

Public Question Time – Council Meeting – 14 October 2025

We have received 4 questions without notice.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

The following questions were received without notice. Responses will be provided to submitters and published on the Shire website.

Put Motion

Stephen Tweedly a resident of Rosebud, asked the following question:

Can Council please explain what a 'put motion' is, and outline its intended purpose and appropriate use during Council meetings?

Council advises the term "Put the motion" refers to a procedural motion outlined under Clause 23 – Closure of Debate in the Council's Governance Rules.

To clarify:

- A procedural motion must be dealt with immediately by the Chairperson.
- A motion to "Put the motion" means that the substantive motion currently before the meeting goes straight to the vote, regardless of whether other Councillors still wish to speak.
- The procedural motion requires a mover and seconder and is put to the vote without debate.
- If carried, debate on the substantive motion ends, and the substantive motion is immediately put to the vote.
- If lost, debate continues at the point where the procedural motion was moved.

Future planning applications

Esther Gleixner, a resident of Flinders, asked the following question:

In view of the findings of the recently released State Independent Inquiry, will Council be putting all future planning applications on hold in areas designated on Council maps in red as unstable and high risk to prevent landslide disasters such as happened at McCrae, until a fully investigated Environment Management Overlay can be put in place which captures appropriate safety restrictions?

Council advises the recommendations of the Board of Inquiry (BOI) does not require all future planning applications to be put on hold, nor is that Council's intention.

Recommendation 6 of the *Board of Inquiry into the McCrae landslide Report (2025)* stated:

The Board of Inquiry recommends the Shire progress the work that is currently underway to amend the existing EMO schedules, or add a new schedule, to the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, which has the effect of applying an EMO to at least those areas of the Shire that are highly susceptible to landslides. The Shire should take advice from a geotechnical engineer as to the appropriate scope of the schedule(s).

Council's resolutions of 14 October 2025 and 17 November 2025 advance Council's progress towards implementing an Erosion Management Overlay to identified high risk areas (red areas) in line with the recommendations of the BOI.

It should be noted that a significant portion of the Mornington Peninsula Shire is already covered by EMOs or by other overlays that require consideration of erosion/landslide risks. Council officers will continue to assess applications and have regard to landslide risk, as required by Clause 13.03-2 of the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme. Council officers will continue to utilise the data of the report *Landslide Susceptibility Assessment, Stage 2, Mornington Peninsula Shire, Victoria" (Cardno Lane Piper, 2012)* to understand the underlying risks and what further documentation might be necessary to mitigate the risk.

Eagle Chairlift

Esther, also asked the following questions:

Will Council be putting in a Submission to the State Planning Minister regarding the Eagle Chairlift application to:

- (a) alert the Minister for Planning about these unstable high risk land slip areas*
- (b) make it clear to the State Government that if it approves the Eagle application despite these warnings and things go wrong, then the State Government is liable to pay for any disaster that may occur, not the Shire nor its residents and ratepayers.*

Council advises a submission will be made to the Minister for Planning in relation to application PA240318. This submission will be considered by Council at the 2 December 2025 Council Meeting.

- (a) Council officers have already made the Minister for Planning aware of the underlying landslip risks and requested any landslip risk assessment to be peer reviewed to ensure the risk is robustly investigated. The majority of the Arthurs Seat Eagle corridor is already within the EMO1 and 2 so the Minister for Planning must take that into consideration when making her decision.
- (b) Council's submission will be determined via an upcoming Council Meeting as advised above. With the application being determined by the Minister and occurring on Crown land owned and managed by Parks Victoria, any implications of the decision would rest with the State government.

Wildlife at the Briars Sanctuary

Sue Boggan, a resident of Shoreham, asked the following question:

Would you please advise as to what actions have been taken to address the welfare of wildlife at the Briars Sanctuary, in particular to the wallaby numbers and bandicoots.

Has a report been submitted to the public as I have not seen any follow up since this matter of concern came before Council . Thank you