



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Council Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 16 July 2025

6:00 PM

Senior Citizens Centre

Kerang

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Nil

**MINUTES OF GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE, KERANG
ON WEDNESDAY, 16 JULY 2025 AT 6:00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr Garner Smith (Mayor)
Cr Ross Stanton (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Charlie Gillingham
Cr Keith Link
Cr Pat Quinn

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer
Manger People & Culture
Governance Officer

Gallery: Nil

Media: Nil

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country video was played.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

Cr Charlie Gillingham read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Daniel Bolitho

Cr Lisa Farrant

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Charlie Gillingham

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 June 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Charlie Gillingham declared a General Conflict of Interest in Item 7.1 – 2025 Council Community Grants Program.

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 18 JUNE 2025 TO 16 JULY 2025

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 Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings from 18 June 2025 to 16 July 2025.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

Cr Charlie Gillingham left the meeting at 6:05pm.

7.1 2025 COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2025 Community Grants program saw 34 applications submitted totalling \$140,925.

To inform the recommendations of this year's Community Grants, an initial pre-assessment process was undertaken by Council officers to determine alignment with essential criteria, evidence provided to support applications, as well as history of previous funding received through the program in recent rounds and compliance with reporting for any previous grants received from Council.

An additional review was also undertaken from a cross-departmental panel consisting of a range of service areas of Council. This process further supported the process to develop the recommendations in this report.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Pat Quinn

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council

1. Endorse funding of \$50,185 from the 2025 Community Grants Program to 17 applicants as detailed in the attached spreadsheet
2. Write to all applicants confirming the outcome of the 2025 Community Grants Program
3. Display a list of the grant recipients on Councils website

CARRIED

Cr Charlie Gillingham returned to the meeting at 6:10pm.

7.2 DRAFT 2025 - 2029 COUNCIL PLAN AND COMMUNITY VISION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required to prepare the following in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*:

- A four-year Council Plan by 31 October 2025 as per Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- A Community Vision in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.

This report provides Council with the opportunity to consider the draft 2025 – 2029 Council Plan and endorse for community feedback.

The draft 2025 – 2029 Council Plan also integrates the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan that identifies goals and strategies alongside partners to improving the health and wellbeing of the community. A Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan is a requirement of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Ross Stanton

That Council;

1. Endorse the draft 2025 - 2029 Council Plan and Community Vision for community feedback.
2. Invite feedback from the public from Thursday 17 July 2025 until Friday 15 August 2025.

CARRIED

7.3 2025 COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Held annually, the optional State-wide Community Satisfaction Survey asks the opinions and perceptions of local people about where they live and work and provides participating Councils with an insight into how they are performing.

Conducted by Local Government Victoria, this survey assesses the performance of councils across a range of measures and provides insight into the ways to provide improved or more efficient service delivery. The survey also provides councils with a means to fulfil some statutory reporting requirements for the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.

The report found that Council's overall performance had increased compared to the 2024 survey, with Council consolidating its results in areas where it engaged the community. However, responses relating to Appearance of Public Areas, Arts Centres and Libraries, Customer Service, Recreational Facilities, Family Support Services and Enforcement of Local Laws declined compared to the 2024 survey.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Pat Quinn

That Council note the results of the 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey for Gannawarra Shire Council.

CARRIED

8 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

9 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

10 QUESTION TIME

Nil

CONFIRMED

11 DELEGATES REPORTS

11.1 DELEGATES REPORTS

The Councillors provided updates on their portfolios and meetings they had attended.

| COUNCILLOR COMMITTEES 2024/2025 | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| COMMITTEE | COUNCILLOR |
| Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC) | Cr Garner Smith, Mayor |
| Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils (LCGC) | Cr Garner Smith, Mayor |
| Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) | Cr Daniel Bolitho |
| Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC) | Cr Lisa Farrant |
| Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) | Cr Lisa Farrant |
| Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) | Cr Ross Stanton |
| Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)(x 2) | Cr Garner Smith Cr Ross Stanton |
| Transport Committee including Rail Freight Alliance | Cr Pat Quinn |
| Rural Councils Victoria (RCV) | Cr Charlie Gillingham |
| Timber Towns Victoria (TTV) | Cr Pat Quinn |
| Community Halls Community Asset Committee | Cr Keith Link |

12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

The Meeting closed at 6:35pm.

The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 20 August 2025.

Cr Garner Smith
CHAIR