



WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL
PUBLIC MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
LOT 62, 142 WAGAIT TOWER ROAD
7:00PM MONDAY 17 AUGUST 2026

These minutes are unconfirmed and are subject to confirmation at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

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1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 ADDRESS BY CHAIR AND PRESIDENT

The President declared the meeting open at 7.10pm, welcomed all in attendance, made an acknowledgement of country, and advised that the meeting would be audio taped for minute-taking purposes as authorised by the Chief Executive Officer.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

The Chair noted that a quorum was present.

ELECTED MEMBERS

Councillor	President Neil White (Chair)
Councillor	Deputy President Sarah Manning
Councillor	Peter Clee – <i>Electronically</i>
Councillor	Sarah Smith
Councillor	Tom Dyer

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Michelle Walker
Finance Officer	Matt Pettit
Office Manager	Toni Stanley

PUBLIC PRESENT

Keith Tanner
Lorna Manning
Alan Amezdroz
Carolyn Murphy
Shane Williamson
Frances Williamson
Robin Peel

VISITORS PRESENT

Peter Panquee, President LGANT (LGANT and LGRR Presentation)
Mary Watson, CEO LGANT (LGANT and LGRR Presentation)
Kirsten Kelly, NT Electoral Commissioner (LGANT and LGRR Presentation)
Robert Sarib, Surveyor General (LGANT and LGRR Presentation) – *Electronically*

1.3 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

PURPOSE

This report is to record and consider any Councillors' attendance at this meeting via electronic means.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/146

Council acknowledges and approves Cr P Clee to attend the meeting electronically.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Section 95 Local Government Act 2019

1.4 APOLOGIES

NIL

PURPOSE

This report is to consider apologies from Councillors.

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Nil specific statutory reference identified.

1.5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

PURPOSE

This report is to consider any notification of leave requests from Elected Members.

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

This report is to consider any notification of leave requests from Elected Members.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

PURPOSE

This report is to ask Councillors if they:

1. Have read the agenda papers; and
2. Wish to declare any conflicts of interest regarding any item in the agenda for this Council meeting.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/147

Council receives declarations of interest as listed below.

NIL

Moved: Cr S Smith

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Section 114 and 119 Local Government Act 2019

3. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

3.1 LGANT AND LGRR PRESENTATION

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: CEO LGANT Mary Watson

PURPOSE:

For briefing on the Local Government Representation Review (LGRR) and the LGANT Membership.

NOTES:

- Presentation provided prior to public meeting, 5.30pm-7.00pm.
- President N White, Deputy President S Manning, and Michelle Walker in attendance from 5.30pm. Cr S Smith joined at 6.30pm. Cr Tom Dyer joined at 6.40pm.

4. PETITIONS AND QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

NIL

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Action: For Decision

Author: CEO M Walker

PURPOSE

Minutes of the previous meeting of Council is to be submitted to Council for confirmation to approve them to be true and accurate record of the meeting.

RESOLUTION No: 2026/148

Council confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 20 July 2026 are true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Section 101 Local Government Act 2019

NOTES:

- The draft minutes for the Ordinary Council meeting (20 July 2026) attached to the agenda released at time of meeting notice were not the correct minutes to be confirmed. A printed version of the correct minutes was provided at the meeting.
- Correction to be made Footer of document to read 'Minutes' not 'Agenda.'

ATTACHMENTS

A copy of the following minutes was attached to the printed agenda:

1. Draft minutes of Council meeting held 20 July 2026



MINUTES 20 JULY
2026 UPDATED draft.

5.2 CONFIRMATION OF OUT OF SESSION DECISIONS

NIL

5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

1. Green Waste update – the President and acting CEO met with two planners from the Department, and a formal response was provided. A resolution is being worked on but may take some time.
Action: letter to be provided for next OCM.

6. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

6.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: President N White

PURPOSE

As part of my responsibility inform Council and the community of activities and information that is important

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/149

Council receives and notes President White's report for the period 20 July to 12 August 2026.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AT MEETING:

- Meeting with Lithium Plus was informal (unplanned) meeting. Public consultation is yet to occur. They have offered to attend the next consultation.

6.2 DEPUTY PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Deputy President S Manning

PURPOSE

To provide an update on the elected members activities and engagements since the last Council meeting.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/150

Council receives and notes Deputy President Manning's report for the period 13 July to 9 August 2026.

Moved: Deputy President S Manning

Seconded: President N White

Vote: AIF

7. OFFICER'S REPORTS

7.1 CEO REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: CEO M Walker

PURPOSE

To update the Council on the activities of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and other significant operational information since the last Council meeting.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/151

Council receives and notes the CEO's report for the period 20 July to 12 August 2026.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Cr P Clee

Vote: AIF

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AT MEETING:

- Busy couple of weeks, with a heavy focus on addressing the compliance report.
- Naturalisation ceremony being held on 4 September 2026.
- The Finance Officer is working on overdue LRCI acquittals. One of the grants may need to be paid back (as was raised at last meeting).

7.2 WORKS MANAGER'S REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Works Manager M Speechley

PURPOSE

To update the Council on the activities carried out by the Works and Services Team and other operational information since the last Council meeting.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/152

Council receives and notes the Works Manager's report for the period 14 July to 12 August 2026.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

8. FINANCE REPORT

8.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Michelle Walker CEO / Matt Pettit, Finance Coordinator

PURPOSE

To inform and update Council of the status of the financials as of the end of July 2026.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/153

Council:

- a) Notes the Chief Executive Officer certifies to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief that the internal controls implemented by Council are appropriate, and that Council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of Council; and
- b) Receives and notes the monthly financial reports to 31 July 2026.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

BACKGROUND

The Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 require the CEO, each month, to provide Council with a report setting out the actual income and expenditure of Council for the period from the commencement of the financial year to the end of the previous month, together with details of material variances between actual income and expenditure and the most recently adopted budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Explanation of Employee expenditure due to a long-term employee cessation of employment and payout of superannuation and other entitlements.
- Explanation of expenditure for Councillor Professional Development attendance at ALGA.
- Explanation of expenditure for Assets under \$5000 being starlink, new mobile phone, security cameras, and office equipment.
- Compliance procedures to close out credit cards of former employees and processing of replacement credit cards for new employees.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AT MEETING:

- Rates notices have gone out.
- FFA grants will be more than budgeted.
- Insurance matter (as raised at last meeting) is still being investigated.
- Waste Management contract, soon due to expire, is being investigated by the Governance Officer.
- Confirmed that there was no spending on CEO's credit card during second half of July.
- Queried if term deposits need to be signed off by the President – yes.

9. REPORTS REQUIRING DECISIONS BY COUNCIL

NIL

NOTES:

- A full report shall be provided at next meeting.

10. REPORTS FOR RECEIVING AND NOTING

NIL

NOTES:

- A full report shall be provided at next meeting.

10.1 ACTION LIST

Action: Receive and Note

Author: CEO M Walker

PURPOSE

To update Council on the status of the Actions List since last ordinary council meeting.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/154

Council notes a full update on the Action Item list will be available for the next OCM.

Moved: Deputy President S Manning

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

10.2 CORRESPONDENCE

Action: For Decision

Author: CEO M Walker

PURPOSE

To provide Council with a list of relevant incoming and outgoing correspondence since last ordinary council meeting.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/155

Council receives and notes that incoming and outgoing correspondence was unavailable prior to meeting and will be available at the next OCM.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

BACKGROUND

The relevant correspondence inwards and outwards will be tabled at Council meetings for review by Elected Members.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

10.2.1 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Will be available for next OCM.

10.2.2 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

Will be available for next OCM.

10.3 COMPLAINTS, COMMENTS AND COMPLIMENTS REGISTER

Action: For Decision

Author: CEO M Walker

PURPOSE

To update Council on any complaints, comments and compliments received from 12 July to 12 August 2026

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/156

Council receives and notes that the complaints, comments, and compliments register were not provided and will be available for the next OCM.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

11. CURRENT / UPCOMING EVENTS

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: CEO M Walker

PURPOSE

To update Council on upcoming events planned over the next month.

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/157

Council receives and notes the report on current and upcoming events.

Moved: President n White

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

NOTES:

- Additional events not already listed:
 - Wednesday 26 August, Seniors Month Big Day Out
 - Friday 4 September, 5.30pm, Community Centre, Siliva Alessandrelli's Australian Citizenship Ceremony
 - Community consultation meeting

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/158

Council receives and notes **CHANGE OF DATE** for the Community Consultation Meeting has been rescheduled to Saturday 12 September, due to the CEO being on leave. An informal discussion date to arranged to discuss the agenda and program.

Moved: Deputy President S Manning

Seconded: President N White

Vote: AIF

12. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

12.1. Follow up Question from Deputy President S Manning regarding the insurance for workers on private property.

Still being investigated.

12.2. Deputy President S Manning asked about issues with Council Office phone.

Issues persist with the Council landline number. Information about the issue is on the website and an SMS was sent out.

13. IN-CAMERA ITEMS

Note: Cr Clee gave notice and left meeting at 7.55pm

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/159

Council close the meeting to the general public in accordance with section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* to enable Council to discuss in a confidential session items described under Division 2 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*:

51 (1) (a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of staff or possible member of the staff of the Council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual;

51 (1) (b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;

51 (1) (c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

(i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person; or

(ii) prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law; or

(iii) prejudice the security of the council, its members, or staff; or

(iv) subject to sub regulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person;

51 (1) (d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity;

51 (1) (e) subject to sub regulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest;

51 (1) (f) subject to sub regulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

Moved: President N White

Seconded: Cr S Smith

Vote: AIF

At 7.56pm Council closed the meeting to the general public.

13.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS RAISED IN-CAMERA

13.1.1 Confirmation of Previous IN-CAMERA Minutes

Confidential as may pertain to one or more matters that were subject to Regulation 51.

13.1.2 Confirmation of CONFIDENTIAL Minutes of Special Meeting held 28 July 2026.

51 (1) (c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

(i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person; or (ii) prejudice against the maintenance or administration of the law; or

(iii) prejudice the security of the council, its members, or staff; or

(iv) subject to sub regulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

13.2 RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

RESOLUTION No.: 2026/160

That Council re-open the meeting to the public in accordance with section 99(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Moved Cr S Smith

Seconded Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

At **8.03pm** council opened the meeting to the public.

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 21 September 2026**.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at **8.05pm**.