

Ordinary Meeting of Council

held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough on Tuesday 30 May 2017.

Minutes

Mark Stoermer
Chief Executive Officer

Wednesday 31 May 2017

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Domin je ka

Nillumbik Shire Council

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Nillumbik Shire Council held Tuesday 30 May 2017. The meeting commenced at 7pm.

Councillors present:

Cr Peter Clarke	Wingrove Ward (Mayor)
Cr Grant Brooker	Blue Lake Ward
Cr Karen Egan	Bunjil Ward
Cr John Dumaresq	Edendale Ward
Cr Peter Perkins	Ellis Ward
Cr Jane Ashton	Sugarloaf Ward
Cr Bruce Ranken	Swipers Gully Ward

Officers in attendance:

Mark Stoermer	Chief Executive Officer
Naomi Paton	Acting General Manager Community and Leisure
Allison Watt	Acting General Manager Corporate Services
Naomi Ellis	Corporate Planner
Joanne Massoud	Leisure Services Development Officer

Welcome

1. Reconciliation statement

The reconciliation statement was read by the Mayor, Cr Peter Clarke.

2. Prayer

A prayer was read by Pastor Sam Scott of Eltham Baptist Church.

3. Good governance pledge

The good governance pledge was read by Cr Peter Clarke.

4. Apologies

Nil

5. Presentations

Joanne Massoud - Emerging Leader of the Year Award, Parks and Leisure Australia (Vic/Tas Region)

Joanne Massoud, Nillumbik's Leisure Services Development Officer, was awarded the Victorian Emerging Leader Award at the Australian Parks and Leisure event on 23 May. The award was in recognition of her exceptional leadership, communication and project management skills. She shows a genuine passion for her work, a commitment to continuous improvement and thrives in a fast paced environment which always provides opportunities for learning.

Georgia Cox - Social Justice Captain, Catholic Ladies College

Georgia Cox of Catholic Ladies College, Eltham, presented Council with an artwork created by Year 7 students in recognition of National Reconciliation Week.

6. Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2 May 2017.

Motion

Cr Peter Perkins

Cr Karen Egan

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2 May 2017 be confirmed.

CARRIED

7. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

8. Petitions

Nil

9. Questions from the gallery

Colleen Hackett asked Council:

Given that Council has foregone the State Government capped two per cent rate rise, the Draft Budget includes many increases to fees and charges such as parking fees, fees for hall and community spaces hire, market stall hire and home care services, how can Council claim the community will be better off?

Mayor, Peter Clarke responded local councils provide a wide range of services to their communities, often for a fee or charge. The nature of these fees and charges generally depends on whether they relate to compulsory or discretionary services.

Some of these, such as statutory planning fees, are set by state government statute and are commonly known as 'regulatory fees'. In these cases councils usually have no control over service pricing.

Increases to all other fees and charges reflect the cost of providing that particular service to the community.

Increases to rates and charges would apply to all ratepayers across the Shire, whereas increases to fees and charges apply to the user of these services.

Colleen Hackett asked Council:

I refer to the Council Plan and reference to Nillumbik's boundaries. Where does Council believe the Shire's boundaries should be? Is there a preferred position? What is wrong with the boundaries as they exist? What's the purpose of encouraging speculation?

Mayor, Peter Clarke responded Council does not have a formal position on the Shire's boundaries but there have been some informal conversations with our counterparts at Banyule about the suburb of Montmorency and how it identifies more closely with Nillumbik than Banyule.

Is there the possibility to realign the boundaries between the two municipalities to include Montmorency and surrounds in Nillumbik? We do not know the answer, but it is worth starting the conversation. It would certainly mean more revenue for Nillumbik which has a heavy reliance on residential rates because of the lack of commercial/industrial properties and our geographic makeup.

9. Questions from the gallery continued

Be assured that we will have a lengthy conversation with the community about any changes before we make any decisions about boundaries.

Greg Johnson on behalf of Friends of Nillumbik Inc. asked Council:

The draft budget papers (page 53; Budget Cash Position Statement; Other non-operating items; Proceeds on sale-non-current assets) shows Council expects to gain \$26.35 million by selling public assets during its four year term. When can the community expect to learn which assets are targeted in this unprecedented sell-off?

Mayor, Peter Clarke responded that the community will learn which assets are to be sold when Council makes a decision in coming months as Council identifies those surplus assets which can be sold and the funds reallocated to other community projects.

10. Reports of Advisory Committees

Nil

11. Reports of Special Committees

Nil

12. Officers' reports

OCM.054/17 Good Governance Policy

Distribution: Public

Manager: Allison Watt, Acting General Manager Corporate Services

Author: Naomi Ellis, Corporate Planner

Summary

As part of the adoption of the Councillor Code of Conduct in February, Council resolved to consider a further report to approve the Good Governance Policy.

The Good Governance Policy, which details principles and practices about key roles and relationships, as well as decision-making processes and is now presented to Council for approval.

Motion

Cr Karen Egan

Cr Bruce Ranken

That Council approves the Good Governance Policy (May 2017).

CARRIED

12. Officers' reports

OCM.055/17 Proposed changes to property valuations

Distribution: Public

Manager: Mark Stoermer, Chief Executive Officer

Author: Allison Watt, Acting General Manager Corporate Services

Summary

In the 2017-2018 State Budget, the Victorian Government proposed to centralise all property valuations within the Valuer-General's office and to move from two-yearly to annual property valuations.

The proposed changes were made without any consultation with Councils and have a range of impacts on the Local Government sector. The changes are proposed to come into effect in 2019.

There is not yet any specific information regarding what the outcome of these changes would mean in a practical sense, therefore it is difficult ascertain what the changes mean for Nillumbik and the sector more broadly.

It is recommended that Council writes to the State Government urging a halt to these proposed reforms until the impacts on Councils and their communities are known.

Motion

**Cr Peter Perkins
Cr John Dumaresq**

That Council:

- 1. Notes the proposed changes to property valuations announced by the State Government in the State Budget 2017-2018**
- 2. Notes the potential impacts of the proposed changes on Nillumbik and the local government sector more broadly, given the limited information available.**
- 3. Writes to the State Government urging it to stop proposed reforms to property valuations until such time as the impacts on Councils and their communities are understood.**

CARRIED

12. Officers' reports

OCM.056/17 Audit Committee - Minutes May 2017

Distribution: Public

Manager: Allison Watt, Acting General Manager Corporate Services

Author: Vince Lombardi, Manager Finance

Melika Sukunda, Financial Accountant

Summary

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* section 139 and good governance principles, councils must have an Audit Committee.

As resolved at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 16 August 2005 the Audit Committee minutes are to be reported and presented at an Ordinary Meeting of Council following the Audit Committee meeting.

The Audit Committee met on 8 May 2017. The minutes for the meeting are attached.

This report also deals with the reappointment of one of the independent members of the Audit Committee for a term of a further year.

Motion

Cr Bruce Ranken

Cr Grant Brooker

That Council:

1. **Notes the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting for 8 May 2017.**
2. **Reappoints the independent member of the Audit Committee, Linda MacRae, in her existing capacity until 30 June 2018.**

CARRIED

12. Officers' reports

OCM.057/17 Risk and Insurance Report March 2017

Distribution: Public

Manager: Allison Watt, Acting General Manager Corporate Services

**Author: Craig Commene, Risk Advisor
Vince Lombardi, Manager Finance**

Summary

This report provides a summary of Council's Risk and Insurance Report for the quarter ending March 2017.

The report is presented in accordance with the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework that commenced on 1 July 2014. This reporting framework requires the presentation of a report to Council at least every six months, detailing the strategic risks, operational risks, the consequences and likelihood of occurrence, and risk mitigation strategies.

Risk and insurance reporting to Council will be tabled each quarter following consideration by the Audit Committee.

A separate report in this agenda provides detailed information for Council consideration. It is recommended that this detailed report remain confidential as it includes information which may prejudice the Council or another person.

Motion

Cr Bruce Ranken

Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

- 1. Notes this summary of the Risk and Insurance Report for the quarter ending March 2017.**
- 2. Confirms that the confidential Risk and Insurance Report for the March quarter 2017 is to remain confidential in accordance with sections 77 and 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.**

CARRIED

12. Officers' reports

OCM.058/17 Assemblies of Councillors

File: 10/30/002
Distribution: Public
Manager: Allison Watt, Acting General Manager Corporate Services
Author: Naomi Ellis, Corporate Planner

Summary

In accordance with section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council is required to report as soon as practicable to an Ordinary meeting of Council a record of any assemblies of Councillors held.

This report lists assemblies of Councillors forms that have been submitted since the matter was last reported to Council on 2 May 2017.

Motion

Cr Karen Egan
Cr Grant Brooker

That Council, in accordance with section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, receives the records of the following assemblies of Councillors:

1	Date of assembly	20 March 2017	
	Matters considered	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee	
	Councillors present	Cr Grant Brooker Cr John Dumaresq	Cr Peter Perkins
	Staff present	Justin Murray Suzanne Rouvray Norman Golgerth	Adrian Cully Stephen Meloury Michelle Stewart
	Conflict of interest	None declared	

2	Date of assembly	20 March 2017	
	Matters considered	Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub-Committee	
	Councillors present	Cr Grant Brooker Cr John Dumaresq	Cr Peter Perkins
	Staff present	Justin Murray Suzanne Rouvray	Norman Golgerth Neil Horden
	Conflict of interest	None declared	

12. Officers' reports

OCM.058/17 Assemblies of Councillors

3	Date of assembly	26 April 2017	
	Matters considered	Officer briefings of Councillors	
	Councillors present	Cr Peter Clarke Cr Jane Ashton Cr Grant Brooker Cr Bruce Ranken	Cr Karen Egan Cr John Dumaresq Cr Peter Perkins
	Staff present	Mark Stoermer Andrew Port Pauline Gordon Jeremy Livingston Phil Lovelace Darko Popovski Naomi Paton	Melanie Holt Joanne Massoud Alison Fowler Joanne Hammond Jon Miller Mathew Deayton Jake Hart
	Conflict of interest	None declared	
4	Date of assembly	2 May 2017	
	Matters considered	Pre-meeting for Ordinary Council Meeting	
	Councillors present	Cr Grant Brooker Cr Peter Clarke Cr Karen Egan	Cr John Dumaresq Cr Jane Ashton Cr Peter Perkins
	Staff present	Mark Stoermer Andrew Port Vince Lombardi Robert Malignaggi Conal Creedon Justin Murray Allison Watt	Lisa Pittle Jeremy Livingston Pauline Gordon Mathew Deayton Joanne Hammond Darko Popovski
	Conflict of interest	None declared	
5	Date of assembly	9 May 2017	
	Matters considered	Officer briefings of Councillors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of violence against women • Hohnes Road Playhouse • North East Link • Nillumbik Lifetime Play Strategy • Edendale Infrastructure Enhancement Project 	

12. Officers' reports

OCM.058/17 Assemblies of Councillors

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Park Pavilion redevelopment – site options • Planning briefing • Wattle Glen Township • Integrated Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Study • Open Space Precinct Plan – Graysharps Road, Hurstbridge
Councillors present	Cr Peter Clarke Cr Grant Brooker Cr Bruce Ranken Cr Jane Ashton	Cr John Dumaresq Cr Peter Perkins Cr Karen Egan
Staff present	Mark Stoermer Allison Watt Corinne Mays Naomi Paton Corrienne Nichols Narelle Hart Jodie Leahy Jeremy Livingston	Joanne Hammond Lisa Pittle Jonathan Risby Mathew Deayton Nadine Wooldridge Adrian Cully Renae Ahern Chad Griffiths
Conflict of interest	None declared	

6	Date of assembly	16 May 2017	
	Matters considered	Future Nillumbik Committee pre-meet	
	Councillors present	Cr Peter Clarke Cr Grant Brooker Cr Karen Egan Cr Peter Perkins	Cr John Dumaresq Cr Jane Ashton Cr Bruce Ranken
	Staff present	Mark Stoermer Allison Watt Jeremy Livingston Renae Ahern	Lisa Pittle Naomi Paton Nichole Johnson Nadine Wooldridge
	Conflict of interest	None declared	

12. Officers' reports

OCM.058/17 Assemblies of Councillors

7	Date of assembly	16 May 2017
	Matters considered	Health and Wellbeing Project Reference Group
	Councillors present	Cr Jane Ashton
	Staff present	Naomi Paton Madelyn Elliott Diana Bell
	Conflict of interest	None declared

CARRIED

13. Notices of Motion

Nil

14. Delegates' reports

Nil

15. Supplementary and urgent business

One supplementary and urgent item had arisen since the agenda was distributed and was presented for inclusion in the meeting.

In accordance with clause 6.15 of the Meeting Procedure Local Law, supplementary and urgent items may be admitted at the discretion of the Chairperson.

The Chairperson, Mayor, Cr Peter Clarke, admitted the item to the meeting.

OCM.061/17 Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy

Motion

Cr Peter Perkins

Cr Karen Egan

That Council supports the Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum writing to the Minister for Energy, Environment, Climate Change requesting that funds generated through the collection of the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy be constrained to the purposes for which the Levy was introduced and raising concerns with the Levy funds currently being allocated to supplement Parks Victoria initiatives not related to the original purposes of the Levy.

CARRIED

16. Confidential reports

The meeting may be closed to members of the public to consider confidential matters.

Motion

Cr Jane Ashton

Cr Karen Egan

That Council closes the meeting to the public pursuant to section 89(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989* to consider the following items, which are confidential for the reasons indicated:

Report No.	Title	Reason for confidentiality
OCM.059/17	Arts Advisory Committee nominations	(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person
OCM.060/17	Risk and Insurance Report March 2017	(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person

CARRIED

The meeting closed to the public at 7.34pm.