



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

MINUTES

20 MAY 2020



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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP
CITY COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY ON 20 MAY 2020**

The meeting opened at 6:30pm.

PRESENT

Cr Voss (Chairperson), Cr Baxter, Cr Bond, Cr Brand, Cr Copsey, Cr Crawford, Cr Gross, Cr Pearl, Cr Simic.

IN ATTENDANCE

Peter Smith, Chief Executive Officer; Lili Rosic, General Manager City Strategy and Sustainable Development; Tony Keenan, General Manager Community and Economic Development; Lachlan Johnson, General Manager Infrastructure and Amenity; Chris Carroll, General Manager Customer and Corporate Services; Kylie Bennetts, Director Office of the CEO, Kirsty Pearce, Coordinator Governance, Rebecca Purvis, Governance Officer, Emily Williams, Council Meetings Officer, Anthony Savenkov, Head of Property Projects, Mary McGorry, Manager Diversity and Inclusion, Pam Newton, Manager Family Youth and Children, Teresa Parsons, Head of Evidence and Policy, Lauren Bialkower, Manager Communications and Engagement.

The City of Port Phillip respectfully acknowledges the Yalukut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung. We pay our respect to their Elders, both past and present. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

1. APOLOGIES

Nil.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED Crs Simic/Baxter

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Port Phillip City Council held on 6 May 2020 be confirmed.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Bond, Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Gross, Pearl and Simic

AGAINST: Nil

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.



3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Simic declared an indirect interest in report 9.1 'Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy'.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUBMISSIONS

The following submissions were made verbally during the virtual council meeting and can be listened to in full through the website <http://webcast.portphillip.vic.gov.au/archive.php>

Linda Davison in relation to item 9.1 *Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy*'.

Rhonda Small in relation to item 9.1 *Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy*'.

Nadine Brew in relation to item 9.1 *Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy*'.

Hayley Davies in relation to item 9.1 *Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy*'.

The following submissions were submitted prior to the meeting and were read out by the Coordinator Governance. The full submissions can be found on the website <http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/may-2020-meetingagendas.htm>

Brenda Forbath in relation to item 9.1 *Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy*'.

Jane Kearney – Public Question Time

As a self-funded retiree I have changed my budget to fit my depleted 2020 income. Why can't the Council do the same across all departments, without singling out a few, or increasing the 2020 rates?

Peter Smith, Chief Executive Officer, advised that Council has fit the Draft Council Budget to fit the depleted and projected depleted 2020 income with those savings having been made across every aspect of Council's services. The output of our work will be in the Draft Budget which the community will be able to comment on and is due to be released in June.

Adrian Jackson – Public Question Time

Poker machines have only been permitted in Victoria since near the end of the Joan Kirner government when the state was nearly bankrupt (\$32 billion in debt). Pokies are a social cancer. Currently there are 10 venues who still have them in Port Phillip. Near my home Pubs from Victoria Ave to Fitzroy St don't have any. These hotels are well run, have been modernised and prosper without them. I think greed is the main reason some venues have them as well as poor management. Councillors when will you lobby the state government to



rid picturesque Port Phillip of this evil in our pubs that cause so much financial and social harm within Victoria. TAB and lotto small businesses are OK in my view though.

Mary McGorry, Manager Diversity and Inclusion, advised that in keeping with the sentiment of Mr Jackson's question, Council does seek to prevent the harms associated with gambling as articulated in Council's Responsible Gambling Policy through which it seeks to discouraged new gaming machines:

Within 500 metres walking distance of vulnerable communities or locations with concentrations of support services and welfare agencies;

Within 500 metres walking distance of social (public and community) housing developments: with 50 or more dwellings; or where a cluster of social housing exceeds 50 dwellings.

The question provides an opportunity to reflect on this City's annual expenditure on electronic gambling in comparison to other Cities. In 2018-2019 the City of Port Phillip had 10 venues. These venues had 377 attached electronic gaming machines (which is 506 under Port Phillip's maximum permissible number of gaming machine entitlements of 883 machines. The recorded expenditure was \$24.4 million for 2018 - 2019. As a comparison, the City of Brimbank recorded gaming expenditure of almost \$143 Million dollars over the same period from 952 machines.

The Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) is the independent statutory authority that regulates Victoria's gambling and liquor industries. All applications for electronic gaming machines in the City of Port Phillip are made through the VCGLR and, where possible Council, informed by Responsible Gambling Policy, will seek to limit the proximity of gaming machines to vulnerable communities. The last electronic gaming machine application in the City was received in 2013.

This advice has also been provided to Mr Jackson and he has been encouraged to contact the Minister for Gambling and Liquor Regulation.

5. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Pearl –The flood lights at Lagoon Reserve in Port Melbourne have recently been switched on to provide light protection to dog walkers and park users after dark. However, this also causes a large amount of direct light pollution to the adjacent properties causing a large amount of distress to residents. Can council officers please provide the details of our plans to remediate this light pollution?

Lachlan Johnson, General Manager Infrastructure and Amenity, advised that funds are allocated to addressing the lighting issues at Lagoon Reserve and took the question on notice to provide further detail.

6. SEALING SCHEDULE

Nil.

7. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil.



8. PRESENTATION OF CEO REPORT

Nil.

9. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

9.1 Implementation of Every Child, Our Future Children's Services Policy

Councillor Simic, having declared an indirect interest in this matter, left the meeting at 6.59pm.

Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update and recommendations regarding the implementation of *Every Child, Our Future: Children's Services Policy* in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

MOVED Crs Crawford/Baxter

That, to allow Council to make an informed decision as to whether it is in the public interest for Council to continue to directly operate the four centres, Council:

- Requests officers undertake an analysis on what public interest, if any, is met by Council directly operating the four centres and what risks, if any, to public interest would there be if Council transitioned out of operating the centres;
- Receives a report on the outcomes of this analysis at the Council meeting of 5 August 2020.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford and Gross

AGAINST: Crs Bond and Pearl

A vote was taken and the MOTION WAS carried.

Councillor Simic returned to the meeting at 7.25pm.

9.2 Guidelines for Licenced Community Gardens on Council Owned Land

Purpose

- 1.1 To consider feedback received through the public consultation period received through Have Your Say on the draft 'Community Gardens Assessment Guidelines'.
- 1.2 To present the Draft Final 'Community Gardens Assessment Guidelines'
- 1.3 To seek Council approval on the adoption of these guidelines.

MOVED Crs Crawford/Copsey

That Council:

- 3.1 Approves the adoption of the Community Gardens Assessment Guidelines.



- 3.2 Authorises officers to provide direct communication to Licenced Community Garden Groups informing them of the Community Garden Assessment Guidelines and their application.
- 3.3 Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Guidelines to correct any minor drafting errors that do not materially alter the intent of the guidelines.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Bond, Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Gross, Pearl and Simic

AGAINST: Nil

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

10. TRANSPORT AND PARKING

Nil.

11. SUSTAINABILITY

Nil.

12. PLANNING

Nil.

13. ARTS CULTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

13.1 Arts Rescue Package

Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an arts 'rescue package' to assist local artists and creative industries practitioners who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

MOVED Crs Copsey/Simic

That Council:

- 3.1 Endorses the virtual gallery and grants components of the Arts Rescue Package;
- 3.2 Endorses the selection panel to choose the recipients, and authorises the CEO (or his delegate) to approve the grants recipients upon recommendation of the selection panel.

AMENDMENT

Moved Crs Brand/Baxter

That the following be added as 3.3 of the motion:

- 3.3 Increases the Arts Rescue Package to \$180,000 with \$30,000 to be allocated for the 2019/20 Arts Acquisition Program to purchase art for Council's collection from artists who live and/or work in the City of Port Phillip.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.



FOR: Crs Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Gross and Simic
AGAINST: Crs Bond, Voss and Pearl

A vote was taken and the AMENDMENT was CARRIED.

SUBSTANTIVE MOTION

MOVED Crs Copsey/Simic

That Council:

- 3.1 Endorses the virtual gallery and grants components of the Arts Rescue Package;
- 3.2 Endorses the selection panel to choose the recipients, and authorises the CEO (or his delegate) to approve the grants recipients upon recommendation of the selection panel.
- 3.3 Increases the Arts Rescue Package to \$180,000 with \$30,000 to be allocated for the 2019/20 Arts Acquisition Program to purchase art for Council's collection from artists who live and/or work in the City of Port Phillip.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Gross and Simic
AGAINST: Cr Bond
ABSTAINED Cr Pearl

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

13.2 Waterfront Welcomers

Purpose

- 1.1 To provide Council with a briefing on a request from Southport Community Centre to vary the terms of the Council grant received for Water Front Welcomers due to COVID-19.

MOVED Crs Voss/Gross

That Council:

- 3.1 Agrees to the Southport Community Centre request to vary the terms of the grant to divert the \$5,500 funds to their proposal for the remaining 11 weeks, being to allow them to provide support and connections via phone and/or video to older residents who are isolated.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Gross and Simic
AGAINST: Crs Bond and Pearl

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.



14. ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE

14.1 Council Policy - Fraud and Corruption Awareness and Prevention Policy

Purpose

- 1.1 To seek Council's endorsement of the revised Fraud and Corruption Awareness and Prevention Policy.

MOVED Crs Copsey/Baxter

That Council:

- 3.1 Endorses the updated Fraud and Corruption Awareness and Prevention Policy in Attachment 1.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Bond, Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Gross, Pearl and Simic

AGAINST: Nil

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

14.2 2020 Membership Review

Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the outcome of the review of Council's 15 strategic memberships.

MOVED Crs Crawford/Copsey

RECOMMENDATION PART A

That Council

- 3.1 Maintains its membership of:
- 3.1.1 Association of Bayside Municipality (ABM)
 - 3.1.2 Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
 - 3.1.3 Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities (CRCWSC)
 - 3.1.4 Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA)
 - 3.1.5 Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP)
 - 3.1.6 Inner Metropolitan Partnerships (IMP)
 - 3.1.7 Local Government Professionals (LGPro)
 - 3.1.8 Metro Transport Forum (MTF)
 - 3.1.9 Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)
 - 3.1.10 South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)
- 3.2 Maintains subscriptions to the following Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) subgroups: Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard (BESS) but not renew its subscription to MAV Technology Group.
- 3.3 Seeks the redirection of IMAP project and reserve funding to COVID-19 projects and that there is no membership contribution in 2020/2021.



- 3.4 That, in light of the impact of COVID-19 on Council's budget, Council writes to all organisations where memberships are being maintained and request that the 2020/21 membership fees be reduced and that, as a minimum, no increase be applied to the 2020/21 membership fees. In the case of SECCCA Council resolves to write to SECCCA requesting a yearlong membership fee at a cost equivalent to the four-year discount fee rate (\$36,500), which will potentially save \$7,300.
- 3.5 To not renew memberships of:
- 3.5.1 Committee for Melbourne (CfM)
 - 3.5.2 Inner South Metropolitan Mayors Forum (ISMMF)
 - 3.5.3 International Council for Local Environment Initiatives Partnership Program
 - 3.5.4 Resilient Melbourne
- 3.6 Uses the following criteria when considering a new strategic membership:
- 3.6.1 the alignment of the organisation with the delivery of Council's priorities,
 - 3.6.2 where Council is already a member of an organisation that deals with the same Council priority, which organisation is better placed to deal with the priority,
 - 3.6.3 the benefits of being a member and,
 - 3.6.4 the level of Council engagement / resources required to maintain the membership.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Bond, Voss, Baxter, Brand, Copsey, Crawford, Pearl and Simic
AGAINST: Cr Gross

A vote was taken and the MOTION WAS carried.

RECOMMENDATION PART B

Moved Crs Bond/Pearl

- 3.7 Council resolves its intention to not renew its membership of Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) and works with the VLGA to commence the transition process.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Bond, Gross and Pearl
AGAINST: Crs Voss, Baxter, Copsey, Crawford and Simic
ABSTAINED Cr Brand

A vote was taken and the MOTION was LOST.

Moved Crs Baxter/Simic

- 3.7 Council resolves to renew its membership of the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA)

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Voss, Baxter, Copsey, Crawford and Simic
AGAINST: Crs Bond and Pearl
ABSTAINED Crs Brand and Gross

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.



14.3 Notice of Intention to Sell 8 York Street, St Kilda West: considering submissions of response

Purpose

- 1.1 To consider submissions received in response to a notice published in accordance with section 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989* advising of City of Port Phillip's intention to sell land at 8 York Street, St Kilda West, and to determine whether to proceed with the sale of that property.

MOVED Crs Voss/Brand

That Council:

- 3.1 Notes that it has received, heard and considered the submissions in response to its Notice of Intention to Sell 8 York Street, St Kilda West.
- 3.2 Resolves to sell 8 York Street, St Kilda West carrying out that sale in accordance with the "sale by public auction" procedure of the *Local Government Best Practice Guideline for the Sale of Land*, including setting a reserve price no less than the market value, as determined by valuation, and if the property remains unsold following the auction, leaving it on the market for private sale at not less than the reserve price for an appropriate or reasonable period of time.
- 3.3 Authorises relevant Officers to execute all the necessary processes required to enable the sale and transfer of land, including affixing the Common Seal of Port Phillip City Council to the relevant documents.
- 3.4 Advises the submitter of the decision to sell the land and the reason(s) for the decision.

The vote was taken under DIVISION.

FOR: Crs Voss, Brand, Crawford and Gross
AGAINST: Crs Bond, Copsey, Pearl and Simic
ABSTAINED Cr Baxter

A vote was taken and the MOTION was LOST.

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

16. REPORTS BY COUNCILLOR DELEGATES

Nil.

17. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.



18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Confirmed: 3 June 2020

Chairperson _____