



Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers, Wolfram Street Westonia

Thursday 21st August 2025

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

These minutes were confirmed by the Council on 16th September 2025 as a true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 21st August 2025.

.....
Cr RM Crees
Shire President

All attachment items referred to in these minutes are available for public perusal at the Shire Office



Disclaimer

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Westonia for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council meetings.

The Shire of Westonia disclaims and liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused by arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during the Council Meetings.

Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or committee meeting does that persons or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the board disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, any statement or intimation made by any member or Officer of the Shire of Westonia during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Westonia.

The Shire of Westonia warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Westonia must obtain and should only rely on **WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Westonia in respect of the application.



**SHIRE OF
WESTONIA**
A vibrant community lifestyle

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY

SNAPSHOT

PLAN

2018-2028

CORE DRIVERS

1. Relationships that bring us tangible benefits (to the Shire and our community)
2. Our lifestyle and strong sense of community.
3. We are prepared for opportunities and we are innovative to ensure our relevancy and destiny.

OUR VALUES

Respect – We value people and places and the contribution they make to the Shire.

Inclusiveness – Be receptive, proactive, and responsive.

Fairness and Equity – Provide services for a variety of ages and needs.

Communication – Create opportunities for consultation with the broad community.

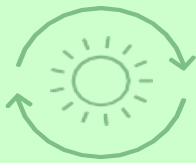
OUR VISION

A vibrant community lifestyle

MISSION

Provide leadership and direction for the community.

ECONOMIC



Support growth and progress, locally and regionally...

Efficient transport connectivity in and around our Shire.

- Continue to utilise our Road Management Plan, which incorporates a road hierarchy, minimum service levels and maintenance policy.
- RAV Ratings and Shire boundaries are consistent across local government boundaries.
- Lobby and build enduring partnerships with key Government Departments to improve Great Eastern Hwy.
- Actively participate in the Secondary Freight Network group.
- Develop and implement a Road Asset Plan highlighting key funder and strategic partnerships to support sustainability.
- Develop a Gravel Reserve Policy which identifies future gravel reserves and recognises cost to local government.
- Educate road users about road safety and driving on gravel roads.
- Optimal and safe use of our plants and equipment assets.
- Ensure that appropriate RAV vehicles traverse correct RAV routes.
- Maintain our airport with a view to improvements to meet commercial and recreational aviation needs.

Facilitate local business retention and growth.

- Council recognises the opportunity of partnering with Westonia Progress Association, works closely and supports them to help achieve their economic development projects and our strategic goals.
- Council continue to have a role in facilitating the presence of a Co-op in our community.
- Enhance local economic activity by supporting the growth of tourism in our Shire and region including applying for funding to improve tourist facilities.
- Improve our online tourism presence.
- We forward plan to improve the economic diversity in our community.
- In partnership with Council, the mine develops long term business plans for current mine assets.
- Investigate options for multipurpose accommodation if vacancies arise in mine accommodation.

SOCIAL



Provide community facilities and promote social Interaction...

Plan for community growth and changing demographics.

- Develop the Town Planning Scheme.
- Plan and develop residential and industrial land.
- Community safety and ease of access around town is a priority.
- Our lifestyle, facilities and sense of community is promoted.
- The CEACA project continues to expand the number of universally designed dwellings in our town.
- We support our emergency services.
- We enable visiting health professionals to our community.
- The Community Resource Centre receives external funding to provide preventative health and community development initiatives to the community.
- We facilitate healthy and active ageing in place
- Our cemetery is well presented.

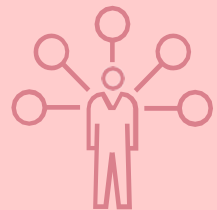
Our community has the opportunity to be active, socialised and connected.

- We collaborate and encourage active engagement in local clubs and community initiatives that support a healthy lifestyle.
- Investigate motor sport opportunities around the Shire.
- Preserve and celebrate our local history.
- Support our volunteers and clubs to remain strong, dynamic, and inclusive.
- Encourage lifelong learning.
- Children and youth have active and social opportunities.
- Continue to provide high standard and accessible shire facilities.
- Retain and expand Westonia's unique tourism experience.

Natural spaces are preserved and bring us value.

- Sustainably manage our reserves and open spaces.
- Participate in best practice waste management.
- Work collaboratively to meet legislative compliance with managing weeds and pests as well as our environmental health standards.
- Investigate renewable energy generation technologies.

GOVERNANCE



Continually enhance the Shire's organisational capacity to service the needs of a growing community...

Be progressive and capture opportunities.

- Be open to local productivity/ best practice and cost saving opportunities locally and regionally.
- Investigate joint resourcing and tendering
- Advocate and develop strong partnerships to benefit our community.
- Be prepared by forward planning our resources and focusing on continuous improvement.
- Identify risks and opportunities after the life of the mine.

The community receives services in a timely manner.

- Meet our legislative and compliance requirements.
- Work towards optimal management of our assets.
- Work to develop Councillor and staff skills and experience to provide career and succession opportunities within the Shire.
- Inside and outside staff are multi skilled to understand the business of local government and provide a seamless service to the community.
- Communicate and engage with our community regularly.

Financial resources meet the ongoing needs of the community.

- Seek external funding for significant capital improvements that deliver upon our strategic objectives.
- Investigate ways to reduce reliance on operational grants given the current State and Federal Government priorities.

Shire of Westonia: -

A vibrant community lifestyle.



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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President, Cr Crees welcomed Councillors and staff and declared the meeting open at 4.00pm.

A minute's silence was held as a mark of respect for the passing of past local resident.

Mr Peter Wahlsten – Councillor 1971-1986

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillors:

Cr RM Crees	<i>Shire President</i>
Cr RA Della Bosca	<i>Deputy Shire President</i>
Cr DL Geier	
Cr WJ Huxtable	
Cr A Faithfull	
Cr DL Simmonds	

Staff:

Mr.AW Price	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>
Mrs JL Geier	<i>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</i>

Members of the Public: Nil

Apologies: Nil

Approved Leave of Absence: Nil

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (4.10PM – 4.25PM)

NIL

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17th July 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

RESOLUTION

Moved:	Cr Simmonds	Seconded:	Cr Geier
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01/08-25	That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17th July 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record
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CARRIED 6/0

6. RECEIVAL OF MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the WEROC Inc. Board Meeting held on Wednesday 13th August 2025 be accepted.

RESOLUTION

Moved:	Cr Geier	Seconded:	Cr Faithfull
02/08-25	That the minutes of the WEROC Inc. Board Meeting held on Wednesday 13th August 2025 be accepted.		

CARRIED 6/0

7. PRESIDENT/COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

President, Cr Crees advised having attended the following meetings:
Great Eastern Zone Monday 18 August 2025
WEROC Inc Board Meeting 13 August 2025
LGIS Golf Day 14 August 2025 to 15 August 2025

Deputy President, Cr Della Bosca advised having attended the following meetings:
Nil

Councillor Geier advised having attended the following meetings:
Nil

Councillor Simmonds advised having attended the following meetings:
Nil

Councillor Faithfull advised having attended the following meetings:
Nil

Councillor Huxtable advised having attended the following meetings:
Nil

8. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Financial** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **21st August 2025**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Closely Association Person and Impartiality** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **21st August 2025**.

Name/Position	Cr Denver Simmonds
Item No./Subject	9.4.1 Request To Freehold Lease K574480, Lot 1524 On DP18707, Shire of Westonia
Nature of interest	Closely Association Person and Impartiality
Extent of Interest	Cr Simmonds Uncle has submitted the application to The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

In accordance with Section 5.60B and 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Proximity interest** were made at the Council meeting held on **21st August 2025**

Name/Position	Cr Denver Simmonds
Item No./Subject	9.4.1 Request To Freehold Lease K574480, Lot 1524 On DP18707, Shire of Westonia
Nature of interest	Proximity
Extent of Interest	Cr Simmonds Property is adjoining to the property in question

9. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

9.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

9.1.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – JULY 2025

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO		
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer		
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil		
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.1 List of Accounts		
Signature:	Officer	CEO	
			

Purpose of the Report

☐

Executive Decision

☒

Legislative Requirement

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits July be obtained.

Comment

Attached is a copy of Accounts for Payment for the month of July 2025 The credit card/ Fuel Card statements currently show: -

MasterCard Transactions

CEO July 2025 \$7,367.24 associated with the purchase of 1049451 Cloud Anti Spam Recurring, 1038203 Office 365 Exchange online Plan Monthly Recurring, 1047021 Microsoft 365 Business Basic Recurring Monthly, Active8me internet service, 1049449 Managed Endpoint & Subscriptions Recurring, 1038283 - Microsoft 365 Business Std Recurring, Starlink - CEO Interne Interflora - Flowers C Pedrotti, Surgical House - Medical Supplies, Big W - TV Remote, Freo Fight Club - Social Club outing, BWS - Member Refreshments, The Brass Monkey - Member Refreshments, Bar Shanhai - Member Refreshments, The Lifting Company - 2500kg Pallet Truck Barossa Tourist Park – Conference, Bunnings - Dolly Move it Trolley

DCEO July 2025 \$3272.76 associated with the purchase of, Fluid Management Tech - Keychain fob for fuel, TEMU - Mannequin Overalls, Big W - Alarm Clock, WALGA Awards Accommodation, Double Tree Northbridge, Wilson Parking Bunnings - Bubble wrap, moving blankets shrink wrap, Westonia Shire - Licensing, Card Fee

Fuel Card Transactions Totalling Nil

CEO Nil

DCEO Nil

Construction Supervisor Nil

Statutory Environment

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulations 12 & 13 requires the list of accounts to be presented to Council. Payments are made by staff under delegated authority from the CEO and Council.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to payment of accounts.

Strategic Implications

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Financial Implications

Expenditure in accordance with the 2025/2026 Annual Budget.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That July 2025 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4627 to DD4651 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7719 to EFT7774 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$403,988.66 be passed for payment.

RESOLUTION

Moved:

Cr Huxtable

Seconded:

Cr Faithfull

03/08-25

That July 2025 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4627 to DD4651 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7719 to EFT7774 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$403,988.66 be passed for payment

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY– JULY 2025

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO		
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer		
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil		
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.2 Monthly Statement of Financial Activity		
Signature:	Officer	CEO	
			

Purpose of the Report

☐ Executive Decision ☒ Legislative Requirement

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council’s activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Comment

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending July 2025 is attached for Councillor information, and consists of:

- 1. Statement of Financial Activity
- 2. Statement of Financial Position
- 3. Note 1 Basis of Preparation
- 4. Note 2 Statement of Financial Activity Information
- 5. Note 3 Explanation of Material Variances
- 6. Supplementary information

Statutory Environment

General Financial Management of Council
Council 2025/2026 Budget
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 1996
Local Government Act 1995 section 6.4

Policy Implications

Council is required annually to adopt a policy on what it considers to be material as far as variances that require to be reported for Council. Council policy is that the material variation be set at \$10,000 and 15%.

Strategic Implications

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council’s activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending July 2025 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

RESOLUTION

Moved:

Cr Geier

Seconded:

Cr DellaBosca

04/08-25

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending July 2025 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.3 GST RECONCILIATION REPORT – JULY 2025

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO		
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer		
File Reference:	F1.4.4 Audit Report		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil		
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.3 GST Report		
Signature:	Officer	CEO	
			

Purpose of the Report

☐ Executive Decision ☒ Legislative Requirement

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council’s current GST liability, which has an impact on Council’s cash-flow.

Background

The Reconciled Balance of the GST Ledger to the General Ledger as reported as at July 2025 provided to Council on a monthly basis as a means of keeping Council informed of its current GST liability.

Comment

The GST Reconciliation Report is attached for Councillor consideration.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in regard to Goods and Services Tax.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council’s current GST liability, which has an impact on Council’s cash-flow.

Voting Requirements

☒ Simple Majority ☐ Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the GST Reconciliation totalling \$31,256.00 for the period ending July 2025 adopted.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Simmonds **Seconded:** Cr Geier

05/08-25 That the GST Reconciliation totalling \$31,256.00 for the period ending July 2025 adopted.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.4 NATIONAL SMALL TOWN REINVENTION CONFERENCE

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO	
Author:	Bill Price, CEO	
File Reference:	A2.8.5	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Small Town Conference Program	
Signature:	Officer	CEO
		

Purpose of the Report

☒ Executive Decision ☐ Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider that elected members and senior staff attend the National Small Town Reinvention Conference 2025, to be held in Kapunda, South Australia from 22 – 25 September 2025, in place of attending the WALGA Convention 2025, scheduled for 22 – 24 September 2025 in Perth.

Background

The National Small Town Reinvention Conference 2025, themed “*Prosperity Through Connection, Collaboration and Community*”, will focus on innovative strategies to support the sustainability, growth, and reinvention of small towns. The program includes keynote speakers, regional case studies, and collaborative workshops that directly address the challenges and opportunities facing rural and small communities.

Given the Shire's profile as a small regional local government, the themes and content of the Kapunda conference are considered highly relevant and applicable to local strategic priorities such as community development, economic diversification, and regional collaboration.

Comment

While the WALGA Convention provides a broad platform for sector-wide networking and governance updates, the National Small Town Reinvention Conference offers a more tailored program aligned with the Shire’s current goals and community context. Attendance will provide valuable insights, tools, and partnerships that can support the Shire’s long-term planning and engagement strategies.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Strategic Implications

Networking and learning opportunities provided by the Convention

Financial Implications

Budget allowance for the attendance of conferences.

Cost Breakdown per Conference

WALGA LGC 25 Conference	
Conference Registration x3 Attendees	\$4,125.00
Parmelia Hilton Accommodation x3 Attendees	\$5,707.00
Meals & Refreshments x3 Attendees	\$1,500.00

National Small Town Reinvention Conference 2025	\$11,332.00
Conference Registration x 7 Attendees	\$6,930.00
Barossa Tourist Park Accommodation x7 Attendees	\$3,850.00
	\$10,780.00



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council Resolution
11/07-25 That Cr Crees, Cr Faithfull @ DCEO Jasmine Geier attend the 2025 WALGA AGM and Convention being held at the Perth Convention Centre with Crs Crees & Faithfull being Council's voting delegates at the AGM.
Be revoked by Council.
2. That elected members and senior staff attend the National Small Town Reinvention Conference 2025 being held in Kapunda South Australia on 22 – 25 September 2025

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr DellaBosca

Seconded: Cr Simmonds

06/08-25

1. That Council Resolution

11/07-25 That Cr Crees, Cr Faithfull @ DCEO Jasmine Geier attend the 2025 WALGA AGM and Convention being held at the Perth Convention Centre with Crs Crees & Faithfull being Council's voting delegates at the AGM.
Be revoked by Council.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6/0

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr DellaBosa

Seconded: Cr Geier

07/08-25

2. That elected members and senior staff attend the National Small Town Reinvention Conference 2025 being held in Kapunda South Australia on 22 – 25 September 2025

CARRIED 6/0

9.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATIONS

Nil

9.3 WORKS AND SERVICES

Nil

9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* Cr Simmonds declared a Proximity & Closely Association Person and Impartiality interest in 9.4.1 Request To Freehold Lease K574480, Lot 1524 On DP18707, Shire of Westonia as his Uncle has submitted the application to The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and Left the Meeting at 4.17pm

9.4.1 REQUEST TO FREEHOLD LEASE K574480, LOT 1524 ON DP 18707, SHIRE OF WESTONIA

Responsible Officer:	Bill Price, CEO
Author:	Bill Price, CEO
File Reference:	ES1.7.1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Site Plan

Signature:	Officer	CEO
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Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider providing support for the freeholding of Lot 1524 with an option to purchase.

Background

The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage has received an application from Mr. Robert Simmonds to buy Lot 1524 on Deposited Plan 187807 in freehold. Mr. Simmonds currently leases this land (Lease K574480), which is designated for 'Cultivation and Grazing' and expires in October 2028.

He would like to purchase the land because Ramelius has finished their drilling and closed their nearby mine.

Could the Shire please provide comments on this proposal? Attached is an aerial and tenure maps for Councillor reference.

Please be advised that pursuant to section 14 of the *Land Administration Act 1997*, the Department requires the Shire to provide its comments with 42 calendar days of this email. If no initial response is provided by the Shire by 3 September 2025, the Department will assume there are no comments and will proceed accordingly.

Comment

Neighbouring lots adjacent to this parcel of land are freehold and serve the purpose as hobby farms. There is no obvious reason for Council to oppose the freeholding of this land.

Statutory Environment

Land Administration Act 1997

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Freeholding of land surrounding the town for private ownership instead of Government lease.

Financial Implications

Nil

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Cr Huxtable

CARRIED 5/0

Cr. Simmonds returned to the Meeting at 4.20pm

10. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday schedule 16th September 2025 commencing at 4.00pm.

13. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the Shire President, Cr Mark Crees declared the meeting closed at 4.20pm