



ORDINARY MEETING  
19 FEBRUARY 2025

# MINUTES

**Time:** 10.30am

**Venue:** [Microsoft TEAMS]: Meeting ID: 467 626 923 866 | Passcode: W6Fe3XE7

PRESENT:

**Mayor**

Division 3 - Saibai

Division 4 – Mabuiag

Division 5 – Badu / **Deputy Mayor**

Division 7 – Wug (St. Pauls), Mua Island

Division 8 – Kirirri (Hammond Island)

Division 9 – Iama

Division 10 – Warraber

Division 11 – Poruma

Division 12 – Masig

Division 13 – Ugar

Division 14 – Erub

Division 15 – Mer

Cr Phillemon Mosby

Cr Chelsea Aniba

Cr Keith Fell

Cr Ranetta Wosomo

Cr John Levi

Cr Seriako Dorante

Cr Aggie Hankin – *left meeting at 10.38am to attend Sorry Business*

Cr Kabay Tamu

Cr Francis Pearson

Cr Ted Mosby

Cr Rocky Stephen

Cr Nixon Mye

Cr Bob Kaigey

APOLOGIES:

Division 1 – Boigu

Cr Dimas Toby

ABSENT:

Division 3 – Saibai

Division 6 – Arkai

Cr Torenzo Elisala

Cr Iona Manas

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Director Building Services

Executive Director Community Services

Executive Director Corporate Services

Executive Director Engineering Services

Executive Director Financial Services

Executive Assistant to the CEO

Executive Assistant to the Mayor

TSIRC Secretariat

Mr James William

Mr Wayne Green

Mr Dawson Sailor

Ms Susanne Andres

Mr David Baldwin

Ms Hollie Faithfull

Ms Marie Haines

Ms Trudy Lui – *left meeting at 1.30pm*

Mr Darryl Brooks

**A. WELCOME & QUORUM CONFIRMATION | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER | OBSERVANCES**

At 10.00am, the Mayor welcomed Councillors, Executives and to the Ordinary Council meeting for the month of February 2025, noting that a quorum of members was present.

The Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

- Our Heavenly Father for His awesome wisdom, knowledge, understanding, favour and blessings upon our lives, our families, our people – especially our Elders and our children, our region and our Council;
- The Traditional Custodians throughout the length and breadth of Zenadth Kes, as well as the TSIRC footprint in Kaurareg Nations and Gimuy in Cairns.

The Mayor also conveyed to those members of the Torres Strait Islander community throughout the homelands and on the Australian mainland who may be observing Sorry Business, the collective thoughts, prayers and well wishes of Council at this time of bereavement.

The Mayor also paid special acknowledgement to past leaders and elders who have paved the way for us today and for the legacy they passed to us to be a voice and to advocate and lobby to improve the quality of life and liveability of our people across our communities. The Mayor also acknowledged the leadership of Councillors in our Divisions.

The Mayor also congratulated Cr Aniba and the elders and Tribal Groups on Saibai for their leadership and hosting of the recent commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the Torres Strait Treaty. It is the Mayor's hope that the spirit of the Treaty can be strengthened into the future. The Mayor also thanked State and Federal Government representatives for their attendance at the celebrations, the newly-elected TSRA Chairperson and the Chairperson of the Gur A Baradharaw Kod Torres Strait Sea and Land Council Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Corporation (Mr Ned David) for his attendance and participation.

The Mayor paid special acknowledgement to Cr Kebei Salei (Leader of the Papua New Guinea Traditional Inhabitants under the Torres Strait Treaty) for his sentiments around seeking support to lobby for foreign aid assistance from Australia to reach those traditional Papua New Guinea villages associated with the Treaty in order to help alleviate the pressures placed on Torres Strait communities like Boigu, Dauan and Saibai when Treaty traditional visitors seek services in these communities.

**B. NOTING OF APOLOGIES**

#C24-28/2025-2/B

The following apology was noted and accepted by Council:

Division	Councillor/Reason	Mover/Seconder
Division 1 - Boigu	Cr Dimas Toby – <i>Sorry Business</i>	CR LEVI / CR WOSOMO

**C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI) DECLARATIONS**

The Mayor advised that he had received no COI declarations from Councillors in relation to this month's agenda items and invited Councillors to declare any COI matters.

The Mayor also requested that if there are any legal matters involving Councillors, then Councillors should advise the Mayor as soon as possible.

**D. LIVE STREAM**

The Mayor advised Council that this meeting is being LIVE STREAMED on Council's YouTube Channel and welcomed members of the general public who may be viewing proceedings.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (29 JANUARY 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/1

CR PEARSON / CR T. MOSBY

**Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 29 January 2025.**

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**1.1. ACTION ITEMS UPDATE**

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to this item. Items noted as 'completed' during this update will be deleted from future reports. The update was noted by Council.

**2. MAYORAL REPORT**

The Mayor spoke to his report. The report was noted by Council.

**3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**3.1. CEO Monthly Report (February 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/3.1

CR PEARSON / CR ANIBA

**Council notes the Chief Executive Officer Report for February 2025.**

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**4. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Nil.

**5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Nil.

**6. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

**6.1. Community Grants Program Allocation (February 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/6.1

**1. Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to applicant in accordance with the *Community Grants Policy*:**

- CG2025-067 – WHITE DOVE MINISTRY, SAIBAI for \$1,639.00, exclusive of GST;

**MOVED/SECONDED: CR PEARSON / CR FELL**

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**2. That Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to applicants in accordance with the *Community Grants Policy*:**

- CG2025-069 – ARTHUR NAAWI, ERUB for \$722.00, exclusive of GST;
- CG2025-071 – GOSHEN MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH, ERUB for \$4,000.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR ANIBA / CR T. MOSBY

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. That Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to applicant in accordance with the Community Grants Policy:

- CG2025-065 – MABUIAG LAND & SEA MANAGEMENT AGENCY, MABUIAG for \$1,484.50, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR MYE / CR ANIBA

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

➤ *Cr Bob Kaigey advised the meeting that he supports the following funding request (CG2025-070) to a total of \$4,000.00 only.*

4. That Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to applicant in accordance with the Community Grants Policy:

- CG2025-070 – GOSHEN MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH, MER for \$4,000.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR TAMU / CR T. MOSBY

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. That Council notes the following:

- (a) one (1) Community Grants application was deemed ineligible for funding;
- (b) two (2) Community Grants applications were withdrawn by the applicants;
- (c) the grant applications processed, and funeral donations provided in January.

MOVED/SECONDED: CR WOSOMO / CR PEARSON

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6.2. Funding Acquisition Report (January 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/6.2

CR WOSOMO / CR LEVI

Council notes this report and its content.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6.3. Culture, Arts, Land and Heritage (CALH) Advisory Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report (2024–25)**

Council noted the report.

**7. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Nil.

➤ *Council proceedings suspended for lunch break from 11.50am to 1.00pm.*

**8. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

**8.1. Financial Dashboard Report (January 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/8.1

CR WOSOMO / CR MYE

Council receives and endorses the monthly financial statements attached to the officer's report for the 2024-25 year to date, for the period ended 31 January 2025, as required under Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Financial Challenges for Council**

**Action Required:**

Chief Executive Officer to oversee the preparation of Fact Sheets on the financial sustainability challenges facing Council to deliver services in a geographically challenging environment across 15 Divisions.

**8.2. 2024-25 Budget Review 1**

#C24-28/2025-2/8.2

CR PEARSON / CR WOSOMO

Council adopts in accordance with s169 and s170 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, an amended budget for the 2024-2025 Financial Year as presented, incorporating:

- (i) The statements of financial position;
- (ii) The statements of cashflow;
- (iii) The statements of income and expenditure;
- (iv) The statements of changes in equity;
- (v) The long-term financial forecast;
- (vi) The relevant measures of financial sustainability; and
- (vii) The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget; and
- (viii) Capital budget.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

#C24-28/2025-2/9

CR FELL / CR MYE

The Council resolves to close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to allow the Council to discuss items listed on the agenda for closed discussion and for the reasons outlined under those items.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**10. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Nil.

**11. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Nil.

**12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Nil.

### 13. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

#### 13.1. Information Report – Capital Works

*[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: This matter contains information on negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government".]*

Council noted the report.

### 14. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

### 15. RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION

#C24-28/2025-2/15

CR STEPHEN / CR TAMU

**The Council resolves to move out of closed discussions pursuant to Section 254I of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 16. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Council formally resolved on the decisions taken in relation to Agenda Items 10-14 above.

#### Councillor Meeting Attendance

##### Action Required:

The Mayor requested that a paper be prepared for the Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) Standing Committee to review Council's remuneration policy in relation to Councillor attendance at meetings.

#### HFSHC Advisory Committee – F2F Meeting on Poruma prior to Council Meeting

##### Action Required:

Chief Executive Officer to confirm if the Housing, Families and Safe and Healthy Communities (HFSHC) Advisory Committee is able to meet on Poruma prior to the Council Meeting on 18-19 March 2025.

#### Consideration of Possible Change of Venue for the March 2025 Council Meeting

##### Action Required:

Chief Executive Officer to confirm with Councillors ASAP if the Trustee and Ordinary Council Meeting for March 2025 if the meeting on Poruma will proceed as scheduled, as well as confirmation on the dates for the November 2025 Council Workshop in Cairns.

- *The Mayor noted that the community of Poruma is leading the way on Housing rental collections and congratulated both the community and Council's Housing Team for this achievement (5 of past 7 months for 100% rental collection).*

**17. MATTERS ARISING**

Nil.

**18. INFORMATION REPORTS**

**18.1. BUILDING SERVICES – Building Services Report (January 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/18.1

CR ANIBA / CR STEPHEN

**Council resolves to note the Building Services Report for January 2025.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**18.2. COMMUNITY SERVICES – Information Report - Community Services (January 2025)**

Council noted the report.

**18.3. CORPORATE SERVICES - Corporate Services Information Report (January 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-2/18.3

CR LEVI / CR PEARSON

**Council notes the Corporate Services Information Report for the month of January 2025.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**18.4. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Engineering Operations**

Council noted the report.

**18.5. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Information Report - Water and Wastewater (January 2025)**

Council noted the report.

**Information Communication for Community on the Costs to Council for the Provision of Water**

**Action Required:**

ED Engineering Services to work with ED Corporate Services to develop information sheet for community on the costs to Council for the Provision of Water.

**19. NEXT MEETING – 18-19 MARCH 2025 (Poruma)**

Noted by Council. *Refer also to action arising from Closed Business discussions at Agenda Item 16 above regarding consideration of possible change of venue for the March 2025 Council Meeting.*

**20. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER**

The Mayor’s closing remarks were directed to Divisional staff on–ground for the day–to–day delivery of Council services and acknowledged and thanked these officers for the important and critical role they serve for Council and the community.

The Mayor formally closed the meeting at 4.00pm. Cr Francis Pearson delivered the closing prayer.

MINUTES CONFIRMED – 18 March 2025

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 Cr Phillemon Mosby  
 Mayor  
 Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
 Date: 18 March 2025

.....  
 James William  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
 Date: 18 March 2025

DRAFT