



MINUTES

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

17th OCTOBER 2026

10:00am

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1. NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Date: 17th October 2026
Time: 10.00 am
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.



Russell Anderson
Chief Executive Officer

MINUTES

ORDINARY GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BATCHELOR

ON 17th OCTOBER 2026

The President of the Council, Mr. Ross McGorman declared the meeting open at 10:15 am 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 (via electronic means)
Councillor	Sharon Beswick
Councillor	Alan Roe
Councillor	Greg Strettles

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Russell Anderson
Executive Services Coordinator	Terrill Forrest

VISITORS PRESENT

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, 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 October 2026.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/17/001

That Council receives and notes the apologies of Cllr Morrison for the Ordinary General Meeting held 17th October 2026.

Moved: Cllr Roe

Seconded: Cllr Beswick

Carried

5. ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil.

PURPOSE

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

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/17/002

That Council acknowledges and accepts DP Whatley attendance to the meeting of 17th October 2026 via electronic means.

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, 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: 2026/10/19/003

That Council receives the declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary General Meeting held on 17th October 2026.

23.5 RATES WAIVER REQUEST AND REMOVAL OF OSC – AN 235 Clr Beswick

21.3 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER 2026 OGM Item 2 Clr Beswick

23.3 RATES CONCESSION REQUEST – AN 614 DP Whatley

21.3 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER 2026 OGM Pres McGorman – page 111

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: Clr Roe

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 19th SEPTEMBER 2026

Date: 17th October 2026

Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: **DRAFT PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES FOR 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026**

PURPOSE

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 19th September 2026 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those Minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/004

That the Public Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 19th September 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Cllr Strettles

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

11. PRESIDENT REPORT

Date: 17th October 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 September 2026 to October 2026.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/005

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the President's Report for the period of September 2026 to October 2026; and
- b) confirms the first Community Forums for 2026/27 will be held on Saturday 9th January 2027 at 10am at Bruce Jones Centre, Batchelor.
- c) confirms public access period for 15 minutes before OGM where councillors will be available to talk with residents

Moved: Cllr Strettles

Seconded: Cllr Beswick **A and B carried C carried 5/6 against DP Whatley**

Discussion:

Capacity issues with clinic and school for new respite facility
Discussion with Dharan re horses, no further contact with Sam
Public Forum 15-20 minutes before meetings available access to Councillors and Staff (outside meeting policy)
general availability to have contact with Councillors
Advertise the availability of Councillors prior to meetings via stop press – creative name to be determined. "Access Time" or "Meet and Chat"
10 day turn around for a response is standard, have forms available for action items to be taken to next Council meeting from questions
Updating Facebook - transparent communication

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT.

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, 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 September to October 2026.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/006

That Council receives and notes the Chief Executive Officers Report for the period of September to October 2026.

Moved: Cllr Roe

Seconded: Cllr Strettles

Carried

Discussion:

Chinner road update not on projects list – CEO to follow up and confirm

13. FINANCE REPORTS

13.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachment: Nil

PURPOSE

To provide a summary of the financial position of Council for the period ending 30th September 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: 2026/10/19/007

That Council;

a) notes the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) certifies to the best of his 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 September 2026.

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

Discussion:

Send email queries to CEO so we can confirm with accountant

Confirm signage invoices

Cadallac transport – invoice (heavy vehicle wheel alinement)

DTA Contracting – Adelaide River Cemetery Car Park – with grant – final payments

21. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/008

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

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: Clr Roe

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was closed to the public at: 11:10am

The confidential meeting opened at: 11:10am

21.4 PRESENTATION OF DRAFT AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2025/2026

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.

25. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/010

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

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: Clr Roe

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was re-opened to the public at: 11:19am

DP Whatley left the meeting at 11.19am

DP returned to the meeting 11:21

14. REPORTS REQUIRING DECISIONS OF COUNCIL

14.1 TOPROC REPRESENTATION

Date: 17TH October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachment: NIL

PURPOSE: Council to consider the request from LGANT to become an associate member of TOPROC

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/011

That Council;

- a) Receives and notes the report entitled TOPROC Representation Request;
- b) Council provide the following feedback to TOPROC to not support LGANT's request
- c) Feedback to be reported back at TOPROC December 2026 meeting.

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

14.2 REQUEST FOR DONATIONS – BATCHELOR AREA SCHOOL

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Emma Dunne, Council and Community Services Manager
Attachment: Correspondence from Batchelor Area School

PURPOSE: To seek Council's approval to contribute to the Batchelor Area School (BAS) end of year Christmas Hamper.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/012

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes report entitled- Request for Donation- Batchelor Area School;
- b) that Council agrees to support the Batchelor Area School Christmas Hamper through the provision of 4x \$50 vouchers to the value of \$200.

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: Cllr Strettles

Carried

Action Item: CCGC to purchase the vouchers to supply to School

15. REPORTS FOR RECEIVING AND NOTING

15.1 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER OGM 2026

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer.
Attachments: [Actions for the October OGM 2026.](#)

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/013

That Council;

- a) receives and notes the Actions for the October 2026 OGM; and
- b) remove items: 5, 6, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25, 26, 27,

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: Clr Roe **Carried**

Discussion:

Workshop for Weed management plan required

Item 24 – road verge maintenance needs to be investigated further – nature strip, follow up – confirm communication and outlet – check if policy is online – saving money

Item 16 – has not been communicated that degassing is not required for October through Facebook – check the certificate of degassing is appropriate – verified if needed certificate – do not remove

Action item: Item 7 – Mrytle Park – move sign to front of the park, blocked drains – check if works are to be done

15.2 COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENTS AND SERVICE REQUEST REGISTER.

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: [Complaints, Compliments and Service Request tables.](#)

PURPOSE

To update Council on complaints, compliments and service requests received during June 2026.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/014

That Council receives and notes the Complaints, Compliments and Service Request Register during September and October 2026

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: DP Whatley **Carried**

Procedural Note:

Clr Beswick left the meeting at 11:40am

Clr Beswick returned to the meeting at 11:41 am

Discussion:

Long dated SSS still unresolved – check why

Compliment Road Contractor – check who it was

15.3 LGANT BOARD COMMUNIQUE

Date:	17 th October 2026
Author:	Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachment:	LGANT Board Meeting Communique

PURPOSE

To table the LGANT Board Meeting Communique following the board meeting held on 30th July 2026.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/015

That Council receives and notes the report entitled LGANT Board Meeting Communique.

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: DP Whatley

Carried

15.4 CHINNER ROAD STATUS REPORT

Date: 19TH September 2026
Author: Emma Dunne, Council and Community Services Manager
Attachment: Nil
Report
Requested By: Councillor Strettles

PURPOSE

To inform Council on the status of Chinner Road maintenance.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/016

That Council;

a) does not accept the report entitled Chinner Road Status Report in its current format as it is found to be inadequate

b) Council notes the progress from 9 September 2026 meeting.

c) delegate to the CEO to resolve the draining issues on Chinner Road and recommend future works in order of priority

d) delegates the CEO to investigate works already done on Chinner road and spend/costs and report back to November OGM

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: DP Whatley

Carried

Discussion:

Operational Matters being questioned

Strettles not accepting answers -roads flooding again. Work is substandard and pothole filling is starting to fail and water pooling on the road.

Full rebuild of the road is long term solution

Quality Control – supervisors required – staffing issues

Do not rely on ARROWS

Action Item: Cllr Stettles, CEO to tour and have assessment and look over the road – look at condition of the seal. Crater Lake Road as well need to be addressed and assessed

Estimated \$1.4 million per km to fix sealed road.

17. COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Motion: VERBAL UPDATE FROM RMAC MEETING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES SYMPOSIUM

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/017

That Council receives the brief verbal report DP Whatley for Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting and the Emergency Services Symposium

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

Discussion Points:

RMAC – Meeting

- Table has been updated as directed
- Grant funding carried over noted in general account
- Performance review completed – key strengths highlighted, improvements noted
- Strategic planning – full asset register – work strategy planning

Emergency Services Symposium full day in Darwin

- Use of Drones for emergency service – 3d mapping
- Use AI for determining flood response options
- Liaison planning and debriefing inadequate with evacuees from Daly /Palumpa
- Council needs to be consulted earlier in the process – written response pending

Procedural note:

DP Whatley left the meeting 12:45pm

The Council meeting was closed for lunch break at 12:45pm

The Meeting was reopened at 1:20pm

16. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION.

16.1 INCOMING AND OUTGOING MAIL.

Date: 17th October 2026

Author: Russell Anderson, 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 August 2026 to September 2026

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/018

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

Action item: President McGorman liaise with CEO to go to emergency services to determine the cause of the fire and who is responsible to for the cost.

Moved: Cllr Beswick

Seconded: Cllr Strettles

Carried

Discussion:

BWMF Fire – old cars to be removed by Government – set on fire but not removed. 2 small fires put out – back burn possibly started the fire at the facility - request a formal investigation. Last Saturday fire – Cllr Beswick to investigate responsible party. EPA responsible persons – possible government – as we are not licenced

Christmas Party 5th December

DRAFT

18. USE OF THE COMMON SEAL

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

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachment: Nil

PURPOSE

To seek Council's ratification for the use of its Common Seal on a Discharge of Statutory Charge form.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/019

That Council, pursuant to Section 38(2)(a)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, ratifies the use of the Common Seal affixed to Section 83 Form 48 – Discharge of Statutory Charge for property AN487.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

18.2 USE OF THE COMMON SEAL: FORM 48 – DISCHARGE OF STATUTORY CHARGE AN46

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachment: Nil

PURPOSE

To seek Council's ratification for the use of its Common Seal on a Discharge of Statutory Charge form.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/020

That Council, pursuant to Section 38(2)(a)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, ratifies the use of the Common Seal affixed to Section 83 Form 48 – Discharge of Statutory Charge for property AN46.

Moved: Clr. Beswick

Seconded: Clr. Roe

Carried

19. LATE ITEMS AND URGENT BUSINESS.

19.1 LGANT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Date: 17th October 2026
Author: Russell Anderson, Chief Executive Officer
Attachment: NIL

PURPOSE:

This report seeks to ratify and confirm the appointment of Council's voting delegates for the 2026 LGANT Annual General Meeting in Alice Springs and the associated LGANT Conference

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/021

That Council;

a) receive and note the LGANT Annual General Meeting and Conference Attendance Report and approves the attendance of the President, Deputy President, Clr Beswick, Clr Morrison to the LGANT Conference in Alice Springs on 10th and 11th November 2026

b) Approves the President and Deputy President as the LGANT General Meeting Voting Delegates

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: Clr Roe

Carried 3 to 1 Beswick against

Discussion:

Councillors to discuss voting opinions prior to meeting – discuss with President please contact him directly

20. GENERAL BUSINESS.

Motion: VERBAL UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/022

That Council receives the brief verbal report From President McGorman

Moved: Clr Beswick

Seconded: Clr Roe

Carried

Discussion:

- Received a letter for \$2,000,000 for recognition of support of flood evacuees but no money has been allocated to us yet.
- Write to government to request a grant to buy the tavern \$1,000,000 for a community centre for recognition to support that Batchelor gave for flood relocation facilities. Or suggest NTG buy the property for a community centre that we can access

Action Item: President and CEO to compose a letter to NTG to promote the benefits to government to purchase the tavern as a community centre, government offices, potential movie theatre – in support of YISSA respite facility occupants

21. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS.

RESOLUTION: 2026/10/19/023

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

Moved: Cllr Strettles

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was closed to the public at: 1:59pm

The confidential meeting opened at: 2:00pm

21.1 CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 19th SEPTEMBER 2026

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:

(c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

(iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

21.2 CONFIRMATION OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 6th OCTOBER 2026

CONFIDENTIAL: Regulations 51(1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:

(c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

(iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

21.3 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER 2026 OGM

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.

Procedural Note:

Cllr Strettles left the meeting at 2:04pm

Cllr Strettles returned to the meeting at 2:06pm

22. CONFIDENTIAL GENERAL BUSINESS

NIL

23. CONFIDENTIAL LATE ITEMS

23.1 RATES DISPUTE OSC – SECTION 1254

51 Confidential information

- (1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:
(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

23.2 RATES DISPUTE FINNIS RIVER ABORIGINAL LANDS TRUST – REMOVED FROM MEETING AGENDA

51 Confidential information

- (1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:
(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

23.3 RATES CONCESSION REQUEST – AN 614

51 Confidential information

- (1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:
(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

23.4 REQUEST TO LIFT OSC – AN 283

51 Confidential information

- (1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:
(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

23.5 RATES WAIVER REQUEST AND REMOVAL OF OSC – AN 235

51 Confidential information

- (1) For section 293(1) of the Act, the following information is prescribed as confidential:
(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

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

NIL

25. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

RESOLUTION: CONF2026/10/19/031

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

Moved: Cllr Strettles

Seconded: Cllr Roe

Carried

Procedural Note:

The meeting was reopened to the public at 2:29pm

26. NEXT MEETING.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on **Saturday 21st November 2026 at 10:00am.**

Special Meeting will need to be called before 15th November for Annual Report to be given to Minister.

27. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting closed at 2:30pm