

Special Council Meeting



MINUTES

Monday 23 October 2023





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SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

1. The Presiding Member declared the swearing in ceremony open at 6.00pm and invited Mr Neville Collard to perform a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country.
2. Mr Collard told some special stories about his family and early days in Mosman Park. He then gave the Welcome to Country with a traditional Aboriginal story and Noongar blessing.
3. Mr Collard explained the significance of the smoking ceremony. Those in the Council Chambers moved outside where Mr Collard performed the ceremony.
4. Upon return, the Chief Executive Officer announced the next item was to be the swearing in ceremony at which she was to take the Declarations of Office from people newly elected, or re-elected to the Council of the Town of Mosman Park:
 - a. Andrew Peter Baird, Russell Lee Armstrong and Sarah Ruth Corbyn will be sworn in for a four-year term until 2027; and
 - b. Andrew James Maurice will be sworn in for a two-year term until 2025.
5. The Chief Executive Officer cited s.2.29(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, r.13 of the Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998, and Sch 2 Oaths, Affidavits and Evidence Act and as authority for the taking of declarations.
6. The Chief Executive Officer then took the following Declarations of Office from:
 - a. Andrew Peter Baird, who swore the Declaration of Office;
 - b. Russell Lee Armstrong, who affirmed the Declaration of Office;
 - c. Sarah Ruth Corbyn, who affirmed the Declaration of Office; and
 - d. Andrew James Maurice, who affirmed the Declaration of Office.

I,.....[person taking the oath/affirmation's name].....
of[person taking oath/affirmation's current address].....,
having been elected to the office of councillor of the Town of Mosman Park, declare that I take the office upon myself and will duly, faithfully, honestly, and with integrity, fulfil the duties of the office for the people in the district according to the best of my judgment and ability, and will observe the code of conduct adopted by the Town of Mosman Park under section 5.104 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998, r.13(1)

7. The Chief Executive Officer congratulated all the newly elected Councillors, who were seated at the Council table, and introduced the new Council to the audience.

CEREMONY CLOSURE

6. The Swearing In Ceremony was declared closed at 6.35pm.



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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 6.35pm and gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Members:

Mayor	P. Shaw
Deputy Mayor	G. Carey
Councillor	J. Allsop
Councillor	A. Baird
Councillor	S. Corbyn
Councillor	R. Armstrong
Councillor	A. Maurice

Officers:

Chief Executive Officer	C. Bywater
Chief of Operations	G. Stead
Manager Governance and Risk	K. Jones
Executive Officer	D. Phillips

2.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

2.2 OBSERVERS

Press: Nil

Members of the public and supporters in the gallery

3 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

In accordance with Schedule 2.3, s.7(1) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the election of the Deputy Mayor was the first matter dealt with at this first meeting of the Council after an ordinary election.

4 SWEARING IN OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Chief Executive Officer announced that one valid nomination had been received for the position of Deputy Mayor. The nomination was for Councillor Georgie Carey.

The Chief Executive Officer asked Councillor Carey if she consented to the nomination, to which Councillor Carey confirmed she did.

The Chief Executive Officer confirmed that no further nominations had been received and declared Councillor Georgie Carey to be the Deputy Mayor.

The Chief Executive Officer invited Councillor Georgie Carey to take the Declaration of Office for the Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Georgie Carey then affirmed the Declaration of Office of Deputy Mayor as follows:

I, Georgie Carey of [address] having been elected to the office of deputy mayor of the Town of Mosman Park, declare that I take the office upon myself and will duly, faithfully, honestly, and with integrity, fulfil the duties of the office for the people in the district according to the best of my judgment and ability, and will observe the code of conduct adopted by the Town of Mosman Park under section 5.104 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998, r.13(1)

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

6 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

6.1 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

6.1.1 APPROVAL OF COUNCIL TABLE SEATING PLAN

File No.:

Reporting Officer: Manager Governance and Risk

Responsible Officer: C Bywater, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Council Chambers Seating Plan

AUTHORITY/DISCRETION

Executive: The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. E.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.

Strategic Plan Theme: 2 Sustaining

We are innovative in delivering services that are cost effective, future-focused and sustainable.

Strategic Aspiration: 2.1. An open and transparent Town that delivers community-focused services aligned with a strong governance framework

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

SCM-103-2023

Moved: Councillor A Maurice

Seconded: Deputy Mayor G Carey

That Council:

1. In accordance with clause 8.1(1) of the Town of Mosman Park Meeting Procedures Local Law 2010, APPROVES the allotment of seating positions for Councillors at the Council table is alphabetical by surname as per the seating plan at **Attachment 1**.
2. AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to change the seating plan to accommodate Councillors who may have low vision or hearing loss.

VOTE: 7/0

FOR: Mayor P Shaw, Deputy Mayor G Carey, Councillor J Allsop, Councillor A Baird, Councillor S Corbyn, Councillor R Armstrong, Councillor A Maurice

IN BRIEF

At the first Council meeting after an election, the Meeting Procedures Local Law 2010 provides that Councillors are to be allotted positions at the Council table in alphabetical order, by wards. These are to be their seats for all Council meetings. Noting that the Town no longer has wards, the CEO has proposed a seating plan at **Attachment 1** that generally meets the requirements of the Meeting Procedures Local Law.

BACKGROUND

1. After the local government elections in 2021, Council adopted a seating plan where Councillors were seated alphabetically by surname clockwise around the Council table. They remained seated like this for Council meetings during 2021-2023.

DISCUSSION

2. The CEO can allot seats for Councillors at the Council table in accordance with the guidance provided by the Meeting Procedures Local Law 2010. The procedures propose Councillors are to be seated alphabetically, by wards.
3. Noting that the Town has no wards, the CEO is proposing to allot seats for Council meetings for the 2023-2025 period in the same way as 2021-2023; that is, alphabetically by surname, clockwise around the Council table.
4. Some Councillors may have low vision or hearing loss that would justify an alternative seating plan. It is open to Councillors to move an amendment to the seating plan recommended at **Attachment 1**, debate and vote accordingly.

Consultation

5. No consultation is required for this report.

Financial Implications

6. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Statutory Implications

7. Part 8, Clause 8.1 of the Town's Meeting Procedures Local Law 2010 applies – **Members to be in their proper place.**
8. Clause 8.1 provides:
(1) At the first meeting held after each election day, the CEO is to allot, alphabetically by ward, a position at the Council table to each member.
(2) Each member is to occupy his or her allotted position at each Council meeting

Policy Implications

9. There are no policy implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Risks

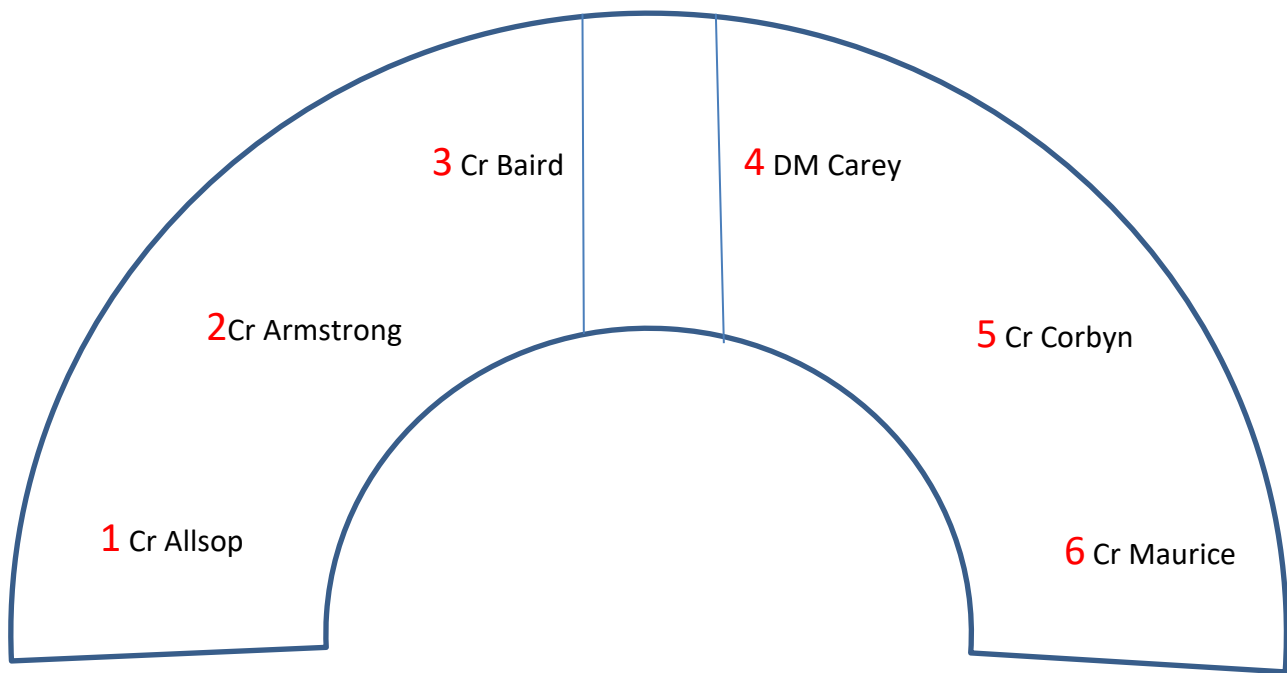
10. Council risks non-compliance with the Meeting Procedures Local Law 2010 if a seating plan is not approved after then 2023 elections.

CONCLUSION

11. The Meeting Procedures Local Law 2010 requires Council, after an election, to approve a Council table seating plan. The CEO is proposing to allot seats alphabetically as per the seating plan at **Attachment 1**. It is open to Council to debate and vote on an alternative that suits the particular needs or preferences of Councillors. In the absence of an alternative motion, it is recommended that Council approve the seating plan the CEO has proposed.

Item 6.1.1 Attachment 1

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SEATING PLAN
2023 - 2025



6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held 28 November 2023.

7 MEETING CLOSURE

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 6.40pm

I hereby certify that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on **MONDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2023** were confirmed as a true and accurate record by Council resolution.

Signed: _____

Presiding Member

Date: _____