

# ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL MONDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2025

# **MINUTES**

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### **CITY OF ARMADALE**

# **MINUTES**

OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, 7 ORCHARD AVENUE, ARMADALE ON MONDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7.00PM.

### 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Deputy Mayor Keogh, declared the meeting open at 7.00 pm.

### **Acknowledgement to Country**

To begin I would like to pay my respects to the traditional custodians of this land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation. The City pays its respects to the Aboriginal Elders past, present and always and extend that respect to any Aboriginal people in the room.

# 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (previously approved)

### PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor, Cr J Keogh presided over

Cr K Jorgensen River Ward Cr T Thomas Ranford Ward Cr S Peter JP Ranford Ward Cr L Sargeson Palomino Ward Cr P A Hetherington Palomino Ward Cr Dan Newman JP Heron Ward Dr C M Wielinga Heron Ward Cr G J Smith Minnawarra Ward Cr A Singh Lake Ward

Cr A Singh Lake Ward
Cr S J Mosey Hills Ward
Cr S Stoneham Hills Ward

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ms J Abbiss Chief Executive Officer

Mr J LyonExecutive Director Corporate ServicesMr P SandersExecutive Director Development ServicesMr M SouthernExecutive Director Technical ServicesMrs S Van AswegenExecutive Director Community Services

Mrs S D'Souza CEO's Executive Assistant

Public: 7

### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Nil

### **APOLOGIES:**

Apologies received from Mayor Butterfield and Cr Silver - (Conference attendance) and from Cr Busby

# 3 ADVICE OF RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

### 4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

### 1 Stuart Chapman

Q1. Could Council please explain how the closure of the Armadale library on Saturday affected or will affect the financial reimbursement of casual, part time and full-time staff?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q2. What reforms will the City implement to ensure that library staff are protected from bullying, ideological pressure or discrimination and that future concerns are handled transparently and fairly?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q3. Will the Council issue an apology to Mr Mansfield for the harm caused to his professional reputation and wellbeing, and what measures will be taken to restore public confidence in the city's governance of its libraries?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q4. Will the council issue a public statement addressing Mr Declan Mansfield's claims against the City of Armadale concerning workplace bullying, the ideological nature of diversity training and the toxic work environment he alleges he was forced to endure?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

### 2 Brian Gillman

Q1. Has the Council received any complaints or internal communications regarding the concealment, removal or hiding of library books due to their content or perceived political sensitivity?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q2 Does the Council affirm that employees of the City of Armadale have the right to hold and express divergent views including different beliefs about gender and related social topics without fear of reprisal or discrimination?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

### 3 Allan Simpson

Q1 What steps has the Council taken to investigate the circumstances that led to Mr Declan Mansfield resignation from the Armadale library and does it acknowledge that his treatment reflects a failure of workplace culture?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q2 What reforms will the City implement to ensure that the library staff are protected from bullying, ideological pressure and discriminations and that future concerns are handled transparently and fairly?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

### 4 Scott Easton, Thornlie

Q1. What training or guidance has the City provided to management and staff to ensure respect for viewpoint diversity and compliance with the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 WA.

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q2. Has the Council conducted any review into whether internal policies or management actions contributed to the distress or resignation of Mr Mansfield? If not, why not?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

### 5 Martin Howley, Lesmurdie

Q1. Given the protest was entirely peaceful and involved approx. 15 well behaved participants will the Council confirm that the library will not be closed again if a similar peaceful rally occurs in the future?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q2. Does Council support intellectual freedom in its libraries and what policies are in place to prevent suppression of reading material again.

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q3. Do you mind me asking please why no questions have been answered tonight?

Deputy Mayor: We do need to find more information and the other aspect is that this is part of an ongoing legal matter, and hence we are unable to comment.

### 6 Kathy Speciale, Thornlie

Q1 Why was the Armadale library suddenly closed on Saturday 8 November in response to a peaceful and law-abiding public rally in support of Mr Mansfield?

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Q2 Who authorised the decision to close the library that day and what was the assessment on policy or justification used to support that action.

Deputy Mayor: The question will be taken on notice and a response provided in writing.

Question time closed at 7.10pm

### 5 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 5.1 Request for Leave of Absence – Cr S J Mosey, Cr A Singh, Cr D Newman

Request for leave of absence received from

- Cr Mosey for the period Friday 5 December to Thursday 18 December 2025, inclusive;
- Cr Singh for the period Wednesday 12 November to Sunday 20 November 2025, inclusive; and
- Cr Newman for the period Monday 24 November to Thursday 27 November 2025, inclusive.

MOVED Cr J Keogh

### That Council grant leave of absence to:

- Cr Mosey for the period Friday 5 December to Thursday 18 December 2025, inclusive (includes 1 Ordinary Meeting of Council 15 December 2025);
- Cr Singh for the period Wednesday 12 November to Sunday 20 November 2025, inclusive; and
- Cr Newman for the period Monday 24 November to Thursday 27 November 2025, inclusive (includes 1 Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 November 2025).

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### 6 PETITIONS

Nil

### 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 PREVIOUS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22 OCTOBER 2025.

MOVED Cr S J Mosey that the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 22 October 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

7.2 PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2025.

MOVED Cr S J Mosey that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 13 October 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

# 8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

# 9 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN – WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

### 10 REPORTS

### 10.1 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Report of the Technical Services Committee held on 3 November 2025.

MOVED Cr S Stoneham that the report be received.

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORT**

Recommendation T1/11/25 - Community Battery Project

MOVED Cr D Newman, SECONDED Dr C M Wielinga OPPOSED Cr P Hetherington

That Council authorise the CEO to:

- 1. provide a Letter of Support to Western Power, and correspondence during the Ministerial consultation period, to enable a Deed of Easement to be enacted by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for the purpose of installing a community battery system at Ashworth Park.
- 2. include in correspondence with Western Power that Western Power undertake suitable community engagement with residents of Ashworth Way, Harber Drive and Chiltern Avenue.

MOTION LOST (5/7)

FOR: Cr Newman, Dr Wielinga, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Smith, Cr Singh

AGAINST: Cr Keogh, Cr Hetherington, Cr Peter, Cr Thomas, Cr Sargeson, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

MOVED Cr S Peter, SECONDED Cr D Newman OPPOSED Cr P Hetherington

### That Council authorise the CEO to:

- 1. provide a Letter of Support to Western Power, and correspondence during the Ministerial consultation period, to enable a Deed of Easement to be enacted by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for the purpose of installing a community battery system at Ashworth Park.
- 2. include in correspondence with Western Power that Western Power undertake suitable community engagement with residents within 100m from the facility.

Due to there being an equality in votes (6/6), in accordance with Section 5.21(3) of the Local Government Act 1995, the Deputy Mayor cast a second vote and voted for Recommendation T1/11/25 being adopted

### MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

7/6

FOR: Cr Newman, Dr Wielinga, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Peter. Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Keogh (second vote) AGAINST: Cr Hetherington, Cr Thomas, Cr Sargeson, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham, Cr Keogh

Recommendation T2/11/25 - Appointment of Councillors to Occasional Advisory Groups, Reference/Working Groups and External Organisations

MOVED Dr C M Wielinga

### **That Council:**

Appoint nominated Councillors to Occasional Advisory Groups, Reference/Working Groups and External/Local organisations, for the period November 2025 to October 2027 as follows:

Group Name	Member / Delegate	Deputy
Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group	Cr G Smith	Cr S Peter
<b>Armadale Settlers Common Working</b>	Cr S Stoneham	Cr S J Mosey
Group		
<b>Bushcare &amp; Environmental Working</b>	Cr G Smith	Dr C M Wielinga
Group		
Jandakot Regional Park Community	Cr A Singh	Cr S Peter
<b>Advisory Committee</b>		
Metropolitan Regional Road Sub-	Cr S Stoneham	Cr J Keogh
Group		
Parks Darling Range Community	Cr A Singh	Dr C M Wielinga
<b>Advisory Committee</b>		
South East Regional Centre for Urban	Cr G Smith	Cr S Peter
Landcare		
South East Regional Energy Group	Mayor Butterfield	Cr Keogh
Wirra Willa Working Group	Mayor Butterfield	Cr J Keogh
	Cr K Busby	Cr S Stoneham

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### 10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Report of the Community Services Committee held on 4 November 2025.

MOVED Cr P A Hetherington that the report be received.

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORT

<u>Recommendation C1/11/25 - Appointment of Councillors to Occasional Advisory Groups,</u> Reference/working groups and external organisations

MOVED Cr P A Hetherington

That Council appoint nominated Councillors to Occasional Advisory Groups, Reference/Working Groups and External/Local organisations, for the period November 2025 to October 2027 as follows:

Group Name	Member / Delegate	Deputy
City of Armadale Highland Gathering Reference Group	Cr G J Smith	Cr P Hetherington
Access & Inclusion Reference Group	Cr G J Smith	Cr K Jorgensen
History Reference Group	Cr J Keogh	Cr S J Mosey

Homelessness Working Group	Cr K Busby Cr P Hetherington Cr L Sargeson	
Neighbourhood Watch Committee (CoA)	Cr G J Smith Cr S Peter	Cr K Jorgensen Cr T Thomas
Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group	Cr J Keogh Cr P Hetherington Cr M Silver Cr S Stoneham Dr C Wielinga	

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### Recommendation C2/11/25 - Approval of Bushfire Risk Management Plan

MOVED Cr P A Hetherington

### **That Council:**

- 1. Approve the draft Bushfire Risk Management Plan ('BRM Plan') as per the attachment to this report.
- 2. Requests that the CEO notifies the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) Office of Bushfire Risk Management (OBRM) that the City's BRM Plan has been formally approved by Council.

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### 10.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Report of the Chief Executive Officer.

MOVED Cr S Peter that the report be received.

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORT**

Recommendation CEO1/11/25 – Appointment of Councillors to Occasional Advisory Groups, Reference/Working Groups and External Organisations

MOVED Cr J Keogh

That Council appoint nominated Councillors to the Standing Order & House Advisory Group for the period November 2025 to October 2027 as follows:

	Members		
Occasional Advisory Groups & Reference/Working Groups Established by Council			
Standing Order and House Advisory Group	Mayor R Butterfield Cr J Keogh Cr S J Mosey Dr C M Wielinga Cr S Peter Cr L Sargeson Cr S Stoneham		

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

Recommendation CEO2/11/25 - Councillors Information Bulletin - Issue No 17/2025 MOVED Cr S Peter

That Council acknowledge receipt of Issue 17/2025 of the Information Bulletin

### MOTION not opposed, DECLARED CARRIED

12/0

FOR: Cr Keogh, Cr Jorgensen, Cr Thomas, Cr Peter, Cr Sargeson, Cr Hetherington, Dr Wielinga, Cr Newman, Cr Smith, Cr Singh, Cr Mosey, Cr Stoneham

### 11 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

# 12 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

Nil

# 13 MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEES – WITHOUT DISCUSSION

### 1 Dieback Services (Dr Caroline Wielinga)

That the matter of dieback services of non-park reserve public lands be referred to the Technical Services Committee.

### 2 City's Website (Cr Dan Newman)

That the matter of review and feedback from the community and stakeholders on the city's new website's effectiveness and content be referred to the Corporate Services Committee.

### 3 Pocket Forests - Miyawaki Method (Cr Scott Mosey)

That the matter of consideration of the Miyawaki method of pocket forests for trial be referred to the Technical Services Committee.

# 14 MATTERS REQUIRING CONFIDENTIAL CONSIDERATION Nil 15 CLOSURE Deputy Mayor Keogh, declared the meeting closed at 7.33pm

MINUTES CONFIRMED THIS 24 NOVEMBER 2025

DEPUTY MAYOR	