

## 2.8 Public Question Time

The aim of public question time is to provide an opportunity for the public to ask general questions at Council Meetings requiring routine responses. Questions with or without notice can be submitted.

Questions with notice are to be received in writing by 12.00pm the Friday prior to the relevant Council Meeting and can be lodged via the Shire's website. Questions received by this time will be provided with a considered response prepared by the relevant Shire officer and read by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at the Council Meeting.

Questions without notice must be lodged in person no later than 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting. The question will be read by the CEO and taken on notice with a written response forwarded to the person asking the question within 7 days of the Council Meeting and published on the Shire's website.

This segment does not substitute for appeal or other formal business procedures with the Council.

### **Written Response**

#### **Tree removal opposite Hastings Library**

Frederick Crump, a resident of Hastings asked the following question:

*Last Thursday, 15 February 2024, men were cutting down a perfectly healthy beech tree opposite the Hastings Library. Somebody told me the tree had fallen on a car. On further observation that cambium layers were still intact and no tree had fallen over. Why was this tree taken out by people who don't know what they are doing, instead when only pruning procedures were required.*

Council advises:

After the mini storm on 13 February 2024 the tree was inspected and categorised as an immediate risk and was therefore removed before it could do any damage.