

# **Council Meeting**

## **Minutes**

Monday 21 July 2025

Commenced at 7:00 PM

Council Chambers  
20 Siding Avenue, Officer  
Victoria

**Members:** Cr Jack Kowarzik Mayor  
Cr Alanna Pomeroy Deputy Mayor  
Cr Liz Roberts  
Cr Samantha-Jane Potter  
Cr Casey Thomsen  
Cr David Nickell  
Cr Collin Ross  
Cr Brett Owen  
Cr Trudi Paton

**Officers:** Peter Benazic Interim Chief Executive Officer  
James Kelly Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Environment  
Debbie Tyson General Manager Community & Planning Services  
Wayne Mack General Manager Corporate Services  
Peter Harris Manager Governance, Safety & Property  
Sharyn Tilley Coordinator Governance and Councillor Services

Meeting opened at 7.00pm.

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## 1 Opening And Reflection

I would ask those gathered to join us now for a few moments of silence as we reflect on our roles in this chamber. Please use this opportunity for reflection, Prayer or thought, to focus on our shared intention to work respectfully together for the well-being of our whole community.

## 2 Traditional Owners Acknowledgement

Cardinia Shire Council acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the Bunurong and Wurundjeri people and pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

## 3 Apologies

Nil

## 4 Adoption And Confirmation Of Minutes

### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Nickell

That Council confirm the minutes of the following meetings:

1. Council Meeting 16 June 2025.
2. Town Planning Committee Meeting 7 July 2025.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 5 Declaration Of Interests

Cr Nickell has a declared general conflict of interest in Agenda Item 7.2.3 Discontinuance of Part of Trythall Street Beaconsfield, as he is employment by DEECA.

Cr Thomsen has a declared general conflict of interest in Agenda Item 7.4.2 2025-2026 Wellbeing Support Grants and Item 10.2 Notice of Motion 1116, as he is a member of a committee that made an application for a grant.

Cr Roberts has a declared general conflict of interest in Agenda Item 7.4.2 2025-2026 Wellbeing Support Grants, as a family member is the President of a group that made an application for a grant.

## 6 Community Questions

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Tracey Van den Dolder submitted 2 questions and theses were answered by General Manager Infrastructure Services, James Kelly.

### Question 1

As per the recent notification regarding the changing of Streetlighting in the Beaconsfield area. I would like to know why the globes cannot be changed rather than the whole light fitting?

### Response

AusNet have advised council the globes in the existing fittings cannot currently be retrofitted with an LED globe as the use of an LED retrofit globe is not yet approved by AusNet as the network owner.

### Question 2

Why is council still going ahead with the changing of light fittings in the Beaconsfield area when this review by Ausnet has not yet been completed?

### Response

Officers are implementing the decision made at the Council meeting on 17th March 2025, Item 7.2.5.

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Stephanie Davies submitted 9 questions and was not present at the Meeting.

Three of the questions were ruled out in accordance with 3.51 of the *Governance Rules*.

### Question 1

Who has the Council asked to do an external review?

### Response

This matter was referred to the Local Government Inspectorate on 17 September 2024.

### Question 2

Did Council do an internal review on said 'processes', prior to requesting this external review?

### Response

Council processes for managing Conflicts of Interest were followed. No Conflicts of Interest were identified or declared.

### Question 3

Is a former member of staff a beneficiary of the proposed choice of suburb name?

### Response

There is no benefit.

### Question 4

How many staff voted on the suburb name, noting votes are reported to be identified, identified and weighted?

**Response**

To the best of our knowledge 21 out of the 1,840 votes were believed to have originated from staff members.

**Question 5**

Have all staff members involved in the administration of the suburb naming process, and management, been cleared of any relationship with, or being influenced by, their colleague beneficiary, as this may have compromised their obligations to impartiality?

**Response**

Council processes for managing Conflicts of Interest were followed. No Conflicts of Interest were identified or declared.

**Question 6**

Was a potential conflict of interest identified and managed by the organisation during the naming project?

**Response**

No conflicts of interest were identified.

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Tony O'Hara submitted 9 questions, these were answered by General Manager Corporate Services, Wayne Mack.

**Question 1**

Will Cardinia Shire Council consider creating or updating its policies to ensure all Council owned properties or facilities not registered with Geographic Names Victoria (GNV) are officially named or confirmed?

**Response**

Council is working with Geographic Names Victoria to register existing named properties and facilities that have not been formally registered and are already accepted by the public.

The next questions are in relation to Officer District Park.

**Question 2**

Will Council initiate the renaming process without waiting any further, with Council encouraging the Bunurong Land Council to submit names for the park, providing relevance and a translation?

**Response**

Council continues to work on the naming of the Officer District Park.

**Question 3**

When consultation is initiated, with reference to the Cardinia Council Community Engagement Policy 2025 – 2029, will council use the IAP2 Spectrum categories of “Consult” or “Involve” as a minimum?

**Response**

Council will comply with its Community Engagement Policy.

Questions 4 and 5 were answered together.

**Question 4**

Will Council then allow Cardinia's residents to submit names, providing relevance to the property?

**Question 5**

Noting that Geographic Places Names provide very flexible guidelines rather than mandating a particular category of names. will Council then allow other options in accordance with Geographic Places Names. Naming rules for places in Victoria and Statutory requirements for naming roads, features, and localities – 2022?

**Response**

Council will communicate with the community on the proposed naming process once it has been confirmed.

Questions 6,7,8 and 9 are in relation to Pakenham East Precinct Suburb Naming and were answered together.

**Question 6**

Given the delay in the review of the previous Council resolution and current residents now residing in the area, will Council consider restarting a renaming consultation without waiting for the review process to conclude?

**Question 7**

If consultation is initiated, will council use the IAP2 Spectrum categories of "Consult" or "Involve" as a minimum, with reference to the Cardinia Council Community Engagement Policy 2025 – 2029?

**Question 8**

Noting that Geographic Places Names. Naming rules for places in Victoria and Statutory requirements for naming roads, features, and localities – 2022, provides very flexible guidelines rather than mandating a particular category of names. Will Council allow other naming options relevant to the area in question to be considered?

**Question 9**

Will Council then allow any Cardinia resident to submit names with source information or evidence of relevance?

**Response**

Council referred this matter to the Local Government Inspectorate on 17th September 2024.

Council's current position is to await the outcome of the referral to the Local Government Inspectorate before proceeding further with the suburb naming proposal.

I note that senior officers have been actively pursuing updates on this matter from the Inspectorate.



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John White submitted 2 questions and these were answered by General Manager, Debbie Tyson.

**Question 1**

In reaching a decision about the future of the Pakenham Golf Club (not Deep Creek), will the Council take into account the significant voluntary contributions made by the community at the inception of the Club?

**Response**

Council officers have completed a feasibility study regarding the future of golf at the Pakenham Golf Course. As part of the next steps, community consultation will be conducted in August. The feedback received during this process, along with expert reports and the historical context of the site, will inform a recommendation to Councillors. This recommendation is expected to be presented by the October Council Meeting.

**Question 2**

Could the Council please clarify how such contributions will be recognised or factored into the deliberations regarding the Club's future?

**Response**

This information will be incorporated into the forthcoming report to Council for consideration.

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Richard Paton submitted 4 questions and were answered by General Manager Community & Planning Services, Debbie Tyson.

Regarding the Feasibility Study for the future of the Assets, Pakenham Golf Course & Deep Creek Eco Centre.

**Question 1**

Please define the level of Council transparency, Community input and engagement that the Council are planning, as part of the Feasibility Study, prior to it being released, mid – Sept 2025?

**Response**

A report will be presented to the August Ordinary Council meeting with the intention to undertake Community Consultation directly after this meeting. The outcome of this consultation will form part of future recommendation to the Council.

Questions 2 and 3 were answered together.

**Question 2**

What is the feasibility study trying to determine?

**Question 3**

Will a 'golf centric' feasibility study be conducted?

**Response**

The Feasibility Study was undertaken to understand the viability of golf at Deep Creek Reserve.

**Question 4**

Will the course continue to be maintained over the duration of the Feasibility Study period?

**Response:**

Yes, the course and surrounds have and will continue to be maintained.

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**Anthony Volpi submitted 4 questions, these were answered by General Manager Community & Planning Services, Debbie Tyson.**

**Question 1**

**Can Council officers advise what is the net cost (revenue against expenditure) of providing and maintaining the Cardinia Cultural Centre?**

**Response**

The total net cost to Council for the Cardinia Cultural Centre, 2024-25 year is \$1.264M. This is derived from total revenue of \$490k being offset against total costs of \$1.754M.

**Question 2**

**Can Council officers advise the same net cost of the golf course?**

**Response**

The total net cost to Council for the Golf Course, 2024-25 year is \$140k total expenditure, no income. It should be noted that these numbers are still subject to Council finalising its end of year audit.

**Question 3**

**Can Council advise if they have approached the State Government (executive or legislative) seeking a change to the planning of the golf course.**

**Response**

Officers have not approached the State Government through this current process.

**Question 4**

**Can Council advise what plans they have in the golf course is to be scrapped as to providing sporting facilities for the above 50s.**

**Response**

No decisions have been made regarding the golf course.

A report will be submitted to the August Ordinary Council meeting requesting Council to support community engagement.

## 7 Ordinary Business

### 7.1 Town Planning Reports

#### 7.1.1 RESPONSE TO NOM - OFFICER TOWN CENTRE

Responsible GM:	Debbie Tyson
Author:	Keira Lee
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>4.1 We support our productive land and employment land to grow local industries</b> 4.1.2 Plan for sustainable employment precincts to entice new industries to the region and support new business.

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Potter, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council notes the progress of development within the Officer Town Centre.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.1.2 RESPONSE TO NOM - GREEN WEDGE AREAS AND VACANT LAND

Responsible GM:	Debbie Tyson
Author:	Marcelle Bell
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>4.1 We support our productive land and employment land to grow local industries</b></p> <p>4.1.1 Facilitate better planning for our agricultural land to support industry, innovation, local food economy and local job growth.</p> <p>4.1.5 Strengthen and promote our shire's unique identity and visitor attractions.</p> <p><b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b></p> <p>5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making.</p> <p>5.1.5 Champion the collective values of the community through the Councillors' governance of the shire.</p>

### Resolution

Moved Cr Nickell, seconded Cr Roberts.

That Council notes the response to a Notice of Motion requesting the minimum lot sizes specified in each Zone within Cardinia's three Green Wedge Areas and that a report, including a map-based view and a list of property details (such as land size) is to be presented to the Council within three months.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.2 General Reports

### 7.2.1 RESPONSE TO NOM - UNSEALED ROADS AND DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE REVIEW

Responsible GM:	James Kelly
Author:	Ben Lamont
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places</b> 2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.

#### Alternate Resolution

Moved Cr Nickell, seconded Cr Pomeroy.

That Council:

1. Notes the successful completion of the review of Cardinia's unsealed roads and drainage maintenance services as initiated by Notice of Motion 1105, 19 August 2024.
2. Subject to any privacy redactions or commercial in-confidence necessary, the full Ninety Mile consulting report be uploaded to the 'Roads, Trees and Major Projects' section of the Council website.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.2.2 DISBANDING THE BUNYIP SANCTUARY COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Responsible GM:	James Kelly
Author:	Simon King
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>3.1 We value our natural assets and support our biodiversity to thrive</b> 3.1.3 Work with community to improve and manage our natural assets, biodiversity and cultural heritage.

### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Thomsen.

That Council:

1. Revokes the appointments and delegations of section 86 Committee, 'Bunyip Sanctuary Committee of Management' formed under s.86 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
2. Thanks the Bunyip Sanctuary Committee of Management members for their contributions and service to the community.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.2.3 DISCONTINUANCE OF PART OF TRYTHALL STREET BEACONSFIELD

Responsible GM:	Wayne Mack
Author:	Erin Moore
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places</b>  2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.</p> <p><b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b>  5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making.  5.1.2 Manage our finances responsibly and leave a positive legacy for future generations.</p>

### Resolution

Cr Nickell left the meeting at 7.54pm with a declared general conflict of interest in this item, as he is employment by DEECA.

Moved Cr Owen, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council:

1. Gives notice of its intention to discontinue the 375m<sup>2</sup> of Trythall Street in Beaconsfield (Road) and transfer this to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) excluding a requirement to pay market value for the land;
2. Seeks cost recovery from DEECA for the discontinuance and transfer including community engagement, valuation, surveying, legal and lodgement costs and any other associated cost to Council;
3. Commences community engagement under s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy and s114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* in regard to the proposed discontinuance;
4. Reports back to Council with the outcome of any submissions to be heard, prior to making a final decision on the discontinuance and transfer; and
5. Acknowledges the future use of the land and community benefit to be derived by the Cardinia Creek Regional Parklands once developed.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

### 7.3 Policy Reports

#### 7.3.1 DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029

Responsible GM:	Wayne Mack
Author:	Owen Hardidge, Manager Business Transformation & Customer
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b> 5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making. 5.1.5 Champion the collective values of the community through the Councillors' governance of the shire.

Cr Nickell returned to the meeting at 7.58pm.

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Roberts.

That Council:

1. Endorses (in principle) the Draft Council Plan 2025-2029, and undertake a further phase of community engagement, and
2. Following the completion of the community engagement, receive the outcomes of the further engagement and further consider a final Council Plan to satisfy the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* prior to 31 October 2025.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried



## 7.3.2 DRAFT LIVEABILITY PLAN REVIEW

Responsible GM:	Debbie Tyson
Author:	Gemma Paton, Team Leader Healthy Communities
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b> 5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making. 5.1.4 Maximise value for our community through efficient service delivery, innovation, strategic partnerships and advocacy. 5.1.5 Champion the collective values of the community through the Councillors' governance of the shire.

### Resolution

Moved Cr Roberts, seconded Cr Pomeroy.

That Council:

1. Supports the changes recommended to the Liveability Plan 2017-2029 as described in Table 2 of the report.
2. Supports the draft Liveability Plan 2025 (Attachment 1) being exhibited for community and stakeholder feedback through July/August alongside the Draft Council Plan 2025-29.
3. Supports the Engagement Summary (Attachment 2) being exhibited as a supporting document for the stakeholder and community engagement on the draft Liveability Plan.
4. Notes a report will be prepared in late 2025 providing recommendations for a refined governance structure for the delivery of the Plan and a Draft Action Agenda for 2025-26.

Cr Pomeroy left the meeting at 8.25pm and returned at 8.26pm.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Owen, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Cr Nickell and Cr Paton

Carried

### 7.3.3 DRAFT ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025 - 2029

Responsible GM:	James Kelly
Author:	Ana Caicedo
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places</b></p> <p>2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.</p> <p><b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b></p> <p>5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making.</p>

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Owen, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council:

1. Endorses the Draft Road Management Plan 2025-2029 (Attachment 1) for public consultation.
2. Approves the commencement of a public consultation period from 22 July 2025 to 19 August 2025.
3. Receives a further report on the outcomes of the public consultation in October 2025 for consideration prior to the formal adoption of the Road Management Plan 2025-2029.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Owen, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Cr Nickell, Cr Paton and Cr Pomeroy

Carried

### 7.3.4 FESTIVALS AND EVENTS GRANT PROGRAM 2025/2026

Responsible GM:	Debbie Tyson
Author:	Bronwyn Ward
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>1.1 We empower our communities to be healthy, connected and resilient</b></p> <p>1.1.2 Enrich local identity and opportunities for the community to connect through art, history and cultural expression.</p> <p><b>4.1 We support our productive land and employment land to grow local industries</b></p> <p>4.1.5 Strengthen and promote our shire's unique identity and visitor attractions.</p>

#### Alternate Resolution

Moved Cr Paton, seconded Cr Potter.

That Council:

1. Endorses the allocation of \$61,838 in funding to 13 eligible applicants under the 2025-26 Festivals and Events Grant Program, as outlined in the attached audit summary.
2. Notes the reopening of the grant program for new submissions, with a rolling assessment process to be maintained until 30 June 2026 or until allocated funds are exhausted.
3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve future grant applications under this program, in accordance with the assessment criteria and funding guidelines.
4. Notes that Officers will provide a summary report to Council at three month intervals over 2025/2026 period updating the Council on the grant program and at the conclusion of the 2025-26 financial year, a report is submitted detailing all successful grant applications approved under delegated authority.
5. Seeks feedback from both successful and unsuccessful applicants of the 2025-26 Festivals and Events Grant Program and present a report to the November Ordinary Council Meeting outlining any proposed improvements or changes to the program based on the feedback received.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.4 Financial Reports

### 7.4.1 VALUER GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY RATE ADJUSTMENT 2025-26 FINANCIAL YEAR

Responsible GM:	Wayne Mack
Author:	Allison Southwell
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b> 5.1.2 Manage our finances responsibly and leave a positive legacy for future generations.

## Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Thomsen.

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the adjustment required to use the revised Rate in the Dollar when striking the 2025-26 property rates, to reflect the Valuer General of Victoria's supplementary valuations received post budget consideration but prior to 30 June 2025.
2. Approves amending the Rate in the Dollar for each differential category for the 2025-26 financial year as follows:

Category	Rate in the dollar
Base Rate	0.0021648
Farm Land	0.0016236
Urban Industrial and Commercial Land	0.0031391
Urban Farm Land	0.0018396
Urban Residential Land	0.0023158
Urban Vacant Land	0.0043296
Cultural and Recreational Land	0.0016236

3. Approve the Chief Financial Officer to update the 2025-26 budget schedules and other related administrative edits.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.4.2 2025-2026 WELLBEING SUPPORT GRANTS

Responsible GM:	Debbie Tyson
Author:	Kym Ockerby
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>1.1 We empower our communities to be healthy, connected and resilient</b> 1.1.1 Plan for, and support the delivery of, accessible health and social services that address critical gaps in provision. 1.1.2 Enrich local identity and opportunities for the community to connect through art, history and cultural expression. 1.1.3 Lead by example in creating an inclusive and welcoming community for all by facilitating community education, capacity building, connection and celebration of our diversity. 1.1.4 Facilitate a partnership approach to create safer communities. 1.1.5 Work closely with the community to deliver programs that build community resilience, relating to a pandemic or other disasters.

Cr Thomsen left the meeting at 9.03pm with a declared general conflict of interest in this item, as he is a member of a committee that made an application for a grant.

Cr Roberts left the meeting at 9.03pm with a declared general conflict of interest in this item, as a family member is the President of a group that made an application for a grant.

### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council approves 54 applications for funding under the 2025-2026 Wellbeing Support Grant Program to the value of \$102,810.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter and Cr Ross

Against: Nil

Carried

### 7.4.3 2025-2026 COMMUNITY CAPITAL WORKS GRANTS

Responsible GM:	Debbie Tyson
Author:	Rachael Chinnock
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>1.1 We empower our communities to be healthy, connected and resilient</b>  1.1.4 Facilitate a partnership approach to create safer communities.</p> <p><b>2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places</b>  2.1.1 Advocate, plan for and deliver accessible community infrastructure and services that address community need.  2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.</p> <p><b>3.1 We value our natural assets and support our biodiversity to thrive</b>  3.1.1 Partner with community, business and industry to take action on, and adapt to, climate change.</p>

Cr Roberts and Cr Thomsen returned to the meeting at 9.13pm.

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Owen, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council endorses the following community grants across three categories of the 2025-2026 Community Capital Works Grant round:

1. Five Community Capital Works Grants (category 1) – total value of \$97,000
2. Eight Community Capital Works Partnership Grants (category 2) - total value of \$170,590.56
3. Two Major Equipment Grants (category 3) – total value of \$5,292.64

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.4.4 CONTRACT VARIATION CT000532 - MULTIPLE SPORTSFIELD LIGHTING PACKAGE

Responsible GM:	James Kelly
Author:	Shane McGrath
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places</b></p> <p>2.1.1 Advocate, plan for and deliver accessible community infrastructure and services that address community need.</p> <p>2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.</p> <p><b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b></p> <p>5.1.2 Manage our finances responsibly and leave a positive legacy for future generations.</p>

### Resolution

Moved Cr Thomsen, seconded Cr Owen.

That Council approves the variation to Contract CT000532 – Multiple Sportsfield Lighting Package, increasing the total contract sum to \$1,234,225.69 (excluding GST) with a revised completion date of 31 July 2025 in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9.29pm for ten minutes.

## 7.5 Activity Reports

### 7.5.1 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2025

Responsible GM:	Wayne Mack
Author:	Natasha Berry
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b> 5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making. 5.1.5 Champion the collective values of the community through the Councillors' governance of the shire.

The meeting resumed at 9.44pm.

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Nickell.

That Council note the report detailing implementation of Council resolutions for the period from 1 April 2025 to 30 June 2025.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried



## 7.5.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE - JULY 2025

Responsible GM:	Wayne Mack
Author:	Emma Wilkinson
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b> 5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making.

### Resolution

Moved Cr Thomsen, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council notes the Community Engagement Update for July 2025.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

### 7.5.3 CAPITAL WORKS REPORT - JUNE 2025

Responsible GM:	James Kelly
Author:	Jessie Guyomar
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places</b></p> <p>2.1.1 Advocate, plan for and deliver accessible community infrastructure and services that address community need.</p> <p>2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.</p> <p>2.1.5 Upgrade Council's road network to improve safety and connectivity while considering traffic demand and freight transport needs.</p> <p><b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b></p> <p>5.1.2 Manage our finances responsibly and leave a positive legacy for future generations.</p> <p>5.1.4 Maximise value for our community through efficient service delivery, innovation, strategic partnerships and advocacy.</p>

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council receives and notes the June 2025 Capital Works Report.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 7.5.4 ASPIRATIONAL ENERGY TRANSITION PLAN REVIEW

Responsible GM:	James Kelly
Author:	Will Jackson
Staff Disclosure:	All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.
Council Plan Reference:	<p><b>3.1 We value our natural assets and support our biodiversity to thrive</b></p> <p>3.1.1 Partner with community, business and industry to take action on, and adapt to, climate change.</p> <p><b>5.1 We practise responsible leadership</b></p> <p>5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making.</p>

### Resolution

Moved Cr Ross, seconded Cr Thomsen.

That Council notes the report, and the progress made in the delivery of the Aspirational Energy Transition Plan 2014-2024.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Cr Paton

Carried

## 8 Reports By Councillors

### **Cr Roberts addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Antiques and collectables fair in Pakenham

### **Cr Owen addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Toomuc Valley landcare annual lyre bird survey
- Attended Upper Beaconsfield reserve sod turn
- Attended Casey Cardinia reference group meeting

### **Cr Kowarzik addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Historical society display in the foyer. If there are any other groups, please email your Ward Councillor should you wish to contribute to this display.

### **Cr Potter addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Officer business support network - (ONE - Officer Network of Enterprises) meeting on the first Friday of every month at 7pm.
- Melbourne Touch Sixers rugby group - coming to Cardinia. Seeking interest for stalls at the event, information is available at #melbourne-sixers.com
- Attended Disability Action Group meeting, the group is looking for new members.
- Chaired multicultural reference group meeting
- Financial counsellors available at Council Civic Centre from external providers, *South East Community Links*.
- Member of multicultural commissioner regional advisory council and attended forum.

### **Cr Ross addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Attended Upper Beaconsfield reserve sod turn
- Bi-monthly visit of the Ward with the CEO

### **Cr Pomeroy addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Minister Catherine King MP meeting to discuss advocacy projects.
- Thanked Minister Jason Wood MP, Minister David Baine MP for spending time discussing advocacy projects.
- Attended a few progress Association meetings and Annual General Meetings (AGM). Congratulations to new committee members and thanked volunteers on committees.
- Currently the acting Chair of MYLI (My Library) as the previous Chair has stepped down.

### **Cr Paton addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Not in Our Name event on Saturday - Emergency Services Volunteers Fund Levy discussion.
- Swamp care community planting day on Sunday starting in Bayles from 9 - 2pm.
- Shout out to the Emergency Management Team for holding Agri-connect cultivating connections meeting, it was well received by the community.

### **Cr Thomsen and Cr Kowarzik addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Passing of Lyn Stephenson OAM, and commented on her significant contributions to the community and that her funeral service was a fitting send off.

### **Cr Nickell addressed Council by reporting on:**

- Attended Emerald community asset committee AGM.
- Attended John Dudley prize portrait announcement in Emerald Hills Hub.

## 9 Presentation Of Petitions

There are 2 petitions from our community to consider.

### 9.1 - KOO WEE RUP - SOLDIERS MEMORIAL MUSEUM

#### Resolution

Moved by Cr Paton, seconded by Cr Ross

That Council:

1. Receives petition titled, 'Koo Wee Rup - Soldiers Memorial Museum'.
2. Considers a report on the matter at Council Meeting 18 August 2025.
3. Notifies the lead petitioner, Rodney Edwards of the progress of the petition.

Carried

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

## 9.2 INCREASE TEMPERATURE OF CARDINIA LIFE CHANGEROOM & 25M POOL

### Resolution

Moved by Cr Thomsen, seconded by Cr Ross

That Council:

1. Receives petition titled, 'Increase Temperature of Cardinia Life Changeroom & 25m Pool'.
2. Considers a report on the matter at a future Council Meeting.
3. Notifies the lead petitioner, Margaret Moore of the progress of the petition.

Carried

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

## 10 Notices Of Motion

### 10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION 1115 - CR POMEROY

#### Resolution

Moved Cr Pomeroy, seconded Cr Paton.

That Council:

1. Opposes the introduction of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) and the need for Cardinia Shire Council to collect a state government levy.
2. Write to The Hon. Jaclyn Symes, Treasurer, asking for the government to repeal the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund levy and Council's requirement to collect it.
3. Note that the MAV advised that they received legal advice indicating that:
  - a. Councils are legally required to collect the ESVF
  - b. If a ratepayer pays less than the total amount of council rates and the ESVF levy, Councils must proportionally allocate the payment to include a portion of the levy and pay the levy portion to the State Government
  - c. Councils cannot issue a separate rate notice for the ESVF; it must be included in the annual valuation rate and charge notice.
4. Note that Cardinia Shire Council has a legal obligation to and will therefore collect the ESVF, unless the legislation is repealed by the State Government.

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Nickell, Cr Owen, Cr Paton, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts, Cr Ross and Cr Thomsen

Against: Nil

Carried

## 10.2 NOTICE OF MOTION 1116 - CR KOWARZIK

Cr Thomsen left the meeting at 10.49 pm with a declared general conflict of interest in this item, as he is a member of a Committee that made an application for a grant.

### Resolution

Moved Cr Kowarzik, seconded Cr Ross.

That Council:

1. Working with community groups and community organisations, lead and deliver the 2025 Pakenham Carols event, with the same budget as the 2024 event of \$40,000 (plus officers' time).
2. Work with and support community groups and community organisations, for them to lead and deliver future Pakenham Carols events, with the same budget as each previous years' event, adjusted for CPI (plus officer's time).

For: Cr Kowarzik, Cr Owen, Cr Pomeroy, Cr Potter, Cr Roberts and Cr Ross

Against: Cr Nickell and Cr Paton

Carried

Cr Thomsen returned to the meeting at 11.10pm.



## **11 Urgent Business**

There were no items of Urgent Business.

## **12 Councillor Questions**

There were no Councillor Questions.

## **13 Mayoral Minute**

The Mayor advised of the cancellation of Town Planning meeting on 4 August 2025, due to there being no planning applications to consider. Regular monthly reports will be considered at the August Council Meeting.

It is exciting to have endorsed our big strategic plans tonight and encourage everyone to get involved in community engagement.

## 14. Confidential Business

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), section 66 provides that if a council or delegated committee determines that a meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential information, the Council or delegated committee must record in the minutes of the meeting that are available for public inspection:

- a) the ground or grounds for determining to close the meeting to the public by reference to the grounds specified in the definition of ***confidential information*** in section 3(1); and
- b) an explanation of why the specified ground or grounds applied.

The Act defines ***confidential information*** in s.3(1)(a)-(l), and includes information that may prejudice or impact; commercial negotiations, the security of Council, land use planning, law enforcement, legal privilege, personal information, private commercial information, confidential meeting information, internal arbitration, Councillor conduct panel information and information specified under s.77 of the previous *Local Government Act 1989*.

Once confidential information has been considered and decided in a closed session of a Council Meeting, a further resolution to resume open Council is required.

There were no items of Confidential Business.

## 15 Meeting Closure

Meeting closed at 11.10pm.

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Minutes confirmed  
Mayor