

OFFICIAL

Council Meeting

Minutes

24 November 2021 at 6:30pm

**Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sturt Street,
Ballarat**



ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Opening Declaration	4
2. Apologies For Absence	4
3. Disclosure Of Interest	4
4. Matters Arising From The Minutes	5
5. Confirmation Of Minutes	5
6. Public Question Time	5
7. Chief Executive Officer Report	9
7.1. Chief Executive Officer Report	9
8. Officer Reports	10
8.1. Ex-POW Memorial - Interpretive Centre	10
8.2. Art Gallery of Ballarat Governance	11
8.3. Bakery Hill and Bridge Mall - Concept Design Package	12
8.4. Proposed Road Renaming and Renumbering Falkirk Road and Arapiles Street .	13
8.5. Intercultural Ambassador Program 2022-25	14
8.6. Library Strategy	15
8.7. Tender 2021/22-224 Coles/Woolworths Car Park.....	16
8.8. Tender 2021/22-267 Buninyong Streetscape Works	17
8.9. Tender 2021/22-306 Major Patch Asphalt	18
8.10. Quarterly Performance Report.....	19
8.11. Governance Rules.....	20
8.12. Rates Financial Hardship Policy	21
8.13. Councillor Representation	22

8.14. S5 Instrument of Delegation - Council to CEO.....	23
8.15. C4 Instrument of Delegation (Delegated Committees).....	24
8.16. December 2021 Council Meeting Date	25
8.17. Outstanding Question Time Items	26
9. Notice Of Motion	27
10. Reports From Committees/Councillors.....	27
11. Urgent Business	29
12. Section 66 (In Camera)	29
13. Close.....	29

1. OPENING DECLARATION

Councillors: *"We, the Councillors of the City of Ballarat, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance."*

Mayor: *"I respectfully acknowledge the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung People, the traditional custodians of the land, and I would like to welcome members of the public in the gallery."*

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Present

Mayor Cr Daniel Moloney
Cr Ben Taylor
Cr Samantha McIntosh
Cr Belinda Coates
Cr Mark Harris
Cr Des Hudson
Cr Amy Johnson
Cr Peter Eddy
Cr Tracey Hargreaves

Mr Evan King- Chief Executive Officer
Ms Bridget Wetherall - Director Infrastructure and Environment
Mr Matthew Wilson - Director Community Wellbeing
Mr John Hausler - Director Corporate Services
Ms Natalie Robertson - Director Development and Growth
Mr Cameron Montgomery - Executive Manager Governance and Risk
Ms Sarah Cuthbert - Acting Coordinator Risk and Compliance
Ms Sophie Constable - Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

2.2 Apologies

Nil

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Cr Hargreaves declared a conflict of interest in item 8.3 Bakery Hill and Bridge Mall - Concept Design Package.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting on 20 October 2021, 27 October 2021 and 1 November 2021 Unscheduled Council Meeting as circulated be confirmed.

Moved: Cr Belinda Coates

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

(R242/21)

RESOLUTION:

Move a Condolence Motion for Barry James who sadly passed away on 17 November 2021.

Moved: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Daniel Moloney

(R243/21)

Cr Hudson raised a Condolence Motion for Barry James who sadly passed away at the age of 89 after a lengthy battle with illness.

Barry was an icon of the Ballarat racing community as a trainer, owner and breeder. Barry also enjoyed great success running two iconic businesses, Barry James Smash Repairs in Ballarat from the age of 20, before later opening Barry James Mobile Cranes in Melbourne.

Ballarat City Council pass on sincere sympathy and condolences to Barry's family during this saddening time.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

QT53/21 - Lachlan McDonald (read out by a Council Officer)

Question

1. Can Council advise how many million dollars have been set aside for compensation for flood damage for all new dwellings constructed, or being constructed, on land known to flood and covered by the Blue overlay on the City of Ballarat Flood Emergency Plan?
2. Could the maps in the City of Ballarat Flood Emergency Plan be modified, or a subsequent set of maps be included, that expand on the Blue areas, to include Red for new (within 20) yr dwellings, and Orange for proposed or under construction development, that is affected areas that were Blue now be updated to Red and Yellow?

Answer

1. Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth responded that the Ballarat Flood and Emergency Plan and flood extensive information is informed by Catchment Management Authority/ies (CMA). City of Ballarat is currently underway with formalising our flood overlay amendment, but we can assure that any new development as part of a planning process is referred to the relevant CMA and appropriate conditions are informed on planning applications and formed as part of the development for any infrastructure.
2. Cameron Montgomery, Executive Manager Governance and Risk responded that City of Ballarat are currently not aware of any liability regarding flooding within this blue zone, nor have any claims been received in relation to this zone. In conjunction with that, we are aware that our Insurers have adequate coverage for any potential claims.

QT54/21 - Jay Morrison (read out by a Council Officer)**Question**

1. 'Will Ballarat Council make publicly available a list of businesses that have received direct financial support (or other assistance) under the Community and Business Support Program, or provide that information on notice?'

Answer

1. Evan King, Chief Executive Officer responded that as part of the Business and Community Support Program process, Council never sought consent from any of the applicants to make their private information known, so Council will not be providing a list of recipients. However, this program has been hugely successful program by Council, providing over \$200,000 worth of support to businesses and sporting groups that have been significantly impacted by COVID-19. There were 413 applications received for this program which were processed very quickly ensuring funds were disbursed as quickly as possible to these businesses and groups. For some insight into the types of businesses that have received this funding: 97 Trades, 71 Health & Beauty Sector, 46 Retail, 44 Community Service, 30 Hospitality Industry, 29 Administration Services, 27 Food Industry, 16 Accommodation, 14 Cleaning Services, 12 Fitness Industry, 3 Sport Clubs, 3 Gardening Services, 2 Manufacturing, 1 Agriculture, 1 Children Services, and 17 Other. This demonstrates a great array of businesses that have received this support in a time well needed.

QT55/21- Cameron Spedding (read out by a Council Officer)**Question**

1. Given that the purpose of redesigning the Bridge Mall is to encourage foot traffic in the area, why do we need to open the mall to cars to reinvigorate the area?

Answer

1. Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth responded that the decision to reintroduce traffic into the Mall was part of Council's \$15m commitment to reinvigoration of the precinct. Vehicle access was considered an important part of the

reinvigoration. After much design consideration it was resolved to provide “one-way” slow speed traffic through the space (eastbound + minimal parking) and develop the precinct as a shared zone favouring pedestrians and cyclists over vehicles. Major changes to Grenville Street will vastly improve pedestrian access to the precinct from Sturt Street also. On balance vehicle access will change the function of the space but the focus will be on pedestrian spaces for walking, sitting, dining and other events.

QT56/21 - Paul Murphy**Question**

1. Why are the ‘red coats’ showing up and firing shots at Eureka Park since 2019 when they were banned after the opening of Eureka Centre in 1999 and banned from David Vendy in 2004 from ever being there again?
2. Why Daniel Moloney last year as the Mayor, with an Irish name, did you go to Ballarat Cemetery and walk behind ‘red coats’ with guns to Irish graves of those who were murdered? We have photos of you from the Courier and photos that I took.

Answer

1. Mayor, Cr Moloney responded that Council are not aware of any ban in relation to Sovereign Hill performers / ‘red coats’. However, this question would be taken on notice to clarify this information.

Cr Des Hudson also responded signifying that David Vendy as Mr Paul Murphy suggests put a ban on firing shots at Eureka Park - was Mayor of the Day at the time but had no authority on Council’s position for this and there was never a resolution/motion that came to Council.

2. Mayor, Cr Moloney responded that he will not tolerate any form of defamatory attack on any Councillor that is not within Governance Rules, including himself within the Council Chamber. To partly address the question, Cr Moloney responded that as Mayor or a Councillor they are unable to choose if they are part of a photo or in the background of a photo that other people may take.

Mayor, Cr Moloney asked Mr Paul Murphy to leave the Council Chamber

RESOLUTION:

That Standing Orders be suspended to remove a member of the public in the gallery whose actions threatened the stability of the meeting.

Moved: Cr Daniel Moloney

Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED

(R244/21)

RESOLUTION:

That Standing Orders be resumed.

Moved: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Amy Johnson

(R245/21)

RESOLUTION:

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow for presentations.

Moved: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Amy Johnson

(R246/21)

Cr Johnson presented Cr Moloney with a replica Mayoral Fob in recognition of his past 12 months as Mayor and wished him luck for the next 12 months as incoming mayor of 2022

RESOLUTION:

That Standing Orders be resumed.

Moved: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh

(R247/21)

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

7.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Evan King – Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

1. The CEO's Operational Report highlights issues and outcomes affecting the organisation's performance as it delivers services and implements the Council's strategies and policy decisions.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Receive and note the CEO's Operational Report.

Moved: Cr Belinda Coates
Seconded: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED
(R248/21)

8. OFFICER REPORTS

8.1. EX-POW MEMORIAL - INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

Division: Development and Growth
Director: Natalie Robertson
Author/Position: Natalie Robertson – Director Development and Growth

Public Representations were heard by Bill Bahr and Margaret Benoit.

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to seek a formal decision on development of an interpretive centre and toilets for the Australian Prisoner of War Memorial located in the south Section of the Ballarat Botanic Gardens.

MOTION

That Council:

1. **Resolve to work collaboratively with the Ex-Prisoner of War Association to identify appropriate site whether that be within the Lake Wendouree precinct or an alternative location.**
2. **Request a report to come back to Council to include the potential benefits of the Interpretive centre to inform future Council funding.**

Moved: Cr Amy Johnson

LOST

Seconded: Cr Tracey Hargreaves

RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. **Defer consideration of the report to a future Council Meeting.**

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Daniel Moloney

(R249/21)

8.2. ART GALLERY OF BALLARAT GOVERNANCE

Division: Community Wellbeing
Director: Matthew Wilson
Author/Position: Louise Tegart – Director Art Gallery of Ballarat

PURPOSE

1. Positive Solutions and Harwood Andrews were engaged by Council in 2019 to undertake a Governance Review of the Art Gallery of Ballarat and develop new legal documentation.
2. The Governance Review recommended the merging of the Board and the Art Gallery Foundation. Council is asked to endorse the merger.

RESOLUTION:

12. That Council:

12.1 Endorse the merger of the Board of the Art Gallery of Ballarat and the Art Gallery Foundation including the Board taking authority over the assets of the Foundation.

12.2 Endorse the new Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Board.

12.3 Endorse the expression of interest process to recruit new Board members under the terms of the new Memorandum of Understanding.

Moved: Cr Mark Harris

Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh

CARRIED

(R250/21)

8.3. BAKERY HILL AND BRIDGE MALL - CONCEPT DESIGN PACKAGE

Division: Development and Growth
Director: Natalie Robertson
Author/Position: James Guy – Executive Manager Economic Growth

Cr Hargreaves declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting prior to discussion occurring.

A public representation was read by a Council Officer on behalf of Sue Broadway

PURPOSE

1. To seek endorsement for the concept design package prepared for the redevelopment of Bridge Mall in the Ballarat CBD, and use that design direction to complete detailed design, cost planning and tendering for capital works.

RESOLUTION:

That Standing Orders be suspended due to a security issue.

Moved: Cr Daniel Moloney **CARRIED**
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris **(R251/21)**

RESOLUTION:

That Standing Orders be resumed.

Moved: Cr Daniel Moloney **CARRIED**
Seconded: Cr Ben Taylor **(R252/21)**

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Endorses the concept design package for the Bridge Mall redevelopment and use of this design direction to underpin detailed design, cost planning and tendering for the capital works.**
2. **Notes the physical works to Bridge Street are just one part of implementing the adopted Bakery Hill and Bridge Mall Urban Renewal Plan and a range of other complementary measures continue to be progressed to support components such as private sector investment, inner city housing and new parkland for the CBD.**

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor **CARRIED**
Seconded: Cr Des Hudson **(R253/21)**

Cr Hargreaves returned to the meeting.

8.4. PROPOSED ROAD RENAMING AND RENUMBERING FALKIRK ROAD AND ARAPILES STREET

Division: Development and Growth
Director: Natalie Robertson
Author/Position: Natalie Robertson Director Development and Growth

PURPOSE

1. Due to current and proposed development in and around the Arapiles Street area, Council has identified issues with street addressing and difficulties in locating existing properties, particularly for emergency services.
2. The report purposes a change of naming of a section of Arapiles Street to form an extension of Falkirk Road and subsequent renumbering of properties on Falkirk Road in accordance with the requirements of the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*, Reference NP-234 Arapiles Street and Falkirk Street, Nerrina.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Endorse the proposal to rename a section of Arapiles Street to Falkirk Road and renumber properties accordingly.**
2. **Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the Authority to complete all relevant steps pursuant to the Geographic Place Naming Procedures to formalise this change.**

Moved: Cr Peter Eddy
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED
(R254/21)

8.5. INTERCULTURAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM 2022-25

Division: Community Wellbeing
Director: Matthew Wilson
Author/Position: Frances Salenga – Intercultural Services Coordinator

PURPOSE

1. To request Council's endorsement of the Expression of Interest process for the recruitment of ten Intercultural Ambassadors 2022-25, and
2. To seek Council's acknowledgement of the invaluable contributions of the outgoing Intercultural Ambassadors 2019-2021 and endorse those interested to continue as Intercultural Ambassador Advisors (volunteers).

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Endorse of the Expression of Interest process for the recruitment of ten Intercultural Ambassadors 2022-25,**
2. **Acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the outgoing Intercultural Ambassadors 2019-2021 and endorse those interested to continue as Intercultural Ambassador Advisors (volunteers).**

Moved: Cr Belinda Coates
Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED
(R255/21)

8.6. LIBRARY STRATEGY

Division: Community Wellbeing
Director: Matthew Wilson
Author/Position: Jenny Fink – Executive Manager Learning and Community Hubs

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to present the draft City of Ballarat Libraries and Learning Strategy 2022-2027 for provisional approval for the document to be released to the community for further feedback.
2. The City of Ballarat Libraries and Learning Strategy 2022-2027 has been developed in consultation with the Ballarat community and key library stakeholders. The strategy provides a vision for a community focused library service that will allow for future growth in Ballarat.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Provisionally endorse the City of Ballarat Libraries and Learning Strategy 2022-2027 and associated Action and Implementation Plan and invite further consultation from members of the public from 29 November to 20 December 2021.**

Moved: Cr Belinda Coates
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED
(R256/21)

8.7. TENDER 2021/22-224 COLES/WOOLWORTHS CAR PARK

Division: Infrastructure and Environment
Director: Bridget Wetherall
Author/Position: Robin Hand – Contracts Administrator

PURPOSE

1. To award Contract Number 2021/22-224 for the provision of Coles/Woolworths Carpark, Eastwood Street to Little Bridge Street, Rehabilitation and Landscaping works with Streebson Pty Ltd t/a Ballarat Excavation & Transport for the total tendered price of \$1,469,619.10 (ex GST).
2. This project will see the existing asphalt pavement replaced, new traffic islands and trees and new line marking in the Coles/Woolworths Car Park between Eastwood Street and Little Bridge Street.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Enter into Contract Number 2021/22-224 for the provision of Coles/Woolworths Carpark, Eastwood Street to Little Bridge Street, Rehabilitation and Landscaping works with Streebson Pty Ltd t/a Ballarat Excavation & Transport for the total tendered price of \$1,469,619.10 (ex GST).
2. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to execute the associated contract on behalf of Council.

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED
(R257/21)

8.8. TENDER 2021/22-267 BUNINYONG STREETScape WORKS

Division: Infrastructure and Environment
Director: Bridget Wetherall
Author/Position: Robin Hand – Contracts Administrator

Director Corporate Services, John Hausler introduced item and noted that the Council Meeting agenda was updated on the website on Monday 22 November 2021 to amend an incorrect tendered price in the public agenda. The Officer Recommendation in this Council Report was amended by replacing the incorrect tendered price of \$1,097,867.00 (ex GST) with the correct tendered price of \$1,079,867.00 (ex GST).*

PURPOSE

1. To award Contract Number 2021/22-267 for the provision of Buninyong Streetscape Project - Warrenheip St and Learmonth St with Enoch Civil Pty Ltd for the total tendered price of \$1,079,867.00 (ex GST).
2. This project incorporates streetscape works In Warrenheip Street, Buninyong, between Eyre St and Forest St and in Learmonth Street, west of Warrenheip St.

RESOLUTION:**That Council:**

1. **Enter into Contract Number 2021/22-267 for the provision of Buninyong Streetscape Project - Warrenheip St and Learmonth St with Enoch Civil Pty Ltd for the total tendered price of \$1,079,867.00 (ex GST).**
2. **Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to execute the associated contract on behalf of Council.**

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**Seconded: Cr Des Hudson****CARRIED****(R258/21)**

8.9. TENDER 2021/22-306 MAJOR PATCH ASPHALT

Division: Infrastructure and Environment
Director: Bridget Wetherall
Author/Position: Luke Ives – Acting Executive Manager Operations

PURPOSE

1. To award Contract 2021/22-306 for the provision of Major Patch Asphalt with Bitu-Mill Pty Ltd for the total tendered price of \$1,258,927.45 (ex GST). The contract Term is for 4 months.
2. The scope of the contract involves asphalt repairs of various road defects throughout the City of Ballarat to meet compliance of Council's Road Management Plan and improve road conditions.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Enter into Contract 2021/22-306 for the provision of Major Patch Asphalt with Bitu-Mill Pty Ltd for the total tendered price of \$1,258,927.45 (ex GST). The contract Term is for 4 months.
2. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to execute the associated contract on behalf of Council.

Moved: Cr Mark Harris
Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED
(R259/21)

8.10. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Matthew Swards – Integrated Strategic Planning Manager

PURPOSE

1. The two attached reports set out Council's quarterly performance for the period ending 30 September 2021, including;
 - a. Summary of Financial Results;
 - b. Financial Statements
 - c. Key Performance Indicators
 - d. Progress in relation to the implementation of the Council Plan 2021/2022 actions.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Receive the Quarterly Financial Management Report – Period Ending 30 September 2021 and note the financial matters contained within the report.**
2. **Receive the Council Plan Quarterly Report – 30 September 2021.**

Moved: Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED
(R260/21)

8.11. GOVERNANCE RULES

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

A public representation was read by a Council Officer on behalf of Jeff Rootes

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the report is to present Council with the proposed City of Ballarat Governance Rules for consideration.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Defer consideration of the report to a future Council Meeting.**

Moved: Cr Des Hudson
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED
(R261/21)

8.12. RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Rod Leith – Manager Revenue & Procurement Services

PURPOSE

1. This report seeks to gain approval from Council for the introduction of a formal policy document to guide the way Council responds to financial hardship applications.
2. Once adopted, the Rates Financial Hardship Policy will provide a consistent and structured response to financial hardship applications from ratepayers who are finding it difficult to pay their rates.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Adopt the Rates Financial Hardship Policy.**

Moved: Cr Des Hudson

Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh

**CARRIED
(R262/21)**

8.13. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

PURPOSE

1. The report is for Council to adopt the Councillor Representation for Committees and External Bodies for 2022.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. **Endorse the 2022 appointments of Councillor Representation on Committees, Boards, Organisations and Groups as detailed in attachment 2.**
2. **Ensure that all the Committees, Board, Organisations and Groups are notified of Council's revised representatives.**

Moved: Cr Mark Harris
Seconded: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED
(R263/21)

8.14. S5 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION - COUNCIL TO CEO

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the report is for Council to adopt the S5 Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer.

RESOLUTION:

In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 11(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Ballarat City Council resolves that:

1. There be delegated to the person holding the position, acting in or performing the duties of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
2. The Instrument comes into force in alignment with the Procurement Policy taking affect from 1 December 2021 and immediately once the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument;
3. On the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked.
4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

Moved: Cr Des Hudson
Seconded: Cr Mark Harris

CARRIED
(R264/21)

8.15. C4 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION (DELEGATED COMMITTEES)

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the report is for Council to adopt the C4 Instrument of Delegation to the following Delegated Committee: Contracts Approval Delegated Committee.

RESOLUTION:

In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Ballarat City Council resolves to:

1. Adopt the updated C4 Instrument of Delegation to members of the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee, the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached delegation (the instrument).
2. The Instruments:
 - a. Come into force in alignment with the Procurement Policy taking affect from 1 December 2021 and immediately once the Common Seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument; and
 - b. Remains In force until Council determines to vary or revoke it
3. The powers, duties and functions conferred on the members of the Delegated Committee by the Instruments must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies Council may from time to time adopt.
4. The Instrument be sealed.
5. Revoke the C4 Instrument of Delegation for the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee endorsed by Council on 24 March 2021 (R60/21).

Moved: Cr Des Hudson
Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED
(R265/21)

8.16. DECEMBER 2021 COUNCIL MEETING DATE

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

PURPOSE

1. This report recommends to Council to reschedule the 22 December 2021 Council Meeting to the 15 December 2021.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Reschedule the 22 December 2021 Council Meeting to the 15 December 2021 to commence at 6:30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sturt Street Ballarat.

Moved: Cr Mark Harris

Seconded: Cr Des Hudson

CARRIED

(R266/21)

8.17. OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEMS

Division: Executive Unit
Director: Evan King
Author/Position: Sarah Anstis – Statutory Compliance Officer

PURPOSE

1. This report provides Council with an update of responses to questions taken on notice and outstanding unanswered questions from public question time.

RESOLUTION:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Outstanding Question Time report.

Moved: Cr Des Hudson

Seconded: Cr Belinda Coates

CARRIED

(R267/21)

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS

GB39/21 Cr Coates

Cr Coates requested that Councillors accept her apology for the 15 December 2021 Council Meeting as she had swapped prior Commitments to this date which is now the date of Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION:

Accept Cr Coates apology notice for 15 December Council Meeting due to prior commitments.

Moved: Cr Belinda Coates

CARRIED

Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy

(R268/21)

Cr Coates raised concerns regarding escalating hooning in Sturt Street and CBD area.

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth noted that she has just finished a letter to Cr Coates addressing these issues. It is a difficult issue for Council to control, however we do have resources such as 'Dob in a Hoon' where community members can lodge concerns.

Chief Executive Officer, Evan King advised that this issue will be raised in upcoming meetings with VicPol & Department of Transport which can then be followed up in future meetings.

Cr Coates also requested a progress report on the Carbon Neutrality and 100% Renewables Plan particularly looking at whether we are acknowledging the climate emergency. It would also be requested that there be a refresh of that strategy in the new year. The main priority would be the budget discussions for this plan.

Cr Coates also requested consideration of enacting some options around Council's divestment position and how Council follow through on that.

Cr Coates also requested discussion to consider the merit of something like a revolving carbon fund that some other Councils have done. Whether it is something like that or a variation as part of budget discussions.

GB40/21 Cr Ben Taylor

Cr Taylor highlighted the increasing concerns of residents in relation to potholes in Ballarat with residents experiencing tyres blowing out etc. and bus drivers concerned for safety due to potholes. He requested a briefing report as part of the 2022 budget process and budget timelines to understand how to properly address this issue and current strategies.

Cr Taylor also requested an update on how our Communications team is notifying the Community about certain events that have been scheduled and when Community Sessions are being held prior to such events. For example, Road Nationals Event has been scheduled for next week and there is very minimal communication about this event which resulted in only 5 people attending the community session about the circuit for the Road Nationals event.

GB41/21 Cr Harris

Cr Harris requested an update on Community Actions and Engagement involved in the Carbon Neutrality and 100% Renewables Plan.

Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment responded that the team are currently working on providing report to update on the status of community actions in the plan. They are also working on refreshing the plan which would include ways to better report on broader sustainability initiatives across the city. This will also include gap analysis so the community and Council can reach the specified goals.

GB42/21 Cr McIntosh

Cr McIntosh raised concerns over the temporary fencing that has been placed at Lydiard Street railway gates and there seems to be a misunderstanding of whose responsibility the fencing is as it does not seem to align with heritage overlays in the area.

Chief Executive Officer, Evan King responded that there is currently a heritage permit for an interim solution. The planning approval for that has a whole range of conditions that Department of Transport, Vic Track and V/Line have to abide by. As to whose responsibility the fencing beyond the railway gates that goes along for the rail corridor – this will be taken on notice and raised in an upcoming meeting with Department of Transport to seek clarification.

GB43/21 Cr Johnson

Cr Johnson raised concerns around members of the public who are not vaccinated and may be disadvantaged in the utilisation of services that are really important to a lot of people such as the Library, the Ballarat Aquatic Lifestyle Centre, Parent Place etc. Cr Johnson posed a question to the CEO to clarify if there is anything further Council can do to provide services separately to unvaccinated members of the public.

Chief Executive Officer, Evan King responded that all of City of Ballarat facilities are covered under directions by the Chief Health Officer so it is not a decision Council have made to limit access to unvaccinated people, we are simply following public health orders/directions. There has been a whole range of changes to certain services put in place such as click and collect still available at the library, collection outside to animal shelter, some online versions of rhyme time, a range of ways of accessing customer service as well as outside communication with unvaccinated members of the public.

