

**ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 12 August 2025**  
**63 MT BARKER ROAD STIRLING**

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In Attendance

**Presiding Member:** Acting Mayor Nathan Daniell

**Members:**

Councillor Adrian Cheater
Councillor Nathan Daniell
Councillor Chris Grant
Councillor Lucy Huxter
Councillor Leith Mudge
Councillor Mark Osterstock
Councillor Kirsty Parkin
Councillor Malcolm Herrmann

In Attendance:

Greg Georgopoulos	Chief Executive Officer
Gary Lewis	Director Corporate Services
Jess Charlton	Director Community and Development
Jade Ballantine	Director Environment and Infrastructure
Zoë Gill	Executive Governance Officer
Skye Ludzay	Governance Officer
Georgie McKeon	Minute Secretary
Tom Portas	Technical Support

**1. COMMENCEMENT**

The meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

6:32pm Cr Lucy Huxter joined the meeting.

**2. OPENING STATEMENT**

Council acknowledges that we meet on the traditional Country of the Peramangk and Kurna people. We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders past and present as the Custodians of this ancient and beautiful land.

Together we will care for this place for the generations to come and in this context the decisions we make should be guided by the principle that nothing we do should decrease our children's ability to live on this land.

**3. APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**3.1 Apology**

Nil

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**3.2 Leave of Absence**

Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom - 11 March 2025 to 10 September 2025 - approved 11 March 2025

**3.2.1 Request - Cr Kirrilee Boyd**

Moved Cr Leith Mudge  
S/-Cr Kirsty Parkin

**262/25**

- 1 That a Leave of Absence from all duties of office be granted to Cr Kirrilee Boyd from 12 August 2025 to 27 August 2025.
- 2 That any committee or panel membership currently held by Cr Kirrilee Boyd be undertaken by the Deputy during the leave of absence.

<b>Carried</b>
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**3.3 Absent**

Nil

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**4.1 Council Meeting – 22 July 2025**

Moved Cr Kirsty Parkin  
S/- Cr Malcolm Herrmann

**263/25**

Council resolves that the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 22 July 2025, as supplied, be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**4.2 Special Council Meeting – 4 August 2025**

Moved Cr Mark Osterstock  
S/- Cr Chris Grant

**264/25**

Council resolves that the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 4 August 2025, as supplied, be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**5. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**5.1 General Conflict of Interest, Cr Malcolm Herrmann, Item 12.3**

Under section 75B of the *Local Government Act 1999* Cr Malcolm Herrmann disclosed a General (section 74) Conflict of Interest in Item 12.3.

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**5.2 General Conflict of Interest, Cr Leith Mudge, Item 12.3**

Under section 75B of the *Local Government Act 1999* Cr Leith Mudge disclosed a General (section 74) Conflict of Interest in Item 12.3

**6. PRESIDING MEMBER'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Acting Mayor welcomed the gallery to the meeting.

**7. QUESTIONS ADJOURNED/LYING ON THE TABLE**

**7.1 Questions Adjourned**

Nil

**7.2 Question Lying on the Table**

Nil

**8. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM**

**8.1 Petitions**

Nil

**8.2 Deputations**

Nil

**8.3 Public Forum**

Nil

**9. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**10. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**10.1 Financial Assistance Grants – Cr Malcolm Herrmann**

**In relation to Financial Assistance Grants:**

**For 2023/24, how much was included in the Annual Business Plan, how much was received and what is the reason for the variation?**

The 2023/24 Annual Business Plan had a budget of \$1,794,280 for the Financial Assistance Grants. The amount received within the year was \$95,844. The main reason for the difference is that a payment of \$1,698,436 which was for the 2023/24 budgeted grant was not received by the end of that financial year and was therefore accounted for (under Australian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)) in 2024/25 financial year. The payment was received on the first day of the 2024/25.

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**For 2024/25, how much was included in the Annual Business Plan, how much was received and what is the reason for the variation?**

The 2024/25 Annual Business Plan had a budget of \$1,830,500 for the Financial Assistance Grants. The amount received within the year was \$3,086,704. The main reason for the difference is that a payment of \$1,698,436 referred to in section 1 (above) was received on the first day of the 2024/25 financial year which meant it was accounted for in 2025/26.

**For 2025/26, how much is included in the Annual Business Plan, how much is now expected and what is the reason for the variation?**

The 2025/26 Annual Business Plan had a budget of \$1,852,500 for the Financial Assistance Grants which is the amount that the Federal Government had allocated to Council for 2025/26. Council is awaiting final information on the timing of payments in the current year. Any variation between the expected amount to be received in 2025/26 will be brought to Council at the first budget review. It is likely that variations will primarily be due to the timing of the grant payments differing to the years for which they are intended.

**10.2 Sale of land for non-payment of rates – Cr Malcolm Herrmann**

**How many property owners (if any) have paid the rates and charges in full?**

At the 28 January 2025 Council Meeting, Council was notified that ten properties had rates outstanding for more than three years. Of these ten properties, seven properties have paid the rates and charges in full.

**How many property owners (if any) have an approved plan to pay the rates and charges?**

One property owner has an approved plan to pay the rates and charges.

**Have the two property owners who received a formal notice from Council's solicitors paid or entered into an arrangement for payment of their outstanding rates and charges totalling \$23,478 by the due date?**

Assuming this question relates to the two properties advertised by Council in The Advertiser on Friday 20 June 2025, one has paid their debt in full with the file now closed. The owner of the second property has not made an attempt to address the debt. The S184 process continues with this property which is at Birdwood. It was offered at auction on Wednesday 6 August 2025 where it was turned-in as it failed to meet its reserve price. The property will now be listed as for sale through Council's estate agent.

**How much was outstanding at the commencement of the process?**

The Council report dated 28 January 2025 reported an outstanding amount of \$108,942.52 for the ten properties.

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**How much is outstanding as at 22 July 2025?**

The outstanding amount has now reduced to \$30,216.52.

**11. MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

**11.1 Legal Costs – Cr Malcolm Herrmann**

**Moved Cr Malcolm Herrmann**

**S/- Cr Chris Grant**

**265/25**

**Council resolves:**

**That at the ordinary meeting of Council when the 2024/2025 financial statements are considered for adoption, the CEO provides the following information:**

- 1. For 2023/24, the budget for legal costs, the actual expenditure by department and the reasons for any variation.**
- 2. For 2024/25, the budget for legal costs, the actual expenditure by department and the reasons for any variation.**
- 3. For 2025/26, the quantum in the Annual Business Plan for legal costs and the actual expenditure to the 30 September 2025.**

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**12. OFFICER REPORTS – DECISION ITEMS**

**12.1 By -Law Adoption and Consultation**

**Moved Cr Leith Mudge**

**S/- Cr Kirsty Parkin**

**266/25**

**DECISION 1**

**Council resolves:**

- 1. That the report be received and noted.**
- 2. To make and pass the following By-laws as attached and marked as Appendices 1 to 3 and 5 to 6 of this report, exercising powers contained in Section 246 of the Local Government Act 1999, having satisfied the consultation requirements of the Act and having regard to the submissions received from the public, the Certificates of Validity provided by the Council's legal practitioner and in the presence of at least two thirds of its members.**

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3. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to undertake all steps necessary to finalise the By-law review process and to give effect to the newly adopted By-laws.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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Resolution 266/25 was made with at least two-thirds of the members of the Council present and was supported by at least an absolute majority of the members of the Council.

**DECISION 2**

**Moved Cr Leith Mudge  
S/- Cr Chris Grant**

**267/25**

**Council resolves:**

1. That the draft By-law No.4 Roads in Appendix 4 be released for community consultation for a period of at least twenty-one clear days with the following changes:
  - a. The appropriate part of Section 4.16.1 be changed to "...and not before 6:00am the day prior to collection;"
2. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor changes to draft By-law No.4 Roads as amended by this resolution, that the Chief Executive Officer deems fit prior to the commencement of community consultation.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**DECISION 3**

**Moved Cr Leith Mudge  
S/- Cr Malcolm Herrmann**

**268/25**

**Council resolves:**

1. That the draft By-law No. 7 Township Bird Management in Appendix 9 be released for community consultation for a period of at least twenty-one clear days.
2. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor changes to draft By-law No.7 Township Bird Management in Appendix 9 that the Chief Executive Officer deems fit prior to the commencement of community consultation.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**12.2 Temporary Road Closures – Young Drivers Awareness Course 2025-26**

Moved Cr Malcolm Herrmann

S/- Cr Kirsty Parkin

269/25

**Council resolves:**

- 1. That the report be received and noted.**
- 2. To, pursuant to Section 33(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1961 and Clause G of the Instrument of General Approval of the Minister dated 22 August 2013:**
  - a. Declare that the Driver Education Program that is to take place on Newman Road, Charleston is an event to which Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1961 applies.**
  - b. Make an order directing that a section of Newman Road, Charleston, between Five Lanes Road and Lewis Road, be closed to traffic for the period between 9.00am and 6.00pm on Wednesday 8 October 2025 and 9.00am and 6.00pm Wednesday 15 April 2026, with the road closure managed by event traffic controllers through a traffic management plan.**
  - c. Make an order directing that persons taking part in the event be exempt from the duty to observe the Australian Road Rules Rule 238 (Pedestrians travelling along a road).**
  - d. Make an order directing that all vehicles except emergency and participant vehicles and residents living at the named section of Newman Road, be excluded from the closed section of road for the period of the closure.**
- 3. Notes the *Instrument of sub-delegation for the purposes of the Instrument of General Approval and Delegation* made by Council on 25 January 2022 and supports future road closure orders being made by the Chief Executive Officer for any Council run Driver Education Program.**

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**12.3 Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority: Appointment of Board and Deputy Board Members**

Under section 75B of the Local Government Act 1999 Cr Malcolm Herrmann disclosed a General (section 74) Conflict of Interest in Item 12.3.

- I am a Council Representative on the GRFMA Board

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Cr Malcolm Herrmann declared that he would leave the meeting for the vote as he intended to renominate for the position of Board member.

7:22pm Cr Malcolm Herrmann left the meeting room.

Under section 75B of the Local Government Act 1999 Cr Leith Mudge disclosed a General (section 74) Conflict of Interest in Item 12.3.

- I am a Council Representative on the GRFMA Board

Cr Leith Mudge declared that he would leave the meeting for the vote as he intended to renominate for the position of Deputy Board member.

7:23pm Cr Leith Mudge left the meeting room.

**Moved Cr Mark Osterstock**

**S/- Cr Adrian Cheater**

**270/25**

**Council resolves:**

- 1. That the report be received and noted.**
- 2. To note that Cr Malcolm Herrmann was appointed as a board member (elected member) of the GRFMA from 30 November 2022 to 29 November 2024 and Cr Leith Mudge was appointed a Deputy Board Member (elected member) of the GRFMA from 28 May 2024 to 29 November 2024**
- 3. To note that due to an administrative error, Council failed to appoint a new board member (elected member) and deputy board member (elected member) between 30 November 2024 and 12 August 2025**
- 4. To note that Council has an obligation to maintain the appointment of a board member (elected member) and deputy board member (elected members) of the GRFMA**
- 5. To note that Cr Malcolm Herrmann and Cr Leith Mudge, as far as legally possible, should be taken to have been the board member (elected member) and deputy board member (elected member) of the GRFMA between 30 November 2024 and 12 August 2025**
- 6. To note that the Chief Executive Officer has nominated the Director Environment and Infrastructure, Jade Ballantine, as the Board Member (employee) of the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority Board, replacing the Manager, Strategic Assets, David Collins.**
- 7. To note the Chief Executive Officer has nominated the Sustainability Coordinator, Sharon Leith, as the Deputy Board Member (employee) of the Gawler River**



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Floodplain Management Authority Board, replacing David Waters, previous Director Environment and Infrastructure.

8. To appoint Cr Malcolm Herrmann to the Board Member (elected member) position of the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority Board for the remainder of the term of this Council.
9. To appoint Cr Leith Mudge to the Deputy Board Member (elected member) position of the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority Board for the remainder of the term of this Council.
10. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer to lodge all required documentation to give effect to Council's resolutions regarding the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority Board Membership.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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7:29pm Cr Malcolm Herrmann and Cr Leith Mudge returned to the meeting room.

**13. OFFICER REPORTS - INFORMATION ITEMS**

Nil

**14. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

**14.1 The Hon Jing Lee MLC regarding formation of new political party JING LEE - Better Community - 16 July 2025**

Moved Cr Chris Grant  
S/- Cr Lucy Huxter

**271/25**

Council resolves that the correspondence is received and noted.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**15. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Cr Malcolm Herrmann asked whether Council is aware of any involvement by the Local Government Association or has a position on the Federal Government's proposal to introduce a tax on electric vehicles.

**16. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

After taking into account the guiding principles, the Presiding Member accepted the following motion without notice.

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**16.1 Frequency and duration of Elected Member leave of absences**

Moved Cr Adrian Cheater  
S/- Cr Chris Grant

Council resolves:

The Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for consideration at the 23 September 2025 meeting which:

1. Examines the frequency and duration of Elected Member leave of absence approved by Council over the current Council term.
2. Analyses the impacts of ongoing or extended leave on:
  - a. Council's ability to achieve quorum and conduct its business efficiently.
  - b. The workload, responsibilities, and representation borne by Elected Members who continue to attend meetings.
3. Assesses the governance and reputational risks associated with repeated or ongoing Elected Member absences, particularly in the context of community perception, transparency, and accountability.
4. Presents options for Council to address high levels of leave of absence, including potential amendments to Council policy, meeting procedures, and any relevant legislative advocacy.
5. Identifies policy opportunities to acknowledge leave of absence request as 'medical', including recommendations for supporting evidence in such occurrences.

**AMENDMENT**

Moved Cr Mark Osterstock  
S/- Cr Lucy Huxter

**272/25**

Council resolves:

The Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for consideration at the **21 October** 2025 meeting which:

1. Examines the frequency and duration of Elected Member leave of absence approved by Council over the current Council term.
2. Analyses the impacts of ongoing or extended leave on:
  - a. Council's ability to achieve quorum and conduct its business efficiently.

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- b. The workload, responsibilities, and representation borne by Elected Members who continue to attend meetings.
- 3. Assesses the governance and reputational risks associated with repeated or ongoing Elected Member absences, particularly in the context of community perception, transparency, and accountability.
- 4. Presents options for Council to address high levels of leave of absence, including potential amendments to Council policy, meeting procedures, and any relevant legislative advocacy.
- 5. Identifies policy opportunities to acknowledge leave of absence request as 'medical', including recommendations for supporting evidence in such occurrences.

<b>The Amendment was put and Carried</b>
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**MOTION AS AMENDED**

Moved Cr Adrian Cheater  
S/- Cr Chris Grant

Council resolves:

The Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for consideration at the 21 October 2025 meeting which:

- 1. Examines the frequency and duration of Elected Member leave of absence approved by Council over the current Council term.
- 2. Analyses the impacts of ongoing or extended leave on:
  - a. Council's ability to achieve quorum and conduct its business efficiently.
  - b. The workload, responsibilities, and representation borne by Elected Members who continue to attend meetings.
- 3. Assesses the governance and reputational risks associated with repeated or ongoing Elected Member absences, particularly in the context of community perception, transparency, and accountability.
- 4. Presents options for Council to address high levels of leave of absence, including potential amendments to Council policy, meeting procedures, and any relevant legislative advocacy.
- 5. Identifies policy opportunities to acknowledge leave of absence request as 'medical', including recommendations for supporting evidence in such occurrences.

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**VARIATION**

Through the Deputy Mayor, with the consent of the Mover and Second, leave of the meeting was sought and granted to vary the motion as follows:

Council resolves:

The Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for consideration at the **28 October** 2025 meeting which:

1. Examines the frequency and duration of Elected Member leave of absence approved by Council over the current Council term.
2. Analyses the impacts of ongoing or extended leave on:
  - a. Council's ability to achieve quorum and conduct its business efficiently.
  - b. The workload, responsibilities, and representation borne by Elected Members who continue to attend meetings.
3. Assesses the governance and reputational risks associated with repeated or ongoing Elected Member absences, particularly in the context of community perception, transparency, and accountability.
4. Presents options for Council to address high levels of leave of absence, including potential amendments to Council policy, meeting procedures, and any relevant legislative advocacy.
5. Identifies policy opportunities to acknowledge leave of absence request as 'medical', including recommendations for supporting evidence in such occurrences.

**MOTION AS VARIED**

**Moved Cr Adrian Cheater  
S/- Cr Chris Grant**

**273/25**

**The Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for consideration at the 28 October 2025 meeting which:**

- 1. Examines the frequency and duration of Elected Member leave of absence approved by Council over the current Council term.**
- 2. Analyses the impacts of ongoing or extended leave on:**
  - a. Council's ability to achieve quorum and conduct its business efficiently.**

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- b. The workload, responsibilities, and representation borne by Elected Members who continue to attend meetings.
3. Assesses the governance and reputational risks associated with repeated or ongoing Elected Member absences, particularly in the context of community perception, transparency, and accountability.
4. Presents options for Council to address high levels of leave of absence, including potential amendments to Council policy, meeting procedures, and any relevant legislative advocacy.
5. Identifies policy opportunities to acknowledge leave of absence request as 'medical', including recommendations for supporting evidence in such occurrences.

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**17. REPORTS**

**17.1 Council Member Function or Activity on the Business of Council**

Nil

**17.2 Reports of Members as Council/Committee Representatives on External Organisations**

Nil

**17.3 CEO Report**

Greg Georgopoulos, CEO, provided Council with a verbal update, including:

- The Enterprise Bargaining process for field staff
- Values Initiative
- Onboarding new Elected Members
- WHS and Risk Management work
- Plans for his newly endorsed Key Performance Indicators for 2025-26

**18. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**18.1 Council Assessment Panel – 30 July 2025**

**Moved Cr Leith Mudge**

**S/- Cr Malcolm Herrmann**

**274/25**

**Council resolves that the minutes of the Special Council Assessment Panel meeting held on 30 July 2025, as distributed, be received and noted.**

<b>Carried Unanimously</b>
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**18.2     Audit and Risk Committee**

Nil

**18.3     CEO Performance Review Panel**

Nil

**18.4     Boundary Change Committee**

Nil

**19.     CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Nil

**20.     NEXT ORDINARY MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting of the Adelaide Hills Council will be held on Tuesday 26 August 2025 from 6.30pm at 63 Mt Barker Road, Stirling.

**21.     CLOSE MEETING**

The meeting closed at 7:58 pm