



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE
ON 21 APRIL 2026
COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM

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 Whitton

Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate & Commercial Services, Director Development Services (Arnold), Acting Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services (Stanford), Acting Director Technical Services (Davis), Manager Corporate Governance, Manager Development Assessment, Coordinator Strategic Planning, Senior Planner (Yates), Communications Lead, Risk Lead, Governance Officer (Allan)

1.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED - 26/177

Cr M Ruddy/Cr S Peterson

That the apologies be accepted from Cr J Stedman and that Council grant them a leave of absence from the Council Meeting of Orange City Council on 21 April 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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

1.2 LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING

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

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Ruddy conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

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

Cr Kinghorne declared a Significant Pecuniary Interest in PDC Item 2.2 - Development Application DA 46/2026(1) - 7 Squatters Ridge as her husband's consulting company has undertaken work on this site.

1.5 OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Daniel Taylor from Church Established led the Council in Prayer.

THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE OPEN FORUM AT 6:04PM

PDC Item 2.3 - Development Application DA 353/2025(1) - 86 Summer Street

- **Sam Basha - Patch Planning**

THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL RESUMED AT 6:14PM

2 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED - 26/178

Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr M Ruddy

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 7 April 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 7 April 2026 noting the correction to the attendance that Cr Peterson was absent from the meeting.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:15PM

THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL RESUMED AT 7:08PM

4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION

Nil

5 GENERAL REPORTS

5.1 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - MARCH 2026

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/305

RESOLVED - 26/184

Cr M McDonell/Cr T Greenhalgh

That Council resolves to:

- 1 Note the Statement of Investments for the period March 2026.
- 2 Adopt the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

5.2 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/315

RESOLVED - 26/185**Cr D Mallard/Cr S Peterson**

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

5.3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS 7 APRIL 2026

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/334

RESOLVED - 26/186**Cr J Whitton/Cr K Duffy**

- 1 That the Minutes of the Planning & Development Policy Committee at its meeting held on 7 April 2026 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 2 That the Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee at its meeting held on 7 April 2026 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 3 That the Minutes of the Finance Policy Committee at its meeting held on 7 April 2026 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 4 That the Minutes of the Infrastructure Policy Committee at its meeting held on 7 April 2026 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 5 That the Minutes of the Services Policy Committee at its meeting held on 7 April 2026 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

5.4 STRATEGIC POLICY REVIEWS - EXHIBITION

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/599

RESOLVED - 26/187**Cr M McDonell/Cr S Peterson**

- 1 That Council resolves to delete ST109 – Buy Local, and include its intent and key content into ST47 – Procurement.
- 2 That Council resolves to place Strategic Policy ST47 – Procurement 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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

5.5 STRATEGIC POLICY REVIEWS - POST-EXHIBITION

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/451

RESOLVED - 26/188**Cr D Mallard/Cr M McDonell**

That Council adopt Strategic Policies:

- ST58 - Photographic Recording of Heritage Items
- ST59 - Feral & Infant Animal Management

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

5.6 ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS BASTICK COTTAGE, COOK PARK GUILDRY

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/589

RESOLVED - 26/189**Cr D Mallard/Cr G Power**

That Council:

- 1 Approve the design concept of platform steps at the main entrance of Bastick Cottage, Cook Park;
- 2 Consider the required funding in Council's 2026-2027 budget; and
- 3 Approve the use of the accessibility ramp rebate budget to purchase a portable access ramp for the side entrance at a cost of up to \$350.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

Cr Duffy asked if the accessibility improvements are part of the Cook Park Management Plan.

*The Chief Executive officer advised that the conservation of Bastick Cottage is part of the Cook Park Management Plan, but would need to confirm if the accessibility upgrades are included in the Plan.***QUESTION TAKE ON NOTICE****Cr F Kinghorne**

Cr Kinghorne requested a sign be installed at Bastick Cottage, Cook Park alerting the public that there is a portable access ramp available for use.

5.7 TREE REMOVAL, GO-KART FACILITY

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/591

RESOLVED - 26/190**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr K Duffy**

That Council allocate \$15,625 from Tree Maintenance budget to undertake safety tree maintenance work along the driveway to the Go-Kart facility on Perc Griffith Way.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

Cr Peterson asked if the cost of the tree removal at Perc Griffith Way could be transferred to the purchaser of the land.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the trees are located on the adjoining lot of land which Council owns, not the land being sold.

5.8 CLASSIFICATION OF LAND AS ROAD SURROUNDING ORANGE AIRPORT

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/660

RESOLVED - 26/191**Cr K Duffy/Cr G Power**

- 1 That Council proceed with the registration of plans of subdivision for the classification of roads on land impacted by the extension of the airport runway.
- 2 That all newly created lots be classified as Operational Land.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

5.9 CADIA COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/666

RESOLVED - 26/192**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr F Kinghorne**

That the report by the Coordinator Natural Resources and Biodiversity and the attached minutes regarding the Cadia Community Consultative Committee are 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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

Cr Kinghorne asked for clarification on what financial support Cadia offers to Council.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that Council has multiple arrangements with Cadia, including a Voluntary Planning Agreement, contributions to road works and road maintenance and a number of grants Council has applied for and been awarded. He advised that an estimate of \$5m has been received over the last ten years from Cadia.

5.10 UPDATE ORANGE SPORTS PRECINCT AND ORANGE CONSERVATORIUM AND PLANETARIUM

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/702

RESOLVED - 26/193**Cr M McDonell/Cr S Peterson**

That Council acknowledge the report on the Orange Sports Precinct and Orange Conservatorium and Planetarium update.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

Cr Peterson asked if the conservatorium can open separately due to the delays on the planetarium.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that in the past incomplete buildings could be given partial occupation certificates but that option has since been removed, so the entirety of the building needs to have an occupation certificate before any of it can be used.

Cr Peterson asked for further information on the delayed completion dates for the Sports Precinct. *The Chief Executive Officer advised that there have been a number of challenges with the project due to its complexity. The completion dates provided reflect the estimates from the contractors and the economic climate of current world conflicts, however there is a hard completion timeframe for the John Davis Stadium within this current term of the NSW Government.*

Cr Power asked if staff are confident with the current completion dates and if there has been enough leeway granted for unexpected issues that might arise and cause further delays.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that there is some margin built into the timeframe, but it has not allowed for major unexpected disruptions such as 3 months of rain over winter.

Cr McDonnell asked what impact the bushfire regulations and requirements have had on the landscaping plans for the sports precinct.

The Chief Executive officer advised that the last two DA's reflect the changes with approved bushfire regulations. The predominant changes needed were regarding the removal of the shrubbery adjacent to buildings and thinning out the density of trees in certain zones.

Cr Judge asked if the cost of resolving the drainage issues in the fields is within the budget.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that it is still in negotiation with the contractor, but Council has made provision within the budget, noting that it is a relatively minor amount.

Cr Duffy asked if the dollar value can be added to the report.

The Chief Executive officer advised that the budget estimates can be included the report once works have been awarded and commenced, otherwise it would mean that it will be made public prior to tendering.

Cr Ruddy asked if the additional drainage of the fields are actually completed as the report states, or are they expected to be completed.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the contractors have completed the works as recommended by their soil scientist, though the results cannot be confirmed until a similar rain event occurs.

Cr Greenhalgh asked what the impact of continuing to push the timeline of completion out might have on securing events in the future.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that there are five project managers working on the project with a sixth being engaged due to the complexities of the work. He will continue to update Councillors on the timeframes if they need to be extended.

Cr Ruddy asked how significant the impact of current overseas events are on the completion of Council's major projects.

The Chief Executive officer advised that the major concern is future purchasing as prices on building materials are expected to rise, however staff are working on purchasing for use in future construction.

5.11 OPERATIONAL PLAN - DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/713

RESOLVED - 26/194**Cr M McDonell/Cr S Peterson**

That Council resolves to place on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days the Operational Plan - Draft Budget 2026-2027.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

Cr Peterson asked if Council could be provided recommendations on how Council could achieve a \$0 deficit in the general fund instead of \$2.5m.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that savings would need to come from a change in Council's level of service to the community.

Cr Greenhalgh noted that the operating performance ratio is down to 3.5% this year and asked how that can be improved going forward.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that an operating performance ratio benchmark of >0% is what Council is aiming to achieve. Staff are looking at opportunities to boost self-generating revenue and what cost savings are achievable.

Cr Greenhalgh asked what Council's borrowing capacity looks like at the moment should grant opportunities become available.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that he feels Council is in a healthy position as it exceeds the benchmark.

Cr Duffy asked what funds are in Council's unrestricted reserves.

The Director Corporate & Commercial Services advised that cash reserves will be tabled at the next meeting in the IP&R report which will address these questions.

Cr Peterson asked if the impact of depreciation will make the infrastructure backlog ratio worse in the future.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that staff are currently reviewing the infrastructure backlog to check for accuracy.

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 - 26/195**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr D Mallard**

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 Orange Sports Precinct - Field Lighting Tender F4502-1

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.

6.2 Variation of Buy Back Provision - Lot 402 DP 1292031

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 (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

6.3 LGNSW Local Roads Congress 2026 - Nominations for Councillor Attendance

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 Submission Redaction Report 21 April 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 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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council adjourned for the conduct of the Closed Meeting at 8.02pm.

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council resumed at 8.58pm.

7 RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING

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

6.1 ORANGE SPORTS PRECINCT - FIELD LIGHTING TENDER F4502-1

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/655

RESOLVED - 26/196**Cr T Mileto/Cr J Whitton**

That Council defer consideration of Tender F4502-1 Orange Sports Precinct - Field Lighting.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

6.2 VARIATION OF BUY BACK PROVISION - LOT 402 DP 1292031

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/658

RESOLVED - 26/197**Cr D Mallard/Cr S Peterson**

- 1 That Council enter into a Deed of Variation for a period of up to 12 months.
- 2 That the Common Seal be annexed to any necessary documentation.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

6.3 LGNSW LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS 2026 - NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/667

RESOLVED - 26/198**Cr T Mileto/Cr K Duffy**

That Council resolve up to two Councillors will attend the 2026 LGNSW Local Roads Congress – Sydney.

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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

6.4 SUBMISSION REDACTION REPORT 21 APRIL 2026

TRIM REFERENCE: 2026/665

RESOLVED - 26/199**Cr K Duffy/Cr F Kinghorne**

That the information in the Submission Redaction report 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 Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Stedman

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:58PM

This is Page Number 9 and the Final Page of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 21 April 2026.