



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE GLENROY SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE
11 CROMWELL STREET, GLENROY
ON WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2008**

The meeting commenced at 7.04pm.

PRESENT:

Cr Joe Caputo JP (Mayor), Cr Kathleen Matthews-Ward (Deputy Mayor), Cr Jo Connellan, Cr Milad El-Halabi JP, Cr Anthony Helou JP, Cr Mark Higginbotham, Cr John Kavanagh, Cr Mark O'Brien JP, Cr Alice Pryor and Cr Andrea Sharam

APOLOGIES:

Cr De Lorenzis

Cr Kavanagh moved, Cr Connellan seconded that –

The apologies for Cr De Lorenzis be accepted.

Carried

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer – Peter Brown
Director Corporate Services – James Scott
Director City Development – Roger Collins
Director Social Development – Jenny Merkus
Director City Infrastructure – Kevin Burgess
Executive Manager Human Resources – Gerry Smith
Manager Governance – Lidia Harding
Communications Officer – Kaye Roberts

Cr Higginbotham as Councillor Responsible for Reconciliation commemorated today as the day the Federal Parliament said 'sorry' to the indigenous community. Cr Higginbotham read the Federal Parliament's full apology to the Stolen Generations into the Council Minutes:

"Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations – this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia."

Cr Higginbotham eluded to the fact that Moreland City Council had said sorry and made such an apology to Indigenous Australians in May 1998 at the time of the release of the Sorry Booklet, adjunct to the Bringing them Home Report by HERIOC in 1997.

Cr Helou moved, Cr Connellan seconded that –

Council resolves to write to the Prime Minister, the Opposition Leader and Kelvin Thomson congratulating them on saying 'sorry' on behalf of the Australian Parliament and attach a copy of the relevant section of the Council's Minutes containing the apology as passed by the Australian Parliament.

Carried

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr O'Brien seconded that –

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 January 2008 be confirmed.

Carried

INTERESTS AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTERESTS:

Nil.

PETITIONS:

(AM/2007/107) 770-774 PASCOE VALE ROAD, GLENROY

A petition has been received containing 5 signatures. The petitioners object to the operation of the Car Wash located at 770-774 Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Connellan seconded that -

1. The petition be received and noted.
2. The petition be referred to the Director City Development for consideration.
3. The first named signatory to the petition be advised of this action.
4. The North West Ward Councillors, Cr Matthews-Ward, Cr Kavanagh, Cr Higginbotham and Cr El-Halabi, will be advised of any consultative meeting arranged to discuss the planning permit application and will be advised of the outcome in this matter.

Carried

(H08/685) OBJECTION TO THE BUILDING OF THE SCORE BOARD AT MARTIN RESERVE, GLENROY

A petition has been received containing 7 signatures. The petitioners object to the building of the new score board at Martin Reserve, Glenroy.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Connellan seconded that -

1. The petition be received and noted.
2. The petition be referred to the Director City Development for consideration.
3. The first named signatory to the petition be advised of this action.
4. The North West Ward Councillors, Cr Matthews-Ward, Cr Kavanagh, Cr Higginbotham and Cr El-Halabi, will be advised of any consultative meeting arranged to discuss the planning permit application and will be advised of the outcome in this matter.

Carried

(H08/686) REQUEST FOR FOOTPATH REPAIRS IN HUDSON GROVE, WEST BRUNSWICK

A petition has been received containing 10 signatures. The petitioners request Council to undertake footpath repairs in Hudson Grove, West Brunswick.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Connellan seconded that -

1. The petition be received and noted.
2. The petition be referred to the Director City Infrastructure for consideration.
3. The first named signatory to the petition be advised of this action.
4. The South Ward Councillors, Cr Connellan, Cr Caputo and Cr Pryor, will be advised of any consultative meeting arranged to discuss the planning permit application and will be advised of the outcome in this matter.

Carried

(R500) PARKING AT ANTONINE COLLEGE, BRUNSWICK

A petition has been received containing 66 signatures. The petitioners request Council to consider allocating permit parking in Phoenix Street, Brunswick for the use of Teachers at Antonine College.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Connellan seconded that -

1. The petition be received and noted.
2. The petition be referred to the Director City Infrastructure for consideration.
3. The first named signatory to the petition be advised of this action.
4. The South Ward Councillors, Cr Connellan, Cr Caputo and Cr Pryor, will be advised of any consultative meeting arranged to discuss the planning permit application and will be advised of the outcome in this matter.

Carried

(R486) TRAFFIC IN DENMAN STREET, BRUNSWICK

A petition has been received containing 31 signatures. The petitioners request Council to consider introducing traffic measures in Denman Street, Brunswick.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Connellan seconded that -

1. The petition be received and noted.
2. The petition be referred to the Director City Infrastructure for consideration.
3. The first named signatory to the petition be advised of this action.
4. The South Ward Councillors, Cr Connellan, Cr Caputo and Cr Pryor, will be advised of any consultative meeting arranged to discuss the planning permit application and will be advised of the outcome in this matter.

Carried

MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR'S CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was called for:-

Cr Matthews-Ward Doc. No. 8830, 9362, 10680
Cr El-Halabi Doc. No. 9362, 9916

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr El-Halabi seconded that –

The Mayor and Councillor's correspondence be received and noted.

Carried

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL:

The following reports were presented:-

- Disability Advisory Group (5 September 2007)
- Moreland Multicultural Advisory Committee (24 September 2007)
- Moreland Interfaith Gathering (25 October 2007)

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

The reports from Committee to Council be received and noted.

Carried

QUESTION TIME:

Mr R Brown - Glenroy

Mr Brown asked Council when it was going to consider the completion or upgrading of the pedestrian crossing located at West Street, Glenroy. He suggested the installation of flashing amber lights and illuminated lights for night vision.

Cr Matthews-Ward advised that she has been advocating for funding for this upgrade for a long time.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that –

Council resolves to prepare a budget bid for the installation of flashing amber lights in the 2008-2009 budget and liaise with Mr Brown regarding his suggestions for improvements to this crossing.

Carried

Mr M Cursio - Coburg

Mr Cursio asked Council why it is that Coburg residents pay for the installation of public toilets and they can't use them because they are closed?

Jenny Merkus, Director Social Development advised that frequent drug use, soiling, paedophilia and graffiti in the Coburg Library toilets resulted in staff not being able to manage the toilet facilities and causing safety issues for staff. The Director suggested that Council look at options to increase the safety of this site for both the public and library staff.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Matthews-Ward seconded that –

Council resolves that a report be presented to the next Council meeting investigating the reopening of the toilets at the Coburg Library and addressing the safety issues for both the public and library staff.

Carried

Ms Marie Minette – Glenroy

Ms Minette raised an issue in relation to the article that appeared in the *Moreland Leader* newspaper regarding the Auditor General's comments about Moreland City Council's financial status. Ms Minette advised that she does not agree that Council should be property owners, but instead focus on repairing footpaths and roads and delivering on capital works projects. Funds seem to be being spent on administration costs.

Peter Brown, Chief Executive Officer advised that five years ago, Council adopted a 5 year financial plan to address the requirements to allocate more funds to capital works. Council requires a certain amount of funds for its administrative function plus money for capital works. The plan was adopted following community consultation. As a result the capital works funding has consistently increased by 3.5%.

Moreland's rates are on a par if not lower than the surrounding Councils. Like all Council's we need to address our ageing infrastructure and also determine ways to increase our funding hence the commencement of the Coburg Initiative project.

In relation to Council responding to correspondence, Council is currently implementing IT solutions to address this.

Mary – Glenroy

Mary advised Council that she witnessed hunting dogs killing native birds on the Jacana Wetlands. Mary requested that Council improve signage in the area to deter people taking their dogs into the wetlands. She has also advised Melbourne Water of this situation. She asked if it was possible to determine the types of dogs that live in that area?

Cr Kavanagh thanked Mary for her email regarding this issue and alerting Council to the situation.

Roger Collins, Director City Development advised that the Local Laws staff routinely patrol parks and wetlands. There is an after hours number available to residents to report issues they see occurring in the parks. Council is happy to speak to Melbourne Water to discuss erecting signage as it is their park and therefore their responsibility. The breeds of dogs are collected as pets are registered within Moreland.

Cr Kavanagh moved, Cr O'Brien seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. That Local Laws officers increase their surveillance of the Jacana Wetlands and fully enforce Local Laws.
2. That Local Laws officers liaise with Victoria Police and seek their assistance on this issue.

Carried

7.47pm Cr El-Halabi left the meeting room.

7.49pm Cr El-Halabi returned to the meeting room.

Ms Helen Coath – Coburg

Ms Coath advised Council that she had noticed that Council use Glyphosate (Round Up) to kill weeds within the city. Has Council considered using safer herbicides?

Kevin Burgess, Director City Infrastructure advised that this herbicide does not affect animals and is not dangerous to humans, Council has trained staff who administer this herbicide.

Cr Sharam advised that she has noticed some staff spraying inappropriately.

Cr Sharam moved, Cr Matthews-Ward seconded that –

Council resolves that a report be presented to the next Council meeting investigating alternative herbicides that can be used within the city.

Carried

Ms Celia McPartlin – Brunswick West

Ms McPartlin asked Council to confirm their commitment to being a GM free city.

Cr Higginbotham advised that Council has previously moved a motion on this issue which was still in effect and would be happy to arrange a copy of the motion to be sent to the resident.

“ON NOTICE” ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING:

- DCI (Greg Milne) Coburg Olympic Pool

This item was not considered as the resident was not present in the gallery.

COUNCILLORS ITEMS:

CRAS2 HONOURING WOMEN IN MORELAND AWARDS 2008

Cr Sharam advised Council that nominations for the Honouring Women in Moreland Awards 2008 are currently open. The award recognises women who are leaders in the community. Nominations close on 15 February 2008 and awards will be presented at a ceremony on 6 March 2008.

CRAS3 AFFORDABLE LIVING ALLIANCE

Cr Sharam advised that she attended a briefing at VCOSS last week regarding concessions. One of the proposals could have a quite serious impact upon local government.

Cr Sharam moved, Cr Matthews-Ward seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To join the Affordable Living Alliance in line with the Statement of Purposes.
2. To write to the relevant Ministers, our local lower and upper house MPs, the VLGA and MAV expressing our concerns about any diminution of concessions benefits now or in the future.
3. That the issue and our concerns be outlined in the Mayors page of the local newspaper(s) and on the front page of our website as a matter of priority.

Carried

CRAS4 CHANGES TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Cr Sharam advised that new Freedom of Information (FOI) laws before the Parliament will give the Government the power to apply to VCAT to have someone declared a 'vexatious applicant' and have them banned from making FOI applications. The test for who is 'vexatious' is wide open. It could apply to any active citizen, community group, politician or media outlet who regularly lodge FOI applications on the important issues they are pursuing. This bill will be voted on in the state upper house in the week beginning 26 February 2008.

Cr Sharam moved, Cr Connellan seconded that–

Council resolves:

1. To oppose the changes to the Freedom of Information laws, currently before the Victorian Parliament, that seek to widen the test on vexation applications.
2. To write to the Attorney-General Rob Hulls advising him of our opposition.
3. To write to our local lower and upper house MPs advising them of our position and seeking that they also oppose this bill
4. That, as a matter of policy, and as a statement of our commitment to the civil and political rights contained in the Human Rights Charter, will not use such provisions in relation to FOI requests to Council, should the bill be successful.

Carried

Cr O'Brien voted against this motion.

CRP3 ART ACQUISITION

Cr Pryor advised that she along with the Mayor and Cr Higginbotham attended the launch of a piece of contemporary art titled 'Ways of Seeing' which was purchased in honour of former curator of the Counihan Gallery Michelle Guglielmo who lost her life two years ago. Cr Pryor encouraged the public to go and see the piece, which is on display at Brunswick Town Hall.

CRKM5 NEW NOTICEBOARDS

Cr Matthews-Ward advised that the first of Glenroy's new noticeboards was installed in Post Office Place on Monday. The rest are on order and will be installed soon. She thanked the officers who have been involved in the project and also thanked the Glenroy Community Action Group and the Linking Glenroy Taskforce who have been advocating for these new noticeboards.

CRKM6 GRAFFITI IN GLENROY

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that –

Council resolves to remove the graffiti that was recently done on top of shops in Post Office place as soon as possible.

Carried

Cr O'Brien voted against this motion.

CRKM7 GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

Council resolves to better utilise workers from the Department of Justice for graffiti removal from both Council and private properties in Glenroy and Moreland.

Carried

CRKM8 POTENTIAL ART PROJECTS

Cr Matthews-Ward advised that she has been approached by Coles Supermarket and by Peter Gibbs (owner of the stock feed mills in Marlborough Street) about graffiti on their buildings. These are centrally located and very visible buildings and in the case of Marlborough Street make up part of the pedestrian spine. These walls provide an opportunity for a low cost or no cost community mural art project. The small electrical substation building in the car park behind the Commonwealth Bank also provides an opportunity and was identified by many people through the structure planning process as one of their "dislikes" in Glenroy.

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

Council resolves that these locations be used for any potential art projects or competitions being considered by the Art and Culture Unit or Youth Services.

Carried

CRME1 INADEQUATE PARKING SUPPOUNDING ANTONINE COLLEGE

Cr El-Halabi advised Council that he has received a petition from the Antonine College in Phoenix Street Brunswick who have raised the issue of inadequate parking in the vicinity of their school. Apparently, the parking signage that regulated and restricted parking in Phoenix Street, Brunswick, has been removed and the street is now being used for all day parking, possibly by people commuting to work in the city and as a consequence of the parking restrictions introduced by the nearby Safeway Supermarket in Albert Street. This has resulted in the teaching staff from the Antonine College who could previously find parking in Phoenix Street no longer being able to find a parking space.

Cr El-Halabi moved that –

Council resolves to investigate the parking situation in Phoenix Street, Brunswick, and consider introducing parking restrictions and provide parking permits for the Antonine College staff so they can find parking in Phoenix Street.

Lapsed for want of a seconder

CRME2 STAGE AT COBURG LAKE PARK

Cr El-Halabi advised Council that last week he attended the Greek Orthodox Community Festival at Coburg Lake Park. This event attracted approximately 20,000 people from Moreland and other parts of Melbourne. This event, which is held annually, is the premier event of the Greek community and is an excellent example of the celebration of the rich and vibrant cultural diversity of our municipality.

The Coburg Lake Park is also a very popular venue, which is used by many of Council's culturally diverse communities throughout the year. In keeping with the various cultural traditions on such special occasions, community groups dance to the music as a way of giving expression to their traditions of expressing joy and joining with members of their communities in expressions of shared sense of belonging.

Cr El-Halabi noted for some time and this was very evident in the Greek Orthodox Community Festival, that the stage is unable to accommodate performers and dancers. He was concerned that there was a risk of injury to people wearing high heel shoes trying to dance on the grassy patch immediately in front of the stage.

Cr El-Halabi moved, Cr Helou seconded that –

Council resolves that a report be presented to a future Council meeting to explore the extension of the current stage by approximately 4-5 meters to accommodate the diverse uses of the stage.

Carried

CRME3 SAINT MAROUN MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Cr El-Halabi advised that he along with Cr Higginbotham and Cr Helou and a number of other Councillors, attended the St Maroun's celebration of the Maronite Church. This was a wonderful occasion to join with the Lebanese community in what is a very significant religious and cultural event.

The Maronite Church has raised \$6 million for the construction of the new St Maroun Maronite Catholic Church, which will be formally opened on 6 March 2008.

Cr El-Halabi moved, Cr Matthews-Ward seconded that –

Council write to the St Maroun Maronite Catholic Church to congratulate them on their efforts and the construction of the new church and to convey to them the Council's best wishes for the future.

Carried

CRJC1 WATER CATCHMENTS

Cr Connellan moved, Cr Pryor seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To oppose logging in Melbourne Water catchments on the basis that
 - a) Logging has a dramatic and detrimental effect on water yield in catchments.
 - b) Young re-growth trees need more water to grow thus releasing less water into catchments.
 - c) Logging reduces stream flow and yields to water catchments.
 - d) It takes 150 years for water yields to return to their pre-logged status.
 - e) It is poor water policy to continue to log our water catchments.
 - f) Logging of water catchments adversely affects water quality through increasing sediment, as does road construction through logging coupes.

2. To write to the Premier, the Water Minister and local lower and upper house members informing them of this view.
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Mayor and Councillors of the Shire of Yarra Ranges.

Carried

CRJC2 ADVERTISING AT MORELAND GATEWAYS

Cr Connellan advised that it has been brought to her attention that Council allows groups to use Hooper Reserve to advertise school fetes and the like. While the signage is only temporary it detracts from the gateways to the city.

Cr Connellan moved, Cr Pryor seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To review its current Advertising Policy in line with the following recommendation and it be presented to Council.
2. That any signs erected for community use are removed within 2 weeks after the event.

Carried

CRJC3 EARTH HOUR

Cr Connellan advised that Earth Hour is to be held from 8-9pm on 29 March 2008. The aim of the event is to get as many households and businesses to turn off all their lights for one hour and in the process raise awareness of the power of the individual to play a part in climate change abatement.

Cr Connellan moved, Cr Sharam seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To demonstrate its support for Earth Hour and sign on as a participating city.
2. Advertise this widely to encourage Moreland residents and businesses to participate.
3. Turn off the lights at all Council buildings for the hour.

Carried

CRMH3 EAST TIMOR

Cr Higginbotham moved, Cr Pryor seconded that –

Council resolves to write a letter to the President Jose Ramos-Horta, Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao and the Parliament of Timor-Leste expressing its horror and disappointment at the attempt to kill the President, the Prime Minister and their families, and to wish President Ramos-Horta a speedy recovery from the effects of his wounds.

Further, to assure the Parliament and people of Timor- Leste of the continuing support of Moreland City Council and the Moreland community in the ongoing development of democracy, the economy and society within their country.

Carried

CRMH4 AGED CARE FUNDS

Cr Higginbotham advised that a \$4.9m funding allocation has been given to the Wills area by the Government resulting in an additional 110 aged care beds being available within the city.

This was part of the 375 bed licences which had been allocated to Moreland, predominately high care, to meet the needs of the elderly requiring residential aged care.

8.43pm Cr Kavanagh and Cr O'Brien left the meeting room.

CRMH5 MORELAND CLASSICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Cr Higginbotham advised that the Moreland Classical Music Festival held from 3-10 February 2008 at various venues within Moreland was a great success.

Cr Higginbotham moved, Cr Pryor seconded that –

Council resolves to write a letter to the Musical Director, Sergio Deperi, congratulating him on the success of the Moreland Classical Music Festival, and advising him and the Organising Committee of continued Council support for future festivals.

Carried

8.44pm Cr Kavanagh returned to the meeting room.

8.45pm Cr O'Brien returned to the meeting room.

CRMH6 BRUNSWICK MUSIC FESTIVAL & SYDNEY ROAD STREET PARTY

Cr Higginbotham advised that the Brunswick Music Festival & Sydney Road Street Party are both being held between 24 February and 16 March. A Cultural Troupe of 5 performers from Council's Sister City, Xianyang, China are participating in the Sydney Road Street Party and the Official Opening Concert of the Brunswick Music Festival as a gift to the people of Moreland. Cr Higginbotham encouraged residents to attend these and other festival events.

ADJOURNMENT

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

In accordance with Clause 75 of the Council's Governance Local Legislation, Cr Caputo adjourn the Council Meeting at 8.45pm.

Carried

RESUMPTION

Cr Matthews-Ward moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that –

In accordance with Clause 75 of the Council's Governance Local Legislation, Cr Caputo resume the Council Meeting at 8.59pm.

Carried

COUNCIL REPORTS:

DCS2 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT - PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007 (050/010/2)

Director Corporate Services presenting the Financial Management Report for the financial year-to-date (YTD) period ending 31 December 2007.

The operating result for Council is positive by \$0.468M, with revenue under budget by \$1.273M and expenditure under budget by \$1.741M.

At this stage of the financial year a number of positive and negative patterns now exist. These issues need to be carefully managed in order to achieve the budgeted full-year operating result. The key management issues identified to date are:

- Statutory Fees & Fines revenue is less than budget. There is a permanent deficit of \$0.600M.
- The enduring negative impact of asset disposals on the annual operating result will be around \$0.800M.
- Employee benefits are 5% below budget, after allowing for contractor expenses recorded due, in part, to vacant positions.
- The profiling of base budgets and operating projects, and unbudgeted expenditure considerably affect the accuracy of the operating result.

These issues are further explained in Attachment 1.

Attachment 1 outlines high level favourable and unfavourable category results and comments on the closing cash position and capital performance. A brief snapshot of each Department is also provided in Attachment 1 Section 4.

Cr O'Brien moved, Cr Matthews-Ward seconded that –

Council resolves to receive the Financial Management Report for year to date 31 December 2007.

Carried

DCS3 ELECTORAL SERVICES FOR THE 2008 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS (C07/367)

The 2008 Local Government Elections will be held in November 2008. For the first time since the assent of the *Local Government (Democratic Reform) Act 2003* all 79 Victorian Council's will be going to election at the same time.

At each election a service provider is contracted to provide the electoral service. In 2004 Council used the services of the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to conduct its election. In line with section 186 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council is obligated to give public notice of the purpose of the contract and invite tenders from any person who wishes to undertake the contract should the value exceed \$100,000.

In the 2004 and 2005 Local Government Elections, the VEC were the only service provider to reply to the public notice to tender. The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) opted to not participate in the local government elections at this time. It is considered unlikely that they will participate this year.

In order to avoid a number of Council's going through the public tender process individually, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) is offering Council's the opportunity to appoint it as an agent for the purpose of conducting a tender to acquire electoral services for the election. They have prepared and circulated to each Council a standard electoral services and agency deed and invitation to tender for the provision of electoral services, which should Council resolve to do so will assist us in the provision of this service without undertaking our own individual tender.

Cr O'Brien moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

Council resolve to appoint the MAV for the purpose of conducting the tender process for electoral services.

Carried

DCD5 CERES FUNDING AGREEMENT (140/035/002)

At the Council meeting in June 2007 Council resolved to prepare and enter into a 5 year funding agreement with CERES, providing a lump sum payment of \$500,000 in funding across 2008/2009 – 2009/2010 financial years for Council's contribution towards the completion of the Sustainability Centre project (also known as the CERES Van Raay Centre). It was also noted at this Council meeting that this payment would constitute Council's total capital works contribution to CERES for the next 5 years.

Attachment 1 to this report is the proposed 5-year funding agreement with CERES that relates to the Council recommendations from June 2007.

Council's contribution to CERES' operating costs will remain unchanged at \$85,000 per annum.

Upon expiry of this 5-year agreement, Council may then consider in consultation with CERES and the broader community, future funding agreements / approaches for capital works projects at the CERES site.

Cr Connellan moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

Council resolve:

1. To note the proposed Moreland City Council and CERES Funding Agreement 2008/2009 – 2012/2013.
2. To note the implications of the funding agreement on Council's Strategic Resource Plan.
3. To authorise the Director City Development to finalise the Moreland City Council and CERES Funding Agreement 2008/2009 – 2012/2013.
4. To authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to sign the Moreland City Council and CERES Funding Agreement 2008/2009 – 2012/2013.

Carried

DCD6 SYDNEY ROAD BRUNSWICK ASSOCIATION - 2007/2008 REPORT TO COUNCIL (230/020/5)

The purpose of this report is for Council to note the budget and calendar of events of the Sydney Road Brunswick Association (SRBA) for the financial year 2007/2008 and the financial statements of the Committee of Management of the SRBA for the year ending 30 June 2007.

Council has a commitment to ensure that funds collected via the Special Charge for the shopping precinct are expended in accordance with the specific purpose for which these funds are raised (i.e. to promote and market the precinct as set out in the current Funding Agreement between Council and the SRBA - 2007 – 2012).

Reporting of this information to Council has been slightly delayed due to a new auditor completing the financial statements for 2006/2007 and the final costing of projects for 2007/2008 not being confirmed until January 2008.

Cr Connellan moved, Cr Sharam seconded that –

Council resolve:

1. To note the Sydney Road Brunswick Association's calendar of events and the proposed budget for the financial year 2007/2008.
2. To note the financial statements of the Sydney Road Brunswick Association for the financial year ending 30 June 2007.

Carried

DCD7 AMENDMENT C86 - HERITAGE OVERLAY CORRECTIONS, ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT (280/080/177)

Amendment C86 proposes to correct errors contained in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay as well as errors contained in the Planning Scheme Maps. These are administrative errors and the proposed changes do not alter the existing heritage controls or the significance and continued protection of the heritage place.

The amendment further seeks the following format changes to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay:

- Reorganise the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay in alphabetical order with precincts listed first by precinct name and followed by individual heritage places by street name.
- Amend the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay to include a cross-reference in the 'Heritage Place' column to the relevant planning scheme map on which the specific Heritage Overlay is shown.

The amendment has been processed under the fast-track procedure contained in Section 20(2) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and has undergone limited public exhibition at the authority of the Minister for Planning.

Cr Connellan moved, Cr Pryor seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To adopt Amendment C86 to correct administrative errors contained in the Heritage Overlay Provisions of the Moreland Planning Scheme.
2. To submit Amendment C86 to the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Community Development for certification.
3. To authorise the Director City Development, under delegated authority, to approve the amendment once certification is received.

Carried

DCI8 TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 22M3 WASTE COLLECTION COMPACTOR (120/150/1458)

Director City Infrastructure reporting on the lump sum tender submissions received for the purchase of a waste collection compactor.

Three tenders were received and have been assessed against the advertised evaluation criteria.

Following a detailed assessment of the tenders received (Attachment 1) the recommended tenderer is Adtrans Truck Centre for the supply and delivery of a waste collection compactor.

Cr Helou moved, Cr Matthews-Ward seconded that –

Council resolve:

1. To accept the lump sum tender of \$301,198 plus GST from Adtrans Truck Centre (ABN 17 106 764 327) for the supply and delivery of the Iveco/MJE combination waste collection compactor.
2. To authorise the Director City Infrastructure to sign the necessary contract documents.
3. To advise all the tenderers accordingly.

Carried

DSD4 PARAMETERS FOR AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNCIL AND PERFORMING ARTS MORELAND (030/020/1)

On 11 April 2007 Council resolved to appoint five residents to a steering committee to oversee the process of moving the management of the Brunswick Music Festival, Sydney Road Street Party and Mechanics Institute Performing Arts Centre from Council over to a Company Limited by Guarantee. Council also resolved to appoint two Councillor representatives, Cr Pryor and Cr Caputo, and the Director Social Development or her nominee to represent Council on the steering committee (DSD21). The steering committee has suggested the name Performing Arts Moreland (PAM) for the proposed Company.

A draft agreement between Council and the new PAM Board is required prior to the Board becoming operational. The establishment of PAM as a Company Limited by Guarantee is dependant on an agreement being reached that is acceptable to Council as well as to prospective Board members. The PAM steering committee has indicated that security of funding support from Council in the early years of the Board's operations is a critical issue from their perspective.

The broad parameters for the proposed agreement are outlined in Attachment 1 to this report.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Sharam seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To endorse the name Performing Arts Moreland for the proposed Company Limited by Guarantee to be responsible for the management of the Brunswick Music Festival, Sydney Road Street Party and Mechanics Institute Performing Arts Centre.
2. To endorse the broad parameters as outlined in the proposed agreement to be negotiated between Council and the proposed Performing Arts Moreland Board.

Carried

DSD5 MORELAND COMMUNITY RAFFLE REVIEW 2008 (280/040/2)

Moreland City Council has conducted a Community Raffle since 1995. The intent of the Raffle has been to support various community and sporting groups in their fundraising endeavours. An examination of raffle trends over the last five years (2003 – 2007) demonstrates a decline in participation and in revenue to groups and an increase in the cost to Council. An analysis of data collected from 2003 through to 2007 is provided at Attachment 1.

In 2007, the culmination of a number of factors resulted in Council incurring an unfunded cost of \$11,000 to raise a total of \$13,000 for the participating groups. It is therefore proposed that the Community Raffle be suspended in 2008 and that a focus be placed on working strategically with Moreland's community groups to raise fundraising skills and capacity.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Higginbotham seconded that –

Council resolve to discontinue the annual Community Raffle and to focus staff resources on improving the Moreland Community Groups Initiative to develop the fundraising skills and capacity of community groups within Moreland.

Carried

DSD6 RELOCATION OF GLENROY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM (H08/597)

To ensure the highest quality in child care within School Holiday Programs both State and Federal Governments have recently implemented additional systems to inform the quality and performance of Children's Services and Programs. The Federal Government has introduced a Quality Assurance Strategy and the State Government is actively progressing a plan to include School Holiday Programs under childcare regulations. In response to these positive changes officers have undertaken an assessment and review of operations and facilities across the program. As a result of this assessment and audit process it has been identified that the facility Council currently uses at the Victorian College of Koori Education for the Glenroy School Holiday program no longer meets current National Standards and accreditation requirements and in its current condition will not meet the new childcare regulation requirements.

The facility will require significant investment to meet standards and as this is not a Council owned building, this responsibility rests with the Victorian College of Koori Education.

Investigation into alternative local venues indicates that the Oak Park Primary School provides a suitable alternative from which the School Holiday Program can operate. Oak Park Primary School has expressed interest in having this program operate from their facility. The school already offers Before and After School Programs from their site, their facility is compliant with relevant standards and accreditation requirements and they are positioned to meet additional regulations with minimal change.

As planning and preparation will be required for the transition to a new venue it is recommended that the School Holiday program commence at Oak Park Primary School from July 2008. This would ensure ample time to complete the appropriate process with the Federal Government for transfer of Child Care Benefit places and time to move program equipment.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Connellan seconded that –

Council resolves that this item be deferred.

Carried

DSD7 MORELAND RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING STRATEGY ANNUAL REPORT 2007 (280/040/2)

The Moreland Responsible Gambling Strategy and Action Plan 2005-2008 includes twenty-one initiatives to be implemented by Council over three years in partnership with local community service agencies, gaming venues and the Local Government Working Group on Gambling hosted by the Victorian Local Governance Association.

Council's main actions to promote responsible gambling in 2007 related to advocacy for more effective responsible gambling measures, including participation in the State Government's review of the gaming machine approvals process conducted by the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation (VCGR) and a review of Club gaming venues' Community Benefit Statements. Further Council participated in the statewide Responsible Gambling Awareness Week conducted in May 2007, organised a forum for licensed venues (including gaming venues) to promote responsible gambling and responsible serving of alcohol under the new smoking legislation and prepared and presented a social and economic impact submission to the VCGR in response to an application by the Pascoe Vale RSL Club for an additional twelve gaming machines.

Actions to be implemented by Council in 2008 will continue responsible gambling community education and local partnership and capacity building in addition to responding to gaming applications and advocating for more effective responsible gambling measures.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr El-Halabi seconded that –

Council resolves to note this annual report regarding the implementation of the Moreland Responsible Gambling Strategy and Action Plan 2005-2008, including an action progress update 2007 and identified opportunities for action to further progress the Strategy's objectives in 2008.

Carried

DSD8 MORELAND MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN- ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE 2003 AND PROPOSAL FOR 2008 (080/050/3)

The Moreland Municipal Public Health Plan 2003 (MMPHP) provides a framework to guide Council's action to improve the health safety and wellbeing of the Moreland community. The 2003 MMPHP comprises a range of broad strategies and actions addressing fourteen areas: social and economic circumstances; employment; education; housing; built and natural environment; early years; personal well-being and safety; access and availability of services; social inclusion and support; social participation; political participation; recreation, arts and leisure; transport and information. The 2003 MMPHP has been audited and key achievements identified.

It is proposed that a new Municipal Public Health Plan (MPHP) is developed in 2008. As the MPHP informs the Council Plan, it is proposed that social, environmental and economic objectives are incorporated in the Moreland Municipal Public Health Plan for 2008. This is consistent with "Environments for Health", a statewide framework for MPHPs.

This report provides an outline of the key achievements implemented in the current MPHP and details the proposed development of a new MPHP.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Connellan seconded that –

Council resolves:

1. To endorse this report as an overview of key achievements of the Moreland Municipal Public Health Plan 2003.
2. To endorse the commencement of a planning process for a new Municipal Public Health Plan.
3. To make minor editorial changes to the Moreland Municipal Public Health Plan – Achievements since 2003 and proposal for 2008.

Carried

DSD9 FAMILY VIOLENCE STRATEGY PROGRESS REPORT 2007 (230/005/54)

In November 2006 Council resolved to endorse the *Addressing Family Violence in Moreland Strategy 2006-2009 – A Partnership Approach*. Council does not provide direct family violence services, but has a capacity to work in partnership with local services in a range of areas, including prevention, community education, advocacy and local leadership.

The Moreland Domestic Violence Network oversaw the development of the *Addressing Family Violence in Moreland Strategy 2006-2009 – A Partnership Approach*. Stakeholder consultation was conducted in September and October 2006. Twenty-two actions are included in this Strategy.

Two key projects have been successfully implemented and an additional fourteen actions identified in the strategy are undertaken on an annual basis. External funding of \$19K from VicHealth was granted and a major project *Preventing Family Violence is Everyone's Business* is in progress. Other projects still in the planning stages will be implemented in partnership with members of the Moreland Family Violence Network and other relevant organisations and community groups.

Cr Sharam moved, Cr Pryor seconded that –

Council resolve to endorse the *Addressing Family Violence in Moreland 2006-2009* action plan progress report 2007.

Carried

LATE REPORTS:

CEO1 2007-2008 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT - OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2007 PERIOD (110/050/7)

The Annual Business Plan Performance Quarterly Report October 2007 to December 2007 provides a snapshot of Council's progress towards meeting agreed target measures. There is an on-going review and development of the reporting process in order to provide a sound quantitative performance report to Council.

Cr O'Brien moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that –

Council resolve to receive the Annual Business Plan Performance Report for the period October to December 2007.

Carried

DCS4 3RD INTERNATIONAL SOLAR CITIES CONGRESS 2008

The 3rd International Solar Cities Congress 2008 is being held in Adelaide from 17-21 February 2008. The 2008 Congress is the third in a series held under the auspices of the International Solar Cities Initiative.

The Mayor, Cr Joe Caputo JP wishes to attend this conference in line with Council's Interstate and Overseas Travel by Councillors Policy (CSD31).

Cr O'Brien moved, Cr Sharam seconded that –

Council resolve:

1. To authorise the Mayor, Cr Caputo JP to attend the 3rd International Solar Cities Congress 2008 from 17-21 February 2008, and
2. That travel, accommodation and associated expenses be met from the Mayor and Councillors Conference and Seminars budget.

Carried

DSD10 FUNDING FOR THE BOX FOREST SECONDARY COLLEGE THEATRE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

On 28 November 2005 Council confirmed its support for the Box Forest Secondary College's plan to redevelop its performing arts space and resolved to make a \$500,000 contribution to the Box Forest Secondary College theatre project (DSD75).

Subsequently an amount of \$700,000 was allocated towards the project by the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) Community Facilities Fund and \$200,000 by the Box Forest Secondary College. Work on the project commenced in August 2007 with a proposed completion date of March 2008. The Joint Use Agreement grants Council a licence for community use of the facility for an initial term of 30 years, with two further terms of 15 years each at the Minister's discretion.

The project budget did not cover the installation of a disabled lift that will provide disabled access to the stage area. The cost of the lift installation is \$30,000. Approaches to the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and to a number of local service clubs failed to secure additional funding required for the installation of a disabled lift.

The Box Forest Secondary College has already contributed over and above its original commitment in terms of additional funding contributions for the installation of operable walls, kitchen fitout, upgrade of some windows that were not in the condition that was anticipated, etc. The College has advised that it is not in a position to make any further additional contributions towards the project.

Cr Pryor moved, Cr El-Halabi seconded that –

Council resolve:

1. To allocate \$30,000 for the installation of a disabled lift to the stage in the redeveloped Box Forest Secondary College Community Arts Centre, in addition to its original commitment to the project.
2. That the installation of the disabled lift be funded from within the 2007/2008 capital works budget through savings in the overall capital works program.
3. Write to the local members and the Minister for Education expressing Council's disappointment at the Education Departments refusal to fund this project.

Carried

URGENT BUSINESS:

Nil.

DSD11 RECONCILIATION POLICY REVIEW - WELCOME TO COUNTRY PROTOCOL (030/060/4)

Cr Pryor moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that –

Council resolves that this item be deferred.

Carried

As this item was deferred, the Council meeting was not closed to consider confidential business.

The meeting closed at 9.17pm.

Confirmed

Cr Joe Caputo JP
MAYOR