MINUTES

city of PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

2nd ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 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 20 October 2026 at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS	Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Chair) Deputy Mayor Wayne Bayliss Councillor Mark Fraser Councillor Sarah Henderson Councillor Lucy Morrison Councillor Rob Waters
STAFF	Interim Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon Acting General Manager Infrastructure, Michael Williams General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight Minute Secretary, Pania Withnall
GALLERY	Seven (7) members of the public Five (5) 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 5:32pm.

3 APOLOGIES

THAT the apology received from Councillor Kanyai for 20 October 2026 be received and noted.

Motion lapsed for want of a mover and seconder.

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 Elected members

Nil

4.2 Staff

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: **Councillor Fraser**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6 October 2026 pages 12338 to 12353 be confirmed.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0661 – 20/10/2026

5.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

Initials:

6 MAYORAL REPORT

Moved: Mayor Pascoe-Bell
Seconded: Councillor Morrison

THAT Report entitled Mayoral Update Report - September 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0662 – 20/10/2026

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

Moved: Councillor Fraser
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

1. THAT the following public questions from Magdalene Mahomet of Farrar NT and response as tabled regarding Farrar West Development be received and noted.

2. THAT the following public question from Brita Holdt of Farrar NT and response as tabled regarding Farrar West Development be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0663 – 20/10/2026

Public questions from Magdalene Mahomet
Question 1:
Palmerston City Council needs to ensure that a comprehensive and independent environmental assessment is undertaken for the proposed Farrar subdivision, including referral to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA), to address community and stakeholder concerns and ensure the protection of the remaining native bushland, wildlife corridors, significant trees and biodiversity in Palmerston. The Palmerston 2017–18 consultation report for the Planning for a Vibrant Future Discussion Paper identified broad community support for environmental protection in residential development, including the preservation of native flora and fauna, significant trees, bushland and wildlife corridors. Given these stated

Initials:

community values, and the environmental consultants commissioned by Larrakia Development Corporation concluding that the proposed subdivision, particularly the destruction of the natural waterways, is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact, what steps will Council take to ensure that this conclusion is independently scrutinised and that the community's environmental concerns are fully considered before any development proceeds?
Response 1:
The development application for the Farrar West development is currently on public exhibition, and residents are encouraged to submit any concerns about the proposal directly to the consent authority, who is the decision maker on these matters. The public exhibition period will end on 6 November 2026, and further information about making a submission can be found on the NT Governments Development Applications Online (DAO) website. The City of Palmerston will make be making a submission through this process, noting that Council is not the responsible authority for environmental assessment or referrals. As advised in response to your question on 6 October 2026, the basis of City of Palmerston's submission will be relating to existing and proposed public assets and infrastructure, with consideration of alignment to the Palmerston Eastern Suburbs Area Plan and the Northern Territory Subdivision Development Guidelines.
Question 2:
Given that the proposed Farrar West Development is planned for an FD-zoned area of retained natural bushland in Farrar, and that the original plans are more than 10 years old, how will Palmerston City Council ensure that all relevant planning policies, procedures and assessments are reviewed and updated to reflect the significant changes in Palmerston's population, infrastructure, road networks and surrounding developments since the plans were first prepared, and how will Council ensure that the concerns of Farrar residents are adequately considered before the development proceeds?
Response 2:
The Northern Territory Planning Commission is responsible for the strategic planning framework, and the Development Consent Authority is responsible for interpreting and applying the strategic planning framework and statutory controls that guide development.

Public question from Brita Holdt
Question 1:
Can the City of Palmerston Council garantee that the redirection of the Mitchell Creek tributary does not lead to negative ecological

Initials:

consequences downstream, or habitat loss for local wildlife? Furthermore, what independent assessments have been conducted to guarantee that existing Farrar residents will not face a decline in lifestyle quality, loss of natural amenities, or subsequent drops in property value due to these major landscape alterations?
Response 1:
City of Palmerston is a referral authority in the development assessment process and is not the responsible authority for environmental assessment. In this capacity, City of Palmerston's submission will relate to existing and proposed public assets and infrastructure, with consideration of alignment to the Palmerston Eastern Suburbs Area Plan and the Northern Territory Subdivision Development Guidelines. Questions related to development, should be directed to the Development Consent Authority, who is the decision maker on these matters.

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9.1 Moving confidential items into open

Nil

9.2 Moving open items into confidential

Nil

9.3 Confidential items

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

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

Initials:

24.1	External Presentation Request	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(d) 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 subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity
26.1.1	Council Committee Recommendations	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.
26.1.2	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	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.
26.2.1	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	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.
26.2.2	Contract and Tender Matters	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section

Initials:

		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.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0664 – 20/10/2026

10 PETITIONS

Nil

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

12 OFFICER REPORTS

12.1 Action reports

12.1.1 Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes 29 September 2026

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

1. THAT Report entitled Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes 29 September 2026 be received and noted.

2. THAT the Unconfirmed Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting minutes provided at **Attachment 12.1.1.1** to report entitled Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes 29 September 2026 be received and noted.

Initials:

3. THAT Council adopts the following recommendation from the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting held Tuesday 29 September 2026:

   a. THAT the following actions are marked as complete on the Action Report:

      i. Whistleblower Policy (RMA11/006).

      ii. Policy Review - Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference (RMA11/060).

   b. THAT Action Report be moved to Confidential from the September 2026 Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting onwards, in accordance with the amended Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0665 – 20/10/2026

12.1.2 Harvest Corner Community Garden

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Morrison**

1. THAT the report entitled Harvest Corner Community Garden be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorses proceeding with Step 1 (Expression of Interest) as outlined within this report entitled Harvest Corner Community Garden, with an allocation of up to $10,000 to support establishment costs.

3. THAT Council considers Step 2 (Council maintained open space) as outlined within this report entitled Harvest Corner Community Garden as part of the 2027/28 budget development process, should Step 1 be unsuccessful.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0666 – 20/10/2026

12.2 Receive and note reports

12.2.1 People and Place Quarterly Report - July to September 2026

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

THAT Report entitled People and Place Quarterly Report - July to September 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0667 – 20/10/2026

Initials:

12.2.2 Financial Report for the Month of September 2026

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Councillor Waters**

THAT Report entitled Financial Report for the Month of September 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0668 – 20/10/2026

12.2.3 Community Satisfaction Survey Results 2026

Moved: **Councillor Morrison**
Seconded: **Councillor Fraser**

THAT Report entitled Community Satisfaction Survey Results 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0669 – 20/10/2026

12.2.4 Major Capital Projects Update

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**

THAT Report entitled Major Capital Projects Update be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0670 – 20/10/2026

12.2.5 Community Quarterly Report - July to September 2026

Moved: **Councillor Morrison**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

THAT Report entitled Community Quarterly Report - July to September 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0671 – 20/10/2026

12.2.6 Youth Engagement

Moved: Councillor Fraser
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT Report entitled Youth Engagement be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0672 – 20/10/2026

13 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 Information

Nil

13.2 Correspondence

13.2.1 Data Centres

Moved: Councillor Fraser
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bayliss

THAT correspondence 13.2.1.1 dated 4 September 2026 and the response 13.2.1.2 received 5 October 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0673 – 20/10/2026

13.2.2 Palmerston Youth Festival Funding Agreement 12 month extension

Moved: Councillor Henderson
Seconded: Councillor Waters

THAT correspondence 13.2.2.1 dated 18 August 2026 and the response 13.2.2.2 received 11 October 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0674 – 20/10/2026

14 REPORT OF DELEGATES

Nil

Initials:

15 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Moved: **Councillor Morrison**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

1. THAT the question asked by Deputy Mayor Bayliss regarding update on of funding for the Men's Shed, and the response provided by the General Manager Community be received and noted.

2. THAT the question asked by Deputy Mayor Bayliss regarding lease of tenancy 2, 60 Georgina Crescent Yarrawonga and the response provided by the General Manager Community be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0675 – 20/10/2026

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

17 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 3 November 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0676 – 20/10/2026

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved: **Councillor Fraser**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

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 (6/0) - 11/0677 – 20/10/2026

Initials:

19 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Moved: **Councillor Fraser**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

THAT the meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes for a break.

CARRIED (6/0) - 11/0678 – 20/10/2026

The meeting adjourned at 6:11pm.

The open section of the meeting closed at 6:11pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

The closed section of the meeting reopened at 6:16pm.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7:44pm.

Chair

Mayor Athina Rasroe-Bell
Print Name

3 November 2026
Date

Initials: