
**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 26 MAY 2026 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

The Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran in the Chair; Councillors, Christine Stead, Anne Napoli, Mark Dal Bon, Tony O'Grady, Laurie Testoni and Shari Blumer

STAFF

General Manager, Scott Grant, Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Matthew Hansen (Zoom), Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo and Minute Taker, Leanne Austin

MEDIA

Nil

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Shari Blumer reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

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

26/134

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that apologies be received from Councillors Jenny Ellis and Scott Groat and a leave of absence granted and approval be given to Director Matt Hansen to attend the meeting via audio visual.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

26/135

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 12 May 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 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.

Councillor Shari Blumer

CL08 Renewal of Lease Agreement - Griffith Motorcycle Sports Club - Crown Reserve 83396, Lot 1275 DP 751709, Lloyd Priest Drive, Griffith

CL09 Licence Agreement - Road Reserve - Argyle Community Housing Ltd - 2-4 Crossing Street, Griffith

CL10 Surrender of Lease Agreement for Hangar Sites 28 & 29 Griffith Aerodrome and Request for a New Lease Agreement for Hangar Site 28 to Gerard Higgins and a New Lease Agreement for Hangar Site 29 to Robert Ryan

Reason – The business I work for and have an interest in often drafts the contracts for these clauses.

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 Anne Napoli

CL02 Community Grants Application - Griffith Women In Business Mentorship Program Graduation Event

Reason – I am an ordinary member of the Griffith Women in Business Committee. As an ordinary member I was not part of the Mentoring Program.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - BARNABAS HOUSE RESIDENTIAL DISABLED ACCESSIBILITY

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead that Council accept the quick Turn Around Grant Application.

For
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 4.

The **MOTION** was **PUT** and **LOST**.

CL02 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - GRIFFITH WOMEN IN BUSINESS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATION EVENT

26/136

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that Council decline the application for the Quick Turnaround Grant from Women In Business, noting that the application does not meet the eligibility criteria of Council's Community Grant Program.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 1.

CL03 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - GRIFFITH CENTRAL PRESCHOOL

26/137

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Anne Napoli that Council accept the application for Griffith Central Preschool-Multicultural Day.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL04 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - KALINDA SCHOOL P AND C

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Mark Dal Bon that Council accept the quick Turn Around Grant Application.

For
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 4.

The **MOTION** was **PUT** and **LOST**.

CL05 WAIVER OF FEES - GRIFFITH REGIONAL SPORTS CENTRE

26/138

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that Council approve the waive of \$250 of court hire fees for the Inclusive Fitness Program for Children with Diverse Needs program.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL06 UPDATE - ACTIVE GRANT PROGRAMS

26/139

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that Council note this report.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against

Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL07 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT (QBR) - MARCH 2026 (QUARTER 3)

26/140

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that Council:

- (a) Endorse the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBR) for the period ending 31 March 2026, prepared in accordance with the NSW Office of Local Government guidelines.
- (b) Note the Responsible Accounting Officer's certification that Council's financial position remains satisfactory.
- (c) Approve the proposed variations to the 2025–26 budget as outlined in the QBR.
- (d) Authorise submission of the QBR and electronic data return to the Office of Local Government.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:22 pm.

CL08 RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT - GRIFFITH MOTORCYCLE SPORTS CLUB - CROWN RESERVE 83396, LOT 1275 DP 751709, LLOYD PRIEST DRIVE, GRIFFITH

26/141

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

- (a) Council enters into a lease agreement with Griffith Motorcycle Sports Club over Crown Reserve 83396, Lot 1275 DP 751709, for a term of 10 years commencing 1 March 2016 with a further 10-year option.
- (b) Griffith Motorcycle Sports Club is responsible to pay for all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the lease agreement together with Council's Administration Fee as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy.
- (c) The annual lease fee will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, currently \$713 for the 2025/2026 financial year, in addition to rates and charges.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the lease agreement on

behalf of Council under the Common Seal.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

CL09 LICENCE AGREEMENT - ROAD RESERVE - ARGYLE COMMUNITY HOUSING LTD - 2-4 CROSSING STREET, GRIFFITH

26/142

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Mark Dal Bon that the matter be deferred pending further information.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

CL10 SURRENDER OF LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HANGAR SITES 28 & 29 GRIFFITH AERODROME AND REQUEST FOR A NEW LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HANGAR SITE 28 TO GERARD HIGGINS AND A NEW LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HANGAR SITE 29 TO ROBERT RYAN

26/143

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that:

- (a) Council agrees to the surrender of the current lease agreement with Gerard Higgins over Hangar Site Areas 28 & 29 of the Griffith Aerodrome.
- (b) Council enters into new lease agreements with the applicants, Gerard Higgins and Robert Ryan respectively as outlined in the report, each for a term of five (5) years with an option to renew for a further five (5) years, with commencement to take effect from the date of surrender of the existing lease.
- (c) The lessees, Gerard Higgins and Robert Ryan are to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the new lease agreements together with Council's Administration Fee, as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy.
- (d) The annual lease fee for Hangar Site 28 will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy for all landside/airside areas per annum, in addition to rates and charges.
- (e) The annual lease fee for Hangar Site 29 will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy for all landside/airside areas per annum, in addition to rates

and charges.

- (f) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the lease agreements on behalf of Council under the Common Seal.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 7:26 pm.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL11 QUARTERLY REVIEW - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIS) - Q3 2025/26

26/144

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that the report be noted by Council.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL12 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

26/145

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

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2026

26/146

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee meeting held on 5 May 2026 be adopted.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2026

26/147

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Local Traffic Forum meeting held on 12 May 2026 be adopted.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

Nil

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

26/148

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that the report be noted.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

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.**

26/149

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead 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.

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 RFQ NO. 26 – 25/26: DESIGN & CONSTRUCT COLLECTOR WELL FOR G4 PUMP STATION

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

Council closed its meeting at 7:39 pm. The public and media left the Chamber. Livestream was disconnected.

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

26/150

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

Open Council resumed at 7:43 pm.

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 RFQ NO. 26 – 25/26: DESIGN & CONSTRUCT COLLECTOR WELL FOR G4 PUMP STATION

26/151

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

- (a) Note the information contained within this report regarding the condition of the existing collector well at the G4 Pump Station and the urgent need for reconstruction works.
- (b) Note that a Request for Quotations (RFQ No. 26-25/26: Design & Construct Collector Well for G4 Pump Station) was undertaken, with all conforming quotations received exceeding the tendering threshold prescribed under Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- (c) Note that the Senior Management Team determined, pursuant to Section 55(3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the works constitute a “case of emergency” and

approved proceeding with the project under the applicable exemption provisions of the Act.

- (d) Note that the General Manager has endorsed the decision of the Senior Management Team to proceed with the project under the “case of emergency” exemption contained within Section 55(3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1993.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O’Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 7:47 pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON