



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Future Melbourne Committee

MINUTES

**Meeting Number 43
Tuesday 8 November 2011
5pm**

**Yarra Room
Level 2
Melbourne Town Hall**

PRESENT

Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley
Councillor Carl Jetter
Councillor Jennifer Kanis
Councillor Kevin Louey
Councillor Cathy Oke
Councillor Ken Ong
Councillor Brian Shanahan
Councillor Jackie Watts

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne
Committee meeting on Tuesday 6 December 2011

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND APOLOGIES

The meeting commenced at 5pm.

The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, advised that:

- the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of ensuring accuracy of the minutes of the meeting;
- the agenda comprised seven Reports from Management, three of which were confidential;
- there was six items of General Business; and
- no apologies had been received, however Councillor Kanis would be a late arrival.

REQUEST TO PHOTOGRAPH DURING PROCEEDINGS

Moved: Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle

That Future Melbourne Committee resolves to allow The Age to take photographs during the open proceedings.

Seconded: Cr Louey

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Louey, Oke, Ong, Shanahan and Watts.

2. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, advised that conflicts of interest would be disclosed as they arose.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: Cr Watts

That the minutes of meeting No 41, held on Tuesday 4 October 2011, be confirmed subject to commentary on Councillor Watts' Personal Explanation, under Item 6, General Business, being removed and Councillor Watts' Personal Explanation document being appended to the minutes.

Seconded: Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Louey, Oke, Ong, Shanahan and Watts.

Councillor Kanis arrived at the meeting at 5.05pm.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5. REPORTS FROM MANAGEMENT

SUBMISSIONS/ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, advised that as at 3pm the following submissions had been received in accordance with the Council's *Conduct of Meetings Local Law 2010*.

In relation to **Agenda Item 5.1**, “*Application for Planning Permit TPM-2011-18, 101-117 Canning Street, North Melbourne*”:

Items of Correspondence:

- Peter Hogg, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Gary Bateman, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Peter Topping, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Julianne Kinna, resident;
- Ben Cusack, resident; and
- Rohan Leppert, on behalf of the Kensington Association.

Requests to Speak:

- Kevin Chamberlin, resident;
- Bill Cook, North and West Melbourne Association;
- Kaye Oddie, resident;
- Peter Hogg, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Gary Bateman, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Cath Bowtell, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Peter Topping, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Tess Demediuk, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Marg Leser, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051;
- Ben Cusack, resident; and
- Rohan Leppert, on behalf of the Kensington Association.

In relation to **Agenda Item 5.2**, “*Application for Planning Permit TP 2010-941, 151-153 Abbotsford St, North Melbourne*”:

Items of Correspondence:

- Savva Pandeli, Director, Accountancy Group Pty Ltd.

In relation to **Agenda Item 5.3**, “*Draft Urban Forest Strategy*”:

Items of Correspondence:

- Julianne Bell, Secretary, Protectors of Public Land VIC.

In relation to **Agenda Item 6.1**, “*Notice of Motion: Cr Oke, Occupy Melbourne*”:

Items of Correspondence:

- Yolande Leonardi, President, Residents 3000;
- Anne O’Rourke, Vice President, Liberty Victoria;
- Kerry Smith, resident;
- Peter Matthews, on behalf of Residents 3000;
- Glenn Osboldstone, resident;
- Helen Marcou & Quincy McLean, Co-Founder, SLAM (Save Live Australia’s Music);
- Susan Pyke, resident;
- Thomas P. Maginn, resident; and
- Kristy Hobson, resident.

Requests to Speak:

- Anne O’Rourke, Vice President, Liberty Victoria.

In relation to **Agenda Item 6.2**, “*Notice of Motion: Cr Oke, Occupy Melbourne*”:

Items of Correspondence:

- Anne O’Rourke, Vice President, Liberty Victoria;
- Kerry Smith, resident;
- Peter Matthews, on behalf of Residents 3000;
- Glenn Osboldstone, resident;
- Helen Marcou & Quincy McLean, Co-Founder, SLAM (Save Live Australia’s Music); and
- Kristy Hobson, resident.

Requests to Speak:

- Anne O'Rourke, Vice President, Liberty Victoria.

In relation to **Agenda Item 6.3, "Notice of Motion: Cr Shanahan, Attendance Voting":**

Items of Correspondence:

- Peter Matthews, on behalf of Residents 3000;
- Yolande Leonardi, President, Residents 3000;
- Brian Read, SRGInc;
- Michael Kennedy, EastEnders Inc; and
- Don Parsons, Centre Manager, The Block Arcade.

Requests to Speak:

- Greta Bird, Carlton Residents Association.

In relation to **Agenda Item 6.6, "Notice of Motion: Cr Watts, Transparency / Disclosure":**

Items of Correspondence:

- Yolande Leonardi, President, Residents 3000;
- Peter Matthews, on behalf of Residents 3000;
- Geraldine Suter, resident;
- Ian Bird; Carlton Residents Association;
- Brian Read, SRGInc; and
- Michael Kennedy, President, EastEnders Inc.

Requests to Speak:

- Ian Bird, Carlton Residents Association.

PLANNING PORTFOLIO

Cr Ong assumed the role of Chair to present the two items for consideration in relation to the Planning Portfolio.

5.1 Application for Planning Permit TPM-2011-18, 101-117 Canning Street, North Melbourne

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of a planning permit application lodged with the Minister for Planning for the construction of a multi-storey mixed-use building at 101-117 Canning Street, North Melbourne.

Kevin Chamberlin, resident, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Chamberlin included:

- the proposed development is not supported by the state planning policy framework;
- if the development were to go ahead it would have a severe impact on Macaulay Road, Melrose Street and Errol Street shopping areas; and
- would like to know whether the 173 Agreement complies with parts, or all of the recommendation.

Bill Cook, North and West Melbourne Association, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Cook included:

- the proposal represents a clever move by Woolworths to find a site for a large development in a large growth area;
- the site had no design and development overlay to restrict the height limits of the proposed development and Council should have done more to repair the planning scheme; and
- the development would eventually fail because it does not contribute to the long-term community wellbeing, the amenity of the area and the neighbourhood character.

Kay Oddie, resident, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms Oddie included:

- the Woolworths development would exceed the height limitation of the area set in the Municipal Strategic Statement; and

- current Woolworths developments occurring in Phillip Island and Highett are smaller with no residential units, suggesting that a smaller development by Woolworths in North Melbourne would still be economically viable for them.

Peter Hogg, Residents About Integrated Development at 3051 (RAID), addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Hogg included:

- that RAID has come together in response to this proposed development;
- this is a pivotal site and therefore needs the highest standards of design;
- question the need for 300 units in order for Woolworths to make a profit;
- the intention of Woolworths to on-sell the air rights is a concern; and
- a lower density and lower rise development would integrate better into the area and will not cause overshadowing.

Gary Bateman, RAID, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Bateman included:

- RAID is concerned about the traffic and pedestrian management issues that this proposal would cause, particularly:
 - increased traffic volumes;
 - insufficient on-site car parking;
 - truck access;
 - pedestrian amenity; and
 - public transport infrastructure; and
- RAID recommends significantly reducing the amount of residential units proposed which will have flow on reduction in car parking and traffic impacts;
- traffic calming measures need to be implemented;
- a fully integrated urban design response is required; and
- congratulate Council officers on their thorough analysis and recommendation.

Cath Bowtell, RAID, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms Bowtell included:

- many people in the community support the development of the site as a mixed use area and a development of medium density housing;
- RAID are concerned about the impact the development will have on the access to community infrastructure, the amenity and quality of life in the neighbourhood and traffic safety;
- the existing community infrastructure is under a lot of pressure already; and
- RAID is concerned that there is some 'wriggle room' in the report as the recommendation only asks that the Minister for the Department of Planning and Community Development consider a more appropriate redevelopment rather than obligating it.

Peter Topping, RAID, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Topping included:

- the extended hours of liquor licensing proposed by Woolworths are insensitive to the demographic of the area;
- in his opinion Woolworths have not demonstrated a good track record in managing liquor sales; and
- as many people in the area live with social disadvantages and addictions an extended liquor licence would not be beneficial.

Tess Demediuk, RAID, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms Demediuk included:

- the future of planning of North Melbourne will be negatively impacted should this development go ahead;
- developers need to be held to the standards of the Municipal Strategic Statement and Draft Arden-Macaulay Structure Plan is currently under development;
- the report from management contains a detailed analysis and addresses many of the issues; and
- the applicant has advised the community that their long term interest is only in part of the development.

Marg Leser, RAID, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms Leser included:

- appreciate the thoroughness of the report;
- Melbourne has won many awards for being a sustainable, liveable and creative city with North Melbourne being a hub; and
- the expanding population of the city means forward planning is needed.

Ben Cusack, resident, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Cusack included:

- a large amount of traffic would be generated by the development;
- the left turn only into loading dock would cause trucks to enter via Shiel Street; and
- possible solutions to this issue should this proposal proceed, could be:
 - implementation of a truck ban in Shiel Street;
 - 40 km/h speed limit;
 - installation of speed humps; and
 - a ban on construction vehicles in Shiel Street.

Rohan Leppert, on behalf of the Kensington Association, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Leppert included:

- the development is inconsistent with the Draft Arden-Macaulay Structure Plan;
- if the development were to go ahead residents would lose faith in the Council; and
- the strongest arguments must be put to the Minister for Planning so that this development does not proceed.

Moved: Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee:

- 1.1. objects to the application on the basis that the building represents an overdevelopment of the site and would impact adversely upon the general amenity of the immediate surrounding area. It is also recommended that the Future Melbourne Committee highlight issues concerning the design and layout of car parking areas and the proposed loading bay; and*
- 1.2. advises the Minister for Planning and Department of Planning and Community Development of what it would consider as more appropriate for the redevelopment of the site as detailed in Attachment 4 of the report from Management.*

Seconded: Cr Oke

Councillors commented that:

- they wished to thank submitters for their input and understanding;
- although the final decision is made by the Minister for Planning the strong public interest will help in Council's argument against the proposal;
- they are unable to obligate the Minister for Planning and the Department of Planning and Community Development to do anything;
- Council has done what they can to repair the planning scheme through the Municipal Strategic Statement and Draft Arden-Macaulay Structure Plan;
- if the Minister for Planning were to accept the application they would be going against the Draft Arden-Macaulay Structure Plan;
- increased housing and diversity also requires increased community infrastructure and public space;
- a traffic management plan needs to be developed for the area;
- they are unhappy with the lack of response they have received from the applicant; and
- they commend officers for their work on this matter.

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Ong, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey, Oke, Shanahan and Watts.

5.2 Application for Planning Permit TP 2010-941, 151-153 Abbotsford St, North Melbourne

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of an application for demolition of the existing building and construction of a five level building containing 17 dwellings with 18 bicycle spaces at 151-153 Abbotsford Street, North Melbourne.

Moved: Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle

That the Future Melbourne Committee issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit, subject to the conditions included in the delegate report (refer Attachment 4 of the report from Management).

Seconded: Cr Ong

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, and Councillor Ong spoke in favour of the motion commenting that the proposal is within the planning scheme rules.

Councillor Shanahan spoke against the motion commenting that the proposed development:

- is intrusive, as there are no other five storey buildings within the vicinity;
- would create a precedent in the area; and
- is an overdevelopment and reduces the amenity of the area.

The motion was put and carried with the Chair, Councillor Ong, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley and Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey and Oke voting in favour of the motion and Councillors Shanahan and Watts voting against the motion.

ECO-CITY PORTFOLIO

Cr Oke assumed the role of Chair to present the two items for consideration in relation to the Eco-City Portfolio.

5.3 Draft Urban Forest Strategy

The purpose of this report was to seek endorsement of the draft Urban Forest Strategy (UFS) and Diversity Guidelines for community consultation.

Julianne Bell, Secretary, Protectors of Public Land VIC, addressed the Committee commenting that:

- drought has had significant impact on the trees in Melbourne;
- she disagrees with the suggestion of felling trees that are near the end of their life; and
- would like a list of all trees that are to be removed along with their location, species and the reason for their removal.

Moved: Cr Oke

That the Future Melbourne Committee endorses the draft Urban Forest Strategy for community consultation for the period from 9 November 2011 to 27 February 2012.

Seconded: Cr Kanis

Councillors commented that:

- much of the information Ms Bell was interested in could be found within the report from management and will also be part of a consultation process;
- they wished to thank officers for their work, in particular Manager Urban Landscapes, Ian Shears and Team and Director City Design, Rob Adams;
- they acknowledged the role of the Parks and Gardens Advisory Committee in the development of this strategy;
- the report responds to the last thirteen years of drought, climate change, changing demographic, extreme weather and the aging of trees;
- there has been a lot of engagement with many stakeholders including VicUrban, VicHealth, the Department of Health, Royal Botanic Gardens, the University of Melbourne, Monash University, Deakin University, Friends of the Elms and many other resident groups;

- should the strategy be endorsed there will be four months of consultation;
- the 40 per cent target to increase the canopy of Melbourne is exciting; and
- the urban forest is part of why Melbourne is often considered one of the most liveable cities.

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Oke, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey, Ong, Shanahan and Watts.

5.4 Draft Open Space Strategy

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the draft Open Space Strategy for public consultation.

Moved: Cr Kanis

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee endorse the draft Open Space Strategy for public consultation for the period from 14 November 2011 to 27 February 2012 subject to the addition of the following dot point under the community health and wellbeing heading on page 8 – after the 2nd dot point:*

- 1.1. *'Open spaces with a diversity of facilities that encourage people of all abilities to participate in social and physical activities and events.'*

Seconded: Cr Ong

Councillors commented that:

- they wished to thank officers for their work on this matter, particularly Team Leader Parks Planning, Eamonn Fennessy, and Team and the Parks and Gardens Advisory Committee for their input;
- open space needs to be accessible to all people; and
- an increase in open space is needed in a growing population.

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Oke, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey, Ong, Shanahan and Watts.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle resumed the role of Chair for the remainder of the open meeting.

There were six items of General Business for consideration in the open session.

6.1 Notice of Motion: Cr Oke, Occupy Melbourne

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, advised members of the public that Councillors were restricted in the comments they could make regarding Agenda Items 6.1 and 6.2 due to current legal proceedings.

Anne O'Rourke, Vice President, Liberty Victoria, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms O'Rourke included:

- the excessive force used by police during the eviction of protesters from the City Square is a concern;
- there is an increasing practise by police to drop protesters in outer suburbs, conduct which a recent court in South Australia found to be false imprisonment; and
- would like to know what powers the eviction occurred under.

Moved: Cr Oke

That the Future Melbourne Committee supports the Occupy Melbourne protestors call for an independent inquiry into their eviction from City Square on 21 October 2011.

Seconded: Cr Kanis

Councillors Oke, Kanis and Watts spoke in favour of the motion commenting that:

- the motion does not call for the Council to conduct an inquiry, but to support one; and
- an inquiry would clarify the many different versions regarding what happened on the day.

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley and Councillor Shanahan spoke against the motion commenting that:

- this was a matter before the courts; and
- an independent inquiry does not require the support of the Council.

The motion was put and lost with Councillors Kanis, Oke and Watts voting in favour of the motion and the Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley and Councillors Jetter, Louey, Ong and Shanahan voting against the motion.

6.2 Notice of Motion: Cr Oke, Occupy Melbourne

Anne O'Rourke, Vice President, Liberty Victoria, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms O'Rourke included:

- would like to know the legal process that was followed and what the authorising power for eviction was; and
- whether the police followed the set procedure particularly in relation to Section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Moved: Cr Oke

That the Future Melbourne Committee request a report detailing the chronology of the key City of Melbourne actions and decisions leading up to the eviction at the City Square on 21 October 2011.

Seconded: Cr Watts

Councillors Oke, Kanis and Watts spoke in favour of the motion commenting that:

- this was an opportunity to state the facts and set the record straight;
- Council was not reflected well in the media; and
- Council could learn from the events that occurred.

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle and Councillor Shanahan spoke against the motion commenting that:

- do not wish to move beyond legal proceedings;
- this is now a matter for the courts; and
- there is not sufficient justification for a report on what occurred as it was already clear on what happened.

The motion was put and lost with Councillors Kanis, Oke and Watts voting in favour of the motion and the Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley and Councillors Jetter, Louey, Ong and Shanahan voting against the motion.

6.3 Notice of Motion: Cr Shanahan, Attendance Voting

Greta Bird, Carlton Residents Association, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Ms Bird included:

- municipal voting in Victoria occurs on the same day, so voters living outside the electorate could vote absentee within another electorate;
- a large number of voters are disenfranchised and cannot make informed decisions;
- some voters do not speak English or are illiterate so they do not respond to the postal vote form; and
- signatures on postal votes cannot be verified.

Moved: Cr Shanahan

That the Future Melbourne Committee recommend that Council adopts an attendance voting model, consistent with that used in Commonwealth and Victorian elections with the provision for postal voting.

Seconded: Cr Watts

Councillors Kanis, Oke, Shanahan and Watts spoke in favour of the motion commenting that:

- attendance voting reduces the opportunity for fraud;
- the constituents of the municipality are confused on the current voting system with 164,000 enquiry calls that were made during the 2008 election;
- attendance voting would create a consistent approach inline with State and Federal voting;
- postal voting makes it difficult to access voters in public housing;
- independent candidates running in the election would have greater opportunity for engagement with the community at polling booths; and
- it would be an opportunity to encourage the interest of disengaged youth in the political process.

Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, and Councillors Jetter and Ong spoke against the motion commenting that:

- local government electoral roll requirements proceed from a different base from State and Federal;
- of 79 Councils in Victoria 70 of them opted for postal voting in 2008 making City of Melbourne consistent with other Councils;
- Victorian Electoral Commission statistics show postal voting for local government elections has a higher participation rate;
- a Nexus Research study conducted prior to the 2008 elections shows 74 per cent of voters prefer postal voting;
- there has been no proven cases of fraud in postal voting, all evidence is anecdotal;
- if there is a problem with the current system we should be looking at what is wrong and finding solutions, not changing systems;
- City of Melbourne is unique as its voter base is broad; and
- a large percentage of rate payers do not live within the municipality making attendance voting difficult.

The motion was put and lost with Councillors Kanis, Oke, Shanahan and Watts voting in favour of the motion and the Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley and Councillors Jetter, Louey and Ong voting against the motion.

6.4 Notice of Motion: Cr Shanahan, Application for Planning Permit TPM-2011-18, 101-117 Canning Street, North Melbourne

Moved: Cr Shanahan

That the Future Melbourne Committee requests that Management, in view of the proposed development undertake a study to plan for measures such as traffic management, including road and partial road closures, and other actions so as to protect the amenity of the adjoining residential areas.

Seconded: Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey, Oke, Ong, Shanahan and Watts.

6.5 Notice of Motion: Cr Watts, City of Melbourne Policy on Christmas Cards or Other Seasonal Greetings

Moved: Cr Watts

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves that:*
 - 1.1. *the production of the paper /print Christmas cards for use by City of Melbourne officers or Councillors to distribute to constituents or stakeholders be severely curtailed and wherever possible paper/print cards be replaced with electronic greetings;*
 - 1.2. *individual personal photographs not be displayed on any form of Christmas greeting sent, be that paper or electronic; and*
 - 1.3. *cost savings made by limiting this expenditure on Christmas cards be donated to the Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation.*

The motion lapsed for want of a Secunder.

6.6 Notice of Motion: Cr Watts, Transparency / Disclosure

Ian Bird, Carlton Residents Association, addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the motion. Key comments made by Mr Bird included:

- confidentiality has been used to stifle debate on important matters;
- there is a need to clarify the use of confidentiality clauses from the Minister for Local Government;
- questions whether Councillors always vote in favour of the public interest when it comes to confidential matters; and
- it would be reasonable for the public to be fully informed on Council business so they are able to thoughtfully engage in the democratic process.

Moved: Cr Watts

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to:*
 - 1.1. *seek advice from the Minister for Local Government and/or the Auditor General on the following matters:*
 - 1.1.1. *clarification on the intended interpretation of the word 'may' in relation to the guidelines (8 dot points) contained in the Local Government Act 1989 (s89(2)) on determining whether or not matters are 'confidential';*
 - 1.1.2. *the provision of broader explanatory statements or notes to expand the descriptive phrases cited in these dot-point guidelines; and*
 - 1.1.3. *clarification on the intended application of these dot-point guidelines; and*
 - 1.2. *invite appropriate entities (eg Attorney General, Ombudsman or the Privacy Commissioner) to review current City of Melbourne policies on transparency and disclosure and to work with the City of Melbourne to develop best practice guidelines.*

Secinded: Cr Oke

Councillor Oke and Watts spoke in favour of the motion commenting that:

- the guidelines in the *Local Government Act 1989* are brief and require further explanation;
- Council needs to move towards greater disclosure; and
- it would be beneficial to receive advice on how confidentiality is interpreted.

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Councillors Kanis, Jetter and Shanahan spoke against the motion commenting that:

- all material is open as a default position and needs to be designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer;

- the Chair always asks at the beginning of any Committee or Council meetings whether any Councillor wishes to discuss the confidential status of an item;
- once confidential items have been discussed and voted on by Council the resolution is made public wherever possible;
- the legislation cannot cover all matters that will come before Councillors; and
- the definition of the word 'may' already has a clear definition.

The motion was put and lost with Councillors Oke and Watts voting in favour of the motion and the Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley and Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey, Ong and Shanahan voting against the motion.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Urgent Business for consideration in the open session.

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

9. CLOSURE OF OPEN MEETING

Moved: Cr Ong

1. That pursuant to sections 89(2)(d) and (h) of the Local Government Act 1989, the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the following categories:

1.1. 5.5 because it contains information which if released, could prejudice the Council or any person.

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, Councillors Jetter, Kanis, Louey, Oke, Ong, Shanahan and Watts.

The Chair, Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, declared the open meeting closed at 7.21pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 6 December 2011.

Chair
Future Melbourne Committee