



LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD IN KERNOT HALL, MORWELL AND VIA
AUDIO-VISUAL LINK
AT 6:00 PM ON 24 NOVEMBER 2025
CM629**

PRESENT:

Councillors:	Cr Dale Harriman, Mayor	Loy Yang Ward
	Cr Sharon Gibson, Deputy Mayor	Newborough 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
	Cr Tracie Lund	Morwell River Ward
Officers:	Steven Piasente	Chief Executive Officer
	James Rouse	Acting General Manager Community Liveability
	Jody Riordan	General Manager Infrastructure & Sustainability
	Tim Ellis	General Manager Investment & Growth
	Nathan Kearsley	General Manager Organisational Performance
	Alba Elling	Manager Governance
	Courtney Aquilina	Coordinator Council Business
	Kaitlyn Boram	Governance Officer
Apologies:	Cr David Barnes	

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Resolutions in this minutes document should be read in conjunction with the published agenda for the 24 November 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 David Barnes was an apology to the meeting (leave of absence).

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 October 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The following Conflict of Interest Declarations were declared:

Jody Riordan. General Manager Infrastructure and Sustainability	Item 8.6 Morwell Recreation Reserve - Turf Cricket Pitches
Cr Joanne Campbell	- Item 10.2 2025-26 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund and 2026-27 Country Football Netball Program - Item 15.3 2025/26 Community Grant Program Round 1 - Additional Application
Cr Adele Pugsley	Item 15.4 LCC-889 Provision of Planning Services

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Cr Potter acknowledged Cr Morgan for being nominated for the Victorian Local Government Emerging Women in Leadership Award.
- Cr Morgan acknowledged the Morwell RSK for becoming a breast feeding welcome venue.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

Public Questions on Notice

In accordance with the Governance Rules, members of the public can lodge a question on notice by no later than midday one business day before the Council meeting in order for the question to be answered at the meeting. There were 2 public questions.

Question 1

From: Phillip Edwards

Topic: Amendment to Governance Rules

Question:

Would it be possible for a Victorian Council in concert with the Local Government Inspectorate to amend their governance rules to require that adverse findings against councillors by the Local government Inspectorate be tabled for noting at a council meeting for public transparency?

Response:

As noted on the Local Government Inspectorate website most of their investigations are resolved confidentially.

The Inspectorate may issue a media release or publish a report on its website if they believe it is in the public interest.

There is no need to change Council's Governance Rules, as Council may choose to 'table for noting' a publicly available finding from the Inspectorate or any other State based authority.

Question 2

From: Damian Andrews

Topic: Ratepayer Benefits from Overseas Travel

Question:

Has a formal report been received documenting the outcomes and regional economic impact from the mayoral attendance at the June 2025 Traralgon Band overseas tour and what, if any, process has the council implemented to evaluate outcomes and ROI before approving future councillor overseas travel?

Response:

The Mayors attendance at the Traralgon City Band Tour of Remembrance was endorsed by Council in line with the previous Council Support and Expenses Policy and I note that the Band Tour was funded by the Mayor in a personal capacity.

The requirement for Councillors to present a post travel report at a Council Meeting was not a requirement under that Policy.

The current Policy was adopted at the 30 June 2025 Council Meeting. A requirement under the current Policy is for a post travel report to be provided to Council for all approved international travel undertaken.

Public Speakers

Members of the public who registered by no later than midday on the day of the Council Meeting were invited to speak to an item on the agenda. There were 6 public speakers.

- Linda Reid spoke to item 8.5 Central Business District Community Outreach update.
- Wendy Castles spoke to item 8.5 Central Business District Community Outreach update..
- Jewel Burchell-Robins spoke to item 8.5 Central Business District Community Outreach update.
- Jordan Campbell spoke to item 8.6 Morwell Recreation Reserve - Turf Cricket Pitches.
- Michael Stobbart spoke to item 8.6 Morwell Recreation Reserve - Turf Cricket Pitches.
- Vicki Hamilton spoke to item 10.4 Request for Commemorative Statue on Council Land.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil reports

STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

8. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 8.1 24 November 2025

Infrastructure and Sustainability

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION UPDATE - MOE GARDENS CARAVAN PARK

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes the public submissions providing input into the future of Moe Gardens Caravan Park, 1 Mitchells Road, Moe and thanks the community for their feedback; and**
- 2. requests a report be presented at the February 2026 Council Meeting detailing the options available to continue to operate a caravan park at 1 Mitchells Road, Moe.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Future of 1 Mitchells Road, Moe (Moe Gardens Caravan Park) - Have Your Say Submissions
2. Community Submissions - 1 Mitchells Road, Moe (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (g) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to 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. Submissions include commercially in confidence information.

MOE OUTDOOR POOL PETITION

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council:

- 1. notes officers will refer for consideration in the 2026/27 budget development process, an allocation to undertake a comprehensive strategic assessment of all leisure and aquatic facilities, to appropriately inform the future development, maintenance, and investment in leisure facilities; and**
- 2. notifies the head petitioner of the outcome of this report.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Moe Outdoor Pool Petition Submissions (Published Separately)**

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (f) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs. Personal details included in this attachment.

PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES (RV) DUMP POINTS IN LATROBE CITY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Pugsley

Seconded: Cr Howe

That Council:

- 1. notes the response to the community petition received in July 2025 regarding the provision of RV stops and dump points; and**
- 2. notes that officers will notify the head petitioner of Council's consideration of the community petition.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Petition: 72 Hour Caravan-RV Stays with Free Dump Points Petition Signatures
(Published Separately)**

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (f) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs. personal information is included in the attachment.

TRANSITION RESERVE POLICY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Morgan

That Council:

- 1. endorses the Latrobe City Council Transition Reserve Policy;**
- 2. allocates 50% of any future annual budget surplus to the Transition Reserve; and**
- 3. consolidates the Yallourn Transition Reserve and any profits realised from the sale of land at the Gippsland Logistics and Manufacturing Precinct into the Transition Reserve.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Transition Reserve Policy

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE

MOTION

Moved: Cr Morgan

Seconded: Cr Lund

That Council:

- 1. allocates \$30,000 from the accumulated unallocated cash reserve to develop a localised community outreach program model aimed at improving community safety and addressing anti-social behaviour in Latrobe City's CBDs; and**
- 2. receives a report at a future Council meeting, considering the localised model and options for its implementation.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments

Nil

Procedural notes:

Jody Riordan, General Manager Infrastructure and Sustainability left the meeting at 7.06 pm and returned at 7.16 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.06 pm and resumed at 7.13 pm.

MORWELL RECREATION RESERVE - TURF CRICKET PITCHES

ALTERNATE MOTION

Moved: Cr Howe

Seconded: Cr Lund

That Council defers consideration of this matter until no later than the March 2026 Council Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Attachment One - PRG Minutes (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (h) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a). Project reference group minutes.

2. Attachment Two - MFNC & GP Joint Letter (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (f) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs. Letter includes the name of community members and their opinion on matters which require addressing through this report.

3. Attachment Three - MCC Meeting Minutes (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (h) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a). Minutes of meeting include names of community members and their relationship to the user group which may make them easily identifiable.

4. Attachment Four - User Group Feedback

5. Attachment Five - External ASTMA Information

9. STATUTORY PLANNING

Nil reports

CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

10. CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 10.1 24 November 2025

Infrastructure and Sustainability

SALES PROCESS UPDATE - TONERS LANE, MORWELL (TITLE VOLUME 12520 FOLIO 257)

MOTION

Moved: Cr Lund

Seconded: Cr Potter

That Council:

- 1. having not received any submissions, resolves to sell (Lot 1 PS 910220 on parent title Volume 12384 Folio 081) Toners Lane, Morwell by Expression of Interest, Auction or Private treaty; and**
- 2. authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute all documents necessary to offer the Lot 1 PS 910220 Toners Lane, Morwell for sale by Expression of Interest, Auction or Private Treaty and to complete the sale at a price no less than the minimum selling price set in accordance with Confidential Attachment 2, or current market value where relevant.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Title & Plan PS 910220**
- 2. Toners Lane Valuation (Published Separately)**

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (a) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. The valuation is market sensitive and releasing this information compromises Council's ability to sell the land parcel for an appropriate amount.

- 3. Public Notice - Intention to Sell (Toners Lane)**

Procedural note:

Cr Campbell left the meeting at 7.19 pm and returned at 7.26 pm.

2025-26 LOCAL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE FUND AND 2026-27 COUNTRY FOOTBALL NETBALL PROGRAM

MOTION

Moved: Cr Howe

Seconded: Cr Morgan

That Council:

- 1. endorses three applications to the 2025-26 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund:**
 - 1.1. Netball and Tennis Changerooms at Yinnar Recreation Reserve;**
 - 1.2. Sports Lighting at Stoddart Oval, Traralgon;**
 - 1.3. Large Town Recreation Reserve Master Plans;**
- 2. endorses an application to the 2026-27 Country Football Netball Program for Sports Lighting at Duncan Cameron Memorial Park, Traralgon; and**
- 3. allocates \$1,108,200 from the Infrastructure Projects Reserve and \$103,750 from the Public Open Space Reserve as Council's contribution towards the Netball and Tennis Changerooms at Yinnar Recreation Reserve, and Sports Lighting at Stoddart Oval and Duncan Cameron Memorial Park, if application/s are successful.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. 2025-26 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund Guidelines**
- 2. 2026-27 Country Football and Netball Program Guidelines**

PROPOSED 2026 SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING DATES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Pugsley

Seconded: Cr Lund

That Council adopts and gives public notice of the following Council Meetings for 2026, commencing at 6.00 pm, in line with the below schedule of locations, in a hybrid format or, where permissible and appropriate, by means of audio-visual link:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ○ 23 February 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 27 July 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 09 November 2026 (Mayoral Election) at Kernot Hall, Morwell |
| ○ 23 March 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 24 August 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 23 November 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell |
| ○ 27 April 2026 at Gippsland Performing Arts Centre, Traralgon | ○ 28 September 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 14 December 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell |
| ○ 25 May 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 05 October 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | |
| ○ 22 June 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | ○ 26 October 2026 at Kernot Hall, Morwell | |

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Proposed Council Meeting Cycle Calendar 2026

REQUEST FOR COMMEMORATIVE STATUE ON COUNCIL LAND

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Morgan

That Council:

- 1. endorses the location for a commemorative statue for those impacted by asbestos related diseases within the Moe Botanic Gardens on Council owned land;**
- 2. works with Gippsland Asbestos Related Disease Support to determine the most appropriate location for the installation of the statue at the Moe Botanic Gardens; and**
- 3. refers the potential funding of the statue to the 26/27 financial year Council budget process for consideration.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. GARDS Memorial Statue**

Procedural Note:

The meeting was deferred at 7.36 pm and resumed at 7.42 pm.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

MOTION

Moved: Cr Pugsley

Seconded: Cr Morgan

That Council:

- 1. disbands the International Engagement and Investment Committee and refer any international relations economic development activities to the Economic Development Advisory Committee;**
- 2. supports the establishment of a working group with the proposed Latrobe City International Friendship Association to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and draft Terms of Reference (ToR); and**
- 3. requests a further report with the proposed MOU and ToR for consideration by Councillors.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. International Friendship Association Proposal
2. International Relations Terms of Reference
3. Takasago Delegation Report

QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025

MOTION

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Howe

That Council receives and notes the Budget Report for the Quarter ended 30 September 2025, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Quarterly Budget Report - September 2025

REVIEW OF COUNCIL DELEGATIONS

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council:

- 1. in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the S6 Instrument of Delegation to Members of Staff at Attachment 1, resolves that:**
 - a) there be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached S6 Instrument of Delegation to Members of Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;**
 - b) this Instrument comes into force immediately after the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument;**
 - c) on the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked; and**
 - d) the duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. S6 Delegations**

AUTHORISATION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS UNDER THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Lund

That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, resolves that:

- 1. Rob Wilkie be appointed and authorised as set out in the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation attached to this report;**
- 2. the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation comes into force immediately after the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument, and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it; and**
- 3. the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation be sealed.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. S11A - Instrument of Delegation & Appointment - Planning Compliance Support Officer - Rob Wilkie**

TOURISM & MAJOR EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Howe

Seconded: Cr Morgan

That Council:

- 1. adopts the recommendations of the Tourism and Major Events Advisory Committee and authorises officers to enter into a suitable agreement to fund the following events through the annual major events attraction budget:**
 - a. 2026 Motorcycling Australia Pro MX for \$25,000;**
 - b. 2027 Football Victoria Country Championships for \$30,000 and in-kind venue hire and waste management; and**
 - c. 2027 – 2031 AGL Loy Yang Traralgon Junior International Tennis Championships for \$45,000 per year for 5 years (subject to CPI throughout the term of the deal).**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. TAMEAC Major Event Assessment: 2026 MX Pro
2. TAMEAC Major Event Assessment: 2027 Football Victoria Country Championships
3. TAMEAC Major Event Assessment: 2027 - 2031 AGL Loy Yang Traralgon International Tennis Championships

URGENT BUSINESS

11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

REPORTS FOR NOTING

12. REPORTS FOR NOTING

Item Number 12.1 24 November 2025

Organisational Performance

CONTRACT VARIATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2025 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

MOTION

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Howe

**That Council receives and notes the report on contract variations for the period
1 July 2025 – 30 September 2025.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Variations Summary
2. Variations Detail

13. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil reports

14. ITEMS FOR TABLING

Nil reports

**MEETING CLOSED TO
THE PUBLIC TO
CONSIDER
CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION**

15. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* enables Council to close the meeting to the public to consider *confidential information* as defined in that Act.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Lund

That Council pursuant to section 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) close the Council Meeting to the public to consider the following items containing confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Act:

15.1 Australia Day Awards 2026

This item is confidential as it contains confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a) (section 3(1)(h)). This ground applies because awards are embargoed until announced on Australia Day 2026.

15.2 Terms of Reference for Community Asset and Advisory Committees and outcomes of the Expression of Interest process

This item is confidential as it contains personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (section 3(1)(f)). This ground applies because personal information is detailed in this report.

15.3 2025/26 Community Grant Program Round 1 - Additional Application

This item is confidential as it contains confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a) (section 3(1)(h)). This ground applies because this contains information regarding applications received through the Community Grants Program and the recommendations for individual applications.

15.4 LCC-889 Provision of Planning Services

This item is confidential as it contains Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released (section 3(1)(a)) and 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 (section 3(1)(g)). These grounds apply because releasing this information publicly and/or prematurely may prejudice the undertaking of this process and would release private commercial information of the tenderers that may cause disadvantage.

15.5 Audit and Risk Committee Independent Member Appointment, Extension and Remuneration

This item is confidential as it contains personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (section 3(1)(f)). This ground applies because the report contains personal information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting closed to the public at 8.01 pm.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.17 pm.

I certify that these minutes have been confirmed.

Mayor: _____

Date: _____