



**GANNAWARRA**  
*Shire Council*

**Council Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, 16 March 2022**

**6:30pm**

**Virtual Meeting via ZOOM**

**Order Of Business**

<b>1</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Opening Declaration.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies .....</b>	<b>3</b>
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<b>8</b>	<b>Urgent Business.....</b>	<b>6</b>
	Nil	
<b>9</b>	<b>Notices of Motion.....</b>	<b>6</b>
	Nil	
<b>10</b>	<b>Question Time .....</b>	<b>6</b>
	Nil	
<b>11</b>	<b>Delegates Reports .....</b>	<b>6</b>
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<b>12</b>	<b>Confidential Items .....</b>	<b>6</b>
	Nil	

**MINUTES OF GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM  
ON WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2022 AT 6:30PM**

**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:** Chief Executive Officer  
Manager Governance

**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 Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

**That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16 February 2022 be confirmed.**

**CARRIED**

**5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

## **6 BRIEFING SESSIONS**

### **6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 9 FEBRUARY TO 8 MARCH 2022**

#### **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 Kelvin Burt

**That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings from 9 February to 8 March 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## **7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION**

### **7.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - 8 FEBRUARY, 2022 MEETING**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) met on Tuesday, 8 February, 2022. 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. 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 8 February 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## 7.2 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council officers undertake regular reviews of Council policies to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practices. This report addresses the following policies which have recently been reviewed:

- Policy No. 119 – Children’s Services
- Policy No. 122 – Non-Refund of Statutory and/or Regulatory Service Fees

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

#### That Council:

1. **Repeal Policy No. 119 – Children’s Services**
2. **Endorse Policy No. 122 – Non-Refund of Statutory and/or Regulatory Service Fees.**

**CARRIED**

## 7.3 POLICY REVIEW - POLICY NO. 140 - COVID-19 HARDSHIP

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In response to the potential impact that Coronavirus (COVID-19) was likely to have on our local businesses and employment, Council adopted Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship in April 2020. The policy was put in place for six months. The policy was extended on several occasions the latest being to 31 March 2022. It was amended in December 2020 to broaden the policy parameters to include assistance to commercial ratepayers who have paid multiple waste charges during periods where their business was shut down due to the imposed lock down restrictions.

Policy No. 034 Rate Relief is the policy that has traditionally provided for assistance to ratepayers experiencing general and financial hardship, specifically around rates and charges raised by Council.

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

#### That Council:-

- 1) **Cease the operations of Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship on 30 June 2022;**
- 2) **Endorse the review of Policy No. 034 Rate Relief to include a clause on Interest rate relief for COVID – 19 Hardship affected properties up until 30 June 2023; and**
- 3) **Communicate the policy changes to the community.**

**CARRIED**

**8 URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil

**9 NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**10 QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**11 DELEGATES REPORTS****11.1 DELEGATES REPORTS**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Appointed Council Delegate</b>
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance	Cr Stanton
Community Halls Community Asset Committee	Cr Burt
Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils	Mayor
Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group (LMWRRG) Forum	Cr Ogden
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**

Nil

**The Meeting closed at 7:04pm.**

**The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 20 April 2022.**

**Mayor Charlie Gillingham**

**CHAIR**