

**CITY OF  
BALLARAT**



**Ordinary Council Meeting**

**24 June 2020**

Virtual Meeting

**MINUTES**  
**Public Copy**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BALLARAT CITY COUNCIL HELD VIA A VIRTUAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2020 AT 7:00PM**

**MINUTES**

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## 1. OPENING DECLARATION

**Councillors:** *"We, the Councillors of the City of Ballarat, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance."*

**Mayor:** *"I respectfully acknowledge the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung People, the traditional custodians of the land, and I would like to welcome members of the public in the gallery."*

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 2.1 Present

Mayor Cr Ben Taylor  
Cr Samantha McIntosh  
Cr Belinda Coates  
Cr Mark Harris  
Cr Des Hudson  
Cr Amy Johnson  
Cr Daniel Moloney  
Cr Jim Rinaldi  
Cr Grant Tillett

Ms Janet Dore - Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Darren Sadler - Acting Director Infrastructure and Environment  
Mr Neville Ivey - Director Community Development  
Mr Glenn Kallio - Director Business Services  
Ms Angelique Lush - Director Development and Planning  
Mr Cameron Cahill - Director Innovation and Organisational Improvement  
Mr Cameron Montgomery - Executive Manager Safety, Risk and Compliance Services  
Ms Louise Laing – Manager Communications and Marketing

### 2.2 Apologies

Nil

## 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION:**

**That the Minutes of the Council Meeting on 18 and 27 May 2020 as circulated be confirmed.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates  
Seconded: Cr Grant Tillett**

**CARRIED  
(R151/20)**

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Nil

DRAFT

**6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Cr Taylor, Mayor, read the public questions.

**QT52/20 - Sally Missing - Buninyong****Question**

Can Council advise whether mitigation of climate change will be a priority for any newly developed strategies and newly allocated resources for Covid19 recovery - to ensure economic recovery is encouraged in a way that reduces the impact of climate change? For example, projects that improve the energy efficiency of new and existing housing stock and businesses, cycling infrastructure and re-forestation projects?

**Answer**

Janet Dore, Chief Executive Officer stated the Audit Advisory Committee considered the risks in relation to a number of things and it is quite clear the best practice will require us to take climate change risks into account in future planning.

**QT53/20 - Karolina Kuzmich - Wattle Flat****Question**

1. Why was the Western Victoria transmission network project approved with no detail of what the project involves?
2. Why did Council place no importance on the environmental overlays of our area when approving the Western Victoria transmission network project, especially as we are in a high risk fire zone and there were major concerns with the environmental damage to the White Swan Reservoir after our last major fire?

**Answer**

Cr Taylor, Mayor stated that there was no position of Council and Council has not approved anything through the Chamber regarding the Western Victorian transmission network project.

Angelique Lush, Director Development and Planning stated the Western Victoria Transmission Network project is an Australian Energy Market Operated Project that is being delivered through the Ausnet Services. Director Lush reiterated the project has not been approved and she encouraged the community to direct their information through the website [www.westvictnp.com.au](http://www.westvictnp.com.au) if they have questions or concerns

**QT54/20 - John Barnes - Brown Hill****Question**

My question relates to Item 10.1 on the Council Plan Annual Review. The original Council Plan 2017-21 listed a number of performance indicators under the headings "We'll track progress in terms of...". Why does this review make NO reference to these indicators, when will they be reported upon, and how is progress being tracked in the meantime?

**Answer**

Cameron Cahill, Director Innovation and Organisational Improvement responded as detailed in the report, no adjustments to the strategic indicators are proposed as part of this review.

Council reports on these indicators are reported on a quarterly basis as part of our quarterly Council Plan Reports and annually as part of the Annual Report.

The Council Plan contains over 30 indicators with data being released on a variety of schedules from different agencies. This data is tracked and reviewed by Officers then provided to the Council and community through quarterly or annual reporting or other appropriate means such as Council's website or the Victorian Government's Know Your Council Website

**QT55/20 - Jane Neville - Wattle Flat****Question**

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

1. Can you please explain why Council has not at any stage communicated with landowners in Bush Inn Road Wattle Flat as to the potential environmental impact of the Western Victoria Transmission Project?
2. Can Council please explain why such a high environmental risk is being tolerated with the option of taking the WVTP through Bush Inn Road?
3. Can Council please set out the actual economic and employment benefits to the Council region brought by this project?
4. Can Council please make available now the reasoning behind their approval of this project?
5. Can council please explain why over the past week, Councillors have repeatedly stated they knew nothing about the WVTP and yet Mayor Ben Taylor is quoted as welcoming it (December 17 2019)?

**Answer**

Cr Taylor, Mayor confirmed Council had been briefed a few times pre-December 2019 regarding the transmission project and a power station in North Ballarat. It provides certainty for Ballarat in regards to power. Detail of where and what has not been provided to Council.

Director Lush reiterated that Council has not approved this project and is not aware of the direct route of the transmission line but is only aware of the same details as every other member of the community. Director Lush confirmed Council has been working with neighbouring Councils regarding concerns as expressed by the community and will continue to advocate on behalf of our community in regard to this project.

**RESOLUTION:**

**Council resolves to accept the questions received.**

**Moved: Cr Grant Tillett  
Seconded: Cr Jim Rinaldi**

**CARRIED  
(R152/20)**

DRAFT

**7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS****GB37/20 Cr Daniel Moloney****RESOLUTION**

**A report be prepared for a future Councillor Assembly in relation to the details of the Transmission Project due to heightened interest from the community.**

**Moved Cr Daniel Moloney  
Seconded Cr Amy Johnson**

**CARRIED  
(R153/20)**

**GB38/20 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Johnson thanked Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre staff in preparing to reopen and looking after the health of the Community. Cr Johnson recommended Council to do more advertising to advertise the centre is now open for 45 minute sessions as well as the 50m pool and café.

**GB39/20 - Cr Belinda Coates**

Cr Coates outlined that the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance advocated for a presentation by Sarah Barker on Financial and Corporate Risk on climate change to Councillors. Cr Coates asked that the presentation be made available to all senior members and managers and asked for it to be shared to the Audit Committee.

Cr Coates asked for a briefing back to Councillors regarding the financial risks of climate change.

**GB40/20 - Cr Grant Tillett**

Cr Tillett discussed the construction of the multi deck car park and work around the goods shed. Is there a proposal for the local bus interchange to be constructed there? Is there an indication of timing for the facility?

Angelique Lush, Director Development and Planning responded to take the query on notice as it will follow the completion of the Hotel complex.

Cr Tillett requested an update of timing on the maintenance being done on the War Memorial in Sturt Street and the damage to the statue from White Night.

Darren Sadler, acting Director Infrastructure and Environment committed to follow up on time frame of repairs.

Angelique Lush, Director Development and Planning gave an update on the progress of these works. The statue is currently being repaired. The repairs of the War Memorial are more complex as x-rays of the interior for evaluation and noted a report will be brought back to a briefing.



**GB41/20 - Cr Ben Taylor**

Cr Taylor reported in relation to the damaged railway gates that correspondence had been sent to Minister Alan as well as to VicTrack and Vline regarding the retention of the gates and to be kept informed of progression. Cr Taylor and Director Ivey met with Vline in relation to the site. The road will be closed until the crossing can be opened. Vline committed to come back to a briefing to present options available

1. Keeping the historical gates
2. Having heritage gates but made from different materials
3. Looking at the ultimate safety position for that intersection

**RESOLUTION:**

**To accept Councillor reports.**

**Moved: Cr Amy Johnson**

**Seconded: Cr Daniel Moloney**

**CARRIED  
(R154/20)**

DRAFT

## **8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

### **8.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**Division:** Executive Unit  
**Director:** Janet Dore  
**Author / Position:** Janet Dore – Chief Executive Officer

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**Council resolves to:**

**Receive and note the CEO's Operational Report.**

**Moved: Cr Des Hudson**

**Seconded: Cr Daniel Moloney**

**CARRIED  
(R155/20)**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The CEO's Operational Report highlights issues and outcomes affecting the organisation's performance as it delivers services and implements the Council's strategies and policy decisions.

## 9. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

### 9.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

**Division:** Business Services  
**Director:** Glenn Kallio  
**Author/Position:** Sarah Anstis - Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

#### RESOLUTION:

Council resolves to approve the report on Assemblies of Councillors as listed:

- 24 April 2020 Prosperity Portfolio Meeting
- 5 May 2020 Councillor Strategic Workshop
- 8 May 2020 Prosperity Portfolio
- 12 May 2020 Councillor Strategic Workshop
- 13 May 2020 Agenda Review
- 13 May 2002 Finance Committee Meeting
- 20 May 2020 Strategic Briefing
- 22 May 2020 Prosperity Portfolio
- 26 May 2020 Councillor Strategic Workshop
- 1 June 2020 Councillor Strategic Workshop
- 2 June 2020 Councillor Strategic Workshop
- 3 June 2020 Finance Committee Meeting
- 3 June 2020 Interim CEO Interviews

Moved: Cr Grant Tillett  
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

**CARRIED**  
**(R156/20)**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with copies of Assembly of Councillor Records as required under section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

**10. OFFICER REPORTS****10.1. COUNCIL PLAN ANNUAL REVIEW**

**Division:** Innovation and Organisational Improvement  
**Director:** Cameron Cahill  
**Author/Position:** Cameron Cahill – Director Innovation and Organisational Improvement

**RESOLUTION:****Council resolves to:**

- 1. Note the review of the Council Plan 2017-2021 and the inclusion of the Council Plan 2017-2021 report card.**
- 2. Note the planning and progress on the Council Plan 2021-2025.**
- 3. Promote the achievements of the Council Plan 2017-2021 to the Ballarat community.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**

**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**CARRIED  
(R157/20)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council is required to, at least once in each financial year, consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan.

This requirement of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) has a specific focus on adjustments to the strategic objectives of the Council, the strategies for achieving those objectives and the strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives. Adjustments to these elements of the Council Plan are not proposed following the review of the plan.

It is proposed to include into the Council Plan an addendum which focuses on informing the community on the progress of the Council Plan and to update the community on the planning and progress of the development of the next Council Plan 2021-2025 which will be adopted next year.

**10.2. RECYCLING STATE GOVERNMENT GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

**Division:** Infrastructure and Environment  
**Director:** Darren Sadler  
**Author/Position:** Darren Sadler – Acting Director Infrastructure and Environment

**RESOLUTION:**

**Council resolves to:**

- 1. Note that an application has been submitted by the City of Ballarat to the expression of interest phase to the State Government Recycling Infrastructure Fund.**
- 2. Note the support provided to other applicants for this fund where the alignment of the proposal was considered to add value to Council's strategic directions for recycling.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**  
**Seconded: Cr Grant Tillett**

**CARRIED**  
**(R158/20)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Following the release of the Circular Economy Policy, the State Government has released a recycling infrastructure fund which is open via a competitive process for funding up to 25% of an overall capital cost for a project. It is recommended that Council acknowledge and note the application which has been lodged for funding through the Expression of Interest (EOI) phase. Further, Council are advised that other applicants for this fund have been supported in their application for funding to establish facilities in Ballarat where they were considered to align with Council's strategic directions for waste management and recycling.

**10.3. TREE PLANTING STRATEGY**

**Division:** Infrastructure and Environment  
**Director:** Darren Sadler  
**Author/Position:** Daryl Wallis – Coordinator Parks and Gardens

Cr Taylor read the written submission submitted by Stuart Kelly.

**RESOLUTION:****Council resolves to:**

- 1. Note the officers update on the Urban Forest Action Plan implementation.**
- 2. Endorse the Officers recommendation to focus tree planting in Sebastopol and Delacombe in 2020-2021 financial year in accordance with the “Cool it Ballarat” Report.**

**Moved:** Cr Daniel Moloney  
**Seconded:** Cr Belinda Coates

**CARRIED**  
**(R159/20)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the implementation of the Urban Forest Action Plan recommendation to increase the tree canopy cover across the municipality from current levels to a 40% cover by 2040, achieved through an increased planting program of street trees. Tree plantings have commenced in suburbs identified in the “Cool it Ballarat” study, which identified urban heat island effects in Ballarat, requiring tree planting as a high priority to provide a cooling effect.

**10.4. GRANTS POLICY**

**Division:** Community Development  
**Director:** Neville Ivey  
**Author/Position:** Jenny Fink – Executive Manager Learning and Community Hubs

**RESOLUTION:**

**Council resolves to:**

**Adopt the 2020 City of Ballarat Grants Policy.**

**Moved: Cr Des Hudson**  
**Seconded: Cr Belinda Coates**

**CARRIED**  
**(R160/20)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 2020 City of Ballarat Grants Policy seeks to implement a streamlined and efficient grants process for community organisations and businesses, whilst providing Council with a robust and transparent policy position for grants programs being coordinated across the organisation.

The revised policy seeks to put into place key learnings from the last three years when the original Grants Policy was adopted. The latest revised version notes feedback from community organisations, internal discussions with Council grant administrators and recommendations from a recent Grants Policy and Acquittals Review.

The new policy provides three clear funding avenues for community organisations and business to explore with Council: Strategic Partnerships, Tourism Grants and Community Impact Grants. It also introduces a raft of measures to improve processes and transparency whilst reducing risk, particularly with regard to strengthening the acquittal process across all grant programs.

**10.5. CONTRACTS SPECIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES - 25 MARCH 2020 AND 6 MAY 2020**

**Division:** Director Business Services  
**Director:** Glenn Kallio  
**Author/Position:** Lorraine Sendall - Executive Assistant, Director Business Services

**RESOLUTION:****Council resolves to:**

1. Note, as per the *Local Government Act 2020* Section 66 that this matter is designated confidential.
2. Receive the Special Contracts Committee minutes of the meetings held on 25<sup>th</sup> March and 6 May, 2020.

**Moved:** Cr Grant Tillett  
**Seconded:** Cr Daniel Moloney

**CARRIED**  
**(R161/20)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with copies of minutes of Council's Special Contracts Committee in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference. At the meetings of these Committees held on 25 March and 6 May, 2020, four contracts were endorsed by the Committee and variations to one contract. This report provides a copy of these minutes of these meetings as well as detailing summary information in relation to these Contracts.



**10.6. OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEMS**

**Division:** Business Services  
**Director:** Glenn Kallio  
**Author/Position:** Sarah Anstis -Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

**RESOLUTION:**

**Council resolves to:**

**Endorse the Outstanding Question Time report.**

**Moved: Cr Des Hudson**  
**Seconded: Cr Jim Rinaldi**

**CARRIED**  
**(R162/20)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides Council with an update of response to questions taken on notice and outstanding unanswered questions from public question time.

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**11. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Cr Taylor read written submissions submitted by Anne Beggs-Sunter and Lorraine Huddle.

**MOTION**

- That this Council notes and affirms the established heritage importance of the Ballarat Station Railway gates; and
- In view of the recent accident and damage to the gates requests VicTrack to keep Council fully informed of its plans to restore the gates and investigate the incident so that future risks to the public are eliminated; and
- Advises all relevant Ministers and stakeholders of this position.
- Notes that Council as the Responsible Planning Authority will deal with the future planning permit application on its merits.

Moved: Cr Samantha McIntosh

**NO VOTE TAKEN**

Seconded: Cr Grant Tillett

**RESOLUTION**

Defer this item to the next Council Meeting.

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor

**CARRIED**

Seconded: Cr Amy Johnson

**(R163/20)**

Upon being put to the meeting, the Motion was declared carried. Cr Tillett called for a Division.

**For the Motion were Councillors:** Cr Taylor  
Cr Johnson  
Cr Moloney  
Cr Coates  
Cr Harris  
Cr Hudson

**Against the Motion were  
Councillors:**

Cr Rinaldi  
Cr McIntosh  
Cr Tillett

**12. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil

**13. SECTION 66 (IN CAMERA)**

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council resolve, pursuant to Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, that the meeting be closed to members of the public at 08:43 pm whilst the Council is dealing with the following matters;

**Moved: Cr Amy Johnson**

**CARRIED**

**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**(R164/20)**

**10.5. CONTRACTS SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGENDA - 25 MARCH 2020 AND 6 MAY 2020**

**Division:** Business Services

**Director:** Glenn Kallio

**Author/Position:** Lorraine Sendall - Executive Assistant, Director Business Services

(confidential information)

**13.1. AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 4 DECEMBER 2019**

**Division:** Business Services

**Director:** Glenn Kallio

**Author/Position:** Lorraine Sendall - Executive Assistant, Director Business Services

(confidential information)

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council move out of closed Council at 8:45pm and adopt the resolutions made therein.

**Moved: Cr Mark Harris**

**CARRIED**

**Seconded: Cr Grant Tillett**

**(R166/20)**

**14. CLOSE**

The CEO reported on items discussed in closed Council.

**The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.**

**Confirmed this**

**24 day of June 2020.**

.....

**Mayor**

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