

Special Meeting of Council

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Wednesday 31 October 2018 commencing at 7pm.

Minutes

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Friday 2 November 2018

Distribution: Public

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Nillumbik Shire Council

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of Nillumbik Shire Council held
Wednesday 31 October 2018. The meeting commenced at 7.01pm.**

Councillors present:

Cr Peter Clarke	Wingrove Ward
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:

Carl Cowie	Chief Executive Officer
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Sustainability and Place
Adrian Cully	Director Business and Strategy
Blaga Naumoski	Executive Manager Governance
Mitch Grayson	Chief of Staff to Mayor and Councillors
Vince Lombardi	Executive Manager Finance
Suzy Ellingsen	Executive Manager People, Culture and Innovation
Katia Croce	Governance Lead
Emma Christensen	Governance Officer

1. Welcome

2. Reconciliation statement

The reconciliation statement was read by the Chief Executive Officer, Carl Cowie.

3. Apologies

Nil

Procedural Motion

The Chief Executive Officer, Carl Cowie called for a Procedural Motion that the order of business be changed.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken

That Agenda Items 4 and 5 be swapped to allow 'Presentations' to occur prior to the 'Appointment of a temporary Chairperson'.

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

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke
SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken

That Agenda Items 4 and 5 be swapped to allow 'Presentations' to occur prior to the 'Appointment of a temporary Chairperson'.

CARRIED

4. Presentation

Presentation to the outgoing Mayor, and Deputy Mayor.

Resolution

Cr Jane Ashton
Cr Bruce Ranken

That Council records its appreciation for the service to the community by Cr Peter Clarke as Mayor 2016-2018 and Mrs Susan Clarke as Mayoress 2016-2018 and Cr Karen Egan as Deputy Mayor 2016-2018.

CARRIED

A presentation was made to the outgoing Mayor, Mayoress and Deputy Mayor, acknowledging and thanking them for their contribution during the past 12 months.

The outgoing Mayor, Peter Clarke addressed the meeting and made the following speech:

"Firstly

Thanks for the kind and generous words from my fellow Councillors.

It has been an honour and privilege to serve this community as its Mayor over the past 2 years.

I have enjoyed unwavering support of Deputy Mayor and fellow Councillors.

Our meetings have run smoothly and to time. We have debated the issues earnestly and always had the best interests of the community in mind in resolving the issues before us.

Can I thank the staff of Council. The CEOs' Stuart Burdack, Mark Stoermer and now our newest asset Carl Cowie. The senior Executive Management Team.

All staff have been delightful and supportive of the many initiatives and issues we raised. Of all the unique matters that have arisen their cheerful attempts to resolve the matters in a timely supportive manner has made the job much easier.

Can I also thank the Council and the Municipal Association of Victoria and its President Mary Lalios for recognising me with awards of Mayor Emeritus and the 15 year service award a couple of weeks ago.

The response from the community and local government sector together with local Members of Parliament has been much appreciated.

I have the tolerance and support of my family Susan, Kathryn and Loren and in the last 12 months our new son in law Tim.

My family have endured over 16 years in local government thus far.

Discussing the Council agenda and what should occur either at Heidelberg Melbourne or Nillumbik is not usual in most families.

They have always had helpful and considered suggestions. I am grateful for the continued support and love.

Met some fantastic residents doing amazing things, supportive, concerned, engaged active, committed I have attended Citizenship. Celebrated Citizens of the year. Met groups such as the Rotary, Lions, Men's Shed, Chambers of Commerce, Scouts guides Sporting Groups, Support Groups, charities, Kinders, landcare Groups, Local CFA's and Fire Captains, Churches and many more.

Our task to has been to find the sensible centre and listen to our community.

We have done that with our Shire Plan 'LIVING IN THE LANDSCAPE' with a target of being 'Australia's Most Liveable Shire' and we are now half way through our term.

While there is much to do, there is a long list of achievements to celebrate:

Councillor chairing roles and representations, abandonment of C101, C81, more land acquired for public use, trails, Graysharps Road, rezone 13 sites to PPRZ in the history of the Shire.

North East link announcements, Roads - Yan Yean, Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge Bike trail, Sporting Projects with Community Facilities, with biggest infrastructure spend in our Shires History.

Wattleglen Sporting Pavillion, Diamond Creek Netball Football, Research Football and Cricket, Eltham Football and Cricket U3A, Eltham North Soccer Scouts, Susan Street, Eltham Lower Park Lacrosse, DV Sports Stadium, Hockey Club and Shared Facilities with Eltham High.

Our green wedge review as well as Activity centre zones review, Arts funding increased, Commencement of a feasibility for Art Gallery, Arts Policy developed, More money for festivals, Shakespere in the Park, Community Wellbeing, Inclusive and caring for all ages recognising we are fast becoming ageing population, Environment/Energy, Solar farm, Waste management improvements, Bushfire mitigation, Excellence in our parks and gardens and Footpaths and Economy.

Achieving over two years lowest rate increase in Victoria with Year 1 seeing a zero increase and year 2 a 1.96% increase.

Abolishment of \$94 Municipal Charge, debt reduced and strengthened economic development unit.

We delivered value for money, no mayoral vehicles, deleted expenditure of spruiking the mayor in the weekly paper.

Councillors have worked with local members opposition and government in both State and Federal in particular:

State Election

Cindy McLeish, Wendy Lovell, Mary Wooldridge, Bruce Atkinson, Richard Della Riva, Vick Ward, Danielle Green.

Federal Election

Andrew Giles, Jenny Macklin, Senators Derryn Hinch, James Patterson and Scott Ryan and later Kevin Andrews.

Advocating on behalf of Council. I would like to than other Councils and Mayors for their support. There is much for us to be proud of and more to do!

As a Council, I hope we will continue to be bold, looking to the future, listening, consulting, and engaging with the community.

Make the tough decisions in the best interests of our communities prosperity and future.

Thank you to everyone.”

5. Appointment of temporary Chairperson

The Chief Executive Officer called for a motion to appoint a temporary Chairperson.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Grant Brooker

SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken

That Cr Peter Clarke be nominated as temporary Chairperson.

CARRIED

Cr Peter Clarke assumed the chair as temporary Chairperson

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Nil

7. Term of Office

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Grant Brooker

That Council resolves to elect a Mayor for a term of one year until 30 October 2019.

CARRIED

8. Election of Mayor

The temporary Chairperson, Cr Peter Clarke calls for nominations for the Office of Mayor.

1. Cr Grant Brooker nominated Cr John Dumaresq for the Office of Mayor.
Cr John Dumaresq accepted the nomination.
2. Cr Jane Ashton nominated Cr Karen Egan for the Office of Mayor.
Cr Karen Egan accepted the nomination.

The Chairperson, Cr Peter Clarke outlined the process for the Election of Mayor and requested each of the Councillors to vote by a show of hands.

The results of the vote to the Office of Mayor were as follows:

- Cr John Dumaresq – Two votes.
- Cr Karen Egan – Five votes.

The Chairperson, Cr Peter Clarke declared Cr Karen Egan duly elected to the Office of Mayor of Nillumbik Shire Council for the term of one year until 30 October 2019.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins
SECONDED: Cr Grant Brooker

That Cr Karen Egan be elected Mayor of Nillumbik Shire Council for a term of one year until 30 October 2019.

CARRIED

Following the election of the Mayor, the Chief Executive Officer presented Cr Karen Egan as Mayor with the Mayoral Chains.

The temporary Chairperson, Cr Peter Clarke vacated the Chair and the Mayor, Cr Karen Egan assumed the Chair.

9. Election of Deputy Mayor

Mayor, Cr Karen Egan called for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor.

Cr Peter Clarke nominated Cr Bruce Ranken for the Office of Deputy Mayor of Nillumbik Shire Council. No other nominations were received.

Cr Bruce Ranken accepted the nomination.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke
SECONDED: Cr Jane Ashton

That Cr Bruce Ranken be elected Deputy Mayor of Nillumbik Shire Council for a term of one year until 30 October 2019.

CARRIED

10. Appointment of Special Committee

Council, in accordance with section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989* may establish one or more special committees and delegate to the committee certain of its functions, duties or powers.

Council currently has one Special Committee established under section 86; the Future Nillumbik Committee. The scope of the Future Nillumbik Committee responsibilities includes all matters within the following portfolio areas:

- Community Services
- Economic Development and Marketing
- Environment and Sustainability
- Finance and Governance
- Infrastructure
- Social Infrastructure
- Planning

In accordance with the Future Nillumbik Committee Terms of Reference, the membership and chairperson arrangements for the Committee are as follows:

- All Councillors are members of the Future Nillumbik Committee.
- Council assigns individual portfolio responsibilities to individual Councillors and the agenda shall identify which items of business relate to the respective portfolios.
- The Chairperson for each particular item shall be the Councillor with the relevant portfolio responsibility.
- When a Councillor is in the role of Chairperson, they will have the power and authority of the Chairperson as provided in the Meeting Procedure Local Law, including a casting vote.
- At the commencement of the meeting, when preliminary matters are considered (such as apologies, confirmation of minutes, and declarations of interest) the Mayor shall be the Chairperson.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Bruce Ranken

SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke

That Council:

1. Appoints all Councillors to the Future Nillumbik Committee for a term of one year.
2. Assigns a Councillor to each portfolio for a term of one year until 30 October 2019 as listed below:

Portfolio	Councillor appointed
Community Services	Cr Grant Brooker
Economic Development and Marketing	Cr Karen Egan
Environment and Sustainability	Cr Jane Ashton
Finance and Governance	Cr Peter Clarke
Infrastructure	Cr John Dumaresq
Social Infrastructure	Cr Bruce Ranken
Planning	Cr Peter Perkins

CARRIED

11. Council and Committee meeting schedule for 2019

It is recommended the arrangements for the 2019 meeting cycle be as follows:

- Meetings occur on Tuesday nights throughout the year unless otherwise notified.
- The Future Nillumbik Committee will commence at 7.30pm, usually on the second Tuesday of the each month.

Special Meeting of Council Minutes

31 October 2018

- Ordinary Council meetings will commence at 7.30pm, usually on the fourth Tuesday of each month.
- Unless otherwise notified, meetings will be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough.
- At least one week of each school holidays has been left free of meetings.

Following consultation with Councillors, the 2019 meeting schedule listed in the table below is recommended.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Clarke

SECONDED: Cr Bruce Ranken

That Council adopts and advertises the Council and Special Committee meeting schedule for the 2019 calendar year as listed below:

Future Nillumbik Committee meetings	Ordinary Council meetings
	29 January 2019
12 February 2019	26 February 2019
12 March 2019	26 March 2019
16 April 2019	30 April 2019
14 May 2019	28 May 2019
11 June 2019	25 June 2019
16 July 2019	30 July 2019
13 August 2019	27 August 2019
10 September 2019	24 September 2019
15 October 2019	29 October 2019
	30 October 2019 (Election of Mayor) Special Council Meeting
12 November 2019	26 November 2019
10 December 2019	17 December 2019

CARRIED

12. Councillor appointments to advisory committees

Council has a range of advisory committees which provide an important mechanism for consultation with the community and key stakeholders. Advisory committees provide advice to Council but do not make formal decisions.

Council appoints Councillors as representatives on its advisory committees and reviews these appointments annually.

Following consultation with Councillors, the appointments listed in the table below are recommended.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Jane Ashton

SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke

That Council appoints Councillors as listed below as its representatives on advisory committees for a term of one year until 30 October 2019:

Advisory Committee	Councillor(s) appointed
Arts Advisory Committee	Cr Karen Egan
Audit Committee	Cr Peter Clarke Cr Bruce Ranken
CEO Employment Matters Committee	All Councillors
Inclusion Advisory Committee	Cr Grant Brooker (Chair) Cr Peter Perkins
Economic Development Advisory Committee	Cr Karen Egan (Chair) Cr Bruce Ranken (Deputy) Cr John Dumaresq
Environment Advisory Committee	Cr Jane Ashton Cr Grant Brooker (Deputy)
Living and Learning Advisory Committee	Cr Grant Brooker
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Advisory Committee	Cr Peter Perkins (Chair) Cr John Dumaresq (Deputy)
Panton Hill Bushland Reserves System Advisory Committee	Cr Jane Ashton
Recreational Trails Advisory Committee	Cr John Dumaresq (Chair) Cr Jane Ashton Cr Bruce Ranken
Positive Ageing Advisory Committee	Cr Grant Brooker

CARRIED

13. Councillor appointments to external organisations

Council is a member or participant in a range of external organisations at a local, regional or sector level.

Councillors are appointed to represent Council as delegates to those organisations. In some cases, an alternate is also appointed who can attend if the primary Councillor is not available.

Following consultation with Councillors, the appointments listed in the table below are recommended for 2019.

Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Bruce Ranken

SECONDED: Cr Peter Clarke

That Council appoints Councillors as listed below as its delegates to external organisations for a term of one year until 30 October 2019.:

External Organisation	Councillor(s) appointed
Municipal Association of Victoria	Cr Peter Perkins (Cr Jane Ashton alternate)
Interface Councils group	Cr Karen Egan (Cr Peter Clarke alternate)
Northern Metro Region Councils group	Cr Karen Egan (Cr Peter Clarke alternate)
Yarra Plenty Regional Library Board	Cr Karen Egan Cr Peter Clarke (Proxy Director Business and Strategy)
Metropolitan Waste Management Group	Cr John Dumaresq (Cr Peter Perkins alternate)
Metropolitan Transport Forum	Cr John Dumaresq
Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action	Cr Jane Ashton
Nillumbik Tourism Association	Cr Karen Egan Cr Bruce Ranken
Diamond Creek Traders' Association	Cr Peter Perkins
Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Cr Peter Clarke Cr John Dumaresq Cr Bruce Ranken
Hurstbridge Traders' Association	Cr Karen Egan

CARRIED

14. Address by the incoming Mayor

The Mayor, Cr Karen Egan addressed the Councillors, Officers and Public Gallery and made the following speech:

"It is with great honour that I have been elected as Mayor.

If someone had told me 3 years ago that I would be sitting here, I would have fallen down laughing.

It goes to show what can be just around the corner, and how doors can open or close for that matter.

My family and close friends have been my rock.

Not just for the past two years in my capacity as Deputy Mayor but for many years before this and they are the ones who will continue to support me, post my time here as mayor.

I thank you Seanna for understanding that I can't always do the school run.

I thank you for your understanding that I'm not always available to drop over as frequently as I used to

I thank you for always being there when ever I pick up the phone,

I thank you all for putting up with my sms messages,

and Michelle you know you're on the top of that list.

Thank you to my fellow councillors. I thank you for your guidance and support, for the freedom to have a differing opinions and I thank you for your confidence in electing me as mayor to continue to deliver on the ambitious council plan we set out when we were elected two years ago.

In particular can I thank Cr Peter Clarke as outgoing Mayor. Cr Clarke has been relentless in his pursuit for the best outcomes for our Shire.

Relentless in ensuring council has more than it's fair share in state and federal funding. Relentless in adopting a low rating strategy, ensuring Nillumbik the pressure on ratepayers who have historically had the highest rates in the state, get some relief moving forward. A zero rate increase, the only council in Victoria to achieve such a courageous move in 2017.

Relentless in paying down council debt and ensuring responsible financial Management.

And relentless in our pursuit to become Australia's most liveable Shire.

Cr Clarke on behalf of the Shire we say thank you.

I also want to take a moment to thank the residents of Bunjil and give you my commitment that rural residents will not be forgotten. We live in a unique Situation in our Shire.

We know the rural area of Nillumbik makes up about 80 per cent of the Shire, yet on population terms we make up just 20 per cent of the Shire. And because of this too often rural areas are forgotten.

We've been dictated to by those who don't live in rural areas how we should run our properties. We love our properties and will do all we can to ensure the best environmental outcomes while ensuring we can make a living from them.

I make no apologies up front for putting rural residents front and centre over the next year.

Before I go into the upcoming year I also want to thank the hard working officers of Nillumbik Shire Council. We know that this council has achieved a lot over the last two years. It has been an ambitious agenda and your contribution to our success does not go unnoticed. Thank you and I look forward to continuing to work with you into the future.

I look forward to a year of continued action, continued advocacy for more state and federal funding, continued delivery on the multitude of sporting pavilions and upgrades to improves female participation in sport.

Continuing on some of the smaller projects that might not make the news, but make a big difference in our local communities. The footpath upgrades to ensure our kids have a safe path to school. Upgrades to intersections, upgrading drainage, sealing roads and helping address the need for community spaces for the hero's of our community. The likes of The Mens Sheds, and other such community groups.

Right now is a great time to live in our Shire. This council has committed to the economic development of our Shire. We want to attract visitors, the very visitors who will spend money at our cafes, our accommodation, our wineries and our farms. We want visitors to support our artists. We're proud of our artistic heritage and want to build and foster our arts and cultural industries.

We have a bright future and the plans and policies we put in place now will determine the success of our Shire into the future. In particular I look forward to working through the new Green Wedge Management Plan review.

I mentioned earlier, this council's determination for prudent financial management. I'm glad to announce that just like the previous mayor, I will not be accepting the mayoral car. These are funds that are better spent on our community rather than in a councillor's garage. And besides, I don't even have a garage!

Ladies and gentleman thank you once again for your confidence in me as mayor. It is with great honour that I take this position and look forward to the year ahead.

To my Deputy Cr Bruce Ranken, congratulations on your appointment and I look forward to working closely with you.

Thank you."

Mayor, Cr Karen at the conclusion of her speech invited the gallery to join Councillors and Officers for refreshments at the conclusion of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Confirmed: _____

Cr Karen Egan, Mayor