

*dorset*  
C O U N C I L

# Minutes

## Council Meeting

18 March 2024

BRANXHOLM HALL

*it's in the making*

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## Council Meeting Minutes 18 March 2024

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**Meeting Opened:** 6:00 pm

**Present:** Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw

General Manager: John Marik, Assistant General Manager / Director – Community & Development: Rohan Willis, Director – Infrastructure: Michael Buckley, Acting Director – Corporate Services: Lauren Tolputt, Executive Assistant: Sarah Forsyth

**Apologies:** Nil

### Acknowledgement of Country

Dorset Council acknowledges the deep history and culture of the First People who were the traditional owners of the lands and waterways where we live and work. We acknowledge the clans-people who lived here for over a thousand generations on the Country where Branhholm is built and throughout the area we know as the north east region.

Dorset Council acknowledge the present-day Aboriginal custodians and the inclusive contribution they make to the social, cultural and economic essence of the municipality.

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**Item 36/24**                      **Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 19 February 2024**  
Ref: DOC/24/1914

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*The Chair reported that he had viewed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 19 February 2024 finds them to be a true record and recommends that they be taken as read and signed as a correct record.*

### DECISION

**MOVED / SECONDED:** Commissioner Wardlaw

That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Dorset Council Ordinary Meeting held on 19 February 2024 having been circulated to the Commissioner, be confirmed as a true record.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**DECISION****MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council confirm the Agenda and order of business for the 18 March 2024 Council Meeting.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* and Council's adopted Code of Conduct, the Commissioner is requested to indicate whether he has, or is likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary interest or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

**INTEREST DECLARED**

Nil

Commissioner Wardlaw's Calendar | 15 February 2024 – 13 March 2024

**February 2024**

- 15 Annual Mayoral Croquet Challenge with General Manager John Marik, St Leonards
- 18 Bridport Innovations Annual General Meeting with Director – Infrastructure, Michael Buckley, Bridport Bunker Club
- 19 Weekly meeting with the Management Team, Council Chambers
- 19 Meet and Greet Session with the Management Team, Gladstone Hall
- 19 February Council Meeting, Gladstone Hall
- 22 Meeting with Tas Community Fund representatives with General Manager, John Marik, Council Chambers
- 22 Meeting with Rotary Club of Scottsdale representatives with General Manager and Assistant General Manager regarding the Scottsdale Railway Station refurbishment, Council Chambers
- 22 Weekly meeting with the Management Team, Council Chambers
- 22 Dorset Community Connect one year celebration with General Manager and Administration Manager, Scottsdale
- 23 Meeting with Simone Lee from Tasmanian Audit Office, Launceston
- 26 Branxholm Progress Association Meeting with Director – Infrastructure, Branxholm Hall
- 27 Dorset Audit Panel Meeting, Council Chambers
- 28 Scottsdale Probus Meeting, Northbourne Community Centre

**March 2024**

- 2 Attended the Back to Gladstone event, Gladstone
- 4 Meeting with Telstra representatives with General Manager, Council Chambers

- 4 North East Tasmania Chamber of Commerce Meeting with Director – Infrastructure, Scottsdale Art Gallery Café
- 5 March Briefing Workshop, Council Chambers
- 6 Annual State Grants Commission Hearing with General Manager, via Microsoft Teams
- 6 Meeting with Councillor Ian Bark and his wife, Deputy Mayor of Bridport, Dorset Shire Council, England UK, Bridport Café
- 8 Meeting with ratepayer, Branxholm
- 8 Attended the Legerwood Catering Group Meeting, Legerwood Hall
- 12 Radio interview with General Manager, Mornings with Leon Compton, ABC Northern Tasmania, on site in Scottsdale
- 12 Meeting with Minister Michael Ferguson with General Manager, via Zoom
- 13 Disaster Ready Fund – Intelligent Wireless Network demonstration by Telstra with General Manager, via Microsoft Teams

## **Item 40/24 Management Team Briefing Report**

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The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Commissioner and the community with a briefing on matters of interest dealt with during the past month by Council’s Management Team.

### **Recommendation**

That Council

1. receive and note the unconfirmed Audit Panel Minutes, dated 27 February 2024;
2. note the management resourcing update;
3. note the Dorset Council submission on the Future of Local Government Review – Final Report, and note that this submission will be forwarded to the Local Government Association of Tasmania for their Local Government sector records;
4. note the update on the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework; and
5. receive and note the Management Team Briefing Report.

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### **DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council

1. receive and note the unconfirmed Audit Panel Minutes, dated 27 February 2024;
2. note the management resourcing update;
3. note the Dorset Council submission on the Future of Local Government Review – Final Report, and note that this submission will be forwarded to the Local Government Association of Tasmania for their Local Government sector records;
4. note the update on the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework; and
5. receive and note the Management Team Briefing Report.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

5 March | Briefing Workshop

Nil

The following questions have been **received on notice**:

**Karl Willrath, Scottsdale | 2 March 2024**

*Mayor Howard would often spruik the benefits of the Dorset Council "private sector model" of local government. As Dorset is the only council in the state that is under a board of inquiry, in part due to non-compliance, and this "private sector model" now openly appears to be more akin to a sovereign citizen model of government. Is Dorset management prepared to declare the private sector/SovCit model an abject failure, before the board of inquiry hands down its report?*

**Response from General Manager, John Marik:**

Every organisation's aim should be – whether it's a private organisation, Government Business Enterprise, State Owned Entity or any form of Government – is to ensure it operates as effectively and efficiently as possible and utilises resources in the best way to provide value for its key stakeholders, while having regard and being fully compliant with relevant legislation and standards. This is Dorset Council's aim.

**Karl Willrath, Scottsdale | 7 March 2024**

*Even though Dorset might now be selling less obesogenic foodstuffs at the Scottsdale pool kiosk, does Council think it may be more ethically sound to stop selling these items completely and source income for the pool elsewhere? (see attached spreadsheet provided for information)*

**Response from Scottsdale Aquatic Centre Manager, Jane Kilburn:**

The provision of healthier snacks has been a process of improvement each year at the kiosk and something Council would like to see continue as the residents of Dorset are encouraged to change their purchasing decisions towards healthier options. The kiosk is limited regarding the types of food it can sell as only pre-prepared foods can be sold. This limits the range of healthier fresher options.

The sources of income from the pool are currently under review as budget submissions are prepared. Growth in income at the Aquatic Centre is currently forecast to be generated from the swimming school, bookings and additional fitness activities provided at the centre.

**NOTE: A supplementary question was asked in relation to this matter directly to Council, as follows:**

*For the spreadsheets of all foodstuffs sold at the Scottsdale pool kiosk since it reopened after rebuild.*

### **Response from General Manager, John Marik:**

In addition to the food item sales for 2022/23 and 2023/24 (to 1 February 2024) previously requested and provided, 2021/22 food item sales dating back to the reopening of the pool after the rebuild have also been provided in the [attachments](#). The attachment includes food item sales from the reopening of the facility up to 13 March 2024.

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The following question was received **without notice** from a member of the public:

#### **Jacki Moore, Gladstone**

*In relation to the Playground Facility Audit Report. Is there a report for every town available, for example on your website and was the report prepared internally or was the public able to have their say? I'm just wondering if the playgrounds in Gladstone have been reviewed and mentioned, as I believe there's some playgrounds being upgraded this year.*

#### **Response from Commissioner Andrew Wardlaw:**

My understanding is that the Audit Report was prepared and Gladstone has been included. There was consultation undertaken, with the playground design competition one of those, which would have provided some data to inform this report.

#### **Response from Assistant General Manager, Rohan Willis:**

There has been a round of public consultation through virtue of the item on the agenda this evening, and Council are proposing that further consultation occurs on those recommendations listed in the report.

#### **Response from General Manager, John Marik:**

There is an item on the agenda tonight regarding this report, however yes, this report will be made public and circulated for further community consultation. It is an audit of all the playground facilities within Dorset with various recommendations made. Consultation undertaken to date totalled 31 responses, with an online community survey, internal staff consultation and a playground competition.

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#### **Item 44/24                      Deputations**

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Nil

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#### **Item 45/24                      Commissioner Question Time**

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The following questions were received **without notice** from the Commissioner:

Nil

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#### **Item 46/24                      Notices of Motion by the Commissioner**

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Nil

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is to table the Council’s draft Playground Facility Audit Report (the Report) for the Dorset Municipality for endorsement by Council for community consultation.

**Recommendation**

That Council endorse the attached Playground Facility Audit Report recommendations for a community consultation period of 14 days.

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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council endorse the attached Playground Facility Audit Report recommendations for a community consultation period of 14 days.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to approve (i) a reallocation of \$100,000 in grant funding received under Phase 3 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program and (ii) a budget variation of \$50,000, for construction of a sealed pathway through the North East Corridor from Coplestone Street to King Street, Scottsdale.

**Recommendation**

That Council approve:

- a. a reallocation of grant funding of \$100,000 received under Phase 3 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, and
  - b. a variation to the 2023/24 Budget Estimates of \$50,000, for construction of a recreation corridor pathway between Coplestone Street and King Street, Scottsdale.
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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council approve:

- a. a reallocation of grant funding of \$100,000 received under Phase 3 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, and
- b. a variation to the 2023/24 Budget Estimates of \$50,000,



for construction of a recreation corridor pathway between Coplestone Street and King Street, Scottsdale.

*Note: that an allocation of \$100,000 for the Scottsdale Railway Station Restoration Project be set aside in the 2024/25 budget.*

CARRIED: COMMISSIONER

Item 49/24

Main Street, Bridport – Speed Zone Assessment Reports

Reporting Officer: Director – Infrastructure, Michael Buckley

Ref: DOC/24/2958 | Midson Traffic Reports – Dec 2019: DOC/19/13647 & Feb 2024: DOC/24/2594

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Council with a copy of the 2019 and 2024 Main Street, Bridport Speed Zone Assessment Reports prepared by Midson Traffic.

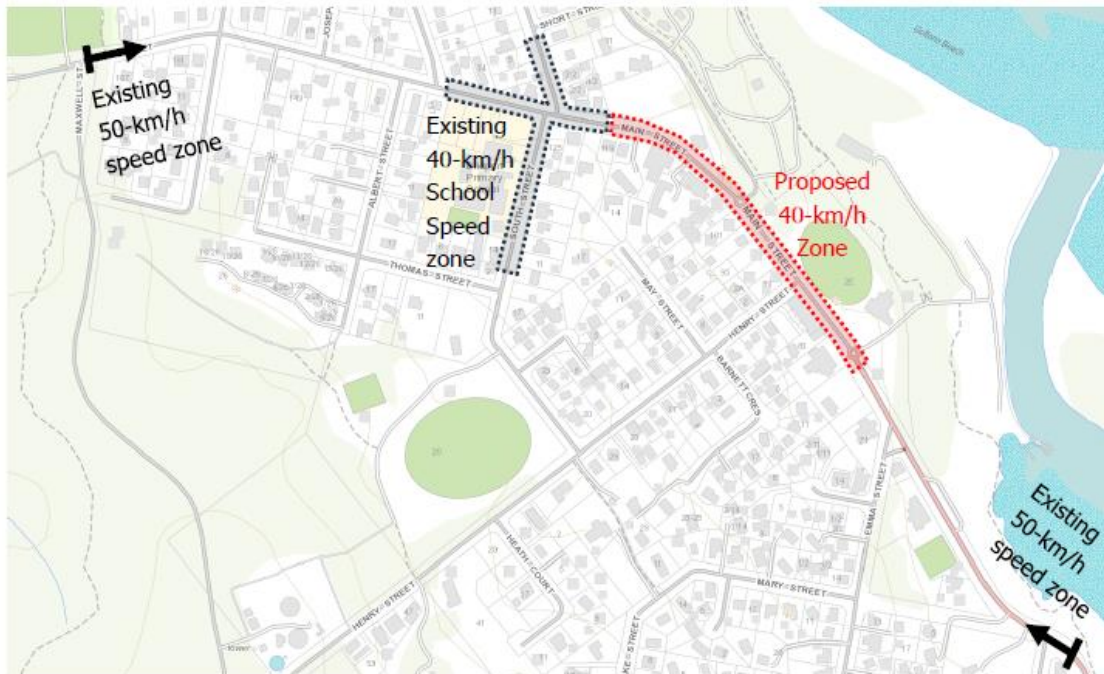


Figure 1. Proposed speed limit reduction zone change along Main Street, Bridport.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. receive and note:
  - a. the Main Street / Henry Street Bridport Intersection Assessment (2019) and
  - b. the Main Street Bridport Speed Zone Assessment (2024),prepared by Midson Traffic;
2. engage with the Department of State Growth for final approval to reduce the lawful speed limit along Main Street, Bridport from 50 km/h to 40km/h, consistent with the zone change area illustrated in figure 1 above;

3. install improved signage, stickers on bins and stencils on pathways to better identify a dismount zone along the shop fronts in Main Street Bridport and improve safety for pedestrians; and
4. prepare design concepts for pedestrian crossing treatment, within the proximity of the Main Street and Henry Street, Bridport intersection, for future public consultation.

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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council:**

1. receive and note:
  - a. the Main Street / Henry Street Bridport Intersection Assessment (2019) and
  - b. the Main Street Bridport Speed Zone Assessment (2024),  
prepared by Midson Traffic;
2. engage with the Department of State Growth for final approval to reduce the lawful speed limit along Main Street, Bridport from 50 km/h to 40km/h, consistent with the zone change area illustrated in figure 1 above;
3. install improved signage, stickers on bins and stencils on pathways to better identify a dismount zone along the shop fronts in Main Street Bridport and improve safety for pedestrians; and
4. prepare design concepts for pedestrian crossing treatment, within the proximity of the Main Street and Henry Street, Bridport intersection, for future public consultation.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**Item 50/24**

**Review of Policy No. 44 - Social Media**

Reporting Officer: Executive Assistant, Sarah Forsyth  
Ref: DOC/24/2692 | Reviewed Policy: DOC/24/1927

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is to review Policy No. 44 – Social Media (the Policy).

**Recommendation**

That Council adopt the attached revised Policy No. 44 – Social Media.

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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

**That Council adopt the attached revised Policy No. 44 – Social Media.**

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is to review Policy No. 4 - Sponsorship of Sporting and Cultural Representatives (the Policy).

**Recommendation**

That Council adopt the attached revised Policy No. 4 – Sponsorship of Sporting and Cultural Representatives.

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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council adopt the attached revised Policy No. 4 – Sponsorship of Sporting and Cultural Representatives.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda item is to approve a variation to the 2023/24 capital works road re-sheeting budget by reallocating \$100,000 of unexpended funds to re-sheeting works on Cascade Dam Road, Derby.

	2023/24 Original Budget	2023/24 Year to Date Budget	Budget Variance
Capital Works Road Resheeting	\$1,080,000	\$840,479	\$239,521
Cascade Dam Road Resheeting Project	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Capital Works Road Resheeting	\$1,080,000	\$940,479	\$139,521

**Recommendation**

That Council approve a variation to the 2023/24 capital works road re-sheeting budget by reallocating \$100,000 of unexpended funds to re-sheeting works on Cascade Dam Road, Derby.

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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council approve a variation to the 2023/24 capital works road re-sheeting budget by reallocating \$100,000 of unexpended funds to re-sheeting works on Cascade Dam Road, Derby.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this agenda report is for Council to formally adopt the Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Plan - Issue 9 (February 2024).

**Recommendation**

That Council adopt the attached Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Plan - Issue 9, February 2024.

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**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That Council adopt the attached Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Plan - Issue 9, February 2024.

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**DECISION**

**MOVED / SECONDED: Commissioner Wardlaw**

That the Meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, and that members of the public be required to leave the meeting room.

Time Meeting Closed to the Public: 7:02 pm

**CARRIED: COMMISSIONER**

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:02 pm**

*Reason: Tea break with the public*

**Meeting Resumed: 7:07 pm**

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**CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

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The following matters were listed in the Closed Session Meeting section of the Council Agenda in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*:

**Item 55/24 Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Closed Session Minutes – 19 February 2024**

**Item 56/24 Recovery of Unpaid Rates**

The reports on these matters were listed in the Closed Meeting section of the Council Agenda in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* as the detail covered in the respective reports relates to:

- personal and confidential information

**Time Meeting Closed:** 7:09 pm

**Minutes Confirmed:** 22 April 2024

**Minute No:** 58/24



**Commissioner Wardlaw**