

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Mayor, Councillor El-Hayek
Councillors Abu-Samen, Akther, Asfour, Blood, Cahill, Coorey, Harika, Lindsay,
Raffan, Saleh OAM, Stavrinou, Walsh, Walther, Zakhia

APOLOGIES Nil

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING OPEN AT 6.00 PM.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

THE MAYOR ACKNOWLEDGED THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND, WATER AND SKIES OF WHERE WE ARE MEETING TODAY THE DARUG (DARAG, DHARUG, DARUK AND DHARUK) PEOPLE AND PAID RESPECT TO DARUG CULTURAL HERITAGE, BELIEFS AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND. THE MAYOR ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED FIRST PEOPLES' CONTINUING IMPORTANCE TO OUR COMMUNITY.

SECTION 1: **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
Nil

SECTION 2: **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
(308) **CLR. WALSH:/CLR. ZAKHIA**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 August 2025 be adopted.

- CARRIED

SECTION 3: **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR NON-PECUNIARY CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
Nil

SECTION 4: **MAYORAL MINUTES**

ITEM 4.1 **FAREWELL GRANT LEE**
(309) **CLR. EL-HAYEK**

RESOLVED that the family of former Councillor Grant Lee be awarded with a posthumous Mayoral Certificate of Recognition for his dedication to the community.

- CARRIED

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

Council observed a minutes silence in memory of former Councillor Grant Lee.

ITEM 4.2
(310)

ONE COMMUNITY UNITED

CLR. EL-HAYEK

RESOLVED that Council

1. Promote the Racism Not Welcome webpage.
<https://www.cbcity.nsw.gov.au/culture-and-community/community-services-and-support/racism-not-welcome>
2. Distribute the Racism Not Welcome merchandising which has been printed.
3. Utilise the Racism Not Welcome banner at Council, and appropriate events.
4. Use the Council on-hold phone messaging to promote Racism Not Welcome campaigns.
5. Ensure Racism Not Welcome information is printed from time to time in our monthly EDMs/Council News.
6. Support local community organisations and groups to host their own Racism Not Welcome, or International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination events.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.3
(311)

LOCAL COMMUNITY BASED DONATIONS

CLR. EL-HAYEK

RESOLVED that

1. Council supports a fee waiver of \$179.00 to Islamic Relief Australia towards their charity BBQ.
2. These funds be made available from the Local Community Based Donations Budget.

- CARRIED

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

SECTION 5: ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

(312) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

1. In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Council adopts all the recommendations of Items 7.2, 7.3, 8.2, 8.3, 10.1 and 11.6.
2. Standing Orders be suspended and the above items be dealt with now.
3. Standing Orders then be resumed.

CARRIED

ITEM 7.2 NATURE STRIP GARDENS AND ADOPT-A-GARDEN POLICY REVIEW

(313) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that Council adopt the Nature Strip Gardens and Adopt-A-Garden Policy and their associated guidelines.

- CARRIED

ITEM 7.3 LOCAL ORDERS AND APPROVALS POLICIES

(314) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that

1. Council endorse the following draft local policies for the purpose of public exhibition.
 - Commercial Use of Footways Local Approvals Policy
 - Hoarding and Scaffolding Local Approvals Policy
 - Local Orders Policy and Schedule
 - Markets Local Approvals Policy
 - Mobile Food Vending Vehicles Local Approvals Policy
 - Street Parklet Program Local Approvals Policy
 - Waste in Public Places Local Approvals Policy
2. A further report be submitted to Council, following the conclusion of the public exhibition period.

- CARRIED

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

ITEM 8.2 LGNSW 2025 CONFERENCE - COUNCIL MOTIONS

(315) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that

1. The information be noted.
2. Council endorse the draft motions as detailed in the report.

- CARRIED

ITEM 8.3 CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

(316) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that

1. The Cash and Investment Report as at 31 August 2025 be received and noted.
2. The Certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer incorporated in this report, be noted.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.1 MINUTES OF THE ARTS & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2025

(317) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 August 2025 be endorsed.

- CARRIED

ITEM 11.6 HEATWAVE RESPONSE PLANNING

(318) CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that Council support the following motion to be submitted for consideration at the LGNSW Conference 2025;

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

“That LGNSW calls on the NSW Government to resource councils to support the NSW heatwave sub-plan and the Greater Sydney Heat Smart City Plan.”

- CARRIED

SECTION 6: PLANNING MATTERS

Nil

SECTION 7: POLICY MATTERS

ITEM 7.1 5 - 7 WEST TERRACE, BANKSTOWN

MOTION CLR. ZAKHIA:/CLR. ABU-SAMEN

That –

1. Council request the DPHI to undertake early engagement with local businesses and the community, as a matter of urgency, to better inform the DPHI Team of the issues and impacts of any change to the site.
2. DPHI undertake a joint design session with Council staff to develop a vision for the site and an option that adequately addresses both open space and car parking needs. This process should look beyond the 5-7 West Terrace site.
3. Council does not accept the “Principles for Acquisition by Agreement” as proposed by DPHI.

AMENDMENT CLR. STAVRINOS:/CLR ABU-SAMEN

That –

1. Council request the DPHI to undertake early engagement with local businesses and the community, as a matter of urgency, to better inform the DPHI Team of the issues and impacts of any change to the site.
2. DPHI undertake a joint design session with Council staff to develop a vision for the site and an option that adequately addresses both open space and car parking needs. The process should look beyond the 5-7 West Terrace site.
3. Council does not accept the “Principles for Acquisition by Agreement” as proposed by DPHI.
4. Council seek legal advice on what options it has available to get compensation from the NSW State Government for the loss of property and infrastructure at 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown.

THE AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED AND BECAME THE MOTION.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

AMENDMENT

CLR. COOREY:/CLR. SALEH

That -

1. Council request the DPHI to undertake early engagement with local businesses and the community, as a matter of urgency, to better inform the DPHI Team of the issues and impacts of any change to the site.
2. DPHI undertake a joint design session with Council staff to develop a vision for the site and an option that adequately addresses both open space and car parking needs. The process should look beyond the 5-7 West Terrace site.
3. Council does not accept the “Principles for Acquisition by Agreement” as proposed by DPHI.
4. Council seek legal advice on what options it has available to get compensation from the NSW State Government for the loss of property and infrastructure at 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown.
5. Council complete a registered valuation for 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown under current and previous zoning and Council’s original planning proposal.

THE AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED AND BECAME THE MOTION.

THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT MOVED BY CLR. BLOOD WAS ACCEPTED BY THE MOVER OF THE ORIGINAL MOTION.

AMENDMENT

CLR. BLOOD:

That –

1. Council request the DPHI to undertake early engagement with local businesses and the community, as a matter of urgency, to better inform the DPHI Team of the issues and impacts of any change to the site.
2. DPHI undertake a joint design session with Council staff to develop a vision for the site and an option that adequately addresses open space, car parking and access needs. The process should look beyond the 5-7 West Terrace site.
3. Council does not accept the “Principles for Acquisition by Agreement” as proposed by DPHI.
4. Council seek legal advice on what options it has available to get compensation from the NSW State Government for the loss of property and infrastructure at 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown.
5. Council complete a registered valuation for 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown under current and previous zoning and Council’s original planning proposal.

(319)

CLR. ZAKHIA:/CLR. ABU-SAMEN

RESOLVED that

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

1. Council request the DPHI to undertake early engagement with local businesses and the community, as a matter of urgency, to better inform the DPHI Team of the issues and impacts of any change to the site.
2. DPHI undertake a joint design session with Council staff to develop a vision for the site and an option that adequately addresses open space, car parking and access needs. The process should look beyond the 5-7 West Terrace site.
3. Council does not accept the “Principles for Acquisition by Agreement” as proposed by DPHI.
4. Council seek legal advice on what options it has available to get compensation from the NSW State Government for the loss of property and infrastructure at 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown.
5. Council complete a registered valuation for 5-7 West Terrace Bankstown under current and previous zoning and Council’s original planning proposal.

- CARRIED

ITEM 7.2 NATURE STRIP GARDENS AND ADOPT-A-GARDEN POLICY REVIEW

THIS MATTER WAS DEALT WITH PREVIOUSLY. SEE RESOLUTION NO. 313 ON PAGE THREE OF THESE MINUTES.

ITEM 7.3 LOCAL ORDERS AND APPROVALS POLICIES

THIS MATTER WAS DEALT WITH PREVIOUSLY. SEE RESOLUTION NO. 314 ON PAGE THREE OF THESE MINUTES.

SECTION 8: GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

ITEM 8.1 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

(320) CLR. RAFFAN:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that

1. Council elects a Deputy Mayor for the period September 2025 to September 2026.
2. The fee for the Deputy Mayor be set at 15% of the Mayoral fee per annum for the term of office.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

3. In accordance with Section 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the Chief Executive Officer, as the Returning Officer be requested to administer the Election of the Deputy Mayor.
4. In the event that there be more than one (1) nomination, that the election is to proceed by way of open voting.

- CARRIED

The Returning Officer called for nominations in writing for the office of Deputy Mayor for the period September 2025 to September 2026.

The following nomination was received:-

CLR HARIKA

THE RETURNING OFFICER THEN DECLARED CLR HARIKA ELECTED UNOPPOSED TO THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2025 TO SEPTEMBER 2026.

ITEM 8.2

LGNSW 2025 CONFERENCE - COUNCIL MOTIONS

THIS MATTER WAS DEALT WITH PREVIOUSLY. SEE RESOLUTION NO. 315 ON PAGE FOUR OF THESE MINUTES.

ITEM 8.3

CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

THIS MATTER WAS DEALT WITH PREVIOUSLY. SEE RESOLUTION NO. 316 ON PAGE FOUR OF THESE MINUTES.

ITEM 8.4

2025 MODEL MEETING CODE

(321)

CLR. BLOOD:/CLR. RAFFAN

RESOLVED that

1. Council endorses its Draft Code of Meeting Practice for the purpose of public exhibition.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

2. A further report be submitted to Council, following the conclusion of the public exhibition period.

- CARRIED

AT THIS STAGE OF THE MEETING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 15.14 OF THE CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE, HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR ISSUED A FIRST WARNING AT 6.38 PM TO COUNCILLOR COOREY FOR AN ACT OF DISORDER.

AT THIS STAGE OF THE MEETING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 15.14 OF THE CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE, HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR ISSUED A SECOND WARNING AT 6.39 PM TO COUNCILLOR COOREY FOR AN ACT OF DISORDER.

SECTION 9: SERVICE AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Nil

SECTION 10: COMMITTEE REPORTS

ITEM 10.1 MINUTES OF THE ARTS & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2025

THIS MATTER WAS DEALT WITH PREVIOUSLY. SEE RESOLUTION NO. 317 ON PAGE FOUR OF THESE MINUTES.

ITEM 10.2 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

(322) CLR. LINDSAY:/CLR. WALTHER

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in the minutes of the Canterbury-Bankstown Council Local Transport Forum held on 9 September 2025, be adopted.

- CARRIED

SECTION 11: NOTICE OF MOTIONS & QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

ITEM 11.1 STATUS OF PREVIOUS NOTICES OF MOTION - SEPTEMBER 2025

(323) CLR. STAVRINOS:/CLR. ZAKHIA

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

- CARRIED

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

ITEM 11.2
(324)

REJUVENATING THE NARWEE SHOPPING PRECINCT
CLR. STAVRINOS:/CLR. SALEH OAM

RESOLVED that

1. Council staff meet with Georges River Council staff to explore the short term and medium term place making and maintenance opportunities aimed at revitalising the Narwee Shopping Precinct.
2. The outcomes of this meeting be provided to Councillors to inform our prioritisation and scope development for future Town Centre improvement projects across the city.
3. Council notes that Georges River Council has not responded to maintenance and condition report provided to them by our Council.

- CARRIED

CLR BLOOD TEMPORARILY VACATED THE CHAMBER AT 6.43 PM AND RETURNED AT 6.45 PM.

ITEM 11.3
(325)

A FAIRER SYSTEM FOR MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS ACROSS AUSTRALIA
CLR. STAVRINOS:/CLR. SALEH OAM

RESOLVED that Council calls on ALGA to undertake a national review of Councillor workloads and remuneration models, and to advocate for tax reforms that recognise the professional nature of local government service. This review should aim to establish a fair, consistent, and sustainable framework that enables broader participation and strengthens local democracy.

- CARRIED

CLR COOREY REQUESTED THAT HER NAME BE RECORDED AS VOTING AGAINST THIS RESOLUTION.

CLR ABU-SAMEN TEMPORARILY VACATED THE CHAMBER AT 6.47 PM AND RETURNED AT 6.48 PM.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

ITEM 11.4
(326)

JIM RONIS - OAM

CLR. CAHILL:/CLR. HARIKA

RESOLVED that Council acknowledge and recognise Jim Ronis for his outstanding community service and congratulate him on his OAM.

- CARRIED

ITEM 11.5
MOTION

CLOSURE OF REVESBY POST OFFICE

CLR. WALTHER:/CLR. LINDSAY

That Council

1. Formally opposes the announced closure of the Revesby Post Office, scheduled for Wednesday, 29 October 2025.
2. Writes urgently to the Federal Minister for Communications and the Federal Minister for Finance, requesting immediate intervention to prevent the closure.
3. Writes urgently to the CEO of Australia Post, Mr Paul Graham, requesting an immediate full review of the decision and advocate for the retention of an Australia Post office within the Revesby Town Centre.
4. Notes the significant concerns raised by local residents and businesses regarding the loss of this essential service, recognising Revesby Post Office as a critical piece of public infrastructure, and advocates for the establishment of an alternative Post Office within the Revesby Town Centre if the current location is to close, to ensure continued access to essential postal and banking services in Revesby.

AMENDMENT

CLR. WALSH:/CLR. CAHILL

That Council

1. Formally opposes the announces closure of Revesby Post Office, scheduled for Wednesday, 29 October 2025.
2. Writes urgently to the Federal Minister for Communications and the Federal Minister for Finance, requesting immediate intervention to prevent the closure.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

3. Notes significant concerns raised by local residents and businesses regarding the loss of this essential service, recognising Revesby Post Office as a critical piece of public infrastructure, and advocates for the establishment of an alternative Post Office within the Revesby Town Centre if the current location is to close, to ensure continued access to essential postal and banking services in Revesby.
4. Writes to Zhi Soon, Federal Member for Banks and Kylie Wilkinson, State Member for East Hills to acknowledge and thank them for their leadership and efforts to save Revesby Post Office. Council also acknowledges and thanks Mayor Bilal El-Hayek for his leadership on this issue.

CLRS STAVRINOS AND COOREY STOOD FOR A DIVISION.

For:-

Clrs Raffan, Walsh, Cahill, Harika, Asfour, Saleh, Akther and Mayor El-Hayek

Against:-

Clrs Blood, Abu-Samen, Zakhia, Stavrinos, Coorey, Walther and Lindsay

THE AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED AND BECAME THE MOTION.

THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT MOVED BY CLR. WALTHER WAS ACCEPTED BY THE MOVER OF THE MOTION.

AMENDMENT

CLR. WALTHER:

That Council

1. Formally opposes the announces closure of Revesby Post Office, scheduled for Wednesday, 29 October 2025.
2. Writes urgently to the Federal Minister for Communications and the Federal Minister for Finance, requesting immediate intervention to prevent the closure.
3. Notes significant concerns raised by local residents and businesses regarding the loss of this essential service, recognising Revesby Post Office as a critical piece of public infrastructure, and advocates for the establishment of an alternative Post Office within the Revesby Town Centre if the current location is to close, to ensure continued access to essential postal and banking services in Revesby.
4. Writes to Zhi Soon, Federal Member for Banks and Kylie Wilkinson, State Member for East Hills to acknowledge and thank them for their leadership and efforts to save Revesby Post Office. Council also acknowledges and thanks Mayor Bilal El-Hayek for his leadership on this issue.
5. Encourage local residents to attend the community meeting at Revesby Post Office at 2pm on 17 September 2025.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

(327)

CLR. WALSH:/CLR. CAHILL

RESOLVED that Council

1. Formally opposes the announces closure of Revesby Post Office, scheduled for Wednesday, 29 October 2025.
2. Writes urgently to the Federal Minister for Communications and the Federal Minister for Finance, requesting immediate intervention to prevent the closure.
3. Notes significant concerns raised by local residents and businesses regarding the loss of this essential service, recognising Revesby Post Office as a critical piece of public infrastructure, and advocates for the establishment of an alternative Post Office within the Revesby Town Centre if the current location is to close, to ensure continued access to essential postal and banking services in Revesby.
4. Writes to Zhi Soon, Federal Member for Banks and Kylie Wilkinson, State Member for East Hills to acknowledge and thank them for their leadership and efforts to save Revesby Post Office. Council also acknowledges and thanks Mayor Bilal El-Hayek for his leadership on this issue.
5. Encourage local residents to attend the community meeting at Revesby Post Office at 2pm on 17 September 2025.

- CARRIED

ITEM 11.6

HEATWAVE RESPONSE PLANNING

THIS MATTER WAS DEALT WITH PREVIOUSLY. SEE RESOLUTION NO. 318 ON PAGE FOUR OF THESE MINTUES.

ITEM 11.7

75A, 75B AND 75C MARCO AVE REVESBY

MOTION

CLR. LINDSAY:/CLR. COOREY

That

1. Council develop a costed concept plan to incorporate a carpark on 75B and 75C to service the Scout Hall that sits on 75A Marco Ave and the Max Parker Leisure Centre across the road, to inform future actions on the sites;

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

2. As many significant native trees as possible at 75A, 75B and 75C are retained as part of the process to maintain tree canopy and shade for those using the parking area;
3. The Scout Hall at 75A remains on site for community use.

AMENDMENT

CLR. WALSH:/CLR. ASFOUR

That Council

1. Notes that it has adopted the Community Infrastructure Strategic Plan 2050 which provides strategic direction for the future development of this site.
2. Notes that there are no current plans for any change to the site at 75A, 75B or 75C Marco Avenue Revesby.
3. Notes that any considerations for the future of this site requires a plan which will involve engagement with current users of the Scout Hall.
4. Consider a project to develop a plan as part of its draft 2026/27 Operational Plan that expands the current precinct plans to incorporate this land, and this project will include engagement with the community.
5. Staff meet with Scouts and any current tenants to ensure that they are correctly informed that there are no plans whatsoever to make any change to the current use and that they will be involved in any future planning for Council's consideration.

THE AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED AND BECAME THE MOTION.

CLRS COOREY AND LINDSAY STOOD FOR A DIVISION

For:-

Clrs Raffan, Blood, Walsh, Cahill, Harika, Asfour, Saleh, Akther and Mayor El-Hayek

Against:-

Clrs Abu-Samen, Zakhia, Stavrinou, Coorey, Walther and Lindsay

(328)

CLR. WALSH:/CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that Council

1. Notes that it has adopted the Community Infrastructure Strategic Plan 2050 which provides strategic direction for the future development of this site.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

2. Notes that there are no current plans for any change to the site at 75A, 75B or 75C Marco Avenue Revesby.
3. Notes that any considerations for the future of this site requires a plan which will involve engagement with current users of the Scout Hall.
4. Consider a project to develop a plan as part of its draft 2026/27 Operational Plan that expands the current precinct plans to incorporate this land, and this project will include engagement with the community.
5. Staff meet with Scouts and any current tenants to ensure that they are correctly informed that there are no plans whatsoever to make any change to the current use and that they will be involved in any future planning for Council's consideration.

- CARRIED

CLR BLOOD TEMPORARILY VACATED THE CHAMBER AT 7.43 PM AND RETURNED AT 7.44 PM.

ITEM 11.8

(329)

ILLEGAL TREE REMOVAL

CLR. LINDSAY:/CLR. BLOOD

RESOLVED that Council writes to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces The Hon. Paul Scully MP to release feedback and submissions on their community engagement following calls by local government and others to toughen penalties in relation to illegal tree vandalism.

- CARRIED

MATTER OF URGENCY

(330)

CLR. ZAKHIA:/CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that urgency be permitted for Item 11.9 – Recognising the Contributions of Mirath in Mind to be considered.

The Mayor ruled that the matter is one of great urgency that requires a decision prior to the next scheduled Ordinary Meeting of Council.

- CARRIED

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

ITEM 11.9 **RECOGNISING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIRATH IN MIND**
(331) **CLR. ABU-SAMEN:/CLR. ASFOUR**

RESOLVED that Council recognise the service and contribution of Mirath in Mind towards the preservation of the Arabic language and culture with the presentation of a Mayoral certificate.

- CARRIED

SECTION 12: **CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**
Nil

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.56 PM.

Minutes confirmed 28 OCTOBER 2025

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Mayor