

MINUTES

Meeting of Council

Held at the
Civic Centre
511 Burwood Highway
Wantirna South
On
Monday 24 July 2023



The Agenda for the Meeting of Council, Monday 24 July 2023, forms part of these Minutes and is attached in full at the end of the Minutes.

These Minutes are considered draft until adopted and confirmed at the next Meeting of Council.

The meeting commenced at 7:05pm.

PRESENT:

<i>Cr M Timmers-Leitch (Mayor)</i>	<i>Collier Ward</i>
<i>Cr Y Allred</i>	<i>Baird Ward</i>
<i>Cr J Dwight</i>	<i>Chandler Ward</i>
<i>Cr S Grasso</i>	<i>Dinsdale Ward</i>
<i>Cr M Baker</i>	<i>Dobson Ward</i>
<i>Cr S Laukens</i>	<i>Friberg Ward</i>
<i>Cr L Cooper</i>	<i>Scott Ward</i>
<i>Cr D Pearce</i>	<i>Taylor Ward</i>
<i>Cr N Seymour</i>	<i>Tirhatuan Ward</i>
<i>Mr B Dobson</i>	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>
<i>Mr G Curcio</i>	<i>Director - Customer and Performance</i>
<i>Mr G Thorne</i>	<i>Director – Infrastructure</i>
<i>Mr M Kelleher</i>	<i>Director - City Liveability</i>
<i>Ms J Chalkley</i>	<i>Director – Connected Communities</i>
<i>Ms N Lorkin</i>	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>
<i>Mr J Rashed</i>	<i>Chief People Officer</i>
<i>Mr A Dowling</i>	<i>Manager, Governance and Risk</i>

THE MEETING OPENED WITH A PRAYER, STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND A STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

“Knox City Council acknowledges we are on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people and pay our respects to elders both past and present.”

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1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence

Nil.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

The Chairperson, Councillor Timmers-Leitch invited Councillors to raise any opposition to the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Monday 26 June 2023. There being none, the Chairperson declared the Minutes be confirmed.

4 Presentations, Petitions and Memorials

Nil.

5 Reports by Councillors

5.1.1 Councillor Cooper

- An issue was raised as to whether Council seeks parental consent when children under the age of 18 join Council's Committees, as a resident's sister asked another municipality a question about this issue and did not get the answer they were expecting.
- Noted the only Council Committee involving members under the age of 18 is the Youth Advisory Committee, where Council has always asked for parental consent as part of the online registration process.
- The 'Better Impact' portal requires applicants who are under the age of 18 years to provide parent contact details for consent purposes. Both successful applicants and their parents are sent a copy of the Acceptance Letter and Volunteer Handbook, with the parents signing off on permission for their child to become a member of the Youth Advisory Committee.
- All Youth Advisory Committee Members over the age of 18 must undertake a valid Police Check and Working with Children Check.
- Relevant Council officers working with the Committee have also undertaken a Police Check and Working with Children Check.

5.1.2 Councillor Grasso

- Received enquiries regarding kindergarten services and Koolunga Native Reserve which have been followed up.
- Referenced the Bayswater Business Precinct Partnership which serves as an economic powerhouse aiming to boost jobs and investment in the regional industrial precinct. This precinct contains over 5000 businesses and employs over 30,000 people in manufacturing, construction and wholesale trade with 70% of workers living in the Knox, Yarra Ranges and Maroondah municipalities. It is the second largest employment precinct in the eastern metropolitan region. It is estimated that 40,000 jobs will be required by 2042 to keep up with population growth.

The Knox, Yarra Ranges and Maroondah municipalities are collaborating in this Bayswater Business Precinct partnership to create a business heart and coordinate a land use plan for business, along with advocating for better freight and public transport, roads and cycling paths in the area. Highlighted that the Bayswater Business Precinct Strategy is in development to attract investment in the precinct, supporting business to access government services and private sector programs.

Encouraged residents to find out more information about the Bayswater Business Precinct through the Council website.

5.1.3 Councillor Dwight

Councillor Dwight reported attending the following meetings:

- Meeting with Mark Edwards, Secretary of The Basin Football and Netball Club
- Meeting with Aiv Puglielli MP
- Boronia Heights Development Plan protest at Woolworths Boronia

- Meeting with Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve
- Meeting with Stewards of Koolunga Native Reserve
- 'Meet Your Councillor' event at Miller's Homestead
- VLGA and LGiU Global Executive Panel: Addressing Climate Action While in a State of Permacrisis
- Eastern Regional Group of Councils Meeting
- Knox Youth Advisory Committee Meeting
- Business National Tree Day event at Corhanwarrabul Creek
- Service Review and Planning Program Workshop
- Knox Raiders NBL1 First Nations Round match

Councillor Dwight also:

- Received enquiries regarding drainage issues with groundwater and stormwater systems at capacity along with pipe issues. A number of residents expressed concern as they are experiencing flooding events. These issues will be followed up by Council officers.
- Followed up on the ivy management issue raised at the previous Council Meeting which will be presented to the next Environment Advisory Committee meeting.
- Recognised the upcoming ABC 'War On Waste' program addressing soft plastics recycling as part of a kerbside system which has not been addressed by Knox as yet, however information is being sought regarding other Council pilots and trials with major supermarkets in Victoria.
- Noted that the world recorded its hottest day on record on three occasions in the last month with global ocean temperatures rising. These elements are front of mind when it comes to Council strategic decision-making in acting locally and thinking globally.

5.1.4 Councillor Allred

Councillor Allred reported attending the following meetings:

- Meeting with Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve
- Boronia Heights Primary School Production 2023 – 'The Amazing Adventures of Superstar'
- Meeting with Stewards of Koolunga Native Reserve
- Business National Tree Day event at Corhanwarrabul Creek

Councillor Allred also:

- Noted the recent community consultation regarding the proposed removal of a sports mural at Tormore Reserve Pavilion from Council's Art Register. Community feedback has indicated that the mural is eligible for removal as it is ageing and outdated. The community expressed a desire for a mural that incorporates diversity.
- Council is considering a proposed one way traffic configuration on Genista Avenue and Iris Crescent in Boronia as part of the Boronia Renewal Program to improve pedestrian safety and amenity through developing the 'green spine' corridor. This includes accommodating a shared path along Genista Reserve in Boronia, with officers consulting with residents to consider the impact on access and travel patterns. The results of the consultation are pending.

5.1.5 Councillor Pearce

- Noted VCAT upheld Council's objection to the six dwelling development at 50 Murray Crescent, Rowville indicated the decision gives weight to Council's original decision noting that C189 aims to protect the integrity of the masterplan area.

5.1.6 Councillor Laukens

Councillor Laukens reported attending the following meetings:

- Panel – Selection of Arts and Culture Committee Applications
- Rotary Club of Boronia Changeover Dinner
- Meeting with Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve
- Service Review and Planning Program Workshop
- Rotary Club of Knox visit
- Waterford Valley Gardens Tour
- Your Library Board Convene Training
- Australian Institute of Company Directors Meeting: Governance and the Practice of Directorship
- Australian Institute of Company Directors Course
- Meeting with Knox United Soccer Club
- Catch-up with Boronia Rotary Club
- ICT Governance Committee Meeting
- Business National Tree Day event at Corhanwarrabul Creek
- Grand Opening of 'Rowville Riders' at the old Windermere Tennis Club
- Australian Institute of Company Directors Meeting: The Legal Environment
- Knox Citizenship Ceremony

Councillor Laukens also:

- Noted the Waterford Valley Retirement Village received a Community Development Fund grant to refurbish their community gardens. This work has been completed and the residents can now come together and participate in produce growth and social activities.
- The Rowville Riders have now found their 'forever home' at the unused Windermere Tennis Pavilion Club, following refurbishment work by Council's Facilities team. The 'Tour De France' themed opening event celebrations were warmly received.
- Acknowledged that Council's Recreation and Leisure officers are currently working with the Knox United Soccer Club to try and find them a 'forever home'.

5.1.7 Councillor Timmers-Leitch

Councillor Timmers-Leitch reported attending the following meetings:

- Early Years Advisory Committee Recruitment interviews
- Meeting with Stewards of Koolunga Native Reserve
- Wantirna Health Precinct meeting with officers and constituents
- Your Library CEO Performance Review Committee Meeting

- Australian Institute of Company Directors: Reporting to the Board Virtual Classroom
- Radio Eastern 98.1FM Midweek Magazine Interview
- Citizenship Ceremony at Rowville Secondary College Performing Arts Centre
- Knox Raiders NBL1 First Nations Round game
- Visit to Ambleside on Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully
- Meeting with Daniela De Martino MP
- Meeting with Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve
- 'Voices Over 55' Exhibition at Miller's Homestead
- Ferntree Gully Village Traders Meeting
- Your Library Board Convenor Training
- Meeting with Jackson Taylor MP and Knox City Council Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Dobson
- ICT Governance Committee Meeting
- Volunteer Shift at Knox Toy Library
- Wantirna South Football Club Ladies Day
- Rotary Club of Knox Changeover Dinner
- Meeting with Mark Edwards, Secretary of The Basin Football and Netball Club

Councillor Timmers-Leitch also:

- Invited residents to visit Miller's Homestead, highlighting the 'Voices over 55' Photography Exhibition being held at the venue between 2pm-3pm over the next two Wednesdays. This exhibition celebrates the contribution of that demographic to the Knox community and challenges ageism in the community.
- Thanked businesses for their enthusiastic participants in planting over 3000 plants at the Corhanwarrabul Creek.
- Noted there will be a Community Tree Planting Day near Cobbitty Court, Boronia this coming Sunday 30th July from 10am.
- Acknowledged enquiries from residents regarding the future of kindergarten services in Knox.

5.1.8 Councillor Baker

Councillor Baker reported attending the following meetings:

- Meeting with Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve
- Knox Active Ageing Advisory Committee Member Interviews
- Ferntree Gully CFA Awards
- Meeting with Stewards of Koolunga Native Reserve

6 Planning Matters

6.1 Report of Planning Applications Decided Under Delegation 1 June 2023 to 30 June 2023

SUMMARY: Manager, City Planning & Building, Paul Dickie

Details of planning applications considered under delegation are referred for information. It is recommended that the items be noted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the planning applications decided under delegation reports (between 1 June 2023 to 30 June 2023) be noted.

MOVED: Councillor Baker

SECONDED: Councillor Cooper

That the planning applications decided under delegation reports (between 1 June 2023 to 30 June 2023) be noted.

CARRIED

6.2 3/19 Viewtech Place, Rowville

SUMMARY: Principal Planner, Ilona Dorian

This report considers Planning Application P/2023/6063 for change of use for an Indoor Recreation Facility (Gym) at 3/19 Viewtech Place, Rowville.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council issue a Notice of Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit for the change of use for an Indoor Recreation Facility (Gym) at 3/19 Viewtech Place, Rowville, subject to the following refusal grounds:

1. The proposal is inconsistent with Industrial 1 Zone for the following reasons:
 - a. The proposed use does not ensure the continuity of land availability for industry.
2. The proposal is inconsistent with Clause 17 (Economic Development) and Clause 17.03 (Industry) for the following reasons:
 - a. The use does not support a strong and sustainable local economy and facilitate local employment opportunities.
 - b. The use does not ensure land is available for employment and production-economy related uses.
 - c. The use fails to facilitate development and investment and support economic growth of the 'Significant Business Locations' at Scoresby-Rowville-Knoxfield industrial area'.
3. The proposal is inconsistent with Clause 22.02 (Land Employment) for the following reasons:
 - a. The proposal does not support high generating employment and high economic output land uses establishing in 'Core Employment Land Areas' to this Clause by only fostering uses which directly support the industrial and production economy role of the 'Significant Business Location'.
4. The proposal is inconsistent with Clause 52.06 Car Parking for the following reasons:
 - a. The proposal represents a significant shortfall in on-site car parking as required to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Pearce

That Council issue a Planning Permit for the change of use for Indoor Recreation Facility (Gym) at 3/19 Viewtech Place, Rowville; subject to the following conditions:

Amended Development Plans

- 1. Prior to the commencement of the development approved under this Permit, amended development plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The development plans must be approved prior to other plans required by this permit. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then**
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form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application but modified to show:

- 1.1 A site plan with the location and dimensions of bicycle facilities in accordance with Clause 52.34 of the Knox Planning Scheme showing a minimum of 3 bicycles with at least 1 bicycle space for employees in the form of secure bicycle lockers or compound which conform to the Planning Scheme requirements.

Use

2. A maximum of 8 patrons and 2 staff are permitted to be on the premises between 9am-4pm (weekdays).
3. A maximum of 12 patrons and 2 staff are permitted to be on the premises at all other times.
4. Classes must be separated by a time interval of at least 15 minutes. This is to ensure that there is no overlap of car parking, which would result in double the car parking demand.
5. Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority, the use may only operate between the following hours:
 - 5.1 5:30am – 8pm Monday to Friday;
 - 5.2 8am – 3:30pm Saturday and Sunday.
6. The use as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the responsible authority.

Amenity

7. Noise levels emanating from the premises must not exceed those required to be met under the State Environment Protection Policy (Control of Music Noise from Public Premises, No. N-2) and in the event of the Responsible Authority receiving justifiable complaints regarding noise from such sources, the onus will be on the owner of the development site to prove compliance with the relevant policy to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
8. No external sound amplification equipment or loudspeakers are to be used for the purpose of announcement, broadcast, playing of music or similar purpose.
9. The owner and/or occupier shall not cause or permit undue detriment to the amenity of the area to arise out of or in connection with the use of the premises to which the permit relates.

Signage

10. Except as may be permitted by the Planning Scheme no advertising signs, flags, bunting or the like devices shall be displayed on the site without the further permission of the Responsible Authority.

Car Parking & Accessways

11. Parking areas and driveways must be kept available and maintained for these purposes at all times to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
12. The carpark and parking bays must be line marked, signed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
13. Car parking bays shall not be used as a storage area.
14. At least 1 bicycle space is required for staff and 2 bicycle spaces for visitors.

Permit Expiry

15. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

15.1 The use is not started within two years of the date of this permit.

Pursuant to Section 69 of the Planning & Environment Act 1987, the Responsible Authority may extend:

The commencement date referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within six (6) months afterwards.

CARRIED

7 Public Question Time

Following the completion of business relating to Item 6, Planning Matters, the business before the Council Meeting was deferred to consider questions submitted by the public.

Question Time commenced at 7:38pm.

The following questions were raised with Council:

7.1.1 Question One – Kelvin Granger

Can Council please advise of the dollar (\$) amount of “cost shifting from State Government” they estimate they incurred in the 2022/23 financial year?

The Chief Financial Officer, Navec Lorkin responded:

- The issue of cost shifting in local government has long been a great concern for the sector.
- Cost shifting occurs when higher levels of government transfer financial responsibilities to local councils without providing adequate funding to cover those expenses.
- When costs are shifted without corresponding funding, it puts an undue burden on local councils and can result in additional costs ultimately being borne by ratepayers.
- Council has advocated against cost shifting in the past and generally does so on a case-by-case basis, to address the specific circumstances and impacts of each instance.
- Council at this time has not estimated the cost shifting impacts from the State government for 2022/23.
- However, examples of cost shifting include the state government and council traditionally shared the cost of operating libraries 50-50 over time, the state’s contribution has dropped to around 21% with council now bearing about 79% of the cost, in dollar terms this means Council is contributing \$3.2M annually more than the State. Council also contributes around \$1M annually including overheads to provide school crossing services.
- Council welcomes efforts from individuals, community groups and organisations like Council Watch to highlight the impacts of cost shifting on local communities and ratepayers when it occurs.

7.1.2 Question Two – Felice Lomuto

Knox United Soccer Club is the most nomadic sporting club in the Knox City Council boundaries having utilised 12 different facilities in its 30 year history, including a shared winter tenancy with another club – yet they are still to find a "forever" home.

In lieu of the 5-7 year delay on the Kingston Links/Bankside development and possible eviction from the private facility it currently utilises, will council make the commitment to enter into consultation with Knox United Soccer Club as well as Football Victoria, State & Federal Governments to secure a “forever home” in the next 24 months to accommodate its continuing growth as an inclusive, family friendly club and to avoid having to be displaced once again.

We would also like to receive further clarification on the plans to develop Park Ridge Reserve into a “Regional Football Facility” (as quoted to me in recent weeks by a sitting councillor). As the club which provided the huge boost in participation and usage numbers at Park Ridge to justify said upgrades, we are asking for detailed information on the new upgrades as well as

seeking clarification as to why we have not been consulted on these proposed upgrades at any stage.

The Director Connected Communities, Judy Chalkley responded:

- The Active and Creative Communities team has been working proactively with the Knox United Soccer Club over recent years to address their requirements.
- Staff worked with the club to move them to their current facility at Carrington Park Reserve and have liaised with them for a number of years about their long term requirements and the possibility of a permanent home at the yet to be developed Kingston Links facility.
- Officers also met with the Club earlier today to discuss the current situation, including the Park Ridge proposal and will continue to work with the Club to ensure that their needs are met in the best way possible.

7.1.3 Question Three – Susan Pearce

On the assumption that Council makes the final determination to exit kinder services except for the hubs, why would they not exit all services rather than this in and out approach?

In regards to the buildings which may be no longer offering kinder services, will the Council be charging commercial rents to whoever occupies them?

The Director Connected Communities, Judy Chalkley responded:

- Council is still considering the proposal of Option 2, which includes consultation with staff. This proposal, Option 2 was put before Council for consideration as it allowed Council to continue providing a range of services in 2 integrated early years hubs and enhance service delivery in the hubs to explore how best to create ‘centres of excellence’ which showcase co-location and integration of universal and other allied health services.
- Option 2 also aligned with changing family preferences and a best practice approach to integrated services in ECEC and provide a diverse suite of integrated services for families and children inclusive of long day care with funded kinder places, MCH, Playgroups and sessional kindergarten programs.
- Should Council decide to proceed with the proposed change, officers would then work with the Department of Education regarding an Expression of Interest process to seek alternate providers. When alternate provider/s are selected, officers would then be able to have meaningful conversations with the provider/s to understand the different circumstances that may apply to a lease arrangement.

7.1.4 Question Four – Barbara Crowe

Is there a 4-bin waste recycling system planned across Victoria under the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 and is Knox obligated to participate in this system?

<https://www.vic.gov.au/Standardising-household-recycling-across-Victoria>

If Knox is participating in this, will this mean further bin lid changes, to yellow for recyclables, and red for household, and the introduction of a purple glass bin and what is the expected timeframe if further change is expected?

The Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne responded:

- The State Government legislation 'Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021' states that Councils must provide a residual waste service, a recycling service, a food organics and garden service and a recycling service for glass, so Knox Council have a legislative obligation to provide the services.
- The changes to the waste service include service standards imposed by the state government which include standardising the colour of the bin lids across the Victoria. Given that, the current yellow bin lid will be swapped to be red and the current blue lid will be swapped to be yellow. These changes are planned to occur in late 2024/early 2025. Regarding the purple glass bin, this is currently planned to be implemented by June 2027.

7.1.5 Question Five – Lynette Hayhurst

Homelessness is a reality for many in the Knox area, including myself. Can Council outline specific strategies to practically help the homeless find a permanent home?

The Director Connected Communities, Judy Chalkley responded:

- Homelessness is a reality in Knox which Council is working hard to address.
- Council has a Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Policy and Procedure which assists the direction of decision-making and management process relating to homelessness.
- The Social and Affordable Housing Strategy is being used to develop social housing in Knox with some work on the table in this area and Councillors proactive in that field.
- Council has a short term support team who work with homeless members of the community, where participants remain confidential.
- The Director was willing to meet with the submitter to investigate ways to be more proactive to addressing the situation of the submitter.

The Mayor also noted that conversations surrounding homelessness have transpired with the Federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness the Hon Julie Collins MP to aim to place Knox's Strategic Platform relating to homelessness in front of her and also referenced Council's Women over 55 Project.

Question Time Concluded at 8:00pm.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: Councillor Baker

SECONDED: Councillor Cooper

That Council adjourn the Meeting for 5 Minutes.

CARRIED

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm and resumed at 8:08pm with all Councillors present.

The Chairperson, Councillor Timmers-Leitch proposed a change to the order of business to address Item 8.10 Draft Knox Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 immediately following Item 8.1 Koolunga Native Reserve – Adoption of Future Directions Plan. The order of business was so amended with leave of the meeting.

8 Officer Reports

8.1 Koolunga Native Reserve - Adoption of Future Directions Plan

SUMMARY: Co-ordinator Stormwater, Niels Unger

Council started working on a wetland proposal for Koolunga Native Reserve in 2018. Following community engagement on the wetland proposal in early 2021, there were concerns raised by sections of the community about the impact of the wetlands. These concerns led to \$80,000 being allocated in the 2021/22 financial year to develop a Future Directions Plan for Koolunga Native Reserve. The development of the Future Directions Plan has been informed by the 'Koolunga Native Reserve Engagement Summary Report & Values Plan', the '2022 Bushland Management Plan for Koolunga Native Reserve and Vaughan Road Reserve, Ferntree Gully' report and the 'Koolunga Native Reserve WSUD Optioneering Assessment'.

This report presents a summary of the context and development of the Koolunga Native Reserve Future Directions Plan and presents the Plan for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the feedback received during the engagement undertaken in May 2023 on the draft Koolunga Native Reserve Future Directions Plan.
2. Endorse the draft Koolunga Native Reserve Future Directions plan (Attachment 1).

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Allred

That Council resolves to:

1. **Note the extensive engagement that has been conducted since March 2021 to:**
 - a. **Assist community in understanding the needs of the reserve and broader catchment area**
 - b. **Inform Council's decision and future management of Koolunga Native Reserve and Vaughan Rd Reserve.**
2. **Note the ecological threats Koolunga Native Reserve is facing and the intervention actions recommended according to both importance and timing in Dr. Lorimer's Bushland Management Plan (2022), to guide Council's management of Koolunga Native Reserve and Vaughan Road Reserve.**
3. **Note the \$120K obtained by Council from Melbourne Water through the Living Rivers Stormwater Program in 2019 cannot be used for mechanical stormwater treatment options such as the Gross Pollutant Trap assessed in Engeny's Stormwater Quality Study and prioritised in the Draft Future Directions Plan.**
4. **Endorse the Future Directions Plan (FDP) for Koolunga Native Reserve with the following amendments to enhance the biodiversity, stormwater quality and longevity of the reserve:**

- a. Replace the current Action 2.5 with – “In collaboration with Melbourne Water, seek to retain the \$120k Living Rivers Stormwater Program funding to improve functionality of Forest Road Drain within the Reserve – with a view to slowing down the water flow, removing sediment, guiding weed removal, and revegetating with indigenous species”
 - b. Replace the current Action 2.3 with – “Design and install a Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) at the SE outlet in the eastern section of the reserve with consideration for a bio filtration raingarden or small wetland system to the west of Forest Rd to compliment and provide additional habitat.
 - c. Add an Action 2.6 - “Explore the possibility with Melbourne Water of diverting some of the flow from the Forest Road Drain to the ephemeral watercourse to help mitigate pulse flow issues in Forest Road Drain”
 - d. Replace the current Action 3.7 with – “Acknowledging current faunal species usage of the mature pines that are nearing end of life, plan for a staged removal of *Pinus radiata* throughout the reserve, including revegetation with appropriate indigenous species in consultation with Council’s Biodiversity Team.”
 - e. To emphasis the priority of the actions within the FDP, renumber the actions as follows:
 - i. Current Action 2.5 be renumbered to Action 2.1
 - ii. Current Action 2.3 be renumbered to Action 2.2
 - iii. New Action 2.6 be renumbered to Action 2.3
 - iv. Current Actions 2.1, 2.2 and 2.4 be renumbered to Actions 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 respectively
5. That the Actions 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 3.7 be identified as priority actions, in that order, within the FDP and that the available funding is used to undertake these actions prior to any actions identified within the FDP that are not achievable through existing operational budget. Any additional funding requirements shall be referred to future budget considerations.
6. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer appoints) to make minor amendments to the document to make it consistent with the changes above and to give effect to the above resolution.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

MOVED: Councillor Baker

SECONDED: Councillor Laukens

That Councillor Dwight be permitted an extension of time to speak under Section 42 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

CARRIED

Councillor Seymour requested that the minutes reflect the following questions and responses provided:

Councillor Seymour noted the Alternate Motion from Councillor Dwight is prescriptive and introduces words such as 'bio filtration', 'raingardens' and 'small wetland systems to the west of Forest Road' and asked if there would be any interruptions or change to the open space environments depicted in page 57 of the Report and also asked whether there is anything in the Alternate Motion which could change these two locations.

The Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne noted the Alternate Motion does not impact the two open space sites in the northern part of the Reserve.

Councillor Seymour asked where the ephemeral water course would be and whether it will impact the existing open space areas that currently exist.

The Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne outlined that an ephemeral water course is one that runs during or immediately following rainfall and is dry at other remaining times. They exist north of the Forest Road drain in Koolunga Native Reserve. It was also noted that Item 4.c looks at diverting the water at the Forest Road drain towards the ephemeral water course.

Councillor Seymour referenced the amendment in Item 6 of the Alternate Motion which authorises the Chief Executive Officer and Director Infrastructure to make minor amendments and to give effect to the above resolution. Councillor Seymour asked whether these amendments would prevent community consultation on the details of prioritised recommended changes and would it prevent Councillors having robust discussions with community input at a Council Meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Dobson noted that the amendment in Item 6 is to update the Future Directions Plan to reflect the changes included in the Alternate Motion with reference number and wording changes, which would not preclude Council from making a decision on these matters and also does not preclude consultation on these matters.

The substantive motion was put and CARRIED.

8.10 Draft Knox Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025

SUMMARY: First Nations Lead, Adrian Greenwood and
Coordinator Healthy and Safe Communities Lisette Pine

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in March 2021, Council endorsed the 2020 Knox Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Needs Analysis and resolved to “implement the initiatives presented in the 2021 Action Plan to progress reconciliation and strengthen relationships with the Knox Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.” A key action in the Plan included the development of Council’s first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in partnership with First Nations communities and endorsed by Reconciliation Australia.

The RAP is based on Reconciliation Australia’s framework and is our commitment to progress meaningful and accountable actions to advance reconciliation, walking and listening together to create a culturally safe and culturally rich community for all.

The RAP development was guided by a Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group led by First Nations Elders, local Leaders, Traditional Owners and representatives from Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, who generously gave their time and expertise to advise on issues that were important to the community and supported community conversations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the draft Knox Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 presented in Attachment 1 of this report.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Seymour

That Council approve the draft Knox Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 presented in Attachment 1 of this report.

CARRIED

8.2 Leisure Minor Capital Works Grant Scheme 2023-2024

SUMMARY: Leisure Contracts and Project Officer, Rhonda Snijders

This report presents the recommendations of the Leisure Minor Capital Works Grant Scheme (LMCWGS) Panel for Council's 2023-2024 program allocation for funding. The annual LMCWGS supports community sporting and leisure organisations to undertake facility improvements on land owned or managed by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approves a funding allocation of \$18,516.95 (including GST) from the 2023-24 Leisure Minor Capital Works Grants Scheme Program to the applicant clubs nominated in Attachment 1.
2. Specifies that additional grant conditions are required for the sporting organisations listed in Attachment 2.
3. Inform applicant clubs of Council's decision.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Allred

That Council:

1. Approves a funding allocation of \$18,516.95 (including GST) from the 2023-24 Leisure Minor Capital Works Grants Scheme Program to the applicant clubs nominated in Attachment 1.
2. Specifies that additional grant conditions are required for the sporting organisations listed in Attachment 2.
3. Inform applicant clubs of Council's decision.

CARRIED

8.3 Response to Notice of Motion 133

SUMMARY: Coordinator Property Management, Paige Kennett

At Council's Ordinary Meeting on 27 March 2023, Council considered 'Notice of Motion 133 Surplus Land Framework and Review' and resolved to receive a report by July 2023 on this matter.

This report responds to the Notice of Motion 133, which required officers to outline resources to develop a framework for future decisions regarding Council's property portfolio, and review land holdings in accordance with the proposed framework. The report presents the proposed project which would deliver a prioritisation and viability framework, and options for its implementation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note this report is in response to Notion of Motion 133 and outlines the proposed approach for development of a framework to inform the prioritisation and viability of land sales.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council:

- 1. Note this report is in response to Notion of Motion 133 and outlines the proposed approach for development of a framework to inform the prioritisation and viability of land sales; and**
- 2. Refer consideration for funding of Stage 1 of the framework to the next budget process.**

CARRIED

8.4 Policy Update - Bicycle Path/Shared Path on Non Council Owned Land

SUMMARY: Coordinator Property Management, Paige Kennett

The Shared Path on Non-Council Owned Land Policy is due for review and updating to ensure that Councils Policy provides suitable options to manage bicycle paths/shared paths that are identified as located on, or to be constructed on non-Council owned land. The policy has been thoroughly reviewed, with additional options included to allow Council to better support its objective of creating a connected shared path network across our municipality.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Shared Path on Non-Council Land Policy as set out in Attachment 1 of the officer's report.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Laukens

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council adopt the Shared Path on Non-Council Land Policy as set out in Attachment 1 of the officer's report.

CARRIED

8.5 Minor Grants Program 2022-23 Monthly Report

SUMMARY: Community Partnerships Officer, Jade Mainwaring

This report summarises the grant applications recommended for approval in July for the 2023--24 Minor Grants Program. All applications have been assessed against the criteria set out in the Minor Grants Program Procedure.

Applications under the Minor Grants Procedure are limited to a maximum of \$3,000.00 within the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve nine applications for a total of \$18,914.44 as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Interchange Outer East Inc.	Boronia Cooking Program	\$1,395.00	\$1,395.00
Knoxfield 55 Plus Club Inc.	Knoxfield 55 Plus Club Birthday Lunch	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1st Rowville Scout Group	1st Rowville Scout Hall Switchboard Upgrade and External Light replacement	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Knox Environment Society Inc.	Nursery Bench Prototype	\$2,104.00	\$2,104.00
Bayswater Junior Football Club Inc.	Goal post padding	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Uttar Pradesh Association of Australia Inc.	India's Independence Day Celebrations-Knox	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Rowville Football Club Inc.	Eildon Canteen Equipment Replacement	\$951.50	\$951.50
Windermere Reserve Pre-school Inc.	Bush Kinder	\$2,463.94	\$2,463.94
Rowville Netball Club Inc.	Upgrade of Coaches Playing and Training Bags	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$18,914.44	\$18,914.44

2. Defer one application requesting a total of \$3,000.00, as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Eastern Warriors Football Club Inc.	Kids Soccer Training	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

3. Note that should the recommended grants be approved by Council, the remaining Minor Grants Program budget for 2023-24 will be \$137,818.56.

RESOLUTION**MOVED:** Councillor Seymour**SECONDED:** Councillor Cooper

That Council:

1. Approve nine applications for a total of \$18,914.44 as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Interchange Outer East Inc.	Boronia Cooking Program	\$1,395.00	\$1,395.00
Knoxfield 55 Plus Club Inc.	Knoxfield 55 Plus Club Birthday Lunch	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1st Rowville Scout Group	1st Rowville Scout Hall Switchboard Upgrade and External Light replacement	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Knox Environment Society Inc.	Nursery Bench Prototype	\$2,104.00	\$2,104.00
Bayswater Junior Football Club Inc.	Goal post padding	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Uttar Pradesh Association of Australia Inc.	India's Independence Day Celebrations-Knox	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Rowville Football Club Inc.	Eildon Canteen Equipment Replacement	\$951.50	\$951.50
Windermere Reserve Pre-school Inc.	Bush Kinder	\$2,463.94	\$2,463.94
Rowville Netball Club Inc.	Upgrade of Coaches Playing and Training Bags	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$18,914.44	\$18,914.44

2. Defer one application requesting a total of \$3,000.00, as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Eastern Warriors Football Club Inc.	Kids Soccer Training	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

3. Note that should the recommended grants be approved by Council, the remaining Minor Grants Program budget for 2023-24 will be \$137,818.56.

CARRIED

8.6 Contributory Schemes - Special Rates and Charges Policy

SUMMARY: Coordinator, Project Delivery, Hans Pelgrim

Council has an existing Contributory Schemes - Special Rates and Charges Policy which aims to ensure sustainable funding for projects that directly provide 'special benefit' to a particular group of properties within Knox. Contributory Schemes can cover works such as constructing unsealed or unmade roads, stormwater drainage, kerb and channel, off street carparking or footpaths. The Contributory Schemes - Special Rates and Charges Policy was last endorsed by Council on 27 July 2020 and set a review date three years from adoption. This report notes that a review of the current Policy has been undertaken and provides very minor changes to the Policy document.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the revised Contributory Schemes Special Rates and Charges Policy as shown at Attachment 1 (including appendices 1 – 3)(Attachments 2 to 4).

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Timmers-Leitch

That Council resolve that further consideration of Item 8.6 be deferred to a future Council Meeting to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Mayor.

CARRIED

8.7 Knox Dementia Friendly Action Plan

SUMMARY: Linda Keenahan, Age and Dementia Friendly Communities Project Officer
The draft Knox Dementia Friendly Action Plan 2023-2025 (the Plan) as outlined in Attachment 1, will guide Council to become a dementia friendly organisation and support Knox to work towards becoming a dementia friendly community. Council has partnered with Dementia Australia to develop and implement the Dementia Friendly Communities Program.

The Dementia Friendly Communities Program aims to build awareness, understanding and acceptance of dementia, so that people living with dementia can participate and remain active in the community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the draft Knox Dementia Friendly Action Plan 2023-2025 as outlined in Attachment 1.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council endorse the draft Knox Dementia Friendly Action Plan 2023-2025 as outlined in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

8.8 Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference Review

SUMMARY: Community Development Officer – Culturally Diverse Communities, Kass Halastanis
The purpose of the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee (KMAC) is to provide advice to Council on multicultural issues and to promote greater awareness and understanding in the local community of cultural diversity in Knox.

In June 2023, a review of the Terms of Reference was conducted with the Committee in accordance with the Council Committee Policy 2022. The purpose of the review was to seek feedback on committee membership and to update the Terms of Reference to reflect Council Policy.

A copy of the draft Terms of Reference with tracked changes is included at Attachment 1 and a clean copy at Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Approve the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee to remain in operation until Council resolves otherwise; and**
- 2. Approve the updated Terms of Reference, as per Attachment 2.**

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Grasso

That Council:

- 1. Approve the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee to remain in operation until Council resolves otherwise; and**
- 2. Approve the updated Terms of Reference, as per Attachment 2.**

CARRIED

8.9 Knox Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee Terms of Reference Review

SUMMARY: Lisette Pine, Coordinator Healthy and Safe Communities and
Kathryn Renwick, Coordinator Integrated Community and Health Planning
The purpose of the Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee is to support the planning and implementation of evidence-based and informed primary and secondary prevention approaches to current and emerging community safety, health and wellbeing issues.

In May 2023, a review of the Terms of Reference was conducted with the Committee in accordance with the Council Committee Policy 2022. The purpose of the review was to seek feedback in relation to the current operating model of the Committee and if this model is fit for purpose given the specialist advisory role of Committee members.

This report provides an overview of the review discussion and the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference to strengthen good governance and maximise the experience and expertise of Committee members.

A copy of the draft Terms of Reference with tracked changes is included at Attachment 1 and a clean copy at Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the amended draft Terms of Reference for the Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee (Attachment 1).

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Laukens

SECONDED: Councillor Allred

That Council approve the amended draft Terms of Reference for the Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee (Attachment 1).

CARRIED

9 Supplementary Items

9.1 Knox City Council Attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2023

SUMMARY: Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Dobson

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA) was held in Canberra from 13-15 June 2023, followed by the 2023 Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) held on 16 June 2023. Over 1,100 local government leaders from across Australia attended the NGA, including representation from Knox City Council.

This report provides an overview to Council of the activities, learnings and outcomes from the 2023 NGA.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive this report on the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2023.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Laukens

SECONDED: Councillor Grasso

That Council note and receive this report on the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2023.

CARRIED

10 Notices of Motion

Nil.

11 Urgent Business

Nil.

12 Questions Without Notice

Nil.

13 Confidential Items

PROCEDURAL MOTION

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOVED: Councillor Cooper

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council resolve to close the meeting to the public in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider Item 13.1, CEO Performance Review, as it contains confidential information pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information, including information regarding an identifiable person that would be unreasonable to disclose in a public report.

CARRIED

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 9:39pm.

13.1 Draft Report - CEO Performance Review

This item was resolved while the meeting was closed to the public.

MEETING CLOSED AT 10:14pm

Minutes of Meeting confirmed at the
Meeting of Council
held on Monday, 14 August 2023

.....
Chairperson

The Agenda for this meeting is attached in full at the end of the Minutes