



GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**HELD AT THE
QUEENSLAND COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (QCWA) HALL
36 GENTLE ANNIE ROAD, AMBROSE**

On Tuesday 16 June 2026

Commencing at 10.00am

**Leisa Dowling
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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Elected Members

Councillor - Mayor M Burnett
Councillor G Churchill
Councillor K Davis
Councillor N Muszkat
Councillor S McClintock
Councillor L Patrick
Councillor C Cameron

Officers

L Dowling (Chief Executive Officer)
R Millett (Executive Secretary)
S Penrose (Governance Business Partner)
T Bignell (General Manager Operations)
M Francis (General Manager Assets and Environment)
K Wilson (General Manager Customer Experience)
K Marxsen (Manager Strategy and Improvement)
K Marks, Manager Economic Development
E Noakes (Strategic Project Specialist)
S Rajapakse (Management Accounting Specialist)
J Iwasaka (Team Leader Community Development)

G/0.3.2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

GM/26/5684 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Cameron
Seconded Cr McClintock

That an apology for Councillor Wagner and Councillor Holzheimer be received.

CARRIED

G/0.3.3. MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE

Nil

G/0.3.4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES

The big event in the Gladstone Region for the last few weeks was Ecofest at the Tondoon Botanic Gardens (TBG) on Sunday 7 June 2026, which also celebrates World Environment Day, which was Climate Action. Thousands of people turned up to the TBG for that huge event we have every year.

On Monday 8 June 2026, we had a citizenship ceremony at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre (GECC), where we welcomed 50 new citizens who chose to make Australia their home, many of whom had lived here for many years. One resident from the Boyne Valley has probably been here for 40 years, so it's fantastic to see he'd made that decision to become an Australian citizen.

Thank you, Councillor Chris Cameron, for attending the Queensland Fire Medal presentation on Wednesday 10 June 2026. And to Deputy Mayor, Councillor Natalia Muszkat, and Councillor Simon McClintock for attending the Lifestyle Church 20-year celebration on the weekend (Friday 12 June 2026 - Sunday 14 June 2026) as well. I was hoping to get there, but I had my 4 nephews, and I can tell you they were a handful, and I'm sure that would have been too much to take to the Lifestyle Church on the weekend, but I'm sure it would have been an amazing event.

Yesterday (Monday 15 June 2026) we turned the dirt on the Boyne Tannum Aquatic Centre. A \$15 million project from Council and a \$15 million funding commitment from the Federal Government has made that project a reality. I'd like to thank everyone who was involved in that, from Councillors, previous Councillors, Federal and State Members, and Minister Catherine King and the Federal Government for their \$15 million, and all the officers at the Gladstone Regional Council who helped make this project a reality as well. It's been something that's been planned for a lot of years for our community in Boyne Island Tannum Sands. It didn't happen and wouldn't have happened without a contribution from the Federal Government, and that was a project we said we wanted to see for Boyne Island Tannum Sands, but we needed to see other levels of government support that as well. I know it was a big effort from our team at Council, so thank you so much for everything you did to make that project a reality.

Up and coming, we have the Apprenticeship and Traineeship Graduation Ceremony on Thursday 18 June 2026. The big one for everyone here is the Mount Larcom Show which is on this weekend, Saturday 20 June 2026 to Sunday 21 June 2026. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to getting out there and enjoying the Mount Larcom Show. Councillor Michelle Wagner will be opening that event for Council.

The Ubobo Community Forum is on Saturday 27 June 2026. Luminous is back at the TBG this year for four days, from Thursday 16 July 2026 to Sunday 19 July 2026. We'll also be celebrating 30 years of our sister city with Saiki as we prepare for the Mayor and delegation from Saiki to visit Gladstone later this year. Tickets for Luminous will go on sale very, very soon.

It's fantastic to be here in Ambrose at the Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) Hall. Our team have funded about \$10,000 through our Community Investment Program, the funding of the new roof at the hall. Fantastic to see the works are complete and we're now able to be here in the hall and enjoy the Council meeting with the students.

G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 2 JUNE 2026

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Prepared By: Executive Secretary

Council Meeting Date: 16 June 2026

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 June 2026.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 2 June 2026 be confirmed.

GM/26/5685 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill
Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/3. DEPUTATIONS

Nil

G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

G/4.1. ADOPTION OF THE 2026 - 2031 CORPORATE PLAN

Responsible Officer: General Manager People and Strategy

Prepared By: Manager Strategy and Improvement

Council Meeting Date: 16 June 2026

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present Council's 5-year Corporate Plan 'Our Vision 2026-2031' for endorsement.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council adopt Our Vision 2026-2031 provided as Attachment 1 to the Officer's Report as Council's 5-year Corporate Plan pursuant to section 165(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

GM/26/5686 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr McClintock
Seconded Cr Churchill

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4.2. EAST END BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) - COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT

Responsible Officer: General Manager People and Strategy

Prepared By: Strategic Project Specialist

Council Meeting Date: 16 June 2026

File Ref: ED2.2

An overview of the East End Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) - Community Benefit Agreement report was provided.

The meeting was adjourned for morning tea at 10.36am - 11.06am.

Purpose:

That Council considers entering into a Community Benefit Agreement for the East End Battery Energy Storage System proposed for development at 475 Mount Alma Road, East End.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to finalise and execute a Community Benefit Agreement for the East End Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

GM/26/5687 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Muszkat

Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4.3. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MAY 2026

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Management Accounting Specialist

Council Meeting Date: 16 June 2026

File Ref: FM15.1

Purpose:

This report seeks Council adoption of the Monthly Financial Statements for the year 2025-26 to date, for the period ended 31 May 2026.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council receive the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 31 May 2026 provided in accordance with s204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

GM/26/5688 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Davis

Seconded Cr McClintock

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/4.4. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - 2026/27 THEMES

Responsible Officer: General Manager Community and Lifestyle

Prepared By: Manager Community Partnerships

Council Meeting Date: 16 June 2026

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

To consider the themes to be applied to the Micro Grants Fund and the Connected Communities Fund under the Community Investment Policy and Program in 2026/2027.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council, in respect of the Community Investment Policy and Program:

1. adopt the following themes for the Micro Grants Fund and Connected Communities Fund for the 2026/27 financial year:

- **Theme: Connected & Inclusive Communities**

Corporate Plan alignment: Community – A Better Everyday

- **Description:** Fund activities that strengthen social connection and belonging, support inclusion, accessibility and participation, build community pride and identity, support volunteerism and community leadership, create safe, welcoming community experiences, reduce isolation and improve wellbeing.
- **Example of initiatives:** neighbourhood events, inclusion initiatives, youth engagement, seniors' connection programs, multicultural activities, community-led activation projects, volunteer development.

- **Theme: Local Leadership & Community Capacity**

Corporate Plan alignment: Community + Trust & Confidence

- **Description:** Fund activities that strengthen community organisations, build local capability and leadership, improve governance and sustainability of groups, support collaborative partnerships, and increase community participation in local issues.
- **Example of initiatives:** committee training, governance capability, community leadership programs, partnership projects, shared resource initiatives, mentoring and skills development, development application fee reimbursement.

- **Theme: Sustainable & Well-Cared-For Places**

Corporate Plan alignment: Environment – Practical Stewardship

- **Description:** Fund activities that improve local environmental outcomes, support practical sustainability initiatives, reduce waste, enhance public amenity, encourage stewardship of natural places, improve resilience and preparedness.
- **Example of initiatives:** revegetation, waste reduction initiatives, recycling/reuse projects, clean-up activities, resilience preparedness, habitat restoration.

- **Theme: Community Trust, Participation & Transparency**

Corporate Plan alignment: Trust & Confidence

- **Description:** Fund activities that improve civic participation, increase understanding of local issues, support respectful dialogue, strengthen community voice, improve access to information and participation.
- **Example of initiatives:** civic participation projects, deliberative engagement pilots, community education initiatives, accessibility and information inclusion projects.

GM/26/5689 Council Resolution:

Moved Cr Churchill

Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Simon McClintock congratulated the Lifestyle Church, Pastor Aaron and Pastor Tizena on celebrating 20 years and mentioned that he was able to attend for the whole weekend and be a part of the great celebrations, with the event well attended. Cr McClintock highlighted that it was exciting to look at some of the amazing things the Lifestyle Church have undertaken within the community over the two decades, along with many many volunteers that have been activated and attended events, from festivals to backyard blitzes and helping people through all sorts of things that go unseen. Cr McClintock acknowledged the amazing leadership that has brought it to that point, noting that it takes a lot of sacrifice and commitment. Cr McClintock congratulated the Lifestyle Church for all the amazing work they do and wished them all the best for the next 20 years.

Councillor Glenn Churchill mentioned that along with Councillor Chris Cameron and Councillor Leanne Patrick, he attended the official launch of the park bench at the Boyne Island Skate Park. Cr Cameron presented Mayor Burnett with a certificate of appreciation from Boyne Tannum Turtleway Artscape. Cr Cameron highlighted that a young nine year old man, Noah Robinson, won the competition to design the bench. Councillors acknowledged Noah's artistic skills and encouraged him to enter the Golding Showcase (youth art exhibition).

Councillor Natalia Muszkat congratulated Gladstone Engineering Alliance (GEA) on last week's Business Diversification Networking Breakfast and highlighted that Council's Manager Economic Development, Kristy Marks, facilitated the panel discussion. Cr Muszkat noted that it was great to see all the businesses together and discussing different opportunities that can present and how to make sure that businesses take advantage of them in a world that keeps on changing.

Mayor Burnett wished the Australian's good luck in the World Cup highlighting that they have won one game so far. Mayor Burnett mentioned that the State of Origin is on Wednesday 17 June 2026.

G/6. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

There being no further business the Mayor formally closed the meeting.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.38am.