

# Minutes

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE, COOTAMUNDRA**

**6:06PM, Tuesday 23rd June, 2026**

**Administration Centres: 1300 459 689**

**MINUTES OF COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE, COOTAMUNDRA  
ON TUESDAY, 23 JUNE 2026 AT 6:06PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor), Cr Rosalind Wight (Deputy Mayor), Cr Logan Collins, Cr Les Cooper, Cr David Graham, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Ethan Ryan, Cr Danyal Syed

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Roger Bailey (Interim General Manager), Trevor Dando (Acting Deputy General Manager - Operations), Damian Smith (Acting Manager Finance), Linda Wiles (Manager Business), Teresa Breslin (Executive Assistant)

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Chairperson acknowledged the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land at which the meeting was held and paid his respects to Elders, both past and present, of the Wiradjuri Nation and extended that respect to other Aboriginal people who were present.

**2 APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE, AND AUDIO-VISUAL ATTENDANCE REQUESTS**

**2.1 APOLOGIES**

**APOLOGY**

**RESOLUTION 159/2026**

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

**That the apology received from Cr Nicholson be accepted and leave of absence granted.**

**CARRIED**

**2.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**2.3 AUDIO-VISUAL ATTENDANCE REQUESTS**

Nil

**3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Nil

**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**4.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 26 MAY 2026**

**RESOLUTION 160/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

#### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

**That Council bring forward item 8.1 on the agenda for consideration at this point in the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

#### **8.1 RESCISSION OF ADOPTION OF THE 2025 MODEL CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

##### **RESOLUTION 161/2026**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr David Graham

- 1. Council rescinds its previous resolution 257/2025, dated 9 December 2025, adopting the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice.**
- 2. Council reinstates its previous Code of Meeting Practice, adopted by council 22 July 2025, Resolution 133/2025, incorporating the mandatory provisions of the 2021 Model Meeting Code.**
- 3. Meetings of Council and its committees comprised solely of councillors be conducted in accordance with the reinstated Code until further amendment.**

**CARRIED**

#### **5 MAYORAL MINUTES**

##### **5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENTS - 18 MAY 2026 - 12 JUNE 2026**

##### **RESOLUTION 162/2026**

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

**The information in the Councillor Engagements Mayoral Minute be received and noted.**

**CARRIED**

**6 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES****6.1 MINUTES OF THE COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 MAY 2026****RESOLUTION 163/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

- 1. That the Minutes of the Cootamundra-Gundagai Local Transport Forum Meeting held on Thursday 21 May 2026, attached to the report, be received and noted.**
- 2. In consideration of the Local Transport Forum recommendations detailed in the minutes, Council endorse the following:**
  - 2.1. That the Minutes of the Cootamundra-Gundagai Local Transport Forum Meeting held on Thursday 12 February 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.**
  - 2.2. That Council investigate proposed road safety treatments on Gundagai Road associated with historical development application conditions, noting that a formal speed zone review may be sought from TfNSW once the required works are complete.**
  - 2.3. That the list of upcoming events be noted by the Forum.**

**CARRIED**

**7 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT****7.1 GENERAL MANAGER OFFICE****7.1.1 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES 27 MARCH 2026 AND 8 MAY 2026****RESOLUTION 164/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**The Minutes of the Country Mayors Association Meetings held on 27 March 2026 and 8 May 2026, attached to the report, be received and noted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.1.2 2026 NSW LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS SUMMARY****RESOLUTION 165/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**The 2026 NSW Local Roads Congress Summary Report, be received and noted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.1.3 2026 RURAL AND REGIONAL SUMMIT SUMMARY**

**RESOLUTION 166/2026**

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

The 2026 Rural and Regional Summit summary report, be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 BUSINESS**

**7.2.1 APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY DONATIONS 2026**

**RESOLUTION 167/2026**

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr David Graham

**That:**

1. Council provides \$150 to schools in the LGA from the annual community donations budget, incorporating Gundagai High, Gundagai Public, Gundagai South Public, St. Patricks Primary, Nangus Public, Bongonga Public, Cootamundra High, Cootamundra Public, E.A Southee Public, Sacred Heart Central, Elouera Special, and Stockinbingal Public, totalling \$1,800.
2. Council endorse the following successful community donations totalling \$42,194.23:

Successful Applicant	Awarded	
	\$	In-Kind
Cootamundra Veterans Week of Golf	\$1,000.00	
Cootamundra Public School		\$1,500.00
Cootamundra Sports Foundation	\$1,000.00	
Gundagai Men’s Shed Inc	\$5,000.00	
Cootamundra Rifle Club	\$3,189.00	
Cootamundra Town Tennis Club Inc	\$1,107.84	
Cootamundra Cycle Club	\$1,194.39	
Lions Club of Cootamundra Inc	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Gundagai Community Garden	\$1,213.00	
St Vincent de Paul- Cootamundra Conference	\$5,000.00	
Battle on the Bidgee	\$5,000.00	
Cootamundra Picnic Races		\$850.00
Gundagai Local Health Advisory Committee	\$6,000.00	
Gundagai Historical Museum	\$5,000.00	
CWA of NSW – Gundagai Branch	\$500.00	
Cootamundra District Cricket Association	\$500.00	

<b>Stockinbingal Community Newsletter</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	
<b>Cootamundra APH &amp; I Association Inc (Cootamundra Show)</b>		<b>\$1,640.00</b>
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>\$37,704.23</b>	<b>\$ 4,490.00</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$42,194.23</b>

**CARRIED**

**7.2.2 COOTAMUNDRA BEACH VOLLEYBALL MOU**

**RESOLUTION 168/2026**

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly  
 Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**That:**

- 1. The Coota Beach Volleyball Carnival 2026 report be received and noted.**
- 2. Council receive and note the correspondence from Adina Care dated 18 May 2026 requesting the option to extend the memorandum of understanding for the delivery of the Coota Beach Volleyball Carnival.**
- 3. Council exercise the option to extend the Memorandum of Understanding between Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council and Adina Care for a further three (3) year term, covering the 2027, 2028 and 2029 Coota Beach Volleyball, subject to the execution of a variation agreement incorporating amended funding.**
- 4. Council authorises the Interim General Manager to execute all necessary documentation associated with the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding.**
- 5. Council event contribution totaling \$25,000 in-kind support be endorsed for the 2027, 2028 and 2029 events, funded from Council's Cootamundra Events Budget.**

**CARRIED**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved: Cr David Graham  
 Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That Council bring forward item 7.8.2 on the agenda for consideration at this point in the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**7.8.2 STRUCTURAL REPORT ON COOTAMUNDRA OUTDOOR POOL**

**RESOLUTION 169/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins  
 Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council implement the following staged repair strategy for the Cootamundra Outdoor Pool over the next three years to enable the allocation of appropriate funding across three successive financial years:

1. FY 26/27 Stage 1 - \$250,000 (High priority works)
2. FY 27/28 Stage 2 - \$100,000 (Medium priority works)
3. FY 28/29 Stage 3 - \$50,000 (Lower priority works)

CARRIED

### 7.2.3 FINAL DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM AND DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### RESOLUTION 170/2026

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr David Graham

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the submissions received during the public exhibition of the Draft 2026-2027 Operational Plan (incorporating the Long-Term Financial Plan) and the Draft 2026-2027 Operational Plan (incorporating the Revenue Policy, Budget and Fees and Charges) and note that the submissions will be responded to in relation to the outcome from their submission.
2. Notes, in relation to the Rail Trail submissions, Resolution 405/2020 from Council meeting held 8 December 2020. *‘That all activity related to the development of the proposed Rail Trail between Cootamundra and Tumblong be immediately ceased and the project be abandoned’.*
3. Adopts the Draft 2026-2030 Delivery Program (incorporating the Long-Term Financial Plan) and the draft 2026-2027 Operational Plan (incorporating the Revenue Policy, Budget and fees & Charges), subject to the amendments listed in the Amendments section of this report, plus the following:
  - i. Set the interest rate for overdue rates at 9.5%.
  - ii. Allocate \$75,000 in the Capital Works Program to the Gundagai Museum for fire safety and associated works.
  - iii. Add the following to the Delivery Program – that Council commit to connecting Sewerage to the Dog on the Tuckerbox Precinct if grant funding becomes available.
  - iv. Reduce the Cootamundra Town Hall/Civic Hall hire fees by 50%.
  - v. Amend the Sir Donald Bradman Birthplace entry fee to \$5.00, to assist volunteers with cash handling responsibilities.

CARRIED

**7.2.4 SECTION 355 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES****RESOLUTION 171/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That the following s.355 Committee Meeting minutes, attached to the report, be received and noted:**

- 1. The Minutes of The Arts Centre Cootamundra s.355 committee meeting dated, 19 February, 19 March and 16 April 2026.**
- 2. The Minutes of the Muttama Creek Regeneration s.355 committee meeting dated, 1 June 2026.**

**CARRIED**

**7.2.5 DRAFT MEDIA AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS POLICY****RESOLUTION 172/2026**

Moved: Cr Danyal Syed

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That the Draft Media and Digital Communications Policy attached to the report be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.3 FINANCE****7.3.1 STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS****RESOLUTION 173/2026**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**That the Draft Statement of Business Ethics, attached to the Report, be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.3.2 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - MARCH 2026****RESOLUTION 174/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

**That Council:**

1. **Note the completion of the March 2026 Quarterly Budget Review.**
2. **Adopt operating budget variations as outlined in the attachment totalling a net \$5,257,935.**
3. **Adopt capital budget variations as outlined in the attachment totalling a net decrease of \$301,740.**

**CARRIED**

### **7.3.3 RESTRICTED CASH RECONCILIATION - MAY 2026**

#### **RESOLUTION 175/2026**

Moved: Cr Danyal Syed

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**The Restricted Cash Reconciliation report for the period ending 31 May 2026, be received and noted.**

**CARRIED**

### **7.3.4 FINANCE UPDATE - MAY 2026**

#### **RESOLUTION 176/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

**That the Finance Update report for the month of May 2026, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

### **7.3.5 INVESTMENT REPORT - MAY 2026**

#### **RESOLUTION 177/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**The report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

## **7.4 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Nil

**7.5 ENGINEERING COOTAMUNDRA**

**7.5.1 COOTAMUNDRA ENGINEERING REPORT - MAY 2026**

**RESOLUTION 178/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

**That the Cootamundra Engineering Report for the month of May 2026 be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.6 ENGINEERING GUNDAGAI**

**7.6.1 GUNDAGAI ENGINEERING REPORT - MAY 2026**

**RESOLUTION 179/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

**That the Gundagai Engineering Report for the month of May 2026 be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.7 REGIONAL SERVICES GUNDAGAI**

**7.7.1 GUNDAGAI REGIONAL SERVICES REPORT - MAY 2026**

**RESOLUTION 180/2026**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**That the Gundagai Regional Services report for the month of May 2026 be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**7.8 REGIONAL SERVICES COOTAMUNDRA**

**7.8.1 COOTAMUNDRA REGIONAL SERVICES REPORT - MAY 2026**

**RESOLUTION 181/2026**

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

**The Cootamundra Regional Services Report for the month of May 2026 be noted.**

**CARRIED**

ITEM - 7.8.2 STRUCTURAL REPORT ON COOTAMUNDRA OUTDOOR POOL - WAS DEALT WITH EARLIER IN THE MEETING.

## **8 MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Item - 8.1 Rescission of Adoption of the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice - was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

### **8.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - MODIFICATIONS TO PRESCRIBED TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES FOR ADAMS X CROWN STREETS, COOTAMUNDRA**

#### **RESOLUTION 182/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

- 1. That the prescribed traffic control devices for the intersection of Adams Street and Crown Street in Cootamundra be changed from 'R1-2 Give Way' to 'R1-1 Stop Sign.'**
- 2. That the line-marking be updated to reflect the change to the prescribed traffic control devices.**
- 3. That the Local Traffic Forum be advised in writing of the decision undertaken by council.**
- 4. That should any 'Statements of Concern' be received from the Local Traffic Forum, they be received, noted and disseminated to councillors for their attention.**

**CARRIED**

### **8.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - MODIFICATIONS TO PRESCRIBED TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES FOR THOMPSON X HURLEY STREETS, COOTAMUNDRA**

#### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

- 1. That the prescribed traffic control devices for the intersection of Thompson Street and Hurley Street in Cootamundra be changed from 'R1-2 Give Way' to 'R1-1 Stop Sign.'**
- 2. That the line-marking be updated to reflect the change to the prescribed traffic control devices.**
- 3. That the Local Traffic Forum be advised in writing of the decision undertaken by council.**
- 4. That should any 'Statements of Concern' be received from the Local Traffic Forum, they be received, noted and disseminated to councillors for their attention.**

#### **AMENDMENT**

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That the line marking and Give Way signs at the intersection of Thompson Street and Hurley Street in Cootamundra be renewed.**

**On being PUT the Amendment was CARRIED and became the MOTION.**

**RESOLUTION 183/2026**

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That the line marking and Give Way signs at the intersection of Thompson Street and Hurley Street in Cootamundra be renewed.**

**CARRIED**

**9 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

**9.1 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR WIGHT - STAFF ENTITLEMENTS IN THE BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION 184/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr David Graham

**The response to the Question with Notice regarding staff entitlements in the budget, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**9.2 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR WIGHT - WATER HYDRANTS IN COOTAMUNDRA**

**RESOLUTION 185/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

**The response to the Question with Notice regarding Water Hydrants in Cootamundra, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**9.3 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR WIGHT - TURNERS LANE AND COOTAMUNDRA AIRPORT LAND DEVELOPMENT**

**RESOLUTION 186/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**The response to the Question with Notice regarding Turners Lane and Cootamundra Airport Land Development, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**9.4 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR WIGHT - COOTAMUNDRA STANDPIPE****RESOLUTION 187/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

**The response to the Question with Notice regarding the Cootamundra Standpipe, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**9.5 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR WIGHT - SUGGESTED CHANGE TO SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING TIME****RESOLUTION 188/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

**The response to the Question with Notice regarding suggested change to Council Meeting scheduled time, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS****10.1 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT****RESOLUTION 189/2026**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

- 1. Items 10.2, 10.3, 10.4 and 10.5 be considered in closed Council at which the press and public are excluded in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and related public interest reasons detailed.**
- 2. In accordance with section 11 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other documentation relating to Items 10.2, 10.3, 10.4 and 10.5 be withheld from the press and public.**

**CARRIED**

**Council entered Closed Council at 7:38pm.**

**10.2 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT****RESOLUTION 190/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That the confidential information in the Human Resources report be noted.**

**CARRIED**

### **10.3 LEGAL SERVICES PANEL TENDER**

#### **RESOLUTION 191/2026**

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**That:**

- 1. Council establish a panel of legal service providers comprising Kell Moore Lawyers, McInnes Wilson Lawyers Pty Ltd, Lindsay Taylor Lawyers and Marsdens Legal for a period of three (3) years, with an option to extend the panel for a further two (2) years at Council's discretion.**
- 2. The General Manager be authorised to engage local solicitors outside the panel where specialised local knowledge, conveyancing services or other operational requirements make such engagement advantageous to Council.**

**CARRIED**

### **10.4 QUESTION WITH NOTICE - CR WIGHT - POTENTIAL SOLAR FARM**

#### **RESOLUTION 192/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

**The response to the Question with Notice regarding Potential Solar Farm, be noted.**

**CARRIED**

### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

**That all Council staff, including the Interim General Manager, be excused from the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**10.5 MAYORAL MINUTE - INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER 2025 PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND DRAFT 2026 PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT**

**RESOLUTION 193/2026**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

**That Council endorse the Panel's determined position on the Annual Review as follows:**

- 1. That the record of performance assessment as recorded in the General Manager's Performance Agreement Annual Review be submitted to Council for information and noting.**
- 2. The Panel's Rating for the General Manager was 7.4 and the Panel considered this to be an Acceptable and Satisfactory level of performance.**
- 3. Endorse the 2026 General Manager Performance Agreement.**

**CARRIED**

**RESUMPTION OF OPEN COUNCIL MEETING**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

**That Council return to Open Meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**Council returned to Open Meeting at 7:51pm**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

Note: The Interim General Manager announced the resolutions made in Closed Council.

**The Meeting closed at 7:53pm.**

**CHAIRPERSON**

**INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER**