



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE**  
**ON 3 MARCH 2026**  
**COMMENCING AT 6:01 PM**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate & Commercial Services, Acting Director Development Services (Johnston), Acting Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services (Stanford), Acting Director Technical Services (Theakstone), Chief Financial Officer, Manager Corporate Governance, Governance Officer (Robinson)

### **1.1 APOLOGIES**

Nil.

### **1.2 LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING**

The Mayor advised that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

### **1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Cr Power conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

### **1.4 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Cr Judge declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in FPC item 2.1-2(e) - Small Donations - Requests for Donations as the applicant is known to him.

Cr Peterson declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in FPC item 2.1-2(d) - Small Donation - Requests for Donations as he is a volunteer treasurer of the Orange Region Suicide Prevention Network.

Cr Mileto declared a Non-Significant Non-pecuniary Interest in FPC item 2.1-2(b) - Small Donations - Requests for Donations as members of the Orange Lacemakers are known to him.

Cr Mileto declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in FPC item 2.1-2(d) - Small Donations - Requests for Donations as he has had dealings with Orange Suicide Prevention Network over the years.

Cr Whitton declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary interest in CCL item 6.1 - Contract Report - Orange Regional Conservatorium and Planetarium as a family member is employed by Renascent.

The Chief Executive Officer declared a Pecuniary interest in CCL item 5.3 - Development Outside the Boundaries of the Developer Servicing Plans as he owns property in the Orange Local Housing Strategy footprint for future development.

**THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE OPEN FORUM AT 6.09pm.**

**Mr Philip Donato MP presented to Council on State Government matters effecting Orange.**

**PDC 2.2 - Development Application DA 401/2025(1) 2 Elizabeth St**

- Glenn Apps – Cohesive Planning (Online)

**CCL 5.2 – Proposed Location for Homeless or Rought Sleeping**

- Pastor Joshua Bleyerveen – Orange Uniting Church

**THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL RESUMED AT 7.54pm.**

## **2 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

## **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED - 26/077**

**Cr K Duffy/Cr S Peterson**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 17 February 2026 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Council meeting held on 17 February 2026.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**Cr M McDonell**

Cr McDonell asked for additional details on how funding has been spent and what remains from the Affordable Housing Strategy Budget.

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**Cr M McDonell**

Cr McDonell requested that a fact sheet be created to inform residents on the requirements of building a secondary dwelling on their property.

**THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS AT 6.46PM.**

**THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL RESUMED AT 7.54PM.**

**4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION**

Nil.

**5 GENERAL REPORTS****5.1 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/223

**RESOLVED - 26/101****Cr S Peterson/Cr M McDonell**

That Council grant a Leave of Absence to Cr M Ruddy for the Council Meeting of 17 March 2026.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**5.2 PROPOSED LOCATION FOR HOMELESS OR ROUGH SLEEPING**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/214

**RESOLVED - 26/102****Cr M McDonell/Cr J Whitton**

That Council DEFERS this item for the purpose of conducting a workshop with key stakeholders.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**5.3 DEVELOPMENT OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DEVELOPER SERVICING PLANS**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/246

*The Chief Executive Officer declared an interest in this item, left the meeting with the time being 8.15pm and did not participate in the discussion.*

**RESOLVED - 26/103****Cr M McDonell/Cr J Stedman**

That Council apply the existing water and sewer charges to the areas identified as short and medium term within the Orange Local Housing Strategy (2022).

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**5.4 PROGRESS REPORT ON VALENCIA DRIVE, COOGAL WETLANDS AND DISTRIBUTOR LOOP LIGHTING PROJECT**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/280

**RESOLVED - 26/104****Cr M McDonell/Cr K Duffy**

That Council:

- 1 Acknowledge the information provided in the report; and
- 2 Resolve to progress the Valencia Drive, Coogal Wetlands and Distributor Loop Lighting Project to the next stage, including:
  - Community and stakeholder consultation
  - Refinement of design and staging
  - Identification and pursuit of suitable grant funding opportunities; and
- 3 Receive a further report outlining refined costings, funding options and a proposed delivery pathway.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**QUESTION TAKE ON NOTICE****Cr M McDonell**

Cr McDonell asked why the map regarding the Valencia Drive, Coogal Wetlands and Distributor Loop Lighting Project does not include the walkway on the Northern Distributor and Escort Way.

*\*Chief Executive Officer returned to the meeting with the time being 8:20pm\**

*\*Cr Peterson left the meeting with the time being 8:24pm\**

**5.5 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/284

**RESOLVED - 26/105****Cr K Duffy/Cr M McDonell**

That the information contained in the report on responses to Questions Taken on Notice be acknowledged.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr S Peterson

*\*Cr Peterson returned to the meeting with the time being 8:27pm\**

**5.6 STRATEGIC POLICY REVIEWS - EXHIBITION**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/353

**RESOLVED - 26/106****Cr F Kinghorne/Cr S Peterson**

That Council resolves to place Strategic Policy - ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**6 CLOSED MEETING**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a Confidential Session of the Council meeting closed to the press and public.

In response to a question from the Mayor, the Chief Executive Officer advised that no written submissions had been received relating to any item listed for consideration by the Closed Meeting of Council.

The Mayor extended an invitation to any member of the public present at the meeting to make a presentation to the Council as to whether the meeting should be closed for a particular item.

**RESOLVED - 26/107****Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr M McDonell**

That Council adjourn into a Closed Meeting and members of the press and public be excluded from the Closed Meeting, and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Meeting be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution. This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:

**6.1 Contract Report - Orange Regional Conservatorium and Planetarium**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

**6.2 Proposed Easement - Council Owned Land - 296-298 Summer Street - Lot 96 DP 1190941**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

**6.3 Nomination of Councillor Attendance - LGNSW Rural and Regional Summit**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (f) matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property.

**6.4 Nomination of Councillor Attendance - LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference 2026**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (f) matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property.

**6.5 Submission Redaction Report 3 March 2026**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council adjourned for the conduct of the Closed Meeting at 8.32pm.

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council resumed at 9.00pm.

**7 RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING**

The Chief Executive Officer read out the following resolutions made in the Closed Meeting of Council.

**6.1 CONTRACT REPORT - ORANGE REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUM AND PLANETARIUM**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/279

*Cr Whitton declared an interest in this item, left the meeting with the time being 8.33pm and did not participate in discussion or voting on this item.*

**RESOLVED - 26/108****Cr D Mallard/Cr J Stedman**

- 1 That Council note the report;
- 2 That the provision detailed in the report be included in the QBRS; and
- 3 That an options paper for the fit out on operation of the Planetarium be prepared for consideration by Council.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman,

Against: Cr K Duffy

Absent: Cr J Whitton

*\*Cr Whitton returned to the meeting with the time being 8.55pm\**

*\*Cr Duffy left the meeting with the time being 8.55pm\**

**6.2 PROPOSED EASEMENT - COUNCIL OWNED LAND - 296-298 SUMMER STREET - LOT 96 DP 1190941**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/257

**RESOLVED - 26/109****Cr S Peterson/Cr T Greenhalgh**

That Council resolves:

- 1 To consent to the registration of an easement on Lot 96 DP 1190941.
- 2 That permission be granted to affix the Common Seal on any necessary documentation.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr K Duffy

**6.3 NOMINATION OF COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE - LGNSW RURAL AND REGIONAL SUMMIT**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/232

**RESOLVED - 26/110****Cr S Peterson/Cr T Greenhalgh**

That Council nominates up to 1 Councillor to attend the LGNSW Rural and Regional Summit to be held at Telstra Sydney Customer Insight Centre on 7 May 2026.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr K Duffy

**6.4 NOMINATION OF COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE - LGNSW DESTINATION AND VISITOR ECONOMY CONFERENCE 2026**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/231

**RESOLVED - 26/111****Cr M Ruddy/Cr G Power**

That Council nominates 2 Councillors attend the LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference to be held at Maitland Town Hall 27 – 29 May 2026.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr K Duffy

**6.5 SUBMISSION REDACTION REPORT 3 MARCH 2026**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/338

**RESOLVED - 26/112****Cr M McDonell/Cr G Power**

That the information in the Submission Redaction report be acknowledged.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr K Duffy

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.02PM**

This is Page Number 8 and the Final Page of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 3 March 2026.