

## UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

**PLEASE NOTE:** These Minutes have yet to be confirmed by Council as a true record of proceedings.



# MINUTES

## FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

**29 JANUARY 2026**



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# **MINUTES**

## **FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD AT 6:10PM 29 JANUARY 2026 IN THE SHIRE OF LAVERTON COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

### **1. DECLARATION OF OPENING**

Cr Patrick Hill, Shire President, declared the meeting open at 6:10pm.

### **2. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

#### **2.1 PRESENT**

Cr P Hill	Shire President
Cr S Weldon	Deputy Shire President (via Teams)
Cr P Ovans	Councillor
Cr M Pedder	Councillor
Cr R Weldon	Councillor(via Teams)
Cr R Wedge	Councillor (via Teams)
Cr B Conway-Cox	Councillor
Mr P Marshall	Chief Executive Officer
Mrs J Hawkins	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr P Kerp	Manager of Works and Services

#### **2.2 APOLOGIES**

**Nil**

#### **2.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED**

**Nil**

#### **2.4 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Nil**

### **3 PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC FORUM (QUESTION TIME) INCLUDING DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

**Nil**

**4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST (IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIVISION 6 AND  
SECTIONS 5.57 TO 5.73 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995)**

COUNCILLOR/OFFICER	ITEM	NATURE OF INTEREST	HOW MANAGED
		<input type="radio"/> FINANCIAL <input type="radio"/> INDIRECT FINANCIAL <input type="radio"/> PROXIMITY <input type="radio"/> CLOSELY ASSOCIATED PERSONS	<input type="radio"/> VERBAL DISCLOSURE <input type="radio"/> WRITTEN DISCLOSURE <input type="radio"/> LEFT MEETING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	5.1.1 – EMPLOYEE MATTER	FINANCIAL	LEFT MEETING

**5 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 5.23 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995.

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Jackie Hawkins and Manager of Works and Services, Peter Kerp, left the meeting at 6:12pm and did not return.

Chief Executive Officer, Phil Marshall declared an interest in item 5.1.1 and left the meeting at 6:13pm

**5.1 APPROVAL TO CONSIDER ITEMS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

**RESOLUTION**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED: Cr M Pedder SECONDED: Cr P Ovans

**6:14pm: That this meeting be closed to members of the general public and that Council move behind closed doors to consider:**

**5.1.1 Employee Matter**

**CARRIED 7/0**

**For: Cr P Hill, Cr R Wedge Cr R Weldon, Cr M Pedder, Cr S Weldon, Cr P Ovans, Cr B Conway-Cox**

### 5.1.1 EMPLOYEE MATTER

#### RESOLUTION

#### COUNCIL DECISION

MOVED: Cr R Wedge SECONDED: Cr P Ovans

That the Council –

1. In accordance with clause 10. Of the Chief Executive Officer's employment contract with the Shire –
  - a) authorises the engagement of a person or persons to investigate allegations that have been made about the Chief Executive Officer; and
  - b) suspends the Chief Executive Officer with pay until the outcomes of the investigation are considered by the Council;
2. appoints the Deputy Chief Executive Officer to act in the position of Chief Executive Officer until the outcomes of the investigation are considered by the Council unless, in the meantime, the Council determines otherwise; and
3. authorises the Shire President to give the Chief Executive Officer a letter in the terms tabled at this meeting.

CARRIED 7/0

For: Cr P Hill, Cr R Wedge Cr R Weldon, Cr M Pedder, Cr S Weldon, Cr P Ovans, Cr B Conway-Cox

### 5.2 APPROVAL TO COME OUT FROM BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

#### RESOLUTION

#### COUNCIL DECISION/PROCEDURAL MOTION

MOVED: Cr P Ovans SECONDED: Cr S Weldon

6:20pm: That Council come out from behind closed doors and that this meeting be reopened to members of the general public.

CARRIED 7/0

For: Cr P Hill, Cr R Wedge Cr R Weldon, Cr M Pedder, Cr S Weldon, Cr P Ovans, Cr B Conway-Cox

Chief Executive Officer, Phil Marshall returned to the meeting at 6:22pm

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**6 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 6:24pm.

**7 CERTIFICATION**

**I, Patrick Hill, hereby certify that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record, as per the Council resolution of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026.**

**SIGNED:**

**DATED:**