



Media Release

February Meeting Wrap

15 February 2019

Buloke Shire Council held its first Ordinary Meeting of Council for the year on Wednesday 13 February. The agenda was highlighted by the adoption of Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Social Media Policy and the noting of progress against the Annual Plan.

Council has adopted its Long Term Financial Plan 2018/19-2028/29. The purpose of the long-term financial plan is to express in financial terms the activities that Council proposes to undertake over the medium to longer term to achieve its stated objectives. It is similar to, but less detailed than, the Annual Budget and helps guide Council's future actions depending on the longer-term revenue and expenditure proposals.

Long-term financial plans are particularly important for entities like Councils, that have a high level of long-lived assets and significant asset management responsibilities relative to their income base.

The preparation of the long-term financial plan generates improved information to guide Council's decisions about the mix and timings of outlays on operating activities and asset renewal and the funding implications of these. The plan sets out some key important principles, such as prioritising asset renewal and reducing debt. Importantly, the plan highlights that through savings made in operational expenditure levels over the past four years, Council will be in a position to invest an additional \$2million into its road network each year.

Council noted solid progress against the Council Plan 2017-2021 Annual Plan Year 2. The plan, which was adopted alongside the 2018/19 budget, provides the key strategic work for the financial year. Whilst most projects are ongoing, notable completed projects include the Integrated Buloke Community Plan, Returning Water to Green Lake Project and the Business Continuity Management Plan.

Council has adopted its updated Social Media Policy. The policy was first adopted by Council in February 2016 before Council launched its Social Media presence. The policy is an important document to uphold Council's integrity whilst having a significant online presence. Council operates Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages and has over 2,000 residents engaging with Council on these platforms.

Minutes from and documents relating to the Ordinary Meeting are available on Council's website.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday 13 March 2019.

End release

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