



GANNAWARRA
Shire Council

Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, 16 September 2024

6:00 PM

Kerang Senior Citizen Community Rooms

Kerang

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**MINUTES OF GANNAWARRA SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE KERANG SENIOR CITIZEN COMMUNITY ROOMS, KERANG
ON MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 6:00 PM**

PRESENT:

Cr Ross Stanton (Mayor)	Murray Ward
Cr Charlie Gillingham (Deputy Mayor)	Avoca Ward
Cr Jane Ogden	Patchell Ward
Cr Travis Collier	Patchell Ward
Cr Garner Smith	Yarran Ward
Cr Keith Link	Yarran Ward

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer
Director Corporate Services
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer

Gallery: 3

Media: 0

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Gannawarra Welcome to Country video was played as the Acknowledgement to Country.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

The Deputy Mayor read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Kelvin Burt – Patchell Ward.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 August 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Keith Link declared a perceived Conflict of Interest in Item 9.1. This was subsequently withdrawn at Item 9.1.

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 7 AUGUST 2024 TO 3 SEPTEMBER 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council written records of Councillor Briefings in accordance with Clause 31 of the Gannawarra Shire Council Governance Rules.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings 7 August 2024 to 3 September 2024.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 GANNAWARRA RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council and a range of partner agencies have a long history of working with local Aboriginal communities on local issues. This relationship strengthened in 2013 with the establishment of the Kerang Elders and Leaders Group.

The development of an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan focuses on developing and strengthening relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, engaging staff and stakeholders in reconciliation, and developing and piloting innovative strategies to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Council has an established Partnership Agreement, originally signed on 30 May 2016, reaffirming the commitment of all partners to continued collaboration and in working together to develop a Gannawarra Reconciliation Action Plan.

The Gannawarra Reconciliation Action Plan was endorsed by Council at the July 2024 Council Meeting for Community feedback, and after the consultation process the final plan is presented to Council for adoption before being endorsed by Reconciliation Australia.

The Gannawarra Reconciliation Action Plan as presented has received conditional endorsement from Reconciliation Australia.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council adopt the Gannawarra Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2026.

CARRIED

7.2 ROAD NAMING AND ROAD ADDITION TO THE ROAD REGISTER REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Proposal to name the unnamed road, to add the road to the road register and approve expenditure to maintain the road at the appropriate standard to enable the provision of primary access to the new residential property. The report provides recommendation on road naming and the evidence to demonstrate the need for access by the general public / community.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council:

1. Name the Kerang unnamed road as Cedar Lane, nominated by the residents as one of the naming proposals and being determined as the preferred name by the public poll.
2. Accept a 200-metre segment of new road length to the Council's Road Register to formalise the road as an Unsealed Access-Major Road.

CARRIED

7.3 ASSETS RATIONALISATION REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This asset rationalisation proposal aims to support the sustainability of key Council services. The report evaluates vacant land and properties owned by the Council and seeks Councillors' interest in disposing of the identified properties via a publicly transparent process following community engagement.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

That Council endorse the Chief Executive Officer to engage the community in consultation regarding the following proposed rationalisation (including potential sale) of Council Assets post the 2024 Councillor election to:

- a. Dispose of the Quambatook Units (QUA001) building asset (at 9-11 Guthrie Street, Quambatook) and the associated land (LOTS 1&2 TP113426 (CA PT33&PT34) & LOTS 1-3 TP113502 (CA PT33&PT34&PT37) PARISH OF QUAMBATOOK) via the open market / competitive property sale process.
- b. Permanently suspend the Kerang Saleyards on-site cattle sales service and identify feasible rationalisation options for the Kerang Sale Yards (KER010) asset located at 9 Markets Road, Kerang, along with the associated land LOT 2 PS437856 (CA PT7A & PT7B SEC 1) in the Parish of Kerang.
- c. Dispose of the Vacant Block of residential land at 2 Patterson Street in Quambatook (LOT 2 on PS17887, CA PT2, SEC 2, PARISH OF QUAMBATOOK) via the open market / competitive property sale process.
- d. Dispose of the end-of-life Quambatook Senior Citizens Hall (QUA003) building asset (at 4 Olive Street, Quambatook) and the associated land (LOTS 5&6 BLOCK 2 PS3901 CA PT2 SEC 2 PARISH OF QUAMBATOOK) via the open market / competitive property sale process.

CARRIED

7.4 2024 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 Financial Statements and Performance Statement are presented to Council for 'in principle' approval. The statements, subject to final audit, present the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2024.

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

A motion was moved that Council suspend standing orders at 6.15pm.

CARRIED

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Charlie Gillingham

A motion was moved that Council resume standing orders at 6.19pm.

CARRIED

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Acknowledge that the 'in principle' 2024 Financial Statements, and 'in principle' 2024 Performance Statement have been presented to and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on 10 September 2024.
2. Approve the 'in principle' 2024 Financial Statements and 'in principle' 2024 Performance Statement.
3. Approve the Chief Executive Officer to be authorised to effect any changes required by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.
4. Nominate Cr Stanton and Cr Gillingham to be authorised to certify on behalf of Council the 'final statement' 2024 Financial Statements, and 'final statement' 2024 Performance Statement, which are also to be signed by the Chief Executive Officer and the Principal Accounting Officer and submit to the Minister and Auditor-General.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Keith Link

That Council:

1. Acknowledge that the 'in principle' 2024 Financial Statements, and 'in principle' 2024 Performance Statement have been presented to and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on 10 September 2024.
2. Approve the 'in principle' 2024 Financial Statements and 'in principle' 2024 Performance Statement.
3. Approve the Chief Executive Officer to be authorised to effect any changes required by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.
4. Nominate Cr Stanton and Cr Gillingham to be authorised to certify on behalf of Council the 'final statement' 2024 Financial Statements, and 'final statement' 2024 Performance Statement, which are also to be signed by the Chief Executive Officer and the Principal Accounting Officer and submit to the Minister and Auditor-General.
5. Request a report at the November Council meeting containing:
 - a. Details on what areas cash, cash equivalents and other financial assets, under note 5.1 on page 27 of the financial statement, are allocated;
 - b. A detailed explanation on the circumstances that led to a negative unrestricted cash balance as at June 30 2024 on page 13 in the service performance indicators; and
 - c. Any policies of the Gannawarra Council regarding backing provisions in the balance sheet with cash.

CARRIED

8 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

9 NOTICES OF MOTION**9.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - NO. 94**

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

A motion was made to suspend standing orders at 6.28pm

CARRIED

Moved: Cr Travis Collier

Seconded: Cr Jane Ogden

A motion was made to resume standing orders at 6.39pm

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Keith Link

Seconded: Cr Garner Smith

That Gannawarra Shire Council request a report at the next Council meeting to make the sum of \$350,0000 available to the Cohuna Aerodrome Redevelopment Board to build a terminal at the Cohuna Airfield that would service the needs of the Air Ambulance Victoria when transferring patients plus the needs of arriving and departing pilots and passengers.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION

Moved: Cr Jane Ogden

Seconded: Cr Travis Collier

1. That Gannawarra Shire Council request a report at the November Council meeting to make the sum of \$350,0000 available to the Cohuna Aerodrome Redevelopment Board to build a terminal at the Cohuna Airfield that would service the needs of the Air Ambulance Victoria when transferring patients plus the needs of arriving and departing pilots and passengers.
2. To request that Council officers provide Councillors with a presentation and full Council report, at the November Council meeting on the history of the Cohuna Airport;
3. At the November Council meeting, the Lions Club of Cohuna who are Managers of Cohuna Airport and the Cohuna Aviation Club provide a report to Councillors of the progress of the current \$2.5 million project funding that the Cohuna Lion's Club was provided by the Government to upgrade the Cohuna airport.

FORESHADOW AMENDMENT TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION BECOMES THE ORIGINAL MOTION**Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham****Seconded: Cr Travis Collier**

1. That Gannawarra Shire Council request a report at the November Council meeting to make the sum of \$350,0000 available to the Cohuna Aerodrome Redevelopment Board to build a terminal at the Cohuna Airfield that would service the needs of the Air Ambulance Victoria when transferring patients plus the needs of arriving and departing pilots and passengers.
2. To request that Council officers provide Councillors with a presentation and full Council report, at the November Council meeting on the history of the Cohuna Airport;
3. At the November Council meeting, the Cohuna Aerodrome Redevelopment Board provide a report to Councillors of the current \$2.5 million project funding that was provided by the government to upgrade the Cohuna airport.

CARRIED**10 QUESTION TIME**

Nil

9 DELEGATES REPORTS**11.1 DELEGATES REPORTS**

COUNCILLOR COMMITTEES 2024	
COMMITTEE	COUNCILLOR
Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC)	Cr Ross Stanton, Mayor
Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils	Cr Ross Stanton, Mayor
Community Halls Community Asset Committee	Cr Kelvin Burt
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	Cr Travis Collier
Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC)	Cr Keith Link
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC)	Cr Keith Link
Transport Committee Role including Rail Freight Alliance and Road Transport	Cr Keith Link
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA)	Cr Jane Ogden
Audit and Risk Committee (x 2)	Cr Charlie Gillingham Cr Garner Smith
Rural Councils Victoria	Cr Garner Smith
Timber Towns Victoria	Cr Garner Smith

Councillors spoke to their relevant committees.

12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

Minutes

The Meeting closed at 7.01PM.

The Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 16 October 2024.

**Mayor Ross Stanton
MAYOR**