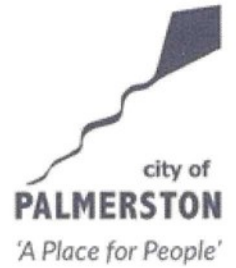


MINUTES



1st ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2026

The Ordinary Meeting of City of Palmerston held in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston, NT 0830.

Council business papers can be viewed on City of Palmerston's website palmerston.nt.gov.au



Minutes of Council Meeting
held in Council Chambers
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston
on Tuesday 3 March 2026 at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Chair)
Deputy Mayor Damian Hale (*via Audio/Audiovisual*)
Councillor Mark Fraser
Councillor Rob Waters (*via Audio/Audiovisual*)
Councillor Sarah Henderson
Councillor Wayne Bayliss
Councillor Yolanda Kanyai

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh
Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon
General Manager Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta
General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl
General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight
Minute Secretary, Pania Withnall

GALLERY

No members of the public
3 members of staff

Initials: 

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Palmerston acknowledges the Larrakia people as the Traditional Custodians of the Palmerston region. We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future leaders and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

2 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:30pm.

3 APOLOGIES

Moved: Councillor Henderson

Seconded: Councillor Bayliss

THAT the apology received from Councillor Morrison for 3 March 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0264 - 3/03/2026

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 Elected members

Moved: Councillor Bayliss

Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT the Declaration of Interest received from Councillor Waters for Item 26.1.3 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0265 - 3/03/2026

4.2 Staff

Moved: Councillor Fraser

Seconded: Councillor Kanyai

THAT the Declaration of Interest received from Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh for Item 26.1.1 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0266 - 3/03/2026

Initials: 

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: Councillor Kanyai
Seconded: Councillor Bayliss

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 February 2026 pages 12039 to 12051 be confirmed.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0267 - 3/03/2026

5.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

6 MAYORAL REPORT

Nil

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

Nil

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9.1 Moving confidential items into open

9.1.1 Local Government Act Amendments 2025 - Tranche 2

1. THAT Report entitled Local Government Act Amendments 2025 - Tranche 2 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council provides the submission to the Local Government Legislation Amendments 2025 consultation tabled on 17 December 2025 to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

Initials:



3. THAT this decision be moved into open once the proposed amendments have been introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0172 - 17/12/2025

9.1.2 Leave of Absence Requests

2. THAT the leave of absence request received from Councillor Morrison for 14 February 2026 to 1 March 2026 inclusive, for the reason of a holiday, be approved.
7. THAT each decision be moved to the Open Minutes at expiry of the leave of absence.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0197 - 20/01/2026

9.1.3 Request For Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing

2. THAT Council approve the request for Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing received from Councillor Morrison who will be physically prevented from attending a meeting for the period 14 February 2026 to 1 March 2026 inclusive, due to being on holiday.
6. THAT this decision be moved to the open minutes following the Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0198 - 20/01/2026

9.2 Moving open items into confidential

Nil

9.3 Confidential items

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale

Seconded: Councillor Bayliss

THAT pursuant to Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential items:

Item	Confidential Category	Confidential Clause
26.1.1	Matters Relating to Council Staff and or Elected Members	51(1)(a) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General)

Initials: 

		Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.
26.1.2	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	51(1)(c)(i) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.
26.1.3	Appointment of Committee Member	51(1)(b) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.
26.1.4	Appointment of Committee Member	51(1)(b) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.
26.1.5	Contract and Tender Assessment and Award	51(1)(c)(iv) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government

Initials: 

		(General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
26.1.6	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	51(1)(c)(i) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.
26.1.7	Legal Advice	51(1)(c)(iv) This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0268 - 3/03/2026

10 PETITIONS

Nil

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

Initials: 

12 OFFICER REPORTS

12.1 Action reports

Councillor Waters joined the meeting at 5:39 pm.

12.1.1 Council Policy Review - Political Involvement in Council Events Policy

Moved: Councillor Henderson
Seconded: Councillor Kanyai

1. THAT Report entitled Council Policy Review - Political Involvement in Council Events Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council lay on the table the Report entitled Council Policy Review - Political Involvement in Council Events Policy, and an amended policy be presented to Council by June 2026 reviewing the Political Involvement in Council Events Policy to consider inclusion of neutrality standards.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0269 - 3/03/2026

12.1.2 Council Policy Review - Confidential Information Policy

Moved: Councillor Kanyai
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

1. THAT Report entitled Council Policy Review - Confidential Information Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the amended Confidential Matters at Council Meetings Policy at **Attachment 12.1.2.3** to the Report entitled Council Policy Review - Confidential Information Policy.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0270 - 3/03/2026

Initials:



12.1.3 Irrigation Service Levels

Moved: Councillor Bayliss
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

1. THAT Report entitled Irrigation Service Levels be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorses the irrigation service levels as set out in **Attachment 12.1.3.1**.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0271 - 3/03/2026

12.1.4 City of Palmerston Reconciliation Action Plan

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale
Seconded: Councillor Kanyai

1. THAT Report entitled City of Palmerston Reconciliation Action Plan be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorses the final version of City of Palmerston's Reconciliation Action Plan at **Attachment 12.1.4.1** to Report entitled City of Palmerston Reconciliation Action Plan.
3. THAT Council notes the statement read out loud by Mayor Pascoe-Bell on behalf of Deputy Mayor Hale, provided by Dr Richard Fejo:
"Palmerston City Council recognises that the municipality of Palmerston City and beyond is located on the traditional lands of Gulumoerrgin, the lands that belong to the Larrakia First Nations people of Australia. We acknowledge their ancient heritage of land, lore and culture. Their custodianship of the community and environment. We acknowledge their families, people and Elders past, present and emerging. We are proud to live and work on Larrakia community, a community that is a part of us as much as we are a part of it. May their ancestors guide and protect us always. Dr. Richard Fejo."

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0272 - 3/03/2026

Initials: 

12.2 Receive and note reports

12.2.1 Communication Strategy Annual Update 2026

Moved: Councillor Bayliss
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT Report entitled Communication Strategy Annual Update 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0273 - 3/03/2026

13 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 Information

Nil

13.2 Correspondence

Nil

14 REPORT OF DELEGATES

Nil

15 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Nil

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

Initials:



17 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Moved: Councillor Kanyai
Seconded: Councillor Bayliss

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 17 March 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0274 - 3/03/2026

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved: Councillor Bayliss
Seconded: Councillor Waters

THAT pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0275 - 3/03/2026

19 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Nil

The open section of the meeting closed at 6:15 pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7:42 pm.



Chair



Print Name



Date

Initials: