



Mayoral Election Council Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 19 November 2025

5:30 PM

Senior Citizens Centre, Kerang

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CONFIRMED

**MINUTES OF GANNAWARA SHIRE COUNCIL
MAYORAL ELECTION COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE, KERANG
ON WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT: Cr Garner Smith (Mayor)
Cr Ross Stanton (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Charlie Gillingham
Cr Daniel Bolitho
Cr Lisa Farrant
Cr Pat Quinn

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer
Governance Officer

Gallery: 0

Media: 1

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country video was played.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

Cr Garner Smith read the Opening Declaration.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Keith Link

4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 129(g) of the Local Government Act 2020 and Regulation 7 of the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020, a Councillor does not have a conflict of interest if the matter relates to the nomination of a Councillor for the election to the office of Mayor or Deputy Mayor, or the election of a Councillor to the office of Mayor or Deputy Mayor.

5 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

5.1 OUTGOING MAYORAL ADDRESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chief Executive Officer will invite the 2024/2025 Mayor, Cr Garner Smith, to provide an overview of his year as the Mayor.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Garner Smith

Seconded: Cr Pat Quinn

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Mayoral Address of Cr Garner Smith, Mayor 2024/2025.

CARRIED

5.2 MAYORAL TERM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Section 26 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and Rules 7 and 8 of Council's Governance Rules, before the election of the Mayor, Council must determine by resolution whether the Mayor is to be elected for a one year or a two-year term.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charlie Gillingham

Seconded: Cr Lisa Farrant

That Council confirms that the Mayoral term for 2025/2026 be for a period of one year.

CARRIED

5.3 ELECTION OF MAYOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) requires Council to elect a Mayor no later than one month after the date of general election and in future elections of the Mayor during the Council's four year term they must be held on a day to be determined by Council that is as close to the end of the one year term as is reasonably practicable.

The process for the election of the Mayor is detailed in the Act and Gannawarra Shire Council's Governance Rules.

The election of the Mayor is chaired by the Chief Executive Officer, and once elected, the Mayor will take the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Daniel Bolitho

That Council elect a Councillor to be Mayor of the Gannawarra Shire Council for the 2025/2026 year.

CARRIED

The Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for position of Mayor.

Cr Lisa Farrant nominated Cr Garner Smith for the position of Mayor, Cr Garner Smith accepted the nomination.

With no other nominations received, the Chief Executive Officer declared Cr Garner Smith, Mayor of the Gannawarra Shire Council for 2025/2026.

The Chief Executive Officer placed the Mayoral Chains around Cr Garner Smith's neck and congratulated him. He then vacated the chair for the Mayor to proceed with the remainder of the meeting.

5.4 INCOMING MAYORAL ADDRESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2025/2026 Mayor will address the meeting on the year ahead.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ross Stanton

Seconded: Cr Pat Quinn

That Council receive and note the incoming Mayoral address.

CARRIED

5.5 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) states that a Council may establish an office of Deputy Mayor to perform the role of the Mayor, and exercise any of the powers of the Mayor in certain circumstances.

The process for the election of the Deputy Mayor is detailed in the Act and the Gannawarra Shire Council Governance Rules.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Daniel Bolitho

Seconded: Cr Charlie Gillingham

That Council elect a Councillor to be Deputy Mayor of the Gannawarra Shire Council for the 2025/2026 year.

CARRIED

The Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for position of Deputy Mayor.

Cr Daniel Bolitho nominated Cr Ross Stanton for the position of Deputy Mayor, Cr Ross Stanton accepted the nomination.

With no other nominations received, the Chief Executive Officer declared Cr Ross Stanton, Deputy Mayor of the Gannawarra Shire Council for 2025/2026.

The Council congratulated Cr Ross Stanton on becoming Deputy Mayor.

The Meeting closed at 5:47pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Meeting of the Gannawarra Shire Council held on 17 December 2025.

Mayor Garner Smith

CHAIRPERSON