



Council Meeting **Minutes**

Wednesday 5
November 2025

Commencing at 5:30pm

Wycheproof Supper Room
367 Broadway, Wycheproof

Jenna Allan
Acting Chief Executive Officer



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 COUNCIL WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	3
2 RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES	3
3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	3
4 GENERAL BUSINESS	4
4.1 MANAGEMENT REPORTS	4
4.1.1 BUILDING A BETTER BULOKE 2040: COMMUNITY VISION.....	4
5 MEETING CLOSE	9

Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 November 2025.**CHAIRPERSON:**

Cr Alan Getley (Mayor)

Mallee Ward

COUNCILLORS:

Cr Bernadette Hogan

Mallee Ward

Cr Stephen Barratt

Lower Avoca Ward

Cr Bruce Stafford

Lower Avoca Ward

Cr Graeme Milne (Deputy Mayor)

Mount Jeffcott Ward

Cr Charmaine Delaney

Mount Jeffcott Ward

OFFICERS:

Jenna Allan

Acting Chief Executive Officer

Paula Gardiner

Acting Director Infrastructure and Delivery

Salomme Menezes

Acting Director Corporate and Organisational
Performance

Gaynor Atkin

Director Community Development

1 COUNCIL WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**WELCOME**

The Mayor Cr Alan Getley will welcome all in attendance.

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor Cr Alan Getley will acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting and pay our respects to their Elders and to the Elders from other communities who may be here today.

2 RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES

Daniel McLoughlan

Chief Executive Officer

3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4 GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 MANAGEMENT REPORTS

4.1.1 BUILDING A BETTER BULOKE 2040: COMMUNITY VISION

Author's Title: Director Community Development

Directorate: Community Development

File No: CM/13/09

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Vibrant and connected communities
Strengthen community activity and connections

Council leadership and engagement
Consulting with and informing our community

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision for consideration and adoption by Council.

SUMMARY

In accordance with Section 88 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Building Buloke 2030 Community Plan has been revised to form the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision: '*We will be a healthy, socially connected, inclusive and accessible community with a prosperous economy offering services, amenities and activities that match our desired liveability*'. It is noted that the final graphic designed version of the document will be uploaded to Council's website on Monday 3 November 2025 ahead of the Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday 5 November 2025.

MOTION

That Council:

1. Adopts the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision.
2. Notes that no changes have been made to the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision in response to the four (4) submissions received during the public exhibition period.
3. Provides a written response to all four (4) community members and stakeholders who submitted feedback on the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision.

MOVED: Cr Stephen Barratt

SECONDED: Cr Charmaine Delaney

CARRIED.
(R/25/107)

DISCUSSION

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, all Victorian Councils must maintain a Community Vision with an outlook of at least 10 years. The Community Vision describes the long-term community's aspirations for the future of the municipality.

Buloke Shire Council's first ten-year Community Vision was developed in 2018 as part of the Building Buloke 2030 Community Plan.

In March and April 2025, community members were invited to participate in surveys, discussions and workshops to develop the Council Plan 2025-2029. This engagement process included a Community Summit with members of the ten township Community Planning Forums representing Berriwillock, Birchip, Charlton, Culgoa, Donald, Nandaly, Nullawil, Sea Lake, Watchem and Wycheproof.

The objective of the Summit was to introduce the Council Plan and Community Vision process and how the community and their township plans would inform the process. As a result of the feedback received, the Community Vision has been revised to form the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision as follows:

'We will be a healthy, socially connected, inclusive and accessible community with a prosperous economy offering services, amenities and activities that match our desired liveability'.

Although the Vision was developed at the time of the Council Plan 2025-2029, its adoption has been delayed to align with the other long-term timeframes of the Asset Plan, Financial Plan and the Buloke Health and Wellbeing Plan. This has also allowed further review and alignment to the ten Community Plans developed by the local Community Forums.

A review of the Buloke Community Vision 2030 priority areas has also been undertaken to ensure their alignment with the Council Plan 2025-2029. These areas remain unchanged.

Our Community Wellbeing

Buloke is a welcoming, well-connected and inclusive community built around social connections for all age groups and backgrounds and access to, as well as ongoing advocacy for, vital services.

Our Built and Natural Environment

Buloke has quality, safe and accessible infrastructure valued by the community alongside attractive streetscapes and a protected and celebrated natural environment reflecting Buloke pride.

Our Economy

Buloke is an innovative and strong economy with agriculture, small business and industry capitalising on new ideas to provide a range of employment and tourism opportunities backed by the services, connectivity and housing to achieve population stability.

Our Council and Community Leadership

Buloke is strongly and dynamically led by a Council demonstrating effective communication to community, active partnerships, authentic advocacy and quality customer service delivering valued community services in a responsible way.

With the recent adoption of the Council Plan 2025-2029, and the development of 10 new township Community Plans, a review of the Building Buloke 2030 Community Plan has been undertaken.

The review identified that the Building Buloke 2030 Community Plan and strategies duplicated those found in other Council and the township Community Plans. To reduce this duplication and provide greater clarity on Council and community priorities, the Building Buloke 2030 Community Plan has been replaced with the simplified *Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision* document.

RELEVANT LAW

The development of a Community Vision is a legislative requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The *Local Government Act 2020* states that a:

- *A Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.*
- *The scope of the Community Vision is a period of at least the next 10 financial years.*
- *A Community Vision must describe the municipal community's aspirations for the future of the municipality.*
- *A Council must develop or review the Community Vision in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and adopt the Community Vision by 31 October in the year following a general election.*
- *The Community Vision adopted under subsection (4) has effect from 1 July in the year following a general election.*

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council decisions around other key strategic documents will interact with the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision once adopted.

OPTIONS

Council has the option to not adopt the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision.

Council also has the option to make changes to the Vision in response to the four (4) submissions received during the Public Exhibition Period.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision reflects the extensive engagement undertaken by the community, over the last two years, through the development of the ten township Community Plans.

This information has influenced the revision of the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision and has been further reviewed through specific consultation on the Council Plan and Community Vision which was undertaken with the ten Community Planning Forums at a Community Summit event in March 2025.

The Draft Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision was considered at the Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday 15 October 2025. In considering the draft Vision, Council resolved to endorse the Draft Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision to go on public exhibition for feedback from Thursday 16 October 2025 to Thursday 30 October 2025.

This public exhibition period was promoted on the Council website, social media, local papers and radio. In addition, hardcopies were made available for review at the Wycheproof Customer Service Centre and on request by contacting Council.

At the conclusion of the public exhibition period, Council received four (4) submissions however no changes have been made to the Vision.

Follow up discussions with all community members and stakeholders who submitted feedback on the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision will be held to further explore their submissions and intentions.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The review of the Building a Better Buloke 2030 Community Plan and Vision identified an opportunity to improve how the community's aspirations can be represented and incorporated into other key Council and community plans.

COLLABORATION

The development of the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision incorporates collaboration efforts undertaken with local Community Planning Forums and other key stakeholders through strategic planning over the past two years.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The implementation of the Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision will be supported through Annual Budgets adopted each year as well as the Financial Plan. Additionally, external funding may also be required and sought to achieve the outcomes of the Vision.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

The Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision acknowledges the actions and objectives of other key Council plans and strategies, including the Council Plan 2025-2029.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report follows the public exhibition of the Draft Building a Better Buloke 2040: Community Vision from Thursday 16 October 2025 to Thursday 30 October 2025 that enabled the public to make submissions and provide feedback.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer involved in the development of this report has a conflict of interest.

Attachments:

1. Attachment 4.1.1.1 - Summary of Public Submissions received Draft Building a Better Buloke 2040 Communit
2. Attachment 4.1.1.2 - FINAL - Building a Better Buloke 2024 Community Vision - Nov 2025

5 MEETING CLOSE

Meeting closed at 5:37pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be held in Wycheproof Hall Supper Room on 19 November 2025 at 7:00pm.