



# Shire of Mt Marshall

— THE SANDALWOOD SHIRE —

29 August 2016

## 2016/2017 ANNUAL BUDGET

The Shire's annual budget for 2016/17 was set at a special Council meeting held last Tuesday. The general rate will increase by 5% in line with a goal set last financial year of decreasing the Shire's relatively heavy reliance on government grants to fund operating expenses.

The proposed \$2.8m redevelopment of the **Bencubbin Recreation Complex** has been reduced to \$2.6m and a specified area rate will be levied on Bencubbin ratepayers whose properties are generally (but not exclusively) south of the Andrews Tank Road to assist with the financing of the redevelopment. The specified area rate is being phased in over the next two years as construction gets underway.

The swimming pool at the **Mt Marshall Aquatic Complex** has reached the end of its useful life with increased cracking, water loss and reduced turnover of water. It is now very evident that the pool sits on increasingly unstable soil. Pending a geo technical report, the pool is highly likely to be closed this summer. Arrangements are being made to bus school children from Beacon and Bencubbin to nearby swimming pools for in-term swimming classes.

In line with the Shire's **Sporting and Recreation Master Plan** a cost-benefit analysis will be undertaken to determine which of the three options to replace the pool is most preferred.

- Redevelop the existing 50m pool
- Develop a 25m pool and program pool within the existing structure

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## DIARY DATES

### 6 September 2016

Recycling Collection

### 20 September 2016

Ordinary meeting of Council @  
3:00pm in Council Chambers

## COUNCILLORS

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- Develop a 25m pool and program pool at a new site.

A fourth option of 2 smaller “lock and key” community pools potentially attached to the primary schools will also be considered by Council.

Community consultation will occur before any decision is made by the Council.

The Shire’s **Road Works & Maintenance Program** continues to be the largest area of expenditure for the Shire with a budget of \$2.68m for operating and capital works.

**Bitumen resealing** works of \$722,000 are included with significant reseals and/or widening occurring on the Bencubbin-Gabbin Rd, Mukinbudin-Wialki Rd, Bencubbin-Beacon Rd and Koorda-Bullfinch Rd.

The **widening and gravel sheeting** of Faulkner Rd, Scotsman Road, Mouroubra Rd, Cleary-Gabbin Rd and Welbungin-Wialki Rd will be accelerated with the purchase of an additional side-tipper trailer, a seasonal change in the timing of resheeting works and better coordination of the sourcing and supply of gravel to the jobsite.

On Dalgouring Rd, Beacon Back Rd and Gardiner Rd **“hit and miss” gravel resheeting** works will occur with a view to raising the general standard of these other roads.

The first kilometre of Hogan Road will be resheeted as will 3 kilometres of the Gabbin-Trayning Rd. All other roads will continue to be maintenance graded.

More detail on the budget will accompany the rate notice.

## BEACON LIBRARY

Please be advised that our Beacon Library Officer, Karrie is taking leave from the 3rd to the 10th of September. During this time you will still be able to return and borrow items thanks to the staff at Beacon Central kindly being able to assist you with these transactions.

