
Minutes of the Council Meeting 28 May 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
Daniel Cavallo	Director Environment & Planning
Brendan Govers	Director City Services
Nicole Byrn	Director Community & Culture
Charlie Ayoub	Director Governance & Risk
Serbo Matic	Acting Director Corporate Performance
Colin McFadzean	General Counsel
Carol Karaki	Manager Governance
Bianca Mourched	Coordinator Governance

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed declared the meeting open at 6:03pm.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was read by Pdt Jatin Bhatt from Sri Mandir Hindu Temple, Auburn.

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.

Apologies / Requests for Leave of Absence/ Requests for Attendance by Audio-Visual Link

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.937 C05/25-112 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 30 April 2025

Motion (Saha/Elmore)

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 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.

Declarations of Pecuniary & Non Pecuniary Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Garrard declared a Less than Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in relation to item C05/25-116 Community Grants - Round 3 2024/2025 Funding Recommendations, as he is an associate of an applicant (Mr J Newell) who is recommended for grant funding. As such, he will remain in the Chamber for the consideration of this matter.

Councillor Hughes declared a Less than Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in relation to item C05/25-116 Community Grants - Round 3 2024/2025 Funding Recommendations, as she is a member of the BCHTA (non-executive) who applied for a community grant. As such, she will remain in the Chamber for the consideration of this matter.

Councillor Elmore declared a Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in relation to item C05/25-117 4-4A Terminal Place, Merrylands - Amended Planning Proposal, as he is a representative for Council on the Sydney Central City Planning Panel. As such, he will leave the Chamber prior to the consideration of this matter.

Min.938 Mayoral Minute - Digital Built Australia Awards Recognition**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Mayoral Minute;
2. Congratulates Councils Manager Place and Economy, Christopher Manoski, on being announced the winner of the 2025 Digital Built Australia Award in the "People (Government Leader)" category; and
3. Congratulates all staff and community stakeholders involved in the delivery of Council's highly commended *Smart Places Strategy and Action Plan*.

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.939 Mayoral Minute – Successful Back to Guildford Festival 2025**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Mayoral Minute;
2. Congratulate all staff involved with the successful delivery of the Back to Guildford Festival in 2025; and
3. Endorse the event, as delivered, being programmed into the Events Program and forward Operational Plan and budget for future years.

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.940 Mayoral Minute - Cumberland City Council Leading the Charge for Female Participation and Excellence in Sport**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council endorse the Mayoral Minute, detailing Cumberland City Council's strong commitment to delivering equality for female participation and excellence in sport.

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.941 Mayoral Minute - Flood Appeal Donation and Offer of Support to NSW Councils Affected by Recent Flooding**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Mayoral Minute;
2. Formally expresses our solidarity and support to councils affected by the recent floods across the Mid to Far North Coast of NSW, including but not limited to: MidCoast, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Nambucca, Bellingen, and Port Macquarie-Hastings;
3. Writes to the Mayor of these Councils offering practical support, such as staff assistance, technical expertise, or equipment sharing, where feasible;
4. Acknowledges and commends the work of emergency services, council staff, and volunteers who continue to support their communities through these challenging times; and
5. Donates \$5,000 to the GIVIT NSW Flood Appeal (ABN 21 137 408 201), funded from the Emergency Relief Fund.

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.942 Mayoral Minute - Community Grants - Hardship Assistance for Children and Youth in Education and Sport**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Mayoral Minute; and
2. Supports the creation of a new stream under the Community Grants Program titled '*Hardship Assistance for Children and Youth in Education and Sport*', to be delivered within existing budget allocation, with program criteria to be developed and implemented by Council officers.

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.943 Mayoral Minute - Community Grants - Advocacy For New Housing Precinct in Clyde**Motion (Hamed)**

That Council:

1. Endorse in principle, an advocacy position for the suburb of Clyde being designated as a potential new residential housing precinct by the NSW Government.
2. Write to the Lord Mayor of City of Parramatta Council, seeking to initiate a joint and coordinated advocacy proposal to the NSW Government detailing infrastructure planning, housing development and additional jobs within the Clyde precinct.
3. Write to the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Chris Minns MP, seeking the NSW Government's support for the planning, infrastructure coordination, and delivery of Clyde as a future residential growth area.
4. Seek the support of State Members within the Cumberland LGA to also advocate in relation to this matter.

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

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.

Public Forum:**Speakers on General Items**

Speaker	Subject	Suburb
Mr Mohamed Hassan	Funding for Local Road and Infrastructure	Lidcombe

Min.944 Items Resolved by Exception**Motion (Sarkis/Kafrouni-Saba)**

That Council adopt items C05/25-113, C05/25-114, C05/25-115, C05/25-119, C05/25-120, C05/25-129 and C05/25-130 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, Ouf, Rahme, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

C05/25-113 Legal Report***Resolved by Exception***

That the report be received.

C05/25-114 Investment Report - April 2025***Resolved by Exception***

That Council receive the April 2025 Investment Report.

C05/25-115 Quarter 3 2024-25 Budget Review Statement***Resolved by Exception***

That Council approve the revised estimates of income and expenditure for 2024/25 contained in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement.

C05/25-119 Response to Notice of Motion - 125 Years of Federation***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Deliver the local celebrations as proposed in this report in celebration of 125 Years of Federation.
2. Allocate \$50,000 as a one off through the Community Reserve to support the 125 Years of Federation events.

C05/25-120 Cumberland Local Traffic Committee - Meeting of 2 April 2025***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Receive and note the minutes of the Cumberland Local Traffic Committee meeting held on 2 April 2025, as provided in Attachment 1.
2. Note the items considered under delegated authority by the Cumberland Local Traffic Committee at the 2 April 2025 meeting, as provided in Attachment 2.
3. Endorse the recommendations for items considered by the Cumberland Local Traffic Committee at the 2 April 2025 meeting, as provided in attachment 3.

C05/25-129 Tender Evaluation Report - Auburn Basketball Centre Project (RFx1111)***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Accept the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to Grindley Constructions Pty Ltd (ABN 42 003 586 687) in accordance with Clause 178(1)(a) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* for \$21,944,044 (excluding GST).
2. Delegate to the General Manager the authority to execute the contract and any associated documents.

C05/25-130 Tender Evaluation Report - Lytton Street Park Amenity Upgrade (RFx1136)***Resolved by Exception***

That Council:

1. Accept the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to Ally Infrastructure Pty Ltd (ABN 54 094 217 151) in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, for \$470,870 (excluding GST).
2. Delegate to the General Manager the authority to execute the contract and any associated documents.

Min.945 C05/25-116 Community Grants - Round 3 2024/2025 Funding Recommendations**Motion (Colman/Saha)**

1. Adopt the 18 applications recommended for funding in Attachment 2 and allocate the \$151,880 from the 2024/2025 Community Grants Program budget.
2. Delegate to the General Manager the authority to execute the grant dispersions and any associated documents.
3. Advise all successful applications of the funding allocations from the Community Grants Program 2024/2025 and provide feedback and assistance to applicants that were unsuccessful.
4. Attach a table of the successful applicants to the Minutes.

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

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.946 C05/25-117 4-4A Terminal Place, Merrylands - Amended Planning Proposal

Note: Councillor Elmore exited the Chamber at 6:48pm prior to the consideration of this item as he had declared a Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in this item. He returned to the Meeting following the consideration of this item at 6:58pm.

Motion (Zaiter/Sarkis)

That Council:

1. Endorse an amended planning proposal for 4-4A Terminal Place and Part of 5 and 7 McLeod Road, Merrylands (Site 2) applying to Lot 1 DP 1173048, Part of Lot 10 DP 1305248, and Part of Lot 11 DP 1305248 (R4 zoned land), that seeks to amend the Cumberland Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2021, to:
 - a. Increase Height of Buildings (HoB) controls for Building D1 from 39 metres (12 storeys) to 96 metres (30 storeys);
 - b. Increase Floor Space Ratio (FSR) controls from 5:1 to 6.6:1 for Site 2; and
 - c. Apply a gross floor area (GFA) not exceeding 500m² of 'commercial premises' as an additional permitted use for proposed Buildings D1 and D2 (Block D) only.
2. Endorse that the amended planning proposal for 4-4A Terminal Place and Part of 5 and 7 McLeod Road, Merrylands be forwarded to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway Determination.
3. Prepare a Voluntary Planning Agreement to derive public benefit, should a Gateway Determination be received.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Christou, Colman, Hamed, Hughes and Saha.

Councillor Ouf left the Meeting at 6:53pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.947 C05/25-118 Review of Councils Community Advisory Committees**Motion (Elmore/Sarkis)**

That Council:

1. Determine its Committee structure for the remainder of the current term of Council as follows:
 - Arts, Culture and Events Advisory Committee;

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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative (ATSIC) Committee;
 - Community Wellbeing and Inclusion Advisory Committee;
 - Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Advisory Committee;
 - Floodplain Risk Management Committee;
 - Library Advisory Committee;
 - Youth, Recreation and Sport Advisory Committee;
 - Heritage Advisory Committee; and
 - Wentworthville Community Garden - Section 355 *Local Government Act 1993* Committee;
2. Receive a report for Council's determination at its next meeting, detailing the proposed Terms of Reference and membership structure for each committee.

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.948 C05/25-121 Notice of Motion - Annual Diwali and Eid Lights Competition

Motion (Saha/Colman)

That Council:

1. Establishes an annual Diwali Lights and Eid Lights Competition for residents of the Cumberland Local Government Area, commencing in 2025/26;
2. Undertakes a targeted media and community engagement campaign to encourage broad participation in the competition, including through Council's social media platforms, website, and other networks;
3. Funds this initiative from the community reserve in 2025/26, and in the annual Operational Plan moving forward; and
4. Promotes the use of energy-efficient lighting and environmentally friendly materials as part of the competition criteria, aligning with Council's sustainability objectives.

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 Ouf returned to the Meeting at 7:06pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.949 C05/25-122 Notice of Motion - Council Signage in Parks and Playgrounds**Motion (Saha/Sarkis)**

That Council:

1. Audit its existing parks and reserves to ensure that it has the appropriate signage around parks and childrens playgrounds such as no smoking or alcohol permitted, and replace as required.
2. Consult with its insurer to confirm that the above proposed signage meets all relevant legal requirements from a public liability perspective; and
3. Budget this signage renewal process as part of the existing operational budget for signage.

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 left the Meeting at 7:15pm and returned to the Meeting at 7:17pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.950 C05/25-123 Notice of Motion - Westmead New Primary and Secondary Schools**Motion (Zaiter/Saha)**

That Council:

1. Notes that the Westmead South Master Plan was endorsed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 5 June 2024 and submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for Gateway approval.
2. Notes that the approval and implementation of the Westmead South Master Plan will result in approximately 6600 new dwellings and 16,500 new residents moving into the Cumberland local government area.
3. Write to the NSW Ministers responsible for Treasury, Education and infrastructure seeking an update in regard to the delivery timeframe for new primary and secondary schools in Westmead to cater for the expected increase in population.
4. Write to the local State and Federal MPs seeking their support and advocacy in regard to this issue.

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.951 C05/25-124 Notice of Motion - Lidcombe Overhead Bridge servicing Church Street and Railway Street

Motion (Hughes/Garrard)

That Council seek an urgent report concerning the functionality of the existing bridge. The report is to consider the following:

1. The future expansion of Lidcombe and its surrounds;
2. The importance of Lidcombe's road network and its integral role in the movement of commuter transport;
3. The strategic role of Lidcombe as promoted by the Greater Sydney Commission and now absorbed by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure;
4. The archaic design features of the bridge built circa 1924 and its ability to handle increased traffic in both bulk and numbers;
5. Advocacy or engagement on this matter with relevant State agencies, including options for enhancing train services and cycling/pedestrian connectivity alongside any road infrastructure upgrades;
6. Community concerns around its present and future safety; and
7. Pedestrian overhead bridge along Church St over Olympic Drive towards the existing railway line.

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 Zaiter left the Meeting at 7:26pm and returned to the Meeting at 7:27pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Rahme left the Meeting at 7:33pm during the consideration of this item and did not return.

Min.952 C05/25-125 Notice of Motion - Councillor Professional Development Opportunity

Motion (Ouf/Sarkis)

That Council:

1. Recognises the critical role elected officials play as community leaders and role models in fostering a respectful, inclusive, and equitable society.
2. Acknowledges the importance of actively understanding, identifying, and preventing racism in all its forms, especially within public institutions.
3. Requests the General Manager make an appropriate training program available to Councillors in accordance with the adopted *Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy*, that offers training to all Councillors on this topic.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Christou.

Councillor Yang left the Meeting at 7:44pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.953 C05/25-126 Notice of Motion - EV Charging Readiness In New Multi-Unit Developments

Motion (Yasar/Saha)

That Council:

1. Notes the increasing uptake of electric vehicles (EVs) across Greater Sydney and the role of local government in facilitating the infrastructure required to support this transition.
2. Recognises that the vast majority of EV charging occurs at home, and that without access to private charging infrastructure, residents of multi-unit developments face significant barriers to EV ownership.
3. As part of the current review of the Cumberland Development Control Plan (DCP) and Local Environmental Plan (LEP), requests that Council officers prepare draft provisions to require that all new high density development include EV charging readiness infrastructure.
4. Requests that the proposed planning controls consider:
 - a. The provision of appropriately rated electrical capacity within the main switchboard and distribution infrastructure to support EV charging in at least one dedicated car space per dwelling;
 - b. A requirement that each car parking space allocated to a dwelling be constructed with a conduit and cabling pathway ("passive

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- infrastructure”) to facilitate future installation of EV chargers without significant cost or disruption;
- c. A minimum number of common property visitor or shared spaces to be fitted with operational EV charging equipment at the time of occupation;
 - d. Consideration of load management systems to allow scalable deployment without overwhelming building supply capacity;
 - e. Alignment with relevant Australian Standards, the National Construction Code, and the NSW Government’s EV-ready buildings guidance.
5. Requests that the proposed controls be benchmarked against best practice examples from comparable jurisdictions to ensure practicality, cost-effectiveness, and alignment with the NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy.
6. Receives a report with draft DCP/LEP amendments addressing the above, to be considered by Council prior to public exhibition.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Christou, Garrard and Sarkis.

Councillor Yang returned to the Meeting at 7:47pm during the consideration of this item.

Councillor Ouf left the Meeting at 7:48pm during the consideration of this item and did not return.

Min.954 C05/25-127 Notice of Motion - Improving Cyclist and Pedestrian Safety on M4 Shared Path at Silverwater Road Intersection

Motion (Yasar/Selventhiran)

That Council:

1. Acknowledge the significant safety concerns regarding the Silverwater Road intersection on the M4 shared path.
2. Urgently write to the Minister for Transport and Transport for NSW advocating for immediate safety improvements at this intersection, including:
 - Reviewing and redesigning the layout and size of the south-eastern traffic island.

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- Enhancing visibility for vehicles turning off the M4 onto Silverwater Road through improved signage, road markings, and potential removal of obstructions such as trees.
 - Converting zebra crossings on slip lanes into combined pedestrian and cyclist crossings.
 - Exploring feasibility of repositioning slip lanes and traffic islands to enhance safety.
 - Widening and regrading the kerb crossing and path immediately east of Silverwater Road to improve usability for all riders, including those in groups and with varying levels of experience.
3. Request a formal meeting with Transport for NSW and bicycle advocacy representatives, including Bicycle NSW and CAMWEST, to collaborate on detailed planning and solutions to address the highlighted safety issues.
 4. Provide a progress report to Council within six months, detailing actions undertaken, responses received from Transport for NSW, and recommended next steps.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Sarkis left the Meeting at 8:02pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.955 C05/25-128 Notice of Motion - Expansion of Bike Locker Facilities at Lidcombe Station

Motion (Yasar/Hughes)

That Council:

1. Notes the high demand for secure bike lockers at Lidcombe Station, with all existing lockers currently in use and a waiting list in place;
2. Writes to the Minister for Transport and Transport for NSW requesting the expansion of bike locker facilities at Lidcombe Station to meet growing demand;
3. Expresses Council's willingness to work collaboratively with the State Government to identify suitable sites for additional bike lockers—taking into

consideration existing strategic planning work, such as the Pippita Rail Trail plan—including the use of Council-owned land if appropriate;

4. Identifies the Bridge Street Carpark as a potential site for additional lockers, subject to assessment;
5. Requests that Council officers undertake a review of other train stations within Cumberland, including Auburn, Regents Park and Berala Stations, to identify opportunities for new or expanded bike locker facilities, and report back on engagement with Transport for NSW.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Councillor Sarkis returned to the Meeting at 8:06pm during the consideration of this item.

Min.956 Closed Session

At this stage of the meeting being 8:07pm, 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 item:

- C05/25-131 Update - Property Sale, Merrylands CBD

as the item contained the following considerations under the Act:

(2)(d)(i) – commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Motion (Sarkis/Zaiter)

That in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council enter into Closed Session to determine Item C05/25-131.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.957 C05/25-131 Update - Property Sale, Merrylands CBD**Motion (Saha/Zaiter)**

That:

1. Council receive the report and the attached Minutes of the 14 May 2025 Extraordinary Property Committee Meeting;
2. Council delegate authority to the General Manager to negotiate with Coronation Property Co Pty Ltd (ACN: 163 703 839) in relation to Council's site at 28-36 McFarlane Street, Merrylands, including any potential community benefit that can be delivered as part of this transaction for the Cumberland community;
3. The General Manager consult with the Property Committee on the status of negotiations;
4. The General Manager report the outcome of negotiations to Council for determination; and
5. Council notes negotiations are intended to be conducted in accordance with probity controls to be established in conjunction with Council's Probity Lawyers.

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

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

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

Min.958 Open Session**Motion (Elmore/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, Saha, Sarkis, Selventhiran, Yang, Yasar and Zaiter.

Councillor(s) Against the Motion: Nil.

On resumption of the public meeting at 8:15pm, the Mayor, Councillor Hamed read out the resolution made in Closed Session.

Other/General Matters

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed acknowledged annual National Sorry Day which was on Monday 26 May, noting that this day promotes healing and reconciliation with first nation's people.

The Mayor, Councillor Hamed closed the meeting at 8:17pm.

Chairperson_____

Appendix 1 – C05/25-116 Community Grants - Round 3 2024/2025 Funding Recommendations – Successful Applicants

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30001	PARRAMATTA CITY SWIM CLUB INC.	Expanding Lifesaving Services	To supply extra equipment and training for coaches to significantly grow the Club's lifesaving activities. The Club already has a shortage of equipment, and much of what is used, is borrowed from other clubs. This grant will facilitate the acquisition of additional equipment and training needed to meet the growing demands within the Club and the community.	\$4,250	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes.
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30006	IMPOWERFULL INCORPORATED	Western Sydney Water Safety Fest	Western Sydney Water Safety Fest is a community-driven water safety event bringing together local families, swim schools, industry experts and ambassadors to promote drowning prevention. Featuring interactive workshops, live demonstrations and hands-on water safety activities, the festival empowers people of all ages with essential swimming and survival skills. Supported by national aquatic bodies Swim Australia and AUSTSWIM alongside Bondi Lifeguard Bruce 'Hoppon' Hopkins, Float to Survive, this first-of-its-kind event in Western Sydney aims to break barriers, raise awareness and make water safety accessible for all.	\$15,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes.

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30007	PARAMATTA BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC	Goldern Years Senior Pickleball LTP Program	It is a 12-month, weekly program of Pickleball. Physical activity (in particular because Pickleball is easy to pick up) can help older people maintain a healthy weight and lifestyle and reduce or minimise the risk of many diseases. It can also improve mental and physical health and wellbeing. It improves hand-eye coordination and gives older people the balance and perspective on life that may have waned over their maturing years. Parkinson's patients have shown great improvement when playing this sport. It gives new vigor to people who otherwise may be lost to the benefits of sport.	\$13,500	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes.
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30011	NEW BEGINNINGS AUST LIMITED	Peer-led Divorce Support Program for Muslim Men	This project will provide a holistic and transformative support system for CALD Muslim men navigating divorce. It will address the distinct challenges they face, such as stigma, cultural expectations, and limited access to culturally sensitive mental health services. By fostering a safe and supportive environment, the program will offer a vital first step in helping men process their experiences, access appropriate care, and build resilience. Through peer support, breathwork, and structured guidance, participants will feel empowered to heal, seek help without fear of judgment, and take meaningful steps toward rebuilding their lives with confidence and stability.	\$14,700	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes. Partial funding is recommended due to gaps identified in the budget

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30013	SYDNEY SENIORS LEARNING SOCIETY INCORPORATED	Hua Hai Musical	Hua Hai Musical is a 20 week project that will provide amazing development opportunities for Chinese-speaking seniors who already have musical skills with traditional Chinese music instruments. The participants will engage in musical practices on a weekly basis. Professional facilitators will be invited to train the participants and to help them develop their skills in playing different music instruments such as Er Hu, flute, pipa, suona, violin and cello. At the end of the project an orchestra will be formed and will be available to perform at community events in Cumberland area as well as elsewhere in Greater Sydney.	\$8,430	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes. Partial funding is recommended due to gaps identified in the budget.
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30024	MERRYLANDS AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB INCORPORATED	Cumberland Inter-Club Cup Swimming Meet	The Cumberland Inter-Club Cup is an annual swimming meet held between the three swimming clubs (Merrylands Swimming Club, Parramatta City Swim Club & McCredie Park Aquatics) located within Cumberland City Council boundary. The meet is held at swimming centres within the Cumberland City Council area and hosting is rotated between each club annually. The 2025 meet is to be held at Merrylands Swimming Centre.	\$4,100	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes. Partial funding is recommended due to gaps identified in the budget.
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30028	PARKRUN AUSTRALIA LTD	A parkrun for Auburn Botanic Garden	The project will establish a new parkrun event in the Auburn Botanic Garden area, providing a free, weekly, timed 5km event to residents of Cumberland and surrounds. It	\$7,500	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes.

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
			will allow the community to access a free, timed 5km event every weekend where participants will have the choice to walk, jog, run or volunteer, promoting a healthy lifestyle and improving social cohesion in the community.		
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30033	AHL ALBAIT ISLAMIC SCHOOL	ABIS Community Gym	This project, operating under a non-for profit, aims to divert youth and young adults from environments linked to violence, crime or high-risk influence by providing a safe, positive space for physical training, mentorship, and life coaching. Beyond fitness, the project focuses on building resilience, life skills, and social connections through structured guidance. By combining health and fitness with personal development, the community gym project fosters empowerment, belonging, and long-term community safety.	\$15,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30036	REFUGEE ADVICE AND CASEWORK SERVICE (AUSTRALIA) INC	Ministerial Intervention for Bridging Visas	Many people seeking asylum in our community have been left unlawful without a valid visa through no fault of their own. Many arrive at our Auburn Centre for Community outreach service for specialised emergency legal support. The only option is to seek Ministerial Intervention. This project will provide Ministerial intervention fact sheet updates; information sessions; legal services to make lawful their status in Australia; and seek agency to support	\$15,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
			themselves through employment and access health services.		
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30038	MOBILEYES AND DENTAL FOUNDATION LIMITED	Mobileyes and Dental Foundation: Bright Smiles Cumberland Program	Mobileyes and Dental Foundation's Bright Smiles Cumberland program is a mobile oral health education program. It provides free, in-school dental education to primary school students in the Cumberland LGA, particularly those from CALD, low-income, and disadvantaged backgrounds. Our program promotes healthy habits through engaging, age-appropriate education session focused on brushing, flossing, nutrition, and regular dental care. A take-home resource supports students and their family to reinforce their learnings. By improving oral health literacy and reducing barriers to healthcare, our project supports long-term wellbeing, social inclusion, and equitable health access for vulnerable children in the Cumberland LGA.	\$10,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria, has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION 25CPR30039	THE GREATER CUMBERLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INCORPORATED	Business Beyond Borders: Addressing challenges and opportunities of working across cultures	"Business Beyond Borders" is a professional development workshop series designed to help business owners, managers, and teams thrive in culturally diverse environments. Through four interactive sessions, participants will explore cross-cultural communication, trust-building, conflict resolution, and adaptive leadership. The program empowers businesses to	\$10,500	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes. Partial funding is recommended due to gaps identified in the budget.

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
			reduce misunderstandings, strengthen collaboration, and lead diverse teams with confidence and cultural awareness. By fostering inclusive, respectful, and globally-minded workplaces, this project supports local businesses in becoming more resilient and connected in today's multicultural economy.		
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS 25EEPR30006	SYDNEY BANGLA WOMEN'S NETWORK INCORPORATED	Empowered Pathways: Supporting Bangladeshi Women Toward Employment and Independence	Empowered Pathways is a one-day workshop designed to support recently migrated Bangladeshi women in the Cumberland LGA who are unemployed or underemployed. The event will provide practical guidance on re-entering the workforce, starting small businesses, overcoming language and cultural barriers, and maintaining mental wellbeing. Participants will gain the confidence and knowledge needed to pursue employment or self-employment through inspiring speakers, skill-building sessions, and networking opportunities. Hosted by the Sydney Bangla Women's Network (SBWN), the event is part of our ongoing mission to empower women through connection, education, and culturally relevant support.	\$12,812	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes. Partial funding is recommended due to gaps identified in the budget.
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS 25EEPR30007	THE FREEDOM HUB	Digital Ready for Employment	The Freedom Hub will design and deliver 3 x 8-10 week pilot AI and Cyber Safety course for women & possibly some men who have experienced modern slavery and are	\$11,488	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has clearly defined project aims and outcomes.

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
			currently engaged in our Survivor School. They face significant barriers to mainstream education, including anxiety around unfamiliar classroom settings and risk of public exposure. Our confidential, trauma-informed environment provides small, tailored classes that meet their individual learning styles and emotional needs. The course will teach essential digital skills, safe use of online platforms, and practical AI tools that support employment readiness—empowering participants to confidently navigate today's digital workforce.		Partial funding is recommended due to gaps identified in the budget.
SMALL GRANT 25SGR30001	OZ NEULBOM SOCIAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED	Happy Senior Life with Music	Cumberland is one of the most culturally diverse LGAs in NSW, with a significant Korean community. Many Korean seniors experience depression, anxiety, loneliness, and physical health challenges, often due to social isolation and language barriers. Our project will introduce music therapy, combining instrumental performances, singing, cognitive training activities and light movement activities to uplift their mood, reduce stress, and encourage social connection. By providing a culturally tailored and inclusive space, this program will support 30 seniors in improving their emotional, mental, and physical well-being. This aligns with Cumberland Council's	\$1,600	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
			values by enhancing the quality of life for seniors.		
SMALL GRANT 25SGR30005	GREYSTANES JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB	Try Time Gala Day	Greystanes JRLFC holds an annual Try Time Rugby League gala day for players with disability. "Try Time" is a Junior Rugby League program, that provides an inclusive environment for children and adults with special needs and intellectual disabilities to play rugby league, focusing on ability and promoting fitness, teamwork, and social interaction. The gala day brings together teams from around Sydney, including Wentworthville and Greystanes to play a round robin style of competition. This year the day will be the last game of the season and will be Grand Final themed with DJs, smoke machines and all players receiving medals.	\$2,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.
SMALL GRANT 25SGR30008	SOMALI WELFARE AND CULTURAL CENTRE INCORPORATED	Safe Food Handling	This project will provide Food Safety Supervisor Training to 20 disadvantaged women and men from culturally diverse backgrounds (CALD). Training will support the creation of food catering businesses.	\$2,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.
SMALL GRANT 25SGR30009	JIM NEWELL	Seniors Safety and Wellbeing Assistance	A project to attract Seniors Over 55 to engage in a weekly golf programme. The target group's present age distribution is predominantly over 70 years. The golf	\$2,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear

Funding Stream/App No.	Organisation	Project Name	Project Description	Amount recommended	Assessment Panel Comments
			programme aims to satisfy Council's desire to promote activities which reflect on seniors' health and wellbeing, and accessibility. The grant request is to assist with subsidised Council golf / green fees and PPE equipment / hats / sunscreen. Due to cost of living increases this assistance will promote participation.		project aims and outcomes.
SMALL GRANT 25SGR30010	JOSHUA THEIN	Australian Representative at the 17th IDBF World Dragon Boat Racing Championships (14–20 July 2025, Brandenburg, Germany)	I was recently selected to represent Australia at the 17th IDBF World Dragon Boat Racing Championships. As a selected Australian representative, I will compete against top international athletes, promoting both national pride and local community spirit (as a Cumberland resident for the past 28 years). Support from Cumberland Council will help cover travel, accommodation, and competition expenses, enabling me to proudly represent our community on the world stage.	\$2,000	The applicant has met eligibility criteria and has a detailed budget and demonstrated clear project aims and outcomes.