



Minutes

Unscheduled Council Meeting

Tuesday 24 February 2026 at 6pm

Council Chamber,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang



**City of
Whittlesea**

Councillors

Cr Lawrie Cox, Mayor	Ganbul Gulinj Ward
Cr Blair Colwell, Deputy Mayor	Mill Park Ward
Cr Deb Gunn	Painted Hills Ward
Cr Michael Labrador	Lalor Ward
Cr Jarrod Lappin	Mernda Ward (Online)
Cr David Lenberg	Epping Ward
Cr Aidan McLindon	Kirrip Ward (Apology)
Cr Christine Stow	North Ward
Cr Martin Taylor	South Morang Ward
Cr Daniela Zinni	Bundoora Ward (Online)

Executive Leadership Team

Jacinta Stevens	Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO
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UNCONFIRMED

1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting at 6pm.

“Welcome to this Unscheduled Council Meeting of 24 February 2026 which is being held in person in the Council Chamber at Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang and also being live streamed.

The purpose of this meeting is to further consider the confidential CEO Employment Matter from the Council meeting held on 17 February 2026.

I am Cr Lawrie Cox, Mayor of the City of Whittlesea and I would like to introduce our Councillors and members of the Executive Leadership Team in attendance tonight.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Blair Colwell, Cr Deb Gunn, Cr Michael Labrador, Cr David Lenberg, Cr Christine Stow and Cr Martin Taylor. We also have Cr Jarrod Lappin and Cr Daniela Zinni joining us virtually.

From our Executive Leadership Team we have the Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO, Jacinta Stevens.”

1.2 Apologies

I note Cr Aidan McLindon is an apology tonight.

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Chair read the following statement:

“On behalf of Council, I recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.

I would also like to acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.4 Diversity and Good Governance Statement

The Chair read the following statement:

“At the City of Whittlesea we are proud of our diversity and the many cultures, faiths and beliefs that make up our community. We strive to be an inclusive welcoming City that fosters active participation, wellbeing and connection to each other and this land. We commit as a Council to making informed decisions to benefit the people of the City of Whittlesea now and into the future, to support our community’s vision of A Place For All.”

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

I note that the Chief Executive Officer, Craig Lloyd is not present in the meeting.

3 Confidential Business

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Recommendation

THAT the meeting be closed to the public under Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* for further consideration of the confidential item from the 17 February meeting relating to:

3.1 CEO Employment Matters - CEO Contract

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	
Moved:	<i>Cr Stow</i>
Seconded:	<i>Cr Gunn</i>

THAT Council adopt the recommendation to close the meeting to the public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chair closed the open meeting to the public at 6:03pm.

4 Closure

There being no further business the Mayor formally closed the meeting at 6:40pm.

Confirmed this 17th day of March 2026.

Cr Lawrie Cox
Mayor