

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN NAMBUR WARIGA MEETING ROOM, CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS, MORWELL AND VIA AUDIO-VISUAL LINK AT 6:00PM ON 02 SEPTEMBER 2024 CM609

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cr Darren Howe, Mayor East Ward

Cr Tracie Lund, Deputy Mayor Central Ward (Virtual) (Left meeting at 7.19pm)

Cr Graeme Middlemiss Central Ward
Cr Dan Clancey East Ward
Cr Dale Harriman East Ward
Cr Kellie O'Callaghan East Ward
Cr Brad Law West Ward
Cr Sharon Gibson West Ward

Officers: Steven Piasente Chief Executive Officer

Jody Riordan General Manager Regional City Planning & Assets
Tim Ellis General Manager Regional City Strategy & Transition

James Rouse Executive Manager Commonwealth Games
Nathan Kearsley General Manager Organisational Performance

Zoe Speck Manager Governance

Peter Schulz Coordinator Council Business

Kaitlyn Boram Governance Officer

Apologies: Cr Melissa Ferguson South Ward

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Resolutions in this minutes document should be read in conjunction with the published agenda for the 02 September 2024 Council Meeting.

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

The Mayor read the acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land.

2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Melissa Ferguson

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Law

That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5

August 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cr Harriman declared a general interest in Item 8.2 – 2024/25 Community Grant Program – Round 1

Cr Clancey declared a general interest in Item 8.2 – 2024/25 Community Grant Program – Round 1

Cr Harriman declared a general interest in Item 8.3 - 2023/24 End of Year Result and Accumulated Cash Surplus

Cr O'Callaghan declared an interest that is not a conflict of interest in Item 10.2 – Renewal Energy Impact and Readiness Study

Cr O'Callaghan declared an interest that is not a conflict of interest in Item 15.1 – LCC-831 Translgon Recreation Reserve Multi-Use Pavilion

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

Public Questions on Notice

In Accordance with the Governance Rules, members of the public can lodge a question on notice before 12 noon on the Friday before the day of the Council meeting in order for the question to be answered at the meeting. There were two public questions on notice.

Question 1:

From: Damian Andrews

Topic: Community Initiatives and Local Government Responsibilities

Question:

What is the Latrobe City Council's position on community groups taking action to support local needs that are not currently being met by Council services?

Response:

Council has and will continue to support community groups in their endeavours to support local community needs.

Community groups play a critical role to support civic pride, social connection, and improved health and wellbeing outcomes, for all of Latrobe City. Council acknowledges and appreciates the significant contribution that community groups and volunteers make every day in Latrobe City.

The important role that the many community groups, service providers and community organisations play in supporting our community's health and wellbeing is also recognised in our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, Living Well Latrobe.

Council provides ongoing support in a number of ways. These include:

- Providing a range of Community Grants and Sponsorship Programs.
- Producing a monthly online Community Groups Newsletter.
- Organising free Community Groups Workshops annually to enhance knowledge, skills and confidence.
- Providing financial and in-kind support in the preparation and delivery of community events.
- Establishing fees that are subsidised for use of Council facilities.
- Employing a Community Groups Innovation Officer, created to support the development of community groups and volunteering in Latrobe City.

Question 2:

From: Damian Andrews

Topic: Councillor Voting Comparisons

Question:

To promote Councillor accountability, what is the Council's stance on comparison of Councillor's voting records with their pre-election representations being made publicly available to the Latrobe City constituents prior to the coming elections?

Response:

Section 304 of the *Local Government Act 2020* prohibits a member of Council staff from using Council resources in a way that is intended to, or is likely to, affect the result of an election under this Act.

This section of the Act also prohibits the publication of an electoral matter which includes express reference to, or comments on, a candidate in the election.

Therefore, Council is unable to undertake the analysis requested.

Public Speakers

Members of the public who registered before 12 noon were invited to speak to an item on the agenda. There were three public speakers.

Cr Harriman left the meeting at 6.14pm

 Margaret Guthrie spoke to Item 8.3 – End of Year Result and Accumulated Cash Surplus

Cr Harriman returned to the meeting at 6.21pm

- Damian Andrews spoke to Item 12.1 Notice of Motion 2024/12 Reduction of Litter in Public Spaces
- Rod de Souza-Daw spoke to Item 8.1 Road, Facility and Place Naming

STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

6. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 6.1

02 September 2024

Regional City Planning and Assets

BLACK SPOT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS 2025/26

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson
Seconded: Cr Middlemiss

That Council endorse applications to the 2025/26 Black Spot Program to include:

- 1. Old Sale Road, Newborough;
- 2. Bridle Road, Morwell;
- 3. Shakespeare Street, Traralgon;
- 4. Franklin Street, Traralgon;
- 5. McNairn Road, Traralgon; and
- 6. Liddiard Road, Traralgon

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE -GIPPSLAND LOGISTICS & MANUFACTURING PRECINCT

MOTION

Moved: Cr Clancey Seconded: Cr Gibson

That Council:

- Having considered the submissions received, resolve to sell or lease Lots 1 – 11 located within the subdivision of Crown Allotment 8E Parish of Maryvale (Parent Title Volume 10248 Folio 680) Tramway Road, Morwell, by auction or private treaty;
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute all documents necessary to offer the lots located at Tramway Road, Morwell, for sale by auction or private treaty (or lease) and to complete the sale at a price no less than the minimum selling price set in accordance with Confidential Attachment 3, or current market value where relevant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Public Submissions
- 2. Public Notice
- 3. Selling Price (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (a) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. Valuations need to remain confidential to protect Council's position when negotiating the sale of Lots.

STATUTORY PLANNING

7. STATUTORY PLANNING

Agenda Item: 7.1

Agenda Item: Amendment C131 (Flood Overlays Update) -

Consideration of Panel Report

Sponsor: General Manager, Regional City Planning and Assets

MOTION

Moved: Cr Clancey
Seconded: Cr Middlemiss

That Council:

- 1. Having considered the Planning Panel report and the Panel recommendations for Amendment C131, endorse the Officer's response to the issues and recommendations as outlined in Attachment 2 Amendment C131 'Panel Recommendations and Planning Officer Comment':
- 2. Adopt Amendment C131 in accordance with section 29 of the *Planning* and *Environment Act 1987*, with changes as reflected in the final Amendment C131 documentation provided at Attachment 4;
- 3. Submit the adopted Amendment C131, together with the prescribed information, to the Minister for Planning for approval in accordance with section 31 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and
- 4. Advise those persons who made written submissions to Amendment C131 of Council's decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Panel Report
- 2. Panel Recommendations and Planning Officer Comment
- 3. List of Changes to Amendment C131 following Re-Exhibition
- 4. Amendment C131 Documents for Adoption

CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

8. CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 8.1

02 September 2024

Regional City Strategy & Transition

ROAD, FACILITY AND PLACE NAMING

MOTION

Moved: Cr Middlemiss Seconded: Cr Gibson

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the Road, Facility and Place Name Policy subject to the following conditions:
 - 1.1. that the provisions relating to subdivisions commence from February 2025 to ensure adequate notice for stakeholders;
 - 1.2. that the Policy is made available on the Latrobe City Council website; and
- 2. Abolish the Road, Facility and Place Name Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Draft Road, Facilities and Place Name Policy

2024/25 COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM -ROUND 1

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Part A

That Council approves 47 applications in the amounts stated as set out in Attachment A and releases publicly a list of the successful applicants.

Part B

That Council approves one application in the amount stated as set out in Attachment B and releases publicly a list of the successful applicants.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Clancey

Part A

That Council:

- 1. Approves 46 applications for the amounts recommended as set out in Attachment A.
- 2. Approve application CW202425R110, on page 24 of the confidential attachments to item 8.2, for the full amount requested of \$10,000.
- 3. Fund the additional four recommended Capital Works Major projects as detailed in Attachment C, totalling \$78,764.69.
- 4. Allocate additional funding of \$78,764.69 from the Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve to address the resultant shortfall in Round 2 funding.
- 5. Release publicly a list of the successful applicants.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Clancey and Cr Harriman left the meeting at 7.12pm.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Middlemiss Seconded: Cr O'Callaghan

Part B

That Council approves one application in the amount stated as set out in Attachment B and releases publicly a list of the successful applicants.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Clancey returned to the meeting at 7.14pm.

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Attachment A 2024-25 Community Grant Program Round 1 Recommended and Not Recommended (Published Separately)
 - This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (h) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a). Recommendations for Councillor endorsement.
- Attachment B 2024-25 Community Grant Program Round 1 Recommended and Not Recommended (Published Separately)
 - This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (h) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a). Recommendations for Councillor endorsement.
- Attachment C 2024-25 Community Grant Program Round 1 Recommended and Not Recommended (Published Separately)
 - This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (h) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a). Recommendations for Councillor endorsement.
- 4. Attachment D Community Grant Assessment Criteria

2023/24 END OF YEAR RESULT AND **ACCUMULATED CASH SURPLUS**

MOTION

Moved: Cr Law Seconded: Cr Clancey

PART A

That Council:

- Note at the conclusion of the 2023/24 financial year Council realised a cash surplus position of \$5.246M (unaudited); and
- 2. Allocate \$2.623M of the 2023/24 cash surplus position to the Transition Reserve: and
- Note the Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve balance after allocations 3. is \$1.538M (prior to adjustments following completion of the year end audit).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Law Seconded: Cr Clancey

PART B

That Council allocate from the Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve \$0.400M to fund replacement of the geothermal pump at the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC). Leaving a residual Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve of \$1.138M.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Law Seconded: Cr Clancey

PART C

That Council allocate from the remaining Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve of \$1.138M, the amount of \$0.150M to fund additional costs for the Traralgon West Development Plan. Leaving a balance in the Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve of \$0.988M.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Accumulated Unallocated Cash Reserve - Reconciliation

Cr Lund left the meeting at 7.19pm.

Cr Harriman returned to the meeting at 7.19pm.

Cr Harriman left the meeting at 7.21pm.

COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM GOVERNANCE POLICY - REVIEW OF ELIGIBLE ITEMS - FIREWORKS

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council undertake targeted community engagement regarding the inclusion of fireworks as an eligible expenditure item in the Community Grants Policy and present a further report to Council detailing the findings.

ALTERNATE MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Middlemiss

That Council immediately amend Section 4 of the Community Grant Program Governance Policy 2023 to remove the word fireworks from the ineligible expenditure section.

Cr Gibson For

Crs Clancey, O'Callaghan, Law, Middlemiss and Howe Against:

LOST

FORESHADOWED MOTION

Moved: Cr Clancey Seconded: Cr O'Callaghan

That section 4 of the Community Grant Program Governance Policy 2023 remain in place as is and that Council Officers work with community groups who wish to fund a fireworks display to secure appropriate funding.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Community Grant Program Governance Policy 2023

MOTION

Moved: Cr O'Callaghan Seconded: Cr Clancey

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting was adjourned at 7.52pm.

The meeting resumed at 8.08pm.

Cr Harriman returned to the meeting at 8.08pm.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

MOTION

Moved: Cr Law Seconded: Cr Gibson

That Council appoint John Purcell as an external independent member of the Audit and Risk Committee for a further one-year term until 1 December 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments

Nil

YALLOURN NORTH COMMUNITY HOUSING COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE -COMMUNITY APPOINTMENT

MOTION

Moved: Cr Middlemiss

Seconded: Cr Law

That Council appoint Mr Rohan Bounds to the committee for a term of 24 months in line with 4.4(c) of the Yallourn North Community Housing Community Asset Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Yallourn North Community Housing Community Asset Committee Nominee Form (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (f) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs. Personal information is disclosed on the nominee form.

2. Yallourn North Community Housing Community Asset Committee Terms of Reference

2024-25 COUNTRY FOOTBALL AND NETBALL PROGRAM

MOTION

Moved: Cr Harriman Seconded: Cr Clancey

That Council:

- 1. Endorse a funding application to the 2024/25 Country Football and Netball Program for Installation of Sports Lighting at Agnes Brereton Reserve; and
- 2. Auspice \$150,000 from Traralgon Netball Association as the cocontribution required towards the Installation of Sports Lighting at Agnes Brereton Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. 2024-25 Country Football and Netball Program Guidelines
- 2. Letter from TNA (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (f) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs. Letter names Council officers.

URGENT BUSINESS

9.	URGENT BUSINESS
Nil re	eports.

REPORTS FOR NOTING

Item Number 10.1 02 September 2024

Community Health and Wellbeing

CREATIVE VENUES FEES AND CHARGES

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Clancey Seconded: Cr Harriman

That Council:

- 1. Amend the fees and charges payable for Creative Venues, for the current financial year, by eliminating the Dark Day charge at GPAC, Little Theatre and Traralgon Town Hall.
- 2. Provide a contribution to the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod which is to be offset against the fees payable for their use of creative venues in Latrobe City for the 2024/25 financial year of \$20,000.
- Request the CEO review the operation fees and charges payable for the 3. current financial year for community groups associated with the use of Creative Venues.
- 4. Receive a report at a future Council meeting in relation to Creative Venues Fees and Charges that details the following:
 - Benchmarking of fees and charges against a selection of other similar sized venues including Regional Cities and neighbouring Councils.
 - Include an assessment of the introduction of a rate that would apply b. to education providers.
 - An analysis of the commercial and community usage of the Creative C. Venues in Latrobe City over the past two financial years.
 - An analysis of the expenditure and revenue costs associated with the d. Venues over the past two financial years.
 - Any other matter considered appropriate to assist Council in e. determining the appropriate levels of fees and charges for the Creative Venues for the 2025/26 financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Creative Venues Fees & Charges Schedule 2024/25

Cr O'Callaghan left the meeting at 8.30pm.

RENEWABLE ENERGY IMPACT AND READINESS STUDY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Clancey
Seconded: Cr Middlemiss

That Council:

- 1. Note the Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study; and
- 2. Authorise Officers to progress actions detailed in the study.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study

Cr O'Callaghan returned to the meeting at 8.36pm.

11.	QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Nil reports

NOTICES OF MOTION

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

Item Number 12.1 02 September 2024

Regional City Planning and Assets

NOTICE OF MOTION 2024/12 - REDUCTION OF LITTER IN PUBLIC SPACES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Harriman

That Council receive a report at a future Council Meeting that:

- Details the actions undertaken by Council since 2020 to reduce litter in 1. public spaces; and
- Analyses the options to further reduce litter in Latrobe City, including on 2. land that is managed by State agencies such as Regional Roads Victoria and Parks Victoria.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments

Nil

NOTICE OF MOTION 2024/13 - PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Harriman

That Council receive a report at a future Council Meeting that explores the advantages and disadvantages, including consideration of Local Government Act 2020 requirements, of making all Councillor Briefing Sessions and Councillor Briefing Reports available to the public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments

Nil

NOTICE OF MOTION 2024/14 - HESC PROJECT SUPPORT

MOTION

Moved: Cr Middlemiss Seconded: Cr Harriman

That Council:

- 1. State on the record, that they unanimously support the commercialisation of the Hydrogen to Energy Supply Chain Project (HESC), the associated CarbonNet Project and the establishment of a hydrogen hub within the Latrobe City area due to their ability to provide an early entry for Victoria and Australia to the future hydrogen economy, create local employment opportunities and support the local economy.
- 2. Authorise the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to write to the State and Federal Governments confirming Council support for the commercialisation of the Hydrogen to Energy Supply Chain Project (HESC), the associated CarbonNet Project and the establishment of a hydrogen hub within the Latrobe City area and advocating for urgent government funding and support for these projects to be realised given the proximity to industry closure.
- 3. As part of its ongoing advocacy for Hydrogen and the HESC project, note the delay in green hydrogen.
- 4. Continue to communicate Council's position on the HESC project, CarbonNet and a Hydrogen Hub with relevant State and Federal government elected officials and government departments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments

Nil

MOTION

Moved: Cr Clancey Seconded: Cr Harriman

That the meeting be extended until such time as all business on the agenda is dealt with.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEMS FOR TABLING

13.	
	Nil reports

14. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cr Middlemiss acknowledged the passing of Keith Brownbill OAM.

Cr O'Callaghan acknowledged the passing of Keith Brownbilll OAM.

Cr O'Callaghan acknowledged the athletes competing at the Paris Paralympic Games, particularly Emily Beecroft, Ruby Storm and Beau Vernon.

Cr Harriman acknowledged Massaro Motors celebrating 50 years of business.

Cr Harriman acknowledged Jade Melbourne winning a bronze medal with the Opals at the Paris Olympic Games.

Cr Clancey acknowledged the Latrobe Theatre Company and the success of their production of Mary Poppins.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

15. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* enables Council to close the meeting to the public to consider *confidential information* as defined in that Act.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Middlemiss Seconded: Cr Gibson

That Council pursuant to section 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local* Government Act 2020 (the Act) close the Council Meeting to the public to consider the following items containing confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Act:

- 15.1 LCC-831 Traralgon Recreation Reserve Multi-Use Pavilion This item is confidential as it contains Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released (section 3(1)(a)) and private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—
 - (i) relates to trade secrets; or
 - (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage (section 3(1)(g)). These grounds apply because Releasing this information publicly and/or prematurely may prejudice the undertaking of this process and would release private commercial information of the tenderers that may cause disadvantage.
- 15.2 Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Committee Annual Review

This item is confidential as it contains Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released (section 3(1)(a)) and personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (section 3(1)(f)). These grounds apply because as the information relates to the CEO's annual performance and remuneration review process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting closed to the public at 9.26pm.
There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.48pm.
I certify that these minutes have been confirmed.
Mayor:
Date: