

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF THE FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE ON 20 JANUARY 2025 at 7:03 PM**

PRESENT
Online via Zoom

Cr. Kris Bolam (Mayor)
Cr. Steffie Conroy (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. David Asker
Cr. Sue Baker
Cr. Nathan Butler
Cr. Emily Green
Cr. Brad Hill
Cr. Michael O'Reilly
Cr. Cherie Wanat

APOLOGIES: Nil.

ABSENT: Nil.

OFFICERS:
Online via Zoom

Phil Cantillon, Chief Executive Officer
Kim Jaensch, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
Angela Hughes, Director Communities
Cam Arullanantham, Director Infrastructure and Operations
Shweta Babbar, Director Customer Innovation and Arts
Brianna Alcock, Manager Governance
Fiona McQueen, Manager Community Relations
Ken Liddicoat, Acting Manager Community Strengthening
Tenille Craig, Coordinator Governance
Connor Rose, Desktop Support and Project Officer

EXTERNAL
REPRESENTATIVES: Nil.

Cr O'Reilly was not present at the commencement of the meeting.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT

The Mayor opened the meeting with a Mayor's statement.

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Chairperson’s initials

Cr O'Reilly joined the meeting at 7.13pm

1. APOLOGIES

Nil

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Council Meeting No. CM0 held on 25 December 2024.

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Baker

Seconded: Councillor Conroy

That the minutes of the Council Meeting No. CM0 held on 25 December 2024 copies of which had previously been circulated to all Councillors, be confirmed, approved and adopted.

Carried Unanimously

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

4. HEARING OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Zac White made a submission to Council regarding Item Federal Election 2025 – Advocacy Priorities.

COUNCILLOR STATEMENT

Councillor Green made the following statement:

“All members of this Council pledge to the City of Frankston community to consider every item listed on this evening’s agenda:

- *Based on the individual merits of each item;*
- *Without bias or prejudice by maintaining an open mind; and*
- *Disregarding Councillors’ personal interests so as to avoid any conflict with our public duty.*

Any Councillor having a conflict of interest in an item will make proper, prior disclosure to the meeting and will not participate or vote on the issue.”

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Councillor Green acknowledged the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation – the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we stand, and paid respect to Elders past, present and future. Respect was also extended to Elders of other communities who may have been present.

Chairperson’s initials

5. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS**5.1 Community Service Partnership Grant Recommendations 2025-2028***(KL Communities)***Recommendation (Director Communities)**

That Council:

2022-2025 Funding Period

1. Receives the Year 2 Summary Outcome report of the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant for the July 2022 – June 2025 funding period (Attachment A - Confidential) that has been compiled on the basis of the information provided by the recipients in their Year 2 Acquittal reports.

2025-2028 Funding Period

2. Notes the attached 2025-2028 Community Service Partnership Grant Guidelines which were approved in compliance with delegations outlined in the Community Grants Policy and approved by Council on 6 June 2022;
3. Notes the total recommended budget allocation to the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant in 2025/26 is \$546,535.88, which is consistent with the budget allocation made in 2024/25 financial year (plus CPI);
4. Commits to the 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28 budgets the annual funding allocations to the recipients identified in Attachment F under the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant, with these amounts to be subject to an annual CPI adjustment (long term budget) and their allocations subject to the accountabilities outlined in the grant guidelines and funding agreement. These allocations are grouped as per the following:

Specialist Community Services:	\$ 248,124.88
Seniors Groups:	\$ 24,426.00
Community Centre Recipients:	\$ 261,985.00
Traditional Fundraising Events:	<u>\$ 12,000.00</u>
Total:	\$ 546,535.88

5. Endorses the proposed administrative change to Community Service Partnership Grant to include a category termed 'Traditional Fundraising Events' which would incorporate fundraising and event related initiatives for 3 years of funding;
6. Notes the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant agreements will be updated to further require recipients to ensure that the application of any grant funding is politically neutral so as to avoid any perceived partisanship, particularly in the lead-up or during any local, State or Federal election; and
7. Resolves for Attachment A, C and D to be retained as confidential indefinitely on the grounds that it includes personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (*Local Government Act 2020, s.3(1)(f)*). These grounds apply because the contents contain private information of the nominees, who have not consented to being disclosed. Release of this information might undermine public confidence and make people reluctant to submit applications in the future, which would compromise Council's ability to run similar programs in the future.

Chairperson's initials

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Conroy

Seconded: Councillor Butler

That Council:

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- 6. Notes the Community Service Partnership (Triennial) Grant agreements will be updated to further require recipients to ensure that the application of any grant funding is politically neutral so as to avoid any perceived partisanship, particularly in the lead-up or during any local, State or Federal election;
- 7.
 - a) Recognises the vital contributions of emergency relief providers in supporting vulnerable members of the Frankston community and acknowledges the significant impact of their work;
 - b) Notes that Council is in the early stages of constructing a dedicated package aimed at addressing the present cost-of-living pressures faced by Frankston residents;
 - c) Endeavours to develop a 'Local Support' package for consideration as part of the 2025/26 budget that would also include exploring ways in which Council can further support these essential organisations in their efforts to deliver critical relief services (which is beyond the existing capacity of the Community Partnership Grants); and
- 7. Resolves for Attachment A, C and D to be retained as confidential indefinitely on the grounds that it includes personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any

Chairperson's initials

person or their personal affairs (*Local Government Act 2020, s.3(1)(f)*). These grounds apply because the contents contain private information of the nominees, who have not consented to being disclosed. Release of this information might undermine public confidence and make people reluctant to submit applications in the future, which would compromise Council's ability to run similar programs in the future.

Carried Unanimously

5.2 Federal Election 2025 - Advocacy Priorities*(KT Customer Innovation and Arts)***Council Decision****Moved: Councillor Hill****Seconded: Councillor Baker**

That Council:

1. Notes the importance of Council-led advocacy on behalf of the local and regional community in raising awareness of key initiatives for potential Federal Government investment prior to and during the 2025 election;
2. Notes the local government sector is experiencing economic challenges, highlighting the need to focus advocacy priorities on practical and achievable outcomes that reflect Council's financial position;
3. Endorses the following four core priorities for Council-led advocacy ahead of the 2025 federal election:
 - a. Nepean Boulevard Precinct Revitalisation
Seeking Federal funding contribution to deliver key projects identified in the Nepean Boulevard Master Plan to enhance local infrastructure and liveability in Frankston's growing city centre, the amount of which will be confirmed at the Council Meeting on 29 January 2025;
 - b. Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment
Seeking \$3.33 million funding co-contributions from Federal and State each to deliver a fit-for-purpose, inclusive multi-sport facility for tennis, AFL and cricket at Bruce Park in Frankston, the cost of the project being confirmed as \$10 million at the 19 August 2024 Council Meeting;
 - c. Enhancing Connected Neighbourhoods
Seeking Federal funding contribution of \$11.7 million for a package of active transport initiatives that strengthen connections within Frankston and to its neighbouring municipalities, including walking and cycling pathways that integrate key suburbs with Frankston's city centre;
 - d. Support for Vulnerable Community Members
 - i. Seeking to secure ongoing Federal funding of an additional \$500,000 per annum for wider emergency relief providers operating in the Frankston municipality to address the needs of vulnerable residents, noting the substantial role of Community Support Frankston and other services that are currently provided in the Frankston municipality; and
 - ii. Seeking Federal funding of \$350,000 per annum over three years (2026-2028) to extend the Community Connections pilot project at Frankston Station (currently operating until late 2025), providing two (2) mental health and social support practitioners to deliver support services to community members and to improve public safety.
4. (a) Notes that since Council last endorsed Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment as an Advocacy Priority on 11 September 2024, the total cost of the development has increased from \$9 million to \$10 million as a result of construction cost escalations, necessitating a greater funding contribution from Council than currently budgeted as part of Council seeking triennial funding for the whole of the re-development;
- (b) Authorises the CEO to make the necessary adjustments to the Long Term Infrastructure Plan and Council Budget to allocate an additional \$0.33 million to

Chairperson's initials

Council’s existing \$3 million contribution to the Bruce Park Pavilion Redevelopment project, by offsetting this against other projects in the LTIP, so as not to adversely affect Council’s financial performance or further increase its projected underlying deficit;

5. Notes that ongoing advocacy, including grant applications, on agreed further projects, must be led by relevant key partners, organisations and clubs. Correspondence outlining this requirement and providing guidance on advocacy will be shared to key stakeholders after this meeting. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Nairm Marr Djambana Gathering Place facility upgrade (Frankston);
 - b. Len Phelps Pavilion expansion (Carrum Downs); and
 - c. Monterey Reserve Precinct Revitalisation (Frankston North).
6. Notes there are also a discrete number of other projects of continuing interest by parts the community, which will be pursued directly by the clubs or community groups, independent of Council. An example of this is the Frankston Bowling Club Canopy Dome, which Council has previously made a funding pledge towards at the 3 June 2024 Council Meeting;
7. Notes an advocacy campaign plan detailing key tactics, stakeholders, messaging and events will be finalised following endorsement of the core advocacy priorities. The advocacy campaign will include various printed publications, correspondence to stakeholders and MPs/candidates, extensive public relations tactics such as videos and social media, an engaging website and more; and
8. Notes, following the outcomes of the 2025 federal election, the advocacy priorities and funding strategy will be further reviewed and updated to Council in due course.

Carried Unanimously

Chairperson’s initials

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

6.1 2025/NOM01 - Amendment to the Councillor Call-In Protocol

(TB Communities)

Council Decision

Moved: Councillor Wanat

Seconded: Councillor Hill

That Council seeks to amend the Councillor call-in protocol and associated form pertaining to planning permit applications due to the change to single Councillor Wards, to reflect the following:

- a) That Councillors must fill in a mandatory call-in form that includes the rationale for the call-in and written agreement (including by electronic means) must be received from four Councillors before a Councillor call-in is effectual; and
- b) The call-in form must be attached to the Council agenda item of the planning permit application called in.

Carried Unanimously

7. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil Reports

The meeting was closed to the public at 7.50 pm

DRAFT MINUTES
CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2024

.....
CHAIRPERSON



Chairperson's initials