

Additional Council Meeting

Minutes

Date: Wednesday 1 May 2024

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

In accordance with Rule 6.4 of the *Governance Rules 2020* the Council Meeting was livestreamed via the Council's website and an audio recording was made of the proceedings.

Members of the public were encouraged to watch the live broadcast of the meeting at www.benalla.vic.gov.au

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Minutes

Chair	Councillor Danny Claridge (Mayor)	
Councillors	Councillor Peter Davis	
	Councillor Don Firth	
	Councillor Bernie Hearn	
	Councillor Punarji Hewa Gunaratne	
	Councillor Justin King	
In attendance	Councillor Gail O'Brien	
	Dom Testoni	Chief Executive Officer
	Robert Barber	General Manager Corporate
	Cathy Fitzpatrick	Manager Finance
	Jess Pendergast	Governance Coordinator

Opening and Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair opened the meeting at 5.30pm and recited 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.

Apologies

No apologies were submitted to the meeting.

Statement of Commitment

The Councillors recited 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.*

Governance Matters

The Council Meeting was conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Benalla Rural City Council *Governance Rules 2020*.

Recording of Council Meetings

In accordance with Rule 6.4 of the *Governance Rules 2020* the Council Meeting was livestreamed via the Council's website and an audio recording was made of the proceedings and made available for public access, with the exception of matters identified as confidential items in the agenda.

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed to the Chair.

Officer Reports

1. Proposed 2024/25 Budget

The report presented for consideration the proposed *2024/25 Budget*.

Cr Davis / Cr King:

1. That the proposed *2024/25 Budget* be endorsed for public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days from 2 May 2024.
2. That submissions relating to the proposed *2024/25 Budget* be heard at a meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee on 5 June 2024.
3. That the Council consider submissions relating to the proposed *2024/25 Budget* at a Council meeting on 19 June 2024.
4. That the Council consider the adoption of the *2024/25 Budget* at a meeting of the Council on Wednesday 26 June 2024.

Carried

Cr Claridge / Cr King:

That standing orders be suspend to allow for discussion.

Carried

Standing orders were suspended at 6.07pm.

Cr Claridge / Cr Davis:

That standing orders resume.

Carried

Standing orders resumed at 6.21pm.

A division of the vote was called.

Votes recorded in favour of the motion:

Cr Danny Claridge

Cr Peter Davis

Cr Don Firth

Cr Bernie Hearn

Cr Justin King

Cr Gail O'Brien

Votes recorded against the motion:

Cr Punarji Hewa Gunaratne

The motion was carried.

2. Urgent Business

No urgent business was submitted to the meeting.

Closure of the meeting

The Council Meeting closed at 6.31pm.

The Minutes were confirmed on the twenty ninth day of May 2024.

Signed: _____
Mayor Cr Danny Claridge