



***HEPBURN SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
MINUTES***

TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2011

**DAYLESFORD SENIOR CITIZENS ROOM
VINCENT STREET
DAYLESFORD
5:00PM**

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***Hepburn Shire Council
Special Meeting of
Council***



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TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2011

**Daylesford Senior Citizens Room
Vincent Street, Daylesford
Commencing 5:00PM**

CONTENTS PAGE

1.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS	3
2.	OPENING OF MEETING	3
3.	APOLOGIES	3
4.	DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	4
5.	OFFICER'S REPORT.....	5
	5.1. VICTORIA PARK DAYLESFORD MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY FACILITY - ROUND 2 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA FUND APPLICATION	5
6.	CLOSE OF MEETING	9

PETER REEVE
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
29 NOVEMBER 2011

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. OPENING OF MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Councillor Rod May, Birch Ward Councillor Jonathan Barrell, Cameron Ward Councillor Neil Newitt, Creswick Ward Councillor Janine Booth, Creswick Ward Councillor Don Henderson, Holcombe Ward Councillor Bill McClenaghan.

IN ATTENDANCE: Interim Chief Executive Officer Peter Reeve, General Manager Corporate Services Evan King, General Manager Infrastructure Jeff Saker, General Manager Sustainable Development Barry Green, General Manager Community Services Kathleen Brannigan.

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”

3. APOLOGIES

Councillor Sebastian Klein

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. OFFICER'S REPORT

5.1. VICTORIA PARK DAYLESFORD MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY FACILITY - ROUND 2 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA FUND APPLICATION

GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY SERVICES

In providing this advice to Council as the General Manager, Community Services, I Kathleen Brannigan, have no interests to disclose in this report.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider submitting an Expression of Interest to Regional Development Australia Fund (Round 2) for the Victoria Park, Daylesford Multi-Purpose Community Facility and to determine whether to allocate funding towards the project.

BACKGROUND

Council has previously:

- Allocated funding for quantity surveyor estimates for the project. The Cost Plan provides an estimate of \$4,475,000 as the total cost for the project.
- Endorsed the proposed multi-purpose facility at Victoria Park, Daylesford as its current major priority recreational capital works project (15 February 2011).
- Supported a community based funding application to the Regional Development Australia Fund Round 1 for the proposed Victoria Park Daylesford Multi-Purpose Facility.
- Approved in principle for the proposed multi-purpose facility to be built on the nominated site within Victoria Park subject to all necessary planning and building approvals and agreement from the Department of Sustainability and Environment, being the land owner.
- Resolved to collaborate with the community based applicant body and the Victoria Park Association in developing the funding application and in resolving to Council's satisfaction issues relating to the governance, the use and the ongoing financial sustainability of the project.

In May 2011, an application was submitted to Round 1 of the Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) by the Daylesford Football Netball Club (DFNC) as the lead agency of a consortium comprising Daylesford Secondary College and the Daylesford Community Childcare Centre. DFNC was advised that the application was unsuccessful in September 2011.

Subsequently that DFNC wrote to the CEO inviting Council to consider becoming part of the project, as a consortium member for the life of the application and construction phases only.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

As discussed in a previous report to Council (15 November 2011) guidelines for Regional Development Australia Fund (Round 2) have changed and now require that not for profit organisations must have a minimum annual income of \$1.5 million. At its meeting on 15 November Council passed the following resolutions:

That Council:

- 9.10.1. Gratefully acknowledges the request from Daylesford Football Netball Club that Council become a member of the Victoria Park Multi-Purpose Community Facility 'Vic Park Consortium' and its request to Council for a one-off financial contribution towards the project.*
- 9.10.2. Notes the Regional Development Australia Fund Round 2 guidelines especially regarding eligible applicants, eligible projects and partnership funding.*
- 9.10.3. Will invite the Daylesford Football Netball Club to a meeting to determine the actions required to secure funding to construct the Victoria Park Multi-Purpose Community*

A meeting with representatives of the DFNC, the Mayor Councillor Rod May and Council officers about Victoria Park Multi-Purpose Community Facility, Daylesford was held on 21 November, 2011. The DFNC demonstrated that substantial progress has been made in the development of documentation required for the full application including a Business Plan and a Project Management Plan. A draft Expression of Interest had been completed. Expressions of Interest close on 1 December 2011.

At the meeting it was agreed that it be recommended that Council submit an Expression of Interest to Regional Australia Fund - Round 2, as the lead agency. Expressions of Interest will be considered by Regional Development Australia Committees, with three viable priority projects for each region to be selected by each committee. These projects will proceed to full application.

Other changes to the RDAF Round 2 Guidelines are that:

- Preference will be given to applications that demonstrate partnership funding on a dollar for dollar basis for grant requests of \$5 million and less, and on a 1:2 basis for grant requests of more than \$5 million.

- At least 50 % of partnership funding must be cash.

The three selection criteria for RDAF are:

1. The extent to which the project will contribute to and sustain regional economic growth;
2. The extent to which the project will provide community benefit;
3. The extent to which the applicant leverages additional funding from a variety of sources.

A financial contribution from Council to the project would further demonstrate Council's support for the project.

COUNCIL PLAN / LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

We will assist our residents improve the health, safety and vibrancy of our communities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no provision in Council's 2011-12 budget for a contribution towards the Victoria Park Multi-Purpose Community Facility RDAF application. An amount of \$15,000 has been allocated for an independent analysis of the assumptions and validity of the operating income and expenditure models in the Victoria Park Association Feasibility Study. A funding contribution could be made from year two (2012-13) of the Local Government Infrastructure Program.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Hepburn Shire Council Building Condition Report identifies the current facility and change rooms at Victoria Park, Daylesford as being in poor condition.

ENVIRONMENTAL / SOCIAL / ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Council's Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) considered that there was a strong and demonstrated need for redevelopment /renewal of facilities at Victoria Park, Daylesford. The RAC noted that proposals for the development of Victoria Park contained in the Hepburn Shire Master Plan (Dalton Consulting Engineering, 2005) include development of change rooms and a function room on the Western side of Oval No.1.

Various studies including the Recreation Needs Strategy (Henshall and Associates, 2006) and Daylesford/Hepburn Springs Needs Analysis (Clark Phillips, 2005) have identified the need for improvements to facilities at Victoria Park.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Victoria Park Association (now a sub-committee of DFNC) had consulted with a range of community groups in developing the Feasibility Study. Council has requested and received advice from its Recreation Advisory Committee about this project.

CONCLUSION

The Regional Development Australia Fund (Round 2) is an opportunity to seek funding for Council's priority recreation capital works project.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 5.1.1. Submits an Expression of Interest to Regional Development Australia Fund – Round 2, as the lead agency, for the Victoria Park Daylesford Multi-Purpose Community.
- 5.1.2. Considers allocating a funding contribution from its 2012-2013 budget towards the Victoria Park Multi-Purpose Community Facility.

MOTION

That Council:

- 5.1.1. *Submits an Expression of Interest to Regional Development Australia Fund – Round 2, as the lead agency, for the Victoria Park Daylesford Multi-Purpose Community.*
- 5.1.2. *Considers allocating a funding contribution of \$150,000 towards the Victoria Park Multi-Purpose Community Facility to be sourced from Council's 2012-2013 budget, Local Government Infrastructure Fund, Council's Recreation (open space) Land Reserves Fund and additional available funding.*
- 5.1.3. *Stipulates that the Contact Officer will be a council officer.*
- 5.1.4. *Council will convene a Project Group comprising officers, ward councillors and key stakeholders to meet fortnightly from tonight to develop the funding application.*

Moved: Councillor Jonathan Barrell
Second: Councillor Bill McClenaghan
Carried.

6. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 5:50pm.
