

MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6.00pm Wednesday 23 January 2019

*** Broadcast live on Phoenix FM 106.7 ***

VENUE:

**Reception Room,
Bendigo Town Hall,
Hargreaves Street, Bendigo**

NEXT MEETING:

**Wednesday 20 February 2019
Bendigo Town Hall**

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can be obtained online at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au



This Council Meeting is conducted in accordance with Local Law No. 8. It is an offence for any person to engage in improper or disorderly conduct at the meeting.

Council Vision

Greater Bendigo - creating the world's most liveable community.

Council Values

Six values inform everything we as Council do in working together to be the best we can for all of our community.

Seeking to achieve the best value for our use of the community's public funds and resources, by:

- We Lead;
- We Learn;
- We Contribute;
- We Care;
- We Respond;
- We Respect.

Goals

- Presentation and Managing Growth
- Wellbeing and Fairness
- Strengthening the Economy
- Environmental Sustainability
- Embracing our Culture and Heritage
- Lead and Govern for All

ORDINARY MEETING

WEDNESDAY 23 JANUARY 2019

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CRAIG NIEMANN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRAYER

PRESENT

Cr Margaret O'Rourke
Cr Jennifer Alden
Cr Matt Emond
Cr George Flack
Cr Rod Fyffe
Cr Andrea Metcalf
Cr Mal Pethybridge
Cr James Williams
Mr Craig Niemann (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Bernie O'Sullivan (Director, Strategy and Growth)
Ms Vicky Mason (Director, Health and Wellbeing)
Ms Debbie Wood (Director, Presentation and Assets)
Mr Andrew Cooney (Director, Corporate Performance)
Ms Miki Wilson (Manager Governance)

APOLOGY

Cr Yvonne Wrigglesworth

RESOLUTION

Move Cr Fyffe, seconded Cr Flack.

That the apology of Cr Wrigglesworth be received and Leave of Absence be granted from this meeting.

CARRIED

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow the conduct of [Community Acknowledgement section] and Public Question Time.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Emond, seconded Cr Metcalf.

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow the conduct of [Community Acknowledgement section] and Public Question Time.

CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

That Standing Orders be resumed.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fyffe, seconded Cr Williams.

That Standing Orders be resumed.

CARRIED

CR ALDEN'S REPORT

"This past month over the Christmas break has seen less community activities to speak about in my report and more of the internal work with Council's committees and working groups. One of these, the preparation for the City's bid to UNESCO to become an accredited Creative City of Gastronomy, is progressing well.

To date we have launched the concept, established two working groups, both internally and externally focused and benefitted from my travel to Italy to discuss cities of gastronomy and their experiences regarding the process of accreditation and the subsequent benefits for their communities. The City of Parma combines food, culture, art and music and the city of Alba has developed many joint projects, leveraging their significant tourism status to advantage. The City of Bologna oversees the Creative Cities Network for Italy and their Office of Civic Imagination has just won an Engaged Cities award, much of it relating to their UNESCO status and associated activities.

The Internal working group for this project crosses many areas of council business: Health and Wellbeing, Tourism, Economic development, Environment, Cultural heritage, Creative industries and more.

The external advisory committee was advertised publicly and comprises some 20 members drawn from primary producers, chefs, winemakers, manufacturers, educators, academics, food relief agencies and representatives from farmers' markets, small producer networks and community gardens.

Using this project as a driver for action, we can progress many opportunities to address some of our city's challenges around health and sustainability in particular as we plan for the future.

Our application will celebrate our diverse and thriving food scene, our Aboriginal food heritage and culture, our healthy food initiatives and our innovation and creativity across Greater Bendigo and the region.

"We have a strong food heritage, such as tomato growing, and a tradition of agrarian life, which still informs our culture. Innovations in agriculture that extend beyond our Traditional Owners include; inventing the first world's first commercially successful combine harvester, constructing large scale irrigation systems, and adapting plants and crops to different climates and soils. Innovation is central to the success of our diverse food and beverage production and to our producers.

A shout out to those in particular with knowledge around Bendigo's tomato heritage as I am compiling some tomato-related history that hopefully will be displayed at the Maiden Gully Autumn Festival in April. I look forward to hearing from you.

Greater Bendigo's food and beverage scene is diverse and growing, with the gastronomy industry worth \$1.6 B in 2017. Jobs in the food industry have experienced greater levels of growth than the rest of the economy, increasing by 26% between 2011 and 2017. In 2016 46% of manufacturing employment in Greater Bendigo was in food manufacturing.

Across the region food brings people together and helps build skills and resilience. Refugee and migrant communities, school and university students and vulnerable groups are engaged with projects around food, gardening, cooking and the rehabilitation of the natural environment.

Heritage market gardens at PepperGreen Farm have been transformed into a hub for fresh produce, art and cultural activities. The Bendigo Regional Food Alliance's Cooking Clubs project is commencing with local partner agencies for food literacy and food security in disadvantaged communities, Food Fossickers (food industry) Network, Bendigo Food Share, Castlemaine's Growing Abundance, Harcourt Valley growers cooperative, craft beer and cider makers, winemakers associations, food retailers, moonlight market and farmers market, community and school gardens and more - just some of what makes up the rich and creative gastronomic activities in our region.

We celebrate our multicultural music, food and art with the Zinda Festival, aimed at local, national and international audiences, highlighting the role of creativity and food in breaking down cultural barriers. Then there is the Bendigo Writers Festival including a Gastronomy program, bringing together people from all disciplines to consider the intersections of food, drinks, agriculture, culture and writing.

The Bendigo Easter Festival is the longest running community cultural festival in Australia – first held in 1879, the spring Agricultural Show and other events held throughout the year are also help to grow the food and drinks sector of the economy - Melbourne Food and Wine Festival's 'Longest Lunch' event, the Food Truck Festival, Bendigo On the Hop craft beer and cider festival, Wine and music Festivals and numerous other food-focused celebrations are aimed at promoting our producers and creators.

We have a firm basis for gastronomic tourism through Council's award winning Bendigo Tourism Information Centre, with popular events such as From market to paddock to plate tours and Food Fossickers local food business tours for example.

So what's coming up this year? We are working hard on our networks of activity and mapping and liaising with many, many initiatives and groups in the region. In a couple of months the guidelines for the application will be announced by UNESCO and we can fine tune our draft application for testing and feedback. By July we will be ready to submit to UNESCO and by November, hear the outcome of our application.

"At the very least we will have progressed all of the food related activities under the region's banner. At best will have a major initiative as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy that will create fantastic opportunities for our city and region. A further drawcard for food related activities, and with that jobs and investment and multiple benefits for our broader community".

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Pursuant to Sections 77, 78 and 79 of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended) direct and indirect conflict of interest must be declared prior to debate on specific items within the minutes; or in writing to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting. Declaration of indirect interests must also include the classification of the interest (in circumstances where a Councillor has made a Declaration in writing, the classification of the interest must still be declared at the meeting), i.e.

- (a) direct financial interest**
- (b) indirect interest by close association**
- (c) indirect interest that is an indirect financial interest**
- (d) indirect interest because of conflicting duties**
- (e) indirect interest because of receipt of an applicable gift**
- (f) indirect interest as a consequence of becoming an interested party**
- (g) indirect interest as a result of impact on residential amenity**
- (h) conflicting personal interest**

A Councillor who has declared a conflict of interest, must leave the meeting and remain outside the room while the matter is being considered, or any vote is taken.

Councillors are also encouraged to declare circumstances where there may be a perceived conflict of interest.

Cr O'Rourke declared a conflict of interest (direct financial interest in the item of Urgent Business, Report No. 8.1 (Visit to Hong Kong [February 2019]) as she is the nominated Councillor to attend the delegation to Hong Kong).

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 12 December 2018.

The following items were considered at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 12 December 2018 at 6:00pm.

- Petition: Gum Trees in Casuarina Gardens (Kangaroo Flat)
- 616-618 Midland Highway, Huntly - Use and Development of Land for a Service Station and Associated Car Parking; Creation of an Access to a Road Zone Category 1; and Display of Advertising Signage
- 141 Don Street, Bendigo - Use and Development of Land for a Medical Centre - Amended Permit and Plans - (Amend Condition 7 to increase number of practitioners from 1 to 3 and Amend Plans Accordingly)
- Potential Disposal of 49 Napier Street Eaglehawk (Post Public Hearing of Submissions)
- Spring Gully Mountain Bike Trail Network Master Plan
- Councillor Appointments to Committees for 2018/2019
- Record of Assemblies
- Contracts Awarded Under Delegation
- Two (2) Confidential Section 89 Reports

The unconfirmed minutes have also been posted on the City of Greater Bendigo website pending confirmation at this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 12 December 2018, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Flack, seconded Cr Alden.

That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

1. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

1.1 PETITION: REMOVAL OF GUM TREES FROM HASKER DRIVE, KANGAROO FLAT

[Petitions and joint letters with ten (10) or more signatures are included in the agenda or tabled at the meeting, unless there is a separate legal process for considering the petition or joint letter, as there is for planning submissions or submissions following public notices (Section 223 LGA)].

The following petition has been received from residents in Hasker Drive, Kangaroo Flat requesting the removal of gum trees:

"We are petitioning for the removal of said gum trees, considering them to be a fire hazard.

This drive/street is mostly made up of older citizens who will be stressed about the amount of mess that comes from gum trees being so close to residences.

We do not understand why our council would allow gums to be lining our streets. If we lived on a farm, we would never plant gum trees so close to our houses because of the obvious fire risk. This would also be the advice we would get from the fire services. So why would council put our lives and homes at risk of fire.

We are hoping that someone will listen to us. We have moved to this lovely new estate and really do not want to spend the rest of our lives cleaning gutters, paths and gardens from the mess the gums will make. Not to mention the worry that comes with gums and fire.

As the rate payers of these properties we feel we should have some say about the trees placed in front of our homes.

We have built low maintenance properties because for the majority of us, our age. Now we have high maintenance trees in terms of clean up and fire danger.

We sincerely hope that we will be heard and common sense will prevail".

Signatures - 11

RECOMMENDATION

That the petition be received and a response be prepared within two (2) meetings.

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**RESOLUTION**

Moved Cr Fyffe, Seconded Cr Metcalf.

That the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## 1.2 PETITION: WOLSTENCROFT RESERVE

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*[Petitions and joint letters with ten (10) or more signatures are included in the agenda or tabled at the meeting, unless there is a separate legal process for considering the petition or joint letter, as there is for planning submissions or submissions following public notices (Section 223 LGA)].*

The following petition has been received from residents in the Wolstencroft Reserve area requesting involvement in development of Wolstencroft Reserve:

"As residents of Rodney and Wolstencroft Street Bendigo we feel that we have not been informed or consulted in the decision making progress associated with the Wolstencroft Reserve and surrounding area development since April 2017.

Those signing this petition request involvement in any planning or decisions made relating to these areas in the future".

Signatures - 24

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the petition be received and a response be prepared within two (2) meetings.

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RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Metcalf, Seconded Cr Emond.

That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

2. PRESENTATION AND MANAGING GROWTH

Nil.

3. WELLBEING AND FAIRNESS

Nil.

4. STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMY

Nil.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Nil.

6. EMBRACING OUR CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Nil.

7. LEAD AND GOVERN FOR ALL

7.1 CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO YOUTH COUNCIL

Document Information

Author **Rory White, Inclusive Communities Officer**
Deb Simpson, Acting Manager Community Partnerships

Responsible Director **Vicky Mason, Director Health and Wellbeing**

Purpose

To publicly introduce and acknowledge the 18 young people who have been selected to participate in the City of Greater Bendigo Youth Council (Youth Council).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council formally acknowledge the following 18 young people who have been selected as the inaugural Youth Councillors:

- Annika Ritchie
- Alyssa Lai
- Alex Libchard
- Billie Taylor
- Esmat Kheradyar
- Eva Tuyet Jan
- Khaled (Jack) Tayba
- Jemille McKenzie
- Khayshie Tilak Ramesh
- Lilli-Rose Gemmill
- Natasha Romas
- Olivia Masters
- Pan Mar Lar Pah Thei
- Ella Edwards
- Kathryn Northill
- Victoria Tangey
- Ryan Peterson
- Annalise Varker

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fyffe, Seconded Cr Pethybridge.

That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

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**Policy Context**Community Plan Reference:

*City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:*

Goal 1                      Lead and govern for all

Objective 1.1            Engage with all communities.

Goal 2                      Wellbeing and fairness

Objective 2.4:           Support participation and development for residents of all ages and abilities.

City of Greater Bendigo's Youth Strategy - Explore, Engage, Empower: Young People in Greater Bendigo (2017- 2021):

Goal 1                      We provide opportunities for young people to have their say.

Action 1                   Strengthen the Youth Action Group to become a Youth Council and increase connections between Councillors, young people and the community to advocate on priority areas.

<https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/About/Document-Library/youth-strategy-2017-2021>

**Background Information**

The Youth Council's role is to represent the voice of young people aged 14 to 24 who live, work and study in the Greater Bendigo municipality. It will act as an advisory and advocacy body to Council.

Expressions of Interest (EoI) for the Youth Council were publicly sought through advertisements and / or articles in newspapers and community newsletters, the City of Greater Bendigo and YO Bendigo websites and social media platforms, as well as relevant email networks.

Eols opened on November 1 and closed on December 3, 2018.

**Previous Council Decision(s) Date(s):**

December 13, 2017 - Council adopted the Youth Strategy - Explore, Engage, Empower: Young People in Greater Bendigo (2017- 2021).

**Report**

47 Eols were received in total.

The Eol process required applicants to respond to four questions. These questions sought information from applicants about relevant knowledge, skills and previous experience in community leadership.

All Eols received were assessed and shortlisted by the following four Council officers:

- Leon Moulden (Community Partnerships Project Officer)
- Rory White (Inclusive Communities Officer)
- Gemma Simpson (Inclusive Communities Officer)
- Megan Goode (Inclusive Communities Officer)

The Council officers assessed all applicants against the following criteria:

- Motivation to nominate.
- Understanding of young people's needs in our community.
- Understanding of the role of a youth councillor.
- Experience in community leadership.

As an outcome of this process, 25 applicants were shortlisted for interview.

Due to the volume of shortlisted applicants, the interviews were carried out over three separate sessions. The Councillors and Council officers who participated in the interview process were:

- Mayor Margaret O'Rourke
- Deputy Mayor Rod Fyffe
- Councillor Malcolm Pethybridge
- Rory White (Inclusive Communities Officer)
- Ann-Marie Roberts (Resilient Communities Officer)

**Consultation/Communication****External Consultation:**

The opportunity to submit an Eol for the Youth Council was publicly advertised through a range of mediums.

**Resource Implications**

Youth Council participation is on a voluntary basis.

The Youth Council will be administratively supported by City of Greater Bendigo's Community Partnerships Unit.



## 7.2 RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES

### Document Information

**Author** Miki Wilson, Acting Manager Governance

**Responsible Director** Andrew Cooney, Director Corporate Performance

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### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the record of any assembly of Councillors, which has been held since the last Council Meeting, so that it can be recorded in the Minutes of the formal Council Meeting.

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the record of assemblies of Councillors as outlined in this report.

### RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Metcalf, Seconded Cr Flack.

That the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

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Policy Context

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 1 Effective community engagement will guide well informed, responsive decision-making and financially responsible resource allocations, which are transparent and accountable.

Background Information

A meeting will be an assembly of Councillors if it considers matters that are likely to be the subject of a Council decision, or, the exercise of a Council delegation and the meeting is:

1. A planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors (5) and a member of Council staff; or
2. an advisory committee of the Council where one or more Councillors are present.

The requirement for reporting provides increased transparency and the opportunity for Councillors to check the record, particularly the declarations of conflict of interest.

Report

Meeting Information		
Meeting Name/Type	Councillors' Briefing	
Meeting Date	3 December 2018	
Matters discussed	1. Planning matters and draft Ordinary Agenda review 2. Home Support Service update 3. St Andrew's Project 4. Strategic land purchase 5. Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Review 6. Industrial Land Development Strategy 7. Eaglehawk Playspace	
Attendees/Apologies		
Councillors	Cr Margaret O'Rourke Cr Jennifer Alden Cr George Flack Cr Rod Fyffe Cr Andrea Metcalf Cr Mal Pethybridge Cr James Williams Cr Yvonne Wrigglesworth Apology: Cr Matt Emond	
Staff/ Community Representatives	Mr Craig Niemann Mr Bernie O'Sullivan Ms Vicky Mason Ms Brooke Pearce Mr Andrew Cooney Ms Miki Wilson Apology: Ms Debbie Wood	
Conflict of Interest disclosures		
Matter No.	Councillor/officer making disclosure	Councillor/officer left meeting
1.	Cr Williams (planning matters)	Yes

Meeting Information		
Meeting Name/Type	Councillors' Briefing	
Meeting Date	10 December 2018	
Matters discussed	1. Organisation Strategy update 2. User Fees and Charges 3. Organisation Health Check 4. Quarterly update from Resource Recovery and Education Unit 5. All Ages All Abilities Action Plan 6. Transforming the City Centre update	
Attendees/Apologies		
Councillors	Cr Margaret O'Rourke Cr Jennifer Alden Cr Matt Emond Cr George Flack Cr Rod Fyffe Cr Andrea Metcalf Cr Mal Pethybridge Cr James Williams Cr Yvonne Wrigglesworth	
Staff/ Community Representatives	Mr Craig Niemann Mr Bernie O'Sullivan Mr Lincoln Fitzgerald Ms Brooke Pearce Mr Andrew Cooney Ms Miki Wilson Apologies: Ms Debbie Wood Ms Vicky Mason	
Conflict of Interest disclosures		
Matter No.	Councillor/officer making disclosure	Councillor/officer left meeting
	Nil	

7.3 CONTRACTS AWARDED UNDER DELEGATION

Document Information

Author Lee Taig, Contract Support Administrator, Governance Unit

Responsible Andrew Cooney, Director Corporate Performance
Director

Purpose/Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide information on contracts recently awarded under delegation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the contracts awarded under delegation, as outlined in this report, be acknowledged by Council.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Alden, Seconded Cr Metcalf.

That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

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#### Policy Context

Delivery of programs, projects and services that respond to community needs.

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021

Goal 1: Lead and govern for all

Objective: 1.2 Be innovative and financially responsible

## Report

| Contract No              | Project                                                                                                    | Successful Contractor                                                                                                                                   | Value (GST Excl)  | Delegated Officer              | Date Signed      |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Capital Contracts</b> |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                         |                   |                                |                  |
| CT000400                 | Purchase, Configure & Installation of a Fleet, Plant and Equipment Management System                       | TechnologyOne Pty Ltd                                                                                                                                   | \$200,949.93      | Andrew Cooney                  | 26 November 2018 |
| CT000395A                | Bendigo Town Hall Heritage Works – Roof Works                                                              | Wild Company Pty Ltd                                                                                                                                    | \$449,610.00      | Brooke Peace _ Acting Director | 6 December 2018  |
| <b>Service Contracts</b> |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                         |                   |                                |                  |
| CT000425                 | Tree Inventory Data Update and Capture                                                                     | Homewood Consulting Pty Ltd                                                                                                                             | Schedule of Rates | Brooke Peace _ Acting Director | 6 December 2018  |
|                          | Current annual Council Budget for the goods/services contracted via this schedule of rates is \$180,000.00 |                                                                                                                                                         |                   |                                |                  |
| CT000418                 | Provision of Laboratory Sampling and Analysis of Food                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OMIC Australia Pty Ltd</li> <li>Dairy Technical Services Pty Ltd</li> <li>Symbio Laboratories Pty Ltd</li> </ul> | Schedule of Rates | Vicky Mason                    | 13 December 2018 |
|                          | Current annual Council Budget for the goods/services contracted via this schedule of rates is \$30,000.00  |                                                                                                                                                         |                   |                                |                  |

**8. URGENT BUSINESS****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council consider, as an item of urgent business, a report recommending the attendance of the Mayor to the Blessing of Bendigo's New Imperial Dragon, Dai Gum Loong in Hong Kong on February 2, 2019.

**RESOLUTION**

Moved Cr Emond, Seconded Cr Metcalf.

That the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **8.1 VISIT TO HONG KONG (FEBRUARY 2019)**

### **Document Information**

**Author** Peter Hargreaves, Coordinator Civic and Governance Support

**Responsible** Craig Niemann, Chief Executive Officer

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to endorse a brief trip to Hong Kong in February 2019 by the Mayor to represent the City of Greater Bendigo at the blessing of Bendigo's new Chinese imperial dragon Dai Gum Loong.

The proposal has the support of the Bendigo Chinese Association both culturally and in building relations between Bendigo and Hong Kong.

### **Summary**

Dai Gum Loong is nearing completion in Hong Kong under the careful direction of Master Hui - a third generation dragon maker.

A ceremony in Hong Kong on Saturday 2 February including a traditional blessing of the dragon to prepare it for its journey to Bendigo and will complete the dragon-making process.

**Cr O'Rourke declared a conflict of interest (direct financial interest in the item of Urgent Business, Report No. 8.1 (Visit to Hong Kong [February 2019]) as she is the nominated Councillor to attend the delegation to Hong Kong.**

**Cr O'Rourke left the meeting.**

**In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Mayor, Cr Fyffe, assumed the Chair.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council endorse the visit to Hong Kong by Cr O'Rourke.

**RESOLUTION**

Moved Cr Emond, Seconded Cr Williams.

That the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

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Cr O'Rourke returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair; Cr Fyffe advised Cr O'Rourke of the outcome of the recommendation.

Policy Context**Community Plan Reference:**

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 3 Strengthening the economy

Ensure Greater Bendigo is a welcoming place for new businesses and industries and supports creativity and innovation and visitor attraction.

Goal 4 Embracing our culture and heritage

Promote connection with an celebration of our unique places, people, organisations and memories

Report and Background Information

In 2018 the Golden Dragon Museum and the City of Greater Bendigo signed a special contract with dragon maker – Master Hui – to build a new dragon to be known as Dai Gum Loong.

The traditional ceremonies on 2 February will mark the blessing of the dragon for its journey to Bendigo.

Representatives of the Bendigo Chinese Association (BCA) and Golden Dragon Museum will also be in attendance.

The Mayor's attendance at the ceremony is strongly supported by the BCA.

Council has been advised that from a cultural perspective the Mayor's attendance on behalf of the Greater Bendigo community is important and would be seen as significant by relevant parties in helping to build relations between Bendigo and Hong Kong.

Dai Gum Loong is part of a \$750,000 project which also includes conservation work for Sun Loong. Greater Bendigo City Council contributed \$100,000 towards the project with the balance coming from the Federal and State Governments and public contributions.

Dai Gum Loong has been under construction for 10 months. He has approximately 6,500 scales and is more than 100m long, making him the longest dragon of his kind in the world and surpassing his predecessor Sun Loong.

He will be completed in time for Easter 2019.

Dai Gum Loong will be Bendigo's third imperial dragon. Bendigo Golden Dragon Museum's first dragon, Loong, was brought to Victoria by the Bendigo Chinese Association in 1892 and was replaced in 1970 with Sun Loong, 'the New Dragon'.

Dai Gum Loong has been constructed in the same style as his predecessors.

Virgin Australia has undertaken to fly Dai Gum Loong to Australia once he is built.

Whilst partly funded by Council the Bendigo Chinese Association will be the cultural custodian of Dai Gum Loong and he will be on display at the Golden Dragon Museum when not parading.

Dai Gum Loong is expected to be in Australia in time to take part in the Bendigo Easter Festival Gala Parade alongside Sun Loong and Loong. It will be the first time all three dragons will appear in public together.

Resource Implications

The cost of the trip will be approximately \$2,000 which can be accommodated within the current budget.

Attachments

Nil

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

10. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cr Williams reported on his trip to Tasmania and the effects of climate change in that region of Australia, particularly with the recent bushfires that have devastated areas in the southern parts of Tasmania.

Cr Metcalf highlighted the Bendigo Bank Spirit Basketball Team, with its season final going into a double overtime thriller (one of four for the season). Cr Metcalf advised that the players are role models for the community and give back to it in hosting a number of basketball camps and training for the younger and disabled players - well done!

Cr Metcalf advised that the Bendigo Stadium will be hosting (on the Australia Day weekend coming up) the 41st Bendigo Junior Basketball Classic Tournament, which involves 264 teams from throughout Victoria and South Australia.

Cr Metcalf conveyed congratulations to Eaglehawk's Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year, Brian Bourke and Amy Croft as well as the City of Greater Bendigo Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year, Kevin Cail and Sam Kane.

Cr Flack reported on the celebration of Christmas and was proud to 'MC' the Community Christmas lunch on Christmas Day at the All Seasons with 240-250 people in attendance including Crs O'Rourke and Fyffe and a number of volunteers from all areas, including Council staff.

Unfortunately, both the Heathcote and Eaglehawk Carols were washed out, so the contribution of the involvement of the Marist Brass Band of which I am a member was also cancelled.

Cr Flack advised that after having a refreshing break over the Christmas/New Year period, it is back into the meeting cycle!

Cr Flack highlighted the cultural importance of the City's new Imperial Dragon, Dai Gum Loong with approximately ten (1) dragons 'coming out to play' at this year's Easter procession.

Cr Pethybridge highlighted his visit to the tram depot in early December with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to witness the first rollout of Tram 961 to be handed over to Melbourne; this will run on the Melbourne loop - Bendigo Tramways recondition trams for all over Australia, including Tram 961 for Melbourne (this came out looking better, in my opinion, than new ones!) - this is a credit to Bendigo Tramways to reproduce the trams of this calibre.

Cr Fyffe reported on his attendance at the following meetings and events:

- Regional Centre for Culture 'Demolition' event at the Bendigo Showgrounds
- Community Christmas Lunch - conveyed appreciation to the volunteers; commended Cr Flack on his role as 'MC; and thanked the All Seasons
- Bendigo Spirit Most Valuable Player Dinner
- Karen New Year celebrations
- Victorian Agricultural Shows Saddle Horse Championships - showcasing retrained race horses

Cr Emond acknowledged the continuation of the City's services throughout the Christmas/New Year period and thanked the staff for the valued contribution they make; reinforced Cr Metcalf's comments regarding the Bendigo Spirit players - they are a testament to their commitment as a team and to the community.

Cr Emond looked forward to the next year of working with the Council.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor, Cr O'Rourke, tabled a report on her attendance at the following meetings and events:

- Attended the Regional Centre for Culture – Demolish event
- Attended the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Networking event
- Officiated at Carols by Candlelight event in Rosalind Park
- Attended the Returned Services League (RSL) event to receive the remained of their \$500,000 contribution to the Soldiers Memorial Institute (SMI) Revitalisation Program.
- Participated in the Youth Council interviews
- Attended the Bendigo Tourism end of year celebration
- Presented awards at Bendigo South East (BSE) College Awards Nights
- Officiated at the launch of One Planet
- Attended the Community Christmas Lunch at the All Seasons Hotel
- Attended lunch with Hon Anna Bligh AC (CEO Australian Banking Association) and Marnie Baker (Bendigo and Adelaide Bank CEO)
- Attended the Bendigo Spirit Most Valuable Player dinner
- Resumed "Meet the Mayor" with residents
- Attended the Greater Bendigo Economic Statement and Strategy Steering Committee Meeting
- Attended City of Gastronomy Management meeting
- Participated in numerous workshops and forums
- Participated in numerous radio, newspaper, television media interviews and photo opportunities
- Met with many residents, businesses and community groups regarding a wide range of issues.
- Took leave from 22 December 2018 to 14 January 2019

Thank you to the Deputy Mayor and those Councillors who represented me at events I was unable to attend.

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Craig Niemann, tabled a report on his attendance at the following meetings and events:

- Participated in regular radio and media interviews
- Participated with other members of the selection committee to consider and appoint the 2019 Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year
- Attended a meeting of V/Line Directors to discuss transport needs of the Greater Bendigo area
- Participated in regular Regional Cities Victoria Executive Management Group teleconferences
- Attended a meeting with stakeholders to discuss Wolstencroft Park
- Met with representatives from RSPCA Victoria to discuss Bendigo pound services contract
- Provided a presentation on projects at a meeting of Fairbrother sub-contractors
- Met with DELWP representatives, Jane Homewood, Executive Director Statutory Planning Services, Adam Henson, Acting Director Statutory Planning Services and Robert Rorke, Manager Loddon Mallee
- Participated in a meeting with VicTrack representatives
- Attended a meeting with Lee Miezis, Deputy Secretary Forest Fire and Regions and members of his office
- Participated in a progress meeting of Healthy Greater Bendigo

13. CONFIDENTIAL (SECTION 89) REPORTS

13.1 Confidential Report in accordance with Section 89(2)(d) of the Local Government Act relating to a contractual matter

13.2 Confidential Report in accordance with Section 89(2)(e) of the Local Government Act relating to a proposed development

RECOMMENDATION

That Council close the meeting to members of the public pursuant to Sections 89(2)(d) and (e) of the **Local Government Act 1989** to consider reports relating to contractual matter and a proposed development.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fyffe, seconded Cr Williams.

That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:42 pm.

Confirmed:

20 February 2019

Chair