



HEPBURN SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
PUBLIC MINUTES

TUESDAY 7 JULY 2020

ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

A LIVE STREAM OF THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED VIA
[COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

6:00PM

MINUTES

TUESDAY 7 JULY 2020

ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

Commencing 6:00PM

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EVAN KING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
7 JULY 2020

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

We would like to acknowledge we are meeting on Jaara people country, of which members and elders of the Dja Dja Wurrung community and their forebears have been custodians for many centuries.

On this land, the Jaara people have performed age old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

We acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region.

2. SAFETY ORIENTATION

Emergency exits and convenience facilities at the venue to be highlighted to members of the public in attendance.

3. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting opened at 6:00pm.

PRESENT: Cr Don Henderson, Cr Neil Newitt, Cr Licia Kokocinski, Cr John Cottrell, Cr Greg May and Cr Kate Redwood AM

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Evan King - Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bradley Thomas - Director Community and Corporate Services, Mr Bruce Lucas - Director Infrastructure and Development Services, Mr Chris Whyte – Manager Information and Communication Technology, Ms Krysten Forte - Manager Governance and Risk

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

“WE THE COUNCILLORS OF HEPBURN SHIRE
DECLARE THAT WE WILL UNDERTAKE ON EVERY OCCASION
TO CARRY OUT OUR DUTIES IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE
COMMUNITY
AND THAT OUR CONDUCT SHALL MAINTAIN THE STANDARDS OF THE
CODE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE
SO THAT WE MAY FAITHFULLY REPRESENT AND UPHOLD THE TRUST
PLACED IN THIS COUNCIL BY THE PEOPLE OF HEPBURN SHIRE”

4. APOLOGIES

Cr Fiona Robson.

5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

6. OFFICERS' REPORTS

6.1. PROPOSED BUDGET 2020/2021 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

In providing this advice to Council as the Manager Financial Services, I Danielle How have no interests to disclose in this report.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to provide an opportunity for submitters to speak to their submissions in response to the Proposed Budget 2020/2021 at a formal meeting of Council.

BACKGROUND

The proposed Budget 2020/2021 has been on public exhibition in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 for the period 20 May 2020 to 25 June 2020.

The public notice was published in The Local on the 21 May 2020 and The Midland Express 26 May 2020. A number of social media posts have also been undertaken to inform the community of the budget process.

The Act provides for a person making a submission the opportunity to be heard at a meeting of Council and this is scheduled for Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 6:00pm.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

- Submissions closed at 5:00pm on Thursday 25 June 2020, and 14 submissions were received during the Section 223 public exhibition period.
- The full submissions are an attachment to this report. Table 1, provides a summary of those received, and Table 2 is a listing of submitters wishing to speak at the meeting for up to 3 minutes:

Table 1

Submitter	Topic of Submission
Christine Molloy	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Fiona and Ashley Trounce	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Terry and Adriana Cunnington	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Joan Paynter	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Michael Van der Pol	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Richard McCutcheon	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Sarah Bird	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Carson White - Daylesford Football and Netball Club	Lights at Victoria Park
Thea Laidlaw - Friends of Creswick Park Lake	Signage for Creswick Park Lake on Bridge street and North Parade and the Pedestrian entry at Bridge street
William Elder - Ballarat Naturalists Club	Creswick Trails Project
Genevieve Loughnan	Hepburn Hub at the Rex, The website and a pedestrian Crossing near the Sunday market
Ivan Carter	Walking and Cycling tracks, footpaths, streetscapes and community engagement
Collin O'Malley	Sealing Smokeytown road between Frenchmans and Alcorns roads
Veronica Whitter	Public toilets in Daylesford are outdated, poorly maintained and cannot cope with capacity.

Table 2

Submitter	Topic of Submission
Christine Molloy	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Fiona and Ashley Trounce	Sealing White Hills rd. and Gardiner streets Creswick
Carson White - Daylesford Football and Netball Club	Lights at Victoria Park
William Elder - Ballarat Naturalists Club	Creswick Trails Project
Collin O'Malley	Sealing Smokeytown road between Frenchmans and Alcorns roads

COUNCIL PLAN/LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Local Government Act 1989 Section 129

(1) As soon as practicable after a Council has prepared a proposed budget or revised budget, the Council must give public notice.

(2) A person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on any proposal contained in the proposed budget or revised budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications noted in relation to the hearing of the submissions.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications noted in relation to the hearing of the submissions.

ENVIRONMENTAL/SOCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

No environmental/social/economic implications noted.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Budget submissions were sought through advertisements placed in local print media, and on Council's website and Facebook page.

CONCLUSION

Under the *Local Government Act 1989* Council must give public notice as soon as practicable after Council has prepared of any of the above documents. This public notice was published in the 21 May 2020 edition of *The Local*, and the 26 May edition of *The Midland Express*.

Submissions from the public were invited for a period of 28 days from the date of advertising, the closing date being 5:00pm on 25 June 2020. The Act provides a person making a submission by the due date have the opportunity

to be heard at a meeting of Council, scheduled for 6:00pm Tuesday 7 July 2020.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

6.1.1. Resolves to allow each of the submitters listed in Table 2, a maximum of 3 minutes to speak to their budget submission; and

6.1.2. Considers submission made and consider for adoption the Budget 2020/2021 at the Ordinary Meeting of Council, 21 July 2020.

MOTION

That Council:

6.1.1. Resolves to allow each of the submitters listed in Table 2, a maximum of 3 minutes to speak to their budget submission; and

6.1.2. Considers submission made and consider for adoption the Budget 2020/2021 at the Ordinary Meeting of Council, 21 July 2020.

Moved: Cr Kate Redwood AM

Seconded: Cr Don Henderson

CARRIED

Ms Christine Molloy addressed Council requesting the sealing of White Hills Road and Gardiner Street, Creswick

Ms Fiona Trounce addressed Council requesting the sealing of White Hills Road and Gardiner Street, Creswick.

Mr William Elder, of the Ballarat Naturalists Club, addressed Council regarding the Creswick Trails Project.

Mr Colin O'Malley addressed Council requesting the sealing of Smokeytown Road between Frenchmans and Alcorns Roads, Smokeytown.

ATTACHMENT 1 - BUDGET SUBMISSIONS FOR 2020/2021 BUDGET

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 23 May 2020 3:05 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Christine Louise Molloy

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

As residents of the Creswick Ward I wish for Council to include the sealing of White Hills Rd and Gardiner St Creswick in the 2020/2021 Budget due to safety. A petition has been previously submitted to Council and road counters have recorded statistics. 228 cars/day over a 7 day period were recorded and now we have more homes being built in the area which will increase the traffic as well. I do believe Council has costing to seal both White Hills Rd and Gardiner St Creswick and therefore request these 2 roads be included on a priority list in the 2020/2021 budget.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

Yes

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 31 May 2020 5:13 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Fiona and Ashley Trounce

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

Please find following our submission for the 20/21 budget in regards to the sealing of White Hills Road and Gardiner Street.

I have attached some photos:

1. photo's 315, 316 and 317 relate to a car that came around the corner of White Hills Road, fishtailed, lost control and veered into the tree right on our driveway. This type of thing does happen on a regular basis. We have 2 young children (5 and 7yo) and they are constantly outside playing and we fear that it is only a matter of time before some thing worse happens. There are people walking (with children and prams), running and riding on the 2 roads and to see cars fly by with no regard to these people is concerning. We believe that sealing the road would dramatically reduce the chances of vehicles loosing control and potentially injuring themselves or others.

2. photo's 872, 873, 874 and 875 relate to the condition of the road. White hills road and Gardner street are residential streets with a high daily traffic flow. The pot holes and corrugations are an ongoing issue. There is no drainage on the lower side of the road at the intersection and in winter the road turns to mud.

As a family we like to go for a ride, but the current state of the road makes it extremely hard to control the bikes (especially for the children) as the road is slippery and there is no traction for them.

The traffic has increased significantly on the 2 roads, especially in the last 6 months to the right of Gardiner Street (coming from White Hills Road) as there are 6 new house blocks currently under construction, with building commenced on 3 of them.

I would be more than happy to speak to my submission at the Council Meeting on the 7th July.

Many thanks
Fiona and Ashley Trounce
[REDACTED]

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

Yes

Additional information

- [IMG_0875.jpg](#)
- [IMG_0874.jpg](#)
- [IMG_0873.jpg](#)
- [IMG_0872.jpg](#)
- [IMG_0317.jpeg](#)
- [IMG_0315.jpeg](#)
- [IMG_0316.jpeg](#)













Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 7 June 2020 11:51 AM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Terry and Adriana Cunnington

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

We would like to submit an urgent submission for the sealing of Whitehills road and Gardiner street in Creswick, these roads are in a disgraceful and dangerous condition and have been for many years. Some years ago a material was added to the surface which when wet turns to mud, this is like driving on ice, and is extremely dangerous, generally most evident at the onset and throughout the winter months, in addition to this problem, this material best described as red sticky mud, is left all over driveways and onto garage floors unless hosed from tyres and underside of our cars.

We would be more than happy to see the roads mentioned, surfaced without curb and channeling if this is more achievable as it would also solve many of the problems that the residents now face, this has been the method used in many area's, examples of such can be seen even in Melbourne.

With more housing currently being built in Gardiner street and an ever increasing amount of through traffic, due to the current highly dangerous condition of these roads, surely the sealing of them is a matter of great urgency.

An inspection of these roads during wet weather by relevant parties we strongly advise, this would dismiss any doubts as to the urgency of the matter.

Regards, Terry and Adriana Cunnington [REDACTED]

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 15 June 2020 1:35 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Terry and Adriana Cunnington.

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

We feel it necessary to make this submission to council regarding the sealing of both Whitehills road and Gardiner streets in Creswick, as a matter of extreme urgency. For many years we have had to deal with the unsafe, and in fact dangerous conditions that these roads present, especially during the winter period.

To describe the roads mentioned as gravel roads is totally inaccurate, they are in fact mud roads during wet weather and we would welcome a visit and an inspection by council and safety officers at these times. The roads referred to are much used by an ever increasing amount of through traffic, also there are new houses currently being built which will further increase the problems encountered at all times. The current appalling state of repair that these roads are continually in, often finds vehicles driven on the wrong side of the road to escape the worst sections, risking a serious accident.

We feel that sealing the road surface would be adequate, if necessary without kerb and channelling, as can be seen in many area's in Melbourne, this in turn would be a long term cost saving eliminating the need to grade the roads and patch same with gravel, an unsatisfactory solution as can be viewed and indeed proven over many previous years in this area. Residents are currently forced to hose sticking mud from wheel arches and underside of vehicles before entering garages, a situation which should not have to be tolerated. Surely it is the right of residents and ratepayers to navigate these roads in a safe and reasonable manner, without the risk and inconvenience currently endured by us at this and many times ongoing,

Yours sincerely Terry and Adriana Cunnington.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

No

Proposed Budget 2020-21 - Submission

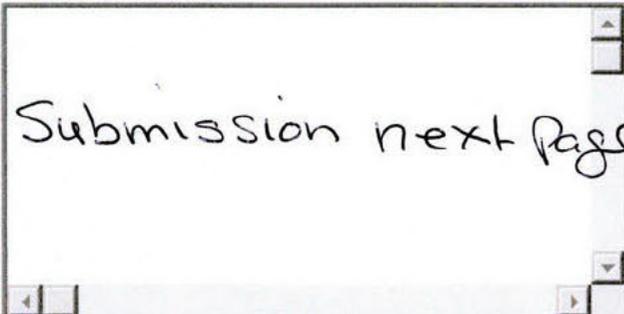
Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Council encourages the community to get involved in the budget process by providing input and feedback on priorities outlined in the proposed budget. Submissions and support for projects contained in the budget can be made through completing our Budget Submission form.

Name*
First Last Adriana Cunningham

Email*
[Redacted]

Contact Number*
[Redacted]

Submission details*


HEPBURN SHIRE COUNCIL

File No: F02/20/65

Rec'd Date: 22 JUN 2020

Rec'd By: A.M.

Action By: D.M.

Reg No: ✓

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?*

Additional information

Please find submission's Attached

22.6.2020

Chief Executive Officer
Hepburn Shire Council

I would like to make this submission regarding sealing of Gardiner street and Whitehills road in Creswick. We have lived on Gardiner street in Creswick for the past 24 years since purchasing this property in 1996, at that time there were very few houses in the area. However with all the development ongoing in Creswick, additional houses under construction in Gardiner street at present, also ever increasing through traffic including mountain bikes and foot traffic using both of the roads mentioned, it has become increasingly dangerous.

The roads mentioned are very slippery with large potholes most of the time, particularly during wet weather, surely the sealing of these roads must be of the highest priority.

Adriana Cunnington.



TO: Chief Executive Officer
Hepburn Shire Council
PO Box 21
Daylesford VIC 3460

2020/2021 Hepburn Shire Proposed Budget 2020/2021

SUBMISSION

Tuesday June 16 2020 – Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

12.7 Project Funding and Opportunities

Investment Plan (Priority Projects)

Background

“Federal and State Government have already announced various funding opportunities”

“The program is designed to fund shovel-ready projects big and small”

Also noted: \$1.18B Education and \$1.52B to projects across all industries

Issue/Discussion

Paragraph 3

“Hepburn’s Investment Plan focuses on infrastructure projects such as our connectivity through roads and pathways”

White Hills Rd and Gardiner St Creswick represents a connectivity road between the Midland Hwy and Melbourne Rd. Does not the sealing of these roads constitute an infrastructure project within the Hepburn Investment Plan and added to the Proposed Budget for 2020/2021?

Proposed Budget 2020-21 – Submission

Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Council encourages the community to get involved in the budget process by providing input and feedback on priorities outlined in the proposed budget. Submissions and support for projects contained in the budget can be made through completing our Budget Submission form.

Name*
First Last TERRY CUNNINGTON.

Email*
 [REDACTED]

Contact Number*
 [REDACTED]

Submission details*
 PLEASE FIND ATTACHED SUBMISSION.

HEPBURN SHIRE COUNCIL

File No: F04/20/185

Rec'd Date: 22 JUN 2020

Rec'd By: KC

Action By: D. Now

Reg No: _____

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?*

NO

Additional information ATTACHED.

T. R. Cunningham

22/6/20.

We feel it necessary to make this submission regarding the sealing of both Gardiner street and Whitehills road in Creswick as a matter of extreme urgency. For many years we have had to deal with the unsafe and very dangerous conditions that prevail regarding the above roads particularly during the winter months.

To describe the roads mentioned as gravel roads is totally inaccurate, they are in fact mud roads during wet weather conditions, we would welcome an inspection by council and safety officers at these times. These roads are much used by an increasing amount of through traffic, in addition there are houses currently being built with others planned, these will further increase the problems now faced regarding these roads.

The roads are in such an appalling state of repair due to pot holes and corrugation that many vehicles are at times seen driven on the wrong side of the road in an attempt to escape the worst sections, we fear that a serious accident will be the likely result.

A simple road surface sealing would be adequate, if necessary without kerb and channelling as can be seen in many area's of Melbourne. This would be a long term cost saving, eliminating the need to grade and patch with gravel, an unsatisfactory answer that can be seen within days of the work carried out.

Residents are currently forced to hose sticky mud from wheel arches and underside of vehicles on arriving at their home, this is a situation that has to be addressed, it has been ongoing each winter over recent years. Surely it is the right of residents and ratepayers to expect to navigate these roads in a safe and reasonable manner without the risk and inconvenience currently endured by us at this and many previous times.

Regards, Terry Cunnington



T. R. Cunnington

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 22 June 2020 11:04 AM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Joan Paynter

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

I,m writing this letter to let you know how bad Gardiner St and Whitehills road are I know you try and do a lot of covering up on it. but it doesn't last very long. In the summer time it just goes to pot holes. But in the winter time it's a lot worse. It can be very dangerous to drive on. It gets very slippery and usually turns to sludge and pot holes . Even driving down the hill in Oswin can get very slippery at times. I was going sideways one day, it was so bad. Please think about sealing those two roads. It would make it so much better for everyone. Regards Joan Paynter and Rob Mayer.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 19 June 2020 9:44 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Joan Paynter

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

Hi...I would like to see Gardener st. and Whitehills road sealed properly because every time they patch it up it doesn't last long....in the summer it just gets all pot holes on it. Then in the winter time , after any rain it turns to slush. If your not careful it would be very easy to slide sideways. It can be quite dangerous . I was driving down Oswin Drive one day and had trouble holding the car straight . That's the reasons why I would like to have the roads sealed . Regards. Joan

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 24 May 2020 3:41 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name
Michael van der Pol
Email
[REDACTED]
Contact Number
[REDACTED]
Submission details
Seal White Hills Rd & Gardiner St Creswick
Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?
No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 May 2020 7:19 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name
Richard McCutcheon
Email
[REDACTED]
Contact Number
[REDACTED]
Submission details
re sealing White hills road and Gardiner street Creswick which we are in favour of due to dust in the summer and muddy condition in winter and hoons sliding around the corner with high revs ect
Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?
No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 1 June 2020 7:35 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name
Sarah Bird
Email
[REDACTED]
Contact Number
[REDACTED]
Submission details
I am requesting to have White Hills Rd & Gardiner St Creswick roads sealed and to include it in the 2020/2021 Hepburn Shire Budget.
Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?
No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2020 3:08 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Carson White

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

For your reference, I have submitted this via the submission page on the Council website following on from Andrew's email and recommendation below.

On behalf of the Daylesford Football Netball Club I would like the Council to include in their 2020-21 budget consideration to access Victorian State Government funding to fund the building of a new lights at Victoria Park Football oval and netball court.

The lighting currently in place is over 20 years old and is completely inadequate to illuminate the oval and netball court during Autumn and Winter training. Over the past years we have had a number of injuries to players (both junior and senior) as a direct result of this poor lighting and as a club have real concerns around safety.

Our club currently has around 250 active members (players, volunteers and families) involved and represents a large cross-section of the local community.

New lighting would open up the oval to the community for other night time events and activities which are not currently possible with the current lighting system.

As a club we will be willing to contribute to the over all project and will be sourcing an initial lighting plan and quote to create the appropriate lighting we believe is required to create a safe recreation space at night.

As you would be aware we have worked hard to develop a good working relationship with the Council including signing the new agreement for Vic Park. I hope we can build on this going forward.

I welcome further discussion around this important local infrastructure project.

Sincerely

Carson White
President
Daylesford Football Netball Club

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

Yes

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2020 12:31 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name
Thea Laidlaw
Email
[REDACTED]
Contact Number
[REDACTED]
Submission details
<p>As Friends of Creswick Park Lake we wish to put a signage submission forward for Council's capital works program under Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes for Council consideration.</p> <p>We bring to Council's attention, there is no directional signage at the junction of Bridge Street and North Parade for Creswick Park Lake. Nor is there wayfaring signage at and within the reserve for vehicle and pedestrian entry from Bridge Street.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?
No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2020 8:37 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

William Elder

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

The Field Naturalists' Club of Ballarat wishes to express concern for the lack of budget transparency and accountability related to the proposed Creswick Trails Project. There does not appear to be any information about expenditure on this project, which has previously been reported to be substantial, in the Council's budget. Large amounts of ratepayer's funds should have been detailed to cover construction and ongoing maintenance of the trails, if successful, and this information is missing. In addition to our major concerns of negative impacts on the environment resulting from the proposed trail area on public land, we have questions about the level of contribution expected from ratepayers, now and in future years, if the project goes ahead.

We believe that project costs and impacts are being hidden from the public, who need much more information before being able to properly judge the project and its likely impacts. Transparency is vital in making such information available to ratepayers and other key stakeholders.

Our lack of confidence in the Shire's planning and financial accountability for the Creswick Trails Project has been further eroded by the recent ineffectual Environmental and Heritage Report, and a Community Engagement Report that fails to properly respond to the many concerns expressed by Ballarat community groups about the proposal.

Please read our full submission in the attached PDF.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

Yes

Additional information

- [Submission-to-HSC-on-Draft-2020 21-Budget.pdf](#)



Field Naturalists' Club of Ballarat Inc.



A0014919P ABN 13 150 403 135

Email:



Date: 16 June 2020

To: The Mayor, All Councillors and the CEO, Hepburn Shire Council, Daylesford

Re. Submission to Hepburn Shire Special Meeting on the Draft 20/21 Budget on 7 July 2020, and request to attend and provide a summary presentation to the on-line meeting

Dear Mayor, Councillors and CEO

We were pleased to see notice of the Special meeting on the Hepburn Shire 20120/21 Draft Budget in the Ballarat Courier. Some of our members live or own property in the Hepburn Shire and all our members regularly visit towns, markets, events and natural areas within the Hepburn Shire.

Our concerns about the 2020/21 Draft Budget centre on the Shire's lack of transparency about plans to build major infrastructure in highly valued public forest within 10-15 km of Ballarat where residents have been major users for well over 60 years. The Draft Budget makes only very obscure reference to the Creswick Trails Project (CTP). For instance, there is vague mention of the Project on p.12 under 'Vibrant Communities' but no dollar amounts are provided. No reference is made under "Infrastructure" to this large infrastructure Project, except vague mention of a 'bike path'.

In our view, the Budget is highly deceptive in the way it hides the level of expenditure proposed on the Creswick Trails Project. No mention is made of inevitable losses to natural and cultural heritage assets that would result from the current extravagant plans for a very highly invasive 100 km trail network. This Project is proposed on public land that belongs to all Australians, not just to Hepburn Shire residents or mountain bikers – so full public accountability is essential.

Hepburn Shire has allocated \$1.5M of ratepayers' money for the CTP. How much of that is for the 2020/21 year? It also stated in the Draft 2020/21 Budget that funds had been brought forward for the CTP from previous Council budgets. How much funding and for what purposes? It is well known that Hepburn Shire has been allocated a **\$2.56M** RDV RTIF Grant of other public money for the CTP. This Grant required HSC to guarantee at least 5 years of management (monitoring?) and maintenance after construction.

We seek that the HSC 2020/21 Budget (now) be made fully transparent and accountable in relation to the Creswick Trails Project and to Council's use of moneys (from both Grants and of ratepayers), in developing and then maintaining the trail to protect natural and cultural assets and ensure safe and peaceful use by long term passive users of the forest.

None of the expenditure on the CTP is currently shown in the 2020/21 Budget. Yet at a CTP information session on 19 December 2019, HSC staff informed us that the trail would cost \$15 000 - \$60 000 per km to build. At a cost of say \$30 000 per km, this means a total cost of **\$3M for building** the 100 km trail. In addition, the Shire would have to pay 'offsets' for destruction of around 10 hectares of ground flora – **about \$2 – 4M**. The Shire has also committed to **long-term maintenance of trails**, e.g. control of erosion and weeds, closing illegal trails, preventing trail bike entry, all on a 20 m wide strip along the 100 km network – which amounts to an area equivalent to 400 house blocks. We were told this maintenance would employ 2 staff and **cost over**

\$200 000 annually. Promotions of the Project claim it will be built in 2020/21 so one would expect the budget to reflect costs of trail building, monitoring and maintenance.

Ballarat naturalists, walkers, bikers, family picnickers and other users of Creswick forests were never consulted by the Shire in the first 4 years of Project planning. Over that period, no on-ground environmental or heritage studies were conducted to guide planning of the now published 100 km of 'concept alignments'.

Since we were first invited to attend a meeting about the CTP in July 2019, we have made major efforts to collaborate with the Project, by suggesting changes to their proposals that would lead to a Project much more friendly to nature and heritage and to existing forest users. See [Assessment of CTP Alignment Zones](#). However, the weak response by the Project management to our substantial inputs shows no concessions at all toward environmental or other concerns. Hence, our only recourse now is to seek full accountability on financial and other matters that have been hidden from the public in the past.

Our lack of confidence in the Shire's planning and financial accountability regarding the Project has been further eroded by recent (and presumably expensive) Environmental and Heritage Reports and also a so-called Community Engagement Report. The Environmental and Heritage reports:

- Were largely desk studies and concluded that no proper assessments were possible until accurate mapping of trail alignments is available.
- Were conducted over a 30 sq. km area around Creswick that grossly under-represents the density of trails proposed, i.e. 100 km of trails in 15 sq km of public forest south-east of town.
- Assumed a trail length of 100 km as a 'given'; rather than trail length and density being assessed for their impacts on habitat, environment, heritage and values of all long-time passive forest users.
- Totally ignored impacts of over 35 km of illegal bike trails constructed by Project 'volunteers' (see [Project Master Plan 2016](#)),
- Ignored plans for many trails on historic water races that support large trees, and through Sensitive Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Zones that are well mapped for the Creswick area.

The recent Community Engagement Report is also highly deceptive. It reports 'overwhelming public support' for the Project (from Creswick mountain bikers) but fails to detail any of the major concerns expressed and submitted in writing by Ballarat community groups, which represent views of hundreds of long-time users of Creswick Regional Park and State Forest. The views of Creswick opponents to the Project were not canvassed.

It is these disappointing circumstances that we ask that the Hepburn Shire to modify the 2020/21 Budget as requested in bold above, so we and the wider public can be informed about expenditure to date and intentions regarding the capital and on-going costs of the proposed Creswick Trails Project.

Please can you confirm receipt of this submission, and of our acceptance of the invitation to provide a brief presentation at the on-line meeting at 6 pm on 7 July.

Yours sincerely



William Elder
President, Field Naturalists' Club of Ballarat Inc.

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 June 2020 2:38 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Genevieve Loughnan

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

To Whom Runs this Council.

Why Why Why can you not have finished the Rex Hub?? For a Council to allow things to go awry in regards to planning their own offices is gobsmacking.

The information about The Rex Hub, on your website under major projects, goes back to 2017. If mean, why can you not put actual information that is UP TO DATE, and explain WHY is has been halted. At least. Own your story.

Please put a Pedestrian Crossing on the main road where the Sunday Market is.

Please, for what your website is worth, make the writing DARKER because it can hardly be seen to read.

Also every topic needs more information.

We are a literate population, and it would seem the little you tell us the safer it is for you, for some reason.

Well done on some things that the Council has done, but honestly The REX situation is Not Good.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 June 2020 4:01 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Ivan carter

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

I would like to see more budget allocated to walking and cycling tracks between Daylesford and Hepburn, Musk, Muskvale and Eganstown. Off the highways and dangerous roads, dedicated walking and cycling paths, like the one to Coomora. I would also like to see budget for a full footpath along Stanbridge St, from the East St end to the Vincent St end, so children can safely walk to school off the road, and to the skate park and main st. It is totally unsafe at the moment and needs to be addressed with a dedicated full footpath along Stanbridge St.

I also think Council needs to plant some trees along various streets in Daylesford, to replace the ones they have removed for major projects, and to provide improved streetscapes. Can we get some allocated budget perhaps? Hill St in Daylesford is a perfect example of a lovely streetscape. The rest of the streets in Daylesford do not have the same luxury of shade and large trees.

Also, increased communications from council would be beneficial, and community engagement.

Keep up the good work, kind regards

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

No

Danielle How

From: shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au on behalf of Hepburn Shire <shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 25 June 2020 4:26 PM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox; Danielle How
Subject: New submission from Proposed Budget 2020/21 - Submission

Name

Colin O'Malley

Email

[REDACTED]

Contact Number

[REDACTED]

Submission details

I would like the council to budget a small amount of money to allow for the sealing of the stretch of Smokeytown road from the corner of Frenchman through to Alcorn Roads... a bit over 100 metres. As the council has already done a great job of putting down the road base I believe that by spraying a coat of asphalt could save the council a lot of money in repairs over time as this small stretch of road has different cambers and corners which seems to cause the surface to pothole and then breakdown quickly.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 7 July 2020 (for up to 3 minutes)?

Yes

Danielle How

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 23 June 2020 11:08 AM
To: Hepburn Shire Mailbox
Subject: FW: 20/21 Budget submission

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 20/21 budget Submission

- Public toilets in Daylesford including the presently outdated and poorly maintained at the Lake require urgent upgrades – noting that the Rex Hub may assist and ? New Pool facility
- The Lake toilets in particular are poor standard and cannot cope with tourist capacity nor can the public toilets next to the Tourist Information Centre

Thank you for your consideration

Veronica Whitter
[REDACTED]



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 6:31pm.
