

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting
Monday 2 September 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

Esha Serai

Tanya Sharma

Sandy Tran

Emily Tricarico

Elly Watson

Sophie Winter

Officers

Jacinta Stevens

Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Bobbie-Lea Bright

Unit Manager Governance

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1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Youth Mayor opened the meeting at 6pm.

“Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 2 September 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 would like to introduce the Youth Councillors in attendance tonight:

Kaynat Virk, Deputy Youth Mayor
Angelica Banquil
Dean Connelly-Carpenter
Bavleen Kaur
Mustafa Khraim
Angela Rolevska
Emily Tricarico
Elly Watson
Sophie Winter

We also have in attendance Jacinta Stevens, Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO.

1.2 Apologies

Youth Councillor Esha Serai
Youth Councillor Tanya Sharma
Youth Councillor Sandy Tran

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Youth Mayor will 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 personally acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.4 Youth Council Charter

The Youth Mayor will read the following statement:

“We the members of the City of Whittlesea Youth Council, commit to advocating for and being the voice of the youth within our municipality. We ensure a safe space for all, to engage in constructive collaboration on matters affecting young people. We aim to empower and foster community connectedness in our youth so they feel valued and supported to achieve their aspirations.”

1.5 Acknowledgements

The Youth Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

Media Release - Youth Council Vaping Social Media Video

Last month a number of members of the Youth Council launched a series of social media reels to help address the increasing use of vaping among young people. The videos are based on the popular lolly salad trend and are designed to reveal the bitter truth behind the sweet taste of vapes and direct young people to get the facts. We hope these videos can make an impact on this important topic.

Farewell Renae Whittaker

We would like to wish Renae Whittaker, Unit Manager Youth Development at the City of Whittlesea all the best as she finishes up in her role with Council shortly. Renae has worked closely with the Youth Council and we would like to thank her for her support.

1.6 Suspension of Standing Orders

The Youth Mayor sought a procedural motion to suspend standing orders.

PROCEDURAL MOTION	
Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Sophie Winter</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>

THAT standing orders be suspended.

CARRIED

Standing orders were suspended at 6:06pm.

The Youth Mayor sought a procedural motion to resume standing orders.

PROCEDURAL MOTION	
Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter</i>
Seconded:	<i>Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk</i>

THAT standing orders be resumed.

CARRIED

Standing orders resumed at 6:29pm.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	
Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Angelica Banquil</i>

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

- **Scheduled Meeting of Youth Council held on 5 August 2024.**

CARRIED

4 Officers' Reports

4.1 Community Priorities 2024 Community Consultation

Director/Executive Manager: Executive Manager Public Affairs

Report Author: Unit Manager Community Engagement

In Attendance: Unit Manager Community Engagement
Unit Manager Financial Development & Accountability

Executive Summary

Each year Council releases an annual Budget for the investment and delivery of critical services and essential infrastructure to support our rapidly growing community. We need to balance the delivery of ongoing services and programs while also building infrastructure and facilities to cater to our growing population. The budget is developed to align to our long-term financial plan which balances our current spending on projects and services for the community and strengthens our long-term financial sustainability.

This financial year Council has an operating budget of \$315m, but we can't do everything and need to make hard choices. We need to know what services and assets our community value most now and for the future to help us shape key documents that will guide Council's activities over the next 5-10 years. The valuable insights we capture will inform the Budget 2025-26, Community Plan 2026-29, Asset Plan 2026-35, Financial Plan 2026-35, Road Management Plan 2026-29 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2026-29.

We are seeking input of the Youth Council as part of a wider community engagement process to ensure their voice is considered. Feedback from the session will be presented and considered as part of the wider community consultation that is active at <https://engage.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/priorities2025>

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council provide feedback from the workshop session to assist in developing key documents including the Budget 2025-26, Community Plan 2026-30, Asset Plan 2026-36, Financial Plan 2026-36, Road Management Plan 2026-30 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2026-30.

Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk moved the following motion which became the Youth Council Resolution.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk
Seconded:	Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico

THAT the Youth Council provide feedback from the workshop session to assist in developing key documents including the Budget 2025-26, Community Plan 2025-29, Asset Plan 2026-35, Financial Plan 2026-35, Road Management Plan 2026-29 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2026-29.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Nil

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

4.2 Amendments to the Youth Council Terms of Reference

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

Report Author: Youth Development Coordinator

In Attendance: Unit Manager Youth Development

Executive Summary

The Youth Council Terms of Reference define the purpose, objective, structure, resourcing and management of the City of Whittlesea Youth Council. The Youth Council Terms of Reference was published in October 2023 prior to the recruitment of the 2024-25 Youth Council.

The Terms of Reference defines that a member of the Youth Council cannot re-apply for membership following the completion of a term of membership (24 months). This has been identified as a disadvantage for Youth Council members who are aged under 16 years old during their term of membership as they do not have the opportunity to nominate for Youth Mayor or Deputy Youth Mayor.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Resolve to accept the proposed amendment to Section 4(d), 4(e), 7(b) and 7(e) at Attachment 1.
2. Note the amended Youth Council Terms of Reference come into effect from 2 September 2024 and will be circulated to relevant officers, Council staff and Youth Council members.

Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk moved the following motion which became the Youth Council Resolution.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: *Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk*

Seconded: *Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska*

That the Youth Council note:

- 1. The changes to Section 7(b) and 7(e).**
- 2. Officers will update the wording to Section 4(d) and 4(e) and bring the Terms of Reference back to the Youth Council at its next scheduled meeting on 11 November 2024 for consideration.**

CARRIED

4.3 Youth Council Submission - Draft Mill Park Place Framework

Director/Executive Manager: Director Infrastructure & Environment

Report Author: Senior Urban Designer

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to note the Youth Council submission provided to the Urban Design Team in relation to the Draft Mill Park Place Framework.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council note the feedback provided by all Youth Councillors in collaboration following the August Youth Council Meeting at Attachment 1.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the Youth Council note the feedback provided by all Youth Councillors in collaboration following the August Youth Council Meeting at Attachment 1.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

5 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

6 General / Urgent Business

No Urgent Business

7 Closure

There being no further business the Youth Mayor closed the meeting at 7:01pm.

Confirmed this 11th day of November 2024.

Zachary Melvaine
Youth Mayor