



Council Meeting Minutes

23 June 2026 at 1pm

COPACC Meeting Rooms 1 & 2

COLAC OTWAY SHIRE COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 23 June 2026

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COLAC OTWAY SHIRE COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of the **COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COLAC OTWAY SHIRE COUNCIL** held at
COPACC on Tuesday 23 June 2026 at 1:00 PM.

MINUTES

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING OF MEETING

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, we seek your blessing and guidance in our deliberations on behalf of the people of the Colac Otway Shire. Enable this Council's decisions to be those that contribute to the true welfare and betterment of our community.

AMEN

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Colac Otway Shire acknowledges the original custodians and law makers of this land, their elders past and present.

RECORDING AND PUBLICATION OF MEETINGS

Please note: All Council meetings will be live streamed and recorded when the meeting is held either at COPACC or online. This includes the public participation sections of the meetings. When meetings are held in other locations, Council will endeavour to make an audio recording of the meeting for community access. Matters identified as confidential items in the Agenda will not be live streamed or recorded regardless of venue or mode.

By participating in open Council meetings, individuals consent to the use and disclosure of the information they share at the meeting (including any personal and/or sensitive information).

As soon as practicable following each open Council meeting, the live stream recording will be accessible on Council's website. Audio recordings are also taken to facilitate the preparation of the minutes of open Council meetings and to ensure their accuracy. Recordings will be retained by Council for a period of four years.

This meeting will be livestreamed to the public via Council's YouTube channel (search Colac Otway Shire Council at www.youtube.com).

3 MEETING ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Present

Cr Jason Schram (Mayor)
Cr Phil Howard (Deputy Mayor) by videoconference
Cr Zoe Hudgell
Cr Charlie Buchanan
Cr Mick McCrickard
Cr Chrissy De Deugd

Andrew Tenni, Chief Executive Officer
Emma Lowes, General Manager Corporate Services
Mikael Blyth, Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Environment
Anita Craven, Executive Officer Governance
Matilda Hardy-Smith, Coordinator Council Business

3.2 Apologies and Leaves of Absence

Cr Chris Potter
Doug McNeill, General Manager Infrastructure and Environment
Ian Seuren, General Manager Community and Economy

3.3 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Hudgell, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 May 2026.

CARRIED 6 : 0

3.4 Declarations of Interest

Cr Buchanan	Material	Item 6.1 - PP4/2026-1 - 260 Warrowie Road IRREWARRA - Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling Excision) in Farming Zone	Son is the applicant.
Andrew Tenni	Material	Item 7.2 - Colac Otway Shire Grants Program 2026-27 and Trees for Farms Grants Program - Allocation of Funds	Member of the Colac Area Health Foundation Board which is an applicant to Councils grant program.

Anita Craven	Material	Item 7.2 - Colac Otway Shire Grants Program 2026-27 and Trees for Farms Grants Program - Allocation of Funds	Is a non-executive director of Are-Able who have submitted for a grant.
Cr De Deugd	Material	Item 7.2 - Colac Otway Shire Grants Program 2026-27 and Trees for Farms Grants Program - Allocation of Funds & Item: 7.1 - 2026-27 Budget for Adoption	Is a paid employee of the Apollo Bay Community Hall which has a direct and indirect benefit of a proposed grant and financial allocation in the draft budget.

4 QUESTION TIME

A maximum of 30 minutes is allowed for question time. In accordance with section 47.3 of Councils Governance Rules, a time limit of 3 minutes per question was allowed, with a maximum of two questions per person. In accordance with rule 47.4, lengthy questions have been summarised.

QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING PRIOR TO THE MEETING

Stephen Hart

Question relates to the budget and the fortnightly drop off waste service at Beech Forest, Carlisle River, Gellibrand and Lavers Hill. For more than a decade, Council provided two extra services at January each year and one extra at the time of the Easter school holiday period. This means that from the end of December until the end of January there are normally services scheduled for five weeks in a row. Then if a collection is cancelled due to the fire risk, residents only have to wait one extra week to drop off their rubbish.

This year Council didn't provide the two extra services at January. It meant that there was almost a month between collections when just one collection was cancelled.

1. Will Council provide the two extra drop off collection in January 2027 and the one extra around the time of the Easter school holiday period or has Council permanently removed these three collections?

Response Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Environment

The additional January and Easter drop-off services have not been permanently removed. They didn't occur in January this year due to the fires and disruptions that were subsequently caused.

For 2027, Council will continue with the additional collections across January, as well as an additional service during the Easter school holiday period. This restores the service level previously provided and addresses the gap experienced in January 2026.

The 2026–27 drop-off calendars have now been finalised and issued to our contractor for distribution across all four locations.

QUESTIONS RECEIVED VERBALLY AT THE MEETING

Tony Webber

1. When we get to more than an inch or 25 millimetres of rain, the little well, it's sort of a bridge over Anderson's Creek floods and it's quite dangerous for traffic. It can get quite deep just before you enter the recycling centre. So, can anything be done about this?

This question was taken on notice by the Acting Manager Infrastructure and Environment. A response was provided on 24 June 2026 and can be found below.

The Anderson Creek major culvert on Montrose Avenue will be inspected by Council officers this Friday 26th June. Any restrictions to flow caused by vegetation, silt etc will be programmed for removal by Councils Operations staff. Other issues that may be more significant will be inspected further and an appropriate response developed. Over the longer term the amenity of Montrose Avenue is part of Councils management of our road infrastructure in Apollo Bay.

2. Proposed development on the Baron Valley Road. I think it's 265. I don't know if any of the Councillors or staff have seen the promotions for it. It's about 80 lot subdivision. It's apparently biodynamic or permaculture. Has the council approved this or have they seen the plans?

Response Chief Executive Officer

Yes we are aware of the proposal that's being circulated around. There's been no approval from council for such a development. We're still trying to understand what the proposal actually is. We understand it's offering the ability for people to lease lots in that development. So, the short answer is no. Council hasn't approved anything as yet. It's not a council project. We're monitoring it. But if people are approached with such an opportunity, they should be seeking out their own independent advice and doing their due diligence around it as well.

Elizabeth Ryan

Ms Ryan raised concerns about frequent unsafe driving at the Cape Otway Road and Birregurra-Deans Marsh Road intersection, where vehicles often fail to slow or stop, despite flashing 60 km/h signs and the absence of rumble strips. Ms Ryan also highlighted a similar incident in Birregurra township, where a vehicle reversed across Main Street to change direction.

Question:

1. Could Council please urgently address the road safety issues identified.

Response Mayor Cr Schram

This sounds like a police matter, have you reported it?

Elizabeth Ryan

It's an ongoing police matter, but there's things that the shire could do to remedy this, like the rumble strips. Because that's on Cape Otway Road.

Response Mayor Cr Schram

On both sides?

Elizabeth Ryan

It's on the Birregurra side, when you're coming up the Cape Otway Road.

Response Chief Executive Officer

Through you Mayor. So, you've given us the intersection that you're talking about and what you're looking at. And so, we'll send some engineers out to have a look at that in the next couple of weeks.

Elizabeth Ryan

2. And then the same in the Birregurra with the main street where the vehicles just reverse. They don't care. They just come straight out of a park, reverse across the full width of Main Street and then go on their merry way instead of instead of doing a blocky. It's just it just happened again in front of me as I came in.

Response Chief Executive Officer

So again, through you, Mayor, that's driver behaviour and something we can't do much about, but that's a Department of Transport Road and we'll mention that again to them and see whether there's anything that they suggest could be done.

Elizabeth Ryan

3. Could Council please investigate parking across driveways in Murray Street between Scott Street and Armstrong Street. I was actually parked in the Garden of Eden car park the other day and went to leave and highway patrol car actually decided to come for a coffee because there's actually it says you can park through there but you actually then can't exit the car park.

Response Chief Executive Officer

Again, through you, Mayor. We'll have a look into that.

5 PETITIONS / JOINT LETTERS

Nil reports.

Item: 6.1

**PP4/2026-1 - 260 Warrowie Road IRREWARRA -
Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling
Excision) in Farming Zone**

ADDRESS AND PROPERTY DETAILS	260 Warrowie Road IRREWARRA C/A: 42 V/F: 6874/790 Parish of Irrewarra	APPLICATION NUMBER	PP4/2026-1						
PROPOSAL	Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling Excision)								
PERMIT TRIGGERS	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Planning scheme clause</th> <th>Matter for which the permit has been applied for</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>35.07-4 (FZ)</td> <td>Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling Excision)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>45.02-3 (AEO2)</td> <td>Subdivision of Land into Two Lots</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Planning scheme clause	Matter for which the permit has been applied for	35.07-4 (FZ)	Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling Excision)	45.02-3 (AEO2)	Subdivision of Land into Two Lots
Planning scheme clause	Matter for which the permit has been applied for								
35.07-4 (FZ)	Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling Excision)								
45.02-3 (AEO2)	Subdivision of Land into Two Lots								
TRIGGER FOR DETERMINATION BY COMMITTEE	Dwelling Excision in the Farming Zone								
ZONE	Farming Zone	OVERLAYS	Airport Environs Overlay (AEO2) – 2.01% (far east corner)						
COVENANTS	CAVEAT AY113272F 19/06/2024 Grounds of Claim - OPTION TO LEASE Mining Rights over the land								
CULTURAL HERITAGE	Yes								
OFFICER	Ian Williams	GENERAL MANAGER	Ian Seuren						
DIVISION	Community and Economy								

Cr Buchanan declared a Conflict of Interest pursuant to Section 128 of the Local Government Act 2020 and left the meeting at 1.11pm.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Howard, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That the Planning Committee resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit for Subdivision of Land into Two (2) Lots (Dwelling Excision) at 260 Warrowie Road IRREWARRA C/A: 42 V/F: 6874/790 Parish of Irrewarra, subject to the following conditions:

Endorsed Plans

- 1. The layout and site dimensions of the subdivision hereby permitted, as shown on the endorsed plan, must not be altered or modified without the written consent of the Responsible Authority. There are no requirements to alter or modify the endorsed plan if a plan is certified under the provisions of the Subdivision Act 1988 that is generally in accordance with the endorsed plan/s.*

Easements

- 2. Prior to the certification of the plan of subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, all easements deemed necessary to protect existing or future drainage lines within the subject site, and any easements required between the subject site and the nominated legal point of discharge must be created to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*

Servicing Authorities

- 3. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage, sewerage facilities, electricity and gas (where it is proposed to be connected) services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.*
- 4. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of that Act.*
- 5. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing or required utility services and roads on the land must be set aside in the plan of subdivision submitted for certification in favour of the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created.*

Onsite Wastewater Management

- 6. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance under the Subdivision Act 1988, the existing onsite wastewater management system must either be altered, or a new domestic wastewater management system must be constructed to service the existing dwelling. The design and alteration or installation of any wastewater disposal system for any building on the land must comply with the EPA Guidelines for Onsite Wastewater Management (May 2024, or as amended) and the EPA Effluent Dispersal and Recycling Systems Guidance (May 2024, or as amended), to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*

Subdivisions and Boundary Re-alignments

- 7. The onsite wastewater management system, including the wastewater treatment system and effluent disposal field, must be contained entirely within the lot boundary. In the event the system is not contained entirely within the allotment, or the existing system is failing, an application to alter the existing system to meet*

current EPA Guidelines for Onsite Wastewater Management (May 2024, or as amended) must be submitted to Council’s Health Protection Unit.

Expiry

8. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

- a) The plan of subdivision is not certified within two years of the date of the permit.**
- b) A statement of compliance is not issued within five years of the date of certification of the plan.**

The Responsible Authority may extend the period for certification referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within six months afterwards.

Notes

- 1. A works within road reserve permit is required prior to any works being undertaken on Council managed road reserves within the Colac Otway Shire.**
- 2. Prior to conducting any drainage works, a legal point of discharge (LPoD) must be obtained in accordance with Building Regulation 133. A copy of the LPoD, which incurs a fee in accordance with the Building Regulations, must be submitted with the engineering plans.**
- 3. A separate application to install/alter an onsite wastewater management system must be submitted and approved by Council’s Health Protection Unit prior to the commencement of works. The Health Protection Unit reserves the right to request a Land Capability Assessment (LCA) by a suitably qualified person and submitted for approval at the wastewater permit application stage. The LCA must be accompanied by a detailed system design if required by the Health Protection Unit.**

CARRIED 4 : 1

For	Against
Cr Howard	Cr De Deugd
Cr McCrickard	
Cr Hudgell	
Cr Schram	

Cr Buchanan returned to the meeting at 1.27pm

Item: 7.1 2026-27 Budget for Adoption

OFFICER	Azam Mahmood
GENERAL MANAGER	Emma Lowes
DIVISION	Corporate Services

Cr De Deugd declared a Conflict of Interest with this item, and subsequent item 7.2, pursuant to Section 128 of the Local Government Act 2020 and left the meeting at 1.27pm.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr McCrickard, Seconded Cr Hudgell

That Council:

- 1. Having considered all submissions received, adopts the Budget 2026-27 and subsequent three (3) financial years, including Fees and Charges, annexed to this resolution as Attachment 2 and 3 in accordance with Section 94 and 96 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).***
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of Council's decision to adopt the Budget 2026-27 and subsequent three (3) financial years and write to all submitters to the Draft Budget 2026-27 to thank them and advise them of the Council's decision.***
- 3. Declares its intention to raise the following amount:
An amount of \$40,007,259 as the amount that Council intends to raise by general rates (described later in this resolution), municipal charge and service rates and charges (Waste Management and Tirrengower Drainage Scheme), which is calculated as follows:***

Category	Income
General Rates	\$ 31,316,935
Municipal Charge	\$ 3,396,981
Annual Service (Waste Management Charges)	\$ 5,270,843
Tirrengower Drainage Scheme Reserve	\$ 22,500
Total	\$ 40,007,259

4. Declares a general rate in respect of the 2026-27 Financial Year.

- a. It be further declared that consistent with Council's Revenue and Rating Plan and having regard to the considerations outlined in the Budget for the 2026-27 financial year, the general rate be raised by the application of differential rates.**
- b. Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of each piece of rateable land by the relevant rate in the dollar indicated in the following table:**

Type or class of land	2026-27 cents/\$CIV*
Residential - Colac/Elliminyt	0.002935
Residential - Balance Of Shire	0.002495
Holiday Rental	0.003082
Rural Farm	0.001908
Commercial/Industrial - Colac/Elliminyt	0.004843
Commercial/Industrial - Balance Of Shire	0.004109

- 5. Declares a Municipal Charge for the 2026-27 Financial Year to contribute to the administrative costs of the Council in the amount of \$222 per annum for each rateable property in respect of which a municipal charge can be levied.**
- 6. Declares the following Annual Service (Waste Management) Charges for the 2026-27 financial year:**
 - a. An Annual Service (Waste Management) Charge of \$481 per annum for the weekly kerbside collection and disposal service for all land used primarily for residential or commercial purposes that are located on the designated collection routes.**
 - b. An Annual Service (Waste Management) Charge of \$368 per annum for the fortnightly kerbside collection and disposal service for all developed land used primarily for residential or commercial purposes that are located on the designated collection routes.**
- 7. Declares a Special Charge for the Tirrengower drainage works to be calculated at \$2.50 per hectare for the 2026-27 financial year in respect of all land previously declared by Council in its resolution on 24 January 2018 and listed in the Schedule attached to the 24 January 2018 resolution.**
- 8. Requires any person to pay interest (only to be calculated from 1 January 2022) at the maximum rate calculated in accordance with Section 172(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 on any amounts of rates and charges which: a. that person is liable to pay; and b. have not been paid by the date specified for their payment.**
- 9. Allows the general rates, Municipal Charge and Annual Service (Waste Management) Charges to be paid in accordance with Section 167 of the Local Government Act 1989 by four instalments due on or before:**
 - a. 30 September 2026;**
 - b. 30 November 2026;**
 - c. 28 February 2027;**
 - d. 31 May 2027.**

10. Authorises the Manager Financial Services to levy and recover the General Rates, Municipal Charge, Annual Service (Waste Management) Charges and Tirrengower Drainage Scheme Special Charge, in accordance with Section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED 5 : 0

UNCONFIRMED

Item: 7.2

**Colac Otway Shire Grants Program 2026-27 and
Trees for Farms Grants Program - Allocation of
Funds**

OFFICER	Katrina Kehoe
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Andrew Tenni
DIVISION	Executive

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Hudgell, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That Council:

- Endorses the allocation of grants under the 2026-27 Colac Otway Shire Grants Program - Community Grants stream:***

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Anam Cara House Colac	Bathroom Upgrade	\$5,000
Apollo Bay Senior Citizens Centre	Digital & Meeting Space Upgrades	\$5,000
Meriba Service Club of Colac	Laptop for School Breakfast Program	\$1,746
Beeac Progress Association	Outdoor Powerpoints at the Main St Beeac Park	\$2,190
Colac & District Pastoral & Agricultural Society	Defibrillator & Baby Change Table	\$1,548
Colac Otway Residents Action Group Inc	School Lunch Program	\$2,000
Rotary Club of Colac West	Books for Babies & Prep Students	\$5,000
Cressy Working Sheep Dog Club	Sheepyard Upgrade at Recreation Reserve	\$1,500
Colac Makers' Space Incorporated	Kiln	\$2,250
Forrest Public Reserves Committee	Community Hub On-site Signage	\$2,002
Cultura	Water Safety Program for CALD Women	\$3,792

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Wye to Wongarra Landcare Group Inc	Pollinator Awareness and Habitat Program	\$2,444
Colac and District Cricket Association (Junior)	Junior Winter Cricket Academy	\$2,000
Birregurra Mechanics Hall	Sound Equipment Upgrade	\$10,000
Geelong & South Western rail Heritage Society Inc	Birregurra Station Room Upgrade	\$1,320
Colac Pony Club	Show Jumping Accessories	\$1,141
Birregurra Men's Shed Inc	BBQ Trailer for Community Events	\$4,100
Wye River Separation Creek Community Association	Water Testing Equipment	\$1,801
Forrest MTB & Cycling Club	Wheelchair Accessible BBQ at Trailhead	\$6,380
U3A Apollo Bay	Movie Screen Licence	\$544
City United Cricket Club	Junior Bowling Machine	\$3,280
Coragulac & District Kindergarten	Table Upgrades	\$3,176
Apollo Bay Surf Life Saving Club	Security Cameras	\$3,770
Colac Golf Club Inc	Tree & Shrub Replacement	\$646
Colac Yacht Club	Repairs & Internal Painting	\$2,455
Apollo Bay Men's Shed	Kitchen Upgrade	\$714
Colac Cranks Auspice by Colac Area Health	Bike Trailer, Secure Racks & Safety Lighting	\$2,390
Beech Forest Community Asset Committee	Landscaping & Seating	\$7,900
Lions Club of Colac Inc	Laptops for Club Administration	\$1,857
Cake Decorators Association of Victoria – Colac Branch	Specialist Teachers	\$643
Colac Lawn Tennis Club	Shade Cloth Replacement	\$3,089
Beeac Golf Club	Mower for Fairway	\$7,500
Colac & District Family History Group Inc	Shelving for History Preservation	\$1,498
Western Victorian Axemen's Association	Drills	\$769
Apollo Bay Golf Club	Auto-mower	\$4,900
Colac Woodcrafters Guild	Flatbed Sander	\$2,000
Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc	Grounds Maintenance Equipment	\$534
Apollo Bay Bowls Club Inc	Exterior Refurbishment – Painting	\$10,000
Tomahawk Creek Cricket Club	Facilities & Ground Mower	\$7,500
Barwon Downs Tennis Club	Tennis Courts Nets	\$500
Patanga Park Scout Camp Management Committee	Outdoor Solar Security Lighting	\$2,250
Forrest Horse Riding Club	Hot Water Unit	\$790
Cororooke Tennis Club	History Honour Board	\$800
Colac Riding for the Disabled	Horse Management & Welfare	\$3,500
Old Beechy Rail Trail Friends Inc	Trakers – Counters for Data Collection	\$3,175

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Colac and District Dog Obedience Club Inc	Training Equipment	\$3,500
Log Cabin Committee – Scouts	Dishwasher for Scouts Log Cabin Facility	\$1,100
Western Eagles Football and Netball Club	Netball Equipment for Junior Development	\$990
Irrewarra Cricket Club	Tables & Chairs	\$3,105
Irrewarra-Beeac Football Netball Club Inc	Oven Replacement	\$2,500
Colac Imperials Football Netball Club	Commercial Deep Fryer	\$3,347
South Colac Sports Club	Goal Post Netting	\$5,000
Alvie Football Netball Club Inc	Security Upgrade	\$4,350
RoadSafe Otway	Marketing /Branding Assets, Storage & Cleaning Equipment	\$2,000
Gellibrand Public Hall Inc	Upgrades to create a Private Meeting Room	\$9,595
Colac & District Historical Society Inc	Photocopier	\$650
Colac & District Football Netball League Inc	Marquees for Shade	\$2,228
	Total	\$175,759

2. Endorses the allocation of grants under the 2026-27 Colac Otway Shire Grants Program - Events Grants stream:

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Southern Exposure	Run Forest Trail Run 2027	\$5,000
Are-Able	Colac Kids Festival	\$5,000
Rapid Ascent Pty Ltd	Otway Odyssey 2027	\$8,000
Conservation Ecology Centre	Otways Ecological Research Forum 2026	\$5,000
Warrion Flower Show Auspice by Warrion Hall Committee	114 th Warrion Flower Show	\$5,000
Apollo Bay WORDfest Auspice by Apollo Bay Arts Group	Apollo Bay WORDfest 2026	\$5,000
Otway Ocean Flow Inc	Otway Ocean Flow Festival	\$5,000
Gellibrand Woodchop auspice by Western Victorian Axemen's Association	Gellibrand Woodchop	\$2,000
Apollo Bay and Otway District Agricultural Show Society	Apollo Bay and Otway District Agricultural Show 2027	\$5,000
Colac Area Health Foundation	Otways Winter Festival	\$4,705
Colac Kana Festival Inc	Colac Kana Festival 2027	\$5,000
Birregurra Community Group Inc	Birregurra Sunday Markets	\$3,400

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Colac District Chamber of Commerce	Colac District Business Gala Night	\$5,000
Colac City Band Inc	Colac City Band 80 th Carols by Candlelight	\$5,000
Colac West Primary School	Colac West Primary School Concert 2026	\$2,316
O2 Events	Amy's Great Ocean Road Gran Fondo	\$5,000
MARI Group	Great Ocean Road Running Festival 2027	\$5,000
Homestead Australia	Crafty Sundays at Tarndwarncoort	\$2,000
Birregurra Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	Recreation Revival No.2	\$3,000
Rotary Club of Colac	AKD Otway Trail Run 2027	\$3,000
Walk for Respect, Say No to Domestic Violence auspice by Rotary Club of Colac West	Walk For Respect, Say No to Domestic Violence	\$1,480
Beeac Progress Association	Beeac Community Market	\$1,560
Colac Motorfest Inc	Colac Motorfest 2027	\$4,000
Birregurra Motor Enthusiasts Club	Birregurra Motor Show 2027	\$4,000
Colac and District Show and Shine Inc	Colac and District Show and Shine 2026	\$4,000
Warrnambool Citizens Road Race Committee	Warrnambool Women's Cycling Classic 2027	\$2,000
ACE Radio Colac	Colac Careers and Jobs Expo	\$5,000
Beeac to the Rock Retro Ride auspice by Colac Area Health	Beeac to the Rock Retro Ride	\$1,000
Cororooke Hall Committee	Cororooke Brolga Festival	\$2,500
Otways Weddings & Events	Otways Weddings and Events Showcase	\$2,000
Colac Orchid Club	Colac Orchid Show and Display	\$1,500
Total		\$117,461

3. Endorses the allocation of grants under the 2026-27 Colac Otway Shire Grants Program - Business Grants Stream:

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Colac Tenpin Bowl	Murray Street Facade – Signage	\$3,000
Talk to Me Allied Health	Facade Facelift	\$3,000
Gellibrand River Store	Facade Signage & Noticeboard	\$2,737
Forrest Brewing Company	Facade Logo Signage	\$358
Tinkling Ivories	Exterior Painting	\$1,273
Ditchley Park Hotel Pty Ltd	Facade Upgrade	\$1,243
C1 Gym	Facade Upgrade	\$3,000
Total		\$14,611

4. Endorses the allocation of grants from the 2025-26 budget allocation for the Trees for Farms Grants Program.

Applicant	Project Title	Amount \$
Wool Wool Cattle Company	Tree Planting	\$2,572
Glow Worm Falls Honey	Tree Planting	\$3,000
Riverbank Ag Pty Ltd	Tree Planting	\$3,000
JJ & E Sprunt	Tree Planting	\$3,000
EM Beale & JW Blain	Tree Planting	\$3,000
Sam & Luke Cardinal Property Trust	Tree Planting	\$3,000
CD & PR Morris	Tree Planting	\$3,000
JJ & S Sherman	Tree Planting	\$1,500
AK & ME Beale	Tree Planting	\$3,000
EJ Beale & BM Williamson	Tree Planting	\$3,000
The Otway Nuttery	Tree Planting	\$2,857
CR & EA Collins	Tree Planting	\$2,640
	Total	\$33,569

5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to distribute any unallocated funds, and redistribute any funds returned from the 2026-27 Colac Otway Shire Grants Programs, in accordance with the Grants Guidelines.

CARRIED 5 : 0

Cr De Deugd returned to the meeting at 1.44pm

Item: 7.3
Project Budget Adjustments and Cash Reserve Transfers

OFFICER	Mikael Blyth
GENERAL MANAGER	Doug McNeill
DIVISION	Infrastructure and Environment

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Hudgell, Seconded Cr Howard

That Council:

- 1. Approves the project budget adjustment in Table 1 at a net cost of \$50,000.**
- 2. Approves the project budget adjustment in Table 2 at a net cost of \$52,960.**
- 3. Approves the project budget adjustment in Table 3 at a net saving of \$84,753.**
- 4. Approves the transfer of any unspent funds from completed projects at the end of the 2025-26 financial year to a new Project Contingency work order, noting that these funds will be carried forward to 2026-27.**
- 5. Notes that officers will access funds in the Project Contingency work order as required during 2026-27 where project budgets in the capital works program are exceeded, and that all transfers from the work order will be reported to Council at the end of each month.**
- 6. Notes that officers will continue to seek Council approval on a case by case basis for funding being sought for projects where the scope of the project has changed, or for new projects being initiated.**

CARRIED 6 : 0

Item: 7.4
For Exhibition - Council Policy 18.2 - Privacy Policy

OFFICER	Belinda Rocka
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Andrew Tenni
DIVISION	Executive

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr McCrickard, Seconded Cr Hudgell

That Council:

- 1. Approves the draft Council Privacy Policy for public exhibition for a period of six weeks, in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy.**
- 2. Notes that Council will provide the opportunity for submitters to be heard, either in person or via a nominated representative, at a Submissions Committee meeting prior to Council considering the final Council Committees policy.**
- 3. Notes that a further report will be presented to Council following the exhibition period to consider community and stakeholder feedback and seek endorsement of the Privacy Policy.**

CARRIED 6 : 0

Item: 7.5
For Exhibition - Council Policy: 18.8 Council Committees

OFFICER	Matilda Hardy-Smith
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Andrew Tenni
DIVISION	Executive

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr McCrickard, Seconded Cr Hudgell

That Council:

- 1. Approves the draft Council Committees Policy for public exhibition for a period of six weeks, in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy.***
- 2. Notes that Council will provide the opportunity for submitters to be heard, either in person or via a nominated representative, at a Submissions Committee meeting prior to Council considering the final Council Committees policy.***
- 3. Notes that a further report will be presented to Council following the exhibition period to consider community and stakeholder feedback and seek endorsement of the final Council Committees policy.***

CARRIED 6 : 0

Item: 7.6
**Endorsement of the Age-Friendly Victoria
Declaration**

OFFICER	Ashish Sitoula
GENERAL MANAGER	Ian Seuren
DIVISION	Community and Economy

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Howard, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That Council:

- 1. Endorses the Age-Friendly Victoria Declaration signed by the Victorian Government and the Municipal Association of Victoria.***
- 2. Requests that the Chief Executive Officer inform the Municipal Association of Victoria and the relevant Victorian Government Departments of Council's endorsement of the Age-Friendly Victoria Declaration.***
- 3. Notes that an event will be conducted at an appropriate time for the Mayor to formally sign the Age-Friendly Victoria Declaration in the presence of relevant stakeholders and community members.***

CARRIED 6 : 0

Item: 7.7
Microsoft Licencing Renewal

OFFICER	Rikk Price
GENERAL MANAGER	Emma Lowes
DIVISION	Corporate Services

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Hudgell, Seconded Cr Howard

That Council:

- 1. Awards RFT 2624 – Microsoft Licencing to Tenderer 1 for the tendered price, as per the confidential attachment to this report.*
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign the contract following award of RFT 2624 – Microsoft Licencing.*
- 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to perform all roles of the Principal.*
- 4. Notes the unsuccessful tenderers will be advised of the outcome of the tender process and the successful tenderer and the contract price will be listed on Councils Website.*

CARRIED 6 : 0

Item: 7.8
Governance Report - Monthly

OFFICER	Matilda Hardy-Smith / Belinda Rocka
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Andrew Tenni
DIVISION	Executive

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr McCrickard, Seconded Cr Hudgell

That Council:

- 1. That Council receives for information the Colac Otway Shire Audit and Risk Committee unconfirmed minutes dated 21 May 2026 (Attachment 1).*
- 2. Add membership for Allan Osborne, Tracey Manson, Tracey Whytcross, Ross Manson, Chloe Cook, Edwina Brien and Ann-Maree Convery to the Swan Marsh Hall and Tennis Reserve Community Asset Committee.*
- 3. Revoke membership for John Janssens from the Swan Marsh Hall and Tennis Reserve Community Asset Committee.*
- 4. Notes a summary of the officer response to the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee Petition tabled at Council meeting on 26 August 2025.*
- 5. Calls an Unscheduled Council Meeting on 14 July 2026 commencing at 1.30pm, held in person at COPACC Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 specifically to consider potential applications to Sport and Recreation Victoria's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund.*
- 6. Notes the Informal Meeting of Councillors records for the period of 26 May 2026 to 16 June 2026.*

CARRIED 6 : 0

Item: 8.1
2026-27 Annual Action Plan

OFFICER	Anita Craven
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Andrew Tenni
DIVISION	Executive

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Howard, Seconded Cr McCrickard

That Council notes the 2026-27 Annual Action Plan (Attachment 1).

CARRIED 6 : 0

The meeting was declared closed at 1.59pm

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED at the meeting held on 28 July 2026.

.....**MAYOR**