



THINKING ABOUT STANDING FOR COUNCIL



Candidate information session, Ballarat – Thursday 8 August

If you're thinking about standing for election to Pyrenees Shire Council, a candidate information session in Ballarat is the perfect opportunity to get all the details.

The session is being held by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and local councils including Pyrenees Shire Council and the City of Ballarat. The session will cover a range of topics including an introduction to local government, the roles and responsibilities of the mayor and councillors, what being a councillor entails and election information such as how to nominate. There will also be an interactive panel discussion with local government CEOs including Pyrenees CEO Jim Nolan.

The session is on Thursday 8 August from 6:30pm-8:30pm at the Ballarat Town Hall, 225 Sturt St, Ballarat Central. You can attend either in person or online. Register at: www.mav.asn.au/stand-for-council-2024.

COUNCIL ELECTION UPDATE

Council elections will take place across Victoria – including Pyrenees Shire – this October. Keep reading this column each week for updates, or head to our website pyrenees.vic.gov.au/election2024.

Mandatory prospective candidate training

If you are nominating for election to Council, it's important to know that all candidates must complete the online Local Government Candidate Training course before they can nominate. You can complete the training, which takes around an hour, on the Local Government Victoria website: www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/council-governance/candidate-training.

Candidate nominations (www.vec.vic.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/becoming-a-local-council-candidate/how-to-nominate) open on Monday 9 September and close at midday on Tuesday 17 September 2024, so it's a good idea for candidates to complete the training before nominations open. It is not mandatory for those who have completed candidate training in the past two years to complete the training, but it's strongly recommended to refresh your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of councils and councillors.

Update your voter enrolment before October's Council election

If you aren't sure if your voter enrolment is up to date, it's quick and easy to check with the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) by visiting their website or giving them a call. The voter roll closes in preparation for the election at 4pm on Wednesday 7 August, so it's important to update your details before then to avoid your ballot pack going astray. To check your enrolment, visit www.vec.vic.gov.au or phone 131 832.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Councillor Cuppa and Chat

Our next Councillor Cuppa and Chat session will be held from 5pm on Tuesday 13 August at the Lexton Community Hub. Come along and have a chat with your Councillors about the issues that are important to you. We'd love to see you there.

Lexton Flood Study Community Session

Join us at the Lexton Community Hub on Wednesday 31 July from 3pm to 6pm for an informative session hosted by Water Technology consultants. See the latest flood mapping results and share your suggestions on for mitigation options.

July Council meeting recap

At July's meeting, Council decided to:

- Adopt the Onsite Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.
- Prepare a Digital Connectivity Plan
- Change the date of the the September Council meeting to 10 September.
- Find a suitable replacement for the council prayer.
- Authorise the CEO to enter into a contract extension with Belgravia Leisure for the 2024/2205 and 2025/2026 pool seasons.

You can find Council's meeting and agendas. You can find Council meeting agendas and minutes online at pyrenees.vic.gov.au/agenda-minutes.

Lexton Racecourse and Recreation Reserve Committee Incorporated

A public meeting will be held at Lexton Racecourse and Recreation Reserve on Wednesday 31 July at 7pm. The purpose of the meeting is to nominate between three and nine people to the Committee of Management for three years. The current committee's term will end on 12 September. All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted before or on the night. All nominations are encouraged. For more information, contact your local Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action office or the Secretary, Barbara Karlake on 0421 503 202.

EVENTS

Free working dog and farmer health check

Join Cathy Bunter from Agriculture Victoria and veteran dog trainer Vin Gedye for an exciting and informative day. Vin will be available to answer questions about dog training. Cathy will help you with essential biosecurity practices for your farm and give crucial insights on buying and selling livestock. Find out more: www.vff.org.au/event/working-dog-farmer-health-check-workshop.

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Annual funding program rescheduled

Our 2024-2025 annual funding program has been rescheduled to the end of 2024 due to the Council election and associated caretaker and induction periods.

In the meantime, Council's Responsive Grants can fund projects that are timebound or unforeseen for up to \$500. You can also visit our website for other grants and funding information

that may be relevant to the Pyrenees community groups: pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Funding.

FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE

Pyrenees Shire Council continues to support the community to recover from the Bayindeen bushfires. Find out more: pyrenees.vic.gov.au/fire-recovery.

Drop in to the Recovery Centre

Council's Recovery Team will be at the Beaufort Community Resource Centre on Wednesdays 10am-5pm. You can also contact the team on 1800 797 363 or recovery@pyrenees.vic.gov.au.

Bushfire Recovery Planning Program (BRPP)

Do you need to rebuild after the recent Bayindeen fires? Council has launched the BRPP to help you navigate the process. Find out more by visiting pyrenees.vic.gov.au/BRPP, or by calling 1300 797 363 or emailing planning@pyrenees.vic.gov.au. You can also drop in to Council's Beaufort office during business hours.

TENDERS

Tender 2324-017 Environmental Health Services

Council invites tenders for the effective coordination, development, and delivery of Council's Environmental Health Services. Specifications and submission details can be downloaded from tenderlink.com/pyrenees. Tenders close at 2pm on 31 July.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Pyrenees visitor economy and tourism plan open for comment

If you're part of the tourism visitor economy in Pyrenees Shire, we'd love to hear your thoughts on the draft Local Area Action Plan (LAAP). As a newly formed visitor economy partnership, Tourism Midwest Victoria and Council have developed the LAAP to ensure a balanced approach to tourism growth. Have your say at engage.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/laap before Monday 28 July.

ROADWORKS AND PROJECTS

Roadworks – Spring Flat Road, Crowlands

Work is underway to build two major culverts with floodway decks at Spring Flat Road, Crowlands. Traffic management will be in place, please drive carefully.

YOUR PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cr Ron Eason
Avoca Ward

0417 508 471

avoca@pyrenees.vic.gov.au

Cr Damian Ferrari
Beaufort Ward

0437 662 295

beaufort@pyrenees.vic.gov.au

Mayor – Cr Robert Vance
De Cameron Ward

0447 384 500

decameron@pyrenees.vic.gov.au

Cr David Clark
Ercildoune Ward

0417 374 704

ercildoune@pyrenees.vic.gov.au

Cr Tanya Kehoe
Mount Emu Ward

0439 571 480

mountemu@pyrenees.vic.gov.au