



**MINUTES OF THE
HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING**

TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2013

Table of Contents

Item Number		Page Number
1.	PRESENT.....	1
2.	APOLOGIES	1
3.	DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	1
4.	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING	2
5.	CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS	3
	5.1 PROPOSED 2013/2014 BUDGET AND DRAFT 2013-2017 COUNCIL PLAN	3
6.	CLOSE OF MEETING.....	11

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS
COMMITTEE OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE,
350 HIGH ST, PRESTON ON TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2013**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 7.04 PM

1. PRESENT

Cr Tim Laurence (Mayor) (Chairperson)
Cr Vince Fontana
Cr Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Trent McCarthy
Cr Steven Tsitas
Cr Angela Villella
Cr Oliver Walsh
Cr Julie Williams

Council Officers

Rasiah Dev – Chief Executive
Daniel Freer – Director City Design and Environment
Michael Ballock – Director City Works and Development
Paul Crapper – Director Corporate and Business Services
Katrina Knox – Group Manager Community Services
Jacinta Stevens – Manager Corporate Governance
Katia Croce – Acting Council Business Coordinator
Jody Brodribb – Governance Officer

2. APOLOGIES

It was noted that Cr. Li is currently on leave of absence.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

**4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS
HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

COMMITTEE DECISION

MOVED: Cr. V. Fontana
SECONDED: Cr. J. Williams

THAT the Minutes of the Hearing of Submissions Committee meetings held on 12 June 2012 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

5. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

5.1 PROPOSED 2013/2014 BUDGET AND DRAFT 2013-2017 COUNCIL PLAN

AUTHOR: Chief Financial Officer

REVIEWED BY: Director Corporate and Business Services

SUMMARY:

At its meeting on 6 May 2013, Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the proposed Budget 2013/2014 and the Draft 2013-2017 Council Plan at a meeting of Council to be held on 17 June 2013. Further notice has been given to adopt the proposed Budget 2013/14 at a meeting of Council to be held on 1 July 2013.

Those persons wishing to make a submission in relation to the proposed Budget 2013/2014 and/or 2013-17 draft Council Plan were invited to do so by Wednesday 5 June 2013 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 7.00pm on 11 June 2013.

Statutory procedures under the Local Government Act 1989 have been completed and twenty-seven submissions have been received for the proposed 2013/2014 budget and two submissions received for the draft 2013-17 Council plan.

Nine of the submitters have requested to be heard in support of their submission (Eight related to the proposed 2013/2014 Budget and one for the draft 2013-17 Council Plan). The submitters have been invited to attend this meeting of the Hearing of Submissions Committee.

CONSULTATION:

Community Information Sessions were held on 21 and 23 May 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council officers prepare two reports for the Council Meeting:

- on 1 July 2013 addressing the written submissions received and verbal presentations heard in respect of the proposed Budget 2013/2014.
- on 17 June 2013 addressing the written submissions received and verbal presentations heard in respect of the draft 2013-2017 Council Plan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: Cr. G. Greco
SECONDED: Cr. V. Fontana

THAT

- (1) Council officers prepare two reports for the Council Meeting:
 - on 1 July 2013 addressing the written submissions received and verbal presentations heard in respect of the proposed Budget 2013/2014.
 - on 17 June 2013 addressing the written submissions received and verbal presentations heard in respect of the draft 2013-2017 Council Plan.
- (2) Council writes to all submitters and speakers to thank them for their submissions.

CARRIED

REPORT**INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

At its meeting on 6 May 2013, Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the proposed Budget 2013/2013 at a meeting of Council to be held on 17 June 2013. . Further notice has been given to adopt the proposed Budget 2013/14 at a meeting of Council to be held on 1 July 2013. A public notice was placed in The Age of 8 May 2013 with copies in the Northcote Leader and Preston Leader the following week.

Those persons wishing to make a submission in relation to the proposed Budget 2013/2014 were invited to do so by Wednesday 5 June 2013 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 7.00pm on 11 June 2013.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION**2013/14 Proposed Budget**

The 2013/14 proposed budget is currently reporting an underlying surplus of \$44,000. Any amendment to the proposed budget based on the submissions would need to ensure that an underlying surplus is retained.

Some of the submissions received are de facto community grants and so should be referred to the Community Grants program for consideration. Internal audit are currently reviewing the Community Grants process to ensure adherence to good governance practices.

At the time of preparing this report (Thursday 6 June 2013), twenty-seven written submissions have been received in relation to the proposed Budget 2013/2014. The following eight submitters have requested to be heard in support of their written submissions:

- Peter Gome (Interim CEO Football Federation Victoria)
- Roy Tate (Secretary Springthorpe Retirement Village)
- Irene Papdopoulos (Ratepayer)
- Chahid Kairouz (Ratepayer)
- Jack Kelly (Darebin City Bass Band)
- Committee member, Northcote Golf Club
- Barbary Clarke (Australian Lesbian Health Coalition)
- Darebin's Sexuality, Sex and Gender Advisory Committee

Copies of all submissions have been circulated separately to Councillors for their information.

Submissions received

	Submitter	Issue	Budget Implication	Management Comment
1	Amy and Mark Howard	Construction of laneway rear of South Street Preston	\$29,680	This was considered by Council on the 20 May 2013 and referred to the 2013/14 mid-year review for consideration
2	Boris Bogeski			
3	Ilija Trencovski			
4	Marlene and Colin Hood			
5	Trevor Mucchi			
6	Raoul Viotto (with support from Armando Viotto, Luciano De Maria Brendan Ferguson, residents of Young Street)	Construction of laneway rear of 19-29 Young Street Preston	Budget not determined	Further investigation required to determine appropriateness and budget implications.
7	Roy Tate Secretary Springthorpe Retirement Village	Reduced rates for retirement Villages within Darebin	\$98,102 (rate revenue reduction based on 25% discount)	There are 516 retirement units in Darebin with a CIV of \$160,029 million and rate revenue of \$392,410.
8	Andrew Brion	Disapproval of the 5.9% rate increase.	n/a	3.9% of the rate increase funds increases in salary and CPI. 2% of the rate increase is for the creation of an infrastructure fund.
9	Irene Papdopoulos	Objects to higher rates for vacant shops	\$340,305 (additional rate revenue contributed)	The objective of the higher differential rate is to promote responsible land management and
10	Vito Silvaggio	Objects to higher rates for vacant shops		

	Submitter	Issue	Budget Implication	Management Comment
11	Chahid Kairouz	Objects to higher rates for vacant shops	by the higher rate)	encourage economic development.
12	Phillip Goad Hon. Secretary Northcote Golf Club	Objects to realignment of the fifth and sixth holes at the Northcote Golf course.	n/a	The proposed budget includes \$220,000 for Northcote Golf Course protection fencing and \$30,000 for infrastructure upgrades. On the 20 May 2013 Council requested officers explore safety issues in relation to holes 7, 8 & 9.
13	Maria Berry Government Relationship Manager Football Federation Victoria	Request funding of \$1,350,000 for the development of a <i>Home of Community Football</i> .	\$1,350,000	The proposed budget includes \$8.5 million for open space infrastructure projects.
14	Monica Borci President Lakeside Netball Club	Request additional funding to support fee reduction.	\$15,335	The proposed budget includes \$40,100 to support female participation in sport.
15	Paul Dupes	Objects to Bus and tram stop and shelter improvement' \$10,000; On line streaming of Council Meetings' \$15,000 Requests the introduction of a higher rate for properties where construction has commenced and then ceased for several years. Requesting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least \$200k p.a. towards public security. • \$50k p.a. towards program to eradicate hoon drivers 	\$250,000	The proposed budget includes over \$150,000 for public safety projects including safe travel program; street light maintenance; and safe school travel programs. Funding of \$21,071 for the Not so Fast program has been included in the proposed budget. This program is aimed at improving driver behaviour.
16	Melissa Grimes Local Government Facilities Coordinator Bicycle Network	Consideration of Bicycle Network top priorities.		Funding of \$1.36 million has been included in the budget for cycling infrastructure projects.

	Submitter	Issue	Budget Implication	Management Comment
17	Mat Hardy	Copenhagen-style bike lane on Westgarth Street, between High Street and Merri Creek	Budget not determined	
18	Caroline Clarke Member Bicycle Victoria	Thank you for investing in cycling in Darebin.	n/a	
19	Darebin Environmental Reference Group (DERG)	Congratulates council for its support of environmental initiatives. Looking for support for energy efficient street lighting.	n/a	Energy efficient street lighting will be considered in the 2014/15 budget or 2013/14 mid-year budget process.
20	Jane Morton and Carol Ride Darebin Climate Action Now	Requesting the \$900,000 proposed for energy efficient projects be used to support a solar and energy efficiency scheme for low income households and to fund energy projects with a payback period of under 10 years.	n/a	Council will be considering the suggestions from this submission and other projects prior to committing any of the proposed \$900,000 budget for energy efficient projects.
21	Reuben van Bommel-Misrachi	Request funding for cycling projects and energy efficient projects, details of the Water Sensitive Urban Design budget and would like council to undertake projects to deter car use and lobby against East West link.	Budget not determined	Over \$4.6 million has been allocated to cycling and environmental projects in the proposed 2013/14 capital works budget.
22	Rebecca Hickmott President Darebin Women's Sports Club	Request funding for the upgrade/ redevelopment of GE Gayther Pavilion at WH Robinson Reserve.	Budget not determined	The pavilion will continued to be maintained with a request for design funding likely in 2015/16 budget.
23	Danny Gruevski Preston Lions Football Club	Request funding for upgrade of flood lighting at BT Connor Reserve.	Budget not determined	State Government funding will be sought for this project. If successful, then the project will be undertaken in 2014/15.
24	Darebin's Sexuality, Sex and Gender Advisory Committee	Request funding of programs to raise the visibility of the LGBTI Community and \$30,000 for a Rainbow shed and the inclusion of an additional key performance indicator.	\$30,000 +	Funding of \$4.1 million has been included in the proposed budget for Community Wellbeing and Equity and Diversity programs and initiatives.

	Submitter	Issue	Budget Implication	Management Comment
25	Jack Kelly Darebin City Brass Band	Requesting \$60,000 to purchase a set of 4 tubas.	\$60,000	These submissions should be referred to the Community Grants program.
26	Barbary Clarke Australian Lesbian Health Coalition	Request funding of \$9,050 for a research project	\$9,050	
27	Chris Patton Controller – Northcote Unit Victoria State Emergency Service	Request funding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$58,204 to purchase a vehicle • \$40,000 to construct a garage • \$85,000 to extend the existing headquarters 	\$183,204	The proposed budget includes funding of \$9,000 to support the work of the SES.

2013-2017 Draft Council Plan

At the time of preparing this report (Thursday 6 June 2013), two written submissions has been received in relation to the draft 2013-2017 Council Plan. The following submitter has requested to be heard in support of their written submissions:

- David Redfearn (Board member Inner Community Foundation)

Submissions received

Submitter	Issue
Darebin Environmental Reference Group (DERG)	Several amendments suggested to the plan.
Sharon Nathani Executive Officer Inner North Community Foundation	Requests Council to acknowledge Inner North Community Foundation in the plan and work with the foundation.

Consideration of Submissions

In accordance with sections 129 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, the Council is required to take into consideration all submissions received in relation to the proposed Budget and after it has made a decision, notify all persons who have made a submission of the decision and the reasons for the decision.

Council has established the Hearing of Submissions Committee to hear and report to Council on submissions received by Council under section 223 of the Act.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

Nil

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Nil

Other

Nil

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FUTURE ACTIONS

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, two reports in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of the Council scheduled for

- 1 July 2013 – for the 2013/14 proposed budget and
- 17 June 2013 – for the 2013-2017 draft Council Plan.

The reports will include a management response to the issues raised in the submissions.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Minutes 6 May 2013

Public Advertisements in The Age on 8 May 2013 and the Preston and Northcote Leaders on 14 and 15 May 2013 respectively

PRESENTATIONS

- (1) *Peter Gome on behalf of Football Federation Victoria*

In support of the written submission for funding for the development of the 'Home of Community Football' at the John Cain Memorial Park including the installation of lights.

(2) Roy Tate on behalf of the Springthorpe Retirement Village

In support of his written submission objecting to the proposed differential rates to be applied to the Springthorpe Retirement Village.

(3) Mr Papdopoulos (on behalf of Irene Papdopoulos (rate payer))

Mrs Papdopoulos' son spoke on behalf of his mother in support of her submission objecting to the differential rate to be applied to her commercial property.

(4) Jack Kelly and Chris Lee on behalf of the Darebin City Brass Band

In support of the submission by the Darebin City Brass Band requesting funding to purchase 4 new tuba's.

(5) Phil Goad on behalf of Northcote Golf Club

In support of the submission requesting funding for the realignment of the fifth and sixth holes at the Northcote Golf Club.

(6) Barbary Clarke on behalf of the Australian Lesbian Health Coalition

In support of the written submission for funding to undertake research into the effects of discrimination and violence faced by lesbians.

(7) Sam Walsh on behalf of the Darebin Sexuality, Sex and Gender Advisory Committee

In support of the written submission for adding a Key Performance Indicator to the Council Budget to measure improvements to inclusion and support of the LGBTI community and for funding for a range of programs and projects to enable the implementation of the SSGD Action Plan.

(8) Chris Patton on behalf of the VICSES Northcote Unit

In support of the written submission requesting funding for the purchase of a new vehicle, the construction of a garage and extensions to the existing SES headquarters.

(9) Jane Morton, on behalf of Darebin Climate Action Now

In support of her written submission requesting the \$900,000 proposed for solar efficient projects be used to support a solar efficiency scheme for low income households and energy projects with a payback period of under ten years.

6. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.05pm