



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Special Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, 25 March 2024

4:30 PM

Senior Citizens Centre

Kerang

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**MINUTES OF GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE, KERANG
ON MONDAY, 25 MARCH 2024 AT 4:30 PM**

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer

Gallery: 2

Media: 2

Cr Ross Stanton, Mayor made a formal apology to Cr Keith Link regarding comments the Mayor made at the 20th March, 2024 Council Meeting. The apology was acknowledged by Cr Keith Link.

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land, and paid his respect to elders both past, present and emerging.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

The Deputy Mayor, Cr Charlie Gillingham read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

5 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

5.1 DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN - ANNUAL REVIEW

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council must review the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan) on an annual basis and if appropriate, amend the plan. A copy of the DAM Plan must be provided to the Secretary, including any amendments. In addition, Council must also publish an evaluation of the implementation of the DAM Plan in its annual report.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council:

- 1. Receive the annual review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan;**
- 2. Adopt the revised Domestic Animal Management Plan; and**
- 3. Approve the Chief Executive Officer to make administrative changes to the Plan as required.**

CARRIED

5.2 G01-2024 - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT FOR APEX PARK ROAD AND KERVINS ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report informs Council of the budgets and further cost implications for Council and seeks to award a contract for the design and construction of Apex Park Road and Kervins Road bridge replacements.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Charlie Gillingham

That Council:

- 1. Allocate funding of \$363,000 through Council's Capital Works budget to allow completion of the Apex Park Road and Kervins Road bridges.**
- 2. Award a contract for the design and construction of Apex Park and Kervins Road bridges to Murray Constructions Pty Ltd for \$1,122,470.00 excluding GST, not subject to rise and fall.**

CARRIED

5.3 PLANNING REPORT APPLICATION P23089

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is being presented to Council to determine a planning application for the use and development of land for a poultry farm (free range layer hen facility) and associated buildings and works in accordance with the endorsed plans at 8511 Murray Valley Highway, Kerang East.

The application was advertised in the Gannawarra Times newspaper and to surrounding property owners and occupiers and two written objections were received.

The proposal is considered to be appropriate for the site and consistent with the provisions of the Gannawarra Planning Scheme. The application has therefore been recommended for approval.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council approve Planning Application P23089 for the use and development of land for a poultry farm (free range layer hen facility) and associated buildings and works in accordance with the endorsed plans subject to the following conditions:

Amended Plans

1. Before the use and development starts, amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application but modified to show:
 - a) A detailed, fully dimensioned plan of the site showing all proposed buildings, infrastructure and works;
 - b) Fully dimensioned elevation plans of all proposed buildings, infrastructure and works;
 - c) Landscaping Plan as required by Conditions 22 and 34;

Layout not to be Altered

2. Use and layout of the site and the size of the proposed development and works detailed in the specifications and as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered or modified without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority except where specifically varied by conditions of this permit.

Size of Establishment

3. The maximum number of pullets housed in the poultry rearing facility at any time must not exceed 200,000 birds.
4. The maximum number of birds housed in the free-range egg laying facility at any time must not exceed 400,000 birds.

Operation of Facility

5. The poultry farm must at all times operate to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Drainage

6. All stormwater and surface water discharging from the site, buildings and works must be retained on site to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Road Safety Audit

7. Prior to the commencement of use of Hebb Road, a Road Safety Audit must be undertaken in accordance with Austroads *Guide to Road Safety Part 6: Road Safety Audit*. The audit findings and the consultant's responses to the findings must be provided to the Council for review and approval.
8. The need for turn treatments must be considered and designed in accordance with Austroads *Guide to Road Design – Part 4A: Unsignalised and Signalised Intersections*. Any mitigating works arising out of the audit must be designed and completed at no cost and to Council's satisfaction. Any works in the government road reserve require a Works Within the Road Reserve Permit from Council.

Road Upgrading

9. Prior to the commencement of use, the developer must upgrade Hebb Road from its intersection with Kerang-Macorna Road, to access major standard. This upgrade must begin from edge of the northbound lane of the Kerang-Macorna Road and incorporate earthworks, pavement, sealing, drainage, line-marking and signage, in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the responsible authority including:
 - a) Hebb Rd must be sealed to a point at least 50m from the edge of seal on Kerang-Macorna Road.
 - b) Installation of culvert under Hebb Road at the intersection with Kerang-Macorna Road.
 - c) High stress double/double seal or asphalt equivalent.
 - d) Intersection dimensions, works and turn treatments in accordance with Austroads Guide to Road Design and recommendations of the Road Safety Audit.Road construction details may only be varied in writing by the responsible authority at its sole discretion. All works to be at no cost to Council.
Any works in the government road reserve require a Works Within the Road Reserve Permit from Council.

Defects Liability

10. A 12 month defect liability period shall apply from the date of Responsible Authorities acceptance of practical completion of the road upgrade works. The developer shall arrange for a final inspection to be undertaken with Council representatives at least four (4) weeks prior to the expiration date of this defect liability period.

Vehicle Crossing

11. Any new or otherwise vehicular entrances to the subject land from the road shall be designed and constructed as per the Infrastructure Design Manual Standard Drawing 265. Consent for 'Works Within the Road Reserve' must be obtained from Council prior to carrying out any vehicle crossing works.

No Vehicle Access

12. Once the use has commenced, no direct access is permitted to the development from the Murray Valley Highway.

No Mud on Roads

13. Appropriate measures must be implemented throughout the construction stage of the development to rectify and/or minimise mud, crushed rock or other debris being carried onto public roads or footpaths from the subject land, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Surfacing

14. All driveways and vehicle movement areas, including car and truck parking areas associated with the poultry farm must be constructed, drained and surfaced with an all weather material and treated to prevent dust causing loss of amenity to the

neighbourhood, or erosion, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Environmental Health Office

15. All wastewater must be contained within the property boundaries to the satisfaction of Council's Environmental Health Officer.

Control Light Spill

16. External lighting must be designed, baffled and located so as to prevent any adverse effect on adjoining land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

External Appearance

17. The external walls of the buildings must be clad in colorbond steel or other non-reflective material to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Amenity

18. The use and development of the site must be managed so that the amenity of the area is not detrimentally affected, through the:

- a) Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
- b) Appearance of any building, works or materials;
- c) Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, wastewater, waste products, grit or oil;
- d) Presence of vermin.

Environmental Management Plan

19. The use must at all times operate in accordance with the submitted Environmental Management Plan dated September 2023, Version A, reference SCL23-05-EMP-01 to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Nutrient Risk Assessment

20. The use must at all times operate in accordance with the Nutrient Risk Assessment Report dated November 2023, reference SCL23-05-NAR-01 to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Compliance with Documents Approved Under the Permit

21. At all times what the permit allows must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of any document approved under this permit to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Landscape Plan Required

22. Prior to the plans being endorsed, a landscape plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plan must be drawn to scale with dimensions and three copies must be provided. The plan must include a 20 metre vegetation buffer around the perimeter of the site that will provide screening for all surrounding properties. The landscaping plan must consist of indigenous trees and shrubs and ensure an effective visual screen to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Completion of Landscaping

23. Before the use starts or by such later date as approved by the Responsible Authority in writing, the landscaping works shown on the endorsed plans must be carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Landscaping Maintenance

24. The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Any dead, diseased, or damaged plants are to be replaced

within twelve months.

Access to Managers Residence

25. Access to the proposed managers residence must be provided via an all-weather road with dimensions adequate to accommodate emergency vehicles to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Water Supply

26. The proposed managers residence must be connected to a reticulated potable water supply or have an alternative potable water supply with adequate storage for domestic use as well as for fire fighting purposes to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Fire Fighting Facilities

27. The following fire fighting facilities must be provided to the proposed managers residence:
- a) At least 10,000 litres of water set aside for firefighting and located within 60 metres of the dwelling.
 - b) If stored in a tank, it must be equipped with CFA compatible fittings, as detailed below:
 - At least one 64mm, 3 thread / 25mm x 50mm nominal bore BSP, round male coupling to CFA specifications
 - All pipe work and valving between the water supply and the outlet must be no less than 50mm nominal bore, and
 - If less than 20 metres from the dwelling, each outlet must face away from the dwelling on the opposite side of the water supply.
 - c) An all-weather track to the dwelling and the water supply that will enable a fire truck to gain access.

Electricity Supply

28. The proposed managers residence must be connected to a reticulated electricity supply or have an alternative energy source to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Native Vegetation

29. No native vegetation is to be removed as a consequence of the works allowed by this permit, except in accordance with the provisions of the Gannawarra Planning Scheme.

Coliban Water

30. The owner is required to enter into Coliban Water's Agreement for Supply of Water as water will be made available to this development under the terms and conditions of this agreement.
31. Application through the Coliban Water Consent to Connect Process is required prior to any water supply service being amended and/or connected to Coliban Water assets. Any change of use of the current water service will also require an application from Coliban Water Consent to Connect Process.

Goulburn Murray Water

32. All construction and ongoing activities must be in accordance with EPA Publication 1834.1 Civil Construction, Building and Demolition Guide (September 2023).
33. The development must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Code of Accepted Farming Practice for the Welfare of Poultry (Revision 2).
34. The poultry sheds must be located at least 50m from Goulburn Murray Water Torrumbarry channels 5/4/7/2 and 4/7/2 and Goulburn Murray Water Torrumbarry drain 1/4 with a buffer strip of vegetation established and maintained between the sheds and the channel or drain.

35. All construction and on-going activities on the site must follow sediment control principles as outlined in EPA Publication 275, *Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control (EPA, 1991)*. All soil removed during construction of the dams must be reused, stabilized or vegetated on-site to ensure that no sediment can be transported off-site.
36. The floors of the sheds must be constructed with an impervious surface such as concrete or of clay compacted to achieve a design permeability of 1×10^{-9} m/sec. The shed must be designed to ensure that all litter can be retained within the shed until removal is required.
37. Stormwater and drainage from hard stand areas and the areas around the sheds must be directed to a retention dam which must be designed with a capacity and freeboard to enable the run-off from a 1 in 10 year storm to be retained. Any overflow from the dam must not cause erosion. Stormwater from catchment unrelated to the development area must not be directed to the retention dam.
38. Retention dams must be lined with an impervious liner and if clay is used it must be compacted to a seepage rate of not greater than 1×10^{-9} m/sec. The dam must be operated to a minimum level to ensure the liner does not dry out and crack. There must be no discharge of water from the dam to any Goulburn Murray Water channels or drains.
39. No contaminated run-off containing any waste material from the sheds must be allowed to enter the retention dam or any Goulburn Murray Water channels or drains or be discharged off-site.
40. Contaminated litter removed from the sheds must be transported off site by an approved contractor to an approved site.
41. There must be no spent litter from the sheds stockpiled on the site. Any temporary storage areas for wet litter must have an impermeable base and bunding to ensure contaminated run-off does not discharge from the temporary storage area.
42. All dead birds must be disposed of off-site or managed on-site to the satisfaction of the Environment Protection Authority.
43. All wastewater from the proposed manager's residence and amenities buildings must be treated and disposed of using EPA approved systems, installed, operated and maintained in compliance with the relevant EPA Code of Practice and Certificate of Conformity.
44. All wastewater disposal areas must be located at least 60m from any dams and Goulburn Murray Water channels or drains.
45. The wastewater disposal areas must be kept free of all infrastructure including buildings, driveways, tanks and service trenching and must be planted with appropriate vegetation to maximise their performance. Stormwater must be diverted away.
46. Any chemicals stored onsite must be kept in accordance with the EPA Publication 1698 *Liquid Storage and Handling Guidelines (June 2018)*.

Note:

The subject property is located within an area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity. Should the activity associated with proposed development require a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), planning permits, licences and work authorities cannot be issued unless a CHMP has been approved for the activity.

North Central Catchment Management Authority

47. No runoff from the site may be permitted to enter any designated waterway. Prior to the commencement of works, detailed engineering plans and computations must be supplied to the North Central CMA that demonstrates the following:
 - a) The internal drains and dam(s) must be designed to hold runoff from the site from storm events up to and including the 10% AEP storm event.

- b) Banks surrounding the site must prevent flood water from entering the site.
48. The proposed sheds, feed silos and other buildings must be constructed on earthen fill pads with finished surface levels no lower than 600mm above the natural surface level at the centre of the northern site.
49. Prior to the commencement of works, design plans of the proposed all weather access track from Hebb Road to the northern sheds must be provided to the Responsible Authority and the North Central CMA for approval. The finished surface level of the track must be no lower than 78.0 metres AHD and must be designed to ensure any drainage paths are preserved.
50. Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Responsible Authority and the North Central CMA, the proposed development must not reduce the available flood storage on the site. A cut and fill balance ratio of 1.3:1 must be achieved for land within the flood prone area of the site. That is, the volume of cut shall exceed fill by 30%. Any proposed cut must be self-draining. Prior to the commencement of works, detailed plans and computations demonstrating how this condition will be achieved must be provided to the North Central CMA for approval.

Note:

Flood levels for the 1% AEP probability (100-year ARI) have not been determined for this area under the Water Act 1989. However, information available at North Central CMA indicates that in the event of a 1% AEP flood event it is likely that the property may be subject to inundation from Calivil Creek.

Powercor Australia

51. The applicant shall provide an electricity supply to the development in accordance with the Distributor's requirements and standards.
Notes: Extension, augmentation or rearrangement of the Distributor's electrical assets may be required to make such supplies available, with the cost of such works generally borne by the applicant.
52. The applicant shall ensure that existing and proposed buildings and electrical installations on the subject land are compliant with the Victorian Service and Installation Rules (VSIR).
Notes: Where electrical works are required to achieve VSIR compliance, a registered electrical contractor must be engaged to undertake such works.
53. Any buildings must comply with the clearances required by the Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations.
54. Any construction work must comply with the Energy Safe Victoria's "No Go Zone" rules.
*Notes: To apply for a permit to work go to our website:
<https://customer.portal.powercor.com.au/mysupply/CIAWQuickCalculator> and apply on line through the No Go Zone Assessment.*

Time for Starting and Completion

55. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:
- The development and use is/are not started within two years of the date of this permit.
 - The development is not completed within five years of the date of this permit.
- In accordance with section 69 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, an application may be submitted to the responsible authority for an extension of the periods referred to in this condition.

Note 1: A Building Permit must be obtained prior to commencing any building works.

Note 2: All building works must comply with the Victorian Building Regulations.

Note 3: Any new or otherwise vehicular entrances to the subject land from the road must be

designed and constructed as per the Infrastructure Design Manual Standard Drawing 265. Consent for 'Works Within the Road Reserve' must be obtained from Council prior to carrying out any vehicle crossing works

Note 4: *Gannawarra Shire Council has no plans to upgrade Nancarrow Road from its existing Access Minor standard*

Note 5: *The total display area of Business Identification signage to the premises must not exceed 3m².*

Note 6: *The Environment Protection Act 2017 imposes new duties on individuals and/or businesses undertaking the activity permitted by this permit. If your business engages in activities that may give rise to a risk to human health or the environment from pollution or waste, you must understand those risks and take action to minimise them as far as reasonably practicable.*

Note 7: **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

Works must cease immediately upon the discovery of any Aboriginal cultural material, and Aboriginal Affairs Victoria must be notified immediately of any such discovery at GPO Box 2392V, Melbourne 3001 or on (telephone) 1300 551 380.

If any suspected human remains are found, work in the area must cease and the Victoria Police and the State Coroner's Officer must be informed of the discovery without delay. The State Coroner's Office can be contacted at any time on Telephone (03) 9684 4444.

If there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the remains are Aboriginal, the discovery should also be reported to Aboriginal Affairs Victoria on (telephone) 1300 888 544 or (03) 9208 3287 and the provisions of Division 2 of Part 2 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 will apply.

Officers of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria shall be permitted access to the site at any reasonable time, for the purpose of monitoring adherence to conditions above.

All Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, that is, Aboriginal places, Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal human remains, is protected under the State Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. It is an offence to do an act that will harm Aboriginal Cultural Heritage or is likely to harm Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

Please note that under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 any works involving high impact activities located within 200 metres of a culturally sensitive area, will require the development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan. For more information regarding the kind of activities that trigger a Cultural Heritage Management Plan please refer to the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007 or follow the web link to <http://www.aav.nrms.net.au/aavQuestion1.aspx>.

CARRIED

5.4 G11-2023 GLASSHOUSE @ GANNAWARRA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has sought tenders for construction of the Glasshouse @ Gannawarra building at the Sir John Gorton Library in Kerang. Upon reviewing the submissions, it is apparent that the current budget allocation is insufficient to enable the project to be completed. While some items have been removed, or substituted with cheaper alternatives to reduce costs, there is a shortfall in funding of \$842,000.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

- 1. That Council allocate funding of \$842,000 through Council's Capital Works budget to allow completion of the Glasshouse @ Gannawarra project.**
- 2. Council award contract G11-2023 Glasshouse @ Gannawarra to RTM Constructions Pty Ltd for the lump sum amount of \$2,774,719.55 excluding GST, not subject to rise and fall.**

Cr Smith attempted to put forward an alternate motion that wasn't an urgent item or relevant to any other item on the agenda. Cr Ogden raised a point of order. The Mayor ruled on the point of order and refused to accept Cr Smith's attempted alternate motion.

FORESHADOW MOTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

That Gannawarra Shire Council:

- 1. Place the project on hold to seek timing variations from funding bodies in an attempt to source additional external funding and**
- 2. Request a report on drainage projects in Kerang to be funded by the \$1.57 million infrastructure fund**

Cr Ogden called a point of order.

The Mayor rejected the attempted foreshadowed motion under section 54(e) of the Governance Rules as not being a relevant item on the agenda.

The Mayor asked the mover, Cr Gillingham to speak to the original motion.

PUT THE MOTION TO THE VOTE

THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED

CR KEITH LINK CALLED FOR A DIVISION

For: 5

- Cr Ross Stanton
- Cr Charlie Gillingham
- Cr Kelvin Burt
- Cr Travis Collier
- Cr Jane Ogden

Against: 2

- Cr Garner Smith
- Cr Keith Link

As per Governance rule 50 (1), Cr Garner Smith and Cr Keith Link requested their objection to this project be noted in the minutes.

Unconfirmed Minutes

5.5 TOURISM IMPACT OF THE GUNBOWER FOREST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Watering of key wetlands is being undertaken in many regions as climate variability is impacting the natural flooding regimes of waterways. The Gunbower forest watering project is being undertaken with community input and with the advice and direction from qualified scientists and botanists all working through the North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA). The watering program covers around 25% of the forest and around 40% of the water used is recovered after re-entering the Murray River. Environmental water has been made available as the flooding regimes and rainfall patterns change.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council note the report on the Tourism Impact to the Gunbower Forest.

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council suspend standing orders at 5.05pm to receive advice from the governance team.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr Kelvin Burt

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council resume standing orders at 5.06pm .

CARRIED

THE MAYOR PUT THE MOTION TO THE VOTE

THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED

CR KEITH LINK CALLED FOR A DIVISION

For: 5

- Cr Ross Stanton
- Cr Charlie Gillingham
- Cr Kelvin Burt
- Cr Travis Collier
- Cr Jane Ogden

Against: 2

- Cr Garner Smith
- Cr Keith Link

Cr Garner Smith requested that the Confidential item be moved into the public Agenda. The Mayor ruled it should remain Confidential as per the reasons listed in the report.

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden
Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council suspend standing orders at 5.15pm to receive advice from the governance team on Cr Garner Smith request to move the confidential item into the public agenda.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden
Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council resume standing orders at 5.15pm.

CARRIED

The Mayor advised the item will remain Confidential as specified in the report and in the *Local Government Act* under section 3(1)(h) and section 66(2)(a).

6 NOTICES OF MOTION

6.1 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION - 86

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham
Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That Council note the attached response letter from Brad Drust, Chief Executive Officer, North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA) in relation to Notice of Motion 86 – Flooding of the Gunbower Forest.

CARRIED

7 QUESTION TIME

The Mayor proceeded to read the rules for question time. These questions are all operational and will have an operational response provided by the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Manager Economic Development.

After debate and interruptions from Councillors the Mayor warned Cr Keith Link and Cr Garner Smith several times that we would not be discussing, debating or calling points of orders during question time and asked Cr Garner Smith to leave the meeting at 5.20pm. Cr Garner Smith refused to leave the meeting.

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council suspend standing orders the meeting at 5.20pm.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council resume the meeting at 5.21pm.

CARRIED

Cr Ross Stanton withdrew his request to ask Cr Garner Smith to leave the room in order to facilitate business and move onto the questions in the Agenda. Cr Garner Smith appreciated this statement and apologised. Question time continued.

Name	Tragowel Progress Association
Address	Tragowel
Question 1	
How many direct operational jobs does the Gannawarra Council estimate there will be created from the VNI West project?	
ANSWER	
A media release issued in 2022 reported. "The new VNI West project is projected to create 2,000 direct jobs during construction and will be underwritten by the Andrews and Morrison governments." Associated energy projects are expected to create a further 1600 construction jobs over future of years.	
Question 2	
Is it Council policy to support VNI West. If so, where is the record of which Councillor supported it?	
ANSWER	
Supporting new Energy Infrastructure and Energy Projects are a strategic priority in the Gannawarra Council 2021-2025 Council Plan which has been endorsed by the Council.	

Name	Mick and Cath Shepard
Address	Tragowel
Question 1	
Gannawarra Shire has publicly endorsed the VNI West project, which at this stage, covers the entirety of our farm – as rate payers, why were we not personally consulted or communicated with on this matter by the Shire before the map was advertised publicly?	
ANSWER	
Gannawarra Shire Council was notified of the 2km corridor at the same time as the community members. All direct consultation on the proposed route sits with Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) as it is not a Council project.	
Question 2	
Why haven't all shire Councillors/Mayor been attentive or invited to the VNI/TCV meetings ran within our Shire over the last 6 months?	
ANSWER	
The Transmission Company Victoria (TCV) meetings have been organised specifically to consult with the Tragowel community. Councils operational staff have attended and reported back to Council.	

8 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier
Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council moves out of Open Council into Closed Council to consider confidential items listed in the Agenda as defined in the *Local Government Act 2020* under section 66(2)(a) and section 3(1)(h).

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham
Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 to allow for consideration of confidential information:

8.1 Future of the Building Department Functions

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1)(h) 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 confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a).

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier
Seconded: Cr Kelvin Burt

That Council out of Closed Council at 5.37pm and resumes Open Council.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 5.38pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 17 April 2024.

Mayor Ross Stanton

CHAIR