



# Council Meeting

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## Minutes

**Tuesday, 14 May 2024**  
Council Chamber - Civic Centre  
and via Videoconference

## Information for Councillors and the community

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Yarra Ranges Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri and other Kulin Nations as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of these lands and waterways.

We pay our respects to all Elders, past, present, and emerging, who have been, and always will be, integral to the story of our region.

We proudly share custodianship to care for Country together.



### COUNCIL VISION

Whether you live here or visit, you will see how much we care for country, how inclusive and connected our communities are, and how sustainable balanced growth makes this the best place in the world.

### VALUE OF HISTORY

We acknowledge that history shapes our identities, engages us as citizens, creates inclusive communities, is part of our economic well-being, teaches us to think critically and creatively, inspires leaders and is the foundation of our future generations.

### COUNCILLOR COMMITMENT

We'll be truthful, represent the community's needs, be positive and responsive and always strive to do better.

### OUR COUNCILLORS

**Billanook Ward:** Tim Heenan

**Chandler Ward:** David Eastham

**Chirnside Ward:** Richard Higgins

**Lyster Ward:** Johanna Skelton

**Melba Ward:** Sophie Todorov

**O'Shannassy Ward:** Jim Child

**Ryrie Ward:** Fiona McAllister

**Streeton Ward:** Andrew Fullagar

**Walling Ward:** Len Cox

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & DIRECTORS

**Chief Executive Officer,** Tammi Rose

**Director Built Environment & Infrastructure,**  
Hjalmar Philipp

**Director Communities,** Leanne Hurst

**Director Corporate Services,** Andrew Hilson

**Director Planning and Sustainable Futures,**  
Kath McClusky

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### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS

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- making a verbal submission for up to 5 minutes on matters not listed on the agenda.
- submitting a question.
- speaking for up to 5 minutes to a specific item on the agenda. For planning applications and policy issues, the Chair will invite one person to speak on behalf of any objectors and one person to speak on behalf of the applicant. For other matters on the agenda, only one person will be invited to address Council, unless

there are opposing views. At the discretion of the Chair, additional speakers may be invited for items of large interest.

- speaking for up to 5 minutes to a petition to be presented at a meeting.

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## **CONTACT US**

Post	PO Box 105, Anderson Street
Telephone	1300 368 333
Facsimile	(03) 9735 4249
Email	<a href="mailto:mail@yarraranges.vic.gov.au">mail@yarraranges.vic.gov.au</a>

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# YARRA RANGES COUNCIL

## MINUTES FOR THE 603<sup>RD</sup> COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 14 MAY 2024 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC CENTRE AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

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### 1 COUNCIL MEETING OPENED

Councillor Sophie Todorov (Mayor) declared the meeting open.

### 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor then read the Acknowledgement of Country, and welcomed all present.

### 3 INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

#### Councillors

Councillor Sophie Todorov (Mayor)

Councillor David Eastham (Deputy Mayor)

Councillor Jim Child

Councillor Andrew Fullagar

Councillor Fiona McAllister

Councillor Tim Heenan

Councillor Richard Higgins

Councillor Len Cox OAM

#### Officers

Tammi Rose, Chief Executive Officer

Hjalmar Philipp, Director Planning & Sustainable Futures

Andrew Hilson, Director Corporate Services

Leanne Hurst, Director Communities

Phil Murton, Acting Director Built Environment & Infrastructure

### 4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

An apology for this meeting was received from Councillor Johanna Skelton.

**Eric Brooks Dosser**

*The Mayor read the following statement*

I would like to share some reflection of Eric Dosser, who passed away in April. Eric was a very well respected and well-known member of many of our local Returned and Services League.

After he left school, he joined the railway department and in 1957 he was in the first call up of National Service. After his basic training he was selected to be a member of the full-time 3rd Training Battalion Band at Puckapunyal. With them he performed at all the regimental parades and services at Puckapunyal and even acted as a guard of honour at Essendon Airport to welcome US General Maxwell Taylor, Supreme Allied Commander in the South-West Pacific.

As his national service was a six-year commitment he was transferred to the Royal Melbourne 6th Battalion Band and performed with them. This was also a busy period as they performed at many Military, Vice-Regal, State and Melbourne City Council functions.

In the late 1980s Eric became involved with playing the bugle for the Engineers at East Ringwood when they needed a bugler. In 1990 he became the official bugler for the Lilydale RSL at the Lilydale services and soon involved himself with the sub-branch. In 1993 he was elected president at a time when the club was recovering from decades of neglect and Eric continued to help progress the club.

During his first stint as president, from 1993 to 2003, patronage increased, the club received a full licence, significant improvements were made to the clubrooms, and it earned a reputation as a family friendly club. Between 1994 and 2013 he was master of ceremonies at each dawn service and Remembrance Day ceremony at Lilydale and increased attendance there enormously, and if you were present at the Dawn Service last month in Lilydale, you would have heard the kind words spoken about his presence at those Dawn Services.

He was co-chair of the committee to create the Shire of Lilydale WW2 Honour board and worked on a number of local war memorial projects, most notably the Lilydale Wall of Remembrance at the Ralph Goode Reserve. He was presented certificates of appreciation from the Shire of Yarra Ranges and the Victoria RSL for his efforts during this time.

During this time, he became the longest serving president of the Lilydale RSL and in 2019 was presented with a Life Membership of the RSL.

So truly someone who was very valued in our community and pay respects to his military service over many decades.

Vale Eric Brooks Dosser.

## **Vale Joseph Cullen - CEO Your Library**

*The Mayor read the following statement*

It is with deep sadness that I share the news that Joseph Cullen, esteemed Chief Executive Officer of Your Library Limited (formerly Eastern Regional Libraries), passed away on Sunday 12 May. As a long-term partner and advocate for the Yarra Ranges community Libraries, Joseph's guidance of our library service over decades has supported the growth and learning of so many in our community and the communities across Eastern Melbourne.

His competence, dedication, guidance, and leadership achieved remarkable milestones for library services across the Outer East Metropolitan area. Joseph's commitment to excellence will always be remembered.

Many of Council's staff worked with Joseph on education projects, community development, facilities management or facilities development projects and will attest to his absolute dedication to his role in supporting our residents' future.

For nearly 20 years, Joseph demonstrated sector leading innovation focusing on making library services accessible for all and utilising technology to move libraries into a modern technology-based era.

His achievements include managing the transition from Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation to Your Library Limited, a beneficial enterprise limited by guarantee. He led the library service with courage and commitment through the COVID lockdowns, implementing both Click and Collect and postal delivery services to ensure community members could still access library resources.

Joseph also oversaw the planning and development of new library services at Realm in Ringwood, Bayswater and Knox Library in Knox; championed 'access for all' initiatives including introducing programming to cater for the needs of our most vulnerable and launching the mobile library service in the Yarra Ranges; and represented the region as a Past President and Executive Team Member of Public Libraries Victoria.

Joseph's contribution to Your Library and the community it supports is immeasurable. Joseph was not only an extremely competent CEO, but he was also a very kind gentleman who took a genuine interest in everyone he met.

Vale Joseph Cullen.

## 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Todorov and Cr McAllister spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Todorov**

**Seconded: Cr McAllister**

*That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday 23 April 2024, as circulated, be confirmed.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

## 7 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

*In accordance with Chapter 7, Rule 4, of the Governance Rules developed by Council in accordance with section 60 of the Local Government Act 2020.*

Tammi Rose, Chief Executive Officer, declared a direct interest in respect of Item 17.1 as it relates to her contract of employment.

## 8 QUESTIONS AND SUBMISSIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

*In accordance with Chapter 3, Rules 57 and 59, of the Governance Rules developed by Council in accordance with section 60 of the Local Government Act 2020.*

*There were no Questions or Submissions from the Public for this meeting.*



## 9 PETITIONS

*In accordance with Chapter 3, Rule 60, of the Governance Rules developed by Council in accordance with section 60 of the Local Government Act 2020.*

### 9.1 Petitions to Council

#### SUMMARY

The following petition be received:

General Petition

1. Request that Yarra Ranges Council allow residents to "opt out" of the FOGO bin as permitted in the New Circular Economy Act 2021 and return weekly rubbish collection to the residents.  
586 valid signatures.
2. Request that Yarra Ranges Council build an upgraded, modern, aquatic facility on the Kilsyth Centenary Pool site.  
1114 valid signatures (677 digital).

*In accordance with Governance Rule 58, Belinda Bernardini spoke in support of the recommendation included in the officer report.*

*In accordance with Governance Rule 58, Janis Floyd spoke in support of the recommendation included in the officer report.*

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Cox, Cr Heenan and Cr Child spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Cox**

**Seconded: Cr Heenan**

That the following General Petition be received and noted and referred to the appropriate officer.

1. *Request that Yarra Ranges Council allow residents to "opt out" of the FOGO bin as permitted in the New Circular Economy Act 2021 and return weekly rubbish collection to the residents.*
2. *Request that Yarra Ranges Council build an upgraded, modern, aquatic facility on the Kilsyth Centenary Pool site.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

## 10 BUSINESS PAPER

### 10.1 YR-2022/915 - 375 Swansea Rd, Lilydale - Planning Report

#### SUMMARY

The application proposes the use of the land and buildings and works for a Residential Village, earthworks, vegetation removal and alteration of access to a road in Transport Zone 2.

The development is confined to the eastern half of the site and includes fifty (50) dwellings and a clubhouse for retirees and/or residents aged over fifty-five (55) years of age. The design response integrates and responds to the constraints of the site and surrounds, including environmental features and hazards.

The application has been advertised and at the time of this report sixty-three (63) objections have been received. Objector concerns relate primarily to environmental impacts to Olinda Creek, flora, fauna and habitat, vehicle access, the scale of the built form and flooding risks.

Overall, the proposed development responds to the Yarra Ranges Planning Scheme when assessed against the relevant policies including the Municipal Planning Strategy, Planning Policy Framework, Zone, Overlay and particular provisions of the Scheme.

It is recommended the application be approved and a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit, subject to conditions, be issued.

*In accordance with Governance Rule 58, Kim-maree spoke in objection of the recommendation included in the officer report.*

*In accordance with Governance Rule 58, Lloyd Elliott, on behalf of the applicant, spoke in support of the recommendation included in the officer report.*

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Heenan, Cr Cox and Cr Child spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Heenan**  
**Seconded: Cr Child**

*That Council resolve to approve Planning Application YR-2022/915 for the use of land and buildings and works to construct a Residential Village, earthworks, vegetation removal and alteration of access to a road in Transport Zone 2 at 375 Swansea Road, Lilydale and issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit subject to the conditions in Attachment 1 to the report.*

**The motion was Carried.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister and Cr Fullagar.*

*Against: Cr Cox*

## **DIVISION**

Cr Heenan called for a division.

In Favour: Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar, Cr Todorov, Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham and Cr Higgins

Against: Cr Cox

Absent: Cr Skelton

## 10.2 2025 Annual Grants - Initiation

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Present the 2025 Annual Grants program and budget for endorsement.
2. Provide an update on changes to the Monthly Grants program.
3. Note the decision-making process for the Annual Grants due to the local government elections in October.

*In accordance with Governance Rule 58, Wendy Wright spoke in objection of the recommendation included in the officer report.*

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Fullagar and Cr McAllister spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Fullagar**  
**Seconded: Cr McAllister**

*That Council*

1. *Increase funding to the Annual Grants program as follows:*
  - (a) *Increase the Community Development stream by \$25,000 to a total pool of \$275,000.*
  - (b) *Increase Festival and Events and Arts and Heritage streams by \$50,000 to a total pool of \$300,000.*
  - (c) *Raise the limit for large festivals from \$10,000 to \$15,000.*
2. *Increase the maximum for Monthly Grants to \$1,500 and increase the budget for these grants as follows:*
  - (a) *Increase the Business and Trader Group Development stream from \$10,000 to \$18,000 per year and for grants up to \$1,500 each.*
  - (b) *Allocate \$12,000 for capacity building support for not-for-profit Business and Trader Groups.*
  - (c) *Increase the Connected and Vibrant Communities Monthly Grants stream by \$20,000 to support small projects that focus on social connection.*
3. *Provide in-principle support for the creation of a separate emergency relief stream in the 2027 multi-year Partnership round and increase the funding limit to \$45,000 per year for larger agencies that demonstrate this is required.*
4. *Plan for an estimated increase of \$80,000 in the next Multi-year Grants, with the amount reviewed in 2027-28 budget process. This recognises and responds to cost pressures on community organisations and will:*
  - (a) *Create capacity for Panels to assess and recommend applications for multi-year funding from proven and iconic festivals that have received Annual Grant funding over successive years.*
5. *Monitor changes and the benefits to the community and make recommendations for further improvements as needed.*
6. *In line with Council's Election Policy, delegate ELT, as the decision-making body, to consider the recommendations from the Panels prior to making the final funding decisions for the 2025 program.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child,  
Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

## 10.3 Parking Management in Warburton

### SUMMARY

Over recent years, Council has been reviewing parking and transport across the municipality as part of delivering committed actions under Council's Integrated Transport Strategy 2020 – 2040.

Our community has also told us their concerns about congestion and the availability and safety of parking, particularly in our tourist locations during the summer months.

At the start of 2024, Council increased enforcement in major tourist areas to address these concerns. This included using number plate recognition technology, along with physically chalking vehicles.

Tourism is expected to double over the next 10 years. This means we need a clear approach to support our popular townships with this increase.

Currently, all Council owned car parks are free across Yarra Ranges, so visitors use the assets and facilities that ratepayers predominantly fund.

An assessment of parking utilisation in key tourism areas, coupled with community feedback, increased tourism and availability of Council land, has identified Warburton as presenting the strongest opportunity to address traffic congestion and parking issues.

It is proposed to pilot real-time parking information technology alongside a paid parking program for a period of up to 12 months to enhance the existing enforcement effort at Warburton. These actions are consistent with of Council's Integrated Transport Strategy 2020-2040 Implementation Plan.

Yarra Ranges residents would be exempt from parking fees.

The pilot program is expected to benefit the community by:

- Improving traffic flow, parking accessibility and safe parking behaviours
- Supporting local businesses with vehicle turnaround and patronage
- Providing clarity on the number of parking spaces available within the town
- Contributing funds to local Council assets

Paid parking would be for visitors (non-residents) only. A permit process would exempt all Yarra Ranges residents from paying to park within the municipality. Details around the permit process are yet to be finalised. This will be communicated to the community in advance of installation. Parking restrictions and enforcement will still apply to all users.

Future expansion of the pilot across other tourism hotspots would be subject to an evaluation process by Council that would consider operational performance, end to end system performance (including resident permit system), community and local business feedback and the endorsed Parking Management Framework.

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Child and Cr McAllister spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Child**

**Seconded: Cr McAllister**

*That Council*

- 1. Note the traffic and parking congestion challenges across the municipality, in particular areas with high tourism visitation.*
- 2. Note increased parking enforcement across the municipality as a key step to improve parking congestion and deter inappropriate, unsafe or illegal parking.*
- 3. Continue to improve parking outcomes through commencement of a pilot program for up to twelve months, which implements real-time parking information displays, in conjunction with paid parking for nonresidents, consistent with the Yarra Ranges Council Integrated Transport Strategy 2020-2040.*
- 4. Commence the pilot program in the township of Warburton in 2024.*
- 5. Invest revenue from parking fees into the local community.*
- 6. Evaluate the pilot program, incorporating community and local business feedback and completion of Council's Parking Management Framework, prior to any decision by Council to expand the program.*
- 7. Continue to investigate parking infrastructure opportunities with State departments and authorities in areas of high tourism visitation.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

## 10.4 Fair Access Policy

### SUMMARY

This report seeks to inform Council of the Melbourne East Regional Sport and Recreation Fair Access Policy for endorsement and implementation by the Recreation and Sport Team.

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Eastham and Cr McAllister spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Eastham**

**Seconded: Cr McAllister**

*That Council endorse the Melbourne East Regional Sport and Recreation Fair Access Policy.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*



## 11 COUNCILLOR MOTIONS

*In accordance with Chapter 3, Division 4, of the Governance Rules developed by Council in accordance with section 60 of the Local Government Act 2020.*

There were no Councillor motions listed on the agenda for this meeting.

## 12 ITEMS THROUGH THE CHAIR

There were no Items Through the Chair received for this meeting.

## 13 REPORTS FROM DELEGATES

Cr Child

- Attended an Extraordinary Board Meeting of Your Library on 13 May 2024 at the Your Library Administration Building in Scoresby, to elect an acting CEO, following the untimely passing of Joesph Cullen. Cr Fullagar also attended the meeting.

## 14 DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING

*In accordance with Clause 87 of the Meeting Procedures and Use of Common Seal Local Law 2015, as prescribed by Section 14(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 2020.*

There were no Documents for Signing and Sealing received for this meeting.

## 15 INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS

**Moved: Cr Todorov**

**Seconded: Cr Fullagar**

*That the records of the Informal Meetings of Councillors, copies of which are attached to the report, be received and noted.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

## 16 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Urgent Business listed on the agenda for this meeting.

**Moved: Cr Todorov**

**Seconded: Cr Eastham**

*That in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the following items which relate to matters specified under section 3(1), as specified below.*

*17.1 Chief Executive Officer - Annual Review*

*Item 17.1 is Confidential under the terms section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 as it contains information relating to: (f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

## 17.1 Chief Executive Officer - Annual Review

*The Mayor called for the meeting to be adjourned at 8.57pm.*

*The meeting resumed at 9.03pm with all Councillors present.*

*In accordance with Governance Rule 29.1, Cr Todorov, Cr Heenan, Cr McAllister, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Child, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox spoke to the Motion.*

**Moved: Cr Todorov**

**Seconded: Cr Heenan**

That

1. *Council notes the resolution of the Chief Executive Officer Performance Review process for 2024.*
2. *Council notes the performance of the Chief Executive Officer during the review period recorded as 4.3 on a 5-point scale (up from 4.0 in 2023) which is a rating of 'Good' (representing above satisfactory performance).*
3. *Council index the CEO's total remuneration package (TRP) consistent with the recommendation and independent benchmarking contained within this report.*
4. *This report will remain confidential indefinitely as it relates to matters specified under section 3(1)(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.*
5. *This resolution not be deemed confidential and be recorded in the public minutes of the meeting.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

**Moved: Cr Todorov**

**Seconded: Cr Heenan**

*That Council reopened the meeting to members of the public.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Eastham, Cr Higgins, Cr Todorov, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Fullagar and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

**18                    DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at: 9.28 pm.

Confirmed this day, Tuesday, 28 May 2024.

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**Councillor Sophie Todorov (Mayor)**