

Finance and Planning Committee

Minutes

Date: Wednesday 5 June 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



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Contents

Opening and Acknowledgment of Country	3
Apologies.....	3
Business	5
1. <i>Proposed 2024/25 Budget – Hearing of Submissions</i>	<i>5</i>
2. <i>Draft Fair Access Policy – Hearing of Submissions.....</i>	<i>6</i>
3. <i>Urgent Business.....</i>	<i>6</i>
Closure of Meeting.....	6



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
Cathy Fitzpatrick Manager Finance
Tom Arnold Community Development and Recreation Coordinator
Jess Pendergast Governance Coordinator

Opening and Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair opened the meeting at 5.33pm 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

It is noted that Councillor Justin King is on an approved leave of absence.



Cr Davis / Cr King:
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 1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Business

Councillor Gail O'Brien declared a general conflict of interest in the following item and left the meeting at 5.36pm.

1. Proposed 2024/25 Budget – Hearing of Submissions

The report presented submissions received on the proposed *2024/25 Budget*.

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

- Mrs Marget Jenkins on behalf of the U3A Benalla Committee
- Mrs Winsome McCaughey on behalf of the Benalla Art Gallery Foundation.

Cr Gunaratne / Cr Claridge:

That an extension of three minutes be granted to Marget Jenkins.

Carried

Submissions will be considered at the Finance and Planning Committee on 19 June 2023.

The proposed *2024/25 Budget* will be considered for adoption at the Council meeting on 26 June 2024.

Cr Claridge / Cr Firth:

That the submissions be received.

Carried

Councillor Gail O'Brien returned to the meeting at 6.03pm.



2. Draft *Fair Access Policy* – Hearing of Submissions

The report presented submissions received for the draft *Fair Access Policy*.

It is noted that no submitters addressed the meeting in relation to their submissions.

Submissions will be considered at the Finance and Operations Committee on 19 June 2024.

The draft *Fair Access Policy* will be considered for adoption at the Council meeting on 26 June 2024.

Cr O'Brien / Cr Gunaratne:
That the submission be received.

Carried


3. Urgent Business

No urgent business was submitted to the meeting.

Closure of Meeting

The Finance and Planning Committee meeting closed at 6.08pm.

Confirmed this nineteenth day of June 2024.

Signed: 

Cr Bernie Hearn (Chair)