

Planning changes allow cash approval to Burnham Beeches

A NUMBER of conditions placed on the Burnham Beeches tourist development in Sherbrooke have been incorporated into a Section 173 agreement over the property.

Yarra Ranges council at its 8 October meeting moved to approve an amendment to the existing planning application and issue an amended planning permit.

The amendment required the deletion of seven conditions relating to the construction of civil works such as vehicle access ways, cross overs, turning lanes, drainage and roadworks, which were required prior to a statement of compliance.

The proposal put forward and approved was to incorporate the conditions as part of the Section 173 Agreement which it was stated would maintain the obligation of the developer to carry out the works and council's ability to enforce the works.

Councillors were advised that the applicant required the amendment in order to secure funding.

The report submitted for consideration by the council said the development proposal could only be considered by potential investors once a certified plan of subdivision was endorsed.

The shire's director of environment and engineering Simon Thomas said the amendment

would give the developers the green light to commence the project.

He said he was present when the building was auctioned and enthusiastically welcomed the prospect that the Dandenongs would soon have a top class tourist facility.

"We have some people who are going to get it going and it's beaut to see this old building coming back to life," he said.

"After 12 years it's the best thing that could happen in the Dandenongs."

The Section 173 Agreement which aims to protect the integrity of the historic property is binding on the property into the future.