



Shire of
Plantagenet

Mount Barker • Kendenup • Narrikup
Porongurup • Rocky Gully

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING COUNCIL

A Special Meeting of Council was held at the
Shire of Plantagenet Council Chambers, Mount Barker
on Tuesday 14 July 2026



Julian Murphy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Resolution numbers: 081/26 to 083/26

Please Note: Council Meetings are audio-recorded in accordance with Regulation 14I of the Local Government Regulations 1996.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open and read aloud the following:

Welcome to this Special Meeting of Council, of Tuesday the 14 July 2026, commencing at 4.03pm. This meeting is being audio-recorded, in accordance with Regulation 14I of the Local Government Regulations 1996.

I also point you to the Disclaimer and Emergency Procedures on the lead in pages of this agenda document for this building.

The Shire of Plantagenet acknowledges the traditional custodians of our area and their continuing connection to the land and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Menang Noongar community and their culture; and to Elders past and present.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

Members Present:

Cr L Handasyde	President (Presiding Member)
Cr J Liebeck	Councillor (Deputy President)
Cr B Bell	Councillor
Cr R Brown	Councillor
Cr K Clements	Councillor
Cr A Fraser	Councillor
Cr M O'Dea	Councillor

In Attendance:

Mr Julian Murphy	Chief Executive Officer
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Apologies:

There were no apologies.

Members of the Public Present:

There were no members of the public present.

Previously Approved Leave of Absence:

Cr K Tyrer
Cr W Sheard

3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

3.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - SECTION 5.24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

4 PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Part 5 Division 6 Local Government Act 1995

6 SPECIAL BUSINESS

6.1 CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

6.1.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECRUITMENT

Synergy Ref: N68031

Attachments: Confidential Employment Contract

Responsible Officer: Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

Authors: Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

Proposed Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

The chief executive officer's report is confidential because it deals with:

- Section 5.23 (2) (b) a matter relating to the recruitment or employment of the CEO or a senior employee, including the following —
- (i) the termination of employment;
 - (ii) a review of performance under section 5.38.

MOTION THAT THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Moved Cr K Clements, seconded Cr M O'Dea:

That the meeting be closed to the public because it deals with a matter in accordance with Section 5.23 (2) (b) a matter relating to the recruitment or employment of the CEO or a senior employee, including the following —

- (i) the termination of employment;
- (ii) a review of performance under section 5.38.

CARRIED (7/0)

NO. 081/26

For: Crs Handasyde, Bell, Brown, Clements,
Fraser, O'Dea, Liebeck.
Against: Nil

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL DECISION

Moved Cr K Clements, seconded Cr M O'Dea:

That Council:

1. Appoints Mr Garry Bird to the position of Chief Executive Officer;
2. Endorses the proposed terms of the contract of employment and authorises the President and CEO to affix the common seal to the contract; and
3. Certifies that the person was employed in accordance with the Shire of Plantagenet Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination 2021.

CARRIED (7/0)

NO. 082/26

For: Crs Handasyde, Bell, Brown, Clements,
Fraser, O'Dea, Liebeck.
Against: Nil

Absolute Majority

MOTION THAT THE MEETING BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Moved Cr K Clements, seconded Cr M O'Dea:

That the meeting is reopened to the public.

CARRIED (7/0)

NO. 083/26

For: Crs Handasyde, Bell, Brown, Clements,

Fraser, O'Dea, Liebeck.

Against: Nil

Simple Majority

The meeting was re-opened to the public and the Council decision for Item 6.1.1 was noted by the Presiding Member.

7 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

8 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF

Nil

9 CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Presiding member closed the meeting at 4:06pm.

CONFIRMED: CHAIRPERSON _____ **DATE:** ____/____/____