



**SHIRE OF
COOROW**
ALWAYS IN SEASON

MINUTES
FOR THE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY 2026

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING DISCLAIMER BEFORE PROCEEDING

Members of the public are cautioned against taking any action on Council decisions, on items in this Minutes in which they may have an interest, until such times as they have been advised in writing by Shire staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

COMMENCED AT 5:00

WILL BE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, 14 JANUARY 2026

COOROW COUNCIL CHAMBERS



Mia Maxfield

Chief Executive Officer

DISCLAIMER

The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information. A written inquiry should be made to the Council giving reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**1.1 SALUTATIONS AND OPENING OF MEETING**

The President, G Sims, welcomed those present and opened the Meeting at 5.07pm.

1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Shire of Coorow acknowledges the traditional owners of this land – the Yued people, and their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past, present and emerging.

1.3 VISITORS

Nil

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

2.1 ATTENDANCE

Councillor G Sims

Councillor G Censi

Councillor D Gericke

Councillor C Hassell

Councillor D Melbin

Councillor L Van Den Heever

Mrs M Maxfield

Chief Executive Officer

2.2 ATTENDANCE VIA TELEPHONE/INSTANTANEOUS COMMUNICATION

In accordance with regulation 14A of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Council must approve (by Absolute Majority) the attendance of a person, not physically present at a meeting of Council, by audio contact. The person must be in a 'suitable place' as approved (by absolute majority) by Council. A 'suitable place' means a place that is located in a townsite or other residential area and 150km or further from the place at which the meeting is to be held.

- Councillor C Hassell
- Councillor D Melbin

2.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Nil

2.4 APOLOGIES

- Councillor G Hannington

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 5.65 and 5.70 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires an Elected Member or officer who has an interest in any matter to be discussed at a Committee/Council Meeting that will be attended by the Elected Member or officer must disclose the nature of the interest in a written notice given to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting; or at the meeting before the matter is discussed. An Elected Member who makes a disclosure under section 5.65 or 5.70 must not preside at the part of the meeting relating to the matter; or participate in; or be present during, any discussion or decision making procedure relating to the matter, unless allowed by the Committee/Council. If Committee/Council allow an Elected Member to speak, the extent of the interest must also be stated.

Nil

4 NEW BUSINESS OF URGENT NATURE

Nil

5 MATTERS WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED (CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS)**RESOLUTION SCM-2026/001****Moved:** Cr L Van Den Heever**Seconded:** Cr D Gericke

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995:

5.1 Appointment of Acting Chief Executive Officer

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 5.23(2) - (a) and (b) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with a matter affecting an employee or employees and the personal affairs of any person.

In Favour: Cr G Sims, Cr G Censi, Cr D Gericke, Cr C Hassell, Cr D Melbin and Cr L Van Den Heever

Against: Nil

CARRIED 6/0**Simple Majority****5.1 APPOINTMENT OF ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER****RESOLUTION SCM-2026/002****Moved:** Cr L Van Den Heever**Seconded:** Cr D Gericke

That Council appoint Peter Bentley as Acting Chief Executive Officer from Monday 23 February 2026 to Thursday 2 April 2026

In Favour: Cr G Sims, Cr G Censi, Cr D Gericke, Cr C Hassell, Cr D Melbin and Cr L Van Den Heever

Against: Nil

CARRIED 6/0**Absolute Majority**

RESOLUTION SCM-2026/003

Moved: Cr G Censi

Seconded: Cr L Van Den Heever

That Council comes from behind closed doors.

In Favour: Cr G Sims, Cr G Censi, Cr D Gericke, Cr C Hassell, Cr D Melbin and Cr L Van Den Heever

Against: Nil

CARRIED 6/0

Simple Majority

6 CLOSURE

6.1 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 February 2026 from 5:00 PM.(Coorow Council Chambers)

6.2 CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the President, G Sims closed the meeting at 5.28pm.

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting on

Signed: _____

Presiding Person at the meeting at which these minutes were confirmed.

Date: _____