



ORDINARY MEETING 20 MAY 2026

MINUTES

Time: 10.30am to 5.00pm

Venue: *Microsoft (TEAMS) Meeting ID: 479 839 580 640 24 | Passcode: Bg238BD2*

PRESENT:

Division 2 – Dauan
Division 3 – Saibai
Division 4 – Mabuiag
Division 5 – Badu / **Deputy Mayor**
Division 6 – Kubin
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

Cr Torenzo Elisala – *left meeting at 12.30pm*
Cr Chelsea Aniba
Cr Keith Fell – *left meeting at 12.30pm*
Cr Ranetta Wosomo
Cr Iona Manas
Cr John Levi
Cr Seriako Dorante
Cr Aggie Hankin – *joined meeting at 1.30pm*
Cr Kabay Tamu
Cr Francis Pearson
Cr Ted Mosby
Cr Rocky Stephen

APOLOGIES:

Mayor

Division 1 – Boigu
Division 14 – Erub
Division 15 – Mer

Cr Phillemon Mosby – *medical appointment*
Cr Dimas Toby
Cr Nixon Mye – *long standing prior commitment*
Cr Bob Kaigey – *prior commitment*

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 – *left meeting at 12.30pm*
Mr Wayne Green – *left meeting at 12.30pm*
Mr Dawson Sailor
Ms Michelle Webster
Mr David Baldwin
Ms Hollie Faithfull
Ms Amy Orr – *left meeting at 11.15am*
Ms Trudy Lui
Mr Darryl Brooks

GUESTS:

Treaty Liaison Officer, Department of
Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT)

Mr T.J. Oberleuter – *for Agenda Item 15.2 only*

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

At 10.40am, the Deputy Mayor welcomed Councillors, Executives and staff to the Ordinary Council meeting for the month of May 2026, noting that a quorum of members was present.

The Deputy Mayor advised that she will be chairing the monthly Ordinary Council Meeting in the absence of the Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

- Our Heavenly Father for His love and protection over our Families and our region;
- The Traditional Custodians of the lands from where we are all joining this meeting today – from Sydney (where the Deputy Mayor and Cr Chelsea Aniba are joining from), the TSIRC footprint in Cairns (Gimuy), and from Zenadth Kes; and
- Our Elders and Leaders – past, present and emerging.

The Deputy Mayor also acknowledged those members of the Community who are in Sorry Business and extended to them the thoughts and prayers of Council at this time.

The Deputy Mayor also advised that Council had commenced the day with an opening prayer and observance at the Trustee Council meeting and that a minute of silence was observed at the time.

B. NOTING OF APOLOGIES

#C24-28/2026-5/B

The following apologies were noted by Council:

Division	Councillor/Reason	Mover/Seconder
Mayor	Cr Phillemon Mosby – <i>medical appointment</i>	CR ANIBA / CR PEARSON
Division 1 – Boigu	Cr Dimas Toby	CR PEARSON / CR MANAS
Division 14 – Erub	Cr Nixon Mye – <i>long standing prior commitment</i>	CR TAMU / CR MANAS
Division 15 – Mer	Cr Bob Kaigey – <i>prior commitment</i>	CR STEPHEN / CR T. MOSBY

C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI) DECLARATIONS

The Deputy Mayor advised that no written COI notifications were provided by Councillors in relation to the Ordinary Council Meeting for May 2026 and invited Councillors to make any declarations before today's proceedings commence any further.

Cr Ted Mosby advised that he had a Declarable COI in relation to Agenda Item 6.1 (Community Grants) as the applicants are family members.

The Deputy Mayor reminded Councillors of their responsibility for informing Council of any prescribed or declarable conflict of interest on matters to be discussed and that Councillors are required to provide COI in writing prior to the meeting being held. If in doubt, declare your conflict of interest and Council will advise a way forward.

The Deputy Mayor added that if throughout the course of the discussion that any Councillors become aware of a potential conflict of interest, could that Councillor please immediately let the meeting know.

D. LIVE STREAM

The Deputy Mayor advised 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 Deputy Mayor added that this livestreaming service offers transparency and allows members of the general public and organisational partners across the TSIRC footprint to be informed of Council's deliberations and decisions which impact on the region.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (22 APRIL 2026)

#C24-28/2026-5/1

CR PEARSON / CR FELL

Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 April 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.1. Action Items Update

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

2. MAYORAL REPORTS

2.1. Mayoral Monthly Report

The Deputy Mayor provided an overview of the Mayoral Report and advised that the report is for noting by Council.

2.2. Mayoral Minute

Nil.

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

3.1. CEO Monthly Report (May 2026) – verbal report

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) provided a verbal report with the following highlights:

- currently on Mabuiag mobilising the first two homes under the modern methods of construction endorsed by Council;
- noted a successful Council Workshop held earlier in the month in Cairns, and acknowledged the Deputy Mayor's leadership throughout the week and the engagement by those Councillors in attendance;
- ongoing focus on the financial sustainability of Council and how essential services are delivered in the region;

- work continues on TSIRC advocacy to engage support from State and Australian Government partners;
- water challenges remain ongoing (including quality supply, network issues and maintenance of plant and equipment). A water audit of sites across the footprint is currently being undertaken.

The verbal update was noted by Council.

- *The Chief Executive Officer then sought approval from Council for an additional item to be added to the published May 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting agenda, as recommended by the Deputy Mayor and Cr Rocky Stephen.*
- *Council agreed and the Chief Executive Officer tabled the following motion which was endorsed by Council:*

#C24-28/2026-5/3.1.1

CR STEPHEN / CR FELL

In accordance with section 254D(4) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council agrees to an amendment to the published agenda for the May 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting to include a late paper in closed session to discuss matters in relation to an upcoming Out of Session meeting of the Traditional Inhabitants Meeting under the *Torres Strait Treaty 1978*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

5.1. Funding Matter – Torres & Cape Quit Connector Program

#C24-28/2026-5/5.1

CR TAMU / CR PEARSON

Council resolves:

- 1. To enter into the proposed funding agreement MTCSVC2 between Queensland Health and Council to deliver the Torres & Cape Quit Connector Program to the sum of \$250,000 (Excl. GST); and**
- 2. Pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:**
 - (a) power to make, amend or discharge the Funding Agreement; and**
 - (b) 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

6. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

6.1. Community Grants Program Allocation (April 2026)

#C24-28/2026-5/6.1

CR PEARSON / CR MANAS

In accordance with Sections 194 and 195 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and Council's Community Grants Policy, Council resolves:

1. to allocate Community Grants Program funding to the following applicant:
 - CG2026-089 – PATRICK THAIDAY, ERUB for \$2,500.00; and
2. to note the information in this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2. Funding Acquisition Report (April 2026)

Council noted the report.

6.3. Operational Plan 2025-26 – Q3 Progress Report

#C24-28/2026-5/6.3

CR STEPHEN / CR TAMU

Council receives and notes the progress report on the implementation of the 2025-2026 Operational Plan for the period January to March 2026 (Q3).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

8. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

8.1. Financial Dashboard Report (April 2026)

#C24-28/2026-5/8.1

CR MANAS / CR PEARSON

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 30 April 2026, as required under Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2. Policy Matter – 2026-27 Fees & Charges

#C24-28/2026-5/8.2

CR PEARSON / CR T. MOSBY

Council resolves, pursuant to Section 97(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009* (LGA), to:

- (i) **fix the cost-recovery fees set out in the 2026/27 Fees and Charges Schedule attached to the officer's report;**
- (ii) **Fix all other fees and charges set out in the 2026/27 Fees and Charges Schedule attached to the officer's report; and**
- (iii) **Adopt the 2026/27 Fees and Charges Schedule.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

#C24-28/2026-5/9

CR T. MOSBY / CR MANAS

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. *[Standing Agenda Item]* Update on Current Legal Matters before Council *(verbal update)*

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: This matter may contain 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].

The verbal update provided by the Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) was noted by Council.

11. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

12. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

13. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

14. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

14.1 Capital Works – Information Report

[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".]

The Executive Director Engineering Services (**Mr David Baldwin**) spoke to a confidential report. Council noted the verbal update.

15. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

15.1. Mirabou Energy – Renewable Energy Project Status Update

[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 pertains to "legal advice obtained" and "negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving Council for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government".]

Council noted the update provided by the Executive Director Financial Services (Ms Hollie Faithfull).

- *Agenda Item 15A below relates to a matter introduced by the Chief Executive Officer under Agenda Item 3 above as a late closed business discussion (refer to resolution #C24-28/2026-5/3.1.1 from Agenda Item 3 above).*
- *Mr T.J. Oberleuter [Treaty Liaison Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT)] joined the meeting from 11.40am to 12.30pm to discuss this late report with Council.*

15A LATE REPORT ENDORSED IN-COUNCIL: Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) Discussion in Relation to Upcoming Out-Of-Session Traditional Inhabitants' Meeting (OOS – TIM) Under the Torres Strait Treaty 1978

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: this discussion relates to matters the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.]

Noted by Council.

- *The Deputy Mayor suspended deliberations from 12.30pm to 1.30pm for lunch.*

16. RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION

#C24-28/2026-5/16

CR T. MOSBY / CR ANIBA

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

The Deputy Mayor advised that no formal decisions arose during the Closed Session discussions, other than as indicated in Agenda Items 10 to 16 above.

Action Required:

Chief Executive Officer to explore options around the convening of a two—day workshop with DFAT's Treaty Liaison Officer on Mabuiag immediately following the July 2026 Trustee and Ordinary Council meetings to discuss Torres Strait Treaty matters.

18. ITEMS ARISING

(a) Road Repairs – Poruma and Kirirri

Cr Francis Pearson requested an update on timelines for road repairs for Poruma and **Cr Seriako Dorante** requested a similar update for Kirirri and future funding needs for other road repairs.

The Executive Director Engineering Services (**Mr David Baldwin**) advised that improvement or betterment funding is being sought for such projects and these sorts of projects may be included under a Local Resilience Action Plan (LRAP) currently being prepared for endorsement by Council.

Mr Baldwin will follow-up these two matters further out of session with Crs Pearson and Dorante.

19. INFORMATION REPORTS

19.1. BUILDING SERVICES – Building Services Report (April 2026)

The report was noted by Council.

19.2. COMMUNITY SERVICES – Community Services (April 2026)

The Executive Director Community Services (**Mr Dawson Sailor**) provided an overview of the monthly report, highlighting the following:

- main focus at this stage is on housing matters (preparing for updated Housing policies to be endorsed by Council for implementation in the 2026—27 financial year) and increased efforts for rental collection and better tenancy management;
- the role of Manager Health and Wellbeing has now been filled. The successful applicant is currently based in the Cairns Office and plans for setting up new IKCs on Mer, Masig, St. Pauls and Saibai will be a priority;
- currently resolving other matters with Council's Environmental Health Team around fire burn—offs and the Animal Management Plan.

The report and verbal updates were noted by Council.

19.3. CORPORATE SERVICES - Corporate Services Information Report (April 2026)

The Executive Director Corporate Services (**Ms Michelle Webster**) provided an overview of the monthly report, highlighting the following:

- met recently with Cr Rocky Stephen and Mr John Palmer to discuss commencement of Phase 2 of Council's Economic Development Strategy (advancing the community—led Economic Strategic Action Plan);
- reminded Councillors of the TEAMS meeting on 4 June 2026 to update Councillors on Council's delegations under legislation; and
- noting that of Council's current 370 employees, 88% are Indigenous and 83% are based on Division.

The report and verbal updates were noted by Council.

19.4. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Engineering Operations

The Executive Director Engineering Services (**Mr David Baldwin**) provided an overview of the monthly report, highlighting the following:

- Ms Amanda Pearce has now been appointed as Manager of Engineering Operations (managing overall approximately 104 staff across the TSIRC footprint – all are Torres Strait Islander staff, except one);
- Mr Marcus Warrusam has been appointed as Engineering Operations Supervisor (based on Saibai);
- Delays in recruiting for the Local Disaster Management Coordinator position, and several other positions;
- significant upgrades in the accommodation that Council owns on Dauan and Saibai; and
- audits are currently being done on updating accommodation facilities for tech officers for some of Council's water sheds and the larger sewer plants.

The report and verbal updates were noted by Council.

19.5. ENGINEERING SERVICES – Information Report - Water and Wastewater (April 2026)

The Executive Director Engineering Services (**Mr David Baldwin**) provided an overview of the monthly report, adding that Badu, Iama and Erub have quite significant leakage issues which are costing Council due to ageing infrastructure and assets and the inability to secure adequate and timely capital funding for effective repairs.

The report and verbal updates were noted by Council.

The Deputy Mayor expressed Council's thanks and appreciation to the Engineering Services Directorate staff for their work on ground for Council and the Community.

20. NEXT MEETING – 23 JUNE 2026 (VC)

Noted by Council.

21. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER

The Deputy Mayor thanked Councillors and Officers for their participation and constructive engagement throughout the meeting.

The Deputy Mayor formally closed the meeting at 2.00pm and **Cr John Levi** delivered the closing prayer.

MINUTES CONFIRMED – 23 June 2026



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Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council



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James William
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council