



**Date:** Tuesday, 13 October 2020  
**Time:** 3pm  
**Location:** Video conference  
Public access via audio live stream

# **MINUTES**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**13 October 2020**

**MINUTES OF LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE VIDEO CONFERENCE, PUBLIC ACCESS VIA AUDIO LIVE STREAM  
ON TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2020 AT 3PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Cheryl McKinnon (Mayor), Cr Neil Beattie, Cr Colleen Condliffe, Cr Geoff Curnow, Cr Gavan Holt

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Wendy Gladman (Director Community Wellbeing), Lynne Habner (Manager Executive and Commercial Services), Sharon Morrison (Director Corporate Services), Phil Pinyon (Chief Executive Officer), Steven Phillips (Director Operations)

**OPENING COMMENT**

This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 as temporarily amended to enable meeting by electronic means of communication.

All participants are meeting via video link.

This meeting is being recorded and audio streamed via the Council website and Facebook.

**1 OPENING PRAYER**

“Almighty God, we humbly ask you to bless this Council, direct and prosper its deliberations towards the true welfare of your people of the Shire of Loddon.”

**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

“The Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are gathered and pays its respects to their Elders both past and present.”

**3 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**4 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

**5 PREVIOUS MINUTES****5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****File Number:** 02/01/001**Author:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Authoriser:** Phil Pinyon, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council confirm:

1. The minutes of the Council Briefing of 15 September 2020.
2. The minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 September 2020.
3. The minutes of the Confidential Council Meeting of 15 September 2020.

**REPORT**

Seeking approval of the unconfirmed minutes of the previous meetings.

**RESOLUTION 2020/159**

Moved: Cr Neil Beattie

Seconded: Cr Gavan Holt

That Council confirm:

1. The minutes of the Council Briefing of 15 September 2020.
2. The minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 September 2020.
3. The minutes of the Confidential Council Meeting of 15 September 2020.

**CARRIED**

**6 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS****6.1 RECORD OF ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS****File Number:** 02/01/001**Author:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Authoriser:** Phil Pinyon, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the Assembly of Councillors records for the following meetings:

1. Council Briefing 15 September 2020.

In accordance with Section 80A of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act), records of Assemblies of Councillors must be reported at the next practicable Council meeting and recorded in the minutes.

An Assembly of Councillors is defined in Section 76AA of the Act as a meeting at which matters are considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision or the exercise of a delegated authority and which is either of the following:

- A meeting of an advisory committee where at least one Councillor is present; or
- A planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors and at least one Council officer.

The record is therefore presented for Council's noting.

**RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCIL**

Assembly details	Briefing
Date	15 September 2020
Councillor Attendees	Cr Beattie Cr Condliffe Cr Curnow Cr Holt Cr McKinnon
Staff/Stakeholder representatives	Phil Pinyon, Chef Executive Officer Wendy Gladman, Director Community Wellbeing Sharon Morrison, Director Corporate Services Steven Phillips, Director Operations Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services  Item 1: Projectura representatives
Items discussed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Loddon Project update</li> <li>2. Annual Report update</li> <li>3. General business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee insurance</li> <li>• Council elections</li> <li>• Relocation of historical engine, Pyramid Hill</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Conflict of Interest Disclosures - Councillor/officer making disclosure	Nil
Councillor/officer left room	

**RESOLUTION 2020/160**

Moved: Cr Gavan Holt  
Seconded: Cr Geoff Curnow

That Council note the Assembly of Councillors records for the following meeting:

1. Council Briefing 15 September 2020.

**CARRIED**

**7 REVIEW OF ACTION SHEET****7.1 REVIEW OF ACTIONS****File Number:** 02/01/002**Author:** Christine Coombes, Executive and Commercial Services Officer**Authoriser:** Phil Pinyon, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Action sheet**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the action sheet.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

**REPORT**

Refer attachment.

**RESOLUTION 2020/161****Moved:** Cr Colleen Condliffe**Seconded:** Cr Geoff Curnow

That Council receive and note the action sheet.

**CARRIED**

**8 MAYORAL REPORT****8.1 MAYORAL REPORT****File Number:** 02/01/001**Author:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Authoriser:** Phil Pinyon, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report

**REPORT**

The Mayor will present a report at the meeting.

**Cr McKinnon****North Central Goldfields Regional Library**

**Section 86 Committees:** East Loddon Community Centre Committee of Management, Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Committee of Management, Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool Committee of Management and Reserve Committee of Management

**Nature Tourism Advisory Team****Other Council activities****DATE****Activity**

It's difficult to describe how I feel as we go into our final meeting after eight years of working as a well-oiled team. This is my last report as Mayor and as a Loddon Shire Councillor. While it is my final report, by choice, I will miss the role very much. For eight years I have had the honour to meet with and represent many people, across the many communities of Terrick Ward and Loddon, for eight years I have met regularly with you, my fellow councillors, and our CEO and Executive team. We have had lively discussion and debate on many occasions, but always have respected each other's point of view and have always shared a willingness to find a way forward together. I value your wisdom, experience, good-humour, and friendship. This is what I will miss.

To those of you who are successful in retaining your seats in the coming election, I wish you well with the new council, and if unsuccessful, then you can leave well satisfied, and proud of the contribution you have made for so

many years.

To Cr Curnow, who is retiring from council, I give you my congratulations and thanks Geoff, for your years of service and dedication to your community and to council.

I am saddened that this last year has been one of such turmoil. We have all missed our face-to-face discussions, and informal spontaneous conversations that don't occur in a virtual meeting. We have missed meeting with our committees and community members, and attending our regular community events.

However, I am proud of the fact that as a Council we have barely skipped a beat. Council has been able to continue to provide almost all of its services; our roads, parks and gardens have continued to be maintained; our communities have been kept updated on the latest Pandemic advice and the ever-changing restrictions, and I take this opportunity to thank the CEO and staff - for the way they have adapted to the way they work, for their care and dedication in providing services to our residents, and for their friendship, advice and support to me throughout my time on Council.

It has been an honour, and I will look back on my time as a councillor with pride at what has been achieved and fondness for the people who made it possible and so enjoyable.

Cheryl McKinnon

Loddon Shire Mayor

**RESOLUTION 2020/162**

Moved: Cr Cheryl McKinnon

Seconded: Cr Gavan Holt

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report

**CARRIED**

**9 COUNCILLORS' REPORT****9.1 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS****File Number:** 02/01/001**Author:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Authoriser:** Phil Pinyon, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Councillors' reports

**REPORT**

Each Councillor will present a report at the meeting.

**Cr Beattie**

<b>Murray Darling Association</b>	
<b>Rail Freight Alliance</b>	
<b>GMW Connections Project:</b>	
<b>Section 86 Committees:</b> Boort Aerodrome Committee of Management, Boort Development Committee Inc., Boort Memorial Hall Committee of Management, Boort Park Committee of Management, Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Committee of Management, Korong Vale Sports Centre Committee of Management, Little Lake Boort Management Committee Inc., Yando Public Hall Committee of Management	
<b>Other Council activities</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Activity</b>
14/9/20	Started to refill Lake Boort
15/9/20	Attended Council meeting online
22/9/20	Nominated for Loddon Shire elections
23/9/20	Conversation with user groups on B-double access in Loddon

28/9/20	Interview in About Boort on local issues
2/10/20	Discussion with Steve Phillips on pedestrian safety in Boort
9/10/20	Discussion with Anne Webster on Murray Basin Rail Project
9/10/20	Awarded 15 year Service Award
13/10/20	Attended Council meeting online

## Cr Condliffe

<b>Calder Highway Improvement Committee</b>	
<b>Section 86 Committees:</b> Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management, Campbells Forest Hall Committee of Management, Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management, Inglewood Lions Community Elderly Persons Units Committee of Management, Inglewood Town Hall Hub Committee of Management, Jones Eucalyptus Distillery Site Committee of Management	
<b>Australia Day Committee</b>	
<b>Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance</b>	
<b>Central Victoria Rural Women's Network</b>	
<b>Healthy Minds Network</b>	
<b>Loddon Youth Committee</b>	
<b>Other Council activities</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Activity</b>
17/9/20	WHLM meeting online

21/9/20	Register for Council election, Serpentine
22/9/20	Inglewood and Districts Community Bank online
28/9/20	Dingee Bush Nursing Centre meeting Inglewood online
1/10/20	Loddon Plains Landcare meeting Inglewood online
2/10/20	Meeting Inglewood Resource Centre
1/10/20	Tourism and Development meeting Inglewood
6/10/20	NCLLE Network zoom meeting
9/10/20	Meeting Bridgewater Railway Station
13/10/20	Council meeting Wedderburn

**Cr Curnow****Loddon Mallee Waste Resource Recovery Group****Section 86 Committees:** Kingower Development and Tourism Committee**Municipal Emergency Management Plan Committee and Municipal Fire Management Plan Committee****Other Council activities**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Activity</b>
21/9/20	Zoom meeting of Tarnagulla Community Centre COM
2/10/20	Site inspection at Tarnagulla Community Centre regarding drainage outlet onto Sandy Creek Road
5/10/20	Member of HR panel of LMWRRG Board for appointment of interim CEO
13/10/20	Loddon Shire Council virtual meeting

Cr Holt

<b>Municipal Association of Victoria</b>	
<b>Section 86 Committees:</b> Donaldson Park Committee of Management, Wedderburn Community Centre Committee of Management, Wedderburn Engine Park Committee of Management, Wedderburn Mechanics Institute Hall Committee of Management, Wedderburn Tourism Committee of Management	
<b>Audit Committee</b>	
<b>Other Council activities</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Activity</b>
20/9/20	Chaired meeting of Redbacks Beyond 18 Steering committee.
9/10/20	Participated via zoom in Rural Councils Victoria Executive Committee meeting.

**RESOLUTION 2020/163**

Moved: Cr Geoff Curnow

Seconded: Cr Colleen Condliffe

That Council receive and note the Councillors' reports

**CARRIED**

## 10 DECISION REPORTS

### 10.1 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 AUGUST 2020

**File Number:** 08/06/001

**Author:** Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services

**Authoriser:** Sharon Morrison, Director Corporate Services

**Attachments:** 1. Finance Report for Period Ending 31 August 2020

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. receives and notes the 'Finance report for the period ending 31 August 2020'
2. approves budget revisions included in the report for internal reporting purposes only
3. approves the supplementary valuations of rateable and non-rateable properties in respect of the 2020/21 financial year, as returned by the Shire Valuer, LG Valuations Pty Ltd, and endorses them being incorporated into the Register of Rateable and Non Rateable Properties and Rate Book for 2020/21.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council is provided with Finance Reports on a monthly basis with the exception of when changes to the Council meeting timetable result in the Council meeting occurring before the completion of the end of month finance procedures.

#### BACKGROUND

The Finance Report for the period ended 31 August 2020 includes standard monthly information about budget variations, cash, investments, interest, debtors and creditors, and provides a comparison of year-to-date actual results to year-to-date budget (by dollars and percentage) and total revised budget (by percentage).

The information is in the format provided in the adopted 2020/21 Budget, and includes operating results, capital expenditure and funding sources.

The report this month does not provide explanation on budget timing variances as this timing work has only just commenced 2020/21. This will occur during September 2020.

This Finance Report also includes reporting on supplementary valuations. Each year Council makes a number of additions, subtractions and alterations to the valuations contained in the annual rate book. These changes arise from various sources including:

- splitting of parcels into new rateable assessments
- development of vacant or unproductive land (urban and rural)
- consolidation of separate rateable assessments into one assessment
- re-assessment of property valuations arising from objections to the initial valuation
- additions and cancellations of licences (grazing and water frontages)
- change of use
- covenant on Title

- area amendment
- change of Australian Valuation Property Classification Code (AVPCC)
- supplementary valuation corrections.

### ISSUES/DISCUSSION

**Budgeted Surplus** - Council's budgeted cash surplus has increased by \$1.24M to \$1.34M, this is mainly due to the adjustment to the carried forward surplus from 2019/20.

**Income Statement (revenue)** - Council's year to date (YTD) operating revenue is at 40% of total budget. Revenue brought to account for August was \$1.4M (July was \$12.2M).

**Income Statement (expenditure)** - Council's operating expenditure is at 15% of total budget. Payments for this month totalled just over \$2.23M (\$3.67M in July).

**Capital Works** - The approved budget for capital works is \$24.07M and is 2% complete in financial terms for the current financial year.

**Service Areas** – Appendix 3 now provides Council with a clearer picture of the net result for each service area. As further work is done on service planning and reviews throughout the year, the cost of each service will be refined.

**Balance Sheet** - Council has a cash total of \$28.0M with \$1.8M in general accounts. Total debtors at the end of August are \$12.97M (\$13.75M in July). Sundry debtors total \$1.06M with invoices outstanding for 90 or more days relating to community wellbeing debtors and local community groups totalling approximately \$33K.

### COST/BENEFITS

The benefit to Council and the community is that accurate and regular financial reporting is being disclosed, along with an accurate representation of property valuations being reflected in Council's rating system and the distribution of rate notices for the year 2020/21.

Provision of financial reports on at least a quarterly basis is a requirement of the Local Government Act.

### RISK ANALYSIS

The provision of regular and accurate finance reports to Council minimises the risk of Council not delivering projects within the approved budget. Council's risk exposure is also increased if the rating system does not reflect the valuation changes associated with supplementary valuations as Council will not be aware of the changes, which can alter the rate revenue in the current year and in future rating years.

### CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

There has been considerable consultation internally with respective managers in understanding their budget responsibilities and keeping within budgetary constraints.

Consultation with ratepayers and authorities that act on behalf of ratepayers occurs when a change to a property is required or occurs by virtue of a sale.

External engagement with the community was undertaken during the submission period of the budget, and regular reporting provides a mechanism of monitoring the financial outcomes of Council against that expectation.

**RESOLUTION 2020/164**

Moved: Cr Geoff Curnow

Seconded: Cr Neil Beattie

That Council:

1. receives and notes the 'Finance report for the period ending 31 August 2020'
2. approves budget revisions included in the report for internal reporting purposes only
3. approves the supplementary valuations of rateable and non-rateable properties in respect of the 2020/21 financial year, as returned by the Shire Valuer, LG Valuations Pty Ltd, and endorses them being incorporated into the Register of Rateable and Non Rateable Properties and Rate Book for 2020/21.

**CARRIED**

## 11 INFORMATION REPORTS

### 11.1 2019/20 END OF FINANCIAL YEAR VARIATION ANALYSIS

**File Number:** 08/06/001

**Author:** Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services

**Authoriser:** Sharon Morrison, Director Corporate Services

**Attachments:** 1. Snapshot 2019/20 Financials

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the '2019/20 End of Financial Year Variation Analysis' Report.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

As part of the 2020/21 budget process, budget projections for the end of 2019/20 financial year were presented to Council in the form of a Revised Budget.

At the October Council Briefing a snapshot at activity level of the major variations between the 2019/20 Revised Budget and the 2019/20 Actuals was presented. Explanations were given where variances existed outside Council's threshold of 10% or \$10,000.

#### BACKGROUND

The annual budget process requires that budget projections of the current financial year be undertaken to calculate the potential carried forward surplus that will form part of the next year's budget.

As this process is generally finalised in late March or early April, there are a further three months of activity to the end of June which may give rise to variations to the budget projections.

This report outlines the variations which have arisen between the budget projections made and the actual final results achieved at year end 30 June 2020.

#### ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The revised budget projections called for an end of financial year closing cash surplus position of \$3.64M. The actual cash surplus was \$4.84M, a positive variance of \$1.20M.

The monthly Finance Report tables are provided as an attachment to this report, and include the budget, actuals, variance in dollars and percentage terms.

Whilst there are a number of variances, this report focuses on those which fall outside a 10% or \$10,000 threshold, whichever is the greater.

#### SUMMARISED FINANCIAL RESULT

The table below discloses the actual result for the year in comparison to the budget:

Report item	2019/20 Revised Budget \$	2019/20 Actual \$	Variance of Actual to Budget \$	Variance of Actual to Budget %
Revenue	(34,253,570)	(30,246,543)	(4,007,026)	88%
Expenses	34,638,466	30,900,561	3,737,905	89%
<b>Net operating result</b>	<b>384,896</b>	<b>654,019</b>	<b>(269,121)</b>	<b>170%</b>
Funding decisions	(10,778,758)	794,410	(11,573,166)	-7%
Capital expenditure	20,045,059	6,504,115	13,540,944	32%
Non cash adjustments	(9,431,014)	(9,871,874)	440,859	105%
Accumulated deficit b/f	(3,860,817)	(2,920,817)	(940,000)	76%
<b>Net cash surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(3,640,633)</b>	<b>(4,840,148)</b>	<b>1,199,516</b>	<b>133%</b>

### INCOME

Income for the year was \$30.25M representing a variance of 12% or \$4.01M lower than the budget of \$34.3M. Within the income items the following variances occurred:

#### **Capital grants**

Capital grants received were less than the budget by \$4.01M.

Instances where Council received income that was less than the budget were:

- Donaldson Park Wedderburn of \$2.5M with grant approval not received until late 2019/20
- Sloans Road bridge construction grant of \$445K with a claim still to be made once the project is complete
- caravan park improvement project funding of \$611k with construction about to commence
- flood mitigation works of \$606K with milestones still to be reached before claims can be made.

#### **Recurrent contributions**

Recurrent contributions received were lower than the budget by \$400K.

Instances where Council received income that was less than the budget were:

- Donaldson Park Wedderburn of \$310K with a contribution to be made once the project commences
- Bridgewater Recreation Reserve change facilities with a contribution of \$90K to be made once the project commences.

#### **Interest income**

Interest income earned was higher than the budget by \$42K. This is due to the availability of extra cash for investments due to delays in some large capital works projects and up front funding.

### **EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure for the year was \$30.90M representing a variance of 11% or \$3.74M lower than budget. Within the line items the following variances occurred:

#### **Materials and services**

Materials and services were \$3.91M or 33% lower than budget; the main reasons are outlined below.

Items below budget:

- home and community care unspent funds of \$543K, which have been carried forward into 2020/21
- rural access programs of \$126K with less work delivered in this area than expected
- Bridgewater Recreational Reserve change facilities of \$364K with the project about to commence

- urban drainage strategy of \$186K with works underway and funds carried forward to be expended in 2020/21.

### Utilities

Utilities were \$56K or 113% higher than budget; the main reason was increased water usage around pools and recreational facilities due to warmer weather and low rainfall.

### Profit / (Loss) on sale of assets

There is no budget allocation for the profit or loss on the sale of assets due to its unpredictable nature. There was a \$30K profit for the 2019/20 financial year. This relates to the sale of land along with plant and equipment. In 2018/19 this was a loss of \$233K.

### CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Capital expenditure was \$6.50M representing a variance of 68% or \$13.54M below the set revised budget of \$20.05M.

### Land and buildings

Land and buildings were 67% or \$1.00M below the set budget of \$1.50M.

The main variances below budget which are offset by reserve transfers were:

- livestock and domestic pound of \$102K
- community planning strategic fund of \$500K.

These projects have all been carried forward into 2020/21 and are expected to be commenced by 30 June 2021.

### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment was 24% or \$375K below the set budget of \$1.59M.

The main variance was the delay in delivery of new plant with shortages in some heavy equipment pieces in the marketplace.

### Roads infrastructure

Roadworks were 35% or \$1.76M below the set budget of \$5.04M.

The main variances below budget which are offset by reserve transfers were:

- Echuca Serpentine Road projects of \$460K
- Bridgewater Raywood Road projects of \$155K
- Sloans Road bridge project of \$730K
- Pyramid Hill culvert works of \$296K.

Items below budget:

- reseal program of \$81K due to a competitive tendering process, all jobs were completed with savings.

### Urban and road drainage

Urban and road drainage were 84% or \$1.31M below the set budget of \$1.56M.

The main variances below budget which are offset by reserve transfers were:

- flood mitigation works at Pyramid Hill and Boort of \$1.49M
- Inglewood dam safety upgrades of \$1.19M.

### Recreation, leisure and community facilities

Recreation, leisure and community facilities were 100% or \$5.62M below the set budget of \$5.65M.

The main variances below budget which are offset by reserve transfers were:

- \$1.21M caravan park improvement project
- \$778K for the purchase of Wedderburn and Boort caravan parks
- \$3.31M for Donaldson Park Wedderburn with the project expected to commence during 2020/21.

### **Parks, open space and streetscapes**

Parks, open space and streetscapes were 82% or \$1.57K below the set budget of \$1.92M.

The main variances below budget which are offset by reserve transfers were:

- Pyramid Hill streetscape works of \$810K
- Bridgewater Foreshore stage two works of \$289K.

### **Footpaths**

Footpaths were 52% or \$590K below budget of \$1.14M.

\$473K has been carried over through reserves for completion during 2020/21.

### **FUNDING DECISIONS**

Funding decisions were \$11.57M or 93% lower than expected within the budget.

### **Transfers to reserves**

Transfers to reserves were \$10.76 higher than the set budget.

The main reasons were:

- Unspent Grants Reserve was \$3.33M above budget which represents funds received for a variety of projects that remained unspent at 30 June 2020
- Capital Expenditure Reserve was \$6.24 above budget which represents projects that will now be added to the 2020/21 program
- Community Planning Reserve was \$1.16M above budget which represents projects that are either incomplete or will not commence until 2020/21.

### **Proceeds from sale of assets**

Proceeds from sale of assets were \$89K or 22% below budget.

### **SUMMARY**

In summary, at the end of the financial year Council earned a surplus of \$1.20M in excess of expectation.

There are many variances throughout the different elements of the financial statements, however, it can be reported that:

- Council used Capital Expenditure, Community Planning and Unspent Grants Reserves to capture any financial items that were not effected in 2019/20 and will be completed in 2020/21 or subsequent years
- savings in many areas of the accounts were realised due to strong financial management by the officers responsible for delivering projects and programs.

### **COST/BENEFITS**

The benefit of Council receiving a variation report of actual to projected budget is that it gives Council an understanding of the difference in the cash surplus position and keeps Council fully informed.

### **RISK ANALYSIS**

The provision of a variance to budget report to Council minimises the risk of Council not understanding the financial position at year end, and provides reasons for carry over projects.

**CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

There has been considerable consultation internally with respective managers in understanding their budget responsibilities and keeping within budgetary constraints.

External engagement with the community was undertaken during the submission period for the Budget, and regular reporting provides a mechanism for monitoring the financial outcomes of Council against the Budget.

**RESOLUTION 2020/165**

Moved: Cr Gavan Holt

Seconded: Cr Neil Beattie

That Council receives and notes the '2019/20 End of Financial Year Variation Analysis' Report.

**CARRIED**

**12 COMPLIANCE REPORTS**

Nil

**13 GENERAL BUSINESS****URGENT BUSINESS****RESOLUTION 2020/166**

Moved: Cr Gavan Holt

Seconded: Cr Geoff Curnow

That the following item be treated as urgent business

**CARRIED**

Cr Holt raised the issue about the responsibility for clearance and maintenance of waterways.

He specifically referred to the Korong Creek outside the Wedderburn township boundary, understanding that the North Central Catchment Management Authority is the responsible authority for maintenance of the waterway.

**13.1 WATERWAYS MAINTENANCE****RESOLUTION 2020/167**

Moved: Cr Gavan Holt

Seconded: Cr Colleen Condliffe

That Council write to the North Central Catchment Management Authority requesting a flood study investigation for the Korong Creek, downstream of the confluence with Nardoo Creek.

**CARRIED**

**Rural Councils Transformation Program**

Cr Holt noted that Ballarat Rural City Council has withdrawn from the RCTP cluster that it was participating in, and requested an update from officers about how Loddon Shire is proceeding with the cluster it is involved in. The CEO reported that things are progressing well with the group, the lead council being Horsham. The cluster is collaborating well, having regular meetings, and sub-groups have been formed, and he and Mrs Morrison are participating on the Governance Board.

**Appreciation to Councillors**

On behalf of Council staff, the CEO expressed appreciation to all Councillors for their commitment and efforts during their terms as councillors.

**14 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

The Mayor announced that Council had completed the items listed in the open Council meeting that has been live streamed to the public and that the live streaming will now cease, to allow Council to consider the following confidential matters:

**RESOLUTION 2020/168**

Moved: Cr Geoff Curnow  
Seconded: Cr Colleen Condliffe

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020:

**14.1 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS**

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

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, if released the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item, may disclose confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a)

**CARRIED**

Closing of Meeting to the Public

**RESOLUTION 2020/169**

Moved: Cr Geoff Curnow  
Seconded: Cr Colleen Condliffe

That the meeting be closed to the public at 3.40pm.

**CARRIED****14.1 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS****RESOLUTION 2020/170**

Moved: Cr Colleen Condliffe  
Seconded: Cr Neil Beattie

That Council receive and note the action sheet.

**CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 24 November 2020 commencing at 3pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 3.45pm.

Confirmed this.....day of..... 2020

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**CHAIRPERSON**