



# Council Meeting - Minutes

Held on Tuesday 22 November 2022

Council Chamber, Malvern Town Hall

# **Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday 22 November 2022 Order of Business**

<b>1 Reading of the Statement of Reconciliation .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 Introduction of Councillors &amp; Executive Staff .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Apologies .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Business.....</b>	<b>4</b>
5.1 Election of Mayor .....	4
5.2 Election of Deputy Mayor .....	6
5.3 2023 Schedule of Fixed Council Meetings .....	7
5.4 Councillor Appointments for 2022-2023 .....	7

The meeting commenced at 7:00pm

**Councillors Present:**

**Cr Jami Klisaris  
Cr Melina Sehr  
Cr Nicki Batagol  
Cr Marcia Griffin  
Cr Kate Hely  
Cr Matthew Koce  
Cr Alexander Lew  
Cr Polly Morgan  
Cr Mike Scott**

**Apologies:**

Nil

**Council Officers Present:**

<b>Rick Kwasek</b>	<b>Acting Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Cath Harrod</b>	<b>Director Community &amp; Wellbeing</b>
<b>Simon Holloway</b>	<b>Acting Director Environment &amp; Infrastructure</b>
<b>Julia Gallace</b>	<b>Chief Financial Officer</b>
<b>David Thompson</b>	<b>Executive Manager Legal &amp; Governance</b>
<b>Jane Wright</b>	<b>Acting Manager Communications &amp; Engagement</b>
<b>Judy Hogan</b>	<b>Civic Support Officer</b>
<b>Loren Lawford</b>	<b>Executive Assistant Mayor &amp; Councillors</b>

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Governance Rules, the Acting Chief Executive Officer chaired the meeting pending the election of the Mayor.

## **1 Reading of the Statement of Reconciliation**

The Acting Chief Executive Officer, Rick Kwasek read the following Statement of Reconciliation:

*We acknowledge we are meeting on the Traditional Lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the East Kulin Nations and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

*We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We acknowledge their living connection to Country, relationship with the land and all living things extending back tens of thousands of years.*

## **2 Introduction of Councillors & Executive Staff**

The Acting Chief Executive Officer introduced the Councillors and the Council Officers present.

## **3 Apologies**

There was no apologies for the meeting.

## **4 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interests.

## **5 Business**

### **5.1 Election of Mayor**

#### **Length of Term: Mayor**

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Nicki Batagol

SECONDED: Cr Polly Morgan

***That the Council resolve that the Mayor be elected for a one (1) year term.***

**Carried**

## **Election of Mayor**

The Acting Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for the position of Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

Cr Melina Sehr nominated Cr Jami Klisaris for the position of Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

Cr Mike Scott seconded the nomination of Cr Jami Klisaris.

Cr Jami Klisaris accepted the nomination.

Cr Alexander Lew nominated Cr Marcia Griffin for the position of Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

Cr Kate Hely seconded the nomination of Cr Marcia Griffin.

Cr Marcia Griffin accepted the nomination.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer asked if there were any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer invited Councillors nominated, Cr Jami Klisaris and Cr Marica Griffin to speak in support of their nomination.

Cr Jami Klisaris spoke.

Cr Maricia Griffin spoke.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer asked Councillors to vote by show of hands for candidate, Cr Jami Klisaris.

Following the show of hands, Cr Jami Klisaris receiving an absolute majority of the votes was elected as Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris was then assisted into the Mayoral Robes and Chain and assumed the seat as Chair for the meeting.

## 5.2 Election of Deputy Mayor

### **Length of Term: Deputy Mayor**

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Mike Scott

SECONDED: Cr Matthew Koce

***That the Council resolve that the Deputy Mayor be elected for a one (1) year term.***

**Carried**

### **Election of Deputy Mayor**

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

Cr Polly Morgan nominated Cr Melina Sehr for the position of Deputy Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

Cr Alexander Lew seconded the nomination.

Cr Melina Sehr accepted the nomination.

Cr Kate Hely nominated Cr Nicki Batagol for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cr Mike Scott seconded the nomination.

Cr Nicki Batagol accepted the nomination.

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris asked if there were any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris invited Councillors nominated, Cr Melina Sehr and Cr Nicki Batagol to speak in support of their nomination.

Cr Melina Sehr spoke.

Cr Nicki Batagol spoke.

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris asked Councillors to vote by show of hands for candidate, Cr Melina Sehr.

Following the show of hands, Cr Melina Sehr receiving an absolute majority of the votes was elected as Deputy Mayor of the City of Stonnington for 2022-23.

### 5.3 2023 Schedule of Fixed Council Meetings

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Melina Sehr

SECONDED: Cr Matthew Koce

***That the Council resolve:***

- 1. To ADOPT the schedule of fixed Council meetings for 2023, (refer Attachment 1), and publish the details of the fixed Council meetings on the Council website.***
- 2. To CONDUCT the 2023 fixed Council meetings and any Unscheduled or Special meetings:***
  - a. partially in person and partially by electronic means; but if all Councillors attend in person then***
  - b. wholly in person; but if no Councillor attends in person and five or more Councillors request to attend by electronic means then***
  - c. wholly be electronic means.***

**Carried**

### 5.4 Councillor Appointments for 2022-2023

#### **External Management Committees/Boards**

MOTION:

MOVED: Matthew Koce

SECONDED: Nicki Batagol

***That the Council resolve to APPOINT Council's representatives on External Management Committees/Boards in accordance with the table below:***

<b>External Management Committees/Boards</b>	<b>Councillor(s)</b>
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris Cr Polly Morgan (substitute)
Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA)	All Councillors
M9	Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris
Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA)	Cr Kate Hely

**Carried**

## External/Internal Advisory Committees

MOTION:

MOVED: Matthew Koce

SECONDED: Nicki Batagol

***That the Council resolve to APPOINT Councillor membership of Council's External/Internal Advisory Committees in accordance with the table below:***

External/Internal Advisory Committee	Councillor(s)
Stonnington Community Recovery Committee	Chair: Cr Matthew Koce Deputy Chair: Cr Marcia Griffin
Transport Advisory Committee (previously known as the Cycling Reference Group and the Active Transport Committee)	Chair: Cr Mike Scott
Stonnington Disability and Inclusion Committee	Cr Polly Morgan
Stonnington LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee	Cr Mike Scott
Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Committee	Chair: Cr Nicki Batagol

**Carried**

## Internal Advisory Committees and Project Steering Committees

MOTION:

MOVED: Matthew Koce

SECONDED: Nicki Batagol

***That the Council resolve to APPOINT Councillor membership and Councillors to chair Council's Internal Advisory Committees and Project Steering Committees in accordance with the table below:***

Internal Advisory Committee and Project Steering Committee	Councillor(s)
Community Grants Working Group	Chair: Mayor, Cr Klisaris All Councillors
Volunteer Awards Evaluation Panel	Chair: Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris All Councillors



Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park Steering Committee	Chair: Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris Cr Matthew Koce Cr Polly Morgan
Prahran Town Hall Redevelopment Steering Committee	Chair: Deputy Mayor, Cr Melina Sehr Cr Matthew Koce Cr Mike Scott
Transformation Councillor Reference Group	Cr Nicki Batagol Deputy Mayor, Cr Melina Sehr
Toorak Park Redevelopment Steering Committee	Chair: Cr Nicki Batagol Cr Marcia Griffin Cr Polly Morgan
Economic and Place Development Committee	Chair: Cr Kate Hely Deputy Chair: Cr Marcia Griffin

**Carried**

### **Audit and Risk Committee**

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Matthew Koce

SECONDED: Cr Marcia Griffin

***That the Council resolve to APPOINT Councillor membership of Council's Audit & Risk Committee in accordance with the table below:***

<b>Audit &amp; Risk Committee</b>	<b>Councillor(s)</b>
Stonnington City Council Audit & Risk Committee	Cr Sehr, Deputy Mayor Cr Polly Morgan Cr Nicki Batagol

**Carried**

*Note – Cr Alexander Lew abstained from voting on this Item.*

### **Stonnington History Committee**

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris called for nominations for the Stonnington History Committee.

There were no nominations.

## Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Kate Hely

SECONDED: Cr Alexander Lew

***That the Council resolve to APPOINT Councillor membership of Council's Climate Emergency Advisory Committee in accordance with the table below:***

Internal Advisory Committee and Project Steering Committee	Councillor(s)
Climate Emergency Advisory Committee	Chair: Cr Kate Hely Deputy Chair: The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris

**Carried**

## Chapel Street Transformation Steering Committee

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Matthew Koce

SECONDED: Cr Marcia Griffin

***That the Council resolve to APPOINT Councillor membership of Council's Chapel Street Transformation Steering Committee in accordance with the table below:***

Internal Advisory Committee and Project Steering Committee	Councillor(s)
Chapel Street Transformation Steering Committee	Chair: Cr Matthew Koce The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris Cr Nicki Batagol Cr Kate Hely

**Carried**

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris made the following address.

*Now that we have reached the end of our agenda, I would like to say a few words. Firstly, I would like to thank the majority of Councillors for instilling your trust and faith in me to serve another year as Mayor. I would also like to congratulate Cr Sehr on being elected as Deputy Mayor.*

*As a 19 year old, when I first thought about standing for council way back in 2012, I could never imagine that I would still be here 10 years later, let alone that I would be serving a third term as Mayor.*

*I have lived in Stonnington for almost my entire life, the love and passion that I have for this area and community runs deep, therefore it is not lost on me how incredibly special it is to lead this community for another year. It is a great honour and as I said earlier, I will give everything to the role so that we can be a productive council that continues to make great decisions for the community we serve.*

*This year we have delivered a number of great projects including the Harold Holt dive tower restoration, a new dedicated dog park at Thomas Oval, the Hobson St pocket park, upgraded facilities at Ferrie Oval and Como Park, opened a new Headspace in Malvern as well as purchased more land to turn into open space.*

*We have a number of projects currently underway as well and I would like to specifically mention the new sport facilities that are being built at the Percy Trevaud Memorial Park. As many know, I have been a keen advocate for more sporting facilities for our women and girls to increase their ability to play sport in Stonnington. When I was elected as Mayor last year I expressed excitement at the thought of the new sport facilities, including the 4 court stadium for netball and basketball, commencing construction.*

*I am overjoyed that construction really did begin earlier this year and that we will see these new facilities up and running in the next year or so - although not without its challenges, it has been great to contribute to this project from the very beginning and to see this facility open during this term of council, which is a testament to the leadership shown by many around this table.*

*There are many other matters that we as Councillors will need to turn our minds to in 2023, including formulating the next budget, recruiting for a new CEO, establishing strong relationships with our State and Federal MP's, all while ensuring that we continue to offer a high level of service to our community and deliver projects on time and on budget.*

*As Mayor, I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together and am excited for what 2023 holds for us.*

*As we head towards the end of 2022, I hope that everyone takes some time to reflect on the year that we have had. We can all find ways to improve and serve our community better, and after recent media interest in council and councillor conduct, I sincerely hope that improvements are made and that our obligations under the Code of Conduct are taken seriously. After all, our community wants to see us engage, participate in decisions, keep personal and political agendas outside the chamber, and stick to our morals and values.*

*Before wrapping up, I would like to acknowledge my family and my fiancé Michael. The unwavering support that I receive from you makes all the difference in ensuring that I can bring my whole self to council and serve the community to the fullest of my abilities.*

*I would also like to acknowledge Cr Sehr, who has provided an incredible amount of support to me and all Councillors this year, thank you for your guidance not only throughout this year, but throughout my entire time on Council. Your level of knowledge about council and the community is so impressive and I'm grateful that you will continue to serve as Deputy Mayor.*

*Thank you.*

Cr Melina Sehr then addressed the meeting.

Councillors then congratulated both the Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris and the Deputy Mayor, Cr Melina Sehr.

The meeting concluded at 7:46pm.

Confirmed on 12 December 2022.

.....  
**CR JAMI KLISARIS, MAYOR**