



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

**RESOLUTIONS IN BRIEF
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday 15 October 2024, commencing at 5:00 PM

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

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

OFFICERS PRESENT

David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer
Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services
Andrew Pomeroy, General Manager Development
Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment
Clem Gillings, General Manager Community & Culture
Kim Salleh, Manager Communications & Media
Catie Thomson, Governance Officer

APOLOGIES

Cr Ian Bye (Mayor)
Cr Carolyn Crossley

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

0.1. TABLE OF CONTENTS2

1. APOLOGIES4

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST.....4

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S4

3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING.....4

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.....4

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS.....5

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION5

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS5

7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS.....5

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS5

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE.....5

9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE5

10. DELEGATES REPORT5

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....6

11.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024.....6

12. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES.....6

12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT6

12.2. COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 20247

12.3. CONSIDERATION OF 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT8

12.4. BIENNIAL AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE9

13. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT10

13.1. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - AUGUST 2024.....10

13.2. STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING PROJECT REVIEW GROUP - THIRD
QUARTERLY REPORT.....11

14. GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE.....	12
14.1. COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24.....	12
15. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS	13
16. IN CLOSED SESSION	14

1. APOLOGIES

COUNCILLOR BYE
COUNCILLOR CROSSLEY

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

COUNCILLOR MAHER declared a material conflict of interest for item 13.1 Monthly Planning Decisions – August 2024.

RESOLUTION

COUNCILLOR MAHER / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

That Council appoint Councillor Stephens to the position of temporary chair for item 13.1 Monthly Planning Decisions – August 2024 in this Council Meeting dated 15 October 2024.

CARRIED

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

OBJECTIVE

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 October 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 October 2024.

COUNCILLOR WOOD / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 October 2024.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
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

NIL

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

NIL

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR WOOD

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.

CARRIED

12. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

OBJECTIVE

To report on all assembly of Councillor records received for the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE / COUNCILLOR TATTERSON

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

CARRIED

12.2. COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy 2023, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

For Council to receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report as attached.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR WOOD

That Council receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report as attached.

CARRIED

12.3. CONSIDERATION OF 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendation, if moved and carried by Council constitutes neither a prohibited decision in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor a significant decision within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To consider and receive Wellington Shire Council's Annual Report 2023/24 as attached.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council consider and receive the Annual Report 2023/24 as presented by the Mayor in accordance with section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE

That Council consider and receive the Annual Report 2023/24 as presented by the Mayor in accordance with section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED

12.4. BIENNIAL AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendation, if moved and carried by Council constitutes neither a prohibited decision in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor a significant decision within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

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PURPOSE

To provide Council with an overview of the activities of Council's Audit & Risk Committee, including findings and recommendations, for the period April 2024 to September 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the biannual report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2024 to September 2024 as attached.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR WOOD

That Council receive the biannual report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2024 to September 2024 as attached.

CARRIED

13. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

13.1. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - AUGUST 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy 2023, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To provide a report to Council on recent planning permit trends and planning decisions made under delegation by Statutory Planners during the month of August 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 August and 31 August 2024.

Councillor Maher declared a material conflict of interest at agenda item 13.1 Monthly Planning Decisions - August 2024.

Councillor Stephens is appointed as temporary chair for item 13.1 Monthly Planning Decisions - August 2024

Councillor Maher left Council Chambers At 5.14pm

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 August and 31 August 2024.

CARRIED

Councillor Maher returned to Council Chambers at 5.16pm.

13.2. STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING PROJECT REVIEW GROUP - THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy 2023, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To update Council on the strategic land use planning work program for the third quarter July-September 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the third quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program included in the attached "Current Strategic Planning Work" report.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON / COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE

That Council receive the third quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program included in the attached "Current Strategic Planning Work" report.

CARRIED

14. GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

14.1. COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER COMMUNITIES, FACILITIES AND EMERGENCIES

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

For Council to receive the annual report highlighting the activities and performance of Council's five Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note an annual report highlighting the activities and performance of the five Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24; and***
- 2. Acknowledge the volunteer contribution made by the Community Asset Committee members during this period.***

COUNCILLOR RIPPER / COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note an annual report highlighting the activities and performance of the five Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24; and***
- 2. Acknowledge the volunteer contribution made by the Community Asset Committee members during this period.***

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

NIL

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

NIL

COUNCILLOR MAHER took the opportunity to express her heartfelt thanks to her fellow councillors, dedicated staff, and in particular the CEO, David Morcom. Over the past four years, the Council has worked together with a strong sense of collaboration and a shared commitment to serve the community. The leadership and support from the CEO and his team has been invaluable, allowing the Council to navigate challenges and to accomplish so much.

Councillor Maher expressed her appreciation for the leadership and professionalism that has been brought to the workplace by the CEO. It has certainly been a privilege to work with the CEO and team. Councillor Maher looks forward to what the future has in store for the Wellington Shire and its community. Thank you and farewell.

The CEO thanked Deputy Mayor Maher and will pass on her message to all staff at the Wellington Shire Council.

Meeting declared closed at: 5.25pm.

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

16. IN CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR

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:

- a) Council business information*
- b) Security information*
- c) Land use planning information*
- d) Law enforcement information*
- e) Legal privileged information*
- f) Personal information*
- g) Private commercial information*
- h) Confidential meeting information*
- i) Internal arbitration information*
- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information*
- k) Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information*
- l) Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989*

IN CLOSED SESSION

NIL