



COUNCIL MEETING **MINUTES**

15 JULY 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 JULY 2025

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The meeting commenced at 6.02 pm.

AUDIO-VISUAL RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

I would like to advise that an audio-visual recording is being made of this meeting. I also remind everyone present to be respectful and considerate towards others attending the meeting. Language or behaviour that could be perceived as offensive, defamatory, or threatening to any person attending the meeting, or to those listening to the recording, will not be tolerated.

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 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

3.0 APOLOGIES



Councillor S Campbell – approved leave of absence

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST



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

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



5.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES



5.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING 17 JUNE 2025

RECOMMENDATION

"That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th June 2025 be confirmed."

101/2025 REED/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

5.2 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING 24 JUNE 2025

RECOMMENDATION

"That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 24th June 2025 be confirmed."

102/2025 LARKINS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

103/2025 WOOLEY/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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



8.0 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS REPORT



The following Council Workshop was held:

Date	Purpose	Councillor Attendance	Councillor Apologies
8 July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding request to Council from BEST - 'Regional Engagement & Experience Program' (REEP) Historical Society of Sorell – Long Term Hire Agreement and Hire Fee determination Revised Comms & Engagement Strategy – final draft Southern Beaches draft on-site stormwater and wastewater strategy Revised Local Highway By-law Draft Youth Plan Revised Community Grant process – Terms of Reference, Policy and Guidelines Community Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunalley Community Hall, South East Suns, Even Tide Sanctuary Councillor items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Precinct project update & Dodges Ferry School upgrade project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gatehouse, Nichols, Torenius, Reynolds, Larkins, Reed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miro Quesada Le Roux, Wooley, Campbell (leave of absence)

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."

104/2025 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, 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</p>



		LIDAR survey and tidal level data indicate drain grade and tidal inundation limitations. Alternate approaches being investigated between Council and consultant.
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13.0 PETITIONS RECEIVED



13.1 PETITION – RESTORE AND REVEGETATE PLATYPUS HABITAT DODGES FERRY

RECOMMENDATION

“That in accordance with Section 60(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council resolves to:

- i) Receive and note this report; and
- ii) Pending receipt of the eDNA monitoring results, to then consider options including the development and implementation of an appropriate habitat improvement plan.”

105/2025 MIRO QUESADA/LARKINS

“That the recommendation be accepted.”

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



14.0 LAND USE PLANNING



Nil matters.

15.0 GOVERNANCE



15.1 WINDING UP OF STCA AND ALTERNATE PROPOSAL - RDA TAS SUPPORTED COLLABORATIVE NETWORK OF SOUTHERN TASMANIAN COUNCILS

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolve to:

1. Endorse the Collaborative Network of Southern Tasmanian Councils, which would be delivered through Regional Development Australia (Tasmania) and replace the regional collaboration role previously provided by the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority.
2. Request the Southern Tasmanian Council Authority Board to commence a wind up process in accordance with the rules of the Joint Authority."

106/2025 LARKINS/TORENIUS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

For: Reynolds, Gatehouse, Miró Quesada Le Roux, 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 UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

"That pursuant to Section 24 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council resolves to endorse:

1. The revised Community Grants Policy;
2. The revised Community Grants Guidelines;
3. The Terms of Reference for the Special Committee of Council - Community Grants Assessment Panel; and
4. Approve the delegation of authority to the Community Grants Assessment Panel pursuant to Section 77 of the Local Government Act 1993."

107/2025 LARKINS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



17.2 YOUTH PLAN 2025

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolves to endorse the Youth Plan and note the proposed implementation and resourcing approach outlined in this report."

108/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

17.3 COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY 2025

RECOMMENDATION

"That Council resolves to endorse the revised Communication and Engagement Strategy."

109/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

18.0 FINANCE



18.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE 2025 YTD

RECOMMENDATION

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

110/2025 WOOLEY/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**

19.0 PLANNING



Nil reports.

20.0 HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE



20.1 NOTICE OF INTENTION – NEW ROADS BY-LAW 1 of 2026

RECOMMENDATION

"That in accordance with Section 156(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council resolves to:

- a. Make a new Roads by-law; and
- b. Prepare a regulatory impact statement."

111/2025 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**



21.0 ROADS AND STORMWATER



Nil reports.

22.0 FACILITIES AND RECREATION



Nil reports.

23.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC



In accordance with Regulation 36 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, 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 there was any update on the Primrose Sands Beach water issues?

The Manager Health and Compliance responded that we have engaged consultants which will be providing further advice in what we can do. We did supply an update for Council at the last meeting and the report can be found in the June meeting agenda. We will then plan community engagement with residents at Primrose Sands in the spring to coincide with the community conversations planned.

Sharon further questioned if Council can talk to some of the residents at Forcett that have Spanish Heath on their properties to do something about it?



The General Manager responded that he would need to seek advice from Council's NRM Facilitator on whether Spanish Heath is a declared weed which then affects how we deal with the land owner(s). The General Manager advised that he would get the NRM Facilitator to contact Sharon.

Sharon further questioned regarding the decision handed down from Air Services Australia regarding the flight path and if Council could write to follow up on extending the timeframe for responding submissions?

The General Manager advised that he will follow up on the matter.

Dierdre Biggar of Dodges Ferry asked why there will be no bulk green waste collection between now and October?

The Manager Health and Compliance advised that the reason for selecting the times that we have is due to contractor availability and evidence of the past 5 years indicating that spring is the best time.

The open meeting concluded at 7.16 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 7.17 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 17 June 2025 – <i>Regulation 40(3)</i>
24.2	Disclosure of confidential information – <i>Regulation 17(7)</i>
24.3	Interim Closure Order – <i>Regulation 17(2)(h)</i>
24.4	Sorell Audit Panel Summary and Minutes – June 2025 – <i>Regulation 17(2)(h)</i>

As prescribed items in accordance with Regulations 17 and 40 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, 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 - 24.4 which are confidential matters as prescribed in Regulations 40 and 17 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

112/2025 REED/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



24.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE CLOSED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 17 JUNE 2025



RECOMMENDATION

"That the Closed Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th June 2025 be confirmed."

113/2025 NICHOLS/LARKINS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

24.2 AUTHORISATION TO DISCLOSE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION



RECOMMENDATION

"That in accordance with Regulation 17(7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, 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."

114/2025 NICHOLS/WOOLEY

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**



24.3 INTERIM CLOSURE ORDER

115/2025 LARKINS/NICHOLS

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

24.4 SORELL AUDIT PANEL SUMMARY AND MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2025

116/2025 NICHOLS/REED

"That the recommendation be accepted."

The motion was put.

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

Against:

The Motion was **CARRIED**

The closed meeting concluded at 7.31pm.



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



AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
15 JULY 2025

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

