

# Macedon Ranges Environment Strategy 2009 – 2012

How can we reconcile these grand values and policies with the scale of the development being proposed for Hanging Rock?

## **P28 An iconic landscape.**

“The Macedon Range and Hanging Rock sit at the centre of the Shire. These sites are the geographic and symbolic heart of the region. Council has Macedon Range and Hanging Rock as its logo, emphasizing the symbolic value of these sites to the community. The logo is not only a reflection of the geography. It is a reflection of the priority the community gives to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.

Through this strategy, Council strives to meet community expectations for stewardship of the natural environment.”

## **P36 importance of larger areas**

“A keystone if an integrated program to secure biodiversity is to ensure large areas are managed to maintain biologically diverse natural systems. The larger the area, the more the system is self managing and sustainable.

Small fragments of biodiversity are less likely to be self-sustaining and are more exposed to threats.”

## **P38 refers to the need for “broad landscape links”**

**P68 – 70 recognises the need for establishing wildlife corridors.** Refers to State Policy incl. Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 which resulted in the strategy “Victorias Biodiversity” being adopted in 1997 and Native vegetation Plans of the CMAs. HRR has threatened vegetation classes as well as threatened fauna [Brush-tailed Phascogale, Powerful Owl amongst other birds]

“The plans, in general, follow the principles of protecting, enhancing and restoring indigenous vegetation, in that priority.....with particular priority for vegetation communities that are highly depleted and subject to threatening processes.”

“..revegetation should occur in order to increase the size and viability off existing remnant vegetation”

ie. increasing revegetation in the Eastern Paddock area and adjacent to roadside vegetation on Colwells rd, Straws Lane and South Rock Road.

## **P107 Wider importance of landscape values**

“The landscape and aesthetic values of the Shire and not only important to its residents but are recognized as important to the wider population of Victoria and Australia.”

## **P43 community consultation**

“Council is determined to engage the community in a meaningful way and a number of initiatives are proposed to strengthen community engagement” .....What were these?

## **P54 Council leadership**

“ the Council will be a leader in taking action towards achieving real gains in the state of the environment in the Macedon Ranges Shire.”