

Finance and Operations Committee

Minutes

Date: Wednesday 15 June 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.

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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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	Robert Barber General Manager Corporate Jane Archbold Manager Community Cathy Fitzpatrick Manager Finance Tom Arnold Community Development Coordinator Stephanie Brack Youth Development Coordinator Jessica Beaton Governance Coordinator

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

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

An apology was received from Councillor Punarji Hewa Gunarante.

Cr Claridge / Cr O'Brien :

That the apology/ies be accepted and a leave of absence granted.

Carried

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 this meeting.

Cr Hearn / Cr Davis:

That the Minutes of the Finance and Operations Committee Meetings held on Wednesday 11 May 2022 and Wednesday 25 May 2022 be confirmed as true and accurate records of the meetings.

Carried

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed to the meeting.



Business

1. Public Question Time

No questions were submitted to the meeting.

2. Presentation: North East Multicultural Association

North East Multicultural Association President Ian Prentice and Outreach Worker Jess Winter delivered a presentation on the organisations activities.

3. Proposed 2022/23 Budget – Consideration of Submissions

The report considered submissions received on the proposed *2022/23 Budget*.

Cr Hearn / Cr Davis:
That the report be noted.

Carried

4. Draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032* – Consideration of Submissions

The report considered submissions received on the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Financial Plan 2023 to 2032*.

Cr Hearn / Cr Claridge:
That the report be noted.

Carried

5. Draft *Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026* – Consideration of Submissions

The report presented submissions received on the *Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026*.

Cr Firth / Cr O'Brien:

- 1. That submissions be received.**
- 2. That the *Benalla Rural City Council Youth Strategy 2022-2026* be adopted.**

Carried

6. 2021/2022 Community Sponsorship Program

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

Cr Davis / Cr O'Brien:

- 1. That \$500 grants from the 2021/22 Community Sponsorship Program be allocated to the Benalla Aviation Museum and Golden Vale Golf Club.**
- 2. That a \$330 grant from the 2021/22 Community Sponsorship Program be allocated to U3A Benalla.**

Carried



7. Appointment of Benalla Festival Advisory Committee Members

The report presented nominations received for appointment to the Benalla Festival Advisory Committee.

Cr Firth / Cr Claridge:

That the following nominees be appointed to the Benalla Festival Advisory Committee as Community Representatives:

- **Caroll Bolitho**
- **Stephanie Brack**
- **Vince Branigan**
- **Wayne Godfrey**
- **Dianne Harper.**

Carried

8. Appointment of Benalla Australia Day Advisory Committee Members

The report presented nominations received for appointment to the Australia Day Advisory Committee.

Cr Hearn / Cr Davis:

That the nominees below be appointed to the Australia Day Advisory Committee:

- **Amanda Challis – Benalla Australia Day Committee/Rotary Club of Benalla**
- **Robyn Goudie – Thoona Australia Day Committee**
- **Jade Kirk – Tatong Australia Day Committee**
- **Warren Rex Nankervis – Community Representative**
- **Vicki Sherriff – Community Representative**
- **Christine Werner – Goorambat Australia Day Committee**
- **Diane Young – Devenish Australia Day Committee.**

Carried

9. *Financial Hardship Policy Review*

The report presented for consideration the draft *Financial Hardship Policy*.

Cr Claridge / Cr Davis:

1. That the *Financial Hardship Policy* be adopted.
2. That the *Financial Hardship Policy* be reviewed once the *Local Government Legislation Amendment (Rating Reform and Other Matters) Bill 2022* becomes legislation.

Carried

10. *Investment Policy Review*

The report presented for consideration the reviewed and updated *Investment policy*.

Cr Firth / Cr Hearn:

1. That the *Investment Policy* be adopted.
2. That the *Investment Policy* be reviewed in June 2026.

Carried

11. *Procurement Policy Review*

The report presented for consideration the reviewed and updated *Procurement Policy*.

Cr Hearn / Cr Firth:

1. That the *Procurement Policy* be adopted.
2. That the *Procurement Policy* be reviewed by 31 May 2025.

Carried



12. Future Provision of Commonwealth Home Support Program and Home and Community Care Program for Younger People

The report provided an update on the transition of Aged and Disability Services.

Cr Hearn / Cr Claridge:

- 1. That the Council cease the provision of aged and disability services on 30 June 2022.**
- 2. That Council staff continue to work with the Australian and Victorian governments and new service providers Calvary, Community Accessibility and Gateway Health to ensure an efficient and timely transition of aged and disability services.**
- 3. That the contribution and efforts of current and past Aged and Disability Services staff be acknowledged.**

Carried

Closure of Meeting

The meeting closed at 6.58pm.

Confirmed this twenty seventh day of July 2022.

Signed:



Cr Justin King - Chair