



Media Release

July Council Meeting Wrap

13 July 2018

Buloke Shire Council's July Ordinary Meeting was highlighted by the adoption of its Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and its Volunteer Strategy. Council also endorsed the draft Community Local Laws and draft Inclusiveness Plan to go on public exhibition and reviewed its Year 1 Action Plan amongst a full agenda.

The adopted Economic Development and Tourism Strategy examines the current trends in population, economic drivers and tourism markets and builds on these through eight strategies that will ensure that the Buloke Shire is an attractive place to invest. The strategy also sets out a clear action plan for implementation to drive economic activity over the coming four years.

Council's Volunteer Strategy has been adopted and prioritises six key strategies in which Council will support volunteering in Buloke. All communities within Buloke rely heavily on volunteers and this strategy provides a commitment to strengthen and support those volunteers within the community and Council.

Several important draft plans have been adopted to be placed on public exhibition. The draft Inclusiveness Plan is about seeing and hearing our residents whose voices are often unheard and contributions to our community often unseen. The broad plan acts as a conversation piece to help frame conversations and gain feedback to develop the final plan.

The draft Community Local Laws 2019 was prepared based on a review of the current Local Laws and a literature review of neighbouring Council's Local Laws. An extended community consultation will now take place in order to receive feedback on the proposed changes. Council has also endorsed its draft Meetings Procedure and Common Seal Local Law for consultation.

Council has noted the progress made against the adopted Year 1 Action Plan as part of the delivery of the Council Plan 2017 -2021. This is the first time Council has produced an Annual Plan that would strategically demonstrate how the Council Plan would be delivered. Overall results show that 30 of 46 adopted actions were completed with eight outstanding actions set to be completed soon and a further eight have varied due to budgeting components spanning two financial years.

Council has taken the Sustainability Victoria TAKE2 pledge as it commits to a range of actions to support the state's collective climate change program. The TAKE2 pledge is about reducing emissions to zero by 2050.

A total of \$13,500 of funds has been distributed through the Community Grants and Sponsorship and Sustainability Reserve programs to projects and events in Birchip, Charlton, Sea Lake and Watchem.

Council's next Ordinary Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 August 2018. You can view the minutes from the July Ordinary Meeting at www.buloke.vic.gov.au

End release

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