



WHITEHORSE
CITY COUNCIL

Whitehorse City Council

MINUTES

Council Meeting

on

Monday 23 February 2026 at 7:00 PM

**Held in the
Council Chamber
Nunawading Civic Centre**

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

Present: Cr Kirsten Langford Mayor
Cr Kieran Simpson Deputy Mayor
Cr Peter Allan
Cr Blair Barker
Cr Prue Cutts
Cr Andrew Davenport
Cr Daniel Griffiths
Cr Jarrod Gunn
Cr Jason Martin
Cr Ben Stennett
Cr Hayley Weller

Officers: Simon McMillan Chief Executive Officer
Stuart Cann Director Corporate Services
Jeff Green Director City Development
Lisa Letic Director Community Services
Steven White Director Infrastructure
Siobhan Sullivan Executive Manager Transformation
Vivien Ferlaino Manager Governance and Integrity
Sarah Candeland Coordinator Governance
Jenna Moore Council Business Officer

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1 Welcome

Prayer for Council

We give thanks, O God, for the Men and Women of the past whose generous devotion to the common good has been the making of our City.

Grant that our own generation may build worthily on the foundations they have laid.

Direct our minds that all we plan and determine, is for the wellbeing of our City.

Amen.

Acknowledgement of Country

Whitehorse City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land we are meeting on and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from communities who may be present today.

2 Apologies

Cr Blair Barker has requested to join the 16 March and 11 May 2026 Council Meetings virtually. In the instance where this is not possible, he has requested a leave of absence those meetings.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Allan, Seconded by Cr Simpson

That the apology from Cr Blair Barker for the Council Meetings be accepted if joining online isn't feasible.

- Monday 16 March 2026
- Monday 11 May 2026

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Cr Hayley Weller declared a material conflict of interest for Item 10.5 as a family-owned property is included in the review.

Cr Jarrod Gunn declared general conflict of interest for Item 9.1 in relation to neighbourhood houses, as a result of his position on the board.

Cr Daniel Griffiths declared general conflict of interest for item 9.1 declared in relation to neighbourhood houses, as a result of his position on the board.

Cr Kirsten Langford declared a general conflict of interest item 10.1 Aqualink Nunawading Concept Design and Community Consultation. This is a perceived conflict relating to her spouse/domestic partner who acts as a director or member of a governing body.

4 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Council Meeting 02 February 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Cutts, Seconded by Cr Weller

That the minutes of the Council Meeting 02 February 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5 Urgent Business

Nil

6 Requests to Speak

6.1 Helen Harris OAM, Box Hill Historical Society

6.2 Carlos Martins, Toro Corporation Pty Ltd

6.3 Susan Barnett, Surrey Hills Historical Society

7 Public Question Time

7.1 Kevin Earl, Box Hill

Question 1

Thank you for council's support for reducing the effect of government at Blackburn, why does council restrict the use of council notice boards which are free, to advertise what government is doing to Whitehorse's liveability?

Response

Council is actively promoting the opportunity to provide feedback, conducting our own promotional activities to ensure the community is well informed about proposed changes and has multiple opportunities to provide feedback. Council is seeking feedback via a range of mediums including Print, Digital and In Person.

Question 2

With councils' access to neighbourhood houses, council buildings, libraries and council notice boards will council be using these free avenues to make the people of Whitehorse aware of what government is planning for their future way of life?

Response

Council news and events are proactively promoted across a wide variety of noticeboards across the community, including at Council-managed facilities. We have a distribution model for our printed materials which includes all our facilities and high-traffic areas throughout the municipality. I welcome any feedback on specific community noticeboards. Requests to promote free, community-run events can be submitted for consideration via the What's On section of Council's website.

8 Petitions

8.1 Ongoing Residential Noise and Disturbance Issues in the Deakin University Area

The following petition/joint letter was received on 7 February 2026 and includes 17 signatures.

Ongoing Residential Noise and Disturbance Issues in the Deakin University Area

The petition seeks Council's support to escalate residential concerns regarding Deakin University students, Deakin University to improve safety, cleanliness, and noise management in our street, particularly during overnight hours. Our community simply seeks a safe, clean and respectful living environment.

Key issues include:

- Food delivery at all hours (day and night)
- Persistent late-night noise
- Residential amenity concerns
- Ongoing littering

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Cutts

That Council:

1. Receives the petition and refers the matter to the relevant Director for appropriate consideration and response, and:
2. Notifies the Head Petitioner of the outcome of this resolution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 Construction of Outdoor Netball Courts, Walker Park

The following petition was received on 17 February 2026 and includes 1176 signatures.

Construction of Outdoor Netball Courts, Walker Park

The Petition requests Council to fund the feasibility, design and installation of outdoor netball courts at Walker Park for the Nunawading club and the Mitcham Football and Netball club. Absent this support there will continue to be no local facilities for the two clubs 20-plus teams and 250 current players to train, hampering our ability to grow the clubs and attract new members. Our netballers need these facilities, and we urge the council to act now.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Stennett, Seconded by Cr Cutts

That Council:

1. Receives the petition and refers the matter to the relevant Director for appropriate consideration and response; and
2. Notifies the Head Petitioner of the outcome of this resolution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Stennett, Cutts (2)

Attendance

Cr Griffiths having declared a conflict of interest for item 9.1 Notice of Motion - Neighbourhood Houses left the Chamber at 7.24 pm.

Cr Gunn having declared a conflict of interest for item 9.1 Notice of Motion - Neighbourhood Houses left the Chamber at 7.24 pm.

9 Notices of Motion**9.1 Notice of Motion - Neighbourhood Houses**

Submitted by Cr Peter Allan

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Allan, Seconded by Cr Simpson

That Council:

1. Supports Neighbourhood Houses Victoria and the local Network of Inner East Community Houses in their campaign “Keep Our Doors Open” with the State Government to increase funding by 25% and to restore the Neighbourhood House Co-Ordination Program (NHCP), noting that the NHCP has failed to keep pace with indexation;
2. Advocates for the above organisations by writing to the relevant Minister for the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, local State MP’s from the Government and Opposition and Greens expressing Council’s support for increased funding of Neighbourhood Houses, and;
3. Advises the above organisations of our support.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Allan, Cr Simpson, Cr Cutts (3)

Attendance

Cr Griffiths and Cr Gunn returned to the Chamber at 7.34pm.

9.2 Notice of Motion - Library Opening Hours

Submitted by Cr Andrew Davenport

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Weller

That Council receives a report which outlines:

1. Options to introduce an open library between hours 8:00 AM-10:00 PM every day using a similar model as Warrandyte Open Library.
2. Consideration of referral to the 2026/2027 budget an amount which could implement an open library at one of City of Whitehorse library branches.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Davenport, Cr Weller, Cr Barker, Cr Simpson, Cr Stennett (5)

10 Council Reports

Attendance

Prior to consideration of Item 10.1, the Mayor declared a conflict of interest for Item 10.1 Aqualink Nunawading Concept Design and Community Consultation and vacated the Chair and the Chamber at 7.43pm.

The Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair for the consideration and determination of Item 10.1.

10.1 Aqualink Nunawading Concept Design and Community Consultation

Department Major Projects
Director Infrastructure

Attachment

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for funding to allow the next steps in a redevelopment option for Aqualink Nunawading (AQN) to be undertaken.

This report presents the Business Case, shown in Attachment 1, for the redevelopment of AQN. The Business Case provides details on redevelopment options including a service needs assessment and cost modelling, and describes a recommended option, known as 'Option 3A' as outlined in this report at the existing site.

The report recommends that Council allocates funding in the 10 Year Capital Works Budget to provide for procurement of Consultants to undertake the Concept/Schematic Design and Community Consultation phase of the redevelopment across two financial years, being 2026/2027 and 2027/2028. This design work and community consultation is a prerequisite for advocating for external funding to support Council's commitment to a facility redevelopment.

To redevelop AQN within a timeframe that aligns with the current condition assessment of the facility and to mitigate against the risk of a critical failure, a project delivery program with a 2032 delivery timeframe has been developed as outlined in the report. To meet this program the lead design consultant procurement is scheduled to occur by July 2026, with Concept / Schematic Design and Community Consultation commencing in September 2026.

10.1 (cont)

MOTION

Moved by Cr Martin, Seconded by Cr Weller

That Council:

1. Notes the findings of the Aqualink Nunawading Business Case as shown in Attachment 1;
2. Endorses to proceed with Option 3A as the basis for a redevelopment preferred option as described in the Business Case for the purpose of progressing the planning and community consultation work for the redevelopment of Aqualink Nunawading;
3. Approves an allocation of \$2,500,000 of funds across the 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 Budgets to progress with the Concept / Schematic Design and Community Consultation, and;
4. Endorses Procurement Option A as outlined in the report to engage the Lead Design Consultant for the full project with hold points to allow Council to exit the contract if required.

Cr Davenport moved an amendment that was not accepted by the mover and seconder.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Griffiths

That Council:

1. Notes the findings of the Aqualink Nunawading Business Case as shown in Attachment 1;
2. Endorses to proceed with Option 2 as the basis for a redevelopment preferred option as described in the Business Case for the purpose of progressing the planning and community consultation work for the redevelopment of Aqualink Nunawading;
3. Approves an allocation of \$2,500,000 of funds across the 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 Budgets to progress with the Concept / Schematic Design and Community Consultation, and;
4. Endorses Procurement Option A as outlined in the report to engage the Lead Design Consultant for the full project with hold points to allow Council to exit the contract if required.

LOST

Voted FOR the item: Cr Davenport, Cr Barker (2)

Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Allan, Cr Weller, Cr Griffiths, Cr Gunn, Cr Simpson, Cr Stennett, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (8)

10.1 (cont)

The substantive motion was put to the vote and carried as follows.
<p>COUNCIL RESOLUTION</p> <p>Moved by Cr Martin, Seconded by Cr Weller</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the findings of the Aqualink Nunawading Business Case as shown in Attachment 1; 2. Endorses to proceed with Option 3A as the basis for a redevelopment preferred option as described in the Business Case for the purpose of progressing the planning and community consultation work for the redevelopment of Aqualink Nunawading; 3. Approves an allocation of \$2,500,000 of funds across the 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 Budgets to progress with the Concept / Schematic Design and Community Consultation, and; 4. Endorses Procurement Option A as outlined in the report to engage the Lead Design Consultant for the full project with hold points to allow Council to exit the contract if required. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
Voted FOR the item: Cr Allan, Cr Weller, Cr Griffiths, Cr Gunn, Cr Simpson, Cr Stennett, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (8)
Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Davenport, Cr Barker (2)
Spoke to item: Cr Martin, Cr Weller, Cr Barker, Cr Davenport, Cr Stennett, Cr Gunn, Cr Cutts, Cr Allan (9)

Attendance

Following the conclusion of debate and the vote on Item 10.1, the Mayor returned to the Chamber and resumed the Chair at 8.21pm

10.2 Leisure Strategy - Optimised In-house Management Model for Aqualinks

Department Leisure and Recreation Services
Director Community Services

Attachment

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's endorsement to adopt the Leisure Services Optimisation Report (Optimisation Report) which has been developed to guide the future management of Council's sport, recreation and leisure facilities. Following Council's decision in August 2025 to retain an in-house model, the Optimisation Report sets out how Council can strengthen performance, improve customer experience, protect financial sustainability and ensure facilities continue to deliver strong community outcomes.

The Optimisation Report brings together detailed analysis, industry benchmarking, community feedback and operational insights and identifies practical actions that will lift performance across Aqualink Box Hill and Nunawading, Sportlink, Nunawading Community Hub and Council's leased and licensed sport, recreation and leisure assets. The actions focus on improving presentation, customer experience, asset condition, workforce capability, agility in decision-making, marketing effectiveness and accountability. Collectively, these actions aim to best position Council to retain members, support modest and sustainable growth, and maximise the community benefit of Council-owned facilities.

The objective of this Report is to provide Council with a clear, evidence-based case for optimisation and outline the key issues identified and the recommended actions to address current and emerging challenges in a coherent and transparent framework to guide decision-making, investment and performance monitoring under an optimised in-house management model.

10.2 (cont)

MOTION

Moved by Cr Allan, Seconded by Cr Simpson

That Council:

1. Endorses the Leisure Optimisation Report (Attachment 1), including the actions, directions and implementation measures contained within the report; and
2. Notes that the operational and capital financial allocations required to implement the endorsed actions will be included in the draft 2026/27 Budget for Council endorsement in June 2026, and that longer-term capital requirements will be reflected in the 10-year Capital Works Plan as part of Council's forward planning processes.

Cr Barker moved an amendment that was accepted by the mover and seconder. The amendment was incorporated into the motion.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Barker, Seconded by Cr Gunn

That Council:

1. Endorses the Leisure Optimisation Report (Attachment 1), including the actions, directions and implementation measures contained within the report, and but also continues to consider other opportunities that can generate improved management, coordination and/or utilisation outcomes for Council's sports, recreation and leisure assets.
2. Notes that the operational and capital financial allocations required to implement the endorsed actions will be included in the draft 2026/27 Budget for Council endorsement in June 2026, and that longer-term capital requirements will be reflected in the 10-year Capital Works Plan as part of Council's forward planning processes.
3. Set a price of \$4 for off-peak swim entry (between 11am-2pm) for all concession holders that reside in Whitehorse (including Health Card, pensioners and students), and refer to the fees and charges budget process; and
4. Seek a report to a Council Briefing on the effectiveness and impact of the pilot on community and operations prior to the conclusion of the 12 months, including recommendations related to the ongoing provision of this fee structure.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY/

Spoke to item: Cr Martin, Cr Barker, Cr Simpson, Cr Gunn, Cr Cutts, Cr Allan (6)

10.3 Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History

Department

City Planning and Development

Director City Development

Attachment

SUMMARY

Thematic Environmental Histories provide a broad historical overview of an area. They are an essential tool in heritage planning, forming the foundation for the identification and assessment of individual properties or places within a heritage study.

Two Thematic Environmental Histories (TEHs) currently operate under the Whitehorse Planning Scheme. These histories are contained within the *City of Whitehorse Heritage Review* (Allom Lovell, 1999) and the *City of Whitehorse Post-1945 Heritage Study* (Built Heritage, 2016). The TEH contained in the 2016 *Post-1945 Heritage Study* added to the breadth of historical themes needed to describe Whitehorse's historical context.

Council's adopted Whitehorse Heritage Framework Plan 2020 identified maintaining two separate TEHs as undesirable and recommended preparing a single TEH as a priority. In response, Council commissioned the *City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History* (GJM Heritage, 2023), which consolidates the two existing histories into a single, contemporary reference.

The consolidated Thematic Environmental History (TEH) will improve clarity and accessibility for planners, consultants and the community. It will also simplify future updates and support a more efficient and cohesive approach to heritage management.

This report recommends that Council adopt the draft *City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History (Consolidated)*, prepared by GJM Heritage, dated 14 July 2023 and:

- Seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to implement the adopted *City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History* (GJM Heritage, 2023)
- Apply to the Minister for Planning to exempt the Whitehorse City Council from the notice requirements of the Act.

10.3 (cont)

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Barker

That Council:

1. Adopt the draft *City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History (Consolidated)*, prepared by GJM Heritage, dated 14 July 2023 as shown in Attachment 1;
2. As Planning Authority, seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning (the Minister) under section 16 F (1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act) to prepare an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to implement the adopted *City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History* (GJM Heritage, 2023) by:
 - a) Amending the Policy documents referenced at clause 15.03-1L (Heritage Conservation), by inserting the following text (in bold):
 - **City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History (GJM Heritage, 2023)**
 - **City of Whitehorse Heritage Review, (Volume 2 Parts 1 and 2, Volume 3 and Volume 4)**, (Allom Lovell & Associates, 1999).
 - **City of Whitehorse Post-1945 Heritage Study, (Sections A, B, C, E, F and G)**, (Built Heritage, 2016).
 - b) Amending clause 1.0 of the Schedule to clause 72.08 (Background Documents) by inserting the following text (in bold):
 - **City of Whitehorse Thematic Environmental History (GJM Heritage, 2023)**
 - **City of Whitehorse Heritage Review, (Volume 2 Parts 1 and 2, Volume 3 and Volume 4)**, (Allom Lovell & Associates, 1999).
 - **City of Whitehorse Post-1945 Heritage Study, (Sections A, B, C, E, F and G)**, (Built Heritage, 2016).
3. Apply to the Minister for Planning under section 20(1) of the Act to exempt the Whitehorse City Council from the notice requirements of section 19 1(a), (b), 2 and 3 of the Act, and;
4. Authorise the Director City Development to update the amendment to meet any conditions of authorisation from the Minister and to make minor changes, provided these are consistent with the intent of the amendment, prior to submitting the amendment to the Minister for exhibition.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Davenport, Cr Barker, Cr Simpson, Cr Stennett (4)

10.3 (cont)

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Rule 20 of the *Whitehorse City Council Governance Rules*, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8.45pm for a five-minute break.

The meeting resumed at 8.50pm, with all Councillors present.

10.4 Review of Potential Heritage Places in Whitehorse

Department

City Planning and Development

Director City Development

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to respond to the Notice of Motion and subsequent resolution at the Council meeting on 8 December 2025:

That Council receives a report in February 2026 advising on the timing and resourcing required to complete a review of Priority A and Priority B places from the City of Whitehorse Post 1945 Heritage Study and the City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2012.

The Potential Heritage List comprises individual properties and precincts that have been identified largely in the previously commissioned heritage studies.

This report provides a summary of the Potential Heritage List arising from these and previous studies, and the timing and resourcing required to complete a review of Priority A and Priority B places included on the Potential Heritage List.

After further refinement of the Potential Heritage List there are 51 Priority A and 68 Priority B individual places and 9 Priority A and 4 Priority B precincts included on the Potential Heritage List. Of these Priority A places, 45¹ individual and 5 precincts have been assessed in the Draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024, which is the subject of a separate report for consideration by Council.

It is estimated that it will cost \$300,000 and take approximately 18 months to complete an investigation of the remaining Priority A and Priority B places.

¹Note: 48 individual places were assessed and citations prepared as part of the Draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 however 1 of these was added to a precinct and 2 places have since been demolished and have been removed from the Potential Heritage List.

10.4 (cont)

<p>COUNCIL RESOLUTION</p> <p>Moved by Cr Weller, Seconded by Cr Martin</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the allocation of \$300,000 to complete a review of 82 Priority A and Priority B places, including precincts, contained in the Potential Heritage List, with \$250,000 allocated to the 2026/2027 budget, and \$50,000 to the 2027/28 budget. 2. Notes that a complete investigation of 82 Priority A and Priority B places will take approximately 18 months. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
<p>Voted FOR the item: Cr Allan, Cr Weller, Cr Gunn, Cr Simpson, Cr Langford, Cr Stennett, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (8)</p>
<p>Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Griffiths, Cr Davenport, Cr Barker (3)</p>
<p>Spoke to item: Cr Weller, Cr Martin, Cr Davenport, Cr Simpson, Cr Cutts, Cr Barker, Cr Stennett, Cr Allan, Cr Griffiths (9)</p>

Cr Barker requested to make a personal explanation.

The Mayor advised that the request was not provided for within the Governance Rules and therefore could not be accommodated.

<p>PROCEDURAL MOTION</p> <p>Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Allan</p> <p>Cr Davenport put a motion to suspend standing orders to enable Cr Barker to provide a personal explanation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
<p>Voted FOR the item: Cr Allan, Cr Weller, Cr Griffiths, Cr Gunn, Cr Simpson, Cr Davenport, Cr Langford, Cr Barker, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (10)</p>
<p>Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Stennett (1)</p>

Cr Barker proceeded to make a personal explanation.

Attendance

Cr Stennett left the Chamber at 9.22 pm.

10.4 (cont)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Simpson

That Standing Orders be resumed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Attendance

Cr Stennett returned to the Chamber at 9.23pm.

Attendance

Prior to consideration of Item 10.5 City of Whitehorse Heritage Review, Cr Weller declared a conflict of interest and vacated the Chamber at 9.24pm.

10.5 City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024

Department

City Planning and Development

Director City Development

Attachment

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to request authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme. The proposed amendment seeks to apply the Heritage Overlay to 42 of the individual properties and 3 of the precincts identified as having heritage significance in Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft *City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024*, prepared by Built Heritage Pty Ltd.

This request is the first statutory step in implementing the findings of the Heritage Review. If authorisation is granted, affected property owners, occupiers, and relevant State agencies will be formally notified and invited to make submissions during a public exhibition period.

The Heritage Review was commissioned to address gaps in heritage protection and ensure compliance with Council's statutory obligations under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The review involved a rigorous two-stage process: (1) a desktop assessment and (2) detailed site inspections and preparation of citations for individual places and precincts. Each citation includes a Statement of Significance prepared in accordance with Planning Practice Note 1 and the Burra Charter principles, ensuring a robust and defensible basis for heritage controls.

Council has three options:

- **Proceed with the amendment process**, strengthening heritage protection and providing certainty for property owners and the community; or
- **Not Endorse the Recommendation**, which would leave identified heritage places unprotected, expose Council to criticism for not meeting statutory obligations, and risk ongoing loss of heritage significance and future inefficiencies.
- **Defer or limit action**, which risks the loss of heritage assets and inconsistency with Council's adopted Heritage Framework Plan.

The recommended approach to proceed with the amendment process will reinforce Council's commitment to conserving places of cultural and historical significance, align with strategic objectives and meet statutory responsibilities.

10.5 (cont)

Cr Davenport moved a motion that differed from the recommendation as printed in the Agenda.

Cr Cutts foreshadowed a motion during debate.

MOTION

Moved by Davenport, Seconded by Cr Barker

That Council:

1. Does not adopt Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024.
2. Does not seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning (the Minister) under section 16F (1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act) to prepare and exhibit an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 42 of the individual properties and 3 of the precincts cited in Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024.

LOST

Voted FOR the item: Cr Griffiths, Cr Davenport, Cr Barker (3)

Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Allan, Cr Gunn, Cr Simpson, Cr Langford, Cr Stennett, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (7)

Cr Cutts moved the foreshadowed motion.

MOTION

Moved by Cr Cutts, Seconded by Cr Barker

That Council:

1. Note Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 (the Review), shown in Attachment 1.
2. Defer a decision on whether to adopt Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 until a future Council meeting.
3. Notify the landowners of places listed in the Review prior to a report being considered to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning under section 16F (1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare and exhibit an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay.

Cr Davenport moved an amendment that was not accepted by the mover and but was accepted by the seconder.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Griffiths

That Council:

10.5 (cont)

1. Note Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 (the Review), shown in Attachment 1.
2. Defer a decision on whether to Adopt Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 until a future Council meeting, but not before priority A review under item 10.4 is complete.
3. Notify the landowners of places listed in the Review prior to a report being considered to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning under section 16F (1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare and exhibit an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay.

Voted FOR the item: Cr Allan, Cr Griffiths, Cr Gunn, Cr Davenport, Cr Simpson, Cr Barker (6)

Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Langford, Cr Stennett, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (4)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved by Cr Davenport, Seconded by Cr Barker

That the Motion be put.

CARRIED

Voted FOR the item: Cr Allan, Cr Griffiths, Cr Gunn, Cr Davenport, Cr Barker, Cr Langford, Cr Stennett, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (9)

Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Simpson (1)

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Cutts, Seconded by Cr Barker

That Council:

1. Note Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 (the Review), shown in Attachment 1.
2. Defer a decision on whether to adopt Volumes 1 and 2 of the draft City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2024 until a future Council meeting, but not before priority A review under item 10.4 is complete.
3. Notify the landowners of places listed in the Review prior to a report being considered to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning under section 16F (1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare and exhibit an amendment to the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Martin, Cr Davenport, Cr Simpson, Cr Cutts, Cr Barker, Cr Stennett, Cr Allan (7)

10.5 (cont)

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Rule 20 of the *Whitehorse City Council Governance Rules*, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10.05pm for a five-minute break.

The meeting resumed at 10.10pm, with all Councillors present.

10.6 Australian Local Government Association - Motion to National General Assembly

Department Governance and Integrity
Director Community Services

Attachment

SUMMARY

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA) is being held in Canberra from 23 - 25 June 2026. The NGA is held annually to consider matters of national significance impacting the local government sector.

Member Councils can submit motions for consideration by the ALGA NGA. If supported by the member councils, motions become resolutions, informing advocacy and policy positions of the ALGA. All motions submitted to the ALGA are required to have a council resolution and must align with the NGA's theme, which for 2026 is 'Stronger Together: Resilient, Productive, United.'

The motion is set out in this report under Key Matters and is also provided at Attachment 1 for ease of reference.

Motions must be submitted to ALGA by 27 February 2026.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Griffiths, Seconded by Cr Simpson

That Council

1. Endorse the motion to the Australian Local Government Association, National General Assembly 2026 as at Attachment 1 to the report to be submitted by the closing date of 27 February 2026.
2. Notes that a Council representative is expected to attend the National General Assembly and, if required, speak to the motion during debate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Griffiths, Cr Simpson, Cr Barker, Cr Davenport, Cr Martin, Cr Gunn (6)

10.7 Statutory Planning Report December 2025

Department City Development
Director City Development

Attachment

SUMMARY

At the 25 August 2025 Council Meeting, Council adopted a Motion which requires:

That Council:

...

2. Receives a noting report each month at Council Meetings on town planning applications lodged, dealt with under delegation by Council officers and under consideration by VCAT (or other authority i.e. State Planning Minister)

This report includes the following for noting by Council:

Report	
Applications lodged (for the month)	102
Applications determined under officer delegation (for the month)	105
Matters currently under consideration by VCAT	7
Other Matters under consideration by the state government within Whitehorse	1

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Allan, Seconded by Cr Martin

That Council receives and notes the Statutory Planning report for the month of December 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Allan (1)

10.8 Whitehorse Library CCTV

Department

Communities, Engagement and Integrated Planning
Director Community Services

SUMMARY

At its meeting of 2 February 2026, Council resolved to note increased level of safety incidents at Whitehorse Libraries; that no CCTV is currently available and that CCTV can act as a deterrent to harassment and socially unacceptable behavior. Further it sought a report from Officers that discusses immediately allocating \$50K from Whitehorse Council surplus to the Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation to install Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in high-risk locations.

This report responds to the resolution and makes several detailed recommendations that recognises Council's Procurement Policy requirements.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Weller, Seconded by Cr Davenport

That Council:

1. Approves an exemption from Council's Procurement Policy to enable WMRLC to administer quotations and coordinate installation of CCTV equipment on Council's behalf, noting that Council will maintain oversight of the process and retain all decision-making authority throughout procurement and installation.
2. Confirms that all procurement activities undertaken for this project must comply with Council's Procurement Policy, with Council retaining responsibility for:
 - Issuing the purchase order;
 - Approving the preferred supplier;
 - Entering into any contract or agreement (if required), and;
 - Paying the supplier directly.
3. Notes that the supplier invoice will be issued to Council, ensuring Council's entitlement to the GST input tax credit, and that the completed CCTV system will be recognised as a Council-owned asset.
4. Allocates up to \$50,000 from the current financial year surplus to fund the project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Weller (1)

10.9 Proposed Sale of Land - Part Former Laneway Adjacent 28 Merton Street, Box Hill

Department Property and Leasing
Director City Development

Attachment

SUMMARY

Council officers have reached agreement in-principle with the property owner of 28 Merton Street, Box Hill regarding the potential acquisition of a section of former roadway which had been previously discontinued by Council in 2008, and which is currently incorporated within their fenced boundary.

At the time of the discontinuance, the sale of the subject land to the then adjacent owner was not completed, with title to the land remaining in Council ownership.

The subject land, measuring 15.24m long x 2.24 metres wide and having an area of approximately 34m², is located to the rear of the applicant's property, so has no frontage to Merton Street or connection to other parts of the road network. Given its small size, isolated location and that the land is not required for current or future community purposes, officers consider that its best use is to be sold and incorporated in the adjoining owner's property with Council directing sale proceeds to more effective community benefit.

The owners of the adjacent property at 28 Merton Street have agreed in-principle to purchase the land at a market value which has been determined by independent valuation, subject to Council completing statutory processes pursuant to section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

It is recommended that Council proceed to publish notice of its intention to sell the land to the owner of the adjacent property at 28 Merton Street, Box Hill, and commence a community engagement process in accordance with the provisions of section 114 of the Act.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Barker, Seconded by Cr Allan

That Council:

1. Being of the opinion that the section of former road known as Lot 6 on PS614956K is not required for municipal or community use, resolves to publish notice of its intention to sell the land to the adjacent owner of (Lot 27 on LP2914) for a price of \$50,000 +GST, and commence a community engagement process pursuant to *Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020*.
2. Authorises the CEO to sign a Heads of Agreement in relation to the proposed sale.

10.9 (cont)

3. At the conclusion of the engagement process, receive a further report which incorporates Community feedback received, to consider whether the land should or should not be sold.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Spoke to item: Cr Barker (1)

10.10 Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors

Department Governance and Integrity
Director Corporate Services

Attachment

SUMMARY

This report presents the Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors held since the last Council Meeting. In line with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules, noting these Records promotes transparency, supports informed decision-making and ensures any conflicts of interest are publicly disclosed.

Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors are non-decision-making briefings used to share information and discuss matters that may later come before Council. Reporting these Records is standard governance practice and forms part of Council's public accountability framework.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Simpson, Seconded by Cr Weller

That Council notes the Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors attached to the report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11 Councillor Delegate and Conference / Seminar Reports

11.1 Reports by Delegates and Reports on Conferences / Seminars Attendance

Department	Governance
	Director Corporate Services

Verbal reports from Councillors appointed as delegates to community organisations/committees/groups and attendance at conferences and seminars related to Council Business.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Allan, Seconded by Cr Cutts

That Council receives and notes the:

1. Reports from delegates, and;
2. Reports on conferences/seminars attendance.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor	Organisation/ Committee/Group	Date of Attendance
Deputy Mayor Cr Simpson	Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee	18 February 2026
Cr Davenport	Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation Budget Briefing	18 February 2026
Cr Griffiths	Metropolitan Transport Forum	4 February 2026
Cr Weller	Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation Budget Briefing	18 February 2026
Cr Allan	VLGA Local Government Group Online Forum	8 February 2026
	MAV Regional Meeting	19 February 2026
Cr Martin	VLGA Local Government Group Online Forum	8 February 2026
Cr Cutts	MAV Techniques for Speed Reading	6 February 2026
Cr Stennett	Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee	18 February 2026
Cr Barker	Planning Conference	9 February 2026
	Eastern Region Group	20 February 2026

Mayor Cr Langford	Whitehorse Business Group	3 February 2026
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CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

12 Confidential Reports

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Gunn, Seconded by Cr Martin

That in accordance with Section 61(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council closes the Meeting to members of the public and adjourns for five minutes to consider the following items:

12.1 Open Space Acquisition Opportunities

This report is designated as Confidential Information in accordance with Section 3(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, because it is Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. This ground applies because the matter concerns Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released

CARRIED

Voted FOR the item: Cr Allan, Cr Weller, Cr Gunn, Cr Simpson, Cr Langford, Cr Davenport, Cr Cutts, Cr Martin (8)

Voted AGAINST the item: Cr Griffiths, Cr Stennett, Cr Barker (3)

Cr Davenport called for a division

Division

For

Cr Allan
Cr Cutts
Cr Gunn
Cr Langford
Cr Martin
Cr Simpson
Cr Weller

Against

Cr Barker
Cr Davenport
Cr Griffiths
Cr Stennett

On the results of the Division the motion was declared CARRIED

13 Close Meeting

The open Council Meeting was closed at 10.43pm and did not reopen to the public.

The confidential section of the Council Meeting opened at 10.46pm in order to deal with item 12.1. The meeting closed at 11.10pm

These minutes are circulated subject to confirmation by Council at the next Council Meeting to be held on 16 March 2026.