



Minutes Age Friendly Advisory Committee

22 August 2024

Meeting details

Date of meeting	Thursday, 22 August 2024
Time	10.00am to 12.00pm
Venue	406 – Griffin Room, 1 Flintoff St, Banyule
Chair/Facilitator	Cr Peter Castaldo
Minutes	Laura Cattapan Community Connections Coordinator Jenna Gandolfo Community Connection Team Leader

Committee Member Attendance

Attendee name	Affiliation/Organisation
Cr Peter Castaldo	Banyule City Council
Jim Brewer	Age Friendly Committee Member
Marcello D' Amico	Age Friendly Committee Member
Jenny Dale	Age Friendly Committee Member
Karlene Lang	Age Friendly Committee Member
Veronica Lee	Age Friendly Committee Member
Mary Stringer	Age Friendly Committee Member
Glenn Swafford	Age Friendly Committee Member
Marcus Wigan	Age Friendly Committee Member
Mona Salama	Age Friendly Committee Member
Andrea Dodd	Age Friendly Committee Member

Council Officer Attendance

Attendee name	Position
Sherryn Prinzi	Banyule City Council – Resilient & Connected Communities Acting Manager
Laura Cattapan	Banyule City Council – Community Connections Coordinator
Jenna Gandolfo	Banyule City Council – Community Connections Team Leader
Narges Sarfi	Banyule City Council – Landscape Architect

Apologies

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Mayor Tom Melican	Banyule City Council
Joseph Tabacco	Banyule City Council – General Manager Community Wellbeing

Dianne Williamson Age Friendly Committee Member

Sunder Shivdasani Age Friendly Committee Member

Items

1. Introduction

A/Manager Resilient and Connected Communities, Sherryn Prinzi introduced herself as acting Manager while Jo Wilson is on leave and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

A/Manager Resilient and Connected Communities opened the meeting with the Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians:

“Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as Traditional Custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region’s history.”

1.2 Diversity Statement

A/Manager Resilient and Connected Communities read out Banyule’s Diversity Statement:

“Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. We are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone: principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.”

The Acting Manager of Resilient and Connected Communities explained that this is the final meeting for the current membership of the Age Friendly Committee, coinciding with the end of the current council term. Once the Council Election caretaker period begins, all Population and Advisory Committees will be dissolved until the new Council decides whether to reinstate them.

The Acting Manager expressed gratitude to the Committee for their dedication, time, and valuable advice, which have significantly contributed to making Banyule a more age-friendly community.

She also noted that, as this is the last meeting, no actions will be taken. However, any ideas and outcomes discussed will be recorded in the minutes for reference, and no recommendations will be made during the meeting.

2. Actions from Previous Meeting

Agenda Item	Action Arising and Outcome	Progress
2.1 Consultation on the Housing and Neighbourhood Character Strategies Review	Action: The Senior Strategic Planner and Community Connection Team will explore the potential to deliver an information session for older adults on downsizing.	In progress
2.2 Community Updates, Committee Members (9 Nov 2023)	Further Action (9 November 2023) Older Adults Major Events Working Group to consider hosting an information session, workshop or seminar on housing options for older adults, and consider including Housing for the Age Action Group, COTA Vic and people with lived experience in residential aged care and retirement village.	
	Outcome:	

	<p>Major Events Working Group discussed on 27 March 2024 meeting. The group agreed this topic should not be absorbed into the Ageing Well expo and warrants a separate event. The Community Connection team will plan a housing seminar in early 2025 with the Major Events Working group. 2024 was not feasible due to 3 major Seniors Festival events. Planning for this event will begin post Seniors Festival.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>A Committee member mentioned the Nillumbik Seniors Housing Forum. Team Leader Community Connections said that she will be attending to gain ideas for the Banyule Housing Forum scheduled to take place in 2025.</p>	
<p>4.2 Sport and Recreation Plan Consultation (22 Feb 2024)</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>The Community Connections team to complete a mapping exercise of sports and recreation opportunities for older adults in Banyule to identify existing programs and find gaps.</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>The Community Connections team have completed the mapping exercise and will present the outcomes to the Committee.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>4.1 Consultation Council's Advocacy Priorities (18 Apr 24)</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Community Connections Coordinator to email the Transport team requesting installation of a mirror on the Eastern side of Odenwald Road bridge.</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>Response from the Traffic and Transport team was that Council generally avoid installing convex mirrors on all roads because they distort the distance of cars, can cause blinding from headlights at night, and lead to over-reliance for drivers. They made an exception to install a mirror for north bound motorists on Alandale Road, because of the bridge flanges obstructing visibility to cars on the bridge. This is not the case for the south side. The other direction has better visibility due to its distance from the bridge and is flatter therefore they will not consider installing another mirror. The main goal is to have the bridge replaced, to factor in pedestrian movements. This needs to be delivered by the state government and they are advocating for this as one of their highest priorities.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>4.1 Consultation Council's Advocacy Priorities (18 Apr 24)</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Community Connections Coordinator to explore the possibility of setting up a separate session with Communications, Advocacy and Engagement Coordinator and Council Population and Advisory Committees to discuss collective advocacy.</p> <p>Outcome</p>	<p>In progress</p>

	<p>The delivery of this item will need to be postponed until after the Council Caretaker period, assuming the Population and Advisory Committees are reestablished</p>	
<p>3.1 Councillor Update – Mayor Tom Melican (27 June 24)</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Seniors Exercise Park equipment complaint from community member regarding black mould. Community Connections team will continue to follow up with the Parks Assets team to address this issue and will provide an update on the progress of this issue at the next committee meeting.</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>Further investigation from the Parks team revealed it was not black mould but discolouration of the yellow hand rolls. The hand rolls have been replaced with a dark blue colour to be more visually appealing.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>3.2 Community Updates, Committee Members</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>The Community Connections Coordinator will reach out to relevant Council Officers regarding The Adaptation Game (TAG) and will also follow up with the Environment Coordinator to ask that this be raised at the Banyule Environment and Climate Action Advisory Committee for further discussion.</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>The delivery of this item will need to be postponed until after the Council Caretaker period, assuming the Population and Advisory Committees are reestablished</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>4.1 Older Multicultural Community research paper and discussion – Community and Social Planner</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Invite a member from the Golden Rainbow Working Group to attend the next Age Friendly Committee meeting to provide an update on the group and how our committee may be able to support it.</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>This is postponed pending the outcome of Council’s role in supporting the group post December.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>A Committee Member would have liked the Age Friendly Committee to have been engaged in supporting the promotion of the group in Banyule and felt that there were members of the LGBTI community who may not have heard about it.</p> <p>Community Connections Coordinator said that Golden Rainbow was initiated and has been led by the LGBTIQ+ Population Committee members.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>4.2 Age Friendly Sport and Recreation Opportunities in Banyule – Community Connect Team</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>The Committee will be provided with a report on the Age Friendly Sport and Recreation Opportunities prior to the next committee meeting.</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>Committee have been provided a copy of the Age Friendly Sport and Recreations Opportunities report.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

4.4 Ageing Well in Banyule Framework – Inclusive Banyule Actions 2024/2025	Action	Completed
	Community Connections Coordinator will set up an additional meeting to finalise the Age Friendly Inclusive Banyule Actions and invite both committee members and the Codesign Working Group members.	
	Outcome	
	A Special meeting was held on the 18 July with Cr Castaldo and members of the Age Friendly Committee and Older Adults Codesign Working Group members in attendance.	

3. Standing Agenda Items

3.1 Councillor Update – Cr Castaldo

Cr Castaldo reported that an Age Friendly Champion had raised concerns about the design of Ivanhoe Library and Community Hub not being age friendly, particularly the theatrette. The Age Friendly Champion wanted to make sure that the redevelopment of the Rosanna Library design will be age friendly.

Cr Castaldo reported that the concerns have now been raised with Banyule Senior Project Manager who is overseeing this project. The Senior Project Manager has now had discussions with the CEO of Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service and the Architects working on the Rosanna Library design and want to confirm that all ages will be 100% considered with the procurement of the furniture. He also said that there is no theatrette design as part of the Rosanna Library redevelopment.

3.2 Community Updates, Committee Members

A Committee Member raised concerns that Banyule’s Age in Focus newsletter featured a story on Dementia Awareness and included local neighbourhood houses as a point of contact. The Committee member felt that the Dementia Australia hotline should have been listed as the peak body and did not feel the neighbourhood houses were an appropriate contact point. The Dementia Awareness Hotline was listed however this was below the neighbourhood houses.

A Committee Member raised concerns that the Seniors Festival Morning Tea advertisement in the Banner did not have the booking opening date. Community Connection Team Leader explained this was due to the Communications team extended lead time for the Banner. The booking date is listed in the Seniors Festival Booklet which will be delivered in early September with ample notice for residents to book in.

Council Officers noted the Committee members concerns, said they will consider this for future editions and thanked the Committee member for providing the feedback.

A Committee Member said that she was pleased to let the Committee know that an expansion of the Austin Emergency Department is in pipeline.

3.3 Inclusive Banyule Advisory Committee Update, Glenn Swafford

Glenn Swafford, the Age Friendly Representative on the Inclusive Banyule Committee, reported that it has been a pleasure to represent the Age Friendly Committee in this capacity. During the last Inclusive Banyule meeting, Precinct Profiling was discussed, which he found very informative. He also appreciated the opportunity to gather input on challenges and issues from the Age Friendly Committee in advance, which he then presented to Inclusive Banyule. The ideas raised by the Age Friendly Committee were subsequently considered in the future work of Inclusive Banyule. Glenn expressed that this collaborative approach between the two committees serves as an excellent model of representation.

The Acting Manager of Resilient & Connected Communities praised Glenn's exceptional work in representing the Age Friendly Committee on Inclusive Banyule. This sentiment was echoed by the rest of the Committee, who thanked Glenn for his dedicated representation and thorough reports, which have kept the Committee well-informed about the work of Inclusive Banyule.

3.4 Community Connections Program Update and Sports and Recreation Opportunities– Connections Team Leader

The Community Connections Team Leader provided an update on the Community Connections programs. She gave an update on the major events being planned for Seniors Festival. These events are being co-designed with the Major Event Working Group Champions.

Seniors Festival Morning Tea will be held at the Great Hall Ivanhoe on Tuesday the 8th of October. Committee members were offered a reserved seat for this event and encouraged to attend.

The Age of Creativity Older Adults Art Exhibition will be held at Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub throughout the month of October. The launch event will be held on Wednesday the 2nd of October. Exhibitors, Committee members and Champions will be prioritised for this event, with any additional tickets being made available to the public.

The Ageing Well Expo, in conjunction with Nillumbik Council, is being held on the 25th of October at NETS Stadium in Macleod and Committee members were encouraged to attend.

The Community Connections Team Leader presented the draft Older Adults Sports and Recreation Opportunities in Banyule database that was sent to Committee members prior to the meeting.



Older Adults Sports and Rec Opportunitie:

The Team Leader asked if Committee members would like to provide any feedback or insights on the data collected. Committee members provided the following feedback:

- A Committee member said that they liked how the data was categorised and felt this would be a great resource for the new Service Navigation service that Banyule is establishing. They would like for this information to be included on the Website so members of the community could access it.
- A Committee member said that it would be useful to look at the barriers that may stop older people from participating in these types of activities. They said that many people are experiencing loneliness and that they may not feel confident attending an activity on their own. They suggested the need for a buddy system.
- Cr Castaldo congratulated council officers for completing the list and was interested in knowing what the next steps were.
- A Committee member said that the committee has been advocating for a community directory for the past four years and would like council to consider this.
- The Community Connections Coordinator said that the database will be provided to the Service Navigation and Information Program team to use and keep updated. As part of this new service the team will explore developing a community directory.

4. Other Business including Presentations/Consultations/Information

4.1 Age Friendly Open Spaces Presentation – Landscape Architect- City Futures

Cr Castaldo introduced Narges Sarfi Landscape Architect. The Landscape Architect provided a presentation to the Committee on the importance of Council designing socially engaging open spaces. She provided some

recent examples of open spaces that Council has developed that aimed to achieve this. They included the Were Street Project and the Seniors Exercise Park, which this Committee had advocated to be developed.



age friendly Open
Space design 1.pdf

The Landscape Architect asked Committee members what would make a community space more age friendly. Committee members provided the following responses:

- A Committee member mentioned The Edinburgh Gardens in North Fitzroy as a great example of a socially engaging open space.
- A Committee member said that rather than develop a special space specifically for seniors that older people would then have to travel to, it would be better to have a communal space that was accessible for all ages and abilities. It needs to be space where people can sit and gather. Existing pocket parks could have something designed to make them a place to gather with attractive/creative seating and furniture.
- A Committee member said that it would be good to have concrete spaces that are more accessible that could be made more attractive by adding pot plants and attractive street furniture.
- A Committee member said that it would be good to have public spaces that were located close to shopping precincts with seating. This would create more opportunities for people to gather in a public space.
- A Committee member mentioned the Diamond Creek Trail which has a children's playground and Aboriginal Gathering Place. School often uses the space to honour the Aboriginal seasons.
- A Committee member mentioned that the space needs to be green and that in Italy there are many public spaces that have great outlays for people to gather and play cards, chess etc.
- A Committee member said that Ford Park was a great park.
- A Committee Member said that they felt that Darebin Parkland was an underutilised space and that there are only six seats in the entire park. This may deter older people from using the parklands.
- A Committee member mentioned the gather spaces at the Bell Street Mall as an example of place that provides seating and places to gather.
- A Committee member said that for public spaces to be age friendly they need to have outdoor seating, needs to have handrails, more bins and the toilets need to have hand drying facilities. Rotundas are also important so people can use the outdoor space during all seasons and weather.
- A Committee member mentioned that older people in countries in Asia like China, Malaysia and Singapore that all open spaces are used by older people to meet and exercise.
- Cr Castaldo mentioned the Banyule Parklet Project.
- A Committee member praised the design of Were St Reserve. It is a fantastic example of a successful parklet that is extremely well utilised by the community.

The Landscape Architect thanked the Committee for their feedback which will be considered when updating or designing new open spaces in Banyule.

4.2 Committee member reflections on Achievements and Inclusive Banyule Actions 2024/2025 -

Community Connections Coordinator

The Committee reflected on their work over the past few years and felt that the Ageing Well in Banyule Framework 2024- 2030 was a great example of the work and contribution of the Committee.

A Committee member said that Council has done a great job of working with older people to codesign events and activities and has been great at listening to community members through the working groups that have been established with both the Committee and Age Friendly Champions.

The Community Connections Coordinator invited Committee members to provide feedback on the draft Ageing Well in Banyule Framework Action Plan. The Coordinator said that the majority of actions identified during the special planning meeting held on July 18 with members of the Codesign Working Group had been incorporated in the Action Plan.

The Coordinator highlighted some of the key actions in the Action Plan. She informed Committee members that the draft Action Plan will be sent out again with the minutes and encouraged Committee members to provide any additional feedback to the Community Connections Team Leader or herself.



Draft Ageing Well in Banyule 2024 - 2030 .

4.3 Council Committees Draft Policy and Draft Terms of Reference Feedback – A/Manager Resilient & Connected Communities

The Acting Manager of the Resilient and Connected Community provided context for the development of a new Policy, explaining the underlying reasons and the need for this initiative. She also outlined the changes made to the draft Terms of Reference, emphasising how these updates aim to better align with committee needs/role and the strategic goals of Council.

The key points addressed in the development of a Draft Committee Policy were:

- a. Introduction of leave of absence period
- b. Clarification of roles of Councillor and manager representatives
- c. Removal of maximum terms a member can serve
- d. Removal of requirement for a councillor in attendance to form a quorum
- e. Clarification to guide making a recommendation to Council.

The Committee will receive copies of both the draft Policy and the revised Terms of Reference with the meeting minutes. Members will have the opportunity to review these documents and provide feedback. The documents will not be presented to the Council for endorsement until after the Council elections, ensuring that there is sufficient time for input and consideration.



Population-Committee



DRAFT- Committee



Advisory and

e-Terms-of-ReferenceCode of Conduct - ApPopulation Committee

Next Steps for Council's Advisory and Population Committees - A/Manager Resilient & Connected Communities

All committees will be dissolved before 17th September in preparation for Council general elections. To wrap up the current term of the Advisory and Population Committees, Council will:

- a. Complete a Committees Achievements Report, to highlight the key contributions and value committee members shared with Council over the 4-year term.
- b. Finalise the draft Committee Policy and Code of Conduct.
- c. Review the committee's terms of reference and consider the value of re-establishing the committees.

Following the elections, the Councillors will be briefed on committee achievements, the draft Committee Policy and Code of Conduct, and in February 2025, will receive a report to request the re-establishment of the

Committees. If Council agree, we will invite community members to register their interest in becoming a member.

5. Committee Meeting Recommendation to Council

No Committee Recommendation to Council.

6. Close – Cr Castaldo

Cr. Castaldo expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Committee for their ongoing commitment, sound advice, and willingness to provide constructive feedback. He emphasised that the Committee's contributions are highly valued by the Council and help to shape policies and decisions that impact our older community.

The Community Connections Coordinator echoed these sentiments, thanking the Committee for their guidance and highlighting the significant impact of their participation. She said that their feedback is not only heard but also carefully considered by both the Council and its officers. She said it has been a pleasure working with everyone on the Committee and encouraged them to reapply if nominations for the Committee open again next year. She will also send them the details.

In response, Committee members expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to contribute to Council initiatives. They acknowledged the efforts of the Council officers in facilitating the meetings and ensuring that their input is effectively integrated into the Council's work. The members conveyed their gratitude for the support provided by the Council staff, recognising the importance of their role in enabling the Committee's contributions.