
**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2026 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

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

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, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo and Minute Taker, Antoinette Galluzzo

MEDIA

Nil.

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Jenny Ellis 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

26/282

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that Councillor Shari Blumer be approved to attend the meeting by Audio-Visual.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

26/283

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 22 September 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 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 less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil.

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 DA 149/2026 - MULTI DWELLING DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOLITION

26/284

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

- (a) Council as the consent authority pursuant to Section 4.16 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, grant development consent to Development Application 149/2026(1) for the construction of two new dwellings to create a Multi dwelling and demolition of detached garage at Lot 12 Sec 51 DP 758476, 5 Hillston Street, Griffith.
- (b) The application be delegated to the Director Sustainable Development for the issue of the Notice of Determination

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

For

Against

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

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL02 PROPOSED NEW FEE CATEGORY - CONTRACTOR WASTE DELIVERIES FOR MIXED WASTE

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that Council adopt a 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.

Councillors Napoli and Stead moved the following **AMENDMENT** that the new fee category for Contractor Waste Deliveries for Mixed Waste to be set at the CPI rate of 4% increase above the 25/26 rate.

For

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli

Against

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

The division was declared LOST by 5 votes to 4.

The amendment was PUT and LOST.

26/285

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that Council adopt a 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.

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

Against
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 3.

**CL03 ENDORSEMENT OF COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES TO MURRAY
DARLING ASSOCIATION REGION 9**

26/286

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Christine Stead that Council appoint Councillor Scott Groat and Councillor Shari Blumer as Griffith City Council's representatives on the Murray Darling Association Region 9 for a two-year term commencing from the date of appointment.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

**CL04 ANNUAL CLOSURE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AND COUNCIL
FACILITIES 2026-2027**

26/287

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

- (a) Council's Administrative Office at 1 Benerembah Street and the Council Depot/Workshop be closed from 1pm Thursday, 24 December 2026 to Friday, 1 January 2027 inclusive and will re-open for business on Monday, 4 January 2027.
- (b) Each of the nominated Council facilities operate in accordance with the times detailed as follows:

Griffith Regional Art Gallery

Closed from 2pm Sunday, 20 December 2026 and will re-open 11am Saturday, 16 January 2027.

Griffith Regional Theatre

Closed from 3pm Wednesday, 23 December 2026 and will reopen 10am Monday, 18 January 2027.

Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre

Thursday 24 December	6am – 6pm
Friday 25 December – Christmas Day	CLOSED
Saturday 26 December – Boxing Day	12pm – 5pm (Pool Only) *subject to staff availability
Sunday 27 December	10am – 5pm
Monday 28 December	6am – 8pm
Tuesday 29 December	6am – 8pm
Wednesday 30 December	6am – 8pm
Thursday 31 December	6am – 6pm
Friday 1 January – New Year's Day	12pm – 5pm

Creche will be closed Thursday, 24 December 2026 until Monday, 4 January 2027. From Saturday, 2 January 2027 normal summer trading hours resume.

Pioneer Park Museum

Closed from Monday, 21 December 2026 and re-open Monday, 4 January 2027.

Griffith Regional Sports Centre

Last day of opening is Wednesday, 23 December 2026, closing at 8pm and will re-open at 9am Monday, 4 January 2027.

Griffith Tourism Hub

Thursday 24 December	9am – 2pm
Friday 25 December – Christmas Day	CLOSED
Saturday 26 December – Boxing Day	CLOSED
Sunday 27 December	10am – 2pm
Monday 28 December	CLOSED
Tuesday 29 December	10am – 3pm
Wednesday 30 December	10am – 3pm
Thursday 31 December	10am – 3pm
Friday 1 January – New Year's Day	CLOSED

Griffith City Library

Closed from 1pm Thursday, 24 December 2026 to Friday, 1 January 2027 inclusive and will re-open for business on Monday, 4 January 2027.

Griffith City Pound and Rehoming Centre

Closed from 1pm Thursday, 24 December 2026 to Friday, 1 January 2027 inclusive and will re-open for business on Monday, 4 January 2027.

After hours emergencies for serious dog attacks and straying stock only contact our

afterhours service on 0408 210 196. If the matter is urgent, you will be directed to contact the Griffith Police Station.

Griffith Livestock Marketing Centre

Closed from Saturday, 12 December 2026 and will re-open Thursday, 7 January 2027.

Tharbogang Waste Management Centre

Friday 25 December – Christmas Day	CLOSED
Saturday 26 December – Boxing Day	CLOSED
Friday 1 January 2027 – New Year's Day	CLOSED

Yenda Waste Management Centre

Yenda Landfill will be opened as per usual.

All domestic recycling and commercial garbage collections will be as per normal over the Christmas/New Year period, i.e. garbage will still be collected on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day holidays. Garbage bins need to be put out the night before as usual.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL05 ANNUAL DISCLOSURES BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS RETURNS - 30 JUNE 2025 TO 30 JUNE 2026

26/288

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

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

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

26/289

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee meeting held on 16 September 2026 be adopted.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE LAKE WYANGAN & CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Lake Wyangan & Catchment Management Committee meeting held on 17 September 2026 be adopted.

Councillors Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead moved the following **AMENDMENT** that within 7.2 The Pilot project – Aquatic Project, if grant funding is not available, the project be considered for progression through a Quarterly Review.

26/290

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Lake Wyangan & Catchment Management Committee meeting held on 17 September 2026 be adopted with the inclusion of the amendment that within 7.2 The Pilot project – Aquatic Project, if grant funding is not available, the project be considered for progression through a Quarterly Review.

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

Against
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 1.

The amendment was PUT and CARRIED.

MINUTES OF THE GRIFFITH HEALTH FACILITIES LIMITED (GHFL) MEETING HELD ON 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

26/291

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Anne Napoli that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Griffith Health Facilities Limited (GHFL) meeting held on 22 September 2026 be adopted.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE NEW CEMETERY MASTERPLAN COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2026

26/292

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Scott Groat that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the New Cemetery Masterplan Committee meeting held on 23 September 2026 be adopted.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE SCENIC HILL USER GROUP MEETING HELD ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

26/293

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Scenic Hill User Group meeting held on 29 September 2026 be adopted.

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

Against

Abstained
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 1.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting the time being 7:40 pm.

MINUTES OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

26/294

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Airport Committee meeting held on 30 September 2026 be adopted.

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

Against

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

26/295

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

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

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

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 7:46pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON