

# LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

#### HELD IN MOE TOWN HALL AND VIA AUDIO-VISUAL LINK AT 6:00 PM ON 28 JULY 2025 CM623

#### PRESENT:

**Councillors:** Cr Dale Harriman, Mayor Loy Yang Ward

Cr Sharon Gibson, Deputy Mayor
Cr David Barnes
Cr Leanne Potter
Cr Joanne Campbell
Cr Adele Pugsley
Cr Darren Howe
Cr Steph Morgan

Newborough Ward
Boola Boola Ward
Budgeree Ward
Jeeralang Ward
Moe Ward
Tyers Ward
Yallourn Ward

Officers: Steven Piasente Chief Executive Officer

James RouseActing General Manager Community Health & WellbeingJody RiordanGeneral Manager Regional City Planning & AssetsTim EllisGeneral Manager Regional City Strategy & Transition

Alba Elling Manager Governance

Courtney Aquilina Coordinator Council Business

Kaitlyn Boram Governance Officer

#### **Apologies:**

Cr Tracie Lund (leave of absence), Nathan Kearsley, General Manager Organisational Performance

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Resolutions in this minutes document should be read in conjunction with the published agenda for the 28 July 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 to the meeting (leave of absence).

Nathan Kearsley, General Manager Organisational Performance was an apology to the meeting.

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025 and Unscheduled Council Meeting held on 14 July 2025.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

#### 4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cr Pugsley declared a material interest in item 15.1 LCC-875 Landfill Monitoring and Reporting.

#### 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cr Harriman and Cr Morgan acknowledged the passing of Alex Wilson.

Cr Gibson acknowledged the passing of Alex Wilson and Table Tennis Australia.

Cr Potter acknowledged the Pickle Ball Championship event.

Cr Pugsley acknowledged the passing of Simon May.

#### 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 no public questions.

#### **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 3 public speakers.

- David James Minns spoke to item 9.2.
- Susan Dorl spoke to item 9.2.
- Rob de Souza-Daw spoke to item 10.1.

#### **Procedural note**

Cr Gibson, Deputy Mayor took the chair at 6.27 pm for item 7.1.

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

#### **NOTICES OF MOTION** 7.

Item Number 7.1 28 July 2025

Regional City Planning and Assets

#### 2025/08 ILLEGAL DUMPING CLEANUP ORDER - SUPPORT TO MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Harriman

Seconded: Cr Campbell

#### That Council:

- 1. expresses its strong support for Moorabool Shire Council in relation to the recent Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) decision that requires Moorabool Shire Council to cover the full cost of the clean-up of illegally dumped industrial waste on land under its management by an operator known to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA);
- 2. notes with significant concern the broader implications of the VCAT decision for all Victorian councils managing public land, including the potential for significant and unfair financial burden on local communities for illegal activities outside their control;
- 3. endorses the following motion to be tabled at the next Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council meeting.
  - 3.1. Calls on the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) to:
    - a) **Publicly support Moorabool Shire Council in its response to the** VCAT decision; and
    - Advocate to the Victorian Government for urgent policy reform that clarifies and shifts the financial responsibility for illegal dumping on public land away from councils to the perpetrators; and
- writes to the Minister for Environment outlining Council's position, that the Environment Protection Authority have discretion under Section 294 of the Environment Protection Act to undertake this cleanup and that funds secured through the Victorian Waste Levy should be used to fund the clean-up.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments Nil						
Procedural note						
Cr Harriman, Mayor resumed the chair at 6.32 pm.						

#### 2025/09 EARLY CHILD CARE EDUCATION AND CARE REFORMS

#### **MOTION**

Cr Morgan Moved:

Seconded: Cr Campbell

#### That Council:

- 1. advocate for reforms to the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECE&C) sector that address ongoing issues regarding child safety, staffing, and quality of care and education by calling on the Victorian and **Commonwealth Governments to:** 
  - 1.1 ensure child safety by:
    - 1.1.1. Reforming Working with Children Checks (WWCC) through the establishment of a standardised national WWCC system and a centralised national WWCC database.
    - 1.1.2. Increase educator to child ratio requirements and funding services at levels to ensure these costs are not incurred by families.
    - better resourcing regulatory bodies to ensure services are maintaining a safe environment and quality care and learning through:
      - a) proactive monitoring and assessment of services;
      - b) more frequent compliance checks on site at services; and
      - c) stronger enforcement of consequences for failing to meet requirements.
    - 1.1.4. mandating ongoing training for:
      - a) all staff in child safe standards and mandatory reporting;
      - b) all educators in accredited safe sleep and rest practices with a requirement for refresher courses;
  - 1.2. enable greater public provision of early childhood education and care by developing strategies and providing funding that will ensure the ongoing viability and sustainable delivery of council-run ECE&C services:
  - 1.3. invest in a strong long-term workforce across the sector to ensure quality care and education by developing long-term strategies that attract quality educators, support their training and ongoing professional development, and increase their retention across the sector; and

2. endorses the above motion to be tabled at the next Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council meeting.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Attachments**

Nil

# STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

#### 8. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 8.1

28 July 2025

Regional City Planning and Assets

# DRAFT VICTORY PARK PRECINCT MASTER PLAN

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Campbell

Seconded: Cr Howe

#### **That Council:**

- endorses the draft Victory Park Precinct Master Plan at Attachment 1 to be released for community feedback;
- b. gives notice that the draft Victory Park Precinct Master Plan 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 September 2025.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Draft Victory Park Precinct Master Plan
- 2. Communications and Engagement Plan

#### LATROBE CITY COUNCIL'S SUBMISSION TO INFRASTRUCTURE VICTORIAS 30- YEAR STRATEGY

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Howe

That Council endorses Council's submission to infrastructure Victoria 30-Year

Strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

1. Latrobe City Council's Submission to Infrastructure Victoria's 30-Year Strategy

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

#### **MOTION**

**Cr Pugsley** Moved:

Seconded: Cr Morgan

#### **That Council:**

- 1. renews the following memberships for the 2025/2026 year:
  - Rail Freight Alliance; a)
  - **Timber Towns Victoria**; b)
  - South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA); c)
  - South East Australian Transport Strategy (SEATS); d)
  - **National Timber Council Australia;** e)
- does not renew the following memberships for the 2025/2026 year: 2.
  - **Australia China Business Council;** a)
  - Regional Activators Alliance (RAA); b)
- takes up new memberships of the following organisation for the 2025/2026 3. year:
  - **Australia Japan Business Council of Victoria (AJBCV)**

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Attachments**

Nil

### STATUTORY PLANNING

Item Number 9.1 28 July 2025

Regional City Planning and Assets

PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C143 (PUBLIC ACQUISITION OVERLAY) -**CONSIDERATION OF PANEL** RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADOPTION OF **AMENDMENT** 

#### MOTION

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council having considered the Planning Panel report at Attachment 1 and the Panel recommendations for Amendment C143:

- 1. endorses the officer's response to the issues and recommendations as outlined in Attachment 2 - Amendment C143 'Panel Recommendations and Planning Officer Comment';
- 2. adopts Amendment C143 in accordance with section 29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 as exhibited, without changes, as reflected in the final Amendment C143 documentation provided at Attachment 3,4,5 and 6;
- 3. submits adopted Amendment C143, together with the prescribed information, to the Minister for Planning for approval in accordance with Section 31 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987; and
- 4. advises those persons who made written submissions to Amendment C143 of Council's decision.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Amendment C143 Planning Panel Report
- 2. Amendment C143 Planning Panel Recommendations and Officer Comment
- 3. Amendment C143 Proposed Ordinance for Adoption
- 4. Amendment C143 Proposed Maps for Adoption
- 5. Amendment C143 Site Assessment Reports for Adoption
- 6. Amendment C143 Instruction Sheet and Explanatory Report for Adoption

# PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION 2024/205 - USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF A CHILDCARE CENTRE - 3 HOURIGAN ROAD, MORWELL

#### **ALTERNATE MOTION**

Moved: Cr Morgan Seconded: Cr Gibson

That Council decides to issue a Notice of Refusal to grant Permit 2024/205, for the use and development of land for a childcare centre, display of signage and reduction of car parking requirements at 3 Hourigan Road, Morwell (L 62 LP 41483), on the following grounds:

- The proposal fails to meet the provisions of the Planning Policy Framework, in particular 'Clause 15.01-1S Urban Design' and 'Clause 15.01-5S Neighbourhood Character', policy at Clause 15.01-1L and 15.01-5L, and the purposes of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone as the proposal is not responsive to the identified neighbourhood character;
- 2. The proposal is inconsistent with the purpose and decision guidelines of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone in the Latrobe Planning Scheme as it does not reinforce the spacious regional suburban character of the existing neighbourhood and is overly prominent in the streetscape; and
- 3. The proposal does not comply with the decision guidelines of Clause 65.01 (Decision Guidelines) of the Latrobe Planning Scheme, including matters set out in section 60 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Attachment 1 Draft conditions
- 2. Attachment 2 Proposed plans
- 3. Attachment 3 Car parking demand assessment
- 4. Attachment 4 Acoustic assessment
- 5. Attachment 5 Copy of objections (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 of objectors contained in the attachment.

6. Attachment 6 Locations of objectors (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 of objectors contained in the attachment.

- 7. Attachment 7 Detailed response to objections
- 8. Attachment 8 Policy assessment

# CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

#### 10. CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 10.1 28 July 2025

Regional City Strategy & Transition

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF ROAD, FACILITY AND PLACE NAMING DELEGATED COMMITTEE

#### MOTION

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Gibson

#### That Council:

- 1. establishes the Road, Facility and Place Name Delegated Committee under section 63 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act);
- 2. adopts the Terms of Reference for the Road, Facilities and Place Naming **Delegated Committee at Attachment 2;**
- appoints the Mayor, Cr Gibson, Cr Campbell and Cr Morgan as members 3. of the Road, Facilities and Place Naming Delegated Committee;
- approves the Instrument of Delegation at Attachment 3 and authorises the 4. Instrument to be signed and sealed;
- notes that the Instrument of Delegation comes into force immediately after 5. the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument, and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it; and
- 6. notes that after adoption, the appointments will be published on the Latrobe City Council website.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Draft Terms of Reference and Instrument of Delegation (tracked changes)
- 2. Terms of Reference
- 3. Instrument of Delegation

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE - GASKIN PARK MULTI-USE PAVILION PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Morgan

#### **That Council:**

1. establishes the Gaskin Park Project Reference Group;

- 2. adopts the Gaskin Park Project Reference Group Terms of Reference; and
- 3. appoints Cr Potter as Chair and Cr Morgan as Alternate to the Gaskin Park Project Reference Group.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

1. Terms of Reference Project Reference Group Gaskin Park Multi-use pavilion

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE - LATROBE CITY COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Howe

Seconded: Cr Gibson

That Council endorses the revised Terms of Reference of the Latrobe City Community Safety Advisory Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Current Community Safety Advisory Committee TOR
- 2. Revised Draft Current Community Safety Advisory Committee TOR
- 3. Current Community Safety Advisory Committee TOR (Tracked Changes)

# TERMS OF REFERENCE - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Morgan

Seconded: Cr Gibson

#### **That Council:**

- 1. endorses the Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at Attachment 2;
- 2. approves officers to conduct an Expression of Interest process for up to 8 external committee members and present a report to a future Council meeting; and
- 3. allocates \$20,000 per year for 3 years to fund the external members of the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

- 1. Attachment 1 Economic Development Advisory Committee ToR June 2023
- 2. Revised Economic Development Advisory Committee ToR 2025

#### REVIEW OF COUNCIL DELEGATIONS

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Pugsley
Seconded: Cr Morgan

#### **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;
  - 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 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff - May 2025

#### AUTHORISATION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS UNDER THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Howe

Seconded: Cr Morgan

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

- 1. Robert Pringle 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**

 S11A - Instrument of Delegation & Appointment - Strategic Planner - Robert Pringle

## **URGENT BUSINESS**

11.	URGENT BUSINESS
Nil.	

## **REPORTS FOR NOTING**

#### 12. REPORTS FOR NOTING

Item Number 12.1 28 July 2025

Organisational Performance

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES AND VOLUNTEERS FUND LEVY - COLLECTION OBLIGATIONS**

#### **ALTERNATE MOTION**

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Pugsley

#### That Council:

- 1. receive and note this report;
- 2. advocate to State Government to reverse its decision to implement the **Emergency Services Volunteer Fund; and**
- continue to review the options available for Council to not collect the 3. **Emergency Services Volunteer Fund and if necessary work with other** interested Councils to achieve this outcome.

#### **AMENDMENT**

Moved: Cr Morgan Seconded: Cr Campbell Cr Gibson Against:

#### That Council:

- 1. receive and note this report; and
- 2. advocate to State Government to reverse its decision to implement the **Emergency Services Volunteer Fund.**

#### LOST

#### Procedural note

The meeting was adjourned at 8.02 pm

The meeting resumed at 8.08 pm

#### MOTION

Moved: Cr Morgan Seconded: Cr Potter

#### That Council:

- 1. receive and note this report;
- 2. advocate to State Government to reverse its decision to implement the **Emergency Services Volunteer Fund; and**

3. work with other interested Councils to identify other options available in relation to the implementation of the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund to ensure a better outcome for the community.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Amendment became the substantive Motion.

#### **That Council:**

- 1. receive and note this report;
- 2. advocate to State Government to reverse its decision to implement the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund; and
- 3. work with other interested Councils to identify other options available in relation to the implementation of the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund to ensure a better outcome for the community.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

1. Council Legal Advice

#### PRESENTATION OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES - 12 MARCH 2025 AND 10 JUNE 2025

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Pugsley

Seconded: Cr Potter

That Council receives and notes the attached Audit and Risk Committee

Minutes for the 12 March 2025 and 10 June 2025 meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda**

1. Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes - 12 March 2025

2. Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes - 10 June 2025

13.	QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Nil reports					

## **ITEMS FOR TABLING**

Item Number 14.1 28 July 2025

Regional City Strategy & Transition

# TABLING OF PETITION - 72 HOUR CARAVAN/RV STAYS WITH FREE DUMP POINTS

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Pugsley

Seconded: Cr Potter

#### **That Council:**

- 1. in accordance with the Governance Rules, agrees to lay on the table the petition requesting that Council:
  - a. 'Establish designated 72-hour caravan/RV stays with free dump points in Moe, Morwell, and Churchill to encourage travellers to stop and spend time in each town.
  - b. Engage with caravan and tourism groups to ensure these new facilities meet travellers' needs and are effectively publicised.
  - c. List these sites on caravan travel apps (such as Wikicamps and CamperMate) to maximise awareness among the caravan community.
  - d. Recognise the economic benefits of providing essential services to the growing caravan and RV community, attracting both budget-conscious and paid-stay travellers'; and
- 2. advises the head petitioner of this decision in relation to the petition.

For: Cr Potter, Cr Howe, Cr Pugsley, Cr Morgan, Cr Gibson, Cr Barnes,

Cr Harriman

Against: Cr Campbell (Abstain)

CARRIED

#### Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

 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

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# 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 Howe Seconded: Cr Gibson

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 LCC-875 Landfill Monitoring and Reporting

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.

#### 15.2 LCC-882 Morwell Depot Amenities Extension

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.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Meeting closed to the public at 8.18 pm.	
There being no further business the meeting was decla	red closed at 8.24 pm.
I certify that these minutes have been confirmed.	
Mayor:	
Date:	