

# **Council Meeting**

## **Minutes**

**25 June 2025 at 6:30pm**

**Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sturt Street,  
Ballarat**



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## 1. OPENING DECLARATION

**Councillors:** *"We, the Councillors of the City of Ballarat, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance."*

**Mayor:** *"I respectfully acknowledge the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung People, the traditional custodians of the land, and I would like to welcome members of the public in the gallery."*

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 2.1 Present

Cr Tracey Hargreaves (Mayor)  
Cr Ben Taylor  
Cr Damon Saunders  
Cr Des Hudson  
Cr Jay Morrison  
Cr Jim Rinaldi  
Cr Samantha McIntosh  
Cr Ted Lapkin  
Cr Tess Morgan

Mr Evan King - Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Bridget Wetherall - Director Infrastructure and Environment  
Mr Matthew Wilson - Director Community Wellbeing  
Mr John Hausler - Director Corporate Services  
Ms Natalie Robertson - Director Development and Growth  
Mr Martin Darcy - Director Economy and Experience  
Ms Julia Cornwell - Head of Executive and Civic Services  
Mr Cameron Montgomery - Executive Manager Governance and Risk  
Ms Sophie Brown - Acting Coordinator Risk, Governance and Compliance  
Ms Tayla Niblett - Governance Officer  
Mr Stephen Wright - Acting Governance Project Officer

### 2.2 Apologies

Nil

### 2.3 Leave of Absence

Nil

Cr Jim Rinaldi left the meeting at 6:34pm (virtually).

Cr Jim Rinaldi returned to the meeting at 6:34pm (virtually).

### **3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

#### **3.1 GENERAL INTERESTS**

Cr Jay Morrison declared a general conflict of interest for item 8.9 Establishment of Advisory Committees.

#### **3.2 MATERIAL INTERESTS**

Nil

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting on 28 May 2025 as circulated be confirmed.

**Moved: Cr Des Hudson**  
**Seconded: Cr Ted Lapkin**

**CARRIED**  
**(R102/25)**

#### 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

##### QT57/25 – Michael Phillips

##### Question

What does the municipality intend to do about junk yard dogs? barking dogs left in front yards?

##### Answer

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, answered that whilst the Community Local Law 2017 is only specific to barking dog complaints related to residential areas, if City of Ballarat were to receive a complaint regarding barking dogs in an area where the animal was considered a guard dog, animal management officers would reach out to the property owner/operator to discuss the specific situation.

Barking/nuisance dog complaints in industrial areas is very unusual but generally officers would endeavour to work with the operator to understand and provide guidance depending on the circumstances.

##### QT58/25 – Dora Pearce

##### Question

Ballarat Planning Scheme divides Ballarat Gold Mine site into FARMING ZONE and PUBLIC USE ZONE – SERVICE AND UTILITY. Victorian Mining Register documents F90015313 and F90015314 (8 November 2022) approve changes to: "... the disposal of tailings in TSF3 located on MIN5396 and MIN4847. Stripping, drying and relocating deposited tailings to the dry stack". Will capping and revegetation of tailings containing arsenic, sulphur and heavy metals reduce site toxicity, or should the Planning Scheme be updated?

##### Answer

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, answered that the Ballarat Planning Scheme does not examine matters such as this except to give direction to refer to the relevant determining authority. In this case the State Planning Scheme Provisions would not need to be amended. Matters regarding the rehabilitation of the site are overseen and should be referred to Earth Resource Regulator (ERR) in accordance with the Work Plan under which the site operates.

**QT59/25 – Annie Treloar****Question**

We will very soon have two mining tailings dams in Ballarat with a combined size of approximately 60 hectares. Given their potential environmental and health impacts, these sites require maintenance and monitoring for decades. Could you please clarify whether Victory Minerals will remain fully responsible for these obligations and what that period may be, or if responsibility and cost will transfer to council? If so, what is the projected financial impact on Ballarat ratepayers?

**Answer**

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, answered that while there will be two tailings dams, one will be complete and one will be developed, they won't overlap for too long. The City of Ballarat is not responsible for any remedial works to be carried out on site. This remains the responsibility of the land owner.

**Question**

One of the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan 2025-2029 is to protect and enhance our biodiversity, plants and animals and responsibly manage our natural resources. Once TSF3 and TSF4 reach capacity, from an environmental angle, does the council have any influence over the site's future? Are there plans to rehabilitate the area and its surrounds with native vegetation (specifically)?

**Answer**

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, answered that the site will need to be rehabilitated in accordance with the Work Plan administered by Earth Resources Regulator. Council does have the opportunity to provide input into what would be a great species to help rehabilitate when the time comes. The permit conditions will be checked in relation to the work plans and the landscaping prior to a response to this question being sent.

**QT60/25 – Christopher Dureau****Question**

Regarding the proposed plan to build two new hockey courts on Prince of Wales Park, Can the Council advise if and when funding will be available and where will the money come from?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, answered that all sports infrastructure works included in the City of Ballarat Recreation Infrastructure Plan are subject to consideration through the annual Council budget process. The Recreation Infrastructure Plan has scheduled the initial hockey planning work to commence in 2026 with delivery in the following financial year subject to budget consideration. The proposed third pitch is not scheduled for delivery for until population and participation levels require it.

City of Ballarat will also explore opportunities to source external funding from other levels of government.

**QT61/25 – Vicki Rice****Question**

The Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 of Victoria addresses persistent interference regarding enjoyment of one's property.

The proposal for 2 Hockey pitches at Prince of Wales Park within 30m of people's homes will result in an unacceptable level of light and noise pollution for those residents.

How is this proposal not in conflict with the right of every person to enjoy their property free from this form of interference?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, answered that the concerns raised by neighbouring residents are noted, and the Prince of Wales Park Masterplan has identified several potential controls to mitigate and reduce the noise and light impact on these properties.

These include:

- Baffling of the backboard in the goal ends (e.g. buffer pads)
- A fully designed landscaping plan to mitigate and baffle noise and light from the pitch
- Operational control around the hours of operation on training and match days

The advice of an acoustic engineer will be implemented throughout the planning and design phase of the project to ensure that the effectiveness of these mitigations is optimised.

**QT62/25 – Joyce Robinson****Question**

There are at least three vacant reserves located approximately 4 km from the entrance to Prince of Wales Park. These reserves have no nearby residents and offer ample space for future expansion if needed.

After discussions between the Council Officers and the Ballarat Hockey Association about their desire for a Hockey Complex, which began in November 2023, a pertinent question arises: Why did the Council Officers overlook this land?

Surely, a feasibility study should have been conducted during the planning phase of this project to explore all possibilities.

Why did this not happen?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, answered that work was undertaken to identify and assess multiple reserves which met the requirements of a Regional Hockey Centre consisting of three pitches and associated facilities. Finding a viable and available reserve for this development was challenging, causing a more detailed assessment of options at POWP to be undertaken, ultimately resulting in the Masterplan adopted by Council.

Without knowing which reserves the question specifically refers to, any larger reserve within 4km radius of POWP presents different challenges to a development of three Hockey pitches in the form of synthetic surfaces such as, topography, flooding, concerns around contamination and size of land parcel.

Careful consideration was made of the options available to Council for the provision of future Hockey facilities, all of which ultimately led back to POWP being the preferred reserve.

**Question**

Stage 1 of the Prince of Wales Master Plan includes the following components: hiring an acoustic engineer, conducting a geotechnical site assessment, adding an additional synthetic hockey field, providing lighting, constructing a pavilion with changing rooms, updating existing changing rooms, and creating a 190-car gravel parking lot.

As a resident, I am interested in understanding how this Prince of Wales Master Plan project will be funded and what the projected costs are. Will the funding come from the state government, federal government, or local council? Transparency in the financial aspects of these initiatives is crucial.

What is the estimated cost of Stage 1 of the Prince of Wales Master Plan project?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, answered that it is anticipated that funding for the collection of works will come from a combination of Council budget and other government grant sources.

The cost of different stages of works will be estimated through the detailed design and a construction industry process called quantity surveying, which aims to forecast the cost of works in present day construction industry market conditions. It is difficult to predict the cost in a contemporary sense until the detailed design of each stage is done.

Until the detailed design is completed and the quantity surveying process is undertaken it is difficult to predict the cost of construction at a future date.

**QT63/25 – Chris Macquet****Question**

Is Ballarat Council still funding the Ballarat Local Food Coalition?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, answered that the Ballarat Food Coalition is funded through the City of Ballarat via a VicHealth Local Government Partnership grant which Council receives. This grant concludes in December 2025

**Question**

If so, what is your budget?

**Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, answered that the 2025/26 draft budget contains \$21,000 in funding support for the Ballarat Local Food Coalition.

**QT64/25 – Mark Oughton-Nicholls****Question**

Which Council policies were used to make the assessment that criticism of the State of Israel — currently on trial for genocide — is antisemitic?

**Answer**

John Hausler, Director Corporate Services, answered that the basis for determination was the provisions within the funding agreement. Funding agreements are a contract between the City of Ballarat and a provider to provide a product or service.

They include compliance, conduct, financial, and reporting obligations.

City of Ballarat has a duty to monitor the performance of those contracted to deliver a product or service and act in response to any complaints from public regarding the contracted service

The funding agreement with BREAZE was terminated after the BREAZE Board declined to respond appropriately to concerns raised about statements made by a then-board member.

**Question**

The minutes from the 28 May 2025 Council Meeting indicated that BREAZE were found to have made antisemitic comments. How was this determination made?

**Answer**

Cameron Montgomery, Executive Manager Governance and Risk answered that the decision was made specifically around the inaction that was taken by the BREAZE board around a matter that was raised with them, particularly around comments pertaining to what was assessed by antisemitic by the officers.

**QT65/25 – Ben Nunquam****Question**

Council's obligations to the Victoria's 2035 Emissions Reduction Target requires pursuing net-zero emission targets. There is an obligation for Council to pursue environmental policies that address the climate crisis. What evaluation did Council do to ensure this obligation was not threatened when terminating the BREAZE contract with the city?

**Answer**

John Hausler, Director Corporate Services, answered that the City of Ballarat continues to comply with all its legislative obligations.

**Question**

Residents of Ballarat will want to know that Council is serious about climate change action with the termination of the BREAZE contract. Can Council reaffirm their commitment to the public health good of the City of Ballarat's Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2031 (p. 11) and can Council elaborate if Councillor induction training in 2024 included training for climate action? If not, why not and does Council intend to support inclusion in future Councillor induction training?

**Answer**

John Hausler, Director Corporate Services, answered that the in relation to Mayor and Councillors training, I can confirm that, as a requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*, all commencing Councillors, including those who are returning, must be inducted in decision making, integrity, accountability, conduct and community representation topic areas. This induction has been completed following the October 2024 election. Climate action, the environment, climate change, mitigation and adaptation are not prescribed topics for Councillor induction or Councillor professional development. Council will continue to comply with its legislative obligations.

**QT66/25 – Dominique Houzet****Question**

The Islamophobia in Australia Report V 2023-2024 reports a 150% increase in in-person and a 250% increase in online Islamophobic incidents, and that 25% of these incidents involved victims displaying pro-Palestinian symbols.

Does the council acknowledge that its cancellation of BREAZE's contract over pro-Palestinian speech forms a part of the pattern recognised as problematic in this report?

**Answer**

John Hausler, Director Corporate Services, answered that the funding agreement with BREAZE was terminated after the BREAZE Board declined to respond appropriately to concerns raised about statements made by a then-board member.

**Question**

The Islamophobia in Australia Report recommends 'training for media and politicians to better understand Palestinian hate, and its connection to islamophobia an the role they have in

perpetuating both. Does the Council consider taking islamophobia and the massive increase in islamophobia incidents seriously?

**Answer**

Cameron Montgomery, Executive Manager Governance and Risk, answered that the reason the second question was disallowed was because it was repeating what has already been asked and provided a response with at the 28 May 2025 Council Meeting. The question relates to whether the City of Ballarat takes discriminatory type behaviours seriously, the Council passed a motion on the 28 February 2024 that noted the City of Ballarat is an intercultural and welcoming city and acknowledges City of Ballarat condemns all forms of vilification, discrimination, antisemitism, islamophobia and racism in all forms and authorise the Mayor to write to federal government to advocate for international action to be taken regarding the conflict in Gaza which has been completed.

**QT67/25 – Joe Boin****Question**

Council acknowledged in 2018 a climate emergency that requires urgent action. The Council Plan in today's meeting agenda proposes that Ballarat be "a city which helps communities grow in a greener, more sustainable way". The initiatives listed are Council-based and do not include the community. How do you plan to involve the community, now that you have severed ties with BREAZE, Ballarat's longest-standing and most effective community-based environmental organisation?

**Answer**

Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment, answered that the Ballarat Net Zero Emissions Plan was adopted by Council on 26 October 2022. The plan outlines an aspirational community-wide target of reaching net zero emissions by 2030 and the actions required to achieve this target.

**Question**

It is over 6 years since Council acknowledged the climate emergency and said that it requires urgent action. A clear measure of action is expenditure. Urgent action would require priority expenditure in relation to other, not-so-urgent projects like the Bridge Mall and the airport. What is the evidence that this "urgent action" has been taken in the last 6 or 7 years?

**Answer**

Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment, answered that the Council's Carbon Neutrality Plan was endorsed on April 3 2019. Key achievements to date include the Victorian Energy Collaboration power purchase agreement for 100% renewable energy, upgrade of street lighting to LED, 450kW of rooftop solar that has been installed, replacement of fossil fuel fleet with seven electric vehicles and methane recovery at the landfill.

As indicated previously the Ballarat Net Zero Emissions Plan was adopted by Council on 26 October 2022. Key initiatives by the Ballarat community to date include the Ballarat Energy Network, solar farms, renewable energy power purchase agreements by businesses an electric vehicles transition.

**QT68/25 – Heidi Johnson****Question**

Why does City of Ballarat, the home of the Eureka Rebellion, and proud upholder of democratic rights to freedom of association, freedom of speech, and freedom of belief, a city once proud to show support for refugees and all groups suffering oppression, now REPRESS those freedoms, by censorship of Public Question Time? A word limit makes sense, but

rejecting questions from community members based on their CONTENT amounts to negation of our constitutional right not only to free speech, but to freely participate in the community. How does this meet obligations for TRANSPARENCY under Local Government Act 2020, Section 58?

**Answer – Director Hausler**

John Hausler, Director Corporate Services, answered that in accordance with the City of Ballarat Governance Rules 2024 the Mayor may disallow a question submitted for public question time if it is deemed to be defamatory, offensive, or intended to embarrass a Councillor or another individual. While the Local Government Act 2020 upholds the principles of public transparency and community engagement, it also recognises the importance of respectful conduct and orderly meeting procedures. Transparency does not extend to permitting questions that include matters that would be deemed confidential in accordance with section 3 of the Act such as contractual matters or a matter which Council considers would prejudice Council or any person.

**Question**

Why has CoB created barriers to community participation in the democratic process of local government, by denying members the chance to publicly address questions to any councillor or to even name a councillor, when their concern revolves around the actions or words of that councillor? How is this censorship meeting council's mandate to act in a transparent and honest fashion with the residents, businesses, workers volunteers and ratepayers that it claims to represent?

**Answer – Director Hausler**

John Hausler, Director Corporate Services, answered as per the City of Ballarat Governance Rules 2024 the Mayor may disallow a question submitted for public questions time if it is deemed to be defamatory, offensive, or intended to embarrass a Councillor or another individual. As Chair of Council meetings, the Mayor is responsible for ensuring the proceedings are conducted respectfully, lawfully and in accordance with the Governance Rules. This includes the discretion to manage questions to maintain the integrity of the meeting and to protect individuals from inappropriate commentary. Council values public participation and remains committed to open and respectful dialogue with contributions in accordance with the Governance Rules.

## **7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

### **7.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**Division:** Executive Unit  
**Director:** Evan King  
**Author/Position:** Evan King – Chief Executive Officer

#### **PURPOSE**

1. The CEO's Operational Report highlights issues and outcomes affecting the organisation's performance as it delivers services and implements the Council's strategies and policy decisions.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**16. That Council:**

**16.1 Receive and note the CEO's Operational Report.**

**Moved: Cr Samantha McIntosh**  
**Seconded: Cr Des Hudson**

**CARRIED**  
**(R103/25)**

## 8. OFFICER REPORTS

### 8.1. 2025-2035 COMMUNITY VISION

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Nicky Davidge – Coordinator Community Development

#### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to present Council with the proposed Community Vision 2025-2035 (the Vision') for endorsement, and to note changes made to the updated Vision following consideration of community feedback.

#### RESOLUTION:

**16. That Council:**

**16.1 Adopt the Community Vision 2025-2035 in accordance with section 88 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.**

**Moved: Cr Ted Lapkin**  
**Seconded: Cr Tess Morgan**

**CARRIED**  
**(R104/25)**

## 8.2. 2025-2029 COUNCIL PLAN

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Michael Riseley – Executive Manager Business Services

### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to present Council with the City of Ballarat Council Plan 2025-2029 (the Plan') for adoption.

### RESOLUTION:

#### 15. That Council:

- 15.1. Adopt the Council Plan 2025-2029 in accordance with section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

**Moved:** Cr Tracey Hargreaves  
**Seconded:** Cr Ted Lapkin

**CARRIED**  
**(R105/25)**

### 8.3. 2025-2029 REVENUE AND RATING PLAN

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Michael Riseley – Executive Manager Business Services

#### PURPOSE

1. This report is to recommend Council adopt the Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029.

#### RESOLUTION:

**14. That Council:**

- 14.1 Notes the community feedback received in relation to the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029 and thanks those who provided feedback.**
- 14.2 Adopts the Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029 in accordance with section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.**
- 14.3 Provide an annual review as part of the annual budget process on the Revenue and Rating Plan.**

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**  
**Seconded: Cr Ted Lapkin**

**CARRIED**  
**(R106/25)**

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council adjourn at 7:48pm for a comfort break.

**Moved: Cr Des Hudson**

**CARRIED**

**Seconded: Cr Damon Saunders**

**(R107/25)**

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council resumes at 7:55pm.

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**

**CARRIED**

**Seconded: Cr Tess Morgan**

**(R108/25)**

#### 8.4. ADOPTION OF 2025/26 BUDGET

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Jason Clissold – Executive Manager Financial Services

Public representation was made by Phillip McLelland and Alice Humble.

Cr Jim Rinaldi left the meeting at 8:19pm (virtually).

Cr Jim Rinaldi returned to the meeting at 8:22pm (virtually).

#### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to present Council with the 2025/26 Annual Budget for consideration and adoption.

#### RESOLUTION:

**38. That Council:**

- 38.1 Adopts the attached 2025/26 Annual Budget, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and relevant regulations.**
- 38.2 Acknowledge and thank the community for their participation in and contribution to the integrated strategic planning process which supported the development of the 2025/26 Budget.**
- 38.3 Approves new loan borrowings of up to \$31.848 million in line with the Budget and authorises the CEO, Director Corporate Services or Executive Manager Financial Services to:**
  - 38.3.1 negotiate any loan;**
  - 38.3.2 approve the successful loan facility (any two of the above officers); and**
  - 38.3.3 execute the loan documentation (any two of the above officers).**
- 38.4 Declares an amount of \$164,676,187 (or such greater amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this recommendation being adopted) which Council intends to raise by General Rates, Service Charges and Special Rates and Charges for the period 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026 calculated as follows:**
  - 38.4.1 General Rates \$131,910,551;**
  - 38.4.2 Service Charges (Environmental Levies) \$32,595,892; and**
  - 38.4.3 Special Rates and Charges \$169,744.**

**38.5 Declares the Rates and Charges in accordance with section 4.1.1 of the 2025/26 Annual Budget and Council's Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029 as required under section 94(2)(i) of the Act and section 161(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.**

**38.5.1 Notes that under the Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029 it was determined to consolidate the six existing land classes into three land classes.**

**38.5.2 Set the differential rates as follows:**

Type or class of land	Rate in the dollar/CIV
Residential	0.00299210
Business	0.00748025
Farm	0.00215431

**38.5.3 Set service charges as follows:**

Type of charge	\$
General waste service charge	440
Recycling service charge	76
Glass service charge	25
Food organics and garden organics service charge	65
Food organics and garden organics service charge (Residents receiving service for first time)	43

**38.5.4 Set the Bridge Mall Special Rate at \$0.00326208 per dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).**

**38.6 In accordance with the provisions of section 171(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council will waive \$120 of the rates levied for the 2025/26 year on properties where the ratepayer:**

**38.6.1 is an eligible recipient within the meaning of the State Concession Act 2004 and has qualified for a waiver under section 171(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, and**

**38.6.2 who lives alone in their own home and is solely responsible for the payment of rates and charges on that property.**

**The objective of this waiver is to provide assistance to pensioners who are the sole ratepayer and are recipients of the pension.**

**38.7 In accordance with the provisions of section 171(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council will waive \$120 of the rates levied for the 2025/26 year on properties where the ratepayer:**

**38.7.1 is a holder of a valid Low Income Health Care Card, as issued by Services Australia, at any stage during the 2025/26 financial year, and**

**38.7.2 who lives in their own home.**

**The objective of this waiver is to provide assistance to ratepayers who are likely to be experiencing financial challenges.**

**38.8 Adopts the Schedule of Fees and Charges as set out in the Budget.**

**38.9 Require that any person pay interest, at the rate set by the Minister, on any amounts of rates and charges in accordance with section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989* which:**

**38.9.1 That person is liable to pay;**

**38.9.2 Have not been paid by the dates specified for their payment; and**

**38.9.3 Is not otherwise waived as part of Council's Financial Hardship Policy.**

- 38.10 Authorise the Executive Manager Financial Services to make any changes to the 2025/26 Annual Budget as a result of anything that occurs after the making of this resolution, provided that they are changes of a minor and/or administrative character.**

**Moved: Cr Tracey Hargreaves  
Seconded: Cr Ted Lapkin**

**CARRIED  
(R109/25)**

## **8.5. COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Michael Riseley – Executive Manager Business Services

### **PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) results.

### **RESOLUTION:**

18. That Council:
  - 18.1 Receive and note the attached 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey results; and
  - 18.2 Place the 2025 Survey Report on Council's website for public viewing.

**Moved: Cr Damon Saunders**  
**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**CARRIED**  
**(R110/25)**

## 8.6. STREET NAMING PROPOSAL UPDATES

**Division:** Infrastructure and Environment  
**Director:** Bridget Wetherall  
**Author/Position:** Maddison Campbell – Naming Officer

### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council adoption of the proposed names for the eastern section of Airport Road, an unnamed service lane in Mitchell Park and an unnamed service lane between 209-211 Mair Street, Ballarat, following community consultation.

### RESOLUTION:

**20. That Council:**

- 20.1 Note the community feedback received and proceed with renaming the eastern section Airport Road, with section 1 being named 'Aviation Close' and section 2 being named 'Wackett Drive', as shown in figure 1 of the report.**
- 20.2 Proceed with naming the unnamed service lane on Ballarat Link Road 'Wings Way', as shown in figure 2 of the report.**
- 20.3 Note the community feedback received and proceed with naming the unnamed lane between 209-211 Mair Street 'Cincotta Lane', as shown in figure 3 of the report.**

**Moved: Cr Samantha McIntosh**  
**Seconded: Cr Jim Rinaldi**

**CARRIED**  
**(R111/25)**

**8.7. TENDER 2706/0848 LIBRARY COLLECTIONS FURNITURE EQUIPMENT  
ASSOCIATED REQUIREMENTS**

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Jenny Fink – Executive Manager Libraries and Lifelong Learning

**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council enter into contract 2706/0848 with Procurement Australia for the supply and delivery of library collections, furniture and equipment.

**RESOLUTION:****13. That Council:**

**13.1 Resolve to enter into Contract 2706/0848 with Procurement Australia for the supply and delivery of library collections, furniture and equipment scheduled to commence on 1 July 2025 and end on 30 June 2027, with two (2) x one (1)-year options to extend, with an expected total value of approximately \$5,506,751.**

**13.2 Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to:**

- a. finalise the terms of Contract Number 2706/0848 with Procurement Australia, provided that those contract terms are consistent with this resolution; and
- b. execute Contract Number 2706/0848 on behalf of Council.

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**  
**Seconded: Cr Tracey Hargreaves**

**CARRIED**  
**(R112/25)**

## 8.8. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Sophie Brown – Governance Project Officer

### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is for Council to consider adoption of the revised Terms of Reference for Council's community asset committees, as attached.

### RESOLUTION:

#### 10. That Council:

##### 10.1 From the date of this resolution, resolves that:

##### a) There continue to be established the:

##### i. Ascot Mutual Improvement Association Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:

- 1) Bruce Spittle
- 2) Fiona Blair
- 3) Geoff Dean
- 4) Ian Thomas
- 5) Ivan Thomas
- 6) Joanne Wrigley
- 7) Julie Spittle
- 8) Keith Mason
- 9) Marg Thomas
- 10) Norman Grills
- 11) Peter Wrigley
- 12) Stuart Sobey

##### ii. Brown Hill Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:

- 1) David Eden
- 2) Dianne Eden
- 3) John Morris
- 4) Karen Norman
- 5) Ken Nicholls
- 6) Kevin Norman
- 7) Marilyn Harlock
- 8) Miles Hingston
- 9) Reg Eden

##### iii. Buninyong Town Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:

- 1) Adam Turnbull
- 2) Ann Gooding
- 3) Claire McKenna
- 4) John Clark
- 5) Leonie Everdeen

- 6) Mark Jones
- 7) Miranda Donald
- 8) Ron Gilchrist
- 9) Sharon Develyn
- 10) Sonya Sutcliffe
- 11) Susan Pilbeam

**iv. Burrumbeet Soldiers Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Angela Smith
- 2) Bernard Hyland
- 3) Brendan Cahill
- 4) Gwen Smith
- 5) Ian Marshall
- 6) Ian Smith
- 7) Jasmine Walton
- 8) Lauren Briody
- 9) Nick Renter
- 10) Paul Beechey
- 11) Shirley Marshall

**v. Cardigan Village Community Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Francis Litwin
- 2) Heather Wood
- 3) Mary Tipping

**vi. Invermay Recreation Reserve Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Andrew Le Marshall
- 2) Geoffrey Fraser
- 3) Ian Martin
- 4) Jabez Armstrong
- 5) Lachlan Pryor
- 6) Peter Nunn
- 7) Rod McDonald
- 8) Ruth Nunn

**vii. Miners Rest Mechanics Institute Community Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Bill Loader
- 2) Diane Jennings
- 3) Jack Miller
- 4) Karen Grose
- 5) Lynette Rock
- 6) Margaret Adams
- 7) Peter Loader

**viii. Scotsburn Community Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Bill Whiteside
- 2) Celia Burnham
- 3) Darryl Palmer
- 4) Gabrielle Murphy
- 5) Graham Shearer

- 6) John Allen
- 7) Phillip Allen
- 8) Roland Nam

**ix. Sebastopol RSL Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Des Hudson
- 2) Margaret Cottell
- 3) Mark Azzopardi
- 4) Marlie Feeney

**x. Warrenheip Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Angela Beattie
- 2) Emma Carter
- 3) Julian Prendergast
- 4) Julie Blackmore
- 5) Malcolm McCann

**b) The Terms of Reference for the following community asset committees, as attached, be adopted and supersede any previously adopted versions of the same:**

- i. Ascot Mutual Improvement Association Hall**
- ii. Brown Hill Hall**
- iii. Buninyong Town Hall**
- iv. Burrumbeet Soldiers Memorial Hall**
- v. Cardigan Village Community Hall**
- vi. Invermay Recreation Reserve**
- vii. Miners Rest Mechanics Institute Community Hall**
- viii. Scotsburn Community Hall**
- ix. Sebastopol RSL Hall**
- x. Warrenheip Memorial Hall**

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**  
**Seconded: Cr Damon Saunders**

**CARRIED**  
**(R113/25)**

## **8.9. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Sophie Brown – Governance Project Officer

Public representation was made by Stuart Kelly (representing Ballarat Heritage Watch).

Cr Jay Morrison declared a general conflict of interest with the appointment of members to the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee. In accordance with Governance Rule 3.4.3 this matter will be considered in separate parts.

### **PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is for Council to consider adoption of the revised Terms of Reference for Council's advisory committees, as attached.

### **RESOLUTION:**

#### **10. That Council:**

##### **10.1. From the date of this resolution, resolves that:**

##### **a) There continue to be established the:**

##### **i. Ballarat Friends of Ainara Community Advisory Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Anastasia Parker
- 2) Andrew Miller
- 3) Chris Bluett
- 4) Desley Beechey
- 5) Dianne McGrath
- 6) Paul Simonsen
- 7) Rita Holt
- 8) Rob Gray
- 9) Roger Jeffrey
- 10) Rosey King

##### **ii. Ballarat Heritage Advisory Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Associate Prof David Waldron
- 2) Elizabeth Marsden
- 3) Merle Hathaway
- 4) Nicole Davydova
- 5) Paul Gordon Smith
- 6) Samantha Fabry

##### **iii. Disability Advisory Committee, with community members as follows:**

- 1) Mark Thompson
- 2) Christine Segart
- 3) Casey West
- 4) Rebecca Paton

- 5) Vincent McDonald
  - 6) Narelle Mason
  - 7) Jenene Burke
  - 8) Robyn Hall
  - 9) Sharon Eacott
  - 10) Heidi Biggin
  - 11) Claudia Forsberg
- iv. Intercultural Advisory Committee, with community members to be determined following an Expression of Interest process;
  - v. Koorie Engagement Action Group Advisory Committee, with community members as follows:
    - 1) Shu Brown
    - 2) Deb Lowah Clark
    - 3) Sarah Jane Hall
    - 4) Macaylah Johnson
    - 5) Adina King
    - 6) Luke Bosworth
- b) The following advisory committees remain established, and their Terms of Reference, as attached, be adopted and supersede any previously adopted versions of the same:
- i. Ballarat Friends of Ainaro Community Advisory Committee
  - ii. Ballarat Heritage Advisory Committee
  - iii. Disability Advisory Committee
  - iv. Intercultural Advisory Committee
  - v. Koorie Engagement Action Group Advisory Committee
  - vi. LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee
- c) The purpose of each advisory committee is as per the Terms of Reference;
  - d) The Councillor representatives for each advisory committee will remain as resolved by Council at its meeting on 27 November 2024 (R192/24); and
  - e) Each advisory committee must conduct itself according to, and within the provisions of, the Terms of Reference and any guidelines or policies Council may from time to time adopt.

**Moved: Cr Jay Morrison**  
**Seconded: Cr Tess Morgan**

**CARRIED**  
**(R114/25)**

Cr Jay Morrison left the meeting at 9:13pm.

**RESOLUTION:****10. That Council:****10.2 Appoint to the LBTIQA+ Advisory Committee the following members:**

- 1) Arlie-Jace Barwell-Chung
- 2) KL Joy
- 3) Leticia Yates
- 4) Sean Mulcahy

**Moved: Cr Tess Morgan****Seconded: Cr Des Hudson****CARRIED****(R115/25)**

Cr Jay Morrison returned to the meeting at 9:14pm.

## 8.10. CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Lorraine Sendall – Executive Assistant Director Corporate Services

### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with minutes of Council's Contracts Approval Delegated Committee in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference. This report provides minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2025 and provides a summary of information in relation to these minutes.

### RESOLUTION:

6. That Council:
  - 6.1 Note, in accordance with section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, that the material contained in the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee agendas has been designated confidential.
  - 6.2 Receive the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2025.

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor  
Seconded: Cr Ted Lapkin

**CARRIED**  
**(R116/25)**

## 8.11. OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEMS

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Stephen Wright – Governance Support Officer

### PURPOSE

1. This report provides Council with an update of responses to questions taken on notice and outstanding unanswered questions from public question time.

### RESOLUTION:

5. That Council:
  - 5.1 Endorse the Outstanding Question Time Report.

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**  
**Seconded: Cr Tess Morgan**

**CARRIED**  
**(R117/25)**

## 9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

## 10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS

### 10.1. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Sophie Brown – Governance Project Officer

### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with records of meetings held under the auspices of Council for noting, from Council advisory committee and stakeholder reference group meetings that took place during May 2025.

### RESOLUTION:

6. That Council:
  - 6.1 Note the records of meetings held under the auspices of Council from Council advisory committee and stakeholder reference group meetings that took place during May 2025, attached to this report.

**Moved:** Cr Ben Taylor  
**Seconded:** Cr Ted Lapkin

**CARRIED**  
**(R118/25)**

## **10.2. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

### **GB45/25 Cr Ted Lapkin**

Cr Lapkin attended the mass rally against the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund on 15 June 2025 that started in Vic Park and made its way along Sturt Street then past the electorate offices of Ballarat's two labour MPs. There were approximately 60 fire trucks from a variety of local stations and another 20-30 support vehicles. Mayor Hargreaves, Cr Saunders, Cr McIntosh and Cr Rinaldi were also in attendance. Cr Lapkin noted that the speeches were very moving, particularly a poem that related to rural suicide.

### **GB46/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

Earlier this month Cr Saunders was invited to the Philippine Independence Day celebrations that were organised by the Filipino/Australian Association of Ballarat Inc (FAABI). Mayor Hargreaves was also in attendance for the flag raising ceremony.

### **GB47/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

Cr Saunders attended the presidents lunch at the Ballarat Football and Netball Club on 14 June 2025, noting it was a great turnout for the game against Melton.

### **GB48/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

On 15 June 2025 Cr Saunders attended the 'Scrap the Tax' rally which was organised by Not In Our Name to address the issue of the collection of the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund by local Councils for the Victorian State Government. Cr Saunders noted it was a very big turnout and drew the interest of many residents that had not been aware of the rally.

### **GB49/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

Cr Saunders met with residents of Lake Gardens regarding the Prince of Wales Park.

### **GB50/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

Cr Saunders met with various committees this month including the Audit and Risk Committee, Disability Advisory Committee and the Avenue of Honour / Arch of Victory Stakeholder Reference Group.

### **GB51/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

On 26 June 2025, Cr Saunders has a radio interview on ABC Ballarat.

### **GB52/25 Cr Damon Saunders**

On 30 June 2025, Cr Saunders has the Lets Chat Alfredton ward event between 4:00pm - 7:00pm at the Alfredton Recreation Reserve Pavillion at 89 Cuthberts Road, Alfredton.

### **GB53/25 Cr Ben Taylor**

Cr Taylor noted the Buninyong-Mt Helen Lions Club had their AGM and congratulated their president re-elect.

**GB54/25 Cr Ben Taylor**

At the end of May, Haymes Paint celebrated their 90th anniversary. Cr Taylor noted this as a tremendous achievement for the family-owned business that still operates in Ballarat. He noted that as of the end of 2024 there were approximately 440 staff members across the network, and that the investment made recently in their Mitchell Park facility is a great credit to them making their commitment to Ballarat. Cr Taylor also highlighted that a lot of the people that work in the factory are long term employees which is a credit to Haymes Paint and their culture that values their employees.

**GB55/25 Cr Jay Morrison**

Cr Morrison acknowledged that June is Pride Month, and the City of Ballarat has been running a fantastic array of events with community partners. Cr Morrison also noted the act of vandalism to the floral pride flag display, describing it as unfortunate and disappointing. Cr Morrison thanked the Mayor for the statement that she released condemning this act, and wanted to ensure the message that members of the LGBTIQA+ community are safe in Ballarat and that it is a very small minority that would carry out these sorts of acts.

**GB56/25 Cr Tess Morgan**

Cr Morgan highlighted that the flowers in the floral pride flag display that were vandalised do not grow in winter. Once made aware the display had been vandalised the community were asked if they would consider helping make plastic flowers to replace the garden bed from recycled plastic bags. Cr Morgan noted that within hours there were enough people willing to help make the thousands of plastic flowers required. Ultimately, City of Ballarat was able to source flowers that could be used and planted to reestablish the display. Cr Morgan noted the vandalism expressed the view of a small minority, and commended the tremendous amount of support for the LGBTIQA+ community in Ballarat, and all the people willing to help.

**GB57/25 Cr Jim Rinaldi**

Cr Rinaldi attended the Italian Republic Day on 2 June 2025 along with Cr Lapkin for the flag raising ceremony over the Intercultural Garden, marking the day the Italians voted to become a republic following WWII.

**GB58/25 Cr Jim Rinaldi**

On 16 June 2025 Cr Rinaldi went to Burrumbeet for the Let's Chat which approximately a dozen City of Ballarat staff also attended including the CEO which was excellent.

**GB59/25 Cr Jim Rinaldi**

On 15 June 2025 the Farmer's Night Off event was held. Cr Rinaldi described this as a great initiative put on by Commerce Ballarat at the showgrounds. The event was very well attended with fantastic speakers that had a great focus on mental health.

**GB60/25 Cr Jim Rinaldi**

Cr Rinaldi tuned in on 19 June 2025 to Peter Marshall, the United Firefighters Union secretary for Not in Our Name. Cr Rinaldi noted this is gaining much more momentum.

**GB61/25 Mayor Tracey Hargreaves**

Mayor Hargreaves received a message from a community member this evening to let her know the clock on the wall that is visible to the live broadcast is now working again. Mayor Hargreaves noted that there are always continuous conversations around the importance of maintenance for infrastructure and how great it was to see that the community noticed this repair.

## 11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

## 12. SECTION 66 (IN CAMERA)

### RESOLUTION:

That Council resolve, pursuant to section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, that the meeting be closed to members of the public at 9:31pm whilst the Council is dealing with the following matters:

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Ted Lapkin

(R119/25)

### 8.7 TENDER 2706/0848 LIBRARY COLLECTIONS FURNITURE EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED REQUIREMENTS

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Jenny Fink – Executive Manager Libraries and Lifelong Learning

(Confidential attachments)

Pursuant to sub rule 3.13.2 of the Governance Rules, the information contained within this document is designated as confidential information for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act). That is “confidential information” that in accordance with section 3 of the Act, is:

- (g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—
  - (i) relates to trade secrets; or
  - (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

### 8.10 CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Lorraine Sendall – Executive Assistant, Director Corporate Services

(Confidential attachments)

Pursuant to sub rule 3.13.2 of the Governance Rules, the information contained within this document is designated as confidential information for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act). That is “confidential information” that in accordance with section 3 of the Act, is:

**Division:** Development and Growth  
**Director:** Natalie Robertson  
**Author/Position:** Chris Duckett – Manager Sustainable Growth

Pursuant to sub rule 3.13.2 of the Governance Rules, the information contained within this document is designated as confidential information for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act). That is “confidential information” that in accordance with section 3 of the Act, is:

- (a) Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

**That Council move out of closed Council at 9:32pm and adopt the resolutions made therein.**

**CARRIED**  
**(R121/25)**

The CEO reported on items discussed in closed Council.

**The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9:33pm.**

**Mayor**