

Community Hubs Reference Group Meeting Minutes (Part 1)

Date	Wednesday 12 August		
Time	5.30pm for a 5.45pm start		
Venue	Community Room 7, Springvale Community Hub		
Chair	Sarita Kulkarni		
Attendees	Gaye Guest, Mary D'Silva, Vinh Quang Luong, Sandy Watkins, Charmaine Young, Zahra Haydar Big, Chenfei Bian, Anthony Anderson, Senthil Vel Rajackal, Adam Murray, Leith Thomas (Managing Director, Future Tense), Fjorn Bastos (Director, Future Tense), Team Leader Cultural and Community Development, Acting Community Hubs Development Lead		
Apologies	Mary D'Silva, Lisa McKenna, Lilian June Fletcher		
#	ITEM	Action	Action By
1.	Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country <i>"We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respects to their Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we pay our respects and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey."</i>		
2.	Apologies Apologies noted.		
3.	Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest in relation to the agenda.		
4.	Introduce new faces Council officers introduced new faces to the group members.		
5.	Warm-up Activity Attendees participated in a Greater Dandenong Trivia game.		
6.	Creative and Cultural Strategy Update Leith and Fjorn from Future Tense shared updates on the development of the <i>Creative and Cultural Strategy 2027–2037</i> . They outlined key gaps, strengths and opportunities for creative ecology across Greater Dandenong and highlighted the <i>Have Your Say</i> webpage and associated community consultation pop-up sessions taking place across the municipality. Group members were invited to share their ideas,	Action: Council officers to email Reference Group members a link to the Have Your Say webpage	Council Officers

	aspirations and priorities for the future cultural and creative life of Greater Dandenong.		
7.	Toy Swap Update Gaye Guest shared an update on the Toy Swap initiative, which has been successfully integrated into the bi-monthly Clothes Swap events held at Springvale Community Hub. The initiative continues to support sustainability and community participation through the exchange and reuse of toys.	Action: Council officers to modify Clothes Swap listing on website to include details about the Toy Swap.	Council Officers
The meeting closed at 6.33 pm due to emergency building maintenance issues. The group agreed to reconvene online at a later date.			

Community Hubs Reference Group Meeting Minutes (Part 2)

Date	Tuesday 18 August		
Time	5.45pm		
Venue	Online via Microsoft Teams		
Chair	Gaye Guest		
Attendees	Gaye Guest, Mary D'Silva, Zahra Haydar Big, Anthony Anderson, Senthil Vel Rajackal, Sarita Kulkarni, Lisa McKenna, Team Leader Cultural and Community Development, Community Hubs Development Lead, Community Hubs Development Officer		
Apologies	Sandy Watkins, Adam Murray, Chenfei Bian		
#	ITEM	Action	Action By
1.	Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country <i>"We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respects to their Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we pay our respects and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey."</i>		
2.	Apologies Apologies noted.		
3.	Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest in relation to the agenda.		
4.	Minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting 13/05/2026.		Moved: Gaye Guest Seconded: Senthil Vel Rajackal
5.	Toy Swap Update Gaye Guest shared an update on the Toy Swap initiative, which has been successfully integrated into the bi-monthly Clothes Swap events held at Springvale Community Hub. The initiative continues to support sustainability and community participation through the exchange and reuse of toys. The Toy Swap will also be part of the Keysborough Community Hub first birthday celebrations.	Action: Council officers to modify Clothes Swap listing on website to include details about the Toy Swap.	Council Officers
6.	Dungeons and Dragons Update Due to absence, Adam was not able to provide his update.	Action: Council officers to add to November meeting agenda.	

7.	Community Cultural Art Festival Proposal Senthil presented a proposal for a community folk art festival that would provide opportunities for community members to showcase their folk artworks and share the cultural stories and traditions associated with them. The proposal includes a six-month program of folk-art workshops, culminating in a three-day exhibition celebrating folk art from a range of cultures. Potential exhibition venues discussed included Springvale Town Hall and The Castle. Gaye Guest also suggested the Noble Park Community Centre foyer and the Paddy O'Donoghue Centre as possible locations.	Action: Gaye to e-introduce Senthil to representatives from Noble Park Community Centre.	Gaye Guest
8.	Group Membership Update Council officers advised that the Expression of Interest process remains open and that current members are not required to reapply before the November meeting. Council officers will review the current Terms of Reference and Terms and Conditions and present the updated documents to the group at the November meeting. Members were encouraged to provide any feedback or suggestions via email before that time. Council officers also advised that, in accordance with advice from Council's Child Safety Compliance Officer, all members will be required to provide a valid Working with Children Check. Information on how to obtain a Working with Children Check will be provided to members who do not already hold one.	Action: Council officers to email members requesting a copy of their valid Working with Children Check and provide information on how to apply for one if required.	Council Officers
9.	Keysborough Community Hub First Birthday Council officers provided an overview of the upcoming Keysborough Community Hub first birthday celebration and encouraged group members to attend. Several members indicated their interest in volunteering to support the event.	Action: Group members to advise Council officers if they would like to volunteer at the event.	Group members
10.	Other Business Gaye Guest shared information about the Noble Park Community Centre Friday Pantry and encouraged members to donate any unwanted reusable shopping bags to support the initiative.		
11.	Next Meeting The next meeting will be held at Keysborough Community Hub on Wednesday 11 November at 5.30 pm, with a 5.45 pm start.		

	Lisa McKenna was appointed Chair, with Gaye Guest appointed Deputy Chair.		
Meeting closed at 7.01 pm.			