

OFFICIAL



Mansfield Shire

Additional Council Meeting

Wednesday 23 October 2024

Notice and Agenda of meeting livestreamed via the
[Mansfield Shire Council website](#)
Commencing at 9am

Our aspiration for our Shire and its community

We live, work and play in an inclusive, dynamic and prosperous place where
community spirit is strong and people are empowered to engage in issues that
affect their lives.

Councillors

Cr Steve Rabie (Mayor)
Cr Mark Holcombe (Deputy Mayor)
Cr James Tehan
Cr Paul Sladdin
Cr Rohan Webb

Officers

Kirsten Alexander, Chief Executive Officer
Melissa Crane, General Manager Investment & Planning
Janique Snyder, Executive Manager People, Communications & Governance
Ari Croxford-Demasi, Executive Manager Capital Works & Operations
Nola Cleeland, Executive Manager Community Health & Wellbeing

Order of Business

1. Opening of the meeting

The Mayor, who chairs the meeting, will formally open the meeting and welcome all present.

2. Present

Where a meeting is held virtually, Councillors will confirm that they can see and hear each other.

3. Apologies

Where a Councillor is not present, his/her absence is noted in the Minutes of the meeting.

4. Statement of commitment

The Council affirms its commitment to ensuring its behaviour meets the standards set by the Mansfield Shire Councillor Code of Conduct and Councillor Charter.

5. Acknowledgement of Country

The Council affirms its recognition of the Taungurung people being traditional custodians of this area, and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, a Councillor must declare any Conflicts of Interest pursuant to sections 126 and 127 Act in any items on this Agenda.

Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to any items listed on this Agenda must declare a Conflict of Interest regarding the specific item.

7. Representations

Council receives or presents acknowledgements to the general public. Deputations may also be heard by members of the general public who have made submission on any matter or requested to address the Council. Council may also receive petitions from residents and ratepayers on various issues. Any petitions received since the previous Council meeting are tabled at the meeting and the matter referred to the appropriate Council officer for consideration.

8. Officer reports

Officer reports are presented to the Council.

9. Close of meeting

The Mayor will formally close the meeting and thank all present for attending.

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Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Present

The Chair will call on each Councillor and ask them to confirm verbally that they can see all Councillors and hear the proceedings:

- Councillor Holcombe
- Councillor Sladdin
- Councillor Tehan
- Councillor Webb

Councillors will respond to their name with: *“I can hear the proceedings and see all Councillors and Council officers”*.

The Chair will ask each Councillor to confirm by raising their hand that they could all hear each statement of the councillors.

Councillors will raise their hand to acknowledge they can hear each other.

3. Apologies

The Chair will call on the CEO for any apologies.

4. Statement of commitment

The Chair will read the statement and call on each Councillor to confirm their commitment:

“As Councillors of Mansfield Shire we are committed to ensuring our behaviour meets the standards set by the Mansfield Shire Councillor Code of Conduct and Councillor Charter. We will, at all times, faithfully represent and uphold the trust placed in us by the community.”

5. Acknowledgement of Country

The Deputy Mayor will recite Council's Acknowledgement of Country:

“Our meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Taungurung people. We wish to acknowledge them as the traditional custodians and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all members of our community.”

6. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

The Chair will call on each Councillor in turn and ask them to declare whether they have any conflicts of interest in relation to any agenda items:

- Councillor Holcombe
- Councillor Tehan
- Councillor Sladdin
- Councillor Webb

7. Representations

8. Officer reports

8.1. Executive Services Directorate

8.1.1. Annual Report

File Number	E11332	Responsible Officer	Mayor, Councillor Steve Rabie
Purpose			

To present Council's Annual Report 2023-24.

Executive Summary

Section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to prepare an Annual Report for each financial year that contains a report on the operations of the Council, audited performance statement and audited financial statements.

The Annual Report includes an overview of Council's performance against the Council Plan 2021-2025, and a financial report, which contains the audited financial statements and performance statements.

The *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA 2020) requires the Annual Report be presented by the Mayor.

Key Issues

Whilst the election period does not affect the obligations of councils to complete and present their annual report in the specified timeframes, care has been taken to minimise potential electoral matter where possible, whilst still meeting reporting requirements.

Council approved the in-principle Financial and Performance Statements at the Additional Council Meeting held on 25 September 2024. The statements have been audited, endorsed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee, certified by two Councillors authorised by Council, and contain the opinion certificates from the Victorian Auditor General.

The Annual Report contains all information required by the LGA 2020, and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Annual Report Overview

The Annual Report includes detailed information for our community on the completion of initiatives included in the Council Plan and in Council's 2023-24 Budget.

This year saw some significant achievements on delivery of major projects to the community, while delivering our core services and operating within a financially responsible budget.

Council delivered \$14.8 million of capital works projects, with a large component of our funding coming from State and Federal Government grants. Council achieved a surplus of \$4.045 million in 2023-24.

Significant projects achieved in 2023-24 include:

- ▶ Completing the High Street carpark in the central business district
- ▶ Commencing the Mansfield Heritage Museum construction
- ▶ Mt Buller Service Road reconstruction
- ▶ Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route completion
- ▶ Awarding community funding through the Outlying Community Infrastructure Fund to community projects
- ▶ Solar panels and LED streetlight upgrades
- ▶ Roof renewal at Mansfield Sporting Complex
- ▶ Mullum Wetlands rejuvenation
- ▶ Apollo Street drainage
- ▶ Malcolm Street shared path

Implementation of Council Plan

The Annual Report reports on Council's progress in delivering the strategies contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025.

There are three key themes contained within the Council Plan. The Annual Report addresses each of the initiatives and activities undertaken by Council to meet its strategic objectives for the year in the 'Our Performance' section of the Annual Report.

Recommendation
THAT COUNCIL: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In accordance with section 100 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, endorse the Annual Report 2023-24 as presented; and2. Delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to correct any errors including typographical in the operations report that do not materially alter the underlying message of the report.
Support Attachments
1. Annual Report 2023-24 [8.1.1.1 – 139 pages]

Considerations and Implications of Recommendation

Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable

Community Engagement

The Annual Report presents comprehensive information to our community about Council's operations and performance during the 2023-24 financial year and will be made available for reference by the community on Council's website.

Collaboration

Not Applicable

Financial Impact

The Annual Report containing audited Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2024 shows that Council is financially sustainable and that Council services are being delivered within expected parameters.

Legal and Risk Implications

The Audit and Risk Committee was presented with the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for review.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2020* contains a requirement stating that the Mayor must report on the implementation of the Council Plan by presenting the Annual Report at a Council Meeting open to the public within four months of the end of the financial year.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Council used internal officers to prepare and compile the report again this year, rather than employing an external designer, to maximise cost-efficiencies in preparation of the Annual Report. Council will not print hard copies of the report except on an as-needs basis.

Alignment to Council Plan

Theme 3: A Trusted, Effective and Efficient Council

Strategic Objective 8 A consultative Council that represents and empowers its community

Strategy 8.1 Increase community trust in Council to make informed decisions with “no surprises”

Governance - Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The author of this report and officers providing advice in relation to this report do not have a conflict of interest to declare in this matter, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

9. Close of meeting