



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Council Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 17 May 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, 17 MAY 2023 AT 10:00AM**

PRESENT:

Cr Charlie Gillingham (Mayor)	Avoca 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: Nil

Media: Nil

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor Cr Charlie Gillingham read the Acknowledgement of Country.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

Cr Keith Link read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Jane Ogden was noted as an apology.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 April 2023 be confirmed.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That the minutes be confirmed but delete the words that Councillor Link received a warning.

LOST

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 April 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 4 APRIL TO 10 MAY 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 Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Ross Stanton

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings 4 April to 10 May 2023.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT - QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At 31 March 2023, Council is anticipating that the budgeted underlying deficit of \$1.157 million will increase by \$1.132 to an anticipated underlying deficit of \$2.289 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 \$7.521 million surplus will decrease by \$7.273 million to an anticipated Operating Result of \$249,000 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 \$6.230 million. The adopted capital budget for 2022/23 is \$14.027 million and it is expected to decrease to \$7.797 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 Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council receive and note the report outlining the 2022/2023 Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 March 2023.

CARRIED

7.2 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT MEMBER REMUNERATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Gannawarra Shire Council's Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) Charter provides that the remuneration paid to each independent member be reviewed and set annually by the Council.

It is recommended that a 2.5% increase be applied to the ARC annual sitting fees for 2023/2024.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That the 2023/2024 Audit and Risk Committee annual sitting fee be \$1,815 for the Chair and \$1,295 for the other Independent Members.

CARRIED

7.3 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - INDEPENDENT MEMBER APPOINTMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the resignation of an Independent Member, a recruitment process was undertaken to appoint one of the three Independent Members on the Audit and Risk Committee.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council appoint Laura Conti to the position of Independent Member of Gannawarra Shire Council's Audit and Risk Committee for a period of 3 years, expiring 17 May 2026.

CARRIED

7.4 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW - POLICY NO. 146 - CLIMATE CHANGE

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 policy which has recently been reviewed:

- Policy No. 146 – Climate Change

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council endorse recently reviewed Policy No. 146 – Climate Change.

CARRIED

7.5 DRAFT POLICY NO. 148 - FLAGS**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Gannawarra Shire Council Policy No. 148 – Flags and the Community Flag Schedule will govern the flying of flags outside the Kerang Council Building and Gateway to Gannawarra Visitor Information Centre, Cohuna and establish 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.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council endorse Policy No. 148 – Flags and Community Flag Schedule and that the Rainbow Flag be ruled inappropriate to fly as it is a political flag.

LOST

Meeting adjourned at 10:33am for five minutes.

Meeting resumed at 10:39am.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That the Flag Policy be that Gannawarra Shire Council only fly the Australian Flag.

LOST

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That Council endorse Policy No. 148 – Flags and Community Flag Schedule.

CARRIED

7.6 DRAFT GANNAWARRA URBAN GROWTH STRATEGY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is actively planning for population, housing and employment growth . This growth is being driven by the region's increasing appeal of its waterside towns and places to live, work and visit, rapidly evolving agriculture sector, strong manufacturing and construction sectors, natural environment and significant investments in mineral sands mining, electricity and renewal energy generation.

This draft strategy has found that Gannawarra's previous strategic planning has served well but there is now a need to refine and update these strategic plans to provide the additional support needed to those areas that are seeing higher demand and faster growth rates.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council

1. Endorse the Draft Gannawarra Urban Growth Strategy for community feedback for a period of 28 days; and
2. Receive a further report to consider the final Gannawarra Urban Growth Strategy.

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 meeting to which they are the appointed delegate.

12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

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 Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 11:49am.

The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 28 June 2023.

**Mayor Charlie Gillingham
CHAIRPERSON**