



**WELLINGTON**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

*The Heart of Gippsland*

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING**

**To be read in conjunction with the Council Meeting Agenda 5 September 2023**

### **COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

Cr Ian Bye (Mayor)  
Cr John Tatterson (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr Carolyn Crossley  
Cr Marcus McKenzie  
Cr Gayle Maher  
Cr Carmel Ripper  
Cr Scott Rossetti  
Cr Garry Stephens  
Cr Jill Wood

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer  
Sam McPherson, Acting General Manager Community and Culture  
Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services  
Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment  
Andrew Pomeroy, General Manager Development  
Hayley Furlong, Governance and Council Business Officer  
Keisha Langshaw, Organisational Performance Project Officer  
Kimberly Salleh, Coordinator Communications and Media

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## **COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION**

*Members of the Public Gallery should note that the Council records and publishes Council meetings via YouTube to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Wellington community. These recordings are also archived and may be published on Council's Website for viewing by the public or used for publicity or information purposes. At the appropriate times during the meeting, members of the gallery may address the Council at which time their image, comments or submissions will be recorded.*

*Members of the public who are not in attendance at the Council meeting but who wish to communicate with the Council via the online webform should lodge their questions or comments early in the meeting to ensure that their submissions can be dealt with at the end of the meeting.*

*Please could gallery visitors, Councillors and invited online attendees ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices are turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.*

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Working together to make a difference. We listen and lead to provide quality services that improve life for all.*

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*“Wellington Shire Council acknowledges our offices are located on the traditional lands of the Gunaikurnai nation. We pay our deep respects to their Elders past, present and future and acknowledge their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to their land and waters.”*

## 1. APOLOGIES

NIL

## 2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

NIL

## 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S

### 3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

**ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

#### **PURPOSE**

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 August 2023.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**

NIL

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 August 2023.*

**COUNCILLOR WOOD / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS**

*That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 August 2023.*

**CARRIED**

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>FROM MEETING</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>ACTION BY</b>
NIL			

## 5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS

NIL

## 6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION

NIL

## 7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS

### 7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS

**ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

## 8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY acknowledged the success of the Gippsland New Energy Conference held over the past week. She thanked those involved.

COUNCILLOR RIPPER attended the 2023 Gippsland International Winter Festival – All Breeds Championship Dog Show in August 2023 at the Maffra Recreation Reserve, also attended and opened by Councillor Bye. It was very popular and successful. Councillor Ripper thanked the volunteers who organised the day and arranged for the international judges to attend.

COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE acknowledged both the Wellington Community Op Shop and Coles Sale for their collaboration to support the local community in offering a daily foodbank. He congratulated and thanked both organisations in supporting the local community.

COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE recently hosted family from the Gold Coast and showed them around Sale, Lake Guthridge and the Port of Sale. His family appreciated the tranquillity and beauty of the area. He congratulated the Parks and Gardens Team at Council and asked that his appreciation be passed onto the team.

COUNCILLOR BYE acknowledged the Middle of Everywhere Gippsland Car Rally held last week. With a great turnout of 4,000 spectators over the three days it was an unforgettable weekend. He made special thanks to Steve Dimopoulos MP and Andrew Fraser for opening and welcoming fans, drivers and sponsors from across the country.

COUNCILLOR BYE acknowledged the launch of ElecSome's recycling plant in Kilmany. He acknowledged the work of ElecSome in providing an environmentally friendly approach to solar panel waste.

## 9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

### 9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

**ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

## 10. DELEGATES REPORT

### Presented by Councillor John Tatterson

Report on SEATS AGM and Ordinary General Meeting at Drouin 17 and 18 August 2023.

I am the chair of SEATS (South East Australian Transport Strategy). SEATS meet regularly to discuss issues up and down between Sydney and Melbourne, primarily along the Princess Highway, but also down through Canberra, about things that are affecting transport.

A motion was passed to write to the relevant ministers to get the Traralgon bypass back onto the agenda and look at the Sale alternate truck route for the roundabout at the Maffra-Sale Road. Also discussed was duplication of the bridge at the Mitchell River in Bairnsdale to try and improve the log jams there, and some issues around Drouin and east of Drouin with some of the speed reductions that have occurred on the Princess Highway, so SEATS are going to write to those ministers as an advocacy and support.

For Council SEATS provide us another opportunity to provide input to government on what we see as really important issues for Gippsland. The minutes are available on the SEATS website.

Council's General Manager Built & Natural Environment Chris Hastie also attended the two days in Drouin.

## 11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### 11.1. REMUNERATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

#### PURPOSE

For Council to note and receive the minutes and endorse the actions of the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023.

#### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

#### RECOMMENDATION

##### *That Council:*

- 1. Note and receive the minutes from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 as attached;*
- 2. Adopt the draft Terms of Reference; and*
- 3. Endorse the actions from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 as detailed in the attached minutes.*

##### **COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE / COUNCILLOR MAHER**

- 1. Note and receive the minutes from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 as attached;*
- 2. Adopt the draft Terms of Reference; and*
- 3. Endorse the actions from the Remuneration Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 as detailed in the attached minutes.*

**CARRIED**

## 12. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

### 12.1. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

**ACTION OFFICER: YOUTH MAYOR, CHLOE BETHUNE**

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council receive the Youth Mayor's Quarterly Report.*

**COUNCILLOR WOOD / COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE**

*That Council receive the Youth Mayor's Quarterly Report.*

**CARRIED**

Good evening council members. I am Chloe Bethune, the Youth Mayor for the Wellington Shire Youth Council.

The past quarter has gone by so quickly. With three quarters of the 2023 Youth Council new to their roles we have focused a lot on learning how to run a meeting, council etiquette and proper meeting behaviour. Also, during our meetings, we have been taking turns at public speaking, by doing a short speech each fortnight on a topic decided by the two speaking. The topics have ranged from fun ones like what superpower would you love to have, to tell us about your favourite childhood memory. Each fortnight we try to reflect on what is happening in our lives but also the impact current events have on youth across the region and country. On a personal level I have been educating my peers on my own approach to acknowledgement of country and the importance of finding your own words to express respect and awareness of indigenous connection to our lands and waters.

It hasn't been all meetings though; we have had many opportunities to represent the council in the community. Back in May at the Shakespeare Festival seven youth councillors ran the Wash Against Waste stall, helping to reduce the number of takeaway containers thrown out by washing the reusable plates and cups for vans and coffee carts.

At the end of June, we travelled with East Gippsland Youth Ambassadors to do a tour of Latrobe Youth Space and then met with Latrobe City Youth Council to go bowling at the butter factory in Traralgon. This was a great chance for us to meet with others from neighbouring councils for some fun but also to talk about the difficulties in attracting motivated young people to the roles - we learnt there are only four councillors in La Trobe City Youth Council. In the school holidays, three youth councillors attended a Wellington Shire run project management workshop, where we focused on tools needed to run our upcoming youth festival, Upswing. For NAIDOC week I attended the family day at Nakunbalook and got to be a part of the celebrations plus I spoke with teens about Youth Council and the various youth groups and activities on offer at council.

In August we will have the CEO of Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLAWAC) address the Youth Council to tell us about his organisation's views on the upcoming Voice referendum. Then we have the Wellington Youth Art Prize official opening in September, which I hope you can all attend and see the creative efforts of the youth of the region. Our team will also be busy in the coming months with preparations for Upswing in October.

Thank you for your time.

**CHLOE BETHUNE  
YOUTH MAYOR**



## 13. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

### 13.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

#### **ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

##### **OBJECTIVE**

To report on all assembly of Councillor records received for the period 7 August 2023 to 27 August 2023.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**

NIL

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 7 August 2023 to 27 August 2023.*

**COUNCILLOR MAHER / COUNCILLOR WOOD**

*That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 7 August 2023 to 27 August 2023.*

**CARRIED**

### 13.2. COUNCIL EXPENSE AND ADMINISTRATION POLICY REVIEW

#### **ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

##### **PURPOSE**

To adopt the updated Council Expense and Administration Policy.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**

NIL

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council adopt the revised Council Expense and Administration Policy as attached.*

**COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR MAHER**

*That Council adopt the revised Council Expense and Administration Policy as attached.*

**CARRIED**

### 13.3. UPDATE TO INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – MEMBERS OF COUNCIL STAFF

#### **ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

#### **PURPOSE**

For Council to adopt the updated *Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff*.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**

NIL

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve that –*

- 1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.*
- 2. Notes that the Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.*
- 3. On the coming into force of the Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the current Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff dated 7 March 2023 is revoked.*
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

#### **COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY / COUNCILLOR MAHER**

*That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, resolve that –*

- 1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument as attached.*
- 2. Notes that the Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.*
- 3. On the coming into force of the Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff, the current Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff dated 7 March 2023 is revoked.*
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument of Delegation - Members of Council Staff must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*

**CARRIED**

## 14. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

### 14.1. PLACE NAMES COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the minutes of the Place Names Committee meeting held on 8 August 2023 and to consider the recommendations from that meeting.

#### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

#### RECOMMENDATION

***That:***

- 1. Council receive and note the minutes of the Place Names Committee meeting held on 8 August 2023.***
- 2. The following names be listed on the Council Approved Names Register:***
  - i) Webb (Sale) – in recognition of Gwen Webb OAM, who was the inaugural director of Sale Regional Art Centre and for her services to the arts community; and***
  - ii) Widdis (Nambrok, Rosedale) – in recognition of Edith Widdis, who became the first woman and Gippslander to own a Melbourne Cup winner, Patrobas.***
- 3. The names Anson Court, Beaufighter Court and Cullen Way be approved for the subdivision at 76 Tyson Road, Heyfield.***
- 4. The name Breheny, in recognition of Michael Breheny Jr. who served as Sale Councillor from 1912 to 1927 and managed a brewery in Sale for 35 years, be added to the Council Approved Names Register.***

#### **COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY**

- 1. Council receive and note the minutes of the Place Names Committee meeting held on 8 August 2023.***
- 2. The following names be listed on the Council Approved Names Register:***
  - i) Webb (Sale) – in recognition of Gwen Webb OAM, who was the inaugural director of Sale Regional Art Centre and for her services to the arts community; and***
  - ii) Widdis (Nambrok, Rosedale) – in recognition of Edith Widdis, who became the first woman and Gippslander to own a Melbourne Cup winner, Patrobas.***
- 3. The names Anson Court, Beaufighter Court and Cullen Way be approved for the subdivision at 76 Tyson Road, Heyfield.***
- 4. The name Breheny, in recognition of Michael Breheny Jr. who served as Sale Councillor from 1912 to 1927 and managed a brewery in Sale for 35 years, be added to the Council Approved Names Register.***

**CARRIED**

## 15. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS

*Gallery comments are an opportunity for members of the public to raise any particular matter they wish. This allows those in the gallery to speak directly to Councillors but is not a forum designed for open discussion or debate. We will listen respectfully to what you have to say and make the commitment that if your query requires a written response, we will advise you that a response will be forthcoming, and a copy of that response will be circulated to all Councillors.*

*This is not a forum for members of the public to lodge complaints against individuals, including Councillors and staff, particularly as that individual gets no public right of reply to any matter raised. We take complaints seriously, and in line with the guidance from the Victorian Ombudsman and the local Government Inspectorate, we request that any specific complaint against an individual be put in writing. This way, your concern can be properly dealt with while ensuring fairness to all parties concerned.*

*If you wish to speak, we remind you that this part of the meeting is being recorded and broadcast on our website. Council's official Minutes will record that you have spoken to Council and the subject you spoke to Council about but will not record specific comments. We ask you to state your name in full, where you are from, and you have three minutes.*

### ONLINE COMMENTS –

**OWEN DRUMMOND** – asked when will the Wellington Shire be implementing kerb side green waste collection and in the meantime, is there any consideration for free green waste disposal?

Council will provide a response directly to Mr Drummond. The Mayor also noted that free green waste disposal is again available in November.

Information about Council's kerbside collection service is available at this [link](#).

### FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS –

**MARY METCALF** – read a statement highlighting her concerns regarding wind turbines and global warming.

The live streaming of this Council meeting will now come to a close at 5.48pm.

## **16. IN CLOSED SESSION**

### **16.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S NEW 2023/24 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AND KPIS**

**COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS**

*That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider matters under Section 66(5)(b) as defined by Section 3(1) being:*

*(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.*

**CARRIED**

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**IN CLOSED SESSION**

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**COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR MAHER**

Details redacted

**CARRIED**

*Item 16.1 Chief Executive Officer's new 2023/24 Performance Criteria and KPIS was considered in closed session.*

**COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY**

*That Council move into open sessions and ratify the decision made in closed session.*

**CARRIED**

Meeting declared closed at: 5.50pm