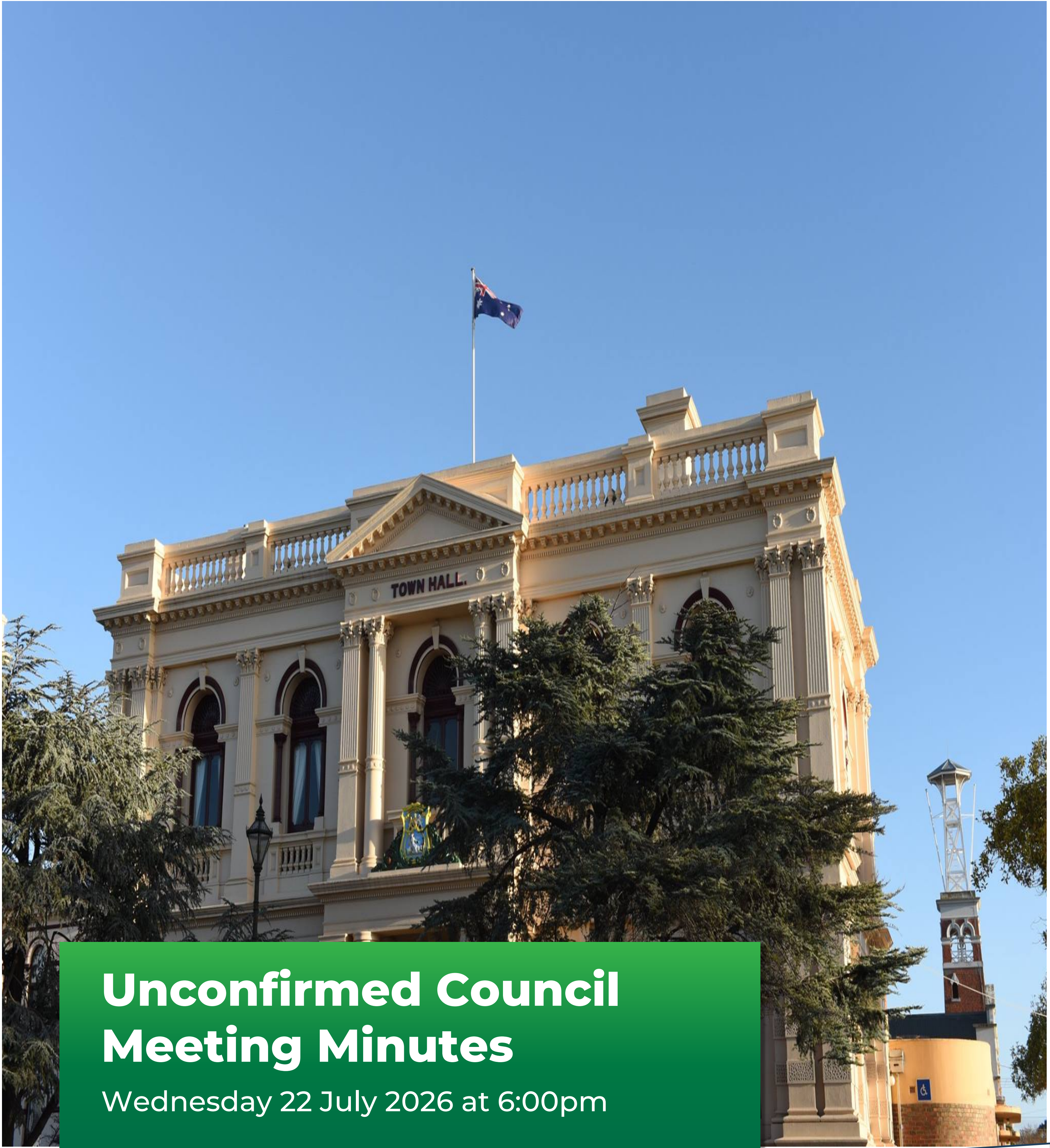

Unconfirmed Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 22 July 2026 at 6:00pm

Maryborough Town Hall, 71 Clarendon Street, Maryborough.

CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE COUNCIL

Attendees

The meeting commenced at 6:00pm.

PRESENT

Councillors:
Ben Green (Mayor)
Anna de Villiers (Deputy Mayor)
Grace La Vella
Geoff Bartlett
Liesbeth Long (Online 5:50pm)
Jake Meyer (Online 5:50pm)
Gerard Murphy (apology)

Officers:
Acting Chief Executive Officer, Lenny Jenner
General Manager Community Wellbeing, Emma Little
Acting General Manager Assets Infrastructure and Planning, Peter Field
General Manager Corporate Services, Liam Routledge
Acting Manager Governance and Risk, Rob Duoba
Melissa Hill Governance Officer

1 Welcome

2 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Cr Gerard Murphy was an apology.

3 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared from Councillors or Officers.

Cr Green stated that, given the significance of Item 7, The Motion of Condolence, he would like to put a motion to the meeting that Council consider Item 7 as Item 4 in the Agenda.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Item 7, Motion of Condolence be presented as Item 4 in the Agenda.

Moved: Cr Green

Seconded: Cr La Vella

CARRIED

4 Motion of Condolence

4.1 Motion of Condolence - Chris Meddows-Tayor

Cr Green stated that he would like to put to the Council a Motion of Condolence

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Place on record its sadness and regret at the recent passing of Mr Chris Meddows-Taylor and;
2. Record its appreciation for the contribution by Mr Meddows-Taylor during his terms as Mayor and Councillor, and to the Central Goldfields community; and
3. Extend its sympathy and condolences to Mr Meddows-Taylor's partner, family, and friends.

Moved: Cr Green

Seconded: Cr Bartlett

CARRIED

Cr Green read the following: Central Goldfields Shire Council acknowledges the passing of former Mayor and Councillor, Chris Meddows-Taylor, and sends condolences to his partner, family, and friends.
First elected as a Councillor in 2005 and Mayor in 2007, Mr Meddows-Taylor completed his sixth term as Mayor in November 2022.
As former chair of the Victorian Goldfields Tourism Executive, he played an active leadership role in the Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Listing bid.
His career included stints in the Victorian public sector with the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Education Department. He also worked with corporations including BHP Billiton and AXA.

Community leadership roles included president of Asteria and vice-president of Havilah, and with various Talbot organisations, including Talbot Action Inc, and helping to establish the Talbot Farmers Market.
Mr Meddows-Taylor held a Mayor Emeritus award from the Municipal Association of Victoria. His post-graduate studies were in public policy, and he was an Honorary Research Fellow at Federation University.
As Mayor and a councillor, he advocated for many local initiatives including increased rail services, the Talbot Structure Plan, and better telecommunications.

Cr Green then stated that to further signify the Council's condolence, that he seeks a motion to suspend Standing Orders to enable Council and all those present to stand and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council suspends standing orders in order to observe a minute of silence for Mr Chis Meddows-Taylor

Moved: Cr Green

Seconded: Cr La Vella

CARRIED

The gallery stood for a minute's silence.

Cr Green thanked everyone for their involvement in the expression of condolence.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council resume standing orders.

Moved: Cr Green

Seconded: Cr de Villiers

CARRIED

5 Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Council Meetings

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council confirm;

1) The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 May 2026 and;
2) The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 June 2026

Moved: Cr Bartlett

Seconder: Cr de Villiers

CARRIED

6 Minutes of Delegated and Advisory Committees

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council note the unconfirmed Audit and Risk Committee Minutes for 1 June 2026.

Moved: Cr Bartlett

Seconder: Cr La Vella

CARRIED

7 Petitions

There were no petitions presented.

8 Council Reports

8.1 Council Plan Annual Action Plan - Qr 3 (Apr - June 2026)

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council notes the Quarter 3 progress update on the delivery of the Council Plan Annual Action Plan 2025–2026, for the period 1 April to 30 June 2026 with the following amendment that in the Officers report heading number 6: **Governance, Financial and Organisational Health** be corrected to read Sound Leadership and Financial Management as per listed in the Council Plan.

Moved: Cr Geoff Bartlett

Seconder: Cr Grace La Vella

CARRIED

Cr Bartlett spoke to the motion at 6:15pm and had some clarified questions regarding the sections pertaining to Planning and Community Asset Committees. The Acting Director of Assets and Planning addressed the questions through the Mayor

8.2 Contract G1882-2023 Panel of Suppliers - Supply, Deliver & Lay Asphalt

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to approve purchase orders and expenditure under Contract G1882-2023 – Annual Supply: Supply, Deliver & Lay Asphalt Panel beyond the original authorised expenditure limit of $1.2 million (inclusive of GST) for the remaining two years of the initial term of the contract, provided that:

a) all expenditure remains within Council's adopted budget allocations for the 2026–2027 and 2027–2028 financial years; and

b) all approvals are exercised in accordance with the Chief Executive Officer's financial delegation limits under the S5 Instrument of Delegation from Council to the CEO.

Moved: Cr La Vella

Seconder: Cr de Villiers

CARRIED

8.3 Community Satisfaction Survey

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council notes the 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey report as presented.

Moved: Cr de Villiers

Seconder: Cr Geoff Bartlett

TIED

As the vote was tied, Cr Green as the Mayor, cast the deciding vote and the motion was carried.

CARRIED

8.4 Public Lighting Strategy

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Note the detailed community feedback and gender impact assessment.
2. Adopt the Public Lighting Strategy.

Moved: Cr de Villiers

Seconder: Cr Bartlett

CARRIED

9 General and other Urgent Business

No Urgent or General Business were presented.

10 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion were presented.

11 Confidential Business

No Confidential Items were presented.

12 Meeting Closure

The Mayor, Cr Green closed the Council Meeting at 6:46pm and Cr Long and Cr Meyer left their online attendance at 6:46pm.