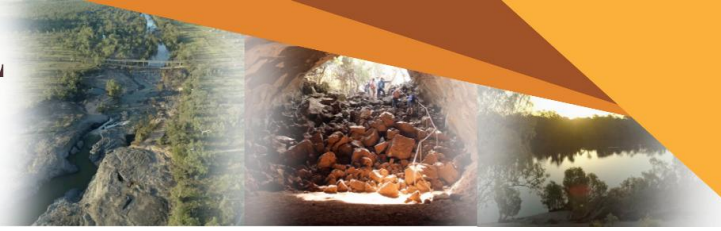
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL



CONFIRMED MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2026
COMMENCING AT 8.00AM

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2026

ATTENDANCE

Cr. Barry Hughes
Cr. Laurell Royes
Cr. Seven Ryan
Cr. Ian Tincknell

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mrs. Louise Knol. Chief Executive Officer
Miss. Gemma Bethel, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer

OPEN GALLERY

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 8:05am and welcomed all in attendance.

ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Attendance:
Nil

Apologies:
Cr. Carroll currently on leave.

Leave of Absence:
Nil

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer

10.1 Confirmation of the Employment Contract for the Chief Executive Officer (Successful completion of Probationary Period)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the successful completion of the Chief Executive Officer's probation period and to confirm the continuation of the Chief Executive Officer's employment contract in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract of employment.

An independent probation review was recently undertaken by Mr John Oberhardt, Executive Recruitment Consultant, involving assessment and feedback from the Mayor and Councillors regarding the performance of Chief Executive Officer Mrs Louise Knol during the probationary period. The review concluded that the Chief Executive Officer has performed to a very high standard, exceeding the expected competency levels for the role both professionally and personally. The review panel supported and endorsed the conclusion of the Chief Executive Officer's formal probation period.

RESOLUTION
That Council:

1. Receive and note the probation review report prepared by Mr John Oberhardt, Executive Recruitment Consultant;
2. Note the recommendation of the review panel that Chief Executive Officer Mrs Louise Knol has successfully completed the probation requirements contained within the employment contract;

3. Confirm the ongoing employment of Chief Executive Officer Mrs Louise Knol in accordance with the terms and conditions of the existing Chief Executive Officer Employment Contract; and
4. Authorise the Mayor to provide written confirmation to the Chief Executive Officer of Council's resolution.

MOVED: Cr. Tincknell **SECONDED**: Cr. Royes

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #SP26.10.01
4/0

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS

Director of Corporate Services

11.1 2026 Annual Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Etheridge Shire Council must, pursuant to section 182 of *the Local Government Regulation 2012*, prepare and adopt an Annual Report for each financial year.

RESOLUTION
That Council, in accordance with section 182 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, adopts the 2025–2026 Annual Report, subject to the inclusion of the additional information tabled regarding Elected Member Expense Reimbursement and minor amendments to the Community Grants and Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) information.

MOVED: Cr. Royes **SECONDED**: Cr. Ryan

ADJOURNMENT
Council suspend standing orders at 8:42am

RESUMPTION
Council resumed standing orders at 3:54pm

CARRIED
RESOLUTION #SP26.10.02
4**/0**

CONCLUSION

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4:02pm. These minutes will be confirmed by Council at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2026.

Cr. Barry Hughes
MAYOR