

Statutory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 12 November 2025

Realm - Council Chamber
Level 2, 179 Maroondah Highway
Ringwood

Minutes of the Statutory Council held in the Council Chamber, Realm, on Wednesday 12 November 2025 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Cr Chris Jones	Barneong Ward
Cr Catherine Gordon	Bungalook Ward
Cr Claire Rex	Jubilee Ward
Cr Nathaniel Henderson	McAlpin Ward
Cr Paul Macdonald	Tarralla Ward
Cr Daniella Heatherich	Wicklow Ward
Cr Kylie Spears	Wombolano Ward
Cr Linda Hancock	Wonga Ward
Cr Rob Steane OAM	Yarrunga Ward
Steve Kozlowski	Chief Executive Officer
Tony Rocca	Chief Financial Officer
Adam Todorov	Director Assets & Leisure
Marianne Di Giallonardo	Director People & Places
Andrew Taylor	Acting Director Strategy & Development
Emma Hills	Governance Officer
Dan Glass	Multimedia Officer

The Chief Executive Officer opened the meeting and welcomed all present, noting the presence of past Maroondah City Council Mayor, Nora Lamont and past Yarra Ranges Council Mayor, Terry Avery. He also acknowledged the presence of Honorary Freeman of the City, Andrew Brownlie and Terri Verberne. The Chief Executive Officer advised that Mr Nick McGowan MP, North Eastern Metropolitan had indicated that he would be in attendance and welcomed all the members of the public gallery.

The Chief Executive Officer read the Statement of Recording.

A prayer was read by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by the Chief Executive Officer.

APOLOGIES

Nil

ELECTION OF MAYOR - YEAR 2025/2026

The Chief Executive Officer as Acting Chair, called for nominations for the position of Mayor.

Cr Jones nominated Cr Hancock for the position of Mayor for the coming 12 months.

The Chief Executive Officer asked Cr Hancock whether she accepts the nomination.

Cr Hancock accepted the nomination.

The Chief Executive Officer called for any further nominations for the position of Mayor.

As there were no further nominations, the Chief Executive Officer, as Acting Chair, declared Cr Hancock elected Mayor for 2025/2026 and asked her to take the Chair.

The past Mayor, Cr Spears, placed the 'Mayoral Drop' around the neck of the newly elected Mayor.

The Mayor, Cr Hancock, took the Chair.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR - YEAR 2025/2026

The Mayor, Cr Hancock, called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cr Gordon nominated Cr Macdonald for the position of Deputy Mayor for the coming 12 months.

The Mayor asked Cr Macdonald whether he accepts the nomination.

Cr Macdonald accepted the nomination.

The Mayor called for any further nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

As there were no further nominations, the Mayor, Cr Hancock, declared Cr Macdonald elected Deputy Mayor for 2025/2026.

All Councillors present individually acknowledged the leadership and contributions provided by the outgoing Mayor, Cr Spears, and the outgoing Deputy Mayor, Cr Hancock, as well as offering their congratulations and support to the incoming Mayor, Cr Hancock, and Deputy Mayor, Cr Macdonald.

The Deputy Mayor thanked all the Councillors and the outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He also congratulated the new Mayor, Cr Hancock.

The Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of Council employees, thanked the outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their work over the last 12 months and offered congratulations and support to the incoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor, Cr Hancock, asked the outgoing Mayor, Cr Spears, to come forward to be presented with a gift.

The outgoing Mayor, Cr Spears, spoke about her term as Mayor and thanked the outgoing Deputy Mayor, Cr Hancock, for her support as well as Maroondah employees and her fellow Councillors. Cr Spears congratulated the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor and offered her support.

The Mayor, Cr Hancock, congratulated the new Deputy Mayor, Cr Macdonald, and thanked the outgoing Mayor, Cr Spears, for her leadership. Cr Hancock spoke of her delight at being elected Mayor and looked forward to working with Councillors and the community to achieve major outcomes over the next 12 months. Cr Hancock thanked the Chief Executive Officer and all Maroondah employees for the work they do with the community.

The open forum closed at 7:36pm.

Confirmed

Date