



**GLADSTONE**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

## **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CIVIC CENTRE  
101 GOONDOON STREET, GLADSTONE**

**On Tuesday 4 August 2026**

**Commencing at 9.00am**

**Leisa Dowling  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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**Elected Members**

Councillor - Mayor M Burnett (via teams)  
Councillor M Wagner (via teams)  
Councillor N Muszkat  
Councillor S McClintock (via teams)  
Councillor L Patrick  
Councillor C Cameron

**Officers**

M Holmes (General Manager Finance Governance and Risk)  
R Millett (Executive Secretary)  
T Whalley (Manager Governance and Risk)  
K Lee (General Manager Community and Lifestyle)  
T Bignell (General Manager Operations)  
M Francis (General Manager Assets and Environment)  
K Wilson (General Manager Customer Experience)  
A Layton (Manager Contracts and Procurement, Acting)  
Z Smith (Project Manager, Consultant)  
H Roberston (Manager Development Services)  
R Burge (Manager Water Program Delivery, Acting)

**GM/26/5725 Procedural Motion:**

Moved Cr Muszkat

That the meeting be adjourned for 15 mins due to lack of quorum as a result of technical difficulties.

**CARRIED**

**The meeting was reconvened at 9.15am**

**G/0.3.2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**GM/26/5726 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Patrick  
Seconded Cr Cameron

That an apology for Councillor Churchill, Councillor Davis 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**

I'm in Weipa at the moment because the extension of the mine in Weipa is very important for Gladstone. The bauxite from Weipa travels to Gladstone by ship to our alumina refineries at Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) and Rio Tinto. Ultimately the alumina is made at those two alumina refineries, at QAL particularly, goes to Boyne Smelter and we make the world class aluminium in Gladstone. It's part of a fantastic supply chain story for Queensland where we mine in Queensland and we turn that ore into aluminium through our alumina refineries and our aluminium smelter. The community here in Weipa have about 4,000 people and 1,500 people working at the Rio Tinto facilities including Amrun which is the new mine, and the bauxite from there comes to Gladstone and then the existing mine which used to send bauxite to Gladstone as well, Andoom. 1,500 people work at those facilities but support thousands of jobs in our community. Rio Tinto is a big part of the Gladstone community and a big part of the community in Weipa as well. I'll be catching up with the mayor and the neighbouring mayors of Mapoon and Napranum, over the next couple of days.

Back in the Gladstone Region, National Tree Day was on Sunday 26 July 2026 and it was great to see our community come together. Thank you, Councillors Glenn Churchill, Leanne Patrick and Simon McClintock, and family who attended that event and to the community who came out and supported National Tree Day.

We had our Saiki Sister City visit last week, and what a huge event that was. It was fantastic to be at the airport to welcome the Mayor and delegation from Saiki. Mayor Kuniko Tomitaka and her delegation including a number of students, seven students, who were billeted to families in Boyne Island and Tannum Sands. Big shout out to those families in Boyne Island and Tannum Sands that billeted or hosted those students and to our Saiki Sister City Advisory Committee and our two Councillors on that Committee, Cr McClintock and Cr Patrick, who spent every minute of every day last week with our delegation. I thank you both for the time and effort you put in and to all Councillors who attended events with our Sister City celebrating 30 years of friendship between Gladstone and Saiki City in Japan.

Symphony Under the Stars was held on Friday night (31 July 2026) at the Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) Marina Parklands. Thank you again to the Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) for coming to Gladstone again for the 15th year for that event. And to APLNG operated by ConocoPhillips, without their sponsorship of that event, it just doesn't happen.

Coming up in the Gladstone Region, GLNG is celebrating their 1,000th cargo from Curtis Island today (Tuesday 4 August 2026). Congratulations to GLNG, another big supporter of our local community.

It is a 100 year celebration this year of the Many Peaks to Barrimoon railway line which is on Saturday 15 August 2026. Congratulations to the Boyne Valley community on that celebration. 100 years since the opening of the Boyne Valley line from Many Peaks to Gladstone which is an historic event and it is now part of the Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail which also hosts the Boyne Valley 50 running event.

Coming up, we have the Port to Park on Sunday 16 August 2026 at the GPC East Shores. Many volunteers involved in that event as well. Thank you to GPC for putting on what is a fantastic Port to Park event. To everyone participating or competing, all the best of luck.

## **G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES FOR 21 JULY 2026**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Prepared By:** Executive Secretary

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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**Purpose:**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Special Budget Meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the Special Budget Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be confirmed.

**GM/26/5727 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Cameron

Seconded Cr McClintock

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **G/2.2. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 21 JULY 2026**

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Prepared By:** Executive Secretary

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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### **Purpose:**

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026.

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be confirmed.

### **GM/26/5728 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Patrick

Seconded Cr Wagner

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**Deputy Mayor Muszkat chaired the remainder of the meeting.**

### **GM/26/5729 Procedural Motion:**

Moved Cr Muszkat

Seconded Cr Cameron

That the report for Expenditure Approval - Variation to Contract 41-26 Design and Construction of Benaraby Landfill Cell3B Part A be added to the Agenda as Urgent Business and that Urgent Business be considered following the confirmation of minutes.

**CARRIED**

## **G/6. URGENT BUSINESS**

### **G/6.1. EXPENDITURE APPROVAL - CONTRACT 41-26 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF BENARABY LANDFILL CELL 3B PART A**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Assets and Environment & General Manager Finance

Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Manager Contracts and Procurement & Manager Capital Program Delivery

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** CM21.1

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#### **Purpose:**

This report seeks a resolution from Council, in accordance with the Council's Register of Financial Delegations to approve expenditure associated with Contract Variation (VAR004) to Contract 41-26 with DECC Environmental Pty Ltd.

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve expenditure of \$1,657,418.83 ex GST for Contract Variation VAR004 to Contract 41-26 with DECC Environmental Pty Ltd, as well as any additional expenditure necessary to complete Design and Construction of Benaraby Landfill Cell 3B Part A.

#### **GM/26/5730 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Cameron

Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

### **G/3. DEPUTATIONS**

Nil



## **G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### **G/4.1. REQUEST TO COMMENCE AMENDMENTS TO THE GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL PLANNING SCHEME**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Customer Experience

**Prepared By:** Strategic Planning Specialist

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** PRJ-479/G, PRJ-479/J, LU6.7

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#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement to commence three Major Amendments to the Gladstone Regional Planning Scheme.

#### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council in accordance with section 20 of the *Planning Act 2016* and Chapter Two of the *Ministers Guidelines and Rules* commence, in respect of the Gladstone Regional Council Planning Scheme, the preparation of:

- a) Major Amendment – Bushfire;
- b) Major Amendment – Housing; and
- c) Major Amendment – Advertising Devices.

#### **GM/26/5731 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Patrick  
Seconded Cr Wagner

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**G/4.2. EXPENDITURE APPROVAL RPQS 81-23 - ANNUAL PLANT HIRE 2026-27 (YARWUN WWTP)**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Manager Contracts and Procurement (Acting), Manager Water Program Delivery

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** FM21.1

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**Purpose:**

This report seeks a resolution from Council, in accordance with Council's Register of Financial Delegations to approve expenditure in relation to a 12-month engagement of Veolia Environmental Services Pty Ltd for the hire of machinery to transport waste to Gladstone Waste Water Treatment Plant.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council approves the estimated expenditure of up to \$1,210,902.00 ex GST with Veolia Environmental Services Pty Ltd for a 12-month period commencing in August 2026.

**GM/26/5732 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Cameron

Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**G/4.3. EXPENDITURE APPROVAL RPQS 81-23 - ANNUAL MACHINERY WET HIRE 2026-27  
(VACUUM EXCAVATION MACHINERY - WATER OPERATIONS)**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Manager Contracts and Procurement (Acting), Manager Water Program Delivery

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** FM21.1

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**Purpose:**

This report seeks a resolution from Council, in accordance with Council's Register of Financial Delegations to approve expenditure in relation to a 12 month engagement of Aestec Pty Ltd for the hire of vacuum excavation trucks required by the Water Program Delivery Team.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council approves the estimated expenditure of up to \$925,872.40 ex GST with Aestec Pty Ltd for the 12 month period commencing in August 2026.

**GM/26/5733 Council Resolution:**

Moved Mayor Burnett

Seconded Cr Cameron

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

#### **G/4.4. PROPOSED CHANGES TO DISASTER FUNDING RECOVERY ARRANGEMENTS**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Disaster Response Specialist

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** ES9.1

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**Cr McClintock left the meeting.**

**Purpose:**

To seek Council's endorsement of the submission to the Federal Governments proposed amendments to Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council endorse the proposed submission to the National Emergency Management Agency in Attachment 2 to the Officer's Report.

**GM/26/5734 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Patrick  
Seconded Cr Wagner

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **G/4.5. CANCELLATION OF GENERAL MEETING 18 AUGUST 2026**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Executive Secretary

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** CM7.2

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**Purpose:**

To allow Council to consider the cancellation of the 18 August 2026 General Meeting.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That the General Meeting for Tuesday 18 August 2026 be cancelled.

**GM/26/5735 Council Resolution:**

Moved Mayor Burnett

Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**G/4.6. AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY 10 JUNE 2026**

**Responsible Officer:** General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

**Prepared By:** Executive Secretary

**Council Meeting Date:** 4 August 2026

**File Ref:** CM26.2

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**Purpose:**

To present a summary report of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 10 June 2026, pursuant to section 211 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council receive the summary report of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 10 June 2026.

**GM/26/5736 Council Resolution:**

Moved Cr Cameron

Seconded Cr Patrick

That the Officer's Recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Michelle Wagner thanked the host families and organisers of the Saiki Sister City visit. Cr Wagner mentioned that she attended the visit to Awoonga Dam and the fish hatchery, which was amazing, and thanked Jamie and all the staff for taking the children around the areas. Cr Wagner highlighted that it was a wonderful experience for the children. Cr Wagner thanked the interpreters that assisted during the visit.

Councillor Leanne Patrick provided the following Councillor Report:

*It's been an incredibly busy and rewarding fortnight across our Gladstone Region, and I wanted to share some of the wonderful moments I've been part of.*

**Port Curtis Orchid and Foliage Society Show:** *I spent some time on the weekend surrounded by the most stunning orchids, foliage, bonsai and cacti at the Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct. Three full rooms of displays, months of hard work, with a huge number of visiting clubs from all over Queensland. We had six hotels booked out and lots of buses visiting. I wanted to give a shout out and thanks to everyone involved with that event.*

**Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) Symphony Under the Stars:** *The Symphony Under the Stars was incredibly amazing and it was marking 15 years of the QSO performing in Gladstone with the partnership of ConocoPhillips APLNG.*

**Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) Mt Larcom 95 Years Celebration:** *I was honoured to celebrate the QCWA Mt Larcom Branch's 95th anniversary. It highlighted the generations of women who have supported families and strengthened community connections, and their contribution which continues today to shape the district.*

**New Joan Ross Collection at Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum (GRAGM):** *GRAGM has two new pieces that are now being display. These pieces are by Joan Ross. They're bold works by her as the pieces challenge history, spark conversation and invite us to reflect on our shared story. I encourage everyone to drop in and have a look at those.*

**Student Leadership Experience:** *I was very busy at Tannum Sands State High School with their Student Leadership Experience. It was great to be involved in networking and seeing who the new leaders were for Tannum Sands State High School for 2027.*

**30 Years of Friendship with Saiki City:** *I was proud to be part of the Saiki Sister City Advisory Committee and an elected Council representative for the 30 year friendship mayoral visit for Saiki City.*

**National Tree Day, Curlew Park, Tannum Sands:** *I was also involved in the National Tree Day event.*

*The past two weeks have shown exactly what makes the Gladstone Region so special - community pride, creativity, culture, environmental care and strong partnerships. I'm grateful to stand alongside so many passionate people and community members who continue to make our region thrive and shine so brightly.*

Councillor Natalia Muszkat mentioned that the region's QCWA Annual General Meetings (AGMs) have been held and thanked the QWCA's for inviting Councillors to attend. Cr Muszkat highlighted that they are always a nice morning, afternoon or evening event.

**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 9.51am.**