



ORDINARY MEETING 20 AUGUST 2025

MINUTES

Time: 9.50am to 5.00pm

Venue: *Microsoft TEAMS Meeting ID: 467 818 141 400 | Passcode: 3ef2Dq2s*

PRESENT:

Mayor

Division 2 – Dauan

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 Torenzo Elisala

Cr Chelsea Aniba

Cr Keith Fell

Cr Ranetta Wosomo

Cr John Levi – *left meeting at 12.10pm, returning at 1.20pm*

Cr Seriako Dorante

Cr Aggie Hankin – *joined meeting at 11.00am*

Cr Kabay Tamu

Cr Francis Pearson

Cr Ted Mosby

Cr Rocky Stephen

Cr Nixon Mye

Cr Bob Kaigey

APOLOGIES:

Division 9 – Iama

Cr Aggie Hankin – *joined meeting at 11.00am*

ABSENT:

Division 1 – Boigu

Division 6 – Kubin

Cr Dimas Toby

Cr Iona Manas

OFFICERS:

Acting Chief Executive Officer
Executive Director Building Services

Executive Director Corporate Services
Acting Executive Director Engineering Services
Executive Director Financial Services
Manager Governance & Risk
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Executive Assistant to the CEO
TSIRC Secretariat

Mr Dawson Sailor
Mr Wayne Green – *left meeting at 11.40am due to travel commitments*

Ms Susanne Andres
Mr Adeah Kabai
Ms Hollie Faithfull
Ms Kim Kerwin
Ms Trudy Lui
Ms Amy Orr
Mr Darryl Brooks

GUESTS:

Department of the Environment, Tourism,
Science and Innovation - *Deputation #1 only*

Mr James Muir | Senior Business Development Officer –
Torres Strait | Our Country Advisor Service (OCAS)

Consultant

Mr Anthony Ottaway – *AI 15.2 only*

Jones Lang Lasalle (JLL)

Mr Todd Svanberg AAPI (Primary Valuer) – *AI 15.3 only*

Chief Executive Officer LG Services Group

Mr Scott Mason – *AI 18.1 only*

Managing Director, Democracy Matters

Ms Sandy Killick – *AI 18.1 only*

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

At 9.50am, the Mayor welcomed Councillors, Executives and staff and members of the public to the Ordinary Council meeting for the month of August 2025, noting that a quorum of members was present.

B. NOTING OF APOLOGIES

#C24-28/2025-8/B-1

The following apologies were noted and accepted by Council:

Division	Councillor/Reason	Mover/Seconder
Division 9 – Iama	Cr Aggie Hankin – <i>prior travel prevented attendance at commencement of meeting</i>	CR ELISALA / CR FELL

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.

- **Cr Seriako Dorante** declared a COI in relation to Agenda Item 14.1 (Capital Works – Purchase Order Variation – Seaswift) as he was an employee of the organisation and advised Council that he would excuse himself from the meeting prior to discussion on that item.
- **Cr Keith Fell** declared a COI in relation to a funding application to be considered under Agenda Item 6.1 (Community Grants Program Allocation – July 2025) as a close family member was the applicant and advised Council that he would excuse himself from the meeting prior to discussion of that particular application.
- **Cr John Levi** declared a COI in relation to Agenda Item 15.1 (Contractual Matter - Sole Supplier Register & Expenditure) as his daughter has a business listed on the Register and advised Council that he would excuse himself from the meeting prior to discussion on that item.

No other declarations were made by Councillors.

The Mayor also invited Councillors to declare if they are involved in any current legal matters that they are required to advise the Mayor as soon as possible. No such 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.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING (22—23 JULY 2025) & SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING (31 JULY 2025)

#C24-28/2025-8/1a

CR PEARSON / CR WOSOMO

Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22-23 July 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#C24-28/2025-8/1b

CR ANIBA / CR ELISALA

Council confirms the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 31 July 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.1. Action Items Update

The Acting Chief Executive Officer (Mr Dawson Sailor) 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 REPORTS

2.1. Mayoral Monthly Report

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

➤ *The Mayor suspended the meeting from 10.35am to 10.55am for morning tea.*

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

3.1. CEO Monthly Report (July 2025)

The Acting Chief Executive Officer (Mr Dawson Sailor) spoke to his report. The report was noted by Council.

DEPUTATION #1: Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI)

The Mayor welcomed the DETSI deputation to the meeting. The Senior Business Development Officer – Torres Strait Our Country Advisor Service (OCAS) (**Mr James Muir**) addressed the Council.

Mr Muir provided Council with an update on the State's Destination 2045 Plan and initiatives relating to tourism in the Torres Strait. The update covered the development of a cultural tourism strategy and branding, market assessments, and early consideration of which islands may be open to visitors. A workshop on Badu Island, supported by TSRA and other partners, will be held in October 2025 to further discuss the region's ambitions.

Discussions emphasised the need to strengthen the region's profile as a unique destination while keeping cultural values and community aspirations central to any developments.

The Mayor stressed the importance of a collaborative approach so that any tourism strategy must be co-designed with Torres Strait Islander communities and impacts on cultural and environmental impacts are minimised or protected.

The Mayor thanked Mr Muir and the OCAS team for their work in the region and requested that OCAS continue its engagement with Council by working with the Economic Growth Advisory Committee to progress the Destination 2045 Plan and other opportunities for the region.

➤ *The Mayor suspended the meeting from 12.15pm to 1.20pm for lunch.*

4. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

➤ *The Mayor left the meeting at 1.25pm for an external commitment and the Deputy Mayor assumed the role of Chair.*

6. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

6.1. Community Grants Program Allocation (July 2025)

#C24-28/2025-8/6.1

➤ *In accordance with his declared COI, Cr Keith Fell was absent from the meeting during consideration of application CG2026-11 below.*

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

- **CG2026-011 – ANAKIN FELL, MABUIAG for \$2,500.00, exclusive of GST;**

MOVED/SECONDED: CR ELISALA / CR MYE

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

- **CG2026-014 – UGUL MALU, BOIGU for \$5,886.00, exclusive of GST;**

MOVED/SECONDED: CR PEARSON / CR LEVI

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

- CG2026-015 – SAINT SAVIOUR CHURCH, BOIGU for \$5,359.65, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR DORANTE / CR ELISALA

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Council notes the following:

- (a) one (1) Community Grant application required divisional contributions;
- (b) three (3) Funeral Donation applications were deemed ineligible for processing;
- (c) one (1) Community Grant application was deemed ineligible for processing;
- (d) two (2) applications processed for out-of-cycle funding in July 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED: CR ELISALA / CR T. MOSBY

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- *Cr Elisala requested that Council consider a future review of the Community Grants Policy to address options available to members of the Community or Community Organisations in relation to unsuccessful and ineligible applications, particularly the sensitive issue around requests for funeral support.*

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

The report was noted by Council.

6.3. **Operational Plan 2024-25 – Q4 Progress Report**

#C24-28/2025-8/6.3

CR PEARSON / CR FELL

Council receives and notes the progress report on the implementation of the 2024—25 Operational Plan for the period April to June 2025 (Q4).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. **ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Nil.

8. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

8.1. Financial Dashboard Report (July 2025)

#C24-28/2025-8/8.1

CR FELL / CR T. MOSBY

Council receives and endorses the monthly financial statements attached to the officer's report for the 2025-26 year to date, for the period ended 31 July 2025, as required under Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2. Contractual Matter – Expression of Interest Process to Establish Approved Contractor List

#C24-28/2025-8/8.2

CR TAMU / CR FELL

Council resolves, for the purpose of establishing an Approved Contractor List in accordance with Regulation 231 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to:

1. publish invitations for expressions of interest from suitably qualified persons for at least 21 days:
 - (a) on the Council's external website,
 - (b) on the VendorPanel platform,
 - (c) on notice boards at all of Council's administration offices; and
2. delegate power to the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Sections 236 and 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to:
 - (a) choose persons for the Approved Contractor List on the basis of the sound contracting principles listed in Section 106(3) of the *Local Government Act 2009*; and
 - (b) enter into, negotiate, make, sign, amend or discharge contracts with suppliers on the Approved Contractor List without seeking quotes or tenders or sub-delegate such powers, subject to the limitations provided in the Procurement & Ethical Sourcing Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3. Auditor-General's Observation Report on the Interim Audit for the Y/E 30 June 2025

#C24-28/2025-8/8.3

CR FELL / CR PEARSON

Council notes the Auditor-General's Observation Report on the Interim Audit for the year ending 30 June 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

#C24-28/2025-8/9

CR MYE / CR FELL

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

Nil.

11. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

12. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

- *The Mayor returned to the meeting at 2.10pm (during discussion on Agenda Item 13.1 below) and resumed his role as Chair.*

13. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE**13.1 Expiring Subordinate Legislation – *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Regulation 2008***

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: This matter contains legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.]

#C24-28/2025-8/13.1

CR FELL / CR PEARSON

Council resolves to:

- 1. Note the content of an interim submission tabled with the Department of Local Government on 17 July 2025 on the expiry of subordinate legislation - *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Regulation 2008*;**
- 2. Note the legal advice received from MacDonnells Law on the expiring subordinate legislation; and**
- 3. Endorse Council's interim submission and instruct the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government enclosing a copy of Council's formal submission on the expiry of subordinate legislation - *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Regulation 2008*.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

- *In accordance with his declared COI, Cr Dorante was absent from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 14.1 below.*

14.1. Capital Works – Purchase Order Variation - Seaswift

[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".]

#C24-28/2025-8/14.1

CR ELISALA / CR FELL

Council resolves:

- To approve amendment to purchase order PYO0005422 to Sea Swift Pty Ltd for the sum of up to \$900,000.00 (Excl. GST), accounting for forecasted freight services; and
- Pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:
 - power to make, amend or discharge the Purchase Order PYO000522; and
 - power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and funding and contract including without limitation any options and/or variations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14.2. Funding Matter – TSIRC.0043.234P.REC DRFA Betterment

[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".]

#C24-28/2025-8/14.2

CR TAMU / CR ELISALA

Council resolves to:

- 1. Enter into the proposed funding agreement for TSIRC.0043.2324P.REC for Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement (DRFA) Betterment administered by Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) in relation to Council's submission of TSIRC.0043.2324P.REC for a grant sum of up to \$4,700,496.23 (Excl. GST); and**
- 2. Pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:**
 - power to make, amend or discharge the Funding Agreement; and
 - power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and funding agreement including without limitation any options and/or variations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14.3. 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".]

#C24-28/2025-8/14.3

CR WOSOMO / CR PEARSON

Council resolves to note this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- *The Mayor and Councillors acknowledged and thanked the Manager Capital Works (Mr Peter Price) for his dedicated work and commitment to deliver Council's capital works projects.*

15. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

- *In accordance with his declared COI, Cr Levi was absent from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 15.1 below.*

15.1. Contractual Matter – Sole Supplier Register & Expenditure

[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".]

#C24-28/2025-8/15.1

CR WOSOMO / CR PEARSON

Council resolves:

1. In accordance with Regulations 235(a) and 235(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that no quotes or tenders need to be sought prior to procuring goods and services from the suppliers listed in Attachment A of the officer's report because Council is satisfied that either:
 - (a) those suppliers are the only suppliers reasonably available; or
 - (b) it would be impracticable or disadvantageous for Council to invite quotes or tenders because of the specialised or confidential nature of the services offered by those suppliers;
2. To adopt the Sole Supplier Register appended as Attachment A of the officer's report;
3. 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 contracts with suppliers on the Sole Supplier Register without seeking quotes or tenders or sub-delegate such powers, subject to the limitations provided for in the Procurement & Ethical Sourcing Policy; and
4. To note the expenditure against sole suppliers detailed in Attachment A of the officer's report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15.2. Mirabou Energy – Renewable Energy Project Status Update

[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".]

#C24-28/2025-8/15.2

CR ELISALA / CR MYE

Council notes the status update on the renewable energy project as endorsed by the Project Steering Committee on 4 August 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15.3. 2024-25 Comprehensive Asset Revaluation Results

[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".]

#C24-28/2025-8/15.3

CR ELISALA / CR TAMU

Council resolves to:

- (a) to note the 24/25 Comprehensive Valuation Results conducted by Jones Lang Lasalle; and
- (b) delegate the authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to finalise the 2024/2025 comprehensive asset revaluation review including but not limited to applying the fair value movement identified in the Jones Lang Lasalle Report in TSIRC's financial records to the various asset classes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION

#C24-28/2025-8/16

CR ELISALA / CR WOSOMO

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 in relation to Agenda Items 10-16 above.

18. ITEMS ARISING**18.1. August 23 Observance of the First Councillors' Conference**

Ms Sandy Killick (Democracy Matters) and **Mr Scott Mason** (Chief Executive Officer LG Services Group) joined the meeting at 3.30pm to provide Council with an update on recent activities to commemorate the 88th Anniversary of the First Councillors' Conference which was held on 23 August 1937.

Ms Killick and Mr Mason have been working with Council's Governance & Leadership Advisory Committee and Council's Administration and Communication team in the development of a publication for this commemoration entitled "How the people of the Torres Region are Taking Action on Unfinished Business". This publication is currently being finalised (subject to any feedback from Councillors) for printing and distribution throughout the region by Councillors at events scheduled around observing the 23 August anniversary and is a regional update on **Malungu Yangu Wakay | Mirkok | Ikya Malunhumun**.

The name change to **Malungu Yangu Wakay | Mirkok | Ikya Malunhumun** now reflects the Statement in languages across the three local government areas in the Torres Strait region. Feedback from Councillors on the 'Call to Action' in the publication is recommended, and feedback from the Mayors of the Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council and the Torres Shire Council was very strongly recommended by Mr Mason.

Mr Mason also advised Council that there will be - by default - some errors within this document in view of the short timeframe available to prepare the document. If there are any anomalies or inconsistencies or changes/amendments required, those can easily be made prior to a professional print run is undertaken. Councillors were encouraged to review the document with this in mind.

There has been some difficulty in finding a more appropriate map to better represent the three local government regions in the Torres Strait area. Any assistance with this matter will be greatly appreciated.

The Mayor noted that it was interesting to point out the issues identified in 1937 and that while progress has been made in some areas, the table in the publication also shows the persistent issues that continue to this day and these are issues that the current three local governments are working together to solve (while balancing the fact that two of the councils are non rateable and the rates of the third council are insufficient for the area it covers).

Cr Tamu recommended that an annual update be provided to each Community on progress made throughout the previous year in relation to delivering the region towards autonomy.

The Mayor thanked Ms Killick and Mr Mason for their attendance and their hard work in preparing this publication. Ms Killick and Mr Mason left the meeting at 3.55pm.

18.2. Climate Adaptation Regional Networking

Cr Kabay Tamu highlighted the need for a united regional advocacy voice to lobby for national and international action to address climate change impacts for the Torres Strait region. **The Mayor** advised that engagement with local groups will have more impact through the three local governments across the Torres Strait region working together with other State and Federal Government agencies.

18.3. Update on Advocacy Work being undertaken by the TS&NPAROC

Cr Seriako Dorante sought information on what advocacy matters are being driven through the Torres Strait & Northern Peninsula Area Regional Organisation of Councils (TS&NPAROC). **The Mayor** advised that the following matters are being pursued:

- raised with TSRA Chair that insufficient funding is available under the MIP for infrastructure and ageing infrastructure across the region
- discussed with the Member for Cook and the Queensland Premier recently about safe, accessible and affordable transportation (land, sea and air) across the region
- now preparing formal letters from TS&NPAROC to Queensland Government expiring freight subsidies around land, air and sea transportation (including ferry services and helicopter subsidy for Ugar and Dauan)

- now preparing formal letters from TS&NPAROC to Queensland Government regarding RPT and Qantas subsidies will be submitted
- now preparing formal letters from TS&NPAROC to Queensland Government and others seeking funding for the development of a transportation strategy for the Torres Strait region
- streamlining of the 15 regional priorities originally identified by the TS&NPAROC Charter into six (6) categories:
 - Blue security and safer regions;
 - Safe, accessible and affordable transportation;
 - Land tenure and native title (focus on DOGIT)
 - Health reforms, including restoration of the Primary Health Care Model;
 - Employment and Training Strategy for the Torres Strait region
 - Autonomy agenda

Moray and Agnew are doing work around the best format to formally establish the TS&NPAROC as an effective voice for regional advocacy.

19. INFORMATION REPORTS

19.1. BUILDING SERVICES – Building Services Report (July 2025)

19.2. COMMUNITY SERVICES – Information Report - Community Services (July 2025)

19.3. CORPORATE SERVICES - Corporate Services Information Report (July 2025)

19.4. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Engineering Operations

19.5. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Information Report - Water and Wastewater (July 2025)

Noted by Council. Any enquiries by Councillors in relation to the information reports can be raised directly by Councillors with the respective Directorate Executive Director, or the Chief Executive Officer.

20. NEXT MEETING – 17 SEPTEMBER 2025 (VC)

Noted by Council.

21. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER

The Mayor formally thanked the **Deputy Mayor** for her leadership across Council during recent weeks and thanked **Councillors** and **Executives** for their support across this month's two Council meetings.

The Mayor also thanked **Mr Dawson Sailor** for his current work during this present period as Acting CEO and also thanked **Executive Directors** for supporting Mr Sailor at this time.

The Mayor formally closed the meeting at 4.40pm and **Cr John Levi** delivered the closing prayer.

MINUTES CONFIRMED – 30 September 2025



.....
Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council



.....
Dawson Sailor
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council