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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 27 January 2021

Released to the public on Tuesday 2 February 2021



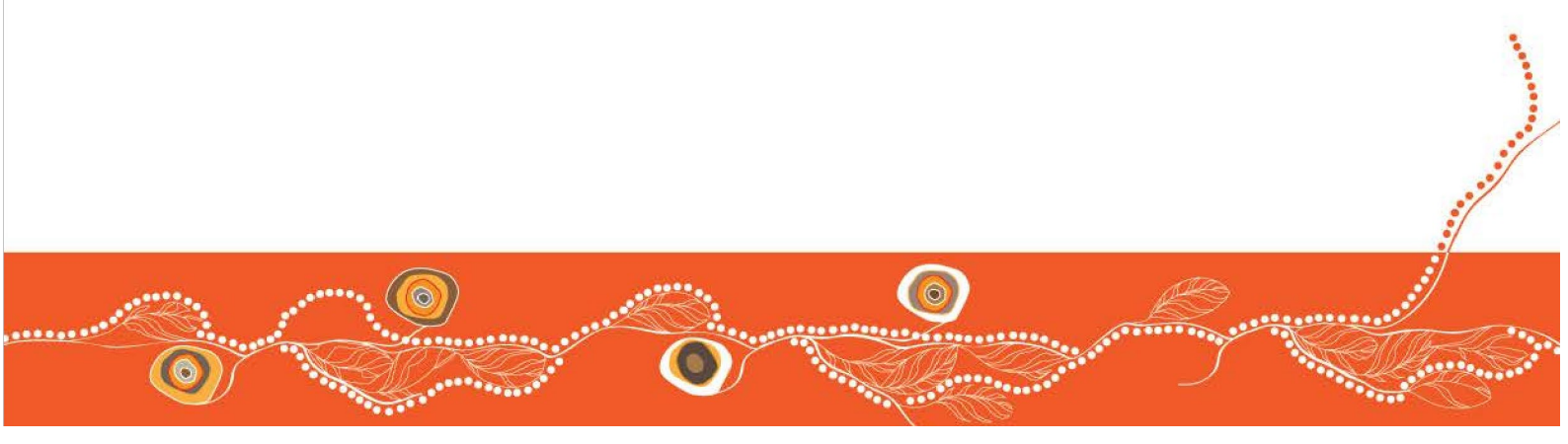
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کی روداد کے نقاط ہیں۔ روداد کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2021

THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.00PM

The Mayor advised that the meeting was being streamed live and that audio and video would be made available on Council's website.

WELCOME

The Chairperson, Mayor Messina, opened the meeting with the following statement:

"I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand here today, the Wurundjeri people, and pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, as well as to Elders from other communities who may be with us today."

Statement regarding International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Seventy six years ago today, in January 1945, Russian "Red" army forces liberated the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp; the largest concentration camp, or death camp, in Nazi controlled Europe.

The horror of the events in Nazi Germany was apparent before that, but the world was shaken by the images captured as red army journalists arrived in the weeks that followed; grainy black and white pictures in newspapers and short black and white video clips, of starving survivors, and evidence of the mass murder that had taken place. Of piles of shoes, mounds of suitcases and pits where the bodies were discarded.

Six million Jews died during the holocaust, alongside people with disabilities, gay men, Roma, religious minorities and political opponents. Millions of Russians, Poles and Serbians died too. Around 1 million children are thought to have been murdered. These events must not be forgotten.

Since 2005, the United Nations has asked Governments to commemorate this day. It's one way to ensure the truth of the events is known, to prevent events like those occurring anywhere else.

So tonight we stand for a minute's silence to commemorate the victims of the holocaust, to pledge that we will not allow anything like it to occur again.

As time has passed, the number of survivors continues to decline. By honouring the victims and survivors tonight we ensure that they will live on in our collective memories, and we carry forward the commitment that events like this must not be repeated.

We shall remember them.

A minute's silence was observed.

Statement to celebrate the Advocacy work undertaken by Council to support the release of Refugees

A month ago I opened the last Council meeting of 2020 by saying that we would continue to work for the release of the men who had been detained at the Mantra Bell for over a year.

As you know, 46 of these men have now been released, and many of them given temporary accommodation in Darebin. It's been too long, in many cases 8 years too long, but their release is welcome.

However 14 more remain in detention tonight. There is no logic to this situation. The Federal Minister has no credible explanation to offer, and no reasonable argument to make. This shameful episode drags on into 2021. So I say again to these men, "You will be free. We are waiting to meet you and welcome you into our community." Others are still detained in Brisbane and Adelaide.

I want to pay tribute to the Darebin residents who have led this campaign and continue to support the men. They represent the best of Australian values and we will do what we can to support you. I know all my fellow Councillors are united in this. Councillors Greco and Rennie in particular have worked well with community groups and agencies over several years.

Many, many people around the organisation have worked tirelessly for more than a year to help these men. Whether it was direct contact and support to the men, co-ordination with community leaders, attempts to influence political leaders in Canberra through quiet diplomacy, working with key agencies including the Red Cross or attendance at protests – you have helped make a difference and I am proud of you.

Council officers are working closely with key agencies such as Australian Red Cross, Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, Life without Barriers and local community groups to coordinate the provision of emergency and other supports including access to food relief, housing and health services.

Being free from detention doesn't yet mean that these men can start to rebuild their lives. We are concerned about the draconian conditions attached to their temporary bridging visas, and will be raising our concerns with the Government. We will continue to support these men now they are free, until Australia puts this shameful inhuman situation behind it.

Tonight, another 14 men remain in detention in a hotel in Carlton for no reason. We think of you tonight and we are waiting for your freedom too.

1. PRESENT

Councillors

Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Cr. Tom Hannan

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Susanne Newton (arrived 6.24pm)

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

Council Officers

Sue Wilkinson - Chief Executive Officer

Kerry McGrath - General Manager Communities

Rachel Ollivier - General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Jodie Watson - General Manager Governance and Engagement

Vanessa Petrie - Manager Climate Emergency & Sustainable Transport

Anita Craven – Manager Governance and Corporate Strategy

Stephen Mahon - Coordinator Council Business

Rachna Gupta Singh - Senior Council Business Officer

2. APOLOGIES

Nil

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-001

MOVED: Cr. J Williams

SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 December 2020 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

The Chairperson, Mayor Messina, responded to the following questions submitted for Public Question Time.

- **Linda Bradburn, Preston**

I would like to commend you for the Power Purchase Agreement program to use 100% renewable energy.

When will the contract for the renewable energy be signed and on what date will the contract begin ie the energy will begin to be from 100%renewable sources.

Response

Thank you for your question. We are pleased to be leading the Local Government Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement project. The procurement for the Local Government PPA Project is still ongoing, and on track to meet the project's timelines. Details of the procurement process are confidential and cannot be publicly shared at this stage. We are confident in delivering a great result for Darebin and the other participating councils.

- **Serena O'Meley, Reservoir**

Question 1

There are large piles of leaf litter under trees, fallen branches, and items of hard rubbish are starting to be dumped in the front of the yard of the former Dole Avenue Kindergarten.

This neglect places the building and grounds at risk of vandalism.

Can this site be incorporated into the garden maintenance schedule of the Keon Park Children's Centre across the road?

Response

Thank you for bringing this matter to Council. A team will attend and undertake some general maintenance of the area as soon as possible.

Question 2

When Darebin Council meetings were held on Zoom due to Covid-19 it was possible to see the faces of councillors, the motions and amendments they were debating, and public questions could be asked from home.

Can these features be made available to the public again so that meetings can be fully accessible to residents who wish to participate in meetings from their homes?

Response

Thank you for your question Serena

We continually look at ways to make our meetings accessible to residents. I am very pleased that tonight we have been able to have the public back into the Council meeting in person. We have also added new camera angles so that you can see which Councillor is speaking at any one time.

Unfortunately, we are not providing for questions to be asked from home, however we are still providing the option for questions to be lodged by 12 noon and to be read out by the Mayor. I encourage you to utilise this if you are unable to attend a council meeting in person.

Question 3

Will we be able to see the items on the screen from home?

Response

The Mayor advised that this question would be taken on notice.

- **Peter Gonis, Reservoir**

Question 1

2 weeks ago I needed to use the toilet facilities. Much to my horror, NO SOAP. Why are there no soap dispensers at the newly built toilet block at Edwards Park Lake.

Response

Thank you for bringing that to our attention. I will follow up with the Chief Executive Officer ensure that someone contacts you tomorrow to resolve the matter.

Question 2

Why has the Council budgeted \$63.5 million for the Northcote pool and will the Council commit to review that budgeted item?

Response

The budget of \$63.5M for the project is based on comparable aquatic centres and not a pool and informed by detailed quantity surveying work.

Question 3

The whole of Australia saw the devastating effects COVID -19 reaped on Private Aged care homes. Will the Council commit to retaining Aged Care Services for the future?

Response

In 2018, Council resolved to –

- i) continue its annual \$6 million investment into the longer term in facilities, programs and services promoting the health and wellbeing of older people and
- ii) continue to provide commonwealth home support program services while in receipt of any block funding from the Commonwealth Government.

Council also adopted the Aged Friendly Darebin flagship initiative in 2019, which is working to ensure that all aspects of Council services, programs, and the social and built environment are aged friendly throughout the city.

Can I also note that Darebin is not responsible for Private Aged Care services.

The Mayor advised that in the lead up to this Council Meeting we had received three questions that were specifically directed at an individual Councillor.

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules (Section 15.3) no questions directed at an individual Councillor or officer will be allowed.

She additionally advised that the issue raised by these three questions had been separately addressed with the relevant parties.

- **Agapi Pashos, Northcote**

Ms Pashos commenced a question that was contrary to Councils Governance Rules

The Mayor advised that in accordance with Council's Governance Rules 2020, no questions directed at an individual Councillor or officer will be allowed and that accordingly the question was disallowed and the question would be taken on notice and responded to privately.

- **John Nugent, Epping**

Question 1

Could you please advise why was the administration and customer service areas were closed over the Christmas period (Tuesday 29, 30 and 31 December).

The Council switch board staff advised they were working at home, but no one rang me back when requested to do so.

The Mayor referred the question to Jodie Watson, General Manager Governance and Engagement for a response.

Response from General Manager Governance and Engagement

Thank you for your question. There was a decision taken to close the Customer service Centre for three days between Christmas and New Year break. This was largely due to staffing pressures and having staff having to work in staff bubble in accordance with COVID requirements and also to give staff a break particularly after a challenging year in Customer Service area. Further it was noted that during this period a much lower in demand existed for face to face customer interaction.

During that time our Customer Service Centre maintained service levels so the community could access the services they needed.

I am disappointed to know that you did not receive a return phone call. I will come back to you on this separately.

Question 2

Could you please advise if last year Council paid the Darebin Falcons funding for the 2020 year and what was the total payments paid by the Darebin Falcons to their players and its amounts in the 2019 season.

Response

The Mayor advised that this question would be taken on notice.

Question 3

Council cancelled the Council meeting on 5 October 2020. Could you please advise why my rights were impeded when Council cancel this meeting and why can't I carry over my three questions to the next Council meeting?

Response

The Mayor advised that this question would be taken on notice.

- **Vince Rocca, Reservoir**

Question 1

Parking in Gurok St Reservoir – there is a school at the end of the street and during school days it is nearly impossible for residents to move out of their driveways onto the road. There is a petition that has been signed and submitted and parking restrictions will be put onto the street but not the end which concerns me and my family has not been addressed what can be done?

Mayor referred the question to Chief Executive Officer for a response.

Response from the Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer advised that she would request the General Manager of City Sustainability and Strategy who is responsible for management of parking throughout the city to call you tomorrow to discuss and understand the background fully.

Question 2

Edwardes lake is a disgrace, what can be done about the eyesore that is the lake and how quickly?

Response

The Mayor advised that there was an urgent motion proposed to be discussed this evening on this matter. The Mayor also advised that Council has commenced targeted Stakeholder Engagement Sessions and the first of these sessions would be held with senior representatives of Melbourne Water on the 1 February 2021 to specifically discuss Edwardes Lake.

- **Brian Sanaghan, Preston**

On September 2, 2019 I was arrested whilst standing outside the Gower Street entrance of this Town Hall. I was waiting to be allowed into the town hall prior to question time. Fifteen minutes before the start of the meeting I was approached by three members of the Preston police. I was verbally abused, handcuffed, brutalised and thrown forcefully into the back of a police car where I was detained. I am 73 years of age, which by any means is a vulnerable age for a man. I am an old man. In the last four years I have suffered two heart attacks, had stent inserted into a major blood vessel, and I have had a pacemaker installed.

Madam Mayor, why was I arrested?

Response

The Mayor advised Mr. Sanaghan that he would need to contact Victoria Police to seek an answer to this question.

6. PETITIONS

6.1 TABLING OF PETITION - COMMUNITY GARDEN AT DALEGLEN PARK

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-002

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That the petition signed by approx. 81 persons regarding the Daleglen Park Community Garden stating:

We the undersigned hereby petition Darebin Council to preserve the Community Garden at Daleglen Park, and to incorporate the garden into an planned upgrades

7. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

7.1 INTENTION TO DECLARE A SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME: SOLAR SAVER RESIDENTIAL (BATCH 6)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Solar Saver program is a key action of Council's Climate Emergency Plan. The proposed Special Charge scheme relates to the 2020-21 program. The Declaration of this Special Charge is expected to be considered by Council on 22 March 2021, after the public advertising period has closed.

The 61 households included in this batch have received and accepted quotes for their properties. The installations for this batch would add a total of 267kW of solar capacity in Darebin. In line with Council's focus for the Solar Saver Special Charge program in 2020-21 all households are low-income households.

The proposed Special Charge scheme totals **\$349,682.23 (Special Charge Amount** - see also **Appendix A** and **Appendix B**) (The gross amount is \$501,318.65 including GST and before the Small-Scale Technology Certificate [STC] claim and rebate).

Council will pay upfront for installation and supply of the solar power systems as listed in **Appendix C**. Council will be repaid these costs, also detailed in Appendix C. Around 30% to 40% of this cost is returned to Council when works are invoiced and the STC credits generated by the solar systems are applied. The balance is repaid by beneficiaries of the Special Charge Scheme over 10 years.

All participants are expected to be eligible for state government rebates and will reduce the upfront cost to Council and therefore the Special Charges to be raised. Officers estimate that the total upfront cost will be reduced by around \$102,591.02 (exc GST) after rebates are confirmed.

No interest is charged to ratepayers on Special Charge repayments. Annual repayments are more than offset by participants' savings on their energy bills, and therefore the program provides financial and environmental benefits to participants from the outset.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Council hereby gives notice of its intention to declare a Special Charge in accordance with section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Act)* as follows:
 - (a) Council declares a Special Charge for the period commencing on the day on which Council issues a notice levying payment of the special rate and concluding on the tenth anniversary of that day.
 - (b) We declare this Special Charge for the purpose of defraying any expense incurred by Council in relation to the provision of solar energy systems on residential properties participating in the Solar Saver scheme, which:
 - i. Council considers is or will be a special benefit to those persons or organisations required to pay the Special Charge (and who are described in succeeding parts of this resolution); and
 - ii. Arises out of Council's functions of advocating and promoting proposals which are in the best interests of the community and ensuring the peace, order and good government of Council's municipal district.
 - (c) The total:
 - i. Cost of performing the function described in paragraph 1(b) of this resolution is \$349,682.23; and
 - ii. Amount for the Special Charge to be levied is \$349,682.23, or such other amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution
 - (d) We declare the Special Charge in relation to all rateable land described in the table included as **Appendix B** to this report, in the amount specified in the table as applying to each piece of rateable land.
 - (e) Ownership of any land described in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution is the basis of the Special Charge.
 - (f) The Special Charge will be assessed and levied as follows:
 - i. Each Special Charge is calculated by reference to the size of the solar energy system being installed and the particular costs of installation at each property participating in the Solar Saver scheme, in respect of which an Owner Agreement has been executed, totalling \$349,682.23, being the total cost of the scheme to Council;
 - ii. The Special Charge will be levied each year for a period of 10 years.
 - (g) Having regard to the preceding paragraphs of this resolution and subject to section 166(1) of the Act, it is recorded that the owners of the land described in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution will, subject to a further resolution of Council, pay the Special Charge in the amount set out in paragraph 1(f) of this resolution in the following manner:
 - i. Payment annually by a lump sum on or before one month following the issue by Council of a notice levying payment under section 163(4) of the Act; or
 - ii. Payment annually by four instalments to be paid by the dates which are fixed by Council in a notice levying payment under section 163(4) of the Act.

- (2) Council considers that there will be a special benefit to the persons required to pay the Special Charge because there will be a benefit to those persons that is over and above, or greater than, the benefit that is available to persons who are not subject to the proposed Special Charge, as a result of the expenditure proposed by the Special Charge, in that the properties will have the benefit of a solar energy system being installed.
 - (3) For the purposes of having determined the total amount of the Special Charge to be levied:
 - (a) Council considers and formally records that only those rateable properties included in the Solar Saver scheme as proposed will derive a special benefit from the imposition of the Special Charge, and there are no community benefits to be paid by Council; and
 - (b) Formally determines for the purposes of section 163(2) (a), (2A) and (2B) of the Act that the estimated proportion of the total benefits of the Special Charge to which the performance of the function or the exercise of the power relates (including all special benefits and community benefits) that will accrue as special benefits to the persons who are liable to pay the Special Charge is 100%.
 - (4) Council will give public notice in The Age newspaper of Council's intention to declare, at its ordinary meeting to be held on 22 March 2021, the Special Charge in the form set out above.
 - (5) Council will send separate letters, enclosing a copy of: this resolution; Appendix B to this report; and the public notice referred to in Paragraph 4 of this resolution, to the owners of the properties included in the scheme, advising of Council's intention to levy the Special Charge, the amount for which the property owner will be liable, the basis of calculation of the Special Charge, and notification that submissions and/or objections in relation to the proposal will be considered by Council in accordance with sections 163A, 163B and 223 of the Act.
 - (6) Council will convene a meeting of the Hearing of Submissions Committee, at a date and time to be fixed, to hear any persons or organisations who, in their written submissions made under section 223 of the Act, advise that they wish to appear in person, or to be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting in support of their submission.
 - (7) Council authorises the Manager Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport to carry out any and all other administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under sections 163A, 163(1A), (1B) and (1C), 163B and 223 of the Act.
-

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-003

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That Council:

- (1) Council hereby gives notice of its intention to declare a Special Charge in accordance with section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Act)* as follows:
 - (a) Council declares a Special Charge for the period commencing on the day on which Council issues a notice levying payment of the special rate and concluding on the tenth anniversary of that day.
 - (b) We declare this Special Charge for the purpose of defraying any expense incurred by Council in relation to the provision of solar energy systems on residential properties participating in the Solar Saver scheme, which:
 - i. Council considers is or will be a special benefit to those persons or organisations required to pay the Special Charge (and who are described in succeeding parts of this resolution); and
 - ii. Arises out of Council's functions of advocating and promoting proposals which are in the best interests of the community and ensuring the peace, order and good government of Council's municipal district.
 - (c) The total:
 - i. Cost of performing the function described in paragraph 1(b) of this resolution is \$349,682.23; and
 - ii. Amount for the Special Charge to be levied is \$349,682.23, or such other amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution
 - (d) We declare the Special Charge in relation to all rateable land described in the table included as **Appendix B** to this report, in the amount specified in the table as applying to each piece of rateable land.
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 - (f) The Special Charge will be assessed and levied as follows:
 - i. Each Special Charge is calculated by reference to the size of the solar energy system being installed and the particular costs of installation at each property participating in the Solar Saver scheme, in respect of which an Owner Agreement has been executed, totalling \$349,682.23, being the total cost of the scheme to Council;
 - ii. The Special Charge will be levied each year for a period of 10 years.
 - (g) Having regard to the preceding paragraphs of this resolution and subject to section 166(1) of the Act, it is recorded that the owners of the land described in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution will, subject to a further resolution of Council, pay the Special Charge in the amount set out in paragraph 1(f) of this resolution in the following manner:
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 - (5) Council will send separate letters, enclosing a copy of: this resolution; Appendix B to this report; and the public notice referred to in Paragraph 4 of this resolution, to the owners of the properties included in the scheme, advising of Council's intention to levy the Special Charge, the amount for which the property owner will be liable, the basis of calculation of the Special Charge, and notification that submissions and/or objections in relation to the proposal will be considered by Council in accordance with sections 163A, 163B and 223 of the Act.
 - (6) Council will convene a meeting of the Hearing of Submissions Committee, at a date and time to be fixed, to hear any persons or organisations who, in their written submissions made under section 223 of the Act, advise that they wish to appear in person, or to be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting in support of their submission.
 - (7) Council authorises the Manager Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport to carry out any and all other administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under sections 163A, 163(1A), (1B) and (1C), 163B and 223 of the Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2 APPROACH TO ENGAGEMENT ON THE COMMUNITY VISION, COUNCIL PLAN, FINANCIAL PLAN AND ASSET PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* establishes the need for Council to develop a range of key plans underpinned by a range of resourcing plans, including:

Long term	Community Vision (10 yr+) – 20yr proposed	2041
	Financial Plan (10 yrs)	2031
	Asset Plan (10 yrs)	2032
Mid term	Council Plan (incorporating Health and Wellbeing Plan) (4 yr)	2025
	Revenue and Rating Plan (4 yr)	2025
	Workforce Plan (4 yr)	2026
	Budget (4 yr)	2025

The Act also requires the development of a number of these plans to being informed through a deliberative engagement process with the Darebin Community. These are the Community Vision, Financial Plan, Asset Plan and the Council Plan.

This report outlines the approach to engagement that will be undertaken to inform the development of these plans and the timelines for the key plans to be adopted by 30 June 2021.

Recommendation

That Council;

- (1) Endorses the approach to the first round of Deliberative Community Engagement for the development of the Community Vision 2041 and Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-2025 outlined in this report.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-004

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the approach to the first round of Deliberative Community Engagement for the development of the Community Vision 2041 and Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-2025 outlined in this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3 COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) requires that a new Code be adopted within 4 months of a general election. This report recommends that Council adopt the new, revised Councillor Code of Conduct 2021 (**Attachment A**).

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Adopts the Councillor Code of Conduct 2021 (**Attachment A**).

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-005

MOVED: Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. S Newton

That Council:

- (1) Adopts the Councillor Code of Conduct 2021 (**Attachment A**)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

9.1 UNUSED AND UNDERUTILISED COUNCIL BUILDINGS

Councillor: Gaetano GRECO

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 27 January 2021, it is my intention to move:

That Council:

Receives an interim report at the March Council meeting and a full report at the Council meeting in May 2021 listing all the unused and under-utilised Council buildings with the purpose of informing the 2021-22 budget process, four year Council plan and Council Vision.

Without limiting the scope of these reports they should provide the following information:

- (1) Details on the state of the buildings and what they were previously used for;*
- (2) When the buildings were last used and why they are now not used or remain underutilised;*
- (3) Whether the buildings have the potential to achieve priorities of existing Council strategies or future known community needs;*
- (4) Whether the buildings could temporarily be put to community use and at what cost if known;*
- (5) What plans exist or have been considered for the future use of the buildings.*
- (6) What process can be put in place to determine the future community function and utilisation of unused and under-utilised buildings to support the realisation of the Community Vision and Council Plan priorities.*

Motion

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That Council:

Receives an interim report at the March Council meeting and a full report at the Council meeting in May 2021 listing all the unused and under-utilised Council buildings with the purpose of informing the 2021-22 budget process, four year Council plan and Council Vision.

Without limiting the scope of these reports they should provide the following information:

- (1) Details on the state of the buildings and what they were previously used for;
- (2) When the buildings were last used and why they are now not used or remain underutilised;
- (3) Whether the buildings have the potential to achieve priorities of existing Council strategies or future known community needs;
- (4) Whether the buildings could temporarily be put to community use and at what cost if known;
- (5) What plans exist or have been considered for the future use of the buildings.
- (6) What process can be put in place to determine the future community function and utilisation of unused and under-utilised buildings to support the realisation of the Community Vision and Council Plan priorities.

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 21-006**

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That Council:

Receives an interim report at the March Council meeting and a full report at the Council meeting in May 2021 listing all the unused and under-utilised Council buildings with the purpose of informing the 2021-22 budget process, four year Council plan and Council Vision.

Without limiting the scope of these reports they should provide the following information:

- (1) Details on the state of the buildings and what they were previously used for;
- (2) When the buildings were last used and why they are now not used or remain underutilised;
- (3) Whether the buildings have the potential to achieve priorities of existing Council strategies or future known community needs;
- (4) Whether the buildings could temporarily be put to community use and at what cost if known;
- (5) What plans exist or have been considered for the future use of the buildings.
- (6) What process can be put in place to determine the future community function and utilisation of unused and under-utilised buildings to support the realisation of the Community Vision and Council Plan priorities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 LEISURE CENTRE REDEVELOPMENTS IN DAREBIN**Councillor: Tim LAURENCE**

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 27 January 2021, it is my intention to move:

***That** Darebin Council officers prepare a report for March 2021 on the scale and cost of recently built or refurbished swimming pools in the Melbourne metro area and in regional Victoria including but not limited to Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre, Rosebud Aquatic Centre, Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre, Broadmeadows Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Centre, Aqualink Boxhill, and Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre to assist council to ensure due diligence and value for ratepayers' funds in relation to leisure centre redevelopments in Darebin.*

Motion

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. J Williams

That Darebin Council officers prepare a report for March 2021 on the scale and cost of recently built or refurbished swimming pools in the Melbourne metro area and in regional Victoria including but not limited to Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre, Rosebud Aquatic Centre, Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre, Broadmeadows Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Centre, Aqualink Boxhill, and Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre to assist council to ensure due diligence and value for ratepayers' funds in relation to leisure centre redevelopments in Darebin.

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

That Darebin Council officers prepare a report for March 2021 on the scale and cost of recently built or refurbished **Aquatic Centres** in the Melbourne metro area and in regional Victoria including but not limited to Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre, Rosebud Aquatic Centre, Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre, Broadmeadows Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Centre, Aqualink Boxhill, and Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre to assist council to ensure due diligence.

The mover and seconder of the motion consented to the amendment and it became the substantive motion before the Council.

The substantive motion before the Council was put and carried .

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 21-007**

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. J Williams

That Darebin Council officers prepare a report for March 2021 on the scale and cost of recently built or refurbished Aquatic Centres in the Melbourne metro area and in regional Victoria including but not limited to Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre, Rosebud Aquatic Centre, Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre, Broadmeadows Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Centre, Aqualink Boxhill, and Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre to assist council to ensure due diligence.

CARRIED

For: Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Hannan, Laurence, McCarthy, Messina, and Williams (7)

Against: Cr's. Newton and Rennie (2)

10. URGENT BUSINESS**ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS****Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-008**

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T McCarthy

That matter of the water quality at Edwards Lake be admitted as an urgent business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

EDWARDS LAKE WATER QUALITY**Motion**

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That Council:

- (1) Urgently request a meeting between appropriate Melbourne Water and EPA staff and Council officers to ensure that those agencies fully understand the issues that Darebin is faced with managing at Edwardes Lake and the risk of a possible more serious blue-green algal bloom should slightly different conditions favourable to an outbreak occur
- (2) Urgently request that Melbourne Water and the EPA investigate the upstream source of nutrients (especially phosphorus) that has likely caused the recent green algal bloom at Edwardes lake and provide advice about how this particular risk, and that of a more damaging blue-green algal bloom, can be mitigated in Darebin's future management of Edwardes Lake;
- (3) Seeks, at the next Council meeting, a report from officers on the current maintenance and management regime for Edwardes Lake and especially the extent to which water is re-circulated to mitigate algal blooms and the extent and frequency of sediment clean-outs at the lake and its upstream wetlands;
- (4) Subsequent to the above report and taking into account these current management practices, seeks a further report with expert advice on how Edwardes Lake and its immediate upstream wetlands can be better managed via modification works or other approaches, in order to make the system more sustainable with a lower risk profile and reduction of Council's exposure to recurring management issues such as algal bloom.

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

That point (4) of the motion be amended to read:

- (4) Subsequent to the above report and taking into account these current management practices, seeks a further report with expert advice on how Edwardes Lake and its immediate upstream wetlands can be better managed via modification works or other approaches, in order to make the system more sustainable with a lower risk profile, **including current and future climate change-related risks**, and reduction of Council's exposure to recurring management issues such as algal bloom.

The mover and seconder of the motion consented to the amendment and it became the substantive motion before the Council.

The substantive motion before the Council was put and carried.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-009

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That Council:

- (1) Urgently request a meeting between appropriate Melbourne Water and EPA staff and Council officers to ensure that those agencies fully understand the issues that Darebin is faced with managing at Edwardes Lake and the risk of a possible more serious blue-green algal bloom should slightly different conditions favourable to an outbreak occur
- (2) Urgently request that Melbourne Water and the EPA investigate the upstream source of nutrients (especially phosphorus) that has likely caused the recent green algal bloom at Edwardes lake and provide advice about how this particular risk, and that of a more damaging blue-green algal bloom, can be mitigated in Darebin's future management of Edwardes Lake;
- (3) Seeks, at the next Council meeting, a report from officers on the current maintenance and management regime for Edwardes Lake and especially the extent to which water is re-circulated to mitigate algal blooms and the extent and frequency of sediment clean-outs at the lake and its upstream wetlands;
- (4) Subsequent to the above report and taking into account these current management practices, seeks a further report with expert advice on how Edwardes Lake and its immediate upstream wetlands can be better managed via modification works or other approaches, in order to make the system more sustainable with a lower risk profile including current and future climate change-related risks, and reduction of Council's exposure to recurring management issues such as algal bloom.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2

**TABLING OF PETITION - TURNER RESERVE ON SMITH
AND HAROLD STREET IN THORNBURY**

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-010**MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy**
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That the petition signed by online approx. 181 persons regarding the available shade in Turner Reserve on Smith and Harold Street in Thornbury stating :

Turner Reserve on Smith & Harold Streets in Thornbury is a highly frequented park by the local community. Currently there is no shade installed at all to protect the little ones. Darebin Council states that trees have been planted and they provide adequate shade. Sadly the trees planted are no more than 1m tall and will take 10+ years before they provide shade to the play areas. I'm hoping that with enough signatures we might be able to convince Darebin Council that we need some shade sails installed. Particularly over the sandpit and play areas.

The sandpit is particularly popular with children under 3 and there aren't many parks around that cater to small children. Not to mention the metal slides are way too hot in the warm weather. Currently the park is empty anytime the temperature is above 25 degrees, it would be lovely to use the park on warmer days.

be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for action.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Nil

12. SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

12.1 SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFING AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

In accordance with Councils Governance Rules adopted on the 20 July 2020, for any meeting of an Advisory Committee established by Council attended by at least one Councillor or a scheduled or planned meeting to discuss the business of *Council* or to brief Councillors, and which is attended by at least half of the Councillors and one member of Council staff; and which is not a *Council meeting*, *Delegated Committee* meeting or *Community Asset Committee* meeting the *Chief Executive Officer* must ensure that a summary of the meeting is:-

- a) Tabled at the next convenient Council meeting; and
- b) Recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

Recommendation

That the summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings and other Informal Meetings of Councillors held on 18 January 2021 and attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-011

MOVED: Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That the summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings and other Informal Meetings of Councillors held on 18 January 2021 and attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

REPORT OF CR. LINA MESSINA, MAYOR

Cr. Messina reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Mayor / Executive Support meeting
- One on one with General Manager Governance & Engagement
- Informal one on one with CEO
- Photo Opportunity with Minister Local Govt / CEO / Grace Tan
- MAYORAL BRIEFING - Northcote High School
- Filming - Community Vision and Council Plan
- Photo Opportunity – Love Local Campaign
- Council Plan Workshop – Environmental
- Council Plan Workshop – Economic
- Council Plan Workshop – Diversity
- Meetings with Traders Groups
- Mayor & Co-Chair Briefing – Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting
- Opening Marco's Supermarket – Summer Hill Shopping Centre
- Invitation to speak – Bundoora Homestead exhibition opening
- 3knd Interview – Phone
- One on One with CEO
- Dinner before Council Meeting
- Council Meeting
- XMAS video message to staff
- Xmas Video message to community
- Community introduction to Council
- Radio interview with Tony Jones 3aw
- Radio interview with Sammy J ABC radio

REPORT OF CR. GAETANO GRECO, DEPUTY MAYOR

Cr. Greco reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Council plan all day workshops
- DECC steering committee
- Invasion Day rally
- Visited refugees in Swanson street hotel
- Attended MITA detention centre fir rehearse of refugees
- Genocide monument commemoration for 1st Nations People's and public forum

- Meeting with residents re: age services, planning, street improvements, planning

REPORT OF CR. JULIE WILLIAMS

Cr. Williams did not submit a report.

REPORT OF CR. TIM LAURENCE

Cr. Laurence submitted a Late Report. It was noted that it would be included in the next meeting.

REPORT OF CR. SUSANNE NEWTON

Cr. Newton reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

- The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Australia (WILPF) Australia Webinar to Celebrate a Nuclear Weapons-Free Future
- Season One | Opening Event - Bundoora Homestead Art Centre
- Online meeting with Councillor Johanna Skelton, Yarra Ranges Council
- Phone meeting with Mayor Gabrielle De Vietri, Yarra Council regarding refugees in Park Hotel (whom were formerly in Mantra Hotel)
- Council plan theme workshop - health, wellbeing and social theme
- Council plan theme workshop - diversity
- Council meeting
- Interview with Masters student Juliane Tice about the Solar Savers program
- Planning committee meeting
- Councillor briefings x2
- Alliance for Gambling Reform Councillor Briefing Session
- Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) Board meeting
- Councillor and Executive Management Team end of year dinner

REPORT OF CR. SUSAN RENNIE

Cr. Rennie reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities

- Took refugees from Reservoir to Invasion Day Share the Spirit concert
- Visits to refugee protests in Swanson street hotel
- Release party of refugees
- Reading for council planning sessions
- Meeting with residents re planning, street improvements, and small business matters

REPORT OF CR. TRENT MCCARTHY

Cr. McCarthy reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action Executive
- Climate Emergency Australia meeting

- Meeting with applicant for 48 High St Northcote to discuss community considerations and vision for the site
- Smoking Ceremony with Wurundjeri Elder Auntie Di
- Councillor Briefings
- Planning Committee meeting
- Council Plan Workshop on Environment
- End of Year Council Dinner
- Various issues on behalf of residents and traders

REPORT OF CR. EMILY DIMITRIADIS

Cr. Dimitriadis reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Councillor and EMT dinner at Umberto
- MC at DECC event about the Aboriginal Genocide of Australia
- Attended Democritus League event about the Aboriginal Genocide of Australia
- Attended all Councillor strategic planning sessions
- Attended Australia day rally outside Parliament House
- Spoke with residents about their parking concerns including the Nightindale Development
- Meeting with Fairfield Traders and Mayor Messina
- Attended Northcote Holy Monastery for cutting of Vasilopita
- Contact (online/telephone) with residents regarding various issues, e.g. parking, Nightingale, John Caine Reserve, rubbish around the area, graffiti, water quality at Edwardes Lake
- Meeting with Reconciliation Victoria board member about 26 January and how we can support First Nations People
- Zoom meeting with VLGWA
- Meeting with Robin Scott

REPORT OF CR. TOM HANNAN

Cr. Hannan reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Contact (phone / online) with residents about their concerns, eg, pop-up bike lane on South Crescent, Northcote High School portable classroom, waste management, marking 26 January, Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, solar panels, Johnson Park, native wildlife.
- Met with Philip Bain, CEO of Your Community Health
- Attended meeting with Darebin Council CEO about continuation of a lease of land to Northcote High School to accommodate a portable classroom
- Attended Councillor strategic planning sessions on Environment, Health & Wellbeing, Economy
- Councillor and executive team end of year dinner
- Council meeting

Recommendation

That Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 21-012

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL


Nil

15. CLOSE OF MEETING


The meeting closed at 7.36pm.

**CITY OF
DAREBIN**

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繁體中文	Македонски	Español
Ελληνικά	नेपाली	اردو
हिंदी	பெங்களூர்	Tiếng Việt