



**MINUTES**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL**

**MONDAY**

**17 FEBRUARY 2025**

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, on Monday 17 February 2025 at 7:30 PM.

## PRESENT

Cr Kylie Spears (Mayor)	Wombolano Ward
Cr Linda Hancock (Deputy Mayor)	Wonga Ward
Cr Chris Jones	Barngeong Ward
Cr Catherine Gordon	Bungalook Ward
Cr Claire Rex	Jubilee Ward
Cr Nathaniel Henderson	McAlpin Ward
Cr Daniella Heatherich	Wicklow Ward
Cr Rob Steane OAM	Yarrunga Ward
Steve Kozlowski	Chief Executive Officer
Tony Rocca	Chief Financial Officer
Adam Todorov	Director Assets & Leisure
Marianne Di Giallonardo	Director People & Places
Andrew Fuaux	Director Strategy & Development
Emma Hills	Governance Officer
Sophie Doyle	Social Media and Digital Officer
Natasha McArdle	Graphic Designer Lead

The Mayor, Cr Spears welcomed all to the February Council Meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer read the following Statement of Recording -

*“Please note that this meeting is being recorded and streamed live on the internet. All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however, as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded.”*

A prayer was read by Reverend Scott Hawkins from UrbanLife Church.

The Councillor Pledge was read by the Mayor.

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by the Mayor.

## APOLOGIES

Cr Paul Macdonald	Tarralla Ward
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*Cr Macdonald was granted a Leave of Absence at the 9 December 2024 Council Meeting.*

## DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR REX

1/25

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2024 BE CONFIRMED**

**CARRIED**

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**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Stephen Lucas

*“The Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP) is project for which Council has received, or been committed funding, by the Commonwealth over a number of years (\$2m under the previous government, \$5 promised by Mr Richard Marles before the last Federal Election and more recently a grant of \$7.5m approved by the Department of Infrastructure). The CCWP is anxiously awaited by many ratepayers, including Croydon U3A and other user groups. It has also been the subject of a number of Resolutions made by the Croydon Branch of the ALP. Of particular interest to ratepayers is the completion of Hub A on the site of the old EV Building. It is not apparent that the work on Hub A has commenced. My question to Mr Kozlowski is as follows. Given that there does not appear to have been any advertised Town Planning Application or completion of a Public Consultation process, what is the projected completion date of the Hub A component of the CCWP”*

Director Assets & Leisure

*“The Town Planning process for Hub A was advertised in late 2024 and included notification to a significant number of properties surrounding the precinct. A permit is expected to be issued in the coming weeks.*

*Early work has been completed on the site, including the demolition of some of the vacant community facilities adjacent to Mt Dandenong Road, and Council is currently advertising the design and construction tender for the project, which closes this Friday.*

*Construction of the new Hub A facility is expected to commence in the coming months and be completed by early to mid-2027.”*

Stephen Lucas

*“It is proposed that the Leasing Costs paid by U3A Croydon be increased to \$65,000 pa. U3A Croydon has 1,000 plus members. The rent attributable to each member would be \$65. Inquiries indicate that only U3A Melbourne City pays higher Leasing Costs but that is for CBD locations.*

*U3A Croydon performs an essential community function and is highly regarded within Maroondah and outside, yet the level of the rental appears discriminatory.*

*My question to the Mayor follows. Having regard that paid by other U3As, how are the proposed Leasing Costs to be charged to U3A Croydon justified?”*

Chief Financial Officer

*“I will not talk to the arrangements other Councils have in place or the non-Maroondah Council sites U3A Croydon is currently hiring/utilising.*

*However, Maroondah consistently applies its Community Facilities Pricing Policy and Karralyka Pricing Policy, when working together with groups such as U3A Croydon.*

*Currently, U3A Croydon occupies seven and sometimes more, key Council facilities. Some for fixed periods/days of the week, and some across different times and days of the week. All of which are either under a licence fee or an hourly rate charge, and any utility usage charges are also covered by the users of the facilities, as per the Policy.*

*For the Maroondah City Council sites specifically, the total cost per annum to U3A Croydon is approximately \$20K - \$25K for licensing, usage, and utilities, and not the \$65K quoted in the question.*

*Typically, the cost has been less than \$20K per annum, depending on timing of utility charges. Discussions have already been taking place with U3A Croydon committee members, as recently as two weeks ago. These discussions will continue over the coming months.”*

**OFFICERS' REPORTS****CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

ATTENDANCE REPORT

ITEM 1

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR REX

2/25

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORTS AS PRESENTED BY COUNCILLORS****CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to their reports - Crs Spears, Hancock, Steane, Heatherich, Henderson, Rex, Gordon and Jones

**Cr Spears (Mayor)**

10/12 Stroke A Chord Christmas singalong event  
 10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event  
 10/12 Maroondah Audit & Risk Committee meeting  
 11/12 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event  
 12/12 Mayor and Deputy Mayor - MAV Networking Function  
 12-13/12 Municipal Association of Victoria Mayor and Deputy Mayor Mandatory Training  
 14/12 Centenary of Local Government for Ringwood (Borough/City) with Ringwood Historical Society Event  
 16/12 Your Library Ltd - Annual General Meeting  
 16/12 Your Library Board Meeting  
 16/12 Women in Public Office Meeting  
 17/12 David Hodgett Christmas Celebration Event  
 17/12 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) National meeting  
 19/12 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Christmas Celebration Event  
 19/12 Meeting with resident  
 19/12 Women in Public Office Program executive meeting  
 20/01 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Committee Meeting  
 20/01 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) National meeting  
 23/01 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Meeting  
 24/01 Your Library - Audit & Risk Advisory Committee Meeting  
 26/01 Australia Day Event - Marrondah City Council  
 28/01 Eastern Region Group of Councils - Plan for Victoria Meeting  
 28/01 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Meeting  
 29/01 Meeting with Liberal Candidate for Aston  
 30/01 Meeting with Julie Reid - LGeX  
 01/02 Poolside Pride Event - Aquanation  
 04/02 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Meeting  
 06/02 Your Library - Board Meeting  
 07/02 Federal Funding announcement at The Nets  
 08/02 Ringwood Cricket Club Presidents Event  
 10/02 Your Library Post Board Meeting Catch up  
 10/02 Meeting with Liz Johnstone - Eastern Region Group of Councils  
 10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event  
 11/02 Maroondah Business Group Network Event - "Connect and Collaborate"  
 11/02 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) National meeting  
 13/02 ArtSpace Exhibition Opening - "Soft Fascination" - Realm

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- 14/02 Meeting with Freeman of City Bernie Capicchioni
  - 17/02 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Victoria committee meeting
  - 17/02 Women in Public Office Program executive meeting
  - 17/02 Maroondah Foundation Meeting

### **Cr Hancock (Deputy Mayor)**

- 10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event
- 11/12 Glen Park Community Centre 2024 International Day for People with a Disability Event
- 11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition & Bill Wilkins Event
- 14/12 Centenary of Local Government for Ringwood (Borough/City) with Ringwood Historical Society Event
- 15/12 Metropolitan Traffic Education Centre Christmas Celebration Event
- 16/12 Annual General Meeting - Your Library
- 16/12 Your Library - Board Meeting
- 16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council
- 20/12 Ringwood Bowls Meeting
- 08/01 Your Library - Karina Lamb Meeting
- 21/01 U3A Ringwood open day Norwood Football Club
- 23/01 Hon. Michael Sukkar - Metropolitan Traffic Education Centre - Visit Event
- 22/01 Your Library Chief Executive Officer catch up
- 24/01 Your Library - Audit and Risk Advisory Committee Meeting
- 26/01 Australia Day Event - Maroondah City Council
- 29/01 Metropolitan Traffic Education Centre - Board Meeting
- 03/02 Knox Library - Announcement by Minister Nick Staikos MP
- 04/02 Attended Mullum Mullum Anglican Church Ringwood Commissioning of The Reverend Sam Creek
- 06/02 Eastern FM Broadcast Event
- 06/02 Your Library - Board Meeting
- 09/02 Celebrate Maroondah - Superhero Sunday Event
- 10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event
- 13/02 Meeting with Richie Feder
- 13/02 ArtSpace Exhibition Opening "Soft Fascination" - Realm
- 15/02 Sound Walk - Public Program (Soft Fascination Exhibition)

### **Cr Jones**

- 10/12 Maroondah City Council Audit & Risk Committee
- 10/12 Yarrunga Community Centre - Christmas Event
- 11/12 Glen Park Community Centre 2024 International Day for People with a Disability Event
- 11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event
- 13/12 Croydon Retired Services League Event
- 14/12 Centenary of Local Government for Ringwood (Borough/City) with Ringwood Historical Society
- 16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event
- 17/12 The Hon. David Hodgett MP - Christmas Event
- 26/01 Australia Day Event - Maroondah City Council
- 01/02 Poolside Pride Event - Aquanation
- 05/02 Eastern Alliance Greenhouse Action Meeting

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- 09/02 Celebrate Maroondah - Superhero Sunday Event
  - 10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event
  - 11/02 Maroondah Business Group Network Event "Connect and Collaborate"
  - 13/02 ArtSpace Exhibition Opening "Soft Fascination" - Realm

### **Cr Gordon**

- 10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event
- 11/12 Glen Park Community Centre 2024 International Day for People with a Disability Event
- 11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event
- 12/12 Maroondah Business Group 'Wine Down Networking Event' - Build your Business Connections
- 14/12 Centenary of Local Government for Ringwood (Borough/City) with Ringwood Historical Society Event
- 14/12 Volleyball Victoria Board Meeting
- 17/12 The Hon. David Hodgett MP - Christmas Celebration
- 16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council
- 20/12 Croydon Retired Services League General Meeting
- 26/01 Australia Day Event - Maroondah City Council
- 01/02 Poolside Pride Event - Aquanation
- 15/02 Sound Walk - public program (Soft Fascination Exhibition)
- 16/02 Croydon Retired Service League Annual General Meeting

### **Cr Rex**

- 10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event
- 11/12 Constituent Meeting with Mr Nick McGowan MP
- 11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event
- 14/12 Centenary of Local Government for Ringwood (Borough/City) with Ringwood Historical Society
- 14/12 Ringwood Retired Services League Volunteers/Presidents Event
- 16/12 Ringwood Golf Club Meeting - Tee Times
- 16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council
- 17/12 The Hon. David Hodgett MP Christmas Celebration Event
- 26/01 Australia Day Event - Maroondah City Council
- 08/02 Ringwood Cricket Club Presidents Event
- 10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event
- 15/02 Sound Walk - Public program (Soft Fascination Exhibition)
- 16/02 Ringwood Central Tennis Club Meeting

### **Cr Henderson**

- 10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event
- 10/12 Deakin Federal Electoral Commission General Meeting
- 11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event
- 12/12 Maroondah Business Group 'Wine Down Networking Event' - Build your Business Connections
- 15/12 Burnt Bridge Tennis Club End of Year Event
- 16/12 Meeting with residents
- 16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council

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17/12 Croydon State Electoral Commission Event  
16/01 Art and Biodiversity Panel Discussion Meeting  
21/01 Ringwood U3A Welcome Day Event  
09/02 Celebrate Maroondah - Superhero Sunday Event  
10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event  
12/02 Meet Andrew & Rose - Helping Hand - Meeting  
13/02 ArtSpace Exhibition opening "Soft Fascination" - Realm

### **Cr Macdonald**

10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event  
11/12 Glen Park Community Centre 2024 International Day for People with a Disability Event  
11/12 Reunion function South Croydon Football Club  
11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event  
12/12 IOOB Christmas function  
14/12 Centenary of Local Government for Ringwood (Borough/City) with Ringwood Historical Society Event  
16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council  
17/12 The Hon. David Hodgett MP - Christmas Celebration Event  
26/01 Australia Day Event - Maroondah City Council  
01/02 Poolside Pride Event - Aquanation  
05/02 Eastern Alliance Greenhouse Action Induction

### **Cr Heatherich**

10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event  
10/12 Your DNA Puppet show  
11/12 Hope City Mission Meeting  
11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event  
11/12 December Meeting - Christmas Celebration - Communities of Wellbeing Event  
12/12 Maroondah Business Group 'Wine Down Networking Event' - Build your Business Connections  
16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council  
17/12 The Hon. David Hodgett MP Community Christmas Event  
21/12 Croydon Bowling club  
26/01 Australia Day Event - Maroondah City Council  
06/02 Hope City Mission Meeting  
09/02 Celebrate Maroondah - Superhero Sunday Event  
10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event  
13/02 Helping Hands - emergency relief Croydon

### **Cr Steane**

10/12 FReeZA 2024 Graduation Event  
11/12 2024 Volunteer Recognition and Bill Wilkins Event  
16/12 Maroondah 30 Year Event - Maroondah City Council  
26/01 Australia Day event - Maroondah City Council  
10/02 Manningham Council and Maroondah City Council Event  
11/02 Maroondah Business Group network event "Connect and Collaborate"  
13/02 Meeting with Cherry Tree Grove Retirement Village  
13/02 ArtSpace Exhibition opening "Soft Fascination" - Realm

## REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS

ITEM 2

MOVED CR HENDERSON, SECONDED CR STEANE

3/25

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024, 28 JANUARY 2025, 3 FEBRUARY 2025 AND 5 FEBRUARY 2025**

**CARRIED**

COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (YEAR 4: 2024/25) PRIORITY ACTION  
PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 2, 2024/25

ITEM 3

MOVED CR HANCOCK, SECONDED CR GORDON

4/25

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIORITY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025, AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**CARRIED**

FINANCIAL REPORT: SIX MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 2024

ITEM 4

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR HEATHERICH

5/25

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AGAINST BUDGET FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Cr Jones

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING FRAMEWORK -  
SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT - QUARTER 2, 2024/25

ITEM 5

MOVED CR HANCOCK, SECONDED CR JONES

6/25

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING FRAMEWORK SERVICE PERFORMANCE RESULTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Cr Spears



COUNCILLOR INDUCTION PROGRAM 2024/25 ITEM 6

MOVED CR GORDON, SECONDED CR REX 7/25

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES COMPLETION OF THE COUNCILLOR INDUCTION PROGRAM 2024/25 AS OUTLINED WITHIN THIS REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 27A AND 32 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GOVERNANCE & INTEGRITY) REGULATIONS 2020 AS AMENDED IN OCTOBER 2024**

**CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Cr Spears

AMENDING COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2025 ITEM 7

MOVED CR STEANE, SECONDED CR HENDERSON 8/25

**THAT THE 2025 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE, AS ADOPTED BY COUNCIL ON 9 DECEMBER 2024, BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS**

- 1. THE COUNCIL MEETING THAT WAS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY 23 JUNE 2025 BE AMENDED TO MONDAY 30 JUNE 2025**
- 2. THE COUNCIL MEETING THAT WAS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY 20 OCTOBER 2025 BE AMENDED TO MONDAY 27 OCTOBER 2025**

**CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Crs Steane and Spears

#### **DIRECTOR ASSETS & LEISURE**

CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: SECOND QUARTER 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR ITEM 1

MOVED CR HANCOCK, SECONDED CR JONES 9/25

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE SECOND QUARTER FOR 2024/25**

**CARRIED**

#### **DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING**

LETTERS UNDER SEAL - IMMEDIATE PAST COUNCILLORS ITEM 1

MOVED CR HENDERSON, SECONDED CR HANCOCK 10/25

**THAT COUNCIL SIGNS AND SEALS LETTERS TO BE PRESENTED TO MR MIKE SYMON, MR TONY DIB JP OAM, MS SUZY STOJANOVIC, AND MS TASA DAMANTE, IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR PAST SERVICE AS COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY OF MAROONDAH**

**CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Cr Spears

LETTER UNDER SEAL - RECOGNITION OF 2025 AUSTRALIA DAY  
HONOURS

ITEM 2

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR GORDON

11/25

**THAT COUNCIL SIGNS AND SEALS A LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS IN  
RECOGNITION OF THE 2025 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS AWARDED TO MRS KIRSTY  
SAVAGE PSM - RECIPIENT OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM) IN THE  
MERITORIOUS AWARDS**

**CARRIED**

LETTER UNDER SEAL - 2024 BILL WILKINS VOLUNTEER AWARD

ITEM 3

MOVED CR REX, SECONDED CR STEANE

12/25

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THAT A LETTER UNDER SEAL HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO  
MARRIANNE FRY TO ACKNOWLEDGE HER AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2024 BILL  
WILKINS VOLUNTEER AWARD**

**CARRIED****MOTIONS TO REVIEW**

Nil

**LATE ITEMS**

Nil

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**IN CAMERA**

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR REX

13/25

**THAT THE FOLLOWING MATTERS BE DEALT WITH IN CAMERA PURSUANT TO S66(1) AND S66(2)(A) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020, BECAUSE THE REPORTS CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS CONFIDENTIAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH S3(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020.**

**DIRECTOR ASSETS & LEISURE**

ITEM 1 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT - CONTRACT 21079 SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF CARDIOVASCULAR FITNESS EQUIPMENT (AQUAHUB & AQUANATION)

*Reason: This report contains Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. This information is confidential in accordance with s3(1)(a) of the Act. This ground is applied because the information, if publicly released at the time, is likely to be inappropriately detrimental to the Council or any person.*

**DIRECTOR STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT**

ITEM 1 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT - CONTRACT 21084 MULLUM RETARDING BASIN

*Reason: This report contains Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. This information is confidential in accordance with s3(1)(a) of the Act. This ground is applied because the information, if publicly released at the time, is likely to be inappropriately detrimental to the Council or any person.*

**CARRIED**

**COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS BE REFLECTED IN THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN FORUM.**

**DIRECTOR ASSETS & LEISURE**

TENDER EVALUATION REPORT - CONTRACT 21079 SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF CARDIOVASCULAR FITNESS EQUIPMENT (AQUAHUB & AQUANATION)

ITEM 1

THIS REPORT AND ALL DISCUSSIONS IN RELATION TO IT REMAINS CONFIDENTIAL INDEFINITELY AND THIS RESOLUTION REMAINS CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THE EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT AT WHICH TIME THE RESOLUTION BE MADE PUBLIC

**DIRECTOR STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT**

TENDER EVALUATION REPORT - CONTRACT 21084 MULLUM RETARDING  
BASIN

ITEM 1

THIS REPORT AND ALL DISCUSSIONS IN RELATION TO IT REMAINS CONFIDENTIAL  
INDEFINITELY AND THIS RESOLUTION REMAINS CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THE  
EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT AT WHICH TIME THE RESOLUTION BE MADE  
PUBLIC

The open forum closed at 8:15pm.

Confirmed .....

Date .....