



CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO

MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

6.00pm Wednesday April 16, 2008

VENUE:

**Reception Room,
Bendigo Town Hall,
Hargreaves Street, Bendigo**

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday May 7, 2008
Bendigo Town Hall

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Living Our Potential



CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO

Vision

A progressive and vibrant provincial capital,
Greater Bendigo draws life and inspiration from its heritage,
The unique Box-Ironbark Forest, the land and its people.

We value the diversity and creativity of our urban and rural
communities.

**GREATER BENDIGO –
people, businesses and a growing city living its potential.**

Values

- We will do what we say
- Working together
- Embracing diversity
- Creative leadership
- Encouraging new ideas
- Demonstrating integrity

Strategic Objectives



Living Our Potential

ORDINARY MEETING (MINUTES)

WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL 2008

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CRAIG NIEMANN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRAYER

PRESENT

Cr David Jones (Chair)
Cr Rod Fyffe
Cr Kevin Gibbins
Cr Wayne Gregson
Cr Elaine Harrington
Cr Trudi McClure
Cr Keith Reynard
Cr Julie Rivendell
Mr Craig Niemann (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Jos Duivenvoorden (Director, Presentation & Assets)
Mr Stan Liacos (Director, City Futures)
Ms Jill Karena (A/Director, Community Wellbeing)
Ms Jan Boynton (Director, City Strategy)
Ms Marg Allan (Director, Organisation Support)
Dr Karen Crook (A/Manager, Executive Services)

APOLOGIES

Cr Greg Williams
Mr Barry Secombe (Director, Community Wellbeing)
Mr Peter Davies (Manager, Human Resources & Executive Services)

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fyffe, seconded Cr McClure.

That the apology of Cr Williams be received and Leave of Absence be granted from this meeting.

CARRIED

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow the conduct of Public Question Time.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fyffe, seconded Cr McClure.

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow the conduct of Public Question Time.

CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

That Standing Orders be resumed.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Harrington, seconded Cr Fyffe.

That Standing Orders be resumed.

CARRIED

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND PECUNIARY INTEREST

Pursuant to Sections 77A, 79 and 81 of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended) interests, conflict of interests and pecuniary interests are to be declared prior to debate on specific items within the agenda.

Cr Gregson declared an interest in the Our Community Report No. 2.3 (Bendigo-Maubisse Friendship Committee) as he is a community member of the committee, independent of Council.

7.2.3 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 6 - GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON THREATENED FLORA

Document Information

CR DAVID JONES

Genetically Modified Organisms and Potential Impacts on Threatened Flora

That the Greater Bendigo City Council request:

1. The Federal Minister for the Environment to investigate the impact of Genetically Modified Organisms under Section 69 of the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
2. The State Government to declare the City of Greater Bendigo a GE Free Zone, as is possible under Section 21 of the Victorian Gene Technology Act, on marketing grounds.

Rationale:

Such a move will allow the City to continue its role as a leader in the GE debate; and to market itself as a “clean, green, GE free” food producer.

All farmers and food producers, including those in organic, biodynamic and conventional farming systems, will be able to market their produce as “GE Free”. This will protect their already established markets, whether within or outside the City, or to export markets.

It will prevent the facing of extra costs by farmers and food producers for GE testing, segregation provisions and separate distribution lines, to ensure the integrity of their products and keep GE material from their food lines.

Background:

The right to declare an area a GE Free Zone has been enshrined in the legislation, both state and federal, and recognised by the federal Gene Technology Ministerial Council as a Policy Principle.

The Commonwealth Gene Technology Act 2000 called for the establishment of the federal Gene Technology Ministerial Council (GTMC), consisting of one government representative from each state. Established in 2001, its purpose is to issue policy principles, policy guidelines and codes of practice to govern the activities of the Gene Technology Regulator and the operation of the national legislative framework for the operation of GMOs.

State representatives of the GTMC stand for at least one year. Victoria's current representative is Daniel Andrews, Minister for Health.

Note: The ability to designate areas as GM or non-GM designated areas is left to the States (under Section 21).

Recognition of Designated Areas Principle - enacted Sept. 2003.

“Any state may designate an area for the purpose of preserving the identity of GE, non-GM crops, or both GM and non-GM crops, for marketing purposes.”

Cr Reynard declared an interest in 7.2.3 Notice of Motion No. 6 (Genetically Modified Organisms and Potential Impacts on Threatened Flora) as he is employed by the Department of Primary Industries who are involved in the debate on this issue.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Jones, Seconded Cr Rivendell.

That the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED FOR VOTE - UNANIMOUSLY
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Williams**