



**COOTAMUNDRA-
GUNDAGAI REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

ABN: 46 211 642 339
PO Box 420, Cootamundra NSW 2590
Email: mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au
www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au

Minutes

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GUNDAGAI

6:00PM, TUESDAY 22nd September, 2026

Administration Centres: 1300 459 689

**MINUTES OF COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GUNDAGAI
ON TUESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 6:02PM**

PRESENT: Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor), Cr Rosalind Wight (Deputy Mayor), Cr Logan Collins, Cr Les Cooper, Cr David Graham, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Penny Nicholson, 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

Nil

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 25 AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION 223/2026

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 25 August 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

5 MAYORAL MINUTES

5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENTS - 18 JULY 2026 - 14 SEPTEMBER 2026

RESOLUTION 224/2026

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

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

CARRIED

6 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

ITEM - 6.1 MINUTES OF THE DEMERGER TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2026 WAS CONSIDERED AFTER THE ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR.

7 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

7.1 GENERAL MANAGER OFFICE

7.1.1 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

RESOLUTION 225/2026

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council:

- 1. Notes the report on the nominations for and election for the position of Mayor for the period to September 2028 or the demerger of the Council, whichever occurs first;**
- 2. Determine the method of voting for the position of Mayor be by, Ordinary Ballot.**
- 3. Proceed to hold the election for the position of Mayor for the term.**

CARRIED

The Mayor stood down and the Returning Officer proceeded with the election process.

The Returning Officer confirmed that one nomination had been received for the position of Mayor, namely Cr Abb McAlister. Before proceeding, the Returning Officer asked whether there were any further nominations. No further nominations were received.

The Returning Officer then declared Cr Abb McAlister as Mayor for the period to September 2028 or the demerger of the Council, whichever occurs first.

Mayor McAlister assumed the Chair.

The Mayor gave address to Council and the community.

7.1.2 ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR**RESOLUTION 226/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr David Graham

That Council:

- 1. Note the report on the appointment of and procedure for the election of a Deputy Mayor;**
- 2. Elect a Deputy Mayor from its number for the Mayoral term.**
- 3. Pay to the Deputy Mayor, from the Mayor's annual fee, a sum of \$500 per month in recognition of such times where the Deputy Mayor acts in the office of Mayor; and**
- 4. Hold an election for the position of Deputy Mayor on the same basis as for the Mayoral position.**

CARRIED

The Returning Officer confirmed that one nomination had been received for the position of Deputy Mayor, namely Cr Ethan Ryan. Before proceeding, the Returning Officer asked whether there were any further nominations. No further nominations were received.

The Returning Officer then declared Cr Ethan Ryan as Deputy Mayor for the period to September 2028 or the demerger of the Council, whichever occurs first.

At 6:10 pm, Cr Ethan Ryan left the meeting.

At 6:10 pm, Cr Abb McAlister left the meeting.

At 6:12 pm, Cr Ethan Ryan returned to the meeting.

At 6:12 pm, Cr Abb McAlister returned to the meeting.

Cr Abb McAlister addressed the Council and the community, thanking Cr Ros Wight for her service as Deputy Mayor.

Cr Ros Wight, previous Deputy Mayor, addressed Council and the community.

6.1 MINUTES OF THE DEMERGER TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2026**RESOLUTION 227/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

- 1. That the Minutes of the Demerger Transition Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2026, attached to the report, be received and noted.**
- 2. In consideration of the Demerger Transition Committees recommendations detailed in the minutes, Council endorse the following:**

2.1. That Council allocate its 2026-2027 financial year cash reserves opening balances based on the audited FY26 closing balances and distributed between the proposed successor Councils using the percentages from the Morrison Low Advisory Cash Analysis Allocation report, namely while noting that:

- The Employee Leave Entitlement and Plant reserves will need to be recalculated as at 30 June 2027.
- Any pre-paid Financial Assistance Grants will need to be allocated based on appropriate pro-rata basis for both the General and Roads Component.

	Cootamundra		Gundagai	
	%	%	%	\$
Developer Contributions - General	48.0%	\$702,826	52.0%	\$762,826
Developer Contributions - Sewer	100.0%	\$421,276	0.0%	\$0
Unexpended Grants	49.3%	\$892,240	50.7%	\$918,999
Water Supply	14.5%	\$1,220,648	85.5%	\$7,206,966
Sewerage Service	98.5%	\$4,961,255	1.5%	\$74,381
Domestic Waste	77.0%	\$2,104,848	23.0%	\$629,513
Stormwater Infrastructure Renewal	93.7%	\$453,106	6.3%	\$30,354
		\$10,756,200		\$9,623,038
Employees Leave Entitlement	51.2%	\$861,371	48.8%	\$821,332
Plant Replacement	52.8%	\$1,221,996	47.2%	\$1,090,721
Waste Management	70.0%	\$350,000	30.0%	\$150,000
Bradman's Birthplace	100.0%	\$76,337	0.0%	\$0
Cootamundra Heritage Centre	100.0%	\$25,882	0.0%	\$0
Cemetery	50.0%	\$12,886	50.0%	\$12,886
Development - Land & Buildings	69.1%	\$1,220,510	30.9%	\$545,561
Cootamundra Caravan Park	100.0%	\$215,737	0.0%	\$0
Aerodrome Bitumen Resurfacing	100.0%	\$160,788	0.0%	\$0
Quarries & Pit Restoration	92.9%	\$230,672	7.1%	\$17,653
Southern Phone	100.0%	\$505,598	0.0%	\$0
Dog on the Tuckerbox Land	0.0%	\$0	100.0%	\$367,500
		\$4,881,777		\$3,005,653

CARRIED

7.2 BUSINESS

7.2.1 SECTION 355 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION 228/2026

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

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

- 1. The Ordinary Minutes of The Muttama Creek Regeneration s.355 Committee dated 12 August 2026.**

2. **The Annual General Meeting Minutes (inclusive of the Chairmans Report and Financial Statement 2025-2026) of the Bradman Birthplace s.355 Committee dated 19 August 2026.**
3. **The Office bearers and membership of the Bradman Birthplace s.355 Committee as detailed in the report be endorsed.**
4. **The Ordinary Minutes of the Stockinbingal Ellwood's Hall s.355 Committee dated 24 August 2026.**

CARRIED

7.2.2 DRAFT BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT POLICY

RESOLUTION 229/2026

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr David Graham

That the Business Continuity Management Policy attached to the report be adopted.

CARRIED

7.3 FINANCE

7.3.1 FINANCE UPDATE - AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION 230/2026

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

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

CARRIED

At 6:22 pm, Cr Abb McAlister left the meeting.

Cr Ethan Ryan (Deputy Mayor) assumed the Chair.

7.3.2 RESTRICTED CASH RECONCILIATION - AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION 231/2026

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr David Graham

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

CARRIED

At 6:24 pm, Cr Abb McAlister returned to the meeting.

Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) resumed the Chair.

7.3.3 INVESTMENT REPORT - AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION 232/2026

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

The report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st August 2026, be noted.

CARRIED

7.3.4 LODGEMENT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

RESOLUTION 233/2026

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

That:

- 1. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be delegated to sign the Statements by Council and Management for the 2026 General Purpose Financial Statements and 2026 Special Purpose Financial Statements for Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.**
- 2. The 2026 Financial Statements be referred for audit.**
- 3. The General Manager be authorised to issue the 2026 Financial Statements upon receipt of the auditor's report, subject to there being no material changes as result of the audit.**

CARRIED

7.3.5 2027 CARRY FORWARD CAPITAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION 234/2026

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

- 1. The Carry Forward Budget report be received and noted.**
- 2. The budget variations in the report totalling \$6,126,823.44 be adopted.**

CARRIED

7.4 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**7.4.1 DA2026/085 - PROPOSED DETACHED SHED/GARAGE - 23 NEIL MCINERNEY STREET, GUNDAGAI****RESOLUTION 235/2026**

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

That Council approve DA2026/85 subject to conditions of consent as outlined in the accompanying Draft Notice of Determination and authorise minor amendments to correct any errors prior to issuing the final Notice of Determination.

VOTING RECORD	
FOR RESOLUTION	AGAINST RESOLUTION
Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) Cr Rosalind Wight Cr Logan Collins Cr Les Cooper Cr David Graham Cr Gil Kelly Cr Penny Nicholson Cr Ethan Ryan Cr Danyal Syed	Nil
ABSENT	DECLARED INTEREST
Nil	Nil

CARRIED**7.4.2 LOCAL HERITAGE GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATION****RESOLUTION 236/2026**

Moved: Cr Danyal Syed

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council defer the consideration of the report in relation to the Local Heritage Funding Allocation to the October Meeting.

CARRIED

7.4.3 NSW STATEWIDE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN**RESOLUTION 237/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That Council:

- 1. Note the commencement of the NSW Statewide Community Participation Plan on 1 September 2026.**
- 2. Note that the Statewide Community Participation Plan applies to all planning authorities in New South Wales, including Councils.**
- 3. Repeal the Community Participation Plan - CGRC - 2019, adopted by Council on 29 October 2019.**
- 4. Authorise the General Manager to undertake all administrative actions necessary to remove the repealed document from Council's policy register and website and replace references with the NSW Statewide Community Participation Plan.**
- 5. Undertakes a media campaign to provide more detailed information to the community regarding the proposed changes and its key impacts locally.**

CARRIED

7.5 ENGINEERING COOTAMUNDRA**7.5.1 COOTAMUNDRA ENGINEERING REPORT - AUGUST 2026****RESOLUTION 238/2026**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

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

CARRIED

7.6 ENGINEERING GUNDAGAI**7.6.1 GUNDAGAI ENGINEERING REPORT - AUGUST 2026****RESOLUTION 239/2026**

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

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

CARRIED

7.7 REGIONAL SERVICES GUNDAGAI

7.7.1 GUNDAGAI REGIONAL SERVICES REPORT - AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION 240/2026

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

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

CARRIED

7.8 REGIONAL SERVICES COOTAMUNDRA

7.8.1 COOTAMUNDRA REGIONAL SERVICES REPORT - AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION 241/2026

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

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

CARRIED

8 MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

9 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

10.1 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT

RESOLUTION 242/2026

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

- 1. Items 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7 and 10.8 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, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7 and 10.8 be withheld from the press and public.**

Council entered Closed Council at 7:08pm.

CARRIED**10.2 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT****RESOLUTION 243/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That the confidential information in the Human Resources report be noted.**CARRIED****10.3 HARDSHIP APPLICATION - ASSESSMENT 10038313****RESOLUTION 244/2026**

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

That Council:

- 1. Approve hardship assistance for the owner of the property identified as assessment number 10038313, subject to the ratepayer entering and maintaining a payment arrangement approved by the Interim General Manager.**
- 2. Authorises the Interim General Manager to:**
 - a) determine and enter into the payment arrangement with the ratepayer; and**
 - b) write off any interest accrued for the period 1 October 2026 to 31 March 2027, provided the ratepayer complies with that payment arrangement for the duration of that period.**

CARRIED**10.4 HARDSHIP APPLICATION - ASSESSMENT 11019510****RESOLUTION 245/2026**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

That Council:

- 1. Approve hardship assistance for the owner of the property identified as assessment number 1109510, subject to the ratepayer entering and maintaining a payment arrangement approved by the Interim General Manager.**
- 2. Authorises the Interim General Manager to:**
 - a) determine and enter into the payment arrangement with the ratepayer; and**
 - b) write off any interest accrued for the period 1 October 2026 to 31 March 2027, provided the ratepayer complies with that payment arrangement for the duration of that period.**

CARRIED**10.5 HARDSHIP APPLICATION - ASSESSMENT 10036010****RESOLUTION 246/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

That Council does not approve hardship assistance for the owner of the property identified as assessment number 10036010.

CARRIED**10.6 HARDSHIP APPLICATION - ASSESSMENT 11015286****RESOLUTION 247/2026**

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

That Council:

- 1. Approve hardship assistance for the owner of the property identified as assessment number 11015286, subject to the ratepayer entering and maintaining a payment arrangement approved by the Interim General Manager.**
- 2. Authorises the Interim General Manager to:**
 - a) determine and enter into the payment arrangement with the ratepayer; and**
 - b) write off any interest accrued for the period 1 October 2026 to 31 March 2027, provided the ratepayer complies with that payment arrangement for the duration of that period.**

CARRIED**10.7 HARDSHIP APPLICATION - ASSESSMENT 10003481****RESOLUTION 248/2026**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

That Council:

- 1. Approve hardship assistance for the owner of the property identified as assessment number 10003481, subject to the ratepayer entering and maintaining a payment arrangement approved by the Interim General Manager.**
- 2. Authorises the Interim General Manager to:**
 - a) determine and enter into the payment arrangement with the ratepayer; and**

- b) write off any interest accrued for the period 1 October 2026 to 31 March 2027, provided the ratepayer complies with that payment arrangement for the duration of that period.

CARRIED

10.8 TENDER - MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF COUNCIL'S COOTAMUNDRA SWIMMING POOL AND SPORTS STADIUM FACILITY

RESOLUTION 249/2026

Moved: Cr Ethan Ryan

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council:

- 1. Award LeisureSafe Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 55 688 001 069) the Management and Operation of the Cootamundra Memorial Swimming Pool and Sports Stadium contract for a three-year period commencing 1 November 2026 and concluding 31 October 2029 for \$1,403,456.00 (ex GST).**
- 2. Note that the contract is for a three year period with an option for a further two year period at Council's discretion.**
- 3. Delegate authority to the Interim General Manager to execute the contract and any associated documentation required to give effect to the tender.**

CARRIED

RESUMPTION OF OPEN COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION 250/2026

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr David Graham

That the Open Council meeting resume at 7:27pm.

CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

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

The Meeting closed at 7:30pm.

CHAIRPERSON

INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER