



MINUTES
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
16TH DECEMBER 2025

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1. NOTICE OF MEETING.

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council was held on:

Date: 16th December 2025
Time: 3.00 pm
Location: Council Chambers
22 Cameron Road, Batchelor NT 0845

Any member of Council and staff who may have a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest regarding any item of business to be discussed at a Council meeting should declare that conflict of interest to enable Council to manage the conflict and resolve it in accordance with its obligations under the *Local Government Act 2019*.

The Ordinary Meeting of Council was open to the public and adhered to COVID Safety Plan requirements, including optional wearing a mask, appropriate physical distancing, and health, and hygiene requirements.

The meeting was recorded for minuting purposes only.



Natasha Chapman

Acting Chief Executive Officer.

MINUTES

ORDINARY GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BATCHELOR

ON 16TH DECEMBER 2025

The President of the Council, Mr. Ross McGorman declared the meeting open at 3:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land commonly referred to as Coomalie. I pay my respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

3. PERSONS PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

President	Ross McGorman
Deputy President	Chris Whatley
Councillor	Sharon Beswick
Councillor	Mae Mae Morrison
Councillor	Alan Roe
Councillor	Greg Strettles

STAFF PRESENT

Acting Chief Executive Officer	Natasha Chapman
Council and Community Services Manager	Emma Dunne
Executive Services Coordinator	Stacey Shooter

VISITORS PRESENT

Acting Director of Legislation Policy and Governance, Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	Inna Bruce
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4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: Nil.

PURPOSE

This report is to table for Council's record any apologies and requests for leave of absence received for the Ordinary General Meeting held on 16th December 2025.

Nil

5. ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE.

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: Nil.

PURPOSE

This report is to table, for Council's record, any requests, and permissions for Electronic Attendance.

Nil

6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: Nil.

PURPOSE

Members and Staff are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration by the Council at a meeting of the Council by:

- 1) In the case of a matter featured in an officer's report or written agenda item by disclosing the interest to the Council by disclosure as soon as possible after the matter is raised.
- 2) In the case of a matter raised in general debate or by any means other than the printed agenda of the Council by disclosure as soon as possible after the matter is raised. Under disclosure, the member or staff member must abide by the decision of Council on whether he/ she shall remain in the meeting and/ or take part in the issue. The Council may elect to allow the member or staff member to provide further and better particulars of the interest prior to requesting him/ her to leave the Chambers.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/001

That Council receives the declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary General Meeting held 16th December 2025.

21.3 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS FOR THE DECEMBER OGM 2025 Item #3 – Clr. Beswick

21.4 ANNUAL AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Clr. Strettles – Personal connection

Clr. Beswick – Personal connect

Council & Community Services Manager, Emma Dunne – Personal connection

21.6 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT – Clr. Beswick

22.3 EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT – Clr. Beswick

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

7. MOVING AGENDA ITEMS FROM PUBLIC TO CONFIDENTIAL.

Nil

8. MOVING AGENDA ITEMS FROM CONFIDENTIAL TO PUBLIC.

Nil

9. PETITIONS.

Nil

DRAFT

10. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

10.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES (PUBLIC) OF 12th NOVEMBER 2025.

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: **DRAFT Public Special Meeting Minutes of 12th November 2025.**

PURPOSE

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 12th November 2025 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those Minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/002

That the Public Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 12th November 2025 be confirmed they are a true and correct record of the meeting, as amended to include a note:

At item 8.2 Deputy President Whatley, “through the CEO, to thank staff for outstanding efforts towards the production of the Annual Report 2024-25.

Moved: Deputy President Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

10.2 CONFIRMATION OF THE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES OF 27th NOVEMBER 2025.

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: [DRAFT Public Meeting Minutes of 27th November 2025.](#)

PURPOSE

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 27th November 2025 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those Minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/003

That the Public Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 27th November 2025 be confirmed they are a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

11. PRESIDENT REPORT

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Ross McGorman, President

Attachment: [NIL](#)

PURPOSE

To update Council on the activities of the President since the last Ordinary General Meeting (OGM) for the period of November and December 2025.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/004

That Council receives and notes the President's Report for the period of November and December 2025.

Moved: Deputy President Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT.

Date:	16 th December 2025
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	Nil

PURPOSE

To update Council on the activities of the Chief Executive Officer since the last Ordinary General Meeting (OGM) for the period of November and December 2025.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/005

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the Chief Executive Officers Report for the period of October and November 2025; and
- b) requests the Acting Chief Executive Officer to report back to Council about the burial requirements at Rum Jungle Lake.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

Discussion Points:

- General discussion around the progress of completing the outstanding works at Myrtle Fawcett Park, including signage, bollards and fencing.
- Queries regarding the Coomalie Bush Cemetery and the burial grounds, including firebreaks, gates and fencing and the legislative requirements about burial sites.

13. FINANCE REPORTS

13.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

Date:	16 th December 2025
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	Nil

PURPOSE

To provide a summary of the financial position of Council for the period ending 30th November 2025. In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 – Part 2 Division 7*, the preceding month's financial report must be presented to Council. Regulation 17(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* requires a monthly report from the Chief Executive Officer to provide council with the actual income and expenditure for the year to date; the most recently adopted annual budget; and details of any material variances between the most recent actuals and the most recently adopted annual budget.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/006

That Council;

- a) notes the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) certifies to the best of her knowledge, information, and the belief that the internal controls implemented by Council are appropriate, and that Council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of Council; and
- b) receives and notes the monthly financial report for November 2025.

Moved: Deputy President Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

Discussion Points:

- General queries relating to the balance of overdue rates and recovery processes and BAS lodgements.
- Explanation of the process of grant applications, whether competitive or non-competitive grants are received and how Council determines suitable grants to apply for.
- General queries relating to trade debtor and supplier payments made.

13.2 FIRST BUDGET REVIEW 2025-26 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025-29

Date:	16 th December 2025
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	DRAFT FIRST BUDGET REVIEW 2025-26 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025-29

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council's approval for the First Review of the 2025-26 Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/007

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report titled First Budget Review 2025-26; and
- b) adopts the First Amended Budget 2025-26 and Long-Term Financial Plan 2025-29.

Moved: Clr. Morrison

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Changes in the Operating Grants & Subsidies, Materials & Contracts lines were outlined and discussed in depth.
- Confirmation that Elected Member allowances remain the same, but account line recognition was aligned to reflect allowances vs expenses.
- Period Contracts were discussed and cost of contracts considered.

13.3 MOTION: BUSINESS MODEL, WASTE MANAGEMENT COLLECTION

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/008

That Council requests the Acting Chief Executive Officer to investigate an alternative business model around kerbside waste management collection and present to the February 2026 OGM.

Moved: Clr. Morrison

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

13.4 REINVESTMENT APPROVAL

Date:	16 th December 2025
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	Council Policy 2.8 Investments Policy

PURPOSE

To seek Council's approval to reinvest the principal funds of a matured cash deposit (term deposit).

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/009

That Council;

a) approves the reinvestment of the matured term deposit into three \$300,000 term deposits and one \$350,000 at the applicable interest rates on the day of investment, being 17th December 2025, for the terms of 6 months, 9 months, 11 months and 12 months;

b) approves the interest earned on the matured term deposit account to be deposited into Council's linked operational account; and

c) endorses the amendment to Council Policy 2.6 Delegations Policy to reflect the approval requirement outlined in Council Policy 2.8 Investments Policy, specifically:

- Authority to approve investment of funds in term deposits – Council and CEO
- Authority to approve investment of funds in other than term deposits – Council and CEO.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

14. REPORTS REQUIRING DECISIONS OF COUNCIL.

14.1 WaRM GRANT 2025-2026 (PHASE 6) PROJECT PROPOSAL

Date:	16 th December 2025
Author:	Emma Dunne, Council and Community Services Manager
Attachment:	Nil

PURPOSE

To seek Council's decision regarding projects to be funded by the Waste and Resource Management Grant 2025-26 (Phase 6).

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/010

That Council;

a) receives and notes the report entitled WaRM Grant 2025-2026 (Phase 6) Project Proposal; and

b) nominates the project listed below:

- Commence rehabilitation of the rear section of the Adelaide River Waste Management Facility; and

c) requests the Chief Executive Officer correspond with the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet confirming Council's acceptance of the WaRM 2025-26 grant funding and its nominated project.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

Discussion Points:

- **Project Options**

Waste bins (container) size could be larger at ARWMF.

Explore from other companies/organisations other models/plans for rehabilitation works at waste management facilities.

Interest in finding out the eligibility for Council to purchase a truck for waste collection.

14.2 REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICY 1.07 COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY.

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: **DRAFT Policy 1.07 Meetings of Council – Tracked Changes**

PURPOSE

To seek Council's endorsement of the revised Council Policy 1.07 Council Meetings Policy.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/011

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report titled Review of Council Policy 1.07 Council Meetings Policy; and
- b) amends the meeting schedule of Ordinary General Meetings to be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month commencing at 17:00 hours and to finish no later than 22:00 hours; and
- c) endorses the policy (as amended) and approves the publication on the website.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Deputy President Whatley

Carried

Discussion Points:

- **Time of meetings**
Round the table preference with regards to the start time of the OGM: Mid-afternoon or late afternoon.
A discussion was had regarding maybe having two meetings a month.

15. REPORTS FOR RECEIVING AND NOTING.

15.1 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FOR THE DECEMBER OGM 2025

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: [Actions for the December OGM 2025](#)

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/012

That Council;

a) receives and notes the Actions for the December OGM 2025; and

b) remove items: 9 and 13.

Moved: Deputy President Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

15.2 COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS REGISTER.

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: [Complaints and compliments tables.](#)

PURPOSE

To update Council on complaints and compliments received during November and December 2025 period.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/013

That Council receives and notes the Complaints and Compliments Register during November and December 2025.

Moved: Clr. Morrison

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

15.3 INFILL DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION IN ZONE LR (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) CONSULTATION

Date: 16th December 2025
Author: Emma Dunne, Council & Community Services Manager
Attachment: [NT Planning Commission Discussion Paper](#)

PURPOSE

To provide Council with an update on the review of the opportunities for infill development and subdivision in Zone LR (Low-Density Residential) across the Northern Territory and to enable Council to provide feedback in the consultation process if required.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/014

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled Infill Development and Subdivision in Zone LR (Low Density Residential) Consultation; and
- b) supports the submission from LGANT regarding Infill Development.

Moved: Clr. Roe

Seconded: Deputy President Whatley

Carried

15.4 2025-26 COMPLIANCE PLAN FOR HIGH-RISK LANDFILLS

Date: 16th December 2025
Author: Emma Dunne, Council and Community Services Manager
Attachment: [NIL](#)

PURPOSE

To inform Council of the NT EPA compliance plan 2025-26 and impact to Coomalie Council's waste management facilities.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/015

That Council receives and notes the report entitled NTEPA 2025-26 Compliance plan.

Moved: Deputy President Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

16. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION.

16.1 INCOMING AND OUTGOING MAIL.

Date:	16 th December 2025
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.
Attachment:	Incoming and outgoing correspondence tables.

PURPOSE

Council is provided with items of correspondence both received and sent during the months of November and December 2025.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/016

That Council receives and notes the items of incoming and outgoing correspondence as tabled for November and December 2025 period.

Moved: Cllr. Strettles

Seconded: Deputy President Whatley

Carried

17. COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Nil

18. USE OF THE COMMON SEAL.

18.1 USE OF THE COMMON SEAL: FORM 48 – DISCHARGE OF STATUTORY CHARGE

Date: 16th December 2025

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: Nil

PURPOSE

To seek Council's approval for, and ratification of, the use of its Common Seal.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/017

That Council, pursuant to Section 38(2)(a)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, ratifies the use of its Common Seal affixed to Section 83 Form 48 - Discharge of Statutory Charge for properties AN427 and AN1083.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

19. LATE ITEMS AND URGENT BUSINESS.

Nil

20. GENERAL BUSINESS.

Nil

21. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS.

RESOLUTION 2025/12/16/018

That Council close the meeting to the general public in accordance with Regulation 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was closed to the public at: 5:31pm.

The confidential meeting opened at: 5:38pm

**21.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING
12TH NOVEMBER 2025**

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

21.2 CONFIRMATION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 27TH NOVEMBER 2025.

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

21.3 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS FOR THE DECEMBER OGM 2025

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

21.4 ANNUAL AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) subject to sub regulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

**21.5 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR THE RISK MANAGEMENT
AND AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would be publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

21.6 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT PROGRESS REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(f) subject to sub regulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

21.7 INSURANCE CLAIM NOTIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51

- (a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual; and
- (d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity

22. CONFIDENTIAL GENERAL BUSINESS

22.1 MOTION: WORKS CONTRACT

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) subject to sub regulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

22.2 MOTION: FUTURE ASSET PLANNING

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) subject to sub regulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

22.3 MOTION: EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(f) subject to sub regulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

22.4 MOTION: EXTERNAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(e) subject to sub regulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

23. DECISIONS ARISING FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL SECTION OF THE COUNCIL.

RESOLUTION CONF2025/12/16/030

That Council move the following items into Open:

Item **21.5 Appointment of Independent Member for the Risk Management and Audit Committee** once formal notifications have been issued.

Moved: Deputy President Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

24. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

RESOLUTION CONF2025/12/16/031

That Council re-opens the meeting to the general public in accordance with Regulation 51 of *the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*

Moved: Clr. Roe

Seconded: Clr. Beswick

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:30pm.

Council acknowledges the tragedy in Bondi Beach and expresses its deepest sympathy to all those affected by the event in which people lost lives and many others were injured.

25. NEXT MEETING.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on **20th January 2025 at 5:00pm.**

26. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting closed at 7:34pm.