

Finance and Operations Committee

Minutes

Date: Wednesday 13 April 2022

Venue: Civic Centre (Council Meeting Room)
13 Mair Street, Benalla

The *COVID-19 Omnibus (Emergency Measures) Act 2020* enables councils to hold meetings electronically. This measure is intended to ensure the safety of members of the public, Councillors and Council staff.

The Council Meeting Room had limited capacity for public attendance. Accordingly, members of the public were encouraged to watch the live broadcast of the meeting at www.benalla.vic.gov.au

In accordance with the Governance Rule 6.4 an audio recording was made of the proceedings of the meeting.



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Minutes

Chair	Councillor Justin King	
Councillors	Councillor Danny Claridge Councillor Peter Davis Councillor Don Firth Councillor Bernie Hearn (Mayor) Councillor Punarji Hewa Gunaratne Councillor Gail O'Brien	
In attendance	Dom Testoni	Chief Executive Officer
	Robert Barber	General Manager Corporate
	Tom Arnold	Community Development Coordinator
	Stephanie Brack	Youth Development Coordinator
	Jessica Beaton	Governance Coordinator

The meeting commenced at 5.34pm.

Acknowledgment of Country

The chair recited the following acknowledgment of country.

We, the Benalla Rural City Council, acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and to Elders from other communities who may be here today.

Apologies

No apologies were submitted to the meeting.



Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes have been circulated to Councillors and posted on the Council website www.benalla.vic.gov.au pending confirmation at the meeting.

Cr Davis / Cr Hearn:

That the Minutes of the Finance and Operations Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 9 March 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed to the meeting.



Business

1. Public Question Time

It is recorded that Marianne Hamilton tabled a question regarding the Splash Park.

What is the true annual cost of maintaining and servicing the Splash Park? And how many days per year is it operating as a splash park?

The Chief Executive Officer answered that the 2021/22 annual budget for operating the Splash Park is \$43,200, the year to date spend, including the temporary hire and emptying of onsite portaloos, is \$27,659. The non-operating expense depreciation budget is \$88,000. The Splash Park commenced operating in early November 2021 and will close on 24 April 2022.

Cr Hearn / Cr Firth:

That the question and answer be noted.

Carried

2. 2021/2022 Community Sponsorship Program

The report presented funding applications under the 2021/22 Community Sponsorship Program.

Cr Davis / Cr Claridge:

That \$500 grants from the 2021/22 Community Sponsorship Program be allocated to For the Good of Devenish and the Rotary Club of Benalla Inc.

Carried

3. Draft Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026 – Endorsement for Public Consultation

The report presented for consideration the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026*.

Cr Hearn / Cr O'Brien:

That the Finance and Operations Committee, acting under its delegated authority of the Council, resolve:

- 1. That the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026* be endorsed for public exhibition.**
- 2. That the *Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026* be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days.**

Carried

4. Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Allowances

The report presented the outcome of the determination of the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal's on allowances payable to Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors.

Cr Firth / Cr Claridge:

That the report be noted.

Carried

5. Benalla Rural City Council Chief Executive Officer Employment And Remuneration Committee – Appointment of Independent Advisor

The report considered the appointment of an Independent Advisor to the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee.

Cr Davis / Cr Hearn:

That the Finance and Operations Committee, acting under its delegated authority of the Council, resolve to appoint Chris Eddy as the Independent Advisor on the Benalla Rural City Council Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee for a two-year term commencing 13 April 2022.

Carried



Closure of Meeting

The meeting closed at 6.05pm

Confirmed this eleventh day of May 2022.

Signed: 
Cr Justin King - Chair