



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Council Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 20 December 2023

6:00pm

Senior Citizens Centre

Kerang

Order Of Business

1	Acknowledgement of Country	3
2	Opening Declaration.....	3
3	Apologies	3
4	Confirmation of Minutes	3
5	Declaration of Conflict of Interest	4
6	Briefing Sessions.....	4
6.1	Records of Councillor Briefings - 8 November to 12 December 2023	4
7	Business Reports for Decision	4
7.1	Audit and Risk Committee - 14 November, 2023 Meeting.....	4
7.2	Committee Memberships 2023/2024.....	5
7.3	Community Asset Committees.....	6
7.4	Expression of Interest Licence of Land: Kig Energy PTY LTD	7
8	Urgent Business.....	7
9	Notices of Motion.....	8
9.1	Notice of Motion - 89	8
10	Question Time.....	8
11	Delegates Reports	9
11.1	Delegates Reports	9
12	Confidential Items	10

**MINUTES OF GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE, KERANG
ON WEDNESDAY, 20 DECEMBER 2023 AT 6:00PM**

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer
Acting Executive Assistant to CEO

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Welcome to Country video was played.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

The Deputy Mayor read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

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

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 8 NOVEMBER TO 12 DECEMBER 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 Kelvin Burt

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings 8 November to 12 December 2023.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - 14 NOVEMBER, 2023 MEETING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) met on Tuesday, 14 November 2023. The focus of the ARC meeting was to undertake the annual review of the ARC performance against the Charter. Other reports related to financial, governance, compliance and risk management matters.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Charlie Gillingham

That Council:-

- 1) Receive and note the summary of the discussions of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held 14 November 2023; and**
- 2) Accept the annual assessment of the Audit and Risk Committee's performance against the Charter.**

CARRIED

7.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2023/2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council holds financial memberships for various committees, both locally and regionally, in the interests of advocating for and on behalf of the community. Membership to these and a number of other committees provides for Councillors to act as a Council delegate or representative on behalf of the Gannawarra Shire Council.

The table below lists each committee and the proposed Councillor delegate or representative to each, for 2023/2024.

COUNCILLOR COMMITTEES 2023/2024	
COMMITTEE	COUNCILLOR
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA)	Cr Jane Ogden
Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC)	Cr Keith Link
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC)	Cr Keith Link
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	Cr Travis Collier
Audit and Risk Committee (x 2)	Cr Charlie Gillingham and Cr Garner Smith
Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC)	Cr Ross Stanton, Mayor
Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils	Cr Ross Stanton, Mayor
Transport Committee Role including Rail Freight Alliance and Road Transport	Cr Keith Link
Rural Councils Victoria	Cr Garner Smith
Timber Towns Victoria	Cr Garner Smith
Community Halls Community Asset Committee	Cr Kelvin Burt

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council adopt the list of Committee memberships, and Councillor delegates or representatives to each, for 2023/2024 as detailed in this report.

CARRIED

7.3 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) provides for councils to establish Community Asset Committees for the purpose of managing community assets within the municipality and requires the CEO to submit an annual report to Council in relation to the activities and performance of Community Asset Committees.

This report relates to the activities and performance of Council's three Community Asset Committees in 2021/22, being the Leitchville War Memorial Swimming Pool Community Asset Committee, the Quambatook Caravan Park Community Asset Committee and the Community Halls Community Asset Committee.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council receives and notes the report on activities and performance of its three Community Asset Committees being:

- 1. Quambatook Caravan Park Community Asset Committee**
- 2. Leitchville War Memorial Swimming Pool Community Asset Committee**
- 3. Community Halls Community Asset Committee.**

CARRIED

7.4 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST LICENCE OF LAND: KIG ENERGY PTY LTD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the Expression of Interest (EOI) process conducted in accordance with Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020. The EOI sought suitably qualified energy companies for the development of power generation and storage facilities on two parcels of land: 14 Airport Road, Kerang 3579 Lot 2 Ps747952 & Lot 1 LP77293 and 197 Kerang Murrabit Road, Kerang 3579 CA 3d & CA 3C Sec B PP2862.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That Council

- 1. Accept the Kig Energy Pty Ltd submission to the 2023 Expression of interest to seek suitably qualified energy companies for the development of power generation and storage facilities on two parcels of Council managed land:**
 - (a) 14 Airport Road, Kerang 3579 Lot 2 Ps747952 & Lot 1 LP77293 – Kerang Aerodrome**
 - (b) 197 Kerang Murrabit Road, Kerang 3579 CA 3d & CA 3C Sec B PP2862 – Kerang Transfer Station**
- 2. Note that at a future Council meeting Kig Energy Pty Ltd will be required to:**
 - (a) Submit a report to Council proposing to enter into a formal agreement with KIG Energy Pty Ltd, subject to Council approval.**
 - (b) Ensure that KIG Energy Pty Ltd has satisfied all planning approvals required for their development at the identified locations as specified in the Expression of Interest submission.**

CARRIED

8 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

9 NOTICES OF MOTION

9.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - 89

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council

- **Request a report from Council officers on the estimated impact to tourism in Gannawarra due to the repeated flooding of the Gunbower Forest.**

Cr Charlie Gillingham moved an amendment to the original recommendation as follows:

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council

- **Request a report from Council officers on the estimated impact to tourism in Gannawarra due to the artificial flooding of the Gunbower Forest between 2000-2023.**

CARRIED

THE AMENDMENT BECAME THE MOTION

10 QUESTION TIME

Author	Question	Response
Dylan Peters - Kerang	Can the Gannawarra Shire provide a comprehensive road map for infrastructure upgrades and maintenance within the townships of the shire itself. For example, the Curb and Channel, resurfacing of the streets within the townships. Utilities such as water, sewer, power, telecom	Gannawarra Shire Council has a responsibility to efficiently manage the services and assets it provides to the community. Council has a public document <i>"The Asset Plan 2022-2032"</i> which articulates the systems, framework, processes, and drivers for decisions regarding the construction, upgrade, renewal, maintenance, and disposal of assets. The Asset Plan can be found on Council's website.
	Atkinson Park is a great resource for all who either live or travel through the Gannawarra Shire. With its proximity to the major Road (Murray Valley Highway) will the shire Council consider fencing options for the playground itself as a protective measure for all young children?	Thank you for raising the idea of installing a fence around the Atkinson Park playground for the safety of young children. We truly value community input and safety considerations. However, after careful evaluation, the Council has decided not to proceed with a fence at this time. Our focus is on fostering parental engagement and inclusiveness, encouraging active supervision of children in the open park environment. We believe this approach

		reduces the risk of creating a false sense of security from a fence, emphasizing the importance of shared responsibility. We appreciate your understanding and continued involvement in shaping a safe and welcoming atmosphere for all park visitors.
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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 appointed.

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 Section 66(1) and 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 to allow for consideration of confidential information.

12.1 Awarding of 2024 Australia Day Awards

This matter is considered to be confidential under of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with .

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Charlie Gillingham

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 6.54pm.

The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 21 February 2024.

Mayor Ross Stanton

CHAIR