



City of
LAUNCESTON

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER 2021
5.30pm**

City of Launceston

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 2 December 2021

The Annual General Meeting of the City of Launceston Council was held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston:

Date: 2 December 2021

Time: 5.30pm

Certificate of Qualified Advice

Background

To comply with section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas):

1. A general manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council or a council committee is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.
2. A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless -
 - (a) the general manager certifies, in writing -
 - (i) that such advice was obtained; and
 - (ii) the general manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
 - (b) a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the general manager's certificate.

Certification

I certify that:

- (i) the advice of a qualified person has been sought where required;
- (ii) this advice was taken into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
- (iii) a copy of the advice, or a written transcript or summary of advice provided orally, is included with the minutes item.



Michael Stretton
Chief Executive Officer

AUDIO of COUNCIL MEETINGS

An audio recording of this Annual General Meeting will be made in accordance with our Council Meetings - Audio Recording Policy - 14-Plx-008.

This Annual General Meeting was streamed live to and can be accessed at:
www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Meetings/Listen .

The following information was provided to members of the public in respect of attendance at the Annual General Meeting.

At the Annual General Meeting, please take care to follow signage and the directions of the Council's Officers to ensure that physical distancing and other COVID-19 safe behaviour is observed. Members of the public will be required to check in on arrival via the *Check In Tas App* as per the Direction Under Section 16 - Contact Tracing - No. 10 - *Public Health Act 1997*.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - AGENDA ITEM 4

Questions received in writing by noon on Tuesday, 23 November 2021 have been treated as Questions Taken on Notice and responses appear in these Minutes.

If attending the Annual General Meeting in person, you may ask questions during Public Question Time. If accepted, your questions will be either answered at the Meeting or Taken on Notice and answered in the Council Minutes of 16 December 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

When attending the Annual General Meeting, you will be asked if you wish to comment on an item in the Agenda. Prior to debate on that Agenda Item, you will be invited by the Chair to move to the public microphone at the doors to the Council Chambers and state your name and address.

Please note the following important information:

- You may speak for up to two minutes, either for or against the Recommendation.
- You may not ask questions or enter into debate with Councillors or Council Officers.
- Your statement is not to be defamatory, inappropriate or abusive, or be intended to embarrass any person, including Councillors or Council Officers.
- The Chair may direct you to stop speaking if you do not follow these rules, or if your statement repeats points that have already been made.
- Audio from our Council Meetings is streamed live via YouTube.

Your respectful contribution is welcome and appreciated.

LEGISLATIVE TERMINOLOGY - GENERAL MANAGER

At the City of Launceston, the positions of General Manager Community and Place, General Manager Organisational Services, General Manager Infrastructure and Assets and General Manager Creative Arts and Cultural Services do not assume the functions and powers of the term *general manager* in a legislative sense: any legislative functions and powers to be delegated to these roles will be made by Council or the Chief Executive Officer. At the City of Launceston, the title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas). For the avoidance of doubt, *Chief Executive Officer* means *General Manager* for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) and all other legislation administered by or concerning Council.

City of Launceston

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 2 December 2021

Present: **Councillor** **A M van Zetten (Mayor)**
 D C Gibson (Deputy Mayor)
 D H McKenzie
 R I Soward
 J G Cox
 A E Dawkins
 P S Spencer
 A G Harris
 T G Walker (attended at 5.37pm)
 K M Preece

In Attendance: **Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer)**
 Ms L Foster (Organisational Services Network)
 Mr S Eberhardt (Infrastructure and Assets Network)
 Mr S Tennant (Team Leader Communications)
 Mrs K Hartland (Team Leader Governance)
 Mrs A Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

Apologies: **Councillor** **K P Stojansek**
 N D Daking

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Item	Page No
1	OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES	1
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	1
3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	1
4	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	2
4.1	Public Questions on Notice	2
4.1.1	Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ted Sands	3
4.1.2	Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Robin Smith	6
4.2	Public Questions Without Notice	8
4.2.1	Mr Robin Smith - CBD Issues	8
5	NOTICES OF MOTION	9
5.1	Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Closed Circuit Television Cameras in the Brisbane Street Mall	9
5.2	Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Brisbane Street Mall Social Services	10
5.3	Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Cycling in the Brisbane Street Mall	11
5.4	Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Brisbane Street Mall Cleansing	12
6	SUBMISSIONS	13
6.1	Submission - Annual General Meeting - Draft Launceston Transport Strategy - Public Consultation	13

City of Launceston

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 2 December 2021

Item No	Item	Page No
7	ANNUAL REPORTS	14
7.1	City of Launceston's Annual Reports for the Year Ended 30 June 2021	14
8	MEETING CLOSURE	15

1 OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, opened the Meeting at 5.30pm and noted apologies from Councillor N D Daking and Councillor K P Stojansek.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government Act 1993 - section 48

(A councillor must declare any interest that the councillor has in a matter before any discussion on that matter commences.)

No Declarations of Interest were identified as part of these Minutes

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 35(1)(b)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 3 December 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

DECISION: 2 December 2021

MOTION

Moved Councillor P S Spencer, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31

4.1 Public Questions on Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31(1)

Questions on Notice were invited from the public from Saturday, 6 November 2021 and closed at 12noon on Tuesday, 23 November 2021.

4.1.1 Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ted Sands

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council in writing on 15 November 2021 by Mr Ted Sands, have been answered by Nick Browne (Team Leader Roads and Traffic).

Questions:

1. Does the City of Launceston have a plan to refurbish Hobart Road - from Opossum Road to Quarantine Road - as the asphalt surface is fast become a patch work quilt?

Response:

The most recent road asset network condition survey was undertaken in 2019 and has been used to inform the current program of works. This survey rated this section of road as fair to good condition. The current program of works has prioritised road segments that are in poor or worse condition and as such these segments of Hobart Road are not on the current works program. Routine maintenance will continue on this road.

2. With regard to the parking area down at the Silo Hotel (through the flood gate area), would the Council consider remediating the many potholes to improve amenity? Even if the land is Crown Land, this tract of roadway is next door to a substantial hotel.

Response:

As indicated in the question, this area is Crown land operated by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment and is not the responsibility of the City of Launceston. It would be inappropriate for the Council to spend its funds to maintain an asset it is not responsible for.

3. The old wharf area from the [Silo] Hotel to Kings Wharf is nothing short of a disaster. Would the Council, in next year's budget, entertain a plan to replace the decaying stumps and to remove the rotting hulk that is tied up at the northern end of this location? Errol Stuart suggested \$1m dollars some time back. Perhaps with State Government support this area could be rejuvenated along with support (financial) from the City of Launceston?
-

4.1.1 Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ted Sands ...(Cont'd)

Response:

The Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce has developed a draft vision to develop a cultural and recreational precinct in the upper estuary that includes rehabilitation and revitalisation of this section of the foreshore. Further information can be found on their website (www.tamarestuary.com.au). The Council will await the finalisation of the vision before considering future expenditure on works and/or assets in this location.

4. Does the City of Launceston have a plan to improve Talbot Road overlay - there are many failures along the route in the asphalt?

Response:

The most recent road asset network condition survey was undertaken in 2019 and has been used to inform the current program of works. This survey rated this section of road as good condition. The current program of works has prioritised road segments that are in poor or worse condition and as such Talbot Road is not on the current works program. Routine maintenance will continue on this road.

5. Does the City of Launceston have a strategy to fix asphalt collapse around the many gatic covers across the City?

Response:

These areas can be a natural weak point in the pavement structure due to the construction methods required to install or reseal around them. As with any road defect, where the depression exceeds recognised intervention levels, the City of Launceston does undertake rectification as part of its routine maintenance processes.

6. Road markings on many intersections across the City are in need of redoing. Is that in the forward works schedule of infrastructure?

Response:

The Department of State Growth undertakes an annual line marking maintenance program on behalf of local governments in Tasmania. Each year the Council submits a list of identified lines in need of maintenance to the Department. Due to the limited funds available that must be spread equitably across the State, often it is not possible to complete the City of Launceston's entire list, at which point the Council will prioritise the works that occur, moving the remainder to the following year's program.

4.1.1 Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ted Sands ...(Cont'd)

7. There is new signage on poles at the Silo [Hotel] car park area through the flood gate indicating staff car parking. When was this approved?

Response:

The car park located west of the Silo Hotel adjacent to the river is on Crown land with a private operator holding a lease over this area. The management of this space is not within the responsibility or control of the City of Launceston.

4.1.2 Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Robin Smith

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted in writing to the Council on 23 November 2021 by Mr Robin Smith, have been answered by Mr Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network).

Questions:

1. Does the Council consider the current police presence in the Launceston CBD and particularly Brisbane Street, adequate in tackling the apparent anti-social behaviour?

Response:

This is a matter for Tasmania Police, rather than the Council.

2. Would the Council illustrate the demand and objectives in turning the proposed one-way streets into two-way and two-way into one-way please?

Response:

Changes to traffic movement in the CBD was first identified in the Launceston Public Places and Public Life 2011, Gehl Architects (<https://yourvoiceyourlaunceston.com.au/2783/documents/3824>) and provides the following summary in respect to traffic:

The growing number of cars has lead to a gradual decrease in quality of the internal accessibility and mobility for visitors, employees and residents in the centre. A balanced approach both for external as well as internal accessibility is suggested. In order to improve the quality and vitality of Launceston city centre, a reduction in vehicle traffic volumes and speeds need to be achieved. The through traffic with no business in the city centre should be redirected. Launceston has excellent conditions for cycling, with climate and topography presenting few difficulties. The bicycle network ought to be better at inviting more people to ride bikes, especially for short distances within the city centre and to and from neighbouring areas.

4.1.2 Annual General Meeting - Public Questions on Notice - Mr Robin Smith ...(Cont'd)

This philosophy has continued to be built on with the Launceston City Heart Master Plan which can be found at <https://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Business-and-Development/Major-Projects/Launceston-City-Heart-Project>.

3. Would the Council kindly detail the support and all other comments made to it by business or land owners relating to the Dechaineux Way Bus Mall proposal?

Response:

The Council has undertaken engagement with the Launceston Chamber of Commerce who has publicly indicated its support for the provision of a modern, fit-for-purpose bus interchange facility on the site which draws access from Dechaineux Way. The Chamber represents many businesses and landowners within the Launceston CBD. Additionally, all adjoining property owners and businesses have been provided an opportunity for early engagement with the Council on the proposal and it is not appropriate to publicly share their comments without their consent. It should be noted that there will be further community engagement undertaken as the project progresses.

4.2 Public Questions Without Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31(2)(b)

(Members of the public who ask Questions without Notice at a meeting will have both the question and any answer provided recorded in the Minutes. Council Officers will endeavour to answer the question asked at the meeting, however, that is not always possible and more research may be required. If an answer cannot be provided at the Meeting, the question will be treated as a Question on Notice. A response will be provided at the next Council Meeting.)

4.2.1 Mr Robin Smith - CBD Issues

1. **Could you provide an update on the work in the Brisbane Street Mall adjusting the thylacines and the octagonal seats?**

Mr Michael Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) responded by saying that work is progressing with the Council's Place Making Team but it is certainly not as fast as was anticipated. It has been complicated by trying to deal with a number of matters along with the matters you raise, but principally it is about trying to inject some greening into the Mall, dealing with the thylacine sculptures and the seats. It has been complicated in dealing with service matters, but that is the reason for the delay.

2. **Are the issues of Sunday parking and food delivery services being progressed or investigated at all?**

Mr Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network) answered by saying that Council recently adopted the *Launceston Transport Strategy* along with a *Central Area Parking Improvement Plan* which is the direction in terms of parking controls in the CBD including controls on a Sunday.

3. **In relation to reviewing Closed Circuit Television in the Brisbane Street Mall (in relation to Agenda Item 5.1) where currently there is no coverage, can I be assured that will include coverage?**

Mr Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network) answered by saying the review being undertaken by the Council, in conjunction with Tasmania Police, does include the technology and the scope of the area of what is being captured.

5 NOTICES OF MOTION

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 16(5)

5.1 Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Closed Circuit Television Cameras in the Brisbane Street Mall

FILE NO: SF0098

AUTHOR: Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Notice of Motion, submitted by Mr Robin Smith, regarding closed circuit television cameras in the Brisbane Street Mall, Launceston.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council reviews provision of the Council's operated closed circuit television cameras in the Brisbane Street Mall with a view to extending it to those areas where there is currently no coverage.

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

THIS MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN BY MR ROBIN SMITH

Councillor T G Walker attended the Meeting at 5.37pm

5.2 Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Brisbane Street Mall Social Services**FILE NO:** SF0098**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Notice of Motion, submitted by Mr Robin Smith, regarding social services in the Brisbane Street Mall, Launceston.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council reviews those matters it is responsible for in connection with the operation of the social services (food distribution for the poor and those sleeping on the street) as operated in the Brisbane Street Mall.

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 2 December 2021**MOTION**

Moved Mr Robin Smith, seconded Mrs Jeanette Smith.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED

5.3 Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Cycling in the Brisbane Street Mall**FILE NO:** SF0098**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Notice of Motion, submitted by Mr Robin Smith, regarding cycling in the Brisbane Street Mall, Launceston.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council reviews existing rules and signage as it relates to cycling in the Brisbane Street Mall.

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 2 December 2021**MOTION**

Moved Mr Robin Smith, seconded Mrs Jeanette Smith.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED

5.4 Notice of Motion - Mr Robin Smith - Brisbane Street Mall Cleansing**FILE NO:** SF0098**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Notice of Motion, submitted by Mr Robin Smith, regarding cleansing in the Brisbane Street Mall, Launceston.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council's morning cleansing crew suspend the use of petrol powered leaf blowers in the Launceston CBD and instead use their existing alternative cleansing equipment as a trial on each Tuesday during March and April 2022.

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 2 December 2021**MOTION**

Moved Mr Robin Smith, seconded Mrs Jeanette Smith.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED

6 SUBMISSIONS**6.1 Submission - Annual General Meeting - Draft Launceston Transport Strategy - Public Consultation****FILE NO:** SF5547**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive a submission for the Annual General Meeting regarding the Draft Launceston Transport Strategy - Public Consultation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the submission be received.

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 2 December 2021**MOTION**

Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED

7 ANNUAL REPORTS

7.1 City of Launceston's Annual Reports for the Year Ended 30 June 2021

FILE NO: SF0098

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To adopt the City of Launceston's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2021 together with the Annual Reports for other City of Launceston entities and Authorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. adopts the City of Launceston Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2021 (ECM Doc Set ID 4643128); and
 2. pursuant to section 333 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), adopts the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2020-2021 (ECM Doc Set ID 4643129) and its submission to the Minister for the Arts, Tasmanian State Government.
 3. notes the Launceston Flood Authority Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2021 (ECM Doc Set ID 4620887) was adopted by Council at its 21 October 2021 Meeting.
-

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 2 December 2021

MOTION

Moved Councillor R I Soward, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED

8 MEETING CLOSURE

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, closed the Meeting at 6.06pm.

UNCLASSIFIED MINUTES ITEMS: