



WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL
PUBLIC MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
LOT 62, 142 WAGAIT TOWER ROAD
7:00PM MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2026

Contents

WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL	1
1.1 ADDRESS BY CHAIR AND PRESIDENT	4
1.2 ADDRESS BY CHAIR AND PRESIDENT	4
ELECTED MEMBERS	4
STAFF PRESENT	4
PUBLIC PRESENT	4
1.3 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE	5
NIL 5	
1.4 APOLOGIES	5
NIL 5	
1.5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
NIL 5	
NIL 5	
3.1 NIL 5	
4.1 NIL 5	
5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING	5
PURPOSE	5
STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS	6
5.2 CONFIRMATION OF OUT OF SESSION DECISIONS	6
5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING	6
6.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT	6
PURPOSE	6
6.2 DEPUTY PRESIDENT'S REPORT	6
PURPOSE	6
7.1 CEO REPORT	7
7.2 WORKS MANAGER'S REPORT	7
PURPOSE	7
8.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT	8
PURPOSE	8
9.1 9	
PURPOSE: Paper for Elected Members to consider	9
1. Paper printed titled 217 WAGAIT TOWER ROAD BEACH ACCESS CORRIDOR.....	9
10.1 10	
PURPOSE	10
10.2 ACTION LIST	10

PURPOSE.....	10
10.3 CORRESPONDENCE.....	13
PURPOSE.....	13
10.4 COMPLAINTS, COMMENTS AND COMPLIMENTS REGISTER.....	13
PURPOSE.....	13
PURPOSE.....	15
RECOMMENDATION.....	16
13.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO BE RAISED IN-CAMERA.....	17
1. CLOSE OF MEETING	20

1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 ADDRESS BY CHAIR AND PRESIDENT

The President:

1. Declares the meeting open 7.05pm and welcomes all in attendance
2. Makes an acknowledgement of country
3. Advise that the meeting will be audio taped for minute-taking purposes as authorised by the Chief Executive Officer.

1.2 ADDRESS BY CHAIR AND PRESIDENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

Councillor	President Neil White (Chair)
Councillor	Deputy President Sarah Manning
Councillor	Peter Clee
Councillor	Dr. Sarah Smith
Councillor	Tom Dyer

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Michelle Walker
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Finance Officer Matt Pettit

Admin Officer Ming Xu

PUBLIC PRESENT

Alan Amezdroz

Carolyn Murphy

Lorna Manning

Jill Mumme

Sam Hyson - electronically

Jakinta Ryan - electronically

Patricia Hidges - electronically

VISITORS PRESENT

1.3 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

NIL

1.4 APOLOGIES

NIL

1.5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

NIL

3. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

3.1 NIL

4. PETITIONS AND QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

4.1 NIL

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Action: For Decision

Author: CEO

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 2026/161

That Council confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 17 AUGUST 2026 are true and accurate record of that meeting

Moved: Cr P Clee

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Section 101 *Local Government Act 2019*

Attachments

A paper copy of the following minutes is attached to the agenda:

1. Draft minutes of Council meeting held 17 August

5.2 CONFIRMATION OF OUT OF SESSION DECISIONS

NIL

5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

NIL

6. COUNCILOR'S REPORTS

6.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Neil White, Shire President

PURPOSE

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

RESOLUTION No 2026/162

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

Moved: President N. White

Seconded: Cr P. Clee

Vote: AIF

6.2 DEPUTY PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Sarah Manning, Shire Deputy President

PURPOSE

To provide an update on the elected member activities and engagements since the last Council meeting the period 10 August – 14 September 2026.

RESOLUTION No 2026/163

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

Moved: Deputy President S Manning

Seconded: Cr P Clee

Vote: AIF

Comments

- Deputy President advised that will be attending a Vernon Arafura Bushfires management Committee meeting on Thursday 24th September and will raise concerns about Brigades being able to respond to structural fires

7. OFFICER'S REPORTS

7.1 CEO REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Michelle Walker

PURPOSE:

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

RESOLUTION No 2026/164

That Council receives and notes the CEO's report for the period 17 August to 18 September 2026.

Moved :President N White

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

NOTES

- Cr S Smith asked for an update on the Green Waste matter
 - CEO advised that the WSC is waiting on a formal response from DLPE, additionally that the President and CEO met with the consultant who wrote the WSC current Waste Management Plan. Discussions remain ongoing.
- CEO and the Works Manager met with DLI last week regarding the Mandorah Management Facility Contract progress – WSC is working on reporting of matters and tracking related works
- CEO thanked Ming Xu for backfilling during Toni's leave.

7.2 WORKS MANAGER'S REPORT

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Mark Speechley, Work's Manager

PURPOSE

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

RESOLUTION No 2026/165

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

Moved:Moved: Cr S Smith

Seconded: Cr P Clea

Vote: AIF

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 to the end of July 2026

RESOLUTION No 2026/166

That 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 report to 31 July 2026**

Moved: Cr P Clee

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

NOTES

- Finance Officer asked councillors if they would like rates to be entered annually or a % of rates for each period. It would take a little time to set-up but would not require much time to produce once set-up.
 - To be presented at a future council meeting (In-Camera)
- Finance Officer queried outstanding debtors from 2024/25.
 - Councillors asked for more information to be provided, including options for debt collectors.

9. REPORTS REQUIRING DECISIONS BY COUNCIL

9.1

Action: For Decision

Author: Michelle Walker CEO

PURPOSE: Paper for Elected Members to consider.

RESOLUTION No 2026/167

That Council notes and supports the submission.

- (a) Council **NOTES** the investigations undertaken regarding the existing beach access corridor adjacent to 217 Wagait Tower Road
- (b) Council **NOTES** the title transfer was not completed in 1997, and the existing access corridor remains within a private title
- (c) Council **acknowledges** the existing corridor is not available as a dedicated public access route
- (d) Council **supports** the CEO to investigate options and survey for public beach access
- (e) A further report be presented to Council outlining options and survey results

Moved: Cr S Smith

Seconded: Cr P Clee

Vote: AIF

1. Paper titled 217 WAGAIT TOWER ROAD BEACH ACCESS CORRIDOR
2. CEO read out the 3 options
 - a. Option 1 Maintain the existing access corridor- Not recommended
 - b. Option 2 Negotiate access with the Landowner – Not recommended
 - c. Option 3 Establish new access via Crown Land drain area – preferred option

Financial Implications

There are financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

10. REPORTS FOR RECEIVING AND NOTING

10.2 ACTION LIST

Action: Receive and Note

Author: Michelle Walker

PURPOSE

To update Council on the status of the Actions List to 15 June 2026.

Meeting Date	Item No.	Description	Status	Comments	Due by Date
9/15/2025	5.2	Publish signed code of conduct on Council's website		check who actioned this	
9/15/2025	5.4	Review Policy - Procedures for Council & Committee meetings	Not Started		Nov-25
9/15/2025	5.5	Review Policy - Casting vote of President	Not Started		Nov-25
9/15/2025	5.6	Review ToR for Audit Committee	reviewed	council resolution required	Aug-26
9/15/2025	5.7	Review ToR for Emergency Management Committee	reviewed	council resolution required	Aug-26
9/15/2025	8.5	LGANT AGM - Motions - submit motion requesting LGANT advocate to the NT and Commonwealth Governments to support council in funding major road works	Complete	Motion submitted to LGANT on 13/10/2025	by due date
9/15/2025	8.6	Inquiry into LG Member Allowances - submission to NT Remuneration Tribunal stating that the RT are increasing allowances annually with no increase to operational funding to help cover the increases and that remuneration acceptance should be voluntary	Complete	Letter sent to NT Remuneration Tribunal on 10/10/2025	by due date
9/15/2025	11.2	Need to get a newsletter out ASAP	ongoing	Newsletter sent out on 20/11/2025	

9/15/2025	11.3	Write to Minister Yan regarding the following issues: 1. Use of the smaller vessel (the Flatback) recently to ferry people from Mandorah to Cullen Bay and return is inadequate due to the amount of people that it can seat, and two trips needed to be done to get people across in the mornings 2. Passengers feel unsafe on the Flatback 3. The Flatback is not set up for people with disabilities	Complete	Letter sent to Minister Yan on 10/10/2025	
11/10/2025	8.2	Publish the amended budget on website	Complete		
11/10/2025	9.1	Contact CPP regarding the grant for sports court and ask to Repurpose for footpath	Complete		
12/8/2025	3.1.2	Investigate options for a third party to deal with code of conduct complaint.	Ongoing	Waiting on a response from the Lawyer- due Mon14/9	26-Sep
1/19/2026	9.2	Advise DCMC of Council's decision for WaRM Funding	ongoing	discussed with DHLGCD - LG	26-Sep
1/19/2026	9.2	Review council's Waste Management Strategy	ongoing	underway, will include green waste	26-Sep
	CB - 3.1.7	Town Water: - look to see if reticulated water is in the strategic plan - investigate opportunities for funding a feasibility study - review previous report undertaken on this issue - respond to resident advising that at this stage it's not feasible	open	Need to engage correct NTG Departments	26-Sep
3/16/2026		Mail Service: - Write to Wagait Beach Supermarket regarding reduced mail service - write to SeaLink regarding reduced mail service	open	Complaints should be directed to Australia Post	26-Sep
26/8/26		Drain Review- Crown Lands meeting	ongoing	Crown Lands Officer visited and inspected sites, works to commence	26-Aug
6/8/2026		Green Waste Service - DLI complaint	ongoing	letter sent, DLI contacted WSC by phone pending sending the formal response	Aug/Sept 26

12/9/2026		SeaLink vessels - concerns about the type of interim vessels being used	open		
26/8/26		Fire Breaks RUA	open	Following up with Crown Lands to commence	
12/9/2026		Inspect, replace, update or new Signs around the shire. Info sign requested for Baluria Rd	open		
12/9/2026		prepare information on UVC, ratings, boundaries and options, including circulation and info sessions	open		
12/9/2026		Investigate purchase of a defibrillator for the Cox Country Club		Discuss with Cox Country Club Management WHS	
12/9/2026		Road works, including resurfacing and shoulders	open	Road Works ACT meeting 14/9 was scheduled 2wks ago	
12/9/2026		Black Spots - lights, investigate sensor, low lights and cat's eye reflectors	open	refer to Black Spot Audit and Funding	
12/9/2026		Causeway safety concerns, must be actioned before the wet season, possible installation of a footbridge	open	WHS Risk assessment HAZARD -moderate chance of injury. Signage installed as a warning and remediation works taken pending funding	
12/9/2026		Request to consider purchasing a carpet and equipment for lawn bowls	open		

RESOLUTION No 2026/168

That Council receives and notes the updated Actions List to 17 September 2026

Moved: Cr P Clee

Seconded: Deput President S Manning

Vote: AIF

NOTES

- In reference to the attached Action List, Cr S Smith and Deputy President SM requested amending the format of the Action List to the old format and include Strategic and Operational lists.
- DP S M asked if it would be useful to have a workshop to review the policy documents.
- Items missing from action list: Health Clinic (raised at May's OCM), Green Waste Circular Economy (raised at April's OCM), Guidelines to be developed for donations (raised at July's OCM), Drain issues (raised at July's OCM).
- DP S M asked if waste oil disposal could be added to action list. Options were being investigated as part of budget and Shire Plan development but had not been finalised. Waste oil disposal has been raised at last few community consultations.

Attachments

The current Action List

10.3 CORRESPONDENCE

Action: Receiving and Noting

Author: Michelle Walker

PURPOSE

To provide Council with a list of incoming and outgoing correspondence from 16 March 2026 to 13 May 2026.

RESOLUTION No 2026/169

That Council receives and notes the incoming and outgoing correspondence.

Moved: Cr P Clee

Seconded: President N White

Vote: AIF

10.4 COMPLAINTS, COMMENTS AND COMPLIMENTS REGISTER

Action: For Decision

Author: Michelle Walker

PURPOSE

To update Council on any complaints, comments and compliments received from 17 August to 16 September 2026.

11. CURRENT / UPCOMING EVENTS

Action: For Receiving and Noting

Author: Michelle Walker

PURPOSE

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

RESOLUTION No 2026/170

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

Moved: Cr S Smith

Seconded: Deputy President S Manning

Vote: AIF

- Editing – remove Health clinic from the list
- Editing – change date of the Seniors Morning Tea 21st October 2026

12. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

12.1 DP S M asked if Council will be providing a response to the Local Government Representation Review. **[CEO to review documentation from past submissions and prepare a response].**

12.2 DP S M asked if a newsletter could be released soon. Last newsletter went out in June.

12.3 DP S M asked if the Australia Day Awards policy could be reviewed in advance of nominations opening.

12.4 Cr P C asked if Council could hold a Christmas Lights competition this year.

13. IN-CAMERA ITEMS

RESOLUTION No 2026/171

That Council close the meeting to the general public in accordance with section 99(2) of the Local Government Act to enable Council to discuss in a Confidential Session an item described under Local Government (General) regulation Division 2;

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: Cr P Clee

Seconded: President N White

Vote: AIF

At **8.25 pm** Council closed the meeting to the general public.

13.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO BE RAISED IN-CAMERA

13.1.1 Report on WSC insurance information

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for **19 October 2026**.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at **8.31pm**.