



Agenda

STRATEGIC BRIEFING

TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK, ON
TUESDAY, 30 JUNE 2020, COMMENCING 1.00PM.

The Council Forum and Briefing session follows the suggested format proposed by the Department of Local Government Operational Guidelines (Number 5 January 2004). The role of such forums is to allow opportunity for elected members and senior officers of the Council to come together outside of the formal meeting process to discuss matters that do not require formal decisions, do not discuss matters on the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda but to discuss matters that might be conceptual (brain storming etc.), informative (updates on progress with matters) or administrative in nature. For this reason they are normally held 'in committee'. Disclosures of Financial, Impartiality and Proximity interests are still to be recorded and dealt with if they arise.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS:

Cr Ceinwen Gearon (Shire President)
Cr Mark Allen (Deputy Shire President)
Cr Geoff Bowley
Cr Kingsley Gibson
Cr Jan Lewis
Cr Ian Osborne

STAFF:

David Schober (Acting Chief Executive Officer)
David King (Director Assets and Sustainable Development)
Lee Sounness (Executive Manager Corporate Services)
Angela Simpson (Executive Manager Community Services)

APOLOGIES:

Cr Janine Phillips
Cr Roger Seeney

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Cr Steve Jones

ABSENT:

VISITORS:

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

2. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Community Financial Assistance Program

The Executive Manager of Community Services, Angela Simpson, provided updates on the Community Financial Assistance Program applications received. Council will be asked to consider the officer recommendation at the July OCM.

2.2 Rate Modelling for 2020/21 Annual Budget

The Executive Manager of Corporate Services, Lee Sounness, presented the rate modelling for 2020/21 Annual Budget. The indicate rate in the \$ was presented for each category to achieve Council's stated objective: "If changes to the Shire's rating model (*occur*) rates in the dollar, valuations or other changes lead to a rates bill for an individual rates assessment which is greater than it was in 2019/20, then the increase shall be reduced to zero via a waiver of rates equal to that amount except where such increase is due to improvements or development on that property resulting in a valuation increase".

The advertising process and timeline leading into the budget adoption (Special meeting 4 August 2020) was also discussed.

Cllr Gibson departed at 2:20pm

2.3 Denmark Visitors Centre

The Acting Chief Executive Officer, David Schober, and Project Officer, Kristina Low, updated Council on Amazing South Coast Tourism Inc's interim plan to keep the Visitor Centre open throughout July.

2.4 End of Financial Year position

While the final details are not yet confirmed (this will take a further 10 days) it is likely the final amount will be significantly more positive than expected. The increased and significant surplus returned is due to a number of contributing factors and staff will present a special briefing at the Budget briefing on July 14.

2.5 Denmark Arts

Financial information presented by Denmark Arts was discussed to inform the budget.

3. COUNCILLOR ROUND UP

Cllr Gibson returned at 3:35pm

President Gearon

- Alliance report
 - Executive Officer to be appointed, with recruitment process to commence soon managed by the Shire of Plantagenet.

- Trail development will be the main focus for the next 12 months and a key focus area for the new Executive Officer.
- Partnership arrangements between the member Council's has now been resolved with financial contributions confirmed. The Shire of Denmark will commit less in 2020/21 than in 2019/20.
- Local Emergency Management Committee
Continuing to meet on an as needs basis, usually fortnightly/monthly.
Congratulations to staff who were redirected during Covid19 to support Police and other agencies.

Cllr Lewis

- Thriving Coasts CRC project briefing at the Alliance was excellent by UWA and deserves further consideration by coastal Councils.
- Sustainability Working Group progressing extremely well and staff are providing excellent support to progress the objectives of the group.

Cllr Allen

- Will progress a nomination for Beth Franz to become a Freeman of the Shire of Denmark due to her extensive and enduring service to the community.
- Super IGA owner Bob Cybula passed on thanks and acknowledgement to the Shire for their excellent work and assistance during Covid19.

Cllr Osborne

Nil

Cllr Bowley

- Discussion on Hardy St site progress.
- Acknowledge the Riverside Club on maintaining their building to an exceptionally high standard.
- Acknowledge staff support for the Volunteer Bushfire Brigades of Denmark.

Cllr Gibson

- Received praise from community for Planning staff.
- Note the recent vibrant mood around town and business with Covid19 restrictions lifting.

Next briefing agenda items to date

- End of Financial Year position
- Staffing (Workforce Plan) and recruitment considerations

4. CLOSURE

