



Minutes

Council Meeting

Tuesday 27 June 2023 at 6.00 pm

**Council Chambers (and by video conferencing)
East Gippsland Shire Council Corporate Centre
273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875**

Councillors

Crs Mark Reeves (Mayor), Arthur Allen (Deputy Mayor)
Sonia Buckley (Online), Tom Crook, Jane Greacen OAM, Trevor Stow,
Mendy Urie, Kirsten Van Diggele and John White (Online)

Attachments referenced in these minutes can be located in the meeting agenda on East Gippsland Shire Council's [website](#).

Vision

East Gippsland is an inclusive and innovative community that values our natural environment, puts community at the centre of Council decision-making, and creates the conditions in which communities can thrive.

Our Strategic Objectives

1. An inclusive and caring community that respects and celebrates diversity.
2. Planning and infrastructure that enriches the environment, lifestyle, and character of our communities.
3. A natural environment that is managed and enhanced.
4. A thriving and diverse economy that attracts investment and generates inclusive local employment.
5. A transparent organisation that listens and delivers effective, engaging and responsive services.

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1 Procedural

1.1 Recognition of Traditional Custodians

East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges the Gunaikurnai, Monero and the Bidawal people as the Traditional Custodians of this land that encompasses East Gippsland Shire, and their enduring relationship with country. The Traditional Custodians have cared and nurtured East Gippsland for tens of thousands of years.

Council value their living culture and practices and their right to self-determination. Council pays respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in East Gippsland, their Elders, past, present, and future.

1.2 Apologies

Nil

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Motion

That the minutes of the Council meeting held Tuesday 6 June 2023 be confirmed.

Moved: Cr Tom Crook

Seconded: Cr Arthur Allen

CARRIED

1.5 Next Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 25 July 2023 at the Corporate Centre, 273 Main Street Bairnsdale commencing at 6.00 pm.

1.6 Requests for Leave of Absence

Nil

1.7 Open Forum

At this point in proceedings, Cr Mark Reeves Mayor acknowledged Miss Tully Robinson and Miss Juliet Walker who observed the meeting from the public gallery as part of their Rotary Junior Community Awards program. To acknowledge their participation in this community program, the Mayor presented each participant with a Council pin.

1.7.1 Petitions

Nil

1.7.2 Questions of Council

Nil

1.7.3 Public Submissions

1.7.3.1 Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island

Mr Ryan Brown addressed Council on the Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island report and spoke at item 5.2.1.

1.7.3.2 Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island

Ms Robyn Peile addressed Council on the Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island report and spoke at item 5.2.1.

1.8 Items for Noting

Nil

2 Notices of Motion

Nil

3 Deferred Business

Nil

Procedural Motion

That item 5.2.1 Petition - Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island be brought forward and considered before item 5.1.1.

Moved: Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

Seconded: Cr Trevor Stow

CARRIED

4 Councillor and Delegate Reports

4.1 Cr Arthur Allen

Cr Arthur Allen spoke to his written report at page 8.

4.2 Cr Tom Crook

Cr Tom Crook spoke to his written report at page 8.

4.3 Cr Trevor Stow

Cr Trevor Stow provided a verbal update.

4.4 Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

Cr Kirsten Van Diggele spoke to her written report at page 9.

4.5 Cr Sonia Buckley

Cr Sonia Buckley provided a verbal update.

4.6 Cr Jane Greacen OAM

Cr Jane Greacen OAM spoke to her written report at page 9.

4.7 Cr Mendy Urie

Cr Mendy Urie spoke to her written report at page 10.

4.8 Cr Mark Reeves

Cr Mark Reeves spoke to his written report at page 11.

Councillor Report

Cr Arthur Allen

The Marina Consultative Committee met on 15 June 2023. It was a very productive meeting with discussion on an Options Paper on the future structure of the Committee. The views of the Committee will be put forward to a future Council Briefing. Thanks to the members of the Committee for their dedication and for the great job they do on behalf of Berth Holders.

17/06/23 - I had the pleasure of attending the Alpine School Community Learning Presentation day at Marlo. I never cease to be impressed by these young leaders and I thank the staff at Snowy Campus for the opportunity to attend.

22/06/23 - I, along with the Mayor and Cr Stow, attended the opening of the new Kmart store in Bairnsdale. Half an hour before opening the car park was full as customers impatiently waited for Mayor Reeves to cut the ribbon!

23/06/23 - I attended the Annual Gippstar Awards in Morwell. Once again, a magnificent celebration of the outstanding athletes from across Gippsland and a wide range of disciplines.

Cr Tom Crook

My recent participation in the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Conference, held in Canberra from 13-15 June 2023, was a highlight of my past few weeks as a Councillor. It was a great opportunity to represent our Council, gather knowledge, and help contribute to the development of effective strategies for our community's benefit.

During the ALGA Conference, I attended various sessions and panel discussions. The ALGA Conference also served as an excellent platform for exchanging ideas and discussing pertinent issues with local government representatives from across the country. I was particularly interested in the topics of sustainable development, community engagement, infrastructure planning and effective governance.

Sharing insights and experiences from our Council's perspective, I actively contributed to many discussions, creating meaningful dialogue with fellow councillors and industry experts. It was inspiring to witness the passion and dedication of local government authorities in addressing the challenges we all face and finding innovative solutions to local issues.

As a networking event, ALGA provided me with the opportunity to connect with delegates from other Local Government authorities. These interactions allowed for the establishment of potential partnerships and collaborations that can benefit our community in the long run. The exchange of ideas and best practices further enriched my understanding of effective governance. One great example being the Communities Power Partnership project for reducing climate risk and putting downward pressure on power prices and pollution.

I also took part in specialised workshops and training sessions focused on emerging technologies and innovative approaches to local governance. The knowledge gained in these sessions will be instrumental in our Council's efforts to stay at the forefront of best practices and ensure efficient service delivery to our community.

Attending the ALGA Conference was a great experience and a sound investment in our Council's growth and development. The knowledge gained, networking opportunities explored, and contributions made during the conference will undoubtedly have a positive impact on our community. I am excited to leverage these insights to further enhance our Council's operations and service delivery.

While in Canberra, I also attended the National Timber Councils Association. This was interesting but I am unsure their current approach to sideline advocacy at a State Government level in favour of focusing on Federal Government decisions makers, while at the same time, Murray Whatt has been fairly clear they will not interfere with State Government matters, such as forestry.

Thank you for your support and trust in allowing me to represent our Council at the ALGA Conference.

Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

The last few weeks have been really busy responding to many phone calls and emails with regards to the Rural Land Use Strategy, which has been really insightful into forming my opinion on the matter moving forward.

The highlight for me in the last three weeks was presenting to the year 11's and 12's at Bairnsdale Secondary College on my pathway into my career and into becoming a Councillor. When I asked the students if they had ever heard of a Councillor or if they understood the process of 'voting' in the local elections, none of them knew what we did or that they would be required to vote next year. This made me realise that there is a lot more work that I will need to do in my role as a Councillor to educate and empower young people in civics and citizenship moving forward. I am proud to be a young Councillor and hopefully will inspire some young people to start getting involved in local government and decision-making processes.

I look forward to having more of these opportunities going forward.

Cr Jane Greacen OAM

07/06/23 - Rejuvenate Workshop at the Hub

I attended with Cr Urie and there were a number of Council Officers present as well as a wide representation of community. It was led by Matt and Maryanne from Australian Centre for Rural Entrepreneurship (ACRE). Very interesting discussion about social entrepreneurs, innovators, using "remnant know-how" in Scottish Highlands more people are employed by social enterprise than traditional enterprise, and the Government plays a real role – Scottish Economic Growth Strategy. This compares with the Victorian Government which has just dismantled its social enterprise team. A social enterprise splits its profits so 50% to a social need and 50% to the investors. Matt recommended that small groups of local community be taken to see examples such as in Corryong and Yackandanda. Social Enterprise Schools now happening in Mallacoota with ACRE and the Wilderness Collective.

10/06/23 - Deep in the Weeds a Winter Festival Event at Sailors Grave in Orbost. An exciting evening with excellent food, alcohol and music.

12-15/06/23 - Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Conference in Canberra. I attended with Mayor Reeves, Chief Executive Officer, and Cr Crook. We drove there and back in Cr Urie's Electric Vehicle, stopping for a quick top up in Cann River and Cooma. This is a big annual conference with many keynote speakers. A report of key learnings will be provided to Council.

16/06/23 – East Gippsland Art Gallery Launch of Exhibition SouthEast NOW 2023 (Alfie Hudson, Chris Mongta, Patricia Pittman, Alice Ann Pepper, Ray Thomas), and Auntie Rachel Mullett, Jennifer Mullett and Ben Pender. A privilege to see these beautiful works of art collated for this event.

16/06/23 - The Merindas Music Café in Bruthen Mechanics Hall, as part of Winter Festival. This show started with a local youngster playing guitar and singing, and she was excellent, but I cannot recall her name. The Merindas are two well-known singers, who are very professional, great performers, funny and engaging. They had everyone in the audience up and dancing.

21/06/23 - Shearing Shed Lamb Festival at the Stringers Organic Lamb farm, as part of the Winter Festival. It was lovely to spend time on Stringers' farm and stand around fires eating delicious lamb meals.

Cr Mendy Urie

07/06/23: I, along with Cr Greacen and several of our Council Officers, joined a small (13) passionate group of people at the Bairnsdale Hub for a project called "Rejuvenate".

Facilitated by two (2) leaders from Australian Centre for Rural Entrepreneurship (ACRE) whose purpose is "to drive the renewal of Australia's rural communities so that future generations may thrive". The program works to connect, support, and guide rural people who want to build and sustain community-led initiatives which address a local problem or create an opportunity.

ACRE is a for-purpose social enterprise and I understand Councillors will soon have the chance to learn more through a special workshop. It is very relevant for us to know about and for our communities to utilise.

10/06/23: I enjoyed a truly wonderful evening at Sailor's Grave, Orbost for the fully subscribed, Winter Festival event, "Deep in The Weeds". The event was extremely well organised with fabulous projections by Lee Nickless, great food, interesting diverse crowd with people from many destinations other than East Gippsland and best of all, stunning music. Huge congratulations to Gabby and Chris from Sailor's Grave and the many people who helped pull off such a thoroughly enjoyable event!

10/06/23: Another Winter Festival event had me take my very first bathe at Metung Hot Springs under the stars with Rhonda James guiding us all in a meditation. It was excellent! There are so many fantastic participatory events to enjoy over this month of the festival, 9 June- 9 July 2023 and I have been busy making lanterns with my grandchildren in preparation for the Lakes Lights and Lantern Parade this Friday.

16/06/23: I attended the opening of Southeast Now at the East Gippsland Agriculture Group with the Deputy Mayor and Cr Greacen. It was another social highlight, featuring a number of really talented indigenous artists.

21/06/23: Finally, it was my pleasure to represent Council and officially open the Firewise Garden project at the Nungurner Primary School. Along with the students, teachers, Aboriginal associates, CFA members (with truck), Landcare volunteers, parents, and friends of the school, the happy event was a showcase of the children's learning about these terrific native plants which can be a buffer against bushfires, refusing to ignite despite application of a blowtorch (as demonstrated). We had a smoking ceremony, songs, a BBQ and tour of the new gardens. Information kits were available, and people are asked to spread the word about the plants. These plants could be usefully employed by Council on roadsides and public spaces. Many people contributed to this project which was a wonderful success. (Some pamphlets have been distributed).

Cr Mark Reeves

Carers Victoria Mingle in Bairnsdale.

Carers Victoria, in its dedication to supporting carers across the nation, has provided us with some insightful statistics and facts:

- There are over 2.65 million carers in Australia, representing nearly 11% of our population;
- Among them, approximately 861,000 are primary carers, providing invaluable informal support to their family members or friends;
- Some 7 out of 10 primary carers are women – and I think it is crucial to recognise this.
- the average age of a primary carer is 54;
- 30% of carers provide more than 40 hours unpaid care per week;
- We have 6,040 carers in East Gippsland and Carers Victoria expects these numbers to grow significantly in the next few years; and
- Modelling shows that by the end of 2025, over 1 million Victorians will be unpaid carers – that's 1 in every 7 Victorians.

These statistics shed light on the significant impact and challenges faced by carers in our society.

We were proud to be able to partner with Carers Victoria and stand-up an information booth on the day with our helpful Council staff.

07/06/23 - We met with the Upper House MP Tom McIntosh and were able to have a frank and fearless discussion about timber transition among other key topics.

07/06/23 - Youth Ambassadors met.

09/06/23 - One Gippsland Chair-Secretariate meeting took place in anticipation for the 23 June 2023 Board meeting.

09/06/23 - We launched and opened the Winter Festival at Metung Country Club. The Winter festival is a triumph. Well done, Adam, the board and organising committee and all participants!

I also had an opportunity to review the East Gippsland Gallery Southeast NOW exhibition at the Gallery and identified a fabulous piece by local Artist Ray Thomas to add to the shire collection.

22/06/23 - We participated in the official opening of the new Kmart store in Bairnsdale last Thursday. It was a great celebration of a significant retail investment.

27/06/23 - I undertook the monthly "Moment with the Mayor" on the local community radio, REG FM. It's a great opportunity to share the operational work the Shire is undertaking across the region.

13/06 – 16/06/23 - Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly and Australian Council of Local Government Forum (ACLG).

I attended ALGA and the renewed ACLG in Canberra with the Chief Executive Officer and Crs Greacen (OAM) and Crook.

With the local Member, The Hon. Darren Chester, we had opportunities to meet with Federal members regarding the recent Native Timber Harvesting decision in Victoria, as well as attend Question Time, the following was noted:

- Meeting with Mr Peter Dutton and Senator Duniam (Tasmania);
- The Speaker noted and greeted the Mayors present in the Speakers Gallery that day which was an honour;
- Meeting with Minister Murray Watt Federal Minister for Agriculture;
- We noted that the Federal Coalition is strongly advocating for the reversal of the State Government decision; and
- While the Federal Government has a position of supporting a Native Timber Industry, Minister Watt conveyed that the Government would not be intervening in a State Government decision.

I had the opportunity and honour to dine with The Governor General (GG) and Mrs Hurley at Yarralumla.

24 Mayors from areas with disaster declarations that the GG had visited in the past 3 years were invited. It was a considerable honour to be able to represent our community in this company and at this location. We have written to the GG thanking them for the support and recognition.

ALGA was busy. 537 Councils and Mayors were represented with 1100 delegates. The first day was the Rural Council Forum and we were able to represent our shire well. I make and take an opportunity to speak and ask questions in these forums and think it is important to do so. There were some 145 motions debated at ALGA, including five (5) of ours all of which were carried. There were excellent and insightful speakers and the professional interactions and associations that were forged or remade are important.

Ministers McBain and King were in attendance most of the time and made addresses to the forum. Panel discussions were on topics including the Future of Local Government, Workforce, development and delivery of policy in Local Government, The VOICE, Cyclones-Fires-Floods, Affordable Housing and Building More resilient infrastructure.

The ACLG dinner enabled Mayors to dine and talk with front bench Minister, including the Hon. Michelle Rowland MP Minister for Communications the Hon. Chris Bowen MP Minister for Climate Change and Energy and a quick moment with the Prime Minister.

At the forum, ACLG we were able to question the Education Minister about post code and regional education disadvantage, and the Hon. Catherine King about the review of Infrastructure grants that is affecting our projects at Orbost, Mallacoota, Sarsfield and Lakes Entrance. While we are writing to the Minister, being able to speak in a forum face to face was most effective.

23/06/23 - One Gippsland June Board Meeting

This reporting period also included the One Gippsland (OG) Board Meeting.

OG is important and an emerging entity and we are still growing and finding our way. The agenda was rich and varied and included not just regular reports from our partners such as Food and Fibre, TAFE, Federation University and Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC). We also discussed and interrogated our recent positions on the State and Federal Budgets, and this gave rise to conversations about our Charter and Terms of Reference.

The Latrobe Valley and Gippsland Transition Plan was discussed, and the following outcomes resolved:

- One Gippsland Secretariat to organise a meeting with Mr Chris Buckingham – CEO, Latrobe Valley Authority and Ms Beth Jones – Deputy Secretary Rural and Regional Victoria, Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions to discuss the finalisation of the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland Transition Plan and the development of the Action Plan;
- One Gippsland Members to provide individual feedback on the draft Latrobe Valley;
- Gippsland Transition Plan to the Secretariat; and
- One Gippsland Secretariat to combine One Gippsland member feedback on the draft Latrobe Valley and Gippsland Transition Plan into a consolidated One Gippsland feedback document.

Also discussed were:

- Offshore renewable energy position and policy;
- One Gippsland Flood and Inundation Policy Paper;
- One Gippsland Early Learning Education Policy Paper; and
- OG Workwell Fund Grant Application (see below).

OG Collective and Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault (GCASA) will work with Local Government across Gippsland to strengthen and support existing organisational structures and create new initiatives to reduce workplace gendered violence including sexual harassment. We know more work needs to be done to stop gendered violence and sexual harassment in the workplace and for people to feel safe to report behaviours of concern and behaviours that impact people's mental health.

This project aims to integrate with and expand on existing resources, training and support mechanisms to ensure organisational structures and systems support leaders in their responsibilities and what they can do to keep their staff safe at work and in their community. We will collaborate with our partners to identify risks and barriers to reporting and develop capacity building mechanisms such as training to reduce workplace gendered violence and sexual harassment.

Our overall aim is to increase both individual and organisational capacity and confidence in eliminating gendered violence and sexual harassment. We have an upcoming stakeholders register that includes our next meeting scheduled to be in Melbourne and the delegation to Canberra for our Advocacy. OG agreed to review and renew the Advocacy paper in light of budgets, changing and emerging priorities across the region.

5 Officer Reports

5.2.1 Petition - Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Public Submissions

Mr Ryan Brown

Ms Robyn Peile

Motion

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;*
- 2. requests that the Chief Executive Officer or delegate advise the Koala Island Foundation Inc. that no action should be taken to initiate the works covered by the existing Land Manager Consent for works along Fourth Avenue, Raymond Island;*
- 3. requests that the Chief Executive Officer or delegate writes to the head petitioner and request that no further maintenance and mowing of the site is undertaken by residents whilst the management plan is being developed;*
- 4. requests that the Chief Executive Officer commence the development of a Management Plan for the reserve adjacent to Fourth Avenue, Raymond Island; and*
- 5. notes that Officers will write to the head petitioner, notifying them that Land Manager Consent for the Coastal Saltmarsh Protection and Rehabilitation Project will not be acted upon, and a management plan developed for the site to set recommendations for future management of the site.*

Moved: Cr Tom Crook

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED

5.1 Business Excellence

5.1.1 Adoption of Council Budget 2023/24

Authorised by Acting General Manager Business Excellence

Attendance

Cr Trevor Stow left the Council Chamber at 7:31 pm and returned at 7:34 pm.
Cr Kirsten Van Diggele left the Council Chamber at 7:47 pm and returned at 7:49 pm.

Motion

That Council:

1. *receives and notes this report and the attachments pertaining to this report;*
2. *adopts the Budget 2023/24 as provided at Attachment 1 (including the schedule of fees and charges) in accordance with section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020;*
3. *in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, declares the following:*
 - (a) *An amount of \$68,456,506 be declared as the amount that Council intends to raise by general rates, municipal charge and waste collection charges, which is calculated as follows:*

CATEGORY	INCOME
General Rate	\$38,023,912
Commercial / Industrial	\$ 5,553,476
Farm Rate	<u>\$ 5,852,041</u>
TOTAL RATES	<u>\$49,429,429</u>
Municipal charge	\$ 7,830,467
Waste levy	\$ 1,628,022
Waste Charges	
Kerbside Waste/recycling collection (120 litre bin)	\$ 1,300,735
Kerbside Waste/recycling/green waste collection (120 litre bin)	\$ 8,122,892
Additional household waste bin	\$ 35,224
Additional Green/Recycling bin	\$ 1,602
Rural Waste Collection Charge	<u>\$ 108,135</u>
Total Waste Charges	<u>\$ 9,568,588</u>
TOTAL CHARGES	<u>\$19,027,077</u>
TOTAL RATES AND CHARGES	<u>\$68,456,506</u>

(b) The general rate be declared for the period commencing 1 July 2023 and concluding on 30 June 2024:

i) It be further declared that subject to paragraph (iii) of this Part, the general rates be raised through the application of differential rates.

ii) The following rates in the dollar apply to property classifications:

Category	% of General rate	Rate in the \$
General/Residential Rate	100	0.00256872
Commercial/Industrial Rate	140	0.00359621
Farm Rate	80	0.00205498

iii) Differential rates apply to rateable properties with the following characteristics:

(a) General

General land is any land that is:

- **Used primarily for residential purposes; or**
- **Unoccupied but zoned Residential, Township or Rural Living under the East Gippsland Shire Council Planning Scheme; or**
- **Any land that is not defined as Farm Land or Commercial/Industrial Land.**

(b) Commercial and Industrial

Commercial and Industrial Land is any land used primarily for:

- **the manufacture, or production of, or trade in, goods or services; or**
- **Obviously adapted for the primary use of commercial or industrial purposes; or**
- **Occupied primarily for the purpose of service delivery for tourism leisure and/or accommodation; or**
- **Unoccupied but zoned Business, Industrial, Mixed Use, Special Use or Comprehensive Development Zone under the East Gippsland Shire Council Planning Scheme; or**
- **Conforming to East Gippsland Shire Council guidelines for the classification of property as Commercial/Industrial Land.**

(c) Farm Land

Farm land is defined as any land which:

- Is used primarily for a farming or agricultural business; and,**
- Conforms to the definition of “farm land” as specified within the Valuation of Land Act 1960; and,**
- Conforms to East Gippsland Shire Council guidelines for the classification of property as “farm land” as stipulated within East Gippsland Shire Council’s “Application for Farm Rate”; and**
- The ratepayer has Primary Producer status with the Australian Taxation Office and be located in a Farm Zone in accordance with Council’s planning scheme, or have a permit from Council to operate a farming business.**

- iv) Council has determined that the application of a differential rate for Farm and Commercial/Industrial Land will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of its functions.**
- v) Council has determined that the differential percentage applied to Commercial/Industrial properties for the Economic Development Discretionary fund be 5 percent.**
- vi) Council has determined it will provide a rate rebate equivalent to \$62.47 to eligible properties in the ownership of pensioners who qualify for a Victorian Government approved pension rebate. This rebate is provided in accordance with section 169(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1989 and supports the development of the municipality in that it helps support pensioners to keep and stay in their own homes.**

(c) Municipal Charge

- i) A municipal charge be declared for the period commencing 1 July 2023 and concluding on 30 June 2024.**
- ii) A municipal charge be declared for the purpose of covering some of the administrative costs of Council.**
- iii) The municipal charge be the sum of \$245.30 per each rateable property in respect of which a municipal charge can be levied.**

(d) Waste Levy Charge

- i) An annual service charge Waste Levy of \$51.00 be declared for the period commencing 1 July 2023 and concluding 30 June 2024 to cover the increased costs levied by the Environment Protection Authority on the operation of landfills as well as the increased compliance costs required for the operation of landfills.**
- ii) The charge to be levied on each property to which a municipal charge is applied.**

(e) Waste Collection Charge

- i) A charge for kerbside collection of waste with recycling, and for kerbside collection of waste with recycling and green waste, and a rural waste collection charge be declared for the period commencing 1 July 2023 and concluding on 30 June 2024 as follows:**

Kerbside Waste/recycling collection (120 litre bin)	\$395.00
Kerbside Waste/recycling/green waste collection (120 litre bin)	\$452.00
Additional household waste bin	\$238.00
Additional Green/Recycling bin	\$178.00
Rural Waste Collection Charge	\$267.00

- (f) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to levy and recover the general rates, municipal charge, waste levy, kerbside waste with recycling collection charge, kerbside waste with recycling and green waste collection charge and rural waste collection charge as per section 167 of the Local Government Act 1989.**
- (g) Council allows the following payment options in accordance with section 167 of the Local Government Act 1989, as well as options outlined in Council's Financial Hardship Policy and other options available for individual circumstances:**

<i>In Full</i>	<i>Four Instalments</i>
<i>15 February 2024</i>	<i>30 September 2023</i>
	<i>30 November 2023</i>
	<i>28 February 2024</i>
	<i>31 May 2024</i>

- (h) Interest on unpaid rates and charges will be charged in accordance with section 172 of the Local Government Act 1989.**

Moved: Cr Mendy Urie

Seconded: Cr Arthur Allen

Amendment motion

That Council remove the \$12 green waste charge from the draft Budget.

Moved: Cr Sonia Buckley

Seconded: Cr John White

Procedural Motion

Cr Jane Greacen OAM moved that the amendment motion now be put.

Moved: *Cr Jane Greacen OAM*

Seconded: *Cr Trevor Stow*

The amendment motion was immediately put to the vote without further debate and was lost.

LOST

The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was carried.

CARRIED

Cr Buckley called for a division.

For:	Cr Arthur Allen, Cr Tom Crook, Cr Jane Greacen OAM, Cr Mark Reeves, Cr Trevor Stow, Cr Mendy Urie and Cr Kirsten Van Diggele
Against:	Cr Sonia Buckley and Cr John White

5.1.2 Adoption 10-Year Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2032/33 and Four-Year Revenue and Rating Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27

Authorised by Acting General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;***
- 2. adopts the 10-Year Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2032/33 as provided at Attachment 1 in accordance with section 91 of the Local Government Act 2020; and***
- 3. adopts the Four-Year Revenue and Rating Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27 at Attachment 2.***

Moved: Cr Arthur Allen

Seconded: Cr Trevor Stow

CARRIED

5.1.3 Instruments of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

Authorised by General Manager Business Excellence

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;***
- 2. in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Nidia Richardson and Penny Cross be appointed as Authorised Officers, as set out in the Instruments of Appointment and Authorisation provided at Attachment 1 and Attachment 2, for the purposes of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the regulations made under that Act;***
- 3. affixes the Common Seal of East Gippsland Shire Council to the Instruments provided at Attachment 1 and Attachment 2; and***
- 4. notes that the Instruments come into force immediately once the Common Seal is affixed and will remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it, or until the Officer ceases to be employed by East Gippsland Shire Council.***

Moved: Cr Tom Crook

Seconded: Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

CARRIED

5.2 Assets and Environment

5.2.1 Petition - Fence Along Fourth Avenue Raymond Island

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Procedural Note

Following the Procedural Motion to alter the order of business, this item was considered before item 5.1.1

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Confidentiality Notice

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the information contained in **Confidential Attachment 1** to this report is confidential because it contains private commercial information, which if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage by disclosing financial information to competitors.

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;***
- 2. accepts the tender submitted by Grind Projects Pty Ltd for CON2023 1521 Cann River Skate Park Redevelopment for the contract amount \$544,748.50 exclusive of GST;***
- 3. authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise the terms and to sign and seal the contract in the form proposed; and***
- 4. resolves that Confidential Attachment 1 and all discussions regarding this attachment remain confidential.***

Moved: ***Cr Jane Greacen OAM***

Seconded: ***Cr Kirsten Van Diggele***

CARRIED

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Procedural Motion

That Council, in accordance with section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020, close the meeting to members of the public to allow Councillors to discuss Confidential Attachment 1.

Moved: Cr Sonia Buckley

Seconded: Cr Trevor Stow

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the public at 8.31 pm.

Procedural Motion

That the meeting be re-opened to the public.

Moved: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

Seconded: Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 8.44 pm.

Motion

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes this report and all attachments pertaining to this report;***
- 2. accepts the tender submitted by Whelans Group Investments Pty Ltd for CON2023 1561R Construction of Wetlands – Crooke Street, East Bairnsdale for the contract amount of \$1,797,355.14 exclusive of GST;***
- 3. authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise the terms and to sign and seal the contract in the form proposed; and***
- 4. resolves that Confidential Attachment 1 and all discussions regarding this attachment remain confidential.***

Moved: Cr Mendy Urie

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED

Procedural Motion

That Council resolves to extend the duration of the meeting for one hour.

Moved: Cr Trevor Stow

Seconded: Cr Tom Crook

CARRIED

5.2.4 External Factors Impacting the Capital Works Program - Plan for Managing the Issues in 2022-23 and into the Future

Authorised by General Manager Assets and Environment

Motion

That Council receives and notes this report.

Moved: Cr Tom Crook

Seconded: Cr Jane Greacen OAM

CARRIED

6 Urgent Business

Nil

Motion

That Council resolves to move into confidential business pursuant to section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020.

Moved: Cr Kirsten Van Diggele

Seconded: Cr Arthur Allen

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the public at 9.03 pm.

7 Confidential Business

7.1 Council Insurances

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the information contained in this report is confidential because it contains Council business information being information that would, if released, prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations as insurance policy renewal processes remain pending.

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 9.10 pm.

8 Close of Meeting

Cr Mark Reeves declared the Council Meeting closed at 9.11 pm.