

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

# COUNCIL MEETING

# MINUTES

**Tuesday 2 May 2023**

6:30pm

Council Chambers

65 Homebush Road, Strathfield



Minutes of the Council Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 2 May 2023, in the Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

**COMMENCING:** 6:30pm

**PRESENT:** Councillor Karen Pensabene (Mayor)  
Councillor Matthew Blackmore  
Councillor Benjamin Cai  
Councillor Raj Datta  
Councillor Nella Hall  
Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran  
Councillor Sandy Reddy

**STAFF:** Michael Mamo, General Manager  
Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community  
Clare Harley, Director Planning and Environment  
Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations  
Don Johnston, Chief Financial Officer  
Melissa Mallos, General Counsel  
Warwick, Lawrence, Manager Governance and Risk  
Cathy Jones, Chief Strategy Officer  
David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

1. **PRAYER:** The Prayer was read.

2. **RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS:** The Recognition was read.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Nil.

Councillor Hall arrived at the meeting, the time being 6:33pm.

Councillor Blackmore left the meeting at 8:16pm and did not return.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST (NATURE OF INTEREST TO BE DISCLOSED)**

Councillor Blackmore declared a Non-Pecuniary/Non-Significant conflict of interest for item *16.1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions of Interest* and will manage the conflict of interest by leaving the meeting during discussion and voting on this item. Councillor Blackmore declared that he is a contractor for the company that advertised this property although this happened after their appointment. Councillor Blackmore will leave the meeting as a matter of perception.

Councillor Pensabene declared a Non-Pecuniary/Non-Significant conflict of interest for item *16.1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions of Interest* and will manage the conflict of interest by leaving the meeting during discussion and voting on this item.

Councillor Hall declared a Non-Pecuniary/Significant conflict of interest for item *16.1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions of Interest* and will manage the conflict of interest by leaving the meeting during discussion and voting on this item. Councillor Hall declared that she has a relationship with a stakeholder.

## 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### 5.1 Multi-Cultural Festival – Councillor Karen Pensabene

I want to acknowledge and express our sincere gratitude to the Communications Team headed by Ms Ayla Karabulut, for the outstanding work in making our first multi-cultural Festival a resounding success. The teams' tireless efforts in organising, promoting, and executing the event were truly impressive, and it is thanks to your hard work and dedication that the festival was such a memorable experience for everyone who attended.

The diversity, creativity and professionalism were evident by how many residents came to me to thank Council for the wonderful event it was. I took the time to visit each business in the square and asked for their feedback. They were also impressed and extremely grateful for the increase in their business over the three nights.

We all look forward to another great festival next year and I will not be shocked to see it bigger and better than this year.

Congratulations.

### 5.2 Youth Week – Councillor Karen Pensabene

I wish to acknowledge the Library Team and the Strathfield Collaborative Youth Group for the excellent display and information session held at the Library last week. The knowledge and resources shared during the event were truly enlightening and valuable to all the students who attended. Thank you for providing such an interesting forum, and I hope next year more high schools in our area will participate in this valuable event.

I wish to thank Ms Kathryn Fayle and the TAFE Digital team.

### **5.3 ANZAC Day – Councillor Karen Pensabene**

I wish to acknowledge the ANZAC Day Working Committee and the Cumberland sub-branch for the outstanding and successful ANZAC Day ceremony held on 25 April 2023.

It was noticed by all that it was the largest service we have had in Strathfield and would like to extend my gratitude to the residents and school community who attended the ceremony.

Your presence was a testament to the respect and appreciation that we gave for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and service to our country.

Congratulations to Xavier Khoury from St Patrick's College for the moving poem he wrote and read at the ceremony. Thank you to all the schools who participated in the competition, and we look forward to holding the competition again next year.

### **5.4 Resignation – Deputy Mayor, Councillor Matthew Blackmore**

Councillor Blackmore announced his resignation from his position of Deputy Mayor and read a statement acknowledging the diligent and hard working staff and the support of several Councillors during his 14 month term as Mayor.

## **6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**107/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Blackmore / Reddy)

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 4 April 2023, a copy of which has been furnished to each Councillor, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairman and General Manager be authorised to sign such minutes.

*Voting on this item was unanimous*

## **7. MAYORAL MINUTE(S) IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

### **7.1 Mayoral Minute 17-23 - Auburn Police and Police Area Command**

**108/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene)

That Council makes representation to the Auburn Police and Police Area Command about the ongoing and increased illegal buying and selling of drugs in our local streets.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

**8. ITEMS BY EXCEPTION****109/23****RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

I move that in accordance with Section 13 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice the items below be dealt with by exception and that they be adopted as recommended by a single Motion:

GMU1 Hardship Policy

CCS1 Quarterly Budget Review Statement - 31 March 2023

CCS2 Investment Report as at 31 March 2023

CCS4 Small Grants Application - Priscilla Baydoun

CCS5 Councillor Workshop 11 April 2023

CCS6 Councillor Workshop 18 April 2023

11.1 Report from Traffic Committee meeting on 18 April 2023

11.2 Report from Audit, Risk and Improvement Meeting on 28 March 2023

12.1 State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committee \_ Arthur Street and Homebush Bay Drive in Homebush West – Councillor Raj Datta

12.2 State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committee - Marlborough Road – Councillor Raj Datta

12.3 Paving at Homebush Village Shops – Councillor Matthew Blackmore

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

GMU1 Hardship Policy

**110/23****RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That the draft Hardship Policy 2023 be adopted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**CCS1 Quarterly Budget Review Statement - 31 March 2023**

**111/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

The Budget Review Statement for quarter ending 31 March 2023 be received and adopted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**CCS2 Investment Report as at 31 March 2023**

**112/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That the record of cash investments as at 31 March 2023 be received and noted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**CCS4 Small Grants Application - Priscilla Baydoun**

**113/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That Council approves the Small Grant Application from individual, Priscilla Baydoun, to support her gymnastics sporting endeavour.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**CCS5 Councillor Workshop 11 April 2023**

**114/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That the report be received and noted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

CCS6 Councillor Workshop 18 April 2023

115/23

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That the report be received and noted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

11.1 Report from Traffic Committee meeting on 18 April 2023

116/23

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 18 April 2023 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

11.2 Report from Audit, Risk and Improvement Meeting on 28 March 2023

117/23

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 28 March 2023 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

12.1 Notice of Motion – State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committee \_ Arthur Street and Homebush Bay Drive in Homebush West – Councillor Raj Datta

118/23

**RESOLVED ON THE NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR RAJ DATTA**

**Moved by:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That Council be provided with a report to investigate the establishment of a Working Party to address:

- I. Prospective funding options that might be available for building a flyover/overpass/tunnel across the intersection of Arthur Street and Homebush Bay Drive.
- II. The delegation of a Working Party to prepare a plausible action plan for securing funding for delivery of the infrastructure.
- III. The possibility of a site visit by the Working Party by 30 June 2023.
- IV. The appointment of an Executive of the council to coordinate and manage the progress of the Working Party on the delivery of progressive milestones and achievements and commence reporting on progress from August 2023 council meeting, every 3 months to the council until completion, for updating the council on progress and seeking appropriate guidance for delivery of the outcome.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**12.2 Notice of Motion – State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committee - Marlborough Road – Councillor Raj Datta**

**119/23**

**RESOLVED ON THE NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR RAJ DATTA**

**Moved by:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That Council be provided with a report to investigate the establishment of a Working Party to address:

- I. Prospective funding options that might be available for building a safe means of crossing the Marlborough Road.
- II. The delegation of a Working Party to prepare a plausible action plan for securing funding for delivery of the infrastructure.
- III. The possibility of a site visit by the working committee by 30 June 2023.
- IV. The appointment of an Executive of the council to coordinate and manage the progress of the Working Party on the delivery of progressive milestones and achievements and reporting on its progress, every three (3) months to the council until completion and for updating the council on progress and seeking appropriate guidance for delivery of the outcome.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**12.3 Notice of Motion – Paving at Homebush Village Shops – Councillor Matthew Blackmore**

**120/23**

**RESOLVED ON THE NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEW BLACKMORE**

**Moved by:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That a report be prepared for Council in relation to the paving at Homebush Village Shops.



The report include, but not limited to:

- Cost of the recent paving and associated works
- Procurement Process that was followed
- The costs associated with any works completed to improve the performance of the pavers after the installation
- Asset information about the future maintenance and life cycle of these works.

***RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION***

**9. PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil.

**10. REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**GMU2 Draft Delivery Program 2022-2026, Draft Operational Plan 2023-2024, Draft Budget 2023-2024 and Draft Fees and Charges 2023-2024**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That:
  - a. The draft Delivery Program 2022-26, and draft Operational Plan, including the draft Statement of Revenue Policy incorporating the draft Budget and draft Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2023-24, attached to the report, be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days in accordance with the requirements in the Local Government Act 1993. Pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1993*, Strathfield Council has reviewed and developed the following plans for public exhibition for 28 days.
  - b. The period of exhibition be from 3 May – 31 May 2023.
  - c. A further report be prepared and submitted to an Extra-Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on 27 June 2023 following the exhibition period.
2. That in regard to management of various sportsgrounds that:
  - a. Council replace the existing natural turf pitch at Hudson Park with a synthetic pitch after November 2025, when the current Licence expires.
  - b. Council not enter into a new Licence for Hudson Park after November 2025 and that it be managed similarly to other sporting grounds and that it be booked through the normal Council seasonal hire process.
  - c. Strathfield Park sporting grounds not be made available for use for cricket.
  - d. The new Licence for the Croquet Club at 50 Redmyre Road, Strathfield, after July 2026, includes the full annual cost incurred by Council for maintenance of the greens.

**MOTION:** (Datta / Hall)

1. That:
  - d. The draft Delivery Program 2022-26, and draft Operational Plan, including the draft Statement of Revenue Policy incorporating the draft Budget and draft Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2023-24, attached to the report, be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days in accordance with the requirements in the Local Government Act 1993. Pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1993*, Strathfield Council has reviewed and developed the following plans for public exhibition for 28 days.
  - e. The period of exhibition be from 3 May – 31 May 2023.
  - f. A further report be prepared and submitted to an Extra-Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on 27 June 2023 following the exhibition period.
  - g. That the respective programs be mapped to each of the issues identified on page 70 and be presented to the 27 June 2023 Extraordinary Council Meeting.
2. That in regard to management of various sportsgrounds that:
  - a. Council replace the existing natural turf pitch at Hudson Park with a synthetic pitch after November 2025, when the current Licence expires.
  - b. Council not enter into a new Licence for Hudson Park after November 2025 and that it be managed similarly to other sporting grounds and that it be booked through the normal Council seasonal hire process.
  - c. Strathfield Park sporting grounds not be made available for use for cricket.
  - d. The new Licence for the Croquet Club at 50 Redmyre Road, Strathfield, after July 2026, includes the full annual cost incurred by Council for maintenance of the greens.

For the Motion: Councillors Pensabene, Datta and Maheswaran

Against the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Hall and Reddy

The Mayor declared the Motion **Lost**.

**121/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Hall / Reddy)

1. That:
  - a. The draft Delivery Program 2022-26, and draft Operational Plan, including the draft Statement of Revenue Policy incorporating the draft Budget and draft Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2023-24, attached to the report, be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days in accordance with the requirements in the Local Government Act 1993. Pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1993*, Strathfield Council has reviewed and developed the following plans for public exhibition for 28 days.
  - b. The period of exhibition be from 3 May – 31 May 2023.

- c. A further report be prepared and submitted to an Extra-Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on 27 June 2023 following the exhibition period.
  - d. That the respective programs be mapped to each of the issues identified on page 70 and be presented to the 27 June 2023 Extraordinary Council Meeting.
2. That in regard to management of various sportsgrounds that:
  - a. Council replace the existing natural turf pitch at Hudson Park with a synthetic pitch after November 2025, when the current Licence expires.
  - b. Council not enter into a new Licence for Hudson Park after November 2025 and that it be managed similarly to other sporting grounds and that it be booked through the normal Council seasonal hire process.
  - c. Strathfield Park sporting grounds not be made available for use for cricket.
  - d. The new Licence for the Croquet Club at 50 Redmyre Road, Strathfield, after July 2026, includes the full annual cost incurred by Council for maintenance of the greens.
3. That the Homebush West Additional Technology project be deferred until 2025.
4. That Council write to State Member for Strathfield and Federal Member for Reid with regard to contribution fundings from the State and Federal Governments for Telopea Avenue Bridge.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

### **CCS3 Council Committees**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Council note the current Audit and Risk Committee (ARIC) Terms of Reference requiring two Councillor voting delegates and note Councillor Datta's resignation from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

That Council appoint a Councillor to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to fill the vacancy created by Cr Datta's resignation and consider appointing an additional alternative delegate to attend in the absence of either appointed Council delegate.

That the Mayor and Deputy Mayoral memberships of previously appointed Committees be amended to indicate Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral membership by position only.

#### **MOTION: (Hall / Reddy)**

1. That Council note the current Audit and Risk Committee (ARIC) Terms of Reference requiring two

Councillor voting delegates and note Councillor Datta's resignation from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

2. That Councillor Maheswaran be nominated as Council's delegate to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and Councillor Hall be appointed as an alternative delegate to attend in the absence of either appointed Council delegate.
3. That the Mayor and Deputy Mayoral memberships of previously appointed Committees be amended to indicate Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral membership by position only.
4. That Councillor Maheswaran be nominated the Councillor representative for the ARIC Meeting.
5. That Councillor Hall be nominated the alternative Councillor representative for the ARIC Meeting.

**122/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Hall / Reddy)

1. That Council note the current Audit and Risk Committee (ARIC) Terms of Reference requiring two Councillor voting delegates and note Councillor Datta's resignation from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.
2. That Councillor Maheswaran be nominated as Council's delegate to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and Councillor Hall be appointed as an alternative delegate to attend in the absence of either appointed Council delegate.
3. That the Mayor and Deputy Mayoral memberships of previously appointed Committees be amended to indicate Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral membership by position only.
4. That Councillor Maheswaran be nominated the Councillor representative for the ARIC Meeting.
5. That Councillor Hall be nominated the alternative Councillor representative for the ARIC Meeting.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

#### **CC57 Current Status of Council Resolutions**

**123/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Hall / Blackmore)

That the report on the status of Council resolutions be noted.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy  
Against the Motion: Nil

**EO1 Community Garden Rear of Bates Street Community Centre****RECOMMENDATION:**

That the gardens at the rear of the Bates Street Community Centre be removed and reinstated back to turf.

**MOTION:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That a report be provided after the exhibition period of the draft budget for funding for the community garden at Bates Street Community Centre.

**124/23****RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Hall)

That a report be provided after the exhibition period of the draft budget for funding for the community garden at Bates Street Community Centre.

For the Motion: Councillors Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall and Maheswaran  
Against the Motion: Councillors Blackmore and Reddy

**EO2 Draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy****RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That Council place the draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy on public exhibition.
2. That Council advise all Clubs who currently use sporting grounds that the draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy is on public exhibition and hold a meeting with the Clubs to present the draft Policy.

**MOTION:**

1. That Council place the draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy on public exhibition.
2. That Council advise all Clubs who currently use sporting grounds that the draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy is on public exhibition and hold a meeting with the Clubs to present the draft Policy.
3. That the scoring for Item B on page 286 for the community based not for profit category be changed from 5 to 10.

**125/23**

**RESOLVED:** (Blackmore / Hall)

1. That Council place the draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy on public exhibition.
2. That Council advise all Clubs who currently use sporting grounds that the draft Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy is on public exhibition and hold a meeting with the Clubs to present the draft Policy.
3. That the scoring for Item B on page 286 for the community based not for profit category be changed from 5 to 10.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

### **EO3 Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space Proposal**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That Council gives in principle support to the Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space project.
2. That Council does not give any funding to this project at this time.
3. That Council monitor for possible future grant opportunities to recommend to the Golf Club for this project.

**MOTION:** (Maheswaran / Datta)

1. That Council calls for a report to provide a monetary contribution of \$50,000 towards the preparation on a feasibility study being included in the draft 2023/2024 annual budget after the exhibition.
2. That the Mayor write to the relevant Minister for funding to be provided to assist Strathfield Council in the feasibility study.

For the Motion: Councillors Pensabene, Datta and Maheswaran

Against the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Hall and Reddy

The Mayor declared the Motion **Lost**.

**MOTION:** (Hall / Blackmore)

1. That Council gives in principle support to the Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space project.

2. That Council does not give any funding to this project at this time.
3. That Council monitor for possible future grant opportunities to recommend to the Golf Club for this project.
4. That Strathfield Council write to the State Member and Federal Minister for funding to be provided to assist Strathfield Council in the feasibility study.

**126/23****RESOLVED:** (Hall / Blackmore)

1. That Council gives in principle support to the Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space project.
2. That Council does not give any funding to this project at this time.
3. That Council monitor for possible future grant opportunities to recommend to the Golf Club for this project.
4. That Strathfield Council write to the State Member and Federal Minister for funding to be provided to assist Strathfield Council in the feasibility study.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

**PE1 Strathfield Council Draft Submission to State Significant Development (SSD-39005127) – Alterations and Additions to Meriden Senior School – April 2023**

**127/23****RESOLVED:** (Reddy / Datta)

That the draft submission (Attachment 1) regarding amended plans for the State Significant Development (SSD-39005127) for alterations and additions at Meriden Senior School be endorsed and provided to the Department of Planning and Environment.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

## **11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Note: Items 11.1 Report from Traffic Committee meeting held on 18 April 2023 and 11.2 Report from Audit, Risk and Improvement Meeting held on 28 March 2023 were dealt with by exception.

## 12. NOTICES OF MOTION

Note: Items 12.1 State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committee – Arthur Street and Homebush Bay Drive in Homebush West – Councillor Raj Datta, 12.2 State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committee – Marlborough Road – Councillor Raj Datta and 12.3 Paving at Homebush Village Shops – Councillor Matthew Blackmore were dealt with by exception.

## 13. NOTICE OF RESCISSION

### 13.1 Notice of Rescission - Popularly Elected Mayor Referendum – Councillors Raj Datta, Karen Pensabene and Sharangan Maheswaran

128/23

RESOLVED: (Pensabene / Datta)

That the Council's decision of April 4, 2023, being Item No. 12.1 (and reproduced hereunder) in respect of Popularly Elected Mayor Referendum be and is hereby rescinded.

1. *That on the day of the next Local Government Election a constitutional referendum be held to seek the approval of electors to change the basis on which the Mayor attains office so that the Mayor of Strathfield is elected to office by electors so that the Strathfield Council area becomes an area that section 227 and section 227(b) of the Local Government Act, 1993 applies with 6 Councillors to represent the Strathfield Local Government Area, and that Council notify the NSW Electoral Commission within the required timeframe.*
2. *That an appropriate budget be included in the 2023/24 and 2024/25 budgets for the one question referendum on this matter.*
3. *That Council delegate authority to the General Manager:*
  - a) *To execute any variation of contract with the NSW Electoral Commission for the conduct of a constitutional referendum; and*
  - b) *Approve any minor modifications to the referendum question on advice from the NSW Electoral Commission and/or Office of Local Government; and*
  - c) *Undertake the public awareness campaign including the preparation of a balanced case for the referendum question in accordance with any directives and guidelines provided by the NSW Electoral Commission and/or the Office of Local Government*

For the Rescission Motion: Councillors Pensabene, Cai, Datta and Maheswaran



Against the Rescission Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Hall and Reddy

#### 14. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil.

#### 15. MATTERS OF URGENCY

##### 15.1 Election of Deputy Mayor – Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran

**MOTION:** (Maheswaran)

Councillor Maheswaran sought Council to consider this matter as a matter of urgency.

That In light of the events of this meeting and in accordance with the provisions under Section 231 of *Local Government Act 1993*, that Council elect a Deputy Mayor at tonight's meeting.

The Chair ruled the item **not** a matter of urgency as Council has an opportunity to consider this matter by way of an Extraordinary Council Meeting.

#### Adjournment of Meeting

129/23

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Maheswaran)

That the meeting be adjourned for ten minutes, the time being 7:50pm.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

#### Resumption of Meeting

130/23

**RESOLVED:** (Pensabene / Blackmore)

That the meeting resume, the time being 8:14pm.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

The Chair resumed the meeting, the time being 8:14pm.

**15.2 Disbandment of the Strathfield Town Centre Masterplan Group – Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran**

**MOTION:** (Maheswaran)

Councillor Maheswaran sought Council to consider this matter as a matter of urgency.

That the Strathfield Town Centre Masterplan Group be disbanded.

The Chair ruled the item not a matter of urgency as there is no urgency in determining this matter at tonight's meeting.

Note:

The Mayor, Councillor Pensabene declared a Non-Significant/Non-Pecuniary conflict of Interest in item *16.1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions of Interest*. Councillor Pensabene vacated the Chair and left the meeting, the time being 8:18pm.

Councillor Blackmore declared a Non-Pecuniary/Non-Significant conflict of interest for item *16.1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions of Interest* and left the meeting, the time being 8:18pm.

Councillor Hall declared a Non-Pecuniary/Significant conflict of interest for item *16.1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions of Interest* and left the meeting, the time being 8:18pm.

In the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor Clause 6.2 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice requires those Councillors present at the meeting to elect a Chair.

Clause 6.4 of the Code also provides that the election of a chairperson is to be conducted by the General Manager and Clause 11.5 of the Code stipulates that the method of voting in such instances be by way of an open voting process of either a show of hands.

The General Manager asked for nominations to be Chair.

Councillor Datta nominated to be Chair.

As there is only one nominee for the Chair, the General Manager declared Councillor Datta the Chair.

Councillor Datta assumed the Chair.

**16. CLOSED SESSION****EO1 Hudson Park Café – Expression of Interest**

131/23

**RESOLVED:** (Reddy / Maheswaran)

That in accordance with Section 10A (2) (c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this matter will be considered in Closed Session as it relates to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

For the Motion: Councillors Cai, Datta, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

The meeting moved into Closed Session, the time being 8:18pm.

**EO1 Hudson Park Cafe - Expressions Of Interest**

132/23

**RESOLVED:** (Reddy / Maheswaran)

That Council:

1. In accordance with s178 (1) and (3)(a) of The Local Government (General) Regulation NSW 2021, decline to accept any of the tenders.
2. In accordance with s178 (1) and (3)(e) of The Local Government (General) Regulation NSW 2021, Council delegate to the General Manager to enter into negotiations with Barista Brothers Pty Ltd. in the first instance and then in the second instance with St. Merkorius Charity Association for the lease of the Hudson Park Café.
3. Note that its reasons for declining to invite fresh tender submissions or applications is that there is merit in the submissions from Barista Brothers Pty Ltd and St Merkorius Charity Association; however, further details need to be agreed prior to entering a Lease.
4. Note that its reasons for determining to enter into negotiations with Barista Brothers Pty Ltd and St Merkorius Charity is that there is merit in these submissions.

For the Motion: Councillors Cai, Datta, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

The meeting commenced Open Session, the time being 8:25pm.

**OPEN COUNCIL RESUMED**

The Chair announced resolution 132/23 for Item EO1 Hudson Park Café – Expressions Of Interest which was adopted in Closed Session.

The Mayor assumed the Chair.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:26pm.**

The foregoing Minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Strathfield on 6 June 2023.

Chairperson



General Manager

