
Minutes of the Council Meeting 26 March 2025

Present:

Councillors

Ola Hamed (Mayor)	Councillor
Michael Zaiter (Deputy Mayor)	Councillor
Steve Christou	Councillor
Dr Diane Colman	Councillor
Glenn Elmore	Councillor
Paul Garrard	Councillor
Helen Hughes	Councillor
Nadima Kafrouni-Saba	Councillor
Ahmed Ouf	Councillor
Joseph Rahme	Councillor
Suman Saha	Councillor
Eddy Sarkis	Councillor
Sujan Selventhiran	Councillor
Steve Yang	Councillor
Enver Yasar	Councillor

Officers

Peter Fitzgerald	General Manager
Melissa Attia	Director Corporate Performance (Deputy General Manager)
Daniel Cavallo	Director Environment & Planning
Brendan Govers	Director City Services
Nicole Byrn	Director Community & Culture
Charlie Ayoub	Director Governance & Risk
Colin McFadzean	General Counsel
Carol Karaki	Manager Governance
Bianca Mourched	Coordinator Governance

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed declared the meeting open at 6:05pm.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was read by the General Manager.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

"I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land – the Darug People, and pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging."

National Anthem

At this point in the meeting the Mayor, Councillor Hamed asked all of those in attendance to stand for the playing of the Australian National Anthem.

Min.890 Apologies / Requests for Leave of Absence/ Requests for Attendance by Audio-Visual Link**Motion (Rahme/Saha)**

That Councillor Sarkis be granted Leave of Absence for the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 30 April 2025.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Notice of Live Streaming of Council Meeting

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed advised that the Council meeting was being streamed live on Council's website and all in attendance must ensure their speech to the Council is respectful and use appropriate language.

Confirmation of Minutes**Min.891 C03/25-74 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 26 February 2025****Motion (Saha/Kafrouni-Saba)**

That Council confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 February 2025.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Sarkis.

Declarations of Pecuniary & Non Pecuniary Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Min.892 Mayoral Minute - Recognition of Esra Calim – Winner of the 2025 Dr Helen Proudfoot Women in Planning Award**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Note the Mayoral Minute; and
2. Congratulate Council's Coordinator Planning Operations, Esra Calim on being recognised as the winner of the 2025 Dr Helen Proudfoot Women in Planning Award by the NSW Division of the Planning Institute of Australia.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.893 Mayoral Minute - Wishing our Community a Happy Eid**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Note the Mayoral Minute;
2. Wish our Muslim community, Eid Mubarak; and
3. Wish all those celebrating, Nowruz Mubarak.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Note: At this point of the meeting, Councillor Christou advised that he wished to raise a Matter of Urgency. The Mayor, Councillor Hamed advised that Councillor Christou would be able to raise his Matter of Urgency at the relevant point in the meeting, given that Public Forum was commencing with a number of speakers waiting. After repeated interjections, the Mayor, Councillor Hamed advised Councillor Christou that he is well aware of the procedure, and to behave in an orderly manner.

Public Forum:

Speakers on Items on the Council Meeting Agenda

Name	Item #	Suburb
Mrs Najat Zeait	C03/25-86 Notice of Motion - Photo ID to enter Councils Swimming Pools	Merrylands
Mrs Mountaha Melkonian	C03/25-86 Notice of Motion - Photo ID to enter Councils Swimming Pools	South Granville
Mrs Rebecca Jenkin	C03/25-86 Notice of Motion - Photo ID to enter Councils Swimming Pools	Seven Hills
Mr Adnan Hamoui	C03/25-86 Notice of Motion - Photo ID to enter Councils Swimming Pools	Guildford
Ms Jessica Robson	C03/25-86 Notice of Motion - Photo ID to enter Councils Swimming Pools	Guildford
Mr Mohamed Hassan	C03/25-84 Notice of Motion - Removal of Racism Not Welcome Signs	Lidcombe
Mr Gerard Pinto	C03/25-81 Cumberland Local Traffic Committee	Granville

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 6:19pm and returned to the Meeting at 6:21pm during Public Forum.

During the consideration of this item, Councillor Christou raised a point of order, citing an alleged breach of Clause 10.29 of the *Code of Meeting Practice* stating that he should be heard without interruption. The Mayor, Councillor Hamed advised Councillor Christou that he would be able to speak without interruption, when he had the right to speak.

During the consideration of this item, Councillor Christou raised a point of order, citing an alleged breach of Clause 4.11 of the *Code of Meeting Practice*. The Mayor, Councillor Hamed overruled the Point of Order. Councillor Christou indicated that he wished to move dissent in the Chairpersons ruling. Councillor Christou subsequently moved a Motion of Dissent. The Mayor, Councillor Hamed put the Motion of Dissent to the vote.

Min. 894 Motion of Dissent

The Motion of Dissent on being Put was declared **LOST**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Garrard, Hughes, Ouf, Rahme, Sarkis, Selventhiran.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Hamed, Kafrouni-Saba, Saha, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Min.895 Alteration of Order of Business**Motion (Colman/Sarkis)**

That in accordance with Clause 8.2 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Council alter the order of business to allow items C03/25-86, C03/25-84 and C03/25-81 to be brought forward for consideration at this time of the Meeting.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Selventhiran left the Meeting at 6:46pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.896 C03/25-86 Notice of Motion - Photo ID to enter Councils Swimming Pools**Motion (Christou/Rahme)**

That Council immediately abolish the requirement of photo ID to enter Councils swimming pools.

The Motion on being Put was declared **LOST**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Rahme and Sarkis.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor Selventhiran returned to the Meeting at 6:47pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 7:02pm and returned to the Meeting at 7:06pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 7:10pm and returned to the Meeting at 7:11pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Ouf left the Meeting at 7:16pm and returned to the Meeting at 7:18pm during the consideration of this item.

ADJOURNMENT

7:19pm The Mayor, Councillor Hamed adjourned the meeting.

7:38pm The Mayor, Councillor Hamed resumed the meeting.

Min.897 C03/25-84 Notice of Motion - Removal of Racism Not Welcome Signs

Motion (Garrard/Hughes)

That Council take action to remove the 'Racism Not Welcome' signs from within the Cumberland LGA.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Garrard, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Sarkis, Yang and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Hamed, Ouf, Saha, Selventhiran and Yasar.

Councillor Selventhiran left the Meeting at 7:55pm and returned to the Meeting at 8:09pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.898 C03/25-81 Cumberland Local Traffic Committee - 5 February 2025 - Recommendations to Council

Motion (Rahme/Sarkis)

That:

1. Council endorse the recommendations for items considered by the Cumberland Local Traffic Committee at the 5 February 2025 meeting, as provided in this report; and
2. All streets with identified tonne limits be monitored.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Ouf left the Meeting at 8:22pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.899 Items Resolved by Exception**Motion (Christou/Sarkis)**

That Council adopt items C03/25-76, C03/25-78, C03/25-79, C03/25-80, C03/25-82, C03/25-94 and C03/25-95 on the Council Agenda as per the recommendations in the report.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

C03/25-76 Investment Report - February 2025***Resolved by Exception***

That Council receive the February 2025 Investment Report.

C03/25-78 Letter of Offer for 140-142 Great Western Highway, Westmead***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Endorse in-principle the letter of offer for 140-142 Great Western Highway, Westmead, regarding the construction of a shared pathway to be dedicated at no cost to Council; and
2. Note that the Council resolution on the letter of offer will be considered as part of the assessment development application on the site.

C03/25-79 Sydney Central City Planning Panel - Appointment of Alternate Members***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Appoint Benjamin Hendriks, Bruce Simpson, Dr Debashis Raha and Fiona Prodromou as Alternate Members to the Sydney Central City Planning Panel until the

end of the current Council term, subject to relevant statutory probity checks and requirements, and

2. Set the Panel Remuneration in accordance with Council's policies and guidance from the state government for the remuneration of panel members.

C03/25-80 Cumberland Local Traffic Committee - Minutes of 5 February 2025 Meeting and Items Considered Under Delegated Authority

Resolved by Exception

That Council:

1. Note the items considered under delegated authority by the Cumberland Local Traffic Committee at the 5 February 2025 meeting, as provided in Attachment 1.
2. Receive and note the minutes of the Cumberland Local Traffic Committee meeting held on 5 February 2025, as provided in Attachment 2.

C03/25-82 Property Committee - Minutes of Meeting held 3 March 2025

Resolved by Exception

That Council:

1. Receive the Minutes of the Cumberland Property Committee meeting held on 3 March 2025, and adopt the recommendations contained therein.
2. Include a copy of the resolutions of Council in the Minutes.

C03/25-94 Tender Evaluation Report - Roberta Street Park Irrigation & Field Drainage Upgrade Project (RFx1053)

Resolved by Exception

That Council:

1. Accept the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to Australian Turf Projects Pty Ltd (ABN 60 144 747 035) in accordance with Clause 178(1)(a) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, for \$660,840.50 excluding GST.
2. Delegate to the General Manager the authority to execute the contract and any associated documents.

C03/25-95 Tender Evaluation Report - Merrylands Park Amenity Upgrade (RFx1086)***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Accept the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to Sullivans Constructions (Aust) Pty Ltd (ABN 88 600 431 258), in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, for \$470,509.40 excluding GST.
2. Delegate to the General Manager the authority to execute the contract and any associated documents.

Min.900 Alteration of Order of Business**Motion (Elmore/Saha)**

That in accordance with Clause 8.2 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Council alter the order of business to allow items C03/25-75, C03/25-93 and C03/25-96 to be brought forward for consideration at this time of the Meeting.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Hamed, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Christou, Garrard, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba and Sarkis.

Councillor Yasar left the Meeting at 8:31pm and returned to the Meeting at 8:34pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.901 Closed Session

At this stage of the meeting being 8:34pm, the Mayor advised that in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, it is proposed to move into Closed Session to consider the following items:

- C03/25-75 Legal Report
- C03/25-93 Tender Evaluation Report - MJ Bennett Reserve Playspace Upgrade - Design and Construct (RFx1066)
- C03/25-96 Tender Evaluation Report - Roads Infrastructure Services (RFx942) as the items contained the following considerations under the Act:

- (2)(d)(i) – *information involves commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.*
- 2(g) - *as the information involves advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.*

Motion (Zaiter/Elmore)

That in accordance with Section 10A(2) (d)(i) and (g) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council enter into Closed Session to determine Items C03/25-75, C03/25-93 and C03/25-96.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Sarkis, Selventhiran Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Saha left the meeting at 8.34pm during consideration of this.

Min.902 C03/25-75 Legal Report**Motion (Colman/Zaiter)**

That the report be received.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 8:36pm and returned to the Meeting at 8:37pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Colman left the Meeting at 8:37pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Saha returned to the Meeting at 8:38pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Ouf returned to the Meeting at 8:39pm during the consideration of this item.

**Min.903 C03/25-93 Tender Evaluation Report - MJ Bennett Reserve
Playspace Upgrade - Design and Construct (RFx1066)****Motion (Zaiter/Saha)**

That Council:

1. Accept the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to 4PARK PTY LTD, ABN 56 657 333 296, in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, for \$556,439.00 (excluding GST).
2. Delegate to the General Manager the authority to execute the contract and any associated documents.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 8:53pm following the consideration of this item.

**Min.904 C03/25-96 Tender Evaluation Report - Roads Infrastructure
Services (RFx942)****Motion (Zaiter/Elmore)**

That Council:

1. Receive the Tender Evaluation Panel's Evaluation Report in Attachment 1;
2. Note the General Manager's advice within the risk implications of the report;
3. In accordance with Section 178(3)(e) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, resolve to enter into negotiations with: Ally Civil (ABN 54 094 217 151), Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd (ABN 66 008 709 608), Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd (ABN 54 000 538 689), Mack Civil Engineering (ABN 94 163 885 943) and State Asphalt Services Pty Ltd (ABN 49 001 287 421); and
4. Note that in accordance with Section 178(4)(b) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, Council's reasons for determining to enter into negotiations with the parties outlined in (3) is to clarify inconsistencies within submissions received, with a view of receiving complete best and final offers from all tenderers for Council's final determination.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Rahme returned to the Meeting at 8:54pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.905 Open Session

Motion (Sarkis/Colman)

That Council resume the public meeting.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

On resumption of the public meeting at 9:01pm, the Mayor, Councillor Hamed read out the resolutions made in Closed Session.

Councillor Ouf left the Meeting at 9:00pm during the consideration of this item and did not return.

Min.906 C03/25-77 Review of Governance Policies

Motion (Zaiter/Elmore)

That:

1. Council place the *Draft Procurement Policy*, *Draft Statement of Business Ethics and Draft Fraud and Corruption Control Policy* on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, and the reports be returned to Council separately for determination.
2. The Procurement Policy be amended to reference a local supplier preference policy position.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Christou left the Meeting at 9:05pm and returned to the Meeting at 9:07pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Selventhiran left the Meeting at 9:08pm and returned to the Meeting at 9:10pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.907 C03/25-83 Notice of Motion - Urban Tree Canopy

Motion (Yasar/Saha)

That Council be provided with a report to the next Council meeting that:

1. Reaffirms Commitment
 - Reaffirms its commitment to maintaining and enhancing Cumberland's urban tree canopy, as outlined in the Cumberland 2030 Local Strategic Planning Statement, Urban Tree Strategy 2020, and Cumberland Development Control Plan.
2. Transparency and Public Accountability
 - Enhances transparency regarding the management of tree approvals from public land by:
 - Establishing a publicly accessible online Tree Removal Register, clearly detailing:
 - a) Locations and species of trees approved for removal.
 - b) Alternatives considered (e.g., targeted pruning or structural support),
 - c) Replacement tree plans specifying species, numbers, and planting locations.
 - d) Implementing a 7 day public notification period prior to scheduled works for non-urgent tree removals from public land displayed:
 - Online via Council's website.
 - Physically at the tree's location.
 - Through letterbox drops to properties within a 100-metre radius.
3. Canopy Preservation ('No Net Loss of Canopy')
 - Strengthens canopy preservation efforts through a 'No Net Loss of Canopy' policy by:
 - Ensuring all approved tree removals are offset by replacement plantings, providing equal or greater canopy coverage within a clearly defined timeframe.
 - Selecting appropriate tree species based on suitability to local conditions, climate resilience, and effectiveness in mitigating urban heat.
4. Council-Operated Nursery (Budget 2025/26)
 - Establishes a Council-operated nursery within the 2025/26 budget process to:
 - Provide sustainable, consistent, and high-quality native and suitable tree stock for Council-led greening projects.

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- Offer educational programs and community incentives encouraging active participation in urban greening initiatives.
5. Robust Arboricultural Standards
Strengthens arboricultural standards and processes by:
- Reviewing arborist qualification requirements to align with current industry best practice guidelines (e.g., Arboriculture Australia, International Society of Arboriculture).
 - Implementing mandatory peer reviews for arborist reports related specifically to heritage-listed tree removal applications.
6. Proactive Maintenance and Community Education Funding
Considers additional funding opportunities within the 2025/26 budget development to:
- Enable proactive tree maintenance on Council-managed land to reduce avoidable removals.
 - Expand community education programs and incentive schemes promoting tree planting and canopy awareness.
7. Integration with Planning Instruments and Budget Consultation
Requests Council officers integrate outcomes and recommendations of this motion:
- Into future reports related to Cumberland's Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) reviews, specifically incorporating best practices for deep soil zones, tree planting, and canopy cover.
 - Within the 2025/26 budget consultation process, ensuring community feedback is captured through existing engagement mechanisms.
8. Cumberland Tree Offset Fund Investigation
Requests Council officers prepare a detailed report outlining:
- Feasibility, operational mechanics, and potential benefits of establishing a Cumberland Tree Offset Fund, including recommended initial funding allocations for the 2025/26 budget.
 - Opportunities to leverage external grants, partnerships, and additional funding resources.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Hamed, Hughes, Saha, Selventhiran and Yasar.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Christou, Garrard, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Sarkis, Yang and Zaiter.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 9:14pm and returned to the Meeting at 9:23pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Sarkis left the Meeting at 9:23pm and returned to the Meeting at 9:24pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.908 C03/25-85 Notice of Motion - Pigeons in the LGA**Motion (Garrard/Hughes)**

That Council:

1. Take action to implement an operation to control non-native pigeons which are causing an unhealthy disturbance across all neighbourhoods and special areas of Cumberland LGA.
2. Fund any associated actions from the operational budget.

Min.909**Extension of Council Meeting****Motion (Elmore/Saha)**

That Council in accordance with clause 18.2 of the *Code of Meeting Practice*, extend the meeting by 1 hour to conclude at 11:00pm, or if an item being discussed is unfinished at 11:00pm, at the conclusion of that item.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Council resumed debate on item C03/25-85.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 9:41pm and returned to the Meeting at 9:45pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Christou left the Meeting at 9:41pm and returned to the Meeting at 9:46pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.910 C03/25-87 Notice of Motion - Christmas Lights Competition

Motion (Zaiter/Rahme)

That Council:

1. Establish a yearly Christmas lights competition for the residents of the Cumberland LGA commencing Christmas 2025.
2. Undertake a media campaign as required to encourage residents to participate in this competition.
3. Include any required budget for this initiative within the draft 2025/26 operational budget.
4. Include consideration of energy efficient lights as part of the competition.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Christou left the Meeting at 10:01pm and returned to the Meeting at 10:04pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Sarkis left the Meeting at 10:04pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.911 C03/25-88 Notice of Motion - Truck Parking

Motion (Rahme/Zaiter)

To support small business, and to ensure that truck owners can park their trucks legally and safely, Council prepare a report that:

1. Identifies locations within each ward of the Cumberland Council LGA that could be made available for truck parking during evenings, 7 days a week;
2. Provides the estimated costings and the work required to establish these parking areas within each ward; and
3. Provide a copy of the report to the traffic committee for their consideration.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Sarkis returned to the Meeting at 10:12pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Colman left the Meeting at 10:12pm and returned to the Meeting at 10:15pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.912 C03/25-89 Notice of Motion - Traffic Safety Measures**Motion (Hughes/Garrard)**

That Council:

1. Investigate the installation of a pedestrian crossing and associated safety measures on both Lidbury Street and York Street, Berala, near York Park;
2. Investigate the installation of a pedestrian crossing and associated safety measures on Hargrave Road, near the Auburn Hospital entry and bus stop; and
3. Provide a report to the Traffic Committee, detailing the process undertaken including technical studies and implementation costs.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.913 C03/25-90 Notice of Motion - Cycling Corridors**Motion (Saha/Yasar)**

That Council receive a report on the following:

1. Status of work for the implementation of the cycling corridors as outlined in Council's adopted Walking and Cycling Strategy;
2. Identification of corridors (full or partial) that could be delivered during this Council term; and
3. Any funding considerations associated with this work.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Christou.

Councillor Sarkis left the Meeting at 10:23pm during the consideration of this item and did not return.

Min.914 C03/25-91 Notice of Motion - Establishment of Council Policy - International Political Events on Council Land

Motion (Garrard/Hughes)

That:

1. Council formulate a policy which creates a position concerning international political events on Council land.
2. The policy should aim to maintain a non-partisan and neutral status on all international affairs but will not seek to restrict individual comment or freedom of comment.
3. As a Council we will serve our local community by focusing on governance, infrastructure, planning and essential services that are our communities need.
4. As a Chamber we will take no position on international matters so as not to cause unnecessary division among sections of our community, recognising that our diverse community naturally have strong connections to their countries of birth.
5. The Draft Policy be discussed at a Councillor workshop prior to being reported to Council for determination ahead of public consultation.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.915 C03/25-92 Notice of Motion - Fast Track DA Processing in Cumberland

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Hamed vacated the Chair at 10:39pm. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Zaiter assumed the Chair accordingly. The Mayor, Councillor Hamed resumed the Chair at 10:45pm during the consideration of this item.

Motion (Garrard/Hughes)

In light of the recent highlighted need to improve processing times in local Councils to support the delivery of new housing, it is proposed that the General Manager:

1. Provide a report to Council that proposes a new fee for inclusion in its annual fees and charges, that would allow families and associated applicants who wish to build low density small scale residential housing in the Cumberland local government area to have their development applications fast tracked. This report is to identify the following:
 - (a) An appropriate fee and charge for the delivery of this service;
 - (b) A guaranteed timeframe for approval of the application;

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- (c) Potential refund provisions for the applicant if the guaranteed timeframe is not adhered to by Council; and
 - (d) Any legal implications for Council to consider which would be associated with implementing a new fee and charge of this type.
 - (e) Ensure all communications also apply to property owners.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.916 AR03/25-1 Notice of Rescission - C02/25-73 Notice of Motion - Somali Week in Cumberland

Motion (Christou/Rahme)

Pursuant to Notice, Councillors Christou, Rahme and Garrard move that Council rescinds the resolution relating to C02/25-73 Notice of Motion - Somali Week in Cumberland (Min.889 resolved on 26 February 2025). A copy of the resolution is shown below:

That Council receive a report investigating the possibility of Council holding a Somali week in conjunction with the local Somali community in 2025.

The Motion on being Put was declared **LOST**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Garrard, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Colman, Elmore, Hamed, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang and Yasar.

During the consideration of this item, the Mayor, Councillor Hamed clarified that Councillor Christou had misrepresented her in his speech, and reiterated that as advised earlier in the meeting, his proposed Matter of Urgency would be heard prior to the end of the meeting at the appropriate time.

During the consideration of this item, Councillor Colman raised a point of order, citing an alleged breach of Clause 15.11(d) of the *Code of Meeting Practice* by Councillor Christou, stating that Councillor Christou made an unfavourable personal remark toward the Mayor.

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed requested that Councillor Christou withdraw his remark and apologise.

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed subsequently advised Councillor Christou that his refusal to withdraw and apologise would be recorded in the Minutes.

Min.917 Matter of Urgency – Councillor Christou

In accordance with Clause 9.3(b) of the adopted *Code of Meeting Practice*, the Mayor ruled that the business raised without notice by Councillor Christou in relation to the nightclub fire in Kocani, North Macedonia be heard by Council as a matter of urgency, as it requires a decision by the Council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

Motion (Christou/Rahme)

That in accordance with Clause 9.3(a) of the adopted *Code of Meeting Practice*, the business raised by Councillor Christou in relation to the nightclub fire in Kocani, North Macedonia be considered at this meeting as a Matter of Urgency.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.918 Matter of Urgency – Tragedy in Kocani, North Macedonia**Motion (Christou/Rahme)**

That a minute of silence be observed for the 59 lives lost overseas and the 150 people injured in the nightclub fire in Kocani, North Macedonia.

The Motion on being Put was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor(s) For the Motion: Christou, Colman, Elmore, Garrard, Hamed, Hughes, Kafrouni-Saba, Rahme, Saha, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Note: Council observed a minute of silence following the determination of this item.

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed closed the meeting at 11:01pm.

Chairperson_____

Appendix 1 Resolutions of the Council following consideration of the recommendations of the Property Committee Meeting held at Merrylands Administration Building, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands NSW 2160 on Monday 3 March 2025.

Council received the Minutes of the Property Committee held on 3 March 2025 and adopted the recommendations therein. The resolutions of Council are below.

ITEM PC001/25 - Update on Committee Resolutions

RESOLVED

That the Property Committee recommend that Council:

1. Receive the status update on Committee resolutions.
2. Undertake a further EOI process for 42 Lane Street, Wentworthville.
3. Ensure that the EOI process maximises the potential for community use of the site.

ITEM PC002/25 - Update on General Property Leases/Transactions

RESOLVED

That the Property Committee receive and note the update.

ITEM PC003/25 - Proposed Granting of Drainage Easement - 7 Ash Street Greystanes through Gregory Street Park

RESOLVED

That the Property Committee recommend that Council In accordance with Section 46 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, approve the creation of an easement in favour of the property located at 7 Ash Street, Greystanes NSW 2145 (Lot 33 in DP 221089), to permit the legal disposal of stormwater through Council's Reserve known as Gregory Street Park (Lot 36 in DP 221089) subject to:

- (a) an independent valuation report being obtained;
- (b) the final easement location and design being in accordance with the expert advice of Council's Engineering team;
- (c) completion of the required 28-day public notification period in accordance with Section 47 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; and
- (d) all associated costs including easement compensation paid by the applicant.

ITEM PC004/25 - Proposed Granting of Drainage Easement - 7A Hackney Street, Greystanes Through Darling Street Park**RESOLVED**

That the Property Committee recommend that Council in accordance with Section 46 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, approve the creation of an easement in favour of the property located at 7A Hackney Street, Greystanes NSW (Lot 2 in DP 226589), to permit the legal disposal of stormwater through Council's Reserve known as Darling Street Park (Lot 3 in DP 230865 and Lot 3 in DP 226589) subject to:

- (a) an independent valuation report being obtained;
- (b) the final easement location and design being in accordance with the expert advice of Council's Engineering team;
- (c) completion of the required 28-day public notification period in accordance with Section 47 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; and
- (d) all associated costs including easement compensation being paid by the applicant.

ITEM PC005/25 - Proposed Lease for additional land at 167 Fairfield Road, Guildford**RESOLVED**

That the Property Committee recommend that Council:

1. Endorse the proposed lease agreement to Sundown Building Supplies Pty Ltd (ABN 36 675 238 267) for a term up to 10 years, for an additional portion of land within Lot 1 in Deposited Plan 1179149 in accordance with the lease terms outlined in the report.
2. Delegate authority to the General Manager to finalise the lease agreement terms and execute the documentation following the required 28-day public notification period in accordance with Section 47 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.