

CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting

Wednesday, 20 March 2024at6:30 PM

Cumberland City Council Chambers

Merrylands Service Centre, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

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Statement of Ethical Obligations

Oath or Affirmation of Office

In taking the Oath or Affirmation of Office, each Councillor has made a commitment to undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Cumberland and Cumberland City Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

Conflicts of Interest

A councillor who has a conflict of interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council when the matter is being considered, must disclose the interest and the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable. Both the disclosure and the nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting where the conflict of interest arises. Councillors should ensure that they are familiar with Parts 4 and 5 of the Code of Conduct in relation to their obligations to declare and manage conflicts of interests.

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LATE REPORTS

Council Meeting - 20 March 2024

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Item No: MM03/24-49

MAYORAL MINUTE - MAJOR SEARCH OPERATION FOR HUSSEIN AL MANSOORY

Author: Mayor Lisa Lake

SUMMARY

On the morning of Saturday 9 March 2024, 12-year-old Hussein Al Mansoory went missing after running from Auburn Memorial Park.

Searching for any young child who is lost and scared is difficult enough, but searching for Hussein, a little boy who was non-verbal with special needs was particularly complex.

For three days the NSW Police, State Emergency Services (SES), Council and our community worked together to find Hussein. To our great relief and joy, on Monday 11 March 2024 the good news was received that he was found safe and well and would be reunited with his family.

Generally, in any major land search the Police are the combat agency, and the SES is the agency that supports them.

In this search, many agencies were involved, including NSW Police from Auburn Police Area Command, Coordinators from the Rescue & Bomb Disposal Unit, the Public Order and Riot Squad, the Aviation Command (PolAir), the SES and Council.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Superintendent Simon Glasser, Detective Chief Inspector Ally Fenwick, Inspector Mark Wakeham, Chief Inspector Adam Phillips, the Auburn Police Area Command, SES Chief Inspector Kathy Garansci, Inspector Auburn Unit Jamie Newman, and SES teams from Auburn, Holroyd, Parramatta, the Hills Shire and further afield, for their great skill and dedication.

In particular I would like to acknowledge the NSW SES volunteer members who showed immense dedication, working 12 hour plus shifts on hot days searching for Hussein. Auburn SES was led by Unit Commander Jamie Newman and three further local clusters which were established and led by Commander Kathy Garancsi, Commander Christian Young and Commander Michael Hoynes. In all, 79 individual teams with a total of 270 SES members from 25 different local units assisted in the search.

I would also like to acknowledge Cumberland Council Officers who assisted the Police and SES. General Manager, Peter Fitzgerald and Director City Services, Brendan Govers coordinated a task that involved Council's Facilities Officers and Rangers who spent hours combing through surveillance film to narrow down the search area for planning by the Police Coordinators.





Finally, I would like to acknowledge our wonderful Cumberland Community who gave up their weekend and workday to search Auburn - checking yards, houses, sheds, parks and anywhere where they thought a young child might be hidden.

I am so grateful for the professionalism, focus and teamwork of everyone who was involved.

Thank you all for your energy and your generous spirit. Therefore Councillors, tonight I move the following:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council acknowledges and thanks all individuals and organisations involved in the major search operation for Hussein Al Mansoory.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



Item No: MM03/24-50

MAYORAL MINUTE - CONDOLENCES - THE LATE KEVIN HORNE

Author: Mayor Lisa Lake

SUMMARY

It is with sadness that I note the passing of Kevin Horne on 13 March 2024 at the age of 93.

Kevin was born on 21 September 1930 in Concord. He spent his younger years in Homebush and after finishing High School he attended TAFE where he trained to become a mechanical engineer. Kevin spent his career working with the Department of Public Works.

Kevin lived in Wentworthville for 65 years. He and his wife Yvonne moved there after they married, and they raised their two sons Malcolm and Gregory there.

Kevin loved his sport. In his youth he played for the Parramatta Rugby Club. Later, he went on to become President of Wenty Rugby Club, a position he held for many years.

After his retirement, Kevin dedicated his life to volunteering in the Wentworthville community.

During his many years volunteering, he helped young people and seniors. In the Holroyd area, he acted as a support person for juveniles in custody. When they were detained, and their parents not present, he supported, guided and advised them as if they were his own children. He regularly attended police stations late at night, or early in the morning, without complaint and was always happy to lend a hand.

Kevin supported many Holroyd Council community services and local sports clubs. He supported and helped seniors to live independently.

In an interview for the Daily Telegraph in 2014, he said that "Being involved with council's services and committees, means I have been able to show youth that playing sports gives them the communication skills and discipline they need to become valued members of Holroyd."

He was a founding member of the Wentworthville Community Garden and the Wentworthville Computer Pals for Seniors, and he established a local Neighbourhood Watch Committee. Kevin was also a member of the Holroyd Council Aged and Disability Services Advisory Committee, Arts Advisory Committee, Health Committee, Community Safety Committee and President of the Committee for Jones and Freame Parks.

Kevin loved helping people and the social interaction that went along with that. He was the embodiment of community spirit. He was awarded Holroyd Citizen of the Year in 2013 and again in 2015. In 1990 he received the highest award from the Public Service Association – the PSA of NSW Gold Medal.



Kevin's funeral will be held on Friday, 5 April 2024 at Pinegrove Memorial Park, Minchinbury at 2.00pm.

Our thoughts are with Kevin's family and friends at this sad time.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move the following:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note with sadness the passing of Kevin Horne; and
- 2. Observe a minute's silence in honour of the life of Kevin Horne and all that he contributed to his community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil