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**MINUTES of the Council Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Council Chambers and livestreamed at [www.hrcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au) at 5.00pm on 11 July 2022.**

*At the Monday 27 June 2022 Council Meeting it was resolved to close the meeting at 9.30pm and reconvene on Monday 4 July 2022 at 5.00pm.*

*As there was no quorum at the Monday 4 July 2022, the Council Meeting was reconvened to Monday 11 July 2022 at 5.00pm.*

#### **PRESENT**

Cr Robyn Gulline (Mayor), Cr David Bowe, Cr Penny Flynn, Cr Les Power (attended virtually)

#### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Sunil Bhalla, Chief Executive Officer; Kerrie Bell, Acting Director Corporate Services; Kevin O'Brien, Director Communities and Place; Robyn Evans, Acting Director Infrastructure (attended virtually); Fiona Kelly, Executive Assistant to the CEO and Councillors.

### **1. PRAYER**

Almighty God, we pledge ourselves to work in harmony for, the social, cultural and economic well-being of our Rural City. Help us to be wise in our deliberations and fair in our actions, so that prosperity and happiness shall be the lot of our people. AMEN

### **2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY STATEMENT**

The Horsham Rural City Council acknowledges the five Traditional Owner groups of this land; the Wotjobaluk, Wergaia, Jupagulk, Jaadwa and Jadawadjali people. We recognise the important and ongoing place that all Indigenous people hold in our community.

We pay our respects to the Elders, both past and present, and commit to working together in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect for the benefit of the broader community and future generations.

### **3. OPENING AND WELCOME**

Chairman, Cr Robyn Gulline formally welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. The Mayor advised that the meeting is being livestreamed and will be recorded to maintain a video archive, which will be available on the Horsham Rural City Council website as soon as possible.

### **4. APOLOGIES**

Cr Claudia Haenel, Cr Di Bell, Cr Ian Ross

#### **Council Resolution**

**MOVED Cr David Bowe, Seconded Cr Penny Flynn**

That the apologies from Cr Claudia Haenel, Cr Ian Ross and Cr Di Bell be received.

CARRIED

## **5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

### **Declarations of Interest**

A Councillor who has declared a conflict of interest, must leave the meeting and remain outside the room while the matter is being considered, or any vote is taken.

### Members of Staff

Under Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers or people engaged under contract to the Council providing a report or advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests in the matter, including the type of interest.

Nil

## 6. NOTICE OF MOTION

### 6.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 194 – **MOTION WITHDRAWN 4.7.2022**

Given by Cr Di Bell

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Council meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham, on Monday 27 June 2022.

“That Council, in consultation with the Local Government Minister, conduct an external audit of the City to River planning and delivery process. The results to be released to the Community.”

**Rationale:** The City to River Masterplan encompasses a very large central area of the City and is integral to the future progress of Horsham Rural City. When the masterplan was developed, it was so large that many in the community didn't fully comprehend what was included, and still don't. We have seen the response recently to the Central Activity District Streetscape plan with many stating it's not long since millions were spent on the CBD – leave it alone.

We have now entered a time of uncertainty with steep rises in cost of living, and many in the community have re-evaluated what is important in their lives. We are constantly reminded that money is tight, yet we are developing projects that may require significant maintenance and renewal. These costs will need to be covered by ratepayers.

I believe that as Councillors we must lead the way and live up to our responsibilities, to ensure that the planning and delivery process for this masterplan is financially and environmentally sustainable for our Municipal community.

Refer to **Appendix “6.1A”** for copy of Notice of Motion.

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**Cr Di Bell**

CIVIC CENTRE  
HORSHAM 3400  
22.6.22

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## 6.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 195 - **MOTION WITHDRAWN 4.7.2022**

Given by Cr Di Bell

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Council meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham, on Monday 27 June 2022.

“That Council conduct a strategic review of all infrastructure projects, including City to River, currently identified in HRCC Plans and Strategies, to establish the priority of all projects. This review to be completed by 31 December 2022 or earlier.

Review to include prioritising based on the following questions:

- 1 Is the project based on clear current community need?
- 2 Will the project deliver clear public value and align to Council’s strategic priorities?
- 3 Will the project benefit future initiatives and are there any dependencies?
- 4 How feasible is the project re staff resources?
- 5 How financially and sustainably viable is the project?
- 6 What level of the Social infrastructure hierarchy does project address?
- 7 Are projects fair and equitable across the municipality?”

### **Rationale**

The HRCC Social Infrastructure Framework provides a strategic approach to asset management ensuring a fair, transparent, and consistent approach to renewal and upgrades, but we need a strategic approach to prioritising projects and plans against one another, in the interests of the whole municipal community.

Without this we run the risk of focussing on a particular project or area of the Municipality to the detriment of others.

If answers to these questions are sought on each project, in an open and transparent manner, the community will then understand how and why some projects are prioritised over others.

As Councillors, it is our responsibility to the Community to ensure projects are inclusive, fair and equitable to all in our Municipality. Discussions with community members, are revealing that they believe areas are feeling left behind by the constant intense focus on City to River projects.

I believe that demonstrating to the community how projects are financially and sustainably viable, will increase community confidence in Council.

Refer to **Appendix “6.2A”** for copy of Notice of Motion.

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**Cr Di Bell**

CIVIC CENTRE  
HORSHAM 3400  
22.6.22

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### 6.3 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 196 - **MOTION WITHDRAWN 4.7.2022**

Given by Cr Ian Ross

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Council meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham, on Monday 27 June 2022.

“That HRCC include \$750,000 in our 2022/2023 Budget and Action Plan, to maximise the opportunities for the Wesley Performing Arts Centre (WPAC) to have successful grant applications and to ensure that this asset is restored to the community for use.

If grant applications are unsuccessful, HRCC fully fund the project in the 2023/2024 Budget and Action Plan.”

#### **Rationale**

The WPAC Committee have been working for 5 years to hand ownership of this property to Council with the goal posts being moved further and further away. If we don't act now, this wonderful community venue asset may be lost to the people of Horsham. We are blessed to have a world class piano housed at WPAC for eisteddfods and entertainers. It would be tragic if this piano was lost from Horsham along with the venue.

Refer to **Appendix “6.3A”** for copy of Notice of Motion.

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**Cr Ian Ross**

CIVIC CENTRE  
HORSHAM 3400  
22.6.22

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## 7. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Penny Flynn, Seconded Cr David Bowe**

That the meeting close to the public to consider Confidential Matters.

CARRIED

*The time being 5.03pm, the meeting closed to the public.*

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr David Bowe, Seconded Cr Penny Flynn**

That the Council resolutions for Item 7.2 (Contract 22-020: Provision of Cleaning Services Various Outdoor Facilities and Public Conveniences) and Item 7.3 (Audit and Risk Committee Updates and Internal Auditor Contract Extension) be brought into open Council.

CARRIED

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Penny Flynn, Seconded Cr David Bowe**

That Council award the Contract 22-020 Provision of Cleaning Services Various Outdoor Facilities and Public Conveniences to Woody's Cleaning Service for the total sum of \$726,136 (excluding GST) for a three-year period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2025, with the option to extend the contract for a further two (2) x two (2) year terms.

CARRIED

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr David Bowe, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council Approve the contract extension for RSD Audit for the conduct of Councils internal audit programs, for a further two (2) x one (1) year term, until 1 September 2024.

CARRIED

## CLOSE

After dealing with Confidential Matters, the meeting closed at 5.15pm

DocuSigned by:

*Robyn Gulline*

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The Mayor, Cr Robyn Gulline  
Chairperson