

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF THE FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, DAVEY STREET, FRANKSTON
ON 23 APRIL 2025 at 7:02 PM**

PRESENT	Cr. Kris Bolam (Mayor) Cr. Steffie Conroy (Deputy Mayor) Cr. David Asker Cr. Nathan Butler Cr. Emily Green Cr. Michael O'Reilly Cr. Cherie Wanat
APOLOGIES:	Cr. Sue Baker Cr. Brad Hill
ABSENT:	Nil.
OFFICERS:	Phil Cantillon, Chief Executive Officer Nathan Upson, Acting Director Corporate and Commercial Services Angela Hughes, Director Communities Luke Ure, Acting Director Infrastructure and Operations Shweta Babbar, Director Customer Innovation and Arts Brianna Alcock, Manager Governance Sam Clements, Manager Development Services Rob Antonic, Manager Safer Communities Tammy Beauchamp, Manager City Futures Tenille Craig, Coordinator Governance Jana Mrazova, Coordinator Environmental Policy and Planning Josh Lacey, Supervising Technician Ric Rais, Systems Support Officer
EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES:	Nil

COUNCILLOR STATEMENT

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Steffie Conroy made the following statement:

"All members of this Council pledge to the City of Frankston community to consider every item listed on this evening's agenda:

- *Based on the individual merits of each item;*
- *Without bias or prejudice by maintaining an open mind; and*
- *Disregarding Councillors' personal interests so as to avoid any conflict with our public duty.*

Any Councillor having a conflict of interest in an item will make proper, prior disclosure to the meeting and will not participate or vote on the issue."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Steffie Conroy, acknowledged the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation – the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we stand, and paid respect to Elders past, present and future. Respect was also extended to Elders of other communities who may have been present.

Chairperson's initials

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1. APOLOGIES

Apology

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Butler

Seconded: Councillor Asker

That the apologies be received and Councillors Sue Baker and Brad Hill be granted leave from the meeting.

Carried Unanimously

2. COUNCILLOR APPRECIATION AWARDS

Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Council Meeting No. CM5 held on 24 March 2025.

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Green

Seconded: Councillor Butler

That the minutes of the Council Meeting No. CM5 held on 24 March 2025 copies of which had previously been circulated to all Councillors, be confirmed, approved and adopted.

Carried Unanimously

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

At the request of the Mayor, the Chief Executive Officer indicated there were no questions received with notice and six (6) questions received without notice. In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, Rule 57.8.3 and 57.8.5, the Chief Executive Officer indicated that one question received without notice was defamatory and offensive in substance and aimed at embarrassing a Councillor, and was therefore disallowed.

The Chief Executive Officer read the second question without notice and response. The remaining four (4) questions will be responded to in writing following the Council Meeting. The questions and answers to all permitted questions will be provided in the Minutes of the next Council Meeting.

6. HEARING OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

John McKenzie made a submission to Council regarding Item 14.1: 2025/NOM09 – Rooming House Standards.

7. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**Items Brought Forward****Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Conroy**

That Item 14.1: 2025/NOM09 – Rooming House Standards be brought forward.

Carried Unanimously**Block Motion****Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Asker**

That the items listed below be block resolved:

- 12.3: Frankston Arts Advisory Committee - Minutes 27 March 2025
- 12.6: Draft 2025-2029 Council and Wellbeing Plan (including year one action plan)
- 12.7: Fit for the Future Strategy
- 12.8: Award of Contract CN11522 - Concrete Replacement Maintenance Works Panel
- 12.9: Award of Fuel Contract - Procurement Australia Contract Number: 2703/0110

Carried Unanimously**8. PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

Nil

9. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil

10. DELEGATES' REPORTS

Nil

11. CONSIDERATION OF CITY PLANNING REPORTS

Nil

ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**14.1 2025/NOM09 - Rooming House Standards***(AH Communities)***Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor O'Reilly**

That Council:

1. Notes there are approximately 106 registered rooming houses within the Frankston municipality;
2. Notes, most importantly, that Councils do not have remit to approve or reject their establishment;
3. Notes that, at present, rooming houses are governed by State legislation, including the Rooming House Operators Act 2016, which requires them to be built, operated and maintained to certain standards, which include the provision of off-street parking, room density, access to potable water etc. The level of compliance with these standards, and their enforcement differ across the 79 municipalities throughout Victoria;
4. Acknowledges that councillors are often contacted by community members who are concerned about the impact of rooming houses in their neighbourhoods, especially around physical appearance and management;
5. Notes that Council's review of its Community Local Law commences mid-2025 and resolves that this review proposes practical refinements to the existing Community Local Law which (and where possible) mandate more stringent obligations on room house operators to better address community concerns in areas such as their physical appearance, cleanliness and hygiene standards in private and shared areas, proper maintenance of waste disposal, safety and behavioural expectations, strict occupancy caps and vastly improved manager/management oversight;
6. Resolves that in Council considering the adoption of a revised Community Local Law there is express consideration of any resourcing strategy to underpin the effective implementation of the revised local law pertaining rooming houses (and their enforcement) to be referred to the development of Annual Budget 2026/2027; and
7. To assist and best inform the conduct of the review, Resolves that officers provide a comprehensive report by August 2025 outlining the outcomes of an audit and assessment of the registered rooming houses throughout the Frankston municipality to gain a full appreciation of these and any further issues that need to be considered as a part of the design, consultation and adoption of the review of the Community Local Law.

Carried Unanimously

12. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS

12.1 Governance Matters Report for 23 April 2025

(BA Corporate and Commercial Services)

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Conroy

Seconded: Councillor Wanat

That Council:

Council Resolution Status Update

1. Receives the Council Resolution Status update, including:
 - i. Notice of Motion Cost Summary and Notice of Motion Report for 23 April 2025;
 - ii. Notes there are no Notice of Motion action reported as complete by officers;
 - iii. Notes there are two (2) reports delayed in the presentation to Council:
 - Adoption of Complaints Policy, delayed to 12 May 2025
 - Councillor Interactions with Developers Policy, delayed to 23 June 2025
 - iv. Notes since the Council Meeting, held on 24 March 2025, seven (7) resolution actions have been completed;

Councillor Briefings Record

2. Receives the record of Councillor Briefing meetings held since the date of last Council Meeting held on 24 March 2025, as listed in the body of the report;

External and Internal Committee Meetings Quarterly Update

3. Receives the highlights of activities of external and internal committee meetings held during the quarter January to March 2025;
4. Endorses the Terms of Reference and 2025 Work Plan for the Housing Advisory Committee;

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

5.
 - a. Appoints the officer listed in the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under Section 147 (4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the regulations made thereunder and under Section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020;
 - b. Authorises for the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation to be signed and Sealed;

Councillor Professional Development Training – Australian Institute of Company Directors Course

6.
 - a. Endorses Cr Emily Green and Cr Cheire Wanat to undertake the Australian Institute of Company Directors' (AICD) Course, commencing in 2024-2025 financial year;
 - b. Notes the Training and Development budget allocation for each Councillor is \$3,000 (ex GST) per financial year;
 - c. Notes the cost of the AICD Course, at a cost of \$5090.91 (ex GST) per Councillor registration, will be funded via each of the Councillor's respective Training and Development budget allocation over the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26;

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Response to Petition – To abandon the shared path from Manorwoods Drive to Peninsula Link

7. Notes a petition was received at its 24 March 2025 Council meeting, requesting Council to abandon the shared path from Manorwoods Drive to Peninsula Link, containing 100 signatures;
8. Notes the resolution from the 24 March 2025 Council meeting, stating that Council:

6 e) Based on the community feedback do not proceed with the construction of the proposed SUP between Manorwoods Drive and Peninsula Link Trail;

9. Notes that the head petitioner has been notified of the outcome;

Formal Naming of the viewing platform at Seaford Wetlands

10. Notes its resolution on 2 December 2025 to commence community engagement on the formal naming of the viewing platform at Seaford Wetlands to be named “Gananyu Bulukul Viewing Platform” on Council’s Engage Frankston Place Naming webpage for a period of 30 days;
11. Notes a total of 45 submissions were received with 23 submissions in support of the proposed name “Gananyu Bulukul Viewing Platform” at Seaford Wetlands;
12. Endorses the proposed name “Gananyu Bulukul Viewing Platform” to be submitted with Geographic Names Victoria (GNV) for formal naming and registering;
13. Supports for signage with the registered name to be installed at the location, once the name has been approved and gazetted by GNV;

Past Tree Planting Resolutions/Commitments

14. Notes a Briefing was provided to Councillors on 10 February 2025, regarding the upcoming 2025 tree planting season and seeking tree planting requests from Councillors;
15. Notes, following the Briefing, no further tree planting requests were received from Councillors;

Frankston Cemetery Trust Minutes

16. Notes the Frankston Cemetery Trust Meeting was held on 25 March 2025, with Deputy Mayor Cr Steffie Conroy, Cr Asker and Cr Butler in attendance;
17. Notes during the Trust Meeting the Abstract of Accounts for 2023-2024 were approved and signed; there was support for a report on the options and costs for ongoing management of trees on the Cemetery grounds; deferral of fees for the new Columbarium Niche Wall; and the Department of Health increase of cemetery fees by 2.5% from 1 July 2025;
18. Receives and adopts the Minutes of the Frankston Cemetery Trust meeting held on 25 March 2025;
19. Resolves Attachment I (Frankston Cemetery Trust Meeting Agenda 25 March 2025) to remain confidential indefinitely on the grounds that it includes private commercial information, being information provided by a business that if released, would unreasonably expose the business to disadvantage;

Audit and Risk Committee Minutes

20. Receives the minutes of the Audit and risk Committee meeting held on 20 February 2025; and
21. Resolves Attachment K (Confirmed Audit and Risk Committee Minutes –

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20 February 2025) to remain confidential indefinitely on the grounds that it includes confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a) (Local Government Act 2020, s.3(1)(h)).

Carried Unanimously

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12.2 Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report - January to March 2025*(PC Chief Executive Office)***Recommendation (Director Chief Executive Office)**

That Council:

1. Notes the Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report;
2. Notes any updates on previous recommendations' actions relating to the Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report provided within the report;
3. Notes the *Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Report for the period January to March 2025 ~ public version (attachment A)*, which will be made available after this meeting through Council's website;
4. Notes reduction of decisions being made in Closed Council in this reporting quarter (3 – 2024/25) with a result of 3%;
5. Notes its prior resolution at the 1 May 2023 Council Meeting, requiring that a future quarterly Chief Executive Officer report be provided on an indefinite basis, which for all intents and purposes has been a great success for its breadth and commentary of the substantial progress being made by Council, along with the integrity and wider transparency it provides of the Council and its operations;
6. Resolves *Confidential Chief Executive Officer's report for January to March 2025 (attachment B)*, be retained as confidential indefinitely, on the grounds that it contains information that is confidential pursuant to the Local Government Act 2020, section 3(1) (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) (i) and (j) and would, if released, reduce Council's ability to properly perform its functions; and
7. Resolves *Frankston City Council – Councillor Conduct Matters Table as at March 2025 (attachment C)*, be retained confidential until the date of this Council meeting on the grounds that it contains information that is confidential pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020, section (j)* and would be released with the minutes of this meeting and placed on Council's Transparency Hub to meet the requirements of the resolution passed on 2 October 2023 from part 4.b)ix. of the 2023/NOM6 - *Accountability Transparency Reform (ATR) III*.

Motion

That Council:

1. Notes the Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report;
2. Notes any updates on previous recommendations' actions relating to the Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report provided within the report;
3. Notes the *Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Report for the period January to March 2025 ~ public version (attachment A)*, which will be made available after this meeting through Council's website;
4. Notes reduction of decisions being made in Closed Council in this reporting quarter (3 – 2024/25) with a result of 3%;
5. Notes its prior resolution at the 1 May 2023 Council Meeting, requiring that a future quarterly Chief Executive Officer report be provided on an indefinite basis, which for all intents and purposes has been a great success for its breadth and commentary of the substantial progress being made by Council, along with the integrity and wider transparency it provides of the Council and its operations;
6. Resolves *Confidential Chief Executive Officer's report for January to March 2025 (attachment B)*, be retained as confidential indefinitely, on the grounds that it

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contains information that is confidential pursuant to the Local Government Act 2020, section 3(1) (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) (i) and (j) and would, if released, reduce Council's ability to properly perform its functions;

7. Resolves *Frankston City Council – Councillor Conduct Matters Table as at March 2025 (attachment C)*, be retained confidential until the date of this Council meeting on the grounds that it contains information that is confidential pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020, section (j)* and would be released with the minutes of this meeting and placed on Council's Transparency Hub to meet the requirements of the resolution passed on 2 October 2023 from part 4.b)ix. of the 2023/NOM6 - *Accountability Transparency Reform (ATR) III*; and
8.
 - a. Notes the allocation of \$100,000 in the Shade Sail Retrofit annual program Draft 2025/2026 Capital Works Budget, as resolved by Council on 17 February 2025 (CM03); and
 - b. Endorses the allocation of Shade Sail Retrofit funding in 2025/2026 to the following playgrounds, in response to community need:
 - Lindrum Reserve Playground
 - Monique Reserve Playground

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Wanat

Seconded: Councillor O'Reilly

That Council:

1. Notes the Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report;
2. Notes any updates on previous recommendations' actions relating to the Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report provided within the report;
3. Notes the *Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Report for the period January to March 2025 ~ public version (attachment A)*, which will be made available after this meeting through Council's website;
4. Notes reduction of decisions being made in Closed Council in this reporting quarter (3 – 2024/25) with a result of 3%;
5. Notes its prior resolution at the 1 May 2023 Council Meeting, requiring that a future quarterly Chief Executive Officer report be provided on an indefinite basis, which for all intents and purposes has been a great success for its breadth and commentary of the substantial progress being made by Council, along with the integrity and wider transparency it provides of the Council and its operations;
6. Resolves *Confidential Chief Executive Officer's report for January to March 2025 (attachment B)*, be retained as confidential indefinitely, on the grounds that it contains information that is confidential pursuant to the Local Government Act 2020, section 3(1) (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) (i) and (j) and would, if released, reduce Council's ability to properly perform its functions;
7. Resolves *Frankston City Council – Councillor Conduct Matters Table as at March 2025 (attachment C)*, be retained confidential until the date of this Council meeting on the grounds that it contains information that is confidential pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020, section (j)* and would be released with the minutes of this meeting and placed on Council's Transparency Hub to meet the requirements of the resolution passed on 2 October 2023 from part 4.b)ix. of the 2023/NOM6 - *Accountability Transparency Reform (ATR) III*; and
8.
 - a. Notes the allocation of \$100,000 in the Shade Sail Retrofit annual program Draft 2025/2026 Capital Works Budget, as resolved by Council on 17 February 2025 (CM03); and

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- b. Endorses the allocation of Shade Sail Retrofit funding in 2025/2026 to the following playgrounds, in response to community need:

- Lindrum Reserve Playground
- Monique Reserve Playground

Carried Unanimously

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Attachment C: Frankston City Council – Councillor Conduct Matters Table as at March 2025

 <h1>Councillor Conduct Matters</h1>									
Type	Status	Date Application resolved by Council	Applicant	Respondent	Decision tabled in Council Meeting	Decision	Notes	Cost to Council* *Excludes Officer time	Link to published Determination
Internal Arbitration	Complete	1-Mar-21	Council by resolution	Cr Steven Hughes	30-Aug-21	Four findings of misconduct One month suspension	In the published determination the Arbitrator cited that Cr Hughes was found to have engaged in four instances of misconduct by breaching the Councillor Code of Conduct. The Arbitrator gave a period of one month's suspension (maximum allowed).	\$7,724	https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0023/175802/Minutes-of-Frankston-Council-meeting-held-on-Monday-30-August-2021.pdf
Councillor Conduct Panel	Complete	Application by Councillor on 1 Dec 2021	Cr Steven Hughes	Cr Kris Bolam	15-Aug-22	Application dismissed	In the published determination the Panel dismissed the Application. The allegations made by Cr Hughes against Cr Bolam were dismissed. Council resolved an urgent business item on 15 August 2022 to reimburse Cr Bolam \$4300 for legal expenses he incurred as the Respondent.	\$28,340	https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0029/188156/Hughes-Bolam-CCP-2021-7-Councillor-Conduct-Panel-Determination-and-Statement-of-Reasons-for-Decision-29-July-2022.pdf
Mediation	Complete	Not available	Group of Councillors	Cr Steven Hughes	4-Oct-22	Mediation was unresolved.	When Council resolved to make an Application for Internal Arbitration on 6 June 2022, Cr Hughes agreed to participate in mediation. The mediation was unresolved and Council proceeded with the Application for Internal Arbitration.	\$15,027	Not applicable
Internal Arbitration	Complete	6-Jun-22	Council by resolution	Cr Steven Hughes	30-Jan-23	Four findings of misconduct One month suspension Written apology to Council staff	In the published determination the Arbitrator found that Cr Hughes failed to comply with the prescribed standards of conduct in the Councillor Code of Conduct. The Arbitrator's findings outlined these were breached in respect of four allegations. There was no finding of misconduct in response to the remaining (4) allegations and these were dismissed. The Arbitrator gave a period of one month's suspension (maximum allowed) and ordered a written apology to staff.	\$11,127	https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/193137/Frankston-City-Council-and-Hughes-IAP-2022-21.pdf
Councillor Conduct Panel	Complete	3-Oct-22	Council by resolution	Cr Steven Hughes	6-Sep-23	Serious misconduct finding Reprimanded Three month suspension	In the published determination the Councillor Conduct Panel found Cr Hughes engaged in serious misconduct and was ordered to be reprimanded (a professional censure, signalling that the conduct is condemned) and suspended from the office of Councillor for a period of three calendar months commencing after the meeting of Council at which the decision was tabled. The decision was subsequently tabled and an extra meeting of Council was held on 6 September 2023. Cr Hughes is due to return to the office of Councillor on 5 December 2023.	\$28,340	https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0023/201695/Frankston-City-Council-and-Hughes-CCP-2022-14-Councillor-Conduct-Panel-Determination-and-Statement-of-Reasons-for-Decision-31-August-2023.pdf
Councillor Conduct Panel	On hold	20-Feb-23	Council by resolution	Cr Steven Hughes	Not applicable	Not applicable	Cr Steven Hughes resigned from the office of Councillor on 11 December 2023. As a result the Panel Hearing was not held. Steven Hughes was not a successful candidate in the 2024 Council elections, thus the Panel hearing cannot be pursued further.	\$39,469	Not available
Cost year to date								\$130,029	

Chairperson's initials.....

12.3 Frankston Arts Advisory Committee - Minutes 27 March 2025*(DK Customer Innovation and Arts)***Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Asker**

That Council:

1. Receives the Minutes of the Frankston Arts Advisory Committee meeting held on 27 March 2025, and
2. Notes that Frankston Arts Advisory Committee supported the preferred artist for the Frankston Pier artwork, which will be presented to Council in a separate report at the May Council Meeting.

Carried Unanimously**Note:** Refer to page 4 of these Minutes where this item was Block Resolved.

12.4 Response to Petition to add tree 97B at 4 Carder Ave Seaford to the Frankston Council tree register*(TB Communities)***Recommendation (Director Communities)**

That Council:

1. Notes the petition received from residents requesting the registration of a tree on the Significant Tree Register;
2. Acknowledges the findings of the arboriculture assessment, which indicate that the tree does not meet the criteria for registration; and
3. Notes that officers will advise the head petitioner of the outcome and provides guidance on other tree protection measures available.

Motion

That Council:

1. Notes the petition received from residents requesting the registration of a tree on the Significant Tree Register;
2. Acknowledges the findings of the arboriculture assessment, which indicate that the tree does not meet the criteria for registration;
3. Notes that officers will advise the petitioners of the outcome and provides guidance on other tree protection measures available;
4. Notes Council's "Register of Significant Trees on Public Land," which was adopted by Council in 2012 and aims to increase awareness of iconic trees across the city amongst Council staff, contractors, external agencies and the community;
5. Acknowledges the concerted and unprecedented effort Council has made in the last 4 years to plant 60,000 trees under the Urban Forest Action Plan;
6. Reviews and revitalises the "Register of Significant Trees on Public Land" by calling on community members to nominate a tree that they would like to see included on this Register, in further support of improving the tree canopy across the municipality and fostering greater appreciation for trees; and
7. Commits \$10,500 to the 25/26 Mid-Year Review to enable an assessment of any new trees nominated for the Tree Registry by a qualified arborist.

Rationale: This will enable the assessment of 30 tree nominations, with the scheme promoted via Council's social media encouraging community members to nominate a tree/s. The deployment of these funds will be offset against other potential initiatives put forward so as not to adversely impact Council's underlying deficit.

Council Decision**Moved: Councillor Green****Seconded: Councillor Wanat**

That Council:

1. Notes the petition received from residents requesting the registration of a tree on the Significant Tree Register;
2. Acknowledges the findings of the arboriculture assessment, which indicate that the tree does not meet the criteria for registration;
3. Notes that officers will advise the petitioners of the outcome and provides

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- guidance on other tree protection measures available;
4. Notes Council's "Register of Significant Trees on Public Land," which was adopted by Council in 2012 and aims to increase awareness of iconic trees across the city amongst Council staff, contractors, external agencies and the community;
 5. Acknowledges the concerted and unprecedented effort Council has made in the last 4 years to plant 60,000 trees under the Urban Forest Action Plan;
 6. Reviews and revitalises the "Register of Significant Trees on Public Land" by calling on community members to nominate a tree that they would like to see included on this Register, in further support of improving the tree canopy across the municipality and fostering greater appreciation for trees; and
 7. Commits \$10,500 to the 25/26 Mid-Year Review to enable an assessment of any new trees nominated for the Tree Registry by a qualified arborist.

Rationale: This will enable the assessment of 30 tree nominations, with the scheme promoted via Council's social media encouraging community members to nominate a tree/s. The deployment of these funds will be offset against other potential initiatives put forward so as not to adversely impact Council's underlying deficit.

Carried Unanimously

12.5 Hot Topics

(SB Customer Innovation and Arts)

Recommendation (Director Customer Innovation and Arts)

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the update on Hot Topics of interest to Councillors outlined in this report, reinforcing confidence in the effective management of these important issues;

Communication and Advocacy

2. Notes the issues management, media, social media and community sentiment in confidential Attachment A;
3. Notes the successful results from the advocacy campaign inclusive of:
 - a. \$50 million of budgeted funding through the Road Blitz program towards the upgrade of the Nepean Highway;
 - b. \$ 5 million of budgeted funding for the Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment;

Nepean Boulevard Project

4. Acknowledges that the Australian Government has allocated \$50 million of budgeted funding through the Road Blitz program towards the upgrade of Nepean Highway. Council is seeking to work collaboratively with the Department to ensure the best possible outcomes for Frankston City including consideration to other strategic transport and urban infrastructure improvements aligned with the Nepean Boulevard Vision.

Friendship City

5. Notes that The City of Annapolis in the United States of America resolved unanimously at its meeting on 23 March 2025 to proceed with becoming a "Friendship City" with Frankston City;
6. Notes it will consider becoming a 'Friendship City' with the City of Annapolis at its Meeting on 12 May 2025;

Grants

7. Notes three (3) grant application outcomes were announced in February, securing \$1.37 million applications as follows:
 - a. \$923,000 for Towerhill Road SUP (Federal Government)
 - b. \$250,000 for Ballam Park East Oval redevelopment (State Government)
 - c. \$197,494 Building Blocks inclusion grant for Mahogany Rise playground (State Government)
8. Notes four (4) new grant applications seeking \$581,600 were submitted in February as follows:
 - a. \$300,000 for Frankston Park Changerooms (State Government)
 - b. \$226,600 for Peninsula Reserve sports lighting (State Government)
 - c. \$35,000 for the Kinder registration and enrolment (State Government)
 - d. \$10,000 Upgrade of aged care IT transition (Federal Government)

Frankston Yacht facility - Activation of upstairs restaurant

9. Notes the update of the activation of the upstairs restaurant in the Frankston Yacht facility in the confidential attachment;

Urban Forest Action Plan

10. Notes that the 2025 planting season has commenced, with planting occurring at
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various locations including Jubilee Park, the Foreshore, in bushlands, through streets and in open spaces;

11. Acknowledges that tree planting on private land will offer the greatest opportunity to expand the City's Tree Canopy. The focus in the 2026 planting season will be on supporting and incentivising tree planting on private land with 12,200 to be provided for free to local residents and schools;

Aged Care Reforms

12. Notes that draft legislation for the new Aged Care Act remains on track to commence 1 July 2025 and Council has submitted for previously unreleased sections of the Act now being shared for the purpose of consultation;
13. Notes, as part of the reform, Council successfully applied for a \$10,000 grant to upgrade the client management system to include new data reporting requirements;
14. Notes that the Community Engagement process has commenced for Council delivered Community Care services. Engagement closes on 6 April and a report will be provided to Council to guide further conversations regarding the future direction of service delivery;

Rapid Response

15. Notes that the Rapid Response Team (RRT) is designed to provide a proactive and immediate response to specific community issues, particularly dealing with immediate contraventions of Council's Community Local Law 2020;

Local Laws

16. Notes the Unsightly Property audit initiative within the Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre (FMAC) and the results to date, ensuring that standards are maintained that do not detract from the visual amenity of the FMAC.

Awards Update

17. Notes the awards update and acknowledges that the Frankston Public Toilet Action Plan won the Award of Excellence at the 2024 Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Victorian State Awards and will now progress to the PIA National Awards in May 2025;

Policies, Plans and Strategies Update

18. Notes the status of the Policies in the Policy Register, that updates will be included biannually in the Governance Matters Report, and acknowledges the Council policies that are due for review and adoption in 2025;
19. Notes the status of the Strategies and Plans in the Strategic Documents Register, that updates will be included annually in the Governance Matters Report, and acknowledges the Strategies and Plans that are due for review and adoption in 2025;

Councillor Questions and Requests Platform

20. Notes the enhancements and improvements delivered on the Councillor Questions and Requests Platform;

Reputational Risk Management

21. Notes Council's approach to managing reputational risk;
22. Resolves **Attachment A** (Issues management, media, social media and community sentiment) be retained confidential indefinitely, on the grounds it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that— (i) relates to trade secrets; or (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage (*Local Government Act 2020 s3(1)(g)*).

Chairperson's initials

These grounds apply because it contains material Council is monitoring in relation to media interest, inclusive of commercial sensitive information;

23. Resolves **Attachment B** (Frankston Yacht Club - March 2025) be retained confidential indefinitely, on the grounds that it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020 s3(1)(g)* and would, if released, reduce Council's ability to properly perform its functions.

Motion

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the update on Hot Topics of interest to Councillors outlined in this report, reinforcing confidence in the effective management of these important issues;

Communication and Advocacy

2. Notes the issues management, media, social media and community sentiment in confidential Attachment A;
3. Notes the successful results from the advocacy campaign inclusive of:
- a. \$50 million of budgeted funding through the Road Blitz program towards the upgrade of the Nepean Highway;
 - b. \$ 5 million of budgeted funding for the Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment;

Nepean Boulevard Project

4. Acknowledges that the Australian Government has allocated \$50 million of budgeted funding through the Road Blitz program towards the upgrade of Nepean Highway. Council is seeking to work collaboratively with the Department to ensure the best possible outcomes for Frankston City including consideration to other strategic transport and urban infrastructure improvements aligned with the Nepean Boulevard Vision.

Friendship City

5. Notes that The City of Annapolis in the United States of America resolved unanimously at its meeting on 23 March 2025 to proceed with becoming a "Friendship City" with Frankston City;
6. Notes it will consider becoming a 'Friendship City' with the City of Annapolis at its Meeting on 12 May 2025;

Grants

7. Notes three (3) grant application outcomes were announced in February, securing \$1.37 million applications as follows:
- a. \$923,000 for Towerhill Road SUP (Federal Government)
 - b. \$250,000 for Ballam Park East Oval redevelopment (State Government)
 - c. \$197,494 Building Blocks inclusion grant for Mahogany Rise playground (State Government)
8. Notes four (4) new grant applications seeking \$581,600 were submitted in February as follows:
- a. \$300,000 for Frankston Park Changerooms (State Government)
 - b. \$226,600 for Peninsula Reserve sports lighting (State Government)
 - c. \$35,000 for the Kinder registration and enrolment (State Government)
 - d. \$10,000 Upgrade of aged care IT transition (Federal Government)

Chairperson's initials

Frankston Yacht facility - Activation of upstairs restaurant

9. Notes the update of the activation of the upstairs restaurant in the Frankston Yacht facility in the confidential attachment;

Urban Forest Action Plan

10. Notes that the 2025 planting season has commenced, with planting occurring at various locations including Jubilee Park, the Foreshore, in bushlands, through streets and in open spaces;
11. Acknowledges that tree planting on private land will offer the greatest opportunity to expand the City's Tree Canopy. The focus in the 2026 planting season will be on supporting and incentivising tree planting on private land with 12,200 to be provided for free to local residents and schools;

Aged Care Reforms

12. Notes that draft legislation for the new Aged Care Act remains on track to commence 1 July 2025 and Council has submitted for previously unreleased sections of the Act now being shared for the purpose of consultation;
13. Notes, as part of the reform, Council successfully applied for a \$10,000 grant to upgrade the client management system to include new data reporting requirements;
14. Notes that the Community Engagement process has commenced for Council delivered Community Care services. Engagement closes on 6 April and a report will be provided to Council to guide further conversations regarding the future direction of service delivery;

Rapid Response

15. Notes that the Rapid Response Team (RRT) is designed to provide a proactive and immediate response to specific community issues, particularly dealing with immediate contraventions of Council's Community Local Law 2020;

Local Laws

16. Notes the Unsightly Property audit initiative within the Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre (FMAC) and the results to date, ensuring that standards are maintained that do not detract from the visual amenity of the FMAC.

Awards Update

17. Notes the awards update and acknowledges that the Frankston Public Toilet Action Plan won the Award of Excellence at the 2024 Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Victorian State Awards and will now progress to the PIA National Awards in May 2025;

Policies, Plans and Strategies Update

18. Notes the status of the Policies in the Policy Register, that updates will be included biannually in the Governance Matters Report, and acknowledges the Council policies that are due for review and adoption in 2025;
19. Notes the status of the Strategies and Plans in the Strategic Documents Register, that updates will be included annually in the Governance Matters Report, and acknowledges the Strategies and Plans that are due for review and adoption in 2025;

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24.
 - a. Receives a report at the July 2025 Council Meeting outlining how Council could celebrate Frankston's 60th anniversary of being declared as a City; and
 - b. Seeks that the report considers the inclusion of a dedicated budget line in an amount of \$30,000 in the 2025/2026 Annual Budget, in preparation for a proposed celebration date (late 2026), possible celebration options, and the formation of a working party to lead planning and consultation. This working party could engage with local MPs, the Frankston Historical Society, relevant service clubs, and the broader community.

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Conroy

Seconded: Councillor Butler

That Council:

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13. Notes, as part of the reform, Council successfully applied for a \$10,000 grant to upgrade the client management system to include new data reporting requirements;
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15. Notes that the Rapid Response Team (RRT) is designed to provide a proactive and immediate response to specific community issues, particularly dealing with immediate contraventions of Council’s Community Local Law 2020;

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Chairperson’s initials

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19. Notes the status of the Strategies and Plans in the Strategic Documents Register, that updates will be included annually in the Governance Matters Report, and acknowledges the Strategies and Plans that are due for review and adoption in 2025;

Councillor Questions and Requests Platform

20. Notes the enhancements and improvements delivered on the Councillor Questions and Requests Platform;

Reputational Risk Management

21. Notes Council's approach to managing reputational risk;
22. Resolves **Attachment A** (Issues management, media, social media and community sentiment) be retained confidential indefinitely, on the grounds it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that— (i) relates to trade secrets; or (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage (*Local Government Act 2020 s3(1)(g)*). These grounds apply because it contains material Council is monitoring in relation to media interest, inclusive of commercial sensitive information;
23. Resolves **Attachment B** (Frankston Yacht Club - March 2025) be retained confidential indefinitely, on the grounds that it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020 s3(1)(g)* and would, if released, reduce Council's ability to properly perform its functions.
24. a. Receives a report at the July 2025 Council Meeting outlining how Council could celebrate Frankston's 60th anniversary of being declared as a City; and
- b. Seeks that the report considers the inclusion of a dedicated budget line in an amount of \$30,000 in the 2025/2026 Annual Budget, in preparation for a proposed celebration date (late 2026), possible celebration options, and the formation of a working party to lead planning and consultation. This working party could engage with local MPs, the Frankston Historical Society, relevant service clubs, and the broader community.

Carried Unanimously

12.6 Draft 2025-2029 Council and Wellbeing Plan (including year one action plan)
*(CR Corporate and Commercial Services)***Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Asker**

That Council:

1. Notes the draft 2025-2029 Council and Wellbeing Plan (including Year One Action Plan);
2. Endorses the draft 2025-2029 Council and Wellbeing Plan (including Year One Action Plan) to be publicly exhibited from 24 April 2025 until 5.00pm on Friday 23 May 2025;
3. Notes the addition of a new differential rate on vacant land in the Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre (FMAC) and Nepean Hwy, that will be reflected in the Revenue and Rating Plan and Budget 2025-26; and
4. Seeks a report back by no later than 23 June 2025 to consider for adoption the draft 2025-2029 Council and Wellbeing Plan, the Revenue and Rating Plan and the Annual Budget, noting any community feedback received during the exhibition period.

Carried Unanimously**Note:** Refer to page 4 of these Minutes where this item was Block Resolved.

Chairperson's initials

12.7 Fit for the Future Strategy*(wc Customer Innovation and Arts)***Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Asker**

That:

1. Notes the Future Ready Frankston Transformation Strategy has been transitioned to the new Corporate Strategy Fit for the Future (F4F);
2. Notes that the F4F strategy captures initiatives and programs aimed at driving efficiency, while monitoring their impact and contribution to financial sustainability; and
3. Notes the F4F strategy is organisation wide portfolio of projects planned to deliver on following outcomes:
 - Strengthening financial management practices and responsible budgeting.
 - Diversifying revenue sources to support community initiatives.
 - Uplift community's experience while transacting with Council.
 - Strategic review of our services.
 - Commitment and investment in ongoing business and digital transformation.

Carried Unanimously**Note:** Refer to page 4 of these Minutes where this item was Block Resolved.

Chairperson's initials

12.8 Award of Contract CN11522 - Concrete Replacement Maintenance Works Panel
(BH Infrastructure and Operations)**Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Asker**

That Council:

1. Awards contract CN11522 – Concrete Replacement Maintenance Works to
 - a. Rabot Paving (Australia) Pty Ltd A.C.N 074 228 014, and
 - b. A & V Creative Family Trust trading as A & V Creative Concrete Pty Ltd A.C.N 086 999 564for an estimated contract value of \$14,624,113.00 GST exclusive for the term of up to six (6) years being an initial two (2) year term with the provision for a further two (2) x two (2) year extension options (2+2+2) noting that this is a schedule of rates contract;
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute and sign the contract;
3. Authorises the Director Infrastructure and Operations to approve variations and extensions of the contract subject to the satisfactory performance of the contractor(s); and
4. Resolves Attachments A and B to this report be retained confidential on the grounds that it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020 s3(1)(g)*.

Carried Unanimously**Note:** Refer to page 4 of these Minutes where this item was Block Resolved.

12.9 Award of Fuel Contract - Procurement Australia Contract Number: 2703/0110
(LU Infrastructure and Operations)**Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Butler****Seconded: Councillor Asker**

That Council:

1. Approves the acceptance of the tender from Procurement Australia (contract 2703/0110) for the supply of fuel at retail outlets for Council vehicles for an estimated contract value of \$574,600 per annum (exclusive of GST) at 338,000 combined fuel litres using Business Fuel Cards Multi Branded Card, the total contract value is estimated to be up to \$2,315,498 (ex GST) over a term of four (4) years;
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign the contract.
3. Delegates approval of contract variations within the contingency amount outlined in the confidential attachment to the Director Infrastructure & Operations; and
4. Resolves Attachments A, B and C to this report be retained confidential on the grounds that it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020 s3(1)(g)*.

Carried Unanimously**Note:** Refer to page 4 of these Minutes where this item was Block Resolved.

Chairperson's initials

13. RESPONSE TO NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

DRAFT

Chairperson's initials

14. NOTICES OF MOTION**14.2 2025/NOM10 - Decorative Water Feature at the Frankston Foreshore***(AH Communities)***Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Asker****Seconded: Councillor Conroy**

That Council:

1. Notes the success and widespread positive public sentiment relating to the two decorative water fountains installed at both Beauty Park Lake and Ballam Park lake;
2. Resolves that a report be received by no later than the August 2025 Council Meeting on the feasibility and broader considerations for the future installation of a water feature positioned as a backdrop to the current landmark Frankston waterfront sign at the access/egress point to Pier Promenade. The water feature should include LED up lighting components; and
3. Requires that this report outline the approach on how this potential future project is best taken forward, with consideration to it:
 - Being further developed as a part of (or alongside) the pending analysis and concept work being undertaken in 2025/26 to refresh the Waterfront Precinct (including any engagement or consultation arising from that work); and
 - Potentially comprising the Frankston Arts Trail project.

Carried

For the Motion: Crs Asker, Bolam, Butler, Conroy, Green and O'Reilly (6)

Against the Motion: Cr Wanat (1)

15. LATE REPORTS

Nil

16. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil Reports

DRAFT

Chairperson's initials

QUESTION TIME

Questions received without Notice

The following questions without notice were received for the Council Meeting 2025/CM05 – 24 March 2025. In accordance with the *Public Submissions and Question Time Policy*, the questions and responses are published below:

Mary Tredinnick

As per Council's Governance Rules, Rule 57.4, no person may submit more than three questions at any one meeting. A question may be split into a maximum of two parts only. If more than two parts to a question are received, only the first two parts will be considered. In light of this, a response was provided to the first two parts of the question 1.

Question 1

Part1:

I can see on Mayor Bolam's FCC information page that his priorities for 2024/45 include "Continued good governance reforms that enhance accountability and transparency at FCC" Are these priorities also held by councillors and council in general?

My understanding is that councillors are elected by residents to represent the local community, and that they are responsible for oversight/ governance of the policies and procedure of the council.

Part 2:

Regarding the Activities within the Planning Department:

Twice FCC has been to VCAT (2019 and 2022) to defend their refusal to grant planning permits for increased activity at 6 Leisureland Drive, Langwarrin. On both occasions a number of local residents also attended VCAT to support council's decision. On one occasion VCAT supported council in their decision. The level of activity is not consistent with the guidelines for LDRZ activity.

Yet, since then (Feb 2024), the FCC planning department has approved an increase in activity – despite residents raising concerns.

And in the past 12 months, since Feb 2024, the planning department has approved a number of "ad hoc" approvals for further increases in activity via a "Secondary consent process" without allowing the local residents/community to have any input into the process.

Why has there been a complete shift in Council policy in relation to the extent of activities in areas zoned Low Density Residential Zone and in particular the FCC planning Scheme requirement restrictions for non-residential activities in those zones in the past 12 months? What has changed? Why have residents not been advised of the shift in policy of FCC?

Response

Part 1:

Upon commencement of their term of Council, Councillors swore an oath or affirmation of office to abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct, including upholding the prescribed standards of performing the role of Councillor; behaviours, good governance and integrity. Councillors and Council officers must also abide by the Local Government Act 2020, which specifies that Council must, in the performance of its role, give effect to the overarching governance principles, including that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Part 2:

There has been no change in Council policy in relation to activities allowed in areas within the Low Density Residential Zone, including non-residential activities.

Chairperson's initials

Council has consented to temporary variations for particular recent events at the permitted Place of Worship, this does not mean there has been a shift in planning policy and its application by Council.

Question 2

Part 1:

Regarding the Code of Conduct for Councillors and council staff. I presume that both councillors and council staff have a code of conduct.

Can you please advise if the code of conduct would include an expectation that both councillors and council staff would be expected to comply with current local laws?

For example: complying with planning permits restrictions, not participating in activities that don't have appropriate approvals in place etc, particularly in relation to attending events etc when they are representing either the FCC or the local community (and for councillors – as elected representatives of the local community).

Part 2:

Is it appropriate for FCC representatives (whether elected or employed) to attend events at 6 Leisureland Drive Langwarrin that are in breach of their planning permit?

What impression do local residents get of FCC when they see FCC representatives attending events that are in breach of planning permits?

Response

Part 1:

All Council staff, volunteers and contractors adhere to a Staff Code of Conduct, this includes compliance with legislation. Additionally, Councillors and Council officers must also abide by the Local Government Act 2020, under which Local Laws are prescribed.

Part 2:

Council is not aware of any events held at 6 Leisureland Drive, Langwarrin that were in breach of the planning permit, whether attended by Frankston City Council representatives or not. Council representatives would not knowingly attend an event that was in breach of a planning provision or permit.

As confirmed in Part 2 of the question 1 above, Council has consented to temporary variations for particular recent events, at the permitted Place of Worship.

Ian Tredinnick

Question 1

Questions relating to Agenda item _ PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C156FRAN (ENVIRONMENTAL AMENDMENT) - CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED AND REQUEST THE APPOINTMENT OF A PLANNING PANEL Planning Scheme Amendment C156fran Exhibition Documents

I hope Council is approaching the above amendments with the view to real improvements. Green washing has reach levels in both the private and public sectors such that regulators have been launching prosecutions The general public cannot be sure what will lead to real improvements or is just spin.

I ask each Councillor will they request that a report is prepared that looks at the hypothetical changes to planning decisions, that have been made by Council over the past 12 months, that the above amendments would have resulted in and commit to publishing such a report no later than 2 months prior to the closing date for submissions on the above amendments?

Chairperson's initials

This impact/benefits reports would be a key indicator of the actual potential impacts/ benefits of the above amendments.

Response

Council follows the legislative process in relation to Planning Scheme Amendments. In relation to C156fran, this was exhibited between 18 July 2024 and 20 August 2024 with 8 submissions received for consideration. At its meeting on 24 March 2025, Council resolved to refer the submissions to an independent planning panel to review the submissions, hold hearings and make recommendations. Following this, a report will return to Council to consider the panel report.

Question 2

I ask if each Councillor supports that such an impact benefits report, as detailed in question 1 above becomes a mandatory component of any proposed amendments to the Planning Scheme?

Response

Council is required to follow the legislated process for Planning Scheme Amendments, which sits under the Planning and Environment Act. The recommendations provided by the Planning Panel report will further be considered by Council when received.

Question 3

To ensure that the complete intent of the Planning Scheme is applied I ask each Councillor will they support a change to Local Laws that mandates that all parts of the Planning Scheme bear equal weight and must be applied equally whether or not supported they decision guidelines? This is key to having a concise planning scheme that is purged of greenwashing and other elements that may not be applied by Council in its decision-making process.

Response

The planning scheme is a legal document, prepared and approved under the Planning and Environment Act. A Local Law cannot be inconsistent with other legislation, nor duplicate or be inconsistent with council's planning scheme.

The meeting was closed to the public at 7.48 pm

DRAFT MINUTES
CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2025

.....
CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson's initials

The meeting was closed to the public at 7.48 pm

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2025

.....
CHAIRPERSON

AUTHORITY TO STAMP INITIALS ON MINUTES

I, Cr. Kris Bolam, Chairperson – Council Meeting hereby authorise the use of an electronic stamp of my initials to initial each page of these Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 23 April 2025, confirmed on Monday, 12 May 2025.

.....
(Cr. Kris Bolam, Chairperson – Council Meeting)

Dated this

day of

2025

Chairperson's initials