



# **CONFIRMED MINUTES**

## **Special Council Meeting Wednesday, 25 October 2023**

**Date: Wednesday, 25 October 2023**

**Time: 5.00pm**

**Location: Council Chambers, York Town Hall, York**

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**MINUTES OF SHIRE OF YORK  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, YORK TOWN HALL, YORK  
ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2023 AT 5.00PM**

**1 OPENING**

**1.1 Declaration of Opening**

*In accordance with Clause 3 of Schedule 2.3 of the Local Government Act 1995 the Chief Executive Officer is to preside at the meeting until the office of President is filled.*

*The Chief Executive Officer welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 5.00pm.*

**1.2 Acknowledgement / Disclaimer**

The Chief Executive Officer advised the following:

*"The York Shire Council acknowledges the Ballardong people of the Noongar Nation who are the Traditional Owners of this country and recognise their continuing connection to land, water, sky and culture. We pay our respects to all these people and their Elders past, present and emerging.*

*This meeting is being recorded on a digital audio and visual device to assist with minute taking purposes. The public is reminded that in accordance with Section 6.16 of the Shire of York Local Government (Council Meetings) Local Law 2016 that nobody shall use any visual or vocal recording device or instrument to record the proceedings of Council without the written permission of the presiding member.*

*I wish to draw attention to the Disclaimer Notice contained within the agenda document and advise members of the public that any decisions made at the meeting today, can be revoked, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1995.*

*Therefore members of the public should not rely on any decisions until formal notification in writing by Council has been received. Any plans or documents in agendas and minutes may be subject to copyright. The express permission of the copyright owner must be obtained before copying any copyright material."*

**1.3 Swearing In of Councillors-Elect and Declaration of Office**

*In accordance with Section 2.29 of the Local Government Act 1995, Section 13 of the Local Government (Constitution) Regulations 1998 and the Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005 the Chief Executive Officer invited Mr Ron Lee JP to perform the Swearing In Ceremony and witness the Declaration of Office for the following Councillors-elect:*

- Cr James Adamini*
- Cr Blake Luxford*
- Cr Kevin Pyke*
- Cr Denese Smythe*

**1.4 Standing Orders**

*Nil*

**1.5 Announcement of Visitors**

*Mr Ron Lee JP*

**1.6 Declarations of Interest that Might Cause a Conflict**

*Nil*

**1.7 Declaration of Financial Interests**

*Nil*

**1.8 Disclosure of Interests that May Affect Impartiality**

*Nil*

**2 ATTENDANCE****2.1 Members**

*Cr James Adamini; Cr Blake Luxford; Cr Kevin Pyke; Cr Denese Smythe; Cr Kevin Trent; Cr Denis Warnick; Cr Peter Wright*

**2.2 Staff**

*Chris Linnell, Chief Executive Officer; Alina Behan, Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services; Vanessa Green, Council & Executive Support Officer*

**2.3 Apologies**

*Lindon Mellor, Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services*

**2.4 Leave of Absence Previously Approved**

*Nil*

**2.5 Number of People in the Gallery at Commencement of Meeting**

*There were thirteen (13) people in the Gallery at the commencement of the meeting.*

**3 ELECTION OF SHIRE PRESIDENT AND DECLARATION OF OFFICE**

*The Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for the position of President of the Council for the ensuing two (2) years.*

*The following nominations were received:*

*Cr Smythe nominated by Cr Smythe*

*Cr Trent nominated by Cr Trent*

*Cr Adamini nominated Cr Warnick. Cr Warnick respectfully declined the nomination.*

*Nominees were offered one (1) minute to outline their intent for the role of Shire President.*

*An election was held in accordance with Schedule 2.3 of the Local Government Act 1995 with the Chief Executive Officer, Council & Executive Support Officer and Ron Lee JP conducting the count of votes.*

*On a vote of four (4) votes to three (3), Cr Trent was declared as the Shire President of the Shire of York.*

*Mr Ron Lee JP performed the Swearing In Ceremony and witnessed the Declaration of Office for Cr Trent as Shire President.*

*The President took the chair at 5.33pm.*

#### 4 ELECTION OF DEPUTY SHIRE PRESIDENT AND DECLARATION OF OFFICE

*The Shire President called for nominations for the position of Deputy Shire President of the Council for the ensuing two (2) years.*

*The following nomination was received:*

*Cr Warnick nominated by Cr Trent and Cr Smythe*

*There being no further nominations, Cr Warnick was declared Deputy Shire President of the Shire of York.*

*Mr Ron Lee JP performed the Swearing In Ceremony and witnessed the Declaration of Office for Cr Warnick as Deputy Shire President.*

*The Deputy Shire President assumed their chair at 5.36pm.*

*The Shire President thanked Mr Ron Lee JP for officiating over the Swearing In Ceremonies.*

#### 5 DRAW FOR POSITION AT COUNCIL TABLE

*Clause 8.1 of the Shire's Local Government (Council Meetings) Local Law 2016 states:*

***"Members to be in their proper places***

*(1) At the first meeting held after each election day, the CEO is to allot, alphabetically, a position at the Council table to each member.*

*(2) Each member is to occupy his or her allotted position at each Council meeting."*

*As such, Councillors took their position in alphabetical order around the Council table.*

#### 6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time is conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulations. In addition to this the Shire's *Local Government (Council Meetings) Local Law 2016* states:

##### **6.7 Other procedures for question time for the public**

- (1) A member of the public who wishes to ask a question during question time must identify themselves and register with a Council Officer immediately prior to the meeting.
- (2) A question may be taken on notice by the Council for later response.
- (3) When a question is taken on notice the CEO is to ensure that—
  - (a) a response is given to the member of the public in writing; and
  - (b) a summary of the response is included in the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.
- (4) Where a question relating to a matter in which a relevant person has an interest is directed to the relevant person, the relevant person is to—
  - (a) declare that he or she has an interest in the matter; and
  - (b) allow another person to respond to the question.
- (5) Each member of the public with a question is entitled to ask up to 2 questions before other members of the public will be invited to ask their questions.
- (6) Where a member of the public provides written questions then the Presiding Member may elect for the questions to be responded to as normal business correspondence.
- (7) The Presiding Member may decide that a public question shall not be responded to where—

- (a) the same or similar question was asked at a previous meeting, a response was provided and the member of the public is directed to the minutes of the meeting at which the response was provided;
  - (b) the member of the public uses public question time to make a statement, provided that the Presiding Member has taken all reasonable steps to assist the member of the public to phrase the statement as a question; or
  - (c) the member of the public asks a question that is offensive or defamatory in nature, provided that the Presiding Member has taken all reasonable steps to assist the member of the public to phrase the question in a manner that is not offensive or defamatory.
- (8) A member of the public shall have 2 minutes to submit a question.
- (9) The Council, by resolution, may agree to extend public question time.
- (10) Where any questions remain unasked at the end of public question time they may be submitted to the CEO who will reply in writing and include the questions and answers in the agenda for the next ordinary Council meeting.
- (11) Where an answer to a question is given at a meeting, a summary of the question and the answer is to be included in the minutes.

*Public Question Time commenced at 5.38pm.*

6.1 Written Questions – Current Agenda

*Nil*

6.2 Public Question Time

*As there were no questions asked Public Question Time concluded at 5.39pm.*

**7 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

*Nil*

**8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

*Nil*

**9 CLOSURE**

*The Shire President thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 5.40pm.*

*The minutes were confirmed by the Council as a true and accurate record at the Council Meeting held on 26 October 2023.*

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**SHIRE PRESIDENT**  
Cr Kevin Trent