

Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 18 May 2026

Unconfirmed Minutes

It should be noted that these minutes are not in their final form until Council has formally resolved to confirm them.

These minutes will be presented to Council for confirmation on 15 June 2026.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, on Monday 18 May 2026 at 7:30pm.

PRESENT

Cr Linda Hancock (Mayor)	Wonga Ward
Cr Paul Macdonald (Deputy Mayor)	Tarralla Ward
Cr Chris Jones	Barngeong Ward
Cr Catherine Gordon	Bungalook Ward
Cr Claire Rex	Jubilee Ward
Cr Nathaniel Henderson	McAlpin Ward
Cr Kylie Spears	Wombolano Ward
Cr Rob Steane OAM	Yarrunga Ward
Steve Kozlowski	Chief Executive Officer
Tony Rocca	Director Corporate
Adam Todorov	Director Assets & Leisure
Marianne Di Giallonardo	Director Community
Andrew Fuaux	Director City Growth & Precincts
Joanne Ellis	Governance Officer
Dan Glass	Multimedia Officer

The Mayor, Cr Hancock, welcomed all to the May Council meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer read the following Statement of Recording -

“Please note that this meeting is being recorded and streamed live on the internet. All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however, as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded.”

A prayer was read by Swami Sunishthananda from Vedanta Centre of Melbourne.

The Councillor Pledge was read by the Mayor.

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by the Mayor.

The Mayor also acknowledged IDAHOBIT day held on 17 May 2026 and Reconciliation Week commencing on 27 May 2026.

APOLOGIES

Cr Daniella Heatherich	Wicklow Ward
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Cr Heatherich was granted a Leave of Absence at the 16 March 2026 Council Meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED CR REX, SECONDED CR JONES 30/26

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 27 APRIL 2026 BE CONFIRMED.**CARRIED****PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

OFFICERS' REPORTS**DIRECTOR CORPORATE**

ATTENDANCE REPORT ITEM 1

MOVED CR STEANE OAM, SECONDED CR GORDON 31/26

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORTS AS PRESENTED BY COUNCILLORS**CARRIED**

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Crs Macdonald, Jones, Gordon, Rex, Henderson, Spears, Steane and Hancock

Cr Hancock (Mayor)

28/04 Eastern Region Group of Councils Pre-Meeting with Chair and Deputy
29/04 Meeting with Ringwood Cricket
29/04 Your Library CEO Remuneration Committee - CEO Mid-Year Evaluation Meeting
29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
30/04 Your Library Board Meeting
30/04 Karralyka Event
01/05 Heathmont Station 100 Years Celebration Event
01/05 Maroondah Night Run
02/05 Fade Nation Barbers New Business Opening Event
07/05 The Babes Project's Mother's Day Fundraiser
08/05 Eastern Region Group of Councils Meeting
13/05 Bizhub - Powerful Techniques to Enhance your Online Results
14/05 Ringwood Golf Club Biggest Morning Tea Event
14/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association Masterclass "The Six Demographic Realities of the 21st Century"
18/05 Maroondah City Council Audit & Risk Committee Meeting

Cr Macdonald (Deputy Mayor)

29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
01/05 Maroondah Night Run
15/05 Eastern Football Netball League (EFNL) Veterans Men's Match at Cheong Park

Cr Jones

- 29/04 Maroondah Darts Club Meeting
- 30/04 Decoding the PM's Gambling Reform - And What Comes Next Seminar
- 12/05 Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee Meeting
- 13/05 Purple Ribbon Event – Domestic & Family Violence Awareness Month
Supporting Safe Steps
- 14/05 Maroondah Business Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14/05 Ringwood Golf Club Biggest Morning Tea Event
- 18/05 Maroondah City Council Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
- 18/05 The Maroondah Foundation Meeting with Eastern Football Netball League

Cr Gordon

- 29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
- 01/05 Heathmont Station 100 Years Celebration Event
- 01/05 Maroondah Night Run
- 04/05 The Maroondah Foundation - RO Spencer Pavilion Visit
- 06/05 Communities of Wellbeing "The Trivial Pursuit of Happiness" - Trivia Night
- 07/05 Webinar: Keeping People Safe When Walking Stream 2 - Understanding
Inequality in Pedestrian Safety Outcomes
- 08/05 Maroondah Mental Health First Aid Training for Maroondah Service Providers -
Day 1
- 11/05 Meeting with Hornbill Sports Club
- 12/05 Understanding and supporting students who experience 'school can't' Seminar
- 13/05 Sharing Hope's Business Event
- 13/05 Purple Ribbon Event – Domestic & Family Violence Awareness Month
Supporting Safe Steps
- 14/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association Masterclass "The Six
Demographic Realities of the 21st Century"
- 15/05 Maroondah Mental Health First Aid Training for Maroondah Service Providers -
Day 2
- 16/05 Burnt Bridge Tennis Club Trivia Night
- 18/05 Maroondah City Council Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
- 18/05 The Maroondah Foundation Meeting with Eastern Football Netball League

Cr Rex

- 29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
- 01/05 Heathmont Station 100 Years Celebration Event
- 01/05 Maroondah Night Run
- 03/05 Heathmont Uniting Church Community Celebration for Heathmont Station
Centenary Event
- 12/05 Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14/05 Ringwood Golf Club Biggest Morning Tea Event
- 18/05 Maroondah City Council Audit & Risk Committee Meeting

Cr Henderson

- 29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
- 02/05 Fade Nation Barbers New Business Opening Event
- 07/05 Eastern FM Broadcast
- 13/05 Metropolitan Traffic Education Centre Board Meeting

Cr Spears

- 28/04 Your Library Limited Chair, Deputy Chair & CEO Meeting
28/04 Australian Local Government Women's Association Executive Team Meeting
29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
30/04 Australian Local Government Women's Association & Women for Election Steering Meeting
30/04 Australian Local Government Women's Association National Board Meeting
30/04 Your Library Board Meeting
01/05 Heathmont Station 100 Year Celebration Event
01/05 Maroondah Night Run
04/05 The Maroondah Foundation - RO Spencer Pavilion Visit
05/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association National Executive Team Meeting - 75th Conference
05/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association National Executive Team Meeting
05/05 Heathmont Village Reserve Enhancement Plan - Community Consultation Pop-Up Event
07/05 Women in Public Office Consortia Meeting
07/05 Municipal Association of Victoria Delegates Pre State Council Briefing Meeting
08/05 Eastern Region Group of Councils Meeting
12/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association National Executive Team Meeting - 75th Conference
12/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association National Executive Team Meeting
14/05 Maroondah Business Advisory Committee Meeting
14/05 Ringwood Golf Club Biggest Morning Tea Event
14/05 Australian Local Government Women's Association Masterclass "The Six Demographic Realities of the 21st Century"
15/05 Governor-General Hosts a Reception Celebrating Australian Local Government Women's Association 75th Anniversary Meeting
16/05 Burnt Bridge Tennis Club Trivia Night
18/05 Maroondah City Council Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
18/05 The Maroondah Foundation Meeting with Eastern Football Netball League
18/05 Your Library Knox Presentation to Councillors Meeting

Cr Steane

- 29/04 Maroondah Citizenship Ceremony
04/05 The Maroondah Foundation - RO Spencer Pavilion Visit
13/05 Sharing Hope Breakfast at Karralyka
14/05 Maroondah Business Advisory Committee Meeting
18/05 The Maroondah Foundation Meeting with Eastern Football Netball League

REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS

ITEM 2

MOVED CR REX, SECONDED CR SPEARS

32/26

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 27 APRIL 2026 AND 4 MAY 2026**CARRIED**

ADOPTION OF DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029 (2026/27 UPDATE), THE
UPDATED FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27-2035/36 AND PROPOSED BUDGET
2026/27

ITEM 3

MOVED CR MACDONALD, SECONDED CR JONES

33/26

A. COUNCIL PLAN

THAT COUNCIL

1. **ADOPTS THE UPDATED COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029 (2026/27 UPDATE)**
2. **IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 57 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 AND COUNCIL'S PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY POLICY 2020 AUTHORISE OFFICERS TO MAKE THE COUNCIL PLAN AVAILABLE ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AND AT COUNCIL OFFICES**
3. **AUTHORISES OFFICERS TO ARRANGE FOR THE SUITABLE PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE COUNCIL PLAN TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS**

B. FINANCIAL PLAN

THAT COUNCIL

1. **ADOPTS THE UPDATED FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27 - 2035/36**
2. **IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 57 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 AND COUNCIL'S PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY POLICY 2020 AUTHORISE OFFICERS TO MAKE THE FINANCIAL PLAN AVAILABLE ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AND AT COUNCIL OFFICES**

C. BUDGET

THAT COUNCIL

1. **ADOPTS THE ANNUAL BUDGET 2026/27, AS PRESENTED**
2. **ADOPTS THE SCHEDULE OF USER FEES AND CHARGES, TO BE EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JULY 2026 (EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE INDICATED)**
3. **APPLIES DIFFERENTIAL RATING USING CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE (CIV) AS THE BASIS OF VALUATION TO ALL RATEABLE LAND TO RAISE RATES BY 2.75 PER CENT IN 2026/27**
4. **APPLIES THE FINAL CONFIRMATION TO THE VALUATION DATA PROVIDED BY THE VALUER GENERAL AND SIGNED BY THE MINISTER IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE MINISTER'S RATE CAP DETERMINATION**
5. **APPLIES A SERVICE CHARGE FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE AS DETAILED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET 2026/27**
6. **ENDORSES THAT THE RATES WILL BE SEPARATELY LEVIED IN RESPECT TO EACH PORTION OF RATEABLE LAND FOR WHICH COUNCIL HAS AS A SEPARATE VALUATION (UNLESS COUNCIL HAS DETERMINED A CHARGE IN**

LIEU OF RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL LANDS ACT 1963)

7. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 167 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989, DECLARES THE RATES AND CHARGES MUST BE PAID:

7.1 IN A LUMP SUM ON OR BEFORE 15 FEBRUARY 2027 OR

7.2 BY FOUR INSTALMENTS ON OR BEFORE:

- **30 SEPTEMBER 2026**
- **30 NOVEMBER 2026**
- **28 FEBRUARY 2027**
- **31 MAY 2027 OR**

7.3 BY NINE MONTHLY DIRECT DEBIT INSTALMENTS DUE:

- **30 SEPTEMBER 2026**
- **31 OCTOBER 2026**
- **30 NOVEMBER 2026**
- **31 DECEMBER 2026**
- **31 JANUARY 2027**
- **28 FEBRUARY 2027**
- **31 MARCH 2027**
- **30 APRIL 2027**
- **31 MAY 2027**

8. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 57 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 AND COUNCIL'S PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY POLICY 2020 AUTHORISE OFFICERS TO MAKE THE ADOPTED BUDGET 2026/27 AVAILABLE ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AND AT COUNCIL OFFICES

9. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 4 (4) OF THE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL LANDS ACT 1963, THE FOLLOWING RATEPAYERS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS SUBJECT TO THE ACT IN RESPECT TO THEIR RATEABLE LAND, AS LISTED BELOW:

- **HEATHMONT CLUB INC.**
- **BAYSWATER NORTH TENNIS CLUB**
- **EASTWOOD GOLF CLUB**

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10. **WILL APPLY INTEREST TO OVERDUE RATES AND CHARGES PAYMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 172 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989, NOTING THAT THE RATE OF INTEREST IS PAYABLE ON THE RATES AND CHARGES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN PAID BY THE DATES DECLARED, IS FIXED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2 OF THE PENALTY INTEREST RATES ACT 1983**

D. GENERAL

THAT COUNCIL

1. **AUTHORISES THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO MAKE ANY IMMATERIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REVISIONS AS REQUIRED TO ALL STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS**

CARRIED

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Crs Jones, Steane, Henderson, Rex, Spears, Hancock and Macdonald

EXTENSION OF TIME

MOVED CR SPEARS, SECONDED CR HENDERSON 34/26

THAT CR JONES BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION OF TIME

CARRIED

EXTENSION OF TIME

MOVED CR REX, SECONDED CR JONES 35/26

THAT CR STEANE BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION OF TIME

CARRIED

EXTENSION OF TIME

MOVED CR HENDERSON, SECONDED CR JONES 36/26

THAT CR SPEARS BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION OF TIME

CARRIED

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029 - PRIORITY ACTION PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 3, 2025/26 ITEM 4

MOVED CR HENDERSON, SECONDED CR REX 37/26

THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE DELIVERY OF THE 2025/26 PRIORITY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029, AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

CARRIED

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING FRAMEWORK - SERVICE
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT - QUARTER 3, 2025/26 ITEM 5

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR SPEARS 38/26

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK SERVICE PERFORMANCE RESULTS FOR THE 2025/26 FINANCIAL
YEAR, AS AT 31 MARCH 2026**

CARRIED

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Crs Jones and Steane

EXTENSION OF TIME

MOVED CR SPEARS, SECONDED CR MACDONALD 39/26

THAT CR JONES BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION OF TIME

CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT: NINE MONTHS ENDING MARCH 2026 ITEM 6

MOVED CR GORDON, SECONDED CR REX 40/26

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL
PERFORMANCE AGAINST BUDGET FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH
2026.**

CARRIED

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Crs Jones and Spears

RATES COLLECTION AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY ITEM 7

MOVED CR HENDERSON, SECONDED CR STEANE OAM 41/26

**THAT COUNCIL ADOPTS THE RATES COLLECTION AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP
POLICY, AS ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT.**

CARRIED

Councillors who spoke to the motion - Crs Henderson, Steane and Jones

DIRECTOR ASSETS & LEISURE

CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: THIRD QUARTER 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR ITEM 1

MOVED CR STEANE OAM, SECONDED CR JONES 42/26

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE
CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE THIRD QUARTER FOR 2025/26**

CARRIED

DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

Nil

MOTIONS TO REVIEW

Nil

LATE ITEMS

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOVED CR JONES, SECONDED CR STEANE OAM 43/26

THAT STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SERVICE OF TONY ROCCA, DIRECTOR CORPORATE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM MAROONDAH

CARRIED

Councillors Jones, Steane, Macdonald, Gordon, Spears and Hancock acknowledged the contribution Tony Rocca made to Maroondah City Council during his 10 year tenure and wished him well in his new role at the Municipal Association of Victoria. Councillors shared their appreciation of Mr Rocca’s knowledge and expertise and noted his departure was a loss for Maroondah City Council.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

MOVED CR SPEARS, SECONDED CR MACDONALD 44/26

THAT STANDING ORDERS BE RESUMED

CARRIED

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

The open forum closed at 9:17pm.

Confirmed

Date