MINUTES OF YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON WEDNESDAY, 23 APRIL 2025 AT 9.00AM

PRESENT: Cr Daryl Sexton (Mayor), Cr Amy Neal (Deputy Mayor), Cr Michael Sands, 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)

1 MEETING OPEN

Mayor Sexton declared the meeting open at 9.34am.

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

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

Deputy Mayor Amy Neal 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 01:23/04/2025

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 March 2025 be adopted.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED 5/5

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

CEO advised Council that there was the outstanding matter of correspondence from the Yarrabah Leaders Forum for Council's consideration. Mayor advised that this matter would be discussed later.

CEO advised that determination of the lease for the Leisure Centre remained outstanding. Council instructed CEO to conduct inquiries with other organisations with regards to potential use for additional youth activities.

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 them now.

Deputy Mayor Amy Neal declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 7.10, citing a close familial relationship with the individual associated with the matter.

CEO confirmed to the Mayor that Deputy Mayor Amy Neal had declared this conflict of interest prior to the meeting.

At 10.12am meeting adjourned

At 10.34am meeting reconvened

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 March / April 2025.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 02:23/04/2025

That Council accept the CEO Operational Report for the period to 16 April 2025.

Moved: Cr Amy Neal
Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

CEO advised Council that a confidential report would be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting for decision in relation to the CEO contract.

At 11.09am meeting adjourned

At 11.24am meeting reconvened

At 11.25am 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 March 2025.

Director Corporate Services read to the report

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the Industrial Special Risks Insurance tender has been extended for a two-year period, in accordance with the original tender terms.

Councillors acknowledged this update.

RESOLUTION 03:23/04/2025

That Council accept the 31st March 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 Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

At 11.47am Director Corporate Services left the meeting

7.3 COUNCIL ENDORSEMENT - REEF GUARDIAN COUNCIL ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council's endorsement of the Reef Guardian Council Action Plan 2025 -2028.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 04:23/04/2025

That Council resolve

1. to recognise the importance of the Reef Guardian Council partnership and values the contributions made by elected members, staff and the community in the protection and management of the Reef catchment region and endorse the Reef Guardian Action Plan 2025-2028.
2. Authorise the CEO to endorse the Plan.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands
Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

7.4 COUNCIL ENDORSEMENT - BALAMBA MASTER PLAN UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report is to provide Council with information in relation to the current status of the Balamba Masterplan and to obtain support for the next stage of the Masterplan.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 05:23/04/2025

That Council endorses the preliminary design, and supports the progression of the Masterplan, including:

a. A more detailed flood mitigation investigation based on the option that relies on completing earthworks on Lot 220 SP284220; and

b. A pre-lodgement meeting with the State Government Department of Planning (SARA) to determine the requirements to proceed to a Development Application; and

c. A Cultural Heritage report.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood
Seconded: Cr Daryl Sexton

CARRIED 5/5

At 12.02pm meeting adjourned

Terry James MP for Mulgrave and Annette Swaine, LNP Candidate for Kennedy, met with the Councillors and CEO to discuss matters of local importance. The meeting provided an opportunity to share perspectives on community needs and future initiatives.

At 2.18pm meeting reconvened

7.5 COUNCIL ENDORSEMENT - DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR CIVIL WORKS TO FACILITATE SHORT TERM HOUSING ON LAND LOCATED AT BULGURU PARK

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council resolution in relation to a Development Application for an Operational Works for Civil works to facilitate short term housing at Bulguru Park (Lots 156 and 909 SP284220)..

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 06:23/04/2025

That Council resolve to approve the application for a Development Permit for Operational Works over Lots 156 and 909 SP284220 located on Swamp Road, Yarrabah, subject to the work being undertaken in accordance with:

1. Operational Works Supporting Information Report. Prepared by ARO Industries Project Number: ARO0447 dated 8/04/2025
2. Statement of Compliance Operational Works Design, Bulguru Park – Temporary Housing. Prepared by ARO Industries Project Number: ARO0447 dated 04/04/2025

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood
Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED 5/5

7.6 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 07:23/04/2025

That Council resolve, in relation to the application for confirmation of Aboriginality/Community Affiliation as submitted by [redacted]

1. To accept the application as submitted

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

7.7 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 08:23/04/2025

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:

- [redacted]

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

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

7.8 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 09:23/04/2025

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:

- [redacted]

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

Moved: Cr Hezron Murgha
Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

7.9 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 10:23/04/2025

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:

- [redacted]

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

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

7.10 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 11:23/04/2025

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:

- [redacted]

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

Moved: Cr Hezron Murgha
Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 4/4

7.11 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 12:23/04/2025

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:

- [redacted]

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

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

7.12 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 13:23/04/2025

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:

- [redacted]

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

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

7.13 CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY / COMMUNITY AFFILIATION APPLICANT FORM: [redacted]

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 14:23/04/2025

That Council resolve, in relation to the application for confirmation of Aboriginality/Community Affiliation as submitted by [redacted]

1. To accept the application as submitted

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

At 2.48pm Director People and Communities entered the meeting

7.14 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 15:23/04/2025

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 3.19pm Director People & Communities left the meeting

At 3.20pm meeting adjourned
At 3.32pm meeting reconvened

At 3.33pm Director Building Services entered the meeting

7.15 BUILDING SERVICES - OPERATIONAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

Director Building Services read to the report

RESOLUTION 16:23/04/2025

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

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

At 4.00pm Director Building Services left the meeting

At 4.02pm Director Infrastructure entered the meeting

7.16 INFRASTRUCTURE - OPERATIONAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

Director Infrastructure read to the report

RESOLUTION 17:23/04/2025

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

Moved: Cr Michael Sands
Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

At 4.13pm Director Infrastructure left the meeting

8 CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 CORRESPONDENCE - REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP – U15B ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM FOR THE FIJI TOUR 2025

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform Council of correspondence received from Barb Sellin, requesting sponsorship for her son Trent Sellin to participate in the U15B Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Rugby League team for the Fiji Tour 2025.

CEO read to the report

Council deferred this matter, pending additional information required to make a decision on sponsorship approval.

8.2 CORRESPONDENCE - RURAL FIRE SERVICE QUEENSLAND - LETTER OF INTRODUCTION OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED DEPUTY CHIEF OFFICER

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Tabling of correspondence from Rural Fire Service Queensland, dated 10 April 2025.

CEO read to the report

RESOLUTION 18:23/04/2025

That Council note the correspondence tabled, as read.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton
Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

9 STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

CEO advised Council of Disaster Management Conference in Brisbane 27 -29 May 2025. Council confirmed attendance of Deputy Mayor Neal (Yarrabah LDMG Chair), Councillor Underwood (Yarrabah LDMG Deputy Chair) and CEO (Local Disaster Coordinator) to attend.

10 OTHER MATTERS

Mayor advised Council of late correspondence received from Gloria Noble in relation to a family diary. Copy of correspondence provided to all Councillors. CEO advised of previous discussions with Ms Noble and that this was a matter that Ms Noble had been informed to report to Police. Council had checked records with regards to this matter and had performed due diligence with regards to this information. Council requested that this be confirmed again and to respond accordingly.

11 CLOSE OF MEETING

Date for the next Council Ordinary Meeting is Wednesday 21 May 2025.

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

Meeting closed at 4.31 pm.

....
MAYOR