



# Minutes

## Extraordinary (Ceremonial) Council Meeting

6:32 pm, Tuesday 19 November 2024

Richmond Town Hall



**Order of Business**

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## 1. Acknowledgement of Country

“Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra.

We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders.

We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have never ceded sovereignty and retain their strong connections to family, clan and country despite the impacts of European invasion.

We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We pay our respects to Elders from all nations here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.”

## 2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence

### Attendance

#### Councillors:

- Cr Stephen Jolly            Mayor
- Cr Sarah McKenzie       Deputy Mayor
- Cr Evangeline Aston
- Cr Edward Crossland
- Cr Andrew Davies
- Cr Kenneth Gomez
- Cr Sharon Harrison
- Cr Meca Ho
- Cr Sophie Wade

#### Council staff:

##### *Chief Executive Officer*

- Sue Wilkinson

##### *General Managers*

- Brooke Colbert            Governance, Communications and Customer Experience
- Sam Hewett                Infrastructure and Environment
- Kerry McGrath            Community Strengthening
- Mary Osman                City Sustainability and Strategy
- Lucy Roffey                Corporate Services

##### *Governance*

- Phil De Losa                Manager Governance and Integrity
- Patrick O’Gorman        Senior Governance Coordinator
- Mel Nikou                  Governance Officer

### **3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Cr Aston, Cr Crossland, Cr Davies, Cr Gomez, Cr Harrison, Cr Ho, Cr Jolly, Cr McKenzie and Cr Wade declared that they had familiarised themselves with the matters being presented to this meeting and that they do not have a conflict of interest.

## 4. Council Business Reports

### 4.1. Election of Mayor

**Author** Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

**Authoriser** General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council determine the office of the Mayor be for one year (2024/2025).

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor Crossland

That Council determine the office of the Mayor be for one year (2024/2025).

#### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho, Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Chief Executive Officer called for nominations of Mayor:

Councillor Aston nominated Councillor Jolly.

Councillor Jolly accepted.

Councillor Wade nominated Councillor Crossland.

Councillor Crossland accepted.

No further nominations were received.

In order of nomination, the candidates were:

Cr Stephen Jolly; and

Cr Edward Crossland.

The Chief Executive Officer then invited each nominated Councillor to address the meeting.

After the two elected Councillors addressed the meeting the Chief Executive Officer called for each Councillor to vote by a show of hands.

In order of nomination, the following votes were:

Voting for Cr Stephen Jolly:

Councillors Harrison, Aston, Davies, Jolly, Ho, Gomez and McKenzie.

Having received an absolute majority of votes, the Chief Executive Officer declared Cr Stephen Jolly elected as Mayor for 2024/2025.

## 4.2. Office and Election of Deputy Mayor

**Author** Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

**Authoriser** General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

### Officer Recommendation

That Council establish the office of the Deputy Mayor for one year (2024/2025).

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Ho

**Seconded:** Councillor Wade

That Council establish the office of the Deputy Mayor for one year (2024/2025).

### CALL FOR A DIVISION

**For:** Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho, Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie and Councillor Wade

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Mayor assumed the Chair.

The Mayor called for nominations of Deputy Mayor:

Councillor Ho nominated Councillor McKenzie.

Councillor McKenzie accepted.

No further nominations were received.

The Mayor declared Councillor McKenzie as the elected Deputy Mayor for 2024/2025.

### 4.3. Councillor addresses on being elected to Council

**Author** Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

**Authoriser** General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

For Councillors to address on being elected to Council. No resolution is required.

The Mayor invited Councillors to address Council. The following Councillors provided an address:

Councillor Davies addressed Council;

Councillor Ho addressed Council;

Councillor Gomez addressed Council;

Councillor McKenzie addressed Council;

Councillor Harrison addressed Council;

Councillor Crossland addressed Council;

Councillor Wade addressed Council; and

Councillor Aston addressed Council.

The Mayor also addressed Council.

#### **Oaths and Affirmations of Office**

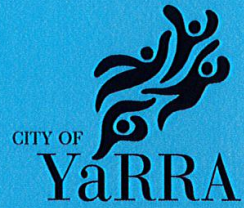
Section 30 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires that Councillors take an oath or affirmation of office and that it be administered by the Chief Executive Officer, dated and signed before the Chief Executive Officer and recorded in the minutes of the Council.

The following oaths and affirmations were taken by Councillors at a meeting before the Chief Executive Officer on Tuesday 12 November 2024.



Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR ASTON**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 2020* and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Evangeline Aston', written over a horizontal line.

**Evangeline Aston**

A handwritten date '12/11/24' in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

**Date**

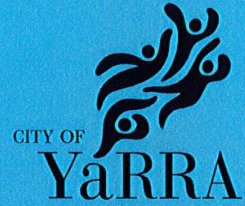
Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Wilkinson', written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR CROSSLAND**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward Crossland", written over a horizontal line.

**Edward Crossland**

*12.11.2024*

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**Date**

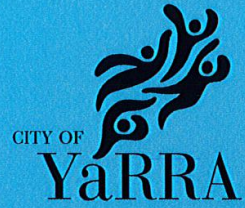
Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue Wilkinson", written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR DAVIES**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 2020* and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Davies', written over a horizontal line.

**Andrew Davies**

A handwritten date '12/11/2024' written in black ink over a horizontal line.

**Date**

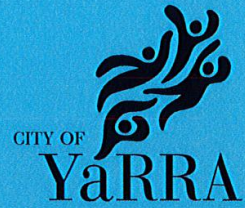
Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sue Wilkinson', written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR GOMEZ**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Gomez", written over a horizontal line.

**Kenneth Gomez**

A handwritten date "12/11/2024" in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

**Date**

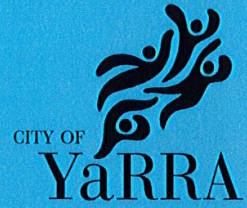
Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sue Wilkinson", written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR HARRISON**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 2020* and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

*f. m. Harrison*

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**Sharon Harrison**

*12/11/2024*

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**Date**

Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

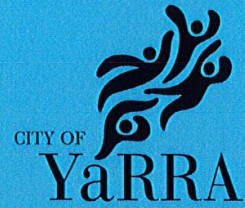
*Sue Wilkinson*

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**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR HO**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Meca Ho', written over a horizontal line.

**Meca Ho**

A handwritten date '12/11/24' in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

**Date**

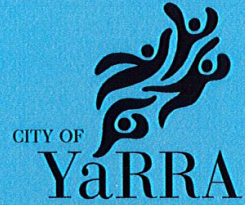
Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sue Wilkinson', written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR JOLLY**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Jolly', written over a horizontal line.

**Stephen Jolly**

A handwritten date '12.11.24' in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

**Date**

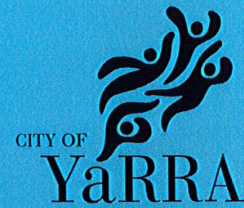
Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Wilkinson', written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR MCKENZIE**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 2020* and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sarah McKenzie', written over a horizontal line.

**Sarah McKenzie**

12/11/2024

**Date**

Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

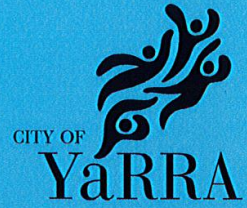
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Wilkinson', written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer



Yarra City Council  
**AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE  
BY COUNCILLOR WADE**

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**Local Government Act 2020 Section 30**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 and any other Act to the best of my skill and judgement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophie Wade', written over a horizontal line.

**Sophie Wade**

A handwritten date '12 November 2024' in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

**Date**

Declared at Richmond Town Hall before me on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Wilkinson', written over a horizontal line.

**Sue Wilkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 7:01 pm.

Confirmed Tuesday 26 November 2024

Mayor