

# Finance and Planning Committee

## Minutes

**Date: Wednesday 6 December 2023**

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

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

Members of the public were 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

<b>Chair</b>	Councillor Bernie Hearn	
<b>Councillors</b>	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
	Nilesh Singh	Manager Development
	Tom Arnold	Community Development Coordinator
	Joel Ingham	Planning Coordinator
	Grant Banks	Communications and Engagement Coordinator
	Jess Pendergast	Governance Coordinator

## Opening and Acknowledgment of Country:

The Chair opened the meeting at 6pm 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* the meeting was 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 have been circulated to Councillors and posted on the Council website [www.benalla.vic.gov.au](http://www.benalla.vic.gov.au) pending confirmation at this meeting.

**Cr Davis / Cr Firth:**

**That the Minutes of the Finance and Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 1 November 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

**Carried**





**Business****1. Planning Application – For The Use Of The Land For A Contractor’s Depot At 186 Grant Drive, Benalla**

The briefing outlined a planning application received for the use of the land for a contractor’s depot at 186 Grant Drive, Benalla.

It is noted that the following persons addressed the committee:

- John Burke spoke against the planning application.
- Grant Howell spoke against the planning application.

**Cr Davis / Cr O’Brien:**

**That an additional three minutes to address the committee be given to John Burke.**

**Carried**

**Cr Firth / Cr Davis:**

**That Council having caused notice of Planning Application No. P0061/21 to be given under Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 decides to refuse a permit under the provisions of the Benalla Planning Scheme in respect of the land known and described as Lot 1 PS533440X 186 Grant Drive, Benalla for the use of the land for a Contractor’s Depot in accordance with the endorsed plans, submitted with the application dated 4 May 2021 subject to the following ground:**

**Grounds of Refusal**

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the objectives of the General Residential Zone in that it provides for a non-residential use that does not serve a local community need.**
- 2. The use may cause unreasonable detriment to adjoining properties with regard to noise, dust and light emissions.**
- 3. The use is industrial in nature which is inappropriate in its surrounding residential context.**

**Carried**

## 2. Planning Application – To Use And Develop The Land For A Dog Breeding Facility At 11 Peck Road, Goorambat

The briefing outlined a planning application received for the use of the land for a Dog Breeding Facility at 11 Peck Road, Goorambat.

It is noted that the following persons addressed the committee:

- Kui Sia spoke in support of the planning application.

**Cr King / Cr O'Brien:**

**That an additional three minutes to address the committee be given to Kui Sia.**

**Carried**

**Cr Gunaratne / Cr King:**

**That standing orders be suspended to allow for discussion on the item.**

**Carried**

Standing orders were suspended at 6.58pm.

**Cr Davis / Cr Claridge:**

**That standing orders resume.**

**Carried**

Standing orders resumed at 7.06pm.

**Cr Claridge / Cr King:**

**That the item be deferred until the Finance and Planning Committee meeting on Wednesday 10 April 2024 to allow for more detailed information to be provided from the applicant.**

**Carried**



**3. Building and Planning Approvals – October 2023**

The report details planning permit applications and building approvals for October 2023.

**Cr Firth / Cr King:**  
**That the report be noted.**

**Carried**

**4. 2023/24 Quick Response Grants Program**

The report presented funding applications to the 2023/24 Quick Response Grants program.

**Cr Davis / Cr Gunaratne:**  
**That \$500 grants from the 2023/24 Quick Response Grant program be allocated to Tatong Community Centre and Recreation Reserve and Small Town Sing.**

**Carried**

**5. 2023/2024 Major Event Funding Program**

The report presented funding applications to the 2023/24 Major Event Funding program.

**Cr Claridge / Cr King:**  
**That a \$2,000 grant from the 2023/24 Major Event Funding program be allocated to the Albert Heaney Oval Committee of Management.**

**Carried**



## 6. Benalla Senior Citizens Community Centre – Proposed Name Change

The report presented a proposal to change the name of the *Benalla Senior Citizens Community Centre*.

**Cr Davis / Cr King:**

**That the proposal for the *Benalla Senior Citizens Community Centre* to be renamed *Benalla Seniors and Community Centre* be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days.**

**Carried**

## 7. Benalla Street Art Festival Social Media Exemption

The report sought an exemption to Council's *CP24 Social Media Policy* for the purpose of giving curator of the Benalla Street Art Festival Eddie Zammit the ability to post to social media on the Council's behalf.

**Cr Claridge / Cr King:**

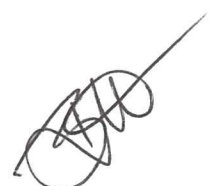
**That the Finance and Planning Committee, acting under its delegated authority of the Council, resolve:**

**That the Council provides an exemption to the *Social Media Policy* to allow third party Eddie Zammit to post on the social media profiles known as *@Benalla Street Art Festival* (Facebook) and *@Benalla.Street.Art.Festival* (Instagram) for the purpose of promoting the *2024 Benalla Street Art Festival* until 31 March 2024.**

**Carried**

## 8. Urgent Business

No urgent business was submitted to the meeting.





**Closure of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 7.31pm.

Confirmed this seventh day of February 2024.

Signed:   
Cr Bernie Hearn (Chair)