
**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 11 AUGUST 2026 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

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

STAFF

General Manager, Scott Grant, Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Matthew Hansen, Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst, and Minute Taker, Antoinette Galluzzo

MEDIA

Nil.

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Scott Groat 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

26/212

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that an apology be received from Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

26/213

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 28 July 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

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

CL01 - DA 88/2026 - Car Park and Associated New Driveway for an Existing Dental Practice
Reason - The Business that I work for and have an interest, often undertakes this work for Council.

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 less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:04pm.

CL01 DA 88/2026 - CAR PARK AND ASSOCIATED NEW DRIVEWAY FOR AN EXISTING DENTAL PRACTICE

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

- (a) Development Application 88/2026 for a carpark and new driveway at 12 Koorungal Avenue Griffith (Lot 9 DP 815420) and part road reserve of Koorungal Avenue, be approved subject to conditions provided in Attachment A.
- (b) The application be delegated to the Director Sustainable Development to issue the

Notice of Determination.

- (c) Remove the draft condition 17 and 39.

Councillors Scott Groat and Anne Napoli moved the following **AMENDMENT** that:

- (a) Development Application 88/2026 for a carpark and new driveway at 12 Koorungal Avenue Griffith (Lot 9 DP 815420) and part road reserve of Koorungal Avenue, be approved subject to conditions provided in Attachment A.
- (b) The application be delegated to the Director Sustainable Development to issue the Notice of Determination.
- (c) Remove the draft condition 17 and 39.
- (d) Remove the draft condition 16.

For
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Scott Groat

Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared LOST by 6 votes to 2.

The AMENDMENT was PUT and LOST.

26/214

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

- (a) Development Application 88/2026 for a carpark and new driveway at 12 Koorungal Avenue Griffith (Lot 9 DP 815420) and part road reserve of Koorungal Avenue, be approved subject to conditions provided in Attachment A.
- (b) The application be delegated to the Director Sustainable Development to issue the Notice of Determination.
- (c) Remove the draft condition 17 and 39.

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.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Councillor Blumer returned to the meeting at 7:23pm.

CL02 LOW COST LOANS INITIATIVE - ROUND 5

26/215

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Scott Groat that Council approve the lodgement of the following applications for funding under the Sustainable Communities – Business and Industry Round.

- (a) Boorga Road widening - \$1.39m loan, \$223,863 subsidy.
- (b) Tharbogang Landfill expansion - \$3.2m loan, \$532,055 subsidy.
- (c) Sewer Pump Stations – Lake Wyangan and Collina - \$1m loan, \$166,267 subsidy.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL03 ENDORSEMENT OF AUSTRALIA DAY POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

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

- (a) Council endorse the draft Australia Day Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (c) If no submissions are received, the draft Australia Day Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Christine Stead moved the following **AMENDMENT**:

Within the draft Australia Day Policy, leave the reference to “Arts” and remove cultural wording in both Arts and Cultural Contribution Award and Arts and Cultural Events of the Year categories.

For

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Against

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 6.

The AMENDMENT was PUT and LOST

Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead moved the following **AMENDMENT** that arts will be included within the community project category for the year with the deletion of Arts and Cultural Contribution Award and Arts and Cultural Events of the Year categories from the draft policy.

For

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Against

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 6.

The AMENDMENT was PUT and LOST.

26/216

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

- (a) Council endorse the draft Australia Day Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (c) If no submissions are received, the draft Australia Day Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 3.

CL04 ENDORSEMENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION & ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY GRANT AND EVENT SPONSORSHIP GUIDELINES

26/217

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

- (a) Council endorse the draft Financial Assistance Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (c) If no submissions are received, the draft Financial Assistance Policy be considered as

adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

- (d) Council endorse the associated Guidelines for Community Assistance, Sponsorship of Events and Business Assistance.
- (e) Within the Draft Guidelines – Community Grants program, remove eligibility of “small assets associated with the successful execution of the proposed project or program”.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 3.

CL05 ENDORSEMENT OF GRALC - PATRON CONDUCT AND ACCESS POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

26/218

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

- (a) Council endorse the draft GRALC – Patron Conduct and Access Policy (previously titled Pools – Authority of Management Policy), as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (c) If no submissions are received, the draft GRALC – Patron Conduct and Access Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL06 ENDORSEMENT OF GRALC - POOL ADMISSION FEES POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

26/219

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Christine Stead that:

- (a) Council endorse the draft GRALC – Pool Admission Fees Policy (previously titled Pools – Admission Fees Policy), as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (c) If no submissions are received, the draft GRALC – Pool Admission Fees Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL07 POLICIES FOR REVOCATION

26/220

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Council revoke the following policies:

- 1. FS-CP-301 Cheques Not to be Post Dated
- 2. FS-CP-501 Council Services – All Users to be Charged
- 3. FS-CP-602 Government Subsidies
- 4. FS-CP-605 Incoming Grants and Sponsorship
- 5. CS-CP-602 Completion and Processing of Petty Cash Reimbursements
- 6. FS-CP-307 Fuel Card Policy – Correct Usage of Council Fuel Cards
- 7. FS-CP-702 Loans for Community Organisations & Sporting Bodies

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL08 SUSPENSION OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONE - GRIFFITH SPRING FEST STREET PARTY 2026

26/221

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Council suspend the Alcohol-Free Zone within the Griffith Tourism Hub Car Park on Friday, 16 October 2026, from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm, to permit the sale and consumption of locally produced wine, beer, and spirits as part of the Griffith Spring Fest Street Party.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL09 QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

26/222

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

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL10 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MAY 2026

26/223

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

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran

Against

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

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2026

26/224

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee meeting held on 23 July 2026 be adopted.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE SALEYARDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 JULY 2026

26/225

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Saleyards Committee meeting held on 28 July 2026 be adopted.

Councillor Scott Groat requested a detailed report on the amount of sheep that went through the Saleyards over the last FY.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat

Against

Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil.

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

Councillor Blumer left the meeting at 8:09pm.

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JENNY ELLIS

26/226

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

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Anne Napoli	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Tony O'Grady	
Councillor Laurie Testoni	

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Councillor Blumer returned at 8:10pm.

26/227

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

Councillor Dal Bon requested clarification in relation to the sale of unpaid rates, which real estate agent is engaged? Mr Hansen took this on Notice and will circulate a response.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

14 MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH BY CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8:14pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON