

**MINUTES OF YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE CRYSTALBROOK FLYNN - SOIREE 3 (BOARDROOM), 68/72 ABBOTT ST CAIRNS CITY  
ON WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 0930**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Miller (CEO), Mike Mair (Director - Corporate Services), Melissa Gudgeon (Executive Assistant)

**1 MEETING OPEN AND WELCOME**

Mayor Sexton declared the meeting open at 9:35am.

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

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

Councillor Amy Neal opened with a word of Prayer.

**2 APOLOGIES**

The Mayor asked the council if there were any apologies for the meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Nil

**3 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 Feb 2026 be adopted.

**4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5 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.

Mayor Sexton & Cr Sands a conflict of interest in relation to 7.1

Councillor Amy Neal declared a conflict of interest in relation to 7.2

**6 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION****6.1 YASC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT****PURPOSE**

To present the Director's Report for the reporting period YTD January 2026 for Council's consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION****That Council resolve to:**

1. Receive and note the Director's Report for the reporting period January 2026.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

**CARRIED****6.2 YASC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT****PURPOSE**

Arrears write off recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION****That Council resolve to:**

1. Write off the arrears totalling \$116,069.44 as they are not recoverable and mainly consist of pre 2013 housing debt.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

**CARRIED**

At 10:30 am, Director Mike Mair left the meeting and meeting was adjourned for morning tea.

At 10:40am, the meeting was reconvened.

### 6.3 CEO OPERATIONAL REPORT - FEBRUARY

#### PURPOSE

To present the Chief Executive Officer Report for the reporting period February 2026 for Council's consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to accept the CEO report for Feb 2026 as presented and read.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

**CARRIED**

### 6.4 SURRENDER AND TRANSFER COUNCIL OWNED RES. PROPERTIES

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council's decision to surrender and transfer ownership of ten (10) Council-owned residential properties currently used for social and transitional housing to the relevant Housing authority, and to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all actions required to give effect to this decision.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to

1. **Approves** the surrender and transfer of ownership of the ten (10) Council-owned residential properties currently used for social and transitional housing to Housing; and
2. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer** to undertake all actions necessary to give effect to this decision.

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: THAT COUNCIL RESOLVES TO TRANSFER THE NINE (9) ALLOTMENTS AND RETAIN POTTERS PLACE, WITH THE CEO TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL REGARDING FUTURE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR THE SITE.**

## 6.5 REPURPOSING OF COUNCIL-OWNED PROPERTY – POTTERS PLACE

### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council's approval to repurpose the Council-owned property known as Potters Place from its current use as a transitional housing property to a potential commercial property for the delivery of community services, and to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all actions required to progress this change of use.

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to

1. **Approves** the change of use of the Council-owned property known as **Potters Place** from transitional housing to a potential commercial property for community service use; and
2. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer** to undertake all actions necessary to give effect to this decision.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

**CARRIED**

## 6.6 PEOPLE & COMMUNITES REPORT

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council resolve to:**

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

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

**CARRIED**

At 12:30 pm, meeting was adjourned for lunch.

At 1:30 pm, meeting was reconvened.

**6.7 BUILDING SERVICES****PURPOSE**

To present the Director's Report for the reporting period January – February 2026 for Council's consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION****That Council resolve to:**

1. Receive and note the Director's Report for the reporting period February 2026

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

**CARRIED****6.8 DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCUTRE REPORT****PURPOSE**

To present the Director's Report for the reporting period January – February 2026 for Council's consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION****That Council resolve to:**

1. Receive and note the Director's Report for the reporting period Jan | Feb 2025

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Mayor Daryl Sexton

**CARRIED**

At 2:00 pm, Cr Michael Sands & Mayor Daryl Sexton left the meeting.

## 7 CORRESPONDENCE

### 7.1 SPONSORSHIP\_NQ COMETS

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To present a request for financial sponsorship from the NQ Comets Women's Rugby League Team to assist with participation in the Women's Rugby League Carnival to be held in Cairns on 3–4 October 2026, and for Council to determine an appropriate level of support under the Community Grants and Donations Program.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to

1. Determine an appropriate level of sponsorship for the NQ Comets Women's Rugby League Team to support participation in the Women's Rugby League Carnival to be held in Cairns on 3–4 October 2026; and
2. Allocate any approved funding from the 2026/2027 Community Grants and Donations Program budget, subject to Council policy requirements.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

**CARRIED**

**MAYOR SEXTON AND CR SANDS DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE VOTE**

At 2:10pm, Cr Michael Sands & Mayor Daryl Sexton returned the meeting.

At 2:15 pm, Cr Amy Neal left the meeting.

## **7.2 SPONSORSHIP – YARRABAH YULU INDIGENOUS RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM**

### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To present a sponsorship request from the Yarrabah Yulu Indigenous Rugby League Team to support participation in the 2026 Gordonvale Indigenous Rugby League Carnival, and for Council to determine an appropriate level of support.

### **MOTION**

That Council resolve to

1. Determine an appropriate level of sponsorship for the Yarrabah Yulu Indigenous Rugby League Team to support participation in the 2026 Gordonvale Indigenous Rugby League Carnival; and
2. Allocate any approved funding from the applicable Community Grants and Donations Program budget, subject to Council policy requirements.

**THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND NOT CARRIED.**

At 2:30 pm, Cr Amy Neal returned to the meeting.

### 7.3 LETTER\_COUNCIL ANIMAL POLICY

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To table correspondence received from a community resident regarding roaming horses and to seek Council direction on potential policy review and community engagement.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to

1. Receive and note the correspondence from Mr Malcolm Canendo regarding roaming horses; and
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report outlining options for addressing roaming horses within the township, including policy review, enforcement mechanisms and community consultation pathways

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

**CARRIED**

Mayor Sexton did not participate in the vote

### 7.4 PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To present correspondence received regarding concerns about the conduct of Queensland Police Service (QPS) and Mental Health services in Yarrabah, and to seek Council direction on an appropriate response.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to Consider this matter in Closed Session pursuant to section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*;

1. Note the correspondence received; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to respond accordingly.

Moved: Mayor Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

**CARRIED**

**8 STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE**

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

**9 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil

**10 CLOSE OF MEETING**

Date for the next Council Ordinary Meeting is Wednesday 18 March 2026.

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

Meeting closed at 2:46 pm.

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**MAYOR**