



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL MINUTES

held on Tuesday 28 January 2003
at the Richmond Town Hall

I. ATTENDANCE

Councillor Greg Barber
Councillor Sue Corby (Mayor)
Councillor Deborah Di Natale
Councillor Jenny Farrar
Councillor Jackie Fristacky
Councillor Li Lai
Councillor Kay Meadows
Councillor Judy Morton
Councillor Gurm Sekhon

II. APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

III. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil

IV. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Fristacky **Seconded:** Councillor Farrar

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 17 December 2002 and the Special Meeting of Council held on 17 December 2002 be confirmed.

CARRIED

***Welcome to the City of Yarra.
Council acknowledges the
Wurundjeri community as the first
owners of this country.
Today, they are still the custodians
of the cultural heritage of this land.***

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL BUSINESS REPORTS

ITEM	PAGE
1. Community Grants Program 2003	
2. St Andrews Kindergarten – Progress Report	

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

3. Maintenance Cleaning Services of Collingwood Leisure Centre, Richmond Recreation Centre and Fitzroy Pool - Contract No C647 – Contractual Matter
4. Council Contracts – Contractual Matter
5. Provision of Legal Services – Contractual Matter
6. Home Care Services Contract – Contractual Matter

PETITIONS & JOINT LETTERS

- 7.1 Macpherson Street Trees
- 7.2 235 Brunswick Street Fitzroy – Planning Application No PL02/1017

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. 2003 National Congress of Local Government

IV. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS REPORTS

The following items are deemed by the Chief Executive Officer to be suitable for consideration in closed session in accordance with section 89 (2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*. In accordance with that Act, Council may resolve to consider these issues in open or closed session.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Morton

Seconded: Councillor Di Natale

RECOMMENDATION

1. That this meeting be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 89 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as disclosure of any of the following matters to be considered may prejudice the Council or other persons.
2. That all information contained within the Confidential Business Reports section of this notice paper and reproduced as Council Minutes be treated as being and remaining strictly confidential in accordance with the provisions of sections 77 and 89 of the *Local Government Act 1989* until Council resolves otherwise.

CARRIED

The Council meeting resumed in open session (7:36pm).

PETITIONS & JOINT LETTERS

7.1 Macpherson Street Trees

A petition with 12 signatures was received from residents at the east end of Macpherson Street North Carlton, requesting that non native street trees be replanted with native trees.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Sekhon

Seconded: Councillor Di Natale

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for action.

CARRIED

7.2 235 Brunswick Street Fitzroy – Planning Application No PL02/1017

A petition with 54 signatures was received objecting to Town Planning Application No PL02/1017 at 235 Brunswick Street Fitzroy.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Di Natale

Seconded: Councillor Di Barber

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for action.

CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question (Georgina Koussoulas)

1. What can Council do regarding the operation of a demolition business at the corner of Cremorne Street and Blanche Street, Richmond and resultant community amenity impact (ie noise and dust)?

Answer

The Acting Director advised that further information will need to be obtained to determine whether or not this is a planning permit issue or enforcement issue under Council's local law. He advised that the matter would be followed up with Mrs Koussoulas.

2. Question (Mr Richard Malone)

What action is being taken by the organisation in regard to the use of bicycles by Council officers to help reduce car emissions and why has only four vehicles in Council's fleet been converted to LPG?

Is there no policy to subsidise employees who follow Council policy by using public transport?

Is there specially reserved parking for Council staff in Gleadell Street?

Answer

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the four vehicles in Council's light vehicle fleet were in fact purchased as LPG use vehicles and not converted. She further advised that Council is currently reviewing its vehicle fleet policy including the numbers of vehicles in the fleet, fuel options and the issue of bicycle usage during working hours in the context of Yarra's Green Travel Plan.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that notwithstanding the above, there were obvious practical constraints on Council officers using bicycles during working hours or as a primary means of transport. She further advised that Council does reimburse staff for public transport costs where it is work related and that any Council officer who has private use of a Council vehicle makes a direct employee contribution towards operating costs of that vehicle.

3. Question (Mr Richard Malone)

It is noted in the Auditor General's report - "Management of Food Safety in Victoria" that the City of Melbourne undertakes 1253 samples per annum as opposed to the statutory minimum of 156 and is considered to be a matter of 'good practice'. Does Yarra Council still stick to the statutory minimum?

Answer

The Acting Director Community Development advised that the statutory food sampling is only one element of the means in which Council goes about ensuring safe food handling in Yarra and that Council complies with the

statutory requirement. Other elements involved are collection of food safety plans from businesses and general health promotion activities.

4. Question (Mr Norm Bassett)

You state there are five signatories on the Cremorne Street petition that are recorded on Council's voters roll. Which ones? It represents only seven per cent of petitioners. Was the committee made aware of this at the time of presenting the petition?

Answer

The Acting Director City Development advised that the voters roll is prepared in conjunction with Council's triennial elections and for a variety of reasons residents names appearing on the subject petition back in October 2000 would not necessarily appear on a voters roll prepared and certified over a year later on 17 December 2001. He advised that a resident, irrespective of whether or not he is an enrolled voter, is still entitled to sign a petition and be considered equally.

He further advised that a report on the awarding of tenders for Cremorne Street Construction will be presented to the March 2003 Council cycle and Mr Bassett could lodge a submission at this time.

5. Question (Mr Norm Bassett)

Council's total contribution to the Abbotsford Convent project of \$1M was originally \$100,000. If Yarra follows past practice, it will be even more. What is Council's contingent liability for road works in the environs of the convent?

Answer

The Acting Director City Development advised that this relates to the amount of funds that Council has allocated towards traffic management works around the convent precinct. He advised that this was \$1M over five years. Furthermore, some of that funding is allocated in future budgets and the rest of the unfunded works relate to the road asset management program which incorporates a list of potential projects over a 10 year period.

6. Question (Mr Norm Bassett)

Will the state government share in any budget cost over run in respect to the Cremorne Street road construction project?

Answer

The Acting Director City Development advised that he was not in a position to comment at this stage as Council is still evaluating tenders and that a report would be presented to the March 2003 Council cycle. He further advised that should the cost of works exceed the budget provision, that this would be reported to Council and that Council would determine the matter.

DELEGATES REPORTS

National General Assembly of Local Government

Councillor Farrar presented her report on the National General Assembly of Local Government.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Fristacky

That the report be noted.

CARRIED

See Attachment



Image Document

Australia Day Honours

Councillor Farrar reported that Mike Hill, President of the Victorian Local Governance Association received an OAM in the Australia Day Honours for services to local government.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Fristacky

That the report be noted.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

2003 National Congress of Local Government

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Di Natale

That Council consider the provision of funding in the 2003/04 Budget to enable relevant staff and Councillors to attend the 2003 National Congress of Local Government.

CARRIED

1. Community Grants Program 2003

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council endorses the following priority areas for the 2002/2003 Program:
 - (a) social, cultural, arts, recreation programs which promote a sense of local community and builds community connections;
 - (b) initiatives that focus on assisting refugees and asylum seekers living in the Yarra community;
 - (c) community education and activity programs which promote a greater understanding and awareness of environmental issues;
 - (d) activities and programs that seek to generate a safer environment in Yarra strip shopping centres, parks and public places;
 - (e) art projects and cultural events that create community development opportunities which celebrate diversity, raise cultural awareness, improve social networks and provide skills development opportunities;
 - (f) participation projects which encourage disadvantaged groups and individuals to interact with mainstream services; and
 - (g) social and health promotion activities that are targeted at low-income families and individuals especially those who live alone.
2. That Council appoint (*Councillors names to be inserted*) to the working group to further investigate issues in connection with the review of Council's Community Grants Program and a report be brought back to Council on the findings of the working group.
3. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to appoint three community representatives to serve on the 2002/2003 Community Grants Assessment Panel.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Fristacky

Seconded: Councillor Di Natale

1. That Council endorses the following priority areas for the 2002/2003 Program:
 - (a) social, cultural, arts, recreation programs which promote a sense of local community and builds community connections;
 - (b) initiatives that focus on assisting refugees and asylum seekers living in the Yarra community;
 - (c) community education and activity programs which promote a greater understanding and awareness of environmental issues;
 - (d) activities and programs that seek to generate a safer environment in Yarra strip shopping centres, parks, public places and roads;
 - (e) art projects and cultural events that create community development opportunities which celebrate diversity, raise cultural awareness, improve social networks and provide skills development opportunities;

- (f) participation projects which encourage disadvantaged groups and individuals to interact with mainstream services; and
 - (g) social and health promotion activities that are targeted at low-income families and individuals especially those who live alone.
2. That Council appoint Councillors Di Natale, Morton and Farrar to the working group to further investigate issues in connection with the review of Council's Community Grants Program and a report be brought back to Council on the findings of the working group.
 3. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to appoint three community representatives to serve on the 2002/2003 Community Grants Assessment Panel in consultation with the above nominated Councillors.

CARRIED

2. St Andrews Kindergarten – Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the progress report on the St Andrews Kindergarten be noted.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Fristacky

1. That the progress report on the St Andrews Kindergarten be noted.
2. That Council recognise the contributions made by Mark Buttifant, Mary Keneally and Marcus Nolle.

CARRIED

IV. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS REPORTS

The following items are deemed by the Chief Executive Officer to be suitable for consideration in closed session in accordance with section 89 (2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*. In accordance with that Act, Council may resolve to consider these issues in open or closed session.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Meadows

Seconded: Councillor Di Natale

RECOMMENDATION

1. That this meeting be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 89 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as disclosure of any of the following matters to be considered may prejudice the Council or other persons.
2. That all information contained within the Confidential Business Reports section of this notice paper and reproduced as Council Minutes be treated as being and remaining strictly confidential in accordance with the provisions of sections 77 and 89 of the *Local Government Act 1989* until Council resolves otherwise.

CARRIED

The Council meeting resumed in open session at 8:48pm.

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The Council meeting closed at 8:49pm.

Confirmed this 11th day of February 2003

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Mayor