



City of
Melville

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

NOTICE OF MEETING

I respectfully bring to the attention of Elected Members that a Special Meeting of the Electors will be held in the Kambarang (Conference), Melville Civic Centre, 10 Almondbury Road, Booragoon on Tuesday, 23 June 2026 commencing at 6:00pm.

The Special Meeting is for the purpose for the purpose of considering the John Connell Cricket Pitch Project, including the following matters:

- The proposed clearing of approximately 209 mature native trees and 0.68 hectares of remnant native vegetation at John Connell Reserve.
- The absence of a clearly demonstrated strategic need for the proposed cricket pitch expansion.
- Reliance on potentially outdated cost estimates and the absence of secured external funding.
- Potential financial impacts on future rates, borrowings and capital works priorities.
- Insufficient assessment of alternative options that may avoid or substantially reduce environmental impacts.
- Concerns regarding governance processes, transparency and evidence-based decision making.

For information on submitting motions, questions or registering your attendance, visit the [Special Meeting of Electors](#) event page.

Gail Bowman
Chief Executive Officer

The City of Melville acknowledges the Bibbulmun people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the City stands today and pays its respects to the Whadjuk people, and Elders past, present and future.

Use this link to access the [City of Melville Council Meetings YouTube channel](#) to watch the live stream or access the recordings of public Council meetings.



OFFICIAL**Vision**

Vibrant, Sustainable, Inclusive Melville

Mission

To provide good governance and quality services for the City of Melville community.

Values

In everything we do, we seek to adhere to our values that guide our behaviour.

- **Excellence** - Striving for the best possible outcomes.
- **Participation** – Involving, collaborating and partnering.
- **Integrity** - Acting with honesty, openness and with good intent.
- **Caring** – Demonstrating empathy, kindness and genuine concern.

Our Approach

To put our customer at the centre of everything we do.



Social / Community	Environment	Built Environment	Economic	Governance
Healthy, Safe and Inclusive	Clean and Green	Sustainable and Connected Development	Vibrant and Prosperous	Good Governance and Leadership
Healthy, safe and inclusive communities with a sense of belonging and wellbeing.	A clean, green and sustainable City for current and future generations.	Sustainable, connected development and transport infrastructure across our City.	Economic prosperity and vibrant resilient communities and businesses.	Leadership and good governance for the benefit of the whole community.

OFFICIAL**Public Question Time**

You can ask a question at a Council meeting during Public Question Time. Information on how to ask a question can be found on the City's website. [Public Question Time](#).

Complex questions or those related to matters on the agenda and requiring a response at the meeting are "questions on notice" and should be submitted in writing, by the close of business the Tuesday prior to the meeting.

Disclaimer

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Any statement, comment or decision made at a Council or Committee meeting regarding any application for an approval, consent or licence, including a resolution of approval, is not effective as an approval of any application and must not be relied upon as such.

Any person or entity who has an application before the City must obtain, and should only rely on, written notice of the City's decision and any conditions attaching to the decision, and cannot treat as an approval anything said or done at a Council or Committee meeting.

Any advice provided by an employee of the City on the operation of written law, or the performance of a function by the City, is provided in the capacity of an employee, and to the best of that person's knowledge and ability. It does not constitute, and should not be relied upon, as a legal advice or representation by the City. Any advice on a matter of law, or anything sought to be relied upon as representation by the City should be sought in writing and should make clear the purpose of the request.

OFFICIAL**Audio-Visual Recording and Live Streaming**

In accordance with the Council Policy CP-088 Live Streaming and Audio-Visual Recordings of Public Meetings of the Council, this meeting is electronically recorded and broadcast to the [City of Melville Council Meetings YouTube Channel](#). All recordings are retained as part of the City's records in accordance with the *State Records Act 2000* and the General Disposal Authority for Local Government Records. Learn more about [live streaming and audio-visual recordings of meetings](#) on the City of Melville website.

The nature of the Council's decision making role in the matter:

Advocacy	<i>When the Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i>
Executive	<i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i>
Legislative	<i>Includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes & policies.</i>
Review	<i>When the Council operates as a review authority on decisions made by Officers for appeal purposes.</i>
Quasi-Judicial	<i>When the Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i>

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OFFICIAL**1 OFFICIAL OPENING****1.1 Opening****1.2 Manner of Conduct & House Keeping**

In accordance with the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, the Presiding Member is to determine the procedure to be followed and will give regard to the *City of Melville Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Local Law 2022*.

1. In the event of an emergency, everyone should take direction from officers who will guide you to the exit points of the building.
2. Toilets are located immediately before the entry to the Council Chambers.
3. All present are required to sign the attendance register at the entry to the meeting.
4. Each person who participates in a vote or speaks must be an Elector of the City of Melville. Non-electors may only observe the proceedings.
5. The proceedings are being recorded for the purpose of production of the Minutes and speakers are requested to use the microphones each time they speak. The Minutes will include a summary of any questions asked and a summary of the responses provided.
6. Speakers are asked to clearly give their name and address each time they speak and are required to address the Chair of the meeting.
7. Only Electors of the City of Melville may move or second a motion. Motions are to be submitted in writing prior to the commencement of the meeting.
8. All addresses are to be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Extension of time is permissible only with the agreement of a simple majority of Electors present (*Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Regulation 17*).
9. To ensure the efficient conduct of the meeting, please participate in a concise and respectful manner.
10. All Elected Members and officers who attend this meeting are there to observe the proceedings and hear comments from Electors. All questions and comments should be directed to the Mayor who may invite a response from the Chief Executive Officer, Presiding Members of Committees or Elected Members.

OFFICIAL**1.3 Notice of Special Meeting of Electors**

The following Notice of Meeting was advertised:

- on the City's website;
- on public notice boards at the Civic Centre and all the City of Melville libraries;
- in the West Australian on Saturday, 30 May;
- in Perth Now Melville on Thursday, 4 June;
- in the City's electronic Newsletter; and
- via the City's social media platforms.

The notice read:

"A Special Meeting of the Electors will be held on

Tuesday, 23 June 2026

in the Kambarang (Conference Room)

Melville Civic Centre, 10 Almondbury Road, Booragoon

commencing at 6:00pm.

The request for Special Meeting of Electors, signed by 410 electors, for the purpose of considering the John Connell Cricket Pitch Project, including the following matters:

- *The proposed clearing of approximately 209 mature native trees and 0.68 hectares of remnant native vegetation at John Connell Reserve.*
- *The absence of a clearly demonstrated strategic need for the proposed cricket pitch expansion.*
- *Reliance on potentially outdated cost estimates and the absence of secured external funding.*
- *Potential financial impacts on future rates, borrowings and capital works priorities.*
- *Insufficient assessment of alternative options that may avoid or substantially reduce environmental impacts.*
- *Concerns regarding governance processes, transparency and evidence-based decision making.*

To submit a motion or a question related to these matters, register to attend in person or access the link to watch the live-stream, visit <https://www.melvillecity.com.au/our-city/our-council/council-meetings/meeting-of-electors>."

OFFICIAL

2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

In Attendance

Councillors

Ward

Officers

Apologies

On Approved Leave of Absence

Mayor K Mair

Mayor

Cr M Woodall

Bull Creek - Leeming Ward

3 INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

4.1 Financial or Proximity Interests

Under sections 5.60A and/or 5.60B of the *Local Government Act 1995*

4.2 Disclosure of Interest That May Cause a Conflict

Under 22 *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021* or a City of Melville Code of Conduct)

OFFICIAL**5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME****5.1 Questions Received Prior to the Meeting****5.2 Questions Received at the Meeting****6 MOTIONS****6.1 Motions with Notice****6.1.1 Mr J Meotti, Leeming – Pause John Connell Reserve Field Extension**

Requests that the Council resolves to pause any work being undertaken on the current John Connell Reserve Field Extension project and requests:

- a) further, comprehensive community consultation; and
- b) a review of the Business Case

The renewed consultation and analysis should be undertaken with a level of rigour consistent with projects of a similar scale and investment value (approximately \$4.7 million) and ensure that broader community expectations, project scope, financial implications, and potential impacts are fully understood and re-considered with a report to Council to consider before progressing the project.

6.1.2 Mr J Meotti, Leeming – Reactivate John Connell Oval Master Plan

That Council reactivate the John Connell Reserve Master Plan and undertake comprehensive community consultation to inform an assessment of all available options for the entire 47-hectare John Connell precinct, including both the existing cleared footprint and the former landfill site. This assessment should include the feasibility of options, including staged development if necessary, and ensure that the site's full redevelopment potential and wider community use are preserved and properly considered before any further decisions are made.

OFFICIAL**6.1.3 Mr J Meotti, Leeming – Remove Budget Expense John Connell Reserve Playing Field Extension**

The residents and ratepayers of the City of Melville request the Mayor and Council to delete the \$200,000 expense included in the 2026/27 Budget for expenditure on the John Connell Reserve Playing Field Extension Proposal, Leeming or any associated matter.

Reasons:

1. The proposed expenditure of \$200,000 will commit the City to over \$4 million in expenditure for future years with no guarantee that the overall expense will not exceed \$4 Million.
2. This year ratepayers are facing significant increases in rates, with average rates increases of over 6.7% to over 13% during a cost-of-living crisis, GRV increases, increased fuel prices and consequential increased food and living costs.
3. All of the above expenditure places an additional burden on ratepayers in this and future years.
4. There is no certainty that the approx. \$4,700,000 project will progress in the 2027/28 financial year, so imposing this cost on ratepayers in the 26/27 FY is unreasonable and unnecessary.

6.1.4 Mr A Seaward, Leeming - Commence Clearing**We request that the City of Melville:**

1. **Amend the current indicative delivery timeframe for the John Connell Reserve extension project so that clearing and associated early works commence no later than Q3 2026/27;**
2. **Prioritise all necessary design, approvals and procurement during Q1 and Q2 2026/27 to achieve that outcome and remain within the current clearing permit timeframe; and**
3. **Adopt a staged delivery approach for the John Connell Reserve project, with clearing and field extension works undertaken first as priority, with the floodlighting upgrades and other non-time-critical components delivered in a later stage, including through future grant opportunities where available.**

7 CLOSURE