

Ordinary Council Meeting

Minutes

Held on Tuesday 25 March 2025

Council Chambers, Mortlake Council Offices
1 Jamieson Avenue, Mortlake

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
of Moyne Shire Council held on Tuesday 25 March 2025, at Council
Chambers,
Mortlake Council Offices, 1 Jamieson Avenue, Mortlake
commencing at 2:00 pm.

Present

Councillors
Cr Karen Foster (Mayor)
Cr Jordan Lockett (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Jim Doukas
Cr Susan Taylor
Cr Lloyd Ross
Cr Lisa Ryan

Officers
Mark Eversteyn, Chief Executive Officer
Symonne Robinson, Acting Director Assets & Community
Ed Small, Director Corporate & Governance Services
Jodie McNamara, Director Environment, Economy & Place

1 Procedural

1.1 Live streaming of Council Meetings

The Mayor read the following statement:

Please note that today's meeting is being live streamed and can be viewed by the general public via Council's Facebook page, and later uploaded to Council's website. By participating in and addressing those present at the meeting, you consent to any information you disclose (including any personal information or sensitive information) being recorded and uploaded to the website.

1.2 Prayer

Cr Taylor read the Prayer:

Almighty God, we humbly beseech your blessing on the Council, direct and prosper its deliberations for the welfare of the people of the Moyne Shire. Amen.

1.3 Acknowledgement of Country

Cr Lockett read the following statement:

We begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

1.4 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cr Myra Murrihy.

Cr Lisa Ryan moved, Cr Lloyd Ross seconded to accept the formal notification from Councillors unable to attend the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

1.5 Declarations of Conflict Interest

Declarations made at this meeting

Chief Executive Officer, Mark Eversteyn declared a conflict of interest in Item 2.7, Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Advisory Committee.

1.6 Confirmation of Minutes from previous meetings

Resolution ID: OCM 202526

Cr Susan Taylor moved, Cr Lisa Ryan seconded that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 February 2025 be accepted and confirmed as correct.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

1.7 Public Participation

No public participants registered for this meeting.

2 Officers Reports

2.1 Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund Levy

Overview: The Council recognises that there is community concern in relation to the State Government's proposed *Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund Levy* and it is recommended that the Council write to Parliamentary representatives on this matter.

Resolution ID: OCM 202527

Cr Susan Taylor moved, Cr Lloyd Ross seconded that Council resolves that:

1. The Moyne Shire Council write to:

- the Premier of Victoria,
- the Treasurer of Victoria,
- the Victorian Minister for Local Government and,
- to our local Victorian Parliamentary representatives,

to request that the Victorian Government reassess the *Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund Levy* model to ensure that it is equitable and does not disproportionately burden rural communities including farmers and agricultural businesses and the local Councils during this time of significant cost of living, cost of doing business, drought, and bushfire pressures.

2. Copies of these letters be forwarded to the Municipal Association of Victoria and Regional Councils Victoria.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.2 National General Assembly of Local Government - Motions 2025

Overview: The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) will host the National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government in Canberra 24-27 June 2025. Matters for consideration at the NGA are now open for submission and are due to be submitted by **31st March**. As part of its advocacy role to government, Council has previously submitted matters for consideration and the following draft motion has been prepared for resolution and to advocate for issues of concern associated with renewable energy transmission lines.

The theme for the 2025 National General Assembly is; ***“National Priorities Need Local Solutions”***.

Resolution ID: OCM 202528

Cr Jordan Lockett moved, Cr Lisa Ryan seconded that Council endorse the following three motions for submission to the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly:

- 1. That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to address the urgent need for quality, accessible, and affordable childcare in regional and rural communities. This includes developing a national early years reform strategy with increased federal funding for childcare infrastructure and workforce initiatives. Key actions should focus on expanding service capacity in underserved areas and implementing targeted incentives—such as scholarships, relocation grants, and professional development funding—to attract and retain qualified early childhood educators.***
- 2. That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a permanent, indexed funding stream to close the \$1 billion annual local road maintenance gap, enhance the Roads to Recovery program to provide greater support for rural and regional councils based on road length and need, and expand funding for community infrastructure projects that strengthen economic activity, service delivery, and resilience in rural areas.***
- 3. That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to dedicate the additional funding required to restore the quantum of the annual federal Financial Assistance Grants to local government to 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.***

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.3 Road Management Plan and Register of Public Roads

Overview: The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the statutory requirement to review Councils Road Management Plan (RMP) and the Register of Public Roads (RPR), in accordance with sections 54(5) and 19 of the Road Management Act 2004 and the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016 by 31 October 2025.

This review process has been conducted and completed.

Resolution ID: OCM 202529

Cr Jim Doukas moved, Cr Susan Taylor seconded:

- 1. That Council seeks public comment regarding the proposed amendments to the Road Management Plan 2025, Version 6, advising where the report may be accessed; and**
- 2. That Council receive a further report following the end of the 28-day advertising period and consider any public submissions before the Road Management Plan and the Register of Public Roads be formally adopted.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.4 Public Toilet Service Review

Overview: A Shire-wide service review of Council's public amenities has been undertaken to inform future investment and service priorities for these important resident and visitor assets. The Draft Public Amenities Service Plan Review 2025 presents service level priorities and a 10-year action plan for public amenity management and improvement.

Resolution ID: OCM 202530

Cr Jim Doukas moved, Cr Jordan Lockett seconded that Council approves the release of the draft Public Amenities Service Plan Review 2025 to seek community submissions and feedback for a period of three weeks from 28 March 2025 to 21 April 2025.

Officers to present a summary of community submissions received and provide a Final Draft of the Public Amenities Service Plan Review 2025 for formal adoption to the May 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.5 Immunisation update 2025

Overview: A report to update councillors on Moyne Shire's Immunisation program.

Resolution ID: OCM 202531

Cr Lisa Ryan moved, Cr Jordan Lockett seconded that Councillors note the information provided.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.6 Early Years Central Enrolment Scheme Policy

Overview: To strengthen Moyne Shire Council's approach to early years education and care services a Central Registration and Enrolment Scheme (CRES) policy had been established. The policy provides a clear, equitable, and transparent system for the registration and enrolment of children in funded early childhood programs and aligns with Victorian Government guidelines.

Resolution ID: OCM 202532

Cr Lisa Ryan moved, Cr Jordan Lockett seconded that Councillors endorse the Central Registration and Enrolment Scheme (CRES) Policy

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.7 Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Advisory Committee

Overview: This report provides the confidential minutes of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Employment and Remuneration Advisory Committee to the Council for consideration.

Mark Eversteyn left the meeting at 2:32pm.

Resolution ID: OCM 202533

Cr Jordan Lockett moved, Cr Lloyd Ross seconded that Council notes the report and endorses the CEO Employment and Remuneration Advisory Committee confidential minutes of 4 March 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

Mark Eversteyn returned to the meeting at 2:33pm.

2.8 CEC, EDAC, MSQAV, PoPFDC & PoPFHLAC Membership Appointments

Overview: This report presents nominations received for community representative positions on Council's Wind Farm Community Engagement Committees (CECs), Economic Development and Advisory Committee (EDAC), Mount Shadwell Quarry Advisory Committee, Port of Port Fairy Delegated Committee and Port of Port Fairy Historic Lifeboat Advisory Committee.

Resolution ID: OCM 202534

Cr Lisa Ryan moved, Cr Jordan Lockett seconded that Council consider and endorse the following community representative candidates for appointment to Wind Farm Community Engagement Committees, Economic Development Advisory Committee, Port of Port Fairy Delegated Committee, Mount Shadwell Quarry Advisory Committee and Port of Port Fairy Historic Lifeboat Advisory Committee:

Wind Farm CECs	Candidates
Ryan Corner	Wendy Bickley Anthony Smith
Dundonnell	Greg Grant Karen Blackmore Timothy Hill
Woolsthorpe	Simon Poynton Terri Barnes Glenn Britnell
Hexham	Mark Madden Rod Jubb Lyn Baker Leanne McDonald Mifsud Lucy Gubbins
Mt Fyans	Pam Walmsley Yvonne Thomas
Willatook	Graeme Keane Paul Lewis Ken Johnston
Mortlake South	Bruce Donaldson Lisa Allen Neil Blain
Hawkesdale	Anne Maree Huglin (Hawkesdale and District Development Action Committee representative) Peter Hennig
Economic Development Advisory Committee	Candidates
	Mark Gervis Michael Steel

	Jade Bourke Tim Clingan Fiona Castley Peter O'Keefe David Knight
Mt Shadwell Quarry Advisory Committee	Candidates
	Andrew Whitson Mark Rantall Rod Macleod Tim Clingan
Port of Port Fairy Delegated Committee	Candidates
	Dan Hoey Russell Allardice Peter O'Keefe Peter Ryan Craig Fox
Port Fairy Historic Lifeboat Advisory Committee	Candidates
	Colin May Ross Knudsen Peter Ryan Greg Walker

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

2.9 Monthly Finance Report - February 2025

Overview: The purpose of the report is to inform the Council of the financial performance and position of the Council. This section provides a snapshot of some key financial indicators of our financial performance as at the end of the reporting period. It focuses on monitoring our operating performance, capital expenditure progress and the ready availability of/access to cash resources. It also provides a forecast of the year-end result.

Resolution ID: OCM 202535

Cr Susan Taylor moved, Cr Lloyd Ross seconded that Council receive and note the Monthly Financial Report as at 28 February 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

3 Councillors' Items

3.1 Mayor and Councillor Activities

Council noted the report items Mayor and Councillor Activities.

3.2 Councillor Notice of Motion

Overview: A Councillor may lodge a notice of motion on any matter the Councillor wants to be considered.

No Councillor Notice of Motion has been received for this meeting Agenda.

3.3 General Matters

Overview: General Matters gives Councillors the opportunity to report on positive and good news items from around the Shire.

Cr Ryan - congratulations to Council team who organised the recent International Women's Day event, congratulated all of those nominated for an award and recognised all women who make a contribution across the Shire.

Cr Lockett - Shout out to Port Fairy Folk Festival, 48th year running. Shout out to Justin Rudge and staff, committee, 700 volunteers, 25,000 people through the gates, over 500 musicians from across the world to perform. A great boost to local economy and the culture it brings is priceless. Koroit Irish festival coming up from 25th - 27th April.

3.4 Urgent Business

Overview: A Councillor may raise an urgent matter for consideration at a Council Meeting if the Councillors considers that the matter is extremely urgent and it was not possible for the matter to have been included in the agenda notice for the meeting.

No urgent business recorded for this meeting.

4 CEO Meeting Schedule

Council noted the report item CEO Meeting Schedule From 21 February - 20 March 2025.

5 CEO Activities Report

Overview: CEO Activities Report – 25 March 2025

Council noted the report item CEO Activities Report.

6 Confidential Items

Overview: Under section 3 of the Act, the council may consider report items in closed business if they contain certain information which is defined to be confidential information because premature or improper release may cause harm to the Council or to a person or persons.

Confidential Information remains confidential unless it can lawfully be released and the Council has determined that it should be publicly available.

The following is a list of confidential Items:

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meetings

6.2 Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuels MS993

Cr Susan Taylor moved, Cr Lisa Ryan seconded that the meeting be closed in order to consider confidential items.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6 / 0

7 Close Meeting

The Ordinary Council Meeting was declared closed at 3:11 pm.