



STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES/DECISIONS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 28 JUNE 2022 AT THE EUROA COMMUNITY CONFERENCE CENTRE, COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM

Chair:	Laura Binks (Mayor)	(Mount Wombat Ward)
Councillors:	David Andrews	(Lake Nagambie Ward)
	Reg Dickinson	(Lake Nagambie Ward)
	Sally Hayes-Burke	(Seven Creeks Ward)
	Kristy Hourigan	(Seven Creeks Ward)
	Paul Murray	(Hughes Creek Ward)
	Chris Raeburn	(Honeysuckle Creek Ward)
Officers:	Julie Salomon	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	David Roff	Director, Corporate Operations (DCO)
	Amanda Tingay	Director, Community and Planning (DCP)
	Dawn Bray	Director, People and Governance (DPG)
	Kristin Favaloro	Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement (EMCE)

BUSINESS

1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land Owners

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the places we live, work and play.

We recognise and respect the enduring relationship they have with their lands and waters, and we pay respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.

Today we are meeting on the lands of the Taungurung peoples of the Eastern Kulin nation, whose sovereignty here has never been ceded.
3. Apologies
Nil
4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest
Nil
5. Officer Reports
 - 5.1 Strategic and Statutory
 - 5.2 Community
 - 5.3 Infrastructure
 - 5.4 Corporate
 - 5.5 Governance and Customer Service
 - 5.6 Executive
6. Confidential Business

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5. REPORTS

5.2 COMMUNITY

5.2.1 Council's role in acknowledging January 26 – deliberative community engagement

Author: Manager Community and Culture

Responsible Director: Director Community & Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the 19 October 2021 Council meeting, Cr Sally Hayes-Burke sought a report from officers regarding Council's role in January 26 activities in recognition of First Nations people. This report was considered at the 17 May 2022 Council meeting, authorising broader consultation on two options with the community and relevant stakeholders including local Australia Day Committees and First Nations representatives.

This report provides a summary of the community engagement findings following the broader consultation and a full copy of the report is attached.

Council officers wrote to all six local Australia Day Committees requesting a meeting to obtain feedback on the proposed two options. Two of the six Committees elected to meet with officers and two other Committees advised that they did not wish to meet. Council received verbal feedback from Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) supporting a change and received no response from Yorta Yorta Aboriginal Corporation.

Feedback received via Share Strathbogrie was varied, with no clear mandate for change nor a strong determination to retain existing arrangements. Feedback from some Australia Day Committees, Business Chambers and community members sought for further time and consultation. Overall, the project page on Share Strathbogrie achieved 1863 views and 29 submissions were also received.

Several Victorian Councils have already made small to large scale changes relating to January 26 ranging from changing the language used around Australia Day by simply removing the word celebrate, renaming Australia Day awards to 'Community Awards' through to abolishing celebrating Australia Day. Conversely, some Councils have elected not to change the way they celebrate January 26 and continue to hold Australia Day activities.

In response to the community feedback, Council Officers have developed a range of options for Council consideration.

After considering the legislative requirements, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the TLaWC and the community feedback, officers propose Option 5 for Council's consideration. This option recommends that Council continues existing arrangements for January 26 in 2023 and undertakes an independently recruited Community Panel, to participate in an independently facilitated deliberative engagement process to determine Council's role on January 26 for 2024 and beyond.

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5.2.1 Council's role in acknowledging January 26 – deliberative community engagement (cont.)

It is proposed the depth of engagement for this deliberative engagement process is set at 'collaborate', which means that Council will partner with the Community Panel in each aspect of the decision including the identification of the preferred solution. It means Council will look to the panel for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate their advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

***MOVED: COUNCILLOR RAEBURN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR ANDREWS***

That Council:

- 1. Note the community feedback as outlined in the Community Engagement Report; and***
- 2. Continue to celebrate January 26 in 2023 as per existing arrangements.***

EM-13-21/22 CARRIED

Cr Murray called for a division

For the Motion

Cr Raeburn
Cr Dickinson
Cr Hourigan
Cr Andrews

Against the Motion

Cr Hayes-Burke
Cr Murray
Cr Binks

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6. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.15 PM

Confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the Meeting


.....
Chair

19/07/22
.....
Date

