



LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD IN KERNOT HALL, MORWELL AND VIA
AUDIO-VISUAL LINK
AT 6:00 PM ON 27 JULY 2026
CM637**

PRESENT:

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

Newborough Ward
Loy Yang Ward
Boola Boola Ward
Budgerie Ward
Jeeralang Ward
Moe Ward
Tyers Ward
Yallourn Ward

Officers:

Steven Piasente
James Rouse
Jody Riordan
Tim Ellis
Nathan Kearsley
Alba Elling
Georgia Karavis
Ryan Murphy

Chief Executive Officer
General Manager Community Liveability
General Manager Infrastructure & Sustainability
General Manager Investment & Growth
General Manager Organisational Performance
Manager Governance
Coordinator Council Business
Governance & Compliance Officer

Apologies:

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•	GLENGARRY FISHING CLUB DOING SIGNIFICANT FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITABLE CAUSES.	5

•	TRARALGON RODEO WHICH WAS HELD IN JANUARY 2026. THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY OVER 5,000 PEOPLE AND CONTINUES TO GROW YEAR ON YEAR.	5
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Resolutions in this minutes document should be read in conjunction with the published agenda for the 27 July 2026 Council Meeting.

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

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

2. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Procedural Note: Cr Barnes left the room for this item at 6:06PM and returned at 6:07PM.

Cr Barnes requested a leave of absence from 19 August 2026 to 19 September 2026.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Campbell

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That a leave of absence be granted to Councillor David Barnes from 19 August to 19 September 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29 June 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- CR BARNES – CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEM 3.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillor Pugsley acknowledged the passing of Brian Healy who volunteered for Newborough Football Club for over 20 years.

Councillor Morgan acknowledged:

- Morwell Bocce Club for successfully hosting the 24th Latrobe Bocce Classic.
- Alay Kapwa on their 36th anniversary celebration and project runway event held at Kernot Hall.
- Yinnar & Yinnar South Primary School who planted a trees for National Tree Planting Day.

Councillor Harriman acknowledged Will Hamilton for an outstanding under 17's basketball tournament playing for the Australian Crocs basketball team.

Councillor Barnes acknowledged:

- Glengarry Fishing Club doing significant fundraising for charitable causes.
- Traralgon Rodeo which was held in January 2026. The event was attended by over 5,000 people and continues to grow year on year.

Mayor Gibson acknowledged:

- Members of the Latrobe City Youth Council lead by Youth Council Mayor Arabella Altavas who were in attendance.
- Anne Ryan for her life membership received from the Newborough Football Club. Anne has volunteered at the club for 55 years.

7. 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 was 1 public question.

Question 1

From: Damian Andrews

Topic: Advocacy for Development of Lake Narracan

The gazetted Lake Narracan DCP (Amendment C086) records the lake 'at normal water level' (p-23) and a 35-year development horizon (p-22 & 31).

Beyond the statutory required actions already advised, what is preventing Council from actively promoting the Lake Narracan lifestyle precinct as a residential, tourism and investment destination?

Response:

Council has actively promoted the precinct for investment with both the State and Federal Government and this was noted in the reply to a related question raised by the same person in April this year

Council has also actively promoted the precinct with developers including most recently with a large volume home builder who operates in the south east of Melbourne and a consortium of developers who are planning investment in the precinct.

It is also noted that a range of private investors are also currently promoting the precinct, and these can be found online.

It is pleasing to note that due to Council's efforts there is significant private investment currently occurring in the precinct and also planned for the future.

As Council's role is broader than promoting a single precinct, I can add that Council also promotes its other precincts that are located across the city in a similar way.

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 was 1 public speaker:

- Joan Rodda – 9.3 Special Charge Scheme - Sealing of Pindari Road and Kandra Road, Moe South.

NOTICES OF MOTION

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

9. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

Item Number 9.1

27 July 2026

Investment and Growth

SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE PHOENIX NBL MAJOR EVENT FUNDING

MOTION

Moved: Cr Howe

Seconded: Cr Harriman

That Council authorises officers to enter into an agreement with the South East Melbourne Phoenix to provide funding of \$25,000 (ex GST) per event to host two South East Melbourne Phoenix National Basketball League in-season matches in the 2026/27 and 2027/28 seasons.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. South East Melbourne Phoenix National Basketball League In Season Matches, Major Event Assessment (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.

DRAFT NATURE PLAN FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

MOTION

Moved: Cr Morgan

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council endorses the release of the draft Nature Plan for public consultation after 1 August 2026, in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy, and any relevant legislation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Draft Nature Plan

SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME - SEALING OF PINDARI ROAD AND KANDRA ROAD, MOE SOUTH

Procedural Note: Cr Gibson vacated the chair for item 9.3 at 6:42PM and returned at 6:53PM. During this item, Cr Harriman chaired the meeting.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Morgan

Seconded: Cr Pugsley

That Council:

1. having complied with the requirements of Sections 163A, 163B and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and otherwise according to law, declares a Special Charge Scheme under section 163 of the Act as follows:
 - a) the special charge is declared for a period of 2 years commencing on 27 July 2026;
 - b) the special charge be declared for the purpose of defraying expenses incurred by Council in relation to the sealing of Pindari Road and Kandra Road, Moe South:
 - i) Council considers the works will be a special benefit to those persons required to pay the special charge (and who are described in succeeding parts of this Resolution);
 - ii) the scheme arises out of Council's function of planning for and providing infrastructure for property owners;
 - c) the total estimated cost of the scheme be recorded as \$510,000;
 - d) it be recorded that, for the purposes of Section 163(2A) of the Act, the special charge proceeds will not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with the prescribed formula ($R \times C = S$), where:
 - i) Benefit Ratio (R) is adopted as $R = 0.25$, in accordance with Council's Special Charge Scheme Policy applying to the sealing/upgrade of unsealed roads;
 - ii) Total Cost (C) of performing the function described in part 1(b) of this resolution based on estimated cost be recorded as \$510,000;
 - iii) Maximum levy (S) be recorded as \$127,500;
 - e) determines that:

- i) the area for which the special charge is so declared be specified as the area within the municipal district of Council shown in the plan at Attachment 3;
 - ii) the land in relation to which the special charge is so declared be specified as the land within the area shown on the plan in Attachment 3;
 - iii) ownership of any land described in Section 1(e)(ii) of this Resolution be specified as the criteria which form the basis of the special charge so declared;
- f) specifies the following as the way the special charge so declared will be assessed and levied:
 - i) each property receives a special benefit from the sealing of the road by way of abuttal and access;
 - ii) each property's contribution be calculated as its apportionment divided by the sum of all apportionments, multiplied by 0.25 of the total estimated cost;
 - iii) the special charge will be levied by sending a notice to the person who is liable to pay, pursuant to section 163(4) of the Act;
- g) having regard to the preceding parts of this Resolution, but subject to Section 166(1) of the Act:
 - i) the owner of each property identified at Attachment 4 is liable for its corresponding estimated amount as set out in that attachment;
 - ii) the owner may, subject to any further resolution of Council, pay the special charge in the following manner:
 - A. the charge will become due and payable within three months of the issue of the notice requesting payment pursuant to Section 167(3) of the Act;
 - B. interest will not be charged for twelve months after the issue of the notice provided the person liable makes timely payment in accordance with any repayment arrangements that may be agreed on by Council;
 - C. in accordance with Section 172 of the Act, Council may charge interest, subject to Section 172(1A) of the Act and Section 1(g)(ii)B of this Resolution, on any part of the special charge unpaid by the specified date, at a rate set as Council's estimated borrowing rate capped at the rate fixed by the Minister under Section 172A(1) applying on the preceding 1 July, continuing until the charge is paid or recovered; and
- 2. authorises each of the Chief Executive Officer, the General Manager Infrastructure and Sustainability, or the Manager City Assets, to levy the special charge in accordance with Section 163(4) of the Act, and to carry out any and all other administrative procedures necessary to give effect to this resolution and to Council's obligations under Section 163 of the Act.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved: Cr Morgan

Seconded: Cr Potter

Defer the matter to the next Council Meeting in August 2026 with the inclusion of a supplementary report which outlines additional public consultation activities undertaken.

CARRIED

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Council Meeting Resolution- 23 March 2026
2. Submissions to Pindari Road and Kandra Road SCS (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. Submissions have the right to remain anonymous.

3. Site Plan
4. Benefitting Properties

STATUTORY PLANNING

10. STATUTORY PLANNING

Item Number 10.1 27 July 2026

Investment and Growth

PROPOSED AMENDMENT C155 (MOE ACTIVITY CENTRE PLAN) - REQUEST TO SEEK AUTHORISATION

MOTION

Moved: Cr Pugsley

Seconded: Cr Morgan

That Council:

- 1. endorses the draft Moe Activity Centre Plan and associated background documents, provided at Attachment 1-8 for public exhibition as part of Amendment C155;**
- 2. requests authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C155 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme, in accordance with section 16G of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*;**
- 3. prepares Amendment C155 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme to implement the Moe Activity Centre Plan generally in accordance with the documentation provided at Attachments 9-12, subject to receiving Ministerial Authorisation; and**
- 4. places Amendment C155 on exhibition in accordance with the requirements of section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, subject to Ministerial Authorisation.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. Moe Activity Centre Plan (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains information that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre..

2. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Consultation Summary (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

3. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Planning Context (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

4. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Economic Analysis (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

5. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Social Infrastructure Needs Analysis (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

6. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Traffic, Movement and Car Parking Report (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the

Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

7. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Traffic, Movement and Car Parking Addendum (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

8. Moe Activity Centre Plan Background Report: Urban Design and Built Form Plan (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This report contains background information which supports the recommendations for the Moe Activity Centre Plan. It provides details that supports and promotes changes to land use in the Moe Activity Centre.

9. Amendment C155 Explanatory Report (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This is Amendment documents which contains the reasoning and justification on the proposed changes in the Planning Scheme which proposes land use changes.

10. Amendment C155 Proposed Combined Policy (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This is Amendment documents which contains the reasoning and justification on the proposed changes in the Planning Scheme which proposes land use changes.

11. Amendment C155 Combined Maps (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This is Amendment documents which contains the reasoning and justification on the proposed changes in the Planning Scheme which proposes land use changes.

12. Amendment C155 Instruction Sheet (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This is Amendment documents which contains the reasoning and justification on the proposed changes in the Planning Scheme which proposes land use changes.

CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

11. CORPORATE ITEMS FOR DECISION

Nil reports

URGENT BUSINESS

12. URGENT BUSINESS

Business may be admitted to the meeting as urgent business in accordance with clause 20 of the Governance Rules, by resolution of the Council and only then if it:

- 20.1 Relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and
- 20.2 Cannot reasonably or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.

Nil reports

REPORTS FOR NOTING

13. REPORTS FOR NOTING

Item Number 13.1 27 July 2026

Organisational Performance

PRESENTATION OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 10 JUNE 2026

MOTION

Moved: Cr Potter

Seconded: Cr Campbell

That Council receives and notes the Audit and Risk Committee Minutes for the 10 June 2026 meeting at Attachment 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attachments - Refer to Council Meeting Agenda

1. ARC Meeting minutes 10 June 2026

14. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil reports

ITEMS FOR TABLING

15. ITEMS FOR TABLING

Nil reports

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

16. 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.

Proposed Resolution:

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:

- 16.1 Economic Development Advisory Committee**
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 about the applicants contained in the report.
- 16.2 2026-27 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund**
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)).
- 16.3 Ceremonial Sponsorship and Participation Opportunity**
This item is confidential as it contains 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)). This ground applies because it contains information that is not at Council's discretion to release.

The Meeting closed to the public at 7:01pm.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 7:24pm.

I certify that these minutes have been confirmed.

Mayor: _____

Date: _____