

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 27 & Friday 29 August 2025

Boardroom – Cairns Office



1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 Declaration of Opening of Meeting

Mayor Gibson declared the meeting open at 9.00am.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Mayor Gibson acknowledged the traditional owners of the lands on which the meeting was held and elders, past, present and emerging.

1.3 Observing a Minute's Silence

The meeting then observed a minute silence to acknowledge those residents of the Hope Vale region who have recently passed away as well as other residents of the region who have recently suffered illness or injury.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2.1 Members Present: Cr Bruce Gibson – Mayor

Cr Barry Bowen – Deputy Mayor

Cr Sha-lane Gibson (Arrived later in meeting)

Cr Rowan Hart (Arrived later in the meeting)

Cr Eva Bounghi

2.2 Officer Present: Chief Executive Officer – Steve Linnane

Executive officer – Kerry-Lee Bird (Items 6.4 and & 7.1)

2.3 Apologies: Nil

3 OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS

3.1 Declaration of Prescribed Conflict of Interest on any Item of business

Pursuant to Sections 150EG-150EM of the Local Government Act 2009, Cr Sha-Lane Gibson declared a prescribed conflict of interest in relation to Item 10.1.

3.2 Declaration of Declarable Conflict of Interest on any item of business

Pursuant to Sections 150EN-150ET of the Local Government Act 2009, no declarable conflicts of interest were declared on any item of business relating to this meeting.

3.3 Register of Interests and Related Party Disclosures

In accordance with Part 5A section 201B(2) of the Local Government Act 2009 and Part 5 section 291(2)(b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 a councillor must, in the approved form, inform the Chief Executive Officer of the particulars required to be included in their register of interests under a regulation for a new interest or the change to the particulars within 30 days after the interest is acquired or the change happens.

Councillors were reminded of their obligation to keep their Register of Interests and Related Party Disclosures updated. Councillors were also reminded to complete the Register of Interests Annual Confirmation and the Related Persons Register of Interest Annual Confirmation

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 16 July 2025

4.2 Confirmation of the Minutes of Special (Budget) Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30 July 2025

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Eva Bounghi

Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 16 July 2025 be accepted and confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That the Minutes of Special (Budget) Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30 July 2025, be accepted and confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1 Business arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 16 July 2025.

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That, in relation to Item 9.3 of the Minutes, Hopevale Congress be requested to provide details to the Hope Vale Disaster Management Group, on their fire management plans for lands under their control.

CARRIED

5.2 Business arising from the Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30 July 2025

Nil

6 REPORTS

6.1 Mayors Report

The Mayor provided a verbal briefing on his Mayoral activities since the last meeting.

Moved by Cr Eva Bounghi

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council receive and note the Mayor's verbal report.

CARRIED

Cr Rowan Hart and Cr Sha-lane Gibson arrived at the meeting during this item.

6.2 Chief Executive Officers Report

The Chief Executive Officer's report dated 27 August 2025 was considered by Council.

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council

(a) receive the Chief Executive Officer's Report dated 27 August 2025, and

(b) note the meetings attended by the Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED

Cr Sha-lane Gibson left the meeting during part of this item.

6.2.1 Minutes - Audit Committee Meeting held on 30 July 2025

A meeting of the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Audit Committee was held in Hope Vale on Wednesday 30 July 2025. The unconfirmed Minutes of this meeting are submitted to Council as Attachment A of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Moved by Cr Barry Bowan

Seconded by Cr Eva Bounghi

Resolution

That Council receive and note the unconfirmed Minutes of the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Audit Committee Meeting held on 30 July 2025.

CARRIED

6.2.2 Annual Financial Statements 2024-2025

The Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 have been certified by the Queensland Audit Office on 1 August 2025 and are submitted to Council as Attachment B of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Moved by Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Eva Bounghi

Resolution

That Council receive and note the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

CARRIED

6.2.3 Queensland Audit Office - 2025 Closing Report

The Queensland Audit Office has presented its closing report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2025. It includes the results of the audit, the status of audit issues, identified audit misstatements, and other matters. No issues were identified. The closing report is submitted to Council as Attachment C of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council receive and note the Queensland Audit Office 2025 Closing Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council.

CARRIED

6.2.4 2024/2025 Operational Plan – Fourth Quarter Report

Council's Annual Operational Plan documents the annual progress in the implementation of the long-term corporate plan and manages Council's operational risks. Attachment D to the Chief Executive Officer's Report provides an assessment on Council's progress towards implementing the annual Operational Plan for the fourth quarter ending June 2025.

Moved by Cr Eva Bounghi

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council receive and note the assessment on Council's progress towards implementing the annual Operational Plan for the fourth quarter ending June 2025 as shown as Attachment D of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

CARRIED

6.2.5 2025 Final Management Report

The Chief Executive Officer tabled the 2025 Final Management Report from the Queensland Audit Office dated 1 August 2025. The Report advises that the Queensland Audit Office completed its 2025 financial audit for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council. QAO has issued an unmodified audit opinion on Council's financial statements.

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council receive and note the Queensland Audit Office 2025 Final Management Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council.

CARRIED

6.2.6 Council Meeting Process

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That the Chief Executive Officer investigate the implementation of an electronic meeting management system for Council meetings.

CARRIED

6.3 Director of Finance and Corporate Services Report

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services tabled the 2025 Annual Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council

Moved by Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Eva Bounghi

Resolution

That Council

- (a) receive, note and endorse the 2025 Annual Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council, and**
- (b) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administrative amendments to the 2025 Annual Report, prior to publication**

CARRIED

6.4 Social Services Department Report

The Social Services Department Report submitted by the Executive Officer dated 27 August 2025 was considered by Council.

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Sha-lane Gibson

Resolution

That Council receive and note the Social Services Department Report dated 27 August 2025 submitted by the Executive Officer.

CARRIED

At the commencement of this item, the Mayor left the Meeting and Deputy Mayor Barry Bowen assumed the Chair. Later in the item the Mayor returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

At this stage, Council dealt with Item 7.3

6.5 Operations Director's Report

The Operations Director's Report dated 27 August 2025 was considered by Council.

It was agreed that the Operations Director's Report dated 27 August 2025 be referred to the next meeting

7 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Moved by Cr Eva Bounghi

Seconded by Cr Sha-lane Gibson

Resolution

That

- (a) pursuant to section 254J(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (LG Reg), it was resolved to close this part of the meeting to the public;
- (b) pursuant to section 254J(3) and (5)(a) of the LG Reg, the matters to be discussed are
 - a. matters the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.
- (c) pursuant to section 254J(5)(b) of the LG Reg, an overview of what is to be discussed while the meeting is closed is
 - a. the Social Services Department Confidential report dated August 2025 submitted by the Executive Officer dealing with the Aged Care Hostel, Commonwealth Home Support Program, Nola's Place Child Care Centre, and the George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten.

CARRIED

Moved by Cr Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Sha-lane Gibson

Resolution

That the meeting be re-opened to the public.

CARRIED

7.1 Social Services Department Confidential Report

Moved by Barry Bowen

Seconded by Cr Eva Bounghi

Resolution

That

- (a) the Social Services Department Confidential report dated July 2025 submitted by the Executive Officer dealing with the Aged Care Hostel, Commonwealth Home Support Program, Nola's Place Child Care Centre, and George Bowen Memorial Kindergarten be noted, and

(b) Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to implement the action agreed to in Closed Session.

CARRIED

8 VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Local Government Red Tape Reduction Taskforce

From Ann Leahy MP, Minister for Local Government and Water, Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers dated 16 July 2025 advising that she has received the final report from the Local Government Red Tape Reduction Taskforce (the Taskforce), led by Mr. Andrew Chesterman. She also thanked Council for working with the Taskforce and providing input throughout this project. The Queensland Government will now consider the Taskforce's final report and recommendations.

It was agreed that the letter from Ann Leahy MP, Minister for Local Government and Water, Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers dated 16 July 2025 be received and noted.

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 Certificates Of Aboriginality

Moved by Cr Eva Bounghi

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That Council authorise Certificates of Aboriginality to be issued to the following residents of Hope Vale

- **Amanda Fyfe**
- **Doreen Hart**
- **Preston Gordon John Deemal**
- **Peter Dhal-lugu Gibson**
- **Stephen Wallace**
- **Vanessa Rosendale**
- **Sha-lane Gibson**

CARRIED

Cr Sha-lane Gibson declared a prescribed conflict of interest in relation to this item and left the meeting room. Cr Sha-lane Gibson was an applicant for a Certificate of Aboriginality.

10.2 Hope Vale Housing

Moved by Cr Rowan Hart

Seconded by Cr Sha-lane Gibson

Resolution

That the Chief Executive Officer relocate Island and Cape staff housing to Council housing in Alec Cameron Drive, and the premises located at 176 Thiele Street be returned for kindergarten staffing purposes

CARRIED

10.3 Master Planning - Old Banana Farm

Moved by Mayor Bruce Gibson

Seconded by Cr Eva Bounghi

Resolution

That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to commence the master planning process for the Old Banana Farm.

CARRIED

At 2.15pm the meeting was adjourned to 11am on Friday 29 August 2025 at Hope Vale Council Chambers.

At 11am on 29 August 2025, the Mayor reopened the meeting at the Hope Vale Council Chambers.

Members Present: Cr Bruce Gibson – Mayor

Cr Barry Bowen – Deputy Mayor (via TEAMS)

Cr Sha-lane Gibson

Cr Eva Bounghi

Officer Present: Chief Executive Officer – Steve Linnane

Director, Finance and Corporate Services

10.4 Social Housing Allocations

Moved by Cr Sha-lane Gibson

Seconded by Cr Barry Bowen

Resolution

That the Mayor be authorised to meet with Hon. Samuel (Sam) O'Connor is the Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth and Mark Cridland, Director-General, Department of Housing and Public Works to discuss the allocation of Public Housing in Hope Vale.

CARRIED

The meeting then dealt with Item 6.3

11 NEXT MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be held in Hope Vale on Wednesday 17 September 2025

12 MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.55am.



Cr Bruce Gibson
Mayor



Stephen Linnane
Chief Executive Officer