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# MINUTES OF THE MEETING TO ELECT THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

Held on Thursday 30 November 2023

Released to the public on 7 December 2023

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



## **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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# Table of Contents

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<b>Item Number</b>		<b>Page Number</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	ADDRESSES BY THE OUTGOING MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR .....	7
4.2	TERM OF OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 2023/2024 .....	8
4.3	MAYORAL ELECTION 2023/2024 .....	9
9.4	MAINTENANCE OF ROLE OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2023/2024.....	10
4.5	DEPUTY MAYORAL ELECTION 2023/2024.....	11
4.6	MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR ADDRESSES .....	12
<b>5.</b>	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING.....</b>	<b>12</b>

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING TO ELECT  
THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR  
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL ON THURSDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

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**THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.10PM**

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Peter Smith, opened the meeting with the following statement:

*“My name is Peter Smith and I am the Chief Executive Officer here at the City of Darebin.*

*I would like to begin by acknowledging the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pay our 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.”*

Mr Smith welcomed Colin Hunter Junior Junior, representing the Wurundjeri people to the meeting and to provide the Welcome from the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was being held.

Mr Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council’s Governance Rules 2020, he was required to take the role of temporary Chair of this meeting until the election of the Mayor.

## **1. OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP**

### ***Councillors***

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Cr. Gaetano Greco

Cr. Tom Hannan

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Lina Messina (arrived at 6.33pm)

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

***Council Officers***

Peter Smith - Chief Executive Officer

Kylie Bennetts - General Manager Community

Caroline Buisson - General Manager Customer and Corporate

Vanessa Petrie - General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Rachel Ollivier - General Manager Operations and Capital

Enna Giampiccolo - Manager Governance and Communications

Bobbie-Lea Bright - Head of Governance and Risk

Jody Brodribb - Coordinator Governance Services

**2. APOLOGIES**

Nil.

**3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS**

**4.1 ADDRESSES BY THE OUTGOING MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR**

**Author:** Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Customer and Corporate

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*The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Peter Smith, invited the outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor to address the meeting and provide a short reflection on their time as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively.*

Outgoing Mayor, Julie Williams and Deputy Mayor, Susanne Newton addressed the meeting.

**4.2 TERM OF OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 2023/2024****Author:** Coordinator Governance Services**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Customer and Corporate

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The role of the Mayor is to act as leader of the Council, providing guidance and supporting good working relationships between the Councillors, and working with the Chief Executive Officer to ensure positive outcomes are delivered.

Section 18 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act) describes the role and functions of the Mayor, including chairing Council Meetings, acting as principal spokesperson for the Council, providing guidance to Councillors about what is expected of a Councillor, supporting good working relations between Councillors and carrying out civic and ceremonial duties.

Section 25(1) of the Act provides that at a Council meeting that is open to the public, the Councillors must elect a Councillor to be the Mayor of the Council.

Further, Section 26 of the Act provides that before the election of the Mayor, Council must determine by resolution, whether the Mayor is to be elected for a 1 year or a 2-year term. Because there is only one year remaining in this current term of Council, the Mayor for the 2023/2024 year can only be appointed for a one-year term, with the Local Government elections to be held on 26 October 2024.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 23-119****MOVED:** Cr. T McCarthy  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Laurence

**That** Council resolves pursuant to section 26(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to elect the Mayor for a term of one year.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6.31pm - Mr Smith adjourned the meeting pending the arrival of Cr Messina.

6.33pm – Cr. Messina arrived at the meeting.

6.34pm – Mr Smith recommenced the meeting.



**4.3 MAYORAL ELECTION 2023/2024****Author:** Coordinator Governance Services**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Customer and Corporate

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The Chief Executive Officer outlined the process for the election of the Mayor and invited nominations for the Office of Mayor for the 2023/2024 Council Year.

Cr. Susan Rennie nominated Cr. Susanne Newton for election to the Office of Mayor and Cr. Trent McCarthy seconded the nomination. Cr. Newton accepted the nomination.

Cr. Julie Williams nominated Cr. Gaetano Greco for election to the Office of Mayor and Cr. Lina Messina seconded the nomination. Cr. Greco accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

The Chief Executive Officer conducted the vote by show of hands. Cr. Susanne Newton received the votes of an absolute majority of the Council.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules 2020, the Chief Executive Officer declared Cr. Susanne Newton duly elected to the Office of Mayor of the City of Darebin for the 2023/2024 Council year.

Mayor Susanne Newton assumed the Chair and addressed the meeting.

Cr's Rennie, Hannan, McCarthy, Laurence and Messina addressed meeting and congratulated the Mayor.

**9.4 MAINTENANCE OF ROLE OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2023/2024****Author:** Coordinator Governance Services**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Customer and Corporate

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Pursuant to Section 20A of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), a Council may establish an office of Deputy Mayor.

Section 21 of the Act defines that the Deputy Mayor must perform the role of the Mayor and may exercise any of the powers of the Mayor if, the Mayor is unable for any reason to attend a Council meeting or part of a Council meeting, or the Mayor is incapable of performing the duties of the office of Mayor for any reason, including illness or the office of Mayor is vacant.

As per Council's Governance Rules, at the Meeting at which the Mayor is to be elected, Council may resolve to establish the position of Deputy Mayor and elect a Councillor to the position of Deputy Mayor. Further the term of a Deputy Mayor is to be identical to the term of the Mayor as resolved by Council.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 23-120****MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T McCarthy

**That** Council, in accordance with Section 20A of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Governance Rules 2020, maintain the position of Deputy Mayor for a term to coincide with the term of the Mayor for the 2023/24 council year.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4.5 DEPUTY MAYORAL ELECTION 2023/2024****Author:** Coordinator Governance Services**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Customer and Corporate

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The Mayor outlined the process for the election of the Deputy Mayor and invited nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for the 2023/2024 Council Year.

Cr. Trent McCarthy nominated Cr. Tim Laurence for election to the Office of Deputy Mayor and Cr. Susan Rennie seconded the nomination. Cr. Laurence accepted the nomination.

Cr. Julie Williams nominated herself for election to the Office of Deputy Mayor and Cr. Gaetano Greco seconded the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

The Mayor conducted the vote by show of hands. Cr. Tim Laurence received the votes of an absolute majority of the Council.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules 2020, the Mayor declared Cr. Tim Laurence elected to the Office of Deputy Mayor of the City of Darebin for the 2022/2023 Council Year.

The Deputy Mayor Cr. Tim Laurence addressed the meeting.

Cr's Newton, McCarthy and Messina addressed meeting and congratulated the Deputy Mayor.

**5. CLOSE OF MEETING**


The meeting closed at 7.08pm.

**CITY OF  
DAREBIN**

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