

## Meeting details

<b>Date of meeting</b>	Wednesday, 18 October 2023
<b>Time</b>	6:00 – 7:30pm
<b>Venue</b>	Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe Clara Southern, Level 1
<b>Chair/Facilitator</b>	Cr Fiona Mitsinikos
<b>Minutes</b>	Lisa King

## Acknowledgement of the 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.

## 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.

## Attendee

<b>Attendee name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Cr Fiona Mitsinikos	Banyule City Council
Jeyarajah (Raj) Ramanathan	Community member
Louisa Ong	Community member
Ginger (Lan) Jiang	Community member
Samira Liban	Community member
Melina Linardatos	Community member
Hosein Gharavi	Community member
Ansum Sadik	Victoria Police

## Guest

<b>Attendee name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Rekah Colaco	Community member

## Apologies

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Alaa Elzokm	Elsedeaq Heidelberg Mosque
Albert Fatileh	Victoria Police

## Guest speaker

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Steph Neoh	Banyule City Council
Steph Ashby	Banyule City Council

## Council staff

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Jo Wilson	Acting Director Community Wellbeing
Lisa King	Banyule City Council

## Items

### 1. Introduction – Cr Fiona Mitsinikos

#### Acknowledgement of traditional custodians

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A quorum was not reach for this meeting due to attendance numbers.

### 2. Minutes from previous meeting – Cr Fiona Mitsinikos

Agenda Item	Action Arising	Progress
Understanding racism research project	Lisa to engage with Vic University Committee members to contact Lisa King with suggestions for members of the community to be trained as facilitators.	Included as an action in the 23/24 Inclusive Banyule Action Plan.
Distribute the Community Infrastructure Plan with minutes.	Plan distributed	Completed
Distribute the Housing Discussion Paper PowerPoint with minutes	Housing discussion paper distributed	Completed
New days added to the calendar	Lisa to investigate further	In progress
Distribute Memo notifying Council's Advisory and Population Committees of the changes.	Memo distributed	Completed

### 3. Harmony Day discussion – Steph Neoh and Lisa King

#### **Harmony Exhibition 2024**

To support our multicultural community, Council is planning an exhibition as part of the Harmony Day 2024 celebrations.

#### **Dates of the exhibition: 21 March – 14 April 2024**

Committee members are invited to provide ideas for direction/theme for this exhibition.

#### **Discussion**

- Calligraphy – exploring the calligraphy art of different cultures
- Religious art
- Music – explored through different mediums:
  - o Gregorian and Byzantine chants
  - o Beautiful handmade musical instruments can be showcased
  - o Video – of cultural music and dance
  - o Some visual art (painting, drawing etc or photographs) of cultural music/performances, or costumes of performers

Below are photos from previous exhibitions and performances.



Somali Exhibition 2023



Harmony Day 2022



Harmony Day 2021

## Action

Feedback from Committee Members by **12 November** – please email [Steph.Neoh@banyule.vic.gov.au](mailto:Steph.Neoh@banyule.vic.gov.au)

### **Harmony Day event 2024**

Proposed event includes:

- Weekend date – Saturday 23 March 2024 – To be confirmed.
- Held at Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub utilizing the open amphitheatre space, community meeting rooms and art gallery.
- Ideas include:
  - Cultural market and community information to help link community together, understand opportunities for social connection, local multicultural traders.
  - Music, entertainment and performances held outside in amphitheatre.
  - Meals with Impact food truck – social enterprise who empower women from migrant and refugee backgrounds to find employment success through a shared love of food. Possible to provide 200 free meals <https://mealswithimpact.com.au/our-services/>

The event will focus on creating a fun, vibrant celebration of cultural diversity, information sharing and an opportunity to bring community together. It also provides an opportunity for community members to find out more about what is happening in our community and how they can get involved.

## Discussion

Ideas from Committee to be included at the event:

- Gregorian and Byzantine chants – local choir located in Preston
- South Asian dancing
- Cultural dress items on display

## 4. Consultation – Steph Ashby

### Gambling Policy

The Committee are invited to discuss steps Council will take to reduce gambling harm and make comment on what we have got right, what is missing and what we should consider changing.

## Discussion

Key points identified by Committee:

- Gambling very prevalent within the Somali community. Electronic gambling is not seen to be cool among young Somali Australians. Unsure about the issue of online gambling.
- Gambling within the Chinese is common with members reporting hearing experiences of community members experiencing large losses, very quickly. Some of the reasons for gambling include:
  - Limited social connection or opportunities
  - Boredom
  - No other activities to do
  - Gambling is accessible
  - It helps pass the time and is relaxing
  - Feeling that it is “easy money”
  - Social contact when someone has limited English language
  - Addiction occurs quickly
- Some of the impact gambling has on the Chinese community include:

- Borrowing money at high interest rates
- Loss of tuition fees in international students
- Impacts on friendships due to borrowing of money

- Advertising of gambling is a real issue in the community. It is now everywhere. The Committee questioned why this was allowed.
- Exposure happens in children through games which mimic gambling experiences. This means they have exposure in their early life.
- Online gambling is a significant problem noted in the community. It can be done anywhere and on anything.
- Gambling impacts new migrants and vulnerable people

To provide more feedback, please visit: <https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/Gambling>

## Resilient and Safe Banyule Consultation

Council has drafted a new Framework called Resilient and Safe Banyule. The Framework will be a roadmap for Council to help make our community stronger and safer. It will focus on things like keeping people healthy, bringing folks together, and being ready for challenges.

### Discussion

- Preventing violence and gender equality is very important.
- Social and inclusion focus area was discussed in the context of the gambling policy - strong community connection can contribute to a more resilient community.
- Support a growth mindset in the community – look at other countries who are more resilient and find out what we can learn from them.
- Preparedness for stresses and shocks is important and encompasses community preparedness and environment preparedness – including burning off, relevant tree removal etc.
- The important balance of providing adequate tree canopy to promote cooling for hot weather, and retaining vegetation for biodiversity, while also appropriately implementing fuel management.

To provide more feedback, please visit: <https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/ResilientBanyule>

## Older Adults Framework

Council, in partnership with the Older Adults Working Group and Age-Friendly Committee, have drafted a new Older Adults Framework. The aim of the Framework is to support older adults to live and age well in Banyule. The Committee to review to Older Adults Framework via Shaping Banyule and invited to provide feedback <https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/OlderAdults>

See the attached **Memo – October** for more information and links.

## Volunteer Policy

A brief overview of Council's drafted volunteer policy was presented. Committee are invited to provide comment on the draft policy, by emailing [laura.cattapan@banyule.vic.gov.au](mailto:laura.cattapan@banyule.vic.gov.au).

See the attached **Memo – October** for more information and links.

## 5. Inclusive Banyule– Lisa King

### Racism project

#### Project update

- 3 Peer facilitators have been recruited and have received training from Victoria University. The first of the 3 focus groups are being planned.
- Continuing to identify 1 more additional facilitator from the community through key organisations and local networks. Please contact Lisa King if you know anyone who is interested in this opportunity.

#### Support from Committee

- The Committee is asked to promote the online survey with their community. Please ask friends and family to complete the survey to ensure we collect the required amount of data. You can find the survey here:

[https://vuau.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9YK4MGjAhvFYji6](https://vuau.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9YK4MGjAhvFYji6)

### Action

For members to promote the survey with community [https://vuau.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9YK4MGjAhvFYji6](https://vuau.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9YK4MGjAhvFYji6)

### ICAN

Item not discussed due to time constraints. This item will be discussed in the November 2023 meeting.

Banyule has been invited by Merri-bek City Council to consider a joint action could potentially yield significant influence over our government's policies concerning nuclear weapons. Merri-bek has been contacting other councils that have endorsed the ICAN Cities Appeal with the intention of combining our efforts.

Merri-bek City Council have asked if Banyule open to sign a joint statement based on this:

<https://www.merri-bek.vic.gov.au/my-council/news-and-publications/news/merri-bek-city-council-is-a-nuclear-free-zone/>

## 6. Council updates – Cr Fiona Mitsinikos

- Adoption of the Urban Food Strategy
- Adoption of the Urban Forest Strategy

## 7. Any other business – All

None.

## 8. Information share for committee members

- Opportunity to share any new information, facts, emerging issues or events.
- Committee members invited to bring suggestions, ideas, emerging issues for discussion.

## 9. Close and date of next meeting

Wednesday 29 November 2023