

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting
Monday 2 June 2025 at 6pm

Council Chamber at Civic Centre,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

Youth Councillors

Youth Cr Kaynat Virk

Youth Mayor

Youth Cr Emily Tricarico

Deputy Youth Mayor

Youth Cr Osama Akkad

Youth Cr Angelica Banquil

Youth Cr Dean Connelly-Carpenter

Youth Cr Bavleen Kaur

Youth Cr Mustafa Khraim

Youth Cr Zachary Melvaine

Youth Cr Angela Rolevska

Youth Cr Tanya Sharma

Youth Cr Sandy Tran

Youth Cr Elly Watson

Youth Cr Sophie Winter

Officers

Jacinta Stevens

Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Bobbie-Lea Bright

Unit Manager Compliance & Governance

Order of Business

1 Opening	4
1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions.....	4
1.2 Apologies	4
1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement	4
1.4 Youth Council Charter	4
1.5 Acknowledgements	5
2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest.....	5
3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s	6
4 Officers' Reports	7
4.1 The Adaption Game	7
5 Notices of Motion	9
6 General / Urgent Business	9
7 Closure	9

1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Youth Mayor opened the meeting at 6pm.

Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 2 June 2025 which is being held in person in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

I am Kaynat Virk, Youth Mayor and I would like to introduce the Youth Councillors in attendance tonight:

Emily Tricarico, Deputy Youth Mayor
Angelica Banquil
Bavleen Kaur
Mustafa Khraim
Zachary Melvaine
Angela Rolevska
Tanya Sharma
Sandy Tran
Elly Watson
Sophie Winter

We also have in attendance Bobbie Bright, Unit Manager Compliance & Governance.

1.2 Apologies/Absent

Apology:

Youth Councillor Osama Akkad

Absent:

Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Youth Mayor read the following statement:

“On behalf of the Youth Council, I recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.

I would also like to acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.4 Youth Council Charter

The Youth Mayor read the following Youth Council Charter:

“We, the members of the City of Whittlesea Youth Council, commit to advocating for and being the voice of the youth within our municipality. We ensure a safe space for all, to engage in constructive collaboration on matters affecting young people. We aim to empower and foster community connectedness in our youth so they feel valued and supported to achieve their aspirations.”

1.5 Acknowledgements

The Youth Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

Dinner with City of Whittlesea Councillors

Last week, the Youth Council were excited to attend a dinner with the City of Whittlesea Council. This is the first meeting of the Youth Council with the newly elected Council, and it was a wonderful opportunity for us to speak with the Councillors and talk about the issues that we are passionate about.

City of Whittlesea Business Awards

Also, last week I had the pleasure of attending the City of Whittlesea Business Awards. The awards ceremony was held at PRACC and were an opportunity to celebrate and recognise the many wonderful businesses we have here in the City of Whittlesea. It was such a wonderful night and great to see so many businesses, from small businesses to large, come together. Congratulations to all the nominees, and in particular the award winners.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Sophie Winter</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim</i>

THAT the Youth Council confirm the Minutes of the preceding meeting held on 5 May 2025, as circulated.

CARRIED

4 Officers' Reports

4.1 The Adaption Game

Director/Executive Manager: Director Planning & Development

Report Author: Resilient Communities Officer

In Attendance: Unit Manager Sustainable Organisation & Community
Resilient Communities Officer
Environmental Education Officer

Brief Overview

The Adaptation Game is a facilitated tabletop board game that engages community around the issues of natural disasters and climate change. It is a playful game that encourages emergency preparedness and community connections.

Our climate is changing, and our municipality faces grass and bushfires, severe storms and flooding, and extreme heat. We need to help prepare communities for disruptions and increase climate resilience. The Adaptation Game is one of the tools we use to encourage community to engage in these issues.

The Adaptation Game was designed by Amble Studio and Deakin University, and the Emergency Management and Sustainable Environment departments have worked with Amble to bring the game to the City of Whittlesea.

The Adaptation Game aligns to Council roles and strategies. A key direction in our Sustainable Environment Strategy Action Plan is for the City of Whittlesea to be Climate Ready, with one outcome focused on delivering innovative, engaging and accessible programs around climate risk and adaptation to our community. For Emergency Management, the game aligns with one of the main goals, which is increasing community resilience, preparedness, and education.

The Adaptation Game is an innovative tool for community engagement. Through playing the game, Council is able to better understand community members' concerns and hear their ideas for building resilience. Community members who play the game will learn about the different programs and services that Council offers, as well as build their own personalised plan for what they might do in an emergency.

The game is very versatile and can be rolled out to a range of different community segments.

The game is played with one game facilitator and four players per table. It maps out the Whittlesea municipality and encourages players to role play a character or play themselves.

It then takes the players into the future and details the effects of the changing climate, while overlaying “shocks” of natural disaster scenarios, merging local experience and global climate science. It encourages the group to collaborate and be creative in their response. The game is designed to grow the knowledge, agency and connection of the players.

The City of Whittlesea have rolled out the game internally and in community with great success. The Adaptation Game is also now being modified to fit into the high school curriculum, which Council is supporting. Council aims to heighten awareness of the game through more community sessions and awareness building over the coming months.

This session will enable the Youth Council to participate in the table-based board game.

Attachments

Nil

5 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

6 General / Urgent Business

No Urgent Business

7 Closure

There being no further business the Youth Mayor formally closed the meeting at 7:24pm.

Confirmed this 7th day of July 2025.

Youth Cr Kaynat Virk
Mayor