

**Nillumbik Shire Council - Public submission on draft budget 2018 - 2019**

**Submitter and Key Points**

**Officer Response**

**1. Lewis Brock**

I first started actively working on the Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge Trail in 2005. Along with my brother, Peter Brock, we conducted local events especially involving Hurstbridge Primary School, intended to raise awareness of the need and of the benefits of a safe and beautiful bicycle and walking Trail connected to the metropolitan network. It is a universally popular project with fabulous potential especially for the Hurstbridge township. I urge all residents of Nillumbik to support it.

Support noted.

**2. Helen Legg (on behalf Creek Trail blazers Inc)**

On behalf of the 1500+ supporters of Creek Trail blazers, I would like to endorse the \$1.5 million allocated to the 18/19 Budget for the land acquisition required to build the trail extension through to Hurstbridge. We are sincerely grateful and buoyant by the on going commitment of our council to get this project up . We have waited long enough!!

Support noted.

**3. Geoff Mosley**

I endorse the spending of \$1.5 million for land acquisition for the Diamond Creek Trail extension.

Support noted.

**4. Marie Bailey**

I endorse the plan to allocate \$1.5m to the Diamond Creek - Hurstbridge trail extension.

Support noted.

**5. Brian Flaherty**

I walk the current Diamond creek trail, this keeps me healthy and fit, If this trail was not there I doubt I would have made the effort to go for a walk, taking overseas visitors for a walk along the trail makes me feel proud about this shire, an extension to the trail would be very welcome and I as a ratepayer would gladly pay a one off fee to expedite this if it was legislated, doing sooner will simply mean less cost as any delay costs money, finally please don't name the trail after Peter Brock as this would taint what will be a great addition for the people of the shire.

Support noted.

**6. Lisa Said**

I am in favour of the bike path from Hurstbridge to Diamond Creek!!!

Support noted.

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**7. David Allen**

Please ensure that major projects in Hurstbridge fit in with the character of the township, please no more concrete and tarmac please start taking the environmental cost into account on future projects. Stop making one size fits all homogenising decisions and start thinking about maintaining the unique character of Hurstbridge

As with all projects, Council is guided by relevant policies and plans, as well as community consultation. The recent interest by the Hurstbridge community in the proposed streetscape works, and response by Council is an example of that.

**8. Bill Lord**

a) Public submissions to Council should be able to be made by email so as to encourage residents to participate in Council decision making rather than the instructions given on the Council Webpage:  
"Community members are welcome to make a written submission on the proposed Budget in accordance with section 223 of the Act.  
Submissions should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, P0 Box 476, Greensborough 3088 and must be received by 5pm on Friday 1 June 2018."

Responses to questions:

a) Submissions by the public can be made electronically via the Council website.

b) There appears to be words missing on Page 18, Major initiative number 4.  
Review the impacts of the green wedge management plan on the Nillumbik community while ensuring the natural environment of the green wedge is preserved and nurtured for current and ????????  
My submission is to add: "Future generations."

b) The Budget has been adjusted to include wording "future generations"

**9. Judy Sharp**

*Extract from submission:*  
The Rotary Eltham Festival is a much loved annual community event and I encourage Council to allocate additional funds to meet its growing infrastructure needs. In addition, there is a specific problem with the Council toilets in Alistair Knox Park and I ask that Council consider providing funds for both a temporary and longer term fix to the problems.

Council has allocated an additional \$30,000 towards festivals and events across the Shire in the draft 2018/19 budget.

The Rotary Club of Eltham greatly appreciates and values the relationship we have with Council and its officers which enable us to provide such a quality annual event. In particular we would like to acknowledge the support we receive from the Community, Youth, Environmental Health and Operations teams.

This funding is to be shared amongst six festival committees. Officers are currently working through an apportionment model that is fair and equitable to distribute the funds amongst the festival committees.

We urge Council to consider an increase of \$10K to our budget to allow us to grow the festival and meet community needs.

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**10. Kyle Gillan**

The budget does not disclose the forecast increase in the waste management charge beyond the next financial year. Is Council forecasting an increase in the waste management charge beyond 18/19 and if so how much? How will increase to the SKM recyclables acceptance contract be funded?

Council currently passes on the cost of waste collection and management to residents through the waste management charge. Council is working through the impacts of the recent changes to the recycling industry with its recycling processor SKM. It is likely that these changes will result in additional costs and increase in the waste management charge in future years however at this stage the actual charge has not been confirmed.

**11. Gavin Pearce**

Dear Sirs, I am the President of Yarrambat Golf Club Inc. Our club has 350 members, most of whom reside in the Nillumbik Shire. We are also members and play at Yarrambat Golf Course. In addition to our club, there is a separate ladies' club and many non-members who make use of the golf course. After perusing the 2018/2019 budget, I notice that \$13.3 million of the \$15.5 million of capital works for recreational leisure and community activities are specifically itemised, but no mention is made of the continuation of the refurbishment program for the golf course. It is vital that the renewal of greens, which began two years ago, is continued, if Yarrambat Golf course is to remain viable. As a member of the Victorian Golf Association, Yarrambat host and play against a number of the best clubs in Victoria and needs to be of a standard that the people of Nillumbik can be proud of. If the refurbishment does not continue, then the Council can look forward to the majority of our members leaving and the facility becoming a greater financial burden than it currently is. It would be a disgrace if Yarrambat were to go the same way as Whittlesea golf course where maintenance has not been properly planned and carried out. Please provide me with details of the amount budgeted for Yarrambat Golf course, so that I can assure our members that Council understand the value of a facility such as our golf course. Best regards, Gavin Pearce President, Yarrambat Golf Club Inc.

Council can confirm capital works will be undertaken during the 2018-19 financial year to the Golf Course. In addition to the works and part of the maintenance program Council will be planting 500 trees around the facility.

Council continues to review the entire capital works program on an annual basis, this process includes (but not limited to) assessment of renewal gap requirements, compliance with statutory obligations and consideration of future needs.

Specifically with regard to the Yarrambat Golf Course ongoing review of the facility is continuing and should urgent works arise during the year they will be considered by Council.

**12. Desmond Borg**

I find it disgusting that no funds have been allocated to the Yarrambat Park Golf Course in next year's budget documents yet every other sporting facility has had funds allocated. As secretary of the Yarrambat Golf Club Inc and on behalf of all the 300 members who all express their concern to me as also unacceptable. The golf course as it is now is in a state of unacceptable condition and council must include this facility in their budget. How can council ignore such a jewel in a growing area.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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**13. Stuart Thompson**

Good afternoon, I would like to request that funding and capital works proposals as per the 2012 Yarrambat Park Masterplan are maintained. As a regular user of the Yarrambat Park Golf Course I have noticed a significant deterioration in the standard of the course over the last few years. Over 1000 people access the course each week, playing golf, practicing, attending functions, and visitors sightseeing. A failure to allocate funds for desperately needed upgrades to Greens and Tees and practice areas will see people looking elsewhere to play, and significant patronage will be lost to adjoining councils. At present the YPGC is a pivotal avenue for our 55+ community to come together, to remain connected and maintain physical activity- reducing the burden on the community for physical and mental health resources. This golf course - in its prime- draws golfers from all over the north and east - all of whom bring significant income to local businesses. If funding is not maintained, those visitors and their spending power will be lost to Nillumbik Shire. I urge Council to reinvest in YPGC as per the Masterplan and keep this course the Jewel of the North.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**14. Mark Wilson**

It has been brought to my attention that there have been no funds allocated for the Yarrambat Golf Course! One can only hope that this was an oversight, as a paid up member of Yarrambat Golf Club, I implore you to allocate funding for the golf course! The club has a strong and loyal membership base and as the course obviously requires ongoing maintenance, I fear members will be forced to find alternate courses if it is allowed to deteriorate any further! I am under the impression that this land was gifted to the council, it is a wonderful course and I think the community is spoiled to have such an amenity, to have no money allocated for its upkeep and improvement is a travesty! FUNDS MUST BE ALLOCATED FOR THE YARRAMBAT GOLF COURSE! There will be many disillusioned and disgruntled golfers/ratepayers, men women and children who, many rely on playing golf at Yarrambat for mental and physical happiness especially some of the senior players of which I am one! Yours Mark Wilson.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**15. Terry McMahon**

The Yarrambat Park Golf Course needs ongoing funds, otherwise the course will deteriorate rapidly. To deny funds in any one year, will result in a greater need to funds in future years. As a member of the club and a user of the course twice per week, I am amazed that council would ever consider cutting funding. If council proceeds on this basis, they will pay a hefty price for their narrowmindedness in future years.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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**16. Wolfgang Dietrich**

I am very concerned that there is no funding for Yarrambat Golf Course in the upcoming budget. At age 69 and now retired I play golf at least twice a week. Having been an active member of Heidelberg, Whittlesea and now Yarrambat Golf Clubs I feel qualified to state my concerns to council. 1. Golfers will not continue to play at poor condition golf courses and in will go out of their way to play at that outstanding course. 2. People these days are also looking for somewhere special to dine out. What we have at Yarrambat will always leave the cafe struggling. 3. In my opinion improving the course and dining facilities makes more sense in establishing something special and benefiting from a profit instead of a lose. 4. I look forward in discussing this matter further. Yours Truly Wolf Dietrich

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**17. Nicholas Tkalcevic**

Dear Council I have been a member of the Yarrambat Golf Club (YGC) since it was established in 2005. I take great pride in the club and enjoy the facilities of the golf course and the camaraderie that the club offers. I understand that in the initial draft budget that has been prepared for 2018/19 no funds have been allocated towards maintaining and improving the infrastructure of the Yarrambat Golf Course. The YGC and golf course provide an invaluable recreation outlet for all generations, but especially older residents. Golf is a low impact sport which can be enjoyed by all ages. It is part of healthy lifestyle, especially in an ageing population. I urge you to review the budget and allocate funds to maintain the golf course as you have for other sporting clubs. Yours faithfully Nicholas Tkalcevic

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**18. Greg Hayes**

I am a member of Yarrambat Golf Club and have been informed that no allocation has been made for ongoing maintenance of the course. The current maintenance of the course is barely adequate but no funding for maintenance of this important community asset appears short sighted. I would be interested to hear why the previous allocation for course grooming has been withdrawn, or buried in some other generic allocation as a means of further reducing the level of maintenance.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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**19. Michelle Marshall**

I would like to express my concern regarding the omission of funding for the Yarrambat Park Golf Course for the 2018 / 2019 budget allocations. Nillumbik's Positive Ageing Strategy states that by 2021, residents aged 55 years and over will make up one quarter of the Nillumbik population. If you consider the Golf Victoria statistics, the 55+ user group makes up for a large portion of golf participation. Yarrambat Park Golf Course is an asset that provides social connectedness, health and wellbeing to this demographic in alignment with this strategy. The golf course is in urgent need of funds to repair damaged greens, provide structural maintenance to the clubhouse and to provide facilities to further attract local residents to the course. The council also needs to be aware of the number of young people currently utilising the Yarrambat Golf Course. The ability of the club to continue to grow and remain viable depends on the funding it receives to undertake the key projects that were outlined in the Yarrambat Park Masterplan 2012. I therefore request that consideration be made to reinstate an allocation of funding to the Yarrambat Golf Course.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**20. Christine Byrden**

It has been brought to my attention that Yarrambat Park Golf Course is not receiving any funding in the 2018/19 budget. I try to play golf three times a week now that I am in my sixties. This is for my fitness and for the friendships in the ladies club. I have noticed that the course has not been maintained to the standards of some other public courses. This is no fault of the grounds men as they do the best they can. I hope you consider this submission and support what is a wonderful asset to Nillumbik.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**21. Eileen Morgan**

Yarrambat Golf Course in need of funding and sadly seems to be left off, it is a valuable asset and needs to be maintained.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**22. Nathan McDonald**

Please reconsider your position relating to no funding for the Yarrambat Golf Club. This facility is crucial both for residents, the flora and fauna. The condition of the course is critical for the community. Please be fair in your allocation of funds in this year's budget.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**23. Margaret and Herbert Finch**

We are disappointed to hear that your proposed Budget has failed to include substantial Funds to upgrade Yarrambat Golf Club at the very time when Funding is critical to replace the Greens that are diseased, and overdue for replacement. We have been residents of Wattle Glen for 40 years previously and have been Members of the Golf Club for nearly 30 years. We have never seen this Course in such a poor condition as it is now. This Course is a lifeline for Retirees, socially, physically and psychologically. Please amend your Budget to include these funds, as the Greens need replacing immediately so that the Disease does not spread into the recently replaced new Greens. This would be a catastrophe, and an added expense for the Shire

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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**24. Marion Brown**

I can't believe that Yarrambat Golf Course is not included in the budget this time. With all the aging community using this course which brings a lot of joy to the public I can't see that it is not considered the same as sporting facilities. Because of the age of the course it does need infrastructure upgrades for it to remain the quality golf course it has always been. Without this funding the course is going to deteriorate and will take a lot more work to regain its standard please reconsider this decision. We as a club are trying to recruit more members to make this an even better facility and without the funding for infrastructure that is going to make it a lot harder. It's a form of healthy exercise for all ages and with the population growth in this area it would be a shame for us to lose this facility where children with their parents and grandparents can play together.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**25. Len Davey**

It is totally unfair that the council has not allocated any funds for the maintenance of the Yarrambat Golf Course. I have been a member of this golf course since its opening in the 80s, playing twice a week. During this time I have noticed an increasing amount of people using this facility which in turn needs to be properly maintained, Some of the greens are in very poor condition, and more drainage needed as during the winter it becomes very muddy. The maintenance of the course needs to be fully funded by the council, as I am sure it is happy to receive the proceeds from the people playing the course.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**26. Beryl Norgate**

I 'm concerned that capital works at the Yarrambat Park Golf Course have been omitted from the Nillimbik 2018/2019 budget. The course caters for many of your older rate payers and needs funding to keep it in a satisfactory condition. We, retirees, will not be using ovals and stadiums but the golf course is a major part of our health and fitness program. Please reconsider including the golf course in your capital works budget. Beryl Norgate

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**27. Danny Miskas**

I agree with the Golf Victoria statistics, the 55+ user group makes up for a large portion of golf participation. Yarrambat Park Golf Course is an asset that provides social connectedness and health and wellbeing to this demographic in alignment with this strategy. Please reconsider funding to include Belgravia. Yarrambat golf Club is a great club which needs funds to maintain and upgrade the course. I am a current member at Yarrambat Golf Club and have been for the past 20years.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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**28. Angela Temouskos**

I wish to protest against the omission of any funding for the Yarrambat Park Golf Course in the current budget. This facility is used by many members of the community and in particular retirees. The game of golf promotes health and well being, enabling people to exercise and socialise on a regular basis. However the club is in dire need of funding to repair and upgrade existing facilities, I therefore wish to submit a request that the Nillumbik Council provide sufficient funding for infrastructure projects to be carried out at the Yarrambat Park Golf Course.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**29. Denise Moyle**

I am very disappointed at the lack of funding to Yarrambat Golf Course this budget. Being a golfer there for 30 years and noticing the decline in conditions of greens & fairways of late, the maintenance men try to keep it up to scratch but need funds to do so. I was Lady President when the club house burnt down and expected to have better club facilities but it never happened. It is a public course with green fees going to council coffers whereas other sporting clubs wouldn't contribute as much as the golfers, hoping you will considerate more funding to us. Thank You.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**30. Ruth Winyard**

I am a member of the Yarrambat Ladies Golf Club and am very concerned that there is no funding for infrastructure and maintenance for the Yarrambat Golf course. The course is a wonderful local asset and it would be a great pity if it is not maintained. Some of the greens are in need of immediate attention, current ground staff do a very good but without funding it is impossible for them to do what is needed. The ladies club play competition twice a week and the men play more often, if the course deteriorates further many players will go elsewhere.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**31. Paul Murtagh**

My comments refer to Yarrambat Park Golf Course. I am 50 years old and golf is my exercise of choice, crucial to my physical and mental well being. I grew up in the south east with their famous golf courses and now I love living in Greensborough with more trees, hills and kangaroos. Yarrambat Park has enormous potential as a sporting and community facility and I do hope the council will recognise that and support it accordingly. The golf course is unique in that it copes with wet & cold weather and provides a challenging and enjoyable test of golf every week of the year. This is why it appears to be one of the busier golf courses in Melbourne. Golf is also unique in that you can play sport alongside your parents as well as your kids, and it provides a wonderful social atmosphere. I've been able to meet a lot of terrific people. Please support this jewel in the Nillumbik recreational landscape.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**32. Lyn Cuthbertson**

As a financial member of the Yarrambat Park Golf Club the fact that there has been no allocation in this years budget is disgraceful. The fact that the club has been an asset to the surrounding areas and with the constant development continuing the club should be supported not ignored.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.



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**Officer Response**

**33. Eric Meachem**

My concern is regarding the proposed council budget for the Yarrambat Park Golf Course for the 2018/2019 period. I have been informed that there will be no funding for key projects and a sizable reduction in the capital works allocation. As a long-term park user and a past resident of the shire I am appalled to think that this community asset will be allowed to be reduced to a paddock if not funded properly. It is councils responsibility to manage all of the communities assets for current and future users. The existing Park Master Plan identifies significant funding and the council has chosen to ignore this, shame on you and your decision making team. Do the right thing and make appropriate funding available. Rgds, NOT IMPRESSED.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**34. Roger Clarke**

I am totally astounded that the NC have not allocated any money toward the upkeep of what used to be one of the Jewells in the crown of public golf courses in metropolitan Melbourne. I suggest that the Parks and Gardens Management visit Bundoora Park Golf course and inspect the entire course. Tee boxes 40 metres in length x 15-20 metres in width, beautifully grassed and flat. Greens like velvet, I have been advised that the greens are the original ones from day one, over 30 years ago, what a delight to play on. If they have time visit Freeway Golf Kew, similar to Bundoora if not better. I believe that NC collect well in excess of \$800k per annum from the company who currently lease the course from NC. I am not privileged as to how much the course greenkeepers are being paid by NC but whatever it is you are wasting your money. The members refer to them as Jims mowing. I started playing golf at Yarrambat when it first opened, and have watched it develop over the years, My fear is that the mens club at Yarrambat will lose members and this will effect the current or next leaseholders of the course, then you will be confronted with a company facing bankruptcy, therefore less money going back to council. Also the 7 day membership fee at Yarrambat Park Golf is moving upward, making members consider the value compared to some of the private clubs where the annual fee is considerably lower, ie. Mandalay 7 day membership around the \$800.00 mark, you play on well maintained greens, fairways and tee boxes. Growling Frog also has a cheaper rate than Yarrambat Park. I urge council to conduct a total review of the situation and reinvest a large amount of the fee that they collect from the Golf course to bring the course back to what it was.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**35. Greg Stout**

Yarrambat Golf Club is a vibrant sporting hub in the Nullumbik area. To withdraw any/all funding is a severe detriment to that facility and will surely result in decreased patronage/income. Is that what you want?

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**36. Bill Helliard**

As a senior age and inaugural member of the Yarrambat Golf Club I would like to express my disappointment in the lack of funding of the master plan devised for the Yarrambat Golf course. We as members were under the belief the master plan was being proceeded with. If such works are not proceeded with, I, along with others, I assume, will look for other options ie Mandalay, Growling Frog etc to provide the appropriate standard of golf facilities that we desire.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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**37. Mary Rice**

As Secretary of the Yarrambat Park Ladies Golf Club I am writing on behalf of the Club to protest that no funds have been allocated in the forthcoming budget for the Yarrambat Park Golf course. The course is suffering from a lack of renewal of infrastructure. - The golf course is over 30 years old and so renewals and upgrades are required. - The Yarrambat Park Masterplan 2012 recommends the level of renewals and upgrades required at the golf course, which are significant. - A drop in infrastructure funding and the absence of Yarrambat Park Golf Course from the list of key projects suggests that renewals and upgrades have been omitted from this budget, despite the recommendations of the Masterplan. - Other local sporting clubs are receiving significant renewals and upgrades (e.g. Diamond Valley Stadium upgrade\*, Marngrook Oval Pavillion\*, Diamond Creek netball pavilion\*, etc). - Nillumbik's Positive Ageing Strategy states that by 2021, residents aged 55 years and over will make up one quarter of the Nillumbik population. If you consider the Golf Victoria statistics, the 55+ user group makes up for a large portion of golf participation. Yarrambat Park Golf Course is an asset that provides social connectedness and health and wellbeing to this demographic in alignment with this strategy.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

**38. Marilyn Jacobs**

I am a senior and a member of Yarrambat Park Golf Club. Over the past few years this club has been my major source of social interaction. Whilst the course has had its problems due to weather situations, we knew we could always rely on the Management Plan and the Council for rectification and improvements. I am shocked and dismayed to read that there is no provision whatsoever for the golf course in the next budget. This is a serious oversight and questionable decision. I note the list of key projects on page 4, of which Yarrambat Park Golf Course is expressly omitted. Key projects include upgrades to sporting clubs, including pavilions floodlighting, car parking and new asset expenditure for sporting clubs. The 'Capital works program summary' on page 49, which shows a significant drop in Infrastructure funding. As a regular user of the golf course, I am aware that it is over 30 years old and so renewals and upgrades are required. The Yarrambat Park Masterplan 2012 recommends the level of renewals and upgrades required at the golf course, which are significant. A drop in infrastructure funding and the absence of Yarrambat Park Golf Course from the list of key projects suggests that renewals and upgrades have been omitted from this budget, despite the recommendations of the Masterplan. Other local sporting clubs are receiving significant renewals and upgrades (e.g. Diamond Valley Stadium upgrade\*, Marngrook Oval Pavillion\*, Diamond Creek netball pavilion\*, etc). Nillumbik's Positive Ageing Strategy states that by 2021, residents aged 55 years and over will make up one quarter of the Nillumbik population. If you consider the Golf Victoria statistics, the 55+ user group makes up for a large portion of golf participation. Yarrambat Park Golf Course is an asset that provides social connectedness and health and wellbeing to this demographic in alignment with this strategy. Please urgently reconsider this unfortunate decision.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

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<p><b>39. Beth Fox</b></p> <p>Yarrambat Golf Course is a hub of sporting and recreation activity for the majority of rate payers in the Nillumbik Shire. It is a place retired and young people use to socialise and exercise for a healthy lifestyle. The golf course is extremely important in the shire and maybe more important as it caters for a diversity of age groups. This facility needs to be maintained and in doing so, needs ongoing finance. It would be a shame to see it deteriorate</p>	<p>Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.</p>
<p><b>40. Lois Beevis</b></p> <p>Being a member of YPLGC for a number of years, you have not given any consideration to Yarrambat Golf Club receiving any funding for the next 12 months. Several other sporting facilities will share \$15.519M. Our golf club is an asset to 55+ residents &amp; provides social and healthy attributes to all. We would encourage Council to reconsider &amp; provide some funding to the club to avoid the whole course going into disrepair which may cause many members to join another club.</p>	<p>Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.</p>
<p><b>41. Allan Searle</b></p> <p>I have been a member of Yarrambat Golf course for six years. The course is probably in the worst condition of my time as a member, yet I understand that there is no allocation of funds in the 2018-19 Budget for repairs/maintenance etc. This is clearly unacceptable. The council makes a substantial income from the Yarrambat Golf Course and I find it unbelievable that they would not allocate funds to keep the course in an acceptable condition? Will our memberships fees and green fees be reduced accordingly, because we are playing on a sub standard Golf Course? I doubt it. If this decision isn't reversed the council might as well close the course, because myself and hundreds of fellow golfers with find another course who values it's rate payers and customers. Just a stupid decision made by someone who is out of touch with the community.</p>	<p>Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.</p>

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<p><b>42. Paul Reid</b></p> <p>The omission of the Yarrambat Golf Course from budget consideration for 2018/2019 is a short sighted view of the state of the course which is now 30 years old and in need of continual maintenance to keep it up to optimum playing condition. Previous Councils have taken the profits generated by the course which is one of the few to achieve any profitability and financed other projects, now is the time the course needs full co-operation from all stake holders to bring it back to its previous standard. The current process of renewing greens must be maintained or players will not support the course and we do not want to see a Growling Frog which is costing Whittlesea Council over \$1 million a year. I have been playing at Yarrambat since its inception enjoying the ambience of playing in a semi rural atmosphere, since the formation of the Yarrambat Golf Club which has now grown to over 300 members and increasing due to the housing estates in the area I feel with a growing age demographic we will continue to prosper but only if the course remains at an acceptable standard,          Golfers are a dedicated group who find if things are deteriorating or not maintained word soon passes around and other Courses are found e.g. Bundoora, Craigeburn, and Mandalay etc all within half an hour travel of the course.          I realise the cost of renewing the greens is expensive but the returns are worth the cost they have suffered from lack of maintenance long enough, the course greenkeepers have recently discovered the course of the degradation not being fungal but apparently a worm which is causing the trouble. So for work to continue to repair them they need the money for maintenance and improvements. In closing I implore the Council to include the Yarrambat Golf Course in its Budget Advances for 2018/2019 the course has provided Council with finances in the past now it is the Course which needs help.</p>	<p>Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.</p>
<p><b>43. Valerie McFadyen</b></p> <p>I wish to present my submission that Yarambat Golf Course be included in the proposed funding of amenities in the Nillumbik Shire.          It is noted that Yarambat Golf Course is not mentioned in the list of proposed funding. Why? This Golf Course provides recreational facilities for a large number of people in our Community, ranging across a broad spectrum of age groups, and fmancial situations. This Golf Course needs the funds to maintain the course, and employ the staff to continue the high standard they provide and we are accustomed to. And why are the golfers less deserving than the rest of the clubs? Surely helping to provide people an opportunity to improve their mental and physical health, within their financial range is not too big an ask.          We, the Ratepayers need our Council to help maintain this wonderful facility by providing reasonable funding.</p>	<p>Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.</p>

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**Officer Response**

44. **Barb Mason**

As I am a lady member of the Y.P.L.G. Club and have been for over 20 years, I am extremely concerned that the Nillimbuk Council has indicated that it will be reducing funding for further upgrading and maintenance of the Yarrambat Park Golf Course. Over the years, I have seen quite a lot of improvements to the infrastructure of the Course and especially only approx 4 months ago our members made comment that the Course has never been in such good condition due to the excellent work of Ground Staff and Course Management My concern is that if funding is extensively reduced the course will deteriorate and this in turn reduces the amount of members who wish to play there and also will not encourage new membership as well as the General Public who wish to play there. As the area has significantly developed over the last 5 years and statistics show that the 55+ user group make up a large portion of golf participation, I feel that the Yarrambat Park Golf Course is an asset that provides social connectedness and health and wellbeing. I am also concerned that we will lose some of our valued members to other Courses due to possible deterioration of the Course. I strongly urge you to reconsider the reduction of funding as the condition will certainly suffer through lack of funding to enable Staff and Management to continue their excellent maintenance of the Course.  
Kind regards  
Barb Mason.

Submission noted. See comments in submission 11.

45. **Ken Crompton**

Refer to attached submission (attachment 2), an extract of the submission details the questions below:

1. Does Nillumbik Council have an Asset Management Policy?
2. Where is the Nillumbik Asset Management Framework for Yarrambat Park? Does Nillumbik have any principle of asset management to –  
“ ... ensure the appropriate funding of the maintenance and renewal of existing assets before that of new assets”?
3. How does Nillumbik now stand on that record with the Commonwealth Government?

Responses to questions:

1. Yes Council does have an asset management policy. To compliment the policy Council also adopts the principles of asset management set out under the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) through which asset management is classified. This classification assists Council in prioritising the future capital works program and forecasting potential areas of risk.
2. Nillumbik does maintain asset management frameworks for all major assets. The frameworks are governed by statutory guidelines coupled with the usage of the facilities. As referenced in the response to the first question, Council reports on its renewal gap obligations and is measured on its investment to attending to the renewal gap by the Victorian Auditor General's Office on an annual basis.
3. To date Nillumbik Shire Council values the relationship with other levels of Government extending to funding bodies which are an ancillary to Government departments.

**Nillumbik Shire Council - Public submission on draft budget 2018 - 2019**

**Submitter and Key Points**

**Officer Response**

**46. Ken and Beth Crompton**

Refer to attached submission (attachment 3) an extract of the submission details the questions below:

1. Against this background, it seems unfathomable to understand why Council's draft budget fails to provide for funding support to maintain these facilities and protect this valuable community investment. Is this the first such omission in 43 years?
2. Is Council bankrupt?
3. Has Council wasted ratepayers' money that it can no longer protect and develop its community investments?
4. Has Council before it any reports that Yarrambat Park is not a valuable community asset?
5. Will any Councillors maintain the Council vision of 1975 and argue the case for more funding support for Yarrambat Park?

Responses to questions:

1. Each year Council considers the capital works program and prioritisation of projects within the constrained financial environment. Council has made strategic and informed decisions surrounding the allocation of capital works programming for the next financial year.
2. No, Council is not bankrupt. Council has been assessed as being financially sustainable with an average low risk rating by the Victorian Auditor General's Office.
3. No, Council allocates public monies across both services and capital works programming every financial year. This process is reviewed annually as prioritisation of services/works may vary year on year and require different levels of financial attention.
4. No, Council has no current reports indicating this.
5. Council continues to seek funding through other levels of Government and the private sector to assist in the delivery and effective management of all the services and assets it holds.