



AGENDA

Annual General Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Kingborough Council will be held in the Kingborough Civic Centre, 15 Channel Highway, Kingston on
Saturday, 2 December 2023 at 11am

Kingborough Councillors 2022 - 2026



Mayor
Councillor Paula Wriedt



Deputy Mayor
Councillor Clare Glade-Wright



Councillor Aldo Antolli



Councillor David Bain



Councillor Gideon Cordover



Councillor Kaspar Deane



Councillor Flora Fox



Councillor Amanda Midgley



Councillor Mark Richardson



Councillor Christian Street

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Meeting Procedures

The Mayor, Cr Paula Wriedt, will chair the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and normal Council procedures for the conduct of the AGM will apply.

Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions or move motions.

No person may:

- Make any personal reflection on any Councillor, Council employee or member of the public;
- Disrupt the meeting;
- In the opinion of the Chairman, use any offensive expression.

Questions Without Notice

- 1 You are asked, as a matter of courtesy and for the Minutes, to identify yourself before speaking.
- 2 Questions should be concise and there is to be no discussion, preamble or embellishment of the question.
- 3 No one is to be interrupted whilst they are speaking.

Motions

- 1 You are asked, as a matter of courtesy and for the Minutes, to identify yourself before speaking.
- 2 Only one motion may be before the Chair at a time.
- 3 The motion must be moved and seconded before debate is permitted.
- 4 You can only speak on a motion once, and for no longer than 5 minutes, with the mover of a motion having a brief right of reply.
- 5 Only electors in the Kingborough Council municipal area are entitled to vote.
- 6 A motion is passed by a majority of votes taken by a show of hands.
- 7 No one is to be interrupted whilst they are speaking.
- 8 A motion passed at the Annual General Meeting will be considered at the next available meeting of Council.

AGENDA of the Annual General Meeting of Council
Kingborough Civic Centre, 15 Channel Highway, Kingston
Saturday, 2 December 2023 at 11am

1 AUDIO RECORDING

The Chairperson will declare the meeting open, welcome all in attendance and advise that Council meetings are recorded and made publically available on its website. In accordance with Council's policy the Chairperson will request confirmation that the audio recording has commenced.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

The Chairperson will acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, pay respects to elders past and present, and acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

3 ATTENDEES

Councillors:

Mayor Councillor P Wriedt
Deputy Mayor Councillor C Glade-Wright
Councillor A Antolli
Councillor D Bain
Councillor G Cordover
Councillor K Deane
Councillor F Fox
Councillor A Midgley
Councillor M Richardson
Councillor C Street

4 APOLOGIES

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 December 2022, and as attached to this Agenda, be confirmed as a true record.

6 WELCOME BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Mayor, Cr Paula Wriedt, will provide an introduction and summary of the year in review.

7 PRESENTATION

Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy

8 2022/23 ANNUAL REPORT

No submissions have been received at the time the agenda was compiled.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MOTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

The Mayor will invite questions and motions from the floor.

10 CLOSURE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 3 DECEMBER 2022



MINUTES

Annual General Meeting

3 December 2022

Kingborough Councillors 2022 - 2026



Mayor
Councillor Paula Wriedt



Deputy Mayor
Councillor Clare Glade-Wright



Councillor Aldo Antolli



Councillor David Bain



Councillor Gideon Cordover



Councillor Kaspar Deane



Councillor Flora Fox



Councillor Amanda Midgley



Councillor Mark Richardson



Councillor Christian Street

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MINUTES of an Ordinary Meeting of Council
Kingborough Civic Centre, 15 Channel Highway, Kingston
Saturday, 3 December 2022 at 11am

1 AUDIO RECORDING

The Chairperson declared the meeting open, welcomed all in attendance and advised that Council meetings are recorded and made publicly available on its website. In accordance with Council's policy the Chairperson received confirmation that the audio recording had commenced.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

The Chairperson acknowledged the traditional custodians of this land, paid respects to elders past and present, and acknowledged today's Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

3 ATTENDEES

Councillors:

Mayor Councillor P Wriedt	✓
Deputy Mayor Councillor C Glade-Wright	✓
Councillor A Antolli	✓
Councillor D Bain	✓
Councillor G Cordover	✓
Councillor F Fox	✓

Staff:

General Manager	Mr Gary Arnold
Director Governance, Recreation & Property Services	Mr Daniel Smee
Director Environment, Development & Community Services	Dr Samantha Fox
Media & Communications Advisor	Ms Sam Adams
Communications & Engagement Support Officer	Ms Bianca Kleine
Executive Assistant	Mrs Amanda Morton

4 APOLOGIES

Councillor K Deane
Councillor A Midgley
Councillor C Street
Councillor M Richardson

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5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: Cr Flora Fox
Seconded: Cr Clare Glade-Wright

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4 December 2021 be confirmed as a true record.

CARRIED

6 WELCOME BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Mayor, Cr Paula Wriedt, provided an introduction and summary of the year in review.

7 PRESENTATION

Mr Daniel Smee, Director Governance, Recreation & Property Services, provided a presentation on community infrastructure.

8 2021/22 ANNUAL REPORT

Submissions were invited from the public and closed on 30 November 2022.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Professor Michael Rowan submitted the following questions on notice:

9.1 Annual Report – Staffing

1. *I note that 93 or 44% of the Council's staff have been employed by KCC for four years or less, with 41 or 19% having less than one year of service.*
 - i. *Compared to other organisations such as the State public service, does Council consider this a high rate of staff turnover?*
 - ii. *If so, what does Council believe to be the cause of the high staff turnover?*
 - iii. *What effect does this turnover have on Council's ability to provide efficient and effective service to the community?*
 - iv. *What plans does Council have to reduce this turnover?*
2. *I note that of Council's 13 management positions only two are held by women.*
 - i. *What affirmative action plan does the Council have in place to remedy this gender imbalance in order to ensure that the most talented candidates are attracted to leadership positions within the Council?*

Officer's Response:

1. Council's staff turnover rate fluctuates but is running at comparable levels with the Tasmanian local government sector and state public service for most professions.

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Council offers exit interviews to every staff member that leaves. For example, for the six-month period to February 2022 exit interviews were undertaken for 17 employees. Two other employees chose not to attend an interview.

Those employees who left Council to take up other employment advised there were varied and often multiple reasons why they chose to resign. These can be divided into factors that are internal (within an organisation's control), and those that are external (outside of the organisation's control).

The main internal factors that were raised during the exit interviews included:

- i. Working conditions – high workload levels, particularly in the professional areas, e.g., Statutory Planning.
- ii. Interpersonal issues – including conflict with other employees or customers and stress associated with public contact roles.
- iii. Career opportunities – perceived lack of development and progression, the job not being suited to their skill set or career goals, as well as compensation/salary issues.

It should be noted that employees were not resigning to take up other positions in Tasmanian local government. Most of the other employment was into the Federal or State Government or private enterprise and was often associated with a significant increase in salary and opportunities for career progression.

The main external factors influencing decisions to resign included:

- i. Retirement – due to age or ill health or other drivers, such as hobbies and outside interests.
- ii. Family and personal health reasons
- iii. Interstate moves – often associated with greater career opportunities, the high cost of housing being experienced in Tasmania, or the need to be closer to family during the current pandemic.

The staff turnover rate does not appear to be impacting Council's ability to provide efficient and effective service to the community.

The Australian Local Government Association has recently released the 2022 Local Government Workforce Skills and Capability Survey [2022 Local Government Workforce Skills and Capability Survey - Australian Local Government Association \(alga.com.au\)](https://www.alga.com.au/2022-local-government-workforce-skills-and-capability-survey) which found 91% of Australian Councils had difficulty in recruiting qualified talent to fill advertised job vacancies this year.

We intend to undertake an audit of our HR policies against the current thought processes around Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging, with the objective to ensure we have organisational goals and policies aligned to allow us to become an employer of choice, particularly for traditionally under-represented groups including people from culturally diverse backgrounds, mature-aged workers and younger workers, women, and people with disabilities.

2. As of 1 December 2022 in Council's current 11 management positions, 7 are held by males and 4 are held by females.

Council applies a merit-based approach to recruitment for all roles, where the following principles are considered:

A decision to engage or promote a person is based on merit if:

- i. all eligible members of the community are given a reasonable opportunity to apply

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- ii. an assessment is made of the relative suitability of candidates, using a competitive selection process
- iii. the assessment is based on the relationship between the candidates' work-related qualities and the qualities genuinely required to perform the relevant duties
- iv. the assessment focuses on the relative capacity of candidates to achieve outcomes related to the relevant duties
- v. the assessment is the primary consideration in making the employment decision.
(Source: [The APS merit principle | Australian Public Service Commission \(apsc.gov.au\)](https://www.apsc.gov.au/merit-principle))

However, as indicated above we intend to undertake an audit of our HR policies against the current thought processes around Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging, with the objective to ensure we have organisational goals and policies aligned to allow us to become an employer of choice, particularly for traditionally under-represented groups including people from culturally diverse backgrounds, mature-aged workers and younger workers, women, and people with disabilities.

Angie Everingham, Manager People & Safety

9.2 Annual Report - Climate Change

The Annual Report states that Council is 'On Target' to 'develop and implement a strategy for reducing Council's carbon footprint'.

1. *What is Council's carbon footprint?*
2. *Has this been reduced in the period covered by the Annual Report?*
3. *What annual percentage reductions will be required to reach net zero emissions by 2035?*
4. *Will future Kingborough Annual Reports set these required reductions out as a carbon budget for the Council, and report progress against the budget with specific actions to increase the rate of reductions if that is required to remain within the carbon budget?*

Officer's Response:

1. The last inventory of greenhouse emissions for Council activities was in 2019/2020. This was a baseline estimate for Council's overall emission profile including waste, electricity for key buildings and sites, fuel and street lighting. Greenhouse gas emissions were estimated at 6,947 tonnes CO₂-e. This is comprised of 87.2% waste, 9.7% fuel, 2.1% electricity and 0.9% street lighting. This baseline estimate is not a full carbon footprint as it does not measure every aspect of Council's business. It does however capture the largest contributors to emissions.
2. As stated in the previous question the only emission estimate Council currently has is for the 19/20 financial year. Anecdotally a reduction is likely to have been achieved, however the inventory for the 22/23 year is not complete. Several actions that have contributed to this expected reduction are the introduction of a FOGO service, the introduction of an electric vehicle and hybrids into the fleet, a new solar and battery system installed on the Kingborough Sports Centre and the finalisation of the LED street lighting program.
3. To track Council's intent to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035 operational data will need to be collated and translated into an emissions profile each financial year. The system to achieve this is under development. Council intends to develop an emissions reduction action plan to identify, prioritise and scope emissions reduction initiatives. This plan will also set targets and milestones to track progress.

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Given that waste is the dominant contributor to emissions, implementation of the draft Kingborough Waste Avoidance and Reduction Implementation Plan (2022) will be important. This plan identifies specific waste management actions and targets to achieve net zero by 2035.

4. It is the current intention of Council to identify and publish annual emission reduction targets and the associated key emissions reduction activities and projects in Council's Annual Plan. Progress will be communicated through the Annual Report and an annual Climate Change Report Card.

Liz Quinn, Manager Environmental Services

Mr H van Beelen submitted the following question on notice:

9.3 STRLUS Amendments

What progress has been made to prepare the Strlus Amendments to extend Urban Growth Boundary in Snug and Margate, and any other progress in this area? As you are aware, there are only a few building blocks for sale in this Municipality. Huntingfield Stage 1 is still 18 Months or more away before actual construction may start. This matter is becoming very urgent considering the number of people living rough, and the almost impossible situation for new arrivals to rent or buy accommodation at an affordable price

Officer's Response:

Council proposed the Future Urban Zone for an area on the outskirts of Snug (owned by Mr Van Beelen) as part of the conversion of the current Kingborough Interim Planning Scheme 2015 to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. Preliminary discussions with the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) indicated that it is unlikely that the Future Urban Zone will be supported because it is located outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). Once the TPC has completed its assessment of the Kingborough Draft Local Provision Schedule (Kingborough's component of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme), it will be exhibited for public comment. It will be at this point Mr van Beelen and the general public will be able to confirm what zoning is proposed for the land and to make a representation accordingly.

In addition to the above, Mr van Beelen also can lodge an application to amend the UGB (like other developers in Kingborough have already done). One of the obstacles for such an application will be the state government's requirement to provide a regional demand and supply analysis to demonstrate a need for more development in this location. A demand and supply analysis for the Greater Hobart Area was completed as part of the [30 – Year Greater Hobart Plan](#). However, the Greater Hobart Plan modelling only covers the metropolitan areas of the Greater Hobart Area (i.e. it did not include the outlying areas of Kingborough like Snug). Notwithstanding, the plan includes reference to the future development opportunities at Snug – these comments in the Greater Hobart Plan are intentional to align with the recommendations of the [Kingborough Land Use Strategy 2019](#). However, further work is required to demonstrate the need for development in this location. This work is currently underway as part of a broader investigation into land supply for the outer settlements of the Greater Hobart Area that includes places like Brighton, Sorell, New Norfolk and Huonville. The baseline information that will be collected as part of this project will be able to inform future amendments to the UGB and we expect that information will become available in approximately 10 to 12 months.

This advice has previously been conveyed to Mr Van Beelen and his solicitors.

Adriaan Stander, Strategic Planner

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10 NOTICES OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC

10.1 Personal Bushfire Shelters

Moved Professor Michael Rowan

Seconded Wendy Edwards

That Kingborough Council:

1. Advise the community that uncontrollable wild fires are a major threat to the health, safety and welfare of the community, since Kingborough is the most bushfire prone municipality in Tasmania as shown by almost all of the Council area having burned in the 1967 fires.
2. Acknowledge the many anecdotal reports of Kingborough residents installing or constructing shelters which they hope will protect them in the event that they are unable to evacuate their property ahead of a bushfire.
3. Consider the Report of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission which a. found that of the 173 people who died in the fires, 113 were in or near structures including their houses, and of these 7 died in what they presumably thought were safe shelters – bushfire bunkers of various design and construction, while others saved their lives by sheltering in bunkers b. concluded that 'a well designed and constructed bunker can provide shelter from a bushfire while the fire front passes, and can be a useful 'Plan B' when efforts to defend a house have failed, or when for some reason it has not been possible to leave the property' c. caused standards for fire bunkers to be developed and included in the National Construction Code.
4. Acknowledge the CSIRO research which found that fire bunkers which have been accredited against the requirements of the National Construction Code in other Australian jurisdictions saved lives in the major 2019 fires and did not cause harm to those that sheltered within them.
5. Agree that since no shelter including those accredited in Victoria has yet been able to obtain approval in Tasmania, Kingborough is effectively in the situation of Victoria prior to the 2009 fires where the installation of fire bunkers is proceeding in an unregulated manner, threatening the safety of residents.
6. And thus, in order to encourage residents to install proven safe bushfire shelters, advise householders seeking to install bushfire bunkers that for the purposes of approval of a bunker in Kingborough, Council will accept the accreditation of a bushfire bunker in another Australian jurisdiction as demonstrating that the model of bunker concerned meets the requirements of the National Construction Code when installed in accordance with the requirements of that accreditation.
7. Should Council receive legal advice that this is not possible to do, publish that advice in Council minutes and seek urgent action from the State Government to remove whatever legislative obstacle stands in the way of Kingborough learning the lessons of the 2009 Victorian bushfires in relation to bushfire bunkers, in order to 'provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community' in accordance with the Local Government Act of Tasmania.

Moved David Grace

Seconded Tricia Ramsay

That Professor Rowan be allowed to speak for a further 2 minutes.

CARRIED

For: 23

Against: 0

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10.2 Continuous Improvement Policy

Moved Mr Ray Westwood
Seconded Ms Tricia Ramsay

That Council consider adoption of a Continuous Improvement Policy to facilitate advances in the quality of administrative processes, service delivery and accountability systems; reduce costs and waste; simplify work processes; and improve employee and customer satisfaction.

Background

1. At a KRAI Member Meeting on 29/6/2022 the following motion for Kingborough Council's {KC} AGM was unanimously carried:

"That the KRAI membership endorses a motion for Council to consider adoption of an over-arching Continuous Improvement Policy to improve employee and customer satisfaction."
2. Local government service delivery operates in a monopoly environment. The recent Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry, has documented why monopoly environments can lead to ineffective administrative and governance standards that do little to protect consumers.¹
3. In circumstances where a monopoly for service delivery occurs, such as local government, justification exists for enhanced administrative processes to encourage innovation, and improve administrative performance and service delivery.
4. KRAI's *Oversight: Governance and Accountability* submission to KC's Audit Panel, June 2020² (OGA) documents a need for, *inter alia*, improved administrative accountability and performance.
5. It is desirable that additional safeguards for consumers of KC's services be implemented.
6. Continuous Improvement is a management tool for continuously improving administrative performance and service delivery. It gradually builds skills and capabilities within an organisation to find and solve problems. Over time it changes work-place behaviours and culture. A continuous improvement culture has been shown to boost employee engagement and reduce turnover rates.³
7. In a recent report into the Tasmanian State Service (TSS),⁴ Dr Ian Watt endorsed continual improvement as a method to promote improved performance of the TSS. One of the 13 recommendations contained in the report focused on ensuring there are strong continuous improvement mechanisms in place across the TSS.

Dr Watt's references to the benefits of accountability and continuous improvement include:

- *"The need for a stronger review and evaluation capability within the TSS with a focus on outcomes, was consistently acknowledged during the review process. This should be complemented by clear roles and responsibilities among TSS leaders to ensure accountability and encourage improvement."*⁵

¹ Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry, Interim and Final Reports, Commonwealth of Australia

² Available for download in the Newsfeed section of the following link:

<https://www.kingboroughratepayers.org.au/>

³ <https://theleanway.net/5-Benefits-of-Continuous-Improvement>

⁴ *Review of the Tasmanian Public Service- Interim Report*, November, 2020, DPAC, Dr Ian Watt

⁵ *Ibid.*, Chapter 5, p.42

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- *"Being accountable for continuous improvement should encourage agencies to innovate and change."*⁶
 - *"The review has recognised the importance of continuous review and improvement across the TSS and will explore the merits of a whole of government review and evaluation framework to improve accountability ..."*⁷
8. Given both state and local government administrations are funded by the public purse, justification exists for KC to at least consider the benefits of continuous review and evaluation.
 9. Whilst KC currently lacks a Continuous Improvement Policy, some other policies are starting to incorporate the concept. The Risk Management Policy is based on the principle of 'facilitating continuous improvement, ' and an objective of the new Complaints Management Policy is to 'continually improve services, systems and capabilities.'
 10. Benefits of a Continuous improvement Policy to KC are improved administrative processes, accountability systems and service delivery. Those benefits in turn will foster cultural improvements, efficiencies, innovation and employee satisfaction. Additionally, three strategic objectives in the KC's Strategic Plan 2020-25 will be underpinned: 2.1⁸; 2.4⁹ and 2.5.¹⁰
 11. Benefits in 10 above translate into improved quality, reduced costs, simplified work processes, less waste and improved customer and employee satisfaction. They serve to satisfy the combined mutual interests of KC, its administration and council employees, contractors and related businesses, and consumers of KC's services.
 12. Resourcing a Continuous Improvement Policy will incur initial costs associated with developing base-line data. That data is then analysed, streamlined and continuously improved. Opportunity costs of not implementing continuous improvement are significant and can perpetuate the inferior standards of administration and service delivery recorded in KRAI's OGA report.¹¹
 13. Last year the same motion was unsuccessfully put to the vote at KC's AGM. A perception exists that a small majority of people attending the meeting perhaps lacked the understanding of the significant research that preceded and motivated the motion, and the significant and mutual benefits - to be accrued to groups outlined in 11 above - when a Continuous Improvement Policy is implemented."

For: 20
Against: 1

⁶ *Ibid.*, Chapter 5, p.41

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ "service provision meets the current and future requirements of residents and visitors."

⁹ "The organisation has a corporate culture that delivers quality customer service, encourages innovation and has high standards of accountability."

¹⁰ "Council is a desirable place to work, attracting committed and engaged staff through progressive human resource practices and a positive work environment.

¹¹ Allegations made in OGA have subsequently neither been denied, nor disputed by management.

11 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MOTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr David Grace asked the following questions without notice:

11.1 Urban Growth

I'm very disappointed that this Council has taken this attitude with the Greater Hobart restricting growth in the area, Margate, Snug in particular. It is no more than a moratorium and this Council said we would never ever put another moratorium on any particular area of our municipality. I understand it's not entirely Council, it is State Government too. You yourself Mayor, your vision is for more housing, affordability housing for our community. Mayor, I ask you to look at this again because in a sense you can't do that, so are we going to be told by this Council where we can live and where we can't live.

Mayor responds:

I certainly take on board what you have said about the urban growth strategy. It was designed predominantly to look at the supply and demand situation and the need for significant growth to occur within the urban boundaries so that there is adequate proximity to transport and other infrastructure. But that doesn't exclude other areas being developed in the future and I know that Council's strategic planner, Mr Stander, has been doing significant work with the State Government to try and include areas such as Margate in the process. There has been a little bit of movement from the State Government in that regard and we are continuing to engage with them to try and encourage that, so it is certainly a work in progress.

11.2 Ambulance Services

An 89 year old fell in a home and the government is trying to keep people in their own homes to save money. This lady lay on the floor for 4 hours and then waited 2 to 3 hours before an ambulance could assist her. Mayor, this is not good enough in this democratic world that we are living in and here the government are talking about building a stadium and so forth. For goodness sake can the government get their priorities right, work with the Councils and find the needs that we need in our municipalities.

Mayor responds:

I am aware that you have raised this before and certainly we have been putting pressure on the State Government to provide an ambulance station in the channel that is staffed but also that we believe there should be a joint emergency services hub in Kingborough that combines police, ambulance, fire brigade and state emergency services because the significant growth that we are having in this area certainly warrants it and the facilities at the moment are not fit for purpose, particularly for the fire brigade or ambulance and the police station is bursting at the seams. I've already started discussions with the State Government about that and will continue. As for the response time for ambulances, I find that appalling and I think we all hope that we don't every have to call an ambulance but when you do need one, you expect that it is going to come in a timely manner. I share your sentiments about the football stadium and the fact that with our health system, as broken as it is, that we don't need to be spending \$750 million on a stadium when we need ambulances that are fully funded and fully staffed that can arrive in a timely way.

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11.3 Kingston Park

Moved Julian Punch
Seconded Brian Doran

That the concrete jungle at the old Kingston High School site is added as an offset to the Kingborough Council's global warming strategy.

For: 14
Against: 0

Mr Keith Pardow asked the following question without notice:

11.4 New Wooden Structures Surrounding the Trees at Kingston Beach

At Kingston Beach they put new surrounds around the trees. These surrounds are now 8 inches further towards the footpath. They have very sharp corners. This pathway is usually used by seniors or older people doing exercise during the day, and parents with their children. If you get a child or an old person hit that corner they are going to be really badly damaged because it's very sharp. I was told that the corners were going to be taken off. They haven't the last time that I looked but they are 8 inches further, so that means the path cannot be widened like the one down the other end, and it's the most used path. Someone is going to get hurt and I hope your insurance company will be able to cope with that.

Mayor responds:

I was down there myself the other day and notice it. I don't know if we have an update. Mr Arnold can you help?

General Manager:

Mr Pardow, I don't have an update but I will give you an undertaking that I will follow up with the Works Manager on Monday.

11.5 Multicultural Communities

Moved Sarjini Sumar
Seconded David Grace

That Council initiate a consultation to establish a voice with the rapidly growing number of multicultural communities and people in Kingborough.

For: 19
Against: 0

Mr Rob Crosthwaite asked the following question without notice:

11.6 Urban Canopy Recovery Strategy/Policy

Does the Council plan on developing an Urban Canopy Recovery policy or strategy, similar to the lines that have been adopted by the Adelaide City Council and the Melbourne City Council as reported recently? What might the response be to the gradual decreasing of urban canopy cover?

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Mayor responds:

We have funding in the current financial year to start the development of a Street Tree Strategy and that would look at canopy coverage, what we can do to plant more street trees throughout the municipality. Hobart City Council have got a very extensive Street Tree Policy. Their's does come at a very significant recurrent cost of over \$1M per year. Obviously that is not the sort of recurrent funding that we have available to us but the Council, during our budget deliberations for the current financial year, we were very keen to see a much greener Kingborough in terms of the level of trees, not just in the CBD, but throughout. Some of the newer sub-divisions, we've got a range of initiatives in there like some small areas of street trees and so on that have proved, in some cases to be successful, in others not where residents have taken it upon themselves to remove them, which isn't very helpful to further greening those new subdivisions. But certainly it is something that we are very keen to progress. I don't believe the work has started on it as yet but certainly it will be before the end of the financial year.

Mr Crosthwaite:

We appreciate that this has become part of the thinking about how our development processes are working and I think the question might be, would the Council consider incorporating tree cover as a significant part of the development application process.

Mayor:

I'm not sure if we would be allowed to do that. I will take advice from the General Manager.

General Manager:

I don't believe that it is currently a consideration under the planning scheme but I will check that out and get back to you.

Mr Henk van Beelen asked the following question without notice:

11.7 Urban Growth

Item 9.3 on the agenda I've asked a question and there was an officer's response but it is not going anywhere. There are hardly any building blocks left in the Kingborough Municipality. The response from the officer basically say 'in the fullness of time' and when regulations have been met etc, then it may happen. I think it might be too late. There are so many people looking for building blocks. There must be a way to overcome this problem of dealing with regulations in a case of almost an emergency in the provision of building blocks. There are so many people living in caravans and even tents in various places. You only have to go to Mountain River to find them and it is not appropriate for an island like Tasmania that we have such a big shortage of building blocks. I am encouraging Council to look at ways and means to overcome it because the fly in the ointment is really the Tasmanian Planning Commission and who decides what can be extended and where. But there must be a way through the Minister to overcome the problem and I encourage the Council to make contact with the Minister to see what can be done to overcome this particular problem.

Mayor responds:

I will take that as a question as to can we please write to the Minister for Planning to try and expedite the expansion of the urban growth boundary. Certainly we can undertake to do that.

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11.8 Biodiversity Offset Funds

Moved Charles Biggins
Seconded Tricia Ramsay

- a. That Kingborough Council cease operating the environmental fund as an extension of every day Council activities and instead direct payments to an independent not for profit trust fund able to fulfill the role of administrator for the biodiversity offset funds.
- b. That Kingborough Council incorporate a free market biodiversity offset credits into the biodiversity offset policy allowing landowners to create and sell biodiversity offset credits on the open market through an independent and authorised biodiversity offset broker, should they wish to do so.
- c. That Kingborough Council commission an independent auditors report on the governance, administration, brokerage and financial expenditure relating to the Kingborough Environmental offsets, biodiversity offsets and the Kingborough Environmental fund to date.

For: 11
Against: 6

11.9 Biodiversity Offset Credits

Moved Charles Biggins
Seconded Tricia Ramsay

- a. That Kingborough Council exempt landowners from incurring a biodiversity offset debt when establishing firebreaks and fire trails that comply with a bushfire mitigation plan prepared by a TFS accredited fire plan practitioner.
- b. That Kingborough Council record a biodiversity credit against each private property that is equal to the proven expenses incurred by a landowner maintaining firebreaks, fire trails and the annual cost of mitigating their bushfire risk.

For: 12
Against: 5

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 12.38pm

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(Confirmed)

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(Date)