

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF BURWOOD held in the Conference Room, Level 1, 2 Conder Street, Burwood on Tuesday 20 May 2025 commencing at 6:03 PM.

Attendance

Councillor John Faker (Mayor)
Councillor George Mannah (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Sukirti Bhatta
Councillor Pascale Esber
Councillor David Hull
Councillor De Yi Wu (attend via audio link)
Councillor Alex Yang

Opening of Meeting by the Mayor

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer and Acknowledgement of Country.

Apologies and attendance

39/25 RESOLVED

That Cr Wu be granted leave to attend the meeting via audio visual link

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang
Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor David Hull/Seconded Deputy Mayor George Mannah)

Declarations of Interest

Mayor John Faker disclosed a Pecuniary interest in item 27/25, Precinct Plan for Elizabeth Street Car Park and Burleigh Street Burwood. The nature of the interest is that his wife's cousin owns property on Railway Parade that adjoins the car park. He will leave the meeting and not participate.

Declarations of Political Donations

There were no declarations of political interests by Councillors.

Confirmation of Minutes

40/25 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 29 April 2025, as circulated, be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings of the meeting.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang
Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor Sukirti Bhatta/Seconded Councillor Alex Yang)

Reports to Council

(Item 21/25) Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting Documents - Community Strategic Plan: Burwood 2036, Delivery Program 2025 - 2029 and Operational Plan 2025 - 2026, Burwood Resourcing Strategy 2025 - 2035 and Fees and Charges 2025 - 2026 - Public Exhibition

File No: 25/19220

Summary

This report presents the recently reviewed and updated suite of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents, including the:

- *Draft Community Strategic Plan – Burwood 2036;*
- *Draft Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Draft Operational Plan 2025-2026;*
- *Draft Fees & Charges 2025-2026; and*
- *Draft Resourcing Strategy 2026-35.*

Following a period of review, community engagement, service and financial planning and projection, the above documents have been drafted for public exhibition and community feedback. Once the public exhibition period has concluded, necessary amendments will be made and the final documents will be reported to Council for adoption in June 2025 along with the associated Resourcing Strategy documents.

Operational Plan Objective

2.1.3 Ensure transparency and accountability in decision making.

41/25 RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Endorse the *Draft Community Strategic Plan: Burwood 2036* and place the document on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. Endorse the *Draft Delivery Program 2025-2029* and *Draft Operational Plan 2025-2026*, incorporating the *Draft Budget 2025-2026* and *Draft Statement of Revenue Policy 2025-2026* and place the documents on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
3. Endorse the *Draft Resourcing Strategy 2025-35* and place the document on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Endorse the *Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025-2026* and place the document on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor Alex Yang/Seconded Councillor Pascale Esber)

(Item 22/25) Community Grants Program 2024/25

File No: 25/7531

Summary

This report provides recommendations for the allocation of funding under Council's Community

Grants Program 2024/25 for consideration and approval by Council. Funding recommendations are outlined under Attachment 1 of this report.

A brief outcomes summary report outlining the community impact of the Community Grants Program 2023/24 is also included under Attachment 3 for Council's information.

Operational Plan Objective

A.3 Deliver capacity building and funding initiatives to support the community sector, including the annual Community Grants, ClubGRANTS and the Councillor's Donation Programs.

42/25 RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Approves the 16 applications recommended for funding as outlined under Attachment 1 and allocates \$60,000 from the Community Grants Program budget 2024/25.
2. Advises all applicants of the outcome of their application and provides feedback and support to applicants that were unsuccessful.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor Sukirti Bhatta/Seconded Deputy Mayor George Mannah)

(Item 23/25) Swimming Pool Policy and Inspection Program - Post Exhibition

File No: 25/22196

Summary

Council at its meeting held on 25 March 2025 considered a report (25/12241) in relation to a *draft Swimming Pool Policy* and a *draft Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program* and resolved that:

Council endorse the draft Swimming Pool Policy and a draft Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program for public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

That following the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council on the outcomes of the exhibition, including any feedback received on the draft Swimming Pool Policy and a draft Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program.

The *draft Swimming Pool Policy* and the *draft Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program* were placed on public exhibition from 28 March 2025 to 25 April 2025 with three (3) submissions being received.

As the submissions do not provide any relevant amendments to either document this report recommends that the exhibited versions of the *draft Swimming Pool Policy* and the *draft Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program* be adopted.

43/25 RESOLVED

1. That Council adopt the *Swimming Pool Policy* and the *Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program*, contained in Attachment 1 and 2 to this report.

2. That the General Manager be endorsed to make minor modifications to any numerical, typographical, interpretation and formatting errors, and legislative updates to the *Swimming Pool Policy* and the *Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection Program*.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Deputy Mayor George Mannah/Seconded Councillor Sukirti Bhatta)

(Item 24/25) Budget Review for Quarter Ending 31 March 2025

File No: 25/18398

Summary

The 2024-2025 Budget was adopted at the Council Meeting held on 25 June 2024 with a deficit of \$1,522,000, with the operating result including capital grants and contributions forecast to be a surplus of \$30,319,000.

The following Statement of Budget Income and Expenditure identifies a forecast deficit of \$2,898,000 as at 31 March 2025, with the operating result including capital grants and contributions forecast to be a surplus of \$29,670,000.

Operational Plan Objective

2.3.1 Identify and maintain additional revenue sources to ensure financial sustainability

44/25 RESOLVED

1. That the Budget Review Statement of the 2024-25 Budget as at 31 March 2025, including the statement by the Responsible Accounting Officer, Finance Manager, be received and noted.
2. That in accordance with Clauses 203 and 211 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the revised estimates of income and expenditure for 2024-25 surplus of \$29,670,000, as shown in the report be approved and that Council's budget be adjusted accordingly and that the expenditure and income variations projected in the report and the transfers to and from External and Internal restricted Reserves be approved.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor Pascale Esber/Seconded Councillor Alex Yang)

(Item 25/25) Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program – Quarterly Progress Report

File No: 25/22312

Summary

This report provides Council with a high-level progress update on the delivery of the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program currently underway, and marks the second instalment in an ongoing series of quarterly reports.

45/25 RESOLVED

That Council notes the contents of this report, including updates on the progress of the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants program.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang
Against: Nil

(Moved Deputy Mayor George Mannah/Seconded Councillor Alex Yang)

(Item 26/25) Petition

File No: 25/22355

Summary

Council received a petition regarding road re-sheeting works undertaken in Mitchell Street, Croydon Park, from Monday to Friday between 8pm to 5am. The petition sought an adjustment of work hours to minimise disruption for residents.

Operational Plan Objective

C.11.2 Provide opportunity for engagement with the community to inform Council's decision-making

46/25 RESOLVED

That Council receive and note the petition.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang
Against: Nil

(Moved Deputy Mayor George Mannah/Seconded Councillor Sukirti Bhatta)

Reports of Committees**(Item RC5/25) Burwood Local Traffic Committee - May 2025**

File No: 25/23217

Summary

Attached are the Minutes of the Burwood Local Traffic Committee meeting of May 2025. The Minutes are hereby submitted to the Ordinary Council Meeting for consideration and adoption by Council.

Operational Plan Objective

C.4.1 Plan and manage transport infrastructure to meet current and future community needs
A.40 Investigate traffic hot spots and implement solutions such as pedestrian refuges, roundabouts or traffic calming devices.

47/25 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Burwood Local Traffic Committee of May 2025 be noted and the recommendations of the Committee as detailed below be adopted as a resolution of the Council.

(Item LTC14/25) Morwick Street, Strathfield - Electric Vehicle Kerbside Charging***Recommendation***

That Council approve the installation of 'No Parking, EV excepted while charging' parking restrictions for a length of 6.0 metres with markings to comply with TfNSW requirements at 31 Morwick Street, Strathfield.

(Item LTC16/25) Portland Street, Enfield - Changes to Parking Restrictions***Recommendation***

That Council approves the extension of the '2P 8am – 6pm Mon-Fri, 8am – 1pm Sat-Sun' parking restrictions on the east side of Portland Street across the frontage of the recently demolished #4 Portland Street.

(Item LTC18/25) Shaftesbury Road, Burwood - Removal of GoGet Carshare Space***Recommendation***

That Council approve the removal of the car share bay outside 75A Shaftesbury Road, Burwood and re-instate previous parking restrictions at this location being '1P 8am – 6pm Mon-Fri, 8am – 1pm Sat, Permit Holders Excepted Area 15'

(Item LTC17/25) Victoria Street, Burwood - Changes to Bus Layover***Recommendation***

That Council approve the conversion of the existing 'Bus Zone' on the northern side of Victoria Street between Burwood Road and Shaftesbury Road to 20 metres of 'No Parking Taxis Excepted' and 60 metres of 'No Stopping' restrictions.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Deputy Mayor George Mannah/Seconded Councillor Pascale Esber)

Confidential Items - Closed Session**48/25 RESOLVED**

That Item 27/25 Precinct Plan for Elizabeth Street Car Park and Burleigh Street Burwood be considered in Closed Session to the exclusion of the press and public in accordance with Section 10A(2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993, as the matter involves information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

For: Cr Faker, Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor Sukirti Bhatta/Seconded Deputy Mayor George Mannah)

There were no representatives from the public to address the council before the resolution to move into closed session was carried.

Mayor Faker left the meeting, the time being 6:11 pm. Deputy Mayor George Mannah took the chair at 6:11 pm

(Item 27/25) Precinct Plan for Elizabeth Street Car Park and Burleigh Street Burwood

File No: 25/22827

Summary

This report seeks Council's endorsement to progress precinct planning for the Elizabeth Street Car Park and Terraces on Burleigh Street, commence consultation with neighbouring property owners and Government agencies to support the creation of an integrated, place-based precinct, and prepare and lodge a State Significant Development Application for the Council-owned land with the NSW Housing Delivery Authority.

Operational Plan Objective

- C.3 An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place.
- C.3.1 Facilitate well designed, high quality and sustainable land use and development that is appropriately scaled to complement its surroundings.
- C3.2 Protect our unique built heritage and maintain or enhance local character.
- C.4 Sustainable, integrated transport, infrastructure and networks support population growth and improve liveability and productivity.
- C.4.2 Plan for a city that is safe, accessible and easy to get to and move around in.
- A.98 Undertake comprehensive community engagement programs to seek community input on Council projects, operations, initiatives and major decisions.
- A.45 Undertake review of the condition of Council's building assets
- A.107 Manage Council's property portfolio to optimise financial returns from Council owned properties
- P.47 Investigate opportunities to expand revenue from commercial operations, property portfolio and other income generating assets

49/25 RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Progress precinct planning for the Elizabeth Street Car Park, Victorian Terraces on Burleigh Street and surrounding lands, in line with Council's Delivery Program.
2. Initiate direct consultation with neighbouring property owners to support the creation of an integrated, place-based precinct.
3. Prepare supporting documentation for the development of a precinct plan for the area identified in Figure 1 of this report, and lodge a State Significant Development Application with the NSW Housing Delivery Authority for the Council-owned land portion of the site.
4. Authorise the General Manager to engage, where appropriate and financially beneficial, previously appointed consultants who contributed to the 2022 masterplan and possess relevant knowledge of the site and its planning history.
5. Request that the General Manager provide updates to Council at key stages of the implementation process.

For: Cr Mannah, Cr Esber, Cr Hull, Cr Bhatta, Cr Wu, Cr Yang

Against: Nil

(Moved Councillor Pascale Esber/Seconded Councillor Alex Yang)

Recommendation

That the meeting resume in open session.

The meeting resumed in open session at 6:14 pm and the General Manager read the resolution of the closed session item 27/25 listed above, minute number 49/25.

This concluded the business of the meeting and Council rose at 6:14 pm.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 May 2025 will be submitted for confirmation by Council at its next meeting on 24 June 2025.