



# LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD IN KERNOT HALL, MORWELL AND VIA  
AUDIO-VISUAL LINK  
AT 6:00 PM ON 12 MAY 2025  
CM618**

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors:**

Cr Dale Harriman, Mayor	Loy Yang Ward
Cr Sharon Gibson, Deputy Mayor	Newborough Ward
Cr David Barnes	Boola Boola Ward
Cr Leanne Potter	Budgerie Ward
Cr Joanne Campbell	Jeeralang Ward
Cr Adele Pugsley	Moe Ward
Cr Darren Howe	Tyers Ward
Cr Steph Morgan	Yallourn Ward

**Officers:**

Tim Ellis	Acting Chief Executive Officer
James Rouse	Acting General Manager Community Health & Wellbeing
Jody Riordan	General Manager Regional City Planning & Assets
Shay Ferguson	Acting General Manager Regional City Strategy & Transition
Josh Wilson	Acting Executive Manager Sports Legacy & Activation
Nathan Kearsley	General Manager Organisational Performance
Alba Elling	Manager Governance
Rebecca Obersby	Council Solicitor
Kaitlyn Boram	Governance Officer

**Apologies:**

Cr Tracie Lund	Morwell River Ward
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Resolutions in this minutes document should be read in conjunction with the published agenda for the 12 May 2025 Council Meeting.

### **1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND**

The Mayor read the acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land.

### **2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Cr Lund was an apology for the meeting.

A leave of absence was approved for Cr Lund for the period 08 May 2025 to 07 June 2025.

#### **MOTION**

**Moved: Cr Gibson**

**Seconded: Cr Morgan**

**That a leave of absence be granted to Councillor Tracie Lund from 08 May 2025 to 07 June 2025 inclusive.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

#### **MOTION**

**Moved: Cr Gibson**

**Seconded: Cr Pugsley**

**That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 April 2025.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cr Harriman declared a general conflict of interest in item 9.1.

### **5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Cr Harriman acknowledged the passing of Simon Lund.

## **6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**

### **Public Questions on Notice**

In accordance with the Governance Rules, members of the public can lodge a question on notice before 12 noon one business day before the day of the Council meeting in order for the question to be answered at the meeting.

There were two public questions on notice:

**From:** Damian Andrews

**Topic:** Business Development Support

#### **Question:**

Given the unanimously supported December 2024 resolution (NOM 2024/16) to review business-related fees, red and green tape, and fast-track approval options—an essential step toward revitalising Latrobe City's economy and creating local jobs—what is the current status of this report, including expected finalisation and release dates?

#### **Response:**

The initial report on the review of Red and Green permit processes and the subsequent costs applied to businesses, is currently in its final draft and is being developed for presentation to the June Council meeting.

**From:** Damian Andrews

**Topic:** Lloyd Street Rail Crossing Upgrade

#### **Question:**

Given the Lloyd Street rail crossing upgrade was announced over three years ago with works to begin mid-2024, yet land acquisition was incomplete as of March 2025, what processes has Council used—and continues to use—to follow up, stay informed, and advocate for the project's timely government completion?

#### **Response:**

This is a Transport Victoria project being delivered by the Department of Transport and Planning.

We have been advised that pre-construction activities are progressing, with current works focused on service relocations. The Department is also in the process of finalising necessary land acquisitions.

According to the Department, coordinating the road safety upgrades at the Lloyd Street Railway Crossing is taking longer than initially anticipated. This is due to the complex nature of integrating the rail signalling infrastructure with the new road design.

Further construction timelines will be provided by the Department once pre-construction works have been completed.

Council Officers continue to seek project status updates through regularly scheduled meetings with the Department of Transport & Planning Regional Executive

### **Public Speakers**

Members of the public who registered before 12 noon were invited to speak to an item on the agenda.

There were two public speakers:

- Alan Wilson - City of Traralgon Band, Speaking to Item 9.1 Traralgon City Band Request for Funding
- Debbie Wilson - City of Traralgon Band, Speaking to Item 9.1 Traralgon City Band Request for Funding

### **Procedural Note:**

Cr Harriman left the room at 6.06pm for the Public Speakers item.

Item 9.1 was heard immediately after the Public Speakers.

Cr Harriman returned to the room 6.25pm

# **STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION**

## **7. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION**

Item Number 8.1

12 May 2025

Organisational Performance

# **DRAFT COMMUNITY VISION AND COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

### **MOTION**

**Moved:** Cr Gibson

**Seconded:** Cr Pugsley

**That Council:**

- a. endorses the draft Council Plan 2025-2029 at Attachment 1 to be released for community feedback;**
- b. gives notice that the draft Council Plan 2025-2029 will be made available for review at Council Headquarters, Service Centres and on Council's website; and**
- c. invites written submissions from the public to be received by no later than 5pm 9 June 2025.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Draft Council Plan 2025-29**

# **URGENT BUSINESS**



## **8. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

# **REPORTS FOR NOTING**

## 9. REPORTS FOR NOTING

### Procedural note:

This item was heard after the Public Speakers

Cr Harriman left the room at 6.06pm

Cr Harriman returned to the room 6.25pm

Item Number 9.1    12 May 2025    Community Health and Wellbeing

## TRARALGON CITY BAND REQUEST FOR FUNDING

### ALTERNATE MOTION

**Moved:**        Cr Howe

**Seconded:** Cr Pugsley

**That Council provide financial assistance of \$15,000 for the Traralgon City Band Tour of Remembrance from the accumulated unallocated cash reserve.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### Attachments

Nil

**Meeting Closed at 6.31pm**