



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

LATE ITEMS

5 MAY 2026

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RECORD NUMBER: 2026/870

MAYORAL MINUTE

At its meeting of Tuesday 18 November 2025, Council resolved the following:

RESOLVED - 25/620

Cr J Whitton/Cr S Peterson

That Council refer this matter to the Minister of Local Government for review.

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

This resolution came after a Notice of Motion from Councillor Duffy, as follows:

Motion

That Council prepares and provides a report to this chamber detailing the circumstances surrounding the recently publicised proposed meeting involving the Mayor, certain council staff, and a councillor, as reported in national media outlets such as The Australian, the National Indigenous Times, Sky News, and on social media, regarding potential compensation discussions for land at the sporting ground.

Council wrote to the Minister for Local Government in November 2025, Mr Ron Hoenig, and the Minister has now responded to Council's correspondence of which is attached to this Mayoral Minute.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained in this Mayoral Minute - response from the Minister for Local Government Ron Hoenig – Request for review on proposed meeting regarding compensation for sporting ground land, be acknowledged.

Tony Mileto

MAYOR

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Correspondence from the Minister for Local Government Mr Ron Hoenig (redacted), D26/55813 [↓](#)

**Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Minister for Local Government Mr Ron Hoenig
(redacted)****The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP**

Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly
Vice-President of the Executive Council
Minister for Local Government



Your Ref: D25/142253
Our Ref: A992315 / M026-0694

His Worship the Mayor
Cr Tony Mileto
Orange City Council
PO Box 35
ORANGE NSW 2800

via email: cr.mileto@orange.nsw.gov.au

Dear Cr Mileto,

As Minister for Local Government, I recently received correspondence from the Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) expressing concern about the circumstances of a proposed meeting late last year between Orange City Council (Council) officials and a community member, Mr Paul Towney.

I note that, following addresses to Council by both Mr Towney and a representative of the LALC at the Council meeting held on 18 November 2025, Council resolved to refer the matter to the Minister for review. I note that you referred the matter to my office on 25 November 2025 (Ref: A990641 / DEPT25-1875).

Noting that the proposed meeting did not ultimately go ahead, there would appear to be no issue for investigation or intervention by myself as the Minister or the Office of Local Government. However, the circumstances surrounding the proposed meeting have exposed divisions and sensitivities within the local Aboriginal community which were clearly evident at the 18 November 2025 meeting.

Council should continue to work co-operatively with the Aboriginal community and representative bodies and to be alert to, and deal sensitively with, divisive issues within the community.

Should you have any questions or require any support or assistance in respect of this matter, please feel free to contact [REDACTED] Manager Investigations on [REDACTED] or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

01 MAY 2026

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP
Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly
Vice-President of the Executive Council
Minister for Local Government

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