



# Unconfirmed Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 25 June 2025 at 6:00pm

Maryborough Town Hall, 71 Clarendon Street, Maryborough.

The meeting commenced at 6:00pm.

## **PRESENT**

### **Councillors:**

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

### **Officers:**

Interim Chief Executive Officer, Sally Jones  
Acting General Manager Corporate Performance, Anthony Smith  
Acting Manager Governance Property and Risk, Libby Sheward  
Manager Statutory Services, Peter Field  
Governance Advisor, Ralph Anania

## **1 Welcome**

The Mayor, Cr Grace La Vella welcomed attendees to the meeting and then read an Acknowledgment of Country and the Council Prayer.

## **2 Apologies**

Ms Amber Ricks, General Manager, Infrastructure Assets and Planning  
Ms Emma Little, General Manager, Community Wellbeing

## **Request for Leave of Absence**

Cr Long requested a leave of absence from 24 July to 2 September 2025 Inclusive.

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council grant Cr Long Leave of Absence from all Council Meetings from 24 July to 2 September 2025 inclusive.

**Moved:** Cr Meyer.

**Seconder:** Cr Bartlett.

**CARRIED**

## **3 Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Cr Meyer declared a conflict-of-interest in item 7.3, as he is the President of the Little Athletics Club, and the Club may be receiving an allocation under the 2025/2026 Council Budget.

## 4 Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Council Meetings

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held 28 May 2025 be confirmed, subject to the following amendments:

a) The statement of Cr Long's Conflict of Interest in item 3 to read – Cr Long declared a Conflict of Interest in item 7.1, as Cr Long is President of the Central Goldfields Bushwalking and Hiking Club Inc. and the Club hosted a joint walk in conjunction with the Castlemaine Maryborough Rail Trail, who oppose the Broiler Farm developments.

b) Following completion of item 7.1, inset Cr Long returned to the meeting here.

c) To correct any misspelling of Cr Meyer's name.

**Moved:** Cr Long

**Seconder:** Cr de Villiers

**CARRIED**

## 5 Minutes of Delegated and Advisory Committees

### 5.1 Audit and Risk Committee Minutes for January, March and June 2025

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council receive and note the Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meetings held on 20th January 3rd March and 2nd June 2025.

**Moved:** Cr Bartlett

**Seconder:** Cr de Villiers

**CARRIED**

## 6 Petitions

Nil.

## 7 Council Reports

### 7.1 Update on the Carisbrook Levee Review Draft Implementation Plan

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council notes:

1. the status of actions contained in the Carisbrook Independent Levee Review Draft Implementation Plan (Attachment 1);
2. that officers will make the information contained in Attachment 1 available to the community via the Council website; and
3. that officers are in the process of finalising contract documents to engage consultants to undertake the Carisbrook Flood Management Plan Review and Update which will address remaining actions in the Draft Implementation Plan and will incorporate consultation with the Carisbrook community.

**Moved:** Cr de Villiers

**Seconded:** Cr Long

**CARRIED**

## 7.2 Draft Rating and Revenue Plan 2025-2029

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council having invited and considered written submissions on its Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029, adopts its Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2029 provided as Attachment 1 to this report, in accordance with Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2020.

**Moved:** Cr Bartlett

**Seconded:** Cr Long

**CARRIED**

Cr Meyer had declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 7.3 and therefore left the meeting here, prior to any discussion or voting taking place on the item.

## 7.3 2025/26 Council Budget

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council:

1. Adopts the 2025/26 Budget (as Attachment 1 to this report) with adjustments identified from the Draft Annual Budget to the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Capital program and User Fees and Charges, as outlined within this Report;
2. Approves loan borrowings of \$500,000 in line with the Budget for the Deledio Recreation Reserve – Pavillion Upgrade;
3. Adopts and declares the fees and charges as listed within the 2025/26 Budget for the financial year;
4. Declares an amount of \$19.456 million which Council intends to raise by General Rates and Annual Service Charges for the period 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026 calculated as follows:
  - General Rates (including estimated supplementary rates) \$12.736 million;
  - Municipal Charges \$1.684 million; and
  - Service Rates and Charges (Waste Management) \$5.036 million;

5. Declares a Municipal Charge of \$202 for each rateable assessment in respect of which a Municipal Charge may be levied in the 2025/26 financial year;
6. Declares an Annual Service Charge of \$1,060 for kerbside garbage and recycling collection for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026;
7. Declares the rate in the dollar for each type of rate to be levied for the period as follows:

Type of Rate Value	Cents in the \$ on Capital Improved
General rate for rateable residential properties – Maryborough	0.003270
General rate for rateable residential properties – Other	0.002943
General rate for rateable vacant land properties	0.004153
General rate for rateable commercial properties – Maryborough	0.005232
General rate for rateable commercial properties – Other	0.004415
General rate for rateable industrial properties	0.003466
General rate for rateable farm properties	0.002616

8. Adopts to levy the general rates and service charges referred to in this resolution by the service notice on each person liable to pay such rate or charge in accordance with section 158 of the *Local Government Act 1989*;
9. In accordance with section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the rates and charges declared by the Council for the 2025/26 financial year and declares that they must be paid as follows:

*By four instalments made on or before the following dates:*

Instalment 1 – 30 September 2025;

Instalment 2 – 30 November 2025;

Instalment 3 – 28 February 2026;

Instalment 4 – 31 May 2026;

OR

*By a lump sum payment made on or before 15 February 2026; and*

10. Thanks, the community members who participated in the community engagement process to inform the 2025/26 Budget.

**Moved:** Cr Murphy

**Seconder:** Cr Long

**CARRIED**

Cr Meyer returned to the meeting here.

#### **7.4 Amendment C40 to the Central Goldfields Planning Scheme. Maryborough Heritage Overlay - Authorisation to Exhibit**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council consider all matters as required by Section 12(2) of the Planning and Environment Act

1987, and resolve to:

1. Seek Ministerial Authorisation pursuant to Section 8A (2) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare Amendment C40 to the Central Goldfields Planning Scheme (in accordance with the amendment documentation and reports forming as a separate attachment to this report) to remove HO206, apply new heritage overlays to give statutory protection to seven individual places, nine heritage precincts and two group listings, and make associated changes to policy and guidance documents to that better reflect the heritage values of the study area.
2. Following receipt of Ministerial authorisation, exhibit the planning scheme amendment in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
3. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the ability to make any changes to amendment documentation for Planning Scheme Amendment C40 prior to exhibition, if requested by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, or if required by a condition of Ministerial Authorisation.

**Moved:** Cr Bartlett

**Seconded:** Cr Long

**CARRIED**

## 7.5 S5 Instrument of Delegation Council to CEO

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

In the exercise of the power conferred by s 11(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act), Central Goldfields Shire Council (Council) resolves that:

1. there be delegated to the person holding the position, or acting in or performing the duties, of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;
2. the instrument comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor;
3. on the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked; and
4. the duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

**Moved:** Cr Long

**Seconded:** Cr Bartlett

**CARRIED**

## 7.6 Councillor Internal Resolution Procedure

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council adopt its Councillor Internal Resolution Procedure, provided as Attachment 1 to this report.

**Moved:** Cr de Villiers

**Seconded:** Cr Long

**CARRIED**

### **7.7 Audit and Risk Committee's Report to Council**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council note the Audit and Risk Biannual Reports for December 2024 and June 2025.

**Moved:** Cr de Villiers

**Seconder:** Cr Bartlett

**CARRIED**

### **7.8 Review of Council's Community Asset Committees**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council defer the report pending Officers undertaking further consultation with existing Committee members.

**Moved:** Cr de Villiers

**Seconder:** Cr Meyer

**CARRIED**

### **7.9 Draft Updated Art Collection Policy**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council adopt the updated draft Art Collection Policy.

**Moved:** Cr Meyer

**Seconder:** Cr Long

**CARRIED**

### **7.10 Draft Play Space Strategy**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council:

1. notes that the Draft Play Space Strategy was advertised for a period of three weeks and that no submissions were received as part of the consultation process;
2. adopts the Play Space Strategy (Attachments 1 & 2) as final; and
3. notes the recommendations identified in the Play Space Strategy will be incorporated in Councils Asset Management Plans and Long-Term Financial Plan for future consideration.

**Moved:** Cr Long

**Seconder:** Cr Bartlett

**CARRIED**

### 7.11 Audit Action Items Quarter Three

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council note the Quarterly Audit Action Items report for Quarter Three of the 2024/2025 financial year covering the period 1 January to 31 March 2025.

**Moved:** Cr Bartlett

**Seconder:** Cr de Villiers

**CARRIED**

## 8 Councillor Reports and General Business

Nil.

## 9 Notices of Motion

Cr La Vella vacated the Chair, in order to present her Notice of Motion.

Cr Long assumed the Chair, as the Deputy Mayor was not in attendance.

### 9.1 Opposition to the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund Levy

Councillor: Cr La Vella

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That Council authorise the Mayor to write to the Premier, the Hon Jacinta Allan; the Treasurer, Jaclyn Symes MP and local State members of Parliament to record Central Goldfields Shire Council's opposition to the introduction of the new Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund Levy due to:

- a) the detrimental fiscal impact of the levy on the farming sector; and
- b) the State Government's unilateral decision to financially burden local Councils with the collection of this levy, rather than using the State Revenue Office.

**Moved:** Cr La Vella

**Seconder:** Cr de Villiers

**CARRIED**

At this point, Cr Long vacated the Chair, and Cr La Vella resumed the Chair.

## 10 Urgent Business

Nil.



## 11 Confidential Business

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, close the meeting to the public, in order to consider a report which contains confidential information.

**Moved:** Cr Long

**Seconded:** Cr Meyer

**CARRIED**

Cr Murphy declared a Conflict of Interest after being advised of the likely nature of the Confidential Report. Cr Murphy left the meeting here, before any discussion or voting taking place on the item.

### 11. Consideration of Confidential Business.

#### 11.1 Contractual Matter.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That the meeting now resume in open Council.

**Moved:** Cr Meyer

**Seconded:** Cr Bartlett

**CARRIED**

## 12 Meeting Closure

The Mayor, Cr La Vella, closed the meeting 7:05pm.