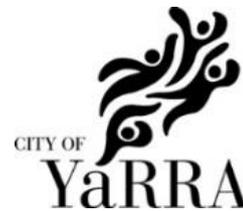


Yarra Environment Advisory Committee (YEAC)

Thursday 17 November 2022, 6.30-8.30pm

Richmond Town Hall, Meeting Room 3

Minutes



Attendees: Caitlyn Socwell, Chris Williams, Chris Currie, Ai Tam Do (Tam), Rachel McConville, Pierre Dao, Shane Delphine, Candice Worsteling, Sally Mangan, Lin Oke, Michalis Hadjikakau, Tim Shue, Cr Amanda Stone, Sai Tavate, Fadi Fakhoury, Leonie Kirkwood, Lucy Stratton, Kyle Everett, Indy Lingam, Sam Green.

Apologies: Fiona Bowie, Jack Clancy, Gabrielle Murphy, Jo Lane, Miranda Sharp, Cr Sophie Wade (Mayor),

Chair: Cr Stone

Minutes: Sam Green

1. Acknowledgement of Country (Cr Wade/Cr Stone) – 6.30pm

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.

2. Review of previous minutes and actions (Cr Wade/Cr Stone) – 6.35pm

- Review of actions still pending from August meeting:
 - ACTION: Seeking an update on the Collingwood Children's Farm community gardens (an update to be presented at first meeting in 2023)
 - ACTION: Provide YEAC members a timeline of Council strategy development in 2023-24 (to be provided with the minutes of this meeting)
 - ACTION (via email): Seeking update on the capacity and results of the North Fitzroy community battery / future community battery installations in Yarra (an update to be presented in this meeting)
- No actions pending from September meeting.
- Seek approval of previous minutes. *Minutes approved.*
- Confirm with members – are there any conflicts of interest with any of tonight's topics? *No conflicts recorded.*

3. Councillor update on general council matters relevant to this Committee (Cr Wade/Cr Stone) – 6.40pm

- *The Climate Emergency Plan mid-plan review was presented to Council in October. In summary, over the previous two years we have made considerable progress with 112 of the 119 actions (94%) either completed, ongoing, or underway and on track to be completed in the life of the plan. The Climate Emergency Plan mid-plan review can be found here. [See minutes of Council meeting, 25 October 2022, p.1536 for more information on the Climate Emergency Plan mid-plan review.](#)*
- *Two small road closures have been approved with Council retaining the land for public open space purposes including the construction of public parks. [See minutes of Council meeting, 13 September 2022, p.72 for more information.](#)*
- *Feedback is being sought on community priorities prior to the development of the 2023/24 budget. [See Your Say Yarra for more information and to provide feedback.](#)*

4. Council's work in relation to water – (Sainath Tavate, Coordinator, Drainage and Stormwater; Fadi Fakhoury, Principal Infrastructure Engineer) - 6.45pm

See Fadi Fakhoury's presentation 'Managing Yarra's Stormwater' – attached.

Since the meeting, the stormwater team have released this article [Help protect our local waterways | Yarra City Council](#) about promoting improved habits which may be of interest.

5. Community Batteries in Yarra (Tim Shue, Chief Operating Officer, Yarra Energy Foundation; Indy Lingam, Sustainable Energy Coordinator) - 7.05pm

See Tim Shue's presentation 'Yarra Energy Foundation' – attached. For more information about the North Fitzroy community battery project read Yarra Energy Foundation's [Yarra's Community Battery Final Report](#).

YEAC provided the following feedback to two key questions as noted below. Further feedback can be provided via email to Sam.

- What is it about community batteries that most interests, engages or excites you? (This could be in relation to having one in your local area or having more of these in Yarra)
 - Keen to know more about how community/shared batteries might be retrofitted to multi-unit developments. How do we support the installation of batteries in new developments?
 - What are the various community battery ownership models being explored and what circumstances are they relevant to?
 - Artwork (using the North Fitzroy battery as an example) is a great way to get community buy-in, create a community asset. The process around community deciding on the artwork/artist demonstrates Council and community working together.
 - Community batteries provide an exciting learning opportunity for schools and young people. They could be used as tangible teaching tools.
 - Community batteries illustrate the future we are looking to.
 - How might renters access the benefits of community batteries? How do we consider issues of equity in the deployment of community batteries?
- How do we use the community batteries we have in Yarra to build momentum for more?
 - Use the batteries to tell the story of locally generated solar and where it is going.
 - Use batteries to tell the story of local self-sufficiency/community-sufficiency/community involvement.

6. Designing the future of Cremorne (Leonie Kirkwood, Acting Practice Leader – Strategic Planning; Lucy Stratton, Urban Designer; Kyle Everett, Senior Strategic Planner) - 7.45pm

See Leonie Kirkwood's presentation 'Draft Cremorne Urban Design Framework' presentation – attached. For more information about the draft Cremorne Urban Design Framework and ways to provide feedback including pop up and information sessions visit www.yoursayyarra.com.au/designcremorne

7. Active Consultations (Your Say Yarra <https://www.yoursayyarra.com.au/>) (Sam Green) – 8.15pm

- None separate to those already noted in this document.

8. Any other business? (Cr Wade/Cr Stone) – 8.25pm

- Chris Currie is attending a circularity conference and will update the group in relation to this.
- Rachel McConville is keen for Council to host hybrid (face to face and online options) YEAC meetings.

9. Close – no later than 8.30pm

- Due to time constraints responses to the standing item 'Are there any emerging issues or opportunities which the committee would like to raise, and that Council should be aware of?' can be emailed to Sam.
- Due to time constraints responses to the standing item 'Future agenda items' can be emailed to Sam. Suggestions from the previous meetings include:
 - What metrics could/should we collect data on that could underpin the climate emergency plan, demonstrate change, and the role that we can all play? (To be scheduled for meeting in 2023)
 - Update on work to support sustainability retrofits in town houses and apartments in Yarra (To be scheduled for meeting in early 2023).
 - Update on work to deliver municipal wide green waste collection (To be scheduled for meeting in 2023).

- *Collingwood Children's Farm update (Chris Williams to provide this in first meeting of 2023)*

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