



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Council Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 15 February 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 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10:00AM**

PRESENT:	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**

Gallery: **1**

Media: **1**

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING DECLARATION

Councillor Travis Collier read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Mayor Charlie Gillingham was noted as an apology.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 21 December 2022 and 3 January 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 14 DECEMBER 2022 TO 7 FEBRUARY 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 Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings 14 December 2022 to 7 February 2023.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT - QUARTER ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At 31 December 2022 Council is anticipating that the budgeted underlying deficit of \$1.157 million will increase by \$873k to an anticipated underlying deficit of \$2.030 million. The deficit in 2022/23 is due to the advance payment of the Victorian Grants Commission 2022/23 annual allocation in April 2022 and depreciation being higher than anticipated as a result of the infrastructure revaluations as at 30 June 2022.

The budgeted Operating Result of \$7.522 million surplus will decrease by \$5.203 million to an anticipated Operating Result of \$2.319 million surplus. This decrease is due to the deferral of grant income anticipated to be recognised into 2023/24.

Council's Capital Works program is progressing with an anticipated variation in scheduled works of \$4.035 million. The adopted capital budget for 2022/23 is \$14.027 million and it is expected to decrease to \$9.992 million by 30 June 2023. This decrease is due to the delays in delivery of some major multi-year projects and also some projects awaiting confirmation of grants.

The financial position of the Council remains stable.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council receive the report outlining the 2022/2023 Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 December, 2022.

CARRIED

7.2 LOCAL LAW NO. 1 COMMUNITY AMENITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has been prepared to present the Community Amenity Local Law for adoption by Council.

This is to replace the Local Law No. 1 Community Amenity 2012 which sunset in April 2022.

At its meeting held on 16 November 2022, Council resolved to endorse the draft Community Amenity Local Law for community engagement. Submissions closed on 20 January 2023. 73 submissions were received and considered at the close of the submission period with minor amendments made to the draft Local Law as a result of this.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That the Local Law No. 1 Community Amenity stay out for consultation for a further 28 days.

LOST

Cr Link called for a Division

In Favour: Crs Link and Smith

Against: Crs Collier, Stanton, Burt and Ogden

MOTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council:

- 1. Having complied with its statutory obligations, adopt the Community Amenity Local Law as attached to this report.**
- 2. Following the making of the Local Law, authorise the Chief Executive Officer to publish the required statutory notices as stipulated in section 74 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.**

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That Council:

- 1. Having complied with its statutory obligations, adopt the Community Amenity Local Law as attached to this report.**
- 2. Following the making of the Local Law, authorise the Chief Executive Officer to publish the required statutory notices as stipulated in section 74 of the Local Government Act 2020.**
- 3. Include the following in the final Community Amenity Local Law:**
 - (a) The number of poultry for up to 1 hectare including farmland be 10, no roosters.**
 - (b) The number of large or noisy birds for up to 1 hectare be 2 and up to two hectares be two**
 - (c) Under clause 53 on page 57 declare the smoke free areas to read: That any Municipal place, roads or other Council land within the Municipal District be a smoke free area.**

Cr Link requested point 3 of the Amendment be put to the vote in separate parts.

3 (a) The number of poultry for up to 1 hectare including farmland be 10, no roosters.**LOST**

Cr Link called for a Division

In Favour: Crs Link and Smith

Against: Crs Collier, Stanton, Ogden and Burt

3 (b) The number of large or noisy birds for up to 1 hectare be 2 and up to two hectares be two**LOST**

Cr Link called for a Division

In Favour: Cr Link

Against: Crs Collier, Stanton, Ogden, Burt and Smith

3 (c) Under clause 53 on page 57 declare the smoke free areas to read: That any Municipal place, roads or other Council land within the Municipal District be a smoke free area.**LOST**

Cr Link called for a Division

In Favour: Cr Link

Against: Crs Collier, Stanton, Ogden, Burt and Smith

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council:

1. **Having complied with its statutory obligations, adopt the Community Amenity Local Law as attached to this report.**
2. **Following the making of the Local Law, authorise the Chief Executive Officer to publish the required statutory notices as stipulated in section 74 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.**

CARRIED

7.3 KERANG LAKES ECO-TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Kerang Lakes Eco-Trail was identified by Kerang Landcare, with Council committing in mid 2021 to undertake a feasibility study into the project. After community consultation in early 2022 and site visits by the consultant, Tredwell Management Services, alongside regular input by Kerang Landcare members, the report has now been finalised. It indicates a significant capital investment of approximately \$12.5M to \$14.6M to construct the trail, and over \$50,000 to maintain each year, although the report does indicate this would have a positive economic impact, particularly during construction. Further planning and construction drawings will be necessary to finalise the proposed route and identify a more accurate costing of the project.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council receive and note the Kerang Lakes Eco-Trail Feasibility Study.

CARRIED

7.4 GANNAWARRA AQUATIC STRATEGY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since September 2020, Council has been developing the Gannawarra Aquatic Strategy with consultancy firm Otium Planning Group. Council endorsed a draft Aquatic Strategy at its December 2021 Council Meeting and committed to undertake additional consultation in 2022. With the second stage engagement process undertaken, the Draft Strategy has been revised, and Council's commitment to adopt the revised Aquatic Strategy document is to be sought.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council adopt the draft Gannawarra Aquatic Strategy.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That Council adopt the draft Gannawarra Aquatic Strategy with the following inclusions:

- 1. That the Quambatook Pool, the Koondrook Pool and the Leitchville Pool are maintained at their current standing for the foreseeable future.**
- 2. That Council work towards an exercise pool in Kerang**
- 3. That Council work towards a new swimming pool complex in Cohuna**
- 4. That Council continue working on an "Options Paper" for both the Kerang exercise pool and the new swimming pool complex in Cohuna; and**
- 5. That the "Options Paper" be delivered as soon as practicable.**

LOST

Cr Link called for a Division

In Favour: Crs Link and Smith

Against: Crs Collier, Stanton, Ogden and Burt

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council adopt the draft Gannawarra Aquatic Strategy.

CARRIED

7.5 EXPLORING CARE AND EDUCATION IN COHUNA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After receiving funding from the Victorian School Building Authority to explore care and education in Cohuna as a means to identifying a solution to childcare concerns within the Cohuna area, The *Exploring Care and Education in Cohuna* Report has been established. This report has been developed after significant local consultation, advice from key local stakeholders and has explored the various models and opportunities for care in Cohuna.

Importantly, the report has linked the Victorian State Government's Best Start Best Life early childhood reform highlighting that Council needs to improve kindergarten infrastructure in Cohuna to meet the needs of this reform. The report proposes the development of an Early Learning Centre in Cohuna located at the Cohuna Consolidated School which would enable Council to align with the State Government's future reforms for early years, and potentially access funding to construct the new facility.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council receive and note the Exploring care and education in Cohuna Report.

CARRIED

8 URGENT BUSINESS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council determine the petition from the Kerang Amateur Swimming and Lifesaving Club be admitted as urgent business.

CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council:

- 1. Receives the petition from Kerang Amateur Swimming and Lifesaving Club;**
- 2. Agrees to deal with the matter immediately; and**
- 3. Confirms the Kerang and Cohuna Swimming Pools season be extended until Sunday, 19 March 2023.**

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council:

1. Received the petition from Kerang Amateur Swimming and Lifesaving Club;
2. Agrees to deal with the matter immediately;
3. Confirms the Kerang and Cohuna Swimming Pools season be extended until Sunday, 19 March 2023; and
4. Works with the Cohuna and Kerang Swimming Clubs to investigate any possible extension past Sunday, 19 March 2023.

CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council:

1. Received the petition from Kerang Amateur Swimming and Lifesaving Club;
2. Agrees to deal with the matter immediately;
3. Confirms the Kerang and Cohuna Swimming Pools season be extended until Sunday, 19 March 2023; and
4. Works with the Cohuna and Kerang Swimming Clubs to investigate any possible extension past Sunday, 19 March 2023.

CARRIED

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

Nil

The Meeting closed at 11:28am.

The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 15 March 2023.

**Mayor Charlie Gillingham
CHAIRPERSON**