

# Special Meeting of the 39th Council 30 June 2020

# Minutes

To: The Mayor and Councillors

Here within the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council of the City of Stirling held Tuesday 30 June 2020 in the City of Stirling Council Chamber, 25 Cedric Street, Stirling.

Hugh Lardia

Stuart Jardine PSM | Chief Executive Officer

# **Our Vision, Mission and Values**

#### **Vision**

The City of Stirling will be a place where people choose to live, work, visit and invest. We will have safe and thriving neighbourhoods with a range of housing, employment and recreational opportunities. We will engage with our diverse community to help shape our future into the City of Stirling – City of Choice.

#### **Mission**

To serve the City's diverse community through delivering efficient, responsive and sustainable services

#### **Values**

The City of Stirling's core values are:-

- Integrity
- Community Participation
- Accountability
- Respect
- Environment
- Diversity

#### **Disclaimer**

Members of the public should note that in any discussion regarding any planning or other application that any statement or intimation of approval made by any member or officer of the City during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the City. No action should be taken on any item discussed at a Council meeting prior to written advice on the resolution of the Council being received.

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# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF TUESDAY 30 JUNE 2020 HELD IN CITY OF STIRLING COUNCIL CHAMBER, 25 CEDRIC STREET, STIRLING

#### 1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the Special Meeting of Council open at 7.01pm.

#### 2. APOLOGIES

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Mark Irwin

**Deputy** Councillor Bianca Sandri

**Councillors** Councillor David Boothman JP

Councillor Karen Caddy
Councillor Felicity Farrelly
Councillor Joe Ferrante
Councillor Chris Hatton
Councillor David Lagan
Councillor Suzanne Migdale
Councillor Karlo Perkov
Councillor Stephanie Proud JP

Councillor Elizabeth Re Councillor Keith Sargent Councillor Adam Spagnolo

**Employees** Chief Executive Officer - Stuart Jardine PSM

Director COVID-19 Response and Recovery - Michael Quirk

Director Corporate Services - Ingrid Hawkins Director Infrastructure - Michael Littleton

Director Planning and Development - Stevan Rodic

Acting Director Community Development - Cheyne Cameron

Manager Finance - Dan Richards

Manager Governance - Jamie Blanchard

Service Lead - Strategy and Policy - Michelle Wolsoncroft

Senior Coordinator Communications - Caitlin Tiller

Senior Governance Officer - Regan Clyde Senior Governance Officer - Jaclyn Robins Senior Management Accountant - Fiona Ting

Governance Officer - Jackson Mawby

Public 1

Press 1

# **APOLOGIES**

Councillor Lisa Thornton.



# 3. APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor Keith Sargent (granted a leave of absence for the period 20 July 2020 to 23 July 2020 inclusive).

During the meeting, Councillor Karen Caddy advised that she will be on leave for the period 22 July 2020 to 31 July 2020 inclusive.

# 4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.



#### 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with Regulation 7(4)(b) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 all questions asked at this meeting must relate to the purpose of this meeting.

#### 5.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - S WHEELER

The following questions were submitted by Mr S Wheeler, 7/22 Pearl Parade, Scarborough WA 6019 prior to the Special Council Meeting held Tuesday 30 June 2020.

- Q1. "With reference to Item 6.3, recommendation 6(c) notes \$400,000 for funding in total for the 'Inglewood Precinct Package', the 'Main Street Precinct Package', and the 'Bend in the Road Precinct Package'. These, as far as I am aware, relate to the Townteams project. What is the history of, financing and nexus between Townteams and the City of Stirling?"
- A1. The \$400,000 allocation is for the delivery of improvements to precincts in the public realm (which include Mount Lawley, Inglewood, and Main Street Osborne Park), which are consistent with advertised and adopted streetscape and other improvement strategies.
- Q2. "With reference to Item 6.3, recommendation 6(c), the Townteams founding partners are Dale Alcock, the ABN Group, Adrian Fini, FJM Property, Hawaiian and QUBE property groups. Why is the City of Stirling financially supporting what many see as greenwash developer interests and how does the City manage the potential conflicts of interest that such activities might produce?"
- A2. The <u>Town Team Movement</u> is an 'underarching' non-profit organisation helping to create and support a network of independent Town Team community groups across Australia and New Zealand.

They do have a number of sponsors that may provide support. For instance, for their annual conference, the RAC and the City of Perth are currently listed on their website as sponsors for the forthcoming Shift Digital Conference.

Their website details their Foundation Partners who have provided philanthropic funding to establish the Town Team Movement which include QUBE, Hawaiian, FJM and the ABN Group.

The City is not privy to any ongoing arrangements in this space.

In comparison, the City has five local Town Teams, detailed below:-

- Inglewood on Beaufort;
- Scarborough Beach Association;
- The Bend in the Road:
- Main Street Co-op; and
- Beaufort Street Network.



All of these are independent incorporated community based groups. Their day to day operations, activities, events and projects are independent of the Town Team Movement.

The City provides support to these recognised Town Teams via grants (Community Arts and Events Funding) and sponsorships. This includes supporting the following types of events and projects:-

- Scarborough Sunset Markets and Winter Markets;
- Inglewood Monday Night Markets;
- Movie Nights;
- Murals;
- Community Art Projects; and
- Planter Boxes/Seating and other public realm improvements.

The City's local Town Teams are representative of the communities they are located within and broadly they seek to 'activate' (events and projects), 'advocate' (e.g. for slower speed limits, more trees, more lighting), 'promote' (local businesses and community groups) and 'improve their local places' (e.g. planting and public realm furniture).

The City does not believe supporting our local Town Teams presents a conflict of interest.

- Q3. "Does the City set a budget for deeds of settlement for employee and workers compensation payments etc, and if so what was the budget and actuals for those items for the last three years?"
- A3. The City does not budget for deeds of settlements for employees. The City does budget for workers compensation insurance; premiums paid in the last three years were 2017/2018 \$1,405,976; 2018/2019 \$1,414,381; and 2019/2020 \$1,029,179. The premiums are the only amounts paid by the City in relation to workers compensation.



#### 5.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - A DAVIES

The following questions were submitted by Mr A Davies, 50 Francis Avenue, Karrinyup WA 6018 at the Special Council Meeting held Tuesday 30 June 2020.

- Q1. "Does this budget include any money to be paid to the City of Stirling by the Karrinyup Shopping Centre for their use of the verge on the southside of Davenport Street, where electronic signs have been placed at the entrance to these car parks, where the footpath has been diverted?"
- A1. The Mayor advised that the budget does not include this.
- Q2. "Does this budget include any moneys which should be paid by Blackburn Developments for their advertisement of units for sale on the fence on the verge of Francis Avenue and Davenport Street in Karrinyup? When they first put these signs up about six months ago, a single unit was \$378,000. A two bedroom was \$549,000 and a three bedroom was \$878,000. After they had these ads up for about three months, the prices all increased by \$20,000, so the Council should get some benefit."
- A2. The Mayor advised that the City was not receiving any money in relation to this.



# 6. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 4.2(4) OF THE MEETING PROCEDURES LOCAL LAW 2009

# 6.1 CITY OF STIRLING STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2018 - 2028 MINOR REVIEW

# **Report Information**

Location: Not applicable
Applicant: Not applicable

Reporting Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Business Unit: Executive Services

Ward: City Wide Suburb: City Wide

# **Authority/Discretion**

# **Definition**

| Advocacy                | when Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.   |
|-------------------------|--|
| Executive               | the substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.   |
| Legislative             | includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies. It is also when Council reviews decisions made by Officers.  |
| Quasi-Judicial          | when Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (e.g. under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal. |
| Information<br>Purposes | includes items provided to Council for information purposes only, that do not require a decision of Council (i.e for 'noting').  |



# **Special Council Resolution**

#### SC0620/001

Moved Councillor Caddy, seconded Councillor Proud

That Council APPROVES the revised City of Stirling Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 as shown in Attachment 1.

The motion was put and declared CARRIED (13/1).

For: Councillors Boothman, Caddy, Farrelly, Ferrante, Hatton, Lagan, Migdale, Perkov,

Proud, Sandri, Sargent, Spagnolo and Mayor Irwin.

Against: Councillor Re.

#### Recommendation

That Council APPROVES the revised City of Stirling Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 as shown in Attachment 1.

# **Report Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the revised City of Stirling Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 following a minor review.

#### **Relevant Documents**

## **Attachments**

Attachment 1 - City of Stirling Strategic Community Plan 2018 - 2028

Available for viewing at meeting

Nil

# **Background**

In 2011, the Western Australian State Government introduced legislation requiring local governments to prepare an Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. The Framework requires the development of a 'Plan for the Future', comprising a 10 year Strategic Community Plan, a four year Corporate Business Plan and supporting resource plans.

The City of Stirling adopted its first set of Integrated Planning and Reporting Plans in 2013 which included its first Strategic Community Plan. Legislation requires local government to not only develop strategic plans, but also to regularly review them. Local Governments are required to undertake reviews on the Strategic Community Plan every two years, alternating between a major review and a minor review.



#### Comment

In 2019/2020, the City of Stirling undertook a minor review of the Strategic Community Plan. A minor review is defined as a 'check in' process to determine if the objectives and strategies contained within the Plan continue to be relevant. In undertaking a minor review, the City of Stirling meets regulatory requirements and ensures that the Plan remains relevant and continues to support the achievement of the community's future vision.

According to the Western Australian State Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines, a minor review is a desktop review process. However, in order to continue to engage with the community during this process, the City conducted a community engagement campaign to seek feedback on priorities contained within the Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028. An online survey was provided on the City's Your Say Stirling portal and the opportunity to participate was promoted on the City's website and Facebook pages.

A total 84 people responded to the survey ranging in ages from 18-65+. Respondents were asked to prioritise the objectives in the Strategic Community Plan and provide feedback on future priorities.

It was found during this process that respondents' views were consistent in each of the key result areas and feedback identified that the Strategic Community Plan 2018-2028 aligns with current community views and expectations. Value was placed on strengthening communities through a sense of place, attracting visitors to the City, planning to create unique and liveable neighbourhoods, maintaining green spaces and streetscapes and providing accountable and ethical governance.

A number of workshops were also held with Elected Members and the City's Executive Team which strongly supported the findings in the community survey. As a result only minor changes to improve the understanding of the Strategic Community Plan have been recommended.

Changes to the Key Result Area heading have been made as below:-

| Previous            | New                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Social              | Thriving communities    |
| Economic            | Vibrant economy         |
| Built Environment   | Liveable neighbourhoods |
| Natural Environment | Sustainability          |
| Governance          | Governance & Leadership |



Minor changes to the wording of some of the objectives in the Strategic Community Plan have also been amended to reflect current priorities and feedback from Elected Members. A set of new values has also been developed to support the City's future approach. These are found below:-

| Previous                | New          |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Integrity               | Agile        |
| Community Participation | Approachable |
| Accountability          | Inclusive    |
| Respect                 | Innovative   |
| Environment             | Inspiring    |
| Diversity               | Respectful   |
|                         | Transparent  |

The updated Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028 (refer to Attachment 1) outlines these changes.

# **Consultation/Communication Implications**

In accordance with 5.56 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a local government must give notice that a Strategic Community Plan has been modified. An advertisement to this effect will be placed on the City's website and on all notice boards in the City's Administration Centre, Recreation Centres and Libraries during August 2020.

# **Policy and Legislative Implications**

Under Section 5.56 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, local governments are required to 'plan for the future of the district'. The Local Government (Administration) Regulations (1996) 19C (4) as amended also require local governments to review their Strategic Community Plans at least once every four years, and the Department of Local Government and Communities Integrated Planning and Reporting Advisory Standard requires a two year strategic review.

# **Financial Implications**

The Strategic Community Plan outlines the vision and objectives and provides the strategic direction for the Corporate Business Plan. The Corporate Business Plan identifies the projects and activities to be undertaken by the City and informs - and is informed by - the Long Term Financial Plan.



# **Strategic Implications**

Governance: Making it happen

Outcome G4: Sustainable organisation

The Strategic Community Plan outlines the City's vision, mission and objectives.

# **Sustainability Implications**

The following tables outline the applicable sustainability issues for this proposal:-

# ENVIRONMENTAL Issue Comment

The Draft Strategic Community Plan includes outcomes, objectives and strategies to protect and enhance the City's environmental sustainability over the next 10 years.

# SOCIAL | Comment

The Strategic Community Plan includes outcomes, objectives and strategies to achieve thriving local community that are harmonious, accessible, healthy and safe.

# ECONOMIC | Comment

The Strategic Community Plan includes outcomes, objectives and strategies to create a prosperous and vibrant City for people to work, invest, visit and do business.

#### Conclusion

This report recommends the approval of the revised Strategic Community Plan 2018 – 2028. Once approved by Council, this document will be designed for publication.



# 6.2 CITY OF STIRLING CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN 2020 - 2024

# **Report Information**

Location: Not applicable
Applicant: Not applicable

Reporting Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Business Unit: Executive Services

Ward: City Wide Suburb: City Wide

# **Authority/Discretion**

#### **Definition**

| Advocacy                | when Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.   |
|-------------------------|--|
| Executive               | the substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.   |
| Legislative             | includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies. It is also when Council reviews decisions made by Officers.  |
| Quasi-Judicial          | when Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (e.g. under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal. |
| Information<br>Purposes | includes items provided to Council for information purposes only, that do not require a decision of Council (i.e for 'noting').  |

# **Special Council Resolution**

#### SC0620/002

Moved Councillor Lagan, seconded Councillor Caddy

That Council APPROVES the revised City of Stirling Corporate Business Plan 2020 – 2024 as shown in Attachment 1.

The motion was put and declared CARRIED (13/1).

For: Councillors Boothman, Caddy, Farrelly, Ferrante, Hatton, Lagan, Migdale, Perkov,

Proud, Sandri, Sargent, Spagnolo and Mayor Irwin.

Against: Councillor Re.



#### Recommendation

That Council APPROVES the revised City of Stirling Corporate Business Plan 2020 – 2024 as shown in Attachment 1.

# **Report Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the revised City of Stirling Corporate Business Plan 2020 – 2028.

#### **Relevant Documents**

## **Attachments**

Attachment 1 - City of Stirling Corporate Business Plan 2020 - 2024

## Available for viewing at meeting

Nil

# **Background**

In 2011, the Western Australian State Government introduced legislation requiring local governments to prepare an Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. The Framework requires the development of a 'Plan for the Future', comprising a 10 year Strategic Community Plan, a four year Corporate Business Plan and supporting resource plans.

The Corporate Business Plan is an planning tool that translates the priorities of the Strategic Community Plan into projects and services within the resources available.

It is a regulatory requirement that all local governments in Western Australia conduct a review of their Corporate Business Plan on an annual basis. This annual review meets regulatory requirements and has been reviewed in line with the minor review of the Strategic Community Plan to ensure it continues to support the achievement of the community's overall vision.

#### Comment

Over the period of February to June 2020, a review of the Corporate Business Plan was conducted in line with the City's Integrated Planning and Budget process. Comprehensive input into the Draft Corporate Business Plan has been provided by Elected Members at workshops, which were held on the following dates:-

- 22 February 2020;
- 28 April 2020;
- 25 May 2020;
- 3 June 2020;
- 8 June 2020; and
- 13 June 2020.



Significant consultation with the City's Executive Team and Business Unit Managers has also occurred to inform the development of this Plan.

A draft copy of the City's Corporate Business Plan 2020 – 2024 is shown in Attachment 1. This is a summary of the Integrated Planning and Budget Packs that have been reviewed by Elected Members during these workshops. The Corporate Business Plan reflects the decisions made in regards to service changes, project prioritisation and budget allocations.

The City's Corporate Business Plan 2020 – 2024 outlines how the City will use its resources over the next four years and has been directly influenced by the City's Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management and Workforce Plans. The Corporate Business Plan, in turn, quides the development of the 2020/2021 Annual Budget, service plans and project plans.

The City of Stirling's Corporate Business Plan 2020 - 2024 meets all regulatory requirements and its implementation will continue to drive improvements in service performance and contribute towards achievement of the community's vision for the City of Stirling to be the 'City of Choice'.

The City's Corporate Business Plan is recognised as leading practice within the local government sector. It is informed by a robust integrated planning and budget process that defines service levels, increases transparency and improves reporting capabilities. The Corporate Business Plan provides a clear line of sight for the City's services and projects to clarify the linkages to the Strategic Community Plan.

# **Consultation/Communication Implications**

In accordance with Section 5.56 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a Local Government must give notice that a Corporate Business Plan has been modified. An advertisement to this effect will be placed on the City's website and on all notice boards in the City's Administration Centre and libraries during August 2020.

At its meeting held 19 November 2019, Council resolved (Council Resolution Number 1119/022) as follows:-

- "1. That Council ADOPTS the Council Program of the 39th Council of the City of Stirling.
- 2. That Council REVIEWS the Council Program with the Corporate Business Plan by July 2020."

The introduction of the Council Program was designed to provide an overview of the work program for Elected Members. The information in the Council Program is contained in the Corporate Business Plan and is available on the Councillor Portal. Rather than produce another static document in an updated Council Program, the City intends to invest in further developing the Councillor Portal to provide Elected Members with dynamic access to relevant forward looking information.



# **Policy and Legislative Implications**

In accordance with Section 5.56 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, local governments are required to 'plan for the future of the district'. The Local Government (Administration) Regulations (1996) as amended also require local governments to regularly review their Plans, including an annual review of the Corporate Business Plan. Regulation 19DA (4) states:-

"A local government is to review the current corporate business plan for its district every year."

# **Financial Implications**

The Corporate Business Plan 2020 - 2024 identifies and provides a cost for the services and projects to be undertaken by the City, and informs (and is informed by) the Long Term Financial Plan and the Annual Budgets over the period of the Plan.

# **Strategic Implications**

Governance: Making it happen

Outcome G4: Sustainable organisation

# **Sustainability Implications**

The following tables outline the applicable sustainability issues for this proposal:-

| ENVIRONMENTAL |         |
|---------------|---------|
| Issue         | Comment |

The Draft Corporate Business Plan includes services and projects to protect and enhance the City's environmental sustainability over the next four years.

| SOCIAL |         |
|--------|---------|
| Issue  | Comment |

The Draft Corporate Business Plan includes services and projects to achieve thriving local communities that are inclusive, harmonious, accessible, active, healthy and safe.

| ECONOMIC |         |
|----------|---------|
| Issue    | Comment |

The Draft Corporate Business Plan includes services and projects to create a destination City for people to work, invest, visit and do business.

## Conclusion

This report recommends the approval of the revised Corporate Business Plan 2020 - 2024. Once approved by Council, this document will be designed for publication.



# 6.3 ADOPTION OF 2020/2021 MUNICIPAL FUND BUDGET AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

# **Report Information**

Location: Not Applicable
Applicant: Not Applicable

Reporting Officer: Director Corporate Services

Business Unit: Finance Services
Ward: Not Applicable
Suburb: Not Applicable

# **Authority/Discretion**

# **Definition**

| Advocacy                | when Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.   |
|-------------------------|--|
| Executive               | the substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.   |
| Legislative             | includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies. It is also when Council reviews decisions made by Officers.  |
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| Information<br>Purposes | includes items provided to Council for information purposes only, that do not require a decision of Council (i.e for 'noting').  |



#### Moved Councillor Sandri, seconded Councillor Migdale

1. That Council ADOPTS the 2020/2021 Municipal Fund Budget for the City of Stirling which includes the following:-

Attachment 1 - Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature and Type showing

a net result for the year of \$7,955,923;

Attachment 2 - Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program showing a net

result for the year of \$7,955,923;

Attachment 3 - Rate Setting Statement showing amount to be raised from rates of

\$137,605,072;

Attachment 4 - Statement of Rating Information;

Attachment 5 - Statement of General Purpose Funding;

Attachment 6 - Statement of Cash Flows;

Attachment 7 - Statement of Non-Operating Expenditures (in summary form); and

Attachment 8 - Schedule of Fees and Charges.

NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

# 2. General Rate and Minimum Payment:-

Having considered the submissions made following public advertising, that Council IMPOSES the 2020/2021 general rates and minimum payments as follows:-

Residential Rates 5.6122 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

Valuation

Commercial Rates 5.2442 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

Valuation

Industrial Rates 5.7837 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

Valuation

Vacant Rates 6.8241 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

Valuation

General Minimum Payment \$853

Lesser Minimum Payment

Parkland Villas Retirement Village

Apartments less than 36m<sup>2</sup> in area \$805

Lesser Minimum Payment Strata

Titled Storage Units \$553

NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED



- That Council APPROVES a concession for Residential Rates on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to rateable land where the combined Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year is greater than the Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the combined Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the combined Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - c. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Residential Rates to be imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 4. That Council APPROVES a concession for Commercial and Industrial Rates on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to rateable land where the Commercial or Industrial Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year is greater than the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the Commercial or Industrial Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - c. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 5. That Council APPROVES a concession for Rates on Vacant Land on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to Vacant Land where the Rates to be imposed for the 2020/2021 financial year on rateable land is greater than the Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The ratepayer must apply to the City for the concession in a form and manner approved by the City.
  - c. The application must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that any increase in the value of the Vacant Land between the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years is not the result of a change of a planning instrument, development approval, building permit, private agreement or other matter relating to the rateable land which has directly affected the value of rateable land.
  - d. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - e. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Rates imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.



- 6. That Council APPROVES the use of Reserve Account funds for purposes other than the purpose for which the accounts were established:
  - a. \$5,400,000 to be drawn from the Public Parking Strategy Reserve to fund West Coast Drive Cycling Improvements of \$1,700,000 and Rates Freeze of \$3,700,000.
  - b. \$1,500,000 to be drawn from the Capital Investment Reserve to fund the Hamersley Public Golf Course Redevelopment.
  - c. \$1,400,000 to be drawn from the Investment Income Reserve to fund the Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre Redevelopment Outdoor Pool and Dry Areas of \$1,000,000, the Inglewood Precinct Package of \$100,000, the Main Street Precinct Package of \$200,000 and the Bend in the Road Precinct Package of \$100,000.

# 7. Payment Options:-

That Council ADOPTS the following payment options for the payment of rates, Emergency Services Levy (ESL), domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge and private swimming pool inspection fee:-

a. One Instalment

Payment in full by 26 August 2020.

b. Two Instalments

The first instalment of 50% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, plus the total outstanding arrears payable by 26 August 2020.

The second instalment, of 50% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, payable by 11 November 2020.

#### c. Four Instalments

The first instalment of 25% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, plus the total outstanding arrears payable by 26 August 2020.

The second, third and fourth instalment, each of 25% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, payable as follows:-

2nd instalment by 11 November 2020 3rd instalment by 11 January 2021 4th instalment by 17 March 2021



# d. Rate Smoothing

First payment due on 26 August 2020.

Ratepayers have the option to pay -

- Weekly 42 weekly payments
- Fortnightly 21 fortnightly payments
- Monthly 10 monthly payments

Under the rate smoothing program the due dates of individual payments would be agreed between the City and the ratepayer.

**NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED** 

8. That Council ADOPTS the 2020/2021 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

9. <u>Material Variance Reporting for 2020/2021</u>

That Council ADOPTS the level for reporting material variances in monthly financial statements in 2020/2021 as 10% and \$100,000.

It was suggested that the word 'COVID-19' be INSERTED between the words 'APPROVES a' and 'concession' in recommendations 3, 4 and 5.

It was also suggested that an additional recommendation be ADDED as follows:-

- "10. That the City DOES NOT IMPOSE, for the 2020/2021 Financial Year:
  - a. Interest on overdue rates and service charges;
  - b. Interest on payment by instalment of rates and service charges;
  - Any additional charge for payments of rates or service charges made by instalments; or
  - d. Any arrangement administration fee."

#### Reason for addition:-

To provide clarity to the community on the financial and rates administration measures that are providing relief to the community in response to COVID-19.

With the agreement of the mover and seconder, the recommendation was reworded as follows:-



# **Special Council Resolution**

#### SC0620/003

#### Moved Councillor Sandri, seconded Councillor Migdale

1. That Council ADOPTS the 2020/2021 Municipal Fund Budget for the City of Stirling which includes the following:-

Attachment 1 - Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature and Type

showing a net result for the year of \$7,955,923;

Attachment 2 - Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program showing a

net result for the year of \$7,955,923;

Attachment 3 - Rate Setting Statement showing amount to be raised from

rates of \$137,605,072;

Attachment 4 - Statement of Rating Information;

Attachment 5 - Statement of General Purpose Funding;

Attachment 6 - Statement of Cash Flows;

Attachment 7 - Statement of Non-Operating Expenditures (in summary form);

and

Attachment 8 - Schedule of Fees and Charges.

# 2. General Rate and Minimum Payment:-

Having considered the submissions made following public advertising, that Council IMPOSES the 2020/2021 general rates and minimum payments as follows:-

Residential Rates 5.6122 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

Valuation

Commercial Rates 5.2442 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

**Valuation** 

Industrial Rates 5.7837 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

**Valuation** 

Vacant Rates 6.8241 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

Valuation

General Minimum Payment \$853

**Lesser Minimum Payment** 

Parkland Villas Retirement Village

Apartments less than 36m<sup>2</sup> in area \$805

**Lesser Minimum Payment Strata** 

Titled Storage Units \$553



- 3. That Council APPROVES a COVID-19 concession for Residential Rates on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to rateable land where the combined Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year is greater than the Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the combined Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the combined Residential Waste Charges and Residential Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - c. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Residential Rates to be imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 4. That Council APPROVES a COVID-19 concession for Commercial and Industrial Rates on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to rateable land where the Commercial or Industrial Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year is greater than the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the Commercial or Industrial Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - c. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 5. That Council APPROVES a COVID-19 concession for Rates on Vacant Land on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to Vacant Land where the Rates to be imposed for the 2020/2021 financial year on rateable land is greater than the Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The ratepayer must apply to the City for the concession in a form and manner approved by the City.
  - c. The application must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that any increase in the value of the Vacant Land between the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years is not the result of a change of a planning instrument, development approval, building permit, private agreement or other matter relating to the rateable land which has directly affected the value of rateable land.



- d. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
- e. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Rates imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 6. That Council APPROVES the use of Reserve Account funds for purposes other than the purpose for which the accounts were established:
  - a. \$5,400,000 to be drawn from the Public Parking Strategy Reserve to fund West Coast Drive Cycling Improvements of \$1,700,000 and Rates Freeze of \$3,700,000.
  - b. \$1,500,000 to be drawn from the Capital Investment Reserve to fund the Hamersley Public Golf Course Redevelopment.
  - c. \$1,400,000 to be drawn from the Investment Income Reserve to fund the Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre Redevelopment Outdoor Pool and Dry Areas of \$1,000,000, the Inglewood Precinct Package of \$100,000, the Main Street Precinct Package of \$200,000 and the Bend in the Road Precinct Package of \$100,000.

# 7. Payment Options:-

That Council ADOPTS the following payment options for the payment of rates, Emergency Services Levy (ESL), domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge and private swimming pool inspection fee:-

a. One Instalment

Payment in full by 26 August 2020.

b. Two Instalments

The first instalment of 50% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, plus the total outstanding arrears payable by 26 August 2020.

The second instalment, of 50% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, payable by 11 November 2020.



#### c. Four Instalments

The first instalment of 25% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, plus the total outstanding arrears payable by 26 August 2020.

The second, third and fourth instalment, each of 25% of the total current rates, ESL, domestic refuse charge, Property Surveillance and Security Service Charge, private swimming pool inspection fees and instalment charge, payable as follows:-

2nd instalment by 11 November 2020 3rd instalment by 11 January 2021 4th instalment by 17 March 2021

#### d. Rate Smoothing

First payment due on 26 August 2020.

Ratepayers have the option to pay -

- Weekly 42 weekly payments
- Fortnightly 21 fortnightly payments
- Monthly 10 monthly payments

Under the rate smoothing program the due dates of individual payments would be agreed between the City and the ratepayer.

8. That Council ADOPTS the 2020/2021 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

# 9. Material Variance Reporting for 2020/2021

That Council ADOPTS the level for reporting material variances in monthly financial statements in 2020/2021 as 10% and \$100,000.

- 10. That the City DOES NOT IMPOSE, for the 2020/2021 Financial Year:
  - a. Interest on overdue rates and service charges;
  - b. Interest on payment by instalment of rates and service charges;
  - c. Any additional charge for payments of rates or service charges made by instalments; or
  - d. Any arrangement administration fee.

The motion was put and declared CARRIED (13/1) by an absolute majority.

**For:** Councillors Boothman, Caddy, Farrelly, Ferrante, Hatton, Lagan, Migdale, Perkov, Proud, Sandri, Sargent, Spagnolo and Mayor Irwin.

Against: Councillor Re.



## Recommendation

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Attachment 8 - Schedule of Fees and Charges.

NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

# 2. General Rate and Minimum Payment:-

Having considered the submissions made following public advertising, that Council IMPOSES the 2020/2021 general rates and minimum payments as follows:-

Residential Rates 5.6122 cents in the dollar of Gross Rental

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Lesser Minimum Payment

Parkland Villas Retirement Village

Apartments less than 36m<sup>2</sup> in area \$805

Lesser Minimum Payment Strata

Titled Storage Units \$553

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- That Council APPROVES a concession for Residential Rates on the following conditions:
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  - b. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the Commercial or Industrial Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - c. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Commercial or Industrial Rates imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 5. That Council APPROVES a concession for Rates on Vacant Land on the following conditions:
  - a. The concession applies to Vacant Land where the Rates to be imposed for the 2020/2021 financial year on rateable land is greater than the Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.
  - b. The ratepayer must apply to the City for the concession in a form and manner approved by the City.
  - c. The application must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that any increase in the value of the Vacant Land between the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years is not the result of a change of a planning instrument, development approval, building permit, private agreement or other matter relating to the rateable land which has directly affected the value of rateable land.
  - d. The concession is to be equal to the amount by which the Rates to be imposed on rateable land for the 2020/2021 financial year exceeds the Rates imposed on that rateable land for the 2019/2020 financial year.



- e. The concession is to be applied as a reduction of the Rates imposed on that rateable land in the 2020/2021 financial year.
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Under the rate smoothing program the due dates of individual payments would be agreed between the City and the ratepayer.

NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

8. That Council ADOPTS the 2020/2021 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

NB: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

9. Material Variance Reporting for 2020/2021

> That Council ADOPTS the level for reporting material variances in monthly financial statements in 2020/2021 as 10% and \$100,000.

# **Report Purpose**

To consider and adopt the 2020/2021 Municipal Budget and supporting schedules in accordance with section 6.2(1) of the Local Government Act 1995. The report includes the setting of municipal fund rates, adoption of fees and charges and other matters arising from the budget papers.

#### **Relevant Documents**

#### Attachments

Attachment 1 - City of Stirling - Statutory Budget 2020/21



# Available for viewing at meeting

Nil

# **Background**

The City's 2020/2021 Municipal Budget and related documentation has been formulated by the City's Executive Team and Business Units with consideration and input by Elected Members at dedicated workshops, which were held on the following dates:-

- 25 May 2020;
- 3 June 2020:
- 8 June 2020; and
- 13 June 2020.



#### Comment

The City of Stirling is the largest Local Government in Western Australia based on population, with an overall revenue and expenditure budget in 2020/2021 of \$309.8 million.

In broad terms, the 2020/2021 Budget consists of:-

\$245.0 million Operating Expenditure\$ 61.9 million Capital Expenditure

• \$ 22.2 million Net Transfer from Reserves

These figures are inclusive of the City's \$43.7m Economic Stimulus and Community Recovery Package approved by Council, at its meeting held 12 May 2020, in response to COVID-19. The package aims to stimulate the local economy, support local businesses and provide financial assistance to ratepayers and community groups. The package includes the removal of payment arrangement fees, interest charges on instalment options and interest charges on overdue accounts for the 2020/2021 financial year.

Over 50% of the package is funded from drawing down on the City's reserves. The reserves allocated for asset purchase and renewal will reduce significantly over the next two financial years which is reflected in the City's Long Term Financial Plan.

The City has adopted differential rates for the 2020/2021 financial year with different rates in the dollar charged for each of the four property types (residential, commercial, industrial and vacant).

The Council has committed that no ratepayer will pay more in 2020/2021 than the prior year. All minimum rates will remain unchanged and credits will be applied to residential, commercial and industrial properties if rates have increased. Vacant property owners are eligible to apply for a credit if there are no changes in circumstance initiated by the owner.

Rates charges for 2020/2021 are as follows:-

Rates in the \$ amount

Residential 5.6122 cents
Commercial 5.2442 cents
Industrial 5.7837 cents
Vacant 6.8241 cents

General minimum payment \$853

Lesser minimum payment

Parkland Villas Retirement Village \$805

Apartments less than 36m<sup>2</sup> in area

Lesser minimum payment \$553

Strata Titled Storage Units



#### Refuse Collection Charges are proposed to be:-

| Standard Service  | \$ 335 |
|---|--------|
| Shared Service (multi-unit dwellings only)                  | \$ 290 |
| Upgrade from 140L to 240L General Waste bin (Red Top)       | \$ 150 |
| Upgrade from 240L to 360L Co-mingled Waste bin (Yellow Top) | \$ 20  |
| Additional Green 240L Garden Waste Bin                      | \$ 40  |
| Additional Yellow 240L Co-mingled Recycling Bin             | \$ 40  |
| Additional Yellow 360L Co-mingled Recycling Bin             | \$ 40  |
| Additional Mobile Garbage Bin for Upgrades                  | \$ 100 |
| New Service Levy - Shared                                   | \$ 100 |
| New Service Levy - Standard                                 | \$ 200 |

#### Capital Works Program

The Capital Works Program of \$109.6 million (inclusive of \$47.7 million provisional carried forward works) is focused on labour based projects to stimulate the local economy and is dissected as follows. The carry forward figure includes \$22.5 million for the Stephenson Avenue Extension Project.

|                          | \$ million |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Engineering              | 26.9       |
| Parks and Sustainability | 11.5       |
| Building                 | 56.0       |
| Fleet and Plant          | 11.3       |
| Information Technology   | 3.1        |
| Other                    | 0.8        |
| Total                    | 109.6      |

This year's Budget provides for \$23.4 million of new expenditure on the City's road network. This includes \$7.3 million on road upgrades, construction, street landscaping and resurfacing. \$4.4 million will be spent on drainage, \$0.7 million on traffic management, \$1.8 million on footpath construction and \$3.9 million on rights of way upgrading. Other amounts are allowed for \$0.5 million on parking, \$0.5 million on street lighting, \$0.4 million on construction works and \$1.9 million on cycle ways.

Parks and Sustainability will benefit from \$7.8 million of new works including \$1.0 million on landscaping and general reserve development, \$1.4 million on recreation and sporting facilities and \$1.7 million on irrigation replacement. Other amounts include \$1.7 million allowed for revegetation, \$0.3 million on lighting and electrical work, \$0.4 million on barrier fences, paths and paving, \$0.1 million on furniture, \$0.6 million on play facilities and \$0.1 million on signage, erosion control and structures.

The City's new capital building program includes \$22.0 million of new funding towards the City's buildings and major capital works. This includes \$0.4 million towards energy improvement initiatives, \$19.4 million on major capital programs, \$1.5 million on building renewal, and \$0.7 million on building services programs.

## **Funding**

An estimated surplus of \$3.0 million is projected for the 2019/2020 financial year. Any difference between the projected surplus and that realised will be attended to as part of the mid-year budget review.



The 2020/2021 Budget provides sufficient funding to ensure the current levels and number of services provided by the City is maintained. There are continuing upward pressures on the cost of providing all facilities and services, and every effort has been made to maintain costs at 2019/2020 levels.

The City's debt free policy continues with no provision in 2020/2021 to borrow funds for works.

The 2020/2021 Draft Budget is recommended to Council for adoption.

# **Consultation/Communication Implications**

In accordance with Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act 1995, the City advertised the differential rate in the dollar and minimum rate. Electors and Ratepayers were invited to make submissions on the proposed rate. The City received 2 verbal submissions by the closing date for submissions.

One submission opposed the proposed rating methodology due to the increase in the rate in dollar.

One submission was broadly supportive of the differential rating approach.

# **Policy and Legislative Implications**

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 state that every Local Government is to prepare and adopt an annual budget.

Sections 6.32, 6.34, 6.35, 6.37 and 6.38 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 54 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 provide Council with the power to impose rates and service charges.

Sections 6.45 and 6.50 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 provide Council with the power to adopt options for payments of rates or service charges.

Regulation 68 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 provides Council with the power to impose interest on payment by instalment.

Sections 6.13 and 6.51 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 19(A) and 70 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 provide Council with the power to impose interest on overdue amounts owing to the City.

Section 6.49 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides Council with the power to accept payment of a rate or service charge due and payable by a person in accordance with an agreement made with the person.

Section 6.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides Council with the power to impose fees and charges.

Section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides Council with the power to grant a discount or other incentive for the early payment of any rate or service charge.



Building Act 2011 and Building Regulations 2012, Section 53(2) provides Council with the power to impose a swimming pool inspection fee.

Section 6.11 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulations 17 and 27(h) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 provide Council with the power to establish and maintain reserve accounts.

Regulation 34(5) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 and AASB 1031 Materiality require Council to adopt a percentage or value to be used in statements of financial activity for reporting material variances.

# **Financial Implications**

The Annual Budget provides the City with the approval to undertake all of its planned activities in the 2020/2021 financial year.

# **Strategic Implications**

Governance: Making it happen

Outcome G4: Sustainable organisation

# **Sustainability Implications**

The following tables outline the applicable sustainability issues for this proposal:-

| ENVIRONMENTAL |     |       |
|---------------|-----|-------|
| Issue         | Con | nment |

Adoption of the Budget will enable Council to deliver on a number of environmental objectives including energy consumption, waste generation and water consumption.

| SOCIAL |         |
|--------|---------|
| Issue  | Comment |

Adoption of the Budget will enable Council to deliver on a number of social objectives including amenity, community engagement, community services, cultural and heritage values, and health/wellbeing.

# ECONOMIC Issue Comment

Adoption of the Budget will enable Council to deliver on a number of economic sustainability objectives including development of key business sectors, business innovation, job creation and transport infrastructure.

### Conclusion

The report submits the City's 2020/2021 Annual Budget for adoption as required under Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.



#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER

Mayor Mark Irwin made the following announcement subsequent to the adoption of the 2020/2021 Municipal Fund Budget:-

"Councillors, I thank you on behalf of the City's employees and the community, for not only your positive comments, but also your collaboration and significant work at the six workshops held over the past many months. There has been a lot of collaboration, a lot of hard work. You have been fantastic advocates not only for your community, but also balancing the challenge of advocating for your local communities while making the right decisions for the City as a whole. So I thank you for that.

I'd also like to thank Ms Ingrid Hawkins [Director Corporate Services], Mr Dan Richards [Manager Finance], and your team for the amazing work you have done in answering comments and questions from Councillors and responding in a timely manner. I acknowledge the amount of work you did hitting the ground running to rework the budget when the COVID-19 pandemic hit the City.

To the Executive Team, led by the Chief Executive Officer, Stuart Jardine - all of you have been absolutely amazing. Again, responding to and looking after your teams, and ensuring that you have always put the community first through all of your decision making.

I would particularly like to single out Mr Mick Quirk, our Director of COVID-19 Response and Recovery. I think it would be appropriate at this forum to acknowledge Mr Quirk being pulled out of his usual role and Mr Cheyne Cameron for stepping into that role [Acting Director Community Development].

Mr Quirk, you ensured that a dedicated team was looking after the community during the COVID-19 pandemic; not only looking after the reactionary response phase, but ensuring that we are ready for the recovery well before many others, and we are in a position to again look after the community during this time.

This budget is one of the most significant budgets I think this Council will ever adopt. And I certainly take on board Councillor David Lagan's earlier comments in regards to the position the City is in - being fortunate to be in this position so that we can all act to support the community. I commend all of you as Councillors. I think one thing you have really shown during this whole process is empathy for the community; this is shown in the City being able to provide rate relief for the community that is second to none amongst councils, to ensure that every ratepayer is guaranteed that they will pay the same or less than they did last year.

Not only that, but then providing the economic stimulus by drawing down on our reserves to ensure that local jobs in the community are still continuing. People have employment, and our clubs still benefit, and the community still benefits from our fantastic infrastructure projects. The Community Services Team needs recognition during this time as well, during the COVID-19 phase. Council's support of the budget ensures they can continue to provide that humanitarian support right now in the community, and that ongoing support to ensure that the community is looked after - especially those who are vulnerable - during the coming months, if not years. And also, of course, business support and ensuring that our small businesses have the support they need to reopen and get through this.

Thank you so much for your work during this time. Thank you for your support in ensuring this budget was adopted. Well done, everyone."



# 7. CLOSURE

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

| These minutes were confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings on:- |
|---|
| / 2020  |
|   |
| SIGNED:-  |
| Councillor Name:  |
|   |
|   |
|   |
| PRESIDING MEMBER  |