

# Hepburn Council holds in camera meeting

BY BRENDAN GULLIFER

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HEPBURN Shire Council will hold a closed special meeting today to discuss "contractual" matters.

While councillors have refused to comment, the position of chief executive officer Kaylene Conrick has been under increasing pressure following a critical Victorian Auditor-General's report of council management.

The Local Government Inspectorate is investigating a \$2.7m federal government grant to the shire for redevelopment of the Clunes museum.

And last month the council reached a financial settlement with former employee Alec Armstrong who was sacked following comments he posted on Facebook out of hours in which he accused the shire of having too many managers.

Councillors Don Henderson and Bill McClenaghan have been outspoken on council's financial performance, accountability and lack of community consultation.

In May, Tim Hayes resigned as Cameron ward councillor following allegations of a conflict of interest in council's Clunes museum federal government grant.

And in June more than 50 residents protested, claiming rising rates were not matched by appropriate community consultation or council services.

Senate F&PA Committee  
Tabled Document  
Inquiry: Supp. Budget estimates 2011-12  
Date/Time: 8:30pm, 18/10/11  
Witness Name: Sen. Joyce  
Organisation: .....