

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting Held at the Function Centre, Bunjil Place, Narre Warren Tuesday, 16 September 2025 Commenced 6:00 PM

**Casey will be a connected, innovative
and resilient community**

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ATTENDANCE

Councillors Present

Mayor Cr Stefan Koomen	Waratah Ward
Deputy Mayor Cr Melinda Ambros	Kalora Ward
Cr Scott Dowling	Akoonah Ward
Cr Kim Ross	Casaurina Ward
Cr Gary Rowe	Correa Ward
Cr Michelle Crowther	Cranbourne Gardens Ward
Cr Anthony Walter	Dillwynia Ward
Cr Dave Perry	Grevillia Ward
Cr Shane Taylor	Kowan Ward
Cr Carolyn Eaves	Quarters Ward
Cr Lynette Pereira	River Gum Ward
Cr Jennifer Dizon	Tooradin Ward

In Attendance

Glenn Patterson	Chief Executive Officer
Steve Coldham	Director Community Life and Customer and Corporate Services
James Collins	Director Planning and Infrastructure
Jen Bednar	Director Customer and Corporate Services
Chloe Casey	Manager Communications and Corporate Governance
Simon Horsburgh	AV Technician
Jordan Barfoot	AV Technician
Nicole Rode	Minute Taker
Samantha Bennett	Minute Taker
Cameron Boardman	Monitor
Peter Stephenson	Monitor

1. WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1.1. READING OF THE STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor read the Statement of Acknowledgement.

1.2. READING OF THE DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The Mayor read the Diversity Statement.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Mover/ Seconder: Cr Jennifer Dizon/ Cr Anthony Walter

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 August 2025 be confirmed.

Carried

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS AND PERSONAL INTERESTS

Cr Stefan Koomen has declared a General Conflict of Interest to Item 4.4 (Doveton Pool in the Park - Stage 2 Park Design & Consultation Outcomes)

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Quarterly Community Report - April to June 2025

ITEM: 4.1.

Chief Executive Office

Strategy Innovation and Transformation

Marion Greig

Purpose of Report: To present the Quarterly Community Report for the April to June 2025 period (Quarter 4)

Mover / Seconder: Cr Shane Taylor / Cr Gary Rowe

Cr Shane Taylor, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Stefan Koomen spoke to the motion

That Council endorse the Quarterly Community Report prior to it being published on the City of Casey website

Carried Unanimously(12/0)

For: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Scott Dowling, Cr Shane Taylor and Cr Stefan Koomen

Against: Nil

2024/2025 Financial Statements and Performance Statements

ITEM: 4.2.

Customer and Corporate Services

Financial Services

Melissa Baker

Purpose of Report: To seek Council's endorsement of the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for 2024/25 as well as the Governance and Management Checklist, noting their draft pre-audit status at the time of writing of this report

Mover / Seconder: Cr Lynette Pereira / Cr Gary Rowe

Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Carolyn Eaves, spoke to the motion

1. That pursuant to Section 98 and Section 99 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council approves in principle the Draft Financial Statements and Performance Statement for 2024/25.
2. That pursuant to Section 98 and Section 99 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council authorises the Councillors to certify the Financial Statement and Performance Statement in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed to by the Auditor-General's Office have been made.
3. The Principal Accounting Officer (Chief Financial Officer) be authorised to make any non-material changes to the Statements that may arise as a result of the audit.
4. The Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee be notified of any material changes proposed to be made to any of the Statements so that it may be decided whether the Audit and Risk Committee needs to meet further to consider such proposed changes prior to two Councillors signing off the Statements.
5. A copy of the Statements in their final form be forwarded to the members of the Audit and Risk Committee
6. That Council endorses the Governance and Management checklist (Attachment 3)

Carried Unanimously(12/0)

For: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Scott Dowling, Cr Shane Taylor and Cr Stefan Koomen

Against: Nil

Councillor Expenses Policy
Customer and Corporate Services
Communications and Corporate Governance
Chloe Casey

ITEM: 4.3.

Purpose of Report: **To endorse changes to the Councillor Expenses Policy.**

Mover / Seconder: Cr Jennifer Dizon / Cr Anthony Walter
Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Anthony Walter spoke to the motion

That Council endorse the updated Councillor Expenses Policy.

Carried Unanimously(12/0)

For: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Scott Dowling, Cr Shane Taylor and Cr Stefan Koomen

Against: Nil

Doveton Pool in the Park - Stage 2 Park Design & Consultation Outcomes
City Planning and Infrastructure
City and Asset Planning
Keri New

ITEM: 4.4.

Purpose of Report: To present the outcomes of the recent community engagement process and seek Council endorsement of the preferred park design for Stage 2 of the Doveton Pool in the Park (DPIP) Masterplan.

At 6:37 pm the Mayor left the Chamber having previously declared a Conflict of Interest in the Item. The Deputy Mayor took the position of Chair.

The motion lapsed due to no mover

Mover / Seconder

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the findings of the recent community consultation process for State 2- Park Development of the Doveton Pool in the Park (DPIP) Masterplan;
2. Reviews the four proposed options for Stage 2 – Park Development of the DPIP Masterplan;
3. Endorses Park Design Option 1, as recommended by officers, to proceed to detailed design and implementation; and
4. Notes that Stage 3 Pavilion Building Renewal is proceeding to public tender.

The Amendment was put and carried and on becoming the Substantive Motion was again put and carried.

Mover / Second: Cr Lynette Pereira / Cr Dave Perry

Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Melinda Ambros spoke to the motion

That Council:

1. **Acknowledges the findings of the recent community consultation process for Stage 2- Park Development of the Doveton Pool in the Park (DPIP) Masterplan;**
2. **Has reviewed the four proposed options for Stage 2 – Park Development of the DPIP Masterplan;**
3. **Endorses Park Design Option 4, to proceed to detailed design and implementation;**
4. **Seeks a variation to the Thriving Suburbs Program Funding Agreement with the Department of Government Services to incorporate Park Design Option 4;**
5. **Allocate \$2.9 million in the 2026/27 capital works budget to deliver Park Design Option 4; and**
6. **Notes that Stage 3 Pavilion Building Renewal is proceeding to public tender.**

Carried (8/3)

For: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Shane Taylor

Against: Cr Scott Dowling, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Kim Ross

At 7:00 pm the Mayor Cr Stefan Koomen returned to the Council Chamber and resumed the Chair.

Car Parking at Cranbourne Community Hospital
City Planning and Infrastructure
Growth and Investment
Kathryn Seirlis

ITEM: 4.5.

Purpose of Report: **To update Council on the car parking arrangements at the Cranbourne Community Hospital.**

Mover / Second: Cr Michelle Crowther / Cr Gary Rowe

Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Gary Rowe, spoke to the motion

That Council note the report.

Carried Unanimously(12/0)

For: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Scott Dowling, Cr Shane Taylor and Cr Stefan Koomen

Against: Nil

5. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

That the Reports of Committees, as listed, be received and noted.

6. DECISIONS MADE OVER \$1 MILLION UNDER THE S5 INSTRUMENTS OF DELEGATION

The s5 Instruments of Delegation was signed on 21 August 2025

CONTRACTS OVER \$1 MILLION

REPORTING PERIOD: 21 AUGUST 2025 TO 31 AUGUST 2025 INCLUSIVE

Nil

CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN EXPENDITURE

REPORTING PERIOD: 21 AUGUST 2025 TO 31 AUGUST 2025 INCLUSIVE

Nil

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CONTRIBUTIONS EXPENDITURE

REPORTING PERIOD: 21 AUGUST 2025 TO 31 AUGUST 2025 INCLUSIVE

Nil

7. PETITIONS

Nil.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION

8.1. NOTICE OF MOTION 3265 - CASEY-WIDE PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Mover / Second: Cr Michelle Crowther / Cr Jennifer Dizon

Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Dave Perry spoke to the motion

1. That a report be brought back to Council in February 2026, outlining a scope of works for a Casey-wide Pest Management Strategy, and that this report includes:
 - (a) identification of the significant pests impacting Casey and the scope of the Casey-wide Pest Management Strategy
 - (b) an engagement plan to seek input from other councils, stakeholders and land managers
 - (c) a plan to engage with and seek funding from key stakeholders (including State and Federal Governments)
2. Prepare a costing estimate for the engagement of a consultant to prepare the Casey-wide Pest Management Strategy, and for this to be referred to the mid-year budget review process (December 2025).
3. Council to develop an interim pest animal action plan by February 2026, for the current outbreak of rabbits in Southern Casey.

Carried Unanimously(12/0)

For: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Kim Ross, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Scott Dowling, Cr Shane Taylor and Cr Stefan Koomen

Against: Nil

9. LATE REPORTS

Nil

10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

At 7:25 pm Question Time commenced.

Note: Questions are reproduced as prepared by the Questioner and no guarantee is given that any subject matter or statement contained in the question is factually correct.

Question 1 Class 10a

Submitter: Raymond Henry

Under the Council Public Transparency policy, when does the council intended to start sending out notices of intent to enter private properties, commercial properties, public and private educational premises, place of worship's etc with or without permission to conduct investigations into the illegal placement of Class 10a Buildings. (shipping containers).

The response was prepared by Manager Connected Communities and answered by Director Community Life

Thank you for your question regarding Council's enforcement practices under the Public

Transparency Policy, particularly in relation to investigations into the illegal placement of Class 10a buildings such as shipping containers. Regarding notices of intent to enter properties, the Public Transparency Policy ensures that Council actions are open, accountable, and communicated clearly to the public. These notices are governed by relevant legislation and are issued in accordance with privacy, safety, and procedural fairness principles

Under the Casey Community Local Law 2023, the placement of shipping containers on private land—especially in built-up residential areas—requires a Local Law permit. If a container is used for long-term storage or as a structure, it may also trigger requirements under the Building Act 1993 and the Planning Scheme, potentially requiring both building and planning permits. These Acts operate separately from the Local Government Act which governs the Public Transparency Policy.

Question 2 Lack of pedestrian crossing, South Gippsland Hwy Tooradin
Submitter: Anthony Tassone

The recent consultation for the Tooradin Skatepark upgrade highlighted continuing safety concerns locals have for the lack of a signalled pedestrian crossing near the Tooradin recreation reserve on South Gippsland Highway in Tooradin. What advocacy has and will the City of Casey undertake on behalf of residents to the Victorian government for one to be installed?

The response was prepared by Manager City and Asset Planning and answered by Director City Planning and Infrastructure

Council is aware of concerns raised regarding the lack of a signalled pedestrian crossing near the Tooradin Recreation Reserve on South Gippsland Highway, close to Bayview Road. This location will be added to our transport advocacy list, and we will continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for improved pedestrian safety in the area.

Question 3 Cranbourne Community Hospital parking
Submitter: Anthony Tassone

In the council papers for the September meeting, it makes mention of Council's plans to engage with service providers at Casey complex and surrounding schools to manage a shortfall in parking at Cranbourne Community Hospital. What are the Council's plans to engage with nearby residents (especially opposite the hospital on Berwick-Cranbourne Road) as there may be an increase in on-street parking there? These residents have already been impacted by roadworks in the area over the years.

The response was prepared by Manager Growth and Investment and answered by Director City Planning and Infrastructure

Council is proposing to implement short-term parking restrictions on approximately 80% of parking spaces within the Casey Complex precinct to support vehicle turnover. These changes are planned to be in place prior to the opening of the Cranbourne Community Hospital and are intended to help manage demand from the hospital and surrounding land uses, including nearby schools. Parking patterns on residential streets south of Berwick-Cranbourne Road will be monitored for potential overflow. Any proposed changes to parking in these areas will involve engagement with affected residents before implementation.

Question 4 Sea containers
Submitter: Tamas Kapitany

Why did the council misrepresent the results of the survey , previously rural properties were accept , so consensus was supportive
How did that result in only rural properties over 4 hectares being exempt? That a massive over reach and cash grab by this council .

The response was prepared by Manager Communications and Corporate Governance and answered by Director Customer and Corporate Services

Thank you for your question about the proposed changes to the shipping container clause in the draft Community Local Law. The decision to set the exemption threshold at rural properties greater than four hectares was informed by community feedback and benchmarking undertaken against other Councils. The threshold was selected to reflect a balance between land use flexibility and amenity protection. Properties over four hectares typically have greater capacity to accommodate shipping containers without impacting neighbouring properties or the broader landscape character. Permit fees are not designed as a revenue tool, but rather as mechanisms to ensure appropriate oversight of amenity protections. We encourage residents to continue submitting any feedback they may have regarding the draft Community Local Law by Thursday this week.

Question 5 Appointed monitors for Casey

Submitter: Chris Lucey

Considering the recent 3% rate increase and in the interest of transparency, can the public please be advised as to what the ongoing costs associated with State government appointed monitors are, including all expenses.

The response was prepared by Manager Communications and Corporate Governance and answered by Director Customer and Corporate Services

Thank you for your question. While this topic has been addressed in previous public question time at the 18 March Council meeting, I can confirm that to date the Monitors have been paid a combined figure of \$183,237 since their appointment in November 2024. As noted in our March response, the State Government appointed the municipal monitors. Their expenses and allowances are not fixed and may fluctuate depending on the hours they work.

Question 6 Plan of Subdivision PS517790 - Lot 4

Submitter: Amanjit Gill

This question pertains to Plan of Subdivision PS517790. It does not concern the waste facility proposed for lot 10A; rather, it concerns lot 4. A "section 173 agreement", recorded as instrument AX452168Q on the titles for lots 1 and 2A, says the owner would like to "develop a waste and resource recovery centre on lot 4 and surrounding land". What is Council's understanding of the owner's future activities in regard to waste and resource recovery on lot 4?

The response was prepared by Manager Planning and Building and answered by Director City Planning and Infrastructure

While the agreement made reference to the land at 795 South Gippsland Highway Hampton Park (Lot 4, PS517790), it does not apply to the lot in question. A planning permit to use the land at 795 South Gippsland Highway for a Materials Recycling Facility has existed since 2008 and the site is currently operating under this permit. Any future use or development proposal for this site that requires planning approval will need to comply with the planning controls that apply at the time any planning permit application is submitted to Council for consideration. As the land is privately owned, it is up to the land owner to prepare for future use and development, consistent with the relevant planning controls.

Question 7 Open Data Exchange - Planning Applications

Submitter: Amanjit Gill

On Casey's Open Data Exchange, the Planning Permit Application Register starts at 2021. Previously, it started at 2020. Would Casey consider restoring the previous starting point of 2020 or

- even better - having the dataset start at 2018 like one of the other planning permit datasets?

The response was prepared by Manager Strategy Innovation and Transformation and answered by Chief Executive Officer

The current Planning Permit Application Register in the Open Data Exchange defaults to running on a 4 year rolling cycle which is why older data is no longer visible. It is possible, however, to add past years and we have started investigating how far back we might be able to go- more data should appear in the coming months. In the meantime, you can also access historical data about planning applications through the Planning Application Portal on our website <https://www.casey.vic.gov.au/view-planning-applications>

Question 8 Due Diligence / Risk to Council - SEMAWP

Submitter: Vernadette Dickson

The report confirms that Council has committed ratepayers to a 25-year agreement to supply waste to the SEMAWP facility. What independent risk assessments or scenario modelling did Council officers undertake before signing, to demonstrate that the long-term financial, environmental, and social implications were fully understood? And if no such assessment exists, how is this not negligence on the part of Council officers in committing to obligations without proper due process?

The response was prepared by Manager Sustainability and Waste and answered by Director City Planning and Infrastructure

The appropriate risk assessments and modelling were completed by experts supporting the SEAWP evaluation process.

Question 9 council policy

Submitter: Raymond Dalli

Why does the city of Casey impose an 80 word limit on public questions when many councils do not impose such a criteria. this leads to inability to express questions as intended and leads to half cooked responses by council requiring further questioning at each meeting. Dandenong council allow 3 questions of 300 words.

The response was prepared by Manager Communications and Corporate Governance and answered by Director Customer and Corporate Services

Each Council sets its own Governance Rules to facilitate Public Question Time, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. The 80 word limit is designed to keep questions concise and direct.

Question 10 silencing of ratepayers

Submitter: Jillian Nambu

This is a question for the councillors to respond to: Geelong Council allows ratepayers up to 3 minutes to speak with emotion to fully express their public question at council meetings. These questions are also near the beginning of the meeting before councillors vote on anything. 45 minutes is allocated. Would you like to give this specific voice to the people who pay rates in Casey? Please don't avoid answering this question and tinkering around the edges

The response was prepared and answered by Mayor

Thank you for your question and for your ongoing interest in public participation. Councils across Victoria manage public question time in different ways, guided by their individual Governance Rules. These rules provide flexibility for each council to shape their approach in a way

that best suits their community's needs. We have typically avoided a time limit to allow for all public questions submitted to be heard, as has been the case in our Council meetings earlier this year. Council is awaiting the release of the Model Governance Rules from the State Government, which will help inform how we shape our public question time arrangements for 2026. This is an important opportunity to reflect on current practices and consider improvements that support transparency, accessibility, and timely responses.

Residents are welcome to speak with Councillors or Officers at any time, and do not need to wait for the formality of the monthly council meeting to ask Council for information.

Question 11 expansion of Councillor Transparency: Empowering the Public with Data

Submitter: Jillian Nambu

On this page, <https://data.casey.vic.gov.au/pages/councillors-dashboard/>, can the council show a breakdown on how each councillor voted on each issue? It's too time consuming for residents search the minutes and so this would provide great transparency.

The response was prepared by Manager Strategy Innovation and Transformation and answered by Chief Executive Officer

The Open Data Portal already includes a breakdown of how each councillor voted on each issue. In the Council Decisions Breakdown chart on the Councillor Dashboard, there is an option to select 'Detailed View'. If you click on the relevant part of the chart, you can access a breakdown of councillor voting.

At 7.37 pm Question Time concluded.

11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

12. CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7:38 pm.

Confirmed this 21 day of October 2025

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Mayor Cr Stefan Koomen
City of Casey

NR