

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting
Monday 6 May 2024 at 6pm

Conference Room 2 at Civic Centre,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

Youth Councillors

Zachary Melvaine

Youth Mayor

Kaynat Virk

Deputy Youth Mayor

Angelica Banquil

Dean Connelly-Carpenter

Bavleen Kaur

Mustafa Khraim

Angela Rolevska

Masina Salesa

Esha Serai

Tanya Sharma

Sandy Tran

Emily Tricarico

Sophie Winter

Officers

Bobbie-Lea Bright

Unit Manager Governance

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1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Youth Mayor, Zachary Melvaine opened the meeting at 6pm.

“Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 6 May 2024 which is being held in person in Conference Room 2 at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

I am Zachary Melvaine, Youth Mayor and I will be the chairperson for tonight’s meeting. I also have in attendance with me, the Unit Manager Governance, Bobbie Bright.”

1.2 Apologies

Youth Councillor Masina Salesa

Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Youth Mayor 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.”

1.4 Acknowledgements

The Youth Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

Youth Refuge

Along with our Deputy Youth Mayor, I was pleased to visit the new Youth Refuge that is currently being built in the City of Whittlesea.

This project is a joint partnership between Council, the Victorian Government and Hope Sreett Youth and Family Services. When it is complete, the refuge will provide much needed short-term accommodation and support for local young people aged 16-25 years who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.

ANZAC Day Commemorations

Recently we marked ANZAC Day where we remembered those who have served our country in all conflict, wars and peacekeeping operations. It was also an important time to pause and remember those who have lost their lives in war.

It was noted that Youth Councillor Sophie attended the Whittlesea ANZAC Day march with her school and laid a wreath.

I also attended a few ANZAC Day ceremonies, being the Epping Pre-ANZAC Day march, Epping Dawn Service, Greensborough ANZAC Day march and together with my school, the Mill Park Secondary ANZAC Day Commemoration.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

Recommendation

THAT the following Minutes of the preceding Youth Council Meeting as circulated, be confirmed:

Scheduled Meeting of Youth Council held on 8 April 2024.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Kaynat Virk</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>

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

Scheduled Meeting of Youth Council held on 8 April 2024.

CARRIED

4 Officers' Reports

4.1 VR Michael Reserve Draft Master Plan

Director/Executive Manager: Director Infrastructure & Environment

Report Author: Open Space Planner

In Attendance: Coordinator Open Space Planning
Open Space Planner

Executive Summary

- The VR Michael Reserve Master Plan project is the result of a council resolution, at the 12 December 2022 Council Meeting, in response to a petition requesting an increase to car parking spaces and accessible parking at VR Michael Reserve in Lalor. The Council resolutions were to:
 - Undertake a park masterplan in the 2023/24 Financial Year for a more comprehensive approach to park planning for existing and future uses;
 - Upgrade the offsite parking (east of entrance of VR Michael Reserve) and provide all weather pedestrian connection from the parking to the clubrooms as part of the 2023/24 capital works program.
- The Open Space Planning Team has developed the draft VR Michael Reserve Master Plan which provides the City of Whittlesea with a vision, objectives, recommendations, and prioritisation for future development over the 10 years.
- As per the Council resolution, a plan to upgrade the existing gravel parking lot located in the southeast of VR Michael Reserve has been completed. The upgrade includes the construction of a Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant shared path from the car park to the Lalor Bocce Social Club within the reserve, the extension of the existing footpath along High Street as well as the provision of 24 car parking bays.
- Phase One of community consultation and internal stakeholder engagement have been completed, and the community feedback has shaped the draft master plan.
- The master plan will enhance our preparedness for advocacy, contributing to better open space and urban design outcomes. This includes addressing challenges such as rail corridor land acquisition and ensuring a balanced approach to open space loss.
- The estimated budget for implementing the Master Plan will be refined during further design development. Initially, the high-level estimate totals \$4.3m, with CPI adjustments bringing the overall implementation cost to \$5.4m. Funding for the Master Plan is contingent upon Council's annual budget process, with \$1.5m potentially funded from existing asset renewal programs. Additionally, the plan advocates for state government funding for proposed facilities beneath the rail.

- The purpose of the report is to brief the Youth Council on the recommendations from the draft VR Michael Reserve Master Plan and seek feedback on the draft Plan.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Note that the draft master plan has been informed from feedback gathered during the phase one consultation, undertaken from 26 June to 24 July 2023
2. Provide feedback on the draft master plan by the conclusion of the community consultation on 20 May 2024.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Sophie Winter</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Note that the draft master plan has been informed from feedback gathered during the phase one consultation, undertaken from 26 June to 24 July 2023.
2. Provide feedback on the draft master plan by the conclusion of the community consultation on 20 May 2024.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Nil

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

4.2 Youth Council Charter Review - Submission Response

Director/Executive Manager: Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Report Author: Councillor Support Officer

In Attendance: Unit Manager Governance

Executive Summary

The Youth Council Charter is a statement that is read out by the Youth Mayor at the commencement of each Youth Council Meeting.

The statement is a summary of the purpose of the Youth Council, the values it stands for and the goals the Youth Council want to achieve collectively during the term of membership.

Following the recommendation from the 8 April 2024 meeting, the Youth Council have collaborated in developing a revised Charter that best reflects their goals and aspirations.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Approve the revised Youth Council Charter.
2. Note that following approval of the revised Youth Council Charter:
 - a. the Youth Council Terms of Reference will be updated to reflect the change; and
 - b. it will be included in future Agendas of the Youth Council.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Esha Serai</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur</i>

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Approve the revised Youth Council Charter.
2. Note that following approval of the revised Youth Council Charter:
 - a. the Youth Council Terms of Reference will be updated to reflect the change; and
 - b. it will be included in future Agendas of the Youth Council.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Nil

VOTING			
UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

4.3 Sports Fair Access Policy Discussion

Director/Executive Manager: Director Community Wellbeing

Report Author: Councillor Support Officer

In Attendance: Unit Manager Governance

Brief Overview

Youth Council to have a discussion relating to the status of their submission to this item and advise if one will be made prior to the required deadline.

It was noted as the Youth Council submission response has been received since the time of circulating the agenda for tonight's meeting, this discussion is no longer required.

5 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

6 General / Urgent Business

Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim raised complaint made to him by Community Member relating to the Thomastown Railway Crossing

Unit Manager Governance responded by advising that the Youth Councillors will receive an email after the meeting to advise what they can say to community members when they are approached about issues or concerns and the appropriate contact details that they can pass on for community members to contact the Council directly for assistance.

7 Closure

There being no further business the Youth Mayor closed the meeting at 6:21pm.

Confirmed this 3rd day of June 2024.

Zachary Melvaine
Youth Mayor