

# Finance and Planning Committee

## Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday 7 February 2024

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

Any person wishing to participate in public submissions in accordance with Rule 7.3 of the *Governance Rules 2020* should contact the Council by emailing [council@benalla.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@benalla.vic.gov.au) or telephoning Governance Coordinator Jess Pendergast on (03) 5760 2600.

In accordance with Rule 6.4 of the *Governance Rules 2020* the Committee meeting will be lived streamed via the Council's website and an audio recording will be made of the proceedings of the meeting.

Members of the public are encouraged to watch the live broadcast of the meeting at [www.benalla.vic.gov.au](http://www.benalla.vic.gov.au)

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# Minutes

**Chair** Cr Bernie Hearn

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


<b>In attendance</b>	Dom Testoni	Chief Executive Officer
	Robert Barber	General Manager Corporate
	Janine McMaster	Manager People and Performance
	Nilesh Singh	Manager Development
	Tom Arnold	Community Development Coordinator
	Jess Pendergast	Governance Coordinator

## Opening and Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.pm 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.



**Governance Matters**

The Committee 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 the *Governance Rules 2020* clause 6.4 meetings of Council are audio recorded 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.

**Confirmation of the previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were circulated to Councillors and posted on the Council website [www.benalla.vic.gov.au](http://www.benalla.vic.gov.au) pending confirmation at the meeting.

**Cr Firth / Cr Davis:**

**That the Minutes of the Finance and Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6 December 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

**Carried**

**Business****1. Building and Planning Approvals – November and December 2023**

The report detailed planning permit applications and building approvals for November and December 2023.

**Cr Firth / Cr Davis:**

**That the report be noted.**

**Carried**

**2. Development Department Activity Report for the Quarter Ended 31 December 2023**

The report presented the activities of the Development department for the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

**Cr King / Cr Gunaratne:**

**That the report be noted.**

**Carried**

**3. People and Performance Department Activity Report for the Quarter Ended 31 December 2023**

The report presented the activities of the People and Performance Department for the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

**Cr Gunaratne / Cr O'Brien:**

**That the report be noted.**

**Carried**



**4. Councillors' Expenses For the Quarter Ended 31 December 2023**

The report detailed expenditure associated with Councillors' mobile phone usage, attendance at professional development courses, conferences and seminars, and reimbursement of expenses incurred.

**Cr Davis / Cr King:**

**That the report be noted.**

**Carried**

**5. CEO Credit Card Report for the Quarter Ended 31 December 2023**

The report detailed expenditure associated with the corporate credit card issued to the Chief Executive Officer for the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

**Cr Firth / Cr Davis:**

**That the report be noted.**

**Carried**

**6. Urgent Business**


No urgent business was submitted to the meeting.

**Closure of Meeting**

The Finance and Planning Committee meeting closed at 6.24pm.

**Confirmed this tenth day of April 2024.**

**Signed:**



**Cr Bernie Hearn (Chair)**