

Special Meeting of Council

held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Monday 20 May 2019 commencing at 7:30pm.

Minutes

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Thursday 23 May 2019

Distribution: Public

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Domin je ka

Nillumbik Shire Council

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Nillumbik Shire Council held
Monday 20 May 2019. The meeting commenced at 7:30pm.

Councillors present:

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

Officers in attendance:

Carl Cowie	Chief Executive Officer
Jeremy Livingston	Acting Director Community and Planning
Blaga Naumoski	Executive Manager Governance and Legal Services
Geoff Lawler	Strategic Advisor Integrated Strategy
Paul Fyffe	Senior Strategic Planner
Katia Croce	Governance Lead

Public Notice – Special Council Meeting 20 May 2019

Insufficient lead-time was available to provide the required minimum 7 days public notice for this meeting as per section 89(4) of the Local Government Act 1989. Public notice was given in "The Age" newspaper and published on Council's website on 16 May 2019.

Notwithstanding the above requirement involving at least 7 days public notice, section 89(4A) of the Act provides that if urgent or extraordinary circumstances prevent compliance with this requirement, Council must give public notice as is practicable and specify in the minutes the urgent or extraordinary circumstances which prevented compliance.

The urgency in this matter is due to Council being required to provide the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) its endorsed submission to the "Protecting Melbourne's Strategic Agricultural Land" project by 21 May 2019.

1. Welcome by the Mayor

2. Reconciliation statement

The reconciliation statement was read by the Mayor, Cr Karen Egan.

3. Apologies

Cr Peter Perkins is an apology for this Special Council Meeting.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Grant Brooker

SECONDED: Cr John Dumaresq

That Cr Peter Perkins' apology be noted.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

5. Notices of Motion

NOM.003/19 – Notice of Rescission

Cr Karen Egan and Cr Jane Ashton advised of their intention to rescind a Future Nillumbik Committee resolution made on 14 May 2019 as follows:

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That Council rescind, the Future Nillumbik Committee resolution made on 14 May 2019 that refers to item “FN.011/19 Protecting Melbourne’s Strategic Agricultural Land – Proposed draft submission from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the State Government”.

CARRIED

6. Officers' reports

OCM.063/19 Protecting Melbourne's Strategic Agricultural Land - Proposed draft submission from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the State Government

Distribution: Public

Manager: Jeremy Livingston, Acting Director Community and Planning

Author: Paul Fyffe, Senior Strategic Planner

Geoff Lawler, Strategic Advisor Integrated Strategy

Melanie Porqueddu, Administration Support Officer

Summary

This report presents the Committee with a draft Council submission to a State Government project (the project) which aims to identify and better protect land of strategic agricultural value in proximity of Melbourne.

The project is being implemented by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) which has developed draft criteria to identify strategic agricultural land. DELWP is now conducting public engagement which will test and refine the proposed criteria with the community, the agricultural industry, local government and key authorities.

A draft Council submission is provided as **Attachment 4** and this submission makes the following key points:

- a) The project and criteria are too narrow in scope and fails to capture smaller-scale, localised agricultural land and activity, including hobby farming, which are still highly important to the viability of Melbourne's green wedges and the future resilience and adaptability of Melbourne's food bowl.
- b) Reflecting the short-coming just mentioned, the proposed criteria fail to capture the prime agricultural land and activity within the Shire of Nillumbik, particularly the concentration of agricultural land in the north-west of the Shire.
- c) The project should focus not only on protecting agricultural land, but also on facilitating ease of proper use and management of land for agriculture.

The draft submission refers to points a) and b) above as serious shortcomings of the project, which have significant implications for the viability and protection of much of the Shire's green wedge and broader implications for Melbourne's food bowl.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That Council:

1. Endorses the draft submission (**Attachment 4**) as Council's submission to the DELWP Project, "Protecting Melbourne's Strategic Agricultural Land"; and
2. Requests the endorsed submission be provided to the State Government.

CARRIED

Special Meeting of Council Minutes

20 May 2019

The meeting closed at 8:01pm.

Confirmed: _____

Cr Karen Egan, Mayor