DRAFT
MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, 25 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 (Zoom), Tony O'Grady, Laurie Testoni (Zoom) and Shari Blumer (Zoom)

STAFF

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

MEDIA

Nil

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Tony O’Grady 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

26/228

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Councillors Shari Blumer, Scott Groat, Laurie Testoni and General Manager Scott Grant be approved to attend the meeting by Audio-Visual Link.

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.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

26/229

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Mark Dal Bon that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 11 August 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

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.

4 BUSINESS ARISING

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 Tony O’Grady
CL01 – Vending Vehicle Policy (CS-CP-306) Trading Fees and Charges
Reason – The business that I own has a food van that currently delivers food to private business on private land.

Councillor Shari Blumer
CL02 – Licence Agreement – Road Reserve – Argyle Community Housing Ltd
Reason – The business that I work for and hold an interest in, often works on these types of matters.

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.

Councillor Laurie Testoni
CL04 – Quick Turn Around Grant Application for Griffith Netball Association
Reason – Chairman GCSC and associated sport user of the facility.

Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Notice of Motion – Cr Scott Groat
Reason – I voted against any levy or rate rise. I do not want to take part in this motion. It’s starting to affect my mind’s health.

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.

Statement from Councillor Tony O'Grady:

I am addressing some recent concerns that have been raised and to dispel any misunderstanding.

I wish to clarify my declaration of a significant non-pecuniary interest made of 12 August 2025.

In making that declaration, I believe I over-declared the nature of my relationship with Mr Stephen Violi. Mr Violi is a customer of my business. While we are friendly and have a cordial relationship, we have never socialised together and have never met outside of my business.

I am making this statement to clarify and accurately place on the record the nature of my relationship with Mr Violi.

As a new councillor, my intention was to err on the side of caution.

I am providing this clarification to ensure the council record accurately reflects the relationship.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

Councillor Tony O'Grady Councillor left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:07 pm.

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 VENDING VEHICLE POLICY (CS-CP-306) TRADING FEES AND CHARGES

26/230

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

(a) Council adopt the Trading Fees & Charges as detailed in Table 1, 2 & 3 of the report with a 50% reduction for a 12 month trial period.

(b) The Trading Fees & Charges as detailed in Table 1, 2 & 3 of this report with a 50% reduction for a 12 month trial period to be included in Council's Revenue Policy for the 2027/28 financial year.

(c) Council endorse the revised Vending Vehicles Local Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 42 days. If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council. If no submissions are received, the Vending Vehicles Local Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

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

The division was declared EQUAL by 4 votes to 4.

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote for the motion and declared the motion CARRIED.

Councillor Tony O'Grady returned to the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:16 pm.

CL02 LICENCE AGREEMENT - ROAD RESERVE - ARGYLE COMMUNITY HOUSING LTD - 2 - 4 CROSSING STREET, GRIFFITH

26/231

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that:

(a) Council enters into a licence agreement with Argyle Community Housing Ltd for the occupation of Council’s Road reserve, adjoining Lot 3 DP1240224, 2-4 Crossing Street, Griffith for a term of five years, with an option to renew of 5 years.

(b) Council advertises its intention to enter into a licence agreement with Argyle Community Housing Ltd for the use of Council’s road reserve adjoining 2-4 Crossing Street, Griffith 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 proceed to enter into a licence agreement with Argyle Community Housing Ltd for the use of Council’s road reserve, adjoining 2-4 Crossing Street, Griffith for a term of 5 years, commencement date to be determined following notification period.

(d) Argyle Community Housing Ltd are responsible to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the licence agreement together with Council’s Administration Fee, in accordance with Council’s adopted Revenue Policy.

(e) The annual licence fee will be charged in accordance with Council’s adopted Revenue Policy, at 5% of current land value, calculated on the occupied area /m2 together with rates and charges as applicable.

(f) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the licence agreement under the Common Seal, if required.

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.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 7:19pm.

CL03 REQUEST TO WAIVE TRAFFIC ASSOCIATED FEES - GRIFFITH ROTARY CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

26/232

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Council approve the requests for assistance and waiving of associated traffic fees for the Griffith Rotary Christmas Carnival.

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.

Councillor Laurie Testoni left the meeting having declared a significant non-pecuniary interest, the time being 7:20 pm.

CL04 QUICK TURN AROUND GRANT APPLICATION FOR GRIFFITH NETBALL ASSOCIATION

26/233

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that Council approve the Community Grant Program application from Griffith Netball Association.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 2.

Councillor Laurie Testoni returned to the meeting at 7:23 pm.

CL05 QUICK TURN AROUND GRANT APPLICATION GRIFFITH VETERAN ASSOCIATION AUSPICED BY NSW VETERAN GOLFERS ASSOCIATION

26/234

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Jenny Ellis that Council approve the Community Grant Program application from NSW Veteran Golfers Association (NSWVGA) as Auspicor for the Griffith Veteran Golfers Association (GVGA).

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.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL06 DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT - 30 JUNE 2026

Councillor Dal Bon requested an update on the CCTV Stage 3 progress. This was TAKEN ON NOTICE.

Councillor Dal Bon requested additional information on Annual Roads Reseals and Maintenance Program 2025/26. This was TAKEN ON NOTICE.

26/235

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that Council note the Delivery Program Progress Report as at 30 June 2026.

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.

CL07 INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

Councillor Groat sought clarification from Mr Hansen on the reason for the significant change between the Perpetual Credit Fund's performance figures at 31 May and 30 June 2026. This was TAKEN ON NOTICE.

26/236

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

1. Note the report on investments as at 30 June 2026, including:

   (a) The certification from the Responsible Accounting Officer

   (b) The notes on compliance positions before and following the adoption of the revised policy

   (c) The positive result against the original and revised budget for investment returns.

2. In respect of the Grandfathered Holdings identified in the Schedule of Grandfathered Holdings in this report:

   (a) pursuant to clause 4.2 of Appendix B to the Treasury Policy on Investments, expressly permit the continued holding to maturity of those investments rated below A;

   (b) pursuant to clause 5 of Appendix B, approve the continued holding of that investment with a term to maturity exceeding 60 months;

   (c) approve the retention to maturity of those investments causing the portfolio maturity limits at clause 5 of Appendix B to be exceeded.

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.

CL08 QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

26/237

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead 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
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 AUGUST 2026

26/238

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee meeting held on 5 August 2026 be adopted.

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.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2026

26/239

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 11 August 2026 be adopted.

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.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

Councillor Mark Dal Bon left the meeting having declared a significant non-pecuniary interest, the time being 7:37 pm.

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION - CR SCOTT GROAT

Councillors Scott Groat and Anne Napoli moved the following MOTION that:

1. Council give public notice of a proposed new category under s.610E of the Local Government Act 1993 within the 2026/27 Revenue Policy, titled ‘contractor waste deliveries for mixed waste’, that is applicable to commercial waste management operators with an ABN who deliver mixed waste to the Council’s Tharbogang and Yenda landfill facilities. For contractors falling within the new category, the Council would reduce the gate fee charge for prospective mixed waste deliveries from $276.00 to $209.00 per tonne.

   Public notice is to be given for a period of 28 days, in accordance with sections 610E(2), 610F and 705 of the Local Government Act 1993, after which the Council will consider any submissions duly made to it during that period.

2. Council notes the forecast impact to the Waste Fund if the amount is reduced to $209.00 of approximately $355,087.00 in 2026-27 if the Council determines to make the new category, (delivering a negative impact to the approved budget), and that this amount would be met from the Waste Fund reserve, an offsetting reduction in the 2026-27 landfill capital program.

3. Council notes that, if the Council determines to make the new category, this would reduce revenue below the level required for full cost recovery.

4. Council notes the reporting obligation under condition 2(b)(ii) of IPART's special variation instrument of 13 May 2024, and directs that the effect of this resolution on Council's Long-Term Financial Plan be addressed in a future report to Council.

Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis moved the following AMENDMENT that:

1. Council give public notice of a proposed new category under s.610E of the Local Government Act 1993 within the 2026/27 Revenue Policy, titled ‘contractor waste deliveries for mixed waste’, that is applicable to commercial waste management operators with an ABN who deliver mixed waste to the Council’s Tharbogang and Yenda landfill facilities. For contractors falling within the new category, the Council would reduce the gate fee charge for prospective mixed waste deliveries from $276.00 to $229.90 per tonne ($10% increase on 2025/26 fee).

   Public notice is to be given for a period of 28 days, in accordance with sections 610E(2), 610F and 705 of the Local Government Act 1993, after which the Council will consider any submissions duly made to it during that period.

2. Council notes the forecast impact to the Waste Fund if the amount is reduced to $229.90 of approximately $244,321.00 in 2026-27 if the Council determines to make

the new category, (delivering a negative impact to the approved budget), and that this amount would be met from the Waste Fund reserve, an offsetting reduction in the 2026-27 landfill capital program.

3. Council notes that, if the Council determines to make the new category, this would reduce revenue below the level required for full cost recovery.

4. Council notes the reporting obligation under condition 2(b)(ii) of IPART's special variation instrument of 13 May 2024, and directs that the effect of this resolution on Council's Long-Term Financial Plan be addressed in a future report to Council.

The amendment was PUT and CARRIED.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 2.

The AMENDMENT became the MOTION.

26/240

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

1. Council give public notice of a proposed new category under s.610E of the Local Government Act 1993 within the 2026/27 Revenue Policy, titled ‘contractor waste deliveries for mixed waste’, that is applicable to commercial waste management operators with an ABN who deliver mixed waste to the Council’s Tharbogang and Yenda landfill facilities. For contractors falling within the new category, the Council would reduce the gate fee charge for prospective mixed waste deliveries from $276.00 to $229.90 per tonne.

   Public notice is to be given for a period of 28 days, in accordance with sections 610E(2), 610F and 705 of the Local Government Act 1993, after which the Council will consider any submissions duly made to it during that period.

2. Council notes the forecast impact to the Waste Fund if the amount is reduced to $229.90 of approximately $244,321.00 in 2026-27 if the Council determines to make the new category, (delivering a negative impact to the approved budget), and that this amount would be met from the Waste Fund reserve, an offsetting reduction in the 2026-27 landfill capital program.

3. Council notes that, if the Council determines to make the new category, this would reduce revenue below the level required for full cost recovery.

4. Council notes the reporting obligation under condition 2(b)(ii) of IPART's special variation instrument of 13 May 2024, and directs that the effect of this resolution on Council's Long-Term Financial Plan be addressed in a future report to Council.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 2.

Councillor Mark Dal Bon returned to the meeting at 7:49 pm.

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

26/241

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

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 7:53 pm.

Confirmed: ....

CHAIRPERSON