

Finance and Planning Committee

Minutes

Date: Wednesday 31 July 2024

**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

PO Box 227
1 Bridge Street East
Benalla Victoria 3671
Tel: 03 5760 2600
council@benalla.vic.gov.au
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

In attendance Dom Testoni Chief Executive Officer
Robert Barber General Manager Corporate
Jane Archbold Manager Community
Nilesh Singh Manager Development
Nathan Gasperoni Environment and Sustainability Coordinator
Jess Pendergast Governance Coordinator

Opening and Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair opened the meeting at 5.30pm 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

An apology was received from Councillor Punarji Hewa Gunaratne.

Cr King / Cr Claridge:
That the apology be accepted.

Carried



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 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

See item 2.

Confirmation of the previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes were circulated to Councillors and posted on the Council website www.benalla.vic.gov.au pending confirmation at the meeting.

Cr Davis / Cr O'Brien:

That the Minutes of the Finance and Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesday 19 June 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried



Business**1. Draft Benalla Rural City Council Climate and Environmental Strategy – Hearing of Submissions**

The report presented submissions received on the draft *Benalla Rural City Council Climate and Environment Strategy*.

It is noted that the following persons addressed the meeting in relation to their submissions:

- Howard Bartlett
- David Blore on behalf of the Benalla Sustainable Future Group.

Cr Claridge / Cr Davis:

That an extension of three minutes be granted to Howard Bartlett.

Carried

Cr King / Cr Claridge:

That the submissions be received.

Carried

It is noted that Councillor Justin King declared a material conflict of interest in the following item and left the meeting at 6.10pm.

2. Petition: Council to Include Squash Courts in the *Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre Redevelopment Project*

The report discussed a petition requesting the Council Include Squash Courts in the *Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre Redevelopment Project*.

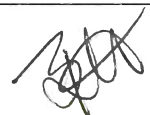
It is noted that Greg Murphy made a submission on the above item and spoke in support of the petition.

Cr O'Brien / Cr Davis:

- 1. That the petition be noted.**
- 2. That the *Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre Redevelopment Project Steering Committee* consider the issues raised within the petition during the design stage of the *Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre Redevelopment Project*.**

Carried

Councillor Justin King returned to the meeting at 6.45pm.



3. 2024/2025 Quick Response Grants Program

The report presented funding applications for 2024/25 Quick Response Grants.

Cr Firth / Cr O'Brien:

That a \$500 grant from the 2024/2025 Quick Response Grant program be allocated to Benalla Migrant Camp.

Carried

4. Building and Planning Approvals – May and June 2024

The report detailed planning permit applications and building approvals for May and June 2024.

Cr Firth / Cr Claridge:

That the report be noted.

Carried

5. Benalla Rural City Council Statutory and Strategic Planning Notification Polices

The report presented for adoption the *Statutory Planning Permit Application Notification Policy* and the *Strategic Planning Amendment Policy*.

Cr Firth / Cr King:

- 1. That the *Statutory Planning Permit Application Notification Policy* be adopted and reviewed in May 2028.**
- 2. That the *Strategic Planning Amendment Notification Policy* be adopted and reviewed in May 2028.**

Carried



6. Urgent Business

No urgent business was submitted to the meeting.

Closure of Meeting

The Finance and Planning Committee meeting closed at 7.02pm.

The minutes were confirmed on the twenty eighth of August 2024.

Signed: _____



Cr Bernie Hearn (Chair)