

News from our Neighbourhood

February 2025

- Next Council Budget
- Our amazing libraries
- Watsonia Town Square update
- Lantern Festival



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Planning Banyule's next Budget

Council is preparing a new Budget and Council Plan to guide our work over the next four years.

The Budget provides funding to do all of our work, including road and building maintenance, community services such as libraries and looking after parks and sporting pavilions.

It covers big projects like Watsonia Town Square and smaller but important works like the recent Milton Parade

re-sealing and new pram crossings on Noorong Avenue and Flannery Avenue in Bundoora.

We need to be practical in the initiatives we support as we strive to maintain quality services, deliver capital improvements and pay down debt.

The draft plans will be available for public comment from **4 March to 3 April** before they are finalised and presented to Council in June.

Visit shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au

Read on - our amazing libraries

Libraries are wonderful community resources that provide people with far more than reading and information. They are spaces to study, work and join in activities. Resources like the free Wi-Fi are valued by many.

I'm proud to again be Councillor delegate on the Yarra Plenty Regional Library board which oversees this vital service.

We have three libraries in Banyule:

- Watsonia
- Ivanhoe
- Rosanna pop-up (while we build the new Rosanna Library)

Watsonia Library is open!

Watsonia Library is open during usual hours while we build Watsonia Town Square. The return chute is open 24/7.

Park in Morwell Avenue or Ibbottson Street while construction is underway.

Visit ypri.vic.gov.au or phone Watsonia Library on **9435 2397**.



Oreo the cat stays safe indoors at night.

New rules for dogs and cats

If you're a pet owner, make sure you are aware of our new rules for cats and dogs.

There is now a nightly curfew for cats and different on-lead rules for dogs. The new rules came into effect in February to keep everyone safe in public places and help protect wildlife. The cat curfew is being trialled for two years.

Scan the code to find out more or visit banyule.vic.gov.au/PetsinPublic



Watsonia Town Square update

Work on the Town Square is coming along, with play spaces, seating and landscaping on the way this year. The Watsonia Road pedestrian crossing lights are on.

The main focus now is the area next to the library, which will have a play space and accessible toilet block.

The car park closest to Rex Paine Timber will re-open when the Town Square is completed, along with additional parking spaces on Watsonia Road and Ibbottson Street.

Visit shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/WatsoniaTownSquare

Next Council meeting

Banyule Council meetings are open to the public. Find out more at banyule.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings

 **3 March**

 **7pm**

 **Council Chambers at ILCH, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe**

