

# Minutes

## Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 28 July 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, 28 JULY 2026 AT 5:30 PM**

**PRESENT:**

Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)  
Deputy Lord Mayor Jimmy Bouhoris  
Councillor Nicole Brown  
Councillor Shani Carson  
Councillor Kim Farrar  
Councillor Julie Fraser  
Councillor Edwin Joseph  
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris  
Councillor Clarence McCarthy-Grogan  
Councillor Mick Palmer  
Councillor Peter Pangqueue  
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:**

Executive Manager Marketing, Communications and Engagement, Emma Jane Edwards  
Manager Digital Innovation, Keith Whannell

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## **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

## **3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**

### **RESOLUTION ORD278/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

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

**CARRIED 13/0**

## **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**

*Councillor Julie Fraser departed the meeting at 5:43 pm.*

**6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS****RESOLUTION ORD279/26**

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

The Lord Mayor, Peter Styles and Councillor Sam Weston discussed a potential perceived conflict of interest relating to Item 13.1 – Bicentennial Park Proposal. Having considered the nature of the interest with Elected Members, he determined that the matter did not constitute a declarable interest and no declaration was recorded.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF**

Nil

**7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES****RESOLUTION ORD280/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 June 2026 be confirmed.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**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

### 27.1 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE GRANTS 2026/27

#### RESOLUTION ORD300/26

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

1. THAT the report entitled Environment and Climate Change Grants 2026/27 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve the following projects for funding under the Environment and Climate Change Grants Program 2026/27:

| Applicant                                                 | Project Description                                                                                                                                                                            | Amount Requested | Amount Recommended |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Mutla Landcare Group                                      | Weed management and revegetation trial habitat between Coconut Grove and Nightcliff to test Coffee Bush removal techniques and restore native species.                                         | \$17,000         | \$10,000           |
| Jesuit Social Services                                    | Facilitating climate change resilience workshops and initial climate change action plans for organisations.                                                                                    | \$50,000         | \$15,000           |
| Charles Darwin University                                 | A 'Business-to-Community Material Matchmaking Pilot for Darwin', connecting businesses with community users to reuse surplus materials.                                                        | \$11,289         | \$11,289           |
| Integrated Disability Action Inc                          | Inclusive Community Emergency Preparedness Workshops for people living with disability and their carers                                                                                        | \$15,000         | \$9,000            |
| Environment + Climate Futures @ Charles Darwin University | Climate change and environment education program for Darwin primary schools for climate resilience and environmental stewardship and supporting schools with climate change response planning. | \$15,000         | \$12,309           |
|                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$57,598</b>    |

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 11/0**

**27.2 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL DECISIONS - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS****RESOLUTION ORD301/26**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Confidential Decisions – Ordinary Council Meetings and Council Committee Meetings be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at **Attachment 1**, made between 1 July 2021 to 31 December 2025 from Confidential to Open.
3. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at **Attachment 2**, made between 1 January 2026 to 30 June 2026 from Confidential to Open.
4. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at **Attachment 3** for the Executive and Advisory Committees, made between October 2021 to 31 December 2025 from Confidential to Open.
5. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at **Attachment 4** for Executive and Advisory Committees, made between 1 January 2026 to 30 June 2026 from Confidential to Open.
6. 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*.
7. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED 11/0****28.1 CORPORATE SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2026****RESOLUTION ORD303/26**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

1. THAT the report entitled Corporate Services Quarterly Report - April to June 2026 be received and noted.
2. 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*.
3. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED 11/0****28.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFIDENTIAL MEETING MINUTES****RESOLUTION ORD304/26**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Edwin Joseph

1. THAT the report entitled Advisory Committee Confidential Meeting Minutes be received and noted.
2. 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*.

3. 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**

*Councillor Julie Fraser re-joined the meeting at 5:48 pm.*

### **12.1 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS**

#### **RESOLUTION ORD281/26**

Moved: Councillor Patrik Ralph

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT the presentation from the Executive Manager Marketing, Communications and Engagement, in relation to the Civic Centre Community Plaza Engagement and the presentation from the Manager Digital Innovation, in relation to Exploring Place and Liveability through Digital Learning be received and noted.

**CARRIED 13/0**

## **13 ACTION REPORTS**

*Councillor Julie Fraser departed the meeting at 6:29 pm.*

*Councillor Julie Fraser re-joined the meeting at 6:30 pm.*

*Councillor Nicole Brown departed the meeting at 6:34 pm.*

*Councillor Nicole Brown re-joined the meeting at 6:35 pm.*

### 13.1 BICENTENNIAL PARK PROPOSAL

**RESOLUTION ORD282/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Bicentennial Park Proposal be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approves to adapt Area 1 on the Esplanade, whereby the open area surrounding the Darwin Cenotaph is retained as Area 1 and the remaining portion is redesignated as Area 2A, as shown in **Attachment 1**.

In Favour: Members Jimmy Bouhoris, Mick Palmer, Peter Pangquee and Peter Styles

Against: Members Nicole Brown, Shani Carson, Kim Farrar, Julie Fraser, Edwin Joseph, Sylvia Klonaris, Clarence McCarthy-Grogan, Patrik Ralph and Sam Weston

**LOST 4/9**

### 14 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS

#### 14.1 INTERIM MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 2026

**RESOLUTION ORD283/26**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

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

**CARRIED 13/0**

#### 14.2 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2026 (Q4)

**RESOLUTION ORD284/26**

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT the report entitled Quarterly Performance Report – April to June 2026 (Q4) be received and noted.

**CARRIED 13/0**

*Councillor Kim Farrar departed the meeting at 7:07 pm.*

#### 14.3 TIER 2 BI-ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - JANUARY TO JUNE 2026

**RESOLUTION ORD285/26**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

THAT the report entitled Tier 2 Bi-Annual Performance Report – January to June 2026 be received and noted.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**14.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING MINUTES****RESOLUTION ORD286/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

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

**CARRIED 12/0**

**15 CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**16 NOTICES OF MOTION**

*Councillor Kim Farrar re-joined the meeting at 7:09 pm.*

**16.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT GROUP - OUTSTANDING RATES EQUIVALENT**

I, Councillor Mick Palmer, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 July 2026, I will move the following motion:-

**RESOLUTION ORD287/26**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT Council receives a report reviewing the legal, financial, operational and environmental implications of restricting or denying Darwin International Airport access to Council-operated facilities and services, including:
  - a) the acceptance at the Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility of waste originating from buildings, businesses and other premises located on Darwin International Airport land, and
  - b) access to, or use of, Council-owned stormwater drainage infrastructure.
2. THAT a report is presented to Council identifying any statutory, contractual or regulatory constraints and outline available options and associated risks.

**CARRIED 13/0**

## 16.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - TERRITORY DAY

I, Councillor Mick Palmer, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 July 2026, I will move the following motion:-

### RESOLUTION ORD288/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT Council note the significant City of Darwin resources that are employed annually to prepare and clean up after Territory Day celebrations and activities.
2. THAT Council approve, in the following terms, the letter at **Attachment 1** to be sent to the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, advocating for the implementation of a commercial sale of fireworks licencing fee, with fees returned to City of Darwin to offset the costs associated with the Territory Day celebrations.

**CARRIED 13/0**

## 17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Councillor Mick Palmer departed the meeting at 7:26 pm.*

*Councillor Mick Palmer re-joined the meeting at 7:31 pm.*

### RESOLUTION ORD289/26

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

#### 17.1

Councillor Patrik Ralph reported on attending several shows as part of the Darwin Fringe Festival and performing in one of the productions. Congratulations to all the organisers, volunteers, performers and supporters, events like this would not be possible without their commitment and contribution. Darwin Fringe Festival is a great event that provides an accessible platform for many young performers and is proud to see the City of Darwin continue to support the event.

Additionally, Councillor Patrik Ralph attended several community events in the Waters Ward earlier in the month, including the Native Plant Giveaway at Moil Oval and the Community Planting Day at the Holzerland Greenbelt in Malak, both held on Saturday 11 July 2026. A big thank you to City of Darwin officers for organising the events and Elected Members for their participation.

#### 17.2

Councillor Julie Fraser advised Elected Members that they, together with Councillor Edwin Joseph, will be undertaking Governing in the Climate Emergency training provided by Climate Emergency Australia. Councillor Julie Fraser encouraged all Elected Members to consider undertaking the training. She suggested that Councillors explore how the knowledge that could be gained through the program could be incorporated into decision-making and operations, in support of the City of Darwin Climate Emergency Strategy.

**17.3**

Councillor Peter Pangquee reported on attending the ASEAN and Partners Forum and Darwin Fusion Trade Show, where they participated in a panel discussion on tourism, culture and business opportunities for First Nations Australians. Councillor Peter Pangquee noted strong interest in indigenous cultural knowledge from a Northern Territory perspective. He also met with the Acting Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the United States of America, Mr Jared Chapman, who spoke positively about the Friendship City relationship between Darwin and Honolulu and the shared maritime and military history of both cities.

Additionally, Councillor Peter Pangquee attended the Tourism Top End board meeting. Concerns were raised regarding a reduction in visitor numbers during the current Dry Season. Tourism Top End expressed interest in attending a future Council meeting to discuss opportunities for City of Darwin to support initiatives aimed at increasing visitation.

**17.4**

Councillor Kim Farrar reported on attending the International Trade Show as part of Darwin Fusion 2026, noting lots of positive feedback from participants. The event provided an opportunity to facilitate a connection between a Denpasar-based business and legal services company and a local registered training organisation (RTO). As a result, the parties have since met, with the RTO planning a visit to Denpasar to explore further opportunities for collaboration.

**CARRIED 13/0****18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS****18.1 MALAK OVAL CARPARK UPGRADES****RESOLUTION ORD290/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

**Question:**

Councillor Kim Farrar inquired when the Malak Oval Car Park Upgrade works are scheduled to be completed.

**Response:**

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

**CARRIED 13/0****18.2 CYCLONE TRACY MEMORIAL EAST POINT****RESOLUTION ORD291/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

**Question:**

Councillor Julie Fraser inquired on behalf of a constituent whether Council could consider additional improvements and infrastructure upgrades at the Cyclone Tracy Memorial in East Point, in particular the provision of a shade structure.

**Response:**

Lord Mayor, Peter Styles advised that this request be sent through to Councillor Support.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.3 LIVE WEBCASTING OF PUBLIC FORUMS****RESOLUTION ORD292/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

**Question:**

Councillor Julie Fraser inquired whether the Public Forum held prior to Council Meetings could be live streamed to enable members of the public who are unable to attend to access the discussion.

**Response:**

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders responded and reminded Councillor Julie Fraser that this matter had been raised previously and reiterated that the forums are not designed within Council policy or equipped to be live streamed. It was also noted that members of the public who are unable to attend may submit any questions or enquiries to the Lord Mayor via email.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.4 CASUARINA AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE****RESOLUTION ORD293/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

**Question:**

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris inquired whether City of Darwin had advised the public of when the water slide at the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre will be re-opened.

**Response:**

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr advised that a reopening date for the water slides has not yet been confirmed, as final safety assessments and clearance from Royal Life Saving Australia are still pending. However, an update on the above information will be provided to the public when available.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.5 TROWER ROAD ROADWORKS****RESOLUTION ORD294/26**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

**Question:**

Councillor Shani Carson requested a progress update on the road works at the intersections of Trower Road and Henbury Avenue and Trower Road and Angelo Street.

**Response:**

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy took the question on notice.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**19 GENERAL BUSINESS****19.1 MOTION OF CONDOLENCE****RESOLUTION ORD295/26**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris acknowledged the recent passing of Mr Andy Price, a respected member of the Darwin community who dedicated many years to helping keep the city safe as a veteran of security services. On behalf of City of Darwin, Councillor Sylvia Klonaris expressed appreciation for Mr Price's service and contribution to the community and extended condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**19.2 PARKING REVIEW****RESOLUTION ORD296/26**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

Councillor Sam Weston advised that they have received feedback from drivers using 15-minute loading zones that the current time limit is not enough to park, unload, deliver and reload items. Councillor Sam Weston enquired whether the time limits for loading zones could be reviewed.

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy advised officers are commencing a city wide parking review, which will seek feedback from stakeholders, parking users and visitors on current parking arrangements and potential improvements. Councillor Sam Weston was advised to provide further details through Councillor Support to ensure the feedback is captured as part of the review.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 25 August 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*:

**27.1 Environment and Climate Change Grants 2026/27**

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.

**27.2 Review of Confidential Decisions - Ordinary Council Meetings and Council Committee Meetings**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i), 51(c)(ii) and 51(c)(iii) 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, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

**27.3 2027 Pre-Cyclone Clean-Up Program Update**

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.

**28.1 Corporate Services Quarterly Report - April to June 2026**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(a) and 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 about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of

the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

## **28.2 Advisory Committee Confidential Meeting Minutes**

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.

*Councillor Sam Weston departed the meeting at 7:38 pm.*

## **22      ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON**

### **RESOLUTION ORD297/26**

Moved:      Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 7:38 pm.

**CARRIED 12/0**

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 8:48 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 8:48 pm.

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 August 2026.**

.....  
**CHAIR**