## **Minutes**



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## Heritage Advisory Committee

Date: Tuesday, 31.08.2022 (Microsoft Teams Meeting)

Councillors: Cr Anab Mohamud (AM)-Chair and Cr Bridgid O' Brien (BOB)

Attendance: Alexis Arrowsmith (AAr), Graeme Butler (GB), Felicity Watson (FW), Jeffrey Atkinson (JA), Ian Wight (IW), Kristianna Scheffel (KS), Leo John Showell (LS), Malcolm MacDonald (MM), Robert Crawford (RC), Ursula Chandler (UC); Ivan Gilbert (IG) - Group Manager, CEO's Office, City of Yarra (CoY), Richa Swarup (RS) - Principal Advisor City Heritage, CoY

<u>Apologies</u>: Cr Edward Crossland (EC), Greg Chenhall (GC), Kirsteen Thomson (KT).

1. Acknowledgement, Welcome and Apologies	Action
AM started the meeting with the Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land and welcomed all attendees. Apologies stated above were noted.	No specific action required.
2. Minutes of the previous HAC meeting14.06.2022 and actions arising	Action
The minutes of the HAC meeting of 14.06. 2022 were adopted unanimously.	No specific action required.
3. Members' Introduction	Action
Cr Anab Mohamud and Cr Bridgid O'Brien introduced themselves and invited the new members to provide a brief introduction. The members introduced themselves:	No specific action required.
Alexis Arrowsmith: (Text to be confirmed by Alexis)	
Graeme Butler: Has been heritage consultant since 1975 with skills in conservation architecture, landscape architecture, history, and cultural planning. He was the former chair of the National Trust classifications committee. He has also undertaken many heritage studies for various areas of Yarra in the past and has also prepared City of Yarra Heritage Review 2007. Further, he has previously worked as a heritage advisor for the City of Yarra. As a long-term resident of Yarra, a heritage professional and a member of this Heritage Advisory Committee he would be keen to promote proper documentation and protection of Yarra's valuable heritage.	
Jeffrey Atkinson: Is a continuing member of the HAC and previously was a member of the City of Yarra HAC 2018-2022. He has also been a president of the Carlton Community History Group and was the chair of the management committee of the local neighbourhood house ('Railway House') in the past. As a long-term local resident, he has a special interest in the history and heritage of North Carlton, Princes Hill and North Fitzroy areas besides other parts of	

Yarra. He organises regular historical walks in Carlton (north and south) in conjunction with Princes Hill Community Centre. He has also published several books on Australian and local Carlton history. Through his past involvement in the HAC he has enjoyed sharing his historical knowledge about the area and has advocated for better heritage outcomes in some of Council's own infrastructure projects.

Felicity Watson: Is a nominee from the National Trust Australia (Victoria) where she works as the Executive Manager, Advocacy. She has more than 15 years of cultural heritage experience across consultancy, public history, and the not-for-profit sector. She is a part of several boards and advisory committees, including the Deakin Cultural Heritage & Museum Studies Advisory Board, and the Royal Exhibition Building & Carlton Gardens World Heritage Site Steering Committee. As a member of this committee, she is keen to advocate for and support Council in better protection, education, promotion and celebration of heritage in Yarra.

Ian Wight: Has been a long-term member of the City of Yarra HAC having completed previous two HAC terms. In the past he has worked on heritage planning and heritage studies as both, a consultant and in senior positions at the National Trust and Heritage Victoria. He was also a member of Heritage Victoria's Local Government Unit advising and assisting local government throughout the State and a member of the Heritage Council of Victoria's Local Government Advisory Committee. Over the years he has assisted many community groups and is currently Deputy Chair of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria's Heritage Committee'. As a HAC member he is interested in advocating for appropriate policies to seek better planning outcomes.

Kristianna Scheffel: (Text to be confirmed by Kristianna).

Leo John Showell: (Text to be confirmed by Leo)

Malcolm Macdonald: (Text to be confirmed by Malcolm)

Robert Crawford: is currently working as the Associate Dean of Research & Innovation in the School of Media & Communication at RMIT University. His background in social, cultural, and economic fields of history provides him a broad view of history and heritage. He is interested in promoting various aspects of the City of Yarra's rich and diverse heritage, particularly the extensive commercial and industrial heritage; and the role that research, communication, advertising, and marketing can play in heritage education, promotion and celebration. so that it can be enjoyed by the current and future generations.

Ursula Chandler: (Text to be confirmed by Ursula)

Ivan Gilbert, Group Manage CEO's Office and Richa Swarup, Principal Adviser City Heritage also provided a brief introduction about their role in Yarra.

GC and KT were not present in the meeting.

3. A snapshot of heritage in Yarra

• RS provided a brief presentation to the committee covering the extent of heritage in Yarra, various departments of the council involved in its management, key achievements and current focus.

Action

<ul> <li>BOB requested that RS circulate her presentation to the committee members.</li> <li><u>4. Heritage Strategy</u></li> <li>RS provided a brief snapshot about Yarra's Heritage Strategy (2019-2030) vision, objectives, key directions, and priority areas. She noted that the strategy document has been circulated to the members by email.</li> <li>She requested that committee members form a subgroup to investigate the implementation plan of the strategy and identify priority actions for the coming years.</li> <li>Following members indicated their interest in being a part of the subgroup - BOB, AA, IW and FW.</li> </ul>	That RS circulate her presentation to the HAC Members. Action That • RS organise meetings with the subgroup to prioritise the actions and items for the budget bid.
<ul> <li>5. HAC TOR and members' feedback (issues/actions)</li> <li>The HAC members made following comments referring to the feedback of the members of the previous Heritage Advisory Committee (included in the minutes of the last HAC meeting):</li> <li>It would be important for the HAC to know about how their advice is being taken/actioned. HAC should also get feedback about the considerations by the Council where HAC's advice is not being adopted.</li> <li>The committee was of the view that Council Delegates' report should include the above advice. They considered that it would be important for them to know the value of HAC and HAC's advice.</li> <li>There was a discussion on the implementation of the Heritage Strategy; and staffing and resourcing of the strategy being an issue in the past years. The committee advised that the delegates report should again note that Council needs to place a priority for providing adequate resources for implementation of the Heritage Strategy which is a Council adopted strategy.</li> <li>AA suggested that the proposed subgroup on the Heritage Strategy can priorities actions that can be submitted as the budget bids for the coming year.</li> <li>JA noted that project specific small subgroups in the past have been very helpful in raising awareness about how heritage issues must be addressed in infrastructure projects and in the management of council's assets. He recommended that forming topic-based subgroups of the local HAC members when needed, is a good approach and should continue.</li> </ul>	Action That HAC Delegates' report includes that • Going forward HAC would like to know how their advice is being actioned and what are the reasons/considera tions when it is not. HAC considers that it is important for them to know whether their advice is valued by the Council. • Council prioritises providing resources for the implementation of the Heritage Strategy which is a Council adopted strategy.
<ul> <li>6. Format for future meetings and items for the next meeting</li> <li>RS invited the committee members to provide ideas about the format of the HAC meetings going forward. HAC members suggestions included,</li> <li>Discussions on geographical area-based issues and opportunities.</li> </ul>	Action That the committee members provide agenda items a

<ul> <li>Covering breadth of topics relating to knowing, protecting, supporting, and promoting heritage in Yarra.         It was noted that this approach can also link well and monitor achievements regarding the actions of the Heritage Strategy that related to key directions on the above four themes.     </li> <li>There was a consensus among the members that the agenda of the meeting should be finalised a month in advance and the members should take active interest in suggesting topics.</li> </ul>	month in advance to RS.
<ul> <li>7. <u>Minutes of the previous HAC meeting 14.06.2022 and actions arising</u></li> <li>The minutes of the HAC meeting of 14.06. 2022 were adopted with changes as emailed by GC.</li> <li>BOB informed that options to organise an informal get together of the councillors with the new and old HAC members are being looked into and RS will email suitable time and date to the members.</li> </ul>	Action That RS circulate details about the proposed get together to the committee members, when the arrangements have been finalised.
<ul> <li>8. Any other matters</li> <li>FW requested that the agendas and minutes of the previous 2-3 years be forwarded to the committee members so that the new members can understand the HAC's focus in the past.</li> <li>BOB informed that these are available on the Council website for public to view. She requested that RS provide the Council's weblink to the members.</li> <li>GB informed about the nomination of the Richmond Football Oval for inclusion in the VHR. Members suggested that Yarra Council convey its support for the nomination.</li> <li>BOB informed that Council is currently preparing some information in this regard which may also be sent as a response.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Actions</li> <li>That</li> <li>RS circulate the weblink to access previous agendas and minutes to the committee members.</li> <li>Delegates' report indicate HAC's support for Richmond Football Oval's nomination for the VHR should the Council consider making a submission.</li> </ul>
<ol> <li>Future meeting dates</li> <li>It was agreed that RS circulate a schedule of future meetings in consultation with the Councillors support unit.</li> </ol>	Action That RS circulate the schedule of future meetings to the committee members.