

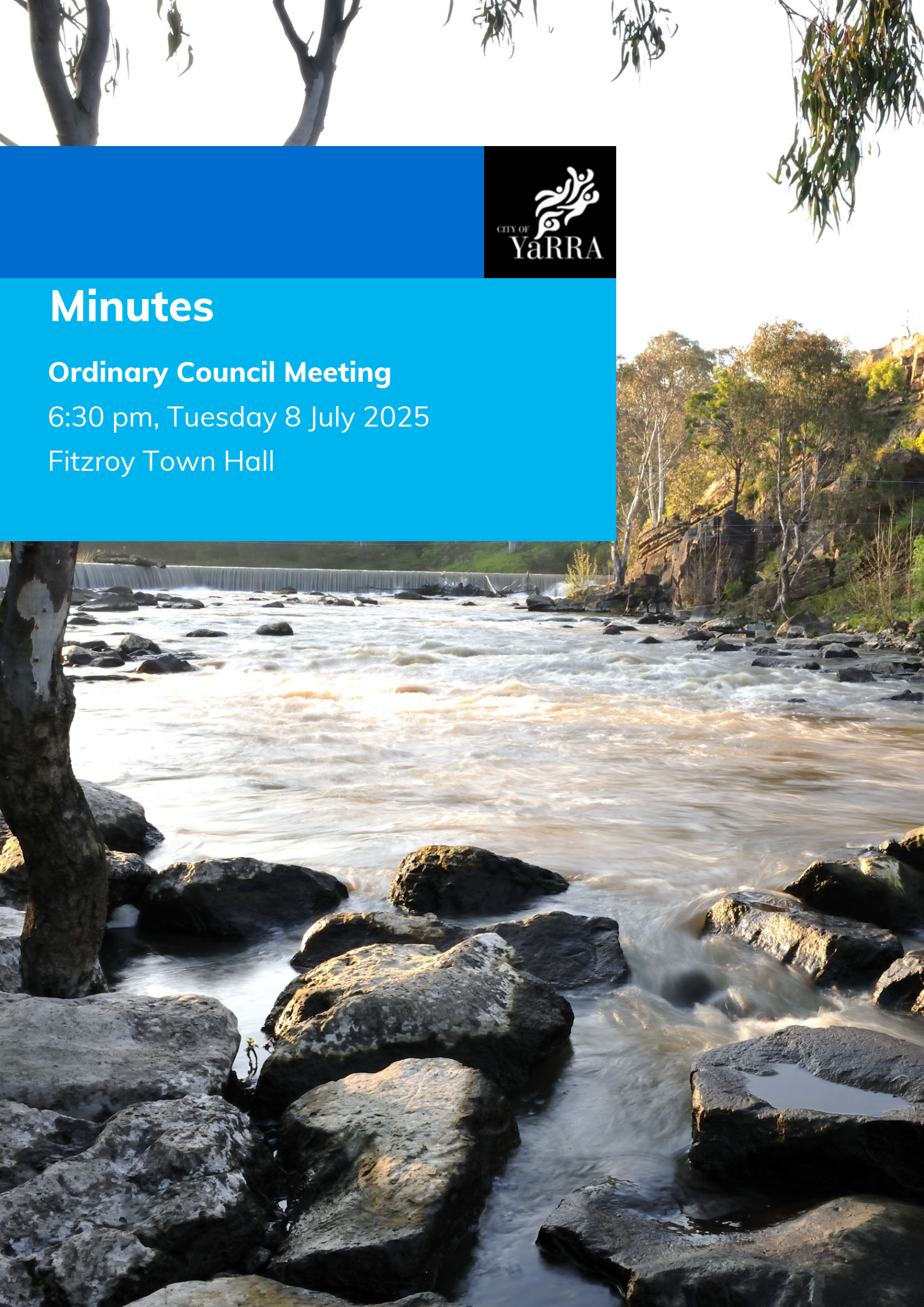


# Minutes

## Ordinary Council Meeting

6:30 pm, Tuesday 8 July 2025

Fitzroy Town Hall



## Order of Business

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## 1. Acknowledgement of Country

“Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra.

We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders.

We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have never ceded sovereignty and retain their strong connections to family, clan and country despite the impacts of European invasion.

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. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence

### Attendance

#### Councillors:

- Cr Stephen Jolly                      Mayor
- Cr Sarah McKenzie                  Deputy Mayor
- Cr Evangeline Aston
- Cr Andrew Davies
- Cr Kenneth Gomez
- Cr Sharon Harrison
- Cr Meca Ho
- Cr Sophie Wade

#### Absent

- Cr Edward Crossland      Parental Leave

### Council staff:

#### Chief Executive Officer

- Sue Wilkinson

#### General Managers

- Ruth Jones                      Governance, Communications and Customer Experience (Acting)
- Brett Grambau                  Infrastructure and Environment (Acting)
- Kerry McGrath                  Community Strengthening
- Mary Osman                      City Sustainability and Strategy
- Lucy Roffey                      Corporate Services

#### Governance

- Phil De Losa                      Manager Governance and Integrity
- Patrick O’Gorman                  Senior Governance Coordinator
- Mel Nikou                          Governance Officer



### 3. Announcements

#### Welcoming visitors from Indonesia

On behalf of Yarra City Council I would like to welcome some special guests who are in attendance tonight from Indonesia. Melbourne University School Of Architecture is hosting several visitors from Indonesia who are in Australia for an “Inclusive Design for Walkable Placemaking” project. The group visited the City of Yarra’s Gleadell Street Market last month with the group LEGS and have spent time in Melbourne and Sydney looking at community open space.

Thank you for your attendance here tonight.

### 4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Cr Aston, Cr Davies, Cr Gomez, Cr Jolly, Cr Harrison, Cr Ho, Cr McKenzie and Cr Wade declared that they had familiarised themselves with the matters being presented to this meeting and that they do not have a conflict of interest.

The CEO declared a conflict of interest on item 14.1.

### 5. Confirmation of Minutes

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor Wade

That the minutes of the:

1. Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 June be confirmed, subject to the addition of the following words for item 9.1 – Petitions – Brunswick Street North:

We request the following actions:

- Do not close Rae Street at Linear Park, or
- implement identical treatments to Rae Street and Brunswick Street North. We request that if Rae Street is closed, that same be done to Brunswick Street North to improve liveability and safety of pedestrians, residents and cyclists.

2. Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1 July 2025 be confirmed.

#### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Davies, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Councillor Aston and Councillor Gomez

**CARRIED**

## 6. Question Time

This record is provided from members of the public upon registration and also asked during Question Time and the responses provided is not a transcript of proceedings. A recording of the Council Meeting is available on Council's website.

The following questions were asked:

### 1. Herschel Landes:

Question:

What evidence is there that the Mayor had those conversations and has the Mayor engaged in misleading this council and the community in a decision making process?

The Mayor provided the following response:

Every single day as the Mayor of this Council I meet with people at the state level, sometimes at the federal level and definitely my colleagues of the council. Last fortnight, as an example, when in Canberra, we met with Mayors and Councillors from all over Australia. The Lord Mayor of the City of Melbourne and I are very close friends and just because I didn't provide you, through an FOI, with a text message or an email doesn't mean that exhausts all possibilities of how I discuss with the Lord Mayor of City of Melbourne. I've discussed with the Lord Mayor of the City of Melbourne about the Elizabeth Street bike lane, I've discussed with elements of the state government on the same issue, and if you don't believe me, I would make one suggestion, call the Lord Mayor, I can give you his number, you're an ex-councillor, so I trust you, I know you just wont put it on social media, ring him up and ask him, have you ever discussed this matter, I can tell you where we met, I can tell you about the conversation, because we are very, very proud of the decision we have made in relation to Elizabeth Street and it will be co-defied in next months council meeting. We are bringing Elizabeth Street back to the people of North Richmond, to the Vietnamese community, to the businesses, to the temple, something that the last council didn't do and we are very, very proud. We are not taking a backward step on this, and if you want to check with the City of Melbourne, go and check, I can give you the number, so thank you for your question.

### 2. Shane Delphine:

Question:

The state government recently announced the trial of a pill testing centre at 95 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

Residents surrounding the site may be concerned that the area will become a drug-dealing precinct as police activities will have to be minimal to allow for effective operation of the centre.

Furthermore, all Yarra ratepayers may be concerned about additional costs that may be borne by Council as a consequence of the trial.

Can Officers please provide details of any consultations that the state government has had with Council to provide assurance that Yarra residents are not unduly burdened by the trial?

The General Manager Community Strengthening provided the following response:

Thanks for your question.

Council was advised of the establishment of the fixed site pill testing service by the Department of Health on the same day as it was publicly announced by the State government.

Shortly after receiving this advice, our CEO and senior staff met with senior representatives from the Department of Health.

Council officers are participating in an Implementation Working Group, led by the Department of Health.

We have and will continue to raise specific risks including proximity to Connie Benn Early Years centre, Fitzroy Youth Hub, public housing, and existing public congregation locations.

Further, our request to have the Working Group's Terms of Reference amended has been accepted, which now include critical issues such as identifying and addressing precinct-level public safety and amenity impacts.

**3. Elizabeth Clarke:**

Question:

Yarra's Developer fund has \$30million, The Charlotte Street library park was designed, budgeted for and passed by the last council to benefit all users of Richmond library. It was scrapped by the new council, under pressure from comfortable Elm Grove residents. The Mayor said new Cremorne parks were under negotiation, which they have been for who knows how long. Then Cr Davies said work on the new library would wreck any new park. A reimagined library would take funding, planning and years. Given trees take ages to grow, why not work on Library park while negotiations continue for the Cremorne park?

The Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Environment provided the following response:

Thank you for your question, Elizabeth.

At the 26 November 2024 council meeting, council determined not to proceed with the delivery of the Charlotte Street.

In relation to new open space, officers continue to explore land acquisition opportunities in Cremorne to expand public open space and are actively progressing options in the area.

Once the process reaches a more advanced stage, proper and inclusive community engagement will be undertaken.

**4. Joe Gagliano:**

Question:

Despite committing to 'review' parking sensors, no time limit was given to this commitment. Unfortunately, this football season has seen increases in parking illegally near MCG precinct. Parking officers are doing their best, and can easily book on no parking without permit areas. With many sensors are not working in the 1P allowed, parking officers do not have time to mark tyres and return an hour later- when sensors are not working. Yarra is missing out on thousands of dollars.

I request a time frame, and time limit - preferably before the finals season - to the sensor review works.

The General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy provided the following response:

Thank you for the question Joe. I am aware that you have had many discussions with Council officers regarding parking in the MCG precinct, including an on-site meeting earlier this year.

I understand at that meeting, Council officers undertook to continue proactive patrols in the area and to review the parking sensors. Since then, Council's contractor has been reviewing and replacing sensors and to date 195 have been replaced in the area. The Contractors are continuing to work on this and anticipate that all priority streets will be completed before the finals season.

**5. Jane Keech:**

Question:

Can the cypress hedge at 93 Fenwick Street, Carlton North corner Sutton Street be cut back to maximal amount and be saved? It overhangs the street and is currently subject to a Council compliance order (to be cutback to the fence line, which would destroy its integrity) and require it to be removed.

The CEO provided the following response:

The hedge and the home sound beautiful. I can't answer the question right now as I don't know the specifics but I'm sure that we will be able to find a way to work with you to balance both, even if we take a progressive approach. The reason why the teams require overhanging greenery into the footpath space to be managed, is because it creates a hazard for people using the footpath, so we have to balance those objectives. I will direct the General Manager, Mary Osman to reach out to you to talk through the details and get someone down to talk it through with you.

## 7. Council Business Reports

### 7.1. Request for public exhibition of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-29

**Author** Lauren Krnjacki – Senior Planner (Community Health and Safety)  
**Authoriser** General Manager Community Strengthening

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approves the public exhibition of the draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
2. Notes that the exhibition period will run from 11 July to 11 August 2025

#### Public Submission

*Elizabeth Clarke addressed Council on the matter.*

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Harrison

**Seconded:** Councillor McKenzie

That Council:

1. Approves the public exhibition of the draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
2. Notes that the exhibition period will run from 11 July to 11 August 2025.

#### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## 7.2. ISP - Draft Community Infrastructure Plan

**Author** Caroline Gillies – Community Infrastructure Planner  
**Authoriser** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorse the Community Infrastructure Plan (attachment 1) for community consultation.
2. Receive a report at the October 2025 Council meeting with the results of the community consultation and consider adoption of the final Community Infrastructure Plan.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Aston

**Seconded:** Councillor Gomez

That Council:

1. Endorse the Community Infrastructure Plan (attachment 1) for community consultation.
2. Receive a report at the October 2025 Council meeting with the results of the community consultation and consider adoption of the final Community Infrastructure Plan.

### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 7.3. ISP - Draft Asset Plan

**Author** Ashleigh Tomkins – Coordinator Strategic Asset Management  
**Authoriser** General Manager Infrastructure and Environment

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the draft Asset Plan 2025-35 for public exhibition to seek community feedback prior to adoption by Council later in 2025.

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Gomez

**Seconded:** Councillor Harrison

That Council:

1. Endorses the draft Asset Plan 2025-35 for public exhibition to seek community feedback prior to adoption by Council later in 2025.

#### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### 7.4. LGBTIQA+ Memorial Commission

**Author**        Brona Keenan – Coordinator Arts Development  
**Authoriser**   General Manager Community Strengthening

#### **Officer Recommendation**

That Council:

1.    Endorses the Project Reference Group Recommendation: Flower Pavillion by Andrew Atchison to proceed to next stage of commission.

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:**        Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:**    Councillor Wade

That Council:

1.    Endorses the Project Reference Group Recommendation: Flower Pavillion by Andrew Atchison to proceed to next stage of commission.

#### **CALL FOR A DIVISION**

**For:**            Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:**      Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 7.5. City of Yarra Collection Policy Renewal

**Author**        Brona Keenan – Coordinator Arts Development  
**Authoriser**   General Manager Community Strengthening

#### **Officer Recommendation**

That Council:

1.    Endorses the draft City of Yarra Collection Policy 2025-2029 for public exhibition for the period 11 July to 11 August 2025.

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:**        Councillor McKenzie

**Seconded:**    Councillor Gomez

That Council:

1.    Endorses the draft City of Yarra Collection Policy 2025-2029 for public exhibition for the period 11 July to 11 August 2025.

#### **CALL FOR A DIVISION**

**For:**            Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:**     Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 7.6. – Procurement Australia for Library Services

<b>Author</b>	Stephen Wright – Coordinator Library Resources Technology and Operations
<b>Authoriser</b>	General Manager Community Strengthening

### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Awards contract C1835 - Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements through Procurement Australia with selected Panel of Suppliers.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign on behalf of Council all necessary documentation including any contract variations (capped at 20% of annual contract value) relating to contract C1835 - Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements including the contract documentation and exercise options (as required and subject to satisfactory performance) on behalf of Council.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Harrison

**Seconded:** Councillor Davies

That Council:

1. Awards contract C1835 - Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements through Procurement Australia with selected Panel of Suppliers.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign on behalf of Council all necessary documentation including any contract variations (capped at 20% of annual contract value) relating to contract C1835 - Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements including the contract documentation and exercise options (as required and subject to satisfactory performance) on behalf of Council.

### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## 7.7. Governance Report - July 2025

**Author** Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

**Authoriser** General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Kathryn POUND be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument at Attachment one, with the instrument coming into force immediately upon it being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, and remaining in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.
2. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s11(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020 Council resolves:
  - (a) there be delegated to the person holding the position, or acting in or performing the duties, of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer at Attachment One, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;
  - (b) the instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument;
  - (c) on the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked; and
  - (d) the duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.
3. Having considered community feedback in relation to the following place naming proposals, apply to the Office of Geographic Names to:
  - (a) Assign the name "Burrung Lane" to right of way 1817 (off Argyle street, Fitzroy);
  - (b) Assign the name "Barrawang Lane" to right of way 76.1 (off Fenwick and Yambla streets, Clifton Hill); and
  - (c) Assign the name "Yirram Lane" to right of way 612 (off Davison street, Richmond).

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Gomez

**Seconded:** Councillor Harrison

That Council:

1. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Kathryn POUND be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument at Attachment one, with the instrument coming into force immediately upon it being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, and remaining in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.
2. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s11(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020 Council resolves:
  - (a) there be delegated to the person holding the position, or acting in or performing the duties, of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer at Attachment One, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;
  - (b) the instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument;
  - (c) on the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked; and
  - (d) the duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.
2. Having considered community feedback in relation to the following place naming proposals, apply to the Office of Geographic Names to:
  - (a) Assign the name "Burrung Lane" to right of way 1817 (off Argyle street, Fitzroy);
  - (b) Assign the name "Barrawang Lane" to right of way 76.1 (off Fenwick and Yambla streets, Clifton Hill); and
  - (c) Assign the name "Yirram Lane" to right of way 612 (off Davison street, Richmond).

## CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8. Notices of Motion

### 8.1. – Notice of Motion No. 9 of 2025 – Commemorating Hiroshima and Nagasaki

<b>Author</b>	Councillor Jolly
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#### Motion

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the 80th anniversaries of the US atomic bombings of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6th and 9th, 1945 and honours the 210,000+ victims of these attacks, and the Hibakusha and Hibaku Nisei, who continue to live with the legacy of nuclear weapons.
2. Notes that Council is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world and believe that our community has the right to live in a world free from this threat.
3. Notes that any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment.
4. Endorses the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Cities Appeal, a global call from cities and towns in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and calls on our national government to sign and ratify it without delay.

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor McKenzie

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the 80th anniversaries of the US atomic bombings of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6th and 9th, 1945 and honours the 210,000+ victims of these attacks, and the Hibakusha and Hibaku Nisei, who continue to live with the legacy of nuclear weapons.
2. Notes that Council is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world and believe that our community has the right to live in a world free from this threat.
3. Notes that any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment.
4. Reaffirms its 2018 endorsement of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Cities Appeal, a global call from cities and towns in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and calls on the Federal government to sign and ratify it without delay.

## CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9. Petitions and Joint Letters

Nil.

## 10. Questions without Notice

### 10.1 – Councillor McKenzie – Early Childhood Education Worker Retention Grant

Question:

Councillors were made aware via email from the Australian Services Union that this Council won't be applying for the Federal Government Early Childhood Education Worker Retention Grant, and that, that decision was made without meeting with the ASU who is a major stakeholder. What are the reasons why Council won't be applying for this and why have they chosen not to meet with the union?

The CEO advise provided the following response:

*Thank you for the question, I will decline to respond to that. I can confirm that we have made the decision not to apply for the grant, it was something that we seriously thought about, it is a pretty limited opportunity. Because of the provisions in the Local Government Act, that are very clear about my responsibilities versus council, I won't expand any further, as its operational. The ASU are welcome to contact me.*

## 11. Delegates Reports

Nil.

## 12. General Business

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### 12.1 Councillor Wade – E-bike Loan at Library

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#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Wade

**Seconded:** Councillor Davies

That Council:

1. Officers report back on the feasibility of Council facilitating an e-bike library, similar to that in the City of Boroondara, to the October Ordinary Council Meeting.

#### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Davies, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Councillor Aston, Councillor Gomez and Councillor Harrison

**CARRIED**



### 13. Urgent Business

Nil.

### 14. Confidential Business Reports

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION (PROCEDURAL)

**Moved:** Councillor Wade

**Seconded:** Councillor Gomez

The following items were deemed by the Chief Executive Officer to be suitable for consideration in closed session in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020. In accordance with that Act, Council may resolve to consider these issues in open or closed session.

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the meeting be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to allow consideration of the following confidential item:

#### 14.1. Chief Executive Officer KPI's 2025/26 and Review

<b>Author</b>	Grace Wong – EA to General Manager Corporate Services
<b>Authoriser</b>	General Manager Corporate Services
<b>Confidential Reason:</b>	<p>This agenda item is confidential information for the purposes of section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 for the following reason:</p> <p>(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.</p> <p>The explanation as to why the specified ground/s applies is:</p> <p>Personal information.</p>

#### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Following consideration of Confidential Business, the meeting resumed in open session.

**Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 8.26pm

Confirmed on Tuesday 12 August 2025.

Mayor