

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, 10 WATSON TERRACE, MOUNT GAMBIER ON THURSDAY 1ST JUNE, 2017 AT 5:30 P.M.

COUNCIL

PRESENT:

Mayor Andrew Lee

Cr Christian Greco
Cr Josh Lynagh
Cr Sonya Meziniec
Cr Frank Morello
Cr Des Mutton (arrived at 5:35 pm)
Cr Hanna Persello (arrived at 5:40 pm)
Cr Penny Richardson
Cr Ian Von Stanke

APOLOGY/IES:

Cr Greco moved that the apologies from Cr Persello and Cr Mutton be received.

Cr Lynagh seconded

Carried

COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer	-	Mr M McShane
General Manager Council Business Services	-	Mrs P Lee
General Manager City Infrastructure	-	Mr N Serle
General Manager City Growth	-	Dr J Nagy

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.

1. DEPUTATION

Presentation by Sandy Clark - Senior Solicitor South East Community Legal Service

Cr Mutton entered the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Cr Persello entered the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Pursuant to Division 3 - Conflict of Interest, Section 75A of the Local Government Act 1999, Cr Meziniec informed the meeting of a perceived conflict of interest in Item 2:

"I am on two Committees with staff members of the South East Legal Community Services".

Cr Meziniec informed the meeting of the manner in which she intended to deal with the perceived conflict of interest as follows:

“I intend to stay in the meeting and participate in the discussion and vote.”

In accordance with section 75A Cr Meziniec participated in the meeting in relation to the matter.

Pursuant to Division 3 - Conflict of Interest, Section 75A of the Local Government Act 1999, Cr Mutton informed the meeting of a perceived conflict of interest in Item 2:

“My wife is chair of the South East Community Legal Service which is a voluntary position. I have nothing to personally gain or lose financially or in other ways from the outcome of the agenda item. I consider my duty as a Councillor outweighs any perceived conflict of interest, as maintaining the service in the South East fits entirely with Council’s Community Plan”.

Cr Mutton informed the meeting of the manner in which he intended to deal with the perceived conflict of interest as follows:

“I will not be arguing or voting to continue the existing service but rather to press the SA Government to fund the new service to continue to provide the quality and quantity that the current service has done.”

In accordance with section 75A Cr Mutton participated in the meeting in relation to the matter.

2. **SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Advocating - South East Community Legal Service - Ref. AF17/241**

Mayor Lee moved:

- (i) On behalf of the City of Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast Region the Council expresses its extreme disappointment of the State Government’s decision to withdraw all funding from the South East Community Legal Service.
- (ii) the City of Mount Gambier acknowledges The South East Community Legal Service for the critical services they provide to the community many of whom are unable to source alternative legal assistance.
- (iii) the decision by the State Government to centralise legal services to metropolitan Adelaide is unacceptable and has a direct negative impact on the regional community and is a further example of the withdrawal and centralisation of services from the regions to Adelaide.
- (iv) the Council requests the State Premier and the Attorney General to fund the total amount identified in the funding model as proposed by the Riverland and South East Community Legal Services to ensure the continuity and appropriate level of legal services as identified in the funding model is provided in both regional locations.

Cr Von Stanke seconded

Carried

Having participated in the meeting in relation to the matter Cr Meziniec voted in favour of the motion.

Having participated in the meeting in relation to the matter Cr Mutton voted in favour of the motion.

Meeting closed at 6:09 pm

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