



MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, 27 MAY 2025 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM

PRESENT

Councillors, Shari Blumer, Mark Dal Bon (Zoom), Jenny Ellis, Scott Groat, Anne Napoli, Tony O'Grady, Christine Stead (Zoom) and Laurie Testoni

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, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo and Minute Taker, Leanne Austin

MEDIA

The Area News, Cai Holroyd

In the absence of the Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Anne Napoli, assumed the Chair.

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Tony O'Grady reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

A minute's silence was held for the recent passing of Mrs Melba Dal Bon, mother of Councillor Mark Dal Bon.

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

25/134

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Laurie Testoni that an apology be received from Councillor Doug Curran and a leave of absence granted.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

25/135

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Shari Blumer that:

- (a) Approval be granted to Councillor Christine Stead to attend the meeting by audio-visual link on the grounds of attending the LG NSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference.
- (b) Approval be granted to Councillor Mark Dal Bon to attend the meeting by audio-visual link.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

25/136

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 13 May 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

4 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

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.

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

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.

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 YENDA GROWTH AREA MASTER PLAN REQUEST FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

25/137

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

- (a) Council adopt the draft Yenda Growth Area Master Plan and Site Specific Section 12.4 of the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan and place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- (b) Should no submissions be received, the Yenda Growth Area Master Plan and Site Specific Section 12.4 of the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan are adopted and in accordance with clause 6.3 of the Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014, Stage 1 of the growth area is released for development.
- (c) Should submissions be received, the Yenda Growth Area Master Plan and Site Specific Section 12.4 of the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any amendments to the Master Plan and a review of all submissions received.

For
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against
Councillor Scott Groat

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 1.

CL02 HANWOOD GROWTH AREA MASTER PLAN REQUEST FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Councillor Dal Bon left the meeting at 7:26 pm and re-joined at 7:30 pm.

25/138

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that:

- (a) Council adopt the draft Hanwood Growth Area Master Plan and place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- (b) Should no submissions be received, the Hanwood Growth Area Master Plan is adopted

and Council endorses the preparation of a Section 7.11 Contribution Plan to ensure the development of the growth area including the provision of roadworks, drainage network and open space proceeds on an equitable and fair basis for landowners and developers.

- (c) Should submissions be received, the Hanwood Growth Area Master Plan is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any amendments to the Master Plan and a review of all submissions received.

For

Against

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL03 ADOPTION OF PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - MISCELLANEOUS CROWN RESERVES - (KART CLUB - WUMBULGAL RECREATION RESERVE - RANKINS SPRINGS CAMPING AREA - DAVE WALLACE RANGE)

25/139

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that:

- (a) Council adopt the Plan of Management – Miscellaneous Crown Reserves pursuant to Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1993 and in accordance with Section 3.23(6) of the Crown Land Management Act 2016.
- (b) Council give public notice of the adoption of the Plan of Management – Miscellaneous Crown Reserves.

For

Against

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL04 THIRD QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT 2024/25 - BUDGET REVIEW AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

25/140

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

- (a) Council note the variations to the 2024/25 original budget for the quarter ended 31

March 2025 as presented in this report.

- (b) The Financial Review and any additional approved variations for the quarter ended 31 March 2025 be adopted.
- (c) Council adopt the 31 March 2025 Operational Plan Review advising the extent to which the Operational Plan Actions (Performance Indicators) have been achieved.
- (d) Council endorse minor amendments to the Organisational Structure as per this report.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL05 CHANGE OF COUNCIL MEETING DATE - 24 JUNE 2025 TO 19 JUNE 2025

25/141

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Tony O'Grady that Council resolve to move the date of the Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled for Tuesday, 24 June 2025 to Thursday, 19 June 2025.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL06 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT GRIFFITH HOUSING STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

25/142

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

- (a) Council adopt the draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 and place on public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) Should no submissions be received, the draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 is adopted.
- (c) Should submissions be received, the draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any submissions received.

For	Against
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Anne Napoli	
Councillor Tony O'Grady	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL07 INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2025

25/143

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Scott Groat that the report be noted by Council.

For	Against
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Anne Napoli	
Councillor Tony O'Grady	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL08 DISCLOSURES BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS RETURN - MAY 2025

25/144

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that the Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons Return for the Trainee Development Assessment Planner be noted by Council.

For	Against
Councillor Shari Blumer	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Anne Napoli	
Councillor Tony O'Grady	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**MINUTES OF THE GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 APRIL 2025**

25/145

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee meeting held on 30 April 2025 be adopted.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 MAY 2025

25/146

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 7 May 2025 be adopted.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2025

25/147

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee meeting held on 8 May 2025 be adopted.

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

Nil

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

25/148

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

For

Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

14 MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH BY CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 7:55pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON