Whitsunday Regional Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Council Meeting** held on **Wednesday 26 August 2026** at **Council Chambers, 83-85 Main Street, Proserpine**

Council acknowledges and shows respect to the Traditional Custodian/owners in whose country we hold this meeting.

Councillors Present:

Mayor Ry Collins (Chair), Cr John Finlay (Deputy Mayor), Cr Jan Clifford, Cr Clay Bauman, Cr John Collins, Cr Gary Simpson, and Cr Michelle Wright

Council Officers Present:

Warren Bunker (Chief Executive Officer); Amanda Pugh (Director Liveability and Development Services); Patty Johnson (Director Corporate Support Services); Gary Murphy (Director Infrastructure Services); Craig Turner (Director Commercial Businesses); Lisa Maher (Senior Communications Officer); Janelle Skipworth (Manager Governance), and Tailah Jensen (Governance Administration Officer/Minute Taker)

Other Officers Present (Partial Attendance):

Matthew Twomey (Manager Development Assessment), Tamara Dansie (Manager Sports, Recreation and Community Development)

Meeting Details:

The meeting commenced at 9:00am
The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10:38am
The meeting reconvened from morning tea at 11:01am
The meeting adjourned for lunch in closed session at 12:53pm
The meeting reconvened from lunch in closed session at 1:15pm
The meeting concluded at 2:14pm

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1 APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

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2 CONDOLENCES

Council acknowledged and observed a minute silence for the recently deceased throughout the Whitsunday Region.

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3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 - Confirmation of Minutes - 28 July 2026

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.1

Moved By: CR CLAY BAUMAN

Seconded By: CR JAN CLIFFORD

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 28 July 2026.

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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4 BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 - Public Question Response - Ordinary Council Meeting - 26 July 2026 - Mr Rogin Taylor

There was one public question submitted for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 July 2026 by Mr Rogin Taylor.

The question was taken on notice, and the response has been provided as outlined in attachment 4.1.1 of the report.

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5 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

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6 NOTICES OF MOTION

6.1 - Unreasonable Customer and Complaints Action

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.2

Moved By: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

Seconded By: **CR JOHN COLLINS**

That Council:

1. **Acknowledges the right of members of the community to raise concerns, make complaints, seek information, criticise Council and access appropriate statutory review and accountability mechanisms.**

2. **Recognises that unreasonable, persistent, repetitive, abusive or otherwise inappropriate customer and complainant conduct can impose disproportionate demands on Council resources, impact the health, safety and wellbeing of Councillors and employees, and reduce Council's capacity to provide services fairly and efficiently to the broader community.**

3. **Directs the Chief Executive Officer to develop an Unreasonable Customer and Complainant Conduct Policy, having regard to the Queensland Ombudsman's Managing Unreasonable Complainant Conduct framework and relevant legislative requirements.**

4. **Requests that the proposed policy provide an appropriate framework for:**

    - **objectively identifying and assessing unreasonable conduct;**
    - **proportionate and graduated management arrangements;**
    - **managing repetitive matters that have previously been appropriately considered and finalised;**
    - **reasonable restrictions on communication, contact and access to Council premises or facilities where warranted by a person's conduct**
    - **procedural fairness, appropriate recordkeeping and periodic review;**
    - **protecting Councillors, employees and Council resources from unreasonable conduct;**
    - **preserving legitimate statutory complaint, information-access and review rights; and**
    - **managing repeated or unreasonable use of Right to Information processes consistently with the *Right to Information Act 2009*, including consideration of the statutory mechanisms available under section 114.**
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5. **Directs that the draft policy be considered by the Policy Review Working Group and presented to the September 2026 Ordinary Meeting for Council's consideration and adoption.**

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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7 DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations for this meeting.

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8 PETITIONS / QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.3

Moved By: **CR GARY SIMPSON**

Seconded By: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

That the petition regarding the request for an update to Gloucester Avenue traffic conditions be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and a report to the Council.

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.4

Moved By: **CR JOHN COLLINS**

Seconded By: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

That the petition regarding the request to update Shute Harbour Road conditions be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer to determine appropriate action.

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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9 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY

Public Question was read out by the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of submitter.

Name: Jeudi Croker

Question:

Will Whitsunday Regional Council reconsider whether the location in Airlie Beach where Luke Brian Gilbert lost his life can be recognised as a *culturally significant site* or event under Section 1.8 of Council's Memorials in Council Parks, Gardens, Open Spaces and Road Reserve Policy (COMM_20), and therefore whether approval of a modest, permanent memorial for Luke at that location is important to the Whitsunday community?

A response will be provided to the customer in due course and included in the next available Ordinary Council Meeting agenda under the business arising section.

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10 COMMITTEES REPORTS

10.1 - 19 May 2026 - Confirmed Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.5

Moved By: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

Seconded By: **CR JOHN FINLAY (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

That Council receive and notes the confirmed minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting (Attachment 10.1.1) held on 19 May 2026.

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11 OFFICERS REPORTS

11.1 - 20250987 - Development Application for Development Permit for Material Change of Use - Function Facility (Marquee) at 14,18,22,24,41 Mt Whitsunday Drive-Private Airlie Beach For Jumbo Properties Pty Ltd

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.6

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

That Council approve the Development Application for Development Permit for Material Change of Use for a Function Facility (Marquee), made by Jumbo Properties Pty Ltd, on L: 100 SP: 330252, L: 11 SP: 268401, L: 0 SP: 268401, L: 12 SP: 268401 CTS: EMT H/SP342277, L: 0 SP: 184771 CTS: SP218223, L: 3 SP: 165632 T: EMTS F, G and located at 18 Mt Whitsunday Drive-Private, subject to the conditions outlined in Attachment 11.1.4.

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.2 - 20251329 - Development Application for Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot - One (1) Lot into Four (4) Lots & Access Easement (Staged) - 96 Africandar Road, Bowen - Evio Otto C/- TP Assist

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.7

Moved By: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

Seconded By: **CR GARY SIMPSON**

That Council approve the Development Application for Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot for One (1) Lot into Four (4) Lots and Access Easement (Staged), made by Evi Otto Pty Ltd as TTE, on L: 138 RP: 898760 and located at 96 Africandar Road, Bowen, subject to the conditions outlined in Attachment 11.2.4.

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.3 - 20260183 – Development Application for a Development Permit for Reconfiguring of a Lot – One (1) Lot into Five (5) Lots and Access Easement — 97 Ecker Road, PRESTON - 10SP293983

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.8

Moved By: **CR JOHN COLLINS**

Seconded By: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

That Council approves the Development Application for Development Permit for Reconfiguring of a Lot – One (1) Lot into Five (5) Lots and Access Easement at 97 Ecker Road Preston described as Lot 10 on SP293983 subject to relevant and reasonable conditions outlined in Attachment 11.3.4.

PROCEDURAL MOTION - MATTER LIE ON THE TABLE

Moved by: CR JAN CLIFFORD

That the item lie on the table pending a draft set of conditions for the existing sealed road section to be provided.

MEETING DETAILS:

The procedural motion was Carried 5 / 2

CARRIED

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11.4 - 20260297 - Development Application for Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot - One (1) Lot into Three (3) Lots and Access Easements - 317 & 319 Sugarloaf Road, Sugarloaf - Fiddlers Green Whitsundays

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.9

Moved By: **CR GARY SIMPSON**

Seconded By: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

That Council approve the application for Development Application for Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot for One (1) Lot into Three (3) Lots and Access Easement, made by Fiddlers Green Whitsundays Pty Ltd, on L: 3 SP: 354738 & L: 32 RP: 895918 and located at 317 Sugarloaf Road, Sugarloaf & 319 Sugarloaf Road, Sugarloaf, subject to the conditions outlined in Attachment 11.4.4.

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.5 - 20250980 - Request for QDC Siting Variation for Dwelling House (Addition) - Front Boundary Setback and Site Cover - 30 Ridge View Road Cannonvale QLD 4802 - 2SP198032

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.10

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **CR GARY SIMPSON**

That Council refuse the request for Concurrence Agency Response for Dwelling House (Addition) - Front Boundary Setback and Site Coverage over 50% at 30 Ridge View Road, Cannonvale, Lot 2 SP198032 and direct the assessment manager to refuse the Building Work application for the following reasons:

- **The proposed front boundary setback of 1.6m is inconsistent with the established setback pattern and streetscape character of the locality and does not achieve the performance criteria P1 of the QDC MP 1.2; and**
- **The proposed increase of the site cover to 54% will reduce the area available for landscaping within the front boundary setback and therefore, does not achieve performance criteria P3 of the QDC MP 1.2.**

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 6 / 1.

CARRIED

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11.6 - Donations, Sponsorships and Grants Approved - July 2026

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.11

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **CR JOHN FINLAY (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

That Council notes the financial assistance approved, under delegated authority, during the month of July 2026 in accordance with the Community Support Policy.

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.7 - Whitsunday Water Customer Service Standards

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.12

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **CR JOHN COLLINS**

That Council:

1. **Approves the Whitsunday Water Customer Service Standards 2026–2031 (Attachment 11.7.1); and**
2. **Authorises the publication of the draft Whitsunday Water Customer Service Standards 2026–2031 on Council's website and invites public submissions in accordance with sections 115–120 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (Qld);* and**
3. **Receives a further report following completion of the public consultation process, should there be any submissions seeking material changes to the Whitsunday Water Customer Service Standards 2026–2031.**

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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PROCEDURAL MOTION - ADJOURNMENT OM2026/08/26.13

Moved by: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

That Council adjourn the meeting for the purpose of morning tea at 10:38am.

MEETING DETAILS:

The procedural motion was Carried 7 / 0

CARRIED

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The meeting reconvened from morning tea at 11:01am.

11.8 - Annual Christmas Closure 2026

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.14

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

That Council:

1. **Endorse the closure of Council offices and libraries, customer service centres and depots during the Christmas/New Year period commencing from Wednesday 23 December 2026 and resuming normal operating hours on Monday 4 of January 2027; and**
2. **Note that other facilities will be operating throughout this period including after-hours service, skeleton works crews and waste services.**

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.9 - Council Meeting Dates 2027

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.15

Moved By: **CR JOHN FINLAY (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

Seconded By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

That Council:

1. **Adopts the indicative schedule of Ordinary Council Meeting dates for the 2027 calendar year as outlined below:**
    - **27 January 2027**
    - **24 February 2027**
    - **24 March 2027**
    - **28 April 2027**
    - **26 May 2027**
    - **16 June 2027**
    - **28 July 2027**
    - **25 August 2027**
    - **29 September 2027**
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- **27 October 2027**
- **24 November 2027**
- **8 December 2027**

2. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, to amend the adopted 2027 Ordinary Council Meeting schedule where operational requirements, Council business commitments, conferences, emergencies, or other unforeseen circumstances necessitate a change, with any amendments to be communicated to Councillors and publicly notified as required.**
3. **Notes that the location of each meeting will be held at one of Council's public offices, determined administratively and may vary depending on operational requirements, community engagement opportunities, or weather conditions.**
4. **Notes that Councillors, staff, and members of the public may attend meetings virtually, in accordance with Council's meeting procedures and technology capabilities.**

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.10 - Council Resolution Register

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.16

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **CR JOHN FINLAY (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

That Council receive and note the status of the Council Resolution Register as presented at Attachment 11.10.1.

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.11 - Monthly Finance Report

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.17

Moved By: **CR JOHN FINLAY (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

Seconded By: **CR CLAY BAUMAN**

That Council receive the Unaudited Monthly Financial Report, including the monthly unaudited Financial Statements for year-to-date July 2026.

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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11.12 - Liveability and Development Services Quarterly Activity Report – April to June 2026

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.18

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

That Council note the Liveability and Development Services Quarterly Activity Report (Attachment 11.12.1) for 2025/2026.

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

PROCEDURAL MOTION - CLOSURE OF MEETING (CONFIDENTIAL SESSION) OM2026/08/26.19

Moved by: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded by: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

That Council close the meeting to the public at 11:32am in accordance with section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 to discuss the following matters in closed session:

Pursuant to section 254J(3)(g), negotiations relating to commercial matters involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government, namely:

- **12.1 Water and Sewer Network Planning and Hydraulic Modelling;**
- **12.2 Cape Gloucester Eco Resort Infrastructure Agreement;**
- **12.3 Paluma Industrial Pty Ltd & Whitsunday Regional Council Infrastructure Agreement Variation;**
- **12.4 Shute Harbour Recreational Boat Ramp Project; and**
- **12.5 Strategic Land Acquisition.**

Pursuant to section 254J(3)(a), the appointment, discipline or dismissal of the Chief Executive Officer, namely:

- **12.6 Chief Executive Officer Performance Review.**

MEETING DETAILS:

The procedural motion was Carried 7 / 0

CARRIED

During closed session the meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:53pm and reconvened at 1:15pm.

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PROCEDURAL MOTION - REOPEN MEETING OM2026/08/26.20

Moved by: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded by: **CR MICHELLE WRIGHT**

That Council reopen the meeting to the general public at 2:00pm.

MEETING DETAILS:

The motion was Carried 7 / 0

CARRIED

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12.1 - Water and Sewer Network Planning and Hydraulic Modelling

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.21

Moved By: **CR JOHN FINLAY (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

Seconded By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

That Council:

1. **Adopt Attachment 12.1.4 *Hydraulic Modelling Report – WRC Water and Sewer Networks* (AECOM, 23 June 2026); and**
2. **Endorse the Water and Sewer Network Planning Review as contained within the confidential report, as the strategic basis for the planning, prioritisation and delivery of long-term water and sewerage infrastructure across the Whitsunday Regional Council area.**

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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12.2 - Cape Gloucester Eco Resort Infrastructure Agreement

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.22

Moved By: **CR GARY SIMPSON**

Seconded By: **CR JOHN COLLINS**

That Council:

1. **Agree to accept a total contribution of $68,564.00, payable in quarterly payments of $3,178.20, with payment in full satisfying Conditions 7.1 to 7.6 of the Development Approval 20240864; and**

2. **Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and execute the Cape Gloucester Eco Resort Infrastructure Agreement between Whitsunday Regional Council and A M Faust & J R Schreiber consistent with this resolution.**

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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12.3 - Paluma Industrial Pty Ltd & Whitsunday Regional Council – Infrastructure Agreement Variation

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.23

Moved By: CR CLAY BAUMAN

Seconded By: CR JAN CLIFFORD

That Council:

1. **Agree to increase the maximum Cost Estimate under the Paluma Road Water and Sewer Infrastructure Agreement from $1,171,416.20 to an all-inclusive maximum of $1,500,000 excluding GST, comprising:**

   a. **revised construction costs of $1,167,364.25;**

   b. **a consultancy allowance of 13%, being $151,757.35; and**

   c. **a contingency allowance of $180,878.40, being approximately 13.712% of the construction and consultancy subtotal;**

2. **Agree to a corresponding increase in the maximum Infrastructure Credit from $646,826.90 to $828,255, calculated in accordance with the existing apportionment rate of 55.217%; and**

3. **Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and execute a Deed of Variation to the Paluma Road Water and Sewer Infrastructure Agreement between Whitsunday Regional Council, Paluma Industrial Pty Ltd, Altmann Rise Pty Ltd and Woodwark Rise Pty Ltd consistent with this resolution.**

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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12.4 - Shute Harbour Recreational Boat Ramp Project

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.24

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **MAYOR RY COLLINS**

That Council:

1. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate with Maritime Safety Queensland to progress arrangements for the construction, operation and management of the Shute Harbour Boat Ramp in accordance with the negotiation principles contained in this confidential report.**

2. **Receive regular updates on the progress of the project including construction methodology, timeframe for project delivery, asset lifecycle projections, funding of public amenities and fishing facilities as well as future depreciation implications as estimates mature.**

3. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate a draft deed of agreement and calculated lifecycle costs to be brought back to a future meeting of Council for consideration.**

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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12.5 - Strategic Land Acquisition

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.25

Moved By: **CR JAN CLIFFORD**

Seconded By: **CR GARY SIMPSON**

That Council:

1. **Approves the acquisition of the part of the parcel of land listed in Attachment 12.5.1 - Property Details;**
2. **Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and execute all necessary documentation associated with acquisition; and**
3. **Requests the Chief Executive Officer to ensure appropriate valuation, legal, financial and strategic due diligence is completed prior to finalising the acquisition, and to provide Councillors with a confidential update prior to finalising.**

MEETING DETAILS
The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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12.6 - CEO Performance Review

RESOLUTION OM2026/08/26.26

Moved By: MAYOR RY COLLINS

Seconded By: CR JAN CLIFFORD

That Council:

1. **Notes that the annual performance review of the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Warren Bunker, for the 2025/26 performance period has been completed.**
2. **Authorises the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to commence discussions and negotiations with the Chief Executive Officer regarding the future of the Chief Executive Officer's employment contract in accordance with the existing Contract of Employment, with any proposed extension, new contract or other material employment arrangement to be brought back to Council for consideration.**

MEETING DETAILS

The motion was Carried 7 / 0.

CARRIED

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13 MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Mayor Collins raised the following matter of importance:

- Acknowledged the significant sporting achievement from the Bowen Rugby Union Mudcrabs senior teams (senior mens, senior reserve grade and senior women's - Jennies) for their wins in the Mackay competition.

Cr Finlay raised the following matter of importance:

- Acknowledged a broken seat at Flagstaff and requested an update on carpark extension and any relevant timeframes from Chief Executive Officer.

Cr Wright raised the following matter of importance:

- Emu Plains Road - Requested a report come back for Council consideration regarding the options on upgrading the road.

Cr Collins raised the following matter of importance:

- Feral Pigs and Wild Dogs - bounty programs to be considered for future to help landholders manage wild dogs, dingoes, and feral pigs.
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14 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 2:14pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct recording this 23 September 2026.

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Cr Ry Collins

MAYOR