



Brighton Council

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE BRIGHTON COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
COUNCIL OFFICES, 1 TIVOLI ROAD, OLD BEACH
AT 5.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY,
21 MARCH 2023**

PRESENT: Cr Gray (Mayor); Cr Curran (Deputy Mayor); Cr De La Torre; Cr Geard; Cr Irons; Cr McMaster; Cr Murtagh; Cr Owen and Cr Whelan

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Dryburgh (General Manager); Mr G Davoren (Deputy General Manager); Mr C Pearce-Rasmussen (Manager Asset Services); Ms J Banks (Governance Manager) and Mr D Allingham (Manager Development Services).

1. Acknowledgement of Country

2. Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 Confirmation of minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 21 February 2023:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Geard seconded that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 21 February 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

2.2 Confirmation of minutes of the Planning Authority meeting of 14 March 2023:

Cr Irons moved, Cr McMaster seconded that the Minutes of the Planning Authority meeting of 14 March 2023 be confirmed and amended to include Cr Geard's name as being Present.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

2.3 Confirmation of minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 14 March 2023:

Cr Geard moved, Cr Murtagh seconded that the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 14 March 2023 be confirmed and amended to include Cr Geard's name as being Present.

CARRIED

3. Apologies and Applications for Leave of Absence

All members were present.

4. Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the chairperson of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

In accordance with Section 48(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, it is the responsibility of councillors to then notify the general manager, in writing, the details of any interest(s) that the councillor has declared within 7 days of the declaration.

Cr Gray declared an interest in Item 14.2

5. Public Question Time and Deputations

There was no requirement for public question time.

6. Transfer of Agenda Items

According to regulation 8 (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, agenda items must be conducted in the order in which they are set out in the agenda of that meeting, unless the council by absolute majority, or the council committee by simple majority, determines otherwise.

7. Petitions

According to regulation 57 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a person may lodge a petition with a council by presenting it to a councillor or the general manager. A general manager who has been presented with a petition or receives a petition under subsection (1)(b) is to table the petition at the next ordinary meeting of the council.

8. Reports from Council

8.1 Mayor's Communications

The Mayor's communications were as follows:-

- 22/2 Official Sod Turning for Brighton High School
- 22/2 Citizenship Awards Ceremony
- 23/2 Meeting with Mark Shelton MP
- 27/2 South Central Sub-Region Meeting
- 6/3 Briefing and Tour of Bryn Estyn Water Treatment Plant
- 7/3 Opening of Interpretation Panels at Brighton Army Camp
- 7/3 Council Workshop
- 14/3 Council Workshop
- 14/3 Finance Committee meeting
- 14/3 Planning Authority Meeting
- 15/3 Meeting with Deputy General Manager and Tasmanian Aboriginal Legal Service
- 16/3 Mayors workshop – Launceston
- 17/3 LGAT General Meeting with General Manager

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Murtagh seconded that the report be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

8.2 Reports from Council Representatives

Cr Geard advised that he met with the Poultry Club recently.

Cr Curran was invited and spoke with Grade ¾ Brighton Primary School students re 'what Council does!'

Cr Irons moved, Cr McMaster seconded that the reports be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

8.3 Miscellaneous Correspondence

- Letter to Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Michael Ferguson MP from Mayor L Gray dated 17th February 2023 regarding public transport issues.

9. Notification of Council Workshops

In accordance with the requirements of Section 8(2)(c) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Two (2) Council workshops had been held since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

A workshop was held on the 7th March 2023 at 4.30 p.m. to discuss the NRM Strategy.

Cr Gray, Cr De La Torre, Cr Geard, Cr Irons, Cr McMaster and Cr Owen were in attendance.

A workshop was held on the 14th March 2023 at 4.35 p.m. to discuss the South Brighton Master Plan.

Cr Gray, Cr Murtagh, Cr Owen, Cr McMaster, Cr De La Torre (via Teams); Cr Irons (4.50pm); Cr Whelan (5.00pm) and Cr Geard (5.10pm) were in attendance.

10. Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

11. Consideration of Supplementary Items to the Agenda

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council, by absolute majority may approve the consideration of a matter not appearing on the agenda, where the General Manager has reported:

- (a) the reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda, and
- (b) that the matter is urgent, and
- (c) that advice has been provided under Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

DECISION:

The General Manager advised that there were no supplementary agenda items.

12. Reports from Committees

12.1 Finance Committee - 14 March 2023

The recommendations of the Finance Committee of 14 March 2023 were submitted to Council for adoption.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Geard seconded that the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting of 14 March 2023 be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	

Cr Geard
Cr Gray
Cr Irons
Cr McMaster
Cr Murtagh
Cr Owen
Cr Whelan

13. Council Acting as a Planning Authority

In accordance with the provisions of Part 2 Regulation 25 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the intention of the Council to act as a Planning Authority pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* is to be noted. In accordance with Regulation 25, the Council will act as a planning authority in respect to those matters appearing under Item 13 on this agenda, inclusive of any supplementary items.

There were no planning items for this meeting.

14. Reports from Officers

14.1 Draft Strategic Plan 2023-2033

Author: General Manager (James Dryburgh)

Background

Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires that Council prepare a strategic plan for the area for at least a 10 year period. Section 70E stipulates that it must be reviewed every four years.

Section 68 of the *Act* stipulates that once drafted, Council is to invite submissions in respect of the plan and consider these before final adoption.

It is considered good practice to undertake this work early in the term of a new council, which ensures that Strategic Plans run roughly in tandem with the term of a council.

The previous Strategic Plan “Strategy-on-a-page - Brighton Council 2019-2029” was workshopped and endorsed in 2019. This strategic plan was prepared prior to the extensive process for Council’s 2050 Vision, which involved significant research, extensive public consultation and workshopping by council. The 2050 Vision was endorsed and published in February 2021.

Community consultation on the draft Strategic Plan has occurred with an advertisement seeking any submissions and the draft Plan also uploaded to Council’s website to seek community feedback from the 23 February 2023 to the 15 March 2023. Any feedback received during this consultation period would be considered by Council prior to final adoption of the Strategic Plan 2023-2033.

It is advised that nil submissions or feedback from members of the public were made during the public consultation period.

Consultation

Senior Management Team; Public Consultation

Risk Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan should be reviewed at least every four years.

Social Implications

Captured within the Strategic Plan.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

Captured within the Strategic Plan.

Economic Implications

Captured within the Strategic Plan.

Other Issues

Nil.

Assessment

Given Council has a long-term vision with its 2050 Vision it is sensible and good for public understanding to continue with the simple 'strategy-on-a-page' model for Council's new Strategic Plan.

The strategic plan has been reviewed to ensure that it now aligns properly to the 2050 Vision. Each of the 36 aspirations within the six focus areas of the 2050 Vision are now considered to be broadly captured within the draft Strategic Plan. The draft Strategic Plan is also now updated to ensure alignment with a contemporary understanding of council and of the Brighton community.

Council's values have been updated in the new Strategic Plan. Council staff were surveyed about values and were able to suggest and rate different values. The four values presented as Council's core values represent the synthesis of this deep staff input and the values that they bring and aspire to bring to their work and to our organisation.

It is widely accepted that if employees have had input into the agreed values of an organisation they are far more likely 'buy-in' to them – to adhere to them and to encourage others to adhere to them. The goals and strategies also now fully align with the values.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. That Council not endorse the Strategic Plan 2023-33.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorse the Strategic Plan 2023-33.

DECISION:

Cr Owen moved, Cr Whelan seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

Cr Gray declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting 5.49pm.
Cr Curran took the Chair.

14.2 LGAT 2023 Elections - President & General Management Committee

Author: General Manager (James Dryburgh)

Background

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission are conducting the 2023 election for the positions of President and six (6) members of the General Management Committee for a two-year term in accordance with the rules of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) adopted at the AGM of the Association on 30 June 2021.

Council can only nominate a Councillor within their own electoral district and population category. Brighton Council is within the 'Southern Electoral District with a population of less than 20,000' category (Brighton; Central Highlands; Derwent Valley; Glamorgan Spring Bay; Huon Valley; Southern Midlands; Sorell and Tasman).

Mayor L Gray has consulted with all Councillors and indicated to them his intent to nominate for the position of LGAT President and will be seeking Council's support.

Nominations are invited from LGAT members for the following positions:-

- Nomination of one (1) elected Councillor for the position of President of the Local Government Association of Tasmania; and
- Nomination of one (1) elected Councillor for the position of Committee Member of the General Management Committee.

The election timetable is detailed below for information:-

Nominations open: Monday, 27 February 2023

Nominations close:..... 5:00 pm – Wednesday, 19 April 2023

Ballot material posted (if a ballot is required): Monday, 24 April 2023

Close of postal ballot: 10:00 am - Thursday, 15 June 2023

Declaration of the result: Thursday, 15 June 2023

Strategic Plan:

S4.2: Be well-governed, providing quality service and accountability to our community.

S4.3: Ensure strong engagements and relationships to shape the agenda and advocate for our community.

Social Implications:

N/A.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications:

N/A.

Economic Implications:

N/A.

Other Issues:

Nil.

Assessment:

Nominations must be received by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 19 April 2023.

Options:

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Other.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council support Mayor L Gray and his nomination for the position of LGAT President.

DECISION:

Cr Murtagh moved, Cr Geard seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

Cr Gray returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair at 5.54pm

14.3 Brighton Council Emission Reduction Targets

Author: Climate Change Resilience Officer (Alison Johnson)

Authorised: Development Services Manager (David Allingham)

Background

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement on Brighton Council's emission reduction targets.

Brighton Council recognises that significant emission reductions are urgently required. A corporate emission reduction target was set in 2021 to reach zero emissions by 2040 and an interim target of a 30% reduction by 2030 across Council operations.

In 2021-22, Council's emissions reduced by 70% (based on 2021 levels), exceeding the existing corporate greenhouse gas emissions interim target.

The corporate greenhouse gas emissions footprint was over 13,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂-e) in 2020-21 and reduced to 4,000 tCO₂-e in 2021-22. Current emissions are equivalent to the emissions from 862 passenger vehicles driven for one year.

The rapid fall in emissions was unexpected and is largely a result of community waste being sent to the Copping facility, managed by Southern Waste Solutions, that captures, flares methane gas, and generates electricity from biogas, which lowers greenhouse gas emissions from landfill waste significantly. In addition, the introduction of a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) waste service diverted organic matter away from landfill, saving further emissions.

New corporate emission reduction targets are proposed to be part of the draft Climate Change and Resilience Strategy 2023, and include:

- A revised 85% reduction on corporate greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, based on 2021 levels;
- A revised net zero corporate emission reduction target by 2035, based on 2021 levels;
- A corporate 100% renewable electricity target by 2030, based on 2022 levels; and
- Supporting community ambition to double local (LGA) renewable electricity generation by 2030.

Community and corporate ambition are reflected in the growing number of renewables targets set by governments:

- The Tasmanian Government has legislated a 200% renewable electricity generation target by 2040.
- Launceston City Council set a 100% renewable energy consumption for (corporate) buildings by 2025.
- City of Hobart set a 100% net renewable electricity by 2040 target.

Recent trends show that renewable electricity generation in the Brighton municipality doubled in the last 8 years.

In addition, when Brighton Council's climate action has been reviewed (early 2023) by the Carbon Development Program (CDP) findings suggest alignment with climate action in Australia and the world largely focusses on setting corporate and community renewable energy targets. In 2022 the Global Compact of Mayors program CDP reporting included both mitigation (reducing emissions) and adaptation (preparing for the impacts of climate change) actions undertaken by Brighton Council. Attachment A is the CDP climate change action performance review, highlighting Brighton Council is successfully performing in line with average "C" climate action across the region and the world.

Consultation

General Manager, Manager Asset Services, and Manager Development Services.

Risk Implications

The Project is low risk as the targets proposed are voluntary with no regulatory or financial penalty implications from not reaching the targets. There is reputational risk from not achieving endorsed targets.

Financial Implications

There are direct financial costs associated with setting new emission reduction targets. Unlocking waste, energy efficiency and renewable energy bill savings requires upfront investment. The Draft Climate Change and Resilience Strategy supports a least cost hierarchy that focuses on actions that have a favourable return on investment. The financial implications of various investment decisions and options will be further reviewed as part of the budget process and the review of a draft Corporate Emission Reduction Plan.

Strategic Plan

The Strategy recommendations further the following strategies from Council's strategic plan:

S1.1: Understand/Improve Health and Wellbeing

S1.5: Build a resilient community and environmentally sustainable future

S4.1: Ensure Financial & Risk Sustainability

S4.2: Be well-governed

S4.4: Long-term thinking & evidence-based

Social Implications

Action on climate change is in line with the 2050 Vision goals.

Brighton Council has adopted cost benefit analysis approach, with review on a case-by-case basis, which builds trust that savings are reliable for evidence-based decision making. Multiyear work programs will be considered in more detail through the Draft Corporate Emission Reduction Plan to be considered in Q2, 2023.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

Targets help to measure the success of greenhouse gas emission reductions via tracking and quantifying progress.

Setting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets are in line with Brighton Council's commitment to act on climate change in the Brighton Council Climate Change and Resilience Strategy 2019. A key strategic measure in the Strategy is to "2. Reduce greenhouse emissions, environmental impacts and become more resource efficient." Providing the evidence base to evaluate climate action is a key measure in the Strategy 2019: "The targets in this Strategy should be reviewed in 2020 (and regularly in future) having regard to improved internal data, reviews of comparable LGAs, achievability, impact, ancillary benefits and cost implications."

Economic Implications

None.

Other Issues

None.

Assessment

Council has made significant progress implementing over 25 measures that deliver financial and greenhouse gas savings. Measuring emissions savings and setting targets is an opportunity to celebrate our success and achievements against the corporate greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and highlights the key areas to further reduce emissions.

It is recommended that Council endorse the following targets:

1. Set an interim corporate emission reduction target of 85% below 2021 levels by 2030 on the pathway to zero emissions by 2035 based on 2021 levels.
2. Set a corporate renewable electricity target of 100% renewable electricity generation by 2030, based on 2022 levels.
3. Support community ambition by setting a target to double renewable electricity generation by 2030, based on 2022 levels.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Do not endorse the proposed targets.
3. Endorse some of the proposed targets.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council agree:

- (a) to include targets in the Draft Climate Change and Resilience Strategy 2023;
- (b) Set an interim corporate emission reduction target of 85% below 2021 levels by 2030 on the pathway to zero emissions by 2035 based on 2021 levels.
- (c) to endorse a 100% corporate renewable electricity generation by 2030, based on 2022 levels; and
- (d) to endorse a community aspirational target of doubling local renewable electricity generation by 2030, based on 2022 levels.

DECISION:

Cr Curran moved, Cr Owen seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

15. Questions on Notice

There were no Questions on Notice for the March meeting.

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Curran seconded that Council resolve into Closed Council.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour

Cr Curran
Cr De La Torre
Cr Geard
Cr Gray
Cr Irons
Cr McMaster
Cr Owen
Cr Whelan

Against

Cr Murtagh

16. Closed Meeting

Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* provides that Council may consider certain sensitive matters in Closed Meeting.

Matters are listed in the Closed Meeting section of the Council Agenda in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

This items to be considered in closed session in accordance with Meeting Procedures Regulation 15(2)(g).

16.1 Bridgewater PCYC Annual Report

16.2 Authorisation to Move Out of Closed Session and Release of Information to the Public

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council:

- (i) Having met and dealt with its business formally moves out of Closed Session; and
- (ii) Resolves to report that it has determined the following:

DECISION:

Item Number	Matter	Outcome
16.1	Bridgewater PCYC Annual Report	Recommendation not to be released.

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr curran seconded that the motions be ratified, and Council resolve out of Closed council.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	Cr Murtagh
Cr De La Torre	Cr Whelan
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Owen	

Meeting closed: 6.50pm

Confirmed:

(Mayor)

Date:

_____ 18 April 2023 _____