



Merri-bek City Council

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

Held at the Council Chamber, Merri-bek Civic Centre,
90 Bell Street, Coburg
on Tuesday 13 December 2022

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6.33 pm and stated the Council meeting is being held on the traditional country of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people and acknowledged them as Traditional Owners. The Mayor paid respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today.

Present	Time In	Time Out
Cr Angelica Panopoulos, Mayor	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Helen Davidson, Deputy Mayor	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Adam Pulford	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Annalivia Carli Hannan	Apology	
Cr Helen Pavlidis	Apology	
Cr James Conlan	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Lambros Tapinos	6.37 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Mark Riley	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Monica Harte	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Oscar Yildiz JP	6.33 pm	6.41 pm
Cr Sue Bolton	6.33 pm	6.41 pm

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer – Cathy Henderson
Director Business Transformation – Sue Vujcevic
Director Community – Eamonn Fennessy
Manager Governance and Strategy – Yvonne Callanan
Unit Manager Governance – Troy Delia

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Carli Hannan and Cr Pavlidis were apologies to the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

ADDRESS BY FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Nil.

NOTICE OF RESCISSION

5.1 NOTICE OF RESCISSION - CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES

At the Council meeting held on 7 December 2022, Report 7.5 Citizenship Ceremonies was adopted.

Cr Tapinos gave notice to rescind the motion on the basis that one councillor was absent from the meeting and the wording of the resolution gave the impression that Council intends to continue to hold citizenship ceremonies, despite that being a breach of the code.

Rescission Motion

That Council:

1. Rescind the resolution related to Report 7.5 Citizenship Ceremonies adopted at the 7 December 2022 Council meeting.

That Council:

1. *Discontinues holding citizenship ceremonies on 26 January, starting from 26 January 2023.*
2. *Notes that Council intends to continue holding citizenship ceremonies at all other times of the year.*
3. *Hosts a day of mourning ceremony on 26 January 2023, and approaches stakeholders such as the Coburg Football Club about involvement or partnering for this ceremony.*
4. *Works with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to develop and holds an annual event to welcome new citizens and develop First Nations cultural knowledge, if the federal government subsequently revokes Council's ability to hold citizenship ceremonies.*

The Motion lapsed for want of a mover.

The meeting closed at 6.41 pm.