



MINUTES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Tuesday, 26 May 2026**

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particularly those representing regional and rural constituencies.

3. Support and participate in coordinated media campaigns highlighting real-world impacts on communities.
4. Assist Country Mayors Association and the Local Government NSW Association by supporting, where possible, the preparation of case studies demonstrating the consequences of reduced funding.
5. Continue using communication channels to ensure communities understand the stakes and support the call for restoration to 1%.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026/99

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr Alison Linnett

That the late item 6.3 Mayoral Minute - Local Purchasing Policy Review be admitted to the agenda.

CARRIED

6.3 MAYORAL MINUTE - LOCAL PURCHASING POLICY REVIEW

RESOLUTION 2026/100

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr Alison Linnett

That Council request the CEO prepare a report to Council on the development of a local purchasing policy, or amendments to Council's existing procurement policy, addressing:

1. Opportunities to support local businesses, local employment, regional economic development and supply-chain resilience.
2. The legal framework applying to Council procurement, including tendering requirements, probity, conflicts of interest, competitive neutrality, value for money, fair trading, competition law and any relevant trade agreement obligations.
3. Risks associated with local preference purchasing, including reduced competition, increased costs, perceived favouritism, lobbying, conflicts of interest, audit findings and reputational damage.
4. Options for defining 'local supplier', 'local content' and 'regional supplier'.
5. Whether a local preference weighting, price margin or non-price evaluation criterion could be lawfully and practically applied.
6. Examples of local purchasing policies used by comparable NSW councils.
7. Whether independent legal advice should be obtained before any draft policy is placed on public exhibition.
8. A recommended approach that supports local economic benefit while preserving transparency, probity, competition and value for money.

CARRIED

L-Z

Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That the apology received from Cr Leigh Byron be accepted and leave of absence granted.

CARRIED

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 21 APRIL 2026

RESOLUTION 2026/96

Moved: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 as a true and accurate recording of that meeting.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Cr German Ugarte declared an item 10.1 i work at Mungo National Park and the Willandra lakes system. I'm a tour operator

6 MAYORAL/COUNCILLOR REPORT

6.1 MAYORAL REPORT - LIFTING OF PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ORDERS - A MILESTONE FOR BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 2026/97

Moved: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

6.2 MAYORAL REPORT - FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS REDUCTION TO 0.49% AND IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABILITY

RESOLUTION 2026/98

Moved: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

Seconded: Cr German Ugarte

That Council:

1. Continue to participate in sector-wide and individually focused advocacy through Local Government NSW, Country Mayors Association NSW, Western Division of Councils, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), and the Federal Member for the seat of Farrer.
2. When opportunities are presented, or crafted, directly engage with federal MPs and senators,

7 COMMITTEE REPORTS**7.1 STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ACCESS, INCLUSION & WELLBEING MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2026**

RESOLUTION 2026/101

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

Seconded: Cr German Ugarte

That the Minutes of the Strengthening Community Access, Inclusion & Wellbeing Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday 23 April 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED

**7.2 TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2026**

RESOLUTION 2026/102

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

Seconded: Cr German Ugarte

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Minutes of the Tourism & Economic Development Advisory Committee (TED) meetings held on Wednesday, 22 April 2026; and
2. Engage with Patsy regarding the lost funding through LALC and future funding options through NIAA.

CARRIED

8 NOTICE OF MOTION**9 NOTICE OF RESCISSION****CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORTS (INCORPORATING ALL STAFF
REPORTS)****PART A – ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION****10 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS**

At 5.08 pm, Cr German Ugarte left the meeting.

L-2

10.1 WILLANDRA LAKES REGION WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY - DRAFT STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK SUBMISSION**RESOLUTION 2026/103**

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

That Council:

1. Endorse the attached submission to the NSW and Australian Governments regarding the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Property Draft Strategic Management Framework.
2. Note Council's concern that the draft framework gives insufficient weight to tourism growth, regional economic outcomes and local government representation.
3. Request that the final framework explicitly recognise the importance of Mungo National Park as Balranald Shire's premier tourism asset and a critical driver of the local economy.

CARRIED

At 5.12 pm, Cr German Ugarte returned to the meeting.

10.2 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION 2026 NATIONAL CONFERENCE**RESOLUTION 2026/104**

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That Council nominate the delegate, Cr Iain Lindsay-Field, to attend the 82nd MDA National Conference in Shepparton from Monday, 24 August to Thursday, 27 August 2026.

CARRIED

10.3 2026 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**RESOLUTION 2026/105**

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That Council authorise the attendance of the Mayor, Cr Iain Lindsay-Field, and the Chief Executive Officer at the 2026 National General Assembly of Local Government.

CARRIED

L.2

10.4 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2026**RESOLUTION 2026/106**

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That:

1. Council receives the Quarterly Budget Review statement for the quarter ending 31 March 2026 and approves the proposed alterations to the Budget and endorses that the projected financial position of the Balranald Shire Council for the year ending 30 June 2026 is considered to be satisfactory; and
2. That the Quarterly Budget Review statement be forwarded to the Office of Local Government, no later than 31 May 2026.

CARRIED

10.5 2025-2029 URBAN TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**RESOLUTION 2026/107**

Moved: Cr German Ugarte

Seconded: Cr Alison Linnett

That Council amend the Tree Management Plan to give consideration to replacement of removed trees, and have a listing of significant Heritage trees incorporated and bring back to Council when completed.

CARRIED

10.6 PROJECT MANAGEMENT POLICY**RESOLUTION 2026/108**

Moved: Cr German Ugarte

Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That Council:

1. Endorse the Draft Project Management policy to be:
 - (a) publicly exhibited for a period of 28 days to invite public submissions and
 - (b) adopted immediately following the exhibition period, if no significant public submissions are received
2. Note that if any significant public submissions are made, the policy will be reported back to the July 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED

At 5.46pm Cr Philip Pippin joined the meeting.

L.2

10.7 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY**RESOLUTION 2026/109**

Moved: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That Council:

1. Endorse the Draft Contract Management policy to be:
 - (a) Publicly exhibited for a period of 28 days to invite public submissions and
 - (b) Adopted immediately following the exhibition period, if no significant public submissions are received.
2. Note that if any significant public submissions are made, the policy will be reported back to the July 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED**PART B – ITEMS FOR INFORMATION****11 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS****11.1 REPORT OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION****RESOLUTION 2026/110**

Moved: Cr German Ugarte

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That Council notes the financial information contained in this report for the period ending 30 April 2026.

CARRIED**11.2 MONTHLY INVESTMENTS REPORT****RESOLUTION 2026/111**

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

That Council note the information provided in this report.

CARRIED

L-2

11.3 OUTSTANDING RATES AND USAGE CHARGES AS AT 30 APRIL 2026**RESOLUTION 2026/112**

Moved: Cr German Ugarte
Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That Council notes the information contained within this report.

CARRIED

11.4 OUTSTANDING DEBTORS AS AT 30 APRIL 2026**RESOLUTION 2026/113**

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett
Seconded: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

That Council note the report.

CARRIED

11.5 BALRANALD AERODROME LAND ACQUISITION - LOAN FUNDS**RESOLUTION 2026/114**

Moved: Cr German Ugarte
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

1. That Council note the status of the application to TCORP for a loan of \$1.5M to support the acquisition of land and upgrade of the Balranald Aerodrome precinct, in accordance with the capital works program approved as part of the 2025-26 Budget and LTFFP, and
2. That the Mayor and CEO be authorised to execute all necessary documentation associated with the loan application.

CARRIED

11.6 GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS STATUS UPDATE**RESOLUTION 2026/115**

Moved: Cr Phillip Pippin
Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That Council note the May Grants Projects Update report.

CARRIED

11.7 ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT**RESOLUTION 2026/116**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

Seconded: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

That Council notes the report.

CARRIED

11.8 TECHNICAL AND PROJECT SERVICES UPDATE FOR APRIL 2026**RESOLUTION 2026/117**

Moved: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That Council notes the report.

CARRIED

11.9 PLANNING UPDATE FOR APRIL 2026**RESOLUTION 2026/118**

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr German Ugarte

That Council notes the report.

CARRIED

11.10 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**RESOLUTION 2026/119**

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

11.11 CIRCULARS FROM THE OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**RESOLUTION 2026/120**

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

Seconded: Cr German Ugarte

That Council notes the report.

CARRIED

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L.2

**MINUTES OF BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MARKET STREET BALRANALD
ON TUESDAY, 26 MAY 2026 AT 4PM**

1 OPENING OF MEETING

2 PRAYER & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, give us the grace to faithfully fulfil the duties of our office.

Shed the light of your wisdom and counsel upon us so that, strengthened by these gifts, we will, in the administration of the affairs of the council, always do what is right and just.

We ask that our deliberations will be both fruitful and wise.

Amen

Acknowledgement of Country

We pay our respect to the Traditional Custodians of the Lands where we hold this meeting to Elders past, present and emerging.

PRESENT:

Mayor Louie Zaffina, Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott, Cr Iain Lindsay-Field, Cr Alison Linnett, Cr Tracy O'Halloran, Cr Phillip Pippin and Cr German Ugarte

IN ATTENDANCE:

Terry Dodds (CEO), Edna Mendes (Chief Financial Officer), Hodi Beauliv (Executive Manager - Community & Governance), Carol Holmes (Senior Executive Assistant) and Tharmeala Vijayan (Executive Assistant)

Cathy Brady-Overington (Manager Planning & Environment Services) attended to speak of the Confidential Report

3 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION 2026/95

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

11.12 MEETINGS ATTENDED BY THE MAYOR, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

RESOLUTION 2026/121

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr German Ugarte

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

11.13 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLUTION 2026/122

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Cr Tracy O'Halloran

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

12 NOTICE OF MOTION / QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

L.Z

6 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RESOLUTION 2026/123

Moved: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Dwaine Scott

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

26.1 Response to Councillor Ugarte's Notice of Motion

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - c, d(i) and g of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business, commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026/124

Moved: Cr Alison Linnett

Seconded: Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

That council revert back to normal council and the CEO announced the following recommendation for resolution;

That Council notes the response to the Notice of Motion submitted by Cr German Ugarte be received and noted.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 7.25PM.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 16 June 2026.


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MAYOR