



HEPBURN SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
PUBLIC MINUTES

Wednesday 12 August 2026

Virtual Meeting
via Video Conference

7:00 PM

A LIVE STREAM OF THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED
VIA [COUNCIL'S YOUTUBE PAGE](#)

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Wednesday 12 August 2026

Virtual Meeting

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Commencing at 7:00 PM

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JANET DORE

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Wednesday 12 August 2026

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Hepburn Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters we live and work on. On these lands, Djaara has performed age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. We recognise their resilience through dispossession and is a testament to their continuing culture and tradition, which is strong and thriving.

We also acknowledge the neighbouring Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri to our South East and the Wadawurrung to our South West and pay our respect to all Aboriginal peoples, their culture, and lore. We acknowledge their living culture and the unique role they play in the life of this region.

2 OPENING OF MEETING

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Cr Brian Hood, Cr Don Henderson, Cr Lesley Hewitt, Cr Pat Hockey, Cr Shirley Cornish, Cr Tim Drylie, Cr Tony Clark

OFFICERS PRESENT: Ms Janet Dore - Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Lucas - Director Infrastructure and Delivery, Ms Brooke Holmes - Director Integrity and Strategic Affairs, Mr Ron Torres - Director Development and Community, Mr Justin Finlayson - Acting Director Performance and Transformation, Ms Allison Watt, Coordinator Governance

The meeting opened at 7:06pm.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

“WE THE COUNCILLORS OF HEPBURN SHIRE
DECLARE THAT WE WILL UNDERTAKE ON EVERY OCCASION
TO CARRY OUT OUR DUTIES IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY
AND THAT OUR CONDUCT SHALL MAINTAIN THE STANDARDS OF THE CODE OF
GOOD GOVERNANCE
SO THAT WE MAY FAITHFULLY REPRESENT AND UPHOLD THE TRUST PLACED IN THIS
COUNCIL BY THE PEOPLE OF HEPBURN SHIRE”

3 APOLOGIES

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

5.1 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to section 66(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) Council or delegated committee must keep a meeting open to the public unless the Council or delegated committee considers it necessary to close the meeting to the public because a circumstance specified in subsection (2) applies.

The circumstances detailed in section 66(2) of the Act are:

- a) the meeting is to consider confidential information; or
- b) security reasons; or
- c) it is necessary to do so to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner.

RECOMMENDATION

That in accordance with sections 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, the meeting to be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the following confidential items:

1.1. CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- *Because it is personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;*
- *The ground applies because it relates to the employment and contract of the Chief Executive Officer.*

MOTION

That in accordance with sections 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, the meeting to be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the following confidential items:

CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- *Because it is personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;*
- *The ground applies because it relates to the employment and contract of the Chief Executive Officer.*

Moved: Cr Shirley Cornish

Seconded: Cr Pat Hockey

Carried

Voted for: Cr Brian Hood, Cr Don Henderson, Cr Lesley Hewitt, Cr Pat Hockey, Cr Shirley Cornish, Cr Tim Drylie and Cr Tony Clark

Voted against: Nil

Abstained: Nil

6 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7:10pm for the hearing of a confidential item and did not reopen to the public.