
**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 22 APRIL 2025 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

The Mayor, Doug Curran in the Chair; Councillors, Shari Blumer, Mark Dal Bon, Jenny Ellis (ZOOM), Scott Groat, Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead

STAFF

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet, Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Acting Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Max Turner, Acting Director Sustainable Development, Carel Potgieter and Minute Taker, Joanne Bollen

MEDIA

The Area News, Cai Holroyd

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Scott Groat reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

A Minute's silence was held in respect of the recent passing of His Holiness, Pope Francis.

2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

25/102

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that apologies be received from Councillor Laurie Testoni and Councillor Anne Napoli and a leave of absence granted and an application to attend by audio-visual link from Councillor Jenny Ellis be granted.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

25/103

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 8 April 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

4 BUSINESS ARISING

CC01 Enter into Lease Agreement for Operation of Cremator

Councillor Shari Blumer advised that she was not present for CC01 Enter into Lease Agreement for Operation of Cremator, as she had declared a Pecuniary Conflict of Interest.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

Councillors making a pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

Councillor Shari Blumer

CL04 Renewal of Licence Agreement for Occupation of Road Reserve for the Display of Vehicles – Dasat Pty Ltd (CAN 681432593) (Griffith City Volkswagen) – 126 Mackay Avenue, Yoogali

Reason – The business I work for and have an interest does the drafting work for this type of matter.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors making a significant non-pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors making a less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration may stay in the meeting and participate in the debate and vote on the matter.

Councillor Christine Stead

CL01 DA 141/2024 – Free-Standing Digital Advertising Structure

Reason – I have received a call from Luke from Gawk outdoor.

Councillor Tony O'Grady
CL01 DA 141/2024 – Free-Standing Digital Advertising Structure
Reason – I have been contacted by the applicant.

6 PRESENTATIONS

The Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran advised that Griffith City Council has been awarded the Diversity and Inclusion Award at the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) Engineering Excellence Awards for its innovative delivery of the Safer Cities: Her Way project. Mayor Curran congratulated Director Shireen Donaldson and her staff on receiving this award.

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

25/104

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that the meeting suspend standing orders to allow James Course to address Council.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

25/105

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that the meeting resume standing orders.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL01 DA 141/2024 - REVIEW OF DETERMINATION OF REFUSAL TO GRANT CONSENT - FREE-STANDING DIGITAL ADVERTISING STRUCTURE

25/106

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead that Council approve the development, subject to conditions of approval to be determined by Council at

the next available meeting.

In accordance with the Local Government Action (section 375A - Recording of voting on planning matters) Council must record the Councillor's vote in relation to the matter.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis

The division was declared PASSED by 5 votes to 2.

CL02 DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN - CHECK-IN & REVIEW

25/107

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that:

- (a) Council place the 2021-2025 Disability Inclusion Action Plan on public exhibition until 30 May 2025 to seek submissions from members of the community for inclusion in a reviewed Plan.
- (b) Council refer the 2021-2025 Disability Inclusion Action Plan to the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee for review and submission.
- (c) Council engage with the community to seek feedback for inclusion in the reviewed Plan.
- (d) Council amend the existing 2021-25 Disability Inclusion Action Plan and present to Council for adoption in June 2025 pending a remake of the Plan by June 2026.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL03 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S AGENCY INFORMATION GUIDE 2025

25/108

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Council adopt the revised Agency Information Guide 2025 as per the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, the time being 7:49pm.

CL04 RENEWAL OF LICENCE AGREEMENT FOR OCCUPATION OF ROAD RESERVE FOR THE DISPLAY OF VEHICLES - DASAT PTY LTD (ACN 681432593) (GRIFFITH CITY VOLKSWAGEN) - 126 MACKAY AVENUE, YOOGALI

25/109

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that:

- (a) Council enters into a licence agreement with Dasat Pty Ltd over that part of Council's road reserve being an area of 351m² adjoining 126 Mackay Avenue, Yoogali, to be used as a vehicle display area for a term of 10 years, with a commencement date of 21 March 2025.
- (b) Council advertise its intention to enter into a licence agreement with Dasat Pty Ltd for the use of Council's road reserve adjoining 126 Mackay Avenue, Yoogali for a period of 28 days. Should any submissions be received, a report will be presented to Council for consideration.
- (c) Should no submissions be received, Council will enter into a licence agreement with Dasat Pty Ltd for the use of Council's road reserve adjoining 126 Mackay Avenue, Yoogali for a term of 10 years.
- (d) Dasat Pty Ltd will be required to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the renewal of the licence agreement, together with Council's administration fee, as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy
- (e) The annual licence fee be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, for leasing of road reserves for business purposes, where the lease forms an integral part of the business. Amount of \$1,333.47 has been invoiced for the 2024/2025 financial year, in addition to rates and charges. The annual fee to increase with CPI thereafter.
- (f) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the licence renewal on behalf of the Council under the Common Seal.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

The division was declared PASSED by 5 votes to 1.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting, the time being 7:52pm.

CL05 NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE UPDATE AND COUNCIL OWNED PROPERTIES

25/110

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Council note the report.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

The division was declared **PASSED** by 7 votes to 0.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

Nil

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 MARCH 2025

25/111

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Airport Committee meeting held on 26 March 2025 be adopted.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against
Councillor Scott Groat

The division was declared **PASSED** by 6 votes to 1.

MINUTES OF THE NEW CEMETERY MASTERPLAN COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 APRIL 2025

25/112

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the New Cemetery Masterplan Committee meeting held on 2 April 2025 be adopted.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared **PASSED** by 7 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 APRIL 2025

25/113

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

meeting held on 10 April 2025 be adopted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION - THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR DOUG CURRAN

25/114

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Jenny Ellis that:

- (a) Griffith City Council investigate and identify the best location for safety, security and community awareness for a 24/7 Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in our Main Street area.
- (b) SMT identify a funding source for the purchase of the AED, (approximately \$2,000) and install the 24/7 AED in the nominated location.
- (c) Griffith City Council partner with Heart of the Nation (HOTN) to register the location of the 24/7 AED in our Main Street area.
- (d) Griffith City Council partner with Soroptimist International Griffith Inc to;
 - i. Hold a public meeting to educate community members on the use of the 24/7 AED.
 - ii. Encourage local businesses and organisations to purchase and register 24/7 AEDs at their locations.
 - iii. Publicise the HOTN app and encourage residents of Griffith to install the app on their phones.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

25/115

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that the report be noted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

14 MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH BY CLOSED COUNCIL

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Set out below is Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to matters which can be dealt with in the closed part of a meeting.

The matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)**
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer**
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business**
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:**
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or**
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or**
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret**
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law**
- (f) matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property**
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege**
- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on Community land.**
- (i) alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under section 440 of the Local Government Act 1993.**

25/116

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that:

- (a) Council resolve to go into closed Council to consider business identified.
- (b) Pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provision of section [10A(2)] as outlined above.
- (c) The correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Council resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items listed below, and that discussion of the report in open Council would be contrary to the public interest.

CC01 TENDER NO. 10-24/25 - PROVISION OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

Reason: Commercial Advantage 10A(2)(d)

Council closed its meeting at 8:12pm.

The public and media left the Chamber.

Livestream was disconnected.

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

25/117

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead that Open Council be resumed.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Open Council resumed at 8:23pm.

Livestream was reconnected.

Upon resuming open Council the General Manager reported that the following resolutions had been made in Closed Council:

MATTERS DEALT WITH IN CLOSED COUNCIL

CC01 TENDER NO. 10-24/25 - PROVISION OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

25/118

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that:

(a) Council accept the following tenders to appoint a Panel of Town Planning Practitioners under Tender 10-24/25 for a period of three (3) years commencing 22 April 2025 to 22 April 2028.

- Planscapes Town Planning Consultancy;
- The Trustee for SKM Planning Trust;
- PSA Consulting;
- Building & Environmental Services Today Pty Ltd;
- Barnson Pty Ltd.

(b) Council continue to source Contractors through Local Government Appointments (LOGO) as procured under “Local Government Procurement Approved Contractors” HR – Perm & Assoc. Services (LPG808-4) if and when required.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8:26pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON