

Future Nillumbik Committee

held virtually on Tuesday 12 May 2020 commencing at 7:00pm.

Minutes

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Friday 15 May 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 12 May 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
Blaga Naumoski	Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
Vince Lombardi	Chief Financial Officer
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Operations and Infrastructure
Rosa Zouzoulas	Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety
Corrienne Nichols	Executive Manager Communities
Katia Croce	Governance Lead

1. Welcome by the Chair

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the following address:

Please note that this meeting is being recorded and streamed live on the Internet. This meeting is being held online and Councillors are attending via electronic means. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with Council's existing Meeting Procedure Local Law 2017, noting that procedures have been slightly modified to ensure the meeting remains compliant but can run effectively in the online environment.

Before we commence today's virtual Council meeting, I wish to note that this meeting is being conducted online in accordance with the provisions of the *COVID-19 Omnibus (Emergency Measures) Act 2020*, which was passed on 24 March 2020 by the Victorian Parliament. This new Act introduces provisions into the new *Local Government Act 2020* to allow for virtual Council meetings, such as this one, to take place from 1 May until 1 November 2020. On Wednesday 29 April, the Minister for Local Government issued his first Good Practice Guideline outlining a number of requirements for the holding of virtual Council meetings, which you will see in effect today.

Council appreciates the support of the State Government to pass this legislation that allows us to continue to transact the vital business of Council in the current circumstances whilst maintaining the health, wellbeing and safety of our Councillors, staff and the public.

Attendance

In order to be recorded as present at the meeting, each Councillor must confirm that:

- they can hear proceedings;
- they can see the other Councillors in attendance and be seen by other members; and
- they can be heard to speak.

When we move to ‘Apologies’, and I will ask each Councillor to confirm this.

Councillors will have their microphones on mute and I will call on them to unmute when required during the proceedings.

I’d like to reassure you that just as the Governance Lead records any movement of Councillors leaving the Chamber at a Council meeting in the minutes, so, too, will the minutes tonight indicate if a Councillor is not visible on the screen for any time.

Public Access

It is a requirement that all virtual meetings of Council are made accessible to the public by being streamed live via the Council’s website. Council officers have arranged to ensure this virtual meeting is live streamed and is accessible on Council’s website.

As this is a Future Nillumbik Committee meeting, submitters who have requested to speak will have an opportunity to do so. Council has made temporary changes to the way it manages requests from submitters wishing to speak to an item. Submitters may address the Committee either by submitting a typed submission which will be read on their behalf by our CEO Carl Cowie or address the Committee virtually through the Zoom platform.

Virtual submitters will be present at the meeting but not visible to the public unless they are speaking. Submitters microphones will be on mute until the Chairperson invites them to speak to their item. Each submitter will be given 3 minutes to speak.

Finally I’d like to just note that should we encounter significant technical difficulties that do not allow tonight’s meeting to continue at all, or the live stream is interrupted to the public, the meeting will be adjourned and those items on the agenda that have not been considered, will be deferred for consideration by Council at a later date.

On behalf of Councillors, I would like to thank all staff especially the Governance and IT departments who have collaborated and coordinated to facilitate this meeting tonight. Thank you all for your patience and support as we trial this new form of Council meeting.

2. Reconciliation statement

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

3. Apologies

Nil

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan confirmed with each Councillor that they could see, be heard and be seen during the proceedings.

4. Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 March 2020.

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke

That the minutes of the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 March 2020 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

6. Officers' reports

FN.009/20 Disability Action Plan 2020-2024

Portfolio: Community Services**Distribution:** Public**Manager:** Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Communities**Author:** Angela Lampard, Community Inclusion and Volunteer Coordinator
Angela Clare, MetroAccess Project Officer**Summary**

The Disability Action Plan (DAP) 2020-2024 supports Council in eliminating, as far as possible, disability discrimination through the provision of its goods, services and facilities. While the plan's framework is established in the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, the DAP is a legislative requirement for Council by virtue of section 38 of the *Disability Act 2006* (Vic).

Following the three-week public exhibition period (3-24 February 2020) for the draft DAP, feedback has further strengthened identified actions. The purpose of this report is to present written public submissions to the Committee regarding the Disability Action Plan, to hear verbal submissions and to seek Committee endorsement of the Disability Action Plan 2020-2024.

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

1. Jim Connor

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Adopts the Disability Action Plan 2020-2024 (**Attachment 1**) and works to commence its implementation.
2. Notes the public submissions provided for the draft Disability Action Plan 2020-2024, as contained in **Attachment 2**.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Grant Brooker

SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Adopts the Disability Action Plan 2020-2024 (**Attachment 1**) and works to commence its implementation.
2. **Reports to Council on an annual basis commencing in May 21 on progress and implementation metrics on each of the 59 action items.**
3. Notes the public submissions provided for the draft Disability Action Plan 2020-2024, as contained in **Attachment 2**.

6. Officers' reports

FN.009/20 Disability Action Plan 2020-2024

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Grant Brooker

SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Adopts the Disability Action Plan 2020-2024 (**Attachment 1**) and works to commence its implementation.
2. Reports to Council on an annual basis commencing in May 21 on progress and implementation metrics on each of the 59 action items.
3. Notes the public submissions provided for the draft Disability Action Plan 2020-2024, as contained in **Attachment 2**.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Officers' reports**FN.010/20 Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030****Portfolio: Economic Development and Marketing****Distribution: Public****Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety****Author: Danielle Phyland, Economic Development and Tourism Lead****Summary**

The Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030 (the 'Strategy') (**Attachment 1**) has been prepared in response to Council Plan 2017-2021 *Objective 4 – A Prosperous Economy*. Specifically, this report responds to Action 4.1.1: *Adopt a new Economic Development Strategy and create a set of indicators to measure success*.

The draft Strategy was completed with input from various internal consultations and supporting documents both internal and external. Extensive community consultation then took place from Wednesday 29 January 2020 and closed Friday 20 March 2020. This report provides the community feedback received (**Attachments 2 and 3**) and allows the submitters the opportunity to speak to their submissions.

This report recommends that the Committee, having received the submissions and heard any verbal submissions, advises officers to address feedback within the draft Strategy where appropriate. A final draft will then be presented at the Councillor Briefing on Tuesday 2 June 2020 in anticipation that the document will be adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday 23 June 2020.

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

1. Cathy Giles on behalf of Nillumbik Horse Action Group
2. Jeremy Loftus-Hills
3. Jim Connor
4. Mel Ellis (submission read by CEO)
5. Gila Schnapp (submission read by CEO)
6. Chris Chapple on behalf of Local Food Connect (submission read by CEO)

Committee Resolution**MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke****SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken****That** the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Notes all of the submissions received in respect of the draft Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030.
2. Requests that officers consider the matters contained in the written and verbal submissions in relation to the draft Strategy and present recommendations to the Councillor Briefing on Tuesday 2 June 2020.

6. Officers' reports

FN.010/20 Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030

3. Requests that officers thank submitters who have provided contact details and provide a written response to their submissions.

CARRIED

Carl Cowie, Chief Executive Officer temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 7:48pm and returned at 7:49pm.

Cr Peter Perkins temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 8:05pm and returned at 8:06pm.

6. Officers' reports

FN.011/20 Draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy - Submissions

Portfolio: Environment and Sustainability

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

Author: Jonathan McNally, Manager Community Safety and Amenity

Megan Sparks, Team Leader Community Safety and Amenity Support

Summary

Council receives requests throughout the year for the display of temporary community event signage on Council land. The display of temporary signage is considered to be a key method employed to communicate upcoming events to the community. Under Council's Amenity Local Law, signage cannot be displayed on Council land without a permit.

An existing Council policy, the *Erection of Temporary Advertising Signs for Community Events on Road Reserves and Council Property Policy*, guides decision making under a local law for community event signage on Council land and road reserves. Currently, there are two key issues with this policy:

- There is significant competition for optimum signage locations, with smaller community groups often not having fair opportunity to place signs.
- Discretion in the policy to allow signage at other than the approved locations, has contributed to an adverse proliferation in the number and locations of signs.

The unlawful display of signage represents a challenge for Council as it creates a negative impact on the amenity and appearance of the Shire when applied in an uncontrolled manner.

The draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy (**Attachment 1**) has been developed to create a framework for the control of all temporary signage throughout the Shire, establishing fixed locations for the display of temporary event signage, and provides greater clarity for community groups seeking to advertise upcoming events. Council endorsed the draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy for the purpose of seeking feedback at the 24 March 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting. Public consultation was undertaken between 26 March to 29 April 2020, and Council has received 23 written submissions.

This report summarises the feedback in the written submissions received on the draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy. An overview of the feedback received in the submissions is attached to this report. Submissions received have been read thoroughly and a number of key themes have been identified. All submitters were advised that they could present their feedback to this Committee.

A report providing a response to the submissions, highlighting suggested changes is scheduled for the Ordinary Council Meeting on 23 June 2020.

This report recommends that the Committee, having received the submissions and heard any verbal submissions, refers a decision regarding the adoption of the amended draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy to the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting.

6. Officers' reports

FN.011/20 Draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy - Submissions

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

1. Jim Connor
2. Natalie Duffy
3. Sue Dyet on behalf of Eltham Community Action Group
4. Ivan Dalla Costa on behalf of Eltham Redbacks Football Club (submission read by CEO)

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Acknowledges all the submissions received and presentations to Council in respect of the draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy.
2. Notes that a report that considers submissions and presentations to Council at this Future Nillumbik Committee meeting, in relation to the draft Temporary and Community Advertising Signage Policy will be presented to the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting.
3. Requests that officers thank submitters who have provided contact details and provide a written response to their submissions.

CARRIED

6. Officers' reports**FN.012/20 Consideration of submissions - draft budget 2020-2021**

Portfolio: **Finance and Governance**
Distribution: **Public**
Manager: **Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer**
Author: **Robert Malignaggi, Business Services Lead**
 Melika Sukunda, Manager Finance

Summary

This report considers submissions received from the public regarding the draft Budget 2020-2021.

Council adopted the draft Budget 2020-2021 at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 24 March 2020 for the purpose of community consultation. The draft Budget was exhibited for 28 days in line with statutory requirements with 30 submissions received. These submissions are attached to this report.

It is proposed that the Committee considers the submissions on the draft Budget 2020-2021 and that the matter then be considered by Council on 26 May 2020.

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

1. Katherine Copsey on behalf of Alliance for Gambling Reform
2. Kevin Myers on behalf of himself and Gweneth Myers
3. Zac Lombardo

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan adjourned the meeting at 9:18pm to resolve technical difficulties during Zac Lombardo's submission. The meeting resumed at 9:24pm.

4. Norman Williams (submission read by the CEO)
5. Mel Ellis (submission read by CEO)

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Recommends the adoption of the budget at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 May 2020.
2. Receives and notes the submissions received in respect of the draft Budget 2020-2021, in accordance with the sections 129 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
3. Presents a report to the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 May 2020 in accordance with section 223(1)(c) of *Local Government Act 1989* with the following recommendation:
 - a) That Council notes that 30 submissions were received on the draft Budget 2020-2021, submissions were considered and submitters were provided with the opportunity to be heard by the Future Nillumbik Committee on 12 May 2020.

6. Officers' reports**FN.012/20 Consideration of submissions - draft budget 2020-2021**

- b) That Council considers the matters contained in the submissions and the Committee's report during finalisation of the Budget.

Motion**MOVED: Cr Bruce Ranken****SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke****That** the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Recommends the adoption of the budget at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 May 2020, **based on a zero percent rate increase**.
2. Receives and notes the submissions received in respect of the draft Budget 2020-2021, in accordance with the sections 129 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
3. Presents a report to the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 May 2020 in accordance with section 223(1)(c) of *Local Government Act 1989* with the following recommendation:
 - a) That Council notes that 30 submissions were received on the draft Budget 2020-2021, submissions were considered and submitters were provided with the opportunity to be heard by the Future Nillumbik Committee on 12 May 2020.
 - b) That Council considers the matters contained in the submissions and the Committee's report during finalisation of the Budget.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Committee Resolution**MOVED: Cr Bruce Ranken****SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke****That** the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Recommends the adoption of the budget at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 May 2020, based on a zero percent rate increase.
2. Receives and notes the submissions received in respect of the draft Budget 2020-2021, in accordance with the sections 129 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
3. Presents a report to the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 May 2020 in accordance with section 223(1)(c) of *Local Government Act 1989* with the following recommendation:
 - a) That Council notes that 30 submissions were received on the draft Budget 2020-2021, submissions were considered and submitters were provided with the opportunity to be heard by the Future Nillumbik Committee on 12 May 2020.

6. Officers' reports

FN.012/20 Consideration of submissions - draft budget 2020-2021

- b) That Council considers the matters contained in the submissions and the Committee's report during finalisation of the Budget.

CARRIED

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 8:56pm and returned at 8:57pm.

Cr Jane Ashton temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 9:08pm and returned at 9:11pm.

Blaga Naumoski, Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 9:10pm and returned and 9:11pm.

6. Officers' reports**FN.013/20 Nillumbik Housing Strategy Discussion Paper - Consideration of Community Feedback**

Portfolio: Planning**Distribution: Public****Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety****Author: Paul Fyffe, Senior Strategic Planner****Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead****Summary**

The Council Plan requires the preparation of a new Nillumbik Housing Strategy. The purpose of the Strategy is to establish a clear policy position influencing the location, type, form, diversity and scale of housing across the Shire, in line with existing neighbourhood character and responding to community needs.

To assist in preparing the Housing Strategy, a Discussion Paper (**Attachment 1**) was prepared, which considers relevant themes and opportunities, and raises a series of questions in relation to these. Council's February 2020 Ordinary Meeting endorsed the discussion paper for public consultation.

The consultation has been completed and this report will consider the feedback received and outline how this feedback is being used to assist in preparing a draft of the housing strategy. The draft strategy is scheduled to be presented to the May 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting with a recommendation that it be endorsed for public consultation.

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

1. Tim Phillips on behalf of Eltham Community Action Group
2. Gila Schnapp (submission read by CEO)
3. Esther Caspi (submission read by CEO)
4. Fred Bauer (submission read by CEO)
5. Howard Bartlett
6. Colleen Hackett (submission read by CEO)

Motion to extend the Meeting – 10:28pm

In accordance with Clause 2.1 of the Meeting Procedure Local Law 2017, a meeting must not continue after 10:30pm unless a majority of Councillors present vote in favour of the meeting continuing.

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke**SECONDED: Cr Grant Brooker****That the meeting be extended.****CARRIED**

6. Officers' reports

FN.013/20 Nillumbik Housing Strategy Discussion Paper - Consideration of Community Feedback

Continuation of submissions made by the public:

7. Lorna Smith (submission read by CEO)

Committee Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council) notes:

1. The public feedback provided to the Nillumbik Housing Strategy Discussion Paper, as contained in **Attachments 2 and 3**.
2. That the public feedback is being considered in the preparation of a draft Nillumbik Housing Strategy.
3. That a draft new Nillumbik Housing Strategy is scheduled to be presented to the May 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting with a view that it be endorsed for public consultation.

CARRIED

Cr Peter Perkins called for a division

For: Cr Karen Egan, Cr Bruce Ranken, Cr Peter Clarke, Cr Grant Brooker,
Cr Jane Ashton and Cr John Dumaresq

Against: Cr Peter Perkins

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan declared the Motion Carried.

Blaga Naumoski, Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 9:52pm and returned at 9:53pm.

Cr Bruce Ranken temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 9:55pm and returned at 9:56pm.

Cr Jane Ashton temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 10:42pm and returned at 10:43pm.

Carl Cowie, Chief Executive Officer temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 10:45pm and returned at 10:46pm.

7. Supplementary and urgent business

Nil

8. Confidential reports

Nil

The meeting closed at 10:47pm.

Confirmed: _____

Cr Karen Egan, Mayor