



GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2025

MINUTES

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

Present

The Mayor, Councillor Simone Zmood
Councillor Arabella Daniel
Councillor Margaret Esakoff
Councillor Jane Karslake
Councillor Luca Ragni
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
Director Community Wellbeing, Jane Price
Director Planning and Place, Rosa Zouzoulas
Chief Financial Officer, John Vastianos
Manager Legal, Risk and Governance, Diana Vaynrib
Coordinator Councillor Business, Karling Colomiere
Councillor Business Officer, Kylie Webster
Councillor Business Officer, Mary Lennon

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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 Esakoff

Seconded: Cr Karslake

That the apology from Cr Parasol 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

There were four submissions received for public participation.

5. WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL

There were two Written Public Questions to Council received.

Tamara De Silva Caulfield East	Question 1: Tree canopy in Glen Eira has gone from 25% in 2000 to 12.5% in 2021. When is the next tree canopy survey being undertaken? Answer: Council's most recent canopy cover measurement was 12.5%, based on 2018 data. Over the past year, Council has updated our data,
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	<p>which officers are currently analysing to establish a new canopy cover figure. This updated measure will inform the refresh of the Urban Forest Strategy and will be reported to Council early in the new year. Moving forward, canopy cover progress will continue to be measured in line with the UFS Implementation Plan.</p>
<p>Tamara De Silva Caulfield East</p>	<p>Question 2: Tree canopy in Glen Eira has gone from 25% in 2000 to 12.5% in 2021. What is councils aim for % tree canopy cover across the municipality by 2030 and 2040?</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>Council's Urban Forest Strategy sets a long-term goal to increase municipal tree canopy cover from 12.5% to 22% by 2040.</p> <p>Interim progress will be monitored every five years, with actions prioritised through the UFS Implementation Plan.</p> <p>Achieving this target requires collaboration with the community and other land managers, as Council land represents only 29% of the municipality. For Council-managed land specifically, targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streets: increase canopy cover from 15.6% to 18% • Parklands: increase from 14% to 25% • Council-owned car parks: at least 25% canopy cover

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OR MEETINGS

Moved: Cr Rimbaldo

Seconded: Cr Esakoff

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 5 November 2025 and the Special Council Meeting held on 18 November 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 Zhang – Municipal Association of Victoria board 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 Esakoff

Seconded: Cr Daniel

That Council notes the Records of Assemblies for:

1. 21 October 2025 Assembly;
2. 28 October 2025 Assembly; and
3. 5 November 2025 Pre-meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. OFFICER REPORTS (AS LISTED)

10.1 99 BREWER ROAD BENTLEIGH - AMENDMENTS TO CURRENT VCAT PROCEEDING AND CAR PARKING CONSENT MATTER

Moved: Cr Daniel

Seconded: Cr Rimbaldo

1. That Council resolves to oppose the amendments to the current VCAT proceeding P683/2025. Council's grounds for opposing P683/2025 are to match the previous refusal grounds for the GE/DP-33820/2020/B Application, with the following changes made (additional grounds in *italics*, deleted grounds ~~striketrough~~):

- (a) The proposed operating hours for the food and drink premises are inappropriate and fail to address the acoustic and overall amenity impacts towards the prevailing residential context. The application therefore does not meet the following decision guidelines of the Industrial Zone 3:

- (i) The Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- (ii) Interface with non-industrial areas.

~~The proposed onsite car parking allocated to the food and drink premises is insufficient. The proposed car parking demand, when factoring in the existing parking reductions approved under the permit, will have an unreasonable impact on the existing parking availability within the surrounding residential streets, failing to satisfy the provisions of Clause 52.06 (Car Parking).~~

- (b) The proposed operating hours for the food and drink premises ~~and medical centre~~ are unsatisfactory due to the compounding vehicle movements and parking overflow when factoring in the existing parking reductions approved under the permit and the current site context.
 - (c) The proposed changes to condition 9 to increase the number of children that may be present on the land at any one time are unsatisfactory due to the compounding increase of vehicle movements and parking overflow when factoring in the existing parking reductions approved under the permit and the current site context.
 - (d) *The proposed use of the land for an indoor recreation facility is inappropriate and fails to address the overall amenity impacts towards the prevailing residential context. The application therefore does not satisfy the objectives of the Industrial 1 Zone or applicable decision guidelines of the Glen Eira Planning Scheme:*
 - (i) *The cumulative impact of the additional land use, with no reduction to the permitted operations of all other uses, as well as the additional times where the use will operate well beyond the reasonable expectations for a site within a predominately residential context, is not reasonable and likely to result in unacceptable impacts to the amenity of the area.*
 - (ii) *Individually, the uses would be classified as a considerable change to the activity within this area, collectively it becomes a large scale collection of uses and the introduction of the further land uses will only exacerbate this, well beyond what is reasonably expected in this location.*
 - (iii) *There is insufficient support for such an increase to the intensity of the activities to occur on the subject site, noting that outside of industrial uses, supplementary uses of a small scale are sought by the zone.*
 - (e) *The proposed operating hours for the indoor recreational facilities are unsatisfactory due to the compounding vehicle movements when factoring in the existing parking reductions approved under the permit and the current site context.*
 - (f) *The proposal undermines the consent agreement reached at the compulsory conference in relation to Application for Review No. P454/2021, as it seeks to win back something foregone at the compulsory conference with respect to the proposed indoor recreation facility.*
 - (g) *Insufficient information and evidence has been provided with the application to demonstrate that the proposed indoor recreation facility will not have an adverse effect on the amenity of the area, nor provide a reasonable purpose for undermining the consent agreement reached at the compulsory conference in relation to Application for Review No. P454/2021.*
2. That Council resolves to refuse the car parking consent matter lodged in accordance with Clause 52.06-6 of the Scheme, on the following grounds:

- (a) The applicant has not demonstrated that the on-site car parking provisions are satisfactory having regard to the demand to be generated by the indoor recreation facility, other activities on the land and subsequent intensification of demand for car parking in residential streets.
- (b) The car parking provided for the indoor recreation facility will adversely impact the amenity of the locality, as all surplus demand is not able to be accommodated within the site will be required on local residential street.
- (c) The applicant has not sought to consolidate car parking facilities to minimise off-site parking demand and subsequent amenity impacts on the surrounding residential context.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2 LEAF LANE - 85-87 KOORNANG ROAD CARNEGIE

Moved: Cr Ragni

Seconded: Cr Daniel

That Council:

1. resolves to cease and abandon all remaining actions in relation to the recommendations dated 4 February 2025 concerning the statutory processes to declare the laneway at 85-87 Koornang Road, Carnegie (Leaf Lane), to be a public highway under the *Local Government Act 1989* on the basis that Council is satisfied that Leaf Lane is a public highway at common law;
2. resolves to write to all submitters advising of Council's resolution;
3. directs the Chief Executive Officer to instruct Council's external solicitors to lodge an application for statutory vesting of Leaf Lane pursuant to clause 1(5) Schedule 5 of the *Road Management Act 2004* on Council's behalf under section 59 of the *Transfer of Land Act 1958*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.3 UPDATED FLOOD MAPS FOR GLEN EIRA - SUBMISSION TO MELBOURNE WATER

Moved: Cr Rimbaldo**Seconded: Cr Daniel**

That Council:

1. Endorses the submission on the updated flood mapping for Glen Eira which is provided in Attachment 1 of this report.
2. Authorises the Manager City Futures to make minor changes to the submission, only if new information comes to hand, provided the changes do not alter the intent of the submission.
3. Supports the lodgement of the submission with Melbourne Water prior to 5 December 2025.
4. Calls for an Officer Report in relation to drainage mitigation works that have been completed across Glen Eira. The report should include, but not be limited to, information on the following:
 - a. Recent and planned drainage and flood mitigation works undertaken by the Glen Eira City Council across the Municipality.
 - b. Melbourne Water's capital investment in flood mitigation works in or affecting Glen Eira over the past five years.
 - c. Council's advocacy actions to date regarding flood mitigation funding.
5. Request the report be tabled at an Ordinary Council Meeting in the first quarter for 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.4 DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022-25 - ANNUAL REVIEW

Moved: Cr Zmood**Seconded: Cr Karlake**

That Council:

1. Notes the completion of the actions for the final year of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022-2025; and
2. Notes that a copy of this report be provided to the Secretary of the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions as required under section 68A(3)(b) of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (Vic).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.5 DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2029

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

That Council:

- a) Adopts the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-2029;
- b) Provides the Secretary with a copy of the Plan; and
- c) Publishes an evaluation of its implementation of the Plan in its annual report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.6 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 25/004 - OFFICER RESPONSE: DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM

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

That Council:

1. Commits to developing a stand-alone two-year antisemitism strategy, informed by best practice models and community consultation, as a short-term response and foundation for a future social cohesion strategy.
2. Notes the current actions and partnerships in place to address antisemitism and promote social cohesion, including the establishment and ongoing work of the Glen Eira Social Cohesion Taskforce.
3. Advocates for additional resources and partnerships to strengthen community resilience, including funding for safety infrastructure, education programs and community engagement initiatives.
4. Commits to ongoing monitoring of antisemitism trends and community feedback, and to reviewing the strategy's effectiveness and alignment with broader inclusion goals.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.7 NOTICE OF MOTION NO.25/001 - OFFICER RESPONSE: EVALUATION OF NET ANNUAL VALUE VS CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE RATING METHODOLOGY

Moved: Cr Karslake**Seconded: Cr Zhang**

That Council:

1. note the findings of this report, including comparative analysis, modelling outcomes, and implementation considerations;
2. maintains the current NAV methodology unless significant changes in property use patterns or legislation occur; and
3. continues to monitor development trends and community feedback to inform future Revenue and Rating Plans.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.8 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2025

Moved: Cr Zhang**Seconded: Cr Karslake**

That Council notes the Financial Management Report for the period ending 31 October 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.9 ROADS AND RESERVE DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE POLICY 2025

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

That Council:

1. adopts the updated Roads and Reserves Discontinuance and Sale Policy 2025 shown as Attachment 2 to the report; and
2. consequently, revokes the existing Roads and Reserve Discontinuance and Sale Policy 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.10 RESPECTFUL INTERACTION POLICY

Moved: Cr Karslake**Seconded: Cr Young**

That Council:

1. adopts the proposed Respectful Interaction Policy **Attachment 1**;
2. on adoption of the proposed Respectful Interaction Policy, revokes the current GEL Customer Behaviour Policy **Attachment 2**; and
3. Adopt the updated Complaints Handling Policy **Attachment 3**.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.11 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY

Moved: Cr Daniel**Seconded: Cr Zhang**That Council adopts the Artificial Intelligence Policy (**Attachment 1**).**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10.12 PROPOSED 2026 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATES

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

That Council:

- 1) adopts the following Glen Eira City Council Ordinary Council meeting dates for 2026:
 - Tuesday 3 February 2026
 - Tuesday 24 February 2026
 - Tuesday 17 March 2026
 - Tuesday 7 April 2026
 - Tuesday 28 April 2026
 - Tuesday 19 May 2026
 - Tuesday 9 June 2026
 - Tuesday 30 June 2026
 - Tuesday 21 July 2026
 - Tuesday 11 August 2026
 - Tuesday 1 September 2026
 - Tuesday 22 September 2026
 - Tuesday 13 October 2026
 - Wednesday 4 November 2026
 - Tuesday 24 November 2026, and
 - Tuesday 15 December 2026.
- 2) notes that the above listed meetings are to be held wholly in person at 7.30pm in the Council Chambers, Corner Hawthorn & Glen Eira Roads, Caulfield, unless indicated that a relevant Council meeting be conducted wholly by electronic means under Rule 76 of the Glen Eira City Council Governance Rules.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.13 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS TO THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE, CEO EMPLOYMENT MATTERS COMMITTEE AND EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

Moved: Cr Zmood**Seconded: Cr Ragni**

That Council appoints Councillors to the Audit and Risk committee; the CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee and External Committees as follows:

1. Audit and Risk Committee:
 - Mayor, Cr Zmood
 - Deputy Mayor, Cr Zhang
 - (Substitute) Cr Ragni
 - (Substitute) Cr Karlake
2. CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
 - Mayor, Cr Zmood
 - Cr Karlake
 - Cr Young
 - Cr Esakoff
3. External Committees:

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)

- Cr Li Zhang
- (Substitute) Cr Esakoff

Metropolitan Transport Forum (MTF)

- Cr Kay Rimbaldo
- (Substitute) Cr Daniel

Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA)

- Cr Arabella Daniel
- (Substitute) Cr Karlake

Local Government Working Group on Gambling (LWGOG)

- Cr Young
- (Substitute) Cr Ragni

VLGA (Victorian Local Government Association)

- Cr Young
- (Substitute) Cr Karlake

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. 25/007 - RECOGNISING OUR FIRST FEMALE COUNCILLOR**

Moved: Cr Karlake

Seconded: Cr Young

That Council:

1. formally acknowledge and recognise Gladys (Wallace) Machin as the first female Councillor to be elected and first female Mayor, in the then City of Caulfield;
2. request that Council Officers:
 - a. hang a portrait of Gladys Machin in a prominent position of the Town Hall to honour her landmark achievement and service to the community;
 - b. host an event for the unveiling of this portrait to occur as part of the International Women's Day programming for 2026, with invitees to include the Glen Eira Historical Society, Local MPs, former female Glen Eira Councillors and if possible, make contact with any of the living descendants of Gladys Machin in order that they may be invited to the unveiling event.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Extension of Speaking Time

Moved: Cr Zmood

Seconded: Cr Daniel

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12.3.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25/008 - INCREASE FUNDING FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES**Moved: Cr Daniel****Seconded: Cr Esakoff**

That Council:

1. Notes the vital role neighbourhood houses play in supporting social connection, lifelong learning, and community wellbeing across Glen Eira and Victoria.
2. Recognises that neighbourhood houses provide essential services, programs, and support to diverse community members, including vulnerable and isolated residents.
3. Calls on the Victorian Government to increase recurrent funding for neighbourhood houses statewide, ensuring these vital community hubs can continue to deliver and expand their services.
4. Writes to the Premier, local Members of Parliament, and the peak body Neighbourhood House Victoria, advocating for increased and sustainable funding.
5. Writes to the Hon. Ros Spence, Minister for Carers and Volunteers, supporting Neighbourhood Houses Victoria's 'Keep Our Doors Open' advocacy appeal to the Victorian Government for greater support for staff and the sector, with particular emphasis on unfunded neighbourhood houses.
6. Include reference in the correspondence cited in Items 4 and 5 above, that Glen Eira City Council has recently endorsed an increase in operational funding, along with the continuation of subsidised rental assistance and peppercorn lease arrangements, where applicable, for the four neighbourhood houses operating within the municipality.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**12.4 Councillor questions**

Nil

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.49pm.

Confirmed this 16 December 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Chairperson.....