



**GLEN EIRA  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MINUTES**

The BUSINESS AND ECONOMY Advisory Committee meeting commenced late at 9:20 am due to technical issues.

8 December 2022

*Meeting Room 2 (downstairs) - 840 Dandenong Road Caulfield*

**Present:**

<i>Councillors:</i>	Cr Sam Parasol (Chair) Cr Tony Athanasopoulos	Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member
<i>Community Representatives:</i>	Jai Parasnis Grahame Leonard AM Shai Dagan Steve Antunovic Keith Rhodes Deepa Mani (Online, 9.30am)	Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member
<i>Council Staff:</i>	Ron Torres (Online) Matt Slavin Suzette Sutton Lucy Thompson	Director Manager Officer Officer

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**1. Apologies**

<i>Councillors:</i>	Cr Anne-Marie Cade	Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member
<i>Community Representatives:</i>	Bruno Karalus Chris Giouris Ruth Lewis Thanh Do	Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member
<i>Council Staff:</i>	Nil.	

**2. Conflicts of Interest Declaration**

Nil.

### 3. Action Items Update from last committee Meeting

*Matt Slavin provided the following update:*

Title/Item	Action	Update	Responsible Officer	Active/Closed
<b>5.2 Program Review</b>	Action: Matt Slavin – City Futures team to finalise future program opportunities and present a staged implementation program for review	Presentation of planned activity 2023	SS	<b>Active</b> - ongoing
<b>5.3 Business Survey</b>	Action: Committee members to provide comment on draft question and for the City Futures team to finalise Business Survey	Committee provided feedback in previous and current meeting	SS	<b>Closed</b>
<b>5.4 Business Awards</b>	Action: Matt Slavin – City Futures team to finalise Business Award program	Presentation	SS	<b>Active</b>
<b>5.5 Promotion</b>	Action: Matt Slavin – City Futures team to advise on how businesses can be informed of tenders	Advise business support mechanisms	SS	<b>Closed</b>
<b>6.1 Glen Huntly</b>	Action: Matt Slavin – City Futures team to work with PMO officer leading Level Crossing Removal for details on support to business.	Update	SS	<b>Closed</b>

### 4. Summary of meeting minutes from previous meeting

Cr Sam Parasol provided a summary of meeting minutes from previous meeting. Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed by the Committee.

### 5. Items for Discussion:

#### 5.1 Business Survey - Draft questions for input

**Matt Slavin**

Matt Slavin presented revised draft questions.

Feedback from the GEBEAC committee included:

- Question 8 if yes, ask for which one.
- Question 12 is a double up.
- Question 3 the wording of “operate” is limiting.
- Question 5 allow users to rank the answers.
- Question 9 add information about what each program is.

Group agreed follow up phone calls and prize incentives could be beneficial.

**Action:** Officers to finalise survey questions and distribute to Committee members.

## **5.2 Business Awards – further details – presentation Suzette Sutton**

Suzette Sutton presented further details for the Business Awards, including flyer sample, categories and timelines.

All questioned definition of sustainability.

Keith Rhodes and Grahame Leonard asked about the nomination process. General discussion about benefits of allowing customers to nominate businesses ensued.

Deepa Mani asked for clarification on the diversity award.

Steve Antunovic asked about the weighting of criteria. Suzette Sutton said it must be quantifiable, and that there will be a marking system, most likely a matrix. Matt Slavin suggested to make it clear how nominations will be assessed.

Cr Tony Athanasopoulos asked if there was scope for a people's choice award. All agree.

Cr Sam Parasol asked if we could delay the timeline for further planning. Suzette Sutton advised timeline needs to tie in with the existing Food Safety Awards schedule of assessment.

Action: provide update at next meeting.

## **5.3 Business support programs update- Mentoring changes Suzette Sutton**

Suzette Sutton provided an update of changes as of 6 December 2022.

Cr Sam Parasol commended the program, and thanked group members that are mentors.

Recommendation: That the committee notes the changes to the program.

## **5.4 Networking/Events – Events Scheduled Suzette Sutton**

Suzette Sutton presented a draft calendar of events for business support activities.

Cr Sam Parasol requested the draft calendar be distributed to the Committee.

Grahame Leonard asked how the activities are advertised. Suzette Sutton showed the comprehensive communications plan for both print and digital.

Deepa Mani asked if GECC does anything to endorse businesses. Suzette Sutton explained that GECC can't been seen to favour businesses but the Business Award winners will have promotions to display.

Recommendation: the committee notes the draft calendar of events. Draft calendar to be distributed to the Committee.

## **5.5 Review of Economic Development Plan Matt Slavin/Suzette Sutton**

Matt Slavin presented content in relation to City Plan 2020 and Local Economy and Placemaking Action Plan 2018 to assist with a discussion on a new Economic Development Plan

Matt Slavin also presented an array of economic statistics from the 2021 census following Keenan's presentation from last meeting.

Jai Parasnis provided some further explanation on statistics.

Cr Tony Athanasopoulos asked if there are statistics on the industry of resident workers leaving GECC. Matt Slavin took this on notice.

General discussion about manufacturing opportunities and industrial spaces in the municipality led by Shai Dagan.

Matt Slavin asked for feedback on the following themes from City Plan:

- a. *More local jobs, less commuting*
  - Steve Antunovic is there an opportunity to consider maker space areas.
  - Keith Rhodes noted the Brunswick maker space benefits.
- b. *Foster human experiences by strengthening the heart of the community*
  - Grahame Leonard noted innovation should be emphasized.
  - Jai Parasnis noted location for future open spaces to be included.
  - Deepa Mani asked for clarification on the details of 2.2.1 and noted the planning language can be misunderstood.
- c. *Build a thriving local connection economy.*
  - All acknowledged their previous discussions of co working being included.
  - Shai Dagan noted that home-based businesses were excluded.
- d. *Vibrant night life and weekends*
  - No comments

Actions: that Officers note the feedback from the Committee and present further updates as required. That officers provide data on GE resident workers and industry sector within and outside Glen Eira.

## **5.6 Update on Level Crossing at Glen Huntly activation** **Matt Slavin**

Matt Slavin presented an update on projects and engagement activities from both GECC and LGRP, noting the current LGRP shop window competition is underway and GECC is seeking advice from placemaking consultants on how shop owners can upgrade shop facades.

Recommendation: that Officers continue to support activation activities at Glen Huntly.

## **5.7 Placemaking Framework update** **Matt Slavin**

Matt Slavin presented an update on projects and engagement activities.

Grahame Leonard asked about the GECC graffiti removal program. Ron Torres advised GECC has an operational and strategic response. The works crew can remove graffiti on public land as soon as it occurs, and GECC offers DIY graffiti kits and organised removal for private land.

Recommendation: that Officers provide updates as required.

## **5.8 Meeting with G Leonard – Facilitating Walking within GE** **Matt Slavin**

Suzette Sutton presented an update on the creation of an interactive map of seating in the municipality.

Grahame Leonard raised concern that the map doesn't add value. Questioned how we can make walking more available, interesting and promoted.  
Cr Tony Athanasopoulos suggested we partner school children with the 60+ aged population and promote walking to school.

Cr Sam Parasol highlighted the existing GECC walking tour apps.

Grahame Leonard suggested more seating, water fountains, and footpath upgrades.

Actions: that Officers confirm the outcomes of the discussion with Grahame Leonard

**6. General Business:**

**6.1 Advocacy for funding to upgrade Activity Centres**

**Cr Tony Athanasopoulos**

Cr Tony Athanasopoulos noted that Councillors would like to develop a program to help secure funding from State and Federal Governments for streetscape improvements.

Recommendation: that Councillors continue advocating for funding towards streetscape improvements in our activity centres.

**6.2 Changes to Committee**

**Post meeting note**

It was not discussed in the meeting but Councillor membership of the Committee has changed, this occurs annually.

Action: that Committee make up for 2023 is communicated to community members.

**7. Forward Meeting Schedule**

Cr Sam Parasol (chair)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Items</b>	<b>Officer/Member</b>
2023 TBC	TBC	

*Note: any changes to meeting dates, apologies or items to be added/removed*

**8. Next Meeting TBC**

**All agree.**

**9. Closure of Meeting:**

The meeting closed at 11.15am.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 February 2023.