

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting Held at the Function Centre, Bunjil Place, Narre Warren Tuesday, 21 July 2026 Commenced 6:00 PM

The Long-Term Community Vision 2035 defines the community aspirations for the future of the municipality, which is

“Casey will be a connected, innovative and resilient community.”

Order of Business

1. Welcome and Acknowledgements	3
1.1. Reading of the Statement of Acknowledgement	3
1.2. Reading of the Diversity Statement	3
2. Confirmation of Minutes	3
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interests and Personal Interests	4
4. Public Question Time	4
5. Officers' Reports for Consideration	9
5.1. 2026/27 Budget Recommendation	9
5.2. Recommendation to Dispose of Land behind Oroya Grove and Ballarto Road, Clyde	10
5.3. 2026-2029 Forward Works Program for Naming and Registration of Council Owned Reserves and Community Facilities	11
5.4. Amendment to S11A Instrument of Authorisation	12
6. Councillor Ward and Committee Updates	13
7. Decisions made over \$1 million under the s5 Instruments of Delegation	13
8. Petitions	13
8.1. Request for Asphaltting of Baker Road (South) Harkaway for Safety Reasons	13
8.2. Resident Parking Assessment - Sigma Way and Welsh Cres, Clyde North.....	13
9. Notice of Motion	14
9.1. NOTICE OF MOTION 3269 - Wilson Botanic Park Masterplan.....	14
10. Late Reports.....	15
11. Urgent Business.....	15
12. Closed Council.....	15
12.1. Closed Council.....	15

ATTENDANCE

Councillors Present

Mayor Cr Stefan Koomen	Waratah Ward
Deputy Mayor Cr Michelle Crowther	Cranbourne Gardens Ward
Cr Scott Dowling	Akoonah Ward
Cr Kim Ross	Casaurina Ward
Cr Gary Rowe	Correa Ward
Cr Anthony Walter	Dillwynia Ward
Cr Dave Perry	Grevillia Ward
Cr Melinda Ambros (virtual)	Kalora 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
Jen Bednar	Director Customer and Corporate Services
Callum Pattie	Director Community Life
Tania Asper	Acting Director Planning and Infrastructure
Chloe Casey	Manager Communications and Corporate Governance
Tom Conroy	AV Technician
Jason Lord	AV Technician
Jess Orr	Head of Corporate Governance
Emily Murrian	Minute Taker
Nicole Rode	Minute Taker

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 Gary Rowe/ Cr Anthony Walter

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16 June 2026 be confirmed.

Carried

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS AND PERSONAL INTERESTS

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

At 6:06 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 Licensing laws

Submitter: Mark Mark

I live in Summerset retirement village. We have been advised that we cannot BYO to the clubroom due to licensing laws. The very essence of a retirement village is so that residents can get together watch a film, play cards ,with a possible social drink . A statement of facts would be appreciated Thank you

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

In July last year, the Victorian Government made changes to the Planning Scheme which now mean that all liquor licenses, including BYO licenses, are assessed by the Victorian Liquor Commission and not by Council. We recommend reaching out directly to the Victorian Liquor Commission for more information.

Question 2 Wilson botanic "overflow" carpark

Submitter: Terrence Kuzakov

Given there was no additional budget allocation in the 26-27 budget, how much of the budgeted amount has been used already for marketing such as the drone footage and video, pop up information events, civil & engineering reports, traffic reports, architecture design & planning, community consultation, staffing costs of community engagement etc and how much is left for construction materials and labour? Please provide a breakdown of money spent for transparency

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

Due to commercial confidentiality requirements, the value of external consultant engagements cannot be disclosed. Project planning, community engagement, design activities and associated staff time have been funded through existing operational budgets, including significant technical and civil design expertise. As a result, the majority of the project's allocated budget remains available to support the delivery phase.

Question 3 Affordable Housing and disposal of land

Submitter: Scott Watson

In light of Council's new Affordable Housing Policy, will all future proposals to sell Council-owned land be assessed first for potential affordable housing use, including through consolidation or partnership with a registered housing provider? Where land is genuinely unsuitable, will Council consider directing some or all sale proceeds into a dedicated affordable housing fund to support projects elsewhere in Casey? Specifically, was either option considered before recommending the sale of land.

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

Our Affordable Housing Policy allows Council to consider using suitable surplus land for affordable housing. Affordable housing is one of a number of factors considered when making decisions about Council-owned

land.

Council officers are currently developing an implementation plan and will report to Council in November on any Council-owned land that may be suitable for affordable housing.

The Policy does not currently include a mechanism to direct proceeds from the sale of Council land into a dedicated affordable housing fund. We will continue to monitor changes to planning laws and consider future options to help increase the supply of affordable housing.

Question 4 Wanting the best for city of Casey

Submitter: Matthew MacDonald

Hi Councillors, I really want the best for the city of Casey when it comes to our roads and the network, this issue affects the people the most, and I can see and if Councillors saw how bad Casey's road network is there be complaining as hard as I am, there be seeing there traffic light solution isn't helping and something needs to be done, what can be done will the Councillors stop the Patterson rd/Clyde five ways intersection upgrade from going ahead?

The response was prepared and answered by the Mayor

The Berwick-Cranbourne, Clyde-Five Ways and Pattersons Roads Intersection Upgrade will replace the existing roundabout with traffic lights. This is a State Department of Transport project which is supported by Council due to the improved safety of motorists, pedestrians and cyclists using major intersections.

Question 5 Better use of road medians and roadsides

Submitter: Dineth Perera

Given Casey's commitment to biodiversity and sustainability, would Council consider reviewing the management of selected road medians and roadside verges by reducing mowing and establishing native wildflower corridors? Similar initiatives overseas have increased biodiversity, supported pollinators, improved urban amenity, and reduced long-term maintenance costs. Could Council investigate a pilot program in appropriate locations across Casey?

The response was prepared by Manager Infrastructure and Open Space and answered by Acting Director City Planning and Infrastructure

Thank you for your question, Dineth, and for your suggestion about increasing native wildflowers across Casey. We can explore whether there may be suitable locations where a trial could be considered. While wildflower meadows can provide important benefits, they do require ongoing maintenance and careful weed management.

Roadside locations can present some additional challenges. These areas need to remain safe and accessible for pedestrians, and any maintenance work must meet a range of safety requirements. In some cases, traffic management is needed to allow staff to work safely, which can add significant costs. That said, we will consider the idea further and look at whether there are suitable opportunities in appropriate locations across Casey.

Question 6 Mandatory fourth glass-bin rollout

Submitter: Anthony Tassone

At its May meeting Council resolved to advocate to the Victorian Government for greater flexibility in the mandatory kerbside glass-bin rollout. Following the Victorian Coalition's recent election commitment to repeal the mandatory rollout if elected, can Council provide an update on what advocacy has been undertaken, including if a letter has been sent to the Minister and, if so, when? Also what contractual provisions or contingencies are in place should the State government policy change?

The response was prepared by Manager Sustainability and Waste and answered by Acting

Council continues to advocate to the Victorian Government regarding the implementation of the kerbside waste reforms, including the proposed glass bin service. Council has written to the Minister for Environment, as well as other Members of Parliament and local candidates outlining our concerns about the financial and operational impacts of the reforms and requesting greater flexibility for councils. Council has not yet received a response and continues to work with other councils and the Municipal Association of Victoria to support coordinated advocacy on this issue.

We acknowledge the recent election commitment from the Liberal Party. At this stage, until we hear any further direction from the Victorian State Government – the Kerbside Waste reforms remain law, and we still have a legal obligation to meet the legislated deadlines. If the State Government decides to change the reforms or delay the timelines, Casey will explore options to recover the costs already incurred or committed.

Question 7 Maintenance of unsealed roads in City of Casey

Submitter: Anthony Tassone

Recent roadworks on Ballarto Road have diverted significant traffic onto the unsealed Tooradin-Station Road, causing its condition to deteriorate rapidly. Can Council outline its policy for inspecting and maintaining unsealed roads that experience substantially increased traffic due to detours, including the maintenance standards, inspection frequencies and intervention thresholds that apply, and whether Council considers its current approach to maintenance sufficient to ensure public safety?

The response was prepared by Manager Infrastructure and Open Space and answered by Acting Director City Planning and Infrastructure

Tooradin-Station Road was part of an approved detour for approximately 6 weeks whilst the Ballarto Road works took place.

During the detour period which ended late last week, maintenance was the responsibility of the property developer undertaking the works under Council's supervision. Council has taken back the maintenance responsibility for Tooradin-Station Road and has maintenance planned over the next 2 weeks to reinstate the road to Council's standards.

Question 8 Wilson Botanic Park Proposed Overflow Carpark

Submitter: Tracey Tracey

Will Council implement NO STANDING restrictions on one side of narrow Kramer Drive, to enable vehicle access to the proposed overflow car park? If so, how will Council determine which side of the street will be affected, & what consideration has been given to residents who may lose on-street parking outside their homes? Given Council acknowledges the proposed overflow car park will not meet current parking demand, how does it justify imposing further parking restrictions on residents?

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

Following completion of the overflow car park, Council will monitor traffic and parking activity within the car park and surrounding streets, including short-term parking behaviour. Until the car park has been operational for several months and seasonal variations in visitor numbers can be assessed, the impacts on adjacent streets will remain uncertain. As such, it is not yet possible to determine whether additional parking management measures, such as "No Standing" restrictions, will be required.

Question 9 Wilson Botanic Park Proposed Overflow Carpark

Submitter: Tracey Tracey

Has Council received the recent geotechnical soil test results for the proposed overflow car park site? If

so, what do the findings say about the stability and suitability of the terrain, and will the full report be made publicly available before any further decisions are made?

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

The Geotechnical report has been received, and officers are working with the consultant on design implications for this site. Technical reports are not released as public documents due to the detail included and the level of expertise required to accurately interpret the information

Question 10 Wilson Botanic Park Proposed Overflow Carpark

Submitter: Fred deRiter

Is Council aware that the proposed overflow car park includes a swale drain to capture runoff, which will be directed to the existing stormwater harvesting garden before flowing into Anniversary Lake? What measures will Council take to ensure that microplastic particles from the plastic grid mesh carpark surface, along with contaminants such as tyre wear particles, brake dust, oils and other vehicle pollutants, do not enter the lake and adversely impact its wildlife, water quality & biodiversity

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

The drainage treatment proposed as part of the car park design includes a drainage swale that directs runoff to the existing stormwater harvesting garden via a litter trap and gross pollutant trap. This is considered a safe and appropriate method of managing surface water.

The stormwater harvesting garden already receives runoff from the surrounding street network and uses water-sensitive urban design principles to improve water quality before it enters the park lake system. Water from the lake is then used as the sole source of irrigation within the park.

Question 11 State election and Councillors

Submitter: Raymond Lai

Confidence in the Mayoral office requires a strict separation between official council duties and personal electoral campaigning. What safeguards are in place to ensure that the Mayor remains focused on the needs of all Casey wards and that mayoral status, public-facing platforms, and ratepayer-funded resources are not being utilised for personal state election ambitions given the Mayor's recent public activity in the Narre Warren South electorate which includes political campaigning?

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

Council's Governance Rules include requirements and guidance for Councillors who choose to stand as candidates in State or Federal elections. Earlier this month, Councillors received a briefing from Officers covering the use of Council resources, conflicts of interest, leave arrangements and the recommended separation of Council and campaign activities.

In line with the Governance Rules, Officers recommended that Councillors standing for election consider taking leave and, where relevant, stepping aside from leadership roles to avoid actual or perceived conflicts. It is the responsibility of each individual Councillor to determine what steps are appropriate in their circumstances.

Question 12 National Anti-Racism Framework

Submitter: Jillian Nambu

Council's support for the recent anti-racism motion ignores that the comprehensive National Anti-Racism Framework already exists after extensive community consultation. Why is Council supporting a motion that risks delaying the implementation of this robust, evidence-based framework? How will the City of

Casey ensure that we are not creating a fragmented, superficial response? Why not fully implement the well designed national framework to act now to fight all forms of racism?

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

Council recognises that while the National Anti-Racism Framework provides national direction, local government has an important role in delivering local action.

Through the Southeast Anti-Racism Support Network, Casey already supports culturally safe services, advocacy and referral pathways for people who experience racism. Supporting this motion builds on that existing work and strengthens alignment with broader anti-racism efforts.

By continuing to work with regional partners and community-led initiatives, Casey can contribute to a coordinated approach that delivers meaningful outcomes for the local community.

Question 13 Development proposal in Green Wedge

Submitter: David Cole

A proposal for a 96 residential village style development is being publicized for sale at 5-7 Homewood Rd Cranbourne South (<https://pujya.com.au/#project>). Could council please indicate if such a development is allowable in the Green Wedges zone?

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

Thank you for your question. Council recently became aware of the website and the proposed development being advertised. To date, Council has not received a planning application for the development shown on the website.

Based on the information currently available, the development as described would not be permitted under the Green Wedge planning controls that apply to the area. Council officers have contacted the developers to seek further information and clarify the details of the proposal.

At 6:22 pm Question Time concluded.

5. OFFICERS' REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

2026/27 Budget Recommendation

ITEM: 5.1.

Customer and Corporate Services
Financial Services
Melissa Baker

Purpose of Report: To adopt an administrative correction to the 2026/27 Budget alternate motion.

Mover / Seconder: Cr Michelle Crowther / Cr Kim Ross

Cr Crowther, Cr Koomen spoke to the motion

That Council endorse correction of the error in the Alternate Motion carried at Item 5.1 Adoption of the suite of corporate planning documents at the Council meeting held 16 June 2026 as it relates to the 1.(b) i. 2.

1. That Council, having undertaken community engagement and public exhibition of the draft suite of corporate planning documents, adopts the:
 - (a) Annual Action Plan 2026/27
 - (b) Budget Report (Budget 2026/27, Capital Works Program 2026/27) and the Financial Plan 2026/27 – 2035/36 including the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 with the following changes:
 - i. changes to the Service Charge for the collection and disposal of rubbish in respect of properties to which the service is provided and Waste Reserve
 - 1) Revise the Service Charge (exclusive of the Berwick Village Commercial Charges) with no increase as compared to the 2025/26 annual declared charges
 - 2) Fund the loss of income by a draw down on the Waste Reserve to a total of \$4,441,154

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

**Recommendation to Dispose of Land behind Oroya Grove
and Ballarto Road, Clyde**
City Planning and Infrastructure
Growth and Investment
Michael Ford

ITEM: 5.2.

Purpose of Report: For Council to consider the disposal of part of the discontinued road Lot B on TP942843 between Ballarto Road and Oroya Grove, Clyde.

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

That Council, having given notice under Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) of the intention to sell Lot B on TP942843 and received one (1) submission requiring consideration:

1. Resolves to sell those parts of the discontinued road located behind the properties at 19 and 21 Ballarto Road and 12 and 14 Oroya Grove, Clyde, described as Lots 2 and 3 on proposed Plan of Subdivision PS938155P (Subject Land) (Attachment 2), by private treaty in accordance with the Confidential Attachments to this report; and
2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - (a) Sign and seal all documentation associated with the sale of the Subject Land; and
 - (b) Act generally on Council's behalf in this matter.

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

**2026-2029 Forward Works Program for Naming and
Registration of Council Owned Reserves and Community
Facilities**

ITEM: 5.3.

**City Planning and Infrastructure
Growth and Investment
Michael Ford**

Purpose of Report: **To recommend endorsement of the *2026-2029 Forward Works Program for Naming and Registration of Council Owned Reserves and Community Facilities*.**

Mover / Seconder: Cr Kim Ross / Cr Dave Perry

That Council endorse the *2026-2029 Forward Works Program for Naming and Registration of Council Owned Reserves and Community Facilities* at Attachment 2 to this report.

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

Mover / Seconder: Cr Kim Ross / Cr Dave Perry
Cr Ross, Cr Perry, Cr Koomen spoke to the motion

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the *2026-2029 Forward Works Program for Naming and Registration of Council Owned Reserves and Community Facilities* at Attachment 2 to this report; and**
- 2. Requests that officers articulate, by 31 August 2026, a process for community members to proactively submit proposed place names for officer consideration against Geographic Names Victoria and Council naming requirements, which:**
 - (a) clearly outlines the submission process for community members;**
 - (b) allows submissions to be made online, and, where possible, hard copy format; and**
 - (c) provides for officer acknowledgement of, and feedback on, submitted place name proposals.**

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

Amendment to S11A Instrument of Authorisation**ITEM: 5.4.**

Customer and Corporate Services

Communications and Corporate Governance

Chloe Casey

Purpose of Report: Seeking endorsement of amendments to S11A Instrument of Authorisation.**Mover / Seconder: Cr Lynette Pereira / Cr Anthony Walter**

Cr Pereira, Cr Koomen spoke to the motion

That Council resolves that:

1. The members of Council staff referred to in the s11A Instrument of Authorisation *Planning and Environment Act 1987* be appointed and authorised as set out in the Instrument.
2. The Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation be signed by the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of Council.
3. The Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation comes into force immediately upon signing by the Chief Executive Officer and remains in force until such time that Council determines to vary or revoke it.

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

6. COUNCILLOR WARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Noted

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

CONTRACTS OVER \$1 MILLION

REPORTING PERIOD: 19 MAY 2026 TO 22 JUNE 2026 INCLUSIVE

Noted

CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN EXPENDITURE

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JUNE 2026 TO 30 JUNE 2026 INCLUSIVE

Noted

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CONTRIBUTIONS EXPENDITURE

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JUNE 2026 TO 30 JUNE 2026 INCLUSIVE

Noted

8. PETITIONS

8.1 REQUEST FOR ASPHALTING OF BAKER ROAD (SOUTH) HARKAWAY FOR SAFETY REASONS

Cr Dave Perry tabled a Petition signed by seven (7) signatories.

That the petition be referred to the Chief Executive Officer to respond to the head petitioner and provide a response to the matters raised in the petition.

8.2.RESIDENT PARKING ASSESSMENT - SIGMA WAY AND WELSH CRES, CLYDE NORTH

Cr Jennifer Dizon tabled a Petition signed by 11 signatories.

That the petition be referred to the Chief Executive Officer to respond to the head petitioner and provide a response to the matters raised in the petition.

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

9.1. NOTICE OF MOTION 3269 - WILSON BOTANIC PARK MASTERPLAN

Mover/ Seconder: Cr Dave Perry/ Cr Lynette Pereira

Cr Perry, Cr Pereira, Cr Crowther, Cr Ambros, Cr Dizon, Cr Eaves, Cr Koomen spoke to the motion
Cr Walter, Cr Ross, Cr Dowling spoke against the motion

1. Notes Council's December 2025 resolution to undertake a comprehensive review of the existing Wilson Botanic Park Masterplan in 2026/27.
2. Requests that the comprehensive review of the Wilson Botanic Park Masterplan:
 - consider the long-term role, vision, purpose and service offering of Wilson Botanic Park, including its activation, programs, events, visitor experience, and botanical, biodiversity and heritage values;
 - assess the infrastructure, access, parking and investment requirements needed to support the future direction of the Park; and
 - be informed by community and stakeholder engagement, and balance environmental, community, operational, financial and whole-of-life cost considerations.
3. Pauses further design, procurement and delivery activities associated with the proposed Wilson Botanic Park overflow car park until the revised Masterplan has been completed and endorsed by Council, with a report to be presented to Council following endorsement of the Masterplan outlining parking and access options for the Park, including associated costs, benefits and constraints, for future Council consideration.
4. Relinquishes the funding allocation for the Wilson Botanic Park overflow car park project and reallocates those funds to the Design and Construct – General Contingency within the 2026/27 Capital Works Program to support broader capital works program delivery.

CARRIED (9 / 3)

For: Cr Carolyn Eaves, Cr Dave Perry, Cr Gary Rowe, Cr Jennifer Dizon, Cr Lynette Pereira, Cr Melinda Ambros, Cr Michelle Crowther, Cr Shane Taylor and Cr Stefan Koomen

Against: Cr Anthony Walter, Cr Kim Ross and Cr Scott Dowling

10. LATE REPORTS

Nil

11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

12. CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1. CLOSED COUNCIL

Pursuant to Section 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), the Chief Executive Officer has determined that the reports listed below, and their attachments are confidential in accordance with Section 3 of the Act for the reasons specified:

- 15.1 - Section 3(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released; and Section 3(c) - land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values;

CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7:31 pm.

Confirmed this 18 day of August 2026

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Mayor Cr Stefan Koomen
City of Casey

EM