



Maroondah Liveability Safety and Amenity Committee – Minutes

Meeting Details:

Date: Wednesday 18 March 2026

Time: 9:30am - 12:00pm

Location: Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Realm

Attendees:

Councillors

Cr Claire Rex (Chair)
Cr Rob Steane OAM (Deputy Chair)
Cr Daniella Heatherich (left the meeting at 11:33am)

Council Officers:

Kirsten Jenkins, Manager Community Safety and Projects
Nicole Daws, Place Manager Activity Centres
Sharyn Davey-Sharman, Coordinator Local Laws
Rosie Sheehan, Community Development Officer
Joanne Ellis, Governance Officer (Minute Taker)
Michael Blowfield, Transport and Sustainability Planner Item 4.4
Martyn Furlong, Team Leader Local Laws Item 4.5
Belinda Rose, Acting Manager Community Safety Item 4.6

Community Representatives:

Terrence Flynn
Ken Rosenhain
Margaret Matters
Don Kordick (arrived at 9:48am)
Louise Daniel

Agency Representatives:

Sam Bartlett, Croydon Main Street Traders Association
Gordon Allan, QIC Eastland
Senior Sergeant Melanie Woods, Victoria Police
Senior Sergeant Kate Isherwood, Victoria Police
Senior Sergeant Ryan Wheeler, Victoria Police
Sarah Treweek, Yarra Valley Water
Jeska Dee, Melbourne Water
Peta Koopmans, Mullum Mullum Aboriginal Gathering Place (arrived 10:08am)

Apologies:

Councillors:	Nil
Council Officers:	Andrew Fuaux, Director City Growth and Precincts Marianne Di Giallonardo, Director Community Anita Ransom, Coordinator Strategic Planning and Sustainability
Community Representatives:	Nil
Agency Representatives:	Acting Senior Sergeant Jo Konomas, Croydon Police Station, Victoria Police Senior Sergeant Ray White, Ringwood Police Station, Victoria Police Kathryn Collier, METEC Acting Inspector Adam Clarkson, Maroondah Police Service Area - Local Commander, Victoria Police Anthony Glover, Metro Trains Senior Sergeant Michelle Maslen, Victoria Police Michael Hassett - Melbourne East Bicycle User Group

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

Councillors:	Nil
Council Officers:	Nil
Community Representatives:	Nil
Agency Representatives:	Nil

Items Discussed

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Cr Rex opened the meeting and read an Acknowledgement of Country

2. WELCOME

Cr Rex welcomed all to the meeting

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2025

ITEM 3

The minutes were moved by consensus.

4. ITEMS

COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS

ITEM 4.1

The group went around the table to introduce themselves.

CONFIRMATION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

ITEM 4.2

The Terms of Reference were moved by consensus.

PROPOSED TIME CHANGE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

ITEM 4.3

The Committee determined to retain the current meeting time of 9:30am - 11:30am.

PRINCIPAL PEDESTRIAN NETWORK

ITEM 4.4

Michael Blowfield, Transport and Sustainability Planner provided the Committee an update on the Principal Pedestrian Network (PPN) Review.

Michael advised the Committee that a review was undertaken of the PPN which was introduced in 2009. This was prompted by changes in the urban landscape and demographics among other factors.

Michael noted the community had been invited to provide feedback in a range of ways to develop an updated plan that best reflects current needs. The consultation period has recently closed and the feedback is currently being analysed.

Michael requested each Committee member to provide information on each of the following:

- Was any of the feedback a surprise?
- Is the feedback consistent / different to what you would expect from your community network / organisation?
- What are your thoughts on the priority scoring criteria and tiers?

The above information provided by each Committee member will be included in the consultation report for the PPN.

The Victoria Police members on the Committee advised it would be beneficial for them to be provided with the data surrounding areas where people do not feel safe.

Don Kordick arrived at 9:48am

Peta Koopmans arrived at 10:08am

STREET ACTIVITIES POLICY REVIEW

ITEM 4.5

Sharyn Davey-Sharman, Coordinator Local Laws and Martyn Furlong, Team Leader Local Laws provided the Committee with information regarding the current Street Activities Policy Review.

Sharyn explained the purpose of the review and how feedback is being sought from businesses, internal stakeholders and the community and to ensure the Policy and associated Guidelines align with best practice.

Martyn discussed the items covered under the Street Activity Policy and also provided information about activities that are not covered under this Policy including festivals, sporting events and extended outdoor dining.

Martyn explained the footpath activity zones and the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) and their impact on footpath trading activities.

The Committee were broken up into three groups to discuss the current principles for the Street Activity Policy.

Group 1: Public Safety and Accessibility for All.

Feedback included:

- Need to balance vibrancy and safety.
- Want areas to feel inviting.
- If people feel safe this drives confidence for people to engage in a space.
- If trading and dining could be located directly in front of the shop then wait staff would not have to cross pedestrian traffic.

Group 2: Vibrant Street Life and Prosperous Economy.

Feedback included:

- Variety of business types in areas to attract customers.
- Passive security provided by customers.
- Encouraging customers to engage in their local areas.

Group 3: Attractive Streetscape and Leisure Opportunities.

Feedback included:

- Enjoyment of outdoor dining.
- Need to feel safe from traffic.
- Sheltered from weather.

TOBACCO AND E-CIGARETTE POLICY REVIEW

ITEM 4.6

Belinda Rose, Acting Manager Community Safety provided a powerpoint presentation relating to the Draft Tobacco and E-Cigarette Policy.

Belinda advised that Council are currently undertaking community consultation surrounding a proposed policy which expands on the current State Government legislation. The community consultation closes on 7 April.

Belinda explained that Council are hoping to expand the current 10 metre smoke / vape free zone at underage sporting events to include all sporting events and extend the 4 metre smoke / vape free area at the entrance of childcare centres and kindergartens to be 10 metres around these buildings.

Belinda noted that signage would be provided advising any restricted spaces and that smoke and vape-free requirements would be included in all community group leases and licences. There was some discussion regarding the inadequacy of regulations preventing increasing numbers of vape and tobacco retailers opening up.

The Committee were split into groups of 2 to provide feedback on the proposal's benefits and challenges.

The Committee discussed the pros and cons including:

- Who was expected to enforce these rules?
- Are there incentives Council can offer community groups to discourage tobacco and e-cigarette usage?
- Cost and ability of Council to resource enforcement services when required.
- Community “self-enforcement” - most people will do the right thing particularly if it is well signed
- Community education surrounding expectations.
- It is good in theory but practical implementation may be a challenge.

Cr Heatherich left the meeting at 11:33am

CLOSE OF MEETING - NEXT MEETING: 3 JUNE 2026

ITEM 4.7

Cr Rex closed the meeting and thanked all members for their attendance.

She advised the next meeting will be held on 3 June at 9:30am

The Meeting concluded at: 11:40am