



Confirmed Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 26 February 2025

6:00 pm

Maryborough Town Hall, Maryborough,
and livestreamed on the internet.



1 Commencement of Meeting

Membership:

Councillors:

Grace La Vella (Mayor)
Ben Green (Deputy Mayor)
Anna de Villiers
Geoff Bartlett
Gerard Murphy
Jake Meyer
Liesbeth Long

The Mayor commenced the meeting at 6pm, welcoming all present, with an Acknowledgement of Country and the Council Prayer.

Present

Councillors:

Grace La Vella (Mayor)
Ben Green (Deputy Mayor)
Anna de Villiers
Geoff Bartlett
Gerard Murphy
Jake Meyer
Liesbeth Long

Officers:

Interim Chief Executive Officer Sally Jones
General Manager Community Wellbeing Emma Little
General Manager Assets Infrastructure and Planning Amber Ricks
Acting General Manager Corporate Performance Veronica Hutcheson
Manager Governance Property and Risk Cecilia Connellan

Welcome / Mayoral Statement

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to start the meeting by acknowledging and extending my appreciation for the Dja Dja Wurrung People, the traditional owners of the land we're standing on today. Today we pay our respects to leaders and elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, traditions, the culture, and the hopes of all Dja Dja Wurrung People

Council Prayer

Almighty God, we ask you to be present in this Council. Direct and guide our deliberations. We ask you to grant us wisdom and sensitivity as we deal with the business of Central Goldfields Shire. May each decision that we make advance the wellbeing of all our residents. This we pray. Amen

2 Apologies

Nil

3 Leave of Absence

Nil

4 Conflict of Interest

Nil

5 Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Council Meetings

MOTION

That Council confirm the following Minutes dated 17 December 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting:

1. 20241217 Draft Council Meeting Minutes [5.1.1]

Moved: Cr Gerard Murphy

Seconder: Cr Geoff Bartlett

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion:

6 Minutes of Delegated and Advisory Committees

Nil

7 Petitions

7.1 Petition Response LGBTIQA+ Action Plan

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update in response to a petition presented to Council for consideration at the 17 December 2024 Council Meeting, requesting Central Goldfields Shire Council develop a LGBTIQA+ Action Plan.

MOTION

That Council:

- 1) accept the submitted petition as prescribed by the Governance Rules
- 2) thank the petitioner submitter and those who signed the petition
- 3) acknowledge the ongoing work that Officers are conducting to implement and deliver the Rainbow Readiness Roadmap.

Moved: Cr Gerard Murphy

Seconder: Cr Anna de Villiers

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr Murphy

8 Officer Reports

8.1 Corporate Performance

8.1.1 Quarterly Finance Report - December 2024

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the Quarterly Finance Report for December 2024.

MOTION

That Council;

1. receives and notes the Quarterly Finance Report December 2024 at Attachment 1 to this report.
2. Note the statement by the Chief Executive Officer that a revised budget will not be required for the 2024-25 financial year.

Moved: Cr Anna de Villiers

Seconder: Deputy Mayor Ben Green

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr de Villiers,

8.1.2 Annual Action Plan - Quarter 2 Report

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the status of the actions identified in the Council Plan Annual Action Plan 2024-2025, for the quarter ending 31 December 2024.

MOTION

That Council note the Council Plan Action Plan Quarterly Action Items quarter two.

Moved: Cr Anna de Villiers

Seconder: Cr Gerard Murphy

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr de Villiers,

8.1.3 Audit and Risk Committee Charter

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The report presents the updated Audit and Risk Committee Charter to Council, for consideration for adoption.

MOTION

That Council adopt the amended Audit and Risk Committee Charter as attached.

Moved: Cr Anna de Villiers

Seconder: Cr Geoff Bartlett

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr de Villiers

8.1.4 Governance and Statutory Compliance Frameworks

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to recommend the approval of two newly developed frameworks proposed as a part of CGSC governance policies refresh review and seeks endorsement for the documents.

The governance frameworks are a key element of the council's governance and accountability structures that are aimed at enhancing transparency, accountability and operational efficiency while providing leadership to foster integrity and appropriately address misconduct if it occurs.

These frameworks outline the process structures and rules by which Central Goldfields Shire Council implement and manage good governance.

They are instrumental in good decision making and encompass performance, responsible stewardship, ethical behaviour, decision making, leadership, trust, inclusion, accountability, legitimacy, responsiveness, transparency, and fairness.

MOTION

That Council:

1. adopt the Governance Framework and;
2. adopt the Statutory Compliance Framework

Moved: Cr Liesbeth Long

Seconder: Cr Jake Meyer

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr Long

8.1.5 Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present to Council, the updated Staff and Councillor Interaction Policy Draft for review and adoption.

MOTION

That Council adopt the draft Staff and Councillor Interaction Policy.

Moved: Cr Gerard Murphy

Seconder: Cr Anna de Villiers

Carried

Councillor(s) who spoke to motion: Cr Murphy

Division Results

For: Mayor Grace La Vella, Deputy Mayor Ben Green, Cr Anna de Villiers, Cr Gerard Murphy, Cr Jake Meyer and Cr Liesbeth Long

Against: Cr Geoff Bartlett

8.2 Community Wellbeing

8.2.0 Nil Reports

Nil Reports

8.3 Office of the CEO

8.3.0 Nil Reports

Nil Reports

8.4 Infrastructure Assets and Planning

8.4.0 Nil Reports

Nil Reports

9 Councillor Reports and General Business

10 Notices of Motion

10.1 Carisbrook Railway Station

Councillor: Cr Anna De Villiers

The following motion was received as a notice of motion in accordance with Central Goldfields Shire Council Governance Rules: *S23 Councillors May Propose Notices of Motion* and *S24 Notice of Motion*.

The Carisbrook Railway Station is a historically significant site with considerable potential for adaptive use.

The goods shed and office building can serve as essential spaces for a community hub that promotes local history, cultural activities, and regional connectivity.

This initiative aligns council priorities to:

- Preserve heritage assets
- Foster community engagement and well-being
- Support tourism and economic development.

The proposed use of these facilities will benefit the community in multiple ways.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council;

1. requests the CEO investigate the feasibility of a lease agreement with Vic Track, for the Carisbrook Railway Station and;
2. Present a report to Council regarding the intention of repurposing the spaces as a Community Hub, including all associated financial impacts and funding opportunities

Mover: Cr de Villiers

Seconder; Cr Murphy

CARRIED

11 Urgent Business

Nil

12 Confidential Business

Nil

13 Meeting Closure

The meeting closed at 6:22 pm.