



City of
LAUNCESTON

COUNCIL MINUTES

**COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2024
1.00PM**

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

Date: 7 March 2024

Time: 1.00pm

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 agenda item.



**Shane Eberhardt
Acting Chief Executive Officer**

AUDIO of COUNCIL MEETINGS

An audio recording of this Council Meeting, except for any part held in Closed Session, will be made in accordance with our Council Meetings - Audio Recording Policy - 14-Plx-008.

This Council 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 Council Meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - AGENDA ITEM 8

Questions received in writing by close of business Wednesday of the week prior to the Council Meeting are treated as Questions on Notice. Your question and an answer will be published in the Agenda of the Council Meeting. Questions may be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer at contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au, PO Box 396, Launceston TAS 7250, or Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston.

If attending the Council Meeting in person, you may ask up to three questions during Public Question Time. If accepted, your questions will be either answered at the Meeting, or Taken on Notice and answered at a later Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

When attending the Council 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:

- Each item on the Agenda includes a Recommendation prepared by a Council Officer.
- 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.

Present:

Mayor Councillor M K Garwood
Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie
Councillor D C Gibson
Councillor A E Dawkins
Councillor A G Harris
Councillor T G Walker
Councillor J J Pentridge
Councillor A J Palmer
Councillor L M McMahon
Councillor S Cai
Councillor A J Britton

In Attendance:

Shane Eberhardt (Acting Chief Executive Officer)
Chelsea van Riet (General Manager Community and Place Network)
Michael Newby (Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network)
Shane Fitzgerald (General Manager Creative Arts and Cultural Services Network)
Zara Dawtrey (Senior Communications Officer)
Philippa Lees (Manager Community Relations)
Leanne Purchase (Manager Governance)
Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

Apologies:

Councillor Prof G Razay

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1. OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, opened the Meeting at 1.00pm and noted an apology from Councillor Prof G Razay.

2. MAYORAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, acknowledged the fires last night in our northern suburbs and recognised the stresses that the community faces. He acknowledged the incredible work of the emergency services, front line workers and volunteers, and also the role that Council plays in emergency response.

The Mayor also acknowledged that the City of Launceston has received a Certificate of Appreciation for the 2024 Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Council. It is an acknowledgment that Launceston is the first Tasmanian council to come on board as part of this initiative. He thanked Nigel Coates (Engineering Officer - Traffic) and team for their work in this space and also Peter Frazer for his initiative with the SARAH (Safer Australian Roads and Highways) project and how he continues to advocate for road safety.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) - 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

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 22 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor A J Britton, seconded Councillor A J Palmer.

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 22 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED 10:1

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

AGAINST VOTE: Councillor J J Pentridge

5. COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 8(2)(c)

5.1. Council Workshop Report - 22 February 2024 and 29 February 2024

FILE NO: SF4401

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider Council Workshops conducted since the last Council Meeting.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 8(2)(c)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, notes the Council Workshops conducted and attended since the last Council Meeting, for the purposes described:

1. pre-Council Workshop conducted on 22 February 2022:

Expression of Interest Process - 56 Frederick St, Launceston

Councillors considered the Expressions of Interest received from Stage 2 of the process in relation to the future use of 56 Frederick St, Launceston.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Prof G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

Apologies: Councillor A E Dawkins

2. Workshop conducted on 29 February 2024:

Launceston Central Marketing Inc. Half Yearly Report

Councillors received a biannual progress report from representatives of Launceston Central Inc, updating them on developments since the last workshop presentation held on September 14, 2023.

2024/2025 Fees & Charges

A draft schedule of proposed 2024/2025 Fees and Charges was provided to the Councillors for discussion.

2024/2025 Budget and Annual Plan Update

Councillors received a briefing on the preparation of the 2024/2025 Budget and Annual Plan.

University of Tasmania Stadium Transfer

Councillors had the opportunity to provide advice on the expectations of the content Term Sheet for transfer and transition of the University of Tasmania Stadium to Stadiums Tasmania.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

Apologies: Councillor Prof G Razay and Councillor A J Palmer

DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor D C Gibson, seconded Councillor A J Britton.

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, notes the Council Workshops conducted and attended since the last Council Meeting, for the purposes described:

1. pre-Council Workshop conducted on 22 February 2022:

Expression of Interest Process - 56 Frederick St, Launceston

Councillors considered the Expressions of Interest received from Stage 2 of the process in relation to the future use of 56 Frederick St, Launceston.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Prof G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

Apologies: Councillor A E Dawkins

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Councillors received a briefing on the preparation of the 2024/2025 Budget and Annual Plan.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

Apologies: Councillor Prof G Razay and Councillor A J Palmer

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

6. COUNCILLORS' LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPLICATIONS

Councillors' Leave of Absence Applications will be considered in Closed Council at Agenda Items 15.2, 15.3 and 15.4 - Councillors' Leave of Absence.

7. COMMUNITY REPORTS

(Community Reports allow an opportunity for Community Groups to provide Council with a three minute verbal presentation detailing activities of the group. This report is not intended to be used as the time to speak on Agenda Items; that opportunity exists when that Agenda Item is about to be considered. Speakers are not to request funding or ask questions of Council. Printed documentation may be left for Councillors).

7.1. Community Report - Mel Blake (Community Connection Program Manager) - Volunteering Tasmania

FILE NO: SF6368

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: Shane Eberhardt

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Volunteering Tasmania was unable to present their Community Report.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31

8.1. Public Questions on Notice

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

8.1.1. Public Questions on Notice - Robin Smith - Parking Infringements - 22 February 2024

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Shane Eberhardt

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question/questions, submitted to Council on 22 February 2024 by Robin Smith have been answered by David Mullenger (Manager Health and Compliance).

Questions:

1. With regard to paying parking fines online, there are 14 days before an increase in fees, which starts from the date of issue but the ticket cannot be paid on the date of issue because it takes overnight for them to load into the system. Can the time for making a payment start from the time when it can be paid rather than when it is issued?

Response:

The 14 day payment window commences the next calendar day after issue of infringement. For example if an infringement was issued on the 12th February, the final date on which payment could be made would in fact be the 26th February. This ensures that there is a full 14 days in which an alleged offender can pay the penalty, before it increases.

2. When an infringement is being reviewed by Council is it put on hold pending a decision and does this hold extended further if you elect for a court hearing?

Response:

Infringements are put on hold if an infringed party submits an Application to Withdraw within 28 days of the date of issue. Once the Application has been assessed and if the Application to Withdraw is denied, the infringed party is informed of the decision and the infringement is taken off hold.

Should the Infringed party remain unsatisfied with City of Launceston's decision to deny the Application to Withdraw, they may elect to have the matter heard and determined by the court.

If proceedings are then commenced by the City of Launceston, the applicable penalty becomes a matter for the court.

8.2. Public Questions Without Notice

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

8.2.1. Public Questions Without Notice - The Honourable Rosemary Armitage MLC - Brisbane Street Mall Update, YMCA Building and Graffiti Policy - 7 March 2024

- 1. Could you please advise what is the current situation or any Associated problems with regard to the Birchalls and Katies buildings with regard to the sale and development as this matter is of considerable interest to the community and has been ongoing for quite a long period of time?**

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, responded by saying that there have been further discussions this week to develop the term sheets and the contract details required. The negotiations are ongoing.

- 2. Can you please provide an update with regard to the current use of the YMCA building, any future proposed use of the site and whether any consultation been undertaken with users of Elphin as to whether they would be prepared to move to the YMCA site should it meet their requirements?**

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, noted that the governance model of the YMCA building has come through at Council Workshop level and the work that we are doing with Vinnies there around the services that they are providing. It has been noted that there is a preferred user for that space and on more of a full-time basis. The opening up of those facilities is a part of the ongoing negotiations.

There has been further conversation from Council around the best use of that location and further developments around ensuring that we can get some of those facilities opening up other spots to assist with the runoffs that we know that basketball requires. It is definitely on this Council's agenda to ensure we try and make spaces available.

- 3. Regarding the retaining wall at the top of Howick Street, which I'm assuming belongs to Council and that the Council has authority to paint, would Council consider painting graffiti out as soon as it arrives?**

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, advised that this question would be Taken on Notice and a response provided in the Council Agenda of 21 March 2024.

8.2.2. Public Questions Without Notice - Rocelyn Ives - Cataract Gorge Access Alternatives - 7 March 2024

- 1. Would it be considered that a system could be set up for gate opening for disability taxis and also other buses carrying disabled tourists or disabled students to be driven to the lawned area or restaurant area on the other side of the Gorge? A system set up where a ground staffer provides the gate opening and closing when an approved vehicle is provided with SMS verification or similar to request this prior to coming to the Gorge?**
- 2. Could an assessment made of two flights of three and four steps on the restaurant garden side of the Gorge to be redesigned for ramping with safe treading alongside the current steps for wheelchairs etc. to be able to access. A suggestion to engage Occupational Therapists from St Giles with expertise to advise on possibilities?**
- 3. Would it be possible to consider a sloped area be formed for access with an extension from the pathway from the car park to the inclinator further down toward the zigzag track end? In the short term would it be possible to provide notification on the council website of the availability of the inclinator when it isn't working?**

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, advised that these questions would be Taken on Notice and a response provided in the Council Agenda of 21 March 2024.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

9.1. Mayor's Announcements

FILE NO: SF2375

Thursday 22 February 2024

- Attended the Engage for Change, Community Talk Series - Electric Vehicles and Sustainable Transport in Tasmania, Macquarie House, Launceston

Friday 23 February 2024

- Officiated at the Migrant Resource Centre (North) Revitalisation of Heritage Forest Community Garden, Heritage Forest, Invermay
- Officiated at the UTAS Workshop and Levee Studio Opening, UTAS Inveresk Campus

Saturday 24 February 2024

- Attended the New Horizons Awards Night, Country Club Ballroom, Prospect Vale

Sunday 25 February 2024

- Participated in the Soggy Bottom Regatta, First Basin, West Launceston
- Attended the Gold Sovereign and Tasmanian Oaks Races, Mowbray

Tuesday 27 February 2024

- Hosted a Civic Function to mark the 170th Anniversary of Launceston City Mission, Town Hall Reception Room, Launceston
- Attended Launceston Cup Eve Function, James Boag Brewery, Launceston

Wednesday 28 February 2024

- Attended Launceston Cup and presented a trophy, Mowbray

Thursday 29 February 2024

- Attended Launceston Chamber of Commerce State Election Event with CEO, Alina Bain, Boathouse Centre, Invermay

Friday 1 March 2024

- Attended opening of Commercial mealworm facility and installation of timber docking saw at Self Help Workplace, Youngtown
- Officiated at the Tamar NRM Sustainable Living Festival Business and Community Awards, Tramsheds Conference Centre, Invermay

Saturday 2 March 2024

- Opened the 2024 Tamar NRM 'Going Circular' Sustainable Living Festival, Inveresk Precinct
 - Attended The Gorge - Peacock Pass, Cataract Gorge, West Launceston
-

Sunday 3 March 2024

- Attended the Music and Wine in the Vines Event (Cape Hope Foundation), Bundaleera Vineyard, Relbia

Monday 4 March 2024

- Attended the National Premier League Tasmania 2024 Season Launch, UTAS Stadium, Invermay

Tuesday 5 March 2024

- Attended Child and Youth Safe Organisations Network event and met new Independent Regulator - Louise Coe, Tramsheds Function Centre, Invermay

Wednesday 6 March 2024

- Attended NAYBA Impact Audit Launch: Tasmania, Tailrace Centre, Riverside
-

10. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

(This item provides an opportunity for Councillors to briefly report on the activities that have been undertaken in their capacity as a representative of the Council. It is not necessary to list social functions that have been attended).

Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie

- Represented the Council for the commissioning of the new Rector at Holy Trinity Church
- Attended the City Mission 170th Anniversary
- Attended the opening of Self-Help Meal Worm Processing Factory and also the new docking saw
- Farewell of Prof Dom Geraghty from University of Tasmania

Councillor D C Gibson

- Noted a site visit to Carr Villa and the work occurring there

Councillor A G Harris

- Hosted the Soggy Bottom Boat Race
- Attended the Launceston Cup
- Hosted the Sustainable Living Festival
- Participated in the TBUG Retro Bike Ride and annual bicycle count

11. QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

11.1. Councillors' Questions on Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 30

(A councillor, at least seven days before an ordinary Council Meeting or a Council Committee Meeting, may give written notice to the Chief Executive Officer of a question in respect of which the councillor seeks an answer at that Meeting. An answer to a Question on Notice will be provided in writing).

11.1.1. Councillors' Questions on Notice - Councillor D C Gibson - Status of Gorge Cottage - 19 February 2024

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Shane Eberhardt

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question/questions, submitted to Council on 19 February 2024 by Councillor D C Gibson, has been answered by Michael Newby (Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network).

Questions:

1. What is the status, current and future plans/opportunities for the iconic and previously much utilised* Gorge Cottage?
(*as an Artist in Residence accommodation base)

Response:

We are unable to continue to offer the artist in residence program due to the inability to meet the requirements of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1998, primarily due to access.

We are investigating alternative options for its use.

11.1.2. Councillors' Questions on Notice - Councillor J J Pentridge - Customer Service Requests - 22 February 2024

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Shane Eberhardt

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to Council on 22 February 2024 by Councillor J J Pentridge, has been answered by Michael Newby (Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network).

Questions:

1. Recently a customer reported untidy behaviour regarding blocks of land. This was referred onto an environmental agency and who then referred it back to Council, where the response was that we could not give out the name and address of the people who needed to be notified. Could we record things that happen on a regular basis and pass on details of complaints to have a history available to see if there is pattern and something we can do to save a bit of time?

Response:

Customer service requests are recorded in our Council corporate systems. This particular issue related to weed management on private land and upon review, it was deemed appropriate to share the contact details with the authorised officer at Department of Natural Resources and Environment directly.

Clarification regarding this occurrence has been provided to City of Launceston officers and an offer made to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment to meet to discuss roles and responsibilities with regard to weed management.

11.1.3. Councillors' Questions on Notice - Councillor S Cai - Representation Process for Development Applications - 22 February 2024

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Shane Eberhardt

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council on 22 February 2024 by Councillor S Cai, have been answered by Phillipa Glover (Team Leader Planning Assessments).

Question:

Regarding changes to the representation process for development applications where the full representations are not available to members of the public:

1. Is this change just Launceston or statewide?

Response:

The majority of Council's in Southern Tasmania follow the practice of not publishing representations received in respect of development applications.

Question:

2. Who authorised this change?

Response:

The change to publication was made by the previous Chief Executive Officer, Michael Stretton, following recommendations received from the Ombudsman in respect of a claim of a breach of the privacy of a representor.

Question:

3. Is there legislation implementing this change and if so, when was it implemented?

Response:

The Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 does not require that representations be published as part of the Council agenda.

Legislation, including the Personal Information Protection Act 2004, limits the way in which representations can be published.

Question:

4. If implemented, can Councillors move a motion to revoke the change or what the process would be to allow for the full representation to be released to the public?

Response:

The decision to cease publishing representations and instead provide such representations to Councillors confidentially, seeks to ensure that Council is aware of representations in making its decision, whilst ensuring the Council meets its legal obligations to protect the privacy of representors.

Any member of the public is entitled to request a full or redacted copy of a representation, with that request to be assessed on a case by case basis.

11.1.4. Councillors' Questions on Notice - Councillor T G Walker - Cleaning of Civic Square Play Area - 22 February 2024

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Shane Eberhardt

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to Council on 22 February 2024 by Councillor T G Walker, has been answered by Leigh Handley (Manager Operations)

Questions:

1. How often is the play area in Civic Square cleaned?

Response:

The play area is routinely cleaned three times per week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It is deep cleaned with a high pressure wash annually, or more frequently, on demand, if required.

11.1.5. Councillors' Questions on Notice - Councillor T G Walker - Injured Wildlife in Reserves - 22 February 2024

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Shane Eberhardt

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to Council on 22 February 2022 by Councillor T G Walker has been answered by Caroline Elsner (Environmental Scientist - Water Team).

Questions:

1. What is Council's responsibility regarding injured wildlife around parks and reserves, especially the Havelock Street Reserve, if it is one of our reserves?

Response:

We are lucky enough to have a variety of green open spaces in and around the Launceston municipality, including many urban bushland reserves, which support native flora and fauna.

Unfortunately, vehicular traffic causes wildlife injuries and fatalities across our road network, both in residential and rural environments.

The most effective way to reduce the instances of wildlife injury and mortality on our roads is to limit, where possible, the amount of driving you undertake between dusk and dawn and also reduce the speed at which you travel during these times.

The installation of signage, virtual fencing or lighting is resource intensive and costly, with effectiveness varying. It is important to ensure that these improvements are targeted to ensure optimum effectiveness.

The City of Launceston is developing a roadkill management policy so that we can better manage our approach to roadkill reduction across our road network.

Our intention is that we will target areas where threatened and endangered species are being impacted by our road network. We want this to be a data-driven approach and will be looking to investigate roadkill removal data from our road crews and from community apps such as the 'Roadkill TAS App'. We encourage the community to report roadkill through this avenue so that we can target our interventions accordingly.

Havelock St Reserve is an urban bushland reserved, owned and managed by City of Launceston. There is a 'Care for our wildlife' sign on Peel St West to the east of the intersection with Havelock St to alert motorists of the potential for wildlife interactions.

There are also a number of road humps on Peel St West which have been installed to slow traffic to prevent crashes on either side of the 90 degree bend in the road. The reduced traffic speed would help to reduce impacts to wildlife, however it relies on drivers being alert and driving according to conditions.

11.2. Councillors' Questions Without Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 29

(Questions Without Notice, and any answers to those questions, are not required to be recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting).

11.2.1. Councillors' Questions Without Notice - Councillor A J Palmer - Albert Hall Update and Youth Development Officer Vacancy

- 1. Can you please provide an update on the Albert Hall progress and do we have an approximate date of completion?**

Shane Eberhardt, Acting Chief Executive Officer, advised that this question would be Taken on Notice and a response provided in the Council Agenda of 21 March 2024.

- 2. Can I have an update on the Youth Development role here at the City of Launceston?**

Chelsea van Riet, General Manager Community and Place Network, advised that this question would be Taken on Notice and a response provided in the Council Agenda of 21 March 2024.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1. Notice of Motion - Councillor A J Britton - Establish a Flood Mitigation Strategy - 28 February 2024

FILE NO: SF5547

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: Shane Eberhardt

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor A J Britton regarding an independent inquiry to establish a comprehensive Flood Mitigation Strategy for Launceston.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the urgent need for a comprehensive flood mitigation strategy that recognises the existential risks associated with major floods and addresses current and future vulnerabilities and risks associated with flooding in our City.
2. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to develop a scope and detailed project plan to deliver a comprehensive Flood Mitigation Report using all available research, flood modelling, economic analysis, and historic data, to provide an assessment of potential flood risk mitigation options and their relative costs and benefits within our jurisdiction.
3. The Report is to identify and evaluate these flood mitigation measures, including large scale infrastructure projects (e.g., levees, barrages, drainage improvements), natural solutions (e.g., wetland restoration, riparian buffers), and policy measures (e.g., zoning changes, building codes).
4. The project is to be considered as part of annual plan and budget discussions.
5. a. The Chief Executive Officer is to pursue external funding opportunities, including state and federal grants, to support the implementation of the flood mitigation strategy.
b. Prepare a briefing statement on flood risk – Immediately a briefing paper prepared is sent to all major parties prior to the coming state election asking for their support in the creation of this strategy.

6. The council will engage with community stakeholders, including residents, business owners, environmental groups, and indigenous communities, to gather input and ensure a collaborative approach.

DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor A J Britton, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That Council:

1. **Acknowledges the urgent need for a comprehensive flood mitigation strategy that recognises the existential risks associated with major floods and addresses current and future vulnerabilities and risks associated with flooding in our City.**
2. **Directs the Chief Executive Officer to develop a scope and detailed project plan to deliver a comprehensive Flood Mitigation Report using all available research, flood modelling, economic analysis, and historic data, to provide an assessment of potential flood risk mitigation options and their relative costs and benefits within our jurisdiction.**
3. **The Report is to identify and evaluate these flood mitigation measures, including large scale infrastructure projects (e.g., levees, barrages, drainage improvements), natural solutions (e.g., wetland restoration, riparian buffers), and policy measures (e.g., zoning changes, building codes).**
4. **The project is to be considered as part of annual plan and budget discussions.**
5. a. **The Chief Executive Officer is to pursue external funding opportunities, including state and federal grants, to support the implementation of the flood mitigation strategy.**

b. **Prepare a briefing statement on flood risk – Immediately a briefing paper prepared is sent to all major parties prior to the coming state election asking for their support in the creation of this strategy.**
6. **The council will engage with community stakeholders, including residents, business owners, environmental groups, and indigenous communities, to gather input and ensure a collaborative approach.**
7. **It is expected that council officers will prepare the initial scoping works within three months and a full report given to Council in 6 months.**

NO VOTE WAS TAKEN AS AN AMENDMENT WAS PUT

DECISION: 7 March 2024

AMENDMENT

Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor J J Pentridge.

That the words "within our jurisdiction" be removed from point 2 of the Recommendation.

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

Councillor A E Dawkins withdrew from the Meeting at 2:09 pm
Councillor A E Dawkins re-attended the Meeting at 2:11 pm

DECISION: 7 March 2024

SUBSTANTIVE MOTION

Moved Councillor A J Britton, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledges the urgent need for a comprehensive flood mitigation strategy that recognises the existential risks associated with major floods and addresses current and future vulnerabilities and risks associated with flooding in our City.**
- 2. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to develop a scope and detailed project plan to deliver a comprehensive Flood Mitigation Report using all available research, flood modelling, economic analysis, and historic data, to provide an assessment of potential flood risk mitigation options and their relative costs and benefits.**
- 3. The Report is to identify and evaluate these flood mitigation measures, including large scale infrastructure projects (e.g., levees, barrages, drainage improvements), natural solutions (e.g., wetland restoration, riparian buffers), and policy measures (e.g., zoning changes, building codes).**
- 4. The project is to be considered as part of annual plan and budget discussions.**

5. a. The Chief Executive Officer is to pursue external funding opportunities, including state and federal grants, to support the implementation of the flood mitigation strategy.
 - b. Prepare a briefing statement on flood risk – Immediately a briefing paper prepared is sent to all major parties prior to the coming state election asking for their support in the creation of this strategy.
6. The council will engage with community stakeholders, including residents, business owners, environmental groups, and indigenous communities, to gather input and ensure a collaborative approach.
7. It is expected that council officers will prepare the initial scoping works within three months and a full report given to Council in 6 months.

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

13. INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS NETWORK

13.1. New Street Names - Bellwether Street and Coopworth Street

FILE NO: DA0537/2021 / SF0621

AUTHOR: Jaclyn Galea (Infrastructure Development Officer)

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Michael Newby (Infrastructure and Assets Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider approval for the new street names Bellwether Street and Coopworth Street for two streets resulting from a new subdivision located at 11-45 Abels Hill Road, St Leonards.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government (Highways) Act 1982
Survey Co-ordination Act 1944

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to the provisions of section 54 of the *Local Government (Highways) Act 1982* and section 20E of the *Survey Co-ordination Act 1944*, approves the name Bellwether and Coopworth Streets accessing off Abels Hill Road



DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor A G Harris, seconded Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie.

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

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

14. ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES NETWORK

14.1. Determination Report - Code of Conduct Complaint - Councillor J J Pentridge

FILE NO: SF2213

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Code of Conduct Determination Report.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to section 28ZK(7) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), receives the Code of Conduct Panel Determination Report dated 26 February 2024 (ECM Doc Set ID 5032062) in relation to a complaint against Councillor Joe Pentridge.

DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor J J Pentridge.

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

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

15. CLOSED COUNCIL

This decision requires an absolute majority of Council

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council moves into Closed Session to consider the following matters:

15.1 Confirmation of the Minutes

Regulation 35(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that at the next closed meeting, the minutes of a closed meeting, after any necessary correction, are to be confirmed as the true record by the council or council committee and signed by the chairperson of the closed meeting.

15.2 Councillor's Leave of Absence

Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that a part of a meeting may be closed to the public to discuss:

- (h) applications by councillors for a leave of absence.

15.3 Councillor's Leave of Absence

Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that a part of a meeting may be closed to the public to discuss:

- (h) applications by councillors for a leave of absence.

15.4 Councillor's Leave of Absence

Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that a part of a meeting may be closed to the public to discuss:

- (h) applications by councillors for a leave of absence.

15.5 CD020/2023 Sea Scout Pontoon Repair - Separable Portion No. 1

Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that a part of a meeting may be closed to the public to discuss:

- (d) contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

15.6 CD043/2023 Launceston Pump Track

Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that a part of a meeting may be closed to the public to discuss:

- (d) contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

15.7 End of Closed Session

To be determined in Closed Council.

DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor A G Harris, seconded Councillor A J Britton.

That Council moves into Closed Session.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

**Council moved into Closed Session at 2.21pm.
Council returned to Open Session at 2.40pm.**

RECOMMENDATION:

That, pursuant to Regulation 34(1)(b) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, resolves to report in Open Session that it has considered the following matters in Closed Session.

Agenda Item	Matter	Brief Description
15.1	<i>Closed Council Minutes - 8 February 2024</i>	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 8 February 2024.</i>
15.2	<i>Councillor's Leave of Absence</i>	<i>Councillors endorsed a personal leave request.</i>
15.3	<i>Councillor's Leave of Absence</i>	<i>Councillors endorsed a personal leave request.</i>
15..4	<i>Councillor's Leave of Absence</i>	<i>Councillors endorsed a personal leave request.</i>
15.5	<i>CD020/2023 (Separable Portion No. 1) - Sea Scout Pontoon Repair</i>	<p><i>Councillors approved the appointment of a contractor for CD020/2023 (Separable Portion No. 1) - Sea Scout Pontoon Repair.</i></p> <p><i>The name of the successful tenderer will be published to www.launceston.tas.gov.au once both the successful and unsuccessful tenderers have been notified of the decision.</i></p>
15.6	<i>CD043/2023 Launceston Pump Track</i>	<p><i>Councillors approved the appointment of a contractor for CD043/2023 Launceston Pump Track.</i></p> <p><i>The name of the successful tenderer will be published to www.launceston.tas.gov.au once both the successful and unsuccessful tenderers have been notified of the decision.</i></p>

DECISION: 7 March 2024

MOTION

Moved Councillor A G Harris, seconded Councillor A J Britton.

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

CARRIED 11:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

16. MEETING CLOSURE

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, closed the Meeting at 2.41pm.

17. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at 1.00pm on 21 March 2024 at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street, Launceston.