

OFFICIAL

# Council Meeting

## Minutes

25 May 2022 at 6:30pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sturt Street,  
Ballarat



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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 Daniel Moloney  
Cr Ben Taylor  
Cr Samantha McIntosh  
Cr Belinda Coates  
Cr Mark Harris  
Cr Des Hudson  
Cr Amy Johnson  
Cr Peter Eddy  
Cr Tracey Hargreaves

Mr Evan King- Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Bridget Wetherall - Director Infrastructure and Environment  
Mr Matthew Wilson - Director Community Wellbeing  
Mr John Hausler - Director Corporate Services  
Ms Natalie Robertson - Director Development and Growth  
Mr Cameron Montgomery - Executive Manager Governance and Risk  
Mr Darren Whitford - Coordinator Risk and Compliance  
Ms Sophie Constable - Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

### 2.2 Apologies

Nil

## 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

### 6.1 GENERAL INTERESTS

Mayor, Cr Daniel Moloney declared a general conflict of interest for agenda item 8.8 Her Majesty's Theatre Delegated Committee Membership.

### 6.2 MATERIAL INTERESTS

Nil

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

#### 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### RESOLUTION:

**That the Minutes of the Council Meeting on 27 April 2022 as circulated be confirmed.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates  
Seconded: Cr Amy Johnson**

**CARRIED  
(R66/22)**

#### 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

**Public Question Time started at 6:35pm**

**QT36/22 Judith Bailey**

##### Question

1. Traffic entering at all intersections at Lake Wendouree Parade must be notified by clear signage that this is a wildlife precinct, and as such, the speed limit must reflect the pace of the wildlife and be not more than 40km/hr. Motorists taking a short cut or speeding on a whim must be deterred from doing so. It is imperative that the protection for this precinct be upgraded, and more effort put into the education and social pressure that this precinct deserves and that this area requires different treatment than feeder roads into this area. What progress has been made to reduce the speed to 40km/hr around the entire Lake Wendouree Parade and the introduction of educational signage and warnings regarding the wildlife precinct at all the intersections entering Lake Wendouree Parade.

##### Answer

Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment responded that Wendouree Parade currently has two speed limits over the road length. These are the default built-up area 50km/h, with 40km/h applicable to the Pleasant Street Primary and Loreto College school precincts, the entire length of the Botanic Gardens and the eastern section which is an area of high pedestrian/tourist activity.

Speed zones are a Major Traffic Control Device under the Road Safety Regulations, and a written consent from Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) is required to alter a speed zone.

Following concerns from the public in regard to the speed zone and associated birdlife in the Lake Wendouree Precinct, Council engaged (in 2020) an appropriately qualified consultant to conduct an independent traffic assessment report to review the speed zones around Wendouree Parade. The recommendations from the report considered that current speed zones along Wendouree Parade are appropriately set.

Black Swan warning signs were installed around Wendouree Parade by the City of Ballarat many years ago and are still in place. The signs were strategically placed to provide good

coverage around the lake without the clutter of installing too many signs and to avoid the proliferation of signage around the lake.

Actions to be undertaken in the near future include another traffic study to monitor traffic speeds and volume. From this data, an assessment of any options for further traffic calming will be reviewed. The need for any additional warning signage will also be assessed.

### **QT37/22 Blake Curran**

#### **Question**

1. Given that the memorial will be developed for all victims (living and deceased), survivors, families and advocates of sexual abuse, will it be promoted/street signed and engaged with as a place of national significance much like the Prisoner of War Memorial and Arch of Victory so as not to stay tucked away, hidden and unnoticed and therefore easy to find and access by all who visit the city?

#### **Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing responded that the design brief for the memorial acknowledging survivors of sexual assault will include specifications regarding the significance of the memorial as it relates to all Australians. The memorial will be promoted as a prominent feature of Victoria Park to local communities and to visitors to Ballarat including promotion through Council's visitor information centre and online.

#### **Question**

1. Will the City of Ballarat continue to develop partnerships with other cities, educational facilities, and institutions to share the process undertaken over the past few years as best practice to assist those who wish to develop their own public memorials for others 'unspoken' and 'silent' tragedies.

#### **Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing responded in short answer, yes. City of Ballarat staff are actively engaged in conversations with organisations in Ballarat and in Newcastle to share experiences related to the development of the memorial acknowledging survivors of sexual assault and the Continuous Voices project. We expect that these relationships will continue and that new opportunities will arise for knowledge sharing related to this significant project.

### **QT38/22 Sean Mulcahy**

#### **Question**

1. I understand that the draft Community Infrastructure Plan may be released for public exhibition following this meeting, but is it possible to provide any further information on the proposed Youth Hub, including how it might intersect with the funding for safe spaces for LGBTIQ+ youth announced in the recent Victorian Budget?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing responded that development of a Youth Hub will be a multi-purpose, multi-agency centre and as such will be an inclusive space for all young people. The design of the hub will be purposeful so that the built form reflects that inclusivity. We are currently waiting to initiate feasibility work on what, where and how that project will take shape as we are currently in the process of developing a Youth Strategy which will be coming before Council in the near future. At this point in time, the short answer is yes but how that will take shape is work that is yet to occur.

**QT39/22 Tim Stevens****Question**

I have two questions regarding the following site within a 4km radius of the CBD:

Re-Zoning approximately 40 hectares of the former Commonwealth Land, now a privately owned former Rifle Range at 211-213 Elsworth Street East, Canadian from Rural Conservation to a Residential Zone - (potentially, Rural Living, Low Density Residential or Neighbourhood Residential)

1. Can Council provide a contact at Parks Victoria, who can engage with me directly regarding this site and a copy of the Council Agenda and Minutes for Planning Scheme Amendment C105 from 2006?

**Answer**

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth responded that yes, officers can provide this information to Mr Stevens.

**Question**

2. After examining the Explanatory Report and Zone Map 29 as at 23 November 2006 in Planning Scheme Amendment C105, the explanatory report for the Ministerial Amendment at the request of City of Ballarat refers to the application of the Rural Conservation Zone to the site as an "...interim zoning..." 16 years is a long time for an 'interim zone' to be applied. Can the City of Ballarat appoint a Strategic Planner and provide a pathway with 'in-principle support' in writing to provide for a proponent led amendment to re-zone the site?

**Answer**

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth responded that she is very aware of the subject site and its complex history. We will undertake to arrange a time to meet with Mr Stevens to provide some context and background that will give him an understanding on the various guidance we have provided to the landowners of this site.

**QT40/22 Julie Heron****Question**

1. I would like to know if council is considering ways to urgently address food security in its stated plan to "...develop and implement community education and awareness programs, involving the community in emergency management planning"?
2. Also does it intend to be an advocate for more community and street-based food gardens and fruit trees (rather than just planting ornamentals), offering urban spaces for such purposes (perhaps in conjunction with the specialist knowledge of existing groups such as Ballarat Permaculture, Food is Free and Hidden Forest) assisting with finance and where needed, infrastructure created from non-toxic recycled materials produced through the Circular Economy?

**Answer**

Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment responded that we did receive a similar question today as part of the Budget Submission process so I do have part of an answer and I will provide you with that. In terms of food security and our ability to support that into the future Council has trailed some plantings of fruit trees across some of our parks and reserves and we will continue to do this in the future. We have also supported the establishment of community gardens across some reserves where the community are growing some fruit trees, vegetables and herbs. There is also additional information on our Council website, but the rest of the question will be taken on notice and a response will be provided to Ms. Heron following the meeting.

## 7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

### 7.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

**Division:** Executive Unit  
**Director:** Evan King  
**Author/Position:** Evan King – Chief Executive Officer

#### PURPOSE

1. 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.

#### RESOLUTION:

**That Council:**

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

**Moved: Cr Peter Eddy**  
**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**CARRIED**  
**(R67/22)**

## 8. OFFICER REPORTS

### 8.1. HEARING OF VERBAL AND WRITTEN SUBMISSION PERTAINING TO THE 2022/23 DRAFT BUDGET

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Jason Clissold – Executive Manager Financial Services

Public submissions were heard by Peter Berlyn, Miriam Robinson, Judith Bailey, Ash Bennett, Mary Debrett, Julie Heron, Lachlan Waddell.

#### PURPOSE

1. To receive verbal and written submissions relating to the 2022/23 Draft Budget.

#### RESOLUTION:

**That Council:**

1. **Receive the verbal and written submissions relating to the 2022/23 Draft Budget;**
2. **Consider all submissions prior to considering the adoption of the 2022/23 Budget; and**
3. **Note that the development of the 2022/23 budget has complied with section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020* in respect to hearing verbal presentations in support of written submissions as requested by respondents.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**

**Seconded: Cr Mark Harris**

**CARRIED**

**(R68/22)**

Cr Johnson mentioned the submissions in relation to/on behalf of Hockey Ballarat and requested that a report be put forward to a future briefing on the location options and costings for additional hockey pitches and a pavilion in Ballarat for our local Hockey players.

Cr Hargreaves requested that options for Women's changerooms /infrastructure at the current Hockey Facility are considered and discussed at the same briefing.

**8.2. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2022**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Jason Clissold – Executive Manager Financial Services

**PURPOSE**

1. The Quarterly Financial Management Report (attachment 1) and Council Plan Quarterly Report (attachment 2) provide an update on Council's performance in relation to budget and the implementation of the Council Plan 2021/22 actions for the 9 months to 31 March 2022.

**RESOLUTION:**

**That Council:**

1. **Receive the Quarterly Financial Management Report – Period Ending 31 March 2022 and note the financial matters contained within the report.**
2. **Receive the Council Plan Quarterly Report – 31 March 2022.**

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

**CARRIED**  
**(R69/22)**

### 8.3. MEMORIAL ACKNOWLEDGING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Kate Gerritsen - Public Art Coordinator

#### PURPOSE

1. To seek Council endorsement to establish a site to acknowledge survivors of sexual assault, and improve community amenities, at Lake 2 Victoria Park Ballarat.
2. To seek Council endorsement for Officers to pursue external funding for implementation of the site design in 2022-2025.

#### RESOLUTION:

##### That Council:

1. **Resolve Victoria Park (Lake 2) as the site to establish a memorial to acknowledge survivors of sexual assault in Ballarat.**
2. **Note that Council Officers will commence work in seeking State and/or Federal Government financial support for the delivery of a site to acknowledge survivors of sexual assault in Ballarat.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**  
**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**CARRIED**  
**(R70/22)**

#### 8.4. FERNERY STAGE 2 - PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME

**Division:** Infrastructure and Environment  
**Director:** Bridget Wetherall  
**Author/Position:** Luke Ives - Executive Manager Operations

#### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is for Council to consider Stage 2 Landscaping of the fernery and the commencement of a review and update of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Master Plan.
2. The Fernery Project consists of three stages:
  - **Stage 1**  
Construction of the entrance.
  - **Stage 2**  
Works including landscaping along Wendouree Parade, the entrance forecourt and interior to be completed in 22/23.
  - **Stage 3**  
Construction of the remaining structure (to be considered as part of the review and update of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Master Plan).

#### RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Resolve to deliver Stage 2 landscaping works during 2022/23 including the Wendouree Parade entrance, fernery forecourt and internal landscape to the fernery building.**
2. **Resolve to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a funding agreement between the Friends of Botanical Gardens, Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation and Council for the purpose of contributing \$250,000 towards the Stage 2 landscaping works.**
3. **Endorses a review and update of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Masterplan including consideration of Stage 3 of the Fernery Project, with scoping of the Masterplan to begin in 2022/23,**

**Moved: Cr Mark Harris**  
**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**CARRIED**  
**(R71/22)**

## 8.5. DRAFT COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Belinda Hynes – Coordinator Health and Social Planning  
Pete Appleton – Executive Manager Engaged Communities

### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to present the draft Community Infrastructure Plan 2022 – 2037 and seek Council endorsement to release the draft plan for public exhibition from 26 May 2022 to 17 June 2022.

### RESOLUTION:

**That Council:**

1. **Endorse the draft Community Infrastructure Plan 2022 - 2037 for public exhibition from 26 May 2022 to 17 June 2022.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**

**Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy**

**CARRIED**

**(R72/22)**

## 8.6. ELEVATING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DESIGN PROJECT

**Division:** Development and Growth  
**Director:** Natalie Robertson  
**Author/Position:** Ed Riley – Manager Strategic Planning

### PURPOSE

1. To seek endorsement to proceed with Stage 2 of the 'Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Design' project, and
2. To seek endorsement to proceed with commencing a Planning Scheme Amendment to incorporate a new Particular Provision, into the Ballarat Planning Scheme

### RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Uses its powers as a planning authority under section 8A of the *Planning and Environment 1987* to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare an Amendment to the Ballarat Planning Scheme to incorporate the Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Design Particular Provision [Attachment 4].
2. Request that the Minister for Planning establish an Advisory Committee to advise on the Elevating ESD project in accordance with section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
3. Endorses the reports *Sustainability Planning Scheme Amendment Background Research – Part A: Technical ESD and Development Feasibility*, *Sustainability Planning Scheme Amendment Background Research – Part B: Planning Advice*, *Sustainability Planning Scheme Amendment Background Research: Economic Cost-Benefit Analysis* [Attachments 1, 2, and 3 respectively] as supporting documents to this Amendment.
4. Authorises the Director Development and Growth to make non-substantive and minor changes to the Amendment generally in accordance with the intent of the proposed amendment, or provide guidance to any Advisory Committee established by the Minister for Planning.
5. Supports City of Ballarat entering into the *Elevating ESD Targets Planning Policy Amendment Memorandum of Understanding Stage 2 – Planning Scheme Amendment Process* [Attachment 5].

Moved: Cr Belinda Coates  
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

**CARRIED**  
**(R73/22)**

**8.7. KOORIE ENGAGEMENT ACTION GROUP ADVISORY COMMITTEE TOR**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Sophie Constable – Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the updated Terms of Reference developed by the Koorie Engagement Action Group (KEAG) Advisory Committee for endorsement.

**RESOLUTION:**

**That Council:**

1. **Endorse the updated Terms of Reference for the Koorie Engagement Action Group Advisory Committee.**
2. **Revoke the Terms of Reference for the Koorie Engagement Action Group Advisory Committee endorsed by Council on 23 June 2021 by resolution R126/21.**

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

**CARRIED**  
**(R74/22)**

Cr Daniel Moloney left Council Chamber prior to the following item being introduced as he had disclosed a General Conflict of Interest in relation to the item.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Amy Johnson chaired the meeting for this item

#### **8.8. HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE DELEGATED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Jeff Johnson - Executive Manager Arts and Events

#### **PURPOSE**

1. To resolve the appointment of the two (2) Her Majesty's Theatre Board nominated candidates, filling the allocation of the four (4) skills-based community member positions.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**That Council:**

1. **Resolve to appoint Mr. Stephen Bigarelli to the Her Majesty's Theatre Delegated Committee (Board) as one of four (4) external, skills-based, community members.**
2. **Resolve to appoint Ms. Bridget Aitchison to the Her Majesty's Theatre Delegated Committee (Board) as one of four (4) external, skills-based, community members.**

**Moved: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy**

**CARRIED**

**(R75/22)**

Cr Daniel Moloney returned to the Council Chamber following the resolution of item 8.8 and proceeded to introduce the following item.

### 8.9. CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Lorraine Sendall – Executive Assistant Director Corporate Services

#### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with copies of minutes of Council's Contracts Approval Delegated Committee in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference. At the meeting of this Committee held on 16 March 2022 one contract and one variation to a contract were approved by the Committee. This report provides a copy of the minutes of this meeting as well as detailing summary information in relation to these Contracts.

#### RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Note, as per the *Local Government Act 2020* Section 66 that the material contained in the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee agenda has been designated confidential.
2. Receive the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2022.

Moved: Cr Mark Harris  
Seconded: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED  
(R76/22)

**8.10. S11A AND S11B INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATIONS**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Sarah Anstis - Statutory Compliance Officer

**PURPOSE**

1. The report is to seek Council's endorsement of the S11A. Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to Gert Bothma and Annie Fraser. The report is to also endorse the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the *Environment Protection 2017* to Gert Bothma.

**RESOLUTION:**

**That Council:**

1. **Exercise the powers conferred by s147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the other legislation referred to in the attached instrument of appointment and authorisations (the instruments), and**
  - a. **Gert Bothma and Annie Fraser be appointed and authorised as set out in the instruments.**
  - b. **The instruments come into force immediately the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the instruments and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.**
  - c. **The instruments be sealed.**
2. **Exercise the powers conferred by s242(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021, and resolves that:**
  - a. **Gert Bothma be appointed and authorised as set out in the instruments.**
  - b. **The instruments come into force immediately the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the instruments and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.**
  - c. **The instruments be sealed.**

**Moved: Cr Amy Johnson**  
**Seconded: Cr Des Hudson**

**CARRIED**  
**(R77/22)**

**8.11. S6 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION - MEMBERS OF STAFF**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Sarah Anstis – Statutory Compliance Officer

**PURPOSE**

1. To review and update the S6 Instrument of Delegation, Members of Staff for Council's consideration.

**RESOLUTION:**

**That Council:**

1. **Exercise the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation at Attachment 2, and that:**
  - 1.1 **There be delegated to members of Council staff, holding, acting in or performing the duties of the officers or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument.**
  - 1.2 **The Instrument comes into force immediately after the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.**
  - 1.3 **On the coming into force of the instrument, all previous S6 delegations to members of Council staff are revoked.**
  - 1.4 **The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**

**Moved: Cr Des Hudson**

**Seconded: Cr Belinda Coates**

**CARRIED**

**(R78/22)**

**8.12. OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEMS**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position** Sophie Constable – Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

**PURPOSE**

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

**RESOLUTION:**

**That Council:**

1. Endorse the Outstanding Question Time report.

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

**CARRIED**  
**(R79/22)**

## 9. NOTICE OF MOTION

### 9.1. TRAFFIC CONCERNS IN BUNINYONG

1. A Notice of Motion was lodged by South Ward Councillors, Cr Taylor, Cr Hudson and Cr Hargreaves on 19 May 2022.
2. In accordance with rule 3.8.2 of the Governance Rules, the Notice of Motion was received and assessed by the Chief Executive Officer then approved to proceed to the 25 May 2022 Council Meeting Agenda.
3. Formal notice was provided to Councillors on 19 May 2022 which was then recorded in the Notice of Motion Register by the Governance team.

#### RESOLUTION:

##### That Council:

1. **Write to the Victorian State Government Premier and Roads Minister to request they:**
  - 1.1 **Immediately address community concerns about truck traffic and FastTrack traffic calming measures including road infrastructure to improve the safety for Buninyong residents, and**
  - 1.2 **Investigate and development a long-term solution for how heavy vehicles can be diverted from the middle of Buninyong.**

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**  
**Seconded: Cr Des Hudson**

**CARRIED**  
**(R80/22)**

## 10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS

### GB9/22 - Cr Taylor

Cr Taylor reported on works that were recently commenced in Warrenheip St, Bunninyong. Cr Taylor had residents there, especially neighbours across the road make comments (which he has forwarded through via email to Councillors). Thank you to the CEO and the team, especially the Contractors on the job doing such good works, keeping everyone involved and informed, keeping to the task and we can see now as it is nearly complete, that it is a great improvement to what was already there. This feedback from the community is to be passed onto the staff who have managed the project.

### GB10/22 - Cr McIntosh

Cr McIntosh reported that a big congratulations should be passed onto the relevant officers for how wonderful the Heritage Festival was. Cr McIntosh noted that there was still lots of activities to be delivered and enjoyed by visitors. She noted receiving significant positive feedback from the community who attended the Lydiard Street car display and people totally loved that activity.

It was a very eventful weekend which also included the Masters Rowing which brought a number of visitors to Ballarat over a number of days and we saw accommodation was booked out, there was a great deal of activity in the streets, in our restaurants and around the city at many venues. With the Heritage Festival on as well it gave those visitors plenty to do. It is important that the array of positive feedback that we have been getting in this space is delivered back. A great series of events, the Tweed Ride was loads of fun and it grows each year significantly, which was really extended even more this year.

The new little introduction in Ballarat East is very important to mention as well as it makes sure that we aren't just delivering in the CBD and equally we are remembering that there is a Ballarat East Town Hall that's no longer there that is 100 years old this year. A beautiful replica was made by the Men's Shed that was on display. I look forward to seeing what else happens during this festival and I think that it will continue to be successful.

I did have some students, professors and scientists from Deakin University ring and ask if I would be part of a little project that they are working on about sustainability, specifically focused on Doggy Doo. They let me know that there was 6.3 million pets in our country and 2000 tonnes of doggy poop per day and that is a fair bit of stuff that we should be looking after in a fairly special manner. I understand that we do have compostable dog bags around the lake and in dog parks and so on, equally there statistics tell us that not many people know that the logo that tells us which bags are compostable. Nor do they have a doggy poop bin at their residences. Lots of this stuff goes into our landfill which could potentially just be flushed down the toilet. There are some pretty simple municipal programs that we could possibly borrow. I did do a bit of following up through our VLGA and also the National Australian Local Government Association and they have quite a bit of work in this area, and I will share with Councillors and Officers some of the different project work that they have been sharing.

### GB11/22 - Cr Coates

Cr Coates mentioned that she, along side several Council Officers attended the Victorian Greenhouse Alliance back in April. It was great to hear from other Councils on what they're doing for climate action and get some great ideas.

Cr Coates also mentioned the Youth Ambassadors and their public speaking event at the Eureka Centre which was terrific. She also mentioned IDAHOBIT Day last week with the flag raising, the library event and the involvement of youth ambassadors. Cr Coates also commended the award-winning Heritage Weekend and everyone involved in that event.

**GB12/22 - Cr Johnson**

Cr Johnson gave a shoutout to Matthew Wilson, Jeff Johnson and Tara Poole and their team for the Craft Lab 2022 which is part of Heritage Festival. Cr Johnson got to attend a sneak preview before the opening on the Saturday. It was just incredible, I walked in and couldn't believe it. I think Tara and some others curated the event and bought all of the artists and their works together in the mining exchange. You can go into each of the little sections and look at the different artists, there is so much diversity and quality in the art, with a lot of local artists too.

**GB13/22 - Cr Harris**

Cr Harris reported to Councillors that the Red Shield Appeal started today and prompted all Councillors to get online and donate today.

