

*dorset*  
C O U N C I L

# Minutes

## Council Meeting

Monday, 16 December 2024

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

*it's in the making*

## Ordinary Meeting of Council

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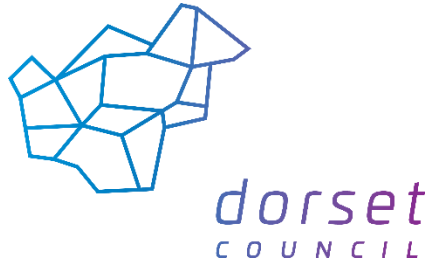
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## Council Meeting – Minutes

### 16 December 2024

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Scheduled Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

Present: Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw  
Executive Assistant: Sarah Forsyth

Apologies: Nil

## CLOSED SESSION

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Item 256/24 'Closed Session': Council

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### DECISION

MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw

That Council resolve, by absolute majority, that the meeting be closed to the public to enable Council to consider agenda items 257 to 260 which are confidential matters as prescribed in Regulation 15 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Time Meeting Closed: 5:31pm

CARRIED

### Purpose

The General Manager advised that in his opinion, the agenda items listed below are prescribed items in accordance with Regulation 15(2) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 (e.g. confidential matters), and therefore Council may by absolute majority determine to close the meeting to the general public.

Item	Purpose	Regulation Ref <sup>1</sup>
257/24   Declaration of Interests	Interests to be declared relating to items listed for discussion within Closed Session	15(2)(g)
258/24   Confirmation Special Council Meeting Closed Session Minutes – 20 November 2024	Confirm Minutes from Special Meeting of Council held on 20 November 2024	15(2)(a),(g),(i)
259/24   General Manager's Annual Performance Review	For Council to formalise the General Manager's annual performance and remuneration package review.	15(2)(a)
260/24   Completion of Closed Session / Meeting Adjournment	Move to Open Council and adjourn the Meeting	15(2)(g)

The Closed Session Meeting was closed and adjourned at 5:37 pm

<sup>1</sup> Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – Regulation 15:

Reg.	Confidential Reason
15(2)(a)	Personnel matters, including complaints against an employee of the council and industrial relations matters.
15(2)(b)	Information that, if disclosed, is likely to confer a commercial advantage or impose a commercial disadvantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposes to conduct, business.
15(2)(c)	Commercial information of a confidential nature that, if disclosed, is likely to (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; or (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council; or (iii) reveal a trade secret.
15(2)(d)	Contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.
15(2)(e)	The security of (i) the council, councillors and council staff; or (ii) the property of the council.
15(2)(f)	Proposals for the council to acquire land or an interest in land or for the disposal of land.
15(2)(g)	Information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential.
15(2)(h)	Applications by councillors for a leave of absence.
15(2)(i)	Matters relating to actual or possible litigation taken, or to be taken, by or involving the council or an employee of the council.
15(2)(j)	The personal hardship of any person who is resident in, or is a ratepayer in, the relevant municipal area.

# RESUMPTION | OPEN SESSION

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Scheduled Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Time Meeting Resumed: 6:00 pm

Present: Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw

General Manager: John Marik, Assistant General Manager / Director – Community & Development: Rohan Willis, Director – Infrastructure: Kerry Sacilotto, Acting Director – Corporate Services: Lauren Tolputt, Executive Assistant: Sarah Forsyth

Apologies: Nil

## Acknowledgement of Country

Dorset Council acknowledges the deep history and culture of the First People who were the traditional owners of the lands and waterways where we live and work. We acknowledge the clans-people who lived here for over a thousand generations on the Country where Scottsdale is built and throughout the area we know as the north east region.

Dorset Council acknowledge the present-day Aboriginal custodians and the inclusive contribution they make to the social, cultural and economic essence of the municipality.

## PROCEDURAL ITEMS

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### Item 261/24 Declaration of an Interest of the Commissioner or Close Associate

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In accordance with Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* and the Local Government Code of Conduct for Tasmanian councillors, the Commissioner is requested to indicate whether he has or is likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary interest or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

### INTEREST DECLARED

Nil

*The Chair reported that he had viewed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 November 2024 finds them to be a true record and recommends that they be taken as read and signed as a correct record.*

**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Dorset Council Ordinary Meeting held on 18 November 2024 having been circulated to the Commissioner, be confirmed as a true record.**

**CARRIED**

*The Chair reported that he had viewed the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 20 November 2024 finds them to be a true record and recommends that they be taken as read and signed as a correct record.*

**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Dorset Council Special Meeting held on 20 November 2024 having been circulated to the Commissioner, be confirmed as a true record.**

**CARRIED**

**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council confirm the Agenda and order of business for the 16 December 2024 Council Meeting.**

**CARRIED**

The following questions were **taken on notice** at the 18 November 2024 Council Meeting:

**Jenny Bellinger, Pioneer**

*Is there any ideas about what's going to happen to the James Scott building at the NESM Hospital?*

**Response from John Marik, General Manager:**

This facility is managed and under the jurisdiction of the Tasmanian Department of Health (the Department). The Department have not shared their future plans in relation to the James Scott building at the NESM Hospital.

The State Liberal Government have made an election commitment to deliver a Child and Family Learning Centre in Scottsdale. The State Government will be looking for an appropriate location to house this Centre in the future, and the James Scott building may be considered for this purpose.

**Kerrie Donaldson, Telita**

*I run a get fit class at the Derby Hall. There's a stop sign as you walk out the front of the Hall and there is a no parking zone. We have weights and equipment to take to these classes. I don't know how long the stop signs been there, but we have only noticed it in the last two weeks. On the other of the street, there is no parking and we can understand that, but on the same side as the Hall. We have people who can't walk a long distance. Down the back of the Hall is a ramp and it has 2 steps for them to get down and for us to take our trolley of equipment. Could a ramp be installed for access to the Hall?*

**Response from Acting Director – Corporate Services, Lauren Tolputt:**

The Acting Director – Corporate Services, Lauren Tolputt discussed Ms Donaldson's question with her after the meeting. Ms Donaldson had further suggested maintenance in relation to the Derby Hall and was therefore advised of the various channels available to submit a customer service request once she'd had the opportunity to collate her suggestions. The Acting Director – Corporate Services is continuing to follow up with Ms Donaldson and will assist to submit a customer service request if required once all maintenance requests are known.

**Lin Simpson, Pioneer**

*Also, when did the Pioneer Lake change to a quarry in February last year? There was no consultation, there was nothing in any papers, just all of a sudden, the Pioneer Lake now is a quarry.*

**Response from Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis:**

A planning permit for sand extraction of less than 5000 m3 per annum and sand processing of less than 1000 m3 per annum was granted in 2011 by Dorset Council at the location of the proposed sand mine. The planning application that is now before Council seeks approval for sand extraction of up to 50,000 m3 per annum and sand processing of up to 50,000 m3 per annum.

*Why is the word 'sandbar' on two signs on site spelt completely different to what all the paperwork states (in relation to the current development application for a sand mine at Pioneer)?*



**Response from Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis:**

The correct spelling of the applicant details is 'Sanbar' rather than 'Sandbar'. This is a minor clerical error extending from the Environment Protection Authority's advertisement of the application; and has not interfered with the correct administration of the planning application from a procedural fairness perspective.

**Grant Elmer, Pioneer**

*When they stopped stocking the Lake with salmon and tuna, is that the time that they found out that they were going to start quarrying at the back of Pioneer Lake?*

**Response from Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis:**

Council is unsure if Pioneer Lake has ever been stocked with salmon and / or tuna. Regardless, assessment of the planning application for sand mining at Pioneer will include considerations of potential water quality impacts upon the Pioneer Lake.

**Vincent Teichmann, Pioneer**

*Could Council please look into your records and share with the community, whether there was substantial commencement of mining at the Lake and what information was provided?*

**Response from Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis:**

As noted, a planning permit for sand extraction of less than 5000 m<sup>3</sup> per annum and sand processing of less than 1000 m<sup>3</sup> per annum was granted in 2011 by Dorset Council at the location of the proposed sand mine. This permit was granted subject to various conditions, including requirements in relation to road safety (sight distance improvements and signage) and vehicle access works. An amount of these works are understood to have been undertaken within the initial two years of that approval being granted. Although an opinion upon these works as demonstrating 'substantial commencement' has been previously offered by Council officers to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) (upon EPA's request of an opinion), it has been well-established at law – particularly in recent years – that the question of substantial commencement is a matter of legal interpretation rather than that of a Council decision. Regardless of this, the proposed sand mine application currently before Council and the EPA is being assessed as a 'fresh' application for development upon the site – and decision upon the application will be made on the same basis.

*Commissioner, I have a question or two through you for the General Manager. Has Dorset Council undertaken a road safety audit of Cascade Dam Road and if so, may I ask where it's at, what the outcome was and where I can get a copy?*

**Response from Director – Infrastructure, Kerry Sacilotto:**

Council commissioned a Road Safety Audit of Cascade Dam Road by Midson Traffic Pty Ltd (see [attachments](#)) in September 2021. Since this time there have been extensive works conducted in accordance with the recommendations in the report.

Works completed include:

1. Tree removal for sight distance.

2. Drainage works have been carried out with the installation of new culverts and culvert widening.
3. Widening in various location to achieve 5m of more.
4. Shuttle bus passing bays (pull offs) installed.
5. A full resheet of the unsealed section with an 40mm sub material was completed. Followed by a 19 mm shoulder material “scalps” over the top.
6. The sealed section has had asphalt works done where required in preparation for a 10mm reseal of polymer modified binder – which is a type of bitumen.
7. Guideposts have also been installed.

The purpose of this report was for Council to gain an understanding of the required road works, including possible upgrades to be utilised for future election commitments and grant funding requests. The road user statistics within this report were impacted by lower traffic counts as a result of COVID-19. Council Officers deployed road counters on Cascade Dam Road over the 2023/24 season. The intention is to deploy road counters over the 2024/25 season to validate data.

*I did not receive any invites from you. Can you please advise how this was sent, mail, email?*

*(Question in relation to the proposed Council Shuttle Policy and stakeholder meeting held in October 2023)*

**Response from John Marik, General Manager:**

An invitation was sent to all current and known potential future shuttle operators, along with other relevant stakeholders. The purpose of this meeting was to engage with impacted parties and gain feedback in relation to a proposed Council shuttle bus policy. Notification of this meeting was sent via email in early October, with the agenda for the 19 October 2023 meeting sent on 17 October 2023 at 2:20 pm. Post the meeting, notes were distributed to the same stakeholders via email on 20 October 2023 at 12:33 pm. All emails were sent to a gmail account that Council Officers had been conversing with you on a regular basis in the time leading up to the meeting.

**Mervyn Jones, Legerwood**

*Can you tell me whether the quarry / gravel pit on the Snake Track is still being used?*

**Response from Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis:**

Council cannot confirm an answer to this question. Information available to Council on the status of the mining lease for the quarry indicates that the lease is currently ‘pending renewal’. For more information, please contact Mineral Resources Tasmania on (03) 6165 4800 or email [info@mrt.tas.gov.au](mailto:info@mrt.tas.gov.au).

*Where the Snake Track meets the Tasman Highway, can this junction be reviewed and is there going to be further works undertaken on this road in the future?*

**Response from Director – Infrastructure, Kerry Sacilotto:**

Council Officers advise that the Snake Track / Tasman Highway junction is under the jurisdiction of the State Government. Notwithstanding, Council have reviewed the junction in consideration of the recent works and currently have no further works scheduled.

## Vincent Teichmann, Pioneer

In terms of providing services to the residents of Dorset, how can you possibly consider that taking over 2 years to make such a simple decision, and three years if one counts the timing before John Marik's tenure, to make such a simple decision as issuing a letter of support for a long time ratepayer in Dorset is fair, reasonable or in keeping with your own policies, and especially your policy to support new small businesses?

### Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:

The assumption being expressed that the decision upon granting or refusing a letter of support from Council for a Nature-Based Tourism (NBT) licence application to Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) is a 'simple' one is unfortunately not so. The matter of shuttle buses operating from the Blue Derby Trailhead is a complex one: it involves land (and a road network) within multiple tenures of public jurisdiction and requires a more nuanced approach than that which has otherwise been deployed in previous years. Matters such as road and traffic condition limitations, advice from Tasmania Police, and market capacity for additional service provision are all key factors that need to be considered in the public interest when determining permissions yet unfortunately are matters which are not within the express remit of the NBT licence approval process being administered by PWS. Council, recognising the need for introduction of a permit framework that promotes robust consideration of these matters, has been investigating various approaches over the past 12 months to achieve this outcome. During this time Council has undertaken extensive review of legislative mechanisms that would support lawful implementation and enforcement of such a framework, coordinated various meetings with stakeholders (including PWS personnel, Tasmania Police, Blue Derby Foundation representatives) to gauge preliminary feedback, and collected hard data (via installations of road traffic counters) to quantify road usage patterns. The proposed permit framework is now at an advanced 'draft' stage, with some further legal clarification being sought in relation certain assessment considerations. Pending receipt of this advice, Council is proposing to convene a workshop with existing and aspiring shuttle bus operators during February 2025 to discuss the proposed framework. Following this – and subject to incorporation of any necessary changes identified through this exercise – officers would then present a proposed 'draft' framework at a subsequent Council Meeting, at which time a period for receipt of public feedback upon the framework would be recommended for commencing. Merited feedback received during this process would then inform preparation of a 'final' framework, to be recommended for adoption by Council at a subsequent Council Meeting.

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The following questions were received without notice from members of the public:

## Jenny Bellinger, Pioneer

*Can we wait for a decision on this sand mining development application until we've got a sitting Council?*

### Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:

In relation the assessment of this development application, it has a formal planning process which involves the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) as it is classified as a level 2 activity, and currently it's been handed to them for their assessment prior to Council – as the Planning Authority – undertaking its assessment.

The timeframe for the EPA assessment is lengthy and unknown when this will be presented to Council for a decision. However, due to the lengthy assessment process it is likely that there will be

an elected council back by that time. Council has no capacity to change the process or delay the assessment of any development application, with both the EPA and Council bound by statutory timeframes provided by legislation.

**Further Response from Director – Community & Development, Rohan Willis:**

You may have seen information contained within tonight's agenda report in relation to the petition, that the EPA have requested additional information from the proponent up until 11 February 2025. So, it would look like Council's 42-day assessment period would commence after this date once the EPA have made a decision. I can't see Council being in a position until April / May 2025 for the development application to be heard and a Council decision.

*You mentioned on the phone months there would be a right of appeal for us on this development application, this is still, correct?*

**Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:**

Through the planning process, once a decision's made, and in this case there will be a decision made by the EPA and by Council – either to approve or refuse. Any party to the original application, being the applicant or any representor, can lodge an appeal with the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal in relation to the decision and they would consider the appeal as an independent body.

**Further Response from Director – Community & Development, Rohan Willis:**

In addition, there were approximately 30 representations received. So, each one of those 30 representors have a right to appeal the decision, as does the developer.

**Lin Simpson, Pioneer**

*Why would the developer appeal?*

**Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:**

A developer might not be happy with conditions included or the decision.

**Jenny Bellinger, Pioneer**

*I believe you've got an upcoming meeting with Parks and Wildlife and the camping people regarding Pioneer Lake, is this correct?*

**Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:**

Council had a meeting with Parks and Wildlife representatives and some members of the camping community last week. Council have an upcoming item for decision tonight in relation to the motion that was passed at the Annual General Meeting last month.

Lin Simpson, Pioneer

*And are we going to find out the outcome of that meeting with Parks and Wildlife and the camping representatives tonight?*

**Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:**

The meeting Council had with Parks and Wildlife and the invited members of the community that moved that motion was an initial meeting to discuss what the issues are, and if you look in the agenda tonight, Council have a recommendation for decision listed to create a Pioneer Lake working party.

Part of that recommendation is about working with all Pioneer Lake stakeholders which will include the local pioneer community. This was made really clear at the meeting last week how important it is that there is engagement with the residents of Pioneer as this issue it worked through, and the challenges associated with the Parks and Wildlife decision.

Jenny Bellinger, Pioneer

*At the Little Blue Lake, there is now a gate across quite a bit of the parking area and the signs are all gone and I wondered why?*

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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**Item 266/24                      Deputations**

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Nil

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**Item 267/24                      Commissioner Question Time**

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The following questions were received without notice from the Commissioner:

Nil

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**Item 268/24                      Applications for Leave of Absence**

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Nil

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**Item 269/24                      Notices of Motion by the Commissioner**

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Nil

# ITEMS FOR DECISION

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Item 270/24                      Annual General Meeting Motion | Pioneer Lake Advocacy  
Reporting Officer: General Manager, John Marik  
Ref: DOC/24/17197 | AGM Minutes: DOC/24/16135

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider a motion passed at Council’s Annual General Meeting held on 18 November 2024 for Council in relation the management of Pioneer Lake going forward.

*“Can Dorset Council advocate to set up a group of interested parties regarding Pioneer Lake that would provide advice on management of the area to Council, relevant businesses and government agencies that would include as a minimum: Pioneer residents, Council, Parks, Lake users, Police, Sanbar Pty Ltd and Scottsdale High School? One of the groups aims will be to work through the camping issue with a view to re-permit camping at the Lake as has been the case for over 20 years.”*

**Recommendation**

That Council:

- 1. receive and note the motion received from Mr Dale Jessup;
- 2. support the establishment of a Working Group, comprised of representatives from key stakeholders of the Pioneer Lake user groups, and facilitate meetings of the Working Group; and
- 3. support the Working Group to clearly identify and define the purpose and deliverables of the Working Group.

\*\*\*\*\*

Amended Recommendation

- 1. receive and note the motion received from **the Annual General Meeting;**

**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council:**

- 1. receive and note the motion received from the Annual General Meeting;
- 2. support the establishment of a Working Group, comprised of representatives from key stakeholders of the Pioneer Lake user groups, and facilitate meetings of the Working Group; and
- 3. support the Working Group to clearly identify and define the purpose and deliverables of the Working Group.

**CARRIED**

## Purpose

At the 18 November 2024 Council Meeting, Council received a petition requesting that Council:

*“Please stop the sand mining quarry at Pioneer [due to the following]:*

- a. Impact of dry mine with silica dust and a major impact on health*
- b. Impost of large trucks and dogs in and out of the Pioneer township*
- c. Noise levels increasing*
- d. No testing of sand, soil or air”*

The petition was presented by Ms Lin Simpson and Ms Jenny Bellinger and contains 35 signatures<sup>2</sup>.

## Recommendation

That the petition with respect to the objection of the Pioneer Sand Mine project, presented by Ms Lin Simpson and Ms Jenny Bellinger, be received.

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## Amended Recommendation

### That Council:

1. receive the petition with respect to the objection of the Pioneer Sand Mine project, **comprising of 35 signatures**, presented by Ms Lin Simpson and Ms Jenny Bellinger; and
2. **notes the petition relates to a current level 2 development application and concerns expressed will be duly considered through the assessment process and during decision-making upon the application by the Environment Protection Authority and the Planning Authority.**

## DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council:**

1. receive the petition with respect to the objection of the Pioneer Sand Mine project, comprising of 35 signatures, presented by Ms Lin Simpson and Ms Jenny Bellinger; and
2. notes the petition relates to a current level 2 development application and concerns expressed will be duly considered through the assessment process and during decision-making upon the application by the Environment Protection Authority and the Planning Authority.

**CARRIED**

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<sup>2</sup> Please note the attached petition states 36 signatures were collected. Council Officers have checked and note that there are only 35 signatories on the pages submitted at the 18 November 2024 Council Meeting.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is to update the community on the progress of the Priority Projects Plan 2023 - 2025.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. note the progress report in relation the Priority Projects Plan 2023 - 2025;
2. note that the community can follow priority project Updates on Council's website under Building, Planning and Projects/Major Projects; and
3. develop a Major and Minor Projects Summary to lobby key stakeholders for unfunded projects in the upcoming Federal election and appropriate grant funding rounds.

**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council:

1. note the progress report in relation the Priority Projects Plan 2023 - 2025;
2. note that the community can follow priority project Updates on Council's website under Building, Planning and Projects/Major Projects; and
3. develop a Major and Minor Projects Summary to lobby key stakeholders for unfunded projects in the upcoming Federal election and appropriate grant funding rounds.

**CARRIED**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to review Policy 51 – Work Health and Safety.

**Recommendation**

That Council adopt the attached revised Policy No. 51 – Work Health and Safety.



## DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council adopt the attached revised Policy No. 51 – Work Health and Safety.

**CARRIED**

**Item 274/24**

**Review of Policy No. 61 – Safeguarding Children and Young People**

Reporting Officer: Acting Director – Corporate Services, Lauren Tolputt

Ref: DOC/24/17400 | Reviewed Policy: DOC/23/15416[v2]

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to review Policy No. 61 – Safeguarding Children and Young People.

### **Recommendation**

That Council:

1. adopt the attached revised Policy No. 61 – Safeguarding Children and Young People;
2. appoint the Director – Corporate Services as Council’s Child Safety Officer in accordance with Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission; and
3. provide the Director – Corporate Services with authority to delegate the role of Child Safety Officer in accordance with Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission as required.

## DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council:

1. adopt the attached revised Policy No. 61 – Safeguarding Children and Young People;
2. appoint the Director – Corporate Services as Council’s Child Safety Officer in accordance with Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission; and
3. provide the Director – Corporate Services with authority to delegate the role of Child Safety Officer in accordance with Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission as required.

**CARRIED**

**Item 275/24**

**Proposed New Policy No. 64 – Private Works**

Reporting Officer: Acting Director – Corporate Services, Lauren Tolputt

Ref: DOC/24/17546 | New Policy: DOC/24/13111

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopt the newly developed Policy No. 64 – Private Works.

## Recommendation

That Council adopt the attached proposed new Policy No. 64 – Private Works.

### DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council adopt the attached proposed new Policy No. 64 – Private Works.

**CARRIED**

## Item 276/24

### **Proposed New Policy No. 65 – People Management**

Reporting Officer: Acting Director – Corporate Services, Lauren Tolputt

Ref: DOC/24/17488 | New Policy: DOC/24/16582

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopt the newly developed Policy No. 65 – People Management.

## Recommendation

That Council adopt the attached proposed new Policy No. 65 – People Management.

### DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council adopt the attached proposed new Policy No. 65 – People Management.

**CARRIED**

## Item 277/24

### **Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan 2024 - 2029**

Reporting Officer: Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis

Ref: DOC/24/17571 | Draft Plan: DOC/24/10573

## Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to receive the Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan 2024 - 2029.

## Recommendation

That Council:

1. receive and note the attached Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan;
2. resolve to receive written submissions from the community regarding the Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan for a 28-day period, commencing Wednesday, 18 December 2024; and
3. return to a future Council Meeting to decide upon adoption of a final draft of the Dorset Council Weed Management Plan which considers the merits of received written submissions.

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### Amended Recommendation

2. resolve to receive written submissions from the community regarding the Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan, **commencing Wednesday, 18 December 2024 until Tuesday, 28 January 2025**; and

### DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council:**

1. receive and note the attached Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan;
2. resolve to receive written submissions from the community regarding the Draft Dorset Council Weed Management Plan, commencing Wednesday, 18 December 2024 until Tuesday, 28 January 2025; and
3. return to a future Council Meeting to decide upon adoption of a final draft of the Dorset Council Weed Management Plan which considers the merits of received written submissions.

**CARRIED**

**Item 278/24**

### **2025 Schedule of Council Meeting Dates**

Reporting Officer: Executive Assistant, Sarah Forsyth

Ref: DOC/24/17189 | 2025 Schedule: DOC/24/17051

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to adopt a schedule of dates for Ordinary Council Meetings and Council Briefing Workshops in 2025.

### **Recommendation**

That Council adopt the following Schedule of Council Meeting Dates for 2025:

#### Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule, commencing at 6:00pm:

Monday 20 January (Council Chambers)	Monday 21 July (Council Chambers)
Monday 17 February (Pioneer Hall)	Monday 18 August (Council Chambers)
Monday 17 March (Derby Hall)	Monday 15 September (Council Chambers)
Monday 14 April (Council Chambers)	Monday 20 October (Bridport Hall)
Monday 19 May (Council Chambers)	Monday 17 November (Winnaleah Community Centre)
Monday 23 June (Council Chambers)	Monday 15 December (Council Chambers)

#### Briefing Workshop Schedule, held at the Council Chambers:

<u>Nil for January</u>	Tuesday 8 July
Tuesday 4 February	Tuesday 5 August
Tuesday 4 March	Tuesday 2 September
Tuesday 1 April	Tuesday 7 October
Tuesday 6 May	Tuesday 4 November
Tuesday 3 June	Tuesday 2 December

## DECISION

### **MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council adopt the following Schedule of Council Meeting Dates for 2025:**

#### **Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule, commencing at 6:00pm:**

Monday 20 January (Council Chambers)	Monday 21 July (Council Chambers)
Monday 17 February (Pioneer Hall)	Monday 18 August (Council Chambers)
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#### **Briefing Workshop Schedule, held at the Council Chambers:**

<u>Nil for January</u>	Tuesday 8 July
Tuesday 4 February	Tuesday 5 August
Tuesday 4 March	Tuesday 2 September
Tuesday 1 April	Tuesday 7 October
Tuesday 6 May	Tuesday 4 November
Tuesday 3 June	Tuesday 2 December

**CARRIED**

## **ITEMS FOR NOTING**

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### **Item 279/24                      Council Workshops Held Since Last Council Meeting**

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3 December 2024 | Briefing Workshop

### **Item 280/24                      Commissioner Communications**

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Commissioner Wardlaw's Calendar | 14 November 2024 – 11 December 2024

#### **November 2024**

- 14      Meeting with North Eastern Axeman's Association President with the General Manager, Council Chambers
- 14      Meeting with Barry Nilsson Lawyers with General Manager, via Teams
- 15      Dorset / Ethos Urban Consultant Team Regional Visit with General Manager and Assistant General Manager, Council Chambers
- 15      Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Member Representative Group Meeting, Invermay
- 15      Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Annual General Meeting 2024, Invermay

- 18 Weekly meeting with the Management team, Council Chambers
- 18 Community meet and greet session, Legerwood Hall
- 18 Dorset Council 2023/24 Annual General Meeting, Legerwood Hall
- 18 November Council Meeting, Legerwood Hall
- 19 ABC Radio interview
- 20 Special Meeting of Council – Dorset Board of Inquiry Report, submission to the Minister, Council Chambers
- 21 Local Government Association of Tasmania General Meeting, Launceston
- 25 Branxholm Progress Association Annual General Meeting, Branxholm Hall
- 26 Meeting with Better Health 4 Dorset with General Manager, Council Chambers
- 26 Dorset Council Audit Panel Meeting, Council Chambers
- 28 Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Committee Meeting, Council Chambers
- 28 Meeting with new Tasmania Police Northern Commander and Acting Inspector with General Manager, Council Chambers
- 28 Meeting with ratepayers with General Manager, Council Chambers

## December 2024

- 2 North East Tasmania Chamber of Commerce Networking Event with General Manager and Director – Infrastructure, The House Paddock, Scottsdale
- 3 December Briefing Workshop, Chamber of Commerce
- 3 Meeting with community member, Council Chambers
- 4 Scottsdale High School Bursary Selection Panel meeting, Scottsdale High School
- 5 May Shaw Foundation Day Morning Tea, Aminya Aged Care Facility, Scottsdale
- 6 Governor of Tasmania visit to Dorset, Dorset Community House
- 7 Mannalargenna Day Festival – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event, Cape Portland
- 7 Community appreciation award ceremony, Scottsdale RSL Club
- 8 Musselroe Bay Fishing Pontoon Official Opening with Director – Community & Development, Musselroe Bay
- 9 Weekly meeting with the Management team, Council Chambers
- 9 Radio Interview with 7SD
- 10 Scottsdale Primary School End of Year Assembly, Scottsdale
- 10 Dorset Suicide Prevention Network meeting, Scottsdale
- 11 On site meeting with Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service representatives with General Manager and Director – Community & Development
- 11 Gladstone Future-Links meeting, Gladstone Hall

## Item 281/24 Management Team Briefing Report

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### Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Commissioner and the community with a briefing on matters of interest dealt with during the past month by Council's Management Team.

## DECISION

MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw

That Council:

1. receive and note the unconfirmed Dorset Council Audit Panel minutes, dated 26 November 2024;
2. receive and note the unconfirmed Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Committee minutes, dated 28 November 2024;
3. note the Blue Derby Foundation Limited 2024/25 budget;
4. note the community update on the Derby Back Road speed limit reduction;
5. note the community update on the Bridport pedestrian wombat crossing and speed limit reduction project;
6. note the community update on the Bridport foreshore lease and licence agreement renewal; and
7. receive and note the remaining updates within the Management Team Briefing Report.

CARRIED

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Dorset Audit Panel

On 26 November 2024, the Audit Panel held their meeting for the December quarter. The following items were discussed:

1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
2. Confirmation of Audit Panel Minutes – 24 September 2024
3. Presentation of 2023/24 Audited Financial Statements – Tasmanian Audit Office
4. Work Health & Safety Update
5. IT Strategy & Synectic Fraud and Corruption Audit Progress Report
6. Financial Results for period ended 30 September 2024
7. Blue Derby Quarterly Report
8. Audit Panel Composition and Tenure Update
9. Outstanding Matters from Previous Audit Panel Meeting
10. Other Business / Update on Significant Events

Employee specific issues have been redacted in the unconfirmed minutes from a privacy perspective.

The unconfirmed Audit Panel minutes for this meeting are included in the [attachments](#) for information.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Committee

On 28 November 2024, the Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Committee held their second meeting for 2024. The following items were discussed:

1. Confirmation of Minutes and Outstanding Actions
2. Status of Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Plan
3. Municipal Emergency Planning and Preparedness matters
4. Regional Emergency Management matters

5. Fire Management Area Committee matters
6. 2024/25 Fire Season Briefing - Dorset
7. Regional and Municipal Social Recovery matters
8. Agency Reports
9. General Business

The unconfirmed minutes for this meeting are included in the [attachments](#) for information.

#### COMMUNITY UPDATE: Blue Derby Foundation 2024/25 Budget Update

Council passed a resolution on 20 March 2023 to endorse a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), and a legally binding Deed of Assignment (DoA), formalising the transfer of the following Blue Derby operations from Council to the Blue Derby Foundation (BDF):

- a. The licensing and commercialisation of the Blue Derby Brand / intellectual property;
- b. The acquisition and management of commercial sponsorships of Blue Derby;
- c. The management of all Blue Derby marketing and social media; and
- d. Assume responsibility for Blue Derby endorsed events and other fundraising initiatives.

The MoU and DoA clearly establishes accountability and responsibilities for both the Council and the BDF. This includes the ability for Council to revoke the agreements if the BDF does not meet its obligations.

Clause 5. e. and f. of the MoU defines the following requirements in relation to budgets for the Foundation:

- e. The Foundation and Council will then collaborate through the BD Operational Committee on the preparation of future budgets and fundraising targets
- f. Budgets and fundraising targets are to be agreed upon by end of April each year.

In April 2024, the Foundation and Council agreed that the Foundation will pay Council an amount of \$90,000 during 2024/25 towards trail maintenance. Council had not seen the Foundation's 2024/25 budget; however, this has been provided and is included in the [attachments](#).

#### COMMUNITY UPDATE: Derby Back Road Speed Limit Reduction Update

A notice of motion was tabled at the April 2024 Council Meeting, regarding consideration of reviewing the speed limits on the Derby Back Road. The review prompted a submission to the Commissioner of Transport for consideration of reduced speed limits.

In response to the Commissioner for Transport's feedback, it is recommended that the current speed zone be maintained and to continue focus on Council's future goal (in collaboration with State and Federal Government) to see the road upgraded. Additionally, Council has included the improvement of Derby Back Road in its Priority Projects Plan 2023 – 2025 to assist in advocating for external funding.

### COMMUNITY UPDATE: Bridport Wombat Crossing / Speed Limit Reduction Update

Council at its 21 October 2024 Council Meeting, approved the installation of a pedestrian wombat crossing on Main Street, Bridport at the Henry Street junction with the intent of having the crossing installed prior to Christmas 2024.

However unforeseen delays have occurred in producing the final design for approval by the funding body - the Vulnerable Road Users Program.

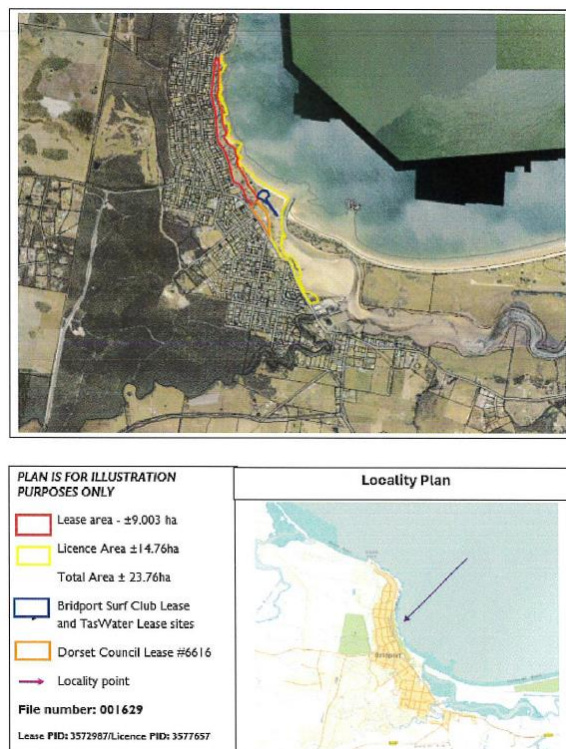
Delays have also occurred in obtaining the necessary signage with Council having to place orders with an alternate supplier as the original supplier - after 6 weeks - advised they were unable to fill the order.

As the installation of the crossing introduces a significant change in the interaction between pedestrians and vehicles, it is considered appropriate to delay the installation until after the peak tourism season.

### COMMUNITY UPDATE: Bridport Foreshore Lease and Licence Agreement Renewal

Following several years of negotiations between Dorset Council and the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, Council's lease and licence agreement over the Bridport Foreshore has now been reconfigured and renewed.

The renewed agreement encompasses almost 24 hectares of land along the Bridport Foreshore, extending from the Old Pier car park at the northern end through to land neighbouring Bass Strait Freight at the southern end. The new agreement has therefore been expanded to include the area of Crown land adjoining Trent Water from (across the road of) the Bridport Police Station through to the property boundary with Bass Strait Freight. Public recreational activity for purposes such as playgrounds, temporary camping, car parking and recreational boating will continue to be supported within the agreement's licence area, while Council's commercial caravan park operations (the Bridport Seaside Caravan Park) will be provided for within the lease area.



**Image:** Extract of lease and licence area from the signed agreement with the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service



Owing to the commerciality of the caravan park, rent will now be payable by Council to the Crown under the agreement. Rent for the 2024/25 financial year has been calculated at \$12,000 and will increase to \$18,000 and \$24,000 per annum respectively for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years. Rental amounts beyond these financial years are yet to be determined and will be negotiated during the 2026/27 financial year.

#### CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS

	Requests Received November 2024	Comparison Requests November 2023	Received 2024	Comparison 2023
Animal	-	-	13	3
Bridges	-	-	-	-
Caravan Parks	1	-	4	3
Cemeteries	1	-	1	-
Community Development General	-	-	-	-
Corporate Services General	1	-	8	1
Customer Service	2	-	10	-
Emergency Services Enquiries	-	-	1	-
Environmental Management & Health	1	1	8	5
Government Relations	-	-	1	-
Licencing	-	-	-	-
Parks and Reserves	1	3	11	9
Planning & Building	-	-	4	3
Public Health	-	-	2	-
Public Online Enquiries <sup>3</sup>	-	3	1	10
Public Amenities	-	-	10	2
Public Halls Buildings	2	-	14	5
Recreation Grounds	4	1	18	7
Roads	19	10	201	99
Swimming Pools	-	-	-	-
Waste Management	-	-	2	4
<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>151</b>

A detailed copy of the 2024 Customer Service Requests is included in the attachments.

<sup>3</sup> All historic customer service requests that were incorrectly allocated as Public Online Enquiries have now been reallocated, therefore the statistics now properly represent the number of requests received for each category.

## APPROVED APPLICATIONS

	Approved November	Approved 2024 YTD	Approved 2023 YTD
Planning	10	114	135
Building <sup>4</sup>	7	96	91
Plumbing	3	46	55




See attachments for detailed information about applications approved in November 2024.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUESTS

	Requests Received November 2024	Comparison November 2023	FYTD Received 2024/25	Comparison FYTD Received 2023/24
Feedback and Queries	-	1	4	9
Repair Bin	6	3	12	21
Replace Bin	7	1	24	22
Request a New Service	2	3	8	14
Remove Additional Bin	4	-	21	1
Request an Additional Bin	1	-	9	2
Request an Upsize/Downsize	-	4	-	24
Request to Opt Out (of Service)	-	-	-	2
<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>95</b>

## 2024/25 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

Ref: DOC/24/9473

	Complete 2024/25
	Completed in November 2024
	Carried Forward Projects – 2025/26

PROJECT	STATUS
<b>BRIDGES</b>	
Bridge 1553 Boddington's Road, Bridport – timber deck renewal	
<b>Bridge 1580 Ten Mile Track, Cuckoo – hotmix overlay</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Bridge 1508 Garibaldi Road, Pioneer – scour pretention piers (additional allocation)	Design
Bridge 1508 Garibaldi Road, Pioneer – scour protection piers	Design

<sup>4</sup> From 15 March 2023, Dorset Council ceased providing Building Surveying services for any new building applications. Council is still providing Plumbing Surveyor services and continues to act as the Permit Authority, as required.

PROJECT	STATUS
<b>STORMWATER<sup>5</sup></b>	
<b>Main Street, Bridport (RSL) – kerb and stormwater design only</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<u><b>Upgrade</b></u>	
William Street, Scottsdale (Incitec Pivot) – network upgrade	Tenders Received
<u><b>New</b></u>	
Branxholm Park – complete stormwater and seal	
Ethel Street, Scottsdale – extension into King Street	Tenders Received
<b>Heazlewood Lane, Scottsdale – extension</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Union Street, Scottsdale – survey and plan	Design
Bridport Foreshore (near skate park) – survey and plan	Commenced
Esplanade, Derby – survey and plan	
Scottsdale Depot and industrial subdivision – survey and plan	
<b>ROADS – RESHEETING</b>	
<u><b>Renewal</b></u>	
Barnbogle Road, Bridport	Commenced
Snake Track, Legerwood	Commenced
Barnett Road, Ringarooma	Commenced
Old Waterhouse Road, Waterhouse	Commenced
Halfway Road, Waterhouse	Commenced
Talagandra Road, Waterhouse	Commenced
Jacobsons Road, Nabowla	Commenced
Cape Portland Road, Gladstone	Commenced
<b>ROADS – RESEALS</b>	
Westwood Street, Bridport	Tender Awarded
South Street, Bridport	
Elizabeth Street, Bridport	
Louisa Street, Bridport	
Anderson Street, Bridport	
Main Street, Ringarooma	
Cuckoo Road, Cuckoo	
Mackenzie Valley Road, Cuckoo	
Ruby Flats Road, Ringarooma	
Amos Road, Moorina	
Moorina Cemetery Road, Moorina	
Rainbows Road, Herrick	
Winnaleah Road, Winnaleah	
Heckrath Road, Bridport	
East Minstone Road, Scottsdale	

<sup>5</sup> The tender outcomes exceeded the budgeted estimate for the William Street, Scottsdale and Ethel Street, Scottsdale projects listed. Therefore, Council will be reallocating unspent grant funding received via the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grant stream, totalling \$40,000 to enable these projects to be completed.

PROJECT	STATUS
<b>ROADS – OTHER PROJECTS</b>	
<b>Timperons Road, Blumont – intersection with Golconda Road hotmix overlay</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Groves Street, Gladstone – repair and reseal	Commenced
Cape Portland Road, Gladstone – seal repair and reseal	Commenced
Sledge Track, West Scottsdale – investigation of landslip	Approval
King Street, Scottsdale – pedestrian crossing	Investigations
George Street, Scottsdale – pedestrian crossing	Investigations
Main Street, Bridport – pedestrian crossing	Approved
Coplestone Street, Scottsdale – new 180m footpath	
Golconda Road, Golconda – safety upgrade and pavement reconstruction	Commenced
<b>BUILDINGS</b>	
Scottsdale Depot – internal stair replacement	
Bridport Seaside Caravan Park – grey water pits near office	Planning
Branxholm Town Hall – roof replacement	Planning
Ringarooma – bar shed seal and paint bricks	Commenced
<b>BUILDINGS (cont.)</b>	
Gladstone Hall – remove old toilets and refurbish	
<b>Scottsdale Aquatic Centre – install ventilation in plant room</b>	<b>Completed</b>
All buildings in Scottsdale area – upgrade safety switches	
All buildings in Bridport area – upgrade safety switches	
All buildings in Derby area – upgrade safety switches	
<b>Bridport Seaside Caravan Park – Goftons amenities lighting upgrade</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Bridport Hall – upgrade floor coverings	Commenced
<b>Bridport Football Club – viewing deck (additional allocation)</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>Bridport Hall – 3-phase power outlet outside wall</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Bridport Seaside Caravan Park – planning for new camp kitchen at Goftons Beach end	
Scottsdale Railway Station Building – restoration	
Branxholm Waste Transfer Station – Oil Bunded Shed	Planning
Branxholm Waste Transfer Station – Recycling Shed	Planning
Gladstone Waste Transfer Station – Oil Bunded Shed	Planning
Gladstone Waste Transfer Station – Recycling Shed	Planning
Scottsdale Waste Transfer Station – Oil Bunded Shed	Planning
Bridport Fish Cleaning Tables	Consultation

PROJECT	STATUS
<b>LAND IMPROVEMENTS</b>	
Northeast Park, Scottsdale – reseal road	Commenced
Bridport Seaside Caravan Park – road repairs (hotmix and seal)	Commenced
<b>Scottsdale Aquatic Centre – chlorinator pump replacement</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>Scottsdale Aquatic Centre – concrete repair</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>Scottsdale Aquatic Centre – replace ultraviolet light (water treatment)</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Pine Plantation Ringarooma Road, Scottsdale – replanting	
Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails – Tunnel stairs	Planning
<b>Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails – Wotcha Upta trail renewal and upgrade</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Croquet Lawn Beach, Bridport – access improvements	Planning
Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails – revegetation including landslip, trailhead, Lake Derby and Riverside trails	Commenced
<b><u>Upgrade</u></b>	
Scottsdale, Branhholm and Winnaleah – playground equipment (Open Spaces Grant)	Planning
Ellesmere Cemetery, Scottsdale – 2 x new concrete rows and purchase headstones	
Victoria Street, Scottsdale – new shrubs and gardens	Commenced
Scottsdale Depot – back flow prevention – water main	
Ellesmere Cemetery, Scottsdale – row numbering	Planning
CWA Carpark, Bridport – solar light	Ordered
Waste Transfer Stations – best practice compliance signage	Commenced
Scottsdale Waste Transfer Station – CCTV	Planning
Rail Trail – Scottsdale to Lilydale Falls (additional allocation)	Consultation
<b>CARRY FORWARD PROJECTS</b>	
<b>Walter Street, Bridport – stormwater (pit) upgrades</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>Eastmans Beach, Bridport – amenities block renewal</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>South Street, Bridport – replace kerb</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Blue Derby – network signage redesign	Commenced
<b><u>Upgrade</u></b>	
Bridge 1572 Haas Road / Frenches Creek, Legerwood – upgrade to concrete	
<b>Main and Westwood Street, Bridport Intersection – stormwater upgrade</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Building Renovations (Blue Derby Foundation) - 57 Main Street, Derby	
Old Waterhouse Road, Waterhouse – safety improvements	Commenced
Blue Derby Trailhead – redevelopment (south of Main Street)	
<b><u>New</u></b>	
Gladstone Community Park	Consultation Completed
Scottsdale Depot – relocated storage shed	Planning
Scottsdale Waste Transfer Station – roof covering spare bin area	
Derby Depot – new trail crew storage shed	Planning
Rail Trail – Scottsdale to Lilydale Falls	Consultation

# CLOSURE OF MEETING

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Time Meeting Closed: 7:02 pm

Minutes Confirmed: 20 January 2025

Minute No: 2/2025



Commissioner