



ORDINARY MEETING
18-19 MARCH 2025

MINUTES

Time: 10.30am

Venue: Poruma, Torres Strait

Microsoft TEAMS Meeting ID: 444 817 231 261 | Passcode: 5Qi9pt9f

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 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

Cr Francis Pearson

Cr Ted Mosby

Cr Rocky Stephen

Cr Nixon Mye

Cr Bob Kaigey

APOLOGIES:

Division 1 – Boigu

Division 2 – Dauan

Division 6 – Arkai

Division 10 – Warraber

Cr Dimas Toby

Cr Torenzo Elisala

Cr Iona Manas

Cr Kabay Tamu

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Director Building Services

Executive Director Community Services

Executive Director Corporate Services

Executive Director Engineering Services

Executive Director Financial Services

Consultant – *for Agenda Item 13.1 only*

Executive Assistant to the Mayor

IT Support Officer (Desktop & Systems Administrator)

TSIRC Secretariat

Mr James William

Mr Wayne Green

Mr Dawson Sailor

Ms Susanne Andres

Mr David Baldwin

Ms Hollie Faithfull

Mr Anthony Ottaway

Ms Trudy Lui

Mr Dmitri Bezuglov

Mr Darryl Brooks

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

At 10.30am, the Mayor welcomed Councillors, Executives and staff to the Ordinary Council meeting for the month of March 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 condolences of Council at this time of bereavement.

The Mayor also paid special acknowledgement to Cr Francis Pearson and the Poruma Community as hosts for the March 2025 Council Meeting.

B. NOTING OF APOLOGIES

#C24-28/2025-2/B

The Mayor tabled the following apologies, which were noted and accepted by Council:

Division	Councillor/Reason	Mover/Seconder
Division 1 - Boigu	Cr Dimas Toby – prior commitment	CR FELL / CR HANKIN
Division 2 – Dauan	Cr Torenzo Elisala – prior commitment	
Division 6 – Arkai	Cr Iona Manas – prior commitment	
Division 10 – Warraber	Cr Kabay Tamu – prior commitment	

C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI) DECLARATIONS

The Mayor invited Councillors to advise if they had any COI declarations to disclose in relation to items listed on the agenda. No declarations were made by Councillors.

The Mayor also requested that if there are any legal matters involving Councillors, then Councillors should advise the Mayor as soon as possible. No declarations were made by Councillors.

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.

The Mayor also took the opportunity to make the following observations:

- the current State Government budget process is now in progress;
- electioneering has commenced locally by candidates standing for election and it was important for Councillors to be mindful of being attentive to any election commitments and policies made by candidates which will impact on their communities; and
- current global political agitations have the potential to impact financially on Council's capacity to deliver services to the community.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (19 FEBRUARY 2025)

#C24-28/2025-3/1

CR LEVI / CR MYE

Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19 February 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 invited the Deputy Mayor to speak to the report, as the Deputy Mayor was heavily involved in deputising for the Mayor during this period. The report was noted by Council.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for her support and assistance to the Mayor's role and requested that all Councillors support the Deputy Mayor in her work. The Mayor also acknowledged other female Councillors for the work they are doing for Council.

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

3.1. CEO Monthly Report (March 2025)

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to this report. The report was noted by Council.

The CEO also acknowledged his appreciation for the work of the Deputy Mayor on behalf of the Mayor and Council.

4. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

6. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

6.1. Community Grants Program Allocation (February 2025)

#C24-28/2025-3/6.1

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

- CG2025-081 – ZAGETH MATHA ULAYKE CHOIR GROUP, PORUMA for \$1,529.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR HANKIN / CR DORANTE

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

- CG2025-082 – ZENADTH KES JUNIORS UGAR, UGAR for \$1,750.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR PEARSON / CR HANKIN

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

- CG2025-079 – ZENADTH KES JUNIORS BADU, BADU for \$1,000.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR FELL / CR T. MOSBY

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

- CG2025-074 – ZENADTH KES JUNIORS MABUIAG, MABUIAG for \$1,000.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR FELL / CR PEARSON

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. That Council notes the following:

- (a) three (3) Community Grants applications were deemed ineligible for funding;
- (b) one (1) Funeral Donation application required divisional contributions;
- (c) one (1) conflict of interest (COI) was declared;
- (d) the grant applications processed out-of-cycle and funeral donations provided in February.

MOVED/SECONDED: CR FELL / CR HANKIN

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2. Funding Acquisition Report (February 2025)

The Executive Director Corporate Services (Ms Susanne Andres) spoke to the report. The report was noted by Council.

6.3. Policy Review and Update – Entertainment and Hospitality Policy and Records Management Policy

#C24-28/2025-3/6.3

CR MYE / CR PEARSON

Council:

1. Adopts the amended Entertainment and Hospitality Policy,
2. Adopts the new Records Management Policy; and
3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to exercise the functions and powers assigned to the Chief Executive Officer, including the power to make any further minor administrative amendments to the policies as they arise.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

8. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**8.1. Financial Dashboard Report (February 2025)**

#C24-28/2025-3/8.1

CR PEARSON / CR T. MOSBY

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 28 February 2025, as required under Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2. Policy Matter – Policy Updates

#C24-28/2025-3/8.2

CR WOSOMO / CR T. MOSBY

Council resolves:

1. to adopt the amended and updated policies in the form attached to the officer's report for Council's Corporate Credit Card Policy and Debt Policy;
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to exercise the functions and powers assigned to the Chief Executive Officer under the amended and endorsed policy, including the power to make any further minor administrative amendments to the policy as they arise; and
3. That pursuant to Sections 236 and 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld), to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to negotiate, make, sign, increase, decrease or discharge any corporate credit card facility provided that such corporate credit card facility does not exceed the total value of \$150,000.

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

#C24-28/2025-3/9

CR ANIBA / CR PEARSON

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. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER****10.1. Acting Chief Executive Officer**

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: In accordance with section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, it is recommended that this matter be considered by Council in Closed Business as it involves the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of the Chief Executive Officer.]

#C24-28/2025-3/10.1

CR HANKIN / CR FELL

Council, under Section 195 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, appoints David Baldwin, Executive Director Engineering Services, to act as the Chief Executive Officer from Thursday 3 April 2025 until Wednesday 9 April 2025 (inclusive), while James William is on annual leave, and confirms that James William will resume his appointment as Chief Executive Officer on and from his return from leave.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

12. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

13. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

13.1. Mirabou Energy Project – Master Agreement

[Reason for Closed Discussion: This report is presented in the closed meeting of the Council under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, as it involves negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests or the local government.]

#C24-28/2025-3/13.1

CR STEPHEN / CR HANKIN

(a) Council notes:

- the contents and due diligence outcomes of the report from ADO & Co Consultancy Pty Ltd dated 14 March 2025;
- the contents and recommendations of the legal advice received from MacDonnells Law dated 14 March 2025;
- the possible procurement exemption available under s235(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* relating to the Master Services Agreement and the analysis undertaken by Council officers;
- that the disposal of valuable non-current asset matters will be considered as part of meeting the relevant pre-condition under the Master Agreement; and

(b) Council resolves:

- In accordance with Regulations 235(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that no quotes or tenders need to be sought prior to procuring goods and services from Mirabou Pty Ltd (trading as Mirabou Energy) in relation to the Mirabou Master Agreement because Council is satisfied it would be impracticable or disadvantageous for Council to invite quotes or tenders because of the specialised nature of the services that are sought; and
- To delegate power to the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Sections 236 and 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to enter into, negotiate, make, sign, amend or discharge the Mirabou Master Agreement or sub-delegate such powers, subject to the limitations provided for in the Procurement & Ethical Sourcing Policy, and also subject to finalisation of the Annexure A Milestones in collaboration with Mirabou.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

14.1. 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 notes the report.

15. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

16. RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION

#C24-28/2025-3/16

CR WOSOMO / CR FELL

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Council formally resolved on the decisions taken above in relation to Agenda Items 10-16.

18. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) **Cr Ranetta Wosomo** requested that the agenda for the May 2025 Council Workshop include discussion on leadership development for women.
- (b) **Cr Rocky Stephen**
 - informed the Council of a research project proposal to engage with the Torres Strait Islander community on the use of native plants and to explore opportunities to extract the plant DNA to identify genes for application in pharmaceutical and/or medical use.
 - requested Councillors to make themselves available for the upcoming Economic Development Strategy consultations.
- (c) **Cr John Levi** requested that 24hr access arrangements be explored for St Pauls diesel fuel due to high usage demands in the community. The CEO will follow-up out of session.
- (d) **Cr Seriako Dorante** requested advice in relation to a protocol to adopt in relation to engagement with native title interest groups on Hammond Island. The Mayor recommended that until a formal native title determination has been made, it would be an inclusive policy to engage with senior elders of the native title interest groups.

(e) Cr Keith Fell

- advised that he has been invited to be the Torres Strait-based representative on the Queensland peak body representing Community Justice Panels and that he has tentatively accepted the invitation pending formal confirmation. The Mayor noted this advice and requested that Cr Fell update his Register of Interest as appropriate.
- advised that he and Crs Wosomo and Hankin have had recent involvement in the health space on Service Delivery issues.

(f) The Mayor

- advised that he has been nominated by the LGAQ to sit on the Coalition of Peaks. The Coalition consists of national, state and territory non-government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies and independent statutory authorities that have responsibility for policies, programs and services related to Closing the Gap.
- advised that the LGAQ is campaigning in the lead-up to the upcoming Federal election for a fairer funding model for local governments ["Don't Leave Us in the '70s"](#).

19. INFORMATION REPORTS**19.1. BUILDING SERVICES – Building Services Report (February 2025)****19.2. COMMUNITY SERVICES – Information Report - Community Services (February 2025)****19.3. CORPORATE SERVICES - Corporate Services Information Report (February 2025)****19.4. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Engineering Operations****19.5. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Information Report - Water and Wastewater (February 2025)**

Noted by Council.

20. NEXT MEETING – 23 APRIL 2025 (Microsoft TEAMS)

Noted by Council.

21. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER

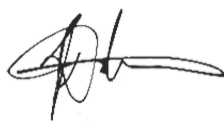
Before formally closing the meeting, the Mayor provided Cr Pearson an opportunity to make some closing remarks. Cr Pearson thanked Council for meeting on Poruma and wished Councillors and staff a safe return to their families and homes.

The Mayor formally closed the meeting at 4.30pm. Cr Keith Fell delivered the closing prayer.

MINUTES CONFIRMED – 23 April 2025



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Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 23 April 2025



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James William
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 23 April 2025