

**MINUTES OF YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 9.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr Daryl Sexton (Mayor), Cr Michael Sands (Deputy Mayor, Cr Amy Neal, Cr Brian Underwood, Cr Hezron Murgha

IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Wright (CEO) Director - Corporate Services Mike Mair, Director - People and Communities Richard Fitowski, Director - Infrastructure Sam Bann, Director - Building Services Wayne Douglas, Executive Assistant Leona Worrell (Minute taker)

The meeting started later due to a funeral in community.

1 MEETING OPEN

Mayor Sexton declared the meeting open at 10.31am.

The Ordinary Council Meeting commenced late due to Sorry Business in community.

The Mayor welcomed councillors and staff members present to the meeting.

One minute silence was observed to respect those who have passed away.

Councillor Neil opened with a word of Prayer.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional custodians the Gunggandji People whose country this meeting is being held today, acknowledgement to their elders, past present and emerging.

Acknowledgment also offered to the other Trustees of this land the Northern & Southern PBCs, the Stolen Generations and all Yarrabah people whose elders past present and emerging also call Yarrabah home and support progress in the Shire.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLUTION 01:19/02/2025

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 December 2024 be adopted.

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 January 2025 be adopted.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Aboriginal Corporation - Lease renewal of the Yarrabah Leisure Centre

At 10.36am Councillor Brian Underwood left the meeting due to a declared conflict of interest regarding this matter.

The discussion on the lease renewal was deferred as further details are required. In the interim, the lease will continue on a month-by-month basis until a final decision is made.

At 10.56am Councillor Brian Underwood re-entered the meeting.

At 10.57am meeting adjourned

At 11.12am meeting reconvened

6 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – COUNCIL / REGISTER UPDATES

The Mayor reminded the Councillors of the requirement to declare their conflicts of interest to the CEO prior to the meeting and called on all councillors to re-declare then now.

Councillor Brian Underwood declared a conflict of interest in relation to the Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Aboriginal Corporation - Lease renewal of the Yarrabah Leisure Centre.

The Mayor and Council Neal declared a conflict of interest in relation to 8.2, event sponsorship for the Gordonvale Indigenous Rugby League Carnival.

CEO confirmed to the Mayor that declarations had been made prior to the meeting.

7 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**7.1 CEO OPERATIONAL REPORT****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Monthly Council meeting report on the operational and strategic performance of council business for months of January / February 2025.

CEO read to the report.

Invitation to JCU Cairns Graduation – 13 March 2025

The Mayor has received an invitation to attend the JCU Cairns graduation ceremony on 13 March 2025. As the Mayor will be attending a conference in Brisbane on this date, another Councillor will need to represent the Council at the event.

Range Road Maintenance Update

It has been confirmed that the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will be responsible for the maintenance of Range Road. TMR has completed a scope of the road and will also undertake the removal of overhanging trees as part of their maintenance plan.

Yarrabah SES Volunteers

The Deputy Mayor highlighted the urgent need for additional volunteers for the Yarrabah State Emergency Service (SES). It was noted that the current number of volunteers is insufficient to adequately support the community during emergencies. The Deputy Mayor suggested launching a community-driven recruitment & education campaign to encourage more residents to join the SES.

RESOLUTION 02:19/02/2025

That Council accept the CEO Operational Report for the period to 14 February 2025.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

At 12.12pm meeting adjourned

At 1pm meeting reconvened

At 1.01pm Director Corporate Services entered the meeting

7.2 YASC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Provide council with monthly financial report. This report covers the financial period 31st January 2025.

Director Corporate Services read to the report.

RESOLUTION 03:19/02/2025

That Council accept the 31st January 2025 Finance Reports as tabled.

1. Operating results
2. Current Debtors:
 - Trade Debtors & Creditors,
 - Housing Debtors
3. Capital works
4. Balance sheet
5. Cash position
6. Status of Commercial leases
7. Areas of Interest Report
8. Grant Report

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

At 1.36pm Director Corporate Services left the meeting.

At 1.39pm adjourned

At 1.58pm meeting reconvened

At 2.05pm meeting adjourned

Regional Director FNR Department of Education, Shirlee Gallo with Principle of Yarrabah State School met with the Council.

At 2.35pm meeting reconvened

7.3 NEW POLICY - RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Presentation of the Draft Risk Management Policy

CEO read to the report.

RESOLUTION 04:19/02/2025

That Council resolve to endorse and adopt the draft Risk Management Policy.

Council authorise the implementation action to be carried out by CEO and Director of Corporate Services.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED 5/5

7.7 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM:

██████████

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Present information to council from community resident seeking Confirmation of Aboriginality endorsement consideration. Applicant – ██████████.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 05:19/02/2025

That Council resolve to endorse the recommendation provided by the CEO to accept the application for confirmation of Aboriginality community affiliation as submitted by the following person:

- ██████████

It is further recommended that this action is moved and seconded by the signing Councillors.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

7.8 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM:

██████████

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Present information to council from community resident seeking Confirmation of Aboriginality endorsement consideration. Applicant – ██████████

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 06:19/02/2025

That Council resolve to endorse the recommendation provided by the CEO to accept the application for confirmation of Aboriginality community affiliation as submitted by the following person:

- ██████████

It is further recommended that this action is moved and seconded by the signing Councillors.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

7.9 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM:

██████████

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Present information to council from community resident seeking Confirmation of Aboriginality endorsement consideration. Applicant – ██████████.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 07:19/02/2025

That Council resolve to endorse the recommendation provided by the CEO to accept the application for confirmation of Aboriginality community affiliation as submitted by the following person:

- ██████████

It is further recommended that this action is moved and seconded by the signing Councillors.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

8.1 CORRESPONDENCE - MINISTER FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS AND MINISTER FOR YOUTH**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To table correspondence to Council from the Minister of Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth relating to the Crisafulli Government's commitment to commencing work on expanding their promise to provide opportunities for home ownership in Queensland's Indigenous Communities.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 08:19/02/2025

That Council note the correspondence tabled, as read.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

Mayor Daryl Sexton and Councillor Amy Neal declared conflict of interest for item 8.2

At 2.43pm Mayor Daryl Sexton and Councillor Amy Neal left the meeting.

8.2 CORRESPONDENCE - REQUEST FOR EVENT SPONSORSHIP – INDIGENOUS RUBY LEAGUE CARNIVAL**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To inform Council of correspondence received from Justin Neal, of Yarrabah Yulu Team, requesting event sponsorship for the Gordonvale Indigenous Rugby League Carnival.

CEO read to the report.

RESOLUTION 09:19/02/2025

That Council:-

1. Note the correspondence tabled as read.
2. Authorise the CEO to make payment in accordance with the Community Grants Policy to the amount of \$1,000.

Moved: Cr Hezron Murgha

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 3/3

At 2.50pm Mayor Daryl Sexton and Councillor Amy Neal returned to the meeting.

8.3 CORRESPONDENCE - REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP - YARRABAH STATE SCHOOL -YEAR 6 UNIFORM SHIRTS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To advise Council of correspondence received, requesting sponsorship to support the production of Year 6 Uniform Shirts for Yarrabah State School.

CEO read to the report.

RESOLUTION 10:19/02/2025

That Council:-

1. Note the correspondence tabled as read.
2. Authorise the CEO to make payment in accordance with the Community Grants Policy to the amount of \$800.00.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Daryl Sexton

CARRIED 5/5

At 2.52pm meeting adjourned

At 3.02pm meeting reconvened

At 3.03pm Director People and Communities entered the meeting

At 3.05pm Deputy Mayor entered the meeting

7.4 PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES - OPERATIONAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Council an update on operational activities undertaken within the Department of People and Communities.

Director People and Communities read to the report.

RESOLUTION 11:19/02/2025

That Council accept the Director of People and Communities Operational Report, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

At 3.39pm Director People & Communities left the meeting

At 3.40pm Director Building Services entered the meeting

7.5 BUILDING SERVICES - OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To report to Council the status/activities of Building Services areas for the months of January 2025 to February 2025.

Director Building Services read to the report.

RESOLUTION 12:19/02/2025

That Council accept the Director of Building Services Operational Report, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

At 4.04pm Director Building Services left the meeting

At 4.05pm meeting adjourned

At 4.16 pm meeting reconvened

At 4.17pm Director Infrastructure entered meeting

7.6 INFRASTRUCTURE - OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To report to Council the status/activities of Infrastructure Department areas for the month of January 2025

Director Infrastructure read to the report.

RESOLUTION 13:19/02/2025

That Council accept the report of the Director-Infrastructure, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Daryl Sexton

CARRIED 5/5

At 4.43pm Director Infrastructure left the meeting

8 CORRESPONDENCE**9 STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE**

Councillors to provide updates on Meetings and Trips and other information for the meeting.

10 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

11 CLOSE OF MEETING

Date for the next Council Ordinary Meeting is Wednesday 19 March 2025.

The Mayor thanked the councillors and staff for their participation and attendance at the meeting.

Meeting closed at 4.48pm.



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MAYOR