

>> MAYOR LIZ PATTISON: Welcome to our November Council meeting. I'm Mayor Liz Pattison and it's a pleasure to welcome members of the community into the Chambers tonight. This meeting is also being live streamed so a big welcome to those tuning in online and of course welcome to my fellow Councillors. Live captioning will accompany the live stream and the Council Chamber is fitted with a hearing loop, which transmits directly to hearing aids. We hope that this assists those who may have hearing difficulties. The Surf Coast Shire local government area spans the traditional lands of the Wadawurrung People and the Gulidjan and Gadubanud Peoples of the Maar nation. I would like to acknowledge that here in Torquay at the main Council office, we are gathered on Wadawurrung Country. I pay my respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. The Wadawurrung People have nurtured and protected these lands and waterways for thousands of generations, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to live and work in such a beautiful part of the world. We also wish to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which each person is attending and acknowledge any Aboriginal people who may be viewing the meeting tonight. What an exciting time for Surf Coast as we host the Volleyball World Pro Beach Tour. From tomorrow, Torquay will be buzzing with activity when Volleyfest descends on our foreshore for 12 days. The tour features the world's top teams and the Australian Beach Volleyball Tour event is one of six premier elite domestic events staged around the country. And I'm going to be there on Sunday. I'm looking forward to enjoying it and hope you can as well. A big congratulations to our recent Year 12 graduates, what a huge year it has been, and I hope you're proud of your achievements. I'm looking forward to graduates celebrating in the Surf Coast and we welcome you to our beautiful region. A big thank you to the Lorne community for all the support you provide our visitors during this exciting time. Over the last few weeks we have experienced significant weather incidents and I want to thank the community for your patience over this time with the suspension of the road management plan. Keep looking after yourselves and stay safe on the roads. And a final comment, this Council meeting is my

first as Mayor and I'm looking forward to working positively and constructively with my fellow Councillors over the next 12 months. And now to our agenda for tonight, so let's get underway. We have Council process I'll go through. Council meetings operate according to our adopted Governance Rules, which include the following procedures: During the meeting, the mover of a motion or an amendment may speak for a maximum of 5 minutes to open the debate, and then a further 2 minutes to make a closing statement. Any other Councillor, including the seconder, may speak to a motion for no more than 3 minutes. Councillors are committed to our roles, accountable to the community and at all times aim to be respectful and ethical in all that we do. Our decisions and debate will adhere to these values and principles. With that in mind, and in line with our Governance Rules, I would like to recite the Pledge as a sign of our commitment. "As Councillors we carry out our responsibilities with diligence and integrity and make fair decisions of lasting value for the wellbeing of our community and environment." Now, apologies? We don't have any apologies for tonight. Counselor Wellington will be attending the meeting. We'll progress on with that. And move on to confirmation of minutes. Can I please have a mover and seconder to confirm the minutes of our Council meeting held on Tuesday 25th of October and Tuesday the 15th of November. Moved by counselor Allen and seconded by counselor Hodge. All those in favour? Thank you. And the motion is carried unanimously. Do I have any leave of absence requests? No. Declaration of conflicts of interest. If a counselor or an officer has a conflict of interest they must declare it now. And do so again just prior to the item being discussed. The Councillor and or officer will be requested to leave Chambers or for those online to be placed by the host in a virtual waiting room whilst the matter is being considered. Once the matter is resolved, the Councillor and or officer will be returned to the meeting. Are there any declarations of conflicts of interest in relation to tonight's agenda? No. If any conflicts arise, please let me know. Now, any presentations? >> Yes, mayor. I do. I'd like to pass on my condolences to the family of John McDonald. One of the greatest members I've seen on Council. He was on school Councils

community and sporting clubs. He was initially a member of APEX and held many positions on several organisations. He was a three times president, recipient of the Paul Harris award. In the lions, he was the chair of the lion's village. Just a couple weeks ago that counselor Schonfelder and I were there. He'll be missed at the lion's village. He worked as a coordinator. Initiated the U3A and was president. He helped organise the Torquay food aid and local legend two years ago in the Surf Coast Shire. Volunteering and hours served was inspiring and had major fundraisers at the book fair. He was terrific at complex organising skills as well as hands on. He was a champion sausage Sizzler as well. He also started the relay for life in Torquay. I've enjoyed his dry sense of humor and he will be sadly missed by his two children and his companion, Maggi. His funeral is tomorrow. And many people said he only had one short coming. He leaves a large legacy. So to all the organisations, his family and Maggi, he will be missed and we will remember him. Thank you. >>

LIZ PATTISON: Thanks for sharing that. We move on to public question time CHLT The next agenda item is public question time. Members of the public who wish to ask a question to Council are able to submit their written question in accordance with Council's Governance Rules. We have had 1 community member submit questions and we have 2 in total to address. The questions are from Catherine Williamson. I'll read out the first question and we'll response and go from there. How will Council ensure storm water flow from any future residential estates fully complies with the policy of 2020? The Surf Coast planning policy and new APA dock 1739.1 storm water management guidance? I will refer to our CEO Robyn Seymour. >> There's work for us to do in this space. >> Thank you. Would it be okay if you asked the second question? >>

LIZ PATTISON: No worries. That's the first question. I'll read out the second question and we'll go from there. How will Council ensure all storm water management plans submitted for their consideration have been written after the implementation of the new regulatory arrangements marine and coastal policy of 2020 based on recent data and compliance and plans are not relied and information resubmitted? >> So I'm going to have to provide general comments

and we'll commit to a written response after the meeting. Unfortunately, we have a small storm water team dealing with the implications of wet weather at the moment. And I haven't been able to consult with them to a detail I'm satisfied. We'll address some of the details of the questions. Some general comments though. We do as part of any new development assess the storm water design and management plans against relevant policies and standards. And we would also seek the relevant information of applicants they lodge the applications. The challenge is around the alignment of timing when the information is provided and if there are any changes to regulations that apply. So I think it's fair to say there's a principle we want to be compliant with all of those policies. If there's guidance, draw on that guidance too and do the best job we can. We're open to the scrutiny of the regulating agencies in this space. Personally, I've spoken in other forums most recently of the current wetlands and open to the fact Council -- and applying those improvements to new developments. But, of course, there are quite specific policies referenced in the questions. So I'd like to have the opportunity on consult to where with our storm water specialist. However, I would also say I am aware of some public concern being expressed with regard to an amendment to a development plan in Torquay, variety drive at the moment. We are in the midst of engagement process there. There are details on our web site. If this question happens to be in connection to that or any other planning application, we'd welcome Catherine's input to that process. If there are inadequacies or proposed, really happy to hear about that. And I can offer Council's infrastructure would be happy to discuss these issues in great are detail as we strengthen our policies and I'll make sure we include the details in their response. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you for that. Now we move on. Any petitions? And no notice of motions from counselors tonight. We move into the reports for the agenda. The first report we have is our road safety strategy 2022-2027. And our first report tonight is requesting Council receives progress reports and adopts the road safety strategy and action plan 2022-2027. Does anyone wish to move a motion noting that there is an alternative has been circulated? And our governance

is putting that one up on the screen there. Thank you. Is that per the displayed motion? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Yes, ma'am. >> LIZ PATTISON: Do I have a seconder? Thank you, counselor Allen. Would you like to speak to the motion? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Yes, please. Perhaps I should read the addition or the amendment is the Council adopts the road safety strategy and action plan 2022-2027 subject to 1.1 the mayor's introduction to reflect the current mayor counselor Ms. Pattison. And reflects the Surf Coast population as 37,623. If I may, mayor, I'd like to congratulate you on your election. Take this opportunity and wish you and the deputy mayor all the very best for this year. In relation to this, I'd like to speak about the background and simply say the Surf Coast Shire Council aspires to establish and maintain a safe road network for all users including drivers, pedestrians and cyclists, cancels current road safety strategy and action plan was developed and adopted in 2016 and has now expired. For Council to continue to deliver on these aspirations, the development of a new road safety strategy and action plan was required. In 2021, a traffic -- transport accident commission became available to help support the funding of the development of strategic Council documents such as road safety strategies. Officers identified this as an opportunity to fund the update of the current strategy for the next five years to help guide improved safety on Council roads. Council officers were successful in obtaining the TAC grant. The development of the strategy included the review of the previous road safety strategy. 2016-2021. Analysis of department of transport records have reported casualty caches initially over -- crashes initially over a ten-year period. The development of the strategy has been overseen by a steering committee. External consultant was engaged to undertake the development of the strategy. The review was particularly important as there is a need for Council's road safety policies to adopt to meet the continuous changes of population growth, aging population, increasing diverse road users, cyclists using network, increasing international and tourist drivers, and emerging forms of transports. The strategy aligns with and enhances state and federal strategies as well as the transport commission's safe system

approach and includes an action plan shaped by broad consultation. Now, I can speak at length about this item mayor. I think it's important to highlight the goals that the strategy maintains. And they include reducing fatalities and serious injuries where speed is a contributing factor. Also make rural roads safe. Prepare the road network for the increase connectivity and automation of vehicles. Improve intersection designs to improve survive ability. Improve pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure and safety. Ensure unprotected and vulnerable road users are supported by the road system not impacted buyers. Create accessible communities. Prepare the network for increased aid mobility. Reduce fatalities and services injuries where speed, alcohol and/or drugs are involved. Also to reduce fatalities and serious injuries -- bear with me one moment. Reduce fatalities and serious injuries where drivers engaged in different bodies. I'm not sure with that one -- >> LIZ PATTISON: That's all right. We've reached the time. Thanks for a great summary there. Thank you. And counselor Allen. >> GARY ALLEN: Thank you, chair. Given our growing aging and seasonal population mix, road safety is a matter of high priority for the Council. And given limited resources, the effective targeting of these resources is a significant issue. The strategy and action plan informs the Council or the current safety challenges. It is the increasingly diverse profile of our road users that I wish to highlight this evening. Taking this opportunity to focus upon our rural roads particularly on the unsealed roads with multiple use. Note that in the community consultationconsultation, 60% or the largest percentage of the response ants identified rural roads as the highest priority. With 45% of respondents stating the maintenance of rural roads was in their top three priorities. And I note that the maintenance of our roads and the safety of our roads are linked. My concern is several of our unsealed roads are used by heavy vehicles particularly logging trucks. There is currently a high demand for locally sourced building materials increasing the frequently of logging trucks using the outlet roads leading to a significant deterioration of the state of these roads used by resilience and by tourists as an alternative route to the great ocean road. It's perhaps the tourists that give the

greatest concern as at least the local users are aware of the problems and the blind spots. As a frequent user of the do you knows Marshal long road, I have experienced two close call both involving impatient drivers of heavy vehicles. One being last week where speed and driving over the double lines caused a near collision. The report respondance called for greater use of public transport leading to improved safety. May I take the opportunity here to support the call for more frequent call for bus service thus reducing the volume of traffic on this road. And in doing so, the tireless advocacy work of Juliet Beaty in support of the service. I'm very pleased to note that unsealed roads are identified as one of the strategic focus areas in the action plan. With goal two listed as making remote and rural roads safer with a target of completing safety inspections of all rural and remote roads by 2027. May I finish tying two things together? With the call of inspection of unsealed roads used by the logging trucks to be a number one priority. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thanks, counselor Allen. Any other counselors who wish to speak to the motion? Counselor Wellington. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: Thank you very much. The first thing I will say is I'm extremely pleased to see the focus on sealed roads in this strategy. Roads are a critical issue for anyone across the Shire. It hasn't really attracted the attention in my view. I don't think it's any surprise the community engagement is a significant safety issue. The condition of the roads is partly that comfort and that safety. It's been one of the key problems in our resident satisfaction survey for the whole time I've been on Council coming up on 12 years. And I pointed that out at each residence satisfaction. It's often been met with people's expectations are too high and don't agree with that. Very nice looking road in this strategy on page 27 that I can assure those who are familiar, not all of our roads look like that. The majority probably don't. And after this recent rain, we have got a really substantial problem both now into the future. Caused acceleration of damage on the unsealed road network. And we haven't got the resources to deal with it in the budget. So I know this year there was an extra 900,000 or a million dollars put into the budget to focus on the unsealed road

network. We have a messy backlog in that area. And we really haven't got enough on resources to maintain and renew the network in the way it ought to be done. I think that -- so I'm pleased to see that focus. I still don't know where the resources are going to come from to address the actions identified in this plan. It's a challenge for this Council. We're looking at additional deficit associated with the pool. That money's got to come from somewhere. I don't want it coming from unsealed road maintenance or renewal. We need to invest more in that area. I've got the data in here were interesting. The question involving animals, I think that's a significant issue particularly in Torquay where native animals have been crowded out by development. We haven't got the opportunities for those animals to be safe and that's a particular issue along this road. We've got -- I'm not sure of the methodology whether that's going to be helpful. We need to look at that. I think the data are very small numbers. Hard to draw conclusions. There is some weighted data in this report which I found interesting. And it talks about the types of crashes that are causing problems. There's a couple -- some of the performance measures seem to relate to other levels of government such as Victoria police in terms of enforcement of alcohol and drug and speed issues on the road. And really, my biggest question is how will the cost of these actions be funded? There's no reference to resources in the report that I could find. And the final remark is that the title of it, which may seem trivial, posting towards zero I presume is a play on the notion that we're the Surf Coast. To me, this is like everything else we do is really important. Maintaining our rural roads is important. We can't view it something we're coasting towards. And I think titles and messaging are important. And I'm not keen on the title of the strategic plan. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. You are a minute over now. I'll get you to finish up. Thank you. Do I have any other counselors that wish to speak? Counselor Bodsworth? >> MIKE BODSWORTH: Thank you, mayor. I want to focus on the strategic importance of this and particularly that it provides a strategic basis for prioritising and planning actions and also that we've got a good track record in using this strategy to secure external funding. And I note in the strategy that that's one of



the aims is to bring this strategic approach to funding applications and try and secure more funding for strategic road safety actions. I'd like to address counselor Wellington's concerns about possible eye rolling in relation to the importance of unsealed rural roads which I haven't seen myself. I haven't seen any eye rolling and never heard scepticism about that as an important issue. Obviously, in a heavily resourced environment, I actually think the extra money that's been put into that is significant. And the extra emphasis on standards and specifications and the kind of grading specs and standards we're looking at to get more from less funding is really significant there as well. Returning to the strategic side of this. There's one thing which is conspicuous to me. And that is mobility devices like these scooters. And there, I think, there's a failure of leadership at the state level on that. And I look forward to in the reviews to us having the opportunity to look at some guidance from higher levels. And try and address that really important issue. I presume it's not in there mainly because these scooters are not legal off private property at the moment. You are not allowed to ride them off private property. As we all know, they are all over the place. We're going to see an explosion in use of those devices over the next few years. I hope the other authorities that sit in a high-strategic position on road safety can catch up with where things are at on the ground. Otherwise, I strongly support this and our adoption of it. Thanks. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. And counselor Gazzard. >> KATE GAZZARD: Thanks, mayor. I support this document. I think it's really important piece. Obviously, the target of zero is very difficult and I was upset but not surprised to see Victoria holds high last year at 222 already and we're not even in the Christmas period. I think everyone knows someone who has been affected by a car crash. And the effects of it are far reaching. Not just the death toll which is a tragedy and a big number but any injury sustained in a car crash can be severe and debilitating and completely life changing. I've been involved in a lot of traumas in the emergency department. And it's traumatic. It seems obvious but emotionally as well as the physical trauma of it. And the things from a medical point of view we look at are when

you get a trauma call in, in my case, it's usually a child coming in to the children's hospital. We want to know the speed of the crash, whether they were wearing a seat belt, whether there was a death of another occupant, whether the air bags were deployed and whether there was cabin intrusion of the vehicle. From that point of view, if you have any of those factors, the higher the risk of injury and death. So we can mitigate those by reducing speed limits by improving safety of cars. By enforcing seat belts and alcohol restrictions and education of everyone. So it's a joint effort at all levels of government and definitely challenges particularly around increasing construction costs. And back to seal more of our roads but maintaining the pot holes and everything with all the weather events we've had have been dramatic. So comes with a lot of challenges. I think working towards a goal of zero deaths on the roads is admirable and what we should be aiming for. Thank you to the officers who prepared this. And I'll be voting for it. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Schonfelder, closing remark? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Yes, please. The last goal I had written down was to reduce fatalities and serious injuries where drivers engage in distracting behaviour. And that's something that is so important to try and prevent any type of accidents taking place. I think it's also important to emphasise different bodies in relation to the road safety strategy such as the department of transport which is the owner and has jurisdiction over many of our roads including the prince's highway and the gradeation road. I do thank the counselors for their contribution. And I have a very high regard and respect for importance of roads in our Shire exhibited from the counselor group. Thank you, mayor. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. All those in favour of the motion? And the motion is carried. We move on to our tree risk management plan. Endorse the tree risk management plan five year review and to commence community consultation. Anyone wish to move a motion? Thank you counselor Bodsworth. Is that as per the recommendation? >> MIKE BODSWORTH: Yes, mayor. >> LIZ PATTISON: Secunder? Thank you, counselor Schonfelder. >> MIKE BODSWORTH: Tonight we're being asked to endorse the five year review of tree management

plan for four week period. And to note a report will be presented to us after that consultation period. And to me, this is a great example of a systematic approach to risk management. It's a systematic approach to fulfilling our duty of care. Trees can be hazardous. You can't get rid of them. Need to manage them and the risk. There's not a great deal I need to say about this. All pretty clear in the tree risk management plan. There's a lot of appreciation in the communities and the groups of the work the tree crews do. We have a number of arborists on our team. We have the systematic approach but the specialists and trained personnel to put it into action. It's also worth noting our part of the world, our municipalities at that time is -- municipality is known for this and essential for us to retain that character and manage the risk. One of the reasons why this systematic approach that's exemplified in the tree management plan interests me is it's the kind of systematic approach we can take in other classes other than trees. There are lots of categories out there we manage. And this kind of approach including, for example, the trained personnel and trained inspection abilities and things like that is something we can bring across other hazard categories as our risk management capacity. So one other thing that I'll note that I inquired about was the time frame for followup works and that we have some longer time frames there. But there's also time frames for urgent actions. For example, if a tree up above a picnic table that requires urgent inspection, from memory, four-hour inspection time frame on those. All in all, I think this is a really good piece of work. Fantastic approach. I thank the staff who helped to implement it and I recommend it to you. Thanks. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Schonfelder. >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Second. I shall reserve my right to speak. >> LIZ PATTISON: Any other counselors wish to speak? Counselor Allen. >> GARY ALLEN: Thanks, chair. The matter of tree removal is a hot topic in our communities. Particularly in lawn. The tree canopy is very much part of lawn's unique character. And I appreciate that the Council's need is to balance the aesthetic and environmental value of trees with the safety of the public and the protection of our assets clearly in mind. However, we should be mindful that the

value of trees is all too often under valued. Clearly the Council is not responsible for all trees. And for the purpose of this tree risk management plan, Council manage trees on land managed and maintained by the Council. I think it's important for the community to realise we're obliged to undertake this plan to review it every five years as an obligation from flowing out of the coroner's report following a tragic fatality of 2013 by the following of a large tree limb. The plan is set out a system of the Council to inspect, identify, evaluate the health condition and defects that may contribute to the structural of the trees. The plan clearly articulates the roles of various authorities, the scope and guiding principles underlying tree management. I would really encourage residents in the Shire to respond to the plan. If endorsed this evening, there will be a four-week consultation period beginning on Monday the 23rd of January. And I'll encourage all residents to be involved. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you, counselor Allen. Counselor Wellington. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: I saw counselor Gazzard had her hand up. I'm happy for this to go out to public consultation. As counselor Allen just said, this refers to trees managed by Council on Council land. It sort of has a focus on trees and their impact on public assets. Obviously, that would include trees that are on public land adjacent to private asset such as people's homes. It's not really that explicit I don't think in the plan but any tree if it were to fall has a potential impact on somebody's private adjacent property particularly a home or a backyard or whatever. That is our responsibility and should be included in the plan. And I think it probably is, actually, implicit. Just not emphasised that much. The footnote is 2017. That's a comment for Council officers before it gets circulated. That needs to be amended to draft 2022. The other thing is page 69 of the papers, there's a discussion around suspension of the plan. And more or less implies that under the wrongs act, it kind of has that same sense we have in the road management plan that the road management plan as long as we make our best efforts to achieve it, we won't be found to be liable under the wrongs act. And we can suspend the plan as we have done recently with the rain events that we've had. We've been

focused on prevention and remediation rather than maintaining the road management plan. I'm not an expert on the wrongs act by any means. It reads to me a bit emphatically in that there's some regulatory process. I'm not sure that is the case. By reading of that section of the wrongs act. I have read it in isolation. Despite being involved in medicine and law, I'm not involved in legal medicine at all. I just question whether there's too much emphasis on the implementation of that section of the wrongs act. And I'll be happy to hear what the community's got to say. My experience about queries is they are extremely responsive and people are concerned about private property and responded appropriately. I think we've got the systems in place but I'll be interested to hear what the community has to say about it. And the golf course, I should mention there was quite a lot of trees there the golf club was concerned about. And worked effectively on those. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Zazzard. >> KATE GAZZARD: Thank you. Counselor Allen kind of covered everything I was going to say. I think the trees are so integral to the character of our towns. I think this has a good balance of riskofrisk management. Andd like to ask the community to give us feedback. It will be interesting with more extreme weather events and more trees just fall down with the soil being so wet. This might need to come into play a lot more than we've been used to. So important that we get it right. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Bodsworth, do you wish to make a closing statement? >> MIKE BODSWORTH: Just to say the counselors have raised important points there and I thank them for that input. I agree with counselor Allen. Would be great if people out there can take an interest in that and provide their comments. And to agree with counselor Gazzard, it has been a hard season on the trees. And my thoughts go out it the trees that have been blown over and water logged and abused over the last few months. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. All those in favour? And the motion is carried unanimously. We move on to 4.3. Positive aging advisory committee member for further year term. Anyone wish to make a motion? Counselor Allen, would you like to speak? >> GARY ALLEN: Thanks, chair. It's a great pleasure

I have in moving the appointment for second term of Lynn Ba -- Lyn Batson. She joined the committee in 2019 and delighted she's agreed to serve a second term. I believe her willingness and the willingness of many others to seek reappointment is very positive. second term. I believe her willingness and the willingness of many others to seek reappointment is very positive. About the role this committee is advising. Lyn is a very active member of the community and contributing to neighbouring communities. She is an active member of the community network and a positive proactive participant in her community. It's my pleasure in moving her reappointment. >> ROSE HODGE: I will thank Lyn for her work and work in the future. It is great to see how people volunteer and make these committees with their experience and their forward thinking make these committees worthwhile. I'd like to thank her and the other members. To put her hand up again is terrific. >> LIZ PATTISON: Any other counselors like to speak to the motion? Counselor Wellington. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: I'd like to endorse those comments made. Lyn is a great contributor to the community. And so many of those volunteers that contribute to so many different committees. And she makes a fantastic contribution. Really pleased to see her continuing her interest and commitment. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Allen, do you wish to make a closing statement? >> GARY ALLEN: I should have mentioned her contribution to the mad hatter's tea party during the positive aging month. She helped contribute to that wonderful occasion. Just an example of her willingness to help other communities. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: That's great. Thanks. All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. Next report is requesting Council to accept the resignations of members and appoint new members to the Deans Marsh Hall and the Globe Theatre. Counselor Allen. And do I have a seconder? Counselor Wellington. Counselor Allen, do you wish to speak? >> GARY ALLEN: Thanks, chair. We accept the resignation of Victor Goldstein with a great deal of regret. Coordinating markets and festivals in the past. He was appointed to the whole community asset committee in 2019 volunteering for roles as both the booking and

the maintenance officer on that committee. His commitment will be solely missed. And I thank him for his varied contributions. We're delighted to endorse two new members of the community whole memorial reserve. Tom Reid. Tom's been a resident for approximately 25 years. And was a member of the whole committee prior to the formation of the asset committee. Tom has taken an important leadership role in the cricket club. And James Morton. Currently, chief financial officer in private enterprise. Will bring business and financial expertise to that committee. Also listed in the report is the resignation of Phil Meurer from the Stribling Reserve. He joined in 2017 bringing his immense administrative skills from his role as a CEO. He has great attention to detail and a long-term perspective. Most importantly, he's a very humble and warm person whose contributions will be sorely missed. Phil was part of the project control group for the Stribling Reserve development that steered this to mere completion. Wonderful job he did. And I'm sure that counselor Wellington will refer to the contributors. Thanks. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thanks. Counselor Wellington. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: Thanks very much. First of all to accept the resignation of Glenn Morrison and thank him for his contribution. The Globe Theater is a really significant building. It plays a very important community function now. It was originally built by the father of Marjorie Lawrence. And Marjorie Lawrence became an opera singer. And built by her father to enable her to do public performances. Really important historic building. As long as I've been a counselor and much longer than that, it's been managed by committee of management and community asset committee. They've done fantastic job. Sort of ensuring its upgrades to provide really good facilities for the community. And it's really used a lot sorts of things, karate to all-time dancing and the annual society presentation. There's musical events and it's a really actively used facility. I'd like to thank Glenn for his contribution and note this team-based approach to the workman aging that which is really appreciated. Trevor Brown, excuse me, has been a long-term member of that committee. And Trevor sadly passed away. I spoke about that the last Council meeting when I recognised Trevor's

contribution. He and his wife Helen, were fantastic contributor to that community. To acknowledge the incredible work Trevor did working with that committee and other community groups over the years. Ray King, have worked so hard for this facility and for that committee. And he's been there supporting Maureen and helping the community access that facility. And he's agreed to come back on to the committee which is really nice. Very much appreciated. They were great mates as I understand it. Trevor will be very much missed. Will be nice to have Ray back on the committee continuing his work to make that a great facility. Thank you. >> LIZ

PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors who wish to speak?

Counselor Stapleton. >> LIBBY STAPLETON: Thank you, mayor. I would like to echo those sentiments and take the opportunity to welcome the new committee members. And also to thank those who have served as counselor Allen and counselor Wellington said. They make enormous contribution to the community. And been on a community asset committee myself prior to my time on Council, there's many people who I think go unnoticed who are making such a substantial contribution to our communities. And these asset committees provide in each of our townships a really important space for community to come together and to connect and run all sorts of wonderful events and programs. And I think it's good to put a shout out there to all people across the community who are working on those asset committees and thank them for their service. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Allen,

any closing statements? >> GARY ALLEN: Just perhaps simply to say, mayor, we look forward to visiting Deans Marsh tomorrow when most of the counselors and officers will be attending to have a look around the community and facilities. >> LIZ PATTISON: That

will be great. Thank you. All those in favour? And the motion is carried unanimously. We move on to our next report. The consideration of the adoption of schedule of Council meetings of 2023. Mover of this motion? Counselor Stapleton. Do I have a

seconder? Counselor Bodsworth. Counselor Stapleton. >> LIBBY

STAPLETON: Thank you, mayor. Fairly straight forward report. I welcome the proposed dates for 2023. I think the important thing to



note is the prospect of taking Council meetings out to wards next year highlighted in this report. At least one meeting will be held in each ward at a date to be determined. One of the dates listed on the calendar ahead of it. This is something I know Council has done in the past. But the introduction of live streaming made it difficult to continue. So it's not been offered in recent years. But I am aware many of my fellow counselors have expressed a desire to have more community meetings with Council out in the community. I'm confident the motion will be supported. It's a really exciting opportunity to actually take counselor genders into community and have more people. We welcome people to come to talk. Would be terrific to see locals. Have the opportunity to not travel so far and attend a Council meeting in person. Listen to the discussion and the debate and learn a bit more about what goes on at Council. Obviously, the past couple of years with Covid have made it difficult to get out and about. We're in a better position to do that now. And, yeah, I'm looking forward to it. Other than that, all others would continue to be held in Torquay hybrid options for counselors and the live streaming for our community unable to attend in person. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. And counselor Bodsworth. >> MIKE BODSWORTH: Thanks, mayor. I really just want to echo counselor Stapleton's comments. I'm excited about the meetings in the wards. One per quarter. I find that over the past two years on the Council, I found those times when you are together in the same room with community members in own communities the best time that I've spent. So I hope that same kind of feeling comes into the Council meetings in the wards and we get that great exchange and personal contact that helps to make the whole thing more real for people and I think it's more regarding for us as well. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors wish to speak to the motion? No. Closing remark counselor Stapleton? Great. All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. We now move on to item 4.6 which is requesting Council to receive and note the September quarterly budget report for the 2023-23 financial year. This includes the comprehensive income statement, balance sheet, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity and statement of capital

works. Do I have a mover of this motion? Counselor Schonfelder. Is it per the recommendation? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Yes, ma'am. >> LIZ PATTISON: Do I have a seconder? Counselor Stapleton. >> I think counselor Gazzard. >> LIZ PATTISON: Counselor Schonfelder, do you wish to speak? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: No thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Do you wish to speak to the motion? >> KATE GAZZARD: Thank you. To highlight the increase pressure of construction costs and weather events causing increased damage to our road networks and increased pot holes. That cost is going to be above what's been budgeted and we'll have to work with that as it happens. Not much we can do about the weather. I guesstimate gating the damage where possible and dealing with it as it comes. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors wish to speak to the motion? No? Closing remark? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: No, thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. Moving along. Next report contains proposed budget adjustments and cash reserve transfers for Council ratification and approval relating to the 2022-23 financial year. The report presents the funding sources for all adjustments. Mover of the motion? Counselor Schonfelder. Is it per the recommendation? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Yes. >> LIZ PATTISON: Do I have a seconder? Counselor Bodsworth. Counselor Schonfelder, do you wish to speak? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: I'll reserve my right. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Counselor Bodsworth? >> MIKE BODSWORTH: No comments. Thank you, mayor. >> LIZ PATTISON: Any other counselor wish to speak to the motion? No? I'll put the motion to the vote. All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. Next report is to seek Council's approval to award contract of T23-008 supply of crushed rock and recycled materials. Do I have a mover and a motion? Counselor Allen. Per the recommendation? >> GARY ALLEN: As per the recommendation. >> LIZ PATTISON: And I do note to the community and counselors and those watching that there was redacted company etc to this recommendation in the public agenda. And the full recommendation is now displayed on the screen. That's what counselor Allen has moved. Do I have a seconder? Counselor

Bodsworth. Counselor Allen, would you like to speak to the motion?

>> GARY ALLEN: As listed in the officer's report, we have a successful tender. Crushed rock and recycled material is essential for maintenance. Foot paths, drains, roads. The contract being for initial three years with a possible two-year extension. And most importantly, the acceptance of this allows for completion of projects to scope and within budget which is very important consideration.

Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you, counselor Allen. Do you wish to speak to the motion?

>> MIKE BODSWORTH: I'd like to also highlight the tendering procurement information that's now in the open section of our agendas and that it provides greater

transparency around these important procurement decisions. So I welcome that as far as the content of this one, I note including supplies who have been on existing contracts with us. And I'm confident from the report that this recommendation holds up and we should support it.

>> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors wish to speak to the motion? Counselor Allen, any closing remarks?

>> GARY ALLEN: No. Just I'm getting used to the new process too. May take some time. >> LIZ PATTISON: All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. Moving along. We have a few of these contracts. 4.9 is seeking Council's approval to approve T23-021 environmental land and roadside pest plant and animal management services. Do I have a mover of the motion?

Counselor Stapleton. Do I have a seconder? Counselor Schonfelder. Do you wish to speak to the motion? >> LIBBY STAPLETON: I will. Thank you, mayor. Just to note pest plants and animals have significant adverse environmental impacts not just in the Surf Coast but Australia causing damage to natural landscapes, agricultural land, waterways and coastal areas. Important we have this contract in place to undertake regular work to prevent new and emerging pest plants and animal infestations in the Shire. I understand a panel of 8 qualified and experienced contractors have been recommended and this will ensure Council meets legal obligations, acts as a good neighbour and helps to protect the environment. The recommendation before us is a result of considerable due diligence by officers. A public tender process in line with our procurement

policy. And I understand there were 12 submissions which have been assessed by a panel. And I'm really happy with the recommendations before us. >> LIZ PATTISON: That's great. Would you like to speak counselor Schonfelder? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: I'd like to second and reserve my right to speak. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors wish to speak to the motion? Counselor Wellington. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: Thank you. I've just got a question. I think it's excellent that we're putting more of this information out into the public realm. In the past, this would have been dealt with in confidential business. Really good for transparency we're only including confidential business things that genuinely are in confidence. I wasn't sure the rationale for the public agenda documents having the actual tender's names redacted but coming up on meeting. I wondered why that was. >> LIZ PATTISON: I'll refer that to our CEO. >> Thank you, counselor. Just for clarity, the minutes will reflect what you've seen on the screen. So it will become publically available, the detail. The rationale for why it's redacted in the first instance is really this is our first thing into being transparent. We're taking a conservative approach. We were wanting to ensure counselors had an opportunity to consider the evaluations to the tender without that being in the public domain and potentially those successful or unsuccessful tenders reaching out to counselors and providing that level of protection to them. This is a first step in a direction of transparency and we'll monitor how it goes and look to adjust it in future Council meetings. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: Thanks very much. I'm not entirely convinced but I understand that and will keep an eye on it and see. It's my understanding there's vast differences between Councils as how much of information is disclosed publically and how much is done in confidential business. There's a general tendency for more and more to be put in the public realm. That's how it should be. And so I do really support this very much. There are some Councils who put all the dollar values out and very transparent in this area. I think we just need to keep an eye on this and make sure we put out as much as we can in terms of the importance of this. Hugely important. I've done a lot of

work on rabbit management over the years. I think we're doing a pretty good job. I've been down quite a bit of neighbouring Council which I won't mention along the coast. And been shocked at the rabbit infestations I'm seeing further down on the coast. And I think I don't see that around or not nearly as much as we used to see around Shire. We do a lot of work on it six or eight years ago. And hopefully that's continuing to pay forward in terms of controlling rabbits which really are the most appalling pests and cause extensive environmental damage and really not soft and cuddly things we need to be protecting. We need to be controlling them. We're doing a better job of that. Great to see the improvement in that area. Hope there's contractors do a great job with all the obnoxious weeds and all those things that are around the Shire. In the end, it will depend on how much we invest in this. But hopefully they will fulfill the requirements we have of this contract and do a good job for the Shire and the community. >> LIZ PATTISON: Counselor Bodsworth. >> MIKE BODSWORTH: I support the award of this contract as recommended. And just like to make a shout out to the contractors who have tendered. When I used to work at the great ocean coast committee and working with contractors, they are all really passionate about the work they do. It's not only a business for them, they are bringing a lot of passion and heart felt commitment to it and I think without that, it can be a demoralizing business to hold back the tide of pest, plant and animal infestation. Without that kind of passion and commitment. That's on the contractor side of it. On the staff side, there's a lot of passion and commitment there as well. We do have quite a small team running this program. So they've got to work really hard to cover the municipality and make hard decisions on prioritisation given the resources they've got to use. And the land holders out there who do a fantastic job on pest, plant and animal control. And finally, the environmental groups we have around the Shire. We have some real stand out environmental and land care groups who make fantastic contribution in that space. And to add as a funny coincidence I had a fox trot across the road while I was TRAEFBLing in to the meeting today. Obviously, a sign. That was at 4:30 in the

afternoon. Not meant to be out yet. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thanks. Counselor Stapleton, any closing remarks put to a vote. All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. We have recommendation to assign higher powers of CEO in relation to one specific 2022-23 capital works project this order to avoid delays over the summer period. Mover of the motion? Counselor Hodge. Is that per the recommendation? >> ROSE HODGE: Yes, ma'am. >> LIZ PATTISON: Secunder? Counselor Schonfelder. Would you like to speak to the motion? >> ROSE HODGE: Yes. This is just the one off one for over January. We don't want anything delayed. Especially the black gate road. If the grant comes in January, the CEO is able to go ahead, sign the contracts and get things started especially with the roads in the state. Anything we can move along is important. I recommend this and the CEO has the power to do that. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Schonfelder. >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Form aly second and reserve my right. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors wish to speak? Put to a vote. All those in favour? The motion is carried unanimously. Item 4.11. Award T23-015 construction of the intersection, Surf Coast highway and Coombes road. Mover of the motion? Counselor Hodge. Do I have a seconder? Counselor Schonfelder. Counselor Hodge, would you like to speak? >> ROSE HODGE: This is one of those other ones that really needs to be done. And I'm glad a contractor has been assigned to this now. I know people in Torquay don't want another set of traffic lights but it is very dangerous. With the traffic coming down over Christmas, hopefully it's done M a time that works well with the traffic. That will be interesting to see. I'm glad this is finally happening on this intersection on this highway. Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Schonfelder. >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: Very briefly that I would like to reiterate the sentiments expressed by counselor Hodge. And as someone who drives along this road quite often, I am mindful of how busy that road has become as well as that intersection on the Surf Coast highway. Thank you, mayor. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Any other counselors wish to speak to the motion? Counselor Bodsworth. >> MIKE BODSWORTH: Thanks, mayor. Now I'm also

glad to see this go ahead. Half a minute to explain one misgiving. It's a huge amount of money for an intersection. To me, it exemplifies one of the down sides of a sprawling car dependent suburban form. And I note in the distinctive area and landscapes work and retail and employment land strategy, higher density precincts that are more cycleable and higher population and smaller footprint is the kind of thing that can get us a high level of activity without the kind of spread out infrastructure that this is a good example of. So in no way against the award of the project or anything like that. I just look forward to us exploring some of those underlying financial sustainability issues in relation to density a little bit more as we move forward. Thanks. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Wellington. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: Thank you. I think that issue of density in Torquay is going to be a really critical and substantial conversation with the community. Obviously, the implementation means -- continue on the projected growth levels, it means high density. I don't think that conversation's really been had with the Torquay community in any meaningful way, to be honest. And I think that it will most certainly need to be had and there will have to be a real engagement of the community. What does it look like and what are the limits to it? If we're not going to develop out and there's a commitment to population growth and continuing some of that growth into the Torquay area, the only alternative is to increase the density of the town. It's a really significant issue. And we need to start that conversation with the community. I think it wasn't really highlighted in the process. And should have been. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you. Counselor Hodge, before we vote, I wanted to clarify. We have the recommendation back up. Confirming this is the recommendation? Great. Would you have any closing remarks? Put the motion to vote. All those in favour? And the motion is carried unanimously. Conflict of interest records. We have a recommendation to note the conflict of interest records. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: In relation to that motion -- sorry to interrupt. That motion had additional text in it that shouldn't be included. The one on the screen. >> LIZ PATTISON: That's why we put it up to confirm we had the correct text. >>

HEATHER WELLINGTON: It has additional text that says dollar value to be added. It has administrative text that shouldn't be in it. >>

LIZ PATTISON: Counselor? >> There was remnant text from previous recommendation left under point three. It was supposed to stop at point three. >> LIZ PATTISON: The one that was up there

was the tidied up corrected? No? Could we put that motion up again please. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON: The one that was up had text in it. That's why I raised it. I noticed it as it was flicking off. It's administrative issue. Where it says value to be added in final report.

>> LIZ PATTISON: In brackets under 2.a. >> HEATHER

WELLINGTON: I don't think that's meant to be there, is it? >> No, I don't think it is. >> LIZ PATTISON: Okay. Governance will clear that

up. Thanks for pointing that out. If we move on to our conflict of interest records. We have a recommendation to note the conflict of interest records since the previous Council meeting. Do I have a mover of the motion? Thank you, counselor Schonfelder. And

second? Thank you, counselor Bodsworth. Counselor Schonfelder, do you wish to speak? >> ADRIAN SCHONFELDER: No, thank you.

>> MIKE BODSWORTH: No, thanks. >> HEATHER WELLINGTON:

Sorry. Can I ask a question? >> LIZ PATTISON: Sure. >> HEATHER

WELLINGTON: My understanding of meetings conducted under the auspices of Council is I thought there were meetings at which there was -- there were five or more counselors present as well as an

officer. And I tried to find it in the act quickly before the meeting

and I couldn't find a definition of it. I just noticed on the community

action network meeting on page 132, there was only two counselors and an officer. And I wondered is that really use of meeting? Is that

actual definition of the meeting conducted under the auspices of

Council? >> LIZ PATTISON: I'll pass that question to our CEO. >>

Thank you very much, mayor. Governance or GM of strategy or effectiveness, are you able to assist with counselor Wellington's

question? >> I think we will need to table that on notice. I don't think we have that definition on hand but we will follow it up. >>

HEATHER WELLINGTON: Thank you. >> LIZ PATTISON: Thank you.

So just to clarify, we have a mover and a seconder. Did any other counselors wish to speak to the motion? No? Any closing



statements? No. I'll put the motion to the vote. All those in favour?  
The motion is carried unanimously. There is no urgent business for  
tonight's meeting. So I declare the meeting closed at 7:15 p.m.  
thank you for your attendance. [ End meeting ] Thank you for your  
attendance.