

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 4 July 2023

6:30pm

Ironbark Room, Strathfield Council,
Library and Innovation Hub,
65-67 Rochester Street



Minutes of the Council Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 4 July 2023, in the Ironbark Room, Strathfield Council, Library and Innovation Hub, 65-67 Rochester Street.

COMMENCING:

6:30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Karen Pensabene
Councillor Matthew Blackmore
Councillor Benjamin Cai
Councillor Raj Datta
Councillor Nella Hall
Councillor Sandy Reddy

STAFF:

Kristy Watts, Acting General Manager
Kathryn Fayle, Acting Director Corporate and Community
Clare Harley, Director Planning and Environment
Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations
Melissa Mallos, General Counsel
Warwick Lawrence, Manager Governance and Risk
Jack Britton, Senior Coordinator Governance and Risk
David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

1. PRAYER:

The Prayer was read.

2.

RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS: The Recognition was read.

3.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1

Leave of Absence - Councillor Sharanagan Maheswaran

16/7/23

RESOLVED: (Pensabene / Datta)

That Councillor Maheswaran be granted Leave of Absence due to illness and unavoidable overseas personal commitments. Councillor Maheswaran intends to attend the August 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting.

For the Motion:

Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the Motion:

Nil

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

Nil.

Suspension of Standing Orders

168/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Reddy)

That Standing Orders be suspended so that item 12. Motions Pursuant to Notice be brought forward and dealt with after item 9. Public Forum.

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

Against the Motion: Councillor Blackmore

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

5.1 Senior Constable James Dickson – Councillor Karen Pensabene

On behalf of Strathfield Council, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding service and dedication of Senior Constable James Dickson to the Strathfield community over the past 16 years. Throughout his tenure, Senior Constable Dickson has made a significant impact, demonstrating a strong commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the community he served.

His contributions will continue to shape the safety and well-being of our community for years to come. We wish him the very best in his retirement and any future endeavours and extend our heartfelt appreciation for his dedicated service.

Following the presentation of a Framed Certificate by the Mayor Mr Dickson addressed the meeting.

5.2 NAIDOC Week - 2 July 2023 to 9 July 2023 – Councillor Karen Pensabene

That Council acknowledge and support NAIDOC Week that will be held from 2 July 2023 until 9 July 2023. National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Councillor Hall left the meeting, the time being 6:46pm.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

169/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 6 June 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 Chairperson and General Manager be authorised to sign such Minutes.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

170/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Blackmore)

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 27 June 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 Chairperson and General Manager be authorised to sign such Minutes.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

Councillor Hall returned to the meeting, the time being 6:47pm.

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

7.1 Mayoral Minute 19/23 - Stratfield Golf Club - Blue Tree Project

171/23

RESOLVED: (Pensabene)

That a report be presented to the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 1 August 2023 to support the Blue Tree Project by:

1. Authorising the use of a dead tree in Freshwater Park nearby Ada Avenue to be used as a 'Blue-Tree'.
2. Promoting The Blue Tree Project through Council's communication streams.
3. Contributing to the costs incurred to trim, paint and affix a plaque to the tree.

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

8. ITEMS BY EXCEPTION**Items by Exception****172/23****RESOLVED:** (Blackmore / Datta)

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	Draft Strathfield Park Plan of Management
GMU2	Event Calendar 2023/2024
CCS2	Investment Report - May 2023
CCS3	Councillor Workshop 20 June 2023
CCS4	Current Status of Council Resolutions
CCS5	Tenders Advertised and Awarded June 2023
PE1	Strathfield Affordable Housing Tenancy Policy - Post Exhibition
EO1	Paving at Homebush Village Shops
EO2	Hudson Park Golf Driving Range - Extension of Hours
EO3	Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy - Proposed Final Policy
EO5	Tender 03A/2023 Strathfield Council Driving Range Design & Construct Or Design, Construct & Operate Under Licence
EO6	Decline to Accept Tender Submissions - T03B-2023 - Powells Creek and Saleyards Creek Flood Risk Management Study
11.1	Report from Traffic Committee meeting on 20 June 2023

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

GMU1 Draft Strathfield Park Plan of Management**173/23****RESOLVED:** (Blackmore / Datta)

That the draft Plan of Management for Strathfield Park be adopted.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

GMU2 Event Calendar 2023/2024

17/4/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That Council:

1. Adopt the 2023/2024 Events Calendar
2. Resolves to keep the Strathfield ANZAC Day Memorial Service at Davey Square Reserve
3. Pause and review the 2023 Strathfield Spring Festival based on community expectations.
4. Host an alternative event at Homebush in September 2023.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

CCS2 Investment Report - May 2023

17/5/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

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

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

CCS3 Councilor Workshop 20 June 2023

17/6/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That the report be received and noted.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

CCS4 Current Status of Council Resolutions

17/7/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

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

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

CCS5 Tenders Advertised and Awarded June 2023

178/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That Council tenders advertised and awarded in June 2023 be received and noted.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

PE1 Strathfield Affordable Housing Tenancy Policy - Post Exhibition

179/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That Council adopt the Affordable Housing Tenancy Policy.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

EO1 Paving at Homebush Village Shops

180/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That the report be received and noted.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

EO2 Hudson Park Golf Driving Range - Extension of Hours

181/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

1. That Council undertake a six month trial extension of the hours of operation at Hudson Park golf driving range to include the hours of Monday to Sunday 6.30am to 1am.
2. That staff undertake a review of the trial and report back to Council after the six months.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

EO3 Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy - Proposed Final Policy

182/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

1. That the Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy be adopted.

2. That the Policy be applied from the Summer 2023/24 season and onwards.

3. That the fees and charges for hire of the sporting grounds be reviewed for financial year 2024/25, particularly in relation to hire by commercial organisations.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

EO5 Tender 03A/2023 Strathfield Council Driving Range Design & Construct Or Design, Construct & Operate Under Licence

183/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That Council adopt the recommendation as outlined in the Confidential Attachment.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

EO6 Decline to Accept Tender Submissions - T03B-2023 - Powells Creek and Saleyards Creek Flood Risk Management Study

184/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That Council adopt the recommendation as outlined in the Confidential Attachment.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

11.1 Report from Traffic Committee Meeting on 20 June 2023

185/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Datta)

That the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2023 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

9. PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

Suspension of Standing Orders as per resolution 168/23.

12. MOTIONS PURSUANT TO NOTICE

12.1 Extension of Development Application Notification area - Amendment to Strathfield Community Participation Plan – Councillor Nella Hall

186/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Hall)

That a draft amendment to the Strathfield Community Participation Plan be reported to Council. The draft amendment is to extend the notification area for Development Applications to a 500m radius.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

12.2 Footpath Extension Coronation Parade – Councillor Raj Datta

187/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Hall)

That a report be provided for Council to undertake the necessary works to connect the concrete path from the coronation parade slip road down to the cycle way.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

12.3 Citizenship Ceremonies – Councillor Raj Datta

MOTION: (Datta / Hall)

That commencing from July 2023 all Citizenship ceremonies are planned for 5pm or later if held on weekdays or held on weekends.

For the Motion: Councillors Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene and Cai

Due to voting on the Motion being tied the Mayor exercised her casting vote and voted against the Motion. The Motion was declared **Lost**.

12.4 Courallie Avenue – Parking – Councillor Raj Datta

MOVED:

That a report be prepared for transforming Courallie Avenue into a 4P parking zone for general public who are not local but remain the way it is for local residents.

MOTION: (Datta / Cai)

That a report be prepared and presented to the Traffic Committee, transforming Courallie Avenue into a 4P parking zone with a resident parking scheme for general public who are not local but remain the way it is for local residents.

188/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Cai)

That a report be prepared and presented to the Traffic Committee, transforming Courallie Avenue into a 4P parking zone with a resident parking scheme for general public who are not local but remain the way it is for local residents.

For the Motion:

Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the Motion:

Nil

Resumption of Standing Orders

189/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Reddy)

That the meeting resume.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

10. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Councillor Hall left the team meeting, the time being 7:14pm.

Councillor Hall returned to the meeting, the time being 7:14pm.

CCS1 Review of Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council :

1. Note the report.
2. Adopt the Draft Policy with the recommended amendments to the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy as outlined in this report.
3. Place the Draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Report back to Council for adoption of the draft policy following the consideration of any submissions received during the consultation period. If no submissions the Policy be considered adopted.
5. Note that should Councillors be provided with a printer, hardcopy printing of all information provided to them electronically (i.e. Business papers, minutes etc.) will be the responsibility of each Councillor.
6. Note and acknowledge the requirements of clause 4.3 in the policy.

MOTION: (Reddy / Datta)

That Council :

1. Note the report.
2. Adopt the Draft Policy with the recommended amendments to the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy as outlined in this report.
3. Place the Draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Report back to Council for adoption of the draft policy following the consideration of any submissions received during the consultation period. If no submissions the Policy be considered

5. Note that should Councilors be provided with a printer, hardcopy printing of all information provided to them electronically (i.e. Business papers, minutes etc.) will be the responsibility of each Councilor.
6. Note and acknowledge the requirements of clause 4.3 in the policy.
7. Add an item 2.2.48 that Council proactively take steps to provide professional courses in consultation with Councilors with a limit of \$2,000.
8. Amend the Policy so that 'The determination as to what equipment will be provided will be made by the General Manager based upon Council's general ICT program and identifiable business needs' be removed from clause 2.2.32 and be replaced with – 'Equipment provided will be the best performance and practice standard for the industry'.
9. Amend the Policy so that Clause 2.2.47 include printers, cartridges, printer ink cartridges, A4 paper, erasers, paper clips, shelf space for storing business papers and related materials etc.

AMENDMENT: (Datta / Reddy)

That Council:

1. Note the report.
2. Adopt the Draft Policy with the recommended amendments to the Councilors Expenses and Facilities Policy as outlined in this report.
3. Place the Draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Report back to Council for adoption of the draft policy following the consideration of any submissions received during the consultation period. If no submissions the Policy be considered adopted.
5. Note and acknowledge the requirements of clause 4.3 in the policy.
6. Add shelving to 2.2.47.
7. Add a list of annual professional development courses be provided to Councilors.
8. Under clause 2.2.32 – ICT Expenses, the following be removed – 'Councilors claiming printers will be responsible for printing all Council documents required for their duty'.

Adjournment of Meeting

190/23

RESOLVED: (Hall / Pensabene)

That the meeting be adjourned for five minutes, the time being 7:35pm

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

Against the Motion: Nil

191/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Reddy)

Resumption of Meeting

That the meeting resume, the time being 7:40pm.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

AMENDMENT: (Datta / Reddy)

That Council:

1. Note the report.
2. Adopt the Draft Policy with the recommended amendments to the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy as outlined in this report.
3. Place the Draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Report back to Council for adoption of the draft policy following the consideration of any submissions received during the consultation period. If no submissions the Policy be considered adopted.
5. Note and acknowledge the requirements of clause 4.3 in the policy.
6. Add cabinet to 2.2.47.
7. Add a list of annual professional development courses be provided to Councillors.
8. Under clause 2.2.32 – ICT Expenses, the following be removed – *‘Councillors claiming printers will be responsible for printing all Council documents required for their duty’*.

For the Amendment: Councillors Cai, Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the Amendment: Councillors Blackmore and Pensabene

The Amendment became the substantive Motion. The substantive Motion was put.

192/23

RESOLVED: (Datta / Reddy)

That Council:

1. Note the report.
2. Adopt the Draft Policy with the recommended amendments to the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy as outlined in this report.
3. Place the Draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Report back to Council for adoption of the draft policy following the consideration of any submissions received during the consultation period. If no submissions the Policy be considered adopted.

5. Note and acknowledge the requirements of clause 4.3 in the policy.
6. Add cabinet to 2.2.47
7. Add a list of annual professional development courses be provided to Councillors.
8. Under clause 2.2.32 – ICT Expenses, the following be removed – ‘Councillors claiming printers will be responsible for printing all Council documents required for their duty’.

For the substantive Motion: Councillors Cai, Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the substantive Motion: Councillors Blackmore and Pensabene

E04 State and Federal Government Agencies Working Committees for Arthur Street/Centenary Drive Intersection and Marlborough Road, Homebush West - Update

193/23

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Reddy)

1. That Council staff continue to work with TfNSW as required, to resolve both the Arthur Street/Centenary Drive intersection traffic congestion and pedestrian safety issues along Marlborough Road, Homebush West.
2. That, at this point in time, a quarterly meeting between State and Federal Agencies and Council cannot be established.

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

Against the Motion: Nil

11. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Note: Item 11.1 Report from Traffic Committee Meeting on 20 June 2023 was dealt with by exception.

12. MOTIONS PURSUANT TO NOTICE

Note: Items dealt with during Suspension of Standing Orders.

13. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil.

14. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil.

15. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil.

16. CONCLUSION OF MEETING

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7:58pm.

The foregoing Minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Strathfield on 1 August 2023.

Chairperson



Acting General Manager

