

Future Nillumbik Committee

held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 10 March 2020 commencing at 7:00pm.

Minutes

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Friday 13 March 2020

Distribution: Public

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Nillumbik Shire Council

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Nillumbik Shire Council

**Minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting held
Tuesday 10 March 2020. The meeting commenced at 7:00pm.**

Councillors present:

Cr Karen Egan	Bunjil Ward (Mayor)
Cr Grant Brooker	Blue Lake Ward
Cr John Dumaresq	Edendale Ward
Cr Peter Perkins	Ellis 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
Vince Lombardi	Chief Financial Officer
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Operations and Infrastructure
Blaga Naumoski	Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
Jeremy Livingston	Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance
Rosa Zouzoulas	Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety
Heath Gillett	Manager Recreation and Leisure
Craig King	Customer Experience Lead
Katia Croce	Governance Lead

1. Welcome by the Chair

2. Reconciliation statement

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

3. Apologies

Nil

4. Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of public and confidential minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11 February 2020.

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Grant Brooker

SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke

That the public and confidential minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11 February 2020 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

Cr Jane Ashton assumed the chair at 7:01pm as the Councillor responsible for the Environment and Sustainability Portfolio.

6. Officers' reports

FN.006/20 Council Submission on the Review of Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

Portfolio: Environment and Sustainability

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Lisa Pittle, Manager Environment

Kirsten Reedy, Coordinator Environment

Julia Franco, Biodiversity Officer

Summary

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is currently being independently reviewed by Professor Graeme Samuel AC who is supported by an expert panel. The first consultative step of the review process was the release of a discussion paper on 21 November 2019.

The review will examine how the EPBC Act has been operating and identify any changes needed for Australia to better support ecologically sustainable development into the future. The overarching aim is to modernise the EPBC Act and its operation to best address current and future environment challenges (*Independent Review of the EPBC Act – Discussion Paper*, Commonwealth of Australia 2019).

Interested parties have been invited to provide formal written submissions in response to the ideas and questions set out within the *Independent Review of the EPBC Act – Discussion Paper* prepared by Professor Graeme Samuel AC on behalf of the Commonwealth Government. Submissions on the Discussion Paper are due by 17 April 2020. This first stage of the review process is seeking to identify areas where reform will deliver the greatest benefit for the environment, business and the community, while maintaining strong environmental standards.

To help ensure that the EPBC Act is fit for the future, Council has the opportunity to participate in the review by providing a submission on the Discussion Paper. Officers have prepared a submission in response to the Discussion Paper, which is presented for Council consideration and endorsement (**Attachment 1**).

Within a Nillumbik context, the submission considers and makes recommendations around the principle of ecologically sustainable development, the objects of the EPBC Act, matters of National Environmental Significance (NES), priorities for reform, high level concerns, future trends, outcomes and processes, community involvement in decision making and principles to help guide future reform.

Over the next 12 months an expert panel will consider the submissions received and will explore the reform options. Council may have additional opportunities to provide feedback as the review progresses.

The following person addressed the Committee with respect to this item:

1. Geoff Paine

6. Officers' reports

FN.006/20 Council Submission on the Review of Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Bruce Ranken

SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Endorses the Council submission (**Attachment 1**) on the *Independent Review of the EPBC Act – Discussion Paper*.
2. Notes that officers may provide additional input into the EPBC Act review over the coming 12 months.

CARRIED

Cr Bruce Ranken assumed the chair at 7:10pm as the Councillor responsible for the Finance and Governance Portfolio.

6. Officers' reports

FN.007/20 Complaint Handling Policy

Portfolio: Finance and Governance

Distribution: Public

Manager: Jeremy Livingston, Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance

Author: Craig King, Customer Experience Lead

Summary

This report presents an updated Complaint Handling Policy (Policy) for adoption by Council.

The Policy has been updated based on a good practice guide and policy template developed by the Victorian Ombudsman in 2015. The Policy also complies with the recommendations of the Victorian Ombudsman's 2019 report concerning complaint handling within councils, as well as requirements of the Local Government Bill 2019.

Through this Policy, Council will be meeting reporting standards set by the Ombudsman on how many complaints it receives by introducing updated policy and procedural standards to ensure compliance with the new directives.

The Local Government Bill 2019 requires compliance with complaints handling requirements by 2022, so in this regard, Council is well advanced in preparations to meet these future legislated requirements.

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Adopts the updated Complaint Handling Policy (**Attachment 1**).
2. Makes the policy publicly available on Council's website.

CARRIED

Cr Peter Clarke assumed the chair at 7:15pm as the Councillor responsible for the Planning Portfolio.

6. Officers' reports

FN.008/20 Council Submission to the draft Yarra Strategic Plan

Portfolio: Planning

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

Author: Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead

Summary

This report presents Council's submission to the draft Yarra Strategic Plan (draft Plan). The draft Plan has been prepared by Melbourne Water as project lead, and is currently on public exhibition until 22 March 2020. The draft Plan has been prepared in association with the Yarra Collaboration Committee (YCC), which includes Nillumbik Shire.

The draft Plan identifies very broad priority actions that will require collaborative effort and investment over the next 10 years, towards a 50 Year Community Vision and includes an implementation plan. It also includes a Land Use Framework which is the spatial representation of how the draft Plan's four performance objectives will be achieved.

A submission (**Attachment 1**) has been prepared. It gives support to the intent and objectives of the draft Plan, and also identifies issues that need to be resolved particularly in regard to:

- Implications for existing and future private land owners located in the Yarra River Corridor in regard to building and re-building;
- Future ongoing maintenance costs to Council in implementation of the draft Plan and;
- Allowing the future consideration of strategies that optimise community access to the Yarra River corridor.

The following people addressed the Committee with respect to this item:

1. Sue Dyet
2. Sue Ormerod on behalf of Friends of Eltham Lower Park

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr John Dumaresq

SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council) endorses and submits the submission (**Attachment 1**) to the draft Yarra Strategic Plan by 22 March 2020.

CARRIED

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan assumed the Chair at 7:34pm.

7. Supplementary and urgent business

Nil

8. Confidential reports

Nil

The meeting closed at 7:34pm.

Confirmed: _____
Cr Karen Egan, Mayor