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# MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 23 August 2021

Released to the public on 30 August 2021

**LIVE STREAMING OF THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS MADE AVAILABLE ON  
COUNCIL'S INTERNET SITE.**



## **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 ਵੈੱਸਲ 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 VIRTUALLY ON MONDAY 23 AUGUST 2021

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### THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.06 PM

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

## 1. OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP

### ***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

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

### ***Council Officers***

Sue Wilkinson - Chief Executive Officer

Sam Hewett - General Manager Operations and Capital

Kerry McGrath - General Manager Communities

Rachel Ollivier - General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Jodie Watson - General Manager Governance and Engagement

Anita Craven - Manager Governance and Corporate Strategy

Jo Smale – Manager Families, Youth and Children

Anthea Kypreos – Acting Manager Property & Business Improvement

Damian Hogan – Manager Finance

Vanessa Petrie - Manager Climate Emergency & Sustainable Transport

Stevie Meyer – Acting Manager City Futures

Greg Phippen – Coordinator Property Services

David Cecala – Coordinator Procurement and Contracting

Michelle Van Gerrevink – Coordinator Climate Emergency & Environment Strategy

Sophie Jordan – Principal Strategic Planner

Dave Godden – Planning and Project Officer

Stephen Mahon - Coordinator Council Business

Rachna Gupta Singh - Senior Council Business Officer

Georgina Steele – Council Business Officer

Michelle Martin - Council Business Officer

Nick Van – Executive Officer to Mayor and Councillors

## 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

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

*Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and waters 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.*

## 3. APOLOGIES

Nil

## 4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

## 5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-089**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. J Williams

**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

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

- **David Chapple, Thornbury**

Can Council please provide an extension of time for submissions on the proposed Thornbury Park Estate heritage overlay? Given the current COVID restrictions, the residents of this area are unable to meet and discuss.

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**Our officers can provide extensions on a case by case basis, for up to two weeks following the deadline of 17 September 2021.**

**One of our officers will get in touch with you to discuss. The total consultation period is six weeks, which is two weeks longer than required. This timing gives everyone a chance to take part, and will reach a clear decision in reasonable time, so that people wanting to renovate are not delayed too long.**

- **Susan Seven, Thornbury.**

Re: proposed Thornbury Park Estate Heritage overlay and timelines for feedback.

May we please have an extension of time to present submissions?

We need more discussion and time to understand what is being proposed and why, and the implications on homeowners. Thank you.

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**We understand this is a difficult time and we much prefer doing more things face to face. Our officers can provide extensions on a case by case basis, for up to two weeks following the deadline of 17 September 2021.**

**One of our officers will get in touch with you to discuss. The total consultation period is six weeks, which is two weeks longer than required. This timing gives everyone a chance to take part, and will reach a clear decision in reasonable time, so that people wanting to renovate are not delayed too long.**

- **Charbel Tawk, Thornbury**

In relation to the proposed Thornbury Park Estate Heritage Overlay, we kindly request an extension of time for resident submissions due to the recent Covid lockdowns which have significantly impacted our ability to properly assess and respond to the proposal. We request the Council extends the date beyond Sept 17th in good faith given the significant impact this will have on our properties.

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**We understand this is a difficult time and we much prefer doing more things face to face. Our officers can provide extensions on a case by case basis, for up to two weeks following the deadline of 17 September 2021.**

**One of our officers will get in touch with you to discuss. The total consultation period is six weeks, which is two weeks longer than required. This timing gives everyone a chance to take part, and will reach a clear decision in reasonable time, so that people wanting to renovate are not delayed too long.**

- **Ana Rachman, Thornbury**

Regarding Thornbury Park Estate Proposed Heritage Overlay, I would like to ask for an extension of time on the community submission date for feedback on the proposed overlay. I request that this date be changed at least until 15 October. Due to the current Covid 19 lockdowns, there is not sufficient time to be able to engage as a community to discuss how it will affect us.

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**We understand this is a difficult time and we much prefer doing more things face to face. Our officers can provide extensions on a case by case basis, for up to two weeks following the deadline of 17 September 2021.**

**One of our officers will get in touch with you to discuss. The total consultation period is six weeks, which is two weeks longer than required. This timing gives everyone a chance to take part, and will reach a clear decision in reasonable time, so that people wanting to renovate are not delayed too long.**

- **Sarah Webb, Thornbury**

Regarding the proposed Heritage Overlay for Thornbury Estate.

1. Could Council please explain the rationale for the overlay on boundary streets such as Strettle St. ? This would mean heritage overlays on one side of the road, and not on the other. Currently the western side of Strettle St, for example, is being completed changed with medium density development on large blocks, but this proposed overlay would restrict any changes to houses immediately opposite these mostly ugly and poor quality developments. This significantly undermines the supposed intention of protecting what remains of the heritage character of boundary streets.
2. Please can Council provide an extension of time for residents affected by the proposed overlay to consider the implications and prepare submissions. Lockdown has meant significant challenges for residents to investigate the implications and discuss within the community

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

1. **The boundaries of the proposed overlay have been determined by heritage experts. An overlay can only be applied where there is heritage value and this precinct largely corresponds with the 1911 subdivision plan for Thornbury Park Estate. I encourage you to make a submission to the consultation process that's currently underway.**
2. **We understand this is a difficult time and we much prefer doing more things face to face. Our officers can provide extensions on a case by case basis, for up to two weeks following the deadline of 17 September 2021. One of our officers will get in touch with you to discuss.**



- **Bruce Mowson, Thornbury**

Our question is to the council regarding the acknowledgement of those about to build homes being caught in the middle of the Thornbury Park Estate heritage overlay process and goes to the question of appropriate corporate behaviour, dishonesty and mis-guidance. We've contacted Council to complain verbally fourteen days ago, and written seven days ago, and received no responses despite being told expect a reply within five days.

Firstly - the issue of clarity and honesty - the council has not provided advice to this group, and has allowed them to continue to plan, at great cost to the individuals. It is apparent that that at least one community member was advised by statutory planning of the forthcoming overlay in 2019. This information however was not given, despite frequent contact, to the others in their queries with council. We request this poor practice be reviewed by council. Had we known that heritage was coming (heritage overlay interim apparently secretly requested by council in 2019) - we would have designed to keep the existing frontage of our proposed home.

What is the process to assist those caught in the planning phase now - not in months, but now, for those who are literally about to build homes? Will you offer a grandfather clause (as suggested to me as a reasonable step by a leading member of the Comas Grove protest group) to the families that have reasonable and appropriate plans and contracts ready to go. We've started redrawing plans to comply with Heritage guidelines (keep the front facing rooms etc). Will our planning application be supported and facilitated by Strategic and Statutory planning in acknowledgment of our difficult and unreasonable position we've been put in - or will we be asked to wait months or years whilst the Ministerial process plays out?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**I understand an officer has spoken to you today, and clarified that because there is a pre-existing planning permit at your site, your plans to develop will not be affected. I am sorry that you weren't contacted sooner. The General Manager has asked me to also pass on her apologies.**

**That said, generally, a grace period is not being considered because we need to ensure that any sites with heritage value are not demolished while the decision is yet to be made**

**A grace period is not being considered. The reason for this is to protect any sites where heritage value is ultimately confirmed.**

**We understand that if the proposed heritage protections do go ahead, some owners may need to change their plans for renovation, but it is also not possible to avoid this being the case for some owners.**

**One of our officers will be in touch with you to discuss the process that relates to your specific circumstances.**

- **Jeremy Allan, Thornbury**

1. In relation to the Heritage Overlay to be applied to 1052 houses in the Thornbury Park Estate, the process has not been transparent and the first we knew about the proposed HO was the letter received in the mail two weeks ago and although it is a proposed heritage overlay, it is effectively in place already and without consultation given the section 29A request process. Can a grace period please be given to those

of us that are planning small renovations, if we submit the section 29A and building permit applications by a certain date?

2. The HO unfairly discriminates between those residents that have already renovated their houses and those that have not as yet but have lived in them for years. How is Council anticipating addressing this?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

1. **The general purpose of the interim Heritage Overlay is to protect sites with heritage value from demolition while the decision about heritage protection is yet to be made.**

**However, the specific circumstances may change what applies for each property. One of our officers will be in touch with you to discuss.**

**I encourage you to put a submission into the consultation process so that Council can fully consider your views.**

2. **I will take your question as a comment and I encourage you to make a submission in the current consultation process so that it is lodged and considered fully by Council.**

- **Jason Cormier, Thornbury**

In relation to Council applying for an interim Heritage Overlay (Amendment C197dare).

A number of homeowners expended significant time and cost (in the tens of thousands of dollars) securing plans and building contracts for renovations that adhered to all the previous guidelines.

Will you provide these homeowners who acted in good faith and who had minimal warning of these changes with a grace period in which they may complete their application for a building permit and have it evaluated under the old guidelines?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**The general purpose of the interim Heritage Overlay is to protect sites with heritage value from demolition while the decision about heritage protection is yet to be made.**

**However, the specific circumstances may change what applies for each property. One of our officers will be in touch with you to discuss.**

**I encourage you to put a submission into the consultation process so that Council can fully consider your views**

- **Paul Vascotto, Thornbury**

1. In relation to the Council applying for an interim Heritage Overlay (Amendment C191dare) We lodged a planning application (DA-77460) at council on the 3 August 2020 for two Passive House Plus Net Zero Energy Builds forecast to achieve 9 Stars to be built on a vacant lot of land. The vacant land is deemed non-contributory.

One year later our application remains unresolved. At no stage during this process we were advised of the proposed overlay.

Given the administrative delay we have had to endure will you proceed with this application and evaluate it under the old guidelines

2. There is an apparent contradiction between conservation and acting on Darebin's climate emergency declaration. A 3 Star home produces approximately 9 tonnes of GHG emissions annually, or about 3.7 times the amount of pollution a single car doing approximately 14,000 km annually.

Before endorsing any proposed interim Heritage Overlay for the area in question is the council willing to undertake a study to examine what is achievable when renovating a heritage home in terms of energy efficiency, and use this to guide the best approach to the overlay. A pilot study of 12 homes in the precinct could be used to guide a criterion for the overlay.

#### **Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

1. **I will have one of our officers contact you to discuss your planning application and the process that relates to your property from here.**
2. **Thank you for raising these matters. I encourage you to make a submission to the current consultation process. High sustainability standards and heritage protection are important to Council. I can confirm that the heritage overlay being proposed wouldn't stop renovations reaching high energy efficiency standards.**

#### **• Matthew Burke, Preston**

1. How has the construction of the pop up park on James St, Preston been received by residents? My observation has been that overwhelmingly residents welcome the park and the closure of the street. The regular procession of speeding cars down James St has been eliminated.
2. Is Council aware that there is still traffic confusion at the junction of Cramer and James St?

#### **Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

1. **Thank you for your questions. Feedback from the local community has been overwhelmingly positive. We have had similar feedback about increased traffic on other streets.**
2. **A Senior Traffic Engineer will contact you tomorrow to discuss these concerns. We will soon start community consultation on improvements for traffic in the North West part of Darebin including this area. We will work with the community to explore ways we can improve traffic calming.**

#### **• Ruth Jelley, Northcote**

I thank Council for responding to my questions in detail, via Council Officers, in June/July. One of those responses indicated that Council is planning to refresh the Darebin Transport Strategy and Cycling Strategy in the 2021/22 financial year.

1. Can Council please provide a status report on how this is progressing?
2. Can Council please outline its plans for public consultation activity relating to the development of a new transport strategy and/or cycling strategy and/or other related strategies howsoever described or labelled?
3. On Council governance: A rough analysis of public questions and responses from council since January 2021 show some disturbing results. On average, 45% of questions that relate to sustainable transport, cycling in Darebin, and Streets for People projects have been taken on notice – some months this figure is as high as 75%. In comparison, questions on all other topics are taken on notice approximately 20% of the time; the highest being 45%. More disturbingly, responses to public questions provided by Council Officers are not summarised or reported in detail in the Governance Report.

### **Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

1. **The refresh of the Transport Strategy and Cycling Strategy is at a very preliminary stage with early planning and review work currently being undertaken**
2. **We expect to start community consultation to help us plan transport improvements in the North West of the City soon. This is part of the Your Street, Your Say program where Council consults with a third of the City each year. We haven't yet made a decision on when we'll start community engagement for the Transport Strategy review.**
3. **In the absence of completing a similar analysis to yours we accept your assertion however note that in general those questions taken on notice are usually those asked at the meetings as opposed to those questions submitted prior to the 12.00 noon deadline which usually enable Council Officers sufficient time to prepare a response. In terms of the provision of any responses to questions taken on notice being recorded in the next month's Governance Report I have noticed that where questions have been followed up with telephone discussions as opposed to written responses – the detail or summary of the discussion or outcome has not been provided. We will ensure that in future this occurs so as the public record is complete. Thanks for raising this issue.**

- **Chris Clarke, Thornbury**

Community members of the Darebin Nature Trust (DNT) have been advised by Council that a decision has been taken to disband the Trust in accordance with the sunset clause in the DCC Governance Rules. This Clause however only applies if Council has not re-established a particular Advisory Committee between each Council General election and 30 June the following year. The Darebin Nature Trust was in fact re-established by specific decision of Council on 7 December 2020 at item 7.1. Council has not considered the establishment or not of the DNT since that date - so that re-establishment stands. Please provide a detailed justification for this advice and decision.

Please also explain in detail why, two days after giving this advice, after shocked community representatives had raised serious concerns and questioned the validity and legality of the action, our positions on the DNT were advertised on Facebook before these issues could be resolved?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

Council has not disbanded the DNT as you correctly state and on 7 December 2020 the Council re-established the DNT along with 14 other Advisory Committees. What Council has subsequently done is adopt a model terms of reference for all committees (at its June 28 2021 Council meeting) which provides for the recruitment of community members to all Council's committees to be endorsed by the newly elected Council. This process will see community members appointed for an initial period of 2 years. This was articulated in the Council report to the 28 June 2021 meeting.

In relation to your second question, I want to assure you that Council values the enormous contribution of community members via all of its advisory committees. Existing community members of all committees are encouraged to nominate.

Separately, I know officers are working through questions raised by DNT members last week and will have answers to those questions to you shortly.

- **Angela Denton, Northcote**

Why did Council in endorsing the waiver for 6 onsite car parks rely on erroneous claims that the development PD5951 provided public open space when the so called communal open space and three carparking spaces referred to in the application are located behind a high locked iron gate and only accessible and available for the exclusive use of the applicant Mr Bill Henson and his partner who occupy the factory and artist's studio at 7 Wimble Street and are owners of 1/19, 2/19 and 3/19 Oldis Avenue Northcote?

Why did Council not take into consideration the recommendations of council's own traffic management department who recommended that the development be required to provide at least one on site carparking space for each of the three bedroom dwellings at 1/19, 2/19 and 3/19 Oldis Avenue?

Why did Council rely on letters of support from residents in Wimble Street who would benefit from the parking waiver through the redirection of traffic associated with 19 Oldis Avenue from Wimble street to street parking in Oldis Avenue?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

I believe they relate to a planning decision in 2019. I can clarify that the Planning officer's report described the outdoor space correctly as communal open space, rather than public open space, although I understand that the wording could cause confusion. The communal open space is for shared use by the residents of the five dwellings next door.

In relation to your second question, I understand that this was a very unusual case. The permit being considered related to a development built in the 90s. After it was built some of the car parking was removed and converted to open space, without a planning permit. Because so much time passed, enforcement action wasn't possible. The site is close to public transport and services and several residents told Council that they value the communal open space. Considering everything, Council decided that leaving this area as communal open space was a better outcome than requiring the open space to be converted to car parking.

I note that if Council was considering an application for new development, it is very unlikely that a waiver of this nature would be recommended.

In relation to your questions about letters of support, there were five letters of support from community for the car parking waiver. They indicated that the communal open space was highly valued for social reasons and because of the character it brings to the area.

This community feedback is one of the things that Council considered in making the decision.

- **David Snaddon, Northcote**

Given the impact of the closure on the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre will have on the Northcote Swim Club (NSC) and the Northcote Water Polo Club, what logistical and financial support can Council provide to these two important community sporting clubs to keep them viable over the course of the re-development?

Did the costings of having a staged redevelopment versus complete closure for re-development, factor in the impact of lower physical activity levels in the community and in the case of the NSC and NWPC, factor in the impact of lost opportunities for young people to be active?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

The Northcote Swim Club and the Northcote Water Polo Club have both been supported to find alternative facilities for the period that NARC will be closed. Officers will continue work directly with Club presidents to identify any funding and other support opportunities during this closure period.

Planning for the redevelopment of NARC considered the impact on users. To support NARC users to continue their health and wellbeing activities during the closure period, alternative facilities have been identified and support provided for users to access these options.

NARC users are also eligible for offers at these facilities that waive joining fees and provide for 2 weeks free membership. This list can be found on Council's website.

## 7. PETITIONS

### PROVISION OF DOG PARKS IN THE THORNBURY AREA

Cr. Dimitriadis sought leave of Council to present a petition regarding the provision of Dog Parks in the Thornbury Area

Leave was granted.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-090**

**MOVED: Cr. E Dimitriadis**

**SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie**

**That** the petition signed by approx. 170 persons stating

*Thornbury is a beautiful suburb with many beautiful dogs that are very loved by their owners. We want to ensure that our beloved friends are free to run about and get the exercise they need. COVID travel restrictions have further emphasised the importance of having a local dog park.*

*We are requesting Council to consider adding gates to the current "mostly" fenced off area in Hayes Park. Alternatively, an enclosed dog area in the recently developed Darebin International Sports Centre would also be suitable (for example there is sufficient space next to the playground). The separation of a small dog and big dog area is another added consideration (space permitting) that would ensure small / elderly dogs are not at risk in a shared space. Having gates would also make the park safer for children to run freely in as well.*

be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for action

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

### 8.1 EARLY YEARS INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2021-2041 (the Plan) outlines a plan to ensure that Council provides a suite of early years facilities that will meet the needs of the Darebin community over the next twenty years.

The Plan focuses on facilities used for maternal and child health services, kindergarten programs, long day childcare, occasional care, playgroups and toy libraries.

The Plan addresses the need to expand early years infrastructure to meet the additional demand created by population growth and the implementation of funded three-year-old kindergarten, and ensure council-owned facilities are well maintained, functional and high quality.

It is recommended that Council endorse the plan for community engagement.

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2021-2041 to proceed to community consultation.
- (2) Receives a further report on community feedback received and a final proposed Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2021-2041 for adoption.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-091**

**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Hannan

**That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2021-2041 to proceed to community consultation.
- (2) Receives a further report on community feedback received and a final proposed Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2021-2041 for adoption.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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**8.2 NAMING OF THE BEAVERS ROAD BRIDGE**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides information on the outcome of the statutory process for the proposed naming of the Beavers Road Bridge (the Bridge), end of Beavers Road, Northcote connecting over the Merri Creek to Kingfisher Gardens, Brunswick East and recommends that Council endorse the name Warrk-warrk Bridge.

**Officer Recommendation**

**That Council:**

Having completed the statutory process in accordance with the requirements of the *Geographic Place Name Act 1998* and the Names rules for places in Victoria – Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2016; and; given notice of the voting poll by way of an online survey and on Council's webpage:

- (1) Endorses the preferred name from the voting poll results, for the Bridge to be name Warrk-warrk Bridge;
- (2) Delegates the Manager, Property and Business Improvement to lodge the application to the Geographic Names Victoria for the naming of the Bridge end of Beavers Road, Northcote connecting over the Merri Creek to Kingfisher Gardens, Brunswick East to Warrk-warrk Bridge; and
- (3) Writes to the Wurundjeri Council to advise of this decision and thank them for their support to date.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-092**

**MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy**

**SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie**

**That Council:**

Having completed the statutory process in accordance with the requirements of the *Geographic Place Name Act 1998* and the Names rules for places in Victoria – Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2016; and; given notice of the voting poll by way of an online survey and on Council's webpage:

- (1) Endorses the preferred name from the voting poll results, for the Bridge to be name Warrk-warrk Bridge;
- (2) Delegates the Manager, Property and Business Improvement to lodge the application to the Geographic Names Victoria for the naming of the Bridge end of Beavers Road, Northcote connecting over the Merri Creek to Kingfisher Gardens, Brunswick East to Warrk-warrk Bridge; and
- (3) Writes to the Wurundjeri Council to advise of this decision and thank them for their support to date.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**8.3 SOCIAL & SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT POLICY 2021-2025**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The current Social & Sustainable Procurement Policy under the *Local Government Act 1989* (LGA 1989) was adopted by Council on 16 December 2019.

Effective from 1 July 2021, the new *Local Government Act 2020*, Procurement s108 & s109 will replace all procurement matters previously covered under s186 of the LG Act (1989). The current *Local Government Act 1989*, which remains in effect until 30 June 2021, requires Council to review its Procurement Policy each financial year.

The new *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to prepare and adopt a Procurement Policy in respect of the purchase of goods and services by 31 December 2021.

This report informs Council of the updated/revised Social & Sustainable Procurement Policy 2021-2025 to address the requirement of the 1989 Act and align with the 2020 Act.

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That** Council:

1. Adopts the updated Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2021-2025 attached as **Appendix A** as its procurement policy in accordance with section 108 & S109 of the *Local Government Act 2020*

<b>Motion</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. T McCarthy  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Newton

**That** the Officer Recommendation be adopted.

**Amendment****MOVED: Cr. G Greco****That Council:**

1. Adopts the updated Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2021-2025 attached as **Appendix A** as its procurement policy in accordance with section 108 & S109 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, with an amendment to Appendix 3 under Procurement Performance Indicators and the 4<sup>th</sup> dot point. Replacing 'the number of Local Businesses engaged and proportion of local spend New Collaborative Procurement contracts' with 'the engagement with the number of Local Darebin Businesses' and a further dot point 'the proportion of local Darebin spend in the Northern Region Council Group on New Collaborative Procurement contracts'.

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

The substantive motion was put and carried.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-093****MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy****SECONDED: Cr. S Newton****That Council:**

1. Adopts the updated Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2021-2025 attached as **Appendix A** as its procurement policy in accordance with section 108 & S109 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, with an amendment to Appendix 3 under Procurement Performance Indicators and the 4<sup>th</sup> dot point. Replacing 'the number of Local Businesses engaged and proportion of local spend New Collaborative Procurement contracts' with 'the engagement with the number of Local Darebin Businesses' and a further dot point 'the proportion of local Darebin spend in the Northern Region Council Group on New Collaborative Procurement contracts'.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8.4 OPEN SPACE LEVY - FURTHER STRATEGIC WORK

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has a strong commitment to the provision of high-quality, accessible open space and the protection and enhancement of biodiversity. To support this commitment, one of Council's actions in the *Council Plan 2021-2025* is to introduce a new open space levy. This levy is payable by developers at the point of subdividing land for development and is used by Council to fund the acquisition and improvement of open space.

Significant progress has already been made towards this action in the endorsement of *Breathing Space: The Darebin Open Space Strategy* (City of Darebin 2019, referred to as "Breathing Space"), the *Open Space Contributions Review Report* (SGS Economics and Planning 2019) and the public exhibition of Amendment C186, which proposes to change the Darebin Planning Scheme to implement and align with these adopted strategic documents.

Amendment C186 proposes to increase the open space levy rate for all subdivisions of three or more lots within the municipality to 10 percent. The amendment was publicly exhibited in December 2019 and Council resolved to refer submissions to a Planning Panel. Before the C186 panel hearing, a Panel Report for a similar amendment in Monash directed that an Implementation Plan and Strategic Land Acquisition Plan be undertaken to support the amendment. Council recognised this as an opportunity to strengthen its own Amendment C186, which was based on the same methodology as Monash, so in June 2020, Council resolved to request a hearing adjournment to carry out further work.

This further work has now been substantially progressed, and two draft reports – 'Implementing Breathing Space' (**Appendix A**) and 'Enhancing Open Space'<sup>1</sup> (**Appendix B**) have been developed to provide additional evidence for Amendment C186 and address the findings of the Monash Panel Report.

The first draft report *Implementing Breathing Space* prioritises actions identified in Breathing Space, and sets out the estimated costs, responsibilities and timeframes associated with each action, including the projected cost of delivering new open space. Its purpose is to establish the need for open space (both delivering new and upgrading existing open space) across Darebin in order to achieve Breathing Space objectives and provide an estimate of costs required to meet this need.

These estimates do not "lock Council in" to future decisions regarding open space upgrades or enhancements, and in fact they cannot, as the amount of levy funds that will be authorised by the State Government is yet to be known. These future decisions will be taken by Council through its annual budget decisions. These reports will be a useful guide as one consideration in Council's future decisions to prioritise open space purchases and upgrades.

Independent consultant Mesh Planning has considered the indicative costings and prepared a further document, the 'Open Space Contribution Report' (Mesh Planning, 2021) (**Appendix C**). This report recommends that the open space levy rate is increased to 10 per cent to ensure that contributions adequately support the investment required to deliver Breathing Space. This rate aligns with previous work undertaken by SGS Consultants however it uses a different methodology based on the costings to reach this determination.

Altogether, *Breathing Space*, *Implementing Breathing Space*, *Enhancing Open Space* and the two contribution reports provide a comprehensive strategic basis to increase Darebin's open space levy through Amendment C186.

This report summarises the two new draft reports and recommends that Council endorse them as further work for Amendment C186 (with updated amendment documents in **Appendix D**). Following Council's decision, a further Directions Hearing will be held by the Panel. Following this, *Implementing Breathing Space, Enhancing Open Space* and the *Open Space Contribution Report* will be publicly exhibited alongside Amendment C186.

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That** Council:

- (1) Endorse *Implementing Breathing Space* (**Appendix A**), *Enhancing Open Space* (**Appendix B**) and *Open Space Contribution Report* (**Appendix C**) as part of further work to support Amendment C186dare
- (2) Endorse proposed changes to Amendment C186dare documentation to reflect the new supporting documents (**Appendix D**).
- (3) Note that further public consultation will take place on Amendment C186dare and the supporting reports as directed by the Independent Planning Panel.
- (4) Authorise the Manager City Futures to make minor alterations and corrections, where necessary, to the Amendment C186dare and reports prior to exhibition.

<b>Motion</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Hannan

**That** the Officer Recommendation be adopted.

**Amendment****MOVED: Cr. G Greco****That Council:**

- (1) Endorse *Implementing Breathing Space (Appendix A)*, *Enhancing Open Space (Appendix B)* and *Open Space Contribution Report (Appendix C)* as part of further work to support Amendment C186dare.
- (2) Endorse proposed changes to Amendment C186dare documentation to reflect the new supporting documents (**Appendix D**).
- (3) Note that further public consultation will take place on Amendment C186dare and the supporting reports as directed by the Independent Planning Panel.
- (4) Authorise the Manager City Futures to make minor alterations and corrections, where necessary, to the Amendment C186dare and reports prior to exhibition.
- (5) Thank the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Corporation and community members of the Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee for their valuable contribution to the Open Space Levy strategic work.

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

The substantive motion was put and carried.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-094****MOVED: Cr. S Rennie**  
**SECONDED: Cr. T Hannan****That Council:**

- (1) Endorse *Implementing Breathing Space (Appendix A)*, *Enhancing Open Space (Appendix B)* and *Open Space Contribution Report (Appendix C)* as part of further work to support Amendment C186dare.
- (2) Endorse proposed changes to Amendment C186dare documentation to reflect the new supporting documents (**Appendix D**).
- (3) Note that further public consultation will take place on Amendment C186dare and the supporting reports as directed by the Independent Planning Panel.
- (4) Authorise the Manager City Futures to make minor alterations and corrections, where necessary, to the Amendment C186dare and reports prior to exhibition.
- (5) Thank the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Corporation and community members of the Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee for their valuable contribution to the Open Space Levy strategic work.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**8.5 VICTORIAN ENERGY COLLABORATION (VECO) UPDATE**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In September 2020, Darebin Council as the lead Council on behalf of the 47 members of the Buyers Group released an open Request for Tender for the provision of a new electricity supply contract from 100% renewable energy supplies from licenced electricity retailers.

The procurement process was completed in April 2021 with 46 out of 47 Councils taking up the retail electricity offer from Red Energy. Supply agreements commenced on 1 July 2021.

The project is now called the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO), previously known as the LG PPA Project, and has become the largest ever emissions reduction project undertaken by local government in Australia, aggregating over 45% of all Victorian Council electricity to switch to 100% renewable energy.

All of Darebin's electricity supplies will be sourced under this contract with large buildings and streetlighting commencing 1 July 2021 and small buildings commencing 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2030.

Darebin is now looking to offer the same VECO agreement to other Victorian Councils who are yet to secure a long-term electricity contract for 100% renewable energy and is considering options for businesses.

**Officer Recommendation**

**That Council:**

1. Notes the update on the Victorian Energy Collaboration project and the significance of this landmark achievement and Darebin's role as lead organisation.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-095**

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

**That Council:**

1. Notes the update on the Victorian Energy Collaboration project and the significance of this landmark achievement and Darebin's role as lead organisation.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**8.6 PROPERTY MATTERS REPORT**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report relates to two current property matters that require Council's consideration including;

- (1) The outcome of preliminary investigations into the proposed discontinuance of the right of way/road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 to 427 Gilbert Road, Preston and to seek approval to commence the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the *Local Government Act 1989* to discontinue the road.
- (2) The outcome of preliminary investigations into the proposed declaration of the 3.05m wide road and 0.30m to 0.68m wide road (which was formerly a reserve) adjoining 4 to 9 Kenwood Court, 19 to 47 Showers Street, 15 to 19 Railway Place West and 32 Oakover Road, Preston and to seek approval to commence the statutory procedures pursuant to the provisions of section 204(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* to declare the road a public highway.

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**Recommendation 1:****Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Road, Preston**

1. **That Council:**
  - (a) Commences the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 to discontinue the Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 to 427 Gilbert Road, Preston, shown hatched in the statutory plan in **Appendix A**; and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to sell the land from the Road
  - (b) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website of the intention to discontinue the road and sell the land to the adjoining property owners (or be specific) by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the Road not sold in accordance with Council policy.

**Recommendation 2:****Road adjoining 4 to 9 Kenwood Court, 19 to 47 Showers Street, 15 to 19 Railway Place West and 32 Oakover Road, Preston**

2. **That Council:**
  - (a) Acting under section 204(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act"), resolves that the statutory procedures be commenced to declare the land from the 3.05m wide road and 0.30 to 0.68m wide road (which was formerly a reserve) adjoining 4 to 9 Kenwood Court, 19 to 47 Showers Street, 15 to 19 Railway Place West and 32 Oakover Road, Preston, shown hatched in the statutory plan in Appendix A, to be a public highway for the purposes of section 204(1) of the Act.
  - (b) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Act of the proposal to declare the land shown hatched on Appendix A to be a public highway.



**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-096****MOVED: Cr. T Hannan****SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie****1: Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Road, Preston****That Council:**

- (a) Commences the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 to discontinue the Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 to 427 Gilbert Road, Preston, shown hatched in the statutory plan in **Appendix A**; and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to sell the land from the Road
- (b) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website of the intention to discontinue the road and sell the land to the adjoining property owners (or be specific) by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the Road not sold in accordance with Council policy.

**2: Road adjoining 4 to 9 Kenwood Court, 19 to 47 Showers Street, 15 to 19 Railway Place West and 32 Oakover Road, Preston****That Council:**

- (a) Acting under section 204(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act"), resolves that the statutory procedures be commenced to declare the land from the 3.05m wide road and 0.30 to 0.68m wide road (which was formerly a reserve) adjoining 4 to 9 Kenwood Court, 19 to 47 Showers Street, 15 to 19 Railway Place West and 32 Oakover Road, Preston, shown hatched in the statutory plan in Appendix A, to be a public highway for the purposes of section 204(1) of the Act.
- (b) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Act of the proposal to declare the land shown hatched on Appendix A to be a public highway.

The motion was put and carried

**CARRIED****For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Hannan, McCarthy, Messina, Newton, Rennie and Williams (8)**Abstained:** Cr. Laurence (1)

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**8.7 GOVERNANCE REPORT - AUGUST 2021**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The matters covered under the Governance Report for the month of August 2021 are:

- Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors;
- Reports by Mayor and Councillors;
- Responses to the questions taken on notice during Public Question Time at the Council Meeting held on 26 July 2021;
- Councillor Expenses Report for the quarter from 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021;
- Audit and Risk Committee Matters.

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – August 2021.
- (2) Notes the summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings and other Informal Meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.
- (3) Notes that reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) Notes the responses to the questions taken on notice during Public Question Time at the Council meeting held on 26 July 2021, at **Appendix B** to this report.
- (5) Notes the Councillor Expenses Report for the quarter from 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, at **Appendix C** to this Report.
- (6) Notes the Summary Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 29 June 2021 at **Appendix D** to this report.
- (7) Endorses the revised Audit and Risk Committee Charter at **Appendix E** to this Report.
- (8) Endorses the Audit and Risk Committee Annual Committee Performance Report 2020-21 at **Appendix F** to this Report.
- (9) Endorses a fee of \$1,883.75 per meeting for the Chairperson and \$1,634.25 per meeting for external Members of the Audit and Risk Committee for Financial year 2021-22 and
- (10) Endorses the appointment of independent members Dr. Marco Bini and Lisa Tripodi as follows:
  - Dr Marco Bini – At the expiration of Marco Bini’s current term on 31 December 2021 Council appoint Marco Bini as an external member of the Audit and Risk Committee for three years to 31 December 2024.
  - Lisa Tripodi - That Lisa Tripodi, Chair elected by the Committee to March 2022, be appointed Chairperson by Council for a three year term until 23 August 2024, to support the transition to the revised Committee Charter.

**Council Resolution**

MINUTE NO. 21-097

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

**That Council:**

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – August 2021.
- (2) Notes the summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings and other Informal Meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.
- (3) Notes that reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) Notes the responses to the questions taken on notice during Public Question Time at the Council meeting held on 26 July 2021, at **Appendix B** to this report.
- (5) Notes the Councillor Expenses Report for the quarter from 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, at **Appendix C** to this Report.
- (6) Notes the Summary Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 29 June 2021 at **Appendix D** to this report.
- (7) Endorses the revised Audit and Risk Committee Charter at **Appendix E** to this Report.
- (8) Endorses the Audit and Risk Committee Annual Committee Performance Report 2020-21 at **Appendix F** to this Report.
- (9) Endorses a fee of \$1,883.75 per meeting for the Chairperson and \$1,634.25 per meeting for external Members of the Audit and Risk Committee for Financial year 2021-22 and
- (10) Endorses the appointment of independent members Dr. Marco Bini and Lisa Tripodi as follows:
  - Dr Marco Bini – At the expiration of Marco Bini’s current term on 31 December 2021 Council appoint Marco Bini as an external member of the Audit and Risk Committee for three years to 31 December 2024.
  - Lisa Tripodi - That Lisa Tripodi, Chair elected by the Committee to March 2022, be appointed Chairperson by Council for a three year term until 23 August 2024, to support the transition to the revised Committee Charter.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS****CR. LINA MESSINA, MAYOR**

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

- Mayor’s Writing Awards
- Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum (MLGWF) Meeting
- CEO Employment Committee Meeting
- Councillor Briefing Session

- Mayoral Briefing and Pre-Meeting on Local Government Planning reform
- Melbourne Transport Forum (MTF) General Meeting
- Local Government Planning Reform Meeting
- Mayoral Debrief – Local Government Planning Reform Meeting
- Councillor Briefing Session
- Planning Committee Meeting
- MLGWF Virtual Tour and Meeting
- Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC)/Department of Health (DH) Update
- MTF Executive Meeting
- Reservoir Revitalisation Board - Community Safety Sub-Committee Meeting
- CEO Employment Committee Meeting
- Councillor Briefing Session
- Mayoral Briefing on LXRP
- Meeting with Neil Boland
- Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV) Meeting
- Mayors Meeting – LG Planning Reform
- VMC Meeting – Preston Market
- Mayoral Briefing – M9 Meeting
- M9 Mayors and CEOs Half Day Workshop
- Meeting with Robin Scott MP
- One on One with Councillor Newton
- One on One with Councillor Laurence
- One on One with Councillor Greco
- One on One with Councillor McCarthy
- Meeting With Justin Hanrahan to Explore Business Program in Darebin
- Meeting With Vicky Guglielmo– Arts & Entertainment Industry Impact of Tourism & Events Sector
- Meeting With Vanessa Petrie – Exploring Cycling Infrastructure
- Meeting With Robin Scott
- Meeting With Steven Gagen
- Meeting With Sheena Watt
- Meeting With Ged Kearney
- Ministerial Meeting Suburban Rail Loop
- Weekly Meeting With Officers – Fuse Festival
- Weekly Councillor Meetings
- Discussions With Chris Kotur

- Discussions With Mary Crooks
- Discussions with CEO Sue Wilkinson
- Discussions with Jodie Watson
- Meetings with Rachel Ollivier
- Phone Calls with Several Ratepayers/Residents
- Phone Calls with Business Community
- Emails to Address Ratepayers/Residents

**CR. GAETANO GRECO**

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

- CEO Employment Matters Committee meeting X2
- Council Briefings X3
- Weekly Councillor's meeting
- Planning Committee Meeting
- Darebin Nature Trust Meeting
- Regular catch up with CEO
- Meeting with ECCV Chairperson and CEO
- Resident's enquiries Re:
  - Planning
  - ROW
  - Rubbish Dumping

**CR. JULIE WILLIAMS**

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

- Weekly Councillor Teams meetings
- CEO Employment committee meeting x2
- Councillor briefing x3
- One-on-one with Mayor Messina
- Planning Committee meeting
- Pathways to Politics for Women - panellist for session with

**CR. TIM LAURENCE**

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

- Council briefings
- Council meeting
- Council planning committee
- CEO performance committee

**CR. SUSANNE NEWTON**

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

- Meeting with fashion designer Harry Millward about active spaces/business support
- Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) board meeting
- Weekly Councillor meetings
- CEO Employment committee meeting x2
- Councillor briefing x3
- One-on-one with Mayor Messina
- Planning Committee meeting
- Mayor's Writing Awards, Darebin Arts Centre
- Pathways to Politics for Women - panellist for session with new fellows, alongside Katie Allen MP and Juliana Addison MP

**CR. SUSAN RENNIE**

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

- Weekly Councillor meetings
- Hydra at NTH
- CEO Employment committee meeting x2
- Councillor briefing x3
- One-on-one with Mayor Messina
- Planning Committee meeting
- Mayor's Writing Awards, Darebin Arts Centre
- Participation in the Inner North Community Panel
- Resident liaison on various issues

**CR. TRENT MCCARTHY**

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

- Weekly Councillor meetings
- CEO Employment Committee meetings
- Councillor briefings
- Planning Committee meeting
- Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action Executive meeting
- Better Futures Australia Conference Panel
- MIC Board meeting
- Vaccinating Victoria forum
- Darebin Nature Trust meeting
- Meetings with residents re Thornbury Park Estate

**CR. EMILY DIMITRIADIS**

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

- Attended Council briefings (online)
- Attended CEO Employment Matter Committee (online)
- Attended Planning meeting (online)
- Attended weekly Councillor meeting (online)
- Meeting with president of Northcote Polo Club and parents of Northcote Swim Club regarding Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre rebuild
- Contact from residents regarding closure of public toilets at Station Street Fairfield during all lockdowns; lack of Council's appropriate action to hooning behaviour on Christmas Street and Sparks Ave; small businesses and people breaching COVID restrictions during lockdown; local dog park in Thornbury
- Attended Official Council meeting

**CR. TOM HANNAN**

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

- Contact (phone / online) with residents about their concerns, eg, building works, planning – Heidelberg Rd, heritage and developments, libraries, affordable housing, street crossing at Northcote Primary School, parking, electric vehicles, storm water harvesting, solar installations
- Donated blood as part of Lifeblood Local Government Blood Drive Challenge
- Councillor briefings
- Regular meeting with Councillors
- Regular meeting with CEO
- Darebin Nature Trust meeting
- Merri Creek Management Committee meeting
- CEO Employment Matters Committee meeting
- Planning committee meeting
- Monthly Council meeting



## 9. NOTICES OF MOTION

### 9.1 NUCLEAR WEAPONS BAN

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Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 23 August 2021, it is my intention to move:

**That Council:**

- (1) *Notes that August the 9th marked the 76th anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.*
- (2) *Notes that at its National General Assembly in June 2021, the Australian Local Government Association delegates unanimously passed a motion calling on Australia to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.*
- (3) *Notes the recent call by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Nobel Peace Prize winners in 2017) for cities and towns to take steps to help reduce exposure to the development, testing, production, maintenance or trade of nuclear weapons related technology, parts, products or services.*
- (4) *Receives a Council report in October that;*
  - i. *Examines how Council can possibly embed exclusions of nuclear weapons in Council investment policies in alignment with the Climate Emergency Plan (Key Direction 6 – Fossil Fuel Divestment).*
  - ii. *Reviews whether Council is currently transacting with companies associated with the production of nuclear weapons and if so provide options on how to possibly divest from these companies.*
  - iii. *Considers how Council can advocate to ensure Council's preferred super fund excludes nuclear weapons from its investment portfolio.*
  - iv. *Receive advice on further advocacy and communications opportunities to encourage other councils, organisations and communities to take action to prohibit nuclear weapons.*

<b>Motion</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Newton

**That Council:**

- (1) Notes that August the 6<sup>th</sup> Hiroshima Day and August 9<sup>th</sup> Nagasaki Day marked the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- (2) Notes that at its National General Assembly in June 2021, the Australian Local Government Association delegates unanimously passed a motion calling on Australia to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- (3) Notes the recent call by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Nobel Peace Prize winners in 2017) for cities and towns to take steps to help reduce exposure to the development, testing, production, maintenance or trade of nuclear weapons related technology, parts, products or services.
- (4) Receives a Council report in October that:
  - i. Examines how Council can possibly embed exclusions of nuclear weapons in Council investment policies in alignment with the Climate Emergency Plan (Key Direction 6 – Fossil Fuel Divestment).
  - ii. Reviews whether Council is currently transacting with companies associated with the production of nuclear weapons and if so provide options on how to possibly divest from these companies.
  - iii. Considers how Council can advocate to ensure Council's preferred super fund excludes nuclear weapons from its investment portfolio.
  - iv. Receive advice on further advocacy and communications opportunities to encourage other councils, organisations and communities to take action to prohibit nuclear weapons.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-098**

**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Newton

**That Council:**

- (1) Notes that August the 6<sup>th</sup> Hiroshima Day and August 9<sup>th</sup> Nagasaki Day marked the 76th anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- (2) Notes that at its National General Assembly in June 2021, the Australian Local Government Association delegates unanimously passed a motion calling on Australia to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- (3) Notes the recent call by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Nobel Peace Prize winners in 2017) for cities and towns to take steps to help reduce exposure to the development, testing, production, maintenance or trade of nuclear weapons related technology, parts, products or services.
- (4) Receives a Council report in October that:
  - i. Examines how Council can possibly embed exclusions of nuclear weapons in Council investment policies in alignment with the Climate Emergency Plan (Key Direction 6 – Fossil Fuel Divestment).
  - ii. Reviews whether Council is currently transacting with companies associated with the production of nuclear weapons and if so provide options on how to possibly divest from these companies.
  - iii. Considers how Council can advocate to ensure Council's preferred super fund excludes nuclear weapons from its investment portfolio.
  - iv. Receive advice on further advocacy and communications opportunities to encourage other councils, organisations and communities to take action to prohibit nuclear weapons

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 10. URGENT BUSINESS

The Mayor advised that an Item of Urgent Business relating to the Advocacy regarding the current situation in Afghanistan from Cr Greco had been accepted by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to the Governance Rules and distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

### ADMISSION OF ITEM OF URGENT BUSINESS

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-099**

**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. J Williams

**That** an Urgent Business item relating to the advocacy regarding the current situation in Afghanistan be admitted to the agenda.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**10.1 ADVOCACY REGARDING THE CURRENT SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN****Urgent Business Motion**

**That Council:**

1. Expresses its deep concern regarding the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan and for the thousands of Afghani people facing discrimination and violence under the Taliban.
2. Notes Darebin's Towards Equality Framework policy "recognises the current climate change and social justice challenges that we encounter both locally and globally".
3. Notes that Darebin is home to and welcomes people from diverse backgrounds and therefore reaches out to support and stand in solidarity with members of the Darebin Afghani community, whose relatives and friends have been affected by the situation.
4. Notes that the Federal Government has extended the temporary visas of all Afghan citizens in Australia to assure people they will not be at risk of imminent forced return and welcomes this decision.
5. Authorises the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Marise Payne urging the Federal government to:
  - a. Act with urgency to evacuate people at grave risk within Afghanistan, including those who worked for, or assisted the Australian Government and Australian organisations, as well as prioritising the evacuation and resettlement of women leaders and rights activists, former Afghan international students, LGBTIQ and other vulnerable population groups in light of the imminent risk to their lives and the lives of their loved ones.
  - b. Establish an emergency humanitarian intake plan for at least 20,000 people prioritising the most vulnerable persecuted Afghans, over and above the current intake cap, to evacuate and grant protection visas for people at risk of violence and death from the Taliban.
  - c. Grant permanent visas to the more than 4300 Afghan nationals living in Australia on temporary protection visas and in immigration detention.
  - d. Provide assistance to Afghan Australians, including people with temporary and permanent protection visas, with urgent family reunion applications for relatives who are at particular risk, as members of minorities targeted by the Taliban or people likely to be targeted because of their connections to western nations.
  - e. Note that as a local government authority, and consistent with our commitments as a member of Welcoming Cities network and Refugee Welcome Zone, Darebin City Council stands ready to welcome Afghan refugees and work with our partners and local communities to provide support and assist with their settlement.
6. As a Refugee Welcome Zone, endorses the Refugee Council of Australia's joint letter to Parliamentarians about Australia's response to the crisis in Afghanistan.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-100**

**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Newton

**That Council:**

1. Expresses its deep concern regarding the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan and for the thousands of Afghani people facing discrimination and violence under the Taliban.
2. Notes Darebin's Towards Equality Framework policy "recognises the current climate change and social justice challenges that we encounter both locally and globally".
3. Notes that Darebin is home to and welcomes people from diverse backgrounds and therefore reaches out to support and stand in solidarity with members of the Darebin Afghani community, whose relatives and friends have been affected by the situation.
4. Notes that the Federal Government has extended the temporary visas of all Afghan citizens in Australia to assure people they will not be at risk of imminent forced return and welcomes this decision.
5. Authorises the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Marise Payne urging the Federal government to:
  - a. Act with urgency to evacuate people at grave risk within Afghanistan, including those who worked for, or assisted the Australian Government and Australian organisations, as well as prioritising the evacuation and resettlement of women leaders and rights activists, former Afghan international students, LGBTIQ and other vulnerable population groups in light of the imminent risk to their lives and the lives of their loved ones.
  - b. Establish an emergency humanitarian intake plan for at least 20,000 people prioritising the most vulnerable persecuted Afghans, over and above the current intake cap, to evacuate and grant protection visas for people at risk of violence and death from the Taliban.
  - c. Grant permanent visas to the more than 4300 Afghan nationals living in Australia on temporary protection visas and in immigration detention.
  - d. Provide assistance to Afghan Australians, including people with temporary and permanent protection visas, with urgent family reunion applications for relatives who are at particular risk, as members of minorities targeted by the Taliban or people likely to be targeted because of their connections to western nations.
  - e. Note that as a local government authority, and consistent with our commitments as a member of Welcoming Cities network and Refugee Welcome Zone, Darebin City Council stands ready to welcome Afghan refugees and work with our partners and local communities to provide support and assist with their settlement.
6. As a Refugee Welcome Zone, endorses the Refugee Council of Australia's joint letter to Parliamentarians about Australia's response to the crisis in Afghanistan.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*The Mayor read the following Statement regarding crisis in Afghanistan.*

### **Mayoral Statement: Afghanistan Crisis**

The news coming from Afghanistan, as the Taliban takes control of the country, is devastating.

The Australian and Darebin community is deeply concerned about the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan and for the thousands of Afghani people facing discrimination and violence under the Taliban.

Women and girls, ethnic and religious minorities, LGBTIQ people, human rights defenders, those who supported Australian and other international forces, and so many more are at extreme risk.

The events also are particularly distressing to members of Australia's Afghan diaspora who are hearing directly from family members and friends about the terrible violence within the country. Australia is home to the fourth-largest Afghan community outside of Afghanistan in the world. There are thousands of people in the Australian community who have family members at grave risk right now from the Taliban

While we acknowledge that the Australian government is working to grant visas to Afghan interpreters and locally engaged employees of the Australian mission in Afghanistan and has announced the extension of temporary visas of all Afghan citizens in Australia.

However, this is inadequate, and Australia is lagging behind, especially when compared to other countries. Both the Canadian and UK governments have committed 20,000 visas for Afghan refugees, and the U.S government will likely resettle up to 30,000 Afghan refugees and is accelerating the visa application process.

In making this decision Tonight, we will be calling on the Federal Government to take urgent and immediate actions to address the immediate and unfolding humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

We extend our support and stand in solidarity with members of the Darebin Afghani community, especially whose relatives and friends have been affected by the situation.

As a member of Welcoming Cities network and Refugee Welcome Zone, Darebin City Council stands ready to welcome Afghan refugees and work with our partners and local communities to provide support and assist with their settlement.

All people have the right to a life of freedom, respect, equality and dignity. We call upon the Federal government to act now, and at this critical time we urge them act with compassion and generosity.

**Councillor Lina Messina**

The Mayor advised that an Item of Urgent Business relating to the Thornbury Park Estate Heritage Overlay from Cr Dimitriadis had been accepted by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to the Governance Rules and had been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

### ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-101**

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

**That** an Urgent Business item regarding the Thornbury Park Estate Heritage Overlay be admitted to the agenda.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 10.2 THORNBURY PARK ESTATE HERITAGE OVERLAY

<b>Urgent Business Motion</b>
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**That** Council:

1. Notes that the exhibition period, on the amendment C191 to the Darebin Planning Scheme that proposes to insert an Heritage Overlay for the Thornbury Park Estate precinct is to the 17 September 2021.
2. Extends the current consultation period by allowing late submissions for a period of 4 weeks beyond the current exhibition period to 15 October 2021.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-102**

**MOVED:** Cr. E Dimitriadis  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T McCarthy

**That** Council:

1. Notes that the exhibition period, on the amendment C191 to the Darebin Planning Scheme that proposes to insert an Heritage Overlay for the Thornbury Park Estate precinct is to the 17 September 2021.
2. Extends the current consultation period by allowing late submissions for a period of 4 weeks beyond the current exhibition period to 15 October 2021.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



Councillor Laurence sought to have an Item of Urgent Business concerning the Chief Executives Officers Employment contract being provided to all Councillors, being admitted to the meeting and moved a Procedural Motion which was ruled by the Mayor as being contrary to the Governance Rules specifically 9.2.8 ie the motion was prohibited due the provisions of Clause 8 (3) having not been met.

#### **Declaration Of Conflict of Interest**

8.17 pm the Chief Executive Officer informed the Mayor that she had a general conflict of interest in the matter under discussion and left the virtual meeting.

Cr Laurence raised a point of order which the Mayor ruled against.

Cr Laurence moved a motion of dissent in the Mayors ruling .

<b>Motion of Dissent</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. T Laurence  
**SECONDED:** Cr. J Williams

That the Chairpersons ruling be dissented from.

**8.20 pm** – In accordance with clause 10.5 of the Governance Rules 2020, Mayor Messina left the Chair and Deputy Mayor Councillor Greco assumed the Chair.

Cr. Laurence was provided the opportunity to state the reasons for the dissent motion and the Mayor was invited to respond.

The motion was put and lost.

**LOST**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence and Williams (4)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Messina, Newton and Rennie (5)

**8.25 pm** – Mayor Messina resumed the Chair

8.26 pm the Chief Executive Officer returned to the virtual meeting.

The Mayor advised that an Item of Urgent Business relating to the Planning Reforms from Cr Rennie had been accepted by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to the Governance Rules and had been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

### ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS

<b>Council Resolution</b>
---------------------------

**MINUTE NO. 21-103**

**MOVED:** Cr. J Williams  
**SECONDED:** Cr. G Greco

**That** an Urgent Business item regarding the Planning Reforms be admitted to the agenda.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 10.3 PLANNING REFORMS

<b>Urgent Business Motion</b>
-------------------------------

**That** Council:

1. Notes that the Victorian government has made a number of changes to the planning system in the last 18 months and is currently considering further significant planning reform.
2. Strongly voice its concern that
  - a. consultation with community and with local government on any reform proposals must occur before reforms are considered or introduced.
  - b. the community's voice must remain central in planning decisions
  - c. strong community consultation must be a core part of major planning decisions
  - d. community voice is critical for ensuring a transparent planning system that strengthens local neighbourhoods and economies
3. Urgently calls on the Minister for Planning to include full consultation with local governments and community before any planning reform decisions are made.
4. Urgently writes to the Minister for Planning, the shadow Minister for Planning and all local Members of the Victorian Parliament to advocate Council's position.
5. Request the CEO or delegate coordinate with other local governments in regards to advocacy.
6. Requests a report to Council, within 3 months, with an update and advice on any action Council could take to advocate effectively on this matter.

**Council Resolution**

MINUTE NO. 21-104

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

**That Council:**

1. Notes that the Victorian government has made a number of changes to the planning system in the last 18 months and is currently considering further significant planning reform.
2. Strongly voice its concern that
  - a. consultation with community and with local government on any reform proposals must occur before reforms are considered or introduced.
  - b. the community's voice must remain central in planning decisions
  - c. strong community consultation must be a core part of major planning decisions
  - d. community voice is critical for ensuring a transparent planning system that strengthens local neighbourhoods and economies
3. Urgently calls on the Minister for Planning to include full consultation with local governments and community before any planning reform decisions are made.
4. Urgently writes to the Minister for Planning, the shadow Minister for Planning and all local Members of the Victorian Parliament to advocate Council's position.
5. Request the CEO or delegate coordinate with other local governments in regards to advocacy.
6. Requests a report to Council, within 3 months, with an update and advice on any action Council could take to advocate effectively on this matter.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Meeting was adjourned for a brief break at 8.49 pm and recommenced at 9.11pm*

Councillor Laurence sought to have an Item of Urgent Business concerning the Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee being admitted to the meeting and moved a Procedural Motion which was ruled by the Mayor as being contrary to the Governance Rules specifically 9.2.8 ie the motion was prohibited due the provisions of Clause 8 (3) having not been met.

Cr Laurence raised a point of order which the Mayor ruled against.

Cr Laurence moved a motion of dissent in the Mayors ruling .

**Motion of Dissent**

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

That the Chairpersons ruling be dissented from.

**9.15 pm** – In accordance with clause 10.5 of the Governance Rules 2020, Mayor Messina left the Chair and Deputy Mayor Councillor Greco assumed the Chair.

Cr. Laurence was provided the opportunity to state the reasons for the dissent motion and the Mayor was invited to respond.

The motion was put and lost.

**LOST**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence and Williams (4)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Messina, Newton and Rennie (5)

**9.20 pm** – Mayor Messina resumed the Chair

Councillor Dimitriadis raised a point of order under the Council's Governance Rules Clause 10.1.1(a) and (h) regarding Item No. 11.4 - Contractual Matter and stated that in the agenda the naming of this item was misleading under the provisions of the Local Government Act and the requirements of disclosing the grounds and explanation relating to a confidential items had not been met.

The Mayor ruled against the point of order.

Cr Dimitriadis moved a motion of dissent in the Mayors ruling .

<b>Motion of Dissent</b>
--------------------------

**MOVED:** Cr. E Dimitriadis  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Laurence

That the Chairpersons ruling be dissented from.

**9.25 pm** – In accordance with clause 10.5 of the Governance Rules 2020, Mayor Messina left the Chair and Deputy Mayor Councillor Greco assumed the Chair.

Cr. Dimitriadis was provided the opportunity to state the reasons for the dissent motion and the Mayor was invited to respond.

The motion was put and lost.

**LOST**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence and Williams (4)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Messina, Newton and Rennie (5)

**9.28 pm** – Mayor Messina resumed the Chair

## 11. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

### CLOSE OF MEETING

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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MINUTE NO. 21-105

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

**That** in accordance with section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the items designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on the basis that the matters are confidential in accordance with Section 3(1) of the Act.

#### 11.1 CT202065 Contract Award for Construction of Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre

This item is confidential because it is private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, pursuant to Section 3(1) (g(ii)) of the Act.

#### 11.2 Optimising Utilisaton of Council Buildings

This item is confidential because it is Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released, pursuant to Section 3(1) (a) of the Act.

#### 11.3 Darebin Submission to DELWP's Yarra Catchment Integrated Water Management Forum

This item is confidential because it is Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released, pursuant to Section 3(1) (a) of the Act.

DELWP have not yet released the draft Yarra Catchment Integrated Water Management Plan to the community.

#### 11.4 CEO Employment Matters ( See Note 1 below )

This item is confidential because it is personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs, pursuant to Section 3(1) (f) of the Act.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*The meeting was closed to the members of the public at 9.29 pm*

*Note 1 – Council in the closed meeting resolved in part that the heading of Confidential Item 11.4 shown as ‘Contractual Matter ‘be renamed ‘ CEO Employment Matters ‘*

***The Council considered and resolved on Report Items 11.1, 11.2, 11.3 and 11.4 in the closed meeting.***

*The resolution of Council in the closed meeting in relation to Item 11.1 – ‘CT202065 Contract Award for Construction of Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre’ required that the Council decision on the matter be recorded in the open minutes of the meeting. viz*

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## **11.1 CT202065 CONTRACT AWARD FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NORTHCOTE AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTRE**

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<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-106**

**MOVED: Cr. E Dimitriadis  
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence**

**That Council:**

1. Awards Contract No. CT202065 Construction of Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre to Kane Constructions Pty Ltd for the contract sum of \$62,544,901.10 (incl. GST), which includes construction amount of \$61,745,129.60 (incl. GST) and novated consultant’s fees of \$799,771.50 (incl. GST);
2. Approves a contingency amount of \$2,957,577.70 (incl. GST), being approximately 4.8% of the contract sum, to be used if required for variations and other unforeseen items as part of Contract No. CT202065 and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to vary the contract;
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contract documentation;
4. Records the decision in the open Minutes of this Meeting

**CARRIED**

## **12. CLOSE OF MEETING**


The meeting closed at 10.37 pm.

**CITY OF  
DAREBIN**

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