

Agenda

Special Council Meeting

Wednesday, 17th May 2023

Commencing at 7.00pm

Council Chamber
1230 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham

kingston.vic.gov.au

Peter Bean
Chief Executive Officer
Kingston City Council

**City of Kingston
Special Council Meeting**

Agenda

17 May 2023

Notice is given that a Special Meeting of Kingston City Council will be held at 7.00pm at Council Chamber, 1230 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham, on Wednesday, 17 May 2023.

1. Apologies

2. Foreshadowed Declaration by Councillors, Officers or Contractors of any Conflict of Interest

Note that any Conflicts of Interest need to be formally declared at the start of the meeting and immediately prior to the item being considered – type and nature of interest is required to be disclosed – if disclosed in writing to the CEO prior to the meeting only the type of interest needs to be disclosed prior to the item being considered.

3. Chief Finance Office Reports

3.1 2023/24 Budget Submissions 5

4. Confidential Items

Nil

3. Chief Finance Office Reports

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Agenda Item No: 3.1

2023/24 BUDGET SUBMISSIONS

Contact Officer: Bernard Rohan, Chief Financial Officer
Michelle Devanny, Program Leader Strategic Communications & Engagement
Yenni Lim, Manager Finance

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider public submissions on the Draft 2023/24 Budget as part of the community engagement process.

Disclosure of Officer / Contractor Conflict of Interest

No Council officer/s and/or Contractor/s who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a Conflict of Interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council consider the public submissions presented in person as part of the community engagement process on the Draft 2023/24 Budget.

1. Executive Summary

As part of Council's community engagement process for the Draft 2023/24 Budget, the following individuals have sought to speak to public submissions:

Full Name	Representing	Subject
Stuart Mason	Chelsea Heights Football Netball Club	Women's participation in football and netball
Jamie Johnson	Bonbeach YCW Junior Sports Club	Bonbeach Reserve Development

Officers will present the findings of all community engagement activity at the Council Meeting of 26 June 2023. This will form part of the consideration of adopting the final budget.

2. Background

Under the provisions of section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Council must prepare and adopt a Budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years by 30 June each year. Under the provisions of section 91 of the Act, Council must also adopt a 10 year financial plan.

On 26 April 2023 Council considered the Draft 2023/24 Budget, Draft 2023-2033 Long Term Financial Plan, and the Draft 2023-2027 Revenue & Rating Plan and made the following resolution

12.1 Draft 2023/24 Budget, Draft 2023-2033 Long Term Financial Plan, and the Draft 2023-2027 Revenue & Rating Plan

Moved: Cr Hill

Seconded: Cr Davey-Burns

That Council:

1. Adopt in principle the Draft Budget, Long Term Financial Plan, and Revenue & Rating Plan all annexed to this report, and prepared in accordance with sections 91, 93, 94, and 96 of the Local Government Act 2020, and the Local Government (Planning & Reporting) Regulations 2020; and
2. Determine that a Special Council Meeting be held on Monday 26 June at 6.30pm at 1230 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham for the purpose of adopting these documents in final form.
3. Schedule a formal meeting prior to the adoption of the budget to hear in person formal budget submissions from the community should a member of the community or a community group wish to submit to a Council meeting.

The Special Council Meeting to hear the formal budget submissions from the community is scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday, 17 May 2023.

3. Discussion

3.1 Community Consultation

Community Consultation on the draft Budget 2023/24 was undertaken in phased approach.

In **phase 1** we asked the community for their help to make Kingston the best place to live, work and play – through *Talking Kingston*.

Talking Kingston is year-round consultation that invites the community to provide feedback and ideas on projects and initiatives to feed into future Council budgets. Talking Kingston provides the community with early input and a greater level of influence over how Council invests its money into our city.

162 community submissions helped shape the Draft Budget 2023/24.

Phase 2 involved checking in with the community to make sure we got the balance right. Following Council's endorsement of the Draft Budget 2023/24 at the April Council Meeting, it was released to the community for comment. Consultation was open from Thursday 27 April – Friday 12 May.

The phase 2 consultation was promoted through Council's channels (Your Kingston Your Say, social media – video from the Mayor, social post and Facebook event, eDMs, Kingston News, media, website and digital screens in Council buildings). Hardcopies of the Draft Budget were made available in Council's Libraries and Community Hubs. All participants from *Talking Kingston* were notified that the draft Budget was available for feedback and review.

An online Community Information session was held on Thursday 4 May 2023. The presentation pack and recording of the session was made available on Your Kingston Your Say following the event.

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Council's Phase 2 consultation comprised the following key statistics:

- Draft Budget submissions
 - received: 8 – the submissions are now being considered by officers
 - received AND seeking to present their submission at the Special Council Meeting on 17 May 2023: 2
- Your Kingston Your Say page views: 479
- Draft Budget downloads: 143
- Community Information Session held on 12 May 2023: 5 Attendees, 33 recording views.

3.2 Hearing of Public Submissions

The following public submissions have sought to be heard at the Special Council Meeting on 17 May 2023:

Full Name	Representing	Subject
Stuart Mason	Chelsea Heights Football Netball Club	Women's participation in football and netball
Jamie Johnson	Bonbeach YCW Junior Sports Club	Bonbeach Reserve Development

Copies of the submissions are attached.

Officers have advised both individuals making a public submission that the meeting details are as follows:

Special Council Meeting to hear Draft Budget 2023/24 submissions

Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2023

Time: 7:00pm

Time to speak: four minutes

Location: City of Kingston Council Chamber, 1230 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham, 3192

4. Consultation

4.1 Internal Consultation:

The consultation process has been undertaken jointly by the Finance and Advocacy, Community and Engagement Departments. All Council departments have been involved in the development of the draft 2023/24 budget and consideration of public submissions affecting their service delivery areas.

4.2 Community Consultation:

Extensive community engagement has underpinned the Community draft Budget 2023/24 process. As discussed above, there has been a two phase approach comprising

- **Phase 1** – year round consultation via *Talking Kingston* that invites the community to provide feedback and ideas on projects and initiatives to feed into future Council budgets. 162 community submissions helped shape the Draft Budget 2023/24.
- **Phase 2** involved the release of the Draft 2023/24 Budget for consultation from Thursday 27 April – Friday 12 May, promotion through Council's channels and all participants from *Talking Kingston* were notified that the draft Budget was available

for feedback and review. An online Community Information session was held on Thursday 4 May 2023.

4.3 Results/Findings:

Officers will present the findings of all community engagement activity at the Council Meeting of 26 June 2023.

5. Compliance Checklist

5.1 Council Plan Alignment

Strategic Direction: Well-governed - Council will be collaborative, accountable, transparent, responsive, well-informed and efficient.

Strategy: Actively seek broad community participation

This community engagement process has actively sought to seek community views on the draft budget and provide an opportunity for Council to consider the views of the community in shaping the budget.

5.2 Governance Principles Alignment

Principle (a) - Council actions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law

Principle (b) - priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

Principle (c) - the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

Principle (d) - the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Principle (g) - the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

Principle (i) - the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

The key objective of the Draft 2023/24 Budget and long term financial plan is to support Council's long term financial sustainability. The Budget provides the resources to allow Council to adequately fund service delivery to the community and the required level of maintenance of the community's infrastructure assets such as roads, footpaths, drains and buildings, and fund the current Council Plan initiatives while maintaining our legislative obligations under rate capping.

Officers have supported the preparation of the Draft 2023/24 Budget and long term financial plan with opportunities for community engagement across a broad range of platforms and channels, in order to ensure that the community is engaged in strategic planning and decision making. This strengthens the transparency of Council decisions, underpinned by accessible information for our community.

5.3 Financial Considerations

The draft 2023/24 Budget has been developed within available resources.


Staff Resources

No additional staff resources are required to deliver on the community engagement process.

5.4 Risk considerations

The community engagement process undertaken to date has actively managed Council's reputation and ensured that the community has an opportunity to participate in the budget process.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Public Submissions to be heard (Ref 23/128612) 

Author/s:	Bernard Rohan, Chief Financial Officer Michelle Devanny, Program Leader Strategic Communications & Engagement Yenni Lim, Manager Finance
Reviewed and Approved By:	Bernard Rohan, Chief Financial Officer

3.1

2023/24 BUDGET SUBMISSIONS

1	Public Submissions to be heard	13
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17 May 2023 Special Council Meeting to hear Public Submissions

1. Public Submission – Stuart Mason

Full name: Stuart Mason

Representing: Chelsea Heights Football Netball Club

Subject: Women's participation in football and netball

Submission: I am the Vice President of Chelsea Heights Football Netball Club and we are urgently seeking assistance with facilities to accommodate our women's participation in football and netball.



Dear Sir / Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our urgent request with some potential facility upgrades to our Club rooms at Beazley reserve Chelsea Heights.

I truly believe that we have been overlooked with facility conditions over a number of years.

We really appreciate it but, it has taken over 5 years to get carpet replaced after numerous calls, emails and conversations. The carpet was so bad it had become part of the concrete with visible fungi and mold.

There have been a number of huge capital works conducted for clubs in our surrounding area of Kingston. Please understand our requests are not a “wish list” but a necessity for us as a club to survive.

We now have women's football Teams that play in Southern Football League. Along with the Women's football we have netball and women's umpiring. Currently we have one women's toilet in the whole facility. This caters for all our 30 plus Footballers, our Netballers and all the Volunteers and Supporters.

The change rooms are not equipped for women with open cubicle showers and one toilet next to the urinal. The women cannot shower or change within this facility, both the visiting side and our home teams. The original urinals were waterless that didn't work and converted are extremely smelly.

There are 7 umpires per game with at least half being women. The female umpires turn up at the ground and leave the ground without being able to change in the small umpire rooms available.

Our ground lighting has an average lux reading of 18-25 around the ground with the AFL standard of 100 lux. We have our ground full every night with training, along with Auskick starting on Friday nights in the future. These lighting is really poor and this makes all training at night difficult.

Our away change rooms and small umpire rooms are also used for storage and this needs to have everything moved in and out most nights of the week as we only have a tiny storage area that is shared with many cricket teams and ground marking equipment. We urgently need more storage.

We hope you understand our situation and can support some upgrades or short-term fixes so we can accommodate our club and retain our women's participation and survival of our club.

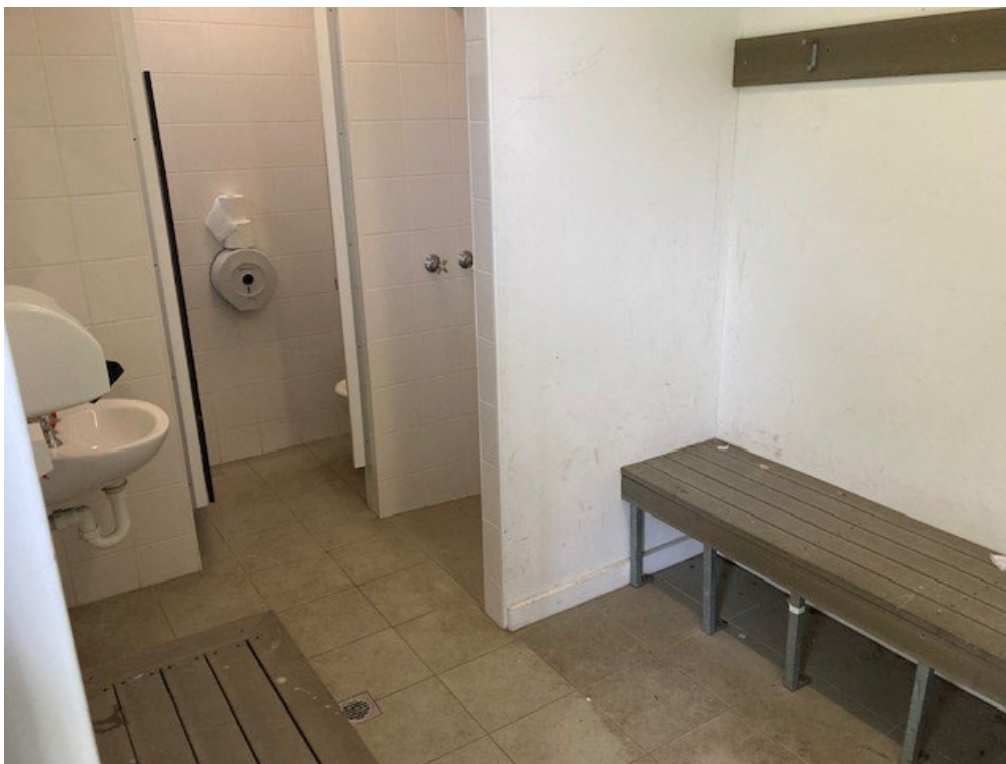
Please find attached photos of our change rooms, storage and umpire rooms.

I would encourage everyone to attend for a site visit to further support our request. Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions on [REDACTED]

Kind Regards

Stuart Mason

Chelsea Heights Football Netball Club



Umpires Room

To accommodate 7 umpires per game both male and female

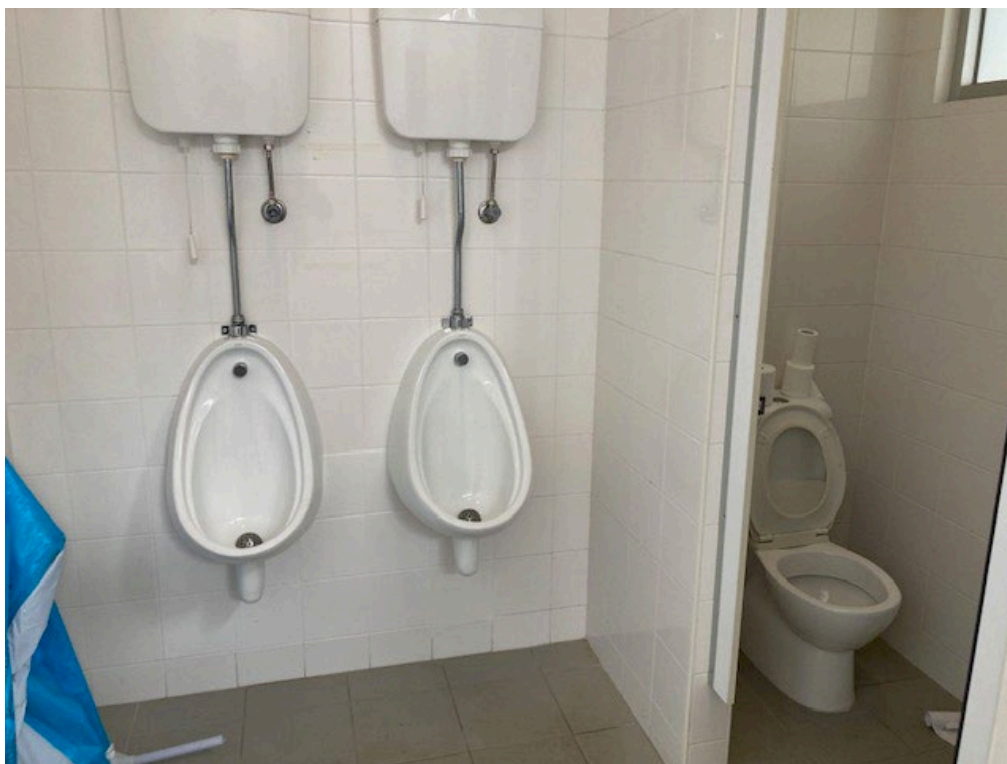
Approximately 3mts x 2 mts



Showers

Both home and away rooms

Not female friendly for showers after a game in winter



Toilets in home and away rooms

Not female friendly and urinals are extremely smelly due to design faults from build



Storeroom

3 mts x 3 mts not big enough for goal post pads and BBQ

2. Public Submission – Jamie Johnson

Full name: Jamie Johnson

Representing: Bonbeach YCW Junior Sports Club

Subject: Bonbeach Reserve Development

Submission: My name is Jamie Johnson and I am the President of the Bonbeach YCW Junior Sports Club incorporating the Bonbeach YCW Junior Netball, Cricket and Football clubs along with the establishment programs Net Set Go, Blasters Cricket and Auskick.

As you may be aware, we occupy the 'east end' of the Bonbeach Recreation Reserve and currently with all programs, we have close to 1000 registrations, boys and girls, across all programs as well as a similar numbers again with parents, care givers and siblings

We are excited with the recent progress with regard to the Master Plan that has been developed for the reserve and we thank you for the commitment to fund the reserve ensuring that the strong Bonbeach YCW community continues to thrive with facilities that will service the club and the community well into the future.

It is fair to say that the club's current facilities are well under what is expected. Our current club rooms are in a deteriorating state with the rear oval, oval 5, nothing more than a swamp at the moment. In fact our junior cricketers have 1 playing area for 12 teams, and that is approx. 200 meters from any shelter, toilet facilities and the club rooms. This inhibits the cricket club to playing most games on a Friday night thus reducing club social interaction and connection. Oval 5 must be given priority in councils planning as it's poor condition has a massive effect how on cricket club and in the winter, football too.

Our committee have been in constant dialogue with Sonia Kilkenny MP, with several meetings and visits from Sonia to the club and we are intending to meet with Sonia again in early February. We are buoyant that Sonia indicated that she supports the development and is working to help secure funding. We are under no illusion that the State Government funding is key to the success of the development of the reserve.

In the recent community consultation we were advised that there was over an overwhelming response with over >90% of respondents supporting the development, thus proving that such a community facility is certainly required for the reserve and that it has a high profile within the community

Recently we have seen that the development of the Roy Dore Reserve and we believe that Bonbeach YCW overall has a community that is comparable to them and believe our junior programs comfortably surpasses theirs. Similarly, the Regents Reserve development would also cater to a community are the same size as ours. We have even noticed that the Chelsea oval has had some renovations recently.

Personally having been involved with the club for over 15 years it was disappointing that the Master Plan from 2008 delivered little in the way of any improvements. The club has had to hand over the ownership of the clubrooms that were built by volunteers, to the council and we have also not had any tangible improvements since then, even basic up keep such as repairing toilets, guttering and drainage. All of this while seeing a increase in participation by over 150%.

Bonbeach YCW is an important community asset and we have worked hard to provide a club for children to play sport in a safe, inclusive and supportive environment. We believe we have excellent

culture that encourages participation not only from players, but also from the army of volunteers required to keep all clubs viable to ensure the kids can play.

I can not overstate how important the development of the east end of the reserve is for the future of the area. From Edithvale Rd to the southern end of Kingston we are by far the biggest junior sporting club and for this to continue, the new pavilion and clubrooms, multipurpose nets, upgraded playing surfaces, car parking and shelters are desperately required.

With Cr Howe, we will continue to advocate for the implementation of the Master Plan and to work with the state government to secure additional funding.

Refer further below



BONBEACH YCW JUNIOR SPORTS CLUB INC

BONBEACH JUNIOR CRICKET, NETBALL & FOOTBALL CLUBS

BONBEACH RECREATION RESERVE, SCOTCH PDE BONBEACH VIC 3196

12th May 2023

City of Kingston

Michelle Devanny Program Leader - Communications and Engagement

Via Email - [REDACTED]@kingston.vic.gov.au

Hello Michelle

Thank you for the invitation to present to council on Wednesday 17th of May.

Further to Bonbeach YCW's submission from December, we understand and fully appreciate the current economic environment and the pressure that it is placing on council budgets and expenditure.

We thank the Mayor, Cr Saab, for visiting the club twice in the past 3 weeks, as well as Cr Howe and Cr Oxley for meeting with us. Further, we thank council officer's including Peter Bean, Bridget Draper and Mark Stockton for visiting the Bonbeach YCW pavilion to assess our current facilities and what immediate work is required to ensure they are safe, compliant and inhabitable.

We believe that the forthcoming Pavilion Strategy will certainly highlight the timely need improvement at the 'Eastern End' of Bonbeach Reserve. Bonbeach YCW are prepared to discuss with council alternative plans for a new clubhouse and facilities and or renovations for the current site, still with scope for improved parking and Oval 5 renovations including new cricket nets/multipurpose area to ensure that the Bonbeach YCW and wider communities have facilities that are up to standard, adaptable, inviting and safe for all users.

Bonbeach YCW look forward to ongoing dialogue with the City of Kingston's' Councillors and Officers regarding improvements and development of the reserve.

Yours Sincerely

Jamie Johnson

President – Bonbeach YCW Junior Sports Club