

Minutes

Scheduled Council Meeting

Tuesday 15 August 2023 at 6:30 pm

Council Chamber at Civic Centre,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

Administrators

Lydia Wilson Chair of Council

Peita Duncan Administrator

Christian Zahra AM Administrator

On 19 June 2020 the Acting Minister for Local Government appointed the Panel of Administrators for the City of Whittlesea and appointed Lydia Wilson as Chair of the Panel. The Panel of Administrators comprises of Lydia Wilson, Peita Duncan and Christian Zahra AM who will undertake the duties of the Council of the City of Whittlesea until the October 2024 Local Government Election.

Senior Officers

Craig Lloyd Chief Executive Officer

Emma Appleton Director Planning & Development

Agata Chmielewski Director Community Wellbeing

Sarah Renner Director Customer & Corporate Services

Debbie Wood Director Infrastructure & Environment

Frank Joyce Executive Manager Strategy & Insights

Janine Morgan Executive Manager Public Affairs

Jacinta Stevens Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Order of Business

The Chief Executive Officer submits the following business:

1	Opening	5
1.1	Meeting Opening and Introductions	5
1.2	Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement.....	5
1.3	Diversity and Good Governance Statement.....	5
1.4	Acknowledgements	6
1.4.1	Aged Care Employees Day	6
1.4.2	Whittlesea Service Hub opens.....	6
1.4.3	National Homelessness Week	6
1.4.4	Whittlesea Reconciliation Group 21 st anniversary.....	7
1.4.5	National Tree Day success	7
1.5	Attendance	8
2	Declarations of Conflict of Interest	9
3	Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s.....	9
4	Public Questions, Petitions and Joint Letters.....	10
4.1	Public Question Time.....	10
4.2	Petitions.....	12
4.3	Joint Letters	12
5	Officers' Reports.....	13
5.1	Connected Communities	13
5.1.1	Joint Meeting - Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre.....	13
5.2	Liveable Neighborhoods.....	15
5.2.1	Quarry Hills Parkland Future Directions Plan	15
5.3	Strong Local Economy	16
5.4	Sustainable Environment.....	16
5.5	High Performing Organisation	17
5.5.1	CN 2023-64 - Road Maintenance and Associated Services (NCA Collaboration).17	
5.5.2	Public Transparency Policy	19
5.5.3	Review of Council Delegations to Members of Council Staff (s6).....	20

5.5.4 Draft Governance Rules.....	21
6 Notices of Motion.....	22
7 Urgent Business.....	22
8 Reports from Council Representatives and CEO Update.....	23
8.1 Administrator Peita Duncan	23
8.2 Administrator Christian Zahra AM.....	23
8.3 Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson	23
8.4 Chief Executive Officer, Craig Lloyd.....	23
9 Confidential Business	25
9.1 Confidential Connected Communities.....	26
9.2 Confidential Liveable Neighbourhoods	26
9.3 Confidential Strong Local Economy.....	26
9.4 Confidential Sustainable Environment.....	26
9.5 Confidential High Performing Organisation	26
9.5.1 CEO Employment Matters	26
10 Closure.....	26

1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

“Welcome to this Council Meeting of 15 August 2023 which is being held in person in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang and also being live streamed.

I am Lydia Wilson, Chair of Council and I would also like to introduce my Panel colleagues, Administrators Peita Duncan and Christian Zahra. I would also like to introduce our Chief Executive Officer, Craig Lloyd and ask that he in turn introduce the members of the Executive Leadership Team in attendance today.”

“Good evening everyone, we also have with us:

Emma Appleton , Director Planning & Development;
Agata Chmielewski, Director Community Wellbeing;
Sarah Renner, Director Customer & Corporate Services;
Debbie Wood, Director Infrastructure & Environment;
Frank Joyce, Executive Manager Strategy & Insight;
Janine Morgan, Executive Manager Public Affairs; and
Jacinta Stevens, Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO.

These members of the Executive Leadership Team will join us during the meeting.”

The Chair of Council on behalf of Administrators welcomed our new Director Planning & Development and also our Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO. Welcome to the City of Whittlesea but also your first Council meeting, its lovely to have you along.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson read the following statement:

“On behalf of Council, I recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.

I would also like to acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.3 Diversity and Good Governance Statement

The Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson read the following statement:

“At the City of Whittlesea we are proud of our diversity and the many cultures, faiths and beliefs that make up our community. We strive to be an inclusive welcoming City that fosters active participation, wellbeing and connection to each other and this land. We commit as a Council to making informed decisions to benefit the people of the City of Whittlesea now and into the future, to support our community’s vision of A Place For All.”

1.4 Acknowledgements

The Chair of Council made the following acknowledgements:

1.4.1 Aged Care Employees Day

On the 7th of August we celebrated Aged Care Employee Day. I'm proud to say at the City of Whittlesea we have 129 dedicated staff in this area who provide really outstanding care to our older residents. I would like on behalf of Administrators to take a moment to thank all of these wonderful staff and indeed all those in our community who provide in home support and care to our older residents and also a number of health and wellbeing programs. Thank you all for making a positive difference to the lives of our senior residents.

1.4.2 Whittlesea Services Hub opens

I am delighted to announce that we will be very soon opening our new Whittlesea Service Hub. This is a first for the City of Whittlesea. The new hub will make it easier for residents in our north to access Council services and that the new hub will be located at 63 Church Street in Whittlesea. From the 31st of August residents will be able to drop-in and be able to talk to Council's customer service staff from 9:30am to 5pm Monday to Friday. People will also be able to drop-in to talk with specialist Council staff throughout the week as well.

The Whittlesea Service Hub will be able to take cashless payments and help residents and businesses with a range of different services. I am pleased that we will be having an on-site virtual planning booth and the ability to connect our Engage Whittlesea website to provide feedback on local projects. I am very thrilled to be making this announcement this evening.

Administrator Christian Zahra AM made the following acknowledgement:

1.4.3 National Homelessness Week

Last week we acknowledged National Homelessness Week, a week that is dedicated to increasing awareness of the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness.

Council has a number of projects underway to help tackle the issue of homelessness at the local level. We are currently seeking Expressions of Interest from community housing organisations to develop and manage new affordable homes on Council-owned land at Ashline Street in Wollert. Council has also partnered with Hope Street Youth and Family Services and the Victorian Government who are constructing accommodation in South Morang to house people aged between 16 and 25 who need short-term crisis accommodation.

I urge anyone who is facing homelessness or is worried about someone else becoming homeless to remember that help is available. We have details on our website of several organisations that can assist with crisis accommodation including Haven Home Safe, Frontyard Youth Services and the Salvation Army.

Administrator, Peita Duncan made the following acknowledgements:

1.4.4 Whittlesea Reconciliation Group 21st anniversary

Later this month the City of Whittlesea will host a special event, a very special event indeed, celebrating the 21st anniversary of the Whittlesea Reconciliation Group. The Whittlesea Reconciliation Group was established in 2002 and has a magnificent and tremendous legacy of advocating for reconciliation and self-determination. The Whittlesea Reconciliation Group, commonly known as WRG, all members are volunteers and working in partnership with Council to champion truth, history, justice and education.

The Elders and allies who have given an enormous amount of their time to the group are rightly proud of their achievements, including the January 26 campaign, establishing the Aboriginal Gathering Place and the continuing advocacy for Aboriginal people's rights.

All past and present WRG members have been invited to the dinner which will be held at PRACC on August the 31st, to celebrate their outstanding contribution over 21 years. On behalf of Council, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of the group's current and past members for their dedication and devotion and here is to another 21 strong years.

1.4.5 National Tree Day success

We recently celebrated National tree Day and we planted an impressive 1000 plants over three community and school events. More than 120 local school students got involved in Schools Tree Day plantings, and we had a fabulous community planting day at Tambo Conservation Reserve in Whittlesea. More than 250 people from our community, 100 scouts and 10 Landcare volunteers were on hand to help plant trees and shrubs.

The City of Whittlesea staff also participated which is fantastic, in planting day where we planted some 70 Silver Banksias that will serve as a pollinator plant for native wildlife. It's been a wonderful display of the community spirit here in the City of Whittlesea to help keep our city green. Council is committed to increasing the number of trees and green cover across the City of Whittlesea and our goal is to achieve a 20% increase in green cover by 2040. Thank you to everybody who participated.

1.5 Attendance

Members:

Lydia Wilson, Chair of Council

Peita Duncan, Administrator

Christian Zahra AM, Administrator

Officers:

Craig Lloyd, Chief Executive Officer

Emma Appleton, Director Planning & Development

Agata Chmielewski, Director Community Wellbeing

Sarah Renner, Director Customer & Corporate Services

Debbie Wood, Director Infrastructure & Environment

Frank Joyce, Executive Manager Strategy & Insights

Janine Morgan, Executive Manager Public Affairs

Jacinta Stevens, Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Apology:

Nil

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Whilst not making a declaration of a conflict of interest, Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson made the following comment:

“I would like to note in relation to item 5.5.1 that while not a conflict of interest. I was a former board director of Procurement Australasia and no longer have any association with that organisation”

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	
Moved:	<i>Administrator Peita Duncan</i>
Seconded:	<i>Chairperson Lydia Wilson</i>

THAT the following Minutes of the preceding meeting as circulated, be confirmed:

Scheduled Meeting of Council held on 18 July 2023.

Additional Confidential Council Meeting held on 25 July 2023.

CARRIED

4 Public Questions, Petitions and Joint Letters

4.1 Public Question Time

Question 1 – John Roffrey, Wollert

What is the Council's position on the installation of wood burning heaters in high density residential developments such as Lifestyle communities? Taking into account that a Whittlesea City Council General Municipal Law states: "a person must not use a wood heater in a manner that causes nuisance to any person."

Response

Council's General Municipal Law does not prohibit wood heaters however, it does provide residents an avenue to address wood heaters that are causing a nuisance. The new Community Local Law 2024, which is currently being drafted following extensive community consultation, takes a similar approach, broadening the scope of what "nuisance" is, including burning of offending materials and extends the application of the nuisance clauses to fireplaces and firepits.

Owners corporations do have their own additional requirements so you will need to check with them on the rules that apply to your own lifestyle community.

Question 2 – Graeme Conway, Whittlesea

38 Councils around Australia are actively supporting the Voice to Parliament. They are allocating rate payer funding for this campaign. Is the Whittlesea Council considering following suit and if yes, why?

Response

The City of Whittlesea has a long-standing commitment to advancing Reconciliation and partnering with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to support self-determination. Council will be taking a neutral position on the Voice to Parliament as guided by a number of local Indigenous groups and reflecting the neutral position of our own Whittlesea Reconciliation Group.

We will continue open dialogue with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. While no funding has been allocated to promote a position, we will continue to support stakeholder organisations to ensure the community is informed about this important national issue and their opportunity that they have to have their say.

Question 3 – Jacinta Walsh, Whittlesea

The Whittlesea Township and City's fascinating history that has been ignored for too long. The City of Whittlesea Council has not established a museum to manage the enormous collection insufficiently stored in various locations. Environmental factors are destroying documents and natural disasters threaten the collection. Due to unavailable storage, the Whittlesea Historical Society has declined donated artefacts.

Additionally, generations haven't had access to a local historical museum to discover life in the past, or to directly reference sources.

The Victorian Curriculum website states, “Awareness of history is an essential characteristic of any society, and historical knowledge is fundamental to understanding ourselves and others.”

The Council’s Whittlesea Township tourism plans require sites to attract visitors. A Historical Museum and Railway Museum would be its greatest investments. Accessible most days of the year, they will generate local revenue and interest from the community, tourists, students, historians, artists, researchers, businesses. Note, many regional towns proudly showcase their museums.

There’s a demand for Whittlesea’s Historical & Arts Precinct with state-of-the art facilities to preserve, protect and promote the City’s history, arts, culture and cultural properties. What are the Council’s established plans and activities to create a Historical and Arts Precinct in Whittlesea?

Response

Thank you Jacinta for your question.

Council recognises and values the rich historical significance of areas such as the Whittlesea Township.

While there are currently no plans for a Museum or a Historical and Arts Precinct in the Township, we did recently create a Destination Plan which has identified some opportunities for Council to continue to support local communities and businesses to grow this area as a tourist destination.

The plan identifies Heritage, Arts and Culture as one of four priority areas and highlights important services and events such as the Whittlesea Courthouse Visitor Information Service, Whittlesea Agricultural Show and the Whittlesea Country Music Festival. The plan also identifies opportunities for a Mernda to Whittlesea shared pathway, food trails and itineraries and advocacy for major investments.

Council has developed a Sites of Significance map and self-guided tour highlighting historical places and spaces in the municipality.

Our recently launched Community Grants program also provides for community groups to apply for funding to run events and programs highlighting cultural and historical aspects for our community.

Our Economic Development Team would be happy to chat further with you about these ideas and your ideas after the meeting.

Chair of Council finished with thank you for your question, Jacinta and if I could encourage you to have that meeting with our Economic Development Team. Thank you for attending this evening.

4.2 Petitions

No Petitions

4.3 Joint Letters

No Joint Letters

5 Officers' Reports

5.1 Connected Communities

5.1.1 Joint Meeting - Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Author: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Purpose

For Council to endorse a joint meeting to be held between Hume, Mitchell and Whittlesea Councils to jointly discuss the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC), which borders all three municipalities.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Under section 62 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, hold and participate in a joint meeting of the Whittlesea City Council, Hume City Council and Mitchell Shire Council on 3 October 2023 at 5pm.
2. Note should the start time of the joint Council Meeting be amended, public notice via Council's website will be provided at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
3. Endorse the purpose of the joint meeting is to discuss the strategic importance of Cloverton as a Metropolitan Activity Centre to all three councils and endorse a high level vision and principles to underpin the work of the partnership and to seek coordination and assistance from the Victorian Government.
4. Endorse the terms of reference for the joint Council Meeting (to be circulated separately).
5. Endorse the joint Council Meeting:
 - a. Being held at Whittlesea City Council Chambers;
 - b. Using the governance rules of Whittlesea City Council; and
 - c. Being chaired by the Mayor of Hume City Council.
6. Note the three appointed Administrators to Whittlesea City Council will participate in the joint Council Meeting.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Chairperson Lydia Wilson</i>
Seconded:	<i>Administrator Christian Zahra</i>

THAT Council:

1. Under section 62 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, hold and participate in a joint meeting of the Whittlesea City Council, Hume City Council and Mitchell Shire Council on 3 October 2023 at 5pm.
2. Note should the start time of the joint Council Meeting be amended, public notice via Council's website will be provided at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
3. Endorse the purpose of the joint meeting is to discuss the strategic importance of Cloverton as a Metropolitan Activity Centre to all three councils and endorse a high level vision and principles to underpin the work of the partnership and to seek coordination and assistance from the Victorian Government.
4. Authorise the CEO to endorse the terms of reference for the joint Council Meeting on behalf of the Council, once circulated between the three Councils.
5. Endorse the joint Council Meeting:
 - a. Being held at Whittlesea City Council Chambers;
 - b. Using the governance rules of Whittlesea City Council; and
 - c. Being chaired by the Mayor of Hume City Council.
6. Note the three appointed Administrators to Whittlesea City Council will participate in the joint Council Meeting.

CARRIED

5.2 Liveable Neighborhoods

5.2.1 Quarry Hills Parkland Future Directions Plan

Responsible Officer Director Infrastructure & Environment

Author Open Space Planner

In Attendance Unit Manager Landscape and Open Space Planning

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- Provide an update on the outcomes of the community consultation for Quarry Hills Parkland Future Directions Plan;
- Seek endorsement of the Quarry Hills Parkland Future Directions Plan;
- Seek endorsement to commence with the formal naming process the Quarry Hills Parkland to a Wurundjeri woi-wurrung name in early 2024.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the Quarry Hill Parklands Future Directions Plan.
2. Note the formal naming process for the parklands will commence in 2024.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Administrator Peita Duncan</i>
Seconded:	<i>Administrator Christian Zahra</i>

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the Quarry Hill Parklands Future Directions Plan.
2. Endorse the commencement of the formal naming process for the parklands to commence in early 2024.

CARRIED

5.3 Strong Local Economy

No reports

5.4 Sustainable Environment

No reports

5.5 High Performing Organisation

5.5.1 CN 2023-64 - Road Maintenance and Associated Services (NCA Collaboration)

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure & Environment

Author: Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Renewal

In Attendance: Coordinator Civil Infrastructure Renewal

Purpose

It is proposed that contract number 2023-64 for Road Maintenance and Associated Services is awarded to the following panel of providers for the respective categories as detailed in this report:

- Asphaltech (VIC) Pty Ltd
- Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd
- Bitupave Ltd T/A NSW Boral Asphalt
- Primal Surfacing
- Supersealing Pty Ltd
- Advanced Traffic Management Pty Ltd
- Altus Traffic Pty Ltd
- Ausroads Traffic Management Pty Ltd
- Image Linemarking Pty Ltd
- Omnigrip Direct Pty Ltd
- Ellgrade Pty Ltd

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. **Accept the tenders submitted by:**
 - **Asphaltech (VIC) Pty Ltd for Asphalt Supply Ex Bin**
 - **Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd for Asphalt Supply Ex Bin**
 - **Bitupave Ltd T/A NSW Boral Asphalt for:**
 - i. **Spray Sealing**
 - ii. **Plant & Labour (not standalone)**
 - iii. **Traffic Control Services**
 - iv. **Line Marking**
 - **Primal Surfacing for:**
 - i. **Spray Sealing**
 - ii. **Plant & Labour (not standalone)**
 - iii. **Traffic Control Services**
 - iv. **Line Marking**
 - **Supersealing Pty Ltd for:**

- i. Crack Sealing
- ii. Traffic Control Services

- Advanced Traffic Management Pty Ltd for Traffic Control Services
- Altus Traffic Pty Ltd for Traffic Control Services
- Ausroads Traffic Pty Ltd for Traffic Control Services
- Image Line Marking Pty Ltd for Line Marking
- Omnigrip Direct Pty Ltd for Line Marking
- Ellgrade Pty Ltd for Unsealed Road Maintenance

for the following contract:

Number: 2023-64
Title: Road Maintenance and Associated Services NCA Collaboration
Cost: The accepted schedule of rates is detailed in the confidential attachment. Total expenditure is limited to \$4,850,000 (excluding GST) unless otherwise approved by Council
Term: 1 September 2023 to 30 June 2026
Options: Term extensions of 2 periods of 12 months up to 30 June 2028.

subject to the following conditions:

- a) Tenderers to provide proof of currency of insurance cover as required in the tender documents.
 - b) Price variations to be in accordance with the provisions as set out in the tender documents.
2. Approve the funding arrangements detailed in the confidential attachment.
 3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to sign and execute the contract on behalf of council and approve any contract variations in line with the Chief Executive Officer’s approved delegations.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	
Moved:	<i>Administrator Christian Zahra</i>
Seconded:	<i>Chairperson Lydia Wilson</i>

THAT Council adopt the recommendation for the Contract No. 2023-64 in relation to Road Maintenance and Associated Services (NCA Collaboration).

CARRIED

5.5.2 Public Transparency Policy

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Author: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Purpose

To seek Council's consideration and adoption of the revised Public Transparency Policy.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Adopt the revised Public Transparency Policy attached at Attachment 1.
2. Note the Public Transparency Policy will be made available on Council's website.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Administrator Christian Zahra</i>
Seconded:	<i>Administrator Peita Duncan</i>

THAT Council:

1. **Endorse the revised draft Public Transparency Policy attached at Attachment 1.**
2. **Resolve to release the revised draft Public Transparency Policy to the community seeking their feedback.**
3. **Request a subsequent report to Council seeking formal approval of the Public Transparency Policy once the community feedback period has closed.**

CARRIED

5.5.3 Review of Council Delegations to Members of Council Staff (s6)

Responsible Officer Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Author Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to support effective and efficient decision-making through updated instruments of Delegations to members of Council staff.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. **For the Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff (Attachment 1):**
 - a. **Resolve to delegate to the members of staff holding the relevant positions the powers, duties and functions set out in the Instrument.**
 - b. **Commence operation of the Instrument immediately upon the common seal of Council being affixed to the Instrument.**
 - c. **Revoke all previous Council delegations to members of Council staff on the coming into force of the Instrument.**
 - d. **Require the duties and functions set out in the Instrument to be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument to be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies adopted by Council.**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Administrator Peita Duncan</i>
Seconded:	<i>Chairperson Lydia Wilson</i>

THAT Council adopt the recommendation in relation to the review of Council Delegations to Members of Council Staff (s6).

CARRIED

5.5.4 Draft Governance Rules

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Author: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Purpose

To seek Council endorsement to undertake a form of community engagement in relation to the amended Governance Rules, incorporating the Election Period Policy.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the draft Governance Rules attached at Appendix 1.
2. Endorse the draft Election Period Policy attached at Appendix 2.
3. Resolve to release the draft Governance Rules and Election Period Policy to the community seeking their feedback.
4. Note a subsequent report will be provided to Council seeking formal approval of the Governance Rules once the community feedback period has closed.
5. Note the Election Period Policy will be incorporated into the Governance Rules once formally adopted by Council at a subsequent meeting.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Chairperson Lydia Wilson</i>
Seconded:	<i>Administrator Christian Zahra</i>

THAT Council adopt the recommendation in relation to the Draft Governance Rules.

CARRIED

6 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

7 Urgent Business

No Urgent Business

8 Reports from Council Representatives and CEO Update

8.1 Administrator Peita Duncan

Administrator Duncan's report was provided verbally at the 15 August 2023 Scheduled Council Meeting. Since the last Council Meeting Administrator, Peita Duncan attended:

- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee

8.2 Administrator Christian Zahra AM

Administrator Zahra's report was provided verbally at the 15 August 2023 Scheduled Council Meeting. Since the last Council Meeting Administrator, Christian Zahra attended:

- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee

8.3 Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson

Chair Administrator Wilson's report was provided verbally at the 15 August 2023 Scheduled Council Meeting. Since the last Council Meeting Chair of Council, Lydia Wilson attended:

- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
- Northern Councils Alliance - Mayors and CEO
- Epping Services Hub - Celebration for the LGPro Award for Excellence
- Site visit to La Trobe University with the Chief Executive Officer

8.4 Chief Executive Officer, Craig Lloyd

The Chief Executive Officer's report was provided verbally at the 15 August 2023 Scheduled Council Meeting:

Children and Families Job Fair

Last Monday, the City of Whittlesea in partnership with the Hume Whittlesea Local Learning and Employment network hosted the Children and Families Career and Jobs Fair. I was delighted to open that. It was a fantastic event with more than 35 exhibitors from educational institutions, local employers and support organisations on site here at PRACC to chat to the community about the employment opportunities and career pathways in early years and the health sectors.

The fair included information presentations on a wide variety of topics including School Based Apprenticeships and Maternal and Child Health Student and Graduate program and how to start your career in childhood education, just to name a few. We had a fabulous turnout with more than 120 people attending. A big shout out to our team in organising that.

New Softball Training Nets

Construction has recently started on the new softball training nets at Mill Park Recreation Reserve which includes two undercover training bays. This project, which was made possible with a \$180,000 contribution by the State Government Sport and Recreation Victoria, is scheduled to be completed later this year.

Peter Hopper Lake Upgrade

The design process for the upgrade of Peter Hopper Lake in Mill Park has started with site investigations underway, including environmental and geotechnical assessments.

I'd like to thank those in our community who took the time to provide feedback during the recent consultation process.

We have listened to that feedback and taken on board all of the valuable ideas and constructive feedback we received. The upgrade will restore the water quality at the lake and ensure that Peter Hopper Lake can remain a place for the community and wildlife to enjoy in the years to come, with work expected onsite to begin in early 2024.

Condolences for Greg Robinson

I would like to acknowledge the passing of Greg Robinson. Greg was a much-loved team member at our Whittlesea depot, and he passed away following a period of illness. Greg served our community with passion, and I think it is fair to say, talking to his colleagues with a great sense of humour. Prior to joining the City of Whittlesea as a member of our roadcrew, Greg also served the community working for Manningham City Council as well. I was honoured with some of our other staff and Directors to attend Greg's memorial service a couple of weeks ago. My thoughts are with his wife, family, friends and all of his colleagues and friends at the Whittlesea depot at this difficult time. Vale Greg Robinson.

Chair of Council Lydia Wilson made the following additional comments:

If we can also pass on our condolences on the passing of Greg to family, friends and staff members as well.

9 Confidential Business

9.0.0 Close Meeting to the Public

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Recommendation

THAT the Chair of Council recommends that the meeting be closed to the public for the purpose of considering details relating to the following confidential matters in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as detailed.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Administrator Christian Zahra</i>
Seconded:	<i>Administrator Peita Duncan</i>

THAT Council adopt the recommendation to close the meeting to the public.

CARRIED

There being no further business the Chair of Council closed the meeting to the public at 7:26 pm.

9.1 Confidential Connected Communities

No Reports

9.2 Confidential Liveable Neighbourhoods

No Reports

9.3 Confidential Strong Local Economy

No Reports

9.4 Confidential Sustainable Environment

No Reports

9.5 Confidential High Performing Organisation

9.5.1 CEO Employment Matters

This report has been designated as confidential in accordance with sections 66(5) and 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* on the grounds that it contains personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs. In particular the attachments contain information regarding the CEO's employment, performance and remuneration.

10 Closure

There being no further business the Chair of Council formally closed the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Confirmed this 19th day of September 2023.

Lydia Wilson
Chair of Council