



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

MINUTES  
of the  
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL  
held on  
WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2016  
in the  
ALEXENDRA COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
commencing at  
6.00 pm

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The Chief Executive Officer formally opened the meeting.

### **1. PRAYER, OATH & RECONCILIATION STATEMENT**

The meeting was opened with Prayer and reading of the Oath and Reconciliation Statement.

### **2. APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

REF: SF/306

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence tendered.

***Present:***

Crs S McAulay, R Bowles, J Ashe, L Dunscombe, E Lording, C Bisset, M Rae

***In attendance:***

Chief Executive Officer: Margaret Abbey

General Manager Corporate and Community Services: Michael Chesworth

Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Development Services: John Canny

Manager Business Services: Andrew Bond

Manager Communications Library & Customer Services: Jacqui Rabel

Manager Development Services: Shivaun Brown

Manager Infrastructure Operations: Mark Leitinger

Manager Community Services & Recovery: Naomi McNamara

Acting Manager Infrastructure Assets: Caroline Lintott

Management Account: Stephen Mortensen

Coordinator Human Resources: Liz Peddie

Coordinator Statutory Planning: Karen Girvan

Governance Officer: Audrey Kyval

### **3. SWEARING IN OF ELECTED COUNCILLORS**

Attachments: Councillor Oath of Office Declaration (refer *Attachment 3* – TRIM 16/60810)

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* and *Local Government (Elections) Regulations 2016*, an election was held on Saturday 22 October 2016 to elect a new Council for the Murrindindi Shire.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* the Councillors-elect are required to take the oath of office. The Chief Executive Officer will proceed to administer the swearing in of the Councillors-elect, as prescribed under the *Act*.

#### **Oath of Office**

*"I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people in the municipal district of Murrindindi, and faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1989 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment".*

**Sandice McAulay took the Oath of Office**

**Rebecca Bowles took the Oath of Office**

**Jackie Ashe took the Oath of Office**

**Leigh Dunscombe took the Oath of Office**

**Eric Lording took the Oath of Office**

**Charlotte Bisset took the Oath of Office**

**Margaret Rae took the Oath of Office**

#### **4. SIGNING OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Attachments: Councillor Code of Conduct Councillor Declaration (refer *Attachment 4* – TRIM 16/61833)

The *Local Government Amendment (Improved Governance) Act 2015* resulted in an amendment of the *Act* to provide the additional requirement that all incoming Councillors must read their Council's Code of Conduct and make a declaration in writing, witnessed by the Chief Executive Officer that they will abide by it before taking office.

**Sandice McAulay signed the Code of Conduct**

**Rebecca Bowles signed the Code of Conduct**

**Jackie Ashe signed the Code of Conduct**

**Leigh Dunscombe signed the Code of Conduct**

**Eric Lording signed the Code of Conduct.**

Cr E Lording addressed the Council and gallery:

*Cr E Lording thanked the people in the King Parrot Ward for having faith in him over the last year since the by-election. He committed to maintaining the same level of trust and commitment to the community he has shown previously.*

**Charlotte Bisset signed the Code of Conduct**

**Margaret Rae signed the Code of Conduct**

#### **5. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON**

Under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the Mayor of the municipality must take the chair of all meetings of the Council at which she or he is present. As the Mayoral position became vacant at 6.00am on 22 October 2016, the Chief Executive Officer will call for a motion for appointment of a temporary Chairperson.

***Officer Recommendation:***

That Councillor ..... be nominated as temporary Chairperson.

**Cr C Bisset nominated Cr M Rae for the position of temporary Chairperson**

**Cr M Rae accepted the nomination.**

**RESOLUTION:**

**Cr C Bisset / Cr S McAulay**

**That Councillor Margaret Rae be appointed temporary Chairperson.**

**CARRIED**

**The Chief Executive Officer declared Cr M Rae the temporary Chairperson.**

**Cr M Rae assumed the Chair.**

## **6. ELECTION OF MAYOR**

REF: SF/139

Section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides for the election of the Mayor after the fourth Saturday in October and no later than 30 November each year.

Before the election of the Mayor, Council may resolve to elect a Mayor for a term of 2 years.

The Acting Chairperson will call for nominations and if there is only one nomination received, then that Councillor is declared elected as Mayor.

In the event of there being more than one nomination, the Acting Chairperson will conduct an election. The election will be conducted in accordance with Council's *Governance Local Law No.2, 2014* which incorporates its Code of Meeting Procedure.

The process of election of the Mayor will take place in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of Council's *Governance Local Law No.2*. The election is to be conducted by show of hands. Once declared, the elected Mayor will take the Chair and preside over the remainder of the meeting.

On election of the Mayor, the Acting Chairperson vacates the Chair and the Mayor assumes the Chair.

### ***Officer Recommendation:***

That Councillor ..... be elected as Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016 – 2017 (or 2016-2018).

**Cr E Lording nominated Cr C Bisset for the position of Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016-2017.**

**Cr C Bisset accepted the nomination.**

### **RESOLUTION:**

**Cr E Lording / Cr J Ashe**

**That Councillor Charlotte Bisset be appointed Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016-2017.**

**CARRIED**

**The Acting Chairperson declared Cr C Bisset the Mayor of the Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016-2017.**

**Cr C Bisset assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.**

**7. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

REF: SF/139

The process of election of the Deputy Mayor will take place in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of Council's *Governance Local Law No.2 (incorporating Meeting Procedure)*.

***Officer Recommendation:***

That Councillor ..... be elected as Deputy Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016 – 2017 (or 2016-2018).

**Cr L Dunscombe nominated Cr S McAulay for the position of Deputy Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016-2017.**

**Cr S McAulay accepted the nomination.**

**RESOLUTION:****Cr L Dunscombe / Cr R Bowles**

**That Councillor Sandice McAulay be appointed Deputy Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016-2017.**

**CARRIED**

**The Mayor declared Cr S McAulay the Deputy Mayor of the Murrindindi Shire Council for 2016-2017.**

Cr C Bisset as Mayor addressed Council and the gallery:

*“Firstly, congratulations to my fellow Councillors; sincerely, thank you for entrusting me with such a privileged and honourable position. Thank you to Margaret Abbey and her Executive Team for their support thus far on our Councillor journey. I will endeavour to carry out the duties of Mayor with full integrity, respect and fairness. I really do look forward to working with you all, you are a wonderful team of talented, passionate and committed individuals who all share the belief to better serve our communities and the whole of Murrindindi Shire Council residents. The opportunity for change is now - the energy and buzz around the Council Chamber is evident of a team of people who are willing and prepared to unite in order to create an ethical, transparent and well presented Council. Paying respect to previous and future Councils, this Council will be different. The four year journey ahead will have challenges, but also it will have its successes through supporting, encouraging and believing in the will to do good, we shall strive to put forth an honest, trustworthy and untied Council”*

Cr S McAulay as Deputy Mayor addressed Council and the gallery:

*“It is an honour to be here tonight standing with this positive group of people. In the short time that we have been working together, I know we share a love and commitment to our wonderful diverse community and we each want to provide a voice for all of our community members. I am so looking forward to working with this new team and the Council officers for strategic and consultative growth and development of our Shire”.*

There being no further items of Business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 6.17 pm.

CONFIRMED THIS

WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

CHAIRPERSON

