



City of
Whittlesea

MINUTES

OF STATUTORY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2015

AT 7.00PM

**IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, 25 FERRES
BOULEVARD, SOUTH MORANG**

COUNCILLORS

REX GRIFFIN

NORTH WARD

RICKY KIRKHAM

NORTH WARD

CHRISTINE STOW

NORTH WARD

MARY LALIOS

SOUTH EAST WARD

SAM ALESSI

SOUTH EAST WARD

KEN HARRIS

SOUTH EAST WARD

NORM KELLY

SOUTH EAST WARD

STEVAN KOZMEVSKI

SOUTH WEST WARD

KRIS PAVLIDIS

SOUTH WEST WARD

DARRYL SINCLAIR

SOUTH WEST WARD

ADRIAN SPINELLI

SOUTH WEST WARD

SENIOR OFFICERS

DAVID TURNBULL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ROD WILKINSON

DIRECTOR FINANCE AND ORGANISATION
IMPROVEMENT

RUSSELL HOPKINS

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

STEVE O'BRIEN

DIRECTOR PLANNING AND MAJOR PROJECTS

NICK MANN

DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE

DUNCAN KELLY

ACTING DIRECTOR GOVERNANCE AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GRIFF DAVIS

DIRECTOR ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATIONS

ANGELO MAMATIS

ACTING MANAGER CIVIC ADMINISTRATION

ORDER OF BUSINESS

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Note:

In these Minutes, Resolutions adopted by Council are indicated in bold text.

1. OPENING**1.1 MEETING OPENING AND PRAYER**

The Chief Executive Officer opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00PM.

1.2 RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

On behalf of the City of Whittlesea the Chief Executive Officer recognised the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledged the Wurundjeri Willum Clan as the traditional owners of this place.

1.3 PRESENT**Members:**

Cr Rex Griffin	Councillor (North Ward)
Cr Ricky Kirkham	Councillor (North Ward)
Cr Christine Stow	Councillor (North Ward)
Cr Norm Kelly	Councillor (South East Ward)
Cr Sam Alessi	Councillor (South East Ward)
Cr Ken Harris	Councillor (South East Ward)
Cr Mary Lalios	Councillor (South East Ward)
Cr Stevan Kozmevski	Councillor (South West Ward)
Cr Kris Pavlidis	Councillor (South West Ward)
Cr Darryl Sinclair	Councillor (South West Ward)
Cr Adrian Spinelli	Councillor (South West Ward)

Officers:

Mr David Turnbull	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Steve O'Brien	Director Planning and Major Projects
Mr Russell Hopkins	Director Community Services
Mr Rod Wilkinson	Director Finance and Organisation Improvement
Mr Nick Mann	Director Infrastructure
Mr Duncan Kelly	Acting Director Governance & Economic Development
Mr Griff Davis	Director Advocacy and Communications
Mr Angelo Mamatis	Acting Manager Civic Administration

2. APOLOGIES

NIL

3. GENERAL BUSINESS**3.1 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR FOR 2015/2016**

The Chief Executive Officer invited nominations for the Office of Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

NOMINATION FOR MAYOR

MOVED: *Cr Kirkham*

THAT Cr Stevan Kozmevski be nominated for the Office of Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

Cr Kirkham spoke in support of Cr Kozmevski's nomination for the office of Mayor.

NOMINATION FOR MAYOR

MOVED: *Cr Pavlidis*

THAT Cr Adrian Spinelli be nominated for the Office of Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

Cr Pavlidis spoke in support of Cr Spinelli's nomination for the office of Mayor.

DECLARATION OF THE POLL

Following a vote by show of hands, Cr Stevan Kozmevski was elected the Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

3.2 ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2015/2016

The Chief Executive Officer invited nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

NOMINATION FOR DEPUTY MAYOR

MOVED: *Cr Kirkham*

THAT Cr Norm Kelly be nominated for the Office of Deputy Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

Cr Kirkham spoke in support of Cr Kelly's nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor.

NOMINATION FOR DEPUTY MAYOR

MOVED: *Cr Pavlidis*

THAT Cr Adrian Spinelli be nominated for the Office of Deputy Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

Cr Pavlidis spoke in support of Cr Spinelli's nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor.

DECLARATION OF THE POLL

Following a vote by show of hands, Cr Norm Kelly was elected the Deputy Mayor for the period ending 21 October 2016.

4. SPEECH FROM THE INCOMING MAYOR

Firstly I congratulate Cr Ricky Kirkham on an outstanding 12 months as Mayor and thank you Ricky for an exceptional job you have done for the City of Whittlesea.

Cr Ricky Kirkham, please come forward to accept a gift.

Now I would like to thank my fellow Councillors, Ken Harris, Norm Kelly, Ricky Kirkham, Mary Lalios, Daryl Sinclair, Christine Stow and Rex Griffin for their support and the opportunity they have given me to serve this wonderful Council and its people as Mayor.

It is an honor and a privilege to be the Mayor of the City of Whittlesea for the second time in my 18 years as a Councillor serving our community.

I would also like to thank all of you that are here, for you also have played a role in this journey and no doubt will continue to play a role as my journey continues. A journey that started in these chambers in 1997.

For it does not end here. Each day brings a new beginning and a new challenge. We continue forward after Cr Ricky Kirkham as Mayor and continue the course to build a better place for our residents to live with the resources that are at our disposal.

As a Council we will be mindful and prudent as how to best provide for the needs of our residents.

We will continue to strive to ensure that Council continues to provide first class services for all areas of the City of Whittlesea community.

Projects that are especially important that we need from other levels of government include:

- Funding for the extension of Edgars Road from Cooper Street, into Aurora;
- The on/off ramp to the Craigieburn bypass at O'Herns Road: In which the State Labor Government has made a commitment and now we need the Federal Government to hop on;
- Extension of the railway line to Mernda with sufficient car parking;
- Planning for the new railway line from Lalor to Wollert; and
- Duplication of main roads (Epping Rd, Plenty Rd etc).

These are just a few items that are needed now in our growth corridor as the City of Whittlesea is one of the largest growing councils in Australia.

Our population just gets more impressive with each year's forecast.

In 2012 it was expected to grow from 170,000 to 242,000 by 2021.

Today it is about 200,000 and forecast to be 334,000 by 2036 and with this growth, infrastructure must be provided first.

We as a Council are challenged with this growth and with the increase of housing density that is taking place in our older residential areas. More people and cars in higher density living needs to be balanced with providing more open space, community space, recreation areas and more local employment. This must be considered for a community to be vibrant and active in the current planning process

What choice do our newer communities in the growth corridor have in transport? Have we got the public transport that is needed? Governments have not kept pace with the growth and have failed to provide the choices that are required with transport infrastructure that matches our growing population. It is easy to build the new estates however our road networks are getting clogged up with cars and so our road capacity cannot cope. Our road networks are choking here in the City of Whittlesea and across Melbourne.

It is true to say our residents in the City of Whittlesea are highly dependent on the car. We are not in a position to stop these residential developments and must approve each application on its merits; however the Government is not doing their share by providing the necessary infrastructure.

At times it may even take ten years for the Government to act and we have seen this with the extension of the railway line to South Morang with limited parking. While this investment has been welcomed the delay in funding of other critical projects is not good enough. If you want to grow then you have no choice but to provide, and growth has to be managed with the appropriate funding support from Governments.

Planning, team work and collaboration is needed between each level of Government and a Future Infrastructure Fund created to build a better Victoria and a better City of Whittlesea. Blaming each other for our inactions is not the answer. How long before a new railway line in the City of Whittlesea? We cannot wait another 10 years.

We need to provide services in the growth areas and that means for residents to have local jobs, public transport, roads, schools, kindergartens, sporting facilities, open space and other infrastructure that makes each community vibrant, active and alive.

This will always be our challenge! To provide for our new growing communities and our existing communities and to do so we all need to work as one. That is why Federal, State and Local Government have to work together for we have limited resources - however the needs of our residents is limitless.

Although there will always be struggles, Council will always work with other levels of Governments to ensure the residents of the City of Whittlesea are provided for and not short changed.

I look forward to my journey for the next 12 months to serve the people of the City of Whittlesea.

I am especially grateful for the support of my family – Lenche, Elizabeth and David through this journey of mine.

Thank you.

5. CLOSURE

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7:20PM.

CONFIRMED THIS 17TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2015.

**CR STEVAN KOZMEVSKI
MAYOR**