



COUNCIL MINUTES

15 APRIL 2025

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION CENTRE (CAC)



MINUTES

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION CENTRE (CAC), 47 COLE STREET,
SORELL ON 15 APRIL 2025

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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 M Miró Quesada Le Roux
Councillor B Nichols
Councillor M Reed
Councillor N Reynolds
Councillor C Torenus
Councillor M Larkins
General Manager R Higgins
Director People & Performance J Hinchin
Director Service Delivery N Cameron

3.0 APOLOGIES



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.

No Councillor indicated they had, or were likely to have, a pecuniary interest in any items on the agenda.



5.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 18 MARCH 2025**RECOMMENDATION**

"That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th March 2025 be confirmed."

43/2025 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, 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."

44/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, 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*."

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*.

7.1 ITEM 15.4 - COPPING REFUSE DISPOSAL SITE JOINT AUTHORITY – PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

45/2025 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



8.0 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS REPORT



The following Council Workshop was held:

Date	Purpose	Councillor Attendance	Councillor Apologies
1 April 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy/Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Management Strategy & 10 year forward new / upgrade capital program Draft 25/26 Fees and Charges Draft Treasury Management Policy Draft revised Comms & Engagement Strategy LGAT General Meeting motions requiring decision Community Grants x 7 Councillor Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ferry Hall - MR Community development – MR Waste Management – MR NRM – MR Climate Action – MR LG Electoral Reforms - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gatehouse, Nichols, Torenus, Miro Quesada, Reynolds, Larkins, Campbell, Reed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wooley

9.0 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE



10.0 COUNCILLOR MOTIONS ON NOTICE



11.0 WORKGROUP REPORTS



RECOMMENDATION

"That the workgroup reports as listed be received."

46/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, 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. Detailed LIDAR survey and tidal level data indicate drain grade and tidal inundation limitations. Alternate approaches being investigated between Council and consultant.</p>
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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.

14.1 SORELL PLANNING AUTHORITY MINUTES



RECOMMENDATION

"That the minutes of the Sorell Planning Authority ("SPA") Meetings of 1st and 8th April 2025 be noted."

47/2025 LARKINS/WOOLEY

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



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15.0 GOVERNANCE**15.1 CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) POLICY****RECOMMENDATION**

"That Council resolve to endorse the Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Policy."

48/2025 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

15.2 BODY-WORN VIDEO CAMERA (BWVC) POLICY**RECOMMENDATION**

"That Council resolve to endorse the Body-Worn Video Camera (BWVC) Policy."

49/2025 REED/CAMPBELL

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



15.3 DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC LAND – PART OF LEWISHAM SCENIC DRIVE ROAD RESERVE

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to dispose of public land - portion of Lewisham Scenic Drive Road Reserve, Lewisham - pursuant to Section 178 of the Local Government Act 1993."

50/2025 TORENIUS/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

15.4 COPPING REFUSE DISPOSAL SITE JOINT AUTHORITY – PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council approves the proposed certified amendments to the Rules of the Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority."

51/2025 NICHOLS/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

16.0 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS

△
Nil reports.



17.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS



17.1 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to approve grant applications from Sorell Landcare, A Fairer World, Dunalley Fire Brigade, Sorell School for Seniors, Penna Landcare and Blaze Busters under the 2024-2025 Community Grants Program as per the following report."

52/2025 LARKINS/CAMPBELL

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.0 FINANCE



18.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 2025 YTD

RECOMMENDATION

"That the Executive Summary – FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 2025 YEAR-TO-DATE be received and noted by Council."

53/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



18.2 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."

54/2025 LARKINS/CAMPBELL

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.3 TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to endorse the revised Treasury Management Policy."

55/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

19.0 PLANNING



Nil reports.



20.0 HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE

[^](#)

Nil reports.

21.0 ROADS AND STORMWATER

[^](#)

Nil reports.

22.0 FACILITIES AND RECREATION

[^](#)

Nil reports.

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.

Sharon Fotheringham of Forcett questioned if Council amalgamations were to proceed with other Councils with high levels of debt, will ratepayers be forced to pay higher rates to cover this? Will community get a say if amalgamations are to occur.

The General Manager responded that this is all yet to be determined, no financial analysis has occurred but if investigation of each Council proceeds, this will be considered.



In addition, the role the community will have in determining if proceeding or not is still to be clarified as part of the scope of any investigation project.

Sharon further questioned which Minister was responsible for the STRLUS?

The General Manager advised the Minister for Planning is Felix Ellis.

Sharon questioned if Council doesn't agree with the proposal put forward with regard to the STRLUS, would it be forced upon us by Government?

The General Manager advised that the legislation is such that the Minister has the final decision as to the content and recommendations of the statutory document. Councils, with the community, will be able to provide submissions as part of the exhibition period in the future.

Sharon further questioned if the front doors could be opened at 5:30pm prior to the Council Meeting?

The General Manager apologised and advised that this will occur.

Geoff from Horizon Drive Sorell questioned some overhanging trees on Fitzroy St and what Council would be doing about this and, people not picking up after their dogs in the main streets of Sorell?

The Mayor advised that Council employees have a schedule of tasks that are completed on a daily, weekly, monthly cycle, and all other requests are triggered through customer requests being reported to Council via phone, email or in person which are then dealt with by the most appropriate person or workgroup.

Regarding the dog mess on the footpaths, this is more an educational piece that Council are currently working on with dog owners. If our Compliance Officers were to witness this occurring, we could take action on the matter.

The Mayor further advised that the General Manager would get details from Geoff after the meeting of the trees in Fitzroy Street.

Peter French from Lewisham questioned the TasWater waste water lagoon replacement project in the Dodges Ferry Recreation Reserve and whether staff could confirm that they have the vegetation mapping from the new management plan that identifies the location of threatened vegetation and, that this has been considered by TasWater regarding the proposed wastewater disposal area?

The Mayor advised this had been noted by the General Manager.



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Diedre Biggar of Dodges Ferry commented on the rubbish on the causeway and through the Midway Point junction and the trees on the foreshore land adjacent to First Avenue Dodges Ferry.

The Mayor advised that the rubbish on the Causeway is the responsibility of Department of State Growth.

The General Manager advised that he has spoken with the Department on numerous occasions on the issue of rubbish and will continue to do so.

The open meeting concluded at 7.08 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 7.15 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 18 March 2025 - <i>Regulation 34(3)</i>
24.2	Disclosure of confidential information – <i>Regulation 15(8)</i>
24.3	Sorell Council Audit Panel Meeting Minutes – <i>Regulation 15(2)(g)</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."

56/2025 REED/REYNOLDS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



24.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE CLOSED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 18 MARCH 2025



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Closed Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th March 2025 be confirmed."

57/2025 NICHOLS/TORENIUS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, 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."

58/2025 NICHOLS/CAMPBELL

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley, Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



24.3 SORELL AUDIT PANEL MEETING MINUTES

59/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, Campbell, Wooley,
Reed, Torenus, Nichols, Larkins

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

The meeting concluded at 7.17 pm.





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

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SEI	South East Irrigation
SEBA	South East Basketball Association
SENA	South East Netball Association
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
UTAS	University of Tasmania

