



## **DRAFT Special Council Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday 12 March 2025

6:00 pm

Community Hub, Burns Street  
Maryborough.



## 1 Commencement of Meeting

Councils must, in the performance of its role, give effect to the overarching governance principles in the Local Government Act 2020.

These are included below to guide Councillor consideration of issues and Council decision making.

- a. Council decisions are to be made, and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- b. priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- c. the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- d. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- e. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
- f. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- g. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- h. regional, state, and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

## 2 Apologies

Council's Governance Rules require that the minutes of Council meetings record the names of Councillors present and the names of any Councillors who apologised in advance for their non-attendance.

The annual report will list councillor attendance at Council meetings. Councillor attendance at Councillor briefings is also recorded.

## 3 Leave of Absence

One reason that a Councillor ceases to hold the office of Councillor (and that office becomes vacant) is if a Councillor is absent from Council meetings for a period of four consecutive months without leave obtained from the Council. (There are some exceptions to this - see section 35 for more information.)

A Councillor can request a leave of absence. Any reasonable request for leave must be granted. Leave of absence is approved by Council.

Any request will be dealt with in this item which is a standing item on the agenda. The approvals of leave of absence will be noted in the minutes of Council in which it is granted. It will also be noted in the minutes of any Council meeting held during the period of the leave of absence.

## 4 Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of Interest must be disclosed at the commencement of a Council meeting or Councillor briefing, or as soon as a Councillor recognises that they have a conflict of interest.

The relevant provisions in the Local Government Act 2020 include those in Part 6, Division 2 (from section 126). Failing to disclose a conflict of interest and excluding themselves from the decision-making process is an offence.

### Disclosures at Council meetings

Under the Governance Rules:

A Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at a Council meeting at which he or she:

1. is present must disclose that conflict of interest by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present at the Council meeting immediately before the matter is considered; or
2. intends to be present must disclose that conflict of interest by providing to the Chief Executive Officer before the Council meeting commences a written notice:

- 2.1. advising of the conflict of interest;
- 2.2. explaining the nature of the conflict of interest; and
- 2.3. detailing, if the nature of the conflict of interest involves a Councillor's relationship with or  
a gift from another person, the:
  - a. name of the other person;
  - b. nature of the relationship with that other person or the date of receipt, value and type of gift received from the other person; and
  - c. nature of that other person's interest in the matter, and then immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting announcing to those present that he or she has a conflict of interest and that a written notice has been given to the Chief Executive Officer under this sub- Rule.

The Councillor must, in either event, leave the Council meeting immediately after giving the explanation or making the announcement (as the case may be) and not return to the meeting until after the matter has been disposed of.

#### **Disclosures at councillor briefings (and other meetings)**

Also under the Governance Rules, a Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered by a meeting held under the auspices of Council at which he or she is present must:

1. disclose that conflict of interest by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present at the meeting immediately before the matter is considered;
2. absent himself or herself from any discussion of the matter; and
3. as soon as practicable after the meeting concludes provide to the Chief Executive Officer a written notice recording that the disclosure was made and accurately summarising the explanation given to those present at the meeting.

**Councillor form to disclose conflicts of interest**

Name:

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\_ Date:

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\_ Meeting type:

Briefing

Meeting

Other \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of the conflict

of interest (describe):

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\_\_\_\_\_ name of the other person (gift giver):

If the nature of the conflict of interest involves a Councillor's relationship with or a gift from another person:

nature of the relationship with that other person or the date of receipt, value and type of gift received from the other person: \_\_\_\_\_

nature of that other person's interest in the matter: \_\_\_\_\_

**5 Officer Reports****5.1 Infrastructure Assets and Planning****5.1.1 Maryborough Olympic Pool Complex State Government Grant Application****SUMMARY/PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to make a recommendation to Council to support a funding application to the Victorian Governments' Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund (RCSIF), for Stage One of the Maryborough Olympic Outdoor Pool Complex project.

**MOTION**

That

Council Supports an application to the Victorian Governments' Regional Community Sports and Infrastructure Fund for \$3M for the Maryborough Olympic Pool Complex Project Stage One; and

2. Approves a co-contribution of \$1.5M, including \$150K in the 2025-26 Annual Budget and \$1.35M in future borrowings in the 2026-27 Annual Budget.

Moved: Cr Anna de Villiers

Seconder: Deputy Mayor Ben

Green

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr de Villiers, Cr Bartlett, Cr Green, Cr Long, Cr La

Vella Spoke against motion: Cr Bartlett, Cr Long

Spoke for motion: Cr Green

Right of Reply: Cr de Villiers

## **6 Confidential Business**

Nil

## **7 Meeting Closure**

The meeting closed at 6:18 pm.