



**ORDINARY
MEETING OF
COUNCIL**

MINUTES

17 DECEMBER, 2007

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 17 DECEMBER, 2007 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ST KILDA TOWN HALL.

The meeting opened at 6.08 pm.

PRESENT

Cr Bolitho (Chairperson), Cr Gross, Cr Klepner, Cr Logan, Cr Sait (from 6.11pm), David Spokes Chief Executive Officer, Sally Calder Executive Director Organisation Systems & Support, Greg Wood Acting Executive Director Community Assets & Services, Stephen Cooper Acting Executive Director Community Development & Planning, Cathy Henderson Manager Governance and Community Relations, Jack Crawford Manager Customer Service, Paul Smith Manager Environment & Renewal, Sam Hewett Manager Asset Services, Liddy Clark Coordinator Communications & Stakeholder Relations, David Graffen Property Coordinator.

In the spirit of Reconciliation, the Chairperson acknowledged the people and elders of the Eastern Kulin Nation, who have traditional connections and responsibilities of the land on which Council meets.

1. APOLOGIES

MOVED Crs Logan / Gross

That an apology is received and leave of absence granted to Cr Cribbes.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

MOVED Crs Logan / Klepner

That an apology is received and leave of absence granted to Cr Ray.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED Crs Klepner / Logan

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 26 November 2007 be confirmed.

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 6 December 2007 be confirmed.

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 10 December 2007 be confirmed.

That the Minutes of the Statutory Planning Committee Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 10 December 2007 for noting by Council (previously circulated to Councillors) be noted.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

3. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil.

4. SEALING SCHEDULE

The following documents are submitted for signature and sealing:

TRANSFER OF LAND between PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL and PETER BOURBOULIS and EMILIA BOURBOULIS, for the sale/transfer of land (right of way) at the rear of 70 & 72 Merton Street, Albert Park.

Item previously considered by Council in July 2007.

<i>Councillor Note</i>	<i>5 April 2007</i>
<i>Advertising</i>	<i>1 May 2007</i>

Responsible Manager: Sam Hewett, Manager Asset Services

SECTION 173 AGREEMENT between PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL and THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, Condition 10 of Planning Permit No. 931/2006 issued by Council on the 18 April 2007 states that:

Prior to this issue of a Statement of Compliance, the owner shall enter into an agreement with the responsible authority pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 under which it specifically covenants that:

- a) Lot 1 of the plan of subdivision (PS540361) shall only be developed in accordance with the plans endorsed under Planning Permit No. 1032/2006 issued 30 January 2007, and
- b) It shall pay the Responsible Authority's Solicitor/client costs in respect to the preparation and registration of the agreement.

The agreement shall otherwise be on the terms satisfactory to the Responsible Authority. Item not previously considered by Council.

RESPONSIBLE MANAGER: George Borg, Manager City Development

SECTION 173 AGREEMENT between PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL and CAFPRINT PTY LTD, outlining conditions relating to the development and uses within the building at 100 Market Street in return for the Business Zone 2.

Item previously considered by Council in November 2007.

RESPONSIBLE MANAGER: George Borg, Manager City Development

MOVED Crs Gross / Logan

That the Common Seal of the Port Phillip City Council be affixed to the above documents.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Cr Sait arrived 6.11pm

A copy of the Confidential List of Registered Correspondence for the Mayor and Councillors between the month of 21 November 2007 and 11 December is attached for information.

****No formal discussion ensued on this matter***

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Cr Janet Bolitho, Deputy Mayor read out a Statement on behalf of the Mayor in relation to the Statutory Planning Committee Meeting which was held on Thursday, 13 December 2007.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME *(continued)*

Item 1

Sue Humphries requested a response to Questions 7 & 8 of the Omnibus (see attached).

She made this additional request in relation to Question 7:

'I particularly refer to a policing study to be considered in the Social Impact Study; there is not enough police now'.

Item 2

Peter Holland requested a response to Question 2 of the Omnibus (see attached).

He also made the following comment:

'I would like to congratulate the Mayor for the way she chaired the meeting on Thursday night, it was obviously a difficult meeting and I think she did it very well with a certain amount of tolerance and good humour'.

Item 3

Janaka Williams requested a response to the following:

Paragraph 2.18 of the Agenda – Statutory Planning Committee – 13 December 2007 says that: “Community benefits totaling approximately \$65million which include a refurbished Palais Theatre, 15000m2 of new public open space, new urban squares/places and new community uses on the site (including the Linden gallery, William Angliss TAFE College) including a community events calendar and retention of live music venues within the precinct...”

The extent of the public works is cited to justify the extent of the commercial development in paragraph 3.6: “Here, the commercial development is necessary to fund the \$65million of community benefit...”

In order to determine public benefit we need to see who are the beneficiaries of these works. For all the ‘community benefit’ programs, has there been an independent assessment of these costs supporting Citta’s claims? Has there been a detailed assessment by Citta? Is it available for public viewing?

Palais:

- What is the tenancy agreement? To whom does the revenue flow
- What if the venture is unsuccessful? Who pays?
- Who is responsible for maintenance and associated costs?
- Refurbishment: Has there been an independent assessment of costs supporting Citta’s claim of \$20,000,000?

Decontamination:

- Has there been an independent assessment of these costs supporting Citta’s claim of \$10,000,000?
- Has there been a detailed assessment by Citta? Is it available?
- Is there an EPA report?
- Does this sum include any existing excavation requirements?

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME *(continued)*

Public Space:

- Has there been an independent assessment of these costs supporting Citta's claim of \$15,000,000?
- Has there been a detailed assessment by Citta? Is it available?
- Is there a detailed list delineating between walkways, approaches to retail precincts, footpaths and 'genuine' public spaces?

Linden:

- Has there been an exploration of an alternative site?
- Has there been an independent assessment of these costs?
- Has there been a detailed assessment by Citta? Is it available?

Car parking:

- What is the revenue flow? Who are the beneficiaries?
- Has there been an independent assessment of these costs?
- Has there been a detailed assessment by Citta? Is it available?

Item 4

Peter Johnson requested a response to Question 5 of the Omnibus (see attached), which relates to part 3 (3rd point) of the 13/12/07 Statutory Planning Committee resolution.

Item 5

Helen Halliday requested a response to Question 1 of the Omnibus (see attached).

She also requested a response to the following questions:

'I must say your statement that was read out appears to contradict the Minutes of the meeting. Is the Minutes of the meeting the position of the Council or is the statement read out tonight the position of the Council? One proposes not to make a decision about the overall proposal as of the Thursday night Minutes and the statement that was read out appears to shift the grounds of that and to actually propose that that the resolution has already been adopted in principle with some minor issues to be dealt with by the Council.

I am a bit intrigued by item 2, the last sentence of that 'preparation of an independent micro economic impact assessment on existing centres and net community benefits. I think we would like some explanation of what a micro economic analysis might be – it's not a term I am familiar with'.

Item 6

Paul Coghlan requested a response to the following questions:

I too would like to congratulate the Mayor on her chairing of the meeting, I thought it was quite an exceptional job in rather difficult circumstances.

My question is about what is referred to as 'developer contributions' in the Annual Report.

- *I am very interested in how much revenue was gained by the City of Port Phillip in terms of developer contributions in the financial year 06/07 and 07/08*
- *How was the revenue recognized in the Annual Report?*
- *How is expenditure against the revenue recognized in the Annual Report?*
- *Is there a contact point in Council should I wish to gain a greater understanding of these revenue and funding strains?'*

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME *(continued)*

Item 7

Paul Ormonde requested a response to Questions 3 and 4 of the Omnibus (see attached)

Item 8

David Brand requested a response to Question 6 of the Omnibus (see attached).

Item 9

Jon Webster submitted the following:

'Has the Council taken into account the views of millions of Melbournians who would love to use St Kilda triangle for future generations as their playground, once the marvelous building reforms have been put into place?'

David Spokes, Chief Executive Officer advised:

'The question of Mr Brand is one that can be clarified this evening. I think the intention of the resolution was that if there are any proposed additional controls or conditions that relate to the matters of economic impact and design views from the Upper Esplanade, that they can be incorporated.

In relation to the other issues that have been raised, in order to do them justice, I would suggest that we provide a response as soon as possible, in an omnibus form, to all of the submitters who have raised questions this evening. Given the range of issues that have been raised, I think it would be prudent to consider those appropriately. My intention would be that we would be able to get a response back during the course of this business week'.

Note:

An omnibus of the questions submitted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 17 December 2007 is attached.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME *(continued)*

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL

MONDAY 17 DEC 2007

1. What are the terms of reference for the Economic Impacts study?
 - How will social impacts be dealt with and assessed?
 - Is there scope for community participation in the study?
 - Will there be public comment invited on the study?
 - How much time will be available for public scrutiny of the study before its final consideration by council?
 - Given that council is about to insist that the state government undertake a “triple bottom line public interest analysis” for the Grand Prix, why will council not consider commissioning a similar multi-pronged study for the Triangle Site?
 - In what way does council consider that an economic impact statement will be sufficient to cover social and other impacts in its research and findings (as stated by the CEO on Thursday night)?

 2. What are the constraining factors upon council in terms of its decision-making in this matter?
 - What are the implications of council’s possible total rejection of the tendered proposal? Is council still free to reject the proposal?
 - What constraints are there on council’s decision making in this regard?
 - Are there any penalties or demonstrable risks it faces if it decides to refuse the Development Plan?
 - What agreements or undertakings if any does council have with the state government about its decision-making in this matter?

 3. Is there a schedule for the staging of works on the Triangle site? Will council make this public?
 - What are the current contractual obligations with regard to timing?
 - What are the current statutory obligations with regard to timing?

 4. What factors have led to its fixing the period for deferral of the Development Plan’s consideration at six weeks?
 - As this effectively allows a period of only three weeks for any public consultation, how does council consider this a satisfactory time frame?

 5. Who does council propose will be the “stakeholders” in their discussions concerning views from the Upper Esplanade?
 - On what basis will/have they been selected?

 6. What is the plain language meaning of this part of the resolution of Thursday’s Statutory Planning Committee meeting: (the report include) *If relevant any additional or altered recommended requirements to be imposed on the Development Plan and only in so far as they relate to the matters of the economic impact assessment and views across the Grassy Slopes.*

 7. Will council consider commissioning other “impact” studies, such as a social impact study, a environmental impact study, and a traffic impact study, before it votes on approval of the Development Plan?

 8. Will council undertake any further investigation or consultation on any of the other areas of non-compliance with the UDF, such as the level and nature of retailing, identified in the independent Matrix report?
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7. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Nil.

**8. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM S86 SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**8(A) REPORTS OF THE STRATEGY AND POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE HELD AT THE
ST KILDA TOWN HALL ON 3 DECEMBER 2007.**

A1 *REPORT WITHDRAWN*

Items were MOVED in block by Crs Klepner / Sait

- A3 TOWARD ZERO - SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY 2007
ADMINISTRATION UPDATE
- A4 AUSTRALIAN (FORMULA ONE) GRAND PRIX - POLICY STATEMENT
- A6 CITY OF PORT PHILLIP PROPERTY STRATEGY
- A7 AUDIT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES UPDATE
- A8 PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF SECTIONS OF RIGHTS OF WAY
R1057 & R3741

Items were considered in the following order:

- A2 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY AMENITY LOCAL LAW NO 3.
- A5 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING POLICY - CLAUSE 22.08
(SEE SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT)

**A3 TOWARD ZERO - SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY 2007
ADMINISTRATION UPDATE**

Purpose

To provide Council with an implementation status report for the 2007 Toward Zero Sustainable Environment Strategy

MOVED Crs Klepner / Sait

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Strategy and Policy Review Committee resolve to:

1. Note the achievements associated with the Toward Zero – Sustainable Environment Strategy 2007 to date
2. Confirms its commitment to the Statement of Commitment on Climate Change to the community of Port Phillip
3. Notes and endorses the 2007/08 Climate Action Frameworks and Plans outlined in Attachments 2 and 3
4. Request that a Communications Plan be provided to ensure maximum community knowledge of Towards Zero and Council's actions to address Climate Change.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

A4 AUSTRALIAN (FORMULA ONE) GRAND PRIX - POLICY STATEMENT

Purpose

To reiterate that the Australian Formula One Grand Prix should be removed from Albert Park Reserve as this is not an appropriate location for the staging of the event.

MOVED Crs Klepner / Sait

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Strategy and Policy Review Committee resolve:

1. That Council adopt the following policy statement with regard to the Australian Formula One Grand Prix event in Albert Park Reserve –

“Council does not support the conduct of the Grand Prix at Albert Park Reserve.

Council notes the 2007 Victorian Auditor General's report and the lack of measured and identifiable net benefit to Victoria arising from the Australian Grand Prix event.

Council calls on the State Government and the Australian Grand Prix Corporation to develop a public interest test in the form of a triple bottom line assessment for the event.

Council requests that this triple bottom line criteria be developed in conjunction with key stakeholders (including Local Government), and that any triple bottom line assessment of the event is evidence based and be undertaken and made publicly available every year.

Council notes and supports that the contract for the Australian Grand Prix event ceases in 2010; an event of the nature and extent of the Grand Prix is unsuitable for Albert Park Reserve.

Council also notes the Victorian Government's Major Events Strategy and the success of previous major events such as the Commonwealth Games Melbourne Festival. Should Government consider an alternative major event to the Grand Prix, Council supports an event in the context of it being able to demonstrate the following outcomes for the community:

- provide a clear and positive net community benefit;
- be clearly consistent with Melbourne's identity as a cultural capital and livable city;
- be accessible for all Victorians
- be of minimal disruption to community amenity, and
- be of minimal environmental impact, with particular regard to energy and water use.”

2. That Council write to the Premier seeking implementation of Council's adopted policy statement, including a commitment that the contract for staging of the Australian Formula One Grand Prix at Albert Park Reserve will not be renewed after 2010.
3. That the Council's Chief Executive Officer write to the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation seeking its commitment to the implementation of a public interest test, in the form of a triple bottom line performance assessment and cost benefit analysis reporting regime for the Grand Prix Corporation and the event.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

A6 CITY OF PORT PHILLIP PROPERTY STRATEGY

Purpose

It is proposed to adopt a Property Strategy to establish a coordinated and strategic approach to property management across the organisation.

MOVED Crs Klepner / Sait

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Strategy and Policy Review Committee resolve that:

This item be deferred to allow further refinement of the proposal document.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

A7 AUDIT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Purpose

To advise Council of the activities of the City of Port Phillip Audit Committee at its October 2007 meeting.

MOVED Crs Klepner / Sait

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Strategy and Policy Review Committee resolve to:

1. receive and note the report outlining the matters considered by the Audit Committee at its October 2007 meeting, including issues such as adherence to the annual work plan, status of the internal audit program, review of excessive leave accruals, Council's investment policy, an update on insurance and risk management, an overview of legislative compliance, contents of the 2006/2007 Management Letter and an update on the development of Council's business continuity plan.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

**A8 PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF SECTIONS OF RIGHTS OF WAY
R1057 & R3741**

Purpose

This report is to finalise the discontinuance and sale of sections of Road rear 52 Page St, Albert Park and rear 204 Carlisle St, Balaclava.

MOVED Crs Klepner / Sait

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Strategy and Policy Review Committee resolve to:

1. The statutory procedure to discontinue a section of Right of Way No. R1057 at the rear of 52 Page St, Albert Park, be completed. That the land from the road be sold to the owners of 52 Page St, Albert Park, subject to the land being consolidated to their property.
2. The statutory procedure to discontinue a section of Right of Way No. R3741 at the rear of 204 Carlisle St, Balaclava, be completed. That the land from the road be sold to the owners of 202 Carlisle St, Balaclava, subject to the land being consolidated to their property.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

A2 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY AMENITY LOCAL LAW NO 3.

Purpose

The purpose of the local law review is to provide an opportunity to make some minor improvements to the local law, to enable it to be used more effectively.

MOVED Crs Sait / Gross

1. That Council note the proposed amendments to the Community Amenity Local Law No 3.
2. That a draft Local Law incorporating the proposed amendments be prepared and submitted to Council with a further report.
3. That upon receipt of the Draft Local Law Council will consider and determine whether to give public notice in accordance with Section 119(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 of its intention to make the amending Local Law.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

**A5 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING POLICY - CLAUSE 22.08
(SEE SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT)**

Purpose

To consider a revised Clause 22.08 - Outdoor Advertising for inclusion in Amendment C62, review of LPPF.

MOVED Crs Gross / Sait

It is recommended that:

1. Council endorse the revised Clause 22.08 – Outdoor Advertising to the Port Phillip Planning Scheme (as outlined in Attachment 2).
2. Council note that the proposed Clause 22.08 policy does not propose to alter or increase the level of advertising signage on buildings covered by the heritage overlay.
3. Council note the intention to review policy relating to the extent and location of signage on buildings covered by the heritage overlay, as part of a comprehensive review of the Outdoor Advertising Policy following completion of the State Government review of Clause 52.05.
4. In accordance with Section 8A(3) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Council resolves to request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of the revised Clause 22.08 as a part of Amendment C62 to the Port Phillip Planning Scheme.
5. Subject to Ministerial authorisation, and in accordance with Section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Council exhibit Clause 22.08 as part of Amendment C62 to the Port Phillip Planning Scheme.
6. The Council authorise the Executive Director Community Development and Planning to finalise the amendment documentation associated with Clause 22.08.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

8(B) REPORTS OF THE STATUTORY PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD AT THE ST KILDA TOWN HALL ON 10 DECEMBER 2007.

Note: Business items B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6 and B7 were resolved by the Statutory Planning Committee held on 10 December 2007 in accordance with Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Items were considered in the following order:

B6 329-331 FERRARS STREET, SOUTH MELBOURNE

B8 DELEGATE REPORT

B6 329-331 FERRARS STREET, SOUTH MELBOURNE

Purpose

To consider the proposal to construct two additional storeys to the existing office/commercial display area (showroom) for the purpose of additional commercial display area floorspace and a roof top deck. A car parking consent for the waiver of on-site car parking is also sought.

Recommendation A was resolved by the Statutory Planning Committee on 10/12/07

MOVED Crs Gross / Sait

Recommendation B

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Statutory Planning Committee resolve:

That Council consents to the proposed car parking provision pursuant to Clause 52.06 of the Port Phillip Planning Scheme in relation to the increased floor area to accommodate an expansion of the commercial display area and staff amenities area at 329-331 Ferrars Street, South Melbourne in accordance with the plans endorsed as part of Planning Permit 706/2007.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

**Cr's Klepner and Logan voted against the motion.*

B8 DELEGATE REPORT

Purpose

To present Council with a summary of all Planning Permits issued under Delegation.

MOVED Crs Gross / Logan

That Council having considered the recommendation of the Statutory Planning Committee resolve:

That the Council receive and note the report regarding the summary of all Planning Decisions issued in accordance with the Schedule of Delegation made under Section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989 and Section 188 of the Planning & Environment Act 1987 adopted by Council on 24 July 1996 and as amended, for the Port Phillip Planning Scheme.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Nil.

10. ORDERS OF THE DAY

ORDER 1 GRANT OF EASEMENT

Purpose

To grant an easement in favour of Alinta enabling access over the Council car park at 2 Irwell Street, St Kilda, to an electrical substation located within the property occupied by the St Kilda Memorial Hall.

MOVED Crs Gross / Klepner

1. That the Council notes the community benefits of the restoration of the St Kilda Memorial Hall and associated development and that it can make a considerable contribution to the financial viability of the project and therefore resolves;
 - 1.1 To grant a 3.5 metre wide and 4 metre high easement through the middle of 2 Irwell Street, St Kilda, from Irwell Street to the common boundary with 84-90 Acland Street, St Kilda, in favour of Alinta, enabling access for the power company to the existing electrical substation located within the property at 84-90 Acland Street, St Kilda, for the purpose of servicing, repairing or replacing its infrastructure asset.
 - 1.2 To authorise officers to prepare and sign the necessary applications and documentation on behalf of Council to effect the creation of the easement
 - 1.3 That the resolutions above are subject to obtaining all of the following;
 - Written agreement from the St Kilda Memorial Hall Trustees that;
 - it will pay all costs associated with the creation of the easement,
 - it acknowledges that the St Kilda Memorial Hall trustees and occupants of the property at 84-90 Acland Street, St Kilda, have no rights of access and will not make any claim for rights of access across the Council land known as 2 Irwell Street, St Kilda, and
 - it will allow and will not take any action to prevent the Council at any time in the future from relocating the existing substation located at 84-90 Acland Street, St Kilda to another appropriate site approved by the power supply company
 - Written agreement from Alinta that it will surrender the easement created over the land at 2 Irwell Street, St Kilda, if the substation is relocated to a position where the easement no longer provides access

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

11. REPORTS BY COUNCILLOR DELEGATES APPOINTED TO OTHER BODIES

Cr Bolitho submitted the following report on the Local Sustainability Accord:

1. The Accord aims to use its funding programme to support:

- Initiatives that address blockers (jurisdictional/bureaucratic) that are holding up progress towards sustainability
 - For example: ESD (Ecologically Sustainable Development) in planning, Sustainable Public Lighting
- Small rural councils that do not have the capacity to develop or implement environmental initiatives
- Regional groupings that are addressing common sustainability issues
 - For example: peri-urban councils seeking to protect biodiversity in growth areas
- Projects or initiatives that provide valuable learning for local government
 - For example: the Greensborough Activity Centre sustainability assessment project

2. ESD in Planning

- The Accord funded ESD Advocacy Councils to commission a report from the Hansen Partnership to provide an independent report on ESD in planning. The report examined international and national best practice, evaluated the STEPS (Sustainable Tools for Environmental Performance Strategy) and SDS (Sustainable Design Scorecard) tools, examined how they are being used, and has made a series of recommendations.
- The Accord has also supported the MAV (Municipal Association of Victoria) in hosting the ESD advocacy group which was launched by the Minister for Planning recently.
- Since then the ESD Advocacy Group has met with senior officers from DCPD (Department of Community Development and Planning), and there is a renewed confidence that the subject is progressing.

3. Sustainable Public Lighting

- The Accord is supporting an officer from NAGA (Northern Alliance of Greenhouse Action) who is working through the various complex issues to resolve around setting a price for the new technology with the distributors
- Once the price is agreed, it will need to go to the Essential Services Commission
- The next step is to elevate the discussion to senior officer level
- Meanwhile, Nilumbik Council has made the decision to go ahead and retro fit all its street lighting with the intention that it will become a demonstration project for the state.

12. URGENT BUSINESS

UB1 MOTION SUPPORTING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON CHILDCARE PREAMBLE

MOVED Crs Klepner / Sait

Preamble

The City of Port Phillip notes the importance of child care and the benefits it provides including community strengthening, community wellbeing, as well as social and economic sustainability.

Local governments are well placed to play a role in the direct provision of early childhood services because of the capacity of local governments to:

- Respond to local needs
- Address planning implications through local plans
- Provide effective networking and professional development for staff and parents
- Effectively integrate the range of family services offered
- Deliver excellent and highly appraised early learning education and care services
- Attract experienced and skilled employees in family services;
- Deliver affordable services, and
- Advocate to other levels of government.

We therefore support the following range of recommendations that seek to improve the quality, affordability and accessibility of childcare.

1. Response to the State Government's Children's Services Regulations Review and the provision of quality child care services

- a) **Improve Staff to Child Ratios** for centre-based services (particularly for under 3 year olds).
- b) **Maximum Group / Room Size** to ensure that noise levels are controlled, as are the dynamics of the environments in which children spend their time.
- c) **Raise the Level of Qualifications Required**
 - Minimum Certificate III in Children's Services for all staff (Certificate III should be regarded as a minimum training requirement, not as a qualification)
 - At least one staff member with a 3-year degree in early (LDC) / middle childhood (OSHC) in every service, and
 - Every group of children should have at least one fully qualified staff member included in the care givers (Diploma level or higher), and
 - Increased opportunities and support for degree studies in recognition of the continuum of learning and the importance of the early years (particularly 0 to 3 years) and the integration of kindergarten and child care services.

- d) **Appropriate Programming** to ensure that all children have access to a program which is developmentally and culturally appropriate and adequate planning time.
- e) **Phase-in of all New Regulations** to allow time for services to adapt to the requirements of the new Children's Services Regulations, with funding for:
 - Training or any required building renovations in not-for-profit community owned services
 - Maintaining high standards for accreditation. The Childcare Quality Accreditation System, which is currently under review, needs to be focused on quality and continuous improvement, not just meeting minimum standards. Simply by having 'Quality' inserted in the system name will not achieve this on its own
 - Operational funding for not-for-profit sector to meet standards of best practice including exemplary staff conditions, wages and skill recognition to ensure staff retention, and
 - Increased opportunities for workforce skill development by way of further study to complete appropriate degrees and diplomas.

2. Affordability

- A partnership approach led by Federal Government and involving State and Local governments to ensure an increase in the number of child care places at community-owned and managed services
- Capital funding grants to local government and other not-for-profit child care centres to upgrade not-for-profit services to ensure they can continue to operate safely and provide high quality care
- Investment in innovative not-for-profit community owned services to meet the needs all children in all communities particularly indigenous, rural and CALD, and
- The exemption of childcare from National Competition Policy and the application of competitive neutrality.

3. Areas of Need

- a) The City of Port Phillip applauds the recognition by the incoming Labor Federal Government of the shortcomings of the 'market' approach to funding childcare, and its pre-election commitments to significant infrastructure spending nationally to expand childcare provision and access.
- b) We welcome in particular the commitments by Federal Labor to support the expansion of childcare in the City of Port Phillip through its commitment to build two centres: in Port Melbourne and in the East St Kilda/ St Kilda area.

- c) CoPP supports the targeting of extra funding to the provision of not-for-profit services in local communities experiencing unmet demand (especially those in high growth corridors, and in areas where land costs are prohibitive) and in areas of low socio economic need. This funding should also target:
- Under three year olds
 - Children with additional needs, and
 - Occasional care
- d) Development of a State Government regulated waiting list system that is managed by Local Government and meets the needs of data collection and accessibility to quality child care.

4. Sustainability and Collaboration

- a) Information sharing about the diversity roles Local Governments can and are playing.
- b) Data collecting and sharing (including a universal waiting list) to support planning as well as advocacy for further funding from State and Federal Governments.
- c) The City of Port Phillip calls on the federal government to lead a revitalised national early years reform agenda which is based on research that clearly demonstrates the importance of the early years (particularly 0 to 3 years old) on health and educational outcomes for children
- d) The formation of a Local Government and Community Childcare Alliance that;
- Acknowledges the complexity of individual needs and contexts in Local Governments, and partnerships that could be developed to expand the not-for-profit community sector
 - Seeks to broker common areas of agreement rather than focus on disagreement
 - Asserts the importance of Municipal Early Years Plans in policy development, and
 - Has early input into the role of Local Government in the roll-out of integrated service delivery in co-located child and family services hubs.

Council also asks the CEO to forward a copy of this resolution to the Victorian Local Governance Association.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

13. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

A9 TENDER EVALUATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A GROSS POLLUTANT TRAP

Please refer to the confidential section of the Minutes for Council's resolution on this item

A10 PARKING SYSTEMS / PARKING MACHINE MAINTENANCE TENDER

Please refer to the confidential section of the Minutes for Council's resolution on this item

MOVED Crs Gross / Sait

That the meeting be closed to members of the gallery in accordance with Section 89 2 (d) of the Local Government Act 1989.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED.

The meeting closed to the public at 7.15pm.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.19pm.

Confirmed: 29 January, 2008

Chairperson: _____