



COUNCIL MINUTES

18 FEBRUARY 2025

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION CENTRE (CAC)



MINUTES

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION CENTRE (CAC), 47 COLE STREET,
SORELL ON 18 FEBRUARY 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – MAYOR GATEHOUSE	4
2.0	ATTENDANCE	4
3.0	APOLOGIES	4
4.0	DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST	4
5.0	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 21 January 2025	5
6.0	MAYOR’S REPORT	5
7.0	SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS	5
8.0	COUNCIL WORKSHOPS REPORT	6
9.0	COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE	6
10.0	COUNCILLOR MOTIONS ON NOTICE	6
11.0	WORKGROUP REPORTS	7
12.0	PETITIONS STILL BEING ACTIONED	7
13.0	PETITIONS RECEIVED	8
14.0	LAND USE PLANNING	8
15.0	GOVERNANCE	8
16.0	INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS	8
17.0	COMMUNITY RELATIONS	8
17.1	COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM	8
18.0	FINANCE	9
18.1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 2025 YTD	9
18.2	OPERATING BUDGET - MID YEAR BUDGET REVIEW	9
18.3	LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN	10
18.4	2024-2025 CAPITAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS	10
19.0	PLANNING	10
20.0	HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE	10
21.0	ROADS AND STORMWATER	11
22.0	FACILITIES AND RECREATION	11
23.0	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC	11
23.1	PUBLIC QUESTION ON NOTICE	11
24.0	CLOSED MEETING	15
24.1	CONFIRMATION OF THE CLOSED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 21 JANUARY 2025	15



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

24.2	AUTHORISATION TO DISCLOSE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION	16
24.3	TENDER C-25-T-006 KELLEVE ROAD WIDENING PROJECT - SRRP	17
25.0	ACRONYMNS	18



The meeting commenced 6.00 pm.

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – MAYOR GATEHOUSE

[^](#)

I would like to begin by paying respect to the traditional and original owners of this land the Mumirimina people, to pay respect to those that have passed before us and to acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal community who are custodians of this land.

2.0 ATTENDANCE

[^](#)

Mayor J Gatehouse
Deputy Mayor C Wooley
Councillor S Campbell
Councillor B Nichols
Councillor M Reed
Councillor N Reynolds
Councillor C Torenus
Councillor M Larkins

General Manager R Higgins
Director People & Performance J Hinchey
Director Service Delivery N Cameron

3.0 APOLOGIES

[^](#)

Councillor M Miró Quesada Le Roux

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

[^](#)

The Mayor requested any Councillors to indicate whether they had, or were likely to have, a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda.

Councillor Reed declared a perceived non-pecuniary interest in Item 23 – Question on Notice, as it pertains to her sister. Additionally, it is noted that she is a member of the Dodges Ferry Primary School Association, which is referenced in the General Manager's Report at Item 11.1 in relation to the Dodges Ferry Primary School Masterplan.



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

5.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 21 JANUARY 2025



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21ST January 2025 be confirmed."

19/2025 REED/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

6.0 MAYOR'S REPORT



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Mayor's communication report as listed be received."

20/2025 NICHOLS/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

7.0 SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*."



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council by absolute majority may approve the consideration of a matter not appearing on the agenda, where the General Manager has reported:

- a) The reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda; and
- b) That the matter is urgent; and
- c) That advice has been provided under section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

8.0 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS REPORT

△

The following Council Workshop was held:

Date	Purpose	Councillor Attendance	Councillor Apologies
4 th Feb 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy/Planning – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Primary Production rating review request ○ Mid-Year budget review ○ LTFP review • Community Grants – Country Music Muster • Place Score – Liveability Census • 24/25 Annual Plan – progress update on key projects and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gatehouse, Reed, Campbell, Larkins, Nichols, Reynolds, Torenus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miro Quesada Wooley,

9.0 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

△

Nil.

10.0 COUNCILLOR MOTIONS ON NOTICE

△

Nil.



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

11.0 WORKGROUP REPORTS



RECOMMENDATION

"That the workgroup reports as listed be received."

21/2025 LARKINS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

12.0 PETITIONS STILL BEING ACTIONED



Petition	Tabled at Council Meeting	Status
Withdrawal of the Blue Lagoon Draft Management Plan	18 th July 2023 ordinary Council meeting – S.58(2) LGA 1993.	<p>Council laid the matter on the table for further consultancy on review and options assessment for stormwater management at Blue Lagoon. Variation to the operating budget approved at August 2023 Council meeting to facilitate this - \$50k.</p> <p>Final consultant reports received April 2024.</p> <p>Council staff continue to progress matters with Red Handfish research team (NHRT) in first instance through exchange of consultant reports, development of an interim water level management SOP and ongoing engagement prior to determining further actions.</p> <p>Exchange of all project materials expanded to relevant state and federal agencies.</p> <p>Engagement with NRM EAG has also occurred.</p> <p>Alternative permanent outfall design exiting at Boat Ramp underway.</p>



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

13.0 PETITIONS RECEIVED

△

At the time of preparation of this agenda no petitions had been received.

14.0 LAND USE PLANNING

△

The Mayor advised in accordance with the provisions of Part 2 Regulation 25 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the intention of the Council to act as a planning authority pursuant to the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 is to be noted.

In accordance with Regulation 25, the Council will act as a planning authority in respect to those matters appearing under item 14 on this agenda, inclusive of any supplementary items.

15.0 GOVERNANCE

△

Nil.

16.0 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS

△

Nil.

17.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS

△

17.1 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to approve a grant application for the Primrose Sands Country Music Muster under the 2024-2025 Community Grants Program as per the following report."

22/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

18.0 FINANCE

18.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 2025 YTD

RECOMMENDATION

“That the Executive Summary – FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 2025 YEAR-TO-DATE be received and noted by Council”.

23/2025 LARKINS/REED

“That the recommendation be accepted.”

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.2 OPERATING BUDGET - MID YEAR BUDGET REVIEW

RECOMMENDATION

“That Council resolve to receive and approve the Sorell Council Operating Mid-Year Budget Review”.

24/2025 WOOLEY/REED

“That the recommendation be accepted.”

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

18.3 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve pursuant to Section 70 of the Local Government Act 1993 to accept and adopt the revised Long Term Financial Plan".

25/2025 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.4 2024-2025 CAPITAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve pursuant to Section 82 of the Local Government Act 1993 to accept and adopt the below adjustments to the 2024/2025 Capital Budget estimates".

26/2025 REYNOLDS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

19.0 PLANNING

△

Nil.

20.0 HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE

△

Nil.



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

21.0 ROADS AND STORMWATER

△
Nil.

22.0 FACILITIES AND RECREATION

△
Nil.

23.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

△

In accordance with Regulation 31 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Council will conduct a Public Question Time.

At each meeting the Mayor will invite those members of the public present to ask questions. When requested please:

- Stand up; and
- State clearly your name and address.

This time is allocated for questions from the public. Questions are to be kept brief and specific to the topic to which they relate.

Members of the public are reminded that questions and any answers to such questions are not to be debated.

Questions may be submitted to Council in writing at least seven (7) days before an ordinary Council meeting.

23.1 PUBLIC QUESTION ON NOTICE

Dianna Shaw of Dodges Ferry submitted the following questions on notice.

Question 1.

As follow up to the unanimous support in Council on the 21st January 2025 for the 5 recommendations presented by the General Manager. Then the 1st Feb 2025 an incredible turnout of 1500+ from the community on Carlton Beach with people all wearing red making a human line in the sand against fin fish farming in Storm Bay. The community feeling about this industry polluting our coastline and waterways is strong and growing.

What ways does Council envisage it will be able to assist the community and advocate with the community in relevant and appropriate ways as recommended?

General Manager Response:

Council intends to assist the community by acting as an advocate and intermediary (as required and appropriate) between the community, relevant



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

stakeholders, and Government officials. This will include continuing to engage with regulatory agencies to ensure that community concerns are adequately represented (noting no current formal assessment process available). Additionally, Council will support community sentiment through advocacy efforts with State and Federal elected officials (MPs and Senators), ensuring their voices are heard and considered in the subsequent decision-making process. As recommended, Council will also review any Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and prepare a formal submission, where applicable and appropriate. We have already commenced this process and are currently writing to our Senators outlining community concerns and requesting meetings to further discuss.

Question 2.

With this recommendation regarding Salmon Feedlots, will Council acknowledge that with external circumstances like climate change and warming waters, that these recommendations could pertain to other species in the future and not just salmon, the current production species?

General Manager Response:

Not in an informed position to comment.

Question 3.

Does Council see this topic of fish farming in Storm Bay and its impacts as a community engagement project?

General Manager Response:

Council views this issue as a community engagement matter, and also as a priority advocacy project. The strong turnout on Carlton Beach recently and the feedback we've received to date, underscores the importance of community involvement in salmon farming broadly and any future decision-making process particular to Storm Bay. Council recognises the need of the community to be supported through this process and to help have their concerns heard and valued. This engagement and advocacy process will be ongoing to assist the community remaining informed, heard, and supported. Council will need to carefully manage and balance this commitment with our current range of essential community consultation and engagement activities, in line with our staff resourcing and budget.

Sharon Fotheringham of Forcett questioned regarding a subdivision at 701 Arthur Highway referred to in the agenda and how many lots were in this?

The General Manager advised that there would be 3 lots and balance.

Sharon further questioned regarding reports in the media regarding 2000 new houses in the area, which area is this in, and is the infrastructure going to be able to support it?



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

The General Manager advised the STRLUS is currently being reviewed between the southern councils and the State Government as a jointly funded partnership project. Part of the review is to assess the existing urban growth boundary (UGB) and make provision for an appropriate long-term supply informed by supply and demand data, population growth forecasts and infrastructure provision. There is an area east of the Sorell bypass identified as a long-term supply corridor with provision for education, convenience retail, light industry and open space uses. The Planning Minister has advised that there are some areas councils have identified in the review of the STRLUS UGB that he would like fast tracked as amendments to the current STRLUS UGB. The dwelling numbers nominated by the State Government are considered to be overestimated as they appear to have been derived by the total land area to achieve an average lot size rather than taking into account the mixed use master plan proposed by Council.

Sharon questioned if Council would argue to the Government that the Arthur Highway in that area couldn't support 2-3000 new homes?

The General Manager advised again that the figures estimated aren't considered accurate.

Sharon questioned if the community will have a say or will this be between Council and Government?

The General Manager advised that the STRLUS UGB fast track process the Minister has commenced will include the ability for public submissions to be made to the State Planning Office.

Sharon questioned if Council is being updated on the causeway project as it is now out for consultation again, how long before something happens?

The General Manager advised that they are making progress and getting closer to confirming a design concept. He further reiterated that the process is being delayed due to the time consuming federal environmental approval process.

Jennifer Thain of Dodges Ferry questioned how can we work with Council to understand what actions are being taken regarding the recommendations made at the last meeting with Salmon Farms?

The General Manager advised that he has formed an initial letter to seek meetings with Tasmanian Senators, Lyons members both State and Federal and various state Ministers. He advised he would contact Jennifer with an update and to discuss communication moving forward.

Diana Shaw of Dodges Ferry made a statement acknowledging the General Manager's response to the questions on notice.

The open meeting closed at 6.40 pm.



CLOSED MEETING

Members are advised that items listed below in the CLOSED SESSION AGENDA are classified as CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.

A Councillor must not discuss any item listed in a CLOSED SESSION AGENDA with any person (except another elected member, the General Manager or the author of a report to the closed session of Council or a Council Committee) without a specific resolution of the Council or a Council Committee that considered the report.

Section 338A (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 states that a Councillor must not disclose information:

- (a) seen or heard by the Councillor at a meeting or part of a meeting of a council or council committee that is closed to the public that is not authorised by the council or council committee to be disclosed; or*
- (b) given to the Councillor by the mayor, deputy mayor, chairperson of a meeting of the council or council committee or the general manager on the condition that it be kept confidential.*

Section 338A (3) states that a member must not disclose information acquired as such a member on the condition that it be kept confidential.

Additionally, Section 339 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that:

- (1) A councillor or a member must not make improper use of any information acquired as a councillor or member.*
- (3) Improper use of information includes using the information –*
 - (a) to gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage or to avoid, directly or indirectly, a disadvantage for oneself, a member of one's family or a close associate; or*
 - (b) to cause any loss or damage to any council, controlling authority, single authority, joint authority or person.*

The closed meeting commenced at 6.48 pm.

24.0 CLOSED MEETING



The General Manager advised that in his opinion the listing of agenda item/s:

Reference	Item
24.1	Confirmation of the Closed Council Minutes of the Council Meeting of 21 January 2025– <i>Regulation 34(3)</i>
24.2	Disclosure of confidential information – <i>Regulation 15(8)</i>
24.3	Tender C-25-T-006 Kellevie Road Widening Project – <i>Regulation 15(2)(d)</i>

As prescribed items in accordance with Regulations 15 and 34 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, and therefore Council may by absolute majority determine to close the meeting to the general public.

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to the public to enable Council to consider agenda items 24.1 - 24.3 which are confidential matters as prescribed in Regulations 34 and 15 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

27/2025 LARKINS/REYNOLDS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

24.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE CLOSED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 21 JANUARY 2025



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Closed Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st January 2025 be confirmed."



28/2025 REED/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

24.2 AUTHORISATION TO DISCLOSE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**RECOMMENDATION**

"That in accordance with Regulation 15(9) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to disclose information from this 'Closed Section' of this meeting in the course of implementing the decisions of Council."

29/2025 LARKINS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

24.3 TENDER C-25-T-006 KELLEVE ROAD WIDENING PROJECT - SRRP

30/2025 TORENIUS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

The closed meeting concluded at 6.54 pm.



25.0 ACRONYMS



AGM	Annual General Meeting
AFL	Australian Football League
AIR	Australian Immunisation Register
ASU	Australian Services Union
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWTS	Aerated Wastewater Treatment Systems
BEST	Business and Employment Southeast Tasmania
CAC	Community Administration Centre
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLRS	Councillors
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CRM	Customer Request Management
CRDSJA	Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority
DEDTA	Department Economic Development, Tourism & The Arts
DECYP	Department for Education, Children and Young People
DPAC	Department of Premier & Cabinet
DPFEM	Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management
DSG	Department of State Growth
DST	Destination Southern Tasmania
EBA	Enterprise Bargaining Agreement
EOI	Expressions of Interest
EOFY	End of Financial Year
EPA	Environment Permit Authority
EWaste	Electronic Waste
FMAC	Fire Management Assessment Committee
GM	General Manager
ICT	Information Communication Technology
LGAT	Local Government Association of Tasmania
LPS	Local Provisions Schedule
LTFP	Long Term Financial Plan
LTI	Lost Time Injury
MAST	Marine & Safety Tasmania
MEMC	Municipal Emergency Management Committee
NBN	National Broadband Network
NRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PWS	Parks and Wildlife Service
RACT	Royal Automobile Club of Tasmania
RDA	Regional Development Australia
RSL	Returned Services League
RTI	Right to Information
SBIP	School Based Immunisation Program
SEI	South East Irrigation
SEBA	South East Basketball Association
SENA	South East Netball Association



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025

SERDA	South East Region Development Association
SEUFC	South East United Football Club
SES	State Emergency Service
SFC	Sorell Football Club
SFL	Southern Football League
SMH	Sorell Memorial Hall
SPA	Sorell Planning Authority
STCA	Southern Tasmanian Councils Association
STRWA	Southern Tasmanian Regional Waste Authority
STRLUS	Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy
SWSA	Southern Waste Strategy Association
SWS	Southern Waste Solutions
TasCAT	Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
TAO	Tasmanian Audit Office
TCF	Tasmanian Community Fund
TOR	Terms of Reference
UGB	Urban Growth Boundary
UTAS	University of Tasmania

**MINUTES**

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
18 FEBRUARY 2025