

RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

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PRESENT

Present when Mayor Wharton declared the meeting open at 12:03pm were:

COUNCILLORS:

Cr Wharton, Cr Fox, Cr Brown, Cr Easton, Cr Flute and Cr Johnston

STAFF:

Chief Executive Officer – Peter Bennett, Director of Corporate Services – Peta Mitchell and Minutes Secretary Tiana Grant

PRAYER

Cr Wharton read the prayer

APOLOGIES

Director of Works - Syed Qadir and Director of Community Services and Development - Angela Henry

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 20240409.1

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that the Minutes of the General Meeting of the Richmond Shire Council held in the Board Room, Richmond on Thursday, 14 March 2024 be adopted as presented.

BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

Cr Wharton welcomed Councillors to the first meeting of the term.

Previous Councillors notified the new Councillors that between Council and Richmond State School, there is a joint agreement that we would like to have a relationship again which involves inviting students to attend parts of Council Meetings, students meeting with employees regarding relevant subjects and Council in attendance to School events.

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.1 Richmond Cemetery Management Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide the community with a dignified and responsive cemetery and memorialisation service and to ensure that the Shire's cemeteries are managed in accordance with statutory requirements. It is also to ensure that the conduct of those working in the Shire's cemeteries is in accordance with appropriate Workplace Policies.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Richmond Cemetery Management Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.2

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Richmond Cemetery Management Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION – OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.2 Garbage Collection Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide quality waste collection services to the community of Richmond.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Garbage Collection Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.3

It was moved Cr Brown seconded Cr Flute and carried that Council adopt the Garbage Collection Policy with changes.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.3 Uniform Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide a corporate uniform including personal protective equipment that clearly identifies staff as Richmond Shire Council employees.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Uniform Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.4

It was moved Cr Easton seconded Cr Fox and carried that Council adopt the Uniform Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.4 Motor Vehicle Use Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy is to outline the conditions under which a vehicle is used by identified employees of Richmond Shire Council (Council) and the obligations of employees who have been provided with a vehicle.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Motor Vehicle Use Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.5

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Motor Vehicle Use Policy with changes.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.5 Enterprise Risk Management Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Policy is to state the commitment of Richmond Shire Council ("Council") to implement a systematic risk management framework to identify and address risks which may impact the performance, objectives and legal compliance of the organisation and its workforce, and to assign responsibility for the framework's implementation.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Enterprise Risk Management Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.6

It was moved Cr Easton seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Enterprise Risk Management Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.6 Richmond Racecourse Camping Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Provide camping facilities at the Richmond Racecourse in the event that Lakeview Caravan Park is unable to take further bookings.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Richmond Racecourse Camping Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.7

It was moved Cr Johnston seconded Cr Easton and carried that Council adopt the Richmond Racecourse Camping Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.7 Working Safely in Hot Conditions Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This toolbox talk provides employees of Council guidance on how to manage the risks associated with working in hot conditions and information on what to do if a worker begins to suffer from a heat-related illness.

Working in heat can be hazardous and can cause harm to workers. The human body needs to maintain a body temperature of approximately 37 degrees Celsius.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Working Safely in Hot Conditions Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.8

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Working Safely in Hot Conditions Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.8 Traffic Management of Works within the Road Reserve Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Policy is to state the responsibilities of Richmond Shire Council ("Council") employees and management in ensuring that standardised procedures for traffic management are used at all works within the road reserve to provide for the safety of road users and workers and to minimise the disruption and inconvenience to road users.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Traffic Management of Works within the Road Reserve Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.9

It was moved Cr Easton seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Traffic Management or Works within the Road Reserve Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.9 Stable Hire Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To establish criteria for the use of the Stables located at the Richmond Shire Council Racecourse.

Council operates and maintains horse stabling at Richmond Racecourse and agrees to rent stables, feed rooms and allow usage of other facilities for a period of 12 months at a time.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Stable Hire Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.10

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Stable Hire Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.1 Multicultural Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Australia is an increasingly multicultural society and as we recognise more cultural and ethnic diversity, it is imperative we lead children in recognising, respecting and accepting similarities and differences in cultures. The cultural beliefs, linguistic and religious diversity represented within our Out of School Hours Care Service (OSHC) and wider community helps to form the foundation of the program being implemented to ensure we are promoting an inclusive environment for all children.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: approve the Multicultural Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.11

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Flute and carried that Council adopt the Multicultural Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Form

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.2 Children's Belongings Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We acknowledge that children may bring certain personal belongings with them to the Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Service each day, and as such, it is important to clarify responsibilities, and ensure items brought to the Service are safe and appropriate. This policy therefore outlines the types of belongings that children may bring with them on a regular basis and the level of associated responsibility.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Clinical Children's Belongings Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.12

It was moved Cr Brown seconded Cr Fox and carried that Council adopt the Children's Belongings Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.3 Cyber Safety Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cyber safety is the safe and responsible use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). It involves being respectful of other people online, using good 'netiquette' (internet etiquette), and above all, is about keeping information safe and secure to protect the privacy of individuals. Our Out of School Hours Care Service (OSHC) is committed to create and maintain a safe online environment with support and collaboration with staff, families and community. As a child safe organisation, our Service embeds the Child Safe Standards and continuously address risks to ensure children are safe in physical and online environments.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Cyber Safety Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.13

It was moved Cr Easton seconded Cr Brown and carried that Council adopt the Cyber Safety Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.4 Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Quality Standard requires education and care services implement specific strategies to minimise the spread of infectious illness and maintain a healthy environment for all children, staff, educators and families. The spread of infections in the education and care environment is facilitated by microbial contamination of the environment, as well as the greater exposure to young children who are still developing hygienic behaviours and habits. Our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Service will minimise children's and staff's exposure to infectious diseases by adhering to all recommended guidelines from relevant authorities regarding the prevention of infectious diseases, promoting practices that reduce the transmission of infection, ensuring the exclusion of sick children and educators, supporting child immunisation, and implementing effective hygiene practices.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.14

It was moved Cr Johnston seconded Cr Fox and carried that Council adopt the Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.5 Immunisation Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

When groups of children are together, illness and disease can spread rapidly. Preventable diseases such as measles and whooping cough can have serious health consequences for children, and especially young children. Staff members who work in school-aged care services are also at increased risk of contracting certain infectious illnesses due to the close proximity of working with children. Immunisation is therefore an important health measure and an effective way of protecting children and adults from harmful diseases by reducing the spread of disease.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Immunisation Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.15

It was moved Cr Johnston seconded Cr Fox and carried that Council adopt the Immunisation Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.6 Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The health and safety of all staff, children, families and visitors to our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Service is of the utmost importance. We aim to reduce the likelihood of incidents, illness, accidents and trauma through implementing comprehensive risk management, effective hygiene practices and the ongoing professional development of all staff to respond quickly and effectively to any incident or accident

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.16

It was moved Cr Easton seconded Cr Fox and carried that Council adopt the Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.7 Sick Children Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Children come into contact with many other children and adults within the Service increasing their exposure to others who may be sick or carrying an infectious illness. The National Quality Standard requires the Out of School Hours (OSHC) Service to implement specific strategies to minimise the spread of infectious illness and maintain a healthy environment for all children, educators and families. We acknowledge the difficulty of keeping children at home or away from school and OSHC when they are sick and the pressures this causes for parents, however our Service aims to minimise the transmission of infectious diseases by adhering to regulations and policies protecting the health of all children, staff, families and visitors.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Sick Children Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.17

It was moved Cr Johnston seconded Cr Easton and carried that Council adopt the Sick Children Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.8 Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Privacy is acknowledged as a fundamental human right. Our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Service has an ethical and legal responsibility to protect the privacy and confidentiality of children, individuals and families as outlined in the Early Childhood Code of Ethics, Education and Care Services National Regulations and the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). The right to privacy of all children, their families, and educators and staff of the OSHC Service will be upheld and respected, whilst ensuring that all children have access to high quality early years care and education. All staff members will maintain confidentiality of personal and sensitive information to foster positive trusting relationships with families.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: adopt the Privacy and Confidentiality Policy as presented.

RESOLUTION 20240409.18

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council adopt the Privacy and Confidentiality Policy as presented.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Policy

Change of order of business to consider late items

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2.10 Elected Members 2024 Workshop

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Peak Services have forwarded Council their 2024 Elected Member Training Calendar for Councillors to add which training workshops they wish to attend to their calendars for the 2024 year.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: note the workshop dates and advise availability to attend any applicable.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Councillors would look into each training session and email CEO Peter Bennett which ones they wish to attend and CEO Peter Bennett will then organise it from there.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Calendar

3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - CORPORATE SERVICES

3.1 Monthly Financial Statements

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's monthly financial report in relation to the 2023/24 adopted budget is presented for consideration, together with Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cash Flow as at 31 March 2024.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: receive the monthly financial report presenting the progress made as at 31 March 2024 in relation to the 2023/24 budget and including the:

- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Operational Budget
- Capital Works in Progress

RESOLUTION 20240409.19

It was moved Cr Fox seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council receive the monthly financial report presenting the progress made as at 31 March 2024 in relation to the 2023/24 budget and including the:

- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Operational Budget
- Capital Works in Progress

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Cash Flows

- Operational Budget
- Capital Works in Progress

3. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - CORPORATE SERVICES

3.2 Operational Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As required by Section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a progress report on the implementation of Council's 2023/2024 Operational Plan at the end of the March quarter is tabled for Council's consideration.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: receive and note the Quarter 3 progress report of RSC 2023/2024 Operational Plan for the March 2024 reporting period.

RESOLUTION 20240409.20

It was moved Cr Johnston seconded Cr Flute and carried that Council receive the Quarter 3 progress report of RSC 2023/2024 Operational Plan for the March 2024 reporting period.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

• Operational Plan 2023-2024 March Quarter

CLOSED SESSION

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - Office of the Chief Executive Officer

2.11 Swimming Pool Management Contract

RESOLUTION 20240409.21

It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council enter a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 275, (1) (e) contracts proposed to be made by it;

RESOLUTION 20240409.22

It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council exit a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 275, (1) (e) contracts proposed to be made by it;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Richmond Swimming Pool Management Contract is due to expire on 30 May 2024 with an option to renew for a further two years.

Minor changes have been made to the Contract as stated in the background. However, Council need to discuss potential changes that CEO Peter Bennett will bring up in the meeting.

The Pool Contractor was contacted to make any changes they required; however, they did not have any requests for changes.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: discuss the changes made and agree to approve the Contract for signing.

After a lengthy discussion, Council unanimously agreed to hold over the Contract for CEO Peter Bennett to make necessary changes before bringing it back to Council for approval.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Contract

Meeting Adjournment

RESOLUTION 20240409.23

It was moved Cr Easton, seconded Cr Flute and carried that Council adjourn the meeting for Lunch at 1:04pm.

RESOLUTION 20240409.24

It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Flute and carried that Council resume the meeting at 1:47pm.

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - Office of the Chief Executive Officer

2.12 Richmond State School Chaplaincy Donation

I, Councillor Fox inform the meeting that I have declared an interest in relation to item 2.12 Richmond State School Chaplaincy Donation, as a result that I am on the Chaplaincy Board for Richmond State School.

Due to the nature of the item, I will leave the meeting when this item is discussed.

Attendance

Cr Fox declared an Interest and left the room at 1:51pm.

RESOLUTION 20240409.25

It was moved Cr Johnston, seconded Cr Easton and carried that Council enter a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 275, (1) (c) the local government's budget;

RESOLUTION 20240409.26

It was moved Cr Easton, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council exit a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 275, (1) (c) the local government's budget;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Richmond Shire Council have donated to Scripture Union Australia for many years for the Richmond State School Chaplaincy Program to continue. In March 2023, Council approved to donate for another year, however agreed to reconsider in 2024.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: discuss the options to donate \$10,000.00 for 2024 or to reconsider.

RESOLUTION 20240409.27

It was moved Cr Easton, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council donate \$5,000.00 plus accommodation for 2024.

Attendance

Cr Fox re-entered the room at 2:01pm.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

• Tax Invoice, two latest Reports and Letter from RSC

2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION - Office of the Chief Executive Officer

2.13 Golf Australia

RESOLUTION 20240409.28

It was moved Cr Easton, seconded Cr Flute and carried that Council enter a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 275, (1) (c) the local government's budget;

RESOLUTION 20240409.29

It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council exit a closed session according to the Local Government Regulation 2012 275, (1) (c) the local government's budget;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council have received a proposal from Golf Australia to consider hosting the 2025 Outback Queensland Masters (OQM).

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council: accept the proposal to sponsor Golf Australia Event in Richmond 2025.

Cr Wharton noted that he would ask the Richmond Golf Club if they would be interested in sharing the costs with Richmond Shire Council.

RESOLUTION 20240409.30

It was moved Cr Easton, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that Council accept the proposal to be a Mateship Level Sponsor and agreed in-kind requests from Golf Australia.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Proposal

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Wharton asked the Councillors why they chose to become a candidate and what they would like to see for the future of Richmond Shire.

Cr Easton wished to be a part of the team to better the Richmond Shire. Cr Fox wishes to concentrate and complete the current goals on the list and Cr Johnston agreed.

Cr Brown reiterated that she would like to see the Cambridge Crossing Bridge completed within this term. Cr Brown also asked if Council would consider training an employee to become a qualified snake catcher. Council advised that they would look into courses.

Cr Brown advised that the bend near Alick Creek at Maxwelton is quite dangerous due to high prickle bushes and requested they be poisoned.

Cr Brown also asked if Richmond Shire Council would consider having a volunteer work camp for Prisoners. Council will investigate further and bring information back to a future Council Meeting.

Cr Brown asked for an update on the plans with the prickly acacia and Green Day Energy. Cr Wharton provided an update.

Cr Flute asked for an update on the new road at the Maxwelton Yards. CEO Peter Bennett advised that the Tender would close this month. However, it is still quite wet for works to start.

Cr Brown enquired about the water meters, water allocations and charging for water. It was agreed to hold this conversation over to the May budget meeting.

Cr Fox thanked Richmond Shire Council for their contribution towards International Women's Day 2024. Cr Fox also advised that the recent Sunday Markets were a success and is looking forward to more in the future.

Cr Fox advised that at the last Consumer Advisory Council Meeting, they would be changing their focus and structure and focusing on outpatient process and rural services for Richmond.

Cr Fox asked if Council had received an application from Richmond Wagon Adventures regarding a seasonal pass for a designated wet area at the Richmond Racecourse and Lake Fred Tritton. CEO Peter Bennett advised that this has already been approved.

Cr Wharton advised Council that they are in the works with the two local pubs to shut Goldring Street on the night of Friday 14 June 2024 for a street party, as there is no Cocktail Party for the Richmond Field Days this year. All Councillors agreed that this was a good idea.

Cr Johnston asked for an update on the storm water upgrade project, as there is still a residence in Simpson Street that is severely affected by floodwater. CEO Peter Bennett noted that he had been contacted and advised that Council are sourcing an external Engineer to work on a solution for this problem.

Cr Johnston asked if the Careers Expo was still going ahead. CEO Peter Bennett advised that it is.

Cr Easton asked if a grader would be on the Coalbrook Road soon as it was unsafe. CEO Peter Bennett advised he'd follow up with the Works Manager after the meeting.

Cr Brown asked for an update on the town drainage works. CEO Peter Bennett advised that the contractors were not finished yet and would be returning to finish the works soon.

CLOSE OF MEETING

RESOLUTION 20240314.31

It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Flute, and carried that the information reports be received and noted.

Meeting closure

RESOLUTION 20240314.32

It was moved Cr Fox, seconded Cr Johnston and carried that the meeting close at 2:53pm.

Next Ordinary Meeting

21 May 2024.	
I hereby confirm that this is a true and correct record of the minutes of the Richmond Shire Counc Ordinary Meeting Tuesday 09 April 2024.	il
Mayor ————————————————————————————————————	