



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday 18 March 2024
Council Chambers, St Helens

Raoul Harper, Acting General Manager
Break O'Day Council
18 March 2024

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CONTENTS

CONTENTS 3

LIVE STREAMING/RECORDING OF ORDINARY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL	5
OPENING	5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY.....	5
03/24.1.0 ATTENDANCE	6
03/24.1.1 Present	6
03/24.1.2 Apologies.....	6
03/24.1.3 Leave of Absence	6
03/24.1.4 Staff in Attendance	6
03/24.2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....	6
03/24.2.1 St Helens Online Access Centre	7
03/24.2.2 Various Questions – Nicola Stevens.....	7
03/24.2.3 St Marys to Cornwall Rail Trail – Clr Drummond OBO Gary Luck.....	10
03/24.3.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS OF A COUNCILLOR OR CLOSE ASSOCIATE	11
03/24.4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	11
03/24.4.1 Confirmation of Minutes – Council Meeting 19 February 2024.....	11
03/24.5.0 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD SINCE 19 FEBRUARY 2024 COUNCIL MEETING.....	12
03/24.6.0 PLANNING AUTHORITY	12
03/24.7.0 COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS	12
03/24.7.1 Outstanding Matters.....	12
03/24.8.0 PETITIONS.....	12
03/24.9.0 NOTICES OF MOTION	13
03/24.9.1 Speed limit reduction – Clr Le Fevre	13
03/24.9.2 Increased Animal Control Officers hours – Clr Le Fevre	15
03/24.9.3 Decision to demolish the Exhibition Hall at St Marys Recreation Ground – Clr Drummond	17
03/24.9.4 Ecological Restoration Program being conducted on the Skyline Tier by the North East Bioregional Network – Clr Drummond.....	18
03/24.9.5 Reserve Activity Assessment Reform Process Submission - Clr Drummond	20
03/24.10.0 COUNCILLOR’S QUESTIONS ON NOTICE	23
03/24.11.0 COUNCILLOR’S QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE	23
03/24.12.0 MAYOR’S & COUNCILLOR’S COMMUNICATIONS.....	24
03/24.12.1 Mayor’s Communications for Period Ending 18 March 2024.....	24
03/24.12.2 Councillor’s Reports for Period Ending 18 March 2024.....	24
03/24.13.0 BUSINESS AND CORPORATE SERVICES.....	26
03/24.13.1 Corporate Services Department Report	26

03/24.13.2	Monthly Financial Report.....	28
03/24.13.3	Visitor Information Centre Report.....	29
03/24.14.0	WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE	30
03/24.14.1	Works and Infrastructure Report.....	30
03/24.14.2	Animal Control Report	31
03/24.15.0	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	32
03/24.15.1	Community Services Report.....	32
03/24.15.2	Policy CB02 – Break O'Day Council Awards Policy.....	34
03/24.15.3	Community Funding Program 2023-2024.....	35
03/24.16.0	DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.....	37
03/24.16.1	Development Services Report.....	37
03/24.17.0	GOVERNANCE.....	39
03/24.17.1	General Manager's Report.....	39
03/24.17.2	LG05 Social Media Policy Review	39
03/24.18.0	CLOSED COUNCIL	41
03/24.18.1	Confirmation of Closed Council Minutes – Council Meeting 19 February 2024	41
03/24.18.2	Outstanding Actions List for Closed Council	41
03/24.18.3	Closed Council Item Pursuant to Section 15(2)A of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - General Manager Employment Contract	42
03/24.19.0	MEETING CLOSED.....	42

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The Break O’Day Council (‘the Council’) is committed to providing greater accessibility to the community of the content of public Council meetings through live streaming and recording. It is considered this will provide a fuller public record of proceedings that can be made available in addition to formal written minutes.

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OPENING

The Mayor welcomed Councillors, staff and community members and declared the meeting open at 10.00am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live, the Palawa people of this land Tasmania, and recognise their continuing connection to the lands, skies and waters. We pay respects to the Elders Past, present and future.

03/24.1.0 ATTENDANCE

03/24.1.1 Present

Mayor Mick Tucker
Deputy Mayor Kristi Chapple
Councillor Gary Barnes
Councillor Ian Carter
Councillor Janet Drummond
Councillor Liz Johnstone
Councillor Barry LeFevre
Councillor Vaughan Oldham
Councillor Kylie Wright

03/24.1.2 Apologies

Nil

03/24.1.3 Leave of Absence

Nil

03/24.1.4 Staff in Attendance

Acting General Manager, Raoul Harper
Corporate Services Officer, Bec Wood
Manager Infrastructure and Development Services, David Jolly (Item 1.0 – 17.0)
Manager Community Services, Chris Hughes (Item 1.0 – 17.0)
Executive Officer, Jayne Richardson (Item 1.0 – 18.2)
Corporate Services Coordinator, Angela Matthews (Item 1.0 – 15.3)
Development Services Coordinator, Jake Ihnen (Item 1.0 – 16.1)
NRM Facilitator, Polly Buchhorn (Item 16.1)
Corporate Services Officer, Wanita Wells (Item 1.0 – 18.2)

03/24.2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Three (3) people in the gallery.

In accordance with Section 31(1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 the following questions were submitted in writing prior to the Council Meeting.

03/24.2.1 St Helens Online Access Centre

"Could you please follow up on your communications with the Minister of Education, Children and Young People, Mr Roger Jaensch on the matter of our Digital Connections Grant Funding, after June 2025 - when our current funding ceases?

As per the Break O'Day Council Minutes (as attached) dated January 2024, Section 1/24.7.0, Sub Section 01/24.7.1 Outstanding Matters - which refers to the lack of response from the Minister, and that you have stated that the next stage will be to get political and use Parliament."

We request that you advise our St Helens Online Access Centre, when you have followed up with the Minister and any response that you receive from the Minister?

REPLY

The last letter was sent to Minister Roger Jaensch on 1 February 2024 and an acknowledgment that it had been received was received on the same day. No response has been received. As referred to above the next step was to use Parliament and have the matter raised as part of question time. Unfortunately, the calling of the State Election results in the Caretaker period coming into effect and Roger Jaensch MP is no longer Minister. Once Parliament resumes then we will arrange for the matter to be raised on the floor of Parliament.

Councillor Johnstone entered the meeting at 10.03am.

03/24.2.2 Various Questions – Nicola Stevens

What prompted me to come today was:

1. Support for the Online Access Centre
2. Support for the Skyline Tier Motion
3. The inclusion of two policies reviews in the agenda – that I know Councillors will debate those details further – it made me reflect on communication and curious as to the Council's views.

BODCWebsite <https://www.bodc.tas.gov.au/council/about-us/>

Great Communication:

We will listen, consult and engage with the community and individuals.

We will be open, honest and proactive in our communication. We will keep people informed about the things that matter to them.

Community Development - Programs and Initiatives

Great to see the Community Development - Programs and Initiative table updated in this week's BODC Agenda on page 50-51, to confirm budget and spend to date. I have raised some queries and an omission with Chris directly who I thank again for her great communication and speedy responses. Also great to see the related Community Funding Program decisions details on page 67-68.

Three high dollar items on the monthly report table seem ongoing, without review/change year in and out including \$14K Bay of Fires Art Prize & Winter Art Market, \$20K (15K+5K) Australia Day, and \$28K BEC.

1. When were/are these items reviewed, and how can the public be involved?

REPLY

Funding for community groups requires a decision of Council.
Every year these items are raised with Councillors through the development of our budget for the following Financial Year.

2. The most successful new event on the local calendar is "The Festival of George". The FoG committee have created an amazing event without BODC funding. Has BODC asked, why BOFAP require ongoing funding when they now also charge entry fees?

REPLY

How the Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival Committee decide to manage and fundraise for their event is up to the Committee. We would encourage you to work with the committee and share your ideas with them.

3. There are many innovative business support programs including "The Van Dieman Project" that actively support our community. What does BEC do that cannot be sourced from the van Dieman Project? When is this sponsorship reviewed or does it have a contract end date?

REPLY

As mentioned above, funding the Business Enterprises Centre (BEC) is a decision of Council.

4. When will BODC engage community for a "change the date" discussion? (relating to 26th of Jan "Australia Day") and related celebrations and spending? Also of wide community interest championed by Clr Drummond for further discussion is BODCs reconciliation plan (last noted in minutes July 2023). Can BODC, please provide a general update about the reconciliation plan?

REPLY

A Change the Date discussion with community requires a decision of Council.

5. Can BODC, please provide a general update about the reconciliation plan?

REPLY

As per the Council decision, Reconciliation Tasmania were to be engaged to undertake the development of the Reconciliation Action Plan. The timeframe is currently the second half of this financial year. That said, Council staff have been unable to secure a starting date from Reconciliation Tasmania at this time. Council remains committed to the development of the plan.

Communication policy and procedure

6. Does BODC have an overarching Communication Strategy? (one is cross referenced in the Community-Engagement-strategy) however it doesn't appear on the website?

REPLY

Communications Plans and Strategies are generally internal documents and staff develop these on a project and activity basis as each will be different. This is in accordance with our Community Engagement Framework.

Thank you for bringing the reference to a Communication Strategy in the Community Engagement Strategy – this should read, Break O’Day’s Community Engagement Promise, we have now rectified this.

7. Is there an opportunity for BODC to engage with the community to improve and input ideas regarding the Newsletter

REPLY

The BODC Newsletter’s main aim is to share with the community Council activities. When we review our Community Engagement Strategy, we would encourage the community to provide their feedback on how we engage with them. Of course, community members are always welcome to share their ideas and feedback with us at any time. If you have specific ideas you would like to share with us you are welcome to make an appointment with the Executive Officer, Jayne Richardson to discuss these.

8. Is there an opportunity for BODC to engage with the community to improve and input ideas regarding Facebook content? For example short videos could advise "what's on in this month’s Agenda". "what happened in today's meeting". "you may have seen in the news" This could also be used to explain common misconceptions about BODCs role in State Roads, Water Treatment, etc. Also audio and transcripts make information available to some community members excluded.

REPLY

We welcome and regularly receive content ideas from community. Thank you for your ideas.

9. Would BODC be open to a community discussion on the general topic of a Communication Strategy including channels and barriers? If yes, when and how? If no, why not?

REPLY

The Community Engagement Strategy is the document most appropriate for community comment as it details how, when and why we will engage with our community. When this strategy was developed it was open to community consultation and the community input received was included in the end document. When we review the Strategy there will be opportunities to seek feedback and ideas from the community about how we are doing.

A communication Strategy is generally an internal document. See above answer to Question 6.

10. Does BODC have a policy/procedure on responding to emails? If not why not? And when will BODC create this?

REPLY

Yes, you can find our Customer Service Charter on our website under Policy LG41 or on our Customer Feedback page.

11. Regarding finding out the Pumptrack has started work on a MTB Facebook post Does BODC have on projects a stakeholder and communication plan? If not why not? And when will BODC create this? If yes, why were residents not informed directly.

REPLY

Community and stakeholder engagement for the Pumptrack was undertaken in February to March 2023. A full report of this can be found on our website.

Community feedback for the Pumptrack was included in the Tender documents for the project.

Council awarded the tender and the schedule of works is to be completed by the contractor.

03/24.2.3 **St Marys to Cornwall Rail Trail – Clr Drummond OBO Gary Luck**

Further to my question in February relating to the St Marys to Cornwall Rail Trail.

I would like clarification of who owns the land? If it is the Commonwealth, I'd like to know what the land is designated as - e.g. Crown Land? Also, if it is Commonwealth Land, I'd like to know which Commonwealth Dept (and Minister) is responsible for the land? I'm keen to know who else I can lobby to raise awareness of this project.

REPLY

In past conversations with Tas Rail and Crown Land Services, this portion of track may still be under the control of Australian Rail Track Corporation which is owned by the Australian Government. We initially made contact with State Growth Tasmania but after follow up, a response was never received.

ARTC - Community Related Enquiries – 1300 550 402 - enviroline@artc.com.au

03/24.3.0

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS OF A COUNCILLOR OR CLOSE ASSOCIATE

Section 48 or 55 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires that a Councillor or Officer who has an interest in any matter to be discussed at a Council Meeting that will be attended by the Councillor or Officer must disclose the nature of the interest in a written notice given to the General Manager before the meeting; or at the meeting before the matter is discussed.

A Councillor or Officer who makes a disclosure under Section 48 or 55 must not preside at the part of the meeting relating to the matter; or participate in; or be present during any discussion or decision making procedure relating to the matter, unless allowed by the Council.

Councillor Chapple declared a potential interest in Agenda Item 03/24.9.4 - Ecological Restoration Program being conducted on the Skyline Tier by the North East Bioregional Network

03/24.4.0

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

03/24.4.1

Confirmation of Minutes – Council Meeting 19 February 2024

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 19 February 2024 be confirmed.

DISCUSSION:

Nil

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.4.1.322

Moved: Clr V Oldham / Seconded: Clr K Chapple

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 19 February 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.5.0 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD SINCE 19 FEBRUARY 2024 COUNCIL MEETING

There was a workshop held 4 March 2024 and the following items were listed for discussion.

- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) – 2024 National General Assembly of Local Government – Call for Motions
- St Helens and Binalong Bay Liveability Strategy – Strategic Regional Partnerships Project
- 7.1 Animal Control Report
- 7.2 St Marys Parking Strategy Development
- 8.1 Policy CB02 – Break O’Day Council Awards Policy
- 8.2 Community Funding Program 2023-2024
- 9.1 Pending Development Application Updates
- 10.1 Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) – Motions for Discussion at November General Meeting
- 10.2 LG05 Social Media Policy Review
- 10.3 Aquatic Facility Feasibility Study – Contractor Brief
- 10.4 Scamander River Golf Club – Construction of their own Club Room
- 10.5 Rescheduling 1 July Workshop

03/24.6.0 PLANNING AUTHORITY

The Mayor advised that as there are no Planning Items on the Agenda for today’s Council meeting. Council is not required to act as a Planning Authority pursuant to Section 25 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

03/24.7.0 COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS

03/24.7.1 Outstanding Matters

- Councillor Chapple asked about page 17 regarding the outdoor exercise equipment at Scamander. She noted that the application for funding was unsuccessful and asked do we have a timeframe for the next funding opportunity or what happens now?
- The Acting General Manager advised that he is unaware of any other funding opportunities at the moment, but that Council Officers will keep looking.

03/24.8.0 PETITIONS

Nil

03/24.9.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

03/24.9.1 Speed limit reduction – Clr Le Fevre

MOTION:

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

The Break O'Day Council petition the Department of State Growth for a speed limit reduction (60kmh-50kmh) from the Golden Fleece Bridge in St. Helens to the intersection of the Tasman Highway and St. Helens Point Rd.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION:

At present the 50 kmph speed limit ceases just North of the Golden Fleece Bridge. After consultation with rate payers who strongly advocate for the 50 kmh. limit to be enacted around the foreshore to the Lions Park the following points are raised:

1. They feel unsafe when travelling South and turning right to;
Medeas Cove Rd Jason St
Lawry Heights Atlas Drive
Falmouth St Perseus St
2. Given the increase in traffic numbers it is more difficult to enter the mentioned locations ie. having to wait longer periods and sometimes take additional risks to turn right
3. With additional visitors to the area there is significantly increased risk at and near the Lawry Heights/Tasman Highway intersection given the movements to and from the St. Helens Big 4 Caravan Park. As well as vehicle movements many visitors are using the location to link with the foreshore walking/riding track thus drivers have to be aware and note the safety of not only other drivers but also families crossing a significant road.
4. Increased activity at Pikes Slipway
5. Pedestrians crossing from Falmouth St. to the walking/riding track
6. The cross-over of pedestrians and bikers near the Lions Park
7. The highway is in generally poor condition in this stretch of road adding to safety concerns. It is narrow, poorly cambered and rough in spots with visibility when turning off and entering restricted.

St. Helens heavily relies on Tourism and as a world class destination we need to strive to ensure the safety of all. This reduction would increase safety levels and give greater peace of mind to all road users.

DISCUSSION:

- Councillor LeFevre advised that a ratepayer came to him outlining that on the southern side of the Golden Fleece Bridge, concerned that when someone turns onto roads along this stretch it can be quite dangerous. They are asking for a reduction of the speed limit from 60km/h to 50km/h. He noted that the stretch of road is much busier now than it used to be and is frequently used by children and families coming down from the caravan park and crossing the road to get to the foreshore walking track.
- Councillor Oldham agreed with Councillor LeFevre's comments about the traffic and the significant danger it presents.
- Councillor Wright said that most built up areas are 50km/h zones so she doesn't see why we shouldn't be 50km/h through that area.
- Councillor Chapple supported the motion especially with increased traffic from the new business at Perseus Street.
- Councillor Johnstone also supported the motion, but actually thinks with the increase of traffic in the municipality we should be looking at all our built up areas. She acknowledged this may need to go to State Growth and feels all built up areas should be 50km/h.
- Mayor Tucker indicated that Councillor Johnstone would need to make an amendment to include this.
- Councillor Johnstone said she did not wish to make an amendment, she was explaining why she wants to support it.
- Councillor Drummond also supported the motion and indicated that it aligns with our joining the SARA group. She noted that she has also been approached regarding Binalong Bay road recently and thinks we need to look at the municipality on the whole to make it safer and more accessible.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.9.1.323 Moved: Clr B LeFevre / Seconded: Clr V Oldham

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

The Break O'Day Council petition the Department of State Growth for a speed limit reduction (60kmh-50kmh) from the Golden Fleece Bridge in St. Helens to the intersection of the Tasman Highway and St. Helens Point Rd.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION:

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

The Break O’Day Council employ the dedicated Animal Control Officer for an additional day per week, commencing at the beginning of the new financial year.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION:

The Council Animal Control Officer provides a tremendous service to our Municipality. By the very nature of the position, difficult situations and difficult people sometimes make the position an onerous one. Our officer works in a professional manner and communicates well with the general public.

At present, there appears to be an increase in unlawful/unwarranted activities especially in relation to dogs. These include;

1. Barking dogs (how sad is it to hear of 2 residents selling homes to get away from neighbours with out-of-control barking dogs.
2. Owners disobeying the Council regulations eg. Dogs off lead on beaches, wharf area, in the CBD etc.
3. Owners walking dogs off lead causing issues for owners doing the right thing,
4. Dogs barking incessantly in carparks.
5. Owners letting dogs chase our wildlife especially shore birds.
6. Dogs loose and interfering with livestock.
7. Owners allowing dogs to excrete on nature strips, sporting grounds etc.
8. Owners not being responsible for collecting droppings’.
9. Dogs swimming on beaches and in gulches

The Animal Control Officer has a role to play in educating the community. It would be pro-active for the Officer to visit schools and provide written tips for the public. Imagine our Officer conducting community sessions relating to dog welfare, rules and use of bark collars etc. With an increase in working hours signage could be improved throughout the Municipality. There appears to be a high level of dog ownership in our Municipality.

Animal management is a very important facet of our lives and an area where the culture needs to be high level. Ratepayers should have the right to move through our municipality freely without hindrance from other animals or people allowing their animals to do the wrong thing. Ratepayers should feel the culture in Break O’Day is such that if they report continuous poor behaviour the Animal Control Officer is employed enough hours to quickly work on resolving any issues.

DISCUSSION:

- Councillor LeFevre gave his own personal examples of why he feels this is necessary. He said at home dogs are barking nearby especially when the postman and couriers arrive, at night there are 3 or 4 that bark nearby, at Akaroa when fishing lots there are lots of barking dogs, he can hear dogs barking at bowls and when he visits the supermarket a dog sticks its head through window and barks aggressively, on the way home dogs he sees dogs off lead at numerous locations and when swimming at the gulches people are encouraging their dogs to go swimming as well. He feels that the Animal Control Officer (ACO) needs more hours to do her job properly. He did acknowledge that 90% of dogs owners do right thing.
- Councillor Chapple said our ACO is extremely busy and she does think it absolutely warrants a report on what we can do to budget for this.
- Councillor Johnstone said she would like to put forward that it is a pity we call it an Animal Control Officer, 90% of dogs owners are well behaved so there are potentially 10% that are not and that would be the owner's responsibility. She asked can we create a better culture for dog owners in Break O'Day, and thinks it would be good for us to reconsider the name as words are important. When this report is written we should look at how we can do this but potentially need to look at calling this an Animal Welfare Officer. Councillor Johnstone also noted that she is a dog owner and takes her dog to areas which he is allowed to go to and people walk up to her on the street asking if they can pat the dog. She reiterated that council needs to progressive in the way we care for each other and our animals.
- Councillor Drummond said she is supportive of the increase in hours and likes what Councillor Johnstone said about changing the name to Animal Welfare Officer as it reflects what we do about educating people in the community. She noted that this should not be just about dogs but should also include other animals included in the new By-Law. She noted that the need for increased ACO hours was also raised with the NRM Committee and the Shore Bird Committee.
- Councillor LeFevre said he is not phased about what we call this person we just need extra time for this officer to do their job extensively. He said he would be very happy to see the education part of it take off and for the ACO to visit communities and run information sessions with things like bark collars.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.9.2.324 Moved: Clr B LeFevre/ Seconded: Clr K Chapple

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

The Break O'Day Council employ the dedicated Animal Control Officer for an additional day per week, commencing at the beginning of the new financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.9.3 Decision to demolish the Exhibition Hall at St Marys Recreation Ground – Clr Drummond

MOTION:

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

That Council rescind any former decision to demolish the Exhibition Hall at St Marys Recreation Ground and provide an assurance that the Exhibition Hall will not be demolished.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION:

The St Marys community are requesting a change of use of the building once the Active4Life Gym vacates the building, so that the community can continue to access and use this public building. The St Marys Repurposing and Recycling group, who just won an award for their work in the recycling area, are looking for a permanent home in which to conduct their repurposing work.

This group also want to expand that work to eventually provide a full repair café, this site would be an ideal situation for this group. This group saves a huge amount of material from going to landfill.

Other groups in the community such as the WOVBOD Choir and BODRA are also looking for storage space and this could be achieved in the Exhibition Hall. Initial conversations with the community have established that there is no expectation of Council improving the building with heating or ceilings. Further community discussion would obviously need to take place around a management plan for the Exhibition Hall.

DISCUSSION:

- Councillor Drummond said she is asking that Councillors rescind the previous decision to demolish the building and that we guarantee the community that there will be much more extensive community consultation before we consider demolishing the building. She noted that here are many community groups looking for space at the moment, particularly the St Marys upcycling and repurposing group, the choir and BODRA. She feels this space could be repurposed into something very useful for the community, and stated that it also has a place in people's hearts as it has been in St Marys since the 1920s.
- Councillor Wright said she is fully supportive of the motion.
- Councillor LeFevre said he would like to see this go back to workshop. He noted that Council would have a reason behind the demolition of the building and we need to explore the cost if it is maintained. He referred to the example of cost to maintain the old Scamander Bridge.

- Councillor Chapple agreed that they need to workshop it and would like to know why the building was condemned in first place, if there are any liability issues and questioned the structural integrity of the building.
- Councillor Drummond said she has asked for a report which condemned the building but this has not been provided, she was only given a report from 2007. She noted that when Hub 4 Health took over the lease a number of these issues were rectified. A local builder has looked at the building at the request of the community and cannot find anything structurally wrong with it, he advised that the timber alone is worth \$250,000.
- Mayor Tucker advised that as part of the report that is being sought, any building reports that are available will be provided to Councillors.
- Councillor Carter stated that we need to be aware of community sentiment and expectations and reiterated the need for us to consult with the community with any intentions for the building going forward.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.9.3.325 Moved: Clr J Drummond/ Seconded: Clr K Wright

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

That Council rescind any former decision to demolish the Exhibition Hall at St Marys Recreation Ground and provide an assurance that the Exhibition Hall will not be demolished.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.9.4 **Ecological Restoration Program being conducted on the Skyline Tier by the North East Bioregional Network – Clr Drummond**

MOTION:

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

That Council provide a statement of support for the Ecological Restoration Program being conducted on the Skyline Tier by the North East Bioregional Network.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION:

The North East Bioregional Network have been working for over 15 years with the contracted land managers of the Skyline Tier to provide ecological restoration services. "**Restore Skyline Tier**" is the largest ecological restoration project in Tasmania aiming to restore 2,000ha of Radiata Pine plantation back to native forest. Since the beginning of 2014 the project has been supported through funding from both government and private sources. This has allowed the establishment of a locally based professional ecological restoration crew.

A recent development, where ownership of that companies that manage the public land has changed hands, has resulted in a proposal that an area of the Skyline Tier would to be replanted with a fast turn-around pine crop this would degrade the area that is currently naturally regenerating. A public meeting on 24th February saw over 120 local community members come together to show their support for the restoration project and opposition to the replanting of the pine forest. The NRM committee took a field trip to the area on 5th March to better understand the proposal and the potential ramifications.

The benefits of the Restoration project are many, and include but are not limited to, the restoration of threatened vegetation communities *Eucalyptus globulus* (blue gum) and *Eucalyptus ovata* (black gum) forest; regeneration of coastal catchments, an extensive network of streams and wetlands; protection of scenic values; and control of a serious environmental weed (radiata pine).

DISCUSSION:

- Councillor Drummond said she is asking that Council provide a statement of support for the program which has been conducted for approximately 17 years by the North East Bioregional Network (NEBN). They have put over \$2 million worth of work into this area over many years. She advised that the owner of the land changed hands last year, the new company want to bulldoze the land, treat it with herbicides and plant it with radiata pine. She would like Council to provide a public statement of support for the work being done to restore the area, this was done by the Council in 2007 but would like the current Council to support this as well.
- Councillor Wright said she is fully supportive and also noted groups like the Green Army which can turn lives around, is fantastic for youth and has tremendous environmental impacts.
- Mayor Tucker advised that the council has also previously written to Guy Barnett MP and has always been supportive of everything that has been done. He did advise that we need to get further information as there is some discrepancy about the block of land being considered.
- Councillor Johnstone noted that this is not about future potential production forest, this land is outside that area, and although it has been logged before they removed pines only so that there could be restoration. She also attended a local community meeting about this where almost 150 people attended. She said it was wonderful to see how many young people had come along to support it, she spoke to lots of community members who were very concerned about issues to do with water and the poison that needs to be used for a pine plantation.

- Councillor Carter pointed out that between Wrinklers and Dianas Basin there are five creeks feeding into the ocean and they would cross this land, he feels we need to protect Break O’Day not international organisations.
- Councillor Chapple said she spent a lot of time trying to find owners of the land based on the list and wants this to come back to a workshop for further information.
- Councillor LeFevre said he would like this to come back to a workshop as there are pecuniary interests on both sides.
- Councillor Drummond clarified by asking who has a pecuniary interest?
- Councillor LeFevre said NEBN who have spent so much time and money restoring the land and the company who owns the land.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.9.4.326 Moved: Clr J Drummond/ Seconded: Clr K Wright

A report is sought providing advice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993 for the information of Council at a future meeting and consider any advice given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation:

That Council bring this matter back to the April workshop for further information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.9.5 **Reserve Activity Assessment Reform Process Submission - Clr Drummond**

MOTION:

That Council endorse the attached submission, to be provided by BODC, in response to a call for submissions to the **Reserve Activity Assessment Process Reform**.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION:

At the NRM Committee meeting on Tuesday 5th March the Committee was made aware of a call for submissions to the Reserve Activity Assessment Process Reform. The closing date for submissions has been extended until March 28th. A recommendation was put forward by the NRM Committee that Council provides a submission in response to this reform; this recommendation was supported unanimously by the members in attendance.

This submission has been prepared to meet that recommendation in the time frame allowed and as a matter of urgency before council.

Reserve Activity Assessment Process Reform - Submission

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed reforms to the Reserve Activity Assessment (RAA) process outlined in the Consultation Paper. The feedback presented below was endorsed by the Council during its meeting on 18 March 2024.

Scope of reforms

The consultation paper indicated these reforms only relate to significant projects - those that would usually fit within the level 3 reserve activity assessment under the current guidelines, albeit without a precise definition provided in the consultation paper, along with more general terms for eligibility, such as 'public interest', which are to be determined by the Minister.

Council acknowledges the need for such reforms but emphasises the necessity for broader reforms encompassing all activities subject to the RAA process. This includes cases involving historic works, where the current process appears to be applied without due consideration for existing use and access rights.

The council is confused about how the assessment, public and stakeholder consultation, and decision-making processes will work for ineligible lesser proposals - level 1, 2 and ineligible 3 level proposals - that don't get the Minister's approval as suggested in the consultation paper.

Regarding the use of Independent Assessment Panels for lower-level projects, Council does not support this approach. Instead, we advocate for refinements to the process to ensure fairness and equity in the assessment system and approvals.

New Statutory process

Council expresses apprehension regarding the resourcing capacity and consequences for the Tasmanian Planning Commission, which is intended to convene Independent Assessment Panels (IAP) for eligible RAA assessments. The Commission will need to have such a role fully resourced to protect its existing and already stretched responsibilities.

The method of selection, roles and terms of appointment of suitably qualified, independent members of the panel of members of Independent Assessment Panels (IAP) needs greater clarity.

A key concern for Council as Planning Authority has been long delays completing Reserve Activity Assessment (RAA) impacting its responsibility and pressure for prompt Planning Approvals.

Council is concerned that the model outlined in the Consultation Paper, whilst offering potential for greater certainty, looks like it will take much longer still, and require many more resources, whilst lacking any specific timeframe. While it also seeks to circumvent being called in by the State Planning Provisions to discretionary development assessment pathways, the proposed process appears nonetheless to be a more protracted one.

Council is troubled by the suggestion that the new process would allow for development proposals in reserves to be exempted from Codes in the relevant planning scheme that would otherwise apply to ensure fair and orderly use and development. The Parking and Sustainable Transport Code is given as an example of why, where a proposal is remote from vehicle access. But what if it weren't and was adjacent to other use and development where traffic and parking were issues?

The consultation paper suggests the IAP may selectively adopt requirements of a code in the assessment criteria. Council questions the merit of this exemption from codes.

The Parks and reserves. Tasmanian Planning Scheme Fact sheet 9 of the State Planning Office was cited at a briefing for local government organized by the Local Government Association:

“Local Councils should not be responsible for the assessment of use and development on reserved land in accordance with reserve management plans and the reserve objectives under NCA”
However, Fact sheet 9 also states, in recognizing earlier Interim Planning Schemes expected development on Reserves to comply with codes:

This acknowledges that the codes often deal with issues that may not be adequately considered as part of a RAA, such as the assessment of hazards like bushfire, flooding (riverine and coastal flooding), coastal erosion and landslip hazards.

Council is anxious that when everyone else must, Independent Assessment Panels (IAP) will not adequately deal with the issues these codes scrutinize. There are concerns about what the proposed changes might mean for the protection and conservation of the Aboriginal heritage sites.

Transparency

The ‘statutory’ reform proposal is framed as lifting the current administrative Reserve Activity Process (RAA) process up, to be like the transparency and public representation provided by the Land Use Planning Approvals Act (LUPA). While the statutory process proposed would make some public consultation law, other reforms would exclude the public and planning authorities from participating in assessments and decisions. Council is worried that the reforms proposed in fact reduce transparent participation.

Appeal processes

The absence of a merit-based appeal process within the proposed Reserve Activity Process (RAA) framework is concerning to Council. Council is concerned that it will not have rights to refuse or approve development proposals in Parks Reserves and that the community will not have third party merit-based appeal rights. It is deemed fundamental to natural justice to allow for a merit-based appeal of decisions pertaining to proposed activity in reserves, irrespective of the panel’s independence.

DISCUSSION:

- Councillor Drummond advised that she is not seeking a report due to the limited timeframe and outlined the submission that she has prepared.
- The NRM Facilitator acknowledged that the time frame has been short, and that we need to take a considered look and make a submission. He noted that the Department has offered us an extension to our April workshop to allow further consideration.
- Mayor Tucker confirmed that they have given an extension to the workshop in April.
- The NRM Facilitator advised that the extension is until after the April Council Meeting.

- Mayor Tucker clarified that no decision needs to be made today.
- Councillor Johnstone thanked Councillor Drummond and said she fully supports the motion. She said she appreciates the opportunity to take it back to workshop and hopefully add to the work that Councillor Drummond has started and that we can firm up this soft response if we need to.
- Mayor Tucker asked Councillor Drummond if she was happy for this to go to the April Workshop. Councillor Drummond agreed.
- Mayor Tucker asked all councillors to vote if they were happy with this and the vote was unanimous.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.9.5.327 Moved: Clr J Drummond/ Seconded: Clr L Johnstone

That Council endorse the attached submission, to be provided by BODC, in response to a call for submissions to the **Reserve Activity Assessment Process Reform**.

NO DECISION to be discussed at the April Council Workshop.

03/24.10.0 COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

03/24.11.0 COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Regulation 29 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005 specifies that in putting a Question Without Notice a Councillor must not offer an argument or opinion, draw any inference or make any imputations except so far as may be necessary to explain the question.

The Chairperson must not permit any debate of a Question without Notice or its answer.

Nil

20.02.2024	St Helens	– Meeting with MP Jen Butler
29.02.2024	Canberra	– Australian Local Government Association meeting
01.03.2024	St Helens	– Meeting with MP John Tucker
04.03.2024	St Helens	– Council Workshop
13.03.2024	Hobart	– Local Government Association of Tasmania - Mayor and Deputy Mayor workshop
14.03.2024	Hobart	– Local Government Association of Tasmania – General Meeting, General Management Committee Meeting
14.03.2024	Hobart	– TasWater Briefing
15.03.2024	Fingal	– Media Stop with Rebecca White MP and Jen Butler MP regarding Labor Election commitments.
17.03.2024	St Helens	– Meeting with the Hon.Mark Shelton, the Hon.Guy Barnett and Stephanie Cameron regarding Liberal Election commitments.
18.03.2024	St Helens	– Council Meeting

- Mayor Tucker advised that Labor Media release was put out today about extra funding for Break O'Day and opposition leader will send an email this week with a position on commitments for Break O'Day.
- Councillor Wright asked is this extra funding dependant on who gets into government?
- Councillor Drummond asked what is the extra funding for?
- Mayor Tucker answered that the Liberals acknowledged they will grant \$1 million to BODC to complete walkway and landslip restoration at the bottom of Parnella Drive and \$500,000 to upgrade evacuation centre at St Marys and \$200,000 co-contribution to put in a new telecommunications tower in St Helens. Spoke about what happened with the recent rain event. New tower will have minimum ten year capacity for upgrades and higher speeds.
- Councillor Johnstone noted that she did see Mayor Tucker and Councillor Barners on TV re housing at Fingal – we take no line except to be totally independent and unbiased, Labor party have committed to building 500 rural regional houses in Tasmania, 100 per year.

This is for Councillors to provide a report for any Committees they are Council Representatives on and will be given at the Council Meeting.

- **Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce and Tourism – Deputy Mayor Kristi Chapple**

- Councillor LeFevre advised that there was a guest speaker from the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and another from Chilli FM. There was also a discussion around a refreshed website and low numbers attended the meeting.
- **NRM Special Committee – Clr Janet Drummond**
 - A meeting was held on 5 March and included a visit to Skyline Tier, discussion regarding the RAA and increasing the hours of the Weeds Officer and the Animal Control Officer.
- **East Coast Tasmania Tourism (ECTT) – Clr Barry LeFevre**
 - A meeting will be held in early April.
- **Mental Health Action Group – Clr Barry LeFevre**

Nil

- **Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee – Clr Janet Drummond**
 - The Committee will hold a meeting on April 10 to finalise the review of the Action Plan. This will hopefully be at the next Council Meeting for discussion.
- **Bay of Fires Master Plan Steering Committee – Clr Ian Carter**
 - A meeting will be held in two day's time.

Meeting adjourned at 10.55am.

Meeting resumes at 11.25am.

FILE REFERENCE	018\018\001\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be received.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update on activities of the Business and Corporate Service Department since the previous Council Meeting.

DISCUSSION:

- The Acting General Manager advised the following:
 - That property valuation adjustment factors from the Office of the Valuer General are an interesting component of how land is valued in our municipality. Every 6 years we get a new valuation and in the interim we get adjustment factors every two years. What we have found is that the capital value of built structures has gone up significantly but the AAV (rental return) has not increased in the same way which is very odd.
 - Waste calendars will go out with the rates notices this year instead of being a separate contract with Australia Post as we found we have missed a lot of people in the last couple of years, residents can also collect the calendars from the front counter any time of the year.
 - Thanked the community and Council staff around the storm event we had on 21 February, it is a fairly unprecedented event and staff worked very hard. He noted that these things take lots of time and effort and repairs for recent rain event will go on for some time.
- Councillor Drummond asked to please explain the desktop valuation and then the physical valuation which takes place. The Acting General Manager advised that it is quite complex and would like to do a workshop item on this, he noted that the process itself is quite detailed and something that really does impact the community and Council quite heavily.
- Councillor Wright said a lot of people such as renters will not receive the calendars in the post, is there another option other than having to come into the council to collect them. The Acting General Manager not at this stage as there is already a significant expense to have them distributed. The Executive Officer advised that we also provide new resident packs to real estate agents with the calendars in there.
- Mayor Tucker noted that some people in our community have seen a 275% increase in land tax, there are people having to sell their holiday homes as they can no longer afford the land

taxes. This is not Council, it is a State Government land tax. Some owners are paying between \$10, 000 and \$25,000 in land tax per year.

- The Acting General Manager noted that the State passes on land tax increases directly in line with the valuation adjustment factors.
- Councillor Wright noted that if multiple people own the land they all get a large land tax bill, it is not shared between owners. The Acting General Manager said he thought that would be unlikely and had not come across a situation such as Clr Wright was referring to previously.
- Councillor Johnstone thanked everyone for their work regarding the storm event. She wondered if this is an opportune time to look at pre preparedness in our community around unprecedented natural disasters. We do know that with the changing weather now it is very difficult to measure what the weather is doing.
- Mayor Tucker advised that Brendan Mooney head of disaster funds in Australia, has advised that you can now access funds for betterment. He noted that in the past you had a disaster, got your funding and had to build like for like but now they have recognised that betterment funding is required to fix the problem before it reoccurs.
- The Acting General Manager advised that we have been doing a lot of work internally on infrastructure resilience for natural disasters, with the strategic regional partnership funding we will be looking at infrastructure resilience in relation to climate change, with lots more work to come.
- The Manager Community Services advised that we offer preparedness events all through the year with agencies such as the Tasmanian Fire Service and State Emergency Service, with very poor take up from the community. She said it would be good if Councillors encouraged people to attend these. Rain events are different as they are never the same, what we do know is that when we have rain events the water dissipates very quickly.
- Councillor Drummond said the betterment policy is fantastic but is concerned for residents that are really struggling with paying their insurance at the moment. When people consider this betterment policy when insuring it takes insurance to a very high level and is unaffordable for many home owners. She thinks that pre preparedness is very important. She also raised concerns regarding how some of the land in the municipality is rated, for example in flood plains.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.13.1.328

Moved: Clr B LeFevre / Seconded: Clr L Johnstone

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FILE REFERENCE	018\018\001\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the following reports for the month ending 29 February 2024 be received:

1. Profit and Loss Statements
2. Balance Sheet
3. Statement of Cash Flows
4. Capital Works 2023-2024

INTRODUCTION:

Presented to Council are the monthly financial statements.

DISCUSSION:

- The Acting General Manager advised that once you take out the two items which are impacted by the forward payment of the Financial Assistance Grants we are running close to budget. He also noted that there has been a question from the public regarding the budget for the pool study and explained that this is from the revised Capital Works Budget in February.

COUNCIL DECISION:**03/24.13.2.329**Moved: Clr K Chapple / Seconded: Clr K Wright

That the following reports for the month ending 29 February 2024 be received:

1. Profit and Loss Statements
2. Balance Sheet
3. Statement of Cash Flows
4. Capital Works 2023-2024

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FILE REFERENCE	040\028\002\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be received.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update on the activities and services the delivered by the Visitor Information Centre since the previous Council Meeting.

DISCUSSION:

- The Acting General Manager complimented the team at the Visitor Information Centre for continuing to do a great job. They also did a great job bucketing out water during the flood event while still remaining open to the public. Work will need to be done to the building.
- Councillor Johnstone thank volunteers for doing such a great job again during such a difficult time.
- Councillor Drummond - Shore bird Group also raised concerns re tourism numbers once we have extra Spirit of Tasmania boats coming.

COUNCIL DECISION:**03/24.13.3.330**Moved: Clr L Johnstone/ Seconded: Clr B LeFevre

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.14.0 WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

03/24.14.1 Works and Infrastructure Report

FILE REFERENCE	014\002\001\
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OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be received by Council.

INTRODUCTION:

This report provides summary detail relating to Works Operations and Capital Projects for the reporting period February 2024.

DISCUSSION:

- The Manager Infrastructure and Development Services stated last week we had a CASA surveillance audit at the aerodrome and we did very well with that. In terms of the 21 February storm event, we now have an estimate of \$510,000 of repair work (\$130,000 MTB Trails and \$380,000 roads). There have been landslips at Lottah Road, three significant slips and major damage occurred on Aerodrome Hill in the landslip area. The manager will seek advice on how to repair this.
- Councillor LeFevre thanked the Manager Infrastructure and Development Services and staff for the work on the boat ramps and the cleaning which is greatly appreciated.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.14.1.331 Moved: Clr B LeFevre/ Seconded: Clr G Barnes

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FILE REFERENCE	003\003\018\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be received by Council.

INTRODUCTION:

This is a monthly update for animal control undertaken since the last meeting of Council.

DISCUSSION:

- The Manager Infrastructure and Development Services informed Councillors the Animal Control Officer is currently on leave so we are only dealing with high priority issues at the moment.

COUNCIL DECISION:**03/24.14.2.332**Moved: Clr I Carter/ Seconded: Clr K Chapple

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.15.0 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

03/24.15.1 Community Services Report

FILE REFERENCE	011\034\006\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be received.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of various activities which are being dealt with by the Community Services Department.

DISCUSSION:

- Manager Community Services informed Councillors a 'for your information' email will be going out re-child and youth safe standards. The manager is still waiting to receive a response from Reconciliation Tasmania in regards to the Reconciliation Action Plan.
- Councillor Drummond enquired about council's sponsorship for two items for the Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) – what happens with those as there is no longer a physical office here in Break O'Day?
- Community Services Manager said, the \$2,000 is a donation towards the directory to cover maps and Council advertisements.
- Councillor LeFevre added that the BEC still has a physical presence at the back of the church, near the vet on Quail Street.
- Councillor Wright asked are they still running the directory?
- Manager Community Services answered that we don't pay the money out, unless we get a request from the group.
- Councillor Drummond asked if the money is just sitting there, then can that money be shifted to the community grants funds?
- Manager Community Services answered that the \$28,000 has already been spent. The \$2,000 request usually doesn't come until the second half of the year.
- Councillor Carter noted that a number of councillors attended that Child and Youth Safe information session. There is a lot of concern about volunteer/community groups and some not being aware they need to adhere to the Child and Youth Safe Framework.

- Mayor Tucker said it's not just about young children, it is any event that young children may attend. Lots of people think adult events don't have to work with the Child and Youth Safe Framework but they do if children may attend.
- Manager Community Services said as you are aware, we have asked for templates etc, but volunteer/community groups are still learning as well. As soon as we have all the information then we are happy to work with any community group that needs assistance.
- Councillor Wright said that since the BEC have now left their shopfront, she assumes that their costs would go down significantly. She also noted that a lot of small businesses are unaware of how to find them.
- Councillor LeFevre noted that BEC were co-located with Raine and Horne but Raine and Horne now would like the whole office space. BEC moved 1.5 weeks ago so it is very new and will be announced to the public in due course. BEC are in a similar funding position to the Online Access Centre meaning funding is very uncertain.
- Councillor Drummond was really curious about re youth space. She attended Lily's Women's Day Event and said it was absolutely fantastic. Funding for YCNECT finishing on 30 June and Councillor Drummond is concerned about where we are going with youth in our community and what services will be available come July 1. What will happen to these vulnerable young people?
- Manager Community Services is unsure and will need to discuss this with the St Helens Neighbourhood House about whether they will reapply for funding.
- Councillor Barnes will bring information back to next workshop.
- Councillor Carter noted Lily's Event was amazing and it was great to see council supporting it and the number of people who turned up.
- Manager Community Services informed Councillors that we will not bring youth committees report back to workshop, we will bring information back to Councillors.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.15.1.333

Moved: Clr G Barnes/ Seconded: Clr K Chapple

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FILE REFERENCE	002\024\004\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Policy CB02 – Break O'Day Council Awards Policy, as amended, be adopted.

INTRODUCTION:

Council has a schedule for regular review of Policies. This Policy is now due for review according to that schedule, being three (3) years since the last review.

DISCUSSION:

Manager Community Services discussed at a recent workshop. Removed procedure from the policy but incorporated awards around special events into the policy.

COUNCIL DECISION:**03/24.15.2.334**Moved: Clr B LeFevre/ Seconded: Clr K Wright

That Policy CB02 – Break O'Day Council Awards Policy, as amended, be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FILE REFERENCE

018\019\078\

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council fund the following projects through the Community Grants Program 2023 - 2024:

Organisation or Group name	Description of Project	Amount Requested from Council	Contribution from Organisation or Group	Other Approved Grants	Unsecured	Total Budget for Project
Ansons Bay Community Group	Welcome to Ansons Bay	\$1,800				\$1,800
Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House	Establishing a community garden in St Marys	\$15,000	\$11,000			\$26,000
With One Voice Choir		\$2,400	\$4,000 Inkind support			\$6,400
North East Bioregional Network	Break O'Day Shorebird and Nature Education Program	\$3,000	\$2,000			\$5,000
Break O'Day Christmas Festivities Group	Christmas Decorations and Events	\$5,000				\$5,000
St Helens Destination Action Plan Group	Off the Track Sculpture Walk	\$2,600				\$2,600
		<u>\$29,800.00</u>	\$17,000.00			\$46,800.00

INTRODUCTION:

Submissions for funding through the Community Funding Program closed on Monday 26 February, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

- Councillor Barnes noted that he may have a possible nonpecuniary conflict with this item.
- Councillor Barnes left room at 12.02pm.

- Manager Community Services did discuss each application at the March workshop and these recommendations came from that workshop.
- Councillor Drummond Shore Birds Group - questioned the \$3500 instead of the amount \$5560 that was requested.
- Manager Community Services answered that council will notify them it was a council decision and the explanation will let them know that Parks and Wildlife Services need to fund their own programs. We try and provide as much feedback as we can.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.15.3.335

Moved: Clr J Drummond/ Seconded: Clr K Chapple

That Council fund the following projects through the Community Grants Program 2023 - 2024:

Organisation or Group name	Description of Project	Amount Requested from Council	Contribution from Organisation or Group	Other Approved Grants	Unsecured	Total Budget for Project
Ansons Bay Community Group	Welcome to Ansons Bay	\$1,800				\$1,800
Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House	Establishing a community garden in St Marys	\$15,000	\$11,000			\$26,000
With One Voice Choir		\$2,400	\$4,000 Inkind support			\$6,400
North East Bioregional Network	Break O'Day Shorebird and Nature Education Program	\$3,000	\$2,000			\$5,000
Break O'Day Christmas Festivities Group	Christmas Decorations and Events	\$5,000				\$5,000
St Helens Destination Action Plan Group	Off the Track Sculpture Walk	\$2,600				\$2,600
		<u>\$29,800.00</u>	\$17,000.00			\$46,800.00

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.16.0 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

03/24.16.1 Development Services Report

FILE REFERENCE	031\013\003\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be received.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of various activities which have been dealt with by the Development Services Department since the previous Council meeting.

DISCUSSION:

- Development Services Coordinator informed Councillors the Tasmanian Planning Commission have now approved the last lot of amendments, so we have now reached the end of the Local Provisions Schedule process. Actions were not updated re painting of the building; this has commenced and is progressing well. Highlighted water quality reporting over the last month. Denison Rivulet has now had two moderate results and signage has been installed, will test again this week, if water is cleared, signs will be removed. Georges Bay has been cleared since rain event.
- Councillor Chapple enquired about immunisations – council are required to offer immunisations through *Public Health Act*, do we only offer immunisations through the schools? Why is this council's responsibility and not the Education Department?
- Development Services Coordinator responded that it is done through school, and we are also exploring options through the local chemist. It is an environmental, health function.
- Councillor Drummond thanked council for running a workshop in St Marys regarding the review of the Dog Management Policy and Off-Lead area and noted the community were very happy. Councillor Drummond asked does council have a timeframe for revised Dog Management Policy?
- NRM Officer answered that hopefully we will submit revised Dog Management Policy to the April workshop at St Marys.
- Councillor Drummond also wondered about cat management. Will the cat information session happen in the valley?
- NRM Officer responded that we are trying to organise a pop up information session at Fingal.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.16.1.336

Moved: Clr K Wright/ Seconded: Clr B LeFevre

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.17.0 GOVERNANCE

03/24.17.1 General Manager's Report

FILE REFERENCE	002\012\001\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the General Manager's report be received.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of various matters which are being dealt with by the General Manager and with other Council Officers where required.

DISCUSSION:

- The Acting General Manager informed Councillors that it has been a very busy month with the East Coast Strategic Regional Partnership and the State Election. Our priority projects list and a number of other items are now being looked at including St Marys Pass.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.17.1.337 Moved: Clr B LeFevre/ Seconded: Clr K Chapple

That the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.17.2 LG05 Social Media Policy Review

FILE REFERENCE	002\024\007\
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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive the proposed changes to the Social Media Policy and discuss these changes with the view of updating the policy and including not just personal use of Social Media but Organisational as well.

INTRODUCTION:

Council has a schedule for regular review of policies and this policy is due for review every four (4) years in line with Council's Policy Framework or earlier in the event of major changes to legislation or related policies, procedures or if deemed necessary by the General Manager.

DISCUSSION:

- The Executive Officer recounted that the Policy went to workshop and that it has now been rewritten to include organisational use of social media as well as personal use of social media.
- Councillor Johnstone noted this is an interesting space at the moment, internationally and nationally, feels like we need to keep abreast of this space.
- The Executive Officer commented that we got Councillor permission in workshop to turn off comments on social media posts as pages are responsible for comments.

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.17.2.338

Moved: Clr K Chapple Seconded: Clr V Oldham

That Council receive the proposed changes to the Social Media Policy and discuss these changes with the view of updating the policy and including not just personal use of Social Media but Organisational as well.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Pursuant to Regulation 15(1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 that Council move into Closed Council.

Moved: Clr K Chapple Seconded: Clr G Barnes

IN CONFIDENCE

03/24.18.0 **CLOSED COUNCIL**

03/24.18.1 **Confirmation of Closed Council Minutes – Council Meeting 19 February 2024**

OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes of the Closed Council Meeting held on the 19 February 2024 be confirmed.

DISCUSSION:

Nil

COUNCIL DECISION:

03/24.17.2.338 Moved: Clr K Chapple/ Seconded: Clr G Barnes

That the minutes of the Closed Council Meeting held on the 19 February 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

03/24.18.2 **Outstanding Actions List for Closed Council**

- Councillor Chapple referenced page 98 of the agenda in regards to review of project (2 Annie St) due to underfunding. Where do we move forward from here?
- The Acting General Manager responded that the transfer of land to police station is still being progressed.
- Councillor Chapple asked if we can't get an answer from them re helipad will council move forward with what we want to do?
- Councillor Wright added how will this impact on council's plan for future housing with the noise of the helipad?
- Councillor Wright asked about the Titley Shack issue. We have a business there operating and earning substantial amounts of money but only paying a very small rental amount of that property.
- The Acting General Manager responded that a new commercial lease was signed last year.
- Councillor Wright asked why has this not been shared with Councillors when she has asked several times in the past?

- The Acting General Manager responded that commercial leases are an operational matter and not usually reported to Councillors.

Moved: Clr G Barnes /Seconded: Clr K Chapple

03/24.18.3 Closed Council Item Pursuant to Section 15(2)A of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - General Manager Employment Contract

Pursuant to Regulation 15(1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005 that Council move out of Closed Council.

03/24.19.0 MEETING CLOSED

Mayor Tucker thanks everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 12.48pm.

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MAYOR

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DATE