



DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 28 October 2025

ENSURING EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE
ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT DECISION-MAKING
INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT, PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS
CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITIES



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS SHIRE
COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 10:00A.M.**

Mayor Cr Scmazzone opened the meeting at 10:00am by welcoming everyone to the Ordinary Meeting of the Douglas Shire Council being held on 28 October 2025 at the Mossman Council Chambers.

This Ordinary Meeting of Council is livestreamed through Microsoft Teams and will also be available for others to watch at a later time.

Cr Scmazzone acknowledged the Kuku Yalanji people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which this meeting is being held and paid respect to their Elders past, present and emerging, and extended that respect to other Indigenous Australians who may be listening or watching this morning.

**DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2025
10:00 AM
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1. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

1.1. PRESENT

Cr Lisa Scomazzon (Mayor), Cr Roy Zammataro (Deputy Mayor), Cr Damian Meadows, Cr Abigail Noli, Cr Michael Rees

1.2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

1.3. OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S Osman (Chief Executive Officer), A Pratap (Acting General Manager TC Jasper Corporate and Communities), D Langman (Chief Engineer TC Jasper Infrastructure and Recovery), S Roberts (Manager Community Services), K Wilkinson (Acting Chief Financial Officer), L Vogel (Manager Environment and Planning), B Baillie (Manager Water and Wastewater), D Coloe (Technical Support Officer Water and Wastewater), L Schibig-Edgar (Tourism and Economic Development Officer), N Crimmins (Senior Records Management Officer), L Boyd (Mayor & Councillor Support Officer), M Wilson (Senior Media and Communications Officer), T Woodhams (Digital Communications Officer), L Dowling (Community Engagement Officer)

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

Cr Noli informed the meeting that she has a declarable conflict of interest in relation to Item 7.7 Whale Heritage Area – Letter of Support (as defined by Section 150EN of the Local Government Act 2009). The nature of Cr Noli's conflict arises from her membership in the Local Marine Advisory Committee (LMAC), which is associated with marine conservation and advocacy relevant to the subject matter of the letter.

As a result of Cr Noli's conflict of interest, Cr Noli sought permission to participate in the decision making as she is not receiving any personal benefit and does not believe her impartiality is compromised, she acknowledges that her involvement with LMAC may be perceived as influencing her views or decisions on this matter.

Motion – That Council resolves that Cr Noli can participate and vote on the matter.

Carried Unanimously

3. DEPUTATIONS

Nil

4. MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

5.1. CONFIRM MINUTES - ORDINARY MEETING HELD 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Moved Cr Meadows

Seconded Cr Rees

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Tuesday 30 September 2025 be confirmed.

Carried Unanimously

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil

7. OFFICERS REPORTS

7.1. MAYORS DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Moved Cr Meadows

Seconded Cr Rees

That Council notes the Mayor's external appointments for the month of September 2025.

Carried Unanimously

7.2. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Moved Cr Rees

Seconded Cr Noli

That Council notes the Chief Executive Officer's external calendar appointments for the month of September 2025.

Carried Unanimously

7.3. 2025 SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORTS

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Zammataro

That Council notes the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cashflows for September 2025.

Carried Unanimously

7.4. TRANSFER OF TRUSTEE LEASE AND ROAD USE AGREEMENT FROM INDIGENOUS LAND AND SEA CORPORATION TO VOYAGES INDIGENOUS TOURISM AUSTRALIA

Moved Cr Meadows

Seconded Cr Rees

That Council:

1. *Consents to the transfer of a Trustee Lease (described as Lease B) over part of Lot 94 SR257, registered under dealing number 723801509:*
 - a. *From the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation to Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia Pty Ltd.*
 - b. *With legal costs and other expenses incurred by Council for the preparation of suitable legal instruments to affect the transfer process including lodgement with Titles Queensland to be borne by the transferor.*
2. *Terminates the Road Use Agreement dated 20 February 2012 made between Cairns Regional Council and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation.*
3. *Enters into a Road Use Agreement with Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia Pty Ltd:*
 - a. *That authorises the use of a defined section of Mossman Gorge Road, for the purpose of restricting vehicular traffic of a particular class to the Mossman Gorge by means of a boom gate.*
 - b. *That defines the terms and conditions of the road use, including provision of a shuttle bus service, and the asset maintenance obligations of both parties.*
 - c. *For a term identical to and concurrent with that of the Trustee Lease expiring on 30 November 2033.*
 - d. *With legal costs and other expenses incurred by Council for the preparation of the agreement to be borne by Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia Pty Ltd.*

Carried Unanimously

7.5. SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FUNDING

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Meadows

That Council endorses the continued development of a sustainable tourism funding model for the Douglas Shire, including where possible, participation in local government sector advocacy groups and associated initiatives.

Carried Unanimously

7.6. BUSINESS RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Moved Cr Meadows

Seconded Cr Rees

That Council approve the business resilience initiative supporting local businesses across the Douglas Shire Council under the Business Resilience Partnership Program and funded by Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Carried Unanimously

7.7. WHALE HERITAGE AREA - LETTER OF SUPPORT

Cr Noli had a declarable conflict of interest in relation to Item 7.7 Whale Heritage Area – Letter of Support (as defined by Section 150EN of the Local Government Act 2009). The nature of Cr Noli's conflict arises from her membership in the Local Marine Advisory Committee (LMAC), which is associated with marine conservation and advocacy relevant to the subject matter of the letter.

As a result of Cr Noli's conflict of interest, Cr Noli sought permission to participate in the decision making as she is not receiving any personal benefit and does not believe her impartiality is compromised, she acknowledges that her involvement with LMAC may be perceived as influencing her views or decisions on this matter.

Moved Cr Rees

Seconded Cr Meadows

That Council issue a letter of support to the Douglas Local Marine Advisory Committee to assist their application to the World Cetacean Alliance for the designation of Port Douglas and the Ribbon Reefs as a Whale Heritage Area.

Carried Unanimously

7.8. MINOR CHANGE TO OPERATIONAL WORKS AND MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE (14 MURPHY STREET DRIVEWAY ALIGNMENT)

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Rees

That Council refuses the change applications to Development Approval OP2024_5601 for Operational Works and MCUC2022_4732 for Material Change of Use over land described as the adjacent road reserve to 14 Murphy Street and 14 Murphy Street, Port Douglas being formally described as Lot 114 on PTD2094, on the following grounds:

1. *The proposed secondary driveway is in conflict with the Port Douglas and Craiglie Local Plan Code from the 2018 Douglas Shire Planning Scheme version 1.0 as it does not protect flagstaff hill from inappropriate development and does not minimise the visibility of the development;*
2. *The development is inconsistent with the Environmental Management Zone Code from the 2018 Douglas Shire Planning Scheme version 1.0 as it is not designed to respond to the characteristics of the site and its surrounds.*
3. *The development is not capable of being conditioned to achieve compliance with the relevant benchmarks of the 2018 Douglas Shire Planning Scheme version 1.0.*

An alternative motion was put forward.

Moved Cr Rees

Seconded Cr Meadows

That the motion be amended to read - That:

- 1. Council resolves to approve the request for minor change to development approval MCUC4732_2022, subject to appropriate conditions as determined by the Chief Executive Officer; and*
- 2. Council resolves to approve the request for minor change to development approval OP5601_2024, subject to appropriate conditions as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.*

For Cr Scmazzon, Cr Meadows, Cr Rees

Against Cr Zammataro, Cr Noli

Motion Carried

The amended motion became the substantive motion and was put to the vote.

Moved Cr Meadows

Seconded Cr Rees

That:

- 1. Council resolves to approve the request for minor change to development approval MCUC4732_2022, subject to appropriate conditions as determined by the Chief Executive Officer; and*
- 2. Council resolves to approve the request for minor change to development approval OP5601_2024, subject to appropriate conditions as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.*

For Cr Scmazzon, Cr Meadows, Cr Rees

Against Cr Zammataro, Cr Noli

Motion Carried

7.9. APPROVED INSPECTION PROGRAM (SELECTIVE) – COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATED DOG REGISTRATION

Moved Cr Meadows

Seconded Cr Noli

That Council resolves to approve a selective inspection program of regulated dogs in the Douglas Shire Local Government Area as per section 113 of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008. The program is to commence on 01 December 2025 and conclude 31 May 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.10. AMENDMENT DECLARATION OF SEWER AND WATER SERVICE AREAS WITHIN DOUGLAS SHIRE - OCTOBER 2025

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Rees

That Council:

1. Resolves that Douglas Shire Council is the service provider for the provision of reticulated water and sewerage services within Douglas Shire;
2. Resolves to declare the revised maps attached indicate the service areas within the coloured boundary (relevant area) for reticulated water and sewerage within Douglas Shire; and
3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer under Section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 to administer all matters in relation to the above.

Carried Unanimously

7.11. SAFER LOCAL ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM TRANCHE 4 SUBMISSION - FOREST CREEK CULVERT UPGRADE

Moved Cr Rees

Seconded Cr Meadows

That Council retrospectively endorses the Forest Creek culvert project funding application submitted to the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sports and the Arts for funding under the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program Tranche 4.

Carried Unanimously

7.12. SCHOOL TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM TRANCHE 9 AND FUTURE SUBMISSIONS

Moved Cr Zammataro

Seconded Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. *Endorse the Ulysses Avenue, Craiglie footpath project funding application to the Department of Transport and Main Roads for funding under the School Transport Infrastructure Program Tranche 9; and*
2. *Endorse the Snapper Island Drive, Wonga Beach raised priority crossing project funding application to the Department of Transport and Main Roads for funding under the School Transport Infrastructure Program Tranche 9.*

Carried Unanimously

7.13. DAINTREE RIVER FERRY UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2025

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Rees

That Council receives and notes the Daintree River Ferry financial information and tender progress for September 2025.

Carried Unanimously

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

10. PETITIONS

Nil

11. CLOSED SESSION

Nil

12. MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 10:40am