



Future Melbourne Committee

Minutes

**Meeting Number 27
Tuesday 6 February 2018
5.30pm**

**Swanston Hall
Ground Floor
Melbourne Town Hall**

Present

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood
Councillor Nicolas Frances Gilley
Councillor Philip Le Liu
Councillor Rohan Leppert
Councillor Kevin Louey
Councillor Cathy Oke
Councillor Beverley Pinder-Mortimer
Councillor Nicholas Reece
Councillor Susan Riley
Councillor Jackie Watts

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee
on Tuesday 20 February 2018

1. Commencement of meeting and apologies

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that:

- the meeting was being recorded and the audio would be made available on the City of Melbourne website before close of business tomorrow
- the agenda comprised of eight reports from management, one of which was confidential and three items of general business
- no apologies had been received from Councillors.

Condolence statement for Ronald Joseph 'Ron' Walker AC CBE

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, read the following statement:

The City of Melbourne sadly acknowledges the passing of former Lord Mayor, Ron Walker on 30 January 2018.

Ron was first elected to the City of Melbourne on 22 August 1968 to Hoddle Ward and after ten years of service, resigned on 14 August 1978, having served as Lord Mayor from 26 August 1974 to 29 August 1976.

At the age of 34, Ron Walker was one of the youngest to be elected as Lord Mayor of the City of Melbourne.

Ron was committed to reinvigorating the city at a time when development had stalled, remarking that "a plan will achieve little if it does not lead to action". He was an instrumental part of the city's revival at the time, which led to the extension of pedestrian access and open space in Bourke Street and the creation of the Bourke Street Mall. Ron also influenced the development of City Square into a vibrant open space for the community.

Following his time as Lord Mayor, he continued to follow his passion for Melbourne by filling the city's calendar with major events – race meetings, international motor races, cultural festivals and conventions – all of which have helped shape the city's reputation as the events capital of Australia.

In 1981, Ron and his wife Barbara donated to the people of Victoria the iconic jet-water fountain located on the corner of Linlithgow Avenue and St Kilda Road. Its vibrant lighting design is often used to celebrate public events.

The City of Melbourne extends its deepest sympathies to Ron's wife Barbara, family and friends.

Former Councillor Tessa Sullivan

The Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, read the following statement:

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge former Councillor Tessa Sullivan who resigned as a Councillor in December 2017.

I thank Tessa for her contribution to Council during her term of office and on behalf of myself and my fellow Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer and the administration of the City of Melbourne wish her well for the future.

Welcome to new Councillor

The Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, read the following statement:

I also take this opportunity to welcome our new Councillor, Beverley Pinder-Mortimer to Council.

Councillor Pinder-Mortimer was declared elected, following a recount conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission on 15 January 2018.

Councillor Pinder-Mortimer took the Oath of Office and declared she had read and will abide by the Councillor Code of Conduct, before the Chief Executive Officer at a private ceremony on 17 January 2018.

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1989, I ask that this be noted in the minutes of this meeting.

Councillor Beverley Pinder-Mortimer is a returning Councillor, and having served on the previous Council from October 2012 to October 2016, will be well known to many of you. We congratulate you on your re-election and wish you a successful and rewarding term in office.

Former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle AC

The Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, read the following statement:

I take this opportunity to also acknowledge former Lord Mayor Robert Doyle AC who formally resigned yesterday.

Robert Doyle was City of Melbourne's longest serving Lord Mayor and was first elected to Melbourne City Council in November 2008. In November 2016, Robert Doyle was re-elected as Lord Mayor for a historic third term.

Robert Doyle has made a significant contribution to the City of Melbourne and will leave an indelible mark on our City. He was deeply passionate about creating a vibrant, sustainable and forward-looking city that richly deserved its mantle as the world's most liveable city.

Request to film/photograph/record meeting

Moved: Cr Leppert

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to allow the filming/photography/recording of various segments of this evening's meeting in accordance with requests made by various media outlets.

Seconded: Cr Frances Gilley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Oke, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

2. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that conflicts of interest would be disclosed as they arose.

3. Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting

Moved: Cr Reece

That the minutes of meeting No 26, held on Tuesday 5 December 2017, be confirmed.

Seconded: Cr Riley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Oke, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

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

5. Public questions

Alfredo Malabello, owner of the Vodka Temple in Lygon Street, advised Committee that Lygon Street is suffering a massive depression and assistance is required for businesses, especially those located between Grafton and Queensbury Streets. Mr Malabello indicated Council has not provided answers to questions raised in his correspondence and asked the Committee for assistance.

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that he would take this item on notice and follow up on the correspondence submitted by Mr Malabello.

Janine Marney expressed concern with regard to what has occurred in recent months at the City of Melbourne, and stated that the City of Melbourne has an obligation to provide a safe workplace. She asked what the Council will do to step up, become the leader and set a bench mark in best practice.

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that any gaps that have been identified in what are actually excellent processes in the organisation, will be reviewed. He further noted that Council can always do better and that is what it will set out to do.

6. Reports from management

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that the following submissions had been received in accordance with the Council's *Meeting Procedures Code*.

Submissions/Correspondence

In relation to Agenda item 6.1, '**West Melbourne Structure Plan 2018**':

Item of correspondence:

- Matthew Williams.

In relation to Agenda item 6.2, '**Ministerial Referral: TPD-2012-32/A, 731-739 Flinders Street, Docklands**':

Requests to speak:

- Chris Johnson, FK Australia
- Jamie Govenlock, Urbis
- Neil Edwards.

Item of correspondence:

- Neil Edwards.

In relation to Agenda item 6.6, '**Victorian Government assessment of West Gate Tunnel Project environment effects**':

Requests to speak:

- Bernard Robin
- Gerry McLoughlan, Inner Melbourne Planning Alliance.

Items of correspondence:

- Rose McKenna
- Bernard Robin
- Garry McLoughlan, Inner Melbourne Planning Alliance.

In relation to Agenda item 6.6a, '**Update on the status of the investigation into allegations regarding the Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle AC and related matters**':

Request to speak:

- Cr Coral Ross, National President of the Australian Local Government Women's Association.

Items of correspondence:

- Ray Cowling

- Cr Coral Ross, National President of the Australian Local Government Women's Association
- Rebecca McKenzie, LGPro President.

In relation to Agenda item 7.1, 'Post travel report by Councillor Rohan Leppert, Hamburg, Brussels and Barcelona, October 2017':

Item of correspondence:

- Chris Thrum.

In relation to Agenda item 7.2, 'Notice of Motion, Cr Leppert: Apple store at Federation Square':

Requests to speak:

- Chris Thrum
- Narelle Lont
- Emily Keating
- Cory Corbett
- Tania Davidge, Citizens for Melbourne Inc.
- Adrian Jackson.

Items of correspondence:

- Ros McCormick
- Rohan Storey
- Chris Thrum
- Simon Ambrose, National Trust of Australia
- Mike Nekrarsov
- Carey Landwehr
- Kate Shannon
- Christophe Mallet
- Rebecca Leslie
- Kate Brooks
- Nikki Cooper
- Sarah Harvey
- Joyce Karkas
- Narelle Lont
- Chris Zissiadis
- Emily Keating
- Brian Kavangh
- Amanda Zivcic
- Ben van den Akker
- Cory Corbett
- Justin Szabo
- Paul Buelens
- Andrew Ranieri
- Terry Chadwick
- Tania Davidge, Citizens of Melbourne Inc.
- T Vernes
- Ewoud Bunte
- Kevin Meese
- Charmian Gaud
- Janet Graham.

Items of correspondence received from <https://dogooder.co/>:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Brett DeHoedt | • Mark Thomas | • Tzu-Pei Chen |
| • Jessica Singh | • Joshua Caine | • Penelope Clay |
| • Emma Barvich | • Heath Miller | • Jessica Wynne |
| • Aiyi Yang | • Shelley Watson | • Elysia Harrow |
| • Andrew Garton | • Kristian Beckett | • David O'halloran |

- Philippa Randles
- Max Savill-Bentley
- Rose Parlan
- Sonya Jeffery
- Bronwen Meredith
- Beryl Langer
- Thomas Kerrigan
- Teresa Blake
- Nicholas Pollock
- Gary Schmidt
- Mercedes Bredin
- Michael Green
- Dorian Hill
- Claire Churchward
- Terry Keeling
- Bill Runting
- Howard Bredin
- Aaron Gray
- David Mccaw
- Glen Clancey
- Brian Visser
- Irene Stapleton
- Shona Arber
- Soon-Tzu Speechley
- Adrian Wallace
- Kathryn Chandler
- Blair Harris
- Elspeth Ellis
- George Kourdelis
- Christa -
- Stephen Feitsma
- Tane Piper
- Arjie Elias
- Erin Watson
- Jobe Williams
- Mark Hunter
- Margaret Richardson
- Faith Anderson
- Hrisanthi Tomaszewski
- Ian Marshall
- Kathleen Donegan
- Robin
- Fran Mcinerney
- Varun Simons
- Michael Hornblow
- Will T
- Alex Mckay
- Wj Jobling
- Dorothy Berry
- Des Horton
- Lauren Piko
- Leonie Makovec
- Simon Fergusson
- Patricia Chiuariu
- Patrick Greer
- Michael Glen-Norman
- Issa Bonifacio
- Ron Cruickshank
- Frances Sullivan
- Nyssa Zelman
- Dianne Cooke
- Heather Sebo
- David Seignior
- Liam Delaney
- Fiona Tribe
- Jenny Williamson
- Melinda Ovens
- Claudia Keenan
- Carol Porter
- Marian Dowling
- Harry Howard
- Derry Nicholas
- Rhonda Newberry
- Lisa Bell
- Banhock Toh
- Cari Crawfordprovan
- Eliza Metcalfe
- Barbara Rogers
- Peter Baird
- Renee Mccredde
- Eve Strano
- Amy Saunders
- Patricia Jessen
- Mercedes Stringer
- Steffanie Chatelier
- Mark Freeman
- Kirsty Pittman
- Liz Zetzmann
- Laura Bulmer
- Dayelle Fitzgerald
- Anne Steleoncain
- Darcie White
- Dimple Nathani
- Andrew Stansbury
- David Lennox
- Krit Nikhomthat
- Paul Csarics
- Robert Trenchard-Smith
- Glen Maddern
- Sue Mcelhinney
- Yvonne Lockett
- Kelsey M
- Julie Bain
- Genevieve Caffin
- Cameron Rosenbrock
- Carol Berry
- Chris Rodda
- Sally Zarb
- Marsha Emerman
- Kerry Ross
- Michael Smith
- Laura Couttie
- Mark Sorensen
- Kirsten Bak
- Robyn Aldrick
- Bron Batten
- Bev Miller
- Mark Avellino
- Ryan Pither
- Andrew Zile
- Tania Ennor
- Holly Alexander
- Tess McLaren
- Glenda Burden
- Ricarda Jost
- Oliver Berkowitz
- Jan Scheurer
- Harry Jacobs-Lim
- Leeyong Soo
- Claire Tighe
- Kimberly Arellano
- Paul Hauff
- Noel Wyndom
- Ignacio Guzman
- Philip Martin
- Kieran Mckernan
- David Wickwar
- Celia Pollock
- Tracy Christall
- Cathy Segan
- Linda Black
- Brendan Borg
- Vanita Hayzelle
- Dale Rowley
- Finny Iakovidis
- Robert Pease
- Chandresh Viradia
- Derek Marsden
- Nathalie Bourgois
- Maximilian Decourten
- Isabel Nalato
- Matt Drysdale
- Alex West

- Alison Petrou
- Nathan Jenkins
- Emma White
- Kruno Martinac
- Scott Mcewan
- Mary Laws
- Jane Hayes
- Fiona Martin
- Nikhil Ramesh
- Max Foster
- Fiona Collyer
- Elizabeth Sadler
- Andrew Eberhard
- Wendy Nikolajew
- Ann Pool
- Wendy Pollock
- Paul Collins
- Rodney Hunter
- Chris Fealy
- Iain Radvan
- Anthony Ungless
- Joanne Lee
- Tim Richards
- Annabelle Hudson
- Mary Dykes
- Elizabeth McMahon
- Lynne Bennett
- Madelaine Johnson-Woodhouse
- Fredrick White
- Bazza Lambert
- Diane Segall
- Mary Steel
- Antoinette George
- Sara Thorn
- Megan Mcintyre
- Cherry Horan
- Leisa Franklin
- Ann Wilson
- Campbell Phillips
- Jacinta Wernert
- Ben Morgan
- John Tucker
- Michael Holmes
- Heather Truskinger
- Julie Plunkett
- Victoria Ratcliff
- Eugenia Mocnay
- Gill Cashion
- Jo Peake
- Graeme Kaufman
- Peter Giudice
- Crystal Legacy
- Patrick Kelly
- Sonya Pemberton
- Shqipe Memishi
- Farid Ahmed
- Nicole Oke
- Christopher Hart
- Paris Hadfield
- Graham Finnie
- Kevin Murray
- Matt Bolton
- Jackie Moscovitch
- Kate McMahon
- Sarah Goldberg
- Wendy Kelly
- Tara Fearn
- Andrew Smith
- Amanda Douglas-Smith
- Darian Michaud
- Sally Holbrook
- Maryanne Borg
- Deborah Hogg
- Lisa Mills
- Ravenna Keller
- Margaret Rush
- Jacqueline Berry
- Merlin Sykes
- Melissa Harvey
- Hilary Jay
- Carol-Anne Croker
- C Dandy
- Allan Champion
- Ian Millar
- Nerada Stern
- Pablo Brait
- Artem Bourov
- Neroli Rush
- Hazel Todd
- Gosia Suchorska
- Gareth Wane
- Susan Hull
- Annemarie Allan
- Katherine Sundermann
- Kenneth Williams
- Dee Millar
- Sarah Hunter
- Lain Langton
- Teresa Lipson
- Sharyn Harriz
- Rebecca Lloyd-Jones
- Finlay White
- Dave Cooper
- Sharon Kent
- Kim Allen
- Molly Wilson
- Alan Noy
- Kirsten Bauer
- Michelle Majoos
- Adrian Marshall
- Christopher Criddle
- David Ewings
- Julie Butler
- Damian Holmes
- Nathaniel Poynter
- Marion Crooke
- Rebecca Neill
- Luke Upton
- Tanya Court
- Robert Fisher
- Can Edwards
- Oliver Smith
- Tina Cordell
- Max Denton
- Stephan Overbeek
- Brenda Hubber
- Paul Lowes
- John Grant
- Nick Eckstein
- Jo Hall
- Lan Nguyen
- Paul Kneebone
- Brandon Lancheros
- Eliza Gilchrist
- Pia Hughes
- Marco Leoncelli
- Gerard Butera
- Paul Reynolds
- Gary Wilson
- Natasha Jones
- Leigh Greenaway-Lock
- Antonio Suico
- Chris Shelly
- Judy Horacek
- Lisa Gleeson
- Sarah Hornick
- Sara Curtain
- Jessica Tsiakis
- Jacob Sussmanmoss
- T Vernes
- Barbara Welton
- Sarah Gibson
- Tania Thomas

- Cec Rapp
- Finn Higgins
- Russell Lovell
- Barbara Kinsey
- Shantelle Dye
- Ajith Thamarakshan
- Barbara Marsh
- Carol Hall
- Chris Cosgriff
- Dustin Liebelt
- Marina Paterson
- Sandra Nicolaides
- Geoff Trist
- Gillian Hosking
- Geoff Cope
- Katie Wallace
- Liem Jones
- Kit Chan
- Arkin Yucesan
- Andrew Chuter
- Jamie Galatas
- Loki Carbis
- Ben Blowers
- Mark D'Alterio
- James Mclean
- Melanie Kelly
- Helen Toy
- L Healy
- Abbey Moore
- Sue Bartlett
- Sue Myers
- Darren Schlipalius
- Rachel Mcqueen
- Michael Warren
- Malcum Turncoat
- Andrew Taylor
- J Rose
- Mehmet Talat
- Jane Touzeau
- Belinda Trainor
- Jacqueline Anderson
- Emilu Moore
- Jenny Pickles
- Jane Kenrick
- Brandon Reizer
- Orietta Wheatley
- Andrew Ranieri
- Salem Nasser
- Liam Thomas
- Cathy Fisher
- Anne Mclean
- Dean Rizzetti
- Nicolas Reyesbeltran
- Heath Hatfield
- Ken Anderson
- Tony Whittaker
- Alisha Baker
- Brendan Barrett
- Esen Uygun
- Tiana J
- Claire Halliday
- Bartholomew O'donovan
- Dieter Liebrich
- Aude Sowerwine
- Olga Klepova
- Alicia Mielnik
- Callum Mackay
- Sylvan Rodnight-Blackwood
- Tom Keeble
- Samantha Ong
- Marlon Porter
- Judy Durrant
- Geoff Lamb
- Chris Burgess
- Fatima Ayub
- Ivan Hexter
- Jessica Reed
- Jack Nicholson
- David Gason
- Tanya Kapilevich
- Mario D'cruz
- Laurence Hutchins
- Ian Woodcock
- Steve Thorne
- Viv Mehes
- Chris Pittock
- Bernadette Suter
- Willa Defreitas
- K D
- David Pond
- Rosie Jones
- Mark Hlawaty
- Ena Burstin
- Georgia Juler
- Rayna Mishra
- Roslyn Grundy
- Kym Oberauer
- Susie Moloney
- Angela East
- Cathy Crook
- Yvonne Foster
- Tori Foster
- Jane Churchland
- Jill Cook
- John Jovic
- David Kemp
- Lauren Cave
- Emma Stone
- Marianela Delgado
- Kate Couttie
- Troy Nancarrow
- Lauren Rowett
- Peter Martin
- Jo Roszkowski
- Nicholas Moignard
- Vicki Myers
- Scott Guthrie
- Charlotte Dawson
- Dondilan Wickramaratne
- Cassandra Chilton
- Darren Bowers
- Garryck Osborne
- Philip Velthuyzen
- Helen Shepherd
- Michelle Loidl
- Megan Haberle
- Gabriela Haddad
- Patrick Sloyan
- Bryan Mulholland
- John Langer
- John Cary
- Drsue Schofield
- Hamish O'shea
- Pratom Heyser
- Gerard Magner
- Chris Nielsen
- Logan Jones
- Jess Murphy
- Catherine Currie
- Keelan O'hehir
- Emma Prendergast
- Louise Francis
- Claire Young
- Kylie Robinson
- Chris Gooch
- Chris Orr
- Jacqueline Vanzetten

- David Sweetnam
- Lisa Ingram
- Jane Jones
- George Parastatidis
- Ann Letch
- Damien Battersby
- Aaron Mckay
- Yarna Zara
- Kylie Mcshane
- Steven Box
- Jo Stanley
- Alex Stockdale
- Rebecca Clements
- Dianne Peacock
- Tom Roberts
- Luz Bacaicoa
- Krystyna Kynst
- Elizabeth Schiavello
- Kathy Henderson
- Vlad Midroc
- Margaret Mazzolini
- Jane Keedle
- Pat Allan
- Paul Keisler
- Nathan Booth
- Jasmine Deboni
- Stephen Mcclary
- Adrian Paul
- Michael Hassall
- Sandy Caldow
- Helen Rickards
- Mitchell Beamish
- Gavin Curnow
- Sandra Verdam
- Drpeter Groves
- Fiona Scott
- Jennifer Vocale
- Neil England
- Judy Newman
- Ewoud Bunte
- Drpeter Jensen
- Brad Wilson
- Steve Buck
- Lee Delay
- Scott Mcclelland
- Frances Wade
- Liz Bull
- Marie-Claire Fergusson
- Margaret Emmerton
- Hazel Finnie
- Alan West
- Keith Thomas
- Robin Barber
- Jeremy Settle
- Yuliya Ballantyne
- Wendy Hellenen
- Simon Greaves
- Anthony G
- Julia Carmichael
- Carey Dell
- Jenni Kirkbright
- Dale Cornelius
- Steve Kirkbright
- Corinne Perkin
- Caitlin Coleman
- Simon Thornton
- Charisse Kininmonth
- Declan Martin
- Mary Drost
- Lee Lasaruk
- Will Myers
- David Rodger
- Alicia Pichner
- Hugh Laurence
- Ethan Ho
- Jackie Walker
- Andrea Murphy
- Coral Waight
- Cath Jolly
- Kenneth Betts
- Leigh Murphy
- Sarah Russell
- Peterchristopher White
- Xavier Vagedes
- William Wheeler
- Tamar Primoratz
- Nicholas Clark
- Di Russell
- Karissa Marston
- Jim Holdsworth
- Catherine Glenister
- Peter&Helen Neilson
- Janie Park
- Jude Ocean
- Michael Topp
- Chloe Aldenhoven
- Brian Mcintosh
- Adriano Raiola
- Kathryn Stanford
- Jett Garner
- Keith Gibbs
- Luke O'leary
- Trish Mortensen
- Fiona Kelly
- Stephanie Ryder
- Karen Kelsi
- Saikat Parida
- Tom Barnfield
- Louise Long
- Elizabeth Mackenzie
- Brenton Geyer
- Siobhan Mccuskey
- Robert Hayes
- Sean Hallam
- Chris Fletcher
- Kylie Witt
- Michelle Bijkersma
- Lauren Hutchinson
- D'arcy Molan
- Sumire Gelato
- Ayesh Amarasinghe
- Paul Walton
- Daniel Matthiessen
- Jody Soh
- Justin Bush
- Patrick Shinnors
- Jessica Adams
- Tony Hampton
- Seona Candy
- Marilyn Gurry
- Hazel Peperkemp
- Lyn Griffen
- Margaret Portelli
- Elisa Cali
- Melissa Ireland
- Alan Taylor
- Rowan White
- Jenny Rayment
- Anna Denicola
- Anja Schwalenberg
- Shelley Freeman
- Dasha Kopecek
- Mia Are
- Justin Deboni
- Helen Walker
- Simon Horobin
- Henry Shaw
- Angela Arango
- Carol Elder
- Alister Smith
- Sally Mort
- Niels Wouters
- Julie Mulheron

- Andrew Bleby
- Kelly Lenehan
- Sophia Deng
- Jenny Lobato
- Olya Nikitina
- Charles Paine
- Amp Rich
- Martin Burns
- David Fairbairn
- Oscar Lemmekesullivan
- Mohammed Ali
- Karolina Biel
- Jennifer Foord
- Katherine Mylius
- Matt Lich
- Abdul Wajid
- Ed Swindells
- Max Thomas
- David Brand
- Muzaffar Khusro
- Ave Jones
- Zhipeng Cai
- Polina Toloraya
- Irina Dumitrescu
- Stuart Rowley
- Yvonne Mecchi
- Leonids Spilbergs
- Anita Mccrohan
- Lucia Macali
- Geraldine Corridon
- Owen Woodman
- Joseph Pellone
- Graeme Lovell
- Joshua Foley
- Amielouise Ward
- Martin Jacobson
- Kate Williams
- Sharna C
- Olwyn Jones
- Ken Crawford-Condie
- Jocelyn Wood
- John Trentini
- Anne Smith
- Gael Phillips
- Brian Salter-Duke
- Joe Lenzo
- Craig Schmidt
- Jane Goode
- Liliana Clube
- Alan Lees
- Rhiann Mattinson
- Melizabeth Bjerkhamn
- Peter Long
- Glenda Scalise
- John Randall
- Jacek Koman
- Ruth Andrews
- Sandra Zambon
- Judy Davies
- Monica Macdonald
- Mandy Gunn
- Katica Pedisic
- Jayszun Vanderwerff
- Denise Webber
- Rod Hall
- Jamuna Gurung
- Katherine Martin
- Glen Hannah
- Ruth Wachtel
- Rita Davey
- Paul Davey
- Lachlan Colgrave
- Angela Stur
- Lin Walden
- Louise Keene
- Rachael Lanigan
- Michelle Berry
- L Z
- Anthony Richardson
- Bettina Crimmins
- Harry Grounds
- Jacqueline Winter
- Michelle Kusch
- Tomas Vandermeer
- Fenella Whittaker
- Susannah Ilic
- Monica Duffy
- Martin Friendship
- Jo Crabbe
- Liz Teare
- Jan Getson
- Leanne Parry-Roberton
- Judith Toohey
- Francesco Ramigni
- Claire Nettley
- Hyacinth Jimenez
- Sue Morgan
- Maxwell Affleck
- Nabil Issa
- Hugh Whittaker
- Sarah Kahn
- Mohammed Ali
- Vanessa Disney
- Simon Setter
- Josh Mcfarlane
- Elizabeth Meredith
- Jamal Ibrahim
- Paul Coffey
- Dan Doherty,Äôs
- Sandy Sondreal
- Kristin Stegley
- Christine Haines
- Derek Fierst
- Glen Boyce
- Michael Sanders
- Scott Burchell
- Caz Forstet
- Elliet Spring
- Elanna Nolan
- Tatjana Plitt
- David Pond
- Nina Peheim
- Antoni Skoraczynski
- Daniel Kruithoff
- Sophie Vasiliadis
- Rachael Deason
- Rebecca Port
- Diana Ambrozie
- Amanda Stewart
- Ben Robertson
- Sandra Bruce
- Suzie Cackle
- Nicholas Zilber
- Joanne Moore
- Dariusz Skoraczynski
- Henry Tinsley
- Monica Quijano
- Jacek Skoraczynski
- Joy Rosario
- Matt Tanner
- Sarah Hobday-North
- Anne Donaldson
- Lisa Kuspira
- Fiona Johnsnon
- Daniel Hurren
- Ben Thomas
- Mark Fenollar
- Peter Williams
- Nana Bilus
- Hannah Zhu
- Colin Hocking
- Kali Myers
- Henry Travers

- Jiing Kueh
- Bernard Ellis
- Linda S
- Peter and Mary Hughes
- Jan Everett
- Nat Mc
- Luc Favre
- Debbie Kraushofer
- Lorraine Brigdale
- Karen Sievwright
- Lucinda Hirth
- Jennifer Harris
- Wendy Cooper
- Dave Roberts
- Tim Haynes
- Greta Bird
- Valerie Wilson
- Fiona Ewings
- Pamela Brazier
- Meagan Oglesby
- Christine Baines
- Caitlin Syrett
- Alvin Lin
- Samuel Hill
- Karina Taylor
- Jenny Pham
- Christine Kosmak
- David Ahmed
- Garth Byron
- Sarah J
- Dianne Braine
- Mark Dods
- Marian Topliss
- Duncan Topliss
- Jessica Topliss
- James Fidler
- Jeffrey Chew
- Leisa Bellevret
- Marika Jagow
- Prakash Subedi
- Toya Ricci
- Deb Olive
- Katrina Moore
- Steph Flynn
- Brendan Baxter
- Brendan Evans
- Bel Green
- Rob Lindner
- Charmian Gaud
- Alison George
- Duncan Gibbs
- Amber Evangelista
- Gillian Hatch
- Lucy Salt
- Lynnette Saloumi
- Kate Higgins
- Karen Bijkersma
- Lloyd Connolly
- Ian Wight
- Robina Summers
- Thomas Parkes
- Evgenia Bourova
- Elliot Summers
- Vesna Courtot
- Caroline Armstrong
- Tracey Doherty
- Garth Foxwell
- Helen Macdonald
- Kenneth Falconer

Order of business

Moved: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

That the Future Melbourne Committee change the order of business to allow consideration of agenda item 6.6a prior to the consideration of the other reports from management.

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Oke, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

Finance and Governance Portfolio

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood continued in the role of Chair for the Committee to consider the one report from management in relation to the Finance and Governance Portfolio.

6.6a Update on the status of the investigation into allegations regarding the Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle AC and related matters

The purpose of this report was to update the Committee on the status of Dr Freckelton QC's investigation into serious allegations against the Lord Mayor, and related matters.

Coral Ross addressed the Committee.

Moved: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Notes the status of Dr Ian Freckelton QC's investigation into serious allegations against the Lord Mayor.*
 - 1.2. *Notes that the Chief Executive Officer has advised that to date, no concerns about the conduct of any person other than the Lord Mayor have been identified as requiring investigation.*
 - 1.3. *Notes that management has commenced productive discussions with the appropriate Victorian Government department and the Victorian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commissioner about matters identified in the framework provided under the current Local Government Act 1989 for handling serious allegations against a Councillor, such as sexual harassment.*
 - 1.4. *Notes management is reviewing all corporate policies that refer to Councillor conduct or purport to cover Councillor conduct.*
 - 1.5. *Recommends to Council that it agrees to review its Councillor Code of Conduct.*

Seconded: Cr Frances Gilley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Oke, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

The Committee took an informal break from 6.15pm to 6.18pm.

Cr Oke left the meeting at 6.17pm and did not return.

Planning Portfolio

Cr Reece assumed the role of Chair for the Committee to consider the five reports from management in relation to the Planning Portfolio.

6.1 West Melbourne Structure Plan 2018

The purpose of this report was to seek endorsement of the final West Melbourne Structure Plan 2018.

Moved: Cr Reece

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Endorses the West Melbourne Structure Plan 2018.*
 - 1.2. *Authorises the Acting Director City Strategy and Place to make any further minor editorial changes to the West Melbourne Structure Plan prior to publication.*

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Reece, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Riley and Watts.

6.2 Ministerial Referral: TPD-2012-32/A, 731-739 Flinders Street, Docklands

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of a referral of an application to amend a Ministerial Planning Permit 2012/002229 which seeks approval for the development of the land at 731-739 Flinders Street, Docklands.

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Jamie Govenlock
- Chris Johnson
- Nigel Porteous, Vice President, Seafarers Mission.

Moved: Cr Reece

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to advise the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning that the Melbourne City Council does not object to the amended application subject to the conditions outlined in the Delegate's Report (refer Attachment 4 of the report from management).

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Reece, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Riley and Watts.

6.3 Ministerial Referral: TPM-2016-27, 557-591 Swanston Street, Carlton

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of a Ministerial planning application made in October 2016 seeking approval to develop land at 557-591 Swanston Street, Carlton. The site is located within the old Carlton United Brewery (CUB) site.

Moved: Cr Reece

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to advise all parties to the VCAT proceeding that the Melbourne City Council does not support the application for the reasons outlined in the Delegate's Report (refer Attachment 4 of the report from management).

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Reece, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Riley and Watts.

6.4 Ministerial Referral: TPM-2017-5, 512-542 and 544 Spencer Street, West Melbourne

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of a notice of a Ministerial Planning Permit Application PA1600194, which seeks approval for the development of the land at 512-542 and 544 Spencer Street, West Melbourne.

Moved: Cr Reece

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to advise the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning that the Melbourne City Council objects to the application subject to the grounds outlined in the Delegate's Report (refer Attachment 4 of the report from management).

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Reece, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Riley and Watts.

6.5 Planning Scheme Amendment C320: 154-160 Leicester Street, Carlton (former Corkman Irish Pub)

The purpose of this report was for the Committee to endorse the form of Amendment C320 for land at 154-160 Leicester Street, Carlton (known as the former Carlton Inn, or Corkman Irish Pub).

Cr Reece declared an indirect conflict of interest in this matter due to conflicting duties under Section 78B of the *Local Government Act 1989*. Cr Reece is employed by the University of Melbourne who is a neighbour to the development. Cr Reece left the meeting at 7.11pm, prior to discussion on the matter.

Cr Leppert assumed the role of Chair of the meeting.

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Endorses Amendment C320 planning documentation (refer Attachment 2 of the report from management) and supporting expert heritage and planning reports (refer Attachments 3 and 4 of the report from management).*
 - 1.2. *Authorises the Director City Strategy and Place to make any further minor changes to the amendment if required.*

Seconded: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Leppert, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Riley and Watts.

Cr Reece returned to the meeting at 7.15pm, after the vote had been taken.

Transport Portfolio

Cr Frances Gilley assumed the role of Chair for the Committee to consider the one report from management in relation to the Transport Portfolio.

6.6 Victorian Government assessment of West Gate Tunnel Project environmental effects

The purpose of this report was to present a review of the Victorian Government response to the Environment Effects Statement assessment process for the West Gate Tunnel Project (the Project), including how it has addressed Council's concerns, and seek endorsement for the proposed approach to the Project following its approval by the Victorian Government in December 2017.

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Bernard Robin
- Gerry McLoughlan.

Moved: Cr Frances Gilley

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Agrees that the West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP) is contrary to long established State and City policy and practice, has significant negative effects and therefore is not supported.*
 - 1.2. *Acknowledges the Victorian Government's willingness to commit to mitigate some of the negative effects of the project as raised in the Environmental Effects statement.*
 - 1.3. *Requests management continue their work to obtain formal commitment, funding and delivery of the following 10 legacy projects and actions:*
 - 1.3.1. *Improving traffic and access including funding streetscape upgrades on Spencer and Franklin Streets, funding other traffic mitigation works in North Melbourne, West Melbourne, Docklands and the CBD and funding works to improve airport bus services by delivering a high level of on-road priority on the freeway and arterial road networks connecting to the Southern Cross Station terminal.*
 - 1.3.2. *No further expansion of road capacity or change to the status of local roads in North Melbourne, West Melbourne and Docklands to accommodate extra traffic from the Project.*
 - 1.3.3. *Conversion of Spencer and Clarendon Streets from arterial to local roads between Dryburgh Street and Normanby Road to facilitate improvements to pedestrian safety and urban amenity especially near Southern Cross Station and in West Melbourne.*
 - 1.3.4. *Modification of the CityLink concession deed to remove the limitation on changes to King, Spencer and William Streets.*
 - 1.3.5. *Investment in Moonee Ponds Creek, including expansion of the masterplan to cover an area from Mt Alexander Road to the Yarra River, and funding for land and works to fully deliver the masterplan. Development of a masterplan for the creek between Footscray Road and Dynon Road is a requirement of the Minister's Assessment.*
 - 1.3.6. *Supporting urban renewal in Arden and Macaulay by identifying and facilitating an alternative Citywide site in either the Dynon Road area or Fishermans Bend, to service the needs of the expanding central city.*
 - 1.3.7. *Commitment to work with the City of Melbourne to ensure that the operation of the new intersection between the Wurundjeri Way extension and the Dynon Road connection does not have unintended negative consequences, such as increased traffic on the Dynon Road Bridge Link and in local streets.*
 - 1.3.8. *Commitment to delivering connections between West Melbourne and Docklands through E-Gate to realise the vision of the West Melbourne Structure Plan.*
 - 1.3.9. *Commitment to maintaining viable trees wherever possible, and to replace and increase canopy cover by a rate of 5:1 within the City of Melbourne.*
 - 1.3.10. *Commitment to work with the Council to achieve the best possible outcomes in line with the Minister's Assessment and for funding for a full time City of Melbourne team to service the project through to completion. In line with the successful Metro tunnel support team and funding.*

Seconded: Cr Le Liu

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Councillor Frances Gilley, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

The Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, resumed the role of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Adjournment of meeting

Moved: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

That the Future Melbourne Committee adjourn the meeting at 7.38pm, for two minutes.

Seconded: Cr Riley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

Resumption of meeting

The meeting resumed at 7.41pm with the following Committee members present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

7. General business

There were three items of General business for consideration.

7.1 Post travel report by Councillor Rohan Leppert, Hamburg, Brussels and Barcelona, October 2017

The purpose of this report was to report to the Committee on travel undertaken by Councillor Rohan Leppert as part of a City of Melbourne led delegation to Hamburg, Brussels and Barcelona to explore opportunities for exchange and collaboration.

Moved: Cr Leppert

That the Future Melbourne Committee notes the report by Councillor Rohan Leppert on travel undertaken as part of the City of Melbourne led delegation to Hamburg, Brussels and Barcelona in October 2017.

Seconded: Cr Riley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

7.2 Notice of Motion, Cr Leppert: Apple store at Federation Square

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Chris Thrum
- Tania Davidge, Citizens for Melbourne Inc.

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Notes the decision of the State Government to approve the demolition of the Yarra Building and construction of a new Apple Global Flagship Store at Federation Square, facilitated by an amendment to the Melbourne Planning Scheme made without public exhibition.*
 - 1.2. *Welcomes a new Apple Global Flagship Store in the City of Melbourne, but expresses serious concerns about the way that this particular decision was made to fundamentally change the design, purpose and use of Melbourne's premier civic meeting place without public consultation.*
 - 1.3. *Notes requests by the City of Melbourne in January 2018 to Apple and the State Government that they commit to a significant redesign of the Apple Global Flagship Store at Federation Square to avoid 'pavilion' or 'temple-like' design that is out of context in Federation Square and poorly integrated with the square's existing architecture, better contain the public square, achieve a six star green star rating and undergo a public consultation process – which ideally could take in more of Federation Square given proposals for the new Metro Tunnel entrance – before resubmitting an amendment to the Melbourne Planning Scheme.*
 - 1.4. *Resolves that, in the event of no commitment as outlined in paragraph 1.3 being made, members of the Legislative Council should be encouraged to:*
 - 1.4.1. *Disallow Melbourne Planning Scheme amendment C314.*
 - 1.4.2. *Require cabinet to facilitate a new process, inclusive of public consultation, for the approval of the location and design of an Apple Global Flagship Store within the central city.*

Seconded: Cr Frances Gilley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

7.3 Notice of Motion, Cr Leppert: Electronic gaming machine licence renewals

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Notes the endorsement of the draft Electronic Gaming Decision-Making Framework by this committee on 17 October 2017 and its findings relating to the significant social and economic harms to the City of Melbourne's citizens and communities caused by electronic gaming machines.*
 - 1.2. *Makes it policy in relation to the upcoming 28 February 2018 deadline for applications to renew existing electronic gaming machine entitlements for 20 years from 2022 to 2042 that all venues with existing entitlements are encouraged to apply for a substantially lower number than are currently operating at the venue.*
 - 1.3. *Requests that the CEO write to all incumbent venues in the municipality with a licence to operate electronic gaming machines (as listed at attachment 1 to the notice), as well as the CEO of each AFL club based in the municipality that operate venues with electronic gaming machines within the state (being Carlton, Richmond, Melbourne and Collingwood), by 9 February 2018, requesting that they respond to the policy of the City of Melbourne as stated above.*

- 1.4. *Requests that management make a media statement by mid March 2018 listing all venues and AFL clubs as defined above with their current and known requested future electronic gaming machine entitlements, acknowledging those that applied for an entitlement below the number of machines currently operating, listing the most recent expenditure data as published by the VCGLR for those that did not, and generally setting out the current state of electronic gaming machine entitlements and impacts in the municipality.*
- 1.5. *Reiterates the position of the City of Melbourne that the central city, currently the only part of the state without a cap on the number of electronic gaming machines, should be brought into the municipal cap.*
- 1.6. *Requests that, following the action taken in paragraph 1.4, the CEO write to the leader and gaming spokesperson of all parties currently represented in the Legislative Assembly informing them of Council's position and requesting that each party make specific election commitments prior to the 2018 general election including bringing the uncapped areas of the municipality into the municipal cap and reducing the state cap commensurate with the permanent retirement of all non-renewed entitlements.*

Seconded: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

In accordance with Council's Meeting Procedures Code, Councillor Watts made a personal explanation in respect of public comment made that personally affected her.

8. Urgent business

There was one item of urgent business for consideration in the open session.

8.1 City of Melbourne business and civic mission leader to Japan and China – 20 to 30 March 2018

Moved: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves that the matter of City of Melbourne business and civic mission leader to Japan and China meets the criteria for consideration as an item of Urgent Business as it has arisen since the distribution of the agenda, and cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Future Melbourne Committee or Council meeting.

Seconded: Cr Riley

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pincer-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

Moved: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

That the Future Melbourne Committee nominates Councillor Kevin Louey, Chair of the Prosperous City Portfolio as the City of Melbourne business and civic mission leader to Japan and China in March 2018 and nominates Councillor Susan Riley, Deputy Chair of the Prosperous City Portfolio as the third Councillor to attend the mission.

Seconded: Cr Reece

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pincer-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

9. Public questions

Shane Scanlon, Docklands News asked if it was reasonable to conclude that the West Gate raised freeway extension, by converting local road to arterials, comes at the expense of Docklands with the extra traffic expected via the Wurundjeri Way extension.

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood advised that the Council had prosecuted this case solidly and Harbour Esplanade is a critical consideration. He also noted that he is on record as saying the West Gate tunnel will not be good for Docklands. The City of Melbourne will continue to prosecute the argument of any roads other than Wurundjeri Way not being widened, and that he himself had the Chief Executive Officer's support in continuing this argument.

Shane Scanlon asked what the Council's understanding and process of the timing is in relation to a by-election.

Keith Williamson, Manager Governance and Legal advised that pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1989* a by-election has to be held within 100 days of the resignation of the Lord Mayor and it is also required that it be held on a Saturday. The election will be held on the 12 May 2018 or earlier, but he noted that a date had not been set yet as it is the role of the Minister for Local Government to set the date.

Shane Scanlon further asked if Councillors had to resign from their position to run in the by-election.

Keith Williamson advised that Councillors were not required to resign from their position to run in the by election. The *City of Melbourne Act* advises that any of the Councillors can run for the position that is now vacant. Should they be unsuccessful they will revert back to their original position.

John O'Brien advised that a restaurant on the corner Exhibition and Little Lonsdale Streets continues to omit exhaust fan smoke six metres high. City of Melbourne staff have attended but it continues to happen (has been over a year). The building beside the exhaust fan is unable to open its windows due to the smoke and smell. He further noted that there is currently an issue in Haywood Lane with cigarette butts, beer barrels and cardboard.

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood advised that he was aware of the exhaust fan issue, and that City of Melbourne officers have found the exhaust fan to comply with current standards. He advised that officers will again inspect the exhaust fan, however, if the exhaust fan complies there is not a lot that Council can do. He further suggested that Council officers may be able to work with the owner of the premises to facilitate a voluntary outcome. In relation to the waste issue as there are nearly 1 million people coming into the city per day the Council does extremely good job in relation to waste removal. He advised that he is happy to ask officers where the Council is at with this issue and get back to Mr O'Brien.

James Lesh, Citizens for Melbourne, asked if the Councillors would be willing to lead the debate over the future of Federation Square and commit to holding a public forum at the Town Hall by the end of the month.

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood advised he is mindful of running a proxy public consultation process which has no impact on the final outcome. He advised that he believes Council should continue to advocate strongly for a second revision of the State Government's master plan for Federation Square.

Cr Watts left the meeting at 8.42pm and did not return.

10. Closure of meeting

Moved: Cr Riley

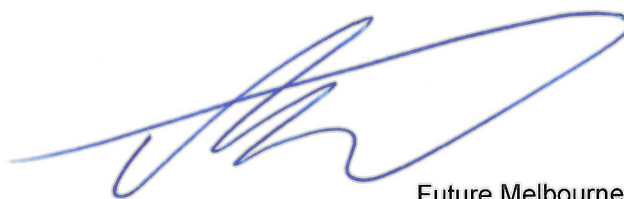
That pursuant to section 89(2)(e) of the Local Government Act 1989, the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee be closed to members of the public for the consideration of Agenda item 6.7, as it contains information about a proposed development.

Seconded: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, declared the meeting closed at 8.43pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of Committee on Tuesday 20 February 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized, cursive representation of the name Arron Wood.

Chair
Future Melbourne Committee

PERSONAL EXPLANATION: CR JACKIE WATTS

Response in relation to:

The recent allegations by two female Councillors and media reports have served to remind me of my own experience six years ago when I made a complaint against Robert Doyle for bullying. Common causal factors within the workplace culture gave rise to these allegations. I find this distressing.

Statement

Recent research is unequivocal – significant costs arise from workplace harassment. Consider the immense costs associated with current allegations – personal, professional, legal, lost productivity, and reputational damage. Regardless of the outcome of the Freckelton investigation, unless underlying causal factors are faced, the problems at my workplace Town Hall will persist.

To quote journalist Tracey Spicer *"A culture wide, generations long, epidemic of workplace sexual harassment and assault doesn't persist without a broad network of complicity, composed of individuals with varying degrees of knowledge and culpability."*

The City of Melbourne Act is itself a causal factor; spawning a Council culture of entitlement, elitism and impunity shaped by those playing political games and those with economic influence, leaving local constituent concerns at the margins. A gerrymander designed to prioritise 'the big end of town' above residents and small businesspeople.

In my opinion, led by Robert Doyle over three terms the workplace culture resembles the political milieu of Spring Street; characterised by 'risk management', 'confidentiality', media optics, unanimity and expediency rather than optimal transparency and disclosure and service to constituents.

Consider the flow-on effect of Team Doyle Cabinet-style caucus meetings which are inherently exclusive; an absence of robust Council-wide debate; and an extraordinarily pattern of unanimity in bloc voting, compounded this term an absolute majority.

We are aware of what has divided the Doyle Council but, given that ALL Councillors sign the ostensibly binding Councillor Conduct Code, I am deeply dismayed to reflect that if any Councillor, aware of this alleged misconduct, had promptly fulfilled their obligations under the Local Government Act, the OH&S Act, and the Councillor Code, then the current miserable situation for all concerned and the damage to our City may well have been averted. I gather that the scope of the Freckelton investigation may not reveal whether or not any Councillors stood idly by, over the months during which Tessa Sullivan's distress grew.

Turning now to the Administration's role in shaping workplace culture.

I am personally and professionally aghast that six years after my bullying complaints, processes remain seriously deficient.

Consider the absurdity of the reporting processes faced by Tessa Sullivan:

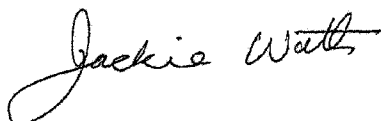
- Initially a formal complaint had to be made to the CEO, who was then required to immediately inform the Lord Mayor.
- Under Councillor Code of Conduct, any complaint against the Lord Mayor must first be reported to the Deputy Lord Mayor (member of Team Doyle) who must then meet with the complainant and the Lord Mayor to resolve the complaint.

Protection for alleged victims, where those with power are involved, is as inadequate today as it was six years ago. Distressed councillors can opt to endure, face a daunting and costly complaints process, or ultimately, as in Tessa Sullivan's case, resign.

It is heartening that the Administration is now set to tackle deficiencies in relevant Acts and Code. Yet, it persists with a defensive and political stance that it already models best practices in transparency and disclosure, and in workplace harassment which are inappropriate in the current context.

Changes within Council may be more problematic. The status quo has served the Team Doyle well until now. Entrenched allegiances, established routines and retaining a large voting bloc remain. Time will tell – but my hope this appalling episode at least triggers change – greater collegiality and trust, genuine debate and a proper balance between the conduct of this Local Council and its role as State capital.

Signed:



Cr Watts

Date: 6 February 2018

Councillor Code of Conduct: section 8

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/sitecollectiondocuments/councillor-code-of-conduct-2016.pdf>

Local Government Act: section 105(a)(i)

[http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/domino/web_notes/ldms/ltoject_store/ltojst6.nsf/dde300b846eed9c7ca257616000a3571/32807739dafb424aca2578db001b8014/\\$file/89-11aa109a%20authorised.pdf](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/domino/web_notes/ldms/ltoject_store/ltojst6.nsf/dde300b846eed9c7ca257616000a3571/32807739dafb424aca2578db001b8014/$file/89-11aa109a%20authorised.pdf)

Melbourne City Council Act:

http://www8.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdb/au/legis/vic/consol_act/coma2001189/