

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 27 October 2026

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

Scott Osman
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2026 COMMENCING AT 10:00A.M.

Mayor Cr Scomazzon opened the meeting at 10:00am by welcoming everyone to the Ordinary Meeting of the Douglas Shire Council being held on Tuesday 27 October 2026 at the Mossman Council Chambers.

This Ordinary Meeting of Council is being Live Streamed on Council's Website and will also be available for others to watch at a later time.

Cr Scomazzon 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 27 OCTOBER 2026

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), R Higgins (Acting General Manager Corporate and Communities), D Langman (General Manager Infrastructure), S Roberts (Manager Community Services), K Wilkinson (Acting Manager Financial Services), L Vogel (Manager Environment and Planning), G Nucifora (Manager Infrastructure Recovery), K Williams (Executive Assistant), M Wilson (Senior Media and Communications Officer), T Woodhams (Digital Communications Officer)

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

Nil

3. DEPUTATIONS

Nil

4. MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

5.1. CONFIRM MINUTES - ORDINARY MEETING HELD 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Noli

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Tuesday 29 September 2026 be confirmed.

Carried Unanimously

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil

7. OFFICERS REPORTS

7.1. MAYORS DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Moved Cr Rees **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council notes the mayor's external appointments for the month of September 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.2. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Noli

That Council notes the Chief Executive Officer's external calendar appointments for the month of September 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.3. DELEGATIONS REGISTER COUNCIL TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Moved Cr Noli **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. *In accordance with Section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009, resolves to delegate the exercise of powers contained within the "Delegations Register - Council to the Chief Executive Officer" as provided under separate cover to this report*

2. *Acknowledge that these powers must only be exercised subject to the limitations contained in the Delegations Register as listed*

Carried Unanimously

7.4. STANDING ORDERS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY

Moved Cr Rees **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council adopt the Standing Orders for Council Meetings General Policy to reflect the Best Practice Example Standing Orders and Model Meeting Procedures July 2026 for local government meetings issued by the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers.

Carried Unanimously

7.5. REPORT TO COUNCIL OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

Moved Cr Noli **Seconded** Cr Zammataro

That Council note the report on the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 17 September 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.6. REPORT TO COUNCIL OF SPECIAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 12 OCTOBER 2026

Moved Cr Noli **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council note the report on the Special Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 12 October 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.7. EXTENSION OF CHAIRPERSON'S TERM - AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Noli

That Council approve the extension of the term of appointment for Audit and Risk Committee Chair, Dr Martin Fahy for a period of two (2) years until 26 October 2028.

Carried Unanimously

7.8. 2026 SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORTS

Moved Cr Noli **Seconded** Cr Rees

That Council note the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cashflows for September 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.9. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2025-26

Moved Cr Rees **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council receive the audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

Carried Unanimously

7.10. DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES POLICY

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Rees

That Council:

1. *Adopt the attached Development Incentives Policy No.1 (Housing Diversity), with a commencement date of 1 December 2026; and*

2. *Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 and the Planning Act 2016 to finalise any and all matters associated with the implementation of the Development Incentives Policy No.1 (Housing Diversity).*

Carried Unanimously

7.11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN - STATUTORY REVIEW

Moved Cr Rees **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. *Receive the statutory review of the Local Government Infrastructure Plan in accordance with Section 25(3) of the Planning Act 2016.*

2. *Resolve to amend the Local Government Infrastructure Plan in accordance with the Minister's Guidelines and Rules 2023.*

3. *Approve $200,000 to deliver the Local Government Infrastructure Plan amendment project commencing in January 2027 noting:*

    a. *$50,000 to be provided in 2026/27 annual budget and $150,000 in the forecast 2027/28 annual budget.*

b. *Amendments to the 2026/27 annual budget ($50,000) will be subsequently reflected in Budget Review 1.*

Carried Unanimously

7.12. APPLICATION TO PURCHASE STATE LAND BEING PART OF LOT 5 SP288958

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Rees

That Council:

1. *Declare that the operational reserve described as Lot 5 SP288958 is required for its dedicated purpose and to facilitate Council's service delivery functions.*

2. *Does not support an application to purchase State land, made by the trustee lessee that holds tenure over part of Lot 5 SP288958, described as Lease F under trustee lease instrument 711770040.*

3. *Advise the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development that Council, as trustee of the operational reserve, does not support the application to purchase State land, by completion of Part C - Form LA30 Statement in relation to an application under the Land Act 1994 over State land.*

Carried Unanimously

7.13. APPLICATION TO PURCHASE FLOATING RESERVATION ON LOT 97 SR231 O'DONOGHUE ROAD MIALLO

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Noli

That Council:

1. *Declare that the reservation in title for public (road) purposes, attached to Lot 97 on Crown Plan SR231, title reference 20464193, is not required for any foreseeable future expansion of the local road network.*

2. *Advise the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development that Council, as the road manager, supports an application by the registered landowner of Lot 97 on Crown Plan SR231 to purchase the reservation*

in title, by completion of Form LA30: Statement in relation to an application under the Land Act 1994 over State land.

Carried Unanimously

7.14. REGIONAL BUSINESS GATEWAY PROGRAM - DAINTREE BUSINESS GATEWAY INITIATIVE GRANT APPLICATION

Moved Cr Rees **Seconded** Cr Noli

That Council approve the submission of a grant application to the Regional Business Gateways Round 1 Grant Program, seeking $600,000 to support the delivery of a collaborative digital visitor engagement initiative across the Daintree's small and family business sector.

Carried Unanimously

7.15. COMMUNITY GRANTS RECOMMENDATIONS ROUND ONE 2026 2027

Moved Cr Noli **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. *Approve the allocation of $14,091 from Council's Community Grants Program 2026/27 to fund two (2) recommended applications, as detailed in this report.*

2. *Approve the opening of a second round of Council's Community Grants Program 2026/27 in February 2027.*

3. *Delegate authority under Section 257(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2009 to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to negotiate, finalise and execute all matters associated with the recommendations (1) and (2).*

Carried Unanimously

7.16. RADF GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS 2026 2027

Moved Cr Rees **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council approve the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Advisory Committee's recommendations to fund three (3) applications totalling $15,000 as detailed in Table 1.

Carried Unanimously

7.17. RADF ARTS ACTION PLAN 2026-2028

Moved Cr Noli **Seconded** Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. *Approve the 2026-2028 Arts Action Plan;*
2. *Approve the five (5) Council-initiated projects recommended by the RADF Advisory Committee for funding, totalling $39,535 as detailed in Attachment 1; and*
3. *Approve the sixth project identified as provisional and eligible for funding if one (1) of the five (5) recommended projects does not proceed or is delivered under budget.*

Carried Unanimously

7.18. MOSSMAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Noli

The recommendation is that Council:

1. *Enter into a three (3) year agreement with Mossman State High School to be a gold sponsor for its annual Awards Presentation for the years 2026, 2027, 2028; and*
2. *Approve funding of $500 (exc. GST) annually; and*
3. *Delegate authority under Section 257(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2009 to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to finalise the matter.*

Carried Unanimously

7.19. PORT DOUGLAS MARKET POLICY

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Rees

That Council:

1. *Adopt the Port Douglas Markets Policy; and*
2. *Note the Port Douglas Markets Procedures and Guidelines.*

Carried Unanimously

7.20. DAINTREE FERRY UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2026

Moved Cr Meadows **Seconded** Cr Rees

That Council notes the Daintree Ferry operational report for September 2026.

Carried Unanimously

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

10. PETITIONS

Nil

11. CLOSED SESSION

Moved: Cr Noli **Seconded:** Cr Meadows

That Council resolves to move into Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

Confidential Matter S 254J (3)(g) Local Government Regulation 2012 - Mossman River Intake and Raw Water Reservoir Contract Award

Confidential Matter S 254J (3)(g) Local Government Regulation 2012 - Spoil Disposal Agreements

Carried Unanimously

(Meeting moved into Closed Session at 11:18am)

Moved: Cr Meadows **Seconded:** Cr Zammataro

That Council resolves to move out of Closed Session.

Carried Unanimously

(Meeting moved out of Closed Session at 11:30am)

11.1. CONFIDENTIAL MATTER S 254J (3)(G) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATION 2012 - MOSSMAN RIVER INTAKE AND RAW WATER RESERVOIR CONTRACT AWARD

This report is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with s 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which permits the meeting to be closed to the public to discuss negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Moved: Cr Noli **Seconded:** Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. Award Contract No. 2025-6536 - Mossman River Intake and Raw Water Reservoir Project to HEH Civil Pty Ltd for $20,834,623 excluding GST;

2. Approves a total project budget of up to $30,284,279.80 for the Mossman River Intake and Raw Water Reservoir Project, comprising existing confirmed funding of $24,194,430.50 and a maximum additional Council contribution of up to $6,089,849.30 to be provided through future Council budgets; and

3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with these arrangements, including approving variations within the total approved budget.

Carried Unanimously

11.2. CONFIDENTIAL MATTER S 254J (3)(G) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATION 2012 - SPOIL DISPOSAL AGREEMENTS

This report is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with s 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which permits the meeting to be closed to the public to discuss negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Moved: Cr Noli **Seconded:** Cr Meadows

That Council:

1. In accordance with the Council Resolution 6.8 CEO Delegation for TC Jasper Recovery Project dated 30 April 2024, retrospectively endorse the engagement of 31 Turpentine Road – Diwan, 3017 Cape Tribulation Road and 3781 Cape Tribulation Road for Spoil Disposal following Tropical Cyclone Jasper;

2. In accordance with s235(c) Local Government Regulation 2012, retrospectively endorse Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets expenditure, in relation to the spoil disposal arrangements following Cyclone Jasper Disaster Event at the following locations:

a. DMS Lamond Pty Ltd, 31 Turpentine Road, Diwan ($114,000); and
b. Noah Creek Developments Pty Ltd, 3017 Cape Tribulation Road, Noah Creek Camping Ground ($251,500)
c. Kakai Pty Ltd trading as Mason Family Trust, 3781 Cape Tribulation Road ($372,890);

3. Approves final deed payment for permanent spoil disposal to:

a. DMS Lamond Pty Ltd for 31 Turpentine Road, Diwan ($198,803); and
b. Noah Creek Developments Pty Ltd for 3017 Cape Tribulation Road, Noah Creek Camping Ground ($95,900); and

4. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to negotiate, finalise and execute permanent spoil disposal deeds with DMS Lamond Pty Ltd, 31 Turpentine Road, Diwan and Noah Creek Developments Pty Ltd, 3017 Cape Tribulation Road, Noah Creek Camping Ground and Kakai Pty Ltd trading as Mason Family Trust, 3781 Cape Tribulation Road, including associated settlement terms.

Carried Unanimously

12. MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 11:34am.