



# Council Meeting

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## Minutes

**Tuesday, 28 January 2025**

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:** Gareth Ward

**Chirnside Ward:** Richard Higgins

**Lyster Ward:** Peter Mcilwain

**Melba Ward:** Mitch Mazzarella

**O'Shannassy Ward:** Jim Child

**Ryrie Ward:** Fiona McAllister

**Streeton Ward:** Jeff Marriott

**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,** Vincenzo Lombardi

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

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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.

For further information about how to participate in a Council meeting, please visit: <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Council/Council-meetings/Submissions-questions-petitions-to-Council>  
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### **CONTACT US**

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## Index to Minutes

| ITEM  | PAGE NO |
|---|---------|
| 1. COUNCIL MEETING OPENED .....                                 | 5       |
| 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY .....                             | 5       |
| 3. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT .....                        | 5       |
| 4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....                         | 5       |
| 5. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST .....                    | 5       |
| 6. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.....                                   | 6       |
| 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.....            | 6       |
| 8. QUESTIONS AND SUBMISSIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.....               | 7       |
| 9. PETITIONS.....   | 10      |
| 9.1 Petition to Council.....                                    | 10      |
| 10. BUSINESS PAPER .....  | 11      |
| 10.1 C226 Heritage Overlay (HO) 131 Mangans Road Lilydale ..... | 11      |
| 10.2 Revised 2024-2025 Budget – Borrowings .....                | 13      |
| 11. COUNCILLOR MOTIONS .....                                    | 15      |
| 12. ITEMS THROUGH THE CHAIR.....                                | 15      |
| 13. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES .....                                | 16      |
| 14. DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING .....                     | 16      |
| 15. INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS.....                        | 17      |
| 16. URGENT BUSINESS .....                                       | 17      |
| 17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS .....                                    | 17      |
| 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING .....                                  | 17      |

# YARRA RANGES COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE 617<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC CENTRE AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE.

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## 1 COUNCIL MEETING OPENED

Councillor Jim Child (Mayor) declared the meeting open.

## 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Cox read the Acknowledgement of Country.

## 3 INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

### Councillors

Councillor Jim Child (Mayor)

Councillor Jeff Marriott

Councillor Peter Mcilwain

Councillor Gareth Ward

Councillor Mitch Mazzarella

Councillor Fiona McAllister

Councillor Tim Heenan

Councillor Richard Higgins (Deputy Mayor) via Videoconference

Councillor Len Cox OAM

### Officers

Tammi Rose, Chief Executive Officer

Kath McClusky, Director Planning & Sustainable Futures

Jonathon Makaay, Acting Director Built Environment and Infrastructure

Leanne Hurst, Director Communities

Vincenzo Lombardi, Director Corporate Services

## 4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies received for this meeting.

## 5 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.*

There were no disclosures of conflicts of interest made for this meeting.

## 6 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Mayor read the following statements;**

### **Daniel Sanders**

I would like to congratulate Yarra Ranges, Three Bridges, Daniel 'Chucky' Sanders on winning the 2025 Dakar Rally in Saudi Ariba. Claiming his first Dakar victory, Daniel secured five stage victories and led the gruelling 13-stage two-week event from start to finish to win by close on nine minutes. Congratulations 'Chucky' Sanders.

### **Ms Fiona Burns**

I would also like to congratulate Ms Fiona Burns Group Officer for the Yarra Valley Group of CFA Brigades on receiving the Australia Day Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal. Congratulations, Fiona.

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Moved: Cr Mazarella**

**Seconded: Cr Heenan**

*That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday 10 December 2024 as circulated, be confirmed.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Higgins, Cr Ward, Cr Mcilwain, Cr Mazarella, Cr Child, Cr McAllister and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

*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.*

## QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL

### QUESTION 1

#### **Dean Hurlston asked;**

What is the approximate cost per public Council Meeting for Councillor and Staff Meals, Refreshments and Beverages? (If applicable).

#### **Vincenzo Lombardi, Director Corporate Services**

Thank you for your question, Dean.

When Council Meetings are scheduled at times that extend through normal meal periods, it is standard practice to provide Councillors and Officers with suitable meals served on the premises. This ensures they can remain focused and productive throughout the duration of the meeting and assists those working full time to be able to attend the meeting.

The approximate cost per meeting for these provisions varies depending on the number of attendees and the specific catering arrangements required. On average, the cost per Council meeting is \$720.00 which is approximately \$34 per head. This includes all meals, refreshments, and non-alcoholic beverages provided.

### QUESTION 2

*In accordance with Governance Rule 59.10, Sharyn Manning read their submitted Question to Council.*

#### **Sharyn Manning of Mooroolbark asked;**

What revenue was generated from parking infringements in Lilydale in 2023?  
What revenue was generated from parking infringements in Lilydale in 2024?  
How many infringements in Lilydale in 2024 were multiple within a 4-week period?

#### **Leanne Hurst, Director Communities**

Thank you for your question, Sharyn

Council can confirm that in the Lilydale area in 2023, 143 parking infringements were issued, in 2024, 1608 parking infringements were issued.

Council systems do not identify a location-based record of revenue at this stage, this is being considered in future system upgrades.

Whilst Council can't provide a Lilydale specific breakdown, in total Council received approximately \$27,600 in parking revenue across the whole municipality in 2022/23 financial year and approximately \$501,200 in 2023/24 financial year.

In 2024, 284 infringements were multiple within a 4-week period.

Your question highlights the increased parking enforcement activity in 2024 which is a result of numerous factors including the Lilydale train station upgrade project completion, an increased in town centre activity post covid and increased visitation within the area.

Finally, I want to thank you for your question, throughout 2024 Council has received community commentary relating to parking enforcement and management and is taking this feedback on board in relation to Council operations.

### **QUESTION 3**

#### **Anonymous asked;**

Referring to Councils pre-immunisation checklist, and Councils offer to answer any questions, can Council advise what the chance is of a baby dying (or suffering injury) if vaccinated compared to one not vaccinated by providing "truthful" evidence about injury/death rates in vaccinated compared to unvaccinated children? Given informed consent requires definitive information, could Council also provide vaccine specific data for each scheduled vaccine?

#### **Leanne Hurst, Director Communities**

Thank you for your question.

It isn't possible, nor appropriate for Council to provide advice regarding the chance of an individual baby dying or suffering injury if vaccinated compared to one not vaccinated. However, all Victorian families are provided with immunisation advice at birth of a child. It is the parents or carers responsibility to make an informed decision regarding immunisation preferences.

Council can confirm that public health evidence indicates that vaccines prevent diseases, such as measles, pertussis (whooping cough), or meningitis, and there are significantly higher morbidity and mortality rates in unvaccinated populations.

Public health authorities, such as the World Health Organization, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and, provide extensive research on vaccine safety and effectiveness.

Furthermore, detailed vaccine data is available from Immunisation Handbook: Australia's Immunisation Handbook: <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au> or [www.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation/](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation/)

If you have further inquiries regarding a specific vaccination, Council Officers are available to provide further information.



## QUESTION 4

*In accordance with Governance Rule 59.10, Rosemary Mosley read their submitted Question to Council.*

### **Rosemary Mosley of Lilydale asked;**

Have Clarke Street gutters, crossover culverts and pit grills from Jones Street to Chapel Street corner been placed on a regular clearing/maintenance schedule? Debris from Council deciduous street trees constantly blocks drainage infrastructure which results in flooding into 26 & 28 Chapel Street properties in heavy rainfall events in all seasons - not just Autumn and winter.

We desperately need a regular clearing and maintenance schedule.

### **Jonathon Makaay, Acting Director Built Environment and Infrastructure**

Thank you for your question, Rosemary.

Yes, Clarke Street is on a regular maintenance schedule with the Council's maintenance crew checking the drain on a monthly schedule until further improvement works are completed. I can also confirm, Clarke Street received four recorded proactive visits in addition to the regular sweeping schedule throughout 2024.

Upgrade works were undertaken in 2024 to enlarge two pits at the corner of Chapel and Clarke Streets. There are also further works planned at Chapel Street to add a kerb and channel to help carry stormwater past property numbers 26 and 28.

Again, thank you for your question and please remember all residents can report any blockage at any time via 1300 368 333.

## SUBMISSION TO COUNCIL

### **Enforcement of Parking Restrictions in Lilydale**

Sharyn Manning raised concerns regarding enforcement of parking restrictions in Lilydale and the impact on businesses.

*Cr Higgins left the meeting at 7.27pm and returned to the meeting at 7.27pm.*

*Cr Marriott joined the meeting at 7.32pm.*

*Cr McAllister requested an update on enforcement of parking restrictions within the municipality, including revenue figures, distribution of revenue, communication and consultation undertaken with the community, alignment with Council policy, timing in relation to the Lilydale Precinct Plan and a community feedback update come to Forum ideally by the end of February 2025.*

*Cr Higgins requested that investigation options for community members who have received multiple infringement be included in the update.*

*Cr Heenan requested that the Lilydale Precinct Plan be put on hold until an update has been received by Councillors.*

## 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 Petition to Council

#### SUMMARY

The following petition be received:

General Petition

1. Yarra Ranges Council to prioritize the sealing of Walker Road, Seville and include this Petition in as part of the next Yarra Ranges Council community roads review.  
24 valid signatures.

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

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

**Moved: Cr Ward**

**Seconded: Cr Heenan**

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

1. *Yarra Ranges Council to prioritize the sealing of Walker Road, Seville and include this Petition in as part of the next Yarra Ranges Council community roads review.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Higgins, Cr Ward, Cr Mcilwain, Cr Mazzarella, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Marriott and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

*The Mayor requested the Acting Director of Built Environment and Infrastructure provide further detail regarding Walker Road, Seville to Councillors.*

## 10 BUSINESS PAPER

### 10.1 C226 Heritage Overlay (HO) 131 Mangans Road Lilydale

#### SUMMARY

To ensure the heritage values of 131 Mangans Road Lilydale are preserved, an amendment to the Yarra Ranges planning scheme to introduce a heritage overlay is required. The property at 131 Mangans Road Lilydale was first identified in the Stage 1a Lilydale Main Street Heritage Review Gap Study (Trevor Westmore Urban Design and Heritage Conservation, 2019) that was undertaken to assess historic properties in and surrounding Main Street Lilydale.

Further assessment of this property was deferred until the property could be accessed.

The property, known as 'Coldstream Hill', is identified as an uncommon example of an interwar era dwelling designed in the Spanish Mission style. Originally the dwelling was constructed at the beginning of the last century in the Edwardian style and associated with locally prominent persons. The later Spanish Mission revival design by the influential architect Marcus Martin is a rare architectural style in Yarra Ranges. In addition, the house is also significant for its association with renowned opera singer Dame Nellie Melba, a prominent resident of Coldstream among others.

Council has sought an assessment from a qualified heritage consultant, that has determined that the property is of local heritage significance and recommended it for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay of the Yarra Ranges Planning Scheme.

It is proposed through Amendment C226 to apply the Heritage Overlay to 131 Mangans Road, Lilydale to ensure the heritage values of the place are protected (Attachment 4).

In order to commence the amendment process, Council must seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit an amendment.

*In accordance with Governance Rule 58, Daniel Epstein spoke in objection to the recommendation included in the officer report.*

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

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

**Moved: Cr Heenan**

**Seconded: Cr Mazzarella**

*That Council*

- 1. In accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation of Amendment C226 to the Yarra Ranges Planning Scheme that proposes to apply the Heritage Overlay to 131 Mangans Road, Lilydale generally in accordance with the attachments to this report.*
- 2. Subject to the Minister's authorisation, publicly exhibit Amendment C226 to the Yarra Ranges Planning Scheme.*
- 3. Receive a further report considering the outcomes of the exhibition period.*

**The motion was Carried.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Ward, Cr Mcilwain, Cr Mazzarella, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Marriott and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Cr Higgins*

## 10.2 Revised 2024-2025 Budget – Borrowings

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to approve a loan of \$18.912 million in the current financial year 2024-2025 which was initially endorsed in the previous financial year budget 2023-2024 however has not yet been drawn down. The purpose of the loan was to form part of the funding for the capital works program for the 2023-2024 year.

As the period closed for the 2023-2024 financial year at 30 June 2024, a separate resolution is now required to formally approve the loan of \$18.912 million to be drawn down as part of the 2024-2025 Revised Budget.

It is important to note the approval of the loan is not a new item and in no way materially alters or impacts the current budget for the 2024-2025 financial year. It is a correction of timing of borrowings between two financial years. This approval will enable the realignment of overall cashflow and the funding assumptions to reflect the prior and current year budgets.

The proposed loan will be accessed through the funding vehicle offered by the Treasury Corporation Victoria (TCV). TCV provides funding options specifically for the Local Government sector to access.

This proposed revision aligns with both the Council's approved budget funding assumptions for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 collectively, and its Long-Term Financial Plan to utilise borrowings to support the capital works program.

This report fulfils financial governance obligations transparently and accurately by ensuring the current 2024-2025 Annual Budget is revised to appropriately reflect these borrowings as carried forward from prior year in accordance with section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

*Cr Heenan left the meeting at 8.16pm and returned to the meeting at 8.18pm prior to any debate and a vote being taken.*

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

**Moved: Cr McAllister**

**Seconded: Cr Mcilwain**

*That Council*

- 1. Notes that borrowings of \$18.912 million are part of the 2023-2024 financial year and funding the capital works program as outlined the adopted budget for that period.*
- 2. Approves an amendment to the 2024-2025 Annual Budget to reflect the addition of \$18.912 million of carry-forward borrowings from 2023-2024 financial year and adopts the 2024-2025 Revised Budget as per Attachment 1.*
- 3. Approves the drawdown of the additional loan amount of \$18.912 million in the 2024-2025 financial year.*
- 4. Notes that the Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV) will be the preferred funding vehicle to facilitate the borrowings.*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Higgins, Cr Ward, Cr Mcilwain, Cr Mazzarella, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Marriott 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**

### **12.1 Citizenship Ceremony and Community Awards**

Cr Child thanked Councillor's and Officers for the work during his recent illness, particularly during the Citizenship Ceremony and Community Awards held on 26 January 2025. Cr Child was grateful he was able to watch the Community Awards ceremony and thanked Kelly Delaney and the Governance team for their work to make the event so successful.

### **12.2 Hard Waste Collection**

Cr McAllister queried the timing of hard rubbish collection in Healesville and requested that timing of future hard rubbish collection be reviewed, and alternate dates be investigated.

### **12.3 Hard Waste Collection**

Cr Heenan noted that in 2006, when Melbourne hosted the Commonwealth Games, alternate dates for hard rubbish pickups were able to be arranged. Cr Heenan also raised concerns regarding the amount of illegally dumped hard rubbish being added to residents legitimate hard rubbish.

### **12.4 Citizenship Ceremony and Community Awards**

Cr Heenan thanked the Deputy Mayor Cr Higgins and Cr McAllister for their efforts and reflected on the wonderful Citizenship Ceremony and Community Awards. Cr Heenan congratulated Sue Thompson, Harry Moyle, Holy Fools and all the worthy recipients of awards on the day.

### **12.5 Birthday Wishes**

Cr Mazarella wished Cr Cox and Cr Child a happy birthday.

### **12.6 Citizenship Ceremony and Community Awards**

Cr Cox thanked the Deputy Mayor Cr Higgins and Cr McAllister for their work at the Citizenship Ceremony and Community Awards. Cr Cox commended the community members who received awards this year, and the wonderful work they all undertake in the community.

## 12.7 Changing Places Facility - Kilsyth Sporting Stadium

Cr Child attended the opening of the new Changing Places accessible toilet and change room facility at Pinks Reserve Sporting Stadium in Kilsyth. Cr Child noted the project was funded through the Federal Government's Preparing Australian Communities Program and thanked the Yarra Ranges Disability Advisory Committee for the input provided for the new facility. Cr Child noted the positive impact of the project to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Cr Cox and Cr Mazzarella also attended the event.

## 13 REPORTS FROM DELEGATES

Cr Mazzarella

- Attended the Your Library Annual General Meeting and Board Meeting on 16 December 2025 held at the Your Library Administration Building in Scoresby. Cr Linda Hancock, Maroondah City Council, was elected Your Library Board Chair. Cr Child also attended the meeting.

## 14 DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING

### SUMMARY

It is requested that the following document be signed and sealed:

a) Letter Under Seal – Anne Monichon

A letter under seal has been prepared in recognition of Anne Monichon who is retiring after 20 years of service with Yarra Ranges Council, working most recently as a Child Safety Business Partner.

During this time Anne has led, supported and enhanced the safety of children and young people in the Yarra Ranges.

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

**Moved: Cr Child**

**Seconded: Cr McAllister**

*That the following listed document be signed and sealed:*

*Letter Under Seal – Anne Monichon*

**The motion was Carried unanimously.**

*In Favour: Cr Heenan, Cr Higgins, Cr Ward, Cr Mcilwain, Cr Mazzarella, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Marriott and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*



**15                    INFORMAL MEETING OF COUNCILLORS**

**Moved: Cr Child**

**Seconded: Cr Heenan**

*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 Higgins, Cr Ward, Cr Mcilwain, Cr Mazzarella, Cr Child, Cr McAllister, Cr Marriott and Cr Cox.*

*Against: Nil*

**16                    URGENT BUSINESS**

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

**17                    CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

*In accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020.*

There were no Confidential Items listed on the agenda for this meeting.

**18                    DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at: 8.43 pm.

Confirmed this day, Tuesday, 11 February 2025.

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**Councillor Jim Child (Mayor)**