

**2018/19 Proposed Annual Budget and Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 –
OPEN HEARING**



Revised Council Plan Submission Responses 2017-2021				
ID Number <i>CP = Council Plan</i>	Elected to Speak?	Speaking Timeslot	Submitter Name <i>(click on name to view submission)</i>	Submission Title
CP01	Yes	10.50am	Pee Wee Lewis – Korumburra Round Table	Korumburra Revitalisation Project - Support
CP03	Yes	11.00am	Nigel Hutchinson-Brooks, John Kennedy and Peter Smith	Priority Project - Extension of Great Southern Rail Trail from Leongatha to Korumburra.
CP04	Yes	11.10am	Michael Street and Peter Western - Leongatha Lyric Theatre	Leongatha Mesley Hall - Stage Extension/ Upgrade
CP05	Yes	11.20am	Len Buckland Koonwarra Recreation Committee Inc	Koonwarra Recreation Reserve request for funding to complete project
CP06	Yes	11.30am	Sharon Turton, Roger Wittingslow, Bruce Mackin and Grant Sage	Clancy Road, Korumburra - Sealing and Gravel to Seal Roads Program
CP07	Yes	11.40am	Rob Hicks (Presenter) on behalf of residents on Henry's Road, Nyora John and Tricia Fleming (Submitter)	Henrys Road, Nyora Loch and proposed new sealing program for priority roads
CP09	Yes	11.50am	Michael Lester - Fish Creek Community Development Group	Request for Sewerage provision in Fish Creek

Proposed Annual Budget 2018/19 Submission Responses				
ID Number <i>AB = Annual Budget</i>	Elected to Speak?	Speaking Timeslot	Submitter Name <i>(click on name to view submission)</i>	Submission Title
AB01	Yes	12.00pm	Meg Knight	Various Topics - Proposed Budget 2018/19
AB02	Yes	12.10pm	Ralph Gallagher	Various Topics - Proposed Budget 2018/19



Submission CP01 – **Pee Wee Lewis – Korumburra Round Table** - Korumburra Revitalisation Project - Support

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Speaking to Submission - Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 1.1.2 - Identify Priority Projects and advocate to the State and Federal Governments for funding and support

To the Chief Executive Officer and Shire Councillors,



21.04.18

Re: 2018-19 Proposed Annual Budget.

The Korumburra Round Table is writing to you in response to the tabling of your 2018-19 Budget and revised 2017-21 Council Plan, and in particular – the line items specific to Korumburra.

We would like to commend the Council for its vision in bringing the budgeting for the Korumburra Streetscape and Community Hub projects both within the next three financial years - particularly as the Korumburra Revitalisation Project is one of the five 'Priority Projects' for the Shire of South Gippsland. I am sure you would agree with us that Korumburra is perfectly positioned right now to take advantage of what could be achieved through a combination of council's funding, along with state and federal contributions.

As you are aware, our Supermarket development is beginning later this year, and in addition we have some big retail changes about to occur not only with Burra Food's latest \$24 million expansion, but with two innovative ventures opening up in the main street, which will undoubtedly attract tourists to Korumburra; and it is only right and proper that our physical amenity reflect the changing face of the town and keep up with the growing population and tourist numbers. The Korumburra Business Association is represented on the Round Table, and therefore the KRT as a whole is able to pass information back through our networks so a multitude of community groups are aware of these exciting changes.

At the same time the extremely active Station@Korumburra Working Group is continuing to consult with both the community and council to ensure that as plans for both the station and the hub progress, they are working in sync and will complement each other. Jenni Keerie, our Manager at Milpara Community House, is on the station working group and is also a member of the Round Table, and so once again, we have a fabulous sharing of information, and a very positive vibe.

So please accept this letter as a 'Thumbs Up' from the Korumburra Round Table on your decision to make allocations in the next three financial years' budgets for both the Korumburra Streetscape *and* the Korumburra Community Hub. It is most important now that funds are sought from both the State and Federal governments.

Yours Truly,

Pee-Wee Lewis, President, Korumburra Round Table



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Submission CP03 **Nigel Hutchinson-Brooks, John Kennedy and Peter Smith** – Priority Project - Extension of Great Southern Rail Trail from Leongatha to Korumburra.

Speaking to Submission - Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 1.3.4 - Investigate feasibility of further extensions and upgrades to the Rail Trails, particularly between Leongatha and Korumburra and explore opportunities to develop nationally significant trails

Submission to the South Gippsland Shire Council

Re:- 2018 / 2019 Budget

Submitted by:- John Kennedy, Nigel Hutchinson-Brooks, Peter Smith

Subject:- Urgent Need for the Extension of the Great Southern Rail Trail from Leongatha to Korumburra (Stage 1).

- There is a very strong demand from residents and visitors for the extension of the GSRT from Leongatha (Stage 1) and on to Bena, Loch and Nyora (stage 2).
- This submission relates to Stage 1 as far as it impacts on the 2018/2019 Budget.
- We already have a petition with approximately 3,000 signatures strongly supporting the early extension of the GSRT to Korumburra, and points west.
- There is no other project that can generate such a multiplier effect on the local economy, because this link, at a cost of less than \$750,000, joins two towns with a surrounding combined population of around 12,000 people.
- It will have a far greater economic return per dollar expended than the extension of the GSRT from Welshpool to Hedley.
- It will have a positive impact on the demand for housing in both towns.
- It will enable a safe journey for children and adults between the two towns, without need for travel on the South Gippsland Highway, enhancing health and fitness.
- The reason we do not see many people riding bikes in these two towns and surrounding areas, is because of the hilly topography, and the roads which are narrow and dangerous to cyclists.
- The Korumburra community already have plans for fun runs to Leongatha, school children's bike rides etc
- The already impressive take up of the GSRT by Melbourne based bicycle groups will increase significantly because of the shorter journey time from Melbourne.
- It will greatly enhance the utility of the Korumburra Railway Station precinct.
- It is proven, by such examples as Bright and Myrtleford, which have a smaller population than our two towns, and were struggling economically, that the development of bike paths in these towns, have now provided year round visitations. Before they were reliant on a three month snow season. Every business in these



towns benefitted, B&Bs benefitted, and more people have taken up residence in these towns.

- In the first instance the path could terminate at Turner Street in Leongatha, with the extension later by bridge to the Leongatha Railway Station.
- We already have verbal quotations from local trades for the :-
 - Removal of the railway tracks
 - Removal of all the sleepers
 - Grade existing ballast to appropriate longitudinal and cross section profiles
 - Placement and compacting of minimum 200mm of granolithic sand.
 - Supply and installation of handrail for the bridges.
- The sum of these quotes is less than \$750,000.
- We therefore request that the South Gippsland Shire Council provide up to \$750,000 in the 2018/2019 Budget for the extension of the GSRT from Leongatha to Korumburra.
- We respectfully request that we may be heard at the open hearing of Council on the morning of 23rd May, at which time we would like to provide a Powerpoint presentation, together with the Petition signatures.
- We will also present letters of support from local businesses and organisations, including the Korumburra Business Association, the Korumburra Round Table, and the Leongatha Chamber of Commerce etc, together with written confirmation of the verbal quotations.

Signed by:-

John Kenedy, Kardella

Nigel Hutchinson-Brooks, Ruby

Peter Smith, Nyora



Submission CP04 – Michael Street – Leongatha Lyric Theatre - Leongatha Mesley Hall - Stage Extension/Upgrade

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Speaking to Submission – Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 2.1.1 - *Where appropriate support community groups to achieve projects they have ownership of and want to progress.* Council Plan – Strategic Objective 2.4 *Implement the Arts and Culture Strategy and support growth of the sector.*



P.O. Box 236, Leongatha, Victoria. 3953
www.lyrictheatre.net.au
ABN 33 451 872 038

Budget Submission to South Gippsland Shire Council from Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc.

Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc. request Council to place an amount in the 2018-19 budget to further progress planning for the Mesley Hall stage extension and associated infrastructure upgrade.

We propose that \$20 000-\$25 000 be placed in the budget in this regard.

In support of this request we ask Council to consider the following information:

Council will be mindful of a grant of \$9000 to Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc. to enable a professional development/business case report that would consider the desirability and practicality of a re-development of the Mesley Hall Stage. The outcome would be provision of a performing arts venue for Leongatha and the wider Shire community.

Mr Rob Gebert, a very experienced arts consultant, was engaged to provide a report to Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc. The report was recently received. Following required extensive community consultation and analysis, the report has assessed the project in positive terms, outlining the benefits for the wider community. Additionally the report identifies the project as progressing the Council's adopted Arts and Culture Policy.

Rob's brief did not include a cost estimate as this is not his area of expertise. However based on his experience with other projects he suggests that the stage extension and associated works will likely top 2 million dollars. His report does identify possible sources of funding. These are:

- *The Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (RJIF) available through Regional Development Victoria. The Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) is the primary infrastructure program of the RJIF. It will provide funding for major infrastructure projects through the following four program streams:*
 - *Visitor Economy*
 - *Productive and Liveable Cities and Centres*
 - *Enabling Infrastructure*
 - *Rural Development.*
- *The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities. Grant funding is available through two funding streams:*
 - *The Infrastructure Projects Stream: Supports projects that involve construction of new infrastructure, or the upgrade or extension of existing infrastructure.*
 - *The Community Investments Stream: Funds community development activities including, but not limited to, new or expanded local events, strategic regional plans, leadership and capability building activities.*
- *Philanthropic organisations. Creative Partnerships Australia spark investment in the arts by fostering giving and partnerships between the cultural sector, supporters and investors and by*



equipping artists and arts organisations with the fundraising and development skills to succeed.

They strive to:

- Promote and spark investment in the arts, bringing supporters and investors, artists and arts organisations together for mutual benefit.*
- Assist Australian artists and arts organisations to attract and maintain support from supporters and investors, to diversify their sources of revenue.*
- Encourage and celebrate innovation and excellence in investing in, and partnering with, the arts.*

The report recommends the next steps required to bring the project to a successful outcome.

Those steps are:

- Prepare a more detailed Design Brief for the project. This should build on the initial concept and incorporate relevant benchmarking requirements.*
- Develop an updated Concept Design for the project. This should incorporate specialist advice on building compliance, engineering and technical infrastructure. Typically, this process requires engagement of a consultant team including an architect, relevant engineers and a theatre technical consultant.*
- Prepare a Cost Plan for the project based on the Concept Design. This is typically undertaken by a Quantity Surveyor.*
- Negotiate with the schools in the Leongatha Education Precinct. Given Mesley Hall is owned by the DET, there needs to be clarity on the long term usage by the community and for the potential external funding contributing to the value of the asset. Agreement also needs to be obtained on the extension of the Mesley Hall footprint towards the South Gippsland Specialist School.*
- Negotiate a Community Joint Use Agreement between Leongatha Secondary College, the South Gippsland Shire and Leongatha Lyric Theatre.*
- Develop a fundraising strategy*

This submission is directed to the first 3 dot points above.

We request to speak to Council in support of this submission.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Street

Treasurer

April 18, 2018

Peter Western

Project Facilitator for Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc.





Submission CP05 – Len Buckland – Koonwarra Recreation Reserve request for funding to complete project

Speaking to Submission - Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 2.1.1 - Where appropriate support community groups to achieve projects they have ownership of and want to progress.

Koonwarra Recreation Committee Incorporated

Mr Tim Tamlin
Chief Executive Officer
South Gippsland Shire Council
9 Smith Street
Leongatha VIC 3953

26th April 2018

Section 223 Budget Submission 2018/2019

Dear Mr Tamlin,

The Koonwarra Recreation Committee Incorporated wishes to put forward a Budget Submission for the Proposed Annual Budget for 2018/2019.

The committee is keen to continue the great work of the previous committee in addressing a number of high priority projects (as documented in the Koonwarra Recreation Reserve Master Plan, July 2015) and has submitted an application with South Gippsland Shire Council's Round 2 Community Grants Program to develop a Landscape Concept Plan and probable costings. The Landscape Concept Plan includes a playground upgrade, new toilet block, improvements to picnic and BBQ facilities, pathway connections and signage.

The Koonwarra Recreation Reserve is Crown Land, temporarily reserved as a site for Public Purposes, with no funding opportunities available for substantial projects through DELWP.

Replacement of the toilet blocks is the highest priority for the committee, as the current facilities do not comply with accessibility requirements; are often out of order due to blockages from tree roots and silt build up, and people avoid using them due to their condition.

The committee requests that council consider allocating funding to replace the existing toilet blocks. Based on similar facilities constructed in Toora and Yanakie in 2015, the committee estimates between **\$120,000 - \$160,000** would be required to complete the project.

The committee currently maintains the toilet facilities and would continue to do so in the future.

A number of substantial improvements have been undertaken on the reserve within the last few years, including oval drainage works and new cricket practice nets. As amenities improve, user and visitor numbers increase, and the committee feels that by providing new toilet facilities would enable the reserve to accommodate the many activities carried out now and into the future.

The committee would be pleased to present their submission at an Open Hearing of Council on 23 May 2018

Yours Sincerely

Len Buckland (Chair)

Luke Biram
Secretary
PO Box 19
Koonwarra 3954

Phone: 0457 517 892



Speaking to Submission - Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 3.1 - *Improve management of roads and roadsides through enhanced operational practices, increased funding and continued advocacy to VicRoads.*

Clancys Road Korumburra

Submission to Councils Section 223 Budget and Council Plan Consultation

Recommendation to Council Plan 2018-21 and Budget 2018-19

1. *Officers to prepare a report to council by December 2018 on how the top priority rural gravel roads can be sealed progressively over the next ten to twenty years and how this could be funded through improved productivity.*
2. *That Council give serious consideration to reducing the speed limit on Clancys Road Korumburra to 80k to reduce the risks of serious accident and the costs of ongoing maintenance, which escalates with increased speed on gravel roads.*
3. *Advocating to State and Commonwealth for additional funds to assist in sealing of dangerous roads*
4. *Provide report to council by June 2019 after consultation with the community on the state of rural unsealed roads, what are the prevalent concerns and how operations can be changed to improve level of service and satisfactions and report on the benefit of providing an additional cycle of maintenance on unsealed roads*

Background

There are some 21 properties served directly by Clancy's Road. The condition has varied over the past twenty years, but its current condition is the worst many longer term residents can remember. The imposition of 80k speed limit on the Korumburra Wonthaggi road has exasperated the situation with many people using Clancy's road because of the 100k speed limit. There are grave concerns for safety of people using the road. The road is used for a school bus route and the driver of 18 years says that it is in its poorest condition in his time driving the bus. People are frustrated that they don't feel they are getting a fair service for the money they are paying in rates.

Issues Raised

A number of concerns have been raised by residents and by a meeting of some 35 people on the 13 March.

- There are serious concerns that there may be a death because of the extremely poor condition of the road, the corrugations, accumulation of sandy material along sections and people speeding along the road in the middle of the road.
- Narrowing of road in parts because of poor subsurface
- Damage being caused to cars because of extremely poor condition



- The traffic volumes and heavy vehicles using the road in such condition
- Extreme dust because of the poor quality of the road making materials affecting the quality of living, health and visibility on the road for users
- Apparent lack of a risk assessment being undertaken by council
- Concern that priority is being given to fixing roads that should be a lower priority
- Concern about the quality of road making material being used: crushed granite vs. bluestone. The granite breaks down into fine dust and not enough fines to stabilise the road surface
- Need for rolling and ripping to set up road properly in spring and autumn (noting: rolling is also a must with every road grade)
- The lack of a proper camber to allow water to drain off. Water is draining down middle of road causing damage.
- The poor clearing of drains and culvert after grading causing water to pool
- Drainage of a lot of water in places through people's access roads.
- Variable and poor quality of grading drivers
- The road is constantly used as a secondary road, when for some reason (accidents, roadworks etc) they detour off the South Gippsland Highway at Korumburra South Road and also off the Korumburra–Wonthaggi Road.

Potential solutions raised:

- ✦ Do a quality job in the first place
 - *Ensure the Quality of materials being used*
 - *Ensure the Quality of grader drivers by better supervision, appropriate training and if necessary above award payment to attract skilled operator and or considering using quality private sector operators.*
 - *Quality of supervision is essential to check that a properly job has been done.*
Some form of quality assurance is needed
 - *It is crucial that the job is set up properly and properly supervised to ensure quality*
 - *You need to benchmark best practice in the state to see how you can improve outcomes*
- ✦ **Reduce speed limits on the road**
- ✦ **After fixing the road counting of traffic strategically on the road to confirm/establish its real priority for sealing**
- ✦ **Provide report to council after consultation with the community on the state of rural unsealed roads, what are the prevalent concerns and how operations can be changed to improve level of service and satisfactions and report on the benefit of providing an additional cycle of maintenance on unsealed roads**
- ✦ **To prepare a report to council on how the top priority roads can be sealed progressively over the next ten to twenty years and how this could be funded through improved productivity.**



✦ **Advocating to State and Commonwealth for additional funds to assist in sealing of dangerous roads**

Names of people supporting the submission

Andrew Turton	Sharon Turton	Natasha Turton	Liam Shaw
Lauren Shaw	Jess Cook	Jamie Bulmer	Chris Bulmer
Owen Billing	Andrea Benson	David Greaves	Chris Greaves
Wayne Clark	Annmaree Clark	Glenn Earl	Wendy Earl
Kyle Earl	Dylan Earl	Kayla Earl	Phillip Miller
Cathrine Miller	Jayde Miller	Keanu Miller	Liam Miller
Bruce Mackin	Karen Makin	Heath Mackin	Ross Crawford
Barbara Varrasso	Dave Martin	Amanda Martin	Courtney Martin
Allan Eadie	Katherine Glassock	Neil Walker	Shelley Walker
Zach Walker	Alex Walker	Roger Wittingslow	Maree Wittingslow
Travis Wittingslow	Krystle Wittingslow	Jarryd Wittingslow	Brett Wittingslow
Colin Harris	Brian Redfern	Maureen Redfern	Grant Sage
Kellie Sage			

(49 names in total) all these names are permanent resident drivers on Clancy's Road.



Submission 223-CP07 – **Rob Hicks, John Fleming** - Henrys Road, Nyora Loch and proposed new sealing program for priority roads



Speaking to Submission - Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 3.1 - *Improve management of roads and roadsides through enhanced operational practices, increased funding and continued advocacy to VicRoads.*

SUBMISSION TO SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

REVISED COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET 2018-2019

Henrys Road, Nyora/Loch and Proposed new Sealing Program for Priority Roads

Recommendation to Council Plan and Budget

That Council give serious consideration to reducing the speed limit on Henrys Rd Nyora/Loch to 80km/hr, in order to reduce the risks of serious accident and the costs of ongoing maintenance. Maintenance escalates with increased speed on gravel roads!

That Council officers develop a report by November 2018 for a new priority road sealing program proposal for significant unsealed roads that Council will seal all priority roads over time. That the report be based on consultations with the community and a transparent and published assessment of needs and priorities. That Council identifies ways of funding the program through efficiencies, and productivity savings.

Circumstances

There are some 33 properties served directly by the unsealed section of Henrys Road. The road is a major thoroughfare between Nyora and the South Gippsland Highway. The road has blind corners, very narrow pavement and short on-coming sight-lines over the steep hills. We appreciate the work that has been done and is planned, but we are still gravely concerned about potential for serious accidents.

The condition of the road surface has varied over the past twenty years, but the current condition is the worst many longer term residents can remember. People are frustrated by a stop start approach, where the project has been listed as a priority project for sealing and then dropped dramatically down the list for unknown reasons. We acknowledge that a really significant amount of money has been spent on the road over the past ten years, but we further believe that sealing of the whole road would be far more cost effective in the long run.

Concern has been expressed at the 100km/hr speed limit, which, given the condition and nature of the road, is extremely dangerous. We have been advised by road maintenance operators, that reducing speed on the road, would both reduce costs of maintenance and reduce risks of serious accidents.



Specific Concerns

A number of concerns have been raised by residents over the past years. These include:

- serious concerns that death or serious injury may occur because of:
 - (1) extreme poor condition of the road
 - (2) corrugations
 - (3) dangerous alignments
 - (4) blind corners, and pavement width.

- significant growth of housing being serviced by the road
- concern that from being a very high priority road for sealing, its priority unexplainably has been dramatically reduced, when there have been at least 20 new homes built in the past 5 years on or near the road.
- damage being caused to cars because of extremely poor road condition
- problems of dust affecting the quality of living, health and visibility on the road for users and adjacent households
- the lack of a proper camber to allow water to drain off, and
- the lack of maintenance and attention to detail of drains, culverts, which causes water coursing down the road and eroding the pavement.

The following has been done by Council in the past:

1. land acquisition
2. fencing
3. offset planting, for work still to be done

presumably all at shire expense with no immediate benefit to the user.

IN CONCLUSION:

A safe (i.e. well constructed) sealed road, is required from the South Gippsland Highway to Grundy Avenue, Nyora township.

This will provide access from Nyora Primary school, Nyora Recreation Ground, Speedway and homes south east of the township to the South Gippsland Highway.



SUBMISSION TO SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

REVISED COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET 2018-2019

**Henrys Road, Nyora/Loch and Proposed new Sealing Program for
Priority Roads**

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF RESIDENTS

26th April 2018

Tricia Fleming :

JOHN FLEMING


Joan Hill 3rd

Chris Mitchell

RW Little

Margie Vins

Caroline U

Jerry Tennor

Ben



Submission CP09 – **Michael Lester** - Fish Creek Community Development Group - Request for Sewerage provision in Fish Creek

Speaking to Submission - Yes

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 3.7 - Council to play an advocacy role for townships that demonstrate 70% or greater community support, for sewerage infrastructure.

Fish Creek Community Development Group
Fish Creek 3959

ABN 47 734 954 988

Incorporation No. A0035859D

25 April 2018

Submission from Fish Creek Community Development Group regarding sewerage in Fish Creek

Fish Creek needs a suitable offsite wastewater management system/sewerage service.

In the draft **SGSC Council Plan 2017 - 2021** is Strategic Objective 3.7 *Council to play an advocacy role for townships that demonstrate 70 per cent or greater community support, for sewerage infrastructure.*

In Council's **Municipal Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2016-2020** Council recognises the need for the provision of sewerage in Fish Creek...

Recommended Improvement Option

The community, through consultation and community planning activities, has indicated a strong interest in the implementation of offsite wastewater management for the township, being sewer or suitable alternative. This is understood to be a response to odour problems experienced during summer, generated by grey water discharges to the storm water drains and possible septic tank system failure.

Storm water quality should also be monitored to assess impacts to the adjacent water ways to provide further information on current risks.

Due to the number of allotments unable to sustainably contain wastewater within their boundaries and the resultant amenity and public health risks, the township requires the provision of sewer.

In the absence of a sewerage service, commencement of improved maintenance of existing systems and investigation of small scale contaminated storm water treatment is recommended

This submission calls on Council for support for Fish Creek Community Development Group to run an education/information program regarding the provision of sewerage in Fish Creek as a precursor to holding a survey of residents. South Gippsland Water have indicated a commitment to work with SGSC and the FCCDG and assist with the background information required and the answering of community questions and concerns, particularly in the area of cost to households. SGW have already



gone through a costing exercise and have are in the process of re-evaluating the costing. FCCDG ask for assistance with the survey as well as the education/information program.

As Council noted in its Municipal Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2016-2020, there is a real need for sewerage in Fish Creek. Residents have been talking to Council and SGW for years now and with the progress of the town, sewerage is becoming a much greater pressing need. Certainly, traders in the town feel that the lack of sewerage is a brake on progress in the town centre.

There is some concern that sewerage may lead to rampant expansion of the town so this is another area that needs to be looked at and explored. Fish Creek can stand a measure of expansion but the general feeling is that any expansion must be carefully considered, not impact on farming in the area and compliment the town as it is now. It is understood that part of the difficulty with the provision of sewerage to Fish Creek is the limited number of properties to be connected.

Another issue is the interaction between Council and landholders with aging and inefficient septic tank systems and the projected compliance program. With sewerage inevitable for Fish Creek at some time in the not too distant future, why force residents to pay ongoing maintenance fees or more likely, replacement septic system cost (plus the unavoidable maintenance costs) when the best solution is sewerage for the whole town? The big issue of course is the cost to households and that is where Fish Creek community needs SGSC and SGW to advocate for them for subsidised funding. SGW will, to the best of my knowledge from attending previous information sessions hosted by SGW, allow residents to pay off what cost there is over an extended period. This needs to be confirmed with SGW.

The FCCDG would struggle to run the education/information program and the survey of residents unaided and it makes sense for SGSC and SGW to assist as both entities would then be needed to advocate on Fish Creek's behalf for funding to enable a sewerage service to be built. FCCDG is in the process of rebuilding itself after a period of inactivity so the education/information program and the survey will also act as a stimulus for community involvement and communication.

On behalf of FCCDG, I would like to address Council on this issue.

Michael Lester

President, Fish Creek Community Development Group



Proposed Annual Budget 2018/19 Submission Responses

Submission AB01 – [Meg Knight](#) – Various Topics on Proposed Budget – 2018/19



Speaking to Submission - Yes

Mr T Tamlin
CEO, South Gippsland Shire Council
LEONGATHA 3953

Dear Tim

Below is my S223 submission in relation to the Annual Budget
I would like to be heard on this submission.

I do apologise for the layout and the fact it is not a Word document - I am still on holiday and unable to access Wod.

1. Employee Costs

- a. I note that employee numbers are budgeted to increase to 266.53 FTE for 19,000 ratepayers
- b. Employee costs have risen to \$26.34 M
- c. Yet we were assured two or so years ago that a reorganization and restructure of staff would see a meaner leaner work force providing the same level of service.

2. HACCS

- a. See employee numbers increasing as set out in 1.
- b. Yet we are advised that Council will no longer provide HACCS services from October 2018
- c. So what are the correct figures for employee numbers
- d. Has the amount of \$1M redundancy payments as quoted by the CEO in press articles been included in employee costs of \$26.34 or where is this casted
- e. If we no longer have the HACCS staff from October what will be the amended employee costs
- f. Has the costs of retraining/redeploying any of the HACCS staff been included in the budget
- g. \$329,000 Federal grant for HACCS services has been included in the budget - do we still get this amount or part thereof ?
- h.. It seems a clear case of irony that Money is being spent on an Age Friendly South Gippsland Implementation Plan when the cessation of HACCS is hardly age friendly.

3. Commercial Ventures

- A. The lack of transparency is a failing of this budget
- b. Ratepayers were assured when the two caravan parks came under Council control that the financial details would be included in each quarterly Financial Report. I note this happened for some time and then miraculously no further information until September 2017 Council meeting when there was a report on the two parks
- c. I note in this Budget income of \$722,000 has been included and capital expenditure of \$488,000 plus \$375,000 capital expenditure for a toilet block at the Port Welshpool caravan park ?
- d. No information has been given on operating expenditure for 18/19 but going on past years this would be in the region of \$1M - so again there is a substantial loss.



- e. Exactly when is Council going to make a decision in relation to the parks - I note \$52,000 has been allowed for Master Plan and business case for the caravan parks - how much money and time does it take for Council to realise that they are not good operators of caravan parks
- f. Coal creek -again the same comment about lack of transparency - financial details were in the Quarterly Financial reports and then miraculously disappeared
- g. I note income of \$109,000, no capes but again no overt indication of operating expenditure - if we take \$450,000 as reasonable (it has been higher in previous years), then again we have a substantial loss
- h. Council has had numerous studies, business plans etc etc at considerable cost - when are we to be taken into Council's confidence and told the long term plan for Coal Creek

4. Legal Costs

- A. Where have anticipated legal costs been hidden in the budget
- b. Again I am disturbed by the lack of transparency
- c. There is pending \$200,000+ for Ansevata, plus wind farm costs, and ??

5. Paths and Trails

- A. Council had paid money for a consultant to prepare a Paths and Trails Strategy - yet this was a desktop review which raised community expectations before the issues of land tenure were clearly resolved
- b. Council has indicated that it would like to extend GSRT from Leongatha to Nyora
- c. Yet the Committee of Management of GSRT indicated to Council last year that there was insufficient funds to properly look after the 70 km+ of the existing Trail.
- d. There is pressure from community groups to open new trails - how much ongoing Council expenditure will be required

6. Tourism Unit

- A. It looks from the budget that the Tourism unit has a net operating loss of \$1.41M. Has there been a review of the duplication of tasks between all levels of Government over tourism in our Shire
- b. For goodness sake - there is State and federal Government Tourism departments, there is Regional Development Victoria, there is Business Development Victoria
- c. What unique service is Council able to provide for \$1.41M that isn't already being provided ?

7. Executive Office/Management

- A. \$1M for Executive Office/ Management
- b. I have yet to see value from the Executive Leadership Team

8. Innovation and Council Business

- A. \$3.342M to run ?
- b. How much does it cost to run Council business, policies etc
- c. I note IT is in this category
- d. Do we have a huge costly IT or is this amount for the "digital strategy for Council and community"

9. Community Information

- A. \$716,000 for publishing and community information
- b. It must be a mighty expensive website to run



10. Branding Strategy

A. What a waste of time and money

11. Equestrian/Expo Centre at Stony Creek

A. \$90,000 allowed for a business plan with \$30,000 in this budget

b. In as a Priority Project before Council has even had the benefit of the business case ?

c. Putting the cart before the horse !

d. I do hope land tenure is one of the first considerations of the business case and once again community expectations are not being raised unnecessarily

Megan Knight



Speaking to Submission - Yes

To: Chief Executive Officer, Shire of South Gippsland

By: Ralph Gallagher

Please note that I would appreciate the opportunity to speak to the content of this submission at the meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 23 May 2018.

1. Preamble

There are a number of issues that I would like to have clarified as part of the annual budget. These are listed below (without regard to ranking of any kind) together with some brief notes that hopefully will be expanded effectively at the presentations session on 23 May.

2. Human Resources planning

I have been unable to locate any reference to the progress of shared services initiatives. This is an essential development if there is any serious commitment to the efficient use of ratepayer funds without any downturn in professional services. Are there any developments to report? I have also noted that the Section 3.6 omits references to forecast actual data in two of its three parts.

3. Budget Surplus

The Budget surplus is listed at some \$7.7m. Why is this such a large sum? Are there commitments against this outcome? What are the imperatives that require such a large irregular impost on ratepayers?

4. Capital Works

There is an increase in capital works provisions from last year of approximately \$5m. Why is this necessary? Why cannot the provision follow a more even pathway over the budget years. Such a lumpy approach is hardly fair on ratepayers. There is also unspecified Item – Other infrastructure – of \$5.1m. Surely there must be some noteworthy items included here that might usefully be identified. The Mirboo North Pool is shown as a single year cash project. Does this mean that the next rates impost must cover the whole cost?



5. Rates Cap

Is there a statement on this policy which explains how the adherence to the cap is calculated? Is there a statement by the Council that indicates how the extent to which Council has observed this policy will be assessed.

6. Capital preferences for four towns

Has this program now been suspended? I note that the first iteration is not yet complete and there remains some doubt about the validity of some of the subventions. I also note that I have still not received a response to my questions about this program. Questions that were submitted two years ago.

Ralph Gallagher