

PRESIDENT
Kevin Burrows
0412 193 631

84-144 Jumbuk Road
PO Box 165
Yinnar VIC 3869



SECRETARY
Peter Quigley
0499 600 334

e: yrr@mail.tidyhq.com
w: yrr.tidyhq.com

16 January 2026

Mr Dan Nichols
Coordinator Recreation Liaison & Reserve Maintenance
Latrobe City Council
141 Commercial Road
Morwell VIC 3844

Via email: Dan.Nichols@latrobe.vic.gov.au

Dear Dan

LCC RURAL RECREATION RESERVE FUTURE MAINTENANCE OPTION

Thank you for your email of 16 December 2025 providing a response to the CoM submission to the above matter.

Further consultation with our volunteers and CoM members has taken place since the submission of 23 October 2025. As a result of these further discussions, it is the view of our volunteers and CoM members that at this time we believe the best outcome for our community is for the CoM to continue to deliver maintenance services at the Reserve.

There is a great deal of pride in the standard to which the Reserve is maintained by volunteers, CoM members and user groups. Collectively we strive to build on these efforts and work closely in partnership with Council to provide, we would suggest, some of the best sporting and recreational facilities available to any community of our size in Gippsland.

Over recent years, there has been a strengthening of the relationship and partnership with Council (both Council and Council Officers) where our joint and shared efforts have produced outcomes far exceeding those of perhaps a decade or more..

We believe this partnership approach; its continual growth and development will deliver by far the best outcome for our community and the greater Latrobe City.

In continuing the voluntary CoM maintenance delivery option, there are significant financial benefits and savings delivered to Latrobe City Council ratepayers – versus the Council delivery model. This is evidenced in the current funding model whereby CoM's are funded to 50% of the cost of similar facilities managed and maintained by Latrobe City Council.

In proposing the existing maintenance delivery model continues, we are seeking to have a number of long-standing funding anomalies and inequities addressed as part of the current review process.

These have been identified and communicated with Council over several years and whilst some progress has been made to address these issues, the current review process is seen as the time that these must be addressed and resolved and that all LCC reserves, be that

Council or CoM maintained are equal in terms of level of funding, facilities and services provided and access to capital works project funding.

To achieve this, we would suggest the following needs to occur:

- Cyclical maintenance programs for CoM reserves automatically are included / proposed within Council's annual budget process on an equal basis to Council managed and maintained reserves. These programs would include but are not limited to building works such as cyclic repainting, oval surface works such as resurfacing, aerating, fertilizing, herbicide applications etc.
- To achieve this outcome, the Coordinator Recreation Liaison & Reserve Maintenance (or other appropriate Officer) would program the works and submit for funding together with all other Reserves to Councils annual budget process. There would be no requirement for the CoM to submit applications through a separate Council grant or funding process.
- We suggest the skilled position of Coordinator Recreation Liaison & Reserve Maintenance is better qualified and better placed to prescribe or oversee these cyclic works which are critical to particularly sporting ovals, long-term health and sustainability. The CoM effectively becomes the deliverer of the day-to-day operations and maintenance functions on behalf of the Coordinator.
- The same approach should apply to capital works projects whereby capital projects at the CoM reserve compete on an equal basis for funding together with Council managed reserves. As with cyclical maintenance works, projects for all LCC reserves would be submitted to the annual budget process by the Coordinator Recreation Liaison & Reserve Maintenance. There will be no need for a separate application process by the CoM.

In respect to other matters detailed in our submission, and / or included in your response of 16 December, our comment or response are as follows:

- It is proposed the existing waste and recycling servicing arrangements remain.
- It is proposed the existing tree maintenance and management arrangements remain.
- The proposal for street sweeping services to be extended to the Reserve when the Yinnar township works are undertaken is a positive one and it is suggested for implementation.

The absence of a response to our submission regarding the status of the Crown Land versus LCC owned land begs the question – if it's not going to be addressed now when is it going to be addressed? This issue creates unnecessary 'grey' where there doesn't need to be, A definitive response or pathway to progress and resolve the matter is well overdue and would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information. If you have any query or if anything further is required, please do not contact me or CoM Secretary Peter Quigley (as per above contact details).

We do appreciate the effort that has gone into undertaking the review and look forward to working in partnership with Latrobe City to deliver the best possible sporting and recreational opportunities and facilities to the Yinnar and district community.

Yours faithfully



Kevin Burrows
PRESIDENT