



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Council Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 15 March 2023

10:00am

Senior Citizens Centre

Kerang

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**MINUTES OF GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE, KERANG
ON WEDNESDAY, 15 MARCH 2023 AT 10:00AM**

PRESENT:	Cr Charlie Gillingham (Mayor)	Avoca Ward
	Cr Jane Ogden (Deputy Mayor)	Patchell Ward
	Cr Kelvin Burt	Patchell Ward
	Cr Travis Collier	Patchell Ward
	Cr Ross Stanton	Murray Ward
	Cr Garner Smith	Yarran Ward
	Cr Keith Link	Yarran Ward

IN ATTENDANCE: **Director Corporate Services
 Manager Governance**

Gallery: **1**
Media: **Nil**

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Gannawarra Welcome to Country video was played as the Acknowledgement of Country.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

The Deputy Mayor read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 February 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Jane Ogden declared a General Conflict of Interest in relation to Item 12.1.

Cr Charlie Gillingham declared a General Conflict of Interest in relation to Item 12.1.

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 8 FEBRUARY TO 7 MARCH 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council written records of Councillor Briefings in accordance with Clause 31 of the Gannawarra Shire Council Governance Rules.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden

Seconded: Cr Ross Stanton

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings 8 February to 7 March 2023.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - 27 FEBRUARY, 2023 MEETING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) met on Monday, 27 February, 2023. The focus of the ARC meeting was to review the progress on the financial position of the Council through the Quarterly Budget Report, the Fees and Charges, Draft Operational Budget, Rating Strategy and Capital Works program. The Audit Strategy for 2022/2023 was discussed with other reports related to governance, compliance and risk management matters.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council receive and note the summary of the discussions of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held 27 February 2023.

CARRIED

Mayor Charlie Gillingham on behalf of Council thanked Bradley Tarr for his time as an Independent Member on the Audit and Risk Committee.

7.2 PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2023/2024**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each year Council reviews the level of fees and charges that are applied across Gannawarra Shire Council for the provision of services, with a view to achieving a balance between affordability, encouraging greater usage, cost recovery and raising sufficient revenue to support the delivery of services.

The Schedule of Fees and Charges is to be included in Council's Annual Budget document.

In accordance with best practice financial management, Council Officers have conducted a comprehensive review of the Schedule of Fees and Charges to ensure the achievement of the above criteria.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2023/2024 effective from 1 July 2023.**
- 2. Publish the Schedule of Fees and Charges on Council's website.**

CARRIED

7.3 DRAFT COUNCIL POLICY NO. 148 - FLAGS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Draft Gannawarra Shire Council Policy No. 148 – Flags and the Community Flag Schedule governs the flying of flags outside the Kerang Council Building and Gateway to Gannawarra Visitor Information Centre, Cohuna and establishes a mechanism to consider requests for the flying of other flags significant to the Gannawarra community outside Council buildings or on Council-managed flag poles.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council

- 1. Endorse Draft Council Policy No. 148 – Flags and Draft Community Flag Schedule for community feedback for a period of 28 days; and**
- 2. Receives a further report to consider the final Council Policy No. 148 – Flags and Community Flag Schedule.**

CARRIED

7.4 G10-2022 KERANG CBD UPGRADE – STAGE 3

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project aims to revitalise Kerang’s CBD streetscape building on the previously completed works in Victoria St (2018) and Scoresby St (2021) providing more accessible parking, enhancing retail frontages, improved landscaping and new outdoor dining experiences.

Council officers have completed a tendering and evaluation process and recommend the appointment of CJ & BT McLoughlan Pty Ltd as the successful tenderer for this redevelopment of the Kerang CBD – Stage 3.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council award contract G10-2022 for the Kerang CBD Upgrade – Stage 3 to CJ & BT McLoughlan Pty Ltd for the lump sum amount, not subject to rise and fall, of \$2,312,179.25 excluding GST.

CARRIED

7.5 CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Climate Change Act 2017*, Council has a responsibility, duty of care and diligence to consider climate risk in their activities. This Strategy seeks to formalise a clear strategic direction for climate change adaptation and mitigation for Gannawarra Shire Council. After gaining Council endorsement at the October 2022 Council Meeting to implement the community consultation process, the Strategy is now presented to Council in its final form for consideration of adoption.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Ross Stanton

That Council adopt the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy as presented and attached to this report.

CARRIED

Cr Link called for a Division

In Favour: Crs Ogden, Collier, Burt, Stanton and Gillingham

Against: Crs Smith and Link

7.6 L2P PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council was successful in gaining the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) funding in 2012 to operate the L2P Driver Mentor program in partnership with Department of Transport (DoT). Swan Hill Toyota donated a vehicle and community based sponsorship was received at the commencement of the program.

During the pandemic and more recently, the 2022 floods, the L2P Driver Mentor program has struggled to continue especially with the loss of dedicated volunteers, a donated vehicle and increased difficulty with the recruitment of a program coordinator.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

- 1. That Council decline a further extension of the current L2P Driver Mentor Program contract from 1 July 2023;**
- 2. Work with the Department of Transport to find a suitable community based organisation to operate the L2P Driver Mentor Program effective from 1 July 2023 to support eligible learner drivers residing in Gannawarra with the opportunity to successfully gain their probationary drivers licence.**

CARRIED

7.7 MELBOURNE CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the October 2022 Council Meeting, Council recommended undertaking a community consultation process across the municipality to gauge community interest in changing the Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday in 2023 for the Kerang Show.

A 26-day community engagement period found overwhelming support for the current arrangements of observing the Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday throughout the municipality.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council:

1. Recognise Melbourne Cup Day as a public holiday throughout the Gannawarra Shire; and
2. Work with the Kerang and District Agricultural Society to identify ways to address the declining number of volunteers available to assist with running the Kerang Show.

CARRIED

8 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

9 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

10 QUESTION TIME

Nil

11 DELEGATES REPORTS

11.1 DELEGATES REPORTS

Association	Appointed Council Delegate
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance	Cr Stanton
Community Halls Community Asset Committee	Cr Burt
Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils	Mayor
Municipal Association of Victoria	Cr Collier
Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC)	Cr Link
Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC)	Mayor

Rail Freight Alliance	Cr Stanton
Rural Councils Victoria	Cr Smith
Timber Towns Victoria	Cr Smith

NB: * Audit and Risk Committee - no delegate report is required as the Audit and Risk Committee formally reports back separately to Council in accord with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter.

Councillors gave verbal updates on attendance at meetings to which they are the appointed delegate.

12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council close the meeting to members of the public in accordance with Sections 66(1) and 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to allow for consideration of confidential information.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Councillor Stanton take the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

CARRIED

Crs Gillingham and Ogden left the meeting at 10:58am.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 11:15am.

The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 19 April 2023.

**Mayor Charlie Gillingham
CHAIRPERSON**