



GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025

MINUTES

**Meeting was held in the Council Chambers,
Corner Hawthorn & Glen Eira Roads, Caulfield
at 7:30 PM**

Present

Deputy Mayor Councillor Luca Ragni (Chair)
Councillor Arabella Daniel
Councillor Margaret Esakoff
Councillor Jane Karslake
Councillor Sam Parasol
Councillor Kay Rimbaldo
Councillor Kimberley Young
Councillor Li Zhang

Council Officers Present

Chief Executive Officer, Lucy Roffey
Director Customer and Corporate Affairs, Kellie Vise
Director Sustainability, Assets and Leisure, Niall McDonough
Acting Director Community Wellbeing, Rosa Zouzoulas
Acting Director Planning and Place, Lauren Richardson
Manager Legal, Risk and Governance, Diana Vaynrib
Coordinator Councillor Business, Karling Colomiere
Councillor Business Officer, Kylie Webster
Councillor Business Officer, Rebecca Dixon
Councillor Business Officer, Alex Fry

INDEX

1.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS.....	4
2.	APOLOGIES.....	4
3.	REMINDER TO DISCLOSE ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA	4
4.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	4
5.	WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL	4
6.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OR MEETINGS	6
7.	RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS	6
	Nil	
8.	REPORTS BY DELEGATES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS	7
9.	REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND RECORDS OF ASSEMBLY	7
9.1	ADVISORY COMMITTEES.....	7
	Nil	
9.2	RECORDS OF ASSEMBLY	7
	9.2.1 Record of Assemblies	7
10.	OFFICER REPORTS (AS LISTED).....	7
	10.1 2024–2025 Annual Report.....	7
	10.2 State Government Activity Centre Program - Submission on Draft Plans for Carnegie, Murrumbeena and Hughesdale	8
	10.3 Our Place, Our Plan final exhibition phase community engagement report	9
	10.4 Notice of Motion No. 25/003 - Officer Response: Process for prescribing an area within the municipality as a smoke-free zone	9
	10.5 Quarterly Reporting of Community Grants.....	10
	10.6 Appointment of Members to the Glen Eira Leisure Advisory Committee and Updated Terms of Reference.....	10

10.7	Audit and Risk Committee Minutes.....	10
10.8	CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee - Chair Recommendation	10
11.	URGENT BUSINESS.....	11
12.	ORDINARY BUSINESS	11
12.1	Requests for reports from a member of Council staff	11
12.2	Right of reply	11
12.3	Notice of Motion / Notice of Rescission	11
12.4	Councillor questions.....	13
13.	CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS.....	13
	Nil	
14.	CLOSURE OF MEETING.....	13



1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Mayor read the acknowledgement.

Glen Eira City Council Acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin Nation as Traditional Owners and Custodians, and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We Acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to land and waterways. Council extends its respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

2. APOLOGIES

Apology

Moved: Cr Parasol

Seconded: Cr Rimbaldo

That the apology from Mayor Cr Zmood be received and noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. REMINDER TO DISCLOSE ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillors were reminded of the requirement for disclosure of conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda, or any item that was considered at this meeting, in accordance with Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Rule 85 of the Glen Eira City Council Governance Rules. Councillors were then invited to indicate any such conflict of interest.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This evening we had one Submission for Public Participation

5. WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL

This evening we had three Written Public Questions to Council

Krystyna Duszniak Caulfield North	Question 1: What are the future plans for Pawfield Park? With the purchase of the land across the western boundary of Caulfield racecourse by Mount Scopus, was Pawfield Park part of that purchase? Or will it remain a Council Park even after the Mount Scopus development? Answer:
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	Pawfield Park was not included in the land sale from the Melbourne Racing Club to Mount Scopus as the future campus for their primary and secondary schools. Council officers have met with Mount Scopus representatives and initiated discussions to improve accessibility to the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve in accordance with Council's adopted structure plan. No plans have been developed but Council remains committed to improving open space outcomes for the community.
Helen Fischer Bentleigh	Question 2: How many indigenous trees have been planted this year in Glen Eira, where have they been planted, and what species are they? By "indigenous" I mean trees local to the area. By "trees" I mean actual trees and not ground or middle layer plants, so please exclude those from your answer. Answer: Since April 2025, Council has scheduled the planting of nearly 800 advanced trees across the municipality, with completion expected by mid-November. Of the total trees being planted, 538 are native species, 106 are classified as indigenous - meaning they are native to the local Glen Eira area. The balance of the trees are non-native. These indigenous trees have been planted in various locations including nature strips and local parks. A full list of planting sites and species will be provided following the Council Meeting. Council recognises the importance of increasing both the proportion and diversity of indigenous trees. Limited availability of advanced stock remains a challenge. To address this, a partnership was established in late 2023 with a specialist nursery to grow a broader range of suitable indigenous species, with improved availability expected from the 2026 season onwards. Tree selection considers biodiversity alongside site-specific factors such as soil conditions, infrastructure, and intended outcomes (e.g. shade, wind protection, streetscape character). While Council will give priority to indigenous species, In some cases, non-indigenous species may be chosen to ensure long-term viability and community benefit. Thank you for your interest in Glen Eira's urban greening efforts.
Tamara De Silva Caulfield East	Question 3: There are a pair of masked lapwings nesting on Queens Avenue Reserve. They have been doing this for many years but was absent since construction of bike path so it's nice to see them back, Is it possible for two temporary signs to be placed from Tattenham Street to opposite the last house on Queens Avenue heading towards Neerim Road - birds nesting or wild life crossing

	- please slow down and ensure dogs are on leash. Could we have a sign for road traffic too at same spots with 40km speed for next few months until chicks can fly. I know masked lapwings are a common bird but they are relatively rare in Glen Eira. They would have been large numbers in Queens Avenue area prior to colonisation as it was a swamp. Thank you, Tam Answer: It's encouraging to see these native birds re-establishing themselves in the area, particularly given their historical presence prior to urban development. Our Parks Services team will review the location you've identified and assess the need for temporary signage. If deemed appropriate, signage will be installed to alert park users to the presence of nesting birds and to encourage responsible behaviour, including keeping dogs on leads. Regarding your suggestion for temporary road signage and a reduced speed limit of 40km/h: while we appreciate the intent to protect wildlife, changes to speed limits are governed by a regulatory process under Victorian road safety guidelines. These guidelines require a formal assessment of traffic conditions, risk factors, and broader community impact. In this instance, a temporary reduction in speed limit would not be justified under the current framework. We thank you again for your care and advocacy for local biodiversity, and we'll ensure the Parks Services team follows up appropriately.
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6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OR MEETINGS

Moved: Cr Young

Seconded: Cr Parasol

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 September 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. RECEPTION AND READING OF PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil

8. REPORTS BY DELEGATES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS

Cr Karslake – Local Government Working Group on Gambling (report in agenda)

Cr Rimbaldo – Metropolitan Transport Forum

Cr Zhang – Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting

9. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND RECORDS OF ASSEMBLY**9.1 ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Nil

9.2 Records of Assembly**9.2.1 RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES**

Moved: Cr Parasol

Seconded: Cr Karslake

That Council notes the Records of Assemblies for:

1. 9 September 2025 Assembly;
2. 16 September 2025 Assembly; and
3. 25 September 2025 Pre-meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. OFFICER REPORTS (AS LISTED)

10.1 2024–2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Moved: Cr Ragni

Seconded: Cr Esakoff

That Council adopts the *Glen Eira City Council Annual Report 2024–2025* (**Attachment 1**) and authorises the report to be published on Council's website as written with the following minor amendment:

- a. In the table on page 122 titled Councillor Allowances and Support, include beside Cr Anne-Marie Cade's name, the position of Mayor, and beside Cr Simone Zmood's name, the position of Deputy Mayor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2 STATE GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY CENTRE PROGRAM - SUBMISSION ON DRAFT PLANS FOR CARNEGIE, MURRUMBEENA AND HUGHESDALE

Moved: Cr Ragni**Seconded: Cr Karslake**

That Council:

1. Endorse officers to prepare a submission to the Activity Centre Program on the draft plans for Carnegie, Murrumbeena and Hughesdale by 24 October 2025 based on the principles outlined in this report and summarised as follows:
 - a) Concerns with the draft plans, including:
 - i) Lack of information and any details on planning controls (specific ordinances) which will implement the plans.
 - ii) Insufficient access to technical reports detailing how these heights, boundaries and maps were derived and justified. No technical reports on how increased development will impact streetscape, amenity, transport, parking, public realm and infrastructure.
 - iii) Infrastructure funding is unclear.
 - iv) Generally, not supportive of the “deemed to comply” approach for heights, setbacks and street wall heights which will be applied in the core and catchment areas.
 - v) Building heights, more specifically in outer core areas are excessive and will impact surrounding character.
 - vi) Inner and outer catchment area boundaries and impact on heritage and neighbourhood character overlays.
 - vii) Impact of increased development.
 - viii) Lack of detail on how the Carnegie Structure Plan will be used and translated into new planning controls.
 - b) Not supportive of proposed planning controls having no third party notice and review rights. There is a place for an appropriate level of community involvement in planning decisions in Glen Eira.
 - c) Concerns with the planning process, including community engagement, in particular:
 - i) Lack of consultation with Council prior to the announcements
 - ii) Timing of consultation, during school holiday period and religious holidays
 - iii) The haste in which such important work is being carried out.
2. Authorises the Manager City Futures to prepare and submit the final submission based on any further information provided on the Activity Centre Program prior to the end of the engagement period.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Extension of Speaking Time****Moved: Cr Ragni****Seconded: Cr Parasol**

That Cr Karslake be granted a one minute extension of speaking time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.3 OUR PLACE, OUR PLAN FINAL EXHIBITION PHASE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Moved: Cr Zhang**Seconded: Cr Esakoff**

That Council notes the Our Place, Our Plan final exhibition phase community engagement report (**Attachment 1**).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.4 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25/003 - OFFICER RESPONSE: PROCESS FOR PRESCRIBING AN AREA WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY AS A SMOKE-FREE ZONE

Moved: Cr Esakoff**Seconded: Cr Daniel**

That Council:

- 1) Notes the process for expanding Council's smoke-free zones, including possible areas such as:
 - a) Council parks and reserves;
 - b) Council land adjacent to Council community facilities (including libraries and pools);
 - c) Council land adjacent to privately run community facilities; and
 - d) Within 15 metres of any street frontage of a Victorian childcare centre, kindergarten, preschool, primary and secondary school (both public and private) and tertiary education facilities.
- 2) Directs Council officers to prepare a detailed report and recommendation on the options for expansion of the smoke-free zones for Council's consideration.

For the Motion: Crs Esakoff, Parasol and Daniel (3)

Against the Motion: Crs Zhang, Karslake, Rimbaldo, Young and Ragni (5)

LOST

Alternate Recommendation for Item 10.4 - Notice of Motion No. 25/003**Moved: Cr Rimbaldo****Seconded: Cr Young**

That Council:

1. does not proceed with expanding Council's smoke-free zones at this time, as proposed by the Notice of Motion No. 25/003.
2. Directs Council officers to prepare an evaluation of the current Smoke Free Zone Local Law to obtain a baseline measurement of its current effectiveness in achieving its objectives; and
3. Advocates to State Government to expand the areas where smoking and vaping is prohibited under the *Tobacco Act 1987* in the interests of protecting and promoting the health of the broader community.

For the Motion: Crs Zhang, Karslake, Rimbaldo, Young and Ragni (5)

Against the Motion: Crs Esakoff and Parasol (2)

Abstained: Cr Daniel (1)

CARRIED

10.5 QUARTERLY REPORTING OF COMMUNITY GRANTS

Moved: Cr Zhang**Seconded: Cr Young**

That Council receive and note the Quarterly Report from the Director Community Wellbeing, outlining community grants and awards approved for the period July to September 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.6 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE GLEN EIRA LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Moved: Cr Esakoff**Seconded: Cr Karslake**

That Council:

1. Endorses the appointment of the following Industry Skills-based members to the Glen Eira Leisure Advisory Committee:
 - Carl Partridge
 - Taya Phillips
 - Mick Cummins
2. Endorses the appointment of the following Community members to the Glen Eira Leisure Advisory Committee:
 - Kathryn Watt
 - Louise Russell
 - Rebecca Yien
3. Endorses the updated Terms of Reference for the Glen Eira Leisure Advisory Committee as shown in Attachment 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.7 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

Moved: Cr Rimbaldo**Seconded: Cr Ragni**

That Council adopts the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 19 September 2025 as shown in Attachment 1 of this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.8 CEO EMPLOYMENT MATTERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - CHAIR RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Parasol**Seconded: Cr Esakoff**

That Council appoints Dr Kathy Alexander as its Independent Chair of the CEO Employment Matters Committee and Advisor for a further 12-month term commencing 3 December 2025 in accordance with the terms set out in Attachment 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

12. ORDINARY BUSINESS**12.1 Requests for reports from a member of Council staff**

Nil

12.2 Right of reply

Nil

12.3 Notice of Motion / Notice of Rescission**12.3.1 Notice of Motion No. 25/005 - Dwelling Construction Pipeline in Glen Eira**

Moved: Cr Esakoff

Seconded: Cr Parasol

That Council:

1. Prepare a report on dwelling construction in Glen Eira. The report should include, but not be limited to, information on the following:
 - a. An update to the data supplied to Council at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 12 October 2021 regarding “New Dwelling Comparison”.
 - b. Data spanning a four-year period, incorporating planning and building statistics for single dwellings, dual occupancy dwellings and multi-dwelling developments.
 - c. Officer commentary on dwelling application trends over the past four years, including observations on changes in development patterns, contributing factors, and relevant insights drawn from professional experience.
2. Table the report at an Ordinary Council Meeting before the end of 2025; and
3. Proactively communicates the findings of the report to the community and relevant stakeholders.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It is recorded that Cr Young has declared a general conflict of interest to Item 12.3.2 and has vacated the Chamber at 9:12pm.

12.3.2 Notice of Motion No. 25/006 - Gambling Reform Advocacy

Moved: Cr Karlake

Seconded: Cr Daniel

That Council:

1. Withdraws its support for the State Government's mandatory account-based gambling trial, due to the lack of mandatory and binding loss limits as a feature of the trial.
2. Continues working with the Alliance for Gambling reform and urges the State Government to reinstate a mandatory precommitment pilot, with independent evaluation and a statewide roll-out plan, alongside complementary harm-reduction measures (e.g. reduced operating hours and fewer machines in high-harm areas).
3. Advocates to the State Government to recognise Council as an equally important stakeholder as industry, ensuring its involvement in all significant decision-making processes for the trial.
4. Advocates for other Councils to be included in the trial, importantly, those most impacted by gambling harm including other local government areas within the top 10 for gambling losses; and
5. Submits a joint letter of advocacy to State Government with other top 10 loss councils or trial site councils advocating for harm prevention to form a key part of the trial.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It is recorded that Cr Young re-entered the Chamber at 9:17pm.

12.4 Councillor questions

Nil

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.18pm.

Confirmed this 5 November 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting

Chairperson.....