1

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting

Monday 7 April 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 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

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**1 Opening**

**1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions**

The Youth Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**1.2 Apologies/Absent**

**Apology**

Youth Councillor Angelica Banquil

**Absent**

Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter

**1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement**

The Youth Mayor read the following statement:

*“On behalf of 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:

**Community Festival**

Last month, the City of Whittlesea held its annual Community Festival. Unfortunately, the weather was not great, and the outdoor part of event had to finish up a little earlier than planned, but it was great to still see so many people come out and enjoy the different activities and performances that were on. There were some wonderful performances, including a stand-out performance by Australian music star Mitch Tambo on the Youth Stage. I think we all enjoyed that one.

**Community Awards**

At the Community Festival, the 2024 City of Whittlesea Community Awards were also presented, and I had the pleasure of presenting the award for Young Citizen of the Year to Youth Council member Zachary Melvaine. This award is presented to an individual aged between 14 and 25 years old, who has made an important contribution or given outstanding service to the community. Zachary was definitely a worthy recipient of this award, and we’d like to once again congratulate Zachary. Congratulations also to all the award recipients and nominees.

**Career Network Expo**

On 18 March, a number of the Youth Councillors attended the Career Networking Expo at the Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre. We had a stall there and it was wonderful to chat to and engage with the many young people who attended and talk about the work of the Youth Council and hear from them directly about the key issues affecting young people.

**2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

No declarations.

**3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s**

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| **COUNCIL RESOLUTION** | |
| ***Moved:*** | *Youth Councillor Sophie Winter* |
| ***Seconded:*** | *Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska* |

**THAT the following Minutes of the preceding meeting as circulated, be confirmed:**

* **Youth Council Meeting held on 3 March 2025.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4 Officers' Reports**

4.1 Whittlesea 2040 Vision and Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29

**4.1 Whittlesea 2040 Vision and Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29**

**Director/Executive Manager:** Director Customer & Corporate Services

**Report Author:** Unit Manager Corporate Planning

**In Attendance:** Manager ePMO & Change

Unit Manager Corporate Planning

Senior Research Officer

# Executive Summary

The primary purpose of this report is to engage with the Youth Council in a meaningful discussion about two significant strategic Council documents: the Community Vision (Whittlesea 2040) and the Community Plan for the period 2025-26 to 2028-29.

This report aims to provide the Youth Council with a comprehensive overview of these key planning instruments, offering insight into the direction and aspirations for the community in the years to come.

Furthermore, the report seeks to inform the Youth Council about some of the important decisions and actions taken by Council in relation to these documents that are crucial in shaping the future of Whittlesea and ensuring that the goals outlined in the Community Vision and Plan are effectively realised through targeted and impactful initiatives.

# Officers’ Recommendation

THAT Youth Council collaborate together to provide feedback to Council Officers on the Community Vision Whittlesea 2040 and the Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29.

*Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur moved the Officer Recommendation as the motion:*

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| --- | --- |
| **COUNCIL RESOLUTION** | |
| ***Moved:*** | *Youth Councillor Bavleen Kaur* |
| ***Seconded:*** | *Youth Councillor Zachary Melvaine* |

**THAT Youth Council collaborate together to provide feedback to Council Officers on the Community Vision Whittlesea 2040 and the Community Plan 2025-26 2028-29.**

**CARRIED**

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| --- |
| **YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION** |
| *Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska and Youth Councillor Mustafa Kharim* |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **VOTING** | | | | |
| **UNANIMOUS** | **FOR** | **AGAINST** | **ABSTAINED** |
| *YES* |  |  |  |

4.2 Youth Council Submission - Youth Council's Involvement at CoW's 2025 Community Festival - Youth Precinct

**4.2 Youth Council Submission - Youth Council's Involvement at CoW's 2025 Community Festival - Youth Precinct**

**Director/Executive Manager:** Director Community Wellbeing

**Report Author:** Youth Development Officer

**Key Highlights**

The purpose of this report is to note the Youth Council submission provided to the Youth team in relation to the City of Whittlesea’s 2025 Community Festival.

# Officers’ Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council note the feedback provided by all Youth Councillors in collaboration following the February Youth Council Meeting at Attachment 1.

*Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim moved the Officer Recommendation as the motion:*

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| --- | --- |
| **COUNCIL RESOLUTION** | |
| ***Moved:*** | *Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim* |
| ***Seconded:*** | *Youth Councillor Sophie Winter* |

**THAT the Youth Council note the feedback provided by all Youth Councillors in collaboration following the February Youth Council Meeting at Attachment 1.**

**CARRIED**

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| --- |
| **YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION** |
| *Nil* |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **VOTING** | | | | |
| **UNANIMOUS** | **FOR** | **AGAINST** | **ABSTAINED** |
| *YES* |  |  |  |

**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 7:16pm

Confirmed this 5th day of May 2025.

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Kaynat Virk

Youth Mayor