

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL MONDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2023

MINUTES

CONTENTS

1	DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS				
2	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3			
3	ADVICE OF RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE	4			
4	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	4			
	1 PHIL DAVEY - 12 LENORE STREET, ROLEYSTONE	4			
	2 SHANE OLIVER - 3113 ALBANY HIGHWAY, ARMADALE				
	3 LESLEY BROWN - 3 GALLIERS AVENUE, ARMADALE				
	4 DEAN ADAMS, 94 WYMOND ROAD, ROLEYSTONE				
	5 TREHNA ROUSE - 3 COACHMANS PLACE, ROLEYSTONE				
	6 JOHN SANDER - 4 COACHMANS PLACE, ROLEYSTONE				
	7 TREHNA ROUSE - 3 COACHMANS PLACE, ROLEYSTONE				
	8 PHIL DAVEY - 12 LENORE STREET, ROLEYSTONE				
	1 DEPUTATION – WYMOND ROAD PROJECT	7			
5	APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE				
	1 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	10			
6	PETITIONS	10			
	NIL	10			
7	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	10			
	MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2023				
8	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION	10			
Ü	1. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS				
9	QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN – WITHOU	Т			
	DISCUSSION	11			
10	REPORTS	11			
10	10.1 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING - 6 FEBRUARY 2023				
	10.1.1 BARBEQUE FACILITY – WHITELEY PARK AND CONNECTING FOOTPATI				
	(COUNCILLOR REFERRAL ITEM) (1.2)				
	10.1.2 WYMOND ROAD PROJECT, ROLEYSTONE (COUNCILLOR REFERRAL ITE				
	(1.2)				
	10.1.3 SAFETY AT ASPIRI OVAL - (COUNCILLOR REFERRAL ITEM) (1.3)				

1	0.2	COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING - 7 FEBRUARY 2023	1 4
		10.2.1 NEW DRAFT POLICY: ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION WITH THE	
		ABORIGINAL ELDERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS (1.1)	12
		10.2.2 CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - NATIONAL SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIV	ITY
		CONVENTION IN JULY 2023 (2.1)	12
		10.2.3 PROPOSED CAT LOCAL LAW (3.1)	12
1	0.3	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT - 13 FEBRUARY 2023	13
		10.3.1 COUNCILLORS INFORMATION BULLETIN - ISSUE NO 1/2023 (1.1)	13
11 N	мот	IONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	13
12 I	IRGI	ENT RUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION	13
		ENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION	
N	NIL		13
N	NIL	TERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION HOARDING ISSUE - GALLIERS AVENUE	13 13
N	NIL	TERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION HOARDING ISSUE - GALLIERS AVENUE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR CABLE CAR PROJECT	13 13 14
N	NIL MAT 2	TERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION HOARDING ISSUE - GALLIERS AVENUE	13 13 14
N 13 N 1 2 3	NIL MAT' 2 3	TERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION HOARDING ISSUE - GALLIERS AVENUE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR CABLE CAR PROJECT COUNCILLOR BIOGRAPHIES	13 13 13 14
N 13 N 1 2 3	NIL MAT	TERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION HOARDING ISSUE - GALLIERS AVENUE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR CABLE CAR PROJECT	13 13 14 14

CITY OF ARMADALE

MINUTES

OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, 7 ORCHARD AVENUE, ARMADALE ON MONDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.00PM.

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Mayor, Cr Butterfield, declared the meeting open at 7.00 pm.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (previously approved)

PRESENT:

Mayor, Cr R Butterfield River Ward

presided over

Cr J Keogh
Cr S Peter JP
Ranford Ward
Cr M S Northcott
Palomino Ward
Cr P A Hetherington
Palomino Ward
Cr M J Hancock
Cr E J Flynn
Heron Ward
Cr G J Smith
Minnawarra Ward

Cr M Silver

Cr G Nixon

Hills Ward

Cr G Nixon Hills Ward
Cr S J Mosey Hills Ward

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms J Abbiss Chief Executive Officer

Mr J LyonExecutive Director Corporate ServicesMr P SandersExecutive Director Development ServicesMr M AndrewsExecutive Director Technical ServicesMrs S Van AswegenExecutive Director Community Services

Mrs S D'Souza CEO's Executive Assistant

Public: 18

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil

APOLOGIES:

Apology received from Crs Busby, Kamdar and Virk.

3 ADVICE OF RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1 Phil Davey - 12 Lenore Street, Roleystone

My first question is on behalf of Pam Edwards who couldn't make it tonight.

At the 19 December Council Meeting the question posed to the City of Armadale in relation to the gate was actually "Are the people sitting around this table all aware of vicarious liability?" and the response from the City of Armadale Mayor was...."I hope so".

Whereas the minutes reflected the question as: Do the people around this table appreciate the vicarious liability they may have? Mayor's response was "I believe so."

Q1. In this particular scenario, will the City of Armadale amend the minutes to show that Pam Edwards question is recorded accurately?

Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

- Q2. Do we have a date for the next electors meeting?
- CEO: Will defer to Executive Director of Corporate Services (EDCS) to advise if we have received the audit from the auditors.
- EDCS: We are still waiting on the auditors for the final management statement before we can convene the Audit Committee which is the precursor to an Annual Electors Meeting
- Q3. Will there be any indication that it might be before May this year?

EDCS: It depends on the Office of the Auditor General, the City officers have completed all the work and provided all the advice that they need.

2 Shane Oliver - 3113 Albany Highway, Armadale

Q1. Are the cat laws going to be implemented? Any progress being made towards them coming in?

Mayor: Council will be dealing with that matter tonight

Q2. Can the Health Department arrange for the yard at Galliers to be sprayed? The smell today was pretty bad.

Mayor: We may be dealing with this matter as a councillor item later in the meeting. There may be some avenue for the City to be having a look at that.

3 Lesley Brown - 3 Galliers Avenue, Armadale

Q1: Is the curfew for heavy haulage trucks still applicable in the residential area along Albany Highway, especially from Tonkin Highway to the junction of Armadale Road - South West Highway?

Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

System?

4 Dean Adams, 94 Wymond Road, Roleystone

The residents of Wymond Road have received no correspondence whatsoever regarding the issue of opening the road.

Mayor: I will take that on board and note it as a comment and not a question requiring an answer.

5 Trehna Rouse - 3 Coachmans Place, Roleystone

My question relates to the minutes of the meeting of the Council dated 19/12/2022 and in particular the response to the question I raised regarding issues concerning cars with collision assist impacting on the driver's ability to "nudge" the Emergency gate open.

Are Councillors aware that the minutes have been amended to remove the comment made at the meeting that RAC had provided advice that it would not be an issue, and that this safety mechanism is easily over ridden by pressing accelerator harder?

In its place there is a statement that only two manufacturers have been contacted and mention of RAC being the source has not been included?

On the basis that Councillors rely heavily on the advice and commentary from the City Officers when the inference is that it suggests professional advice has been sought and supports the City stance. This should be correctly recorded and if that advice is subsequently proved inaccurate and an amendment is made then surely the minutes should only be amended at the next meeting when the minutes are formally accepted.

- Q1: So my question is why are the minutes not correctly reflecting what happens at the meeting and then if necessary amended properly at the next meeting prior to acceptance?
- Mayor: At the 19/12/22 meeting I did give you the wrong information that it was the RAC we had consulted with and subsequently it was pointed out to me that it wasn't the RAC but instead the manufacturers. I was happy to have a comment included in the minutes to reflect the correct information. As to the process I will leave that up to the CEO to talk about.
- CEO. I would like to have the opportunity to review the exact wording of the minutes and provide a response to this question.
- Q2. My next question relates to the concerns I raised previously regarding issues with newer model vehicles fitted with collision control assist not brake assist. There are actually two different mechanisms in vehicles that would impact on a vehicle attempting to nudge the gate open i.e. Brake Assist and Collision Control System. Significant research has been done regarding this latter mechanism by contacting 13 major vehicle manufacturers and data collated into a spreadsheet for Councillors.

 Has the City done further research into the concerns I raised in regard to the Collision Control
- Mayor: We appreciate you have done further research and if you forward it to the officers perhaps it can be disseminated. In regard as to whether further research has been done by the City the question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.
- Q3. Given there are between 3-7 steps to turn off your computer in your car to stop the collision control assist activating. Has the City considered that the gate can be nudged open. The combination of the above means the gate is not able to be opened in the way the Council intends and as such has the capacity to endanger lives in the terrifying scenario vehicles evacuating in a bushfire.

Given this properly researched and referenced data do the city still consider the gate can be nudged open by any and every vehicle and any and every driver including those that are disabled.

Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

6 John Sander - 4 Coachmans Place, Roleystone

Q1. Do Councillors recall City of Armadale statement(s) made on numerous occasions that "DFES have approved the gate"? (E.g., Council meeting of 19th December 2022) Are Councillors now aware that that statement is not accurate and could be misleading?

Would Councillors care to be informed that the DFES Commissioner has responded to a question regarding the approval of the gate with a statement included in a letter addressed to Mrs Pam Edwards dated 13th January 2023. A copy will be provided to CoA on request.

Mayor: Those statements were made and I think for clarification it might be useful for me to read out the context of this which was "during engagement between the City and DFES in 2019 it was determined that the access met with the approval of DFES as they were satisfied that there was adequate access for their appliances and their services to use during emergencies" and that is their role, it is not their role to approve something that is clearly managed by the city.

Q2: Are the councillors aware that in that statement the key words "their" being DFES equipment not residents' vehicles?

Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q3: Will the City of Armadale provide satisfactory evidence of whether since the 2019 decision they have received any request from residents of Araluen for Wymond Road to become a permanent exit?

Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing

7 Trehna Rouse - 3 Coachmans Place, Roleystone

- Q4: Given my researched and evidence based advice would Council recognise that any gate regardless of weight or design will not provide the ease of emergency access that the City intended?
- Q5: Would Council consider the request to have the gate open during the bush fire season to negate any requirement for individuals to exit their vehicle to open the gate. This would ensure that there is the safest possible evacuation for every individual including the infirm, elderly and disabled and in any vehicle regardless of the onboard safety systems.

Mayor: The questions will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

However, I think that all of our emergency exit gates are closed. I don't know if they are locked or not but I believe that they are all closed and so this one is being treated the same way.

Q6: Has the City considered the ease of exiting the estate during night time hours when there is no lighting and the signage advising "Emergency Gate" is not visible? I would respectfully request that this issue be considered and remedied to make the emergency exit more visible at night and also that they consider extending the tarmac under the gate to the exact width of the exit as there is currently a gap where pea gravel remains and could cause accidents and slippage.

Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

7.16pm Moved Cr Nixon that question time be extended. Motion Carried (11-0)

Q7: I believe the gate to be for ALL emergency access/exit inclusive of Ambulances. This week there was a cat 1 and a cat 2 ambulance call out that used Croyden Road instead of Wymond. I would like Clarity about the ambulance access on that road because they are now using Croyden and when questioned they said it is a gazetted no through road and they can't use it. That is an emergency Service.

Mayor: This matter will be sorted out.

8 Phil Davey - 12 Lenore Street, Roleystone

Q4. In reference to our new Roleystone Karragullen Bushfire Brigade Building which I now see is happening – Thank you

I still am not 100% sure how it happens that in Oct 2021 it was reported that we are going to be spending \$1.7mil and now get told it was for the building only. With reference back to the Bedfordale Fire Station which recently or up until recently was showing on the City of Armadale website as a \$1.68 mil total project cost.

Is there a difference between the wording of total project cost and overall cost?

CEO: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q5: Recently it was showing under the City's website under the project banner and now it's no longer there. Would it have been taken down for any other reason? There are still projects there from many years ago.

Mayor: It is a project that has been finished but we will look into the matter.

Question time declared closed at 7.21pm

1 DEPUTATION – Re: Wymond Road Project

In attendance:

Jim Goodwin of 85 Wymond Road, Roleystone and Sarah Stoneham of 31 Wymond Road, Roleystone $-7.21~\mathrm{pm}$

Jim Goodwin - 85 Wymond Road, Roleystone

Mr Goodwin thanked Council for the opportunity and provided the following main comments:

- Recognising all of the complexities of the situation I would like to address the points of cost effectiveness of the proposals around Wymond Road.
- The existing arrangements are simple and work effectively in that it allows access in the event of a bushfire, but discourages traffic to Wymond Road.
- Wymond Road is not in any condition to carry a significant flow of vehicles. The topography and gradient does not allow safe passage of existing vehicles let alone increased vehicle flow.
- The emergency gate is a simple and effective arrangement allowing access in the event of an emergency, this offers a simple solution without incurring substantial costs. The gate can be accessed by an ambulance or personal vehicle and can be opened by hand or by a car without any difficulty.

- During the period when the gate was open, I've nearly been involved in an accident with a large 4 wheel drive coming down the hill at high speed, noting that our driveway is down from a hill and given the topography and the blind approach involved, quite dangerous.
- The costs of making Wymond Road (currently a bitumenised rural track) remotely safe for significant traffic would be considerable.
- The intersections of Wymond Road at Soldiers Road is already challenging as is the Soldiers Road/Brookton Highway intersection. So to add another 35,000 cars to this would be stressing these intersections unduly.
- There is significant financial cost with questionable benefit over the existing arrangements i.e. the emergency gate at Old Albany Lane provides an access solution in the event of any emergency.
- We can also measure the costs in respect to ambience and amenity that is provided through the area, meaning we come to a rural area to enjoy the wildlife, the sanctuary and the tranquility.
- Finally in respect of cost effectiveness, the various enquiries and studies that have happened over many years with Wymond Road have all led to the same verdict wouldn't we be better to spend those funds on bushfire mitigation in the first place rather than going through a substantial and ongoing cost?
- In summary, I don't see a situation where the costs are remotely viable and I think there is also a cost to the wildlife and amenity of the area.

Sarah Stoneham - 31 Wymond Road, Roleystone

Ms Stoneham thanked Council for the opportunity and provided the following main comments:

- In 2019-2020 it was deemed by Council that Wymond Road be an emergency access only for the residents of Araluen estate. This is what was intended in the original planning of the estate. The minutes relevant to this decision are available as public record. (Ref Community Services Meeting 7 July 2020)
- Residents of Wymond Road wholly support the recommendation of the Technical Services Committee of 6 February 2023 to be considered by the Council tonight.
- Cr Mosey's specific request to widen Wymond Rd should also encompass other developments in the area, i.e. Observation Circle and Leworthy Loop as they are in more pressing need of a secondary fire access. These two developments, have no emergency access while Araluen Estate has two and is likely to have 2 full access road through Heritage Drive and Armenti Road when that subdivision and development is complete.
- Some of the residents of Araluen claim that they are living in fear of their lives and that the constant threat of a bushfire is devastating to their health and wellbeing. I believe that every resident in Roleystone lives in fear of another bushfire. Araluen Estate is not unique in this regard. We are all mindful of the tragic events of 2011. Nobody wants to see that happen again.
- It has been demonstrated by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services that the full evacuation of Araluen Estate (750 vehicles) through Heritage Dr alone is capable of being done in 6-25 minutes. (Ref Minutes of Technical Services Committee Meeting 3 Sept 2018)
- The residents of Wymond Rd have no issue with Wymond Road being a secondary fire emergency route for the residents of Araluen but we don't agree with Cr Mosey's

proposal to widen Wymond Road as it will have a devastating impact on the immediate environment and the wildlife in the area.

- At the bottom of the hill that Wymond Road sits on is the heritage listed Roley Pools and Djarlgarro (Canning) river which is a place of Aboriginal significance. It is a place with a unique landscape, is of environmental significance tended to by the Armadale and Gosnells Landcare Group, and a place that residents of Roleystone and beyond love to visit. We believe that the widening of Wymond Road will inevitably require the blasting of the granite boulders that lie underneath and along Wymond Road's length. The dust, vibration and noise will have a significant and devastating impact on the Canning River and Roley Pools area.
- Roley pools water supply is already being choked by the Araluen Estate's commandeering of the natural springs to water the golf course. The hill that Wymond Road sits on has many underground aquifers and streams that, since the building of Canning Dam and Araluen Estate, are one of the few remaining sources of water that feed into the Canning River and Roley pools.
- If the Council allows the widening of Wymond Road to go ahead, the impacts on the river will be devastating. If the Canning River stops flowing and Roley Pools ends up choked of water, it will become a muddy cesspit and a breeding ground for mosquitoes. No one in Roleystone wants a mosquito explosion.
- Some of the residents of Araluen estate have been relentless in their decades-long attempts to annexe Wymond Rd. They have squandered Armadale City Council's time, money and resources in this endeavour. The signage, CCTV and gate on Wymond Road alone cost over \$130,000.
- Before the CCTV cameras, signage and issuing of fines was put in place in 2020, some Araluen residents thought they had the right to vandalise the gate, drive through the firebreaks, and illegally use Wymond road as a rat run to Armadale CBD. (Ref Community Services 7 July 2020)
- The residents of Araluen behind Cr Mosey's proposal don't care
 - that the widening of Wymond Road will lead to the destruction of one of the most important heritage sites that Roleystone has to offer;
 - o about the impact this will have on the residents of Wymond Road, whose land will be taken away as the result of a Compulsory Acquisition Order for privately held residential land;
 - o that the widening of the road and the disruption and the vibration might dislodge boulders that will fall down the valley, crush into the Canning River, destroying a site of aboriginal significance;
 - about grabbing millions of dollars of taxpayer's money to further their own ends;
 and
 - o that the unique and endangered flora and fauna of Wymond Road will have its habitat destroyed and it's peace and tranquilly taken away.

The Mayor thanked Mr Goodwin and Ms Stoneham for their comments with the deputation concluding at 7:33 pm

5 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1 Request for Leave of Absence (Cr Scott Mosey)

Request for leave of absence received from Cr Mosey for Monday 20 February 2023.

MOVED Cr S Peter

That Council grant leave of absence to Cr Mosey for Monday 20 February 2023 (does not include an Ordinary Council meeting).

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

6 PETITIONS

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2023.

MOVED Cr E J Flynn that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 January 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

1. Mayors Announcements

Wednesday 1 February 2023

Attended the WALGA State Council Information Forum where Minister Carey reiterated the intention to spill Councils who had not voluntarily gone to publically elected Mayors and told us that the legislation on LG reform would be coming in the very near future. The legislation will be divided into two bills with the first dealing with electoral matters such as optional preferential voting.

Thursday 2 February 2023

Attended a meeting with the COE and Yaz Mubarakai MLA, Member for Jandakot to discuss local issues. Updates on progress of local projects was provided.

Friday 3 February 2023

Attended the Switch Your Thinking presentation for the Switch Your Business Award at Anthologie in East Perth. The Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas was also in attendance.

Monday 6 February 2023

Attended a regular meeting with the CEO to discuss local issues.

9 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN – WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

10 REPORTS

10.1 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Report of the Technical Services Committee held on 6 February 2023.

MOVED Cr G Nixon that the report be received.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORT

Recommendation T1/2/23 – Barbeque Facility – Whiteley Park and Connecting Footpath (Councillor Referral Item)

MOVED Cr G Nixon

That Council:

Request that Officers advise of the nearest neighbourhood open space that would accommodate a BBQ facility as part of the future planning of the immediate area.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

Recommendation T2/2/23 - Wymond Road Project, Roleystone (Councillor Referral Item)

MOVED Cr G Nixon, SECONDED Cr M Silver OPPOSED Cr S J Mosey

That Council:

Continue to advocate through WALGA, and in collaboration with other affected local governments, for the establishment of a fund for the construction of secondary access ways for developments constructed in bush fire prone areas prior to the gazettal of Western Australian Planning Commission's State Planning Policy (SPP 3.7) Planning for Bushfire Prone Areas and Guidelines.

MOVED Cr S J Mosey, SECONDED Cr S Peter OPPOSED Cr G Nixon

That Recommendation T2/2/23 be amended by adding a part (2) as follows:

2. Pending the above, open the Wymond Road gate during the bushfire season.

AMENDMENT LOST

(3-8)

At the request of Cr Mosey it is recorded that he voted for the amendment.

The substantive motion was put to the vote.

MOTION CARRIED

Recommendation T3/2/23 - Safety at Aspiri Oval - (Councillor Referral Item)

MOVED Cr G Nixon

That Council:

Leave the status quo and not make any changes.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Report of the Community Services Committee held on 7 February 2023.

MOVED Cr Silver that the report be received.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORT

Recommendation C1/2/23 - New Draft Policy: Engagement and Consultation with the Aboriginal Elders and Community Members

MOVED Cr Silver

That Council endorse the draft new Policy: Engagement and Consultation with the Aboriginal Elders and Community Members.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

Recommendation C2/2/23 - Conference Attendance - National Sports and Physical Activity Convention in July 2023

MOVED Cr Silver

That Council:

1. Nominate Councillor K Kamdar and Councillor M Silver as delegates to the 2023 National Sports and Physical Activity Convention.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

Recommendation C3/2/23 - Proposed Cat Local Law

Committee Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Endorses Option 3 with an amendment to the number of cats to be kept without a permit to be 4 as its preferred model of a proposed cat local law;
- 2. In accordance with section 3.12(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, give local public notice of the proposed draft cat local law with the purpose and effect of the proposed local law to be summarised in the notice;

- 3. Note that any public and Ministerial responses will be reported to Council for consideration prior to making of the local law and publication in the Government Gazette; and
- 4. Authorise the CEO to undertake necessary administrative actions in order to give effect to (1) above.

MOVED Cr Silver

That Council recommit this item to the April 2023 Community Services Committee pending further information.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

10.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Report of the Chief Executive Officer.

MOVED Cr M S Northcott that the report be received.

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORT

Recommendation CEO1/2/23 - Councillors Information Bulletin - Issue No 1/2023 MOVED Cr S Peter

That Council acknowledge receipt of Issue 1/2023 of the Information Bulletin

MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

(11/0)

11 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

12 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

Nil

13 MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION

1 Hoarding Issue - Galliers Avenue (Cr Ruth Butterfield)

That the matter of the hoarding issue at Galliers Avenue be referred to the Development Services Committee.

2	Feasibility	Study for	Cable car 1	Project	(Cr Shanavas P	eter)	l
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That the matter of a feasibility report for a cable car project connecting the City Centre, Roleystone and Kelmscott be referred to the Corporate Services Committee.

3 Councillor Biographies (Cr John Keogh)

That the matter of Councillor Biographies on the City's website be referred to the Corporate Services Committee.

14 MATTERS REQUIRING CONFIDENTIAL CONSIDERATION Nil 15 CLOSURE The Mayor, Cr Butterfield, declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm

MINUTES CONFIRMED THIS 27 FEBRUARY 2023

MAYOR	