget so how is it this is has only now been nominated in the budget and how has the Council committed to the funds in the previous year without it being approved in the budget of that year?</p> <p>4. Diamond Valley Library redevelopment - Council announced 23/12/2019 the major upgrade with a Council contribution of \$270,000. The Council budget of 2020-2021 nominated \$580,000 towards the project while the 2021-2022 draft budget nominates \$270,000. Please confirm the actual budget allocation towards this project and the final sum of the works?</p> <p>5. Total Operating income - the 2020-2021 budget nominated a budget of \$108.5M for the 20-21 period while the 21-22 budget forecasts the same period of \$124.3M, please provide details of how the addition of \$16M has occurred and how these additional funds have been sourced? This report also provides a budgeting reduction of \$27M in income from the pervious year, please provide details of how this can be achieved and what measures are in place in the event of another budget overrun?</p> <p>6. Safe and Healthy Environments - a budget of \$40.4M is allocated while the detail breakdown of the programme in Section 2.3 total is \$33.7M, please provide details of why there is a difference and where the \$6.7M is allocated ?</p> <p>7. page 4. States the rate escalations while in the following sentence it states Council will achieve an operating surplus each year. Why is it you propose to increase the rates year on year when a surplus is being achieved?</p> <p>8. page 8. Council states a forecast of \$88M for capital works, please provide details of these proposed works?</p> <p>9. Borrowing - Council forecast a year on year reduction by 20% which by 2030 the borrowings will be \$1M, please provide details on how this will be achieved?</p> <p>10. Operating Result - the forecast through to 2030 shows a surplus of up to \$8M year on year, why then do you propose to increase rates year on year to increase revenue when such a large surplus is being achieved?</p> <p>11. Cash and Investments - year 21-22 shows a positive position of circa \$12M while reducing by circa \$8M in Y22-23 to Y26-27. the report states cash is held for the landfill however the landfill rehab works is forecast \$6.1M. please provide details of what other projects or expenditures is the funds allocated towards?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council intend on recouping the cost of rehabilitating the former landfill sites over an extended period of time. This will be in compliance with the legislative requirements informing the calculation of the waste management charge. The future usage of this land will be determined following remediation. The 2021-2022 financial year budget does not propose to sell the land. Council's contribution for this project is \$6 million dollars. This was funded through \$2.5 million in 2019-2020 Budget and \$3.5 million in the 2021-2022 budget. The \$8 million budgeted for in 2020-2021 was fully funded by a grant from Sports and Recreation Victoria. The North Eltham Soccer pitch replacement project is part funded by Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grant of \$295,000 and \$340,000 from rental income generated from the Eltham North Synthetic Pitch as per the Management Plan for the synthetic pitch at Eltham North Reserve adopted in 27 March 2012, which was received in 2020. Total budget for this project is \$1.269 million. Contributions are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Living Libraries Grant: \$500,000 Yarra Plenty Regional Library: \$130,000 Council: \$639,000 The increase in the total operating income forecast is largely driven by an increase in one off capital works grant income for projects. The budget considers capital grants that are either confirmed or that have a significant likelihood of being received. The higher degree of certainty around current year grants results in the 2020-2021 forecast grants being higher than those budgeted in future years. The total expenditure for Safe and Healthy environments is \$40.441 million. The total income for Safe and Healthy environments is \$6.72 million. The net cost to Council is \$33.721 million. The surplus quoted in the income statement is in compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards. The measure of Council's financial sustainability is captured through the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) sustainability indicators included in the document. Specific reference is made to the sustainability indicator where Council's underlying surplus is being measured, which is below target. The increase to rates are reflective of the continued provision of services, maintained at existing levels, and capital works program delivery. Over the next 5 financial years there is \$88 million dollars projected in Capital Works, which are detailed by class in the Statement of Capital Works. The budget and budget forecasts factor in repayment schedules of the loan including the reduction in the principal each year. As per response to question 7. The cash held is predominantly restricted by statutory requirements and only be used for specific purposes, including long service leave, trusts and deposits held and statutory reserves.

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<p>12. Income Statement - Y20-21 shows a forecast surplus of \$27.1M, what is the current position of this budget and is this result still forecast? There is a reduction in grants of \$29M, what has caused this reduction?</p> <p>13. Property assets are \$1B, the previous attempt to sell surplus land was abandoned, does the Council plan to sell any surplus land to assist in the budget and reduce the increasing burden on the residents to pay increased rates?</p> <p>14. Borrowings - how does the Council source its borrowings, i.e. bank, State Gov, and what is the interest rate and charges being paid on these to services the loans? I look forward to your response.</p>	<p>12. The forecast surplus of \$27.1 million is reflect of the mid-year financial review and is in line with current projections.</p> <p>The budget considers capital grants that are either confirmed or that have a significant likelihood of being received. The higher degree of certainty around current year grants results in the 2020-2021 forecast grants being higher than those budgeted in future years.</p> <p>13. The draft 21/22 budget does not include sale of Council land or assets.</p> <p>14. Council sources all new borrowings via a public tender process.</p>
<p>7. Adrian Hocking</p> <p>Hi Team,</p> <p>I'm very concerned about the high cost of council rates that seem to be out of step with other councils. I've recently moved to Nillumbik from Whitehorse and can't understand why Nillumbik rates are so high. I understand Nillumbik rates are in the top ten most expensive rates in the country. Once again why? What additional services do I receive for almost double the cost of any other council? My rates are almost as much as all my other utility bills combined for a year for roads and rubbish service!! Council rates are a significant cause of financial stress. I see Nillumbik is increasing rates this year by 1.5% with planned increases up to 2.5% over the next ten years. It's time Nillumbik cut back on non-core services and froze rates until such time as they are more in step with other council rates, and learned to live within their means. There is no justification for Nillumbik to be so much higher than other councils, unless non-core programs are being funded that are not in the interest of community.</p>	<p>The increase to rates is in compliance with the rate capping framework established by the Victorian State Government. The proposed increase in rates is reflective of the continued provision of services, which have been maintained at existing levels, and capital works program delivery.</p>
<p>9. Henry Haszler and Greg Johnson - Friends of Nillumbik</p> <p>Refer to Appendix A</p>	<p>Submission noted. Suggestions will be considered for future documents.</p> <p>The Draft Budget 2021-2022 is compiled in compliance with sector guidelines for consistency and comparative purposes, in addition to the requirements under the Local Government Act, within statutory timeframes.</p> <p>The Eltham Traders parking permit scheme currently has a fee set as a result of a Council resolution in September 2019. Specifically the resolution set the annual permit fee at \$100 and directed officers to implement a technological solution to the management of the trader permit scheme. Rollout of a solution was delayed at a year due to COVID in 2020, and a new e-permit scheme is due to go live on 1 July 2021. The purpose of the \$100 fee was to run the new e-permits program as a pilot for 12 months, including the option of purchasing a daily casual permit, prior to a further review of the fees at the end of the trial period.</p>
<p>10. Sue Dyet - Eltham Community Action Group</p> <p>The Eltham Community Action Group Inc. consists of people who take an interest in local planning issues and who seek to ensure that change reflects community values and the best of Eltham character. The group initially formed as the Eltham Gateway Action Group in 1995 when the Eltham Shire Office was demolished. We have a closed Fb group of 1.5k interested people and an open FB page that reached 3k last month, plus an email listing of 1,225 at this point in time.</p> <p>We are submitting general observations on the Draft 2021 -2022 Budget as residents and ratepayers with no expertise in accounting or finance. However we do have a strong interest and use common sense when given the opportunity to comment on documents that affect the community that we value.</p> <p>1) In November 2020, at the declaration of the Nillumbik Council poll, the CEO was asked why was the 2021-22 Budget was a priority for the incoming Council over the development of the four year Council plan, in order to allow this first draft budget to reflect the aims of the new Council. The 4 year Council plan is THE significant document to guide any new Council and Officers. That question still stands. It appears that Council needs to have a budget before a Council Plan – is this a requirement of the State Government or 'common practice'. If so why? This question has been raised by a number of people recently and is not a matter of collusion but of common sense questioning. Setting a budget assumes a process that has some goals, some aims reflective of the current Council. This reflection occurs thorough the development of a Council Plan. Obviously a Council budget covers State Government requirements and basic running & maintenance costs but also, it is to be hoped some funding, to improve services and facilities for the community that the Council serves. This could reflect some long term goals going beyond the life of the current Council.</p> <p>The priorities for this discretionary spending would change dependent on the views/philosophy of each Council. We saw a significant shift in priorities with the previous council. With certain decisions the community objected and rejected some of the previous Councils decisions, leading to the outcome of the last Council election.</p>	<p>Submission noted.</p> <p>The Local Government Act 2020 has afforded councils until the 31 October in the year following a general election to adopt a Council Plan and Financial Plan. However, the annual budget must be adopted before 30 June each year. Under the previous Local Government Act 1989, all three documents were required to be adopted by 30 June. The additional time afforded to preparing the Council Plan is due to the requirement of the Act for 'deliberate community engagement'.</p> <p>For Nillumbik, this is occurring through the 'Our People, Our Place, Our Future' community engagement. The feedback from this community engagement is helping shape the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025. Having regard to the 'Our People, Our Place, Our Future' feedback, the draft Council Plan 2021-2025 will be publicly exhibited in the coming months and prior to its formal adoption before 31 October.</p>

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<p>Without a new Council plan, whose goals and priorities have driven the formation of the 2021-2022 Nillumbik Budget? This Council, the previous Council, or Council Officers using established practice that may or may not be appropriate once a Council changes.</p> <p>2) However the last Council has left such a financial legacy that will hamstring the ability of Councils to improve long term services, facilities and goals for many years. We suggest that this legacy is made clear now to the community, by strong detailed information laying out the budgetary issues the Council and therefore the community, faces. This would not be a 'blame game' but setting the true current facts. This information should be included in the new rates notices and on the Council's website for people to have this reference information to hand.</p> <p>3) Other people and Groups within the Nillumbik Community may well have members with accounting and financial expertise. We understand the Friends of Nillumbik are likely to produce a more detailed critique of this Draft document. They to have the interest of the community underpinning their comments.</p> <p>We appreciate this opportunity to make comment on the Nillumbik Draft Budget 2021-2022 and are happy to further explain any questions that may arise having read this submission.</p>	
<p>11. Anna Pelling - Friends of Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park Inc</p> <p>We wish to make the following submission to the Draft Budget 2021-2022 in respect of the Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park and Tower of Remembrance.</p> <p>We understand the Master Plan process for the Park is currently on hold and is not included in the current draft Budget. In the absence of a Master Plan, we wish to put forward the following items for consideration in the current Draft Budget.</p> <p>1. Stone Caretakers Cottage: We fully support the restoration of the cottage, which we believe has a grant of \$45,000 for initial work. We support and encourage the participation of Community Groups such as Eltham Men's Shed and Eltham Rotary Club to assist with the restoration. We believe they have the expertise and skills to assist with the physical restoration work. Restoration of the Cottage is included in the draft plans for the Park and we believe it can be funded as a stand-alone project which would complement any future Master Plan.</p> <p>2. The funding and placement of 3 additional Plaques to recognise: The Nurses from the Shire who served Local Service in the Boer War The 11 indigenous soldiers from the Shire who served in WWI</p> <p>3. Recognition of the 1,000 residents of the Shire of Eltham who enlisted in WWI. We have researched a comprehensive list, along with details of soldiers, over the last 6 years. We would suggest a virtual link via a QR code or similar to access this history. Alternatively, the names could be engraved on panels displayed on the various landings of the Tower.</p> <p>4. Moor-rul Viewing Platform: we would like to see the original panels restored in the viewing platform. The panels included details ranging from pre-history to modern day usage of the area around the Memorial Park. The information panels are currently empty. There is also a need to restore the dedication plaque at the viewing platform.</p> <p>5. CFA Fire Lookout cabin: whilst fully supporting the place this cabin has in protecting the Shire, we recognise it in not in keeping with the beautiful stonework of the Tower. We would like to request that the Shire investigate the cost of either cladding or painting the cabin to better blend in with the stonework.</p> <p>We thank you for your consideration</p>	<p>The Master Plan process for the Park is currently being developed in-house and therefore not included in the current draft Budget. The Master Plan has been pivoted from the preparation of a park master plan, to the preparation of a park management plan. The development of the Plan and a separate Governance Plan will be in accordance with the most recent Council decisions stepping back from the endorsed Concept Plan but will still consider guidelines for the installation of Panels in the Moor-ul Viewing Platform, a review of the plaques on-site and restoration of both the plaques and stone caretaker's cottage. The Shire will commit to investigating measures to promote the site's history and work with the CFA to improve the appearance of the CFA fire lookout cabin into the longer term. Such solutions will be implemented following adopting of the Plan and consultation with all key stakeholders.</p> <p>The plan will provide clear direction for a range of park improvement projects as outlined in the submission submitted for consideration by Anna from the Friends of Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park, that could be budgeted for, in coming budgets, and the criteria to enable development of governance agreements.</p> <p>There is \$45,000 in the FY 2020-2021 budget to commence initial work on the restoration of the Stone Caretakers Cottage with a further \$100,000 set aside in the draft FY 2021-2022 budget for this purpose. The restoration work will require specialist heritage trade skills with all the appropriate insurances in place.</p> <p>A key project stemming from the completion and adoption of the Plan by Council, will be the review and restoration of plaques on the land. At such point the addition of the three proposed plaques to recognise :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nurses from the Shire who served • Local Service in the Boer War • The 11 indigenous soldiers from the Shire who served in WWI <p>will be considered.</p> <p>The cost of these plaques is to be considered in subsequent proposed budgets.</p>
<p>12. Gila Schnapp</p> <p>1. We request to be heard on our objection to this budget.</p> <p>2. Our objections include:</p> <p>3. Budget being adopted by Council prior to key strategic documents related to it, such as the Council Plan, 2021-2025 being specifically exhibited as such, and passed beforehand, or at least simultaneously.</p>	<p>Submission noted</p> <p>3. The Local Government Act 2020 has afforded councils until the 31 October in the year following a general election to adopt a Council Plan and Financial Plan. However, the annual budget must be adopted before 30 June each year. Under the previous Local Government Act 1989, all three documents were required to be adopted by 30 June.</p> <p>The additional time afforded to preparing the Council Plan is due to the requirement of the Act for 'deliberate community engagement'. For Nillumbik, this is occurring through the 'Our People, Our Place, Our Future' community engagement. The</p>

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<p>4. Despite the new Engagement Policy being adopted, we were not personally notified of consultation on the Council Plan, even though we are registered on Participate Nillumbik for such contact.</p> <p>5. Even the advertised Budget, has no link to any other related important documents making it difficult for us to make meaningful submissions.</p> <p>6. We ask that Council undertake further “deliberative Community engagement” as outlined in the local government act 2020 prior to the adoption of the inter related Council Plan and other related key documents.</p> <p>7. We only just found out that such consultation was supposed to have been undertaken by Council as part of “Our People, Our Place, Our future”.</p> <p>8. If we did not know about it, we question how many others also missed this opportunity, and either did not know or understand it’s implications or process itself.</p> <p>9. We ask that the proposed funding to certain projects be reduced in order to create a surplus for other essential projects or strategies.</p> <p>10. These include: a. Completion for a new Shire Wide open and transparent housing Strategy. b. Associated recinding of the Diamond Creek 2020 Major Activity Centre Structure Plan for re-exhibition and new process. It is based on a outdated 2001 (19 year old) housing strategy. c. Inadequate public consultation with unfair and detrimental impact on original suburban part of diamond Creek, and its town centre at Chute Street. Outstanding concerns about it process and changing aspirations and needs due to the Virus. d. Outstanding Planning mistakes, anomalies and irregularities imperative to correct within this year’s budget prior to further impediments making it more costly and difficult to correct for council.</p> <p>11. Note – this submission has been rushed in duress due to computer Problems.</p> <p>Gila Schnapp and on behalf of stakeholders/owners of [REDACTED], and adjoining [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Gila Schnapp</p>	<p>feedback from this community engagement is helping shape the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025. Having regard to the ‘Our People, Our Place, Our Future’ feedback, the draft Council Plan 2021-2025 will be publicly exhibited in the coming months and prior to its formal adoption before 31 October.</p> <p>From an environmental scan of many other councils’ draft budgets for the 2021-2022 financial year, it appears they have taken the same approach as our Council, which is to align it to the 2017-2021 Council Plans, which do not formally expire until October 2021.</p> <p>4. Having received your objection, we have looked into your (Gila Schnapp’s) registration on Participate Nillumbik. It appears that you did not turn on your desired notification options when you registered, and therefore you are not receiving email notifications (we recommend that you log in and update your notification settings). Nevertheless, all registered users of Participate Nillumbik (regardless of their notification settings) were sent an email on Thursday 25 March with an update of all open projects for feedback, which included ‘Our People, Our Place, Our Future’. ‘Our People, Our Place, Our Future’ was also promoted through other Council communications, including Nillumbik News, website and social media.</p> <p>6. Council is currently analysing the feedback from the ‘Our People, Our Place, Our Future’ community engagement which will help shape the development of the Council Plan. The draft Council Plan will be placed on public exhibition in the coming months, and received submissions analysed and considered, prior to it being adopted by Council before 31 October 2021.</p> <p>7. As above, there will be opportunities to provide feedback on the draft Council Plan at the time it is publicly exhibited.</p> <p>10. Council adopted the Diamond Creek Structure Plan in 2020 following an extensive process of review, investigation and development inclusive of community consultation. The structure plan was developed having regard to the most recent population statistics and forecasts projects inclusive of a detailed review of the past structure plan and present conditions. The consultation undertaken was extensive, for a period of time greater than usual and wide reaching. Whilst it is acknowledged that COVID-19 has been challenging to work through, officers undertook significantly more stakeholder consultations than originally planned to ensure the Plan was adopted having regard to the community’s feedback. Furthermore whilst the last phase of consultation was undertaken last year, a significant portion of consultation had occurred prior to the COVID-19 restrictions that had influenced the development of the Plan.</p> <p>It is proposed subject to the adoption of the budget, that officers will embark upon the development a new Housing Strategy following the complexity the new Neighbourhood Character Strategy that is also included in the budget.</p> <p>Having regard to past planning decisions, the decisions were arrived at following due process and consideration of the planning scheme provisions of the day, accordingly the budget is not proposed to be altered to provide funds to review past decisions.</p>
<p>13. Betty Russell</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this Community Response Submission Overview</p> <p>This submission firstly explains a serious concern, then makes some suggestions and poses a question.</p> <p>A SERIOUS CONCERN</p> <p>1. The Draft Budget should be designed to facilitate the achievement of the vision and goals of THIS Council; instead it is built on the vision and goals of the previous council [cited in the Draft Budget 2021-22, p.11]. I look forward to developing the community vision and directions of the new council through the Council Plan and am very concerned to find that our budget is being developed to support a continuation of values of the old council. Clearly, the budget can not outline “the financial and non-financial resources required to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan” [p.10] if the Council Plan 2021 – 2025 has not yet been developed. I want major initiatives which are aimed at furthering this council’s goals. At a time when COVID 19 lockdowns have devastated some businesses and many jobs have disappeared, this budget has no mention of COVID Recovery initiatives. In a council campaign run strongly on protection of the Green Wedge and environmental indigenous biodiversity, there are no major initiatives to measure it. The budget is hitched to the service of outdated goals.</p> <p>SUGGESTIONS – if this budget were mapped to “Council Plan 2021 – 25”, I would hope that the following suggestions would be automatic:</p> <p>2. Funding is needed for a major initiative to map, measure, monitor and enhance the shire’s biodiversity. If we are to protect and enrich the biodiversity of our shire, we need to fund strats to measure ii, report on it and improve it. This should be in the budget, but at every point I come back to the fact that we should not be trying to prepare a budget attuned to the previous</p>	<p>Submission noted.</p> <p>The Local Government Act 2020 has afforded councils until the 31 October in the year following a general election to adopt a Council Plan and Financial Plan. However, the annual budget must be adopted before 30 June each year. Under the previous Local Government Act 1989, all three documents were required to be adopted by 30 June.</p> <p>The additional time afforded to preparing the Council Plan is due to the requirement of the Act for ‘deliberate community engagement’. For Nillumbik, this is occurring through the ‘Our People, Our Place, Our Future’ community engagement. The feedback from this community engagement is helping shape the development of the Council Plan 2021-2025. Having regard to the ‘Our People, Our Place, Our Future’ feedback, the draft Council Plan 2021-2025 will be publicly exhibited in the coming months and prior to its formal adoption before 31 October.</p> <p>The population is forecast to minimally increase, as per current projections below and this has been considered when preparing the budget:</p> <p>2021 – 65,370</p> <p>2026 – 66,760</p> <p>2031 – 68,410</p> <p>2036 – 70,315</p>

Nillumbik Shire Council – Public submissions to the Draft Budget 2021-2022	
Submitter and Key Points	Officer Response
<p>council's priorities. We have elected a new council to define updated priorities and we want a budget to support those priorities.</p> <p>3. Funding for COVID -related programs (economic, health and social) should be included.</p> <p>4. Funding for Regeneration of degraded land should be a major initiative, but the section "Property – land improvements" shows \$0 allocated.</p> <p>5. It would be helpful if it could be explained in the budget how estimates of the cost of capital works is arrived at, eg Eltham North Soccer Pitch replacement \$635,000 seems extraordinary. Is it based on a guess or on serious costing?</p> <p>6. It would be helpful for residents to gain a clearer understanding of rates and fees if a percentage of increase/ decrease could be included and set out together.</p> <p>QUESTION If there is no plan to increase services, does that mean there will be no population increase?</p>	

Appendix A



Friends of Nillumbik Inc.

PO Box 258, Eltham 3095 | mail@friendsofnillumbik.org | www.friendsofnillumbik.org

Submission: Draft Budget 2021-2022

Friends of Nillumbik is a not for profit, non-political community group backed by about 1,000 local residents. We care about the environment and the character of Nillumbik's urban and rural areas and are committed to protecting Nillumbik's Green Wedge and its other environmental assets.

We welcome the opportunity to comment on Nillumbik Council's *Draft Budget 2021-2022* and offer comments and recommendations on:

- The 2016–2020 Council's budget legacy;
- The budget process;
- The schedule of fees and charges;
- User charges.

THE 2016–2020 COUNCIL'S BUDGET LEGACY

Even at a quick glance it is clear the Council Budget for 2021-22 is under severe pressure. That pressure is significantly the result of the grandstanding rates freeze decisions forced through by four members of the 2016–2020 Council, namely councillors Ashton, Clarke, Egan, and Ranken. On two occasions these four councillors voted to hold the unit rate constant and forego possible increases within the Government's rate caps. As Cr Perkins pointed out at the time, those decisions relegated Nillumbik's ratepayers and residents to a permanently lower income trajectory than otherwise.

One of the candidates in the recent elections estimated that loss of income at \$2.5 million per year, or \$25 million over the Budget's ten year forecast horizon.

We can never recover that lost income.

The lost income will mean some combination of fewer and less diverse services, poorer quality in service delivery, or higher Council fees and charges than otherwise. These sorts of consequences are inescapable especially as Council will incur interest costs in respect of the borrowings needed this year to meet Council's responsibilities.

In identifying the implications of the earlier rates decisions, we stress that Friends of Nillumbik is **not** arguing for higher rates. Indeed, we recognise explicitly that lower rates are preferable to higher rates. However, rates should be set at fiscally responsible and sustainable levels consistent with meeting the Council's statutory obligations and the needs and aspirations of residents and ratepayers for council services.

Because of the Shire's difficult financial inheritance for 2021 and beyond, we are all more reliant than usual on the new Council using its collective wisdom and good judgement in navigating the difficult financial circumstances ahead.

THE BUDGET PROCESS

Nillumbik's *Draft Budget 2021-2022* was released for public consultation on 25 March 2021 when the deadline for submissions on the Budget was set a month later, on 25 April. Council will consider submissions and verbal presentations on the Budget on 11 May and the document will be adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 May.

So, two months from beginning to end – one month for ratepayers to read, consider and respond to the Budget and two to four weeks for Council to consider and act on submissions.

That's a tight timeline for a 73 page document with a complex set of internal connections and in which the 14 page appendix detailing fees and charges includes 1,037 lines of information. This is one reason why usually the only significant difference between the draft and final budget documents is that the latter no longer carry the word 'Draft'.

The standard program of budget related activity is presented in the *Draft 2021-2022 Budget* (p 6) and can be summarised as follows:

- December to February – preparatory updating and budgeting by Council officers for the succeeding financial year's budget;
- February to March – councillors begin to interact with the budget process;
- Late March – Draft Budget for succeeding financial year presented to Council;
- Late March to late April – consultation period and window for community submissions;
- May – submissions considered, Budget finalised and adopted by Council.

The problem is that this process inserts a lag of at least a year before the budget can respond to suggestions from ratepayers.

To address this problem **Friends of Nillumbik recommends** that Council modify the current budget processes by formally calling for community submissions on **new capital and other expenditures much earlier in the budget cycle.**

For example, the formal invitation for submissions might be made in **mid-December** with a **deadline of around 7 February**. These dates should avoid some of the constraints caused by the Christmas period and the summer school holidays. By February councillors and Council officers have started interacting on the Budget so submissions from ratepayers could be fed into the existing process.

We see this February submission opportunity as additional to the current sequence of budget consultations and as contributing to more effective consultation with the Nillumbik community.

The experience of the Wattle Glen Residents Association (WGRA) with a submission related to a pedestrian walkway illustrates why a change in the normal budget process is desirable.

The WGRA lodged a submission designed to feed into the 2019-20 budget process asking Council to build a pedestrian bridge over Watery Gully Creek on the Council owned reserve Peppers Paddock in Wattle Glen. The aim of the proposal was to provide an accessible pedestrian bridge to link the playground, picnic shelter and toilets on the south side to new wetlands created by WGRA with the help of Melbourne Water and others on the north side.

The Officer response was that the submission had come too late in the capital budgeting cycle for the upcoming budget but that the request would be noted and reviewed subsequently.

At the end of April 2021 Wattle Glen residents are still waiting for their walkway. They might have been more successful if there had been an opportunity to make their submission formally much earlier.

This WGRA experience also provides a practical example of the implications of the rates freezes of the 2016–2020 Council.

According to the WGRA their walkway would have cost under \$200,000. So the \$2.5 million per year permanently stripped out of the budget by the four 2016–2020 councillors would be enough to give Wattle Glen residents not one but twelve walkways.

THE SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

As already noted, the 2021-22 budget's Schedule of Fees and Charges is 14 pages long and includes 1,037 lines of information. The sheer size of the data set – covering a wide range of items and formats for the charges levied – makes it very difficult for anyone apart from formally initiated Council officers to comprehend and compare the schedules from one year to another.

The result is reduced transparency relating to budget proposals which impedes effective consultation with the Nillumbik community about the Council's priorities and actions.

The schedules of fees and charges include two broad categories of fees, those set by the Council on its own authority and those set by the Government. We have no issue with the information on Council determined fees which are shown as dollar amounts.

Table 1: Examples of Council Fees and Charges: Draft Budget 2021-2022

Description of Fee	Unit of Measure	Adopted Fee 2020-21 \$	Proposed Fee 2021-22 \$
EXAMPLES OF COUNCIL DETERMINED FEES			
Waste Management			
120 litre green waste bin	Each	80.00	80.00
120 litre recycling bin	Each	80.00	80.00
Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre			
School program	Per child - Full day	19.50	22.00
School visit/talk	Flat rate per hour	140.00	154.00
EXAMPLES OF STATUTORY CHARGES			
Road Opening Permits - Works (other than minor works detailed below) :			
Arterial road - conducted on any part of the roadway, shoulder or pathway	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Landscaping of nature strip	Per site	Monetary Fee Unit	Monetary Fee Unit
Reinstatements Footpath & Crossovers - Minimum charge of 2 m² or 2 lineal metres.			
Industrial Vehicular Crossing	Up to 175mm reinforced concrete (per m ²)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Traffic Control	Per controller (per hour)	As per contract rates	As per contract rates
Leisure Centre Facilities			
Eltham Leisure Centre	Per contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Diamond Valley Sports	Per contract	Refer to contract	Refer to contract
Building Services			
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$1 - \$5,000	750.00	POA -Minimum 750 (includes a maximum of 2 inspections)
Building Permit (within Nillumbik)	Value of works between \$5,001 - \$15,000	1,000.00	POA -Minimum 1,000 (includes a maximum of 2 inspections)
Statutory Planning (Permit application class)			
Planning	Class 1	1,318.10 + CPI	1,318.10 + CPI
Planning	Class 2	199.90 + CPI	199.90 + CPI
Infrastructure			
Dispensations	Building over easement (maximum fee)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)
Dispensations	Front fence at corner (maximum fee)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)	As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)

However, as Table 1 above indicates, the reporting of the statutory fees is deficient in at least three ways:

- The fees are reported in a variety of obscure ways such as “\$199.90 + CPI” or “Monetary Fee Units” or “As per Building Control Commission Rates (TBA)”;
- There is some inconsistency in the reporting in that fees apparently determined in basically the same way are reported differently;
- The fees and charges for the year prior to the budget year are not reported in the explicit monetary detail that should have become available as early as July in the pre-budget year.

Friends of Nillumbik recognises that it would not be practical to fully detail all the items shown in the fees schedule. For example, some of the line items shown are probably headings for suites of underlying charges. Opening up the detail in all such cases could greatly increase the length of the schedule. Giving more detail for fees specified as “As per contract rates”, “Refer to contract” and “As per Building Control Commission rates” would probably also add to the length of the schedule.

However, the actual dollar amounts of fees and charges specified as “Monetary Fee Units” and as “\$199.90+CPI” appear to be determined in the same way – as the multiplicands of numbers of fee units for each service – determined some years previously – and the value of each fee unit as determined by the Government at around June each year. Clearing up deficiencies in the reporting of such fees would not add to the length of the schedule and would significantly improve the quality of information provided. So there appears to be no reason for keeping the present format of the reporting.

Consequently, for fees specified as “Monetary Fee Units” and as “\$XXX +CPI” Friends of Nillumbik recommends:

- **All data for the year prior to the budget year be shown as the actual dollar amount that applied;**
- **The description “Monetary Fee Units” be abandoned and replaced by the \$XXX+CPI” format;**
- **The line items be identified as either Council determined or statutory charges – defined asterisks would suffice;**
- **The formula for determining the dollar values of statutory charges be indicated at some appropriate place in the budget document;**
- **The exact multiple sources for the numbers of fee units and the values of the fee and penalty units be similarly identified – including with live links.**

USER CHARGES

The consensus from a community panel consultation held in the second half of 2015 was that Council should avoid taking on, and indeed relinquish, functions and expenses more properly the domain of other levels of government. It was also suggested that Council move towards a more user pays model of funding services which would enable Council to continue providing the services while limiting their costs to the budget.

Consistent with the panel consensus, user charges have increased from \$11.8 million in 2015-16 to \$14.2 million in 2020-21, a rise of 20.2 percent. For 2021-22 user charges are budgeted to increase by a further 16.6% to \$16.5 million¹.

Friends of Nillumbik is not looking to add to these already substantial increases in user fees. However, there is one charge that remains egregiously low – namely the fee for the Eltham Traders parking permits.

The fee for the Eltham Traders car park between Dudley and Arthur Streets was \$21 per year in 2016-2017, a virtually invisible amount equivalent to 6 cents per day.

Table 2: Eltham Traders Parking Fee Options

Annual Fee	Cost/Day	Revenue Raised	
		\$ 150 Permits	\$ 75 Permits
21	0.06	3,150	1,575
100	0.27	15,000	7,500
250	0.68	37,500	18,750
500	1.37	75,000	37,500
1000	2.74	150,000	75,000
1500	4.11	225,000	112,500
2000	5.48	300,000	150,000

This ridiculously low charge was clearly a source of embarrassment because details of it disappeared from the fees and charges schedules for 2017-18 to 2019-20².

We are pleased to note the item reappeared in the 2020–21 schedule and had been raised to the somewhat more defensible level of \$100 per year. However, in view of the Council's constrained finances in 2021-22 **we recommend that the charge be increased much further.**

¹ Although these numbers are forecast estimates sourced from various budget documents the data should identify the underlying trends.

² For 2017-2018 the item was listed but the rate was shown as POA and the item was just not listed for the next two years.

As shown in Table 2 above, even an increase in the charge to, say, \$1,000 per year would cost Eltham traders under \$3 a day still leaving them with a very good deal.

There are about 150 individual businesses in the Eltham shopping precinct. Depending on how many of the traders bought parking permits, an annual charge of \$1,000 would generate additional revenue of up to \$150,000.

That would be enough to cover most of the cost of the park connecting walkway sought by the Wattle Glen Residents Association.

Greg Johnson (President) and Henry Haszler (Treasurer)
Friends of Nillumbik
25 April 2021



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Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee 2021-23

Call for Nominations

Are you a creative, cultural expert, or someone involved in and passionate about the creative industries?

Do you live, work, or study in Nillumbik, or have a strong connection to the Shire?
Would you like to play a part in shaping the development of arts and culture in our community?

Nillumbik Shire Council is seeking representatives from all corners of our diverse arts and culture community.

We need members from all segments of the arts, culture and creative industries. We need you to have the expertise and passion to help us maximize participation in the cultural life of the community and opportunities to engage with the arts.

You will need to commit to a volunteer induction day, quarterly meetings, and sign up for a two-year period. Nominations open on Monday, 1 March and close Wednesday, 31 March 2021.

For more information and to nominate go to <https://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Living-in/Arts-and-Cultural-Development/Arts-and-Cultural-Advisory-Committee> or contact Sarah Hammond, Community Arts & Cultural Engagement Officer at sarah.hammond@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or on 0409 977 563.

Eligibility

Nillumbik Shire staff and their immediate family are not eligible to nominate.

Applicants must:

- be Australian residents;
- either live, work, study, volunteer or play in the Shire;

Selection Criteria

Nominees must:

- live, work, study, volunteer or play in Nillumbik;

**ARTS AND
CULTURE**



- have an association with and understanding of the arts and cultural aspects of the Nillumbik community;
- be familiar with Council's arts related policies and our current arts and cultural activities and events;
- be able to accurately advise Council on the arts and cultural requirements of the community;
- Add to the diverse membership of the committee;
- demonstrate a capacity to consider the direction of arts and cultural opportunities in a fair and equitable manner; and
- be able to work as part of a team.

Applications

Nominations are through SmartyGrants: <https://nillumbik.smartygrants.com.au/ACAC21>

Assessment Criteria

All nominations will be individually assessed by a selection panel consisting of members of the current Arts & Cultural Advisory Committee. Recommended nominees must be endorsed by Council.

Evaluation Criteria and Weighting

- An understanding of the arts and cultural aspects of the Nillumbik community (25%)
- Level of expertise/experience in an arts and culture stream (25%)
- Consideration of the diversity and expertise across the Committee (25%)
- Level of contribution and connection to the arts and culture community (25%)

Attachments

Endorsed Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 2020 -2022

**ARTS AND
CULTURE**



Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference



Classification

Advisory Committee of Council

Purpose

To provide a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in the development, implementation and evaluation of Arts and Culture.

Objectives

- To assist and advise Council regarding key issues relating to arts and culture.
- Provide a forum for dissemination and consideration of information to the local community.
- To keep Council informed of the artistic and cultural needs of the community.
- Collaborate on strategies to maximize participation in the cultural life of the community and opportunities to enjoy the arts.
- Advise on the ongoing implementation and evaluation of the Arts and Cultural Plan 2018-2022.
- Advise on the acquisition and de-accessioning of artworks in accordance with the Nillumbik Shire Art Collection Policy 2019-2022.
- Act as the Project Reference Group for Arts and Cultural Development projects and policy reviews.
- Act as the nominated independent assessment panel for Arts and Cultural Development open applications.

Membership and chairperson

- Two Councillor's appointed by Council as the Chairperson and alternate delegate of the Committee (Deputy Chairperson).
- A minimum of eight (8) volunteer community representatives to collectively represent a diverse range of arts and cultural expertise. Council may increase the number of sitting representatives at its discretion.
- Members may only be added to the Advisory Committee by Council.
- Additional persons may be invited to attend meetings at the discretion of the Advisory Committee.
- All members represent the community interest and not individual or sectional interests.
- Council's nominated Councillor will be the Chairperson. In the event of the Chairperson being unable to attend a meeting, the Deputy Chairperson will act in their place. Where no Councillor is present, the Committee will appoint a Temporary Chairperson for that meeting.

Selection and term of appointment

Members will be selected by a selection panel consisting of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and two (2) sitting members of the Advisory Committee. Council will approve the new members of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee and (if updated) the Terms of Reference.

The term of appointment will be a two (2) year period.

Any member may resign at any time by advising his or her resignation to the Advisory Committee in writing. Council will be responsible for appointing any person to fill the casual vacancy for the remainder of the term.

A member who is absent for more than two consecutive meetings without leave or reasonable excuse may be asked to explain their absence to the Advisory Committee.

If an Advisory Committee member is absent without leave or reasonable excuse that is accepted by the Advisory Committee, the Advisory Committee may, via the Manager Community Partnerships, request that Council declare the position vacant.

Co-opted members

Suitably skilled persons may be invited to join the committee in an advisory capacity, for a specified purpose and for a specified period of time. Co-opted members do not contribute to the committee's quorum.

Quorum

A meeting can only take place with a minimum quorum of five (5) Committee representatives. In addition, at least one Council staff member must be present for administrative purposes.

Member responsibilities

In order to fulfil the Committee's objectives, members are expected to:

- Undertake induction as a volunteer of Nillumbik Shire Council.
- Demonstrate an understanding of issues relevant to the Nillumbik municipality and surrounding region.
- Understand the role of local government in the arts and cultural sector.
- Have a working understanding of relevant Council plans and policies, including the Council Plan and Arts and Cultural Plan.
- Prepare for and actively participate in regular committee meetings.

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to providing a safe workplace for employees, councillors and volunteers. Members of Council's advisory committees must:

- Adhere to the Equal Opportunity Act 2010, and refrain from discriminating, harassing or bullying other people and using offensive language in their capacity as a member of the Committee.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 and have regard to the principles of health and safety. Committee members must ensure that they contribute to the notion of a healthy and safe workplace.

- The council officer with responsibility for convening the Committee will provide an overview of the relevant legislative requirements and Council's Equal Opportunity and Anti Bullying and Violence Policy as part of the committee induction process.

Meeting frequency

Meetings are held quarterly at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive. Extra-ordinary meetings may be convened as required.

Management of the Committee

- The Community Arts & Cultural Engagement Officer or other nominated delegate will resource the Committee and attend all meetings as Secretariat.
- The Secretariat will be responsible for preparation of meeting agendas, minutes, reports and other administrative functions.

Reporting procedure

- The Committee is not a decision-making body and does not require voting protocols or other decision making mechanisms.
- Any advice provided by the Committee will be reached by consensus. Where differing views may be expressed by the Committee, these views will be reflected in any reports and statements issued.
- Minutes of the meetings are presented to Council for information at the next scheduled Council Meeting.
- Recommendations made by the Advisory Committee require consideration and approval by Council before being fully endorsed and acted upon.

Public Statements

Members of the Committee cannot make public statements on behalf of Council.

References

- Nillumbik Shire Art Collection Policy 2019-2022.
- Public Arts Policy 2019-2022
- Council Plan 2017-2021.
- Arts and Cultural Plan 2018-2022.
- Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021

Contact details of group

Community Arts & Cultural Engagement Officer, Arts and Cultural Development, 9433 3175.

Approval date: 24 March 2020

Next review date: December 2022

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Contact details of group

Community Arts & Cultural Engagement Officer, Arts and Cultural Development, 9433 3175.

Approval date: 24 March 2020

Next review date: December 2022