

# Minutes

## Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 24 February 2026



Reports, recommendations and supporting documentation can be accessed via the City of Darwin Website at [www.darwin.nt.gov.au](http://www.darwin.nt.gov.au), or contact Customer Service on (08) 8930 0300.

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY  
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN  
ON TUESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 5:30 PM**

**PRESENT:**

Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)  
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris  
Councillor Nicole Brown  
Councillor Shani Carson  
Councillor Kim Farrar  
Councillor Julie Fraser  
Councillor Edwin Joseph  
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris  
Councillor Mick Palmer  
Councillor Peter Pangquee  
Councillor Patrik Ralph  
Councillor Sam Weston

**OFFICERS:**

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders  
General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr  
General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson  
General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

**APOLOGY:**

Nil

**GUESTS:**

Chung Wah Society  
Defence Housing Australia - Brendan O'Brien  
Save Lee Point - David Percival  
Save Lee Point - Ian Redmond  
Save Lee Point - Graeme Sawyer  
Save Lee Point - Lorraine Williams

**Order of Business**

<b>1</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Meeting Declared Open</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Apologies and Leave of Absence</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Electronic Meeting Attendance</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Moving of Items</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Matters of Public Importance / Lord Mayoral Minute</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Public Question Time</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Petitions</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Deputations and Briefings</b> .....	<b>8</b>
	12.1 Chinese New Year Blessing .....	8
	12.2 Lee Point Development.....	8
<b>13</b>	<b>Notices of Motion</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Action Reports</b> .....	<b>9</b>
	14.1 Review of Privacy Policy .....	9
	14.2 Australian Local Government Association - National General Assembly Motions 2026 .....	9
<b>15</b>	<b>Receive &amp; Note Reports</b> .....	<b>10</b>
	15.1 Monthly Financial Report - January 2026 .....	10
	15.2 Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes.....	10
<b>16</b>	<b>Correspondence</b> .....	<b>10</b>
	16.1 Incoming Correspondence - LGANT - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development - Local Government Amendment Bill to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee .....	10
	16.2 Northern Territory Electoral Commission - City of Darwin 2025 Local Government Election Report and Expenses.....	10
<b>17</b>	<b>Reports of Representatives</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Questions by Members</b> .....	<b>11</b>
	18.1 Expression of Interest Update .....	11
	18.2 Henbury Avenue Resurfacing Works.....	11
	18.3 Accessible Parking on Peel Street.....	12
	18.4 Parking Fees.....	12
<b>19</b>	<b>General Business</b> .....	<b>12</b>
	19.1 Appointment of the Deputy Lord Mayor .....	12
	19.2 Quarterly Community Meetings .....	13
<b>20</b>	<b>Date, time and place of next Ordinary Council Meeting</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Closure of Meeting to the Public</b> .....	<b>13</b>

**22 Adjournment of Meeting and Media Liaison ..... 15**

## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We the members of City of Darwin acknowledge that we are meeting on Larrakia Country.

We recognise and pay our respects to all Larrakia people, Traditional Owners and Custodian Elders of the past and present.

We support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future.

We are committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

## 2 THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever.

Amen

*Councillor Mick Palmer was not present at the commencement of the meeting at 5:37pm.*

## 3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

### RESOLUTION ORD061/26

Moved: Councillor Patrik Ralph

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:37 pm.

**CARRIED 11/0**

## 4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 4.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

### 4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

### 4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

**5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE**

**5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED**

Nil

**5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED**

Nil

**6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**

**6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, during the Confidential Section of the Meeting, Councillor Sam Weston, declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 28.3 – Sponsorship Opportunity.

**6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF**

Nil

**7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION ORD062/26**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 January 2026 be confirmed.

**CARRIED 11/0**

Administrative amendment - Item 18.10 - Questions By Members - the word '*Mayor*' removed from the title of the Seconder and replaced with, Councillor Ed Smelt.

**8 MOVING OF ITEMS**

**8.1 MOVING OF OPEN ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

**8.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN**

Nil

**8.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

**28.2 RECONCILIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

**RESOLUTION ORD082/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

1. THAT the report entitled Reconciliation Advisory Committee - Appointment of Chair be received and noted.
2. THAT Council appoint David Kurnoth as the Chair of the Reconciliation Advisory Committee from 24 February 2026 until 29 February 2028.
3. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the Local Government Act 2019.
4. THAT the documents remain confidential, and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**29.1 ASSET SUSTAINABILITY**

**RESOLUTION ORD090/26**

Moved: Councillor Shani Carson

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

1. THAT the report entitled Asset Sustainability be received and noted.
2. THAT Council note City of Darwin's Asset Sustainability ratio is 36% for FY25 and that the 5-year average is 38%.
3. THAT Council note that decisions regarding the level and timing of asset renewal investment directly influence asset condition, service reliability and future financial pressures.
4. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
5. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED 11/0**

**9 MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE / LORD MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil

**10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**11 PETITIONS**

Nil

**12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS**

**12.1 CHINESE NEW YEAR BLESSING**

**RESOLUTION ORD063/26**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the Chinese New Year Blessing, from the Chung Wah Society be received and noted.

**CARRIED 11/0**

**12.2 LEE POINT DEVELOPMENT**

**RESOLUTION ORD064/26**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the deputations from Save Lee Point and Defence Housing Australia, in relation to the Lee Point Development, be received and noted.

**CARRIED 11/0**

**13 NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

## 14 ACTION REPORTS

*Councillor Nicole Brown departed the meeting at 6:28 pm.*

### 14.1 REVIEW OF PRIVACY POLICY

#### RESOLUTION ORD065/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Privacy Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Privacy Policy 2501.100.E.R presented as **Attachment 2**.

**CARRIED 10/0**

*Councillor Mick Palmer joined the meeting at 6:29 pm.*

### 14.2 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MOTIONS 2026

#### RESOLUTION ORD066/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

1. THAT the report entitled Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly Motions 2026 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be put to the National General Assembly 2026:

*'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish and fully fund a National Infrastructure Investment Program that provides sustained, needs-based Federal investment in stormwater and drainage systems across urban, regional and rural Australia to reduce localised and catchment-wide flood risk, and delivers targeted funding for key road infrastructure upgrades to strengthen the resilience of freight routes and critical supply chains, including bridges, culverts and flood-prone road corridors.'*

3. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be put to the National General Assembly 2026:

*'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to annually fund and deliver the Community Energy Upgrades funding program to further support emissions reduction, improve energy performance and support the transition renewable electricity.'*

**CARRIED 11/0**

*Councillor Nicole Brown re-joined the meeting at 6:30 pm.*

**15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS****15.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 2026****RESOLUTION ORD067/26**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

THAT the report entitled Monthly Financial Report – January 2026 be received and noted.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**15.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING MINUTES****RESOLUTION ORD068/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

THAT the report entitled Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes be received and noted.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**16 CORRESPONDENCE****16.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE - LGANT - MINISTER FOR HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT BILL TO THE LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****RESOLUTION ORD069/26**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the report entitled Incoming Correspondence - LGANT - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development - Local Government Amendment Bill to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**16.2 NORTHERN TERRITORY ELECTORAL COMMISSION - CITY OF DARWIN 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION REPORT AND EXPENSES****RESOLUTION ORD070/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the report entitled Northern Territory Electoral Commission - City of Darwin 2025 Local Government Election Report and Expenses be received and noted.

**CARRIED 12/0**

## 17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

### RESOLUTION ORD071/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris  
Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

#### 17.1

Councillor Sam Weston reported on attending the 84th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin Commemorative Service. Further thanking City of Darwin officers for their efforts in ensuring the event offered an appropriate moment of reflection, and commended the attendance by Elected Members.

**CARRIED 12/0**

## 18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

### 18.1 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST UPDATE

#### RESOLUTION ORD072/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee  
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

#### Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris requested an update on the lease for the Lyons Community Centre and the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

#### Response

The General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy requested that these matters be raised in the confidential section of the meeting.

**CARRIED 12/0**

### 18.2 HENBURY AVENUE RESURFACING WORKS

#### RESOLUTION ORD073/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee  
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

#### Question

Councillor Shani Carson requested an update on the resurfacing works on Henbury Avenue.

#### Response

The General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson, advised the re-surfacing works are scheduled for completion by June 2026. This timeframe is reflective of the complexity of the works required, in addition to the recent wet weather.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**18.3 ACCESSIBLE PARKING ON PEEL STREET****RESOLUTION ORD074/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Kim Farrar inquired when the accessible parking bays on Peel Street will be line marked, as part of the Smith Street Beautification Project.

**Response**

The General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson took the question on notice.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**18.4 PARKING FEES****RESOLUTION ORD075/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Julie Fraser requested officers provide a report on the benefits and costs associated with rescinding parking fees, noting that Sunshine Coast Council has recently announced the removal of parking fees within the Caloundra CBD.

**Response**

The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised Councillor Julie Fraser to bring a Notice of Motion to Council if requesting a formal report.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**19 GENERAL BUSINESS****19.1 APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR****RESOLUTION ORD076/26**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

1. THAT Council appoint Councillor Mick Palmer as the Deputy Lord Mayor for the period 25 February 2026 to 29 May 2026.
2. THAT Council note that, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, should Mr Ed Smelt be reinstated as a member, the member is reinstated as the Deputy Lord Mayor until 29 May 2026.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**19.2 QUARTERLY COMMUNITY MEETINGS****RESOLUTION ORD077/26**

Moved: Councillor Shani Carson  
 Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Patrik Ralph requested feedback from Elected Members relating to correspondence on proposed meeting dates for the quarterly community meetings in each Ward.

Councillor Patrik Ralph noted the correspondence relates to the Notice of Motion passed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held in November 2025, in which Elected Members resolved to support quarterly community meetings, rotating between all four Wards. The proposed schedule being April for the Richardson Ward, June for Waters Ward, September for Chan Ward and November for Lyons Ward.

The Lord Mayor, Peter Styles advised all feedback on the proposed dates be provided via email response to Councillor Patrik Ralph.

**CARRIED 12/0****20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 31 March 2026, at 5:30 pm (Open Section followed by the Confidential Section), Council Chambers Darrandirra, Level 1, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin.

**21 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 8 of the Local Government Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

**28.1 Asset Replacement and Refurbishment Reserve Transfer**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) and 51(e) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person and subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

**28.2 Reconciliation Advisory Committee - Appointment of Chair**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

**28.3 Sponsorship Opportunity**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(d) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

**28.4 Waste and Resource Recovery**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(e) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

**28.5 Proposed Telecommunications Facility**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

**29.1 Asset Sustainability**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

**30.1 Outgoing and Incoming Correspondence - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development - Northcrest Housing Estate**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(e) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

**22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON**

**RESOLUTION ORD078/26**

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 6:50pm.

**CARRIED 12/0**

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 8:31 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 8:31 pm.

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31 March 2026.**

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**CHAIR**