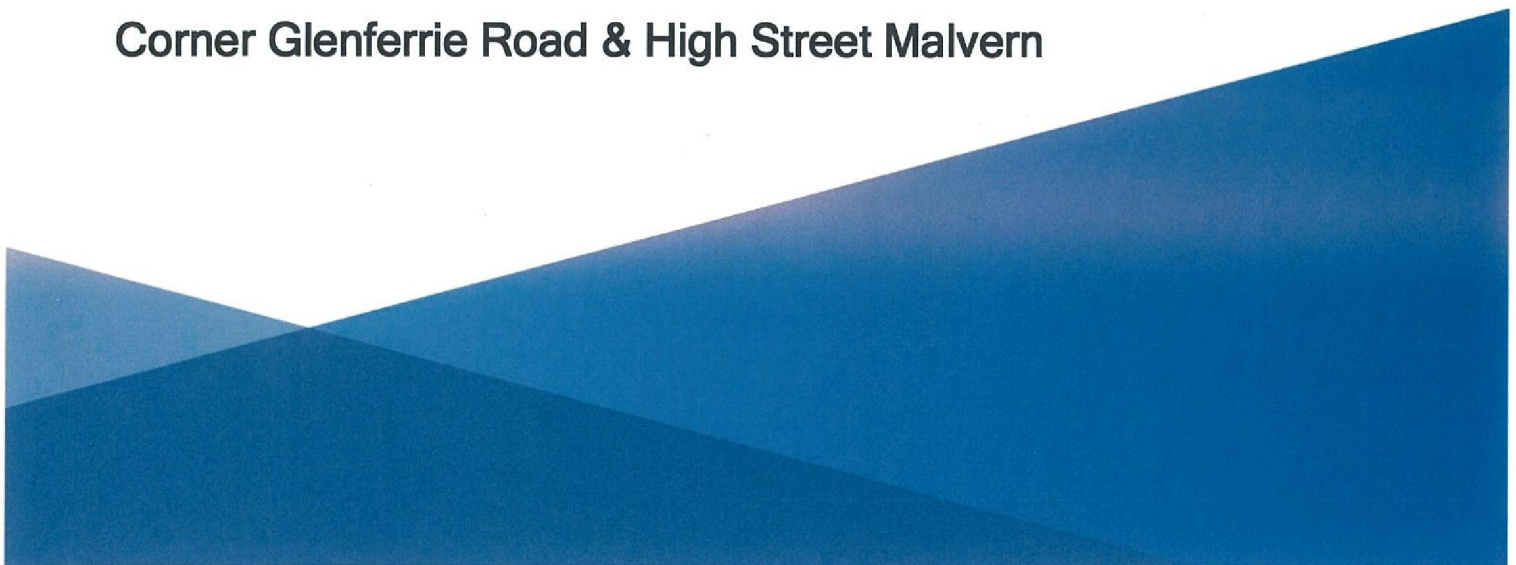




# Confidential Council Meeting Minutes (Confidential Business)

Held on Monday 26 September 2022

Council Chamber, Malvern Town Hall  
Corner Glenferrie Road & High Street Malvern



# **Council Meeting Minutes Monday 26 September 2022 Order of Business**

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## 16 Confidential Business

### 16.1 Service Review

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Alexander Lew

SECONDED: Cr Kate Hely

***That Council resolve to record confidential business.***

Carried

### DIVISION

Cr Alexander Lew called for a division.

Voting For the motion: Cr Alexander Lew, Cr Marcia Griffin, Cr Kate Hely, Cr Matthew Koce, and Cr Melina Sehr

Voting Against the motion: No votes recorded

Note - The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris and Cr Polly Morgan abstained from voting on this matter.

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris declared the motion **Carried**

MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Matthew Koce

SECONDED: Cr Melina Sehr

***That the Council:***

1. ***NOTES the Service Review report prepared by Deloitte and the Financial and Governance Audit reports prepared by Grant Thornton Consulting.***
2. ***ENDS the Special Rate Scheme (SRS) at the end of the current term, being 30 June 2023, for the following reasons:***
  - ***The SRS has been in place for 30 years since 1992 and is no longer considered best practice for Councils.***
  - ***The cost impost to Special Ratepayers of \$1.8 million annually, of which an average 30% is expended on Precinct Associations' administrative overheads, does not represent a cost-effective delivery model for economic development and precinct marketing.***
  - ***The imposition of a compulsory levy after a period of prolonged economic hardship for the 3717 business that pay the Special Rate as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic is an unjustifiable cost impost.***
  - ***The inherent inequities of the SRS being paid by only 3717 of the approximately 18,000 businesses registered in City of Stonnington***



- *The Service Review conducted by Deloitte and the Financial and Governance Audits conducted by Grant Thornton Consulting into the financial management, governance, member engagement and efficacy of the five Precinct Associations identified serious concerns relating to:*
  - a. *Deficiencies in management of conflicts of interest.*
  - b. *Deficiencies in appropriate standards of governance for expending ratepayer funds.*
  - c. *A lack of transparency, including withholding information from Council that is required to assess the efficacy of Precinct Associations' activity.*
  - d. *The ongoing refusal by some Precinct Associations to adhere to the terms of the Management Agreements with Council.*
  - e. *An inability to demonstrate value for money to non-members of Precinct Associations, who are required to pay the rate irrespective of any benefit to them.*
  - f. *An inability to equitably promote categories of businesses other than retail and hospitality, leading to many categories of businesses that pay the Special Rate not being able to derive value from it.*
- 3. *DESIGNATES that from 27 September 2022, the following information will no longer be confidential for the purposes of providing it to the five Precinct Associations:*
  - *Individualised Grant Thornton Financial and Governance Audit report, and*
  - *Individualised Deloitte survey findings.*
- 4. *NOTES that Council Officers will commence consulting with the City of Stonnington's 18,000 businesses to establish a more contemporary, cost effective and transparent program for supporting all businesses within the City.*
- 5. *ENCOURAGES the five Precinct Associations to review their operations and pursue the more sustainable, 'user pays' funding model of voluntary membership subscriptions.*
- 6. *WRITES to the five Precinct Associations after they have received their individual Grant Thornton Financial and Governance Audit report, and the individualised Deloitte survey findings, seeking written consent to publicly release these documents.*

**Procedural Motion – Extension of Speaking Time**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Polly Morgan

SECONDED: Cr Melina Sehr

***That Cr Matthew Koce be granted an extension of time of one minute to speak.***

**Carried**

**Procedural Motion – Extension of Speaking Time**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Melina Sehr

SECONDED: Cr Polly Morgan

***That Cr Marcia Griffin be granted an extension of time of one minute to speak.***

**Carried**

**Procedural Motion – Suspension of Standing Orders**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Alexander Lew

SECONDED: Cr Marcia Griffin

***That standing orders be suspended.***

Cr Alexander Lew and Cr Marcia Griffin sought leave of the Council to withdraw the procedural motion.

Leave of the Council was granted.

*Cr Alexander Lew left the Council meeting at 8:54pm.*

*Cr Alexander Lew returned to the Council meeting at 8.55pm.*

**Procedural Motion – Extension of Speaking Time**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Melina Sehr

SECONDED: Cr Matthew Koce

***That Cr Polly Morgan be granted an extension of time of one minute to speak.***

**Carried**

**Procedural Motion – Extension of Speaking Time**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Polly Morgan

SECONDED: Cr Marcia Griffin

***That Cr Kate Hely be granted an extension of time of one minute to speak.***

**Carried**

**Procedural Motion – Extension of Speaking Time**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Polly Morgan

SECONDED: Cr Matthew Koce

***That Cr Melina Sehr be granted an extension of time of one minute to speak.***

**Carried**

**Procedural Motion – Extension of Speaking Time**

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

MOVED: Cr Melina Sehr

SECONDED: Cr Polly Morgan

***That the Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris be granted an extension of time of one minute to speak.***

**Carried**

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris put the motion moved by Cr Koce and seconded by Cr Sehr to the vote and declared it Carried

**DIVISION**

Cr Alexander Lew called for a division.

Voting For the motion: Cr Jami Klisaris, Cr Melina Sehr, Cr Matthew Koce, and Cr Polly Morgan

Voting Against the motion: Cr Alexander Lew, Cr Kate Hely and Cr Marcia Griffin

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris declared the motion **Carried**

The meeting concluded at 9:17pm

Confirmed on 10 October 2022



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**CR JAMI KLISARIS**

