



MINUTES
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
17TH FEBRUARY 2026

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1. NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Date: 17th February 2026
Time: 5.00 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.

RESOLUTION 2026/03/17/003

That the Public Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 17th February 2026 be confirmed they are a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr Strettles

Carried

MINUTES

ORDINARY GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BATCHELOR
ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2026

The President of the Council, Mr. Ross McGorman declared the meeting open at 5:00 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
Acting Corporate Services Manager	Luke Ackland
Council and Community Services Manager	Emma Dunne
Executive Services Coordinator	Terrill Forrest

VISITORS PRESENT

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Date: 17th February 2026

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 17th February 2026.

NIL

5. ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

Date: 17th February 2026

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: 17th February 2026
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 2026/02/17/001

That Council receives the declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary General Meeting held 17th February 2026:

21.9 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT PROGRESS REPORT - Clr. Beswick

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

7. MOVING AGENDA ITEMS FROM PUBLIC TO CONFIDENTIAL

NIL

8. MOVING AGENDA ITEMS FROM CONFIDENTIAL TO PUBLIC

NIL

9. PETITIONS

NIL

10. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

10.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES OF 20TH JANUARY 2026

Date: 17th February 2026

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Attachments: [DRAFT Public Meeting Minutes of 20th January 2026.](#)

PURPOSE

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 20th January 2026 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those Minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/002

That the Public Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 20th January 2026 be confirmed they are a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

11. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Date: 17th February 2026

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 January 2026 to February 2026.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/003

That Council receives and notes the President's Report for the period of January 2026 to February 2026.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Queries regarding meeting with Batchelor Area School ad WALGA.

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Date:	17 th February 2026
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 January 2026 to February 2026.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/004

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the Chief Executive Officers Report for the period January 2026 to February 2026;
- b) requests the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the March 2026 OGM with a report detailing scope of works for the Grading and Road Maintenance period contract and potential alternative service delivery models.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Minister Yan quarterly meetings – local project updates.
- Silkwood Stakeholder meeting
- Period contract works and service delivery options
- Kerbside collection report outstanding

13. FINANCE REPORTS

13.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

Date:	17 th February 2026
Author:	Luke Ackland, Acting Corporate Services Manager Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	Nil

PURPOSE

To provide a summary of the financial position of Council for the period ending 31st January 2026. 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 2026/02/17/005

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 January 2026.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Rates outstanding
- Payment queries

14. REPORTS REQUIRING DECISIONS OF COUNCIL

14.1 ART SHOW SCHEDULE

Date:	17 th February 2026
Author:	Andrew Roberts, Community Services Coordinator Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	Nil

PURPOSE

To present Council with attendance and entry statistics for the Coomalie Art Show and to seek direction on whether it should remain an annual event or move to a biennial (two-year) cycle.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/006

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled 2026 Art Show Planning;
- b) requests a progress report be presented to Council in the March 2026 Ordinary General Meeting including strategic options, budget projections and engagement action plan for consideration to inform the 2026/27 budget; and
- c) defers the decision on the Art Show Schedule until after receiving the progress report.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: DP Whatley

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Previous event history and participation.

14.2 2025-26 SECOND VET CLINIC DAYS APPROVAL

Date: 17th February 2026
Author: Chloe James, Ranger and Land Management Coordinator
Attachment: Nil

PURPOSE

To seek Council's consideration and approval to conduct the planned second round vet clinic days in Batchelor and Adelaide River townships.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/007

That Council;

- a) approves the planned second vet clinic days for Batchelor and Adelaide River townships subject to receiving adequate bookings; and
- b) notes the expected over-expenditure of \$2,000 and refers the additional expenditure to the second budget review for 2025/26.

Moved: Clr. Roe

Seconded: Clr. Beswick

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Notifications to residents to improve attendance
- Cat trapping program and ongoing management
- Flyer drops within townships

Procedural Note:

Clr. Strettles left the meeting at 6:11pm.

Clr. Strettles returned to the meeting at 6:13pm.

14.3 PROGRESS REPORT: REGIONAL AND REMOTE BURIAL AREAS GRANT 2024/25

Date:	17 th February 2026
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	Acquittal Form – Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant 2024/25

PURPOSE

A progress report of the Regional and Remote Burial Areas (RRBA) Grant 2024/25 funds expended by 31 December 2025 is required to be laid before Council prior to being submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development (DHLGCD) in accordance with the reporting requirements outlined in the Grant Agreement.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/008

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled Progress Report: Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant 2024/25; and
- b) approves the progress report for the Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant 2024/25 to be submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development before the reporting due date of 20th February 2026.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Morrison

Carried

14.4 REQUEST TO INSTALL PERMANENT SIGNAGE ON COUNCIL LAND

Date: 17th February 2026
Author: Luke Ackland, Acting Corporate Services Manager.
Attachment: Photo of intended site location
Email request.

PURPOSE

To seek Council's approval to install a permanent sign promoting a new wellbeing centre on Coomalie Council land adjacent to the Information Centre in Batchelor township.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/009

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled Request to Install Permanent Signage – Information Centre;
- b) approves the installation of a permanent sign to a maximum size of 1200mm x 600mm in the specified front garden hedge location on Council land adjacent to the Information Centre, subject to the applicant funding and arranging the installation of the additional post and compliance with any relevant Council design, placement, and maintenance requirements.
- c) notes the community benefit of promoting local wellbeing services through this visible, low-cost signage initiative funded entirely by the applicant.
- d) requests the Chief Executive Officer to investigate and develop a Signage Policy for Council to consider adopting at the June OGM.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Size of sign to be considered and comparative to signs already in place at the Information Centre
- Signage Policy required to guide future decisions
- Final design to be reviewed and approved before promotion on Council land.

14.5 DELEGATION TO AUTHORISE LICENCES FOR ADDITIONAL DOGS

Date: 17th February 2026
Author: Chloe James, Ranger and Land Management Coordinator
Attachment: [Addition dogs licence application form and certificate](#)

PURPOSE

To seek Council's consideration and approval to delegate authority for the approval or refusal of additional dog licences in the Adelaide River and Batchelor townships to the Chief Executive Officer, following the completion of appropriate checks by Authorised Officers.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/010

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled Additional Dog Licence Delegation;
- b) delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to issue additional dog licences (up to a total of four dogs per property pending appropriate inspections and licence conditions) in the Adelaide River and Batchelor townships in line with the requirements outlined in the *Coomalie (Dog Management) By-Laws 2002*.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Beswick

Carried

Discussion Points:

- Application and licence to be for a maximum of 4 dogs in total at a property.

15. REPORTS FOR RECEIVING AND NOTING

15.1 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FOR THE JANUARY OGM 2026

Date: 17th February 2026
Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.
Attachments: [Actions for the February OGM 2026.](#)

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/011

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the Actions for the February OGM 2026; and
- b) remove items #9 and 11.

Moved: Clr. Morrison

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

15.2 COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS REGISTER.

Date: 17th February 2026
Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.
Attachments: [Complaints and Compliments tables.](#)

PURPOSE

To update Council on complaints and compliments received during January 2026.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/012

That Council receives and notes the Complaints and Compliments Register during January 2026.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

15.3 BURIAL AND CREMATIONS ACT 2022 – BURIAL SITE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Date: 17th February 2026

Author: Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: Nil

PURPOSE

To provide Council with the legislative requirements around burial grounds/sites under the *Burial and Cremation Act 2022*, specifically in relation to the known burial site on the Rum Jungle Lake parcel of land.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/013

That Council receives and notes the report Burial Grounds Legislative Requirements.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

16. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION.

16.1 INCOMING AND OUTGOING MAIL.

Date:	17 th February 2026
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 January 2026 to February 2026.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/014

That Council receives and notes the items of incoming and outgoing correspondence as tabled for January 2026 to February 2026 period.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

17. COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

NIL

18. USE OF THE COMMON SEAL.

NIL

19. LATE ITEMS AND URGENT BUSINESS.

19.1 LGANT CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW – WORKSHOP EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Date:	17 th February 2026
Author:	Natasha Chapman, Acting Chief Executive Officer.
Attachment:	Email Correspondence

PURPOSE

To seek Council’s consideration to submit an Expression of Interest as a member council to attend the LGANT Constitution Review Workshop.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/015

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled LGANT Constitution Review – Workshop Expression of Interest;
- b) requests the CEO to submit an Expression of Interest for a representative to attend the LGANT Constitution Review Workshop;
- c) nominates Clr. Beswick to attend the LGANT Constitution Review Workshop on behalf of Coomalie Community Government Council.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

20. GENERAL BUSINESS.

NIL

21. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS.

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/016

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

Moved: Clr. Morrison

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:28pm.

The confidential meeting opened at: 7:36pm.

21.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 20TH JANUARY 2026

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 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS FOR THE FEBRUARY OGM 2026

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 ANNUAL COMMUNITY GRANTS 2025-26

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 AWARDING OF RFT2025-012 COOMALIE CEMETERY PRECINCT CONSTRUCTION

CONFIDENTIAL: 51 (1) (c) (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person

21.5 VARIATION TO RFT2025-008 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF A DUAL CAB UTILITY

CONFIDENTIAL: 51 (1) (c) (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person

21.6 CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE: COMMERCIAL WASTE

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51 (1) (c) (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person

21.7 AUSTRALIA DAY DEBRIEF

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(C)(iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

21.8 FUTURE ASSET PLANNING UPDATE

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

- (i) Cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

21.9 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT PROGRESS REPORT

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

21.10 INSURANCE CLAIM PROGRESS REPORT

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

21.11 LEGAL SERVICES ENGAGEMENT

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 LATE REPORT

22.1 CRATER LAKE ROAD HIGH VOLTAGE POWERLINE DEVELOPMENT

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1)(c)(i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person

23. CONFIDENTIAL GENERAL BUSINESS

23.1 MOTION: INVESTIGATION OF INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE BREACH

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

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

RESOLUTION CONF2026/02/17/030

That Council move the following items decisions into Open:

21.3 ANNUAL COMMUNITY GRANTS 2025-26

21.6 CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE: COMMERCIAL WASTE

21.7. AUSTRALIA DAY DEBRIEF

Moved: Clr. Morrison

Seconded: DP Whatley

Carried

Procedural Note:

Clr Beswick left the meeting at 9:57pm.

21.3 ANNUAL COMMUNITY GRANTS 2025-26

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/032

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled Annual Community Grants 2025-26;
- b) approves the proposal received for the 2025-26 Community Grant Program from Skydive Territory for \$1,500.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Beswick

Carried

21.6 CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE: COMMERCIAL WASTE

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/033

That Council receives and notes the report entitled Confidential Correspondence: Commercial Waste.

Moved: DP Whatley

Seconded: Clr. Strettles

Carried

21.7 AUSTRALIA DAY DEBRIEF

RESOLUTION 2026/02/17/034

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the report entitled Australia Day Debrief; and
- b) requests the Chief Executive Officer to develop an Award assessment methodology to be brought back to Council for consideration in the second half of the 2026 year prior to the next Australia Day award nominations.

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: DP Whatley

Carried

25. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

RESOLUTION CONF2026/02/17/031

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

Moved: Clr. Strettles

Seconded: DP Whatley

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:58pm.

25. NEXT MEETING.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on **17th MARCH 2026 at 5:00pm.**

26. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting closed at 9:58pm.