1.1 WELCOME
Mayor Bim Lange declared the meeting open at 2.00pm.

1.2 MEMBERS PRESENT
Mayor Bim Lange, Deputy Mayor, Cr Leonie Boothby, Crs John Angas, Tony Hurn, David Haebich, Carla Wiese-Smith, Cathy Troup, Richard Miller, Kathryn Schilling and Russell Johnstone.

Officer Present:
Mr Martin McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer

1.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE
Nil

1.4 APOLOGIES
Cr David de Vries, Cr Don Barrett

MOVED Cr Johnstone that Council receive and accept Crs de Vries and Barrett’s apologies.

Seconded Cr Haebich

CARRIED 2018-22/316

2. DEBATE ITEMS

2.1.1 PRINCIPAL OFFICE CLOSURE

MOVED Cr Angas that Council:

(1) Pursuant to Section 45(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, as substituted under the Public Access and Public Consultation Notice (No 2) 2020, being satisfied that it is reasonably necessary as a result of the public health emergency declared by the Chief Executive of the Department for Health and Wellbeing on 15 March 2020 (and the related major emergency declared under the Emergency Management Act 2004 on 22 March 2020 and extended on 2 April...
2020), the Council, for the period the Public Access and Public Consultation Notice (No 2) 2020 has effect, closes the principal office of the Council effective from 2pm Thursday, 19 November 2020 up to and including Tuesday, 24 November 2020 and authorize the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Mayor to extend this period consistent with any directions from the State and the Chief Executive Officer seek Council endorsement of any extension as soon as reasonably practicable.

(2) Makes the following alternative arrangements to enable the local community to access the services of the Council which are ordinarily available at the principal office of the Council:

Email: barossa@barossa.sa.gov.au
Telephone: 8563 8444
After Hours Service: Answering Adelaide 8563 8444
Online Form: https://barossa.sa.gov.au/sections/none/contact-the-barossa-council

(3) In relation to any obligation under the Local Government Act 1999 to make a document available for inspection at the principal office of the Council, the document will be made available for inspection at www.barossa.sa.gov.au.

(4) Pursuant to Section 50(5a) of the Local Government Act 1999, as inserted under the Public Access and Public Consultation Notice (No 2) 2020, the Council alters its Public Consultation Policy by including in its Public Consultation Policy the provisions set out in attachment 1 to the report to the Council titled Principal Office Close and dated 19 November 2020.

Seconded Cr Haebich

CARRIED 2018-22/317

PURPOSE
To exercise revised powers of the Minister and close the Principal Office of Council during the current COVID-19 response and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to review and delegate powers.

REPORT

Introduction

During the first wave COVID-19 restrictions powers were available to close the Principal Office of Council so long as alternative arrangements were in place to ensure services are contactable.

These powers were not assessed as necessary during the first wave as Council was able to maintain face to face service delivery following a comprehensive assessment of the risk profile at that time and the implementation of appropriate treatments.

Discussion
The current COVID-19 response necessitates the closure of face to face services provided via Council’s principal office. My administration has actioned the closure of all non-essential face to face services that fall within my current delegations and accord with sector specific legal advice, however I do not currently have the powers or delegations to close the Principal Office.

Under new emergency powers the Minister for Local Government made the Public Access and Public Consultation Notice (No 2) 2020 which makes provision for Council’s to close their principal office without any requirement for a notice under the South Australian Public Health Act 2011 *(SAPH Act)* or otherwise vary operating hours without a requirement to undertake public consultation, provided the council considers it reasonably necessary as a result of the public health emergency and certain requirements detailed in Notice No. 2 are complied with.

Given the government’s announcement of a period of advanced restrictions and public lockdown from midnight 18 November 2020, it is proposed that Council consider it reasonable necessary to close the principal office as a result of the public health emergency.

**Summary**

The recommendation allows for best practice compliance with the SA Government announcements and allows staff to be fully isolated whilst providing service remotely in as many circumstances as possible.

**ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES**

Notice of Closure of Principal Office of Council

**COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Community Plan

- Natural Environment and Built Heritage
- Community and Culture
- Infrastructure
- Health and Wellbeing
- Business and Employment
- How We Work – Good Governance

All

Legislative Requirements
As outlined in recommendation.

**FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
No consultation required given current SA Government directions.

3. CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA
Nil

4. NEXT MEETING
Tuesday 15 December 2020 at 9.00am.

4. CLOSURE OF MEETING
Mayor Lange declared the meeting closed at 2.04pm.

Confirmed at Council Meeting on 15 December 2020

Date:........................................ Mayor:...................................