

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 20 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 Governance Rule 6.4 an audio recording was made of the proceedings of the meeting.



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Contents

Opening and Acknowledgment of Country	3
Statement of Commitment	3
Disclosures of Conflict of Interest.....	4
Apologies.....	4
1. Public Question Time	4
2. Proposed 2022/23 Budget	4
3. Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032	5
Closure of the meeting	5



Minutes

Chair Councillor Bernie Hearn (Mayor)

Councillors Councillor Danny Claridge
Councillor Peter Davis
Councillor Don Firth
Councillor Punarji Hewa Gunaratne
Councillor Justin King
Councillor Gail O'Brien

In attendance Dom Testoni Chief Executive Officer
Robert Barber General Manager Corporate
Cathy Fitzpatrick Manager Finance
Jessica Beaton Governance Coordinator

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

Opening and Acknowledgment of Country

The chair will open the meeting and recite the following Acknowledgement 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.

Statement of Commitment

The Councillors will recite the following Statement of Commitment:

*I declare,
that as a Councillor of Benalla Rural City
I will undertake on every occasion
to carry out my duties in the best interests of the community
and that my conduct shall maintain the standards of our Councillor Code of Conduct
so that I may faithfully represent
and uphold the trust placed in the Council
by the people of Benalla and District.*



Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed to the meeting.

Apologies

No apologies were submitted to the meeting.

1. Public Question Time

No submissions were submitted to the meeting.

2. Proposed 2022/23 Budget

The report presented for consideration the proposed 2022/23 Budget.

Cr King / Cr Firth:

1. That the proposed 2022/23 Budget be endorsed for public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 21 April 2022.
2. That submissions relating to the proposed 2022/23 Budget be heard at a meeting of the Finance and Operations Committee on 25 May 2022.
3. That the Council consider submissions relating to the proposed 2022/23 Budget at a Council meeting on 15 June 2022.
4. That the Council consider the adoption of the 2022/23 Budget at a meeting of the Council on Wednesday 29 June 2022.

Carried

A division of the vote was called

Votes in favour of the motion:

Cr Danny Claridge
Cr Peter Davis
Cr Don Firth
Cr Justin King
Cr Gail O'Brien
Cr Bernie Hearn

Votes against the motion:

Cr Punarji Gunarante

The motion was **Carried**.



3. Draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032*

The report presents for consideration the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032*.

Cr King / Cr Davis:

1. That the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032* be endorsed for public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 21 April 2022.
2. That submissions relating to the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032* be heard at a meeting of the Finance and Operations Committee on 25 May 2022.
3. That the Council consider submissions relating to the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032* at a Council meeting on 15 June 2022.
4. That the Council consider the adoption of the *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032* at a meeting of the Council on Wednesday 29 June 2022.

Carried

Closure of the meeting

The meeting closed at 6.08pm

Confirmed this twenty seventh day of April 2022.

Signed:



Chair – Cr Bernie Hearn (Mayor)